

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 10, 2023

CONTACT: Liana Susott or Emilie Tangeman (406) 254-7426

2023 Opening Ceremonies to Start Off the State Games

The Big Sky State Games Opening Ceremonies will kickstart the 38th Annual Games on Friday, July 14, 2023, at Wendy's Field at Daylis Stadium. The Annual Soaked Fun Run will start at 5:15 p.m. in Pioneer Park. Gates will open at Daylis Stadium at 5:30 p.m. for the pre-Games Festival featuring interactive booths, live music, and souvenirs. Opening Ceremonies will start at 7:15 p.m. with the Parade of Athletes, which will include representation of athletes in all 39 sports of the Games, the Montana Mile, and traditional torch lighting. Admission is free!

The Food Truck Olympics are back this year. Enjoy your favorite local food and don't forget to vote for your favorite food truck using the QR code! Gold, Silver and Bronze medals will be awarded!

The Food Truck Olympics will feature the follows vendors:

- Let's Get Fresh
- Texas Twister Drink
- Khanthaky's Eggrolls
- Ceci's Popcorn
- Time to Eat
- Summer Snow
- The Corndog Co.
- Brat Palace
- Big Swirl

FREE Pre-Games activities include: Balloon animals, basketball hoop, climbing wall, food trucks and more. Another Opening Ceremonies highlight includes live music by Jessa Larson and Logan Hughes.

The evening's program includes: State Games National Anthem Contest Winner, Tina Phillips; the Rimview Dance Studio, Stunt Dudes BMX Show, the Montana Mile, the Parade of Athletes, the 2022 Athletes of the Year, and the Torch Lighting. All participants walking in the Parade of Athletes receive a free sticker and a chance to win \$100.

State Games Character Counts Scholarship winners Keatin Hertz of Billings Senior High School, Julia Kunau of Fergus High School, Logan Cole of Billings Senior High School, and Delayne Lindeen of Huntley Project High School will be featured.

The special guests lighting the torch are World Track and Field Camp Coaches and Olympians Andre Phillips - Hurdles, Erin Shean - High Jump, Duncan Atwood - Javelin, Scott Huffman - Pole vault, and Tripp Piperi - Shot Put, a promising Olympic Prospect.

Major sponsors of the Big Sky State Games are Kampgrounds of America, First Interstate Bank, and BlueCross BlueShield of Montana. Opening Ceremonies are sponsored by Wendy's.

###