



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
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Special Olympics Oklahoma celebrates the 41st Annual Summer Games in Stillwater

Theme: BLOCK PARTY 2010...Know Your Neighbor.

Statewide. Special Olympics athletes numbering in the thousands will meet in Stillwater May 12 through 14, 2010 to celebrate the 41st Annual Summer Games held in Oklahoma. More than 4,400 Special Olympics Oklahoma athletes have registered to attend. Staff and hundreds of volunteers are gearing up for three days full of competitions, Olympic-style ceremonies, Olympic Village, food, housing, and many fun activities.

Athletes will start arriving in Stillwater on Wednesday morning, May 12. They will come from the 14 geographic areas of Oklahoma where they have completed competitions in their local areas.

Special Olympics Oklahoma athletes will compete in ten sports: Aquatics, Athletics (Track and Field), Bocce, Bowling, Golf, Horseshoes, Powerlifting, Unified 3-on-3 Basketball, and Unified Softball. Other events include Motor Activities and Stars of the Future.

Opening Ceremonies is scheduled for Wednesday evening, May 12 at Gallagher Iba Arena. The theme for Opening Ceremonies is "Block Party 2010...*Know Your Neighbor.*" Doors open at 6:30 p.m. with pre-show entertainment. The official Opening Ceremonies begins at 7:30 p.m. with the traditional Parade of Athletes.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run will be highly visible this year escorting the Parade of Athletes, carrying the Flame of Hope, and rappelling into Gallagher Iba Arena. Barry Switzer, Special Olympics Oklahoma Head Coach, will name the 2010 Athlete of the Year and lead the athletes in the Special Olympics Oath as he has done every year since 1973.

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The presenting sponsor for Opening Ceremonies is COX Communications. Other premier sponsors for Summer Games include Law Enforcement Torch Run, McDonald's of Oklahoma, Third Combat Communications Group of Tinker Air Force Base, and Sonic Drive-Ins.

Please contact the following for more information at 918.481.1234:

Volunteer opportunities, contact Cathi Morris, cathi@sook.org.
Donations and sponsorships, contact Derek Cain, derek@sook.org.
Media and public relations, contact Donna Ham, donna@sook.org.

Please visit www.sook.org to access information about [Summer Games](#) or other Special Olympics Oklahoma events. Also, the [Summer Games Schedule of Events](#) may be downloaded from the Special Olympics Oklahoma website.

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[Special Olympics Oklahoma](#)

The Mission of Special Olympics is to provide a year-round program of sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Today 9,500 Special Olympics Oklahoma athletes participate in more than 120 sports competitions and training clinic opportunities every year. Competition is offered in 15 official sports. There are opportunities for thousands of volunteers. Visit www.sook.org or call 918-481-1234 for more information.