

CITY OF CHICAGO . OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: February 28, 2024

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MAYOR BRANDON JOHNSON TO JOIN 24TH ANNUAL POLAR PLUNGE

Mayor Johnson will join 5,000 others in plunging into Lake Michigan to raise funds for Special Olympics Chicago and Special Children's Charities

CHICAGO – On Sunday, March 3rd, Mayor Brandon Johnson will join nearly 5,000 participants of the 24th annual Polar Plunge as they brave Lake Michigan's frigid waters. The Chicago Polar Plunge, which raises funds for the Special Olympics Chicago/Special Children's Charities (SOC/SCC) program, is the largest plunge in the Midwest.

"As we gear up for the 24th annual Polar Plunge, I'm thrilled to plunge into Lake Michigan alongside thousands of participants in support of the Special Olympics Chicago/Special Children's Charities program," said **Mayor Brandon Johnson**. "This event embodies our city's commitment to inclusivity, empowerment, and community support."

Last year's Polar Plunge raised over \$2.1 million and had over 4,900 participants – making it the organization's largest plunge. Funds from the Chicago Polar Plunge benefit the athletes of the SOC/SCC program who are residents of Chicago. These proceeds are used for year-round activities and events enjoyed by thousands of athletes throughout the city. Funds raised from the Chicago Polar Plunge also help to pay for transportation to competitions, uniforms, sports equipment, and more, for the SOC/SCC programs and athletes.

Online registration will remain open until 5:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 2nd, 2024 and walkup registration is available the day of the event.

Registration is now open at <u>www.chicagopolarplunge.org</u>. Registrants are asked to raise a minimum of \$200. All participating plungers will receive free parking at Lincoln Park Zoo, or a free bus for groups of 20 or more; a souvenir t-shirt; towel when exiting the water; and free photo downloads.



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