



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
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Special Olympics 2010 USA National Games: Calling all Artists!

Nebraska artists to submit designs for the signature Special Olympics Torch to be on display during the week of the Games

Lincoln, NE – The Special Olympics 2010 USA National Games has put out a call to all Nebraska based artists to create the sculpture that will serve as the Special Olympics' Torch that houses the "Flame of Hope" during the Opening Ceremony and throughout the week of the Games.

The "Flame of Hope" will travel throughout over 100 Nebraska communities, carried by 200 police officers the week prior to the 2010 USA National Games, as part of the Final Leg of the Law Enforcement Torch Run. At the culmination of the Opening Ceremony, the "Flame of Hope" will be run into the venue (Devaney Sports Center or Memorial Stadium) and will officially kick off the event with the lighting of the Special Olympics Torch. The flame will then burn throughout the week of celebration and competition outside Pershing Auditorium, before being extinguished at the Closing Ceremony.

The Call to Artists is a design competition open to all artists in the state of Nebraska. Maquettes (scale models) will be submitted to the 2010 USA National Games along with a concept statement and description of materials needed. Members of the arts community as well as the 2010 Games Organizing Committee will jury designs.

This distinctive Flame will be the cornerstone of the 2010 USA National Games. At the completion of the event, it will take its place in the community as a landmark preserving the memories that are made during this special week.

The Call to Artists description and application can be found on the homepage of the 2010 USA National Games website at www.2010specialolympics.org.

The 2010 USA National Games will showcase the state of Nebraska on the national stage July 18th through the 23rd, 2010 and will be the largest sporting event held in the history of Nebraska. Organizers expect 3,000 athletes, 1,000 coaches, 8,000 volunteers and 15,000 family members and friends to come to Lincoln for the event.

For more information, contact:
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