



## **The Village of Palmetto Bay Recognized as 2016 Playful City USA Community**

*257 communities exhibiting Playability to be recognized as part of 2016 Playful City USA Program*

The Village of Palmetto Bay is being honored with a 2016 Playful City USA designation for the seventh time. Celebrating its 10th anniversary, the national recognition program honors cities and towns across the country for making their cities more playable.

In 2010, Palmetto Bay was awarded the designation for the first time. The Village put together a task force where concerned parents, business leaders, children's advocates and public officials were afforded the opportunity to help the Village develop and implement an action plan for creating and preserving children's play spaces and create opportunities for play.

"With this Playful City USA designation, we are committed and dedicated to the mission of providing spaces and opportunities for play in the Village," stated Fanny Carmona, Parks & Recreation Director.

Communities across the country are creating innovative ways to bring back play and attract residents through family friendly activities. Interactive sidewalk art, designated play spaces on trails and the transformation of schoolyards into active play areas are just a few examples of how cities are becoming more playful.

"We are thrilled to recognize these communities that have invested their time and efforts to put kids first," said KaBOOM! CEO James Siegal. "*Balanced and active play* is crucial to the well-being of kids and the communities that they thrive in. By integrating play into cities, the leaders of Playful Cities USA are working to attract and retain the thousands of families that want homes in close proximity to safe places to play."

To learn more about these cities, see the full list of the 257 communities named 2016 Playful City USA honorees, or to gather more information on the Playful City USA program, visit [www.playfulcityusa.org](http://www.playfulcityusa.org). We also encourage you to take part in the conversation on [#playability](https://twitter.com/playability) with these thought leaders on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/playability) and [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/playability).