



Outdoor Musical Instruments for
Landscape Architects

Designing Spaces That Bring People Together

Percussion Play offers the industry's most comprehensive portfolio of outdoor musical instruments, helping designers create engaging, interactive experiences in parks, public spaces, schools, family attractions, residential developments, and landscape architecture projects around the world.

Combining art, sound, and play, our instruments encourage people to stop, interact, and make music together, transforming outdoor spaces into vibrant places for creativity, exploration, and connection. Their universal appeal enables people of different ages, abilities, and backgrounds to participate, supporting inclusive and intergenerational experiences that bring communities together.



Toadstool



Baby Floor Piano



Duo

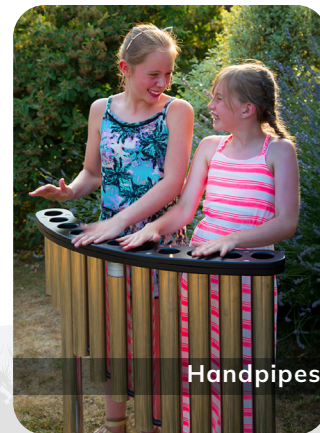
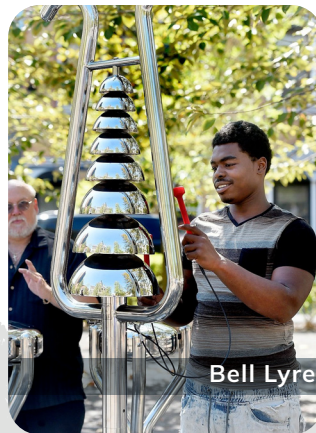
Thoughtfully integrated into a landscape, outdoor musical instruments become more than amenities. They can serve as gathering points, encourage social interaction, and create memorable experiences that invite people to linger, explore, and return. By encouraging participation rather than observation, they help activate spaces and foster a stronger sense of community.

No musical knowledge is required, allowing people of all ages and abilities to engage with confidence. Designed specifically for outdoor environments, our instruments combine exceptional sound quality, visual appeal, durability, and low maintenance, delivering years of reliable performance in demanding public settings.

"No matter who is playing the instruments, they sound wonderful and draw people into the park, both young and old. They bring life to the park year-round."

♪ Valerie Bassett ♪

Bassett Associates Landscape Architecture Inc.



Play for All Generations

Great public spaces are designed to serve diverse communities, creating opportunities for people of different ages, abilities, and backgrounds to enjoy shared experiences together. Outdoor musical instruments offer a unique form of recreation that appeals across generations, inviting participation from children, teenagers, adults, older adults, and individuals with varying abilities.

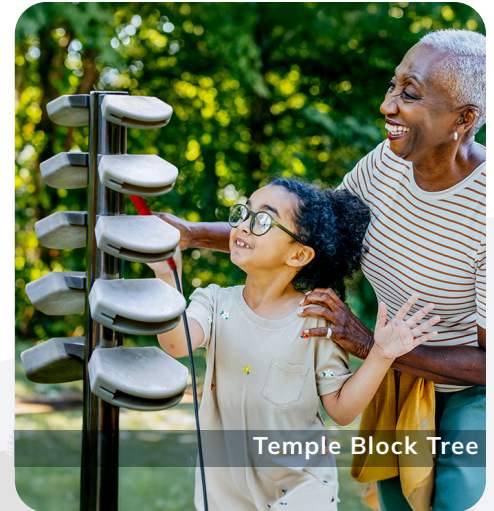
Unlike many recreational features, musical play is not limited to a particular age group. Its intuitive nature encourages spontaneous interaction and creative exploration, enabling people to connect through a shared activity regardless of musical experience, language, or physical ability. Whether incorporated into parks, trails, pathways, courtyards, or community spaces, outdoor musical instruments can help create environments that invite participation and encourage social connection.



Congas Pair



Large Babel Drum



Temple Block Tree

From inclusive playgrounds and community parks to senior living communities and dementia care environments, outdoor musical instruments create opportunities for meaningful engagement and intergenerational interaction.

Families can play together, different generations can share experiences, and people who might not otherwise interact can connect through music and play.

By supporting participation across generations, outdoor musical instruments help landscape architects create welcoming public spaces that encourage inclusion, strengthen community connections, and promote lifelong enjoyment.

They provide a simple yet effective way to bring people together, creating environments where everyone has the opportunity to participate, contribute, and feel a sense of belonging.

“What is great about the instruments is that parents are interested in playing them as well. It is such a joy to hear children and parents jamming together”

♪ Leah Oppenheimer ♪

Director of Community Outreach at Children's Museum of the East End



Sylvan Bell Trees



Ladybug

Community Engagement & Placemaking

Successful public spaces do more than provide somewhere to pass through. They create opportunities for people to gather, interact, and participate. Outdoor musical instruments help transform parks, trails, plazas, playgrounds, and civic spaces into vibrant destinations that encourage exploration, engagement, and repeat visits.

By combining art, sound, and play, musical installations create natural focal points within the landscape, attracting people of all ages and abilities. They invite spontaneous interaction, encourage shared experiences, and provide a unique way for communities to connect with their surroundings, foster a sense of belonging, and engage with one another.



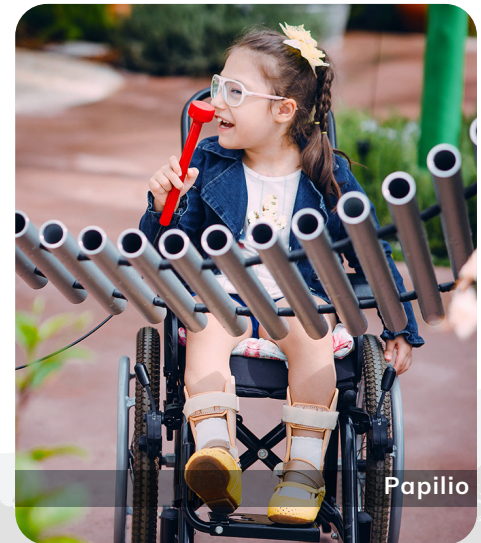
Health, Wellness & Belonging

Landscape architects increasingly recognize the important role public spaces play in supporting physical, mental, and social well-being. Outdoor musical instruments offer a unique way to encourage active participation, creative expression, and meaningful social interaction, helping create healthier, more welcoming environments for people of all ages.

Musical play stimulates the senses, encourages movement, and provides opportunities for stress relief, relaxation, and enjoyment. Unlike many recreational features that focus primarily on physical activity, outdoor music supports emotional well-being and social connection, creating shared experiences that foster a sense of belonging.

Designed to be intuitive and accessible, outdoor musical instruments require no prior musical experience, allowing people of different ages, abilities, and backgrounds to participate with confidence. This universal accessibility helps remove barriers to engagement and supports inclusive environments where everyone feels welcome.

Research continues to highlight the positive impact music can have on mood, cognition, social connection, and quality of life. From parks and playgrounds to healthcare settings, senior living communities, and public spaces, outdoor musical instruments provide meaningful opportunities for engagement that contribute to happier, healthier, and more connected communities.



Music for Youth at Hamilton Park, WI

In the city of Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, children can discover music and learn to play well-known tunes in the great outdoors, thanks to one local student's love of music and desire to give back to her community.

College student Natalie Johnson's Girl Scout Gold Award project, "Music for Youth," brings outdoor musical instruments to Hamilton Park, a popular space for the local Boys and Girls Club. The project provides children with easy access to music-making, with retired music teachers helping to introduce them to music and musical scales.

As a teaching aide at the Boys and Girls Club, Natalie is passionate about creating a space where children can explore music and play alongside parents and grandparents. Supported by a local business and the City of Fond du Lac, the project features a wide range of outdoor musical instruments, creating the largest outdoor music garden in the area.



Cavatina



Cavatina with Music Book



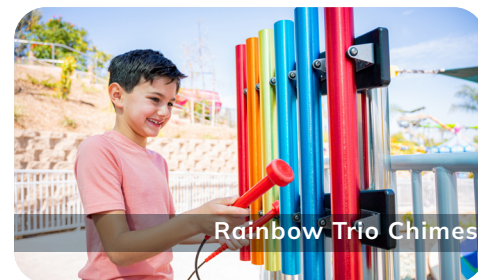
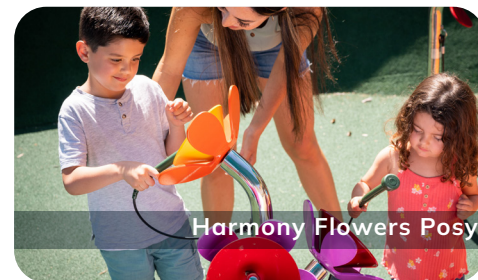
Harmony Bells Major Bunch

Rosita's Harmony Hills in Sesame Place SeaWorld, CA

Sesame Place is the newest theme park to open in California and the second theme park of its kind in the United States, and the perfect getaway for families and kids of all ages. The theme park is full of immersive experiences and now offers guests a chance to use their imagination and practice their musical skills on various chimes and bells.

During a day at the park, guests can spend time at Rosita's Harmony Hills, a soft play area for younger guests, which includes Percussion Play's outdoor musical instruments. Children have the opportunity to climb, crawl, and create beautiful music, while playing on rolling green hillsides. The ability to play together... Rosita's Harmony Hills is a brightly colored, soft play area where kids can try different tune combinations and make music on various percussion instruments. The site was designed as an interactive play experience where children can explore and enjoy the harmonious musical instruments while also serving as a place to relax between soaring and spinning on rides and splishing and splashing on water slides.

Percussion Play's instruments were a great choice because of the selection of both traditional-looking instruments and instruments that are inspired by nature, which helped create a beautiful space for everyone to explore and enjoy. Musical instruments were chosen particularly because Sesame Street's Rosita loves to play guitar and create music with her Sesame Street friends. Fun Fact: The [Calypso Chimes](#) at Rosita's Harmony Hills include the nine notes needed to play the beloved Sunny Days theme song from Sesame Street.

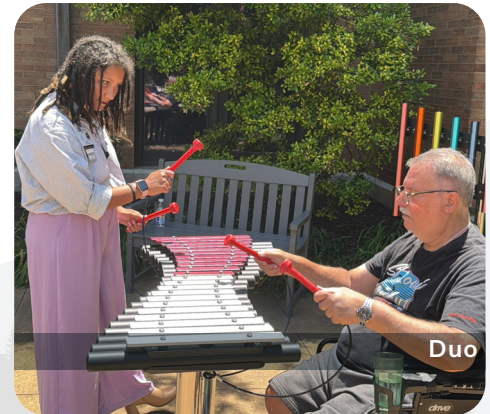


Laclede Groves' Harmony Garden, MO

At the heart of the music therapy program, the Harmony Garden hosts one-on-one sessions and sing-alongs, providing a great motor exercise using the upper body and hand-eye coordination. Many residents with dementia are also enjoying the instruments and the opportunity to make music together.

Laclede Groves also uses the garden to welcome the wider Webster Groves community. Through a partnership with a local Lutheran school, students visit residents and share the Harmony Garden, creating special intergenerational opportunities. Emily says, "This illustrates the connections being built and being made stronger between generations."

Emily is inspiring fellow music therapists who didn't think this would be possible and hopes to expand the program to other Lutheran Senior Services communities. The aesthetics of the instruments were also important, with the vibrant [Rainbow Collection](#) and nature-inspired [Harmony Flowers](#) helping to create an inviting space that draws people in.



ADA Music Garden for Park Hill Elementary, KS

Park Hill Elementary, part of Derby Public Schools, received ADA-compliant playground equipment thanks to the passing of a bond that will eventually ensure inclusive play is achievable in all nine elementary schools within the district, with Park Hill becoming the community's only music-themed playground.

Prior to the bond, only one school within the district had an accessible playground. Recognizing that inclusive play is a vital component of a school's development, the Derby Public Schools Board of Education approved funding to install inclusive playground equipment at each of the district's nine elementary schools.

Park Hill Elementary Principal Sandy Rusher was sold on the concept of developing a musical-themed ADA-accessible play space as soon as she spotted a picture of the colorful [Rainbow Sambas](#) from Percussion Play.

Park Hill serves kindergarten through 5th grade and multiple special education programs, so accessibility was a key consideration in the design process. The layout and surfacing allow any child – regardless of ability or mobility device – to move freely, access the outdoor musical instruments, and play alongside other students, including on a [Baby Floor Piano](#) where students can compose music as they jump, run, dance, walk or wheel across the keys.



Shaunavon, Saskatchewan: A Community in Tune

Nestled in the heart of southwest Saskatchewan, the town of Shaunavon has long been a hub for creativity, culture, and community spirit. That spirit is now resonating – quite literally – thanks to an outdoor musical installation at the Grand Coteau Heritage and Cultural Centre, the town's cultural heartbeat.

Known for its museum, art gallery, and vibrant public programming, the Centre added a selection of Percussion Play instruments to its grounds, including the [Large Babel Drum](#), [Pentatonic Tembos](#), [Diatonic Symphony Freechimes](#), and [Bell Lyre](#). Chosen for their accessibility, sculptural beauty, and rich blend of tones, the instruments invite everyone to create spontaneous music.

The installation has quickly become a favorite gathering spot for families, school groups, and visitors. From curious children to long-time residents, everyone who passes by can stop, listen, and play, bringing people together through music and adding to Shaunavon's strong sense of community.



Bell Lyre



Pentatonic Tembos



Symphony Freechimes



Large Babel Drum

Palm Harbor Library's Outdoor Music Garden, FL

Palm Harbor Library has a long history of promoting and supporting the visual and performing arts. From curated artwork and a Children's Art MakerSpace to community partnerships and musical instruments for loan, the library continues to find creative ways to make the arts accessible. Its outdoor Musical Garden is another example of this commitment, encouraging people of all ages and abilities to come together, make music, and be creative.

The idea was born during the COVID-19 pandemic, when Library Director Gene Coppola and his team began exploring new ways to serve the community safely. With concerns around gathering indoors, they saw an opportunity to bring the arts outside, creating a space where residents could continue to enjoy music. As Gene explains, "It was during this dark time that opportunity rather than despair presented itself."

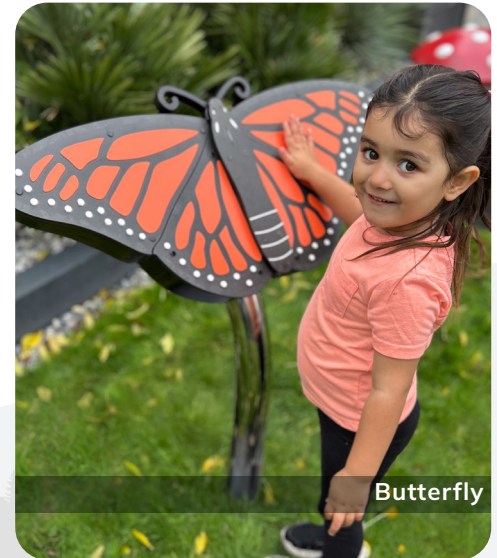
Located alongside the library's Reading Garden, six Percussion Play instruments create an inviting musical experience, including the [Bell Lyre](#), [Rainbow Cavatina](#), [Cyclone](#), [Rainbow Bongos](#), [Sunflower Petal Drums](#), and [Harmony Bells](#). The Musical Garden was made possible through the estate of Dorothy and Frank Greenstreet, whose generous support of the library and its musical programs continues to highlight the importance of the arts within the community.



Resources for Landscape Architects

When searching for inspiration and the right instruments, visit the Percussion Play website to access product information, technical specifications, and design resources that support every stage of the project journey, from concept through to installation.

Percussion Play has supplied outdoor musical instruments to projects in parks, trails, school playgrounds, family attractions, museums, hospitals, senior living communities, seaside piers, zoos, and even aboard a cruise ship. Our instruments help create engaging environments that encourage interaction, creativity, and shared experiences across a wide range of settings.



Specify with Confidence

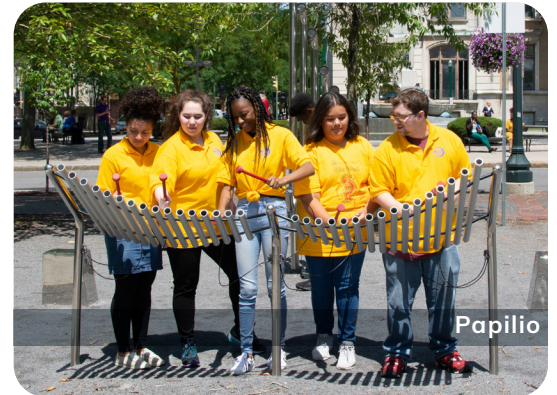
To support the specification process, a comprehensive range of resources is available, including CAD and 3D drawings, product specifications, installation guidance, images, and media assets.

Manufacturer-specific information can also be downloaded from the [Percussion Play CADdetails page](#), providing quick access to the files needed for working drawings, presentations, and specification documents.

No musical knowledge is required to participate. Many instruments are tuned to harmonious scales, making them intuitive to play and accessible to people of all ages and abilities.

Need More Inspiration?

Scan the QR code to visit our Parks & Trails Resource Hub and learn more about how outdoor musical instruments can enhance parks by creating inclusive, engaging spaces that promote wellness, creativity, and community connection.



Papilio



Tubular Bells



Global Sales & Manufacturing

Percussion Play Ltd

info@percussionplay.com

www.percussionplay.com

UK

01730 235180

USA/CAN: (866) 882-9170 (Toll Free)

ROW: +44 1730 235180

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