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BARRY SWENSON BUILDER

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**THE MAGICAL BRIDGE PLAYGROUND PARTNERS
WITH BARRY SWENSON BUILDER TO CREATE
THE NATION'S MOST INNOVATIVE INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND**

Designed to meet the play needs of children and adults with physical and cognitive disabilities, autism, sensory issues and visual limitations, the Magical Bridge Playground broke ground June 23

SAN JOSE, CA, JUNE 23, 2014 – Setting the new standard for inclusive playgrounds, the [Magical Bridge](#) and [Barry Swenson Builder](#) (BSB) teams today broke ground on the country's newest model for playgrounds at Palo Alto's Mitchell Park.

"We are humbled to have been selected as the construction partner for the Magical Bridge Playground," says Case Swenson, president of BSB. "I have never been more passionate about a project. Giving everyone a place to play while setting new construction and architectural standards for parks around the country aligns perfectly with our vision to make a difference and give back to the community, particularly in the areas that benefit children."

"The first time our team met with Case, we had a magical connection," says Olenka Villarreal, founder of the project. "He was so excited about the idea to help us bring this new kind of playground to our region. He quickly assigned a fantastic and seasoned team to begin construction drawings and aligned us with partners like Verde Design, specializing in parks and outdoor spaces. We would not have put the shovels in the ground today without the magical help from Case, and our new friends at BSB and at Verde Design."

In the spirit of Silicon Valley innovation and technological advances, BSB brings over 100 years of expertise to build this fully inclusive playground, specifically designed to accommodate the needs of all children and adults. Never before seen playground structures will be built for those living with physical disabilities, autism, cognitive and developmental issues, sensory challenges and visual impairments, to name a few. The playground will include state-of-the-art structures, pathways with fully accessible entries for all, a tree walk so those using wheelchairs can experience height in the trees, a two-story play house, respite zones for those with autism, spinning zones, sliding and climbing structures, music zones, a kid-friendly stage and much more.

“We want to celebrate abilities, not disabilities. This park will be a place for all families to play outside, form friendships, and simply have fun,” says Villarreal. “It still astounds me that we’re building the first place to fully address the many different play needs of all the children that live in our community. BSB has embraced our project with the kind of enthusiasm and heart that we could only dream of. We are beyond thrilled!”

The Friends of the Magical Bridge have raised nearly \$3M privately and passed extensive approvals from the City of Palo Alto, but still need to raise \$300,000. Currently, a partner is willing to match any dollar that is donated so \$150,000 is all the project needs to make this dream a reality.

There are still many sponsorship opportunities available such as sponsoring a zone, commemorative tiles, custom benches and corporate sponsorships. You can find out more or donate today at <http://www.razoo.com/story/Magical-Bridge>. For more information about the Magical Bridge, visit magicalbridge.org

About BSB: For over thirty-five years, Barry Swenson Builder has been a dynamic partner in building the Bay Area. Three generations of expertise, along with a proven Design-Develop-Build platform, deliver an unparalleled level of creative design, quality developments and efficient construction practices. Throughout Northern California, BSB’s wide range of construction and development services is backed by decades of resources, referrals and sound business practices that have made BSB a respected leader in the community. Visit barryswensonbuilder.com for more info.

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