



Convention & Visitors Bureau

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News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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San Jose Convention & Visitors Bureau Welcomes The California Firefighter's Olympics

SAN JOSE, CA. – June 14, 2006 – Starting July 16th, over 3,000 firefighters from all over the state of California will descend upon San Jose for the 35th annual California Firefighter's Olympics. This family friendly gathering promotes physical fitness competitions and an informal forum for exchanging ideas.

The event rotates annually between Southern and Northern California. The games are governed by the California Firemen's Athletic Association. San Jose Firefighters Local 230 is the host and organizer for the 2006 event.

The Olympics consist of 29 areas of competition which include mainstream sports such as baseball and basketball but also some unusual competitions like bass fishing, roller hockey, and paintball. The events are held all over the bay area from Santa Cruz for the surfing competition to Texas Hold'em poker at the Hyatt San Jose, the host hotel for the event. Encouraging participation from firefighter's families, the competition also includes a Junior Olympics for children ages 5-12 with fun activities like a bungee run and laser tag.

"The event provides an environment that blends quality family time along with team building games," said Tom Westrup, Director of the Organizing Committee. In addition, all proceeds go to the San Jose Firefighters Burn Foundation. The Foundation not only helps adult burn survivors but also sponsors a burn camp for children and purchases equipment for the burn unit at Valley Medical Center in San Jose.

A new interactive family event this year is Piano Madness. Two comical entertainers duel at the keyboard while engaging the audience in a variety of songs. The Luau is the only ticketed event but well worth the \$25 fee. You won't find a more authentic luau anywhere on the mainland, even the entertainment is flown in from Hawaii.

The California Firefighter's Olympics will be held from July 16-21.

Volunteers are greatly appreciated and are vital to the success of the games. Anyone wishing to volunteer at any of the events please contact Bia Westrup (831) 637-8310 or send an email to westrupsjfd@yahoo.com.

About The San Jose Convention & Visitors Bureau (SJCVB)

The mission of the San Jose Convention and Visitors Bureau (SJCVB) is to enhance the image and economic well-being of San Jose by taking a leadership role in marketing the city as a globally recognized, accessible, and affordable destination. The SJCVB offers meeting planners, tour operators, and individual visitors a wide range of services to ensure a successful event and fun visit to San Jose. To receive a copy of the Bureau's Meeting Planning Guide or Official Visitors Guide, please contact the SJCVB at 1.800.SAN.JOSE (1.800.726.5673) or visit www.sanjose.org

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