

MEDIA ALERT

July 24, 2014

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HPARD Celebrates July as Park and Recreation Month During Let's Play Carnival – Photo Opportunity Over 2,000 Youth to Attend

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) will celebrate July as Park and Recreation Month with its Annual Let's Play Carnival. The theme of the celebration *"Out is IN!"* encourages everyone to go **out**side, change their **out**look, and get **in**volved in their community through parks and recreation. Over 2,000 children currently enrolled in H.P.A.R.D.'s Summer Enrichment Program at 49 community centers across the city will attend.

WHO:	Over 2,000 Summer Enrichment Program youth Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Harris County Houston Sports Authority Houston Fire Department Houston Police Department Houston Public Library Health and Human Services Department METRO The Diabetes Awareness Wellness Network
WHAT:	H.P.A.R.D. Let's Play Carnival Celebrates July as Park and Recreation Month – "Out Is IN"
WHEN:	Friday, July 25, 2014 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
WHERE:	Sunnyside Park 3502 Bellfort

Houston, TX 77051

Activities will include Olympic Day sports, nature learning and engagement, fitness obstacle courses, a tug-of-war, a target challenge, small-sided soccer games, a parachute design contest, a petting zoo, dinosaur discovery education, face paint and mural art, and a "Be Happy" dance. The carnival is only open to children currently enrolled in the Summer Enrichment Program. The Houston Parks and Recreation Department's Summer Enrichment Program is a ten-week long day camp-style program that takes place at community centers across the city. Registered youth participate in a wide variety of activities, including sports and athletics, arts and crafts, field trips, special events, and water fun.

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 38,752 acres of parkland and greenspace for the City of Houston and develops and implements recreational programming for citizens of all

abilities. For more information on the Houston Parks and Recreation Department, call (832) 395-7022 or visit <u>www.houstonparks.org</u>.