

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SLOTS ARE STILL AVAILABLE FOR CHICAGO PARK DISTRICT DAY CAMP

Thousands of spaces are still available for the Chicago Park District's day camp program, which begins Tuesday, July 5.

"Park District day camp is an affordable option that gives children the opportunity to learn, participate in recreation and make lasting memories that define their childhood," Mayor Emanuel said. "From field trips to reading at least 30 minutes per day, it's the best deal in town when it comes to summer activities for youth. I encourage everyone to take advantage of what the Chicago Park District has to offer your child this summer."

Standard day camps run six weeks, from July 5 - August 12, typically from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. or 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Many parks offer early morning and late-day sessions as well. Fees vary depending on location, offerings and hours. No child will be turned away for inability to pay.

As part of the summer camp curriculum, campers will embark on an enriching journey through Chicago's 77 neighborhoods. The camp theme, Explore the Spirit of Chicago - My Neighborhood, Our City, will offer new and unique ways for campers to enjoy their summer experience at their local parks, and explore our city through a series of exciting indoor and outdoor activities.

"We're preparing to make summer 2016 one of the best by giving campers a passport to the city and offering them a unique opportunity to explore and enjoy their neighborhoods through play," said Michael P. Kelly, General Superintendent and CEO. "The Chicago Park District offers a menu of camps at parks throughout the city to ensure that our young park goers keep active, engaged and safe this summer."

La Villita, Sherman, Gage, Washtenaw, Franklin, Murray, Cornell Square, Lowe, Moran and Hermitage parks are a few of the locations that still have availability. For additional information, visit your local park or click <u>here</u>.

Financial Assistance

Financial assistance and family discounts are available. Applicants that do not qualify for financial assistance may inquire about the payment plan option at their local park.

Summer Food Service Program

In accordance with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) federal regulations, the Chicago Park District will participate in the Summer Food Service Program in conjunction with summer day camp. Lunches and/or snacks will be provided for enrolled children at most camps.

For more information, contact your local park, visit <u>www.chicagoparkdistrict.com</u> or call 312-742-PLAY.

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