



SUMMER GAMES 2008

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Country Superstar Collin Raye, Artist David Garibaldi Kick-off Special Olympics Summer Games at UC Berkeley

***900 ATHLETES, 500 LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL, 300 COACHES, 1,300 VOLUNTEERS,
5 OLYMPIC EVENTS***

BERKELEY Calif. - Country vocalist superstar Collin Raye and world-renowned performance artist David Garibaldi will perform at Haas Pavilion Friday, June 6 during the Opening Ceremonies of the Special Olympics Northern California Summer Games at UC Berkeley. The ceremonies, presented by AT&T, will help kick off an action-packed two-day competition of more than 900 Special Olympics athletes from throughout Northern California who will compete for gold in aquatics, track & field, bocce, tennis and volleyball.

Raye produces inspirational and heartfelt material, including his latest hit "Quitters, recently the number one single on Gospel Music Television and number seven on Great American Country". "Quitters" and other favorites will be performed during the opening ceremonies. "Quitters" is a solid song with a fantastic message," Raye explained.

"Special Olympic athletes know what it is like to beat the odds, dare to break the stereotype and achieve. I am honored to perform in front of such an amazing group of people, added Raye, who has been a long-time supporter of Special Olympics and other organizations focused on humanitarian and children's issues.

Joining Raye will be local favorite, David Garibaldi, a 24-year-old performance artist from Sacramento. Garibaldi will create his signature 6 foot tall paintings of music culture icons, including Ray, in a matter minutes. Since 2006, Special Olympics has been Garibaldi's charity of choice and his paintings have raised significant funds for the movement.

"Special Olympics has really become one of my favorite causes," said Garibaldi. "You might say I have become quite a fan, which is easy to do when you experience the determination, hope and passion of Special Olympic athletes. It is personally rewarding for me to donate my time and paintings on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities."

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In addition to the performances from Raye and Garibaldi, the Opening Ceremonies will include the traditional parade of athletes, and appearances by new Cal Men's Basketball Coach Mike Montgomery and morning radio hosts from the Wolf, 95.7, and the lighting of the Special Olympics Caldron, signaling the beginning of the games.

Competition is scheduled to continue from 9 am- 4pm on Saturday and 9 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on Sunday.
(Please see schedule of events.)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, June 8

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| 2:30pm-6:30pm | Final leg of the Law Enforcement Torch Run (Emeryville to Berkeley) |
| 7:30pm - 9:30pm | Opening Ceremonies, presented by AT&T, at UC Berkeley (Haas Pavilion) |

Saturday, June 9

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|------------------|---|
| 9:00am - 5:00pm | Track & Field at UC Berkeley (Edwards Stadium) |
| 9:00am -3:00pm | Bocce at Martinez Waterfront Park - Bocce Courts |
| 9:00am - 4:00pm | Tennis at UC Berkeley (Hellman Courts) |
| 9:00am - 4:00pm | Aquatics at UC Berkeley (Spieker Aquatics Center) |
| 9:00am - 4:30pm | Volleyball at UC Berkeley (Field House in RSF) |
| 12:00pm - 9:00pm | Olympic Village at UC Berkeley (Haas Pavilion) |

Sunday, June 10

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|------------------|---|
| 8:00am - 2:30pm | Track & Field at UC Berkeley (Edwards Stadium) |
| 9:00am – 1:30pm | Tennis at UC Berkeley (Hellman Courts) |
| 9:00am – 1:30pm | Bocce at Martinez Waterfront Park - Bocce Courts |
| 9:00am - 2:00pm | Volleyball at UC Berkeley (Field House in RSF) |
| 9:00am - 2:30pm | Aquatics at UC Berkeley (Spieker Aquatics Center) |
| 10:00am - 1:00pm | Olympic Village at UC Berkeley (Haas Pavilion) |
| 2:30pm | Summer Games Conclude |

About Special Olympics Northern California

Special Olympics Northern California is a free year-round sports training and competition program for children and adults with developmental disabilities. More than 13,000 athletes compete in over 170 competitions throughout the region in 19 sports. Find out how you can be a fan and visit www.SONC.org/summergames