



DATE: May 13, 2019

TO: Mayor Chelminiak and City Councilmembers

FROM: Shelley McVein, Interim Director, 452-5378
Parks & Community Services Department

SUBJECT: National Kids to Parks Day, May 18, 2019

National Kids to Parks Day is a national grassroots movement established as part of the National Park Trust's ongoing efforts to connect youth with nature and encourage outdoor exploration, especially at parks in their communities. National Kids to Parks Day is held on the third Saturday each May. Over 1,000,000 kids and families participated in Kids to Parks Day in 2018. This year, National Kids to Parks Day is celebrated on Saturday, May 18. Cities, towns, and councils in all 50 states have joined the official celebration by issuing proclamations.

The City of Bellevue, widely known as 'a city in a park,' has over 2,700 acres of park and open spaces, 85 miles of trails, 46 playgrounds, and seven beach parks for public enjoyment. Program and activities for all ages are scheduled year-round. On May 18, families and youth can participate in the following activities:

Fraser Cabin Heritage Program, 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. (drop-in), free

Presented by the Eastside Heritage Center in partnership with Bellevue Parks & Community Services. Fraser Cabin, built in 1888 and located at Kelsey Creek Farm, comes to life with activities and interpretation.

Kelsey Creek Farm Park, 410 130th Place SE

Chinese Floral Art Exhibit, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., free

Members of the Hua Yuan School of Chinese Floral Art create exquisite floral arrangement displays, on view in the Gathering Place at the Bellevue Botanical Garden.

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street

American Crow: The "Feathered Ape?" 2:30 - 3:30 p.m., free, registration required
Do crows "talk" to each other? Can they distinguish peoples' faces? Where can you see a nightly "river of crows"? Learn about the surprisingly smart American Crow, selected as the Species of the Year for Bellevue Parks. Join the Master Naturalists for a slideshow, activity or game, and a crow-inspired habitat walk around Lewis Creek Park. This is an indoor/outdoor program.

Lewis Creek Park Visitor Center, 5808 Lakemont Blvd SE

Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Walks, Saturdays 2 - 3 p.m., free

Join us Saturdays for an interpretive tour of the Lake Hills Greenbelt. We will talk about some local history and see native plants and wildlife that call Bellevue home.

Lake Hills Greenbelt Ranger Station, 15416 SE 16th Street

Bellevue Botanical Garden Tours, Saturdays and Sundays 12 - 3 p.m., free

Discover the world of plants at the Bellevue Botanical Garden with a docent-led tour.

The tour meets at the Shorts house and lasts about one hour.

Bellevue Botanical Garden, 12001 Main Street

Attachment

A. Proclamation