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## SANTA MONICA-MALIBU EDUCATION FOUNDATION NAMED OFFICIAL CHARITY PARTNER OF 2015 SANTA MONICA CLASSIC

LOS ANGELES (June 2, 2015) – LA MARATHON LLC, host of the Santa Monica Classic, today named the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation (SMMEF) as the Official Charity Partner of the annual 5K/10K event, held on Sunday, September 13, 2015.

As Official Charity Partner of the Santa Monica Classic, the SMMEF will benefit by receiving a portion of the event's proceeds while also using the Santa Monica Classic as a platform for its students and donors to raise additional funds for critical work in education.

SMMEF raises funds annually to support programs that ensure excellence for every student and school in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. SMMEF-funded staff and programs include instructional assistants, elementary arts education, and discretionary grants for all 16 schools in the district. Many schools use these discretionary grants to provide science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) or visual and performing arts programs. Some schools also use these funds to hire additional health clerks, augment on-site counseling programs, or run other programs focused on student wellness.

"We are thrilled to partner with the Santa Monica Malibu Education Foundation," stated LA MARATHON LLC Chief Executive Tracey Russell. "We firmly believe in their mission of enriching the lives of local students and we're confident that participants of the Santa Monica Classic will rally around this great cause to use their 5K or 10K to benefit area youth."

"SMMEF is excited to be the beneficiary of LA MARATHON LLC's Santa Monica Classic," said SMMEF Executive Director Linda Greenberg, "Community partners are essential to a vibrant school district and we are thankful for LA MARATHON's investment in our children. All funds raised will directly impact students in the Santa Monica and Malibu public schools."

LA MARATHON LLC has a longstanding relationship with the city of Santa Monica, generating immense positive economic impact for the famous beachfront paradise since the inception of the marathon's 'Stadium to the Sea' course in 2010.

Registration for the Santa Monica Classic is currently open to the public. Interested runners can find more information on <u>www.santamonicaclassic.com</u> or by calling (213) 542-3000.

## About LA MARATHON LLC

LA MARATHON LLC, a subsidiary of McCourt Global, creates world-class experiences that ignite passion in athletes and connect communities through the transformative power of sports. The ASICS LA Marathon is among the largest marathons in the country with more than 26,000 participants, thousands of volunteers and hundreds of thousands of spectators. The "Stadium to the Sea" course, starting at Dodger Stadium and finishing near the Santa Monica Pier, is one of the most scenic in the world, taking runners on a tour of Los Angeles past every major landmark. LA MARATHON LLC will host the 2016 Olympic Team Trials for Men's and Women's Marathon, awarded by USA Track & Field and the U.S. Olympic Committee, which will take place in Los Angeles February 13, 2016. For more information, please visit <u>www.lamarathon.com</u>.

## About the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation

Established in 1982 by a dedicated group of parents, community leaders, and local business owners, the Santa Monica-Malibu Education Foundation enhances and supplements the curriculum of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. SMMEF's mission is to engage the community to invest in a vibrant educational experience for all students in the Santa Monica and Malibu public schools. To learn more about SMMEF visit www.smmef.org, follow on Twitter: @smmef or like us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/smmef.

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