

Tuesday, April 23, 2019
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

IX ART PARK TO HOST THIRD ANNUAL CIRCIX EVENT: APRIL 28, 2019

The IX Art Park will host the third Circix All Abilities benefit on Sunday, April 28, 1-4 p.m. Suggested donation is \$10, but if you cannot pay, come and enjoy the fun anyway! Proceeds benefit Bennett's Village, dedicated to creating a place where ALL can play. Watch aerial performances by Moonlight-Circus and Phoenix Dance Studio, plus stilt walkers, jugglers, therapy dogs, craft stations, the Book Bus and more! Bring your appetite for kettle corn, cotton candy, food trucks and ice cream. For those who need a break, a sensory room will offer a quiet place to rest.

More than just a performance, this year's Circix is an opportunity to celebrate the critical work of organizations like the Arc of the Piedmont, Virginia Institute of Autism, WorkSource Enterprises, Region Ten, Innisfree Village, Jefferson Area Transition Council, the Gym and Moms in Motion, all serving the special needs communities in Charlottesville and the region. "This is our third Circix and it'll be our biggest yet," says The IX Art Park's Wizard of IX Brian Wimer. "IX is about everyone. So we're happy to celebrate and support our special needs community in this carnival context of controlled mayhem."

Of course, Bennett's Village will be there to answer questions about its partnership with the City of Charlottesville to build a multigenerational, all-abilities playground at Pen Park. "We are honored that the IX Art Park has chosen Bennett's Village as the beneficiary of the Third Circix. Bennett loved attending previous Circix performances, so that makes it all the more meaningful," said Kara McClurken, Bennett's mom.

Bennett's Village is named after Bennett McClurken-Gibney, who died last spring shortly before his 6th birthday. Bennett loved to play, but most playgrounds in Charlottesville were not accessible to him and his power wheelchair. Bennett's Village is dedicated to building a playground in Charlottesville to honor Bennett's memory and provide a place where Bennett and his friends could have played together.

Stop by the Bennett's Village table at Circix, where there will be magnets and bracelets for sale, signup sheets for volunteers, raffle tickets to win Bennett's Village swag and more. The Arc of the Piedmont serves as fiscal sponsor for Bennett's Village. Interested in learning more about Bennett's Village? Go to www.bennettsvillage.org.

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Questions? Contact Brian Wimer at brian@ixartpark.com or Kara McClurken at bennettsvillage@gmail.com.