



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Mardi Gras Bash to Benefit Special Olympics Colorado Slated for Feb. 7

DENVER, Colo. -- The 7th Annual Special Olympics Colorado Mardi Gras Bash, proudly presented by Area Rent-Alls, is slated for Saturday, Feb. 7 from 5:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Arvada Center for the Arts. The cost to attend is \$35 per person, \$60 per couple or \$300 for a table of 10. All proceeds from the event benefit the nearly 10,000 Special Olympics athletes across the state of Colorado.

The Mardi Gras Bash is a colorful and spirited event featuring entertainment by Denver's own Dotsero Band. The event includes a Cajun cuisine, cash bar, music, dancing, a bead and mask bar with balloon prizes, silent auction and costume contest. The evening is highlighted by the crowning of male and female Special Olympics athletes as 2009 Mardi Gras Bash King and Queen, chosen from a court of the top ticket salespeople for the event.

Gloria Neal, CBS4 Reporter, is the Master of Ceremonies for the Mardi Gras Bash. The Doubletree Inn, located at 8773 Yates Drive in Westminster, is offering a special room rate of \$99 per night Feb. 7 plus providing free shuttle service to and from the Arvada Center (6901 Wadsworth Boulevard).

Tickets can be purchased on line at www.specialolympicsco.org or by calling 720.359-3114.

Since 1969, Special Olympics Colorado (SOCO) has been strengthening families, athletes and the very soul of our community through sports training and athletic competitions. Special Olympics Colorado provides year-round training and sponsors over 80 competitions at the area and state level in 20 sports for nearly 10,000 athletes statewide. With a base of more than 6,000 volunteers, hundreds of hours are donated allowing SOCO to support athletes of all ages and abilities, allowing them to build athletic, learning and social skills. Participation with other athletes, non-disabled peers (Unified Sports® partners), coaches, sponsors and volunteers builds confidence and creates opportunities to participate as productive and respected members of society by increasing public awareness of the athletes' capabilities. There is no cost to participate in Special Olympics.

Be a fan of fun. Be a part of the Mardi Gras Bash.