



Special Olympics Hawai'i Newsletter: May 2026

Support Our Athletes

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A Global Medical Response Solution



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

Summer Games in Action This Weekend — Join Us!



The excitement is building as Special Olympics Hawai'i athletes take center stage at the 2026 Summer Games this weekend, June 5-7 at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa. Hundreds of athletes from across the state will compete, demonstrate their skills, and showcase the determination, courage, and joy that define the Special Olympics movement.

Whether you're a longtime supporter or attending for the first time, we invite you to join us, cheer loudly, and experience the power of inclusion in action. Your presence makes a difference. For more info:

www.sohawaii.org/summergames.

See you at the Summer Games!

The Guardian: The Law Enforcement Torch Run Returns June 5

The 2026 First Hawaiian Bank Troy Barboza Law Enforcement Torch Run returns on Friday, June 5, bringing together law enforcement officers from across Hawai'i in celebration of inclusion and community.

Beginning at 7 p.m., officers will carry the Flame of Hope from Fort DeRussy down Kalakaua Avenue in Waikiki before arriving at Les Murakami Stadium at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa at approximately



7:50 p.m. There, the cauldron will be lit, officially opening the 2026 Special Olympics Hawaii State Summer Games.

The community is encouraged to line the streets of Waikiki and cheer on the runners as they carry the Flame of Hope.

You can also show your support by making a donation and receiving this year's commemorative Torch Run shirt, featuring a special ti leaf (la'i) design symbolizing protection, strength, and the responsibility of carrying the flame.

For more information or to make a donation, visit

www.sohawaii.org/torchrun.

Unified Champion Schools Finish Strong at HHSAA Championships

Unified Champion Schools closed out the 2025–2026 season at the HHSAA Championships hosted at the Kamehameha Kapalama campus. Despite weather delays, student-athletes showed resilience, teamwork, and sportsmanship. Representing Special Olympics Hawai'i were six teams from Waimea High School, Kaimuki High School, Mililani High School, and Campbell High School who competed in the 4x100 and 4x400 relays. Mahalo to our athletes, partners, coaches, schools, and supporters for an amazing year of inclusion and impact!



Preview the Cheer for Champions Online Auction Now

Find out what items will be available on our 2026 Cheer for Champions Online Auction now at sohi2026.ggo.bid! Bidding opens at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, June 3, and closes at 9 p.m. on Friday, June 5.

This year's auction features an incredible collection of items and experiences you won't want to miss, from hotel stays and local finds to dining experiences, golf outings, wellness activities, family fun, and more, including artwork from one of our athletes. Looking for a birthday gift, Father's Day surprise, or graduation celebration? There's something for everyone so be sure to check it out!



Help Hui 'O Hawai'i Get to the USA Games



Hui 'O Hawai'i is heading to the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games in Minneapolis next month! Our incredible delegation of athletes, Unified Partners, and coaches are preparing to represent the islands from June 20–26, 2026 and you can help them on their journey.

Your support will help with travel, training, and competition expenses, making this once-in-a-lifetime experience possible. If you would like to make a donation, please visit bit.ly/huiohawaii to support any of our athletes, coaches, sports, or the entire team.

Health & Wellness: June 2026 Fitness Program Calendar

Our Monday Balance, Flexibility, Strength and Training and Tuesday Cross-Training classes are cancelled for most of June. The next session will be June 29. We hope to see you there!

JUNE 2026

SOHI FITNESS PROGRAMMING MONTHLY SCHEDULE

"With every step you take, just know that you are making strides to a better YOU!"

BALANCE, FLEXIBILITY, STRENGTH & TRAINING

MONDAYS / 3:30-4:30PM

ZOOM LINK "[CLICK HERE](#)"

CROSS-TRAINING

TUESDAYS / 5-6PM

ZOOM LINK "[CLICK HERE](#)"

12 FRI

HE WAHI LOKAHI CRAFT CLASS
5 - 6PM
ZOOM LINK "[CLICK HERE](#)"

13 SAT

- YOGA W/SARAH SHEPPARD | 4-5PM
- SOCIAL DANCE CLASS | 5 - 6PM

ZOOM LINK "[CLICK HERE](#)"

20 SAT

PICKLEBALL CLINIC/OPEN PLAY
4:30-6PM

27 SAT

SOFTBALL CLINIC W/KRIS
4-5:30PM

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

HEALTH@SOHAWAIL.ORG

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





Last Chance to Support Athletes During Zippy's Mahalo May

Support Special Olympics Hawai'i through the end of May during Zippy's annual Mahalo May campaign at all Zippy's locations statewide. A portion of proceeds from the Kokua Pac will be donated to Special Olympics Hawai'i and customers can also round up their purchase at checkout to support athletes.



Support Special Olympics Hawai'i in Target Circle

You can support Special Olympics Hawai'i for FREE through the Target Circle Community Giving Program! Simply shop at Target, earn votes and direct your votes to Special Olympics Hawai'i in the Target app or at [Target.com/Circle](https://www.target.com/circle). The more votes we receive, the larger the donation Target will make to support our athletes and programs statewide.



Kauai County Council Honors Pair Going to the USA Games

Earlier this month, Kauai County Council Members recognized and presented Kaimana McDermott-Sa and Sgt. Johnathan Anderson with a certificate for their outstanding dedication, perseverance and commitment in preparation for the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games in Minneapolis.



Registration Now Open for Over the Edge

Take fundraising to new heights by signing up for Over the Edge! Participants will have the opportunity to rappel 400 feet down the Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa on Saturday, October 17 all while raising funds for local athletes. Register today and take advantage of Early Bird Registration. For more information, visit <https://bit.ly/sohiote2026>.



Special Olympics Hawai'i in the News

Check out the latest headlines featuring Special Olympics Hawai'i!

- ["Community Invited to Contribute to Fueling Dreams Campaign Supporting Special Olympics Hawaii" on KHON2](#)
- ["Hui 'O Hawai'i Gears Up For Special Olympics Games" in Midweek Leeward Oahu Voice](#)



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 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.

- [“Maui athletes ready to soar at 2026 USA Games” in Maui News](#)

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**](mailto: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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