



MEDIA ADVISORY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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HOORAY FOR PLAY! INDIANAPOLIS NAMED PLAYFUL CITY, USA FOR SECOND TIME

Mayor to announce Indy Play Day Celebration on September 18

INDIANAPOLIS – (September 9, 2010) Turn off the television, silence the cell phone and head to a park. It's playtime in Indianapolis! For the second year, Indianapolis is honored as a Playful City USA community by KaBOOM!, a national nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing play into children's lives. Join Mayor Greg Ballard **September 18 for the Indy Play Celebration** announcement and proclamation reading at Wilbur Shaw Memorial Soap Box Derby Hill, 3001 Cold Spring Road, at 10:30 a.m.

Indianapolis is one of 118 communities across 35 states recognized for our commitment, mission and willingness to make play important. Research shows a strong connection between play and the development of social, emotional, cognitive and intellectual skills.

Plan to play together at an Indy Park or Greenway Trail, a church or school playground, a museum, the zoo or cultural center, or even your own backyard. Don't stop after September 18 – Plan a family play date every week to continue to nurture the health and well-being of yourself and your child!

Here are some other helpful ways to get started on September 18:

Douglass Park –Making the Band – The Dorman Street Band sings gospel, urban and old school tunes. Stretch your vocal cords or bring your own instrument to start jammin'. 12-4 p.m. FREE

Krannert, Indy Island, Thatcher, La Shonna Bates and George Washington Community School – Indoor Swimming – Call 327-PARK for times and fees or visit aquatics.indyparks.org



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Garfield Park's Conservatory and Sunken Garden – Fruit and Candy Tour – Find out where some of your favorite yummy treats come from with a family-friendly tour of the conservatory and the tasty food it produces. 11-12 p.m. \$3 per person

Garfield Park – Arts for All – You've heard of petting zoos with animals? What about with instruments? The Arts for All theme in September gives kids hands-on fun with horns and strings at the "Instrument Petting Zoo." 12 – 5 p.m. FREE

Eagle Creek Park– Nature Discovery Program – Learn about the wonders of nature with guided tours to discover native plants, weird bugs, live animals and how you can help the environment. 1:30 p.m., FREE with park admission

Eagle Creek Park's Ornithology Center – Avian Adventure – Meet a raptor, explore a backyard habitat and take a guided bird hike. Free with park admission. Call 327-BIRD for times.

Check out Indy Parks Fall Fun Guide to start playing the day away! Go to www.indyparks.org or call (317)327-PARK.

