

FREE CELEBRATION SEPT. 23 FOR PASADENA AS “EARLY LEARNING CITY” INITIATIVE

PASADENA, Calif.—A new, groundbreaking initiative—Pasadena as an Early Learning City by 2025—will be celebrated during a free, family-friendly event 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 23 at Brookside Park, 360 N. Arroyo Blvd., near the Rose Bowl Stadium’s Parking Lot I and the Kidspace Museum.

Information about the initiative will be available at the event along with fun and educational activities for children, parents, prospective parents, grandparents, teachers and anyone interested in the healthy development of young children. Activities include storytelling, face painting, bubble play, arts and crafts, healthy food & cooking demos, parenting workshops, developmental screenings, foster care info, a listening wall, video booth, music from Pasadena Unified School District students, dance performances, community info tables and much more.

“I encourage everyone to enjoy the Sept. 23 launch event for Pasadena as an Early Learning City by 2025,” Pasadena Mayor Terry Tornek said. “This is an important investment in our young children that will benefit every facet of the community.”

For more information about the event, contact Lila Guirguis, early childhood development coordinator at Pasadena’s Office of the Young Child, (626) 744-4297, lguirguis@cityofpasadena.net. The Office of the Young Child was established as part of the Pasadena Public Library Department by the City Council in 2015 to help provide a positive, nurturing environment in the City where young children can thrive, be healthy and safe and find early success in school and life.

Research has shown that from birth to age 5 is a critical time for the overall social, emotional, physical and learning development of children. Parents and other caregivers who successfully provide children with a successful foundation during this time means there is a much higher chance that children will enter kindergarten ready to learn and be creative; have success throughout their school years; graduate from high school; pursue higher learning opportunities and earn higher wages.

“For many Pasadena families, life’s stresses and strains have an impact on their ability to continuously nurture their child’s development,” Ms. Guirguis said. “All parents need the support of family, friends and their community to help raise their children. Working together, we can create many successful pathways for our children’s futures.”

Pasadena has an abundance of community resources that serve our young children and their parents. The Sept. 23 launch celebration will feature many of these resources, so mark your calendars now for this important event; be prepared to have a ton of fun with your children and to share your vision of what Pasadena as an Early Learning City by 2025 can be!