



CITY OF
TUCSON



NEWS RELEASE

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TUCSON TEN-TIME HONOREE AMONG 257 “PLAYFUL CITY USA” COMMUNITIES FOR 2016

Tucson is being honored with a 2016 Playful City USA designation for the 10th time. Tucson was one of 31 cities honored in 2007, the inaugural year. Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the national recognition program honors cities and towns across the country for making their cities more playable.

More than 7,000 guests attended the ninth annual Tucson Parks and Recreation department's Family Festival in the Park sponsored by Cigna, in November 2015, with activities including free all-day admission to Reid Park Zoo, zoo train rides, crafts, attractions, and games. In addition, the Parks and Recreation department, in partnership with the American Red Cross Aquatics Centennial Program, offers \$2 summer swim lessons for ages 6 months to 17 years, to those who qualify for the Discount Program. The City of Tucson is also offering a SummerGO pass, in cooperation with SunTran, for kids ages 6-18 this summer that will allow youth to purchase a summer bus pass for only \$45. They will be able to take the bus anywhere the SunTran routes go and get free entrance into any City of Tucson pool.

“The City of Tucson and Parks and Recreation are proud to be one of the first to be recognized as a Playful City and pleased to have continued that designation over the past 10 years,” said Fred Gray, Director of Tucson Parks and Recreation. “It is a testament to our staff’s dedication to serving the community and bringing play to Tucson.”

“We are thrilled to recognize these communities that have invested their time and efforts to put kids first,” said KaBOOM! CEO James Siegal. “Balanced and active play is crucial to the well-being of kids and the communities that they thrive in. By integrating play into cities, the leaders of Playful Cities USA are working to attract and retain the thousands of families that want homes in close proximity to safe places to play.”

To learn more about these cities, see the full list of the 257 communities named 2016 Playful City USA honorees, or to gather more information on the Playful City USA program, visit www.playfulcityusa.org. We also encourage you to take part in the conversation on [#playability](https://twitter.com/playability) with these thought leaders on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/playability) and [Facebook](https://facebook.com/playability).

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If participants require an accommodation or materials in accessible format or require a foreign language interpreter or materials in a language other than English for any event, please call Tucson Parks and Recreation, 791-4873, at least five business days in advance