

FAIRMOUNT PARK

CONSERVANCY



PHILADELPHIA
PARKS &
RECREATION

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CELEBRATING LIFE IN THE NEW LOVE PARK Dancing, Dining, and Weddings Grace the Center City Plaza

August 14, 2018 – Philadelphia, PA – Starting this month, Fairmount Park Conservancy and Philadelphia Parks & Recreation are bringing back programming and a rotating array of food trucks to enliven LOVE Park, which was re-opened on May 30 after a major redesign. Plans include: line dancing and salsa dancing on Fridays at noon, a mix of food vendors on weekdays, Mindfulness Mondays featuring meditation, and special live performances. In addition, the Conservancy and Parks & Recreation have worked with the Mayor’s Office to offer weddings in LOVE Park on two Wednesdays every month.



“LOVE Park is one of the most dynamic community spaces in Philadelphia and we're excited to bring even more people together here through the power of arts and culture,” said **Jamie Gauthier, Executive Director of Fairmount Park Conservancy**, the nonprofit partner behind such park projects as The Oval+ and Parks on Tap. “There's going to be something for everyone to enjoy at the park, from great food to interactive performances to salsa dancing.”

Philadelphia Parks and Recreation Commissioner Kathryn Ott Lovell noted, “While the renovation of LOVE Park plaza was underway, people kept asking: ‘Where is the love?’ And we told them: ‘Wait until the park opens!’ Now we have people in love getting married in LOVE – it keeps getting better.”

Highlights for late summer and fall are listed below. For the daily schedules of events and offerings, see the new web page: phila.gov/spotlight/love-park/.

Shake It Off Fridays, starting August 17, 12-2pm

- Line dancing with Joette Makes Fitness Fun – August 17, 24, 31
- Salsa dancing with Siempre Salsa – September 7, 14, 21, 28
- October sessions to be announced soon

Wedding Wednesdays, starting August 22, 11am-2pm

Stop by the *LOVE* sculpture to celebrate couples getting married! Or register at City Hall, room 413 on September 11 to schedule your own 30-minute wedding in LOVE for October 10 or 24. Wedding dates vary, starting with two per month. Check the LOVE Park webpage for more information: phila.gov/spotlight/love-park/.

Live at LOVE, starting August 23

Enjoy free music and theatrical performances on lunch breaks or bring a blanket and stay a while for Live at LOVE. This year, for the first time, Fairmount Park Conservancy has collaborated with FringeArts to bring three site-specific events into LOVE Park during the city's annual Fringe Festival (see schedule, below). Highlights of Live at LOVE in upcoming months include:

- Suzanne Sheer, piano/keyboard – melodies to kick off the series, Thursday, August 23, 12-2pm.
- *Chichi Chip (an ode to the Gnarly)* – a site-specific performance by music and dance ensemble Philly Kerplop that celebrates the traditions and atmosphere of LOVE Park (part of Fringe Festival, premieres Thursday September 6, 5pm).
- *An Unofficial, Unauthorized Tour of LOVE Park* – an interactive, questions-encouraged tour of the park led by comedians, writers, and performance artists Kate Banford and Rose Luardo (part of Fringe Festival, premieres Monday, September 10, 12pm).
- *Same Picture Different Poses* – a mixture of physical theater, storytelling, dance, and circus that will interact with audience members to reflect on what connects us as humans – love. (Part of Fringe Festival, premieres Tuesday, September 11, 1pm).
- Silent Philly – DJs spin popular tunes as participants wear noise-cancelling headphones and sing and dance along, every Thursday in October, 12-2pm.

Food Trucks in the Park, starting September 6, Monday-Friday

On weekdays through November 2, a varied line-up of mobile vendors will serve breakfast, lunch, and snacks in LOVE Park. New this season: [QT Vietnamese](#) serving bahn mi sandwiches; [Papermill Food Truck](#), home of the spurrito, [Kono Pizza on Wheels](#) where the kono cone is pizza reinvented, and [Lil Pop Shop](#) making homemade flavored ice pops. Crowd favorites like [Mama's Meatballs](#) will return.

Schedule:

Monday-Friday, 11am-3pm: 2-3 savory trucks, 1 sweet truck

Wednesday-Friday, 6-10am: 1 breakfast truck



Monday Mindfulness, starting September 17, 2-3pm

Take a break and learn how to change your mindset and focus on loving yourself, with meditation expert Jennifer Schelter. There will be (3) 20-minute sessions on these Mondays:

- September 17
- September 24
- October 1
- October 15
- October 22
- October 29

Fringe Festival Live at LOVE Performance Schedule, September 6 – 27:

<i>Chichi Chip (an ode to the Gnarly)</i>	9/6, 5pm
<i>An Unofficial, Unauthorized Tour of Love Park</i>	9/10, 12pm
<i>Same Picture Different Poses</i>	9/11, 1pm
<i>Chichi Chip (an ode to the Gnarly)</i>	9/13, 12pm
<i>An Unofficial, Unauthorized Tour of Love Park</i>	9/13, 6:30pm
<i>An Unofficial, Unauthorized Tour of Love Park</i>	9/15, 2pm
<i>Same Picture Different Poses</i>	9/18, 12pm
<i>An Unofficial, Unauthorized Tour of Love Park</i>	9/18, 6:30pm (RAIN DATE)
<i>Same Picture Different Poses</i>	9/20, 1pm
<i>Chichi Chip (an ode to the Gnarly)</i>	9/21, 2pm
<i>Chichi Chip (an ode to the Gnarly)</i>	9/22, 4pm (RAIN DATE)
<i>Same Picture Different Poses</i>	9/27, (RAIN DATE)

Fairmount Park Conservancy exists to champion Philadelphia’s parks. We lead capital projects and historic preservation efforts, foster neighborhood park stewardship, attract and leverage investments, and develop innovative programs throughout the 10,200 acres that include Fairmount Park and more than 200 neighborhood parks around the city. For more information, please visit myphillypark.org, join us at facebook.com/fairmountparkconservancy, and follow us on Instagram and Twitter @myphillypark.

Philadelphia Parks & Recreation (PPR) advances the prosperity of the city and the progress of her people through intentional and sustained stewardship of nearly 10,200 acres of public land and waterways as well as through hundreds of safe, stimulating recreation, environmental and cultural centers. PPR promotes the well-being and growth of the city’s residents by connecting them to the natural world around them, to each other and to fun, physical and social opportunities. PPR is responsible for the upkeep of historically significant Philadelphia events and specialty venues, and works collaboratively with communities and organizations in leading capital projects and the introduction of inventive programming. To learn more about Philadelphia Parks & Recreation, visit us at www.phila.gov/parksandrec, and follow @philaparkandrec on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, or Tumblr.

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Photos by Albert Yee for Fairmount Park Conservancy

For more information, visit phila.gov/spotlight/love-park/ and find high-resolution images for media usage in the Conservancy’s online press room <http://bit.ly/ConservancyPressKit>.