

<u>Riveropolis</u> made a splash when it came to Culver City in early October. <u>Gregory Gavin</u>, the artist behind Riveropolis, was invited by the City to bring his Social Play, Science & Design River to the community. The river provided children, adults, and families an opportunity to learn about waterways, buoyancy, currents, gravity, waterfalls, and boat building.

Riveropolis was installed for two days at the <u>Lindberg Park</u> Stone House patio, where small groups of students were provided an opportunity to experience the river and learn a bit about the science of water and the properties of various materials through boat building. City staff coordinated access for the students of La Playa Preschool, onsite participants of the <u>Culver City Afterschool Recreation Program (CCARP)</u>, and the Transitional Kindergarten (TK) classes of El Marino, El Rincon, Farragut, La Ballona, and Linwood E. Howe Elementary Schools.

Following the installation at Lindberg Park, Riveropolis was moved to the Helms Bakery District where attendees of the <u>Culver City Arts District Art Walk & Roll Festival</u> were able to enjoy the river. The City's <u>CivicSpark Fellows Cassandra Cortez and Sunny</u> <u>Zhao</u> assisted as 'River Guides' and helped to spread awareness of the <u>Ballona Creek</u> <u>Revitalization Project</u>.

We wish to express our appreciation to <u>PRCS</u> staff and to the teachers and parent volunteers whose support enabled a successful experience for the students. A special thanks, as well, to Culver City's CivicSpark Fellows for helping to deepen community engagement and to the <u>Helms Bakery District</u> for hosting the installation. We are particularly grateful for the dedication, enthusiasm, and artistry brought by Gregory Gavin and his daughter, Hailey. For a glimpse of the collaboration, creativity, joy, and wonder that Riveropolis inspired in members of our community, please watch Hailey Gavin's video, linked below.

Riveropolis in *Culver* city October 2019

