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Beverly Hills Welcomes Special Olympians from Gibraltar and Monaco

Host Town Beverly Hills and Supporting Sponsors Provide Cultural Events for Athletes Prior to Opening Ceremony of the Special Olympics World Games Los Angeles

Beverly Hills, Calif. – Excitement is building as the world has its eyes on the 2015 Special Olympics World Games in Los Angeles which begin with the Opening Ceremony on Saturday, July 25. An impressive 7,000 athletes and 3,000 coaches representing 177 countries, along with 30,000 volunteers and an anticipated 500,000 spectators make this the largest sports-and-humanitarian event in the world. The City of Beverly Hills is honored to be part of this effort and will host 100 Special Olympians from Monaco and Gibraltar prior to the Opening Ceremony and commencement of the Games. As Host Town sponsor, the City of Beverly Hills and supporting sponsors look to enhance the athletes' international experience by providing fun, cultural events and activities from July 21 to July 24. "This is a great opportunity to welcome athletes to our city and acknowledge their amazing and inspiring accomplishments," said Mayor Julian Gold, M.D.

Host Town activities and events planned over the next few days include breakfast at the Beverly Hilton Hotel, training at the Beverly Hills High School athletic fields, lunch at the Beverly Hills Fire Station, Torch Run Ceremony with Mayor Julian Gold, M.D., picnic at Roxbury Park with Beverly Hills Rotary, lunch and shopping in Beverly Hills and Westfield Century City, concert at Beverly Canon Gardens, dinner at the Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts and a send-off celebration at Beverly Hilton.

The City of Beverly Hills and supporting sponsors' monetary contributions and in-kind donations of over \$75,000 made it possible to hold these events for the athletes. Sponsors are as follows:

PLATINUM: City of Beverly Hills; Joan and Arnold Seidel; The Beverly Hilton; Wanda Beverly Hills Properties, LLC.

GOLD: Rotary Club of Beverly Hills; Hon. Lili and Jon Bosse; Geary's Beverly Hills

SILVER: Keenan Wolen; Beverly Hills Weekly; The Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts; The Paley Center for Media; Beverly Hills Firefighter Association; Beverly Hills Fire Department; Beverly Hills Police Department; Beverly Hills Police Officers Association; Beverly Hills Conference & Visitors Bureau; Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce

BRONZE: Gail and Lee Silver; Allan Alexander; Tom Holliday; Mary Ann Weisberg; Hon. Julian and Michele Gold; Hilton & Hyland

CHAMPION: Jeff Horn; Coca Cola; Westfield Century City; 90H20; Whole Food Market; Let's Have a Cart Party; Wally's Beverly Hills; Nespresso USA; Giacomino Drago; Montage Beverly Hills; Beverly Hills Market

Co-chairs Susan Berk and Alissa Roston along with their Host Town Committee put in countless volunteer hours to ensure the City of Beverly Hills Host Town Program is a success. “We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of such a meaningful event. It was a labor of love and we could not have done it without all of our sponsors and the following Host Town Committee members: Allan Alexander, Teri Angel, Greg Barton, Ori Blumenfeld, Cindy Braun, David Truly, Claire Delacruz Zoe, Simone Friedman, Kurt Haefs, Ralph Mundell, Arnold Seidel, Alex Stettinski, Dean Viana, Steve Zoet, Aram Chobanian, Jane Siegal, Linda Segal, Janet Rofoa, Myra Lurie, Julie Wagner, Flora Zomoradi, Sue Cameron, Brad Meyerowitz, Michele Gold and Sharona Nazarian.”

Opening Ceremony to the Special Olympics World Games Los Angeles will be held Saturday, July 25, 2015 at the historic Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. For more information and tickets, visit www.LA2015.org.

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