

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SOCRATES SCULPTURE PARK

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TWO JUNE BIKE EVENTS FOR KIDS AT SOCRATES SCULPTURE PARK!

KIDS' BIKE SWAP & BICYCLE SAFETY AND HELMET PROGRAM at Socrates Sculpture Park Saturday, June 12th Free / Weather Permitting

**Noon-3pm: Bicycle Safety and Helmet Program - Led by the NYC
Department of Transportation**

**Noon-3pm: Kids' Bicycle Swap - Led by Recycle-A-Bicycle
(In the event of rain, the swap will be held on July 31st at Queensbridge Park)**

Long Island City, NY (June 6, 2010) – On Saturday, June 12th, from 11am-3pm, **Socrates Sculpture Park**, in collaboration with **New York City Department of Transportation** (NYC DOT) and **Recycle-A-Bicycle**, will host a Kids' Bike Swap and Bicycle Safety and Helmet Program. Children who have outgrown their bicycles or have extra gently-used bikes to donate, are invited to bring their bike to Socrates Sculpture Park and swap it in exchange for another gently-used bike. At approximately 2:45pm, any unclaimed bicycles will be donated on a first-come first serve basis. All children's bikes in working order and without gears are welcome at the event.

From noon to 3pm, the NYC DOT will give away bicycle helmets to visitors of all ages. Participants will learn how to properly fit and wear their helmets before receiving them. One must be present to receive a helmet. A parent or legal guardian must be present to sign a waiver for children under 18 years old. Adults over 18 years old, must also sign a waiver.

This program is being held at Socrates Sculpture Park to help families "gear-up" for bike season and for the Park's LIC Bike Parade on Saturday June 19!

Third Annual LIC BIKE PARADE! Saturday, June 19, 2010 Free / Weather Permitting

**10am-1pm: Learn to ride with Bike New York at Halletts Cove Playground
on Vernon Boulevard and 30th Avenue**

Noon: Registration begins at Socrates Sculpture Park

Noon-3pm: Bike Decorating Workshops

3pm: Parade from Socrates Sculpture Park to Queensbridge Park

3-6pm: Waterfront Celebration at Queensbridge Park

On Saturday, June 19, Socrates Sculpture Park will present the third annual **LIC Bike Parade** in partnership with **Bike New York, Free Style Arts Association, Materials for the Arts, Partnerships For Parks, Recycle-A-Bicycle, Transportation Alternatives, Green Shores NYC** and **Friends of Queensbridge Park**. Back by popular demand, this **FREE** family and community event will invite

children of all ages to explore the creative potential of adaptive reuse, by using recycled materials to repair and decorate their bikes!

The day will kick-off with several hands-on workshops and activities at the Park including bike decorating with **Freestyle Arts Association** and Socrates Sculpture Park artists, and bike safety checks with **Recycle-A-Bicycle**. Immediately following the workshops, participants will line-up at Socrates' north entrance and parade their bikes in a colorful procession down Vernon Boulevard (which will be closed to vehicular traffic). The parade will end with a free waterfront celebration at Queensbridge Park, hosted by **Green Shores NYC** and **Friends of Queensbridge Park Committee**. The event will feature music, games, fun and food, from 3-6pm.

Advance registration is not required, but space is limited. Please arrive early! All workshops are free and supplies will be provided. Participants are required to bring their own bicycles. The workshops will last approximately three hours and will be held - weather permitting - in the education area at Socrates Sculpture Park.

For additional information or press images please contact Ellen Staller, Director of Development and Communications, at 718.956.1819 ext. 12 or es@socratessculpturepark.org.

Socrates Sculpture Park was an abandoned riverside landfill and illegal dumpsite until 1986 when a coalition of artists and community members, under the leadership of sculptor Mark di Suvero, transformed it into an open studio and exhibition space for artists and a neighborhood park for local residents. Today, it is an internationally renowned outdoor museum and artist residency program that also serves as a vital New York City park offering a wide variety of free public programs. The Park's existence is based on the belief that reclamation, revitalization and creative expression are essential to the survival, humanity and improvement of our urban environment.

Socrates Sculpture Park is open to the public free of charge 365 days a year from 10am to sunset and is located at the intersection of Broadway and Vernon Boulevard in Long Island City. For directions to the Park, please visit our website: www.socratessculpturepark.org.

LIC Bike Parade is made possible by a generous grant from ConEdison.

Special thanks to Bike New York, Green Shores NYC, Materials for the Arts, Partnerships For Parks, Recycle-A-Bicycle and Transportation Alternatives.

Socrates Sculpture Park is grateful for the support of the City of New York, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, Queens Borough President Helen M. Marshall, City Council Speaker Christine C. Quinn, Assemblywoman Catherine Nolan, City Council Members James G. Van Bramer and Peter F. Vallone Jr., and the Department of Parks & Recreation, Commissioner Adrian Benepe.



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