

Contact:

Meghan Daves Communications and Marketing Manager Special Olympics Georgia meghan.daves@specialolympicsga.org

Ph: 770-414-9390 ext. 117

Fax: 770-216-8339

(Editor's Note: Reporters should contact David Crawford, Senior Sports and Program Manager, during the weekend at 229-292-5143.)

Annual State Masters Bowling Tournament to be Held in Georgia's "International City"

(Atlanta, August 22, 2016) On August 26-28, Georgia's own Warner Robins will host Special Olympics Georgia's annual State Masters Bowling Tournament for the seventh year in a row.

During this time, approximately 1,100 Special Olympics Georgia athletes and unified partners over the age of 22 years will flood the town, along with over 250 coaches and 300 volunteers, all to see which athletes will be named Georgia's top bowlers. The Tournament is free and open for fans of all ages to come watch and cheer on the athletes.

"We are once again grateful to the town of Warner Robins and the community for graciously allowing our athletes to continue competing in our annual Masters Bowling Tournament. This year's Tournament is sure to be a display of what it means to compete with bravery, sportsmanship and passion. We encourage all of our fans to come out and support our athletes and all of the individuals that work to make this event possible," commented Special Olympics Georgia CEO, Georgia Milton-Sheats.

Competition will start on Friday, August 26 and continue through the duration of the weekend. The Tournament will be held at Gold Cup Lanes and Robins Air Force Base Bowling Center (Robins Lanes).

The Opening Ceremony will also commence on Friday at Southside Baptist Church. Warner Robins' own Mayor Randy Toms will be this year's Grand Marshal alongside WGXA News meteorologist Jeff Cox, who is the Tournament's Master of Ceremony. The Ceremony will feature the traditional Parade of Athletes, led in by Dan Bray, member of the Georgia State Patrol Honor Guard, as well as the Law Enforcement Torch Run, showcasing members of the Warner Robins Police Department. Afterwards, singer Dell Cook will perform at the Athlete Dance.

Special Olympics Georgia would like to thank the two Presenting Sponsors – the City of Warner Robins and the Warner Robins Convention and Visitors Bureau.

For more information and a schedule, please visit www.specialolympicsga.org.

About Special Olympics Georgia

SOGA provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of sports for 27,110 individuals with intellectual disabilities. For more information visit www.specialOlympicsGA.org.