

For Immediate Release

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Landscape Structures, Kiwanis International Award Iola Kiwanis \$25,000 in Playground Equipment through *Make a Difference Through Play* contest

Playground contest to help Iola Kiwanis club complete an inclusive playground Delano, Minn. (June 21, 2013) — One deserving Kiwanis club has been chosen as the winner of the international *Make a Difference Through Play* contest, sponsored by Landscape Structures Inc. and Kiwanis International, for their essay submission describing why their community needs a new playground. The winner is Iola Kiwanis in Iola, Kan., which will receive \$25,000 in playground equipment from Landscape Structures.

The City of Iola is situated along the Neosho River in Southeast Kansas. With a population of nearly 5,700 residents, Iola is the largest town in a tri-county area. The City's main recreation space, Riverside Park, is home to many amenities including a pool, athletic fields and a playground. The \$25,000 award will allow the opportunity to create a playground that will accommodate children and families with special needs. By collaborating with other local organizations—M.O.M., Iola Pride Committee, Iola Wal-Mart volunteers and many more—Iola Kiwanis plans to install a safe and inclusive play environment that will welcome all abilities.

“We are so excited to receive this \$25,000 award to be used towards our inclusive playground,” said Michael Ford, Iola Kiwanis member who spearheaded the contest entry. “Community members, past and present, have supported our club through the entire process, and I know that they’ll help us bring this playground dream to fruition. I’m excited to start laying the groundwork for plans. I speak for the entire Iola Kiwanis club when I say how much we appreciate this award.”

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“On behalf of Landscape Structures, I would like to congratulate the Iola Kiwanis club on winning the *Make a Difference Through Play* contest,” said Pat Faust, president of Landscape Structures. “We look forward to working with Iola Kiwanis as well as the community members of Iola to create a playground design that will truly welcome all abilities to play together.”

The *Make a Difference Through Play* contest was created to encourage Kiwanis clubs to bring play and playgrounds to communities across the globe. Both Landscape Structures and Kiwanis International believe that playgrounds build gathering spaces, which bring community members together to play, have fun and connect. Landscape Structures, headquartered in Delano, Minn., is the world’s leading designer and manufacturer of commercial play equipment. Kiwanis International is a global organization of members of every age who are dedicated to serving the children of the world. The organizations began their partnership in January 2013.

“Kiwanis International is thrilled to be able to award the Iola Kiwanis club \$25,000 in playground equipment to help facilitate their new inclusive playground,” said Pam Norman, director of corporate partnerships for Kiwanis International. “The community of Iola was very much in need of safe and inclusive playground equipment, and the Iola Kiwanis club has the experience to bring a project of this caliber to completion.”

The Iola Kiwanis club will complete their inclusive playground project on or around Kiwanis One Day, April 5, 2014. One Day is Kiwanis International’s signature day of service during which many clubs participate in service projects benefitting their local communities. To find a Kiwanis club near you, go to Kiwanis.org/findaclub.

About Kiwanis International

Founded in 1915, Kiwanis International is a global organization of members dedicated to serving the children of the world. Kiwanis and its family of clubs, including Circle K International for university students, Key Club for students age 14 to 18, Builders Club for students age 11-14, Kiwanis Kids for

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students age 6 to 12 and Aktion Club for adults living with disabilities, dedicate annually more than 18 million service hours to strengthen communities and serve children. The Kiwanis International family comprises nearly 600,000 adult and youth members in 80 countries and geographic areas. For more information about Kiwanis International, please visit www.kiwanis.org.

About Landscape Structures Inc.

Since 1971, Landscape Structures Inc. has been the leading commercial playground equipment manufacturer in the world. The employee-owned company is committed to creating a better world by encouraging outdoor activities that develop healthy kids, families and communities. Landscape Structures designs better playgrounds that welcome all ages and abilities, become signature gathering spaces for communities and offer the most innovative play experiences. The company's mission from day one has been to enhance children's lives by fostering and creating inspiring play experiences while honoring the environment.