

# 2017 Buffalo Boogie Draws Larger-than-Expected Crowds

*Katie Owens, 2017 Buffalo Boogie Chair*



*Crossing the finish line. Rita Short Photo.*

The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Buffalo Boogie took place on Saturday, May 13, 2017, at the Fort Worth Nature Center. This event is the flagship fundraiser for the Friends of the Fort Worth Nature Center and brought more than 1,000 participants, vendors, and volunteers to the Nature Center on race day—exceeding this year’s race committee’s expectations. For springtime in Texas, the



*Madeline Yarbrough of Kids Who Care stands next to the flag to sing the pre-race Star-Spangled Banner. Rita Short Photo.*

weather was exceptional, a perfect pairing of sunshine and cool breezes. Prior to the start of the 10K race, Madeline Yarbrough of Kids Who Care gave an extremely powerful and well-received performance of the Star-Spangled Banner, a tradition the race committee hopes to continue in years to come.

After finishing the 10K, 5K, and 1-mile races, participants were able to munch on healthy snacks from Whole Foods–Waterside while perusing the various vendor sites and enjoying the music of Fort Worth’s own Blue Hat Band. Mo the Buffalo, a crowd favorite, was in attendance, and thanks to PlainsCapital Bank, race participants were able to have their photos taken with him. This event is more than just a fundraiser; it is an annual opportunity to expose the DFW community (or in this year’s case, even a couple from Pennsylvania) to the

beauty of the Nature Center and its mission. On behalf of the Friends of the Fort Worth Nature Center, we look forward to seeing you at next year’s event on Saturday, May 12, 2018.