



NEWS RELEASE

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Make Wave for Special Olympics Hawaii's 3rd Annual Paradise Plunge Fundraiser

Registration is now open, inviting participants to show their support in a safe and socially distanced experience while still raising funds for local athletes with intellectual disabilities

Special Olympics Hawaii Paradise Plunge Photos: [we.tl/t-rtRBgpUHoH](https://www.instagram.com/we.tl/t-rtRBgpUHoH)

Photo Credit: Special Olympics Hawaii

HONOLULU – Special Olympics Hawaii invites supporters to “seas” the day with the return of their 3rd Annual Paradise Plunge fundraiser. After waves of success from the past two years, the fundraiser is back in 2022 with all participants asked to share a video or photo of themselves performing any type of water activity – such as surfing, bodyboarding, snorkeling or taking the plunge in a swimming pool. Registration for this year’s Paradise Plunge is now open at give.classy.org/paradiseplunge2022. For more information, please visit www.sohawaii.org.

“We continue to be amazed by the enthusiasm and dedication of our supporters who always rise to the challenge to help us raise funds for our athletes,” says Special Olympics Hawaii’s Director of Development, Tracey Bender. “It is because of their unwavering support that we are able to continue providing programs for our athletes at no cost.”

New to this year’s Paradise Plunge fundraiser is the opportunity to be invited to an exclusive Plunge Party on a 50-foot catamaran hosted by Oahu Boat Cruises. Plungers who raise \$1,500 or more will sail out to sea for a two-hour cruise filled with plunging, swimming and snorkeling. The Special Olympics Hawaii staff will film the plunges. Space is limited so interested participants are encouraged to sign up today.

The Paradise Plunge is open to individuals, families and student groups, and anyone else who wants to take the plunge to support Special Olympics Hawaii athletes. All plungers are asked to raise a minimum \$100 donation to receive a Paradise Plunge event shirt. There is also a reduced fundraising goal of \$50 for students of all ages, elementary through college. There are additional mahalo gifts for the plungers who raise \$250, \$500, \$1,000 or more. Register as a Passionate Plunger and raise \$500, or as a Super Plunger and raise \$1,000.

Participants can take the plunge by planning a day to “sea” their favorite beach or going diving, boating, surfing, or even taking a dip in the swimming pool if they’d prefer. Plungers are asked to send photos or a 60-second, horizontal video clip of themselves performing their “Paradise Plunge” via www.wetransfer.com to development@sohawaii.org. The deadline for submissions is Sunday, April 24.

Following the completion of the event, Special Olympics Hawaii will release a 2022 Paradise Plunge compilation video on Friday, April 29 that participants are “shore” to enjoy and can share with donors and supporters.

Polar Plunges are typically held across the Northeastern and Midwestern states, where participants jump into frozen lakes or ponds to help raise funds for local nonprofits. Since 2010, Special Olympics Hawaii’s annual Polar Plunge has helped raise \$604,900 for Special Olympics Hawaii health and sports programs.

Special Olympics Hawaii would like to thank its partners statewide whose support is key to making year-round sports, inclusion and health opportunities for individuals with intellectual disabilities a reality.

Proceeds from this fundraiser will help Special Olympics Hawaii continue to provide year-round sports trainings and competition and health, wellness and leadership programs for over 3,400 athletes statewide 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, please visit www.sohawaii.org. You can also follow Special Olympics Hawaii on Twitter, www.twitter.com/SOHawaii, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SpecialOlympicsHawaii, and on Instagram at www.instagram.com/SOHawaii.

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About Special Olympics Hawaii Special Olympics is a global inclusion movement using sport, 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 5,196 athletes and Unified partners on every island in our state. With the support of more than 10,800 coaches and volunteers, Special Olympics delivers [10 Olympic-type sports](#) and over 50 games and competitions

throughout the year. Special Olympics 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.