

MEDIA ALERT



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Special Olympics Missouri Hosts 50th Annual St. Louis Area Basketball Tournament

ST. LOUIS - Special Olympics Missouri (SOMO) is thrilled to host the 50th annual St. Louis Area Basketball Tournament on Saturday, January 18. The event will take place across multiple Wentzville School District locations, including Frontier Middle School, North Point Middle School, Wentzville South Middle School, Discovery Ridge Elementary School, Duello Elementary School, and Wabash Elementary School.

This tournament serves as a qualifying event for more than 700 SOMO athletes as they prepare for the Regional Tournament in Cape Girardeau, Missouri, in February and the State Indoor Games in St. Charles, Missouri, in March. Athletes, spectators, and coaches from across the St. Louis Metro area and Southeast Missouri will be in attendance.

Competition Details

The event will feature a variety of basketball activities, including basketball skills challenges, half-court games, and full-court games, running from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. SOMO cheer and dance teams will be on the sidelines to energize the games and support the athletes.

Law enforcement officers from the community will participate by presenting awards to athletes throughout the day, making the event even more memorable.

Media Contact

For media inquiries, please contact:

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Thank You to Our Sponsors

The St. Louis Area Basketball Tournament is made possible through the generous support of our sponsors. Special thanks to our year-round partners:

- Knights of Columbus
- Law Enforcement Torch Run
- Missouri Association of Student Councils
- Diamond Pet Foods
- University of Missouri System
- MU Health Care

In the St. Louis Metro Area, we extend gratitude to Boone Center, Inc., Schnucks, and Fore Love of the Game. A special thanks also goes to the Wentzville School District for their generous support.

Special Olympics Missouri

Special Olympics Missouri (SOMO) is a year-round program of sports training and athletic competition for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. Thousands of athletes participate in 13 Olympic-type sports throughout the state. SOMO provides people with intellectual disabilities continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, and experience joy as they participate in the sharing of gifts and friendship with their fellow athletes, their family and friends, and communities across Missouri.

SOMO is proud of our financial health, returning 83% of every dollar back to program services. We are privileged to be recognized with these honors: Better Business Bureau A+ Charity Accreditation, Guidestar Gold Level and Charity Navigator 4-star rating. Special Olympics was also recently named Morning Consult's No. 5 most trusted nonprofit.

Thank you for trusting us with your donations, volunteer time and your goodwill.

Visit Special Olympics Missouri at www.somo.org. Engage with us on [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

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