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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

### ***Pianos in the Parks* Encourages Discovery of Parks through Music and Art**

#### *Popular Program Kicks Off at Queen Anne Hill's Kerry Park Viewpoint*

The popular summertime *Pianos in the Parks* program is making a return engagement for 10 days this month. Beginning Friday, 10 parks and public spaces across Bellevue, Mercer Island, Seattle, and throughout King County will host 10 artistically enhanced pianos for public play.

The first piano – titled *Graphic Melody* by artist J. Adam Brinson – will appear from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, July 8 at **Kerry Park Viewpoint** (211 West Highland Drive) **on Queen Anne Hill**.

New this year, each participating park will host a free daily musical performance – featuring the piano – from noon to 12:30 p.m. On Friday, musical artist [Joe Doria](#) will perform. In addition, Gage Academy of Art will host a free pop-up drawing activity featuring models, art materials, easels and artist assistance for anyone to experience art-making from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. (live model appears at 12:30 p.m.)

Adding to the kick-off festivities is a giant “Living Floral Tree,” which is expected to be a big hit for those looking for a unique selfie photo-op.

Other participating parks include Alki Beach Park, Kubota Garden, Golden Gardens and Westlake Park in Seattle; Luther Burbank Park on Mercer Island; Crossroads Park and Chism Beach Park in Bellevue; Sammamish River Trail in Redmond; and Tolt-MacDonald Park in Carnation.

In addition to the 10 park pianos, a piano will be available for public use every day for the duration of the program in **Lower Queen Anne at the Seattle Center** plaza next to KEXP. The Lower Queen Anne piano is titled *Genius from the Void* by artist Craig Cundiff.

Ticketed passengers will also find a special piano at Sea-Tac International Airport's central terminal greeting passengers flying to and from the city of music.

The complete park schedule is available at <https://pianosintheparks.com>.

Pianos in the Parks, made possible by Laird Norton Wealth Management, is designed to encourage the discovery of parks through music and art by placing one-of-a-kind, artist-designed upright and grand pianos in parks for free public use and music exploration.

The pianos – all previously owned – pianos are procured, repaired, tuned, transported and maintained by Bellevue-based Classic Pianos; and are painted at Seattle’s Urban ArtWorks by student, alumni and faculty artists of Gage Academy of Art.

“We’ve seen how the placement of pianos in parks encourages the discovery and enjoyment of our amazing outdoor spaces,” said Robert Moser, president & CEO of Laird Norton Wealth Management. “Our local parks are vital to creating a strong and healthy community. At Laird Norton, we’re dedicated to help nurture and protect these spaces now and for future generations.

Laird Norton Wealth Management underwrites and manages the program with generous community support from partners Bellevue Parks and Community Services, City of Bellevue Arts, City of Mercer Island Parks and Recreation, Classic Pianos, Classical KING FM, Gage Academy of Art, KEXP 90.3 FM, King County Parks, PlayNetwork, Port of Seattle, Seattle Center, Seattle City of Music, Seattle Parks and Recreation, Seattle Symphony, Ten Grands, and Urban Artworks. Additional support is provided by Downtown Seattle Association, KCTS 9 and MICA (Mercer Island Center for the Arts).

For more information on Pianos in the Parks, visit <https://www.pianosintheparks.com>.

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**EDITOR’S NOTE:** Artist interviews, photos and B-roll footage are available upon request.