



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Special Olympics Hawai'i 17th Annual "Over the Edge" Fundraiser Raises Funds to Take Local Athletes to New Heights

The local nonprofit invites supporters to rappel 400 feet down the side of the Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa on October 17 to raise funds and awareness for athletes with intellectual disabilities

Special Olympics Hawai'i Over the Edge Photos:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1n16XIXSJlM5Op2r1EmHZhY9biJUlVjEt?usp=drive_link

Photo Credit: Special Olympics Hawai'i

HONOLULU (July 22, 2026) – Soak in a once-in-a-lifetime experience and unforgettable views of Waikiki and Diamond Head while making an impact for Special Olympics Hawai'i athletes! This year's [17th Annual Over the Edge fundraiser](#) will take place Saturday, October 17, 2026, at Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort & Spa. Participants have the truly unique opportunity to rappel more than 400 feet down the side of the hotel and stop for a photo on the way. Register as an individual or create a team with your co-workers, friends, or family at bit.ly/sohiote2026. Space is limited, so interested supporters 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. 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.

“Over the Edge has become a signature event that reflects the strength and special spirit of our community,” said Tracey Bender, Director of Development at Special Olympics Hawai‘i. “What makes this event so meaningful to those that participate is not just the challenge of rappelling along Waikiki’s iconic coastline, but the impact it creates for our athletes. Every participant is able to face and overcome their fears and challenges, much like our athletes do every day.”

All participants will receive a commemorative 17th anniversary Over the Edge t-shirt. Additional prizes will be awarded to those who raise more than the \$1,000 fundraising minimum. Monies raised through Over the Edge remain in Hawai‘i and support local athletes across the state. Since 2009, Over the Edge has raised more than \$2,247,500 for Special Olympics Hawai‘i athletes and programs.

A special mahalo to Silver Medal Sponsors Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort & Spa for being the host of this event for the 12th year and New York Life. Those who wish to support Special Olympics Hawai‘i but do not want to participate in Over the Edge can still support the event by making a tax-deductible donation at bit.ly/sohiote2026 or by making a donation to any one of our brave participants. This year’s Over the Edge event hopes to raise \$203,000 for Special Olympics Hawai‘i.

For more information on Special Olympics Hawai‘i, please visit www.sohawaii.org. You can also follow Special Olympics Hawai‘i on Facebook at www.facebook.com/SpecialOlympicsHawaii and on Instagram at www.instagram.com/sohawaii.

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About Special Olympics Hawai‘i

Special Olympics is a global movement that unleashes the human spirit through the transformative power and joy of sports. Through year-round programs in sports, health, education, and leadership programs, Special Olympics creates inclusive opportunities for people with intellectual disabilities, improving health outcomes, building confidence, and fostering acceptance while working to end discrimination.

Founded in 1968, Special Olympics Hawai‘i serves more than 7,000 athletes and Unified partners statewide. Supported by over 8,800 volunteers, along with community, corporate, and foundation partners, the organization delivers 10 Olympic-type sports, more than 60 competitions annually, free health screenings, and inclusive programming in over 75 schools—strengthening individuals, families, and communities across the islands. Participation is always free for athletes and their families. Learn more at www.sohawaii.org.

About Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort & Spa

Celebrating 50 years in 2026, Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort & Spa is balanced between the iconic beauty of legendary Waikīkī Beach and the energy of Honolulu. Each of the 1,230 guestrooms, including 30 suites and 80 jr. suites, offers Hawaiian elegance and private lanai with panoramic ocean, mountain, and city views. With an unrivaled location just steps from world-famous waves, the resort affords effortless exploration of the island's attractions from Diamond Head Crater, Honolulu Zoo, and Waikīkī Aquarium, to world-class shopping, sophisticated dining, and expert surfing lessons. Offering endless amenities including luxurious treatments at the 10,000 square foot Nā Ho'ōla Spa, locally sourced ingredients at The Buffet at Hyatt, SWIM Restaurant & Bar, and SHOR Restaurant, and specialty boutiques on-site at Pualeilani Atrium Shops.

For more information regarding Hyatt Regency Waikiki Beach Resort and Spa, please contact the resort by phone at (808) 923-1234 or visit the resort website at:

<http://www.hyattregencywaikiki.com/>.