

As you walk along the Grand Concourse (r.) until Oct. 12, pay attention to the trees. For the Concourse's 100th anniversary, 100 trees are tagged with a marker as part of the Tree Museum. They're in different spots, such as in Poe Park, where Rachel Steinberg (front) and Natalia Perellon planted a sign for the museum (below right). You can access individual elements, such as a song by Fess (l.) on your cell phone.



Once you're in the Tree Museum — as Katie Holten, creator of the exhibit says, 'Anybody that's out there is a visitor' — get a copy of the museum's route map. As you stop at the different trees, each one will have an individual phone number for you to call. Pull out your cell phone, dial the digits, and listen to different stories and luminaries from the borough.



# Hear the trees talk

## Leafy 'museum' installed on Concourse

BY DAMON BERES

STROLLERS ALONG the Grand Concourse might be surprised to find themselves in the middle of what the Bronx Museum of the Arts calls the "museum without walls."

The so-called Tree Museum, which opened Sunday, is a 4½-mile stretch along the Grand Concourse, from 138th St. to Mosholu Parkway, that you may not even realize is there.

"It's the 'Invisible Tree Museum.' Anybody that's out there is a visitor," said Katie Holten, creator of the exhibit.

One hundred trees along the Concourse are being used to celebrate its 100th anniversary. Each one bears a green marker, stamped with the "Tree Museum" logo and a phone number.

Call the number, and a prerecorded message

will play, telling a story of the community. Each tree has a different message from a different person, from Concourse natives to historians and figures like DJ Jazzy Jay.

Folks at the Museum of the Arts hope each tree lends an important bit of community history.

"I talked to people and they said, 'We don't have any trees,' and they're sitting right under them," said Holten. "The Tree Museum is about getting people out to walk and wander."

The exhibit runs through Oct. 12.

Meanwhile, exhibitions under "The Grand Concourse at 100" banner are on display inside the museum, on the Grand Concourse at 165th St. Visit [www.bronxmuseum.org](http://www.bronxmuseum.org) for more.

Photos by David Handschuh



Artist Katie Holten (r.) created the Tree Museum along the Grand Concourse. For her, "The Tree Museum is about getting people out to walk and wander." So far, it's working, at least for this group of kids, who got out to check out a mural on the museum route near 166th St.

