

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**TWELVE NEW HAMPSHIRITES REPRESENTED AT THE  
SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES LOS ANGELES 2015  
*The largest sports and humanitarian event anywhere in the world in 2015***

July 25, 2015 — With 6,500 athletes and 2,000 coaches representing 165 countries, along with 30,000 volunteers and an anticipated 500,000 spectators, the 2015 Special Olympics World Games – being staged in Los Angeles July 25<sup>th</sup> to August 2<sup>nd</sup> – will be the largest sports and humanitarian event anywhere in the world in 2015, and the single biggest event in Los Angeles since the 1984 Olympic Games. The 2015 Special Olympics World Games, with the unparalleled spirit, enthusiasm, teamwork, joy and displays of courage and skill that are hallmarks of all Special Olympics events, will feature 25 Olympic-style sports in venues throughout the Los Angeles region. Honorary Chairs of the Games are President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama, with Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti and California Governor Jerry Brown serving as Honorary Hosts.

New Hampshire will be represented a delegation of twelve:

- Alberta Vayens from Antrim will compete in athletics with Special Olympics USA, competing in the 400M walk and 800M walk.
- Hayden Meattley from Durbarton will compete in athletics with Special Olympics USA, competing in the 100M run, 4x100M run and long jump.
- Laura Davies and Cassie Contigani will attend the GenUin Summit with chaperone Tobey Davies.
- Chief Bob Cormier of the Tilton Police Department is participating in the Final Leg.
- SONH athlete Jeremy Colter and mentor Don Marcotte will officiate basketball competition.
- Sargent Shriver International Global Messenger Pam Langille accompanied by her summer mentor Marcia Gardner will speak during the Games.
- Gary Mayo and Rob Mayo will attend as members of the Insurance & Risk Management Committee.

The Opening Ceremony, to be held tonight, July 25, 2015, in the historic Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, site of the 1932 and 1984 Olympic Games, is expected to attract 80,000 spectators. The ceremonies will broadcast live on ESPN beginning at 9PM.

**2015 WORLD GAMES RESULTS, PHOTOS, FOOTAGE AND VNRs**

***NOTE: Images of Special Olympics athletes may be used only to promote awareness about 2015 World Games athletes, events and competitions. This includes use on social media. Other uses or those involving display of third-party logos or other branding would require individual athlete consent. If you have a specific request, please contact Bridget Carleton.***

Results will be posted daily at: <http://www.la2015.org/results>

Photos of NH attendees will be available at: <https://flic.kr/s/aHskqh9Cbt>

After the conclusion of the Opening Ceremony, ESPN producers will make available clips of each delegation that took part in the Parade of Athletes (starting at approx. 1 am EDT). Media outlets interested in receiving this footage should send a request to [media@specialolympics.org](mailto:media@specialolympics.org).

Every day during the 2015 Special Olympics World Summer Games, ESPN will create a 2-5 minute video news release (VNR) featuring highlights from the competitions. Up to two minutes of this footage may be used, free of charge, by broadcasters worldwide. This footage will be available approximately one hour after each ESPN primetime World Games highlights show:

- 10 pm EDT on Saturday, July 25
- 8 pm EDT daily from Sunday, July 26 through Saturday, Aug. 1

The VNRs may be downloaded here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/euh87nkbootzqdd/AADXc-tNnuZUbKJp7R5jo0TPa?dl=0>

#### **ABOUT SPECIAL OLYMPICS NEW HAMPSHIRE**

Special Olympics New Hampshire (SONH) is an accredited program of Special Olympics International (SOI) and is part of an international global movement that changes lives by encouraging and empowering people with intellectual disabilities, promoting acceptance for all, and fostering communities of understanding and respect worldwide. To learn more, visit [www.sonh.org](http://www.sonh.org).

#### **ABOUT THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS WORLD GAMES LOS ANGELES 2015**

Current Founding Champions and sponsors include The Coca-Cola Company, Mattel, Deloitte, Toyota, Bank of America, Kaiser Permanente, OUE Skyspace Los Angeles, Davis Elen Advertising, Microsoft, Toys“R”Us, Google, UPS, AEG, David Geffen, Kate Capshaw and Steven Spielberg, The Walt Disney Company, Panda Express, and Knights of Columbus. LA2015, the Games Organizing Committee, is a recognized 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. For more information on the 2015 Special Olympics World Games, including volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, visit [www.LA2015.org](http://www.LA2015.org) and on social with #ReachUpLA on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.

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