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City of Farmington Hills Cultural Arts Division Receives Grant to Support Immersive Programming for Preschool Kids

The Farmington & Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth & Families grant will support Rock Around the Hawk, a free monthly program that exposes preschoolers to music and art

FARMINGTON HILLS, Mich. (Dec. 2, 2024) – The City of Farmington Hills Special Services Department Cultural Arts Division is pleased to announce its selection as a \$1,000 grant recipient by the Farmington & Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth & Families. The funding will support Rock Around the Hawk through winter 2025. Rock Around the Hawk is a free, monthly drop-in program for little ones, ages 18-months to five-years-old, and their caregivers that exposes families to music, art and other cultural activities.

"We're thankful for the continued support of the Farmington & Farmington Hills Foundation for Youth & Families," said Rachel Timlin, supervisor for the City's Cultural Arts Division. "This support allows us to keep Rock Around the Hawk free so more kids can be introduced to the benefits of art, dance and music from a young age."

Rock Around the Hawk, which was selected as a 2023/2024 Innovative Recreation Programming Award winner by the Michigan Recreation & Parks Association, is a program of the City's Special Services Department Cultural Arts Division. One Friday morning each month, The Hawk Theatre's Black Box transforms into a magical, musical experience that lightheartedly pays homage to unique global music festivals and cultural institutions with age-appropriate themes, activities, crafts, and, of course, music and dancing. Upcoming themes include **Toasty Man on Dec. 13**, a kid-friendly version of Burning Man, a celebration of self-expression in the desert, and **Snowfort Jazz Festival on Jan. 3**, bringing the sounds of New England's Newport Jazz Festival to Farmington Hills. A full list of dates and themes can be found <u>here</u> in the City's Winter Activities Guide.

The City of Farmington Hills has the largest dedicated municipal Cultural Arts Division in the State of Michigan. The Division coordinates arts programming for the community, including classes, events, and activities in visual and performing arts, and year-round performances at The Hawk Theatre, to expose diverse populations to the arts.

For further information, contact the Cultural Arts Division at 248-473-1850.

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About the City of Farmington Hills

The City of Farmington Hills is a place where everyone is welcome. Founded in 1973, it is one of the largest and most diverse communities in Oakland County. Farmington Hills is home to more than 83,000 residents who speak

more than 60 languages, and more than 75 Fortune 500 businesses, including multinational corporations like Nissan and Bosch. The City is known for its extensive amenities, including its 600 acres of parks, 90 athletic fields, six miles of hiking and walking trails, the Farmington Hills Golf Club, and an Ice Arena. Farmington Hills is also home to The Hawk, an award-winning, 245,000-square-foot recreation and arts venue, which includes The Hawk Theatre and The Hawk Makerspace. For more information, visit www.fhgov.com.

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