Anna & Abby’s Yard was a community effort to reinvigorate a neighborhood park in Forest Grove, Oregon. Harper’s Playground partnered with the City of Forest Grove and the Dieter-Robinson family to celebrate the lives of Anna & Abby, who went to Heaven following a 2013 hit-and-run car accident while playing in a pile of leaves outside their home. The playground’s culturally responsive design supports inclusion, accessibility, livability, health and wellness, open-ended play, social cohesion, and community identity. Most importantly, it provides a safe and welcoming place for all visitors to engage in outdoor activities.

Nike believes that “if you have a body, you’re an athlete” and that the future of sport is accessible, inclusive and sustainable. In 2020, guided by these values and with a design from Harper’s Playground, Nike worked diligently to find a way of bringing sport to athletes of all abilities in Tokyo through the Tokyo Sport Playground. Every section of the park is wheelchair accessible and features a basketball court, skatepark and open areas for dance, yoga, and other forms of play and movement all surrounded by a Nike branded running track.

A Message From Executive Director, G Cody QJ Goldberg

Like many nonprofits, 2020 brought challenges our way never before seen. It also served to reinforce the importance of public gathering spaces while highlighting the disproportionate impact their absence causes on already marginalized communities. It taught us more than ever that play and friendships are essential building blocks for a child’s growth and for building strong community bonds. Through it all, and because of your support, Harper’s Playground continued our work with communities to make inclusive playgrounds the emerging standard. From Anna & Abby’s Yard here in Oregon to as far away as Nike’s Tokyo Sport Playground in Japan, we continue to build a more inclusive world, sometimes more than one playground at a time. We are moving into 2021 with hope and optimism that our collective playful nature will guide us forward with the resilience and perseverance that are hallmarks of play’s bounty. We appreciate you all for your care and support which have always been part of this wonderful ride that has been the Harper’s Playground journey. Thank you to everyone who remains playful and who chooses to be a helper.

Sincerely,

A Message From Executive Director, G Cody QJ Goldberg
Magdalene made two friends thanks to the fact that she could get close enough to play with them in her powerchair. It was so fun and so beautiful!!! Can’t wait to see things come alive at Marshall Park!!”

—SARAH MILLER, MAGDALENE’S MOM AND HARPER’S PLAYGROUND BOARD MEMBER

Harper’s Playground, in partnership with the City of Vancouver, Washington, will build the next playground in our radically inclusive model at Marshall Park. This project addresses the city’s need for accessible public outdoor play spaces through the redesign and construction of this centrally located and important community asset. The total project cost is $2.5 million and is slated to open in Fall 2022. Gifts of $5,000 or more will be recognized on a beautiful plaque at the entrance to the park.