



NEWS RELEASE | March 30, 2017

Next Generation of Parks™ Event Series Continues **“Celebrating Play” with renowned early childhood development expert Janet Lansbury**

Join us for a special family-friendly, Saturday-in-the-park talk, presented by Minnesota Public Radio, Saturday, May 6, 3-5pm, Brackett Recreation Center, Minneapolis

Minneapolis, Minn. – The Minneapolis Parks Foundation welcomes early childhood development expert Janet Lansbury for the final event in our 2016-2017 Next Generation of Parks™ series. Lansbury, author of the bestseller *Elevating Child Care: A Guide to Respectful Parenting*, will talk about “Celebrating Play” and inspire parents, grandparents, and child-carers to embrace the joys and benefits of encouraging self-directed exploration of the great outdoors among children.

Lansbury will speak on Saturday, May 6, at the Brackett Recreation Center, 2728 S 39th Ave., Minneapolis. The relaxed event is from 3:00-5:00pm, including Lansbury’s presentation and a facilitated interview session, during which time the audience may submit questions. The event is free and families are welcome, with or without children. The Parks Foundation will have on-hand child-friendly activities. Pre-registration is recommended via Eventbrite.

“One of the most powerful ways that parks transform human life is by giving children access to healthy play,” says Parks Foundation Executive Director, Tom Evers. “The importance of outdoor play for children’s physical and emotional wellbeing is well understood, and Janet’s insights into un-structuring play will open up even greater opportunities for learning, joy and connection, whether it’s in our own backyards or our neighborhood parks.”

About Janet Lansbury

Janet Lansbury’s respectful parenting advice (www.janetlansbury.com) is quoted and shared by millions of readers worldwide. Inspired by the pioneering parenting philosophy of her friend and mentor, Magda Gerber, Janet encourages parents and child care professionals to perceive babies as unique, capable human beings with natural abilities to learn without being taught; to develop motor and cognitive skills; communicate; face age appropriate struggles; initiate and direct independent play for extended periods; and much more. She is the author of two bestselling books, *Elevating*

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Child Care: A Guide to Respectful Parenting and *No Bad Kids: Toddler Discipline Without Shame*. Janet also enjoys teaching weekly classes at RIE, consulting with parents and professionals, and spending time with her three children, ages 23, 19, and 14.

Thank You to our 2016-2017 Partners & Sponsors

The 2016-2017 Next Generation of Parks™ Lecture Series is presented by Minnesota Public Radio and produced in partnership with the Walker Art Center and University of Minnesota Department of Landscape Architecture, with additional support from the Cynthia Froid Group. The Park Foundation is grateful for their support.

About the Minneapolis Parks Foundation

The Minneapolis Parks Foundation is an independent, donor-supported nonprofit organization that helps envision and execute transformative parks and public spaces. The Parks Foundation co-leads the RiverFirst Initiative with the Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board and is responsible for private fundraising and implementation of the Water Works and Great Northern Greenway River Link projects. The Parks Foundation also supports innovative Minneapolis parks projects through equity funding and champions world-class design through its Next Generation of Parks™ Event Series. Learn more at MplsParksFoundation.org.

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