

**Special  
Olympics**  
Hawaii



**NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

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**Special Olympics Hawaii's 10th Annual Polar  
Plunge Puts Supporters on Ice**

*The annual event gives participants a chilling way to raise funds  
and awareness for Special Olympics Hawaii athletes and programs*

**Special Olympics Hawaii Polar Plunge Photos:** [www.bit.ly/2HyeYfi](http://www.bit.ly/2HyeYfi)

**Photo Credit:** Special Olympics Hawaii

**HONOLULU** (February 22, 2019) – In its 10th year the annual Polar Plunge is returning for an action-packed day of high-sliding thrills, all to raise awareness and funds for Special Olympics Hawaii. The action is set for Saturday, April 6, 2019, and challenges participants to plunge down a 95-foot long, 36-foot high inflatable slide into a pool of ice-cold water, on the lawn of Waterfront Plaza fronting Ala Moana Blvd. Registration is now open online at <http://give.classy.org/2019plungehi>.

“As we head into our 10th year of the annual Polar Plunge we can’t help but extended our warmest gratitude to all the plungers, donors, and partners who have helped make our event successful year after year,” said Tracey Bender, Special Olympics Hawaii director of development. “It’s always a pleasure to spend a fun day with our supporters and we’re grateful to have the opportunity to do so while raising awareness for our athletes and programs.”

The 10th Annual Polar Plunge will take place Saturday, April 6, on the lawn of Waterfront Plaza. Plunging begins at 9 a.m. and continues every hour until 12 p.m. The annual event is open to individuals, families, community groups, sports teams, student groups and anyone else who wants to take the plunge to support Special Olympics athletes.

All plungers are asked to raise a minimum \$100 donation for Special Olympics Hawaii. Passionate Plungers, who raise \$500 or more, will receive mahalo gifts and can plunge up to six times. There is a reduced fundraising goal of \$50 for students of all ages, elementary through college.

Those looking to up their chill factor can become Super Plungers and plunge 12 times in six hours in an above ground pool of ice water. Super Plungers are asked to reach a fundraising

goal of \$1,000 or more and will receive complimentary breakfast, lunch, refreshments, parking, mahalo gifts and more.

Polar Plunges are regularly held across the Northeastern and Midwestern states, where participants jump into frozen lakes or ponds to help raise funds for local nonprofits. Since 2008 Special Olympics Hawaii's annual Polar Plunge has helped raise \$479,499 for Special Olympics Hawaii health and sports programs.

Special Olympics Hawaii provides year-round sports programs and training for athletes with intellectual disabilities, free of charge. Since 1968 Special Olympics has been changing attitudes about the talents of people with intellectual disabilities and raising awareness to build an inclusive and unified community.

For more information on Special Olympics Hawaii's 10th Annual Polar Plunge, please contact (808) 695-3528 or visit [www.sohawaii.org](http://www.sohawaii.org). You can also follow Special Olympics Hawaii on Twitter, [www.twitter.com/sohawaii](https://www.twitter.com/sohawaii), on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/SpecialOlympicsHawaii](https://www.facebook.com/SpecialOlympicsHawaii), and on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/SOHawaii](https://www.instagram.com/SOHawaii).

#### **About Special Olympics Hawaii**

Special Olympics is a global inclusion movement using sports, health, education and leadership programs every day around the world to end discrimination against and empower people with intellectual disabilities. Founded in 1968, Special Olympics Hawaii has grown to serve more than 4,700 athletes and Unified partners across our state. With the support of more than 11,500 coaches and volunteers, Special Olympics delivers 10 Olympic-type sports and over 50 games and competitions throughout the year. Special Olympics Hawaii is supported by individuals, foundations and corporate partners.

There is never a fee to any athlete or family to participate in Special Olympics programs. Engage with us on: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#). Learn more at [www.SOHawaii.org](http://www.SOHawaii.org).

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