

CITY OF SOUTH LAKE TAHOE

1901 Airport Road, Ste. 203
South Lake Tahoe, California 96150
www.cityofslt.us



Press Release

Contact: Tracy Franklin, Communications Manager
Phone: (530) 542-6093 Cell: (530) 318-9782

Champions Plaza Unveiling

South Lake Tahoe, CA (August 30, 2017) – The City of South Lake Tahoe will be honoring local National, World and Olympic Athletes with the unveiling the *Spirit of Competition* bronze sculpture on Friday, September 29th at 2pm at Champions Plaza located at 1000 Lakeview Avenue.

On the heels of the 2014 Winter Olympics, in which several of our local athletes earned Olympic medals, the idea of creating a Champions Plaza was born. To honor and recognize these athletes the City Council approved the construction and design of a Champions Plaza.

The approximate 11' bronze sculpture which represents male and female athletes reaching for a ring is being created by artist Gareth Curtiss.

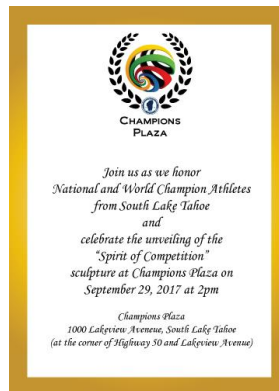
Join us as we honor our first installation of athletes including:

Elena Hight
Glen Plake
Hannah Teter
Jamie Anderson
Jonna Mendes

Kyle Smaine
Maddie Bowman
Shaun Palmer
Travis Cabral
Travis Ramos

The City would be honored to have your presence for the dedication of the Champions Plaza and unveiling of the *Spirit of Competition* sculpture. The initial induction of athletes to be engraved into the Walk of Champions will also be unveiled at that time.

For more information, visit us online at www.cityofslt.us



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“The Spirit of Competition”

City of South Lake Tahoe
City Manager's Office
1901 Airport Road
Suite 203
South Lake Tahoe, CA
96150

(530) 542-6043

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Lake Tahoe has a long history of producing champions in winter sports and it continues to grow each decade. In 1929 the Lake Tahoe Ski Club was formed, and that was the beginning of this great legacy that still holds true today.

In alpine events alone, no less than 50 U.S. Ski Team members, 20 Olympians, and a dozen national champions have come from the Tahoe Basin, and more than a few have their names honored in the National Ski Hall of Fame.

In 2014, South Lake Tahoe celebrated the achievement of several of our local athletes who earned Olympic Gold Medals. The community came together and put on a hometown parade for our “Golden Girls”, Jamie Anderson, Maddie Bowman & Hannah Teter. These athletes, along with many other local athletes who have competed in other World or National events, have brought South Lake Tahoe significant recognition to the worldwide stage.

To further acknowledge our amazing athletes, the City of South Lake Tahoe began planning for the creation of a *Champions Plaza* following the 2014 Winter Olympics. Over the course of two years, the City sought to find an artist that could bring a vision to the Plaza that would create excitement for public art to our community, as well as recognizing our local champions.

In 2016 City Council commissioned an artist to create a sculpture that could be prominently displayed within the Plaza. The City selected artist Gareth Curtiss with his proposed sculpture titled the *Spirit of Competition*. This sculpture captures the essence of competition. It is cast in bronze in the shape of a very large flame and out of the flame rise three life size athletic figures all striving to attain a large ring. One of the elements within the Plaza is the *Walk of Champions*. The *Walk of Champions* is a paved walkway that will run through the Plaza and compliment the sculpture. It is here where the City will forever memorialize our local champions by engraving their names and their highest achievements in the walkway.

The City would be honored to have your presence for the dedication of the Champions Plaza and unveiling of the *Spirit of Competition* sculpture. The initial induction of athletes to be engraved into the Walk of Champions will also be unveiled at that time. The ceremony will pay tribute to our athletes that have proudly represented South Lake Tahoe, and moreover, the United States of America.

We hope you are able to join us in this celebration on Friday September 29, 2017 at 2:00pm at the Champions Plaza site located on the corner of Highway 50 and Lakeview Ave. Please see attached invitation for details.

Sincerely,

Nancy Kerry
City Manager



**CHAMPIONS
PLAZA**

*Join us as we honor
National and World Champion Athletes
from South Lake Tahoe
and
celebrate the unveiling of the
“Spirit of Competition”
sculpture at Champions Plaza on
September 29, 2017 at 2pm*

*Champions Plaza
1000 Lakeview Avenue, South Lake Tahoe
(at the corner of Highway 50 and Lakeview Avenue)*