

Veterans Park District

Programs & Happenings

Early Childhood

Building Blocks Preschool 2026-2027

Ages 3-5

Our preschool is designed for children ages 3-5, focusing on physical, social, intellectual and creative development. We believe children learn best through play, which helps them communicate, explore, solve problems and make decisions. Our curriculum, based on Illinois Early Learning Standards, combines free play with teacher-guided activities that introduce letters, numbers, colors and shapes. School year runs from Aug. 31, 2026-May 7, 2027.

- 9 a.m.-noon; Bulger Park, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park; Three-day fee – R\$203/ NR\$233 or Two-day fee – R\$141/ NR\$171, per month, plus \$100 nonrefundable deposit.

Early Explorers • Ages 2-5

Join us on an alphabet adventure! Each week children are introduced to different groups of letters in an alphabet, their sounds and shapes. They will learn through books, flashcards, hands-on activities and crafts. By the end of the program, each child will have created their very own ABC book to take home and enjoy for years to come.

- Wednesdays, Oct. 28-Nov. 25, 12:15-1 p.m.; Bulger Park Community Center, 1601 Hirsch St., Melrose Park; Fee – R\$40/NR\$50; Note – 2- and 3-year-old participants must be accompanied by adult.

Little Chefs Pop Up: "Halloween Treats" • Ages 2-5

No tricks, just treats at this hands-on Halloween workshop. We'll show you and your little ones how to create salty and sweet bites that have a Halloween twist. Little chefs and parents will work together to create delicious snacks perfect for enjoying at home during the spooky season.

- Thursday, Oct. 1, 4:30-5:30 p.m.; Grant Park Recreation Center, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake; Fee – R\$30/NR\$40; Note – 2- and 3-year-old participants must be accompanied by adult.

Creative Arts

Art Mix • Ages 6+

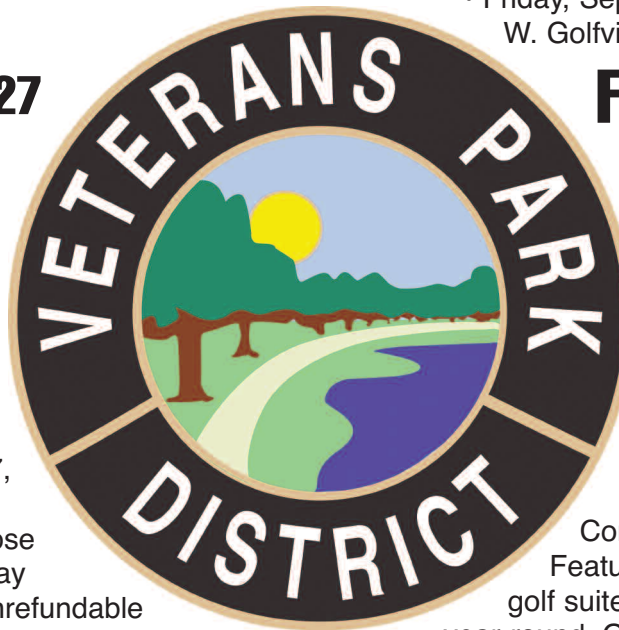
Explore, create and get messy! In this mixed media class, young artist experiment with a variety of art materials and techniques, including painting, collage, clay and drawing. Participants will have the opportunity to express their creativity while making unique take-home projects and learning something new each week.

- Mondays, Oct. 26-Nov. 30, 6:30-7:30 p.m.; Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th Ave., Melrose Park; Fee – R\$75/NR\$85.

Glam Makeover Spa Party! • Ages 6+

Kids will enjoy a fun, interactive spa experience! Participants will receive a mini makeover, decorate and personalize their own hairbrushes, create DIY lip scrubs and play glam makeover-inspired games for a chance to win prizes. Wear your favorite pajamas for a cozy and glamorous evening with friends!

- Friday, Sept. 18, 6-7:30 p.m.; Grant Park Recreation Center, 44 W. Golfview Dr., Northlake; Fee – R\$35/NR\$45.



Fitness

Fitness Classes

Cimbalo Fitness Center offers a variety of fun, exciting fitness classes for all ages and fitness levels. Our classes include Zumba, Pump & Sculpt, Strong 30/CIRCL 30, Middle Eastern Belly Dancing, Total Body Resistance, Yoga, Youth Boxing and Youth Fitness. Fitness Center members receive 25% off fitness classes. Call Cimbalo Fitness Center at (708) 343-5151 for more information

Golf Simulator

Come experience Cimbalo Fitness Center's Golf Suite! Featuring a state-of-the-art Full Swing® golf simulator, our golf suite allows you to have a fun, realistic golf experience year-round. Our golf simulator offers something for everyone of all ages and experience levels, from the super competitive golfer to the super casual. With over 85 courses, multiple skill challenge courses, a driving range and a variety of challenge games/modes of play, we can provide users with a great experience customized to their goals, whether that be improving their golf game or just having fun. Pricing is \$40 for one hour and \$20 for a half-hour rental, please call ahead to reserve a time slot. Cimbalo Fitness Center is located at 1203 N. 24 Ave., Melrose Park. Call (708) 343-5151 to reserve a time.

Youth Athletics

Soccer • Ages 8-12

VPD staff will lead players in specific drills while they improve their overall understanding of the game while having a blast! Each class lasts for one hour and players will rotate through different stations and drills.

- Wednesdays, Sept. 9-Oct. 7, 6-7 p.m.; George Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th Ave., Melrose Park; Fee – \$50.

Baseball • Ages 8-12

This slow-paced class covers the basic skills/drills of baseball, including throwing, catching, fielding and hitting. Please bring a baseball bat and glove.

- Wednesdays, Sept. 9-Oct. 7, 5-6 p.m.; George Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th Ave., Melrose Park. Fee – \$50.

Tee Ball • Ages 4-7

Perfect for beginners, kids will hit off a tee, throw, catch and run the bases.

- Wednesdays, Sept. 9-Oct. 7, 4-5 p.m.; George Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th Ave., Melrose Park; Fee – \$50.

For more information on Veterans Park District events and activities, call (708) 343-5270 or visit www.vpdpark.org.



Veterans Park District *Programs & Happenings*



Veterans Park District has joined the **Leyden Youth Basketball & Youth Volleyball Leagues**

This collaborative league brings together the **Leyden Recreation Department**, **Park District of Franklin Park**, **Schiller Park Recreation Department**, **Rosemont Park District**, and **Norridge Park District** to create a fun, community-focused basketball experience.

Teams from each community will play weekly games at rotating locations, giving families the chance to visit and enjoy different facilities throughout the season. Practices will be held once per week, and the league places a strong emphasis on equal playing time to ensure a positive, balanced, and development-focused experience for every participant. Teams will be made based on registration dates.

Call Nico Urbinati at (708) 716-4822 for more information.

BASKETBALL LEAGUE Grades 1st-8th

Dates: Feb 6- Mar 27

Practice date and time – TBD

Games: Saturdays – times and location TBD

R/N Fee: \$110/\$120 (1st and 2nd grade)

\$135/\$145 (3rd through 8th grade)

Registration begins September 28th

Code: #393927



VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE Grades 5th-8th

Dates: Oct 24-Dec 12

Practice date and time – TBD

Games: Saturdays – times and location TBD

R/N Fee: \$120/\$130

Registration ends September 21st

Code: #393927

Volunteer Coaches are needed for this league to be successful. If you are interested in coaching, please call Nico at (708) 716-4822.

(708) 343-5270 | VPDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON





Veterans Park District Programs & Happenings

Real-Life Skills Workshop

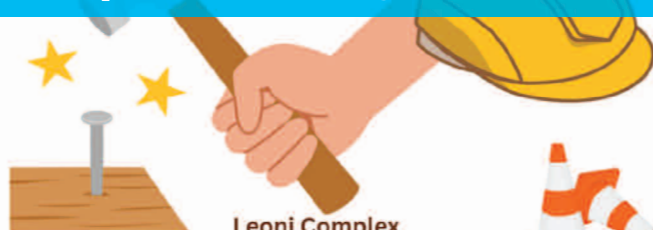
- ✂ Learn to use household tools safely
- ⚙ Explore plumbing basics
- 🔨 Try beginner woodworking projects
- 💡 Build confidence & independence
- 👩 Hands-on projects each week
- ★ Learn practical life skills while having fun!



Ages 8+
Saturdays
Aug 22-Sept 19*
*No Class Sept 5
11:30AM-12:30PM



Workshop has already started.
Call for possible late-registration info!



Leoni Complex
800 N. 17th Ave Melrose Park



(708) 343-5270 | VDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON

CARTOON & ANIME DRAWING

UNLEASH YOUR INNER ARTIST!

LEARN TO DRAW YOUR OWN CARTOON AND ANIME CHARACTERS IN A FUN, CREATIVE ENVIRONMENT!

AGES 8+
SEPT 17-OCT 22
THURSDAYS
6:30-7:30PM
\$75R/\$85NR

WHAT YOU WILL LEARN

CHARACTER DESIGN

CHIBI & ANIME STYLES

SKETCHING & COLORING

EXPRESSIVE FACES & POSES



LEONI COMPLEX
800 N. 17th AVE, MELROSE PARK



(708) 343-5270 | VDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON



Ages 6-8
5-6pm

HIP HOP

Ages 9-12
6-7pm

★ Kids Dance Class ★

Dancers will learn cool moves, rhythm, and dance combinations while building confidence, coordination, and performance skills.

SEPT 23-NOV 18*
NO CLASS NOV 11
WEDNESDAYS
\$110R/125NR
PER CLASS

Dance Recital:
Saturday,
11/21

George A Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th Ave, Melrose Park

(708) 343-5270 | VDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON

Ages 6+
Friday, October 9th
6:30-8:00PM
\$30 R/\$35 NR

- Play fun lawn games!
- Create your own colorful tie-dye T-shirt to take home as a keepsake!
- Learn how to pitch a tent like a camping pro!
- End the night with a classic camping treat— s'mores!

Bulger Park 1601 Hirsch St, Melrose Park

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Veterans Park District Programs & Happenings

HOPS & HOOPS



Ages 4-6

Mondays

4:45-5:30PM

Sept 14-Oct 26

\$55R/\$70NR

- Learn Basketball Basics
- Teamwork & Sportsmanship
- Build Confidence on the Court
- Dribbling, Passing & Shooting

Grant Park Recreation Center
44 W. Golfview Dr, Northlake



(708) 343-5270 | VPDARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON



Alphabet Adventures

Explore the alphabet through stories, activities, and crafts while learning letter names, sounds, and shapes.

Ages 2-5
(2 & 3's with Adult)

Tuesdays

10-11am

Sept 15-Oct 20

\$60R/\$70NR

Grant Park Recreation Center,
44 W. Golfview Dr. Northlake



(708) 343-5270 | VPDARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON



WIGGLE & GIGGLE GYM

AGES 2-6*

*2 & 3 YEAR OLDS MUST BY PARTICIPATE WITH ADULT

THURSDAYS
OCT 15-NOV 19
4:45-5:30PM
\$60 R/\$70 NR

- INTRO TO "PHYSICAL EDUCATION" FUN
- PARACHUTE PLAY & MOVEMENT
- RUN, JUMP & EXPLORE
- TEAMWORK & LISTENING SKILLS
- ACTIVE FUN EVERY CLASS!



GRANT PARK RECREATION CENTER
44 W GOLFVIEW DR., NORTHLAKE



(708) 343-5270 | VPDARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON



Ages 4-7
\$45R/\$55NR

Ballet 1

Tuesdays
4:45-5:30pm
S1: Oct 27-Nov 17
S2: Nov 24-Dec 15

Young dancers learn basic ballet positions and simple steps through fun movement, music, and imagination.

George A Leoni Complex, 800 N. 17th Ave, Melrose Park

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**Veterans
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RAIN OR SHINE!

Autumn Fest

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
11 AM-3 PM
GOUIN PARK, 2400 SCOTT STREET
FRANKLIN PARK**

\$20 WRISTBAND FOR UNLIMITED USE INCLUDES:

- **NEW!** Ballistic Swings
- **NEW!** Adrenalator
- **NEW!** Mechanical Pig
- Trackless Train
- Pony Rides
- Petting Zoo
- Bumper Cars
- Rock Wall
- Autumn-Themed Inflatables
- Free Pumpkin for Each Family*
(*while supplies last)

Individual tickets for sale. Tickets prices vary for each attraction.

New Food Vendors!

Little Joey's/ Bacci Pizza
The Roasted Cob

Vendor Lane is Back!

Calling all Makers, Crafters
and Small Businesses.

\$25 per space

Call (708) 343-5270 for an
application.

(708) 343-5270 | VPDPARK.ORG | FOLLOW US ON

