



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Volunteers Needed for 2014 YMCA National Gymnastics Championships**

**Tampa, FL (May 19, 2014)** – The Y is seeking the help of more than 1,000 volunteers for a variety of responsibilities at the [2014 YMCA National Gymnastics Championships](#) hosted by the Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA July 1<sup>st</sup> - July 5<sup>th</sup>.

Nearly 1,800 gymnasts and their families are traveling from across the country to Tampa for the five-day event. More than 100 teams traveling from 23 states will arrive in Tampa Bay during the first week of July for the national competition. In total, approximately 5,800 visitors will make an economic impact estimated at \$4.5 million in the community.

An Olympic-style [Opening Ceremony](#) will take place at Raymond James Stadium on Wednesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 4 p.m. under a "Treasures Discovered" pirate theme. Megan Clementi, Miss Florida USA 2010, will serve as the [keynote speaker](#) for the event. Then, the 3-day competition will take place at the Tampa Convention Center Thursday - Saturday, July 3<sup>rd</sup> - July 5<sup>th</sup>.

YMCA of the USA (Y-USA) is proud to present the annual YMCA National Gymnastics Championships at select host cities throughout the United States. Y gymnasts, ages 5-18, compete in this elite event of a lifetime. Participants compete for top honors in bars, beam, vault and floor events, all while receiving the opportunity to develop themselves and build character. In order to compete, each participant must qualify by receiving a high enough all-around score at a USA Gymnastics (USAG) sanctioned meet. YMCA National Gymnastics Championship events are developed within the core values of the Y. In addition, the events fulfill the Y's promise to nurture the potential of kids, promote healthy living and foster a sense of social responsibility.

Interested volunteers can contact [YNationalsvolunteer@tampaymca.org](mailto:YNationalsvolunteer@tampaymca.org) for more information. Other need-to-know details including travel, schedule, tickets and more is available online at <http://www.ymcagymnationals.org/>. Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Please contact Mercy Powell at 813.924.7512 or at [mercy.powell@tampaymca.org](mailto:mercy.powell@tampaymca.org).

The Tampa Y recognizes the following organizations for their support in nurturing the potential of kids, promoting healthy living and fostering a sense of social responsibility:

American Athletic, Inc. (AAI)  
GK Elite  
Graphix Screen Printing  
Tampa Bay Buccaneers

Tampa Bay Sports Commission  
Tampa Sports Authority  
Visit Tampa Bay

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### **About the Tampa Y**

The Tampa Metropolitan Area YMCA is a cause-driven [4-star charity](#) and one of the area's leading nonprofits, strengthening Hillsborough and East Pasco communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Across the Association, 19 facilities engage more than 167,000 men, women and children — regardless of age, income or background — to nurture the potential of children and teens, improve our community's health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. The Tampa Y has long-standing relationships and physical presence not just to promise, but to deliver, lasting personal and social change. [www.tampaymca.org](http://www.tampaymca.org)