

2013 State Indoor Winter Games and Southeast Powerlifting and Ice Skating Official Program Book • Jan. 25-27 Cobb County

www.SpecialOlympicsGA.org







# WELCOME TO 2013 STATE WINTER GAMES

January 25, 2013

We are excited to kick off the State Indoor Winter Games in Cobb County, thank you for joining us! We had a terrific year in 2012, and we are looking forward to seeing the athletes compete this weekend in basketball, bowling, floor hockey, gymnastics, ice skating, powerlifting and roller skating. Please join us throughout the weekend and BE A FAN in the stands as we know the athletes have trained hard to do their personal best in their events.

Thanks to our dedicated Games Organizing Committee and the thousands of volunteers who will make the weekend special for the athletes and a success for us all. We of course could not put on a weekend of this scale without the generosity of our many sponsors represented in this program book and as volunteers at venues.

Special Olympics Georgia (SOGA) is dedicated to all athletes, coaches, unified sports partners and families, and we appreciate the many hours they gave in preparation for the State Indoor Winter Games and year round.

Your enthusiasm and belief in the 24,470 SOGA athletes is incredible and we applaud you for that. We are so fortunate to have these wonderful facilities and couldn't do the games without the on going support of the Cobb County Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Department.

Enjoy the weekend and best of luck athletes!

Sincerely,

MSheats

Georgia Milton-Sheats Chief Executive Officer

**Opening Ceremony Jan. 25** 

www.SpecialOlympicsGA.org

**Opening Ceremony Sponsor** 



Welcome: Brvan Brum, Chairman of the Board Master of Ceremony: MOBY, Radio Personality, President of Atlanta-based MOBY Georgia Natural Gas Enterprises, Inc. Georgia Natural Gas ® is Welcome on behalf of Cobb County: David Hankerson, Cobb County Manager a proud sponsor of Special **Invocation:** Minister Terrence Johnson, Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church Olympics Georgia again this year and congratu-Grand Marshal: DJ Shockley lates all the athletes. Parade of Athletes: Escorted by athletes from Georgia Tech, Georgia Natural Gas. Kennesaw State University, and Pageant Title Holders Savings to live your life. Presentation of Colors: Knights of Columbus, District of Georgia www.gngsavings.com National Anthem: Mark Klein, Cobb County Athlete Distinguished Service Awards and Sponsor Recognition: Georgia Milton-Sheats, CEO Entertainment: Tender Mercies Band Official Oath: James Watts, Jr., Basketball Official Athlete Oath: Allison Ferrer, Cobb County Athlete Entertainment: Tender Mercies Band **Lighting of the Torch:** Brenda Reid, Publix Top 5 Fundraising Torch Run Departments: 1. Johns Creek Police Department 2. MARTA Police Department 3. Atlanta Police Department 4. Dougherty Sheriff's Office 5. Gwinnett County Sheriff's Office

Opening Declaration: MOBY

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# LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN



The Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR) is excited to celebrate the 27th Anniversary of this event in 2013. The Law Enforcement Torch Run is an international movement that raised over \$42 million in 2012! Here in Georgia, the Torch Run is looking forward to bringing the "Flame of Hope" throughout the state for the most memorable year yet!

The Torch Run involves law enforcement officers from across the state who work year-round to raise funds and awareness for 24,470 SOGA athletes. The Torch Run is so much more than just a run. Officers are highly involved in raising both funds and awareness – from sitting on top of a Krispy Kreme Doughnut Shop for 60 hours, to plunging into the chilly water of Lake Lanier in the middle of winter, to waiting on tables at a restaurant near you. These officers work hard year round in order to go above and beyond the call of duty to help those in their communities. Officers carry the "Flame of Hope" into the opening ceremony of the State Winter, Summer, and Fall Games each year. The Top Five fundraising departments have the honor of carrying in the "Flame of Hope" during these games and lighting the cauldron.

The Presenting Sponsor of the Law Enforcement Torch Run is **Publix Super Markets**. Each January, they sell torch icons at their registers to raise significant funds for our programming. Please be sure to **visit Publix** and the other sponsors of the Law Enforcement Torch Run and thank them for their support.

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### Freezin' for a Reason! Polar Plunge!

Be sure to check out and participate in our newest event on Saturday, February 16, 2013 – the 4th Annual Polar Plunge at Lake Lanier Islands Beach & Water Park. Join others as they plunge for a cause and freeze for a reason! For more information and learn how **YOU** can participate, **visit www.PolarPlungeGA.com!** 







Salvation Army (770-724-1640) I-75 NB, Exit 263 Left onto South Marietta Parkway, Right onto Atlanta St. SE. Right on Waterman. Salvation Army on right.



