



City of Arts & Innovation

News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 19, 2023

Contact:

Phil Pitchford

Public Information Officer

951-826-5975

ppitchford@riversideca.gov

**City of Riverside’s Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department
Recognized for Equitable and Inclusive Programming for At-Risk Youth**

Creating Community Award of Excellence bestowed by the California Parks and Recreation Society

RIVERSIDE, Calif. – The City of Riverside’s Parks, Recreation and Community Services Department (PRCSD) has been awarded the 2022 Creating Community Award of Excellence by the California Parks and Recreation Society (CPRS).

The award highlights the City’s equitable and inclusive programming in music and the arts for at-risk youth. The programs recognized include the Recreational Arts Program (RAP) at Bobby Bonds Park, the Friendly Stars at La Sierra Campus, and the Project Building Resources for the Intervention and Deterrence of Gang Engagement (Project BRIDGE) at the Youth Opportunity Center.

“Our team has worked diligently and hard to bring much needed resources that are of value to Riverside,” PRCS Director Pamela Galera said. “This is a huge win not just for our department, but also for the City as we push forward with the Envision Riverside 2025 strategic plan.”

The award recognizes the department’s efforts diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) as well as the strategic plan’s cross-cutting threads of Community Trust, Sustainability & Resiliency, Innovation, Equity and Fiscal Responsibility.

The California Parks and Recreation Society (CPRS) advances the park and recreation profession through education, networking, resources and advocacy.

The awards program recognizes outstanding achievement in the areas of facility design, park planning, marketing and communications, and community improvement and programming.