



CITY OF
TUCSON



NEWS RELEASE

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TUCSON NINE-TIME HONOREE AMONG 241 “PLAYFUL CITY USA” COMMUNITIES FOR 2015

Tucson is being honored with a 2015 Playful City USA designation for the ninth time. The national recognition program honors cities and towns across the country for making their cities more playable. Tucson was one of 31 cities honored in 2007, the inaugural year. KaBOOM! selected Tucson for its outstanding dedication to play.

More than 15,000 guests attended the ninth annual Tucson Parks and Recreation Department's official Family Festival in the Park Day in November 2014, with activities including free all-day admission to the zoo, free zoo train rides, a kid zone area and family games. The city offers more access to play through a joint-use agreement between the city and schools that keeps parks open to children outside of school hours. The department is also one of 137 nationally-accredited agencies through the National Parks and Recreation Association, of which approximately 3,000 state and local publically-funded departments are members.

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

“Playability is crucial to the success of our future communities, and we are proud of the work these cities and leaders are doing to provide a better quality of life for all residents, and especially families,” says KaBOOM! President James Siegal. “Play provides a competitive advantage for cities looking to attract and retain residents. With these esteemed leaders, and our friends and partners across the country, we continue to prioritize play for all kids.”

To learn more about these cities, see the full list of the 241 communities named 2015 Playful City USA honorees, or to gather more information on the Playful City USA program, visit www.playfulcityusa.org. Find out more about Tucson Parks and Recreation at tucsonaz.gov/parks.

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