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—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—
CITY OF CHAMBLEE UNVEILS “IRVING”

The Rail Trail Makers Festival Gets Community Involved With Public Art Project

April 14, 2017—The City of Chamblee, in partnership with Play Me Again Pianos (PMAP), will unveil “Irving” on April 23, 2017, at the Rail Trail Makers Festival. Irving is the newest public piano donated by PMAP. The public is invited to participate in the painting of the piano at the festival and also is invited to the subsequent ribbon cutting 4:00 p.m. at the culmination of the festival on April 23, 2017.

PMAP is a non-profit charity whose goal is to install and permanently maintain 88 free public pianos throughout the Atlanta Metropolitan area for the community to play and enjoy. Atlanta Artist, founder and Creative Director of ARTSCAPE! Kent Nulty planned the design, which will be painted on the piano for all to enjoy.

“We’re thankful to Play Me Again Pianos and Artist Kent Nulty for their generous donations to the City of Chamblee,” said Jodie Gilfillan, Chamblee Director of Parks and Recreation. “Many cities commission works of art; we are so fortunate to have been given this gift. I love the idea of having a piano located under the Clairmont Bridge, not only does it highlight one of our newest assets with the Rail Trail, but I also believe the acoustics under the bridge are perfect for this art piece. I hope the piano-playing residents and visitors who pass by will entertain others while enjoying this linear park.”

“Street pianos and public pianos inspire people to connect with each other in ways that were once common, but seem increasingly rare. By adding our pianos to the landscape throughout the city, we hope to nurture that connection into an evolution of Atlanta’s culture, community and the arts,” said Jason Brett, co-founder of Play Me Again Pianos.

The ribbon cutting will feature a performance by local young pianist Nico Brett, age 11. At the end of the performance, the piano will be open to everyone.

In keeping with Play Me Again Pianos’ tradition of naming each piano, this one will be called “Irving,” named for Chamblee’s Irvingdale Dairies, a part of the rich history of the once vibrant dairy farms that graced the rolling hills of the area in the early 20th century.

Play Me Again Pianos’ first public piano is currently on display at the Chastain Park Playground in Atlanta. Other pianos are located at The Woodruff Arts Center, one at the north entrance of the Memorial Arts Building near the Box Office and the other in the Callaway Plaza along Peachtree Street. There’s another piano in Colony Square near the MIDTOWN letters and also at The Dunwoody Nature Center overlooking Wildcat Creek. Additional pianos are in various stages of planning and development.

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Located just 14 miles from downtown Atlanta, Chamblee is a vibrant urban city with a diverse community and international flair. The City of Chamblee began as a small rail town and was incorporated in 1908. It has grown to more than seven square miles and nearly 30,000 residents. Chamblee is home to a heavy rail MARTA station, a historic downtown and Antique Row, the vibrant Buford Highway corridor, DeKalb-Peachtree Airport (PDK), the Centers for Disease Control and a thriving business community with a unique sense of entrepreneurship and optimism. Visit www.chambleega.gov for more information.

About Play Me Again Pianos

Founded as a Georgia non-profit charity in 2016, Play Me Again Pianos installs and permanently maintains free publicly accessible pianos throughout the Atlanta area for the community to play and enjoy. Play Me Again Pianos is a registered 501(c)(3) corporation. For more information, visit www.playmeagainpianos.org.

About Kent Nulty

Local artist, Kent Nulty, was born in Fredericksburg, Virginia ready to create. At the age of four she already wanted to be an artist. On a four-year art scholarship Kent graduated with a BA in graphic design from Notre Dame of Maryland University which laid the groundwork for her career as a graphic designer in the corporate marketing and advertising world.

About the Chamblee Rail Trail Makers Festival

The Makers Festival is a two-day event held on the Chamblee Rail Trail. The festival highlights makers and artisans who use old and new technologies to craft useful creations. Planned activities include community art projects for all ages, including a chalk art contest and mural painting, plus a line-up of musical and theatrical performances. An “arts alley” of booths representing works by local artisans lines the trail. Food trucks and craft beer from Reformation Brewery and Hopstix round out the festivities. For more information, visit chambleetrailtrail.org.