



Special Olympics Hawai'i Newsletter: June 2026

Support Our Athletes

Mission Partners



Year-Round Partners



ALEXANDER & BALDWIN
SPORTSWEAR FOR HAWAII

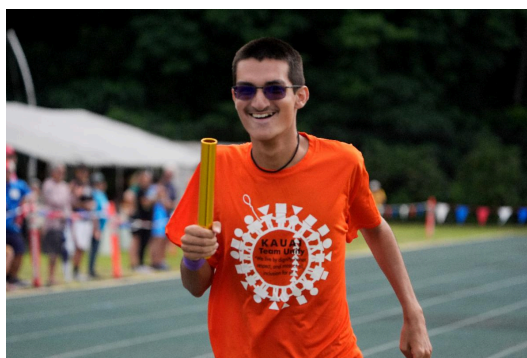


Year-Round Supporters



What's Going On at Special Olympics Hawai'i?

Summer Games: A Weekend to Remember!



Mahalo to everyone who helped make this year's Special Olympics Hawai'i Summer Games an unforgettable celebration of inclusion, determination, and community! Hundreds of athletes from across Hawai'i came together to compete in track & field, swimming, powerlifting, and softball, demonstrating incredible skill, perseverance, and sportsmanship.

This year marked an exciting milestone as the Summer Games returned to a single location at the University of Hawai'i, bringing athletes, families, volunteers, and supporters together on one campus for the first time in several years. We extend our deepest mahalo to the University of Hawai'i for graciously hosting the Games and for helping create an outstanding experience for everyone involved.

Beyond the competition, Summer Games showcased the full impact of Special Olympics Hawai'i. Athletes received free health screenings and education through our Healthy Athletes program, helping address health disparities while promoting lifelong wellness. Our Young Athletes program introduced children with and without intellectual disabilities to the joy of movement, play, and inclusion through fun, age-appropriate activities that build confidence and foundational skills.

The excitement continued with Cheer for Champions, where supporters, sponsors, and community members raised more than \$309,000 to help provide year-round sports training and competition, health screenings, athlete leadership opportunities, Unified Sports, and inclusive programming for individuals with intellectual disabilities across Hawai'i.

A heartfelt mahalo also goes to our dedicated Law Enforcement Torch Run Officers, who proudly carried the Flame of Hope into the Opening Ceremony. Their continued partnership and commitment embody the spirit of inclusion and help ensure every athlete has the opportunity to experience the joy of competition.

Together, along with our Corporate Partners and over 1500 volunteers, we are building a stronger, more inclusive Hawai'i where every athlete is empowered to achieve their personal best. Mahalo for believing in our champions and for making this incredible weekend possible!

Special MAHALO to our 2026 Summer Games Sponsors!

Mission Partners



Par Hawaii



Year-Round Partners



Year-Round Supporters



Summer Games Gold Medal Sponsors



Par Hawaii

Summer Games Silver Medal Sponsors

Castle & Cooke Hawai'i
Camille Chong Cheehoo On! Legacy Fund
Coca-Cola Bottling of Hawai'i - The Odom Corporation
DR Horton
Drs. Susan Stewart and Dennis Rowe
Elite Parking Services
Hensel Phelps
HiFinn Audio Systems
Locations Foundation
RMA Architects Inc.
Shidler Investment Company
Starcomm Wireless

Summer Games Bronze Medal Sponsors

Enterprise Holdings Foundation
Hawai'i Gas
HawaiiUSA Federal Credit Union Foundation
Nordic PCL Construction, Inc.
Pilot Club of Honolulu
Servco Pacific Inc.

41st Annual First Hawaiian Bank Troy Barboza Law Enforcement Torch Run

Title Sponsor:  First Hawaiian Bank

Gold Medal Sponsor: 

Guardians of the Flame:
Federal Law Enforcement Officers Association, Chapter 54
State of Hawaii Organization of Police Officers

Cheer For Champions Presenting Sponsor:

Arrillaga Foundation



Foundation Support

Alexander Tulloch Trust
Camille Chong Cheehoo On!
Legacy Fund
City & County of Honolulu
Hawai'i Bowl Foundation
Hung Wo and Elizabeth Lau
Ching Foundation
James Haruji Tamura and
Fumiko Tamura Foundation
Matson Foundation
NFL Foundation
Outrigger Duke Kahanamoku
Foundation
Safeway Foundation
State of Hawai'i Department of
Education
The Walmart Foundation
U.S. Office of Special Education
Programs

**Hui 'O Hawai'i Brings Home Five Medals and Ten
Ribbons
from 2026 Special Olympics USA Games**



Hui 'O Hawai'i struck gold at this year's Special Olympics USA Games in Minneapolis bringing home four gold medals and one bronze medal. Sixteen Special Olympics Hawai'i athletes, two Unified Partners, and their coaches from across the state competed alongside more than 3,000 athletes from across the country in basketball, bowling, and track and field. Congratulations to all of our athletes and staff on team Hui 'O Hawai'i for their outstanding performances and for proudly representing Hawai'i on the national stage!

Athletics

- Participation ribbon, 4x100 Relay

Eva Ujano, Maui

- Gold, 100m Walk
- Gold, 400m Walk

Maja Gonya, Hawai'i Island

- Bronze, 100m Run
- 8th place, Shot Put

Danielle Castrence, Maui

- 4th place, 200m Run
- 4th place, Running Long Jump

Kassandra Okinaka, Hawai'i Island

- 8th place, 200m Run
- 4th place, Running Long Jump

Basketball

- Gold, Traditional 5v5 — team includes:
 - Jordan Ah Quin, Oahu
 - Shane Caluyo, Oahu
 - Kaleo Carvalho, Oahu
 - William Cho, Oahu
 - Jules Cuban, Oahu
 - Armando Dickerson, Oahu
 - Russell Fox, Oahu
 - David Okuda, Oahu

Bowling

Unified Team (Johnathan Anderson, Kauai, and Bradley McDermott-Sa, Kauai; Herbert Taitingfong, O'ahu, and Brandon Taitingfong, Oahu)

- 4th place, Unified Team

Johnathan Anderson, Kauai, and Bradley McDermott-Sa, Kauai

- Gold, Unified Doubles

Herbert Taitingfong, Oahu, and Brandon Taitingfong, Oahu

- 4th place, Unified Doubles

Bradley McDermott-Sa, Kauai

- 6th place, Singles

Brandon Taitingfong, Oahu

- 5th Place, Singles

MAHALO TO OUR 2026 USA GAMES SPONSORS!

GOLD MEDAL



SILVER MEDAL



BRONZE MEDAL



FAN CLUB



Calling all Thrillseekers! Reach New Heights at 17th Annual Over the Edge Fundraiser

Take in views of Waikiki and Diamond Head while making an impact for our local athletes! Special Olympics Hawai'i invites you to take it all in at our 17th Annual Over the Edge fundraiser. This year's event will take place Saturday, October 17, 2026, at the Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort & Spa where participants will have the unique opportunity to experience an adrenaline rush like no other when they rappel more than 400 feet down the side of the hotel and stop for a photo shoot along the way down. Register as an individual or create a team with your co-workers, friends, or family at bit.ly/sohiote2026. Space is limited, so interested parties are encouraged to sign up today.



Early bird registration is currently available through August 1, with a reduced registration fee of \$50. For those registering after August 1, the registration fee is \$100 per participant. For teams, the registration fee is \$25 and registration for returning participants is free. Participants must weigh between 100 and 300

pounds. Individuals under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian attend the event and sign a consent waiver. All participants are asked to raise a minimum of \$1,000 in donations.

A special mahalo to the Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort & Spa for being the host of this event for the 12th year. Those who wish to support Special Olympics Hawai'i but do not want to participate in Over the Edge can also make a donation by visiting bit.ly/sohiote2026 to donate to any one of our participants. This year's Over the Edge event hopes to raise more than \$200,000 for Special Olympics Hawai'i.

Par Hawaii and Hele Gas Raises Over \$58,000 for Athletes Across Hawai'i

Mahalo to everyone who supported this year's Fueling Dreams campaign! Thanks to the incredible generosity of our community, an amazing \$58,871.26 was raised to support the life-changing programs of Special Olympics Hawai'i.

A very special mahalo goes to Par Hawai'i and its HELE gas station network for their outstanding partnership and continued commitment to our athletes. Through the Fueling Dreams campaign, customers at participating HELE stations had the opportunity to make a donation while fueling their vehicles, proving that even small acts of generosity can make a lasting impact in our communities.

We are deeply grateful to Par Hawai'i, HELE, their dedicated employees, and every customer who contributed to making this another successful year. Together, we are fueling dreams, creating opportunities, and building a more inclusive Hawai'i for all.



Volunteers: The Heart of Summer Games

Mahalo
FOR VOLUNTEERING!



UPCOMING EVENTS:
AUKAKE CLASSIC
AUGUST 22 & 23
WAI AU DISTRICT PARK

Thank you to our volunteers for the incredible energy, time, and heart you brought to our Summer Games. It was a full weekend with long days, changing weather, and a lot of moving parts, but through it all, you showed up with patience, flexibility, and a strong sense of teamwork that helped everything run smoothly.

The success of Summer Games is only possible because of the dedication happening behind the scenes, and we are truly grateful for each of you. Our athletes get to shine because you help make that space possible.

Looking ahead, we're excited to share our next volunteer opportunity at Aukake Classic, taking place on August 22 & 23. We hope to see many of you again as we come together for another great weekend of sports, athletes, and community. More details and how to sign up will be available soon.

As we continue to grow our volunteer program, we'd also love to learn more about you. If you have any special skills or hobbies (i.e., photography, woodworking, welding, mechanics, carpentry, design, or anything else you enjoy), please contact Dallas at volunteer@sohawaii.org. We're always looking for ways to better connect volunteer talents with event needs in order to create an even more meaningful experience for everyone.

Sponsor Feature: Fertility Institute of Hawaii



We are honored to recognize the Fertility Institute of Hawaii as one of our Presenting Sponsors for the 2026 Cheer for Champions Gala. At the heart of this commitment is Dr. John Frattarelli, whose dedication is unwavering as a Special Olympics Hawai'i board member, Capital Campaign chair, Windward Warriors coach, and proud father to athlete Brandon Frattarelli. Employees of Fertility Institute of Hawaii are also active and engaged supporters of our mission. Eight team members took part in our annual Truck Pull fundraiser while other employees cheered them on from the sidelines. The organization has also supported Special Olympics Hawai'i through events such as Over the Edge and Paradise Plunge. Mahalo to Dr. Frattarelli and the entire Fertility Institute of Hawaii team!

Unified Spotlight: A Taste of Maui with Britney Bautista



Britney Bautista, Special Olympics Hawai'i Youth Ambassador, shares a few of her favorite island spots, including the Ali'i Kula Lavender Farm, Kalei's Lunchbox, and Ululani's Hawaiian Shave Ice in Kihei. As part of the Special Olympics Hawai'i Unified Program, which brings together athletes with and without intellectual disabilities to compete and build inclusion through sport, Britney created this video to share how the program builds connection, leadership, and community beyond competition. From a delicious lavender scone to a refreshing shave ice, Britney highlights some of the island's must-visit destinations and flavors while sharing her love for Maui.

Health & Wellness Corner

Check out our Fitness Program Calendar for July to discover upcoming fitness and wellness activities designed to help athletes build healthy habits and stay active year-round.



JULY 2026



SOHI FITNESS PROGRAMMING MONTHLY SCHEDULE

"Everything has a starting point. Find your starting point so beautiful things can follow."



20
27
ONLY

BALANCE, FLEXIBILITY, STRENGTH & TRAINING

MONDAYS / 3:30-4:30PM

ZOOM LINK "[CLICK HERE](#)"



6, 13,
20, 27

HOLOHOLO WALKING CLUB

MONDAYS / 4:30-5:00PM



11

SAT



22

WED

GARDEN CLUB 4:30-5:30PM



24

FRI

HE WAHI LOKAHI CRAFT CLASS
5 - 6PM

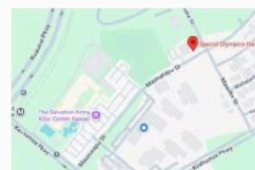


All events are in person at our SOHI Sports Complex
as well as on Zoom for most.

HEALTH@SOHAWAII.ORG



**LOCATION: 91-610 MAUNAKAPU STREET,
EWA BEACH, HAWAII 96706**



Special Olympics Hawai'i in the News

Check out the latest links for headlines featuring Special Olympics Hawai'i:

- "Hawai'i Heads to Special Olympics USA Games" in Go



[DOWNLOAD ESTATE PLANNING TOOLS](#)

Planned Giving

One of the most important gifts you can give to your family, friends and community is a future where each person is accepted and appreciated for

- Kapolei
- "Hui 'O Hawai'i wins total 4 gold medals, 1 bronze at 2026 Special Olympics USA Games" in Kauai Now
 - "Thousands of volunteers help put on Special Olympics Hawaii Summer Games" on Hawaii News Now
 - "Hundreds compete at Special Olympics Hawaii's big weekend event" on KITV

their unique strengths. Learn more about how you can leave a lasting impact when you include Special Olympics Hawai'i in your will, by visiting bit.ly/plannedgivinghawaii.

Forward to a Friend

Connect With Us!

Share your Special Story

If you have a story about your involvement with Special Olympics Hawai'i – such as a volunteer, coach, official or family member – we would love to hear from you! Please email your story to our PR team at crystalclearcomms@gmail.com. We can't wait to see what kind of stories you'll share!

Special Olympics Hawaii | 91-610 Maunakapu St | Ewa Beach, HI 96706 US

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