

KIDS TOGETHER NEWS

All the latest from Kids Together Playground!

WELCOME!

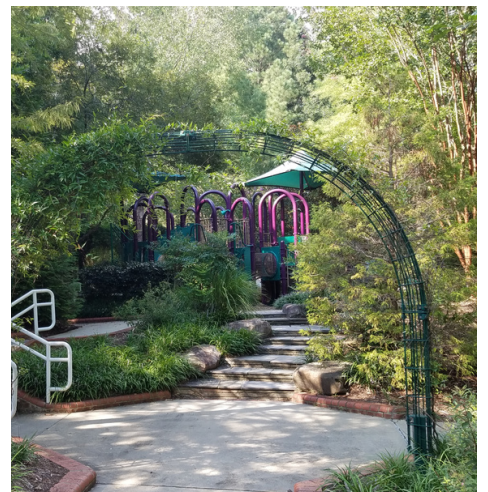
Isn't summer just the best! Picnics, cookouts, and extra time to play! And where's our favorite place to play? You know it – Kids Together Playground! Cool off in the Misting Garden and enjoy the shade. Come out on August 13 and explore all the ways you can make bubbles.

Then, make your plans for fall fun - register for this year's Walk, Run & Roll for Inclusive Play! It's all here, and more, so read on!

COOLING OFF AT KIDS TOGETHER PLAYGROUND

Summer's here and it's time to beat the heat. There's no place better to do that than Kids Together Playground! Why? We can say it in five words: Shade and the Misting Garden!

Unlike most playgrounds across the Triangle, you've got it made in the shade at KTP. The lush landscaping is designed to provide plenty of shade. And three arches in the Misting Garden keep cooling mists raining down, all summer long. So, if you're heading for the playground this summer, plan on getting wet. Why? Because one of the coolest places in the Triangle is right here, at Kids Together Playground!



THE KT WALK, RUN & ROLL FOR INCLUSIVE PLAY COMING OCTOBER 7 – REGISTER NOW!

On your mark, get ready, get set – it's time for our annual Walk, Run & Roll for Inclusive Play! We'll have music, raffles, refreshments, and more as we celebrate every child's right to be included in play. Proceeds from the event are dedicated to playground improvements. This year, we'll be announcing a great new addition to our array of swings, funded by Kids Together and the Town of Cary. What is this great new addition, you ask? We're not telling right now – stay tuned! But we can tell you that funds raised in past KT Walks made a real difference.



Mark your calendar for Saturday, October 7. Better yet, go ahead and register to Walk, Run, or Roll with us! Registration fees are just \$15 per family or \$5 individual.

[Register Here!](#)

And you can get in the Halloween spirit - You're invited to wear those costumes for the Walk!

The Walk, Run & Roll is also a super time for businesses and organizations to show their support as event sponsors. Our sponsorship packages range from \$100 to \$1,000 and are loaded with benefits. [Get all the details here.](#) Sponsorships close on September 1, so don't delay – join us today!

PAST EVENTS

THE 23RD BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION FOR KIDS TOGETHER PLAYGROUND WAS GREAT FUN!

Birthday parties are always fun, but when Kids Together throws the party it's a one-of-a-kind celebration!

On Sunday, June 4, more than 60 children, their parents and other caregivers, celebrated the 23rd birthday of Kids Together Playground. Decorating party crowns put us in a festive mood. Our spirits rose when KATAL the KT Dragon mascot appeared, giving hugs and high-fives to everyone. KT founder Marla Dorrel read the story of the playground's beginning. Then came to the most fun of all – making our own Roly Poly Fruit Juice Slushies! Oh, and we really enjoyed munching on those yummy cookies, baked and donated by KT board member Karen Gray.



Thank you to everyone who joined in our special celebration! A big KT Thank You to our volunteers: Cary Teen Council; KT board members Liz Brignac with sons Joseph and Charlie, Marla Dorrel, Pat Fish, Josh Fleming, Danelle Gambrell, Karen Gray, Tullie Johnson, Sarah Kahn, and Janice Sitzes.

WEEDING AT KTP

What do you do when summer rains bring an outbreak of weeds at the playground? Call on the Cary Teen Council and Cary's SPRUCE Program! On a Saturday morning in July, an energetic group of teens joined KT president Marla Dorrel to attack the weeds in and around the Preschool Play area. Two hours later, they had five bags of weeds to show for their effort – and they were still smiling. Thank you to the [Cary Teen Council](#) for their help and [SPRUCE](#) for providing bags and gloves for our workers.



COMING SOON – DON'T MISS THESE UPCOMING EVENTS

LAZY DAZE | AUGUST 26-27 | 9AM – 5PM | DOWNTOWN CARY

We all love Cary's [Lazy Daze Arts & Crafts Festival](#), but for Kids Together, there is nothing lazy about it!

Each year we are fortunate to partner with LaFarm Bakery to help sell luscious goodies to hungry festival goers. In return, LaFarm shares a generous portion of the event's proceeds with KT – how wonderful is that!

Look for the LaFarm food truck at Lazy Daze, August 26-27, 9AM-5PM, and share the love!

BTW, if you'd like to volunteer with us – and we hope you would – [sign up here](#).



BUBBLES DAY | AUGUST 13 | 2:00PM | @KIDS TOGETHER PLAYGROUND



Mark your calendar for Sunday, August 13, 2:00 PM, for the first KT Bubbles Day!

We've invited Ayla the Dreams Fairy to bring on the bubbles! And we'll have lots of ways for kiddos to experiment and make bubbles of their own.

Best of all, it's FREE!



CONNECT WITH KTP ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Don't miss any KTP news! You may already know you can find us on [Facebook](#), and now you can follow us on [Instagram](#), too! We'll see you there!



MOMENTS IN HISTORY STILL INFLUENCING KTP TODAY!

KTP FEATURED IN NLI NEWSLETTER



Did you know that as part of the design process for KTP, we held design workshops for children, as well as for adults? We did!

And that's one of the reasons that our friends at NLI (NCSU's Natural Learning Initiative) featured Kids Together Playground in their June 2023 newsletter.



They describe the playground as "a universally designed, family-focused urban landscape demonstrating how success can emerge when values and goals of stakeholders and designers coincide, including design participation of children."

Read the full article [here.](#)

MAY 1998 – BEANIE BABY AUCTION BRINGS BIG BUCKS FOR KTP

Kids can be powerful fundraisers! Starting in 1994, 8-year-olds Kristin Holcombe, Helen Rittelmeyer, and their friends made crafts, organized bazaars, and held other fundraisers for the playground. In May of 1998, Kristin put together a Beanie Baby Auction, complete with a celebrity auctioneer! We can't thank the KT kids enough for their hard work over a 6-year period – they made the difference for KTP!



KIDS TOGETHER NEEDS YOU AS A MEMBER

We love hosting free activities at the playground year-round, but we couldn't do it without the support of our members! While KT runs on a shoestring budget, we have basic expenses to cover, as well as the costs of the free fun we bring to the playground. Members get advance notice of pop-up events and our quarterly newsletter. Subscribe at the \$100 level and get a KT tote – ready for summer trips to the playground! Get all the details [here](#)!



Businesses and organizations can show their support as KT members, too! Business and organization memberships start at \$250, with benefits at three giving levels. Get all the details [here](#).

WE ♥ OUR KT MEMBERS!

Willa Brigham
Liz Brignac
Marla Dorrel
Pat Fish
Josh Fleming
Danelle Gambrell
Karen Gray
Robert Harrison
Mary Insprucker
Tullie Johnson

Sarah Kahn
Scott Lassiter
Sarah Martin
Reif Counseling Services, PLLC
Nina Schloss
Janice Sitzes
Tricia Tiu
Ed and Carolyn Yerha
Paul and Kaori Zevgolits

You, too, can show your love for Kids Together and our free, fun activities! A donation of any size is welcome and greatly appreciated!

Make your donation [here](#).



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