

MEDIA ALERT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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100 HPARD Summer Enrichment Program Youth Visit Houston City Hall to Celebrate July as Parks & Recreation Month

Mayor Sylvester Turner, Council Member Ellen Cohen, District C, The Houston Parks and Recreation Department, and 100 Summer Enrichment Program Youth (ages 12-13) will kick off the month long celebration of July as Park and Recreation Month in the City of Houston on June 28, 2016 with a proclamation at City Hall.

Since 1985, Americans have celebrated Park and Recreation Month in July to promote the importance of parks and recreation in health and wellness, conservation and social equity, and to recognize the thousands of park and recreation employees that maintain our nation's local and community parks.

Through efforts by NRPA, the U.S. House of Representatives passed an official resolution for Park and Recreation Month in 2009. The Houston Parks and Recreation Department is joining park and recreation agencies across the country in recognizing the month with summer programs, events, contests, commemorations and celebrations.

WHO: Houston Mayor Sylvester Turner

Council Member Ellen Cohen, District C

Joe Turner, Director Houston Parks & Recreation Department 100 HPARD Summer Enrichment Program Youth (Ages 12 – 13)

WHAT: Proclamation Presentation to

Kick Off July as Park and Recreation Month

WHEN: June 28, 2016

1:30 pm

Houston City Hall Chambers WHERE:

901 Bagby, 2nd Floor Houston, TX 77002

WHY: To proclaim July as Park and Recreation Month in the City Of Houston and

> highlight programming and facilities provided by the parks and recreation departments that are vital to our communities—from protecting open space and natural resources, to helping fight obesity, to providing activities and resources for all walks of life—Park and Recreation Month encourages everyone to reflect on the value parks and recreation can bring to

communities.

About the Houston Parks and Recreation Department

The Houston Parks and Recreation Department (H.P.A.R.D.) stewards and manages over 37,851 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 www.houstonparks.org.