



○ ISSUE 2 | ○ VOLUME 2 | ○ February 2008

In Partnership with Lake Lure & the Blue Ridge Foothills

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Friends of the *Olympiad*

SOUTHEAST TOURISM SOCIETY NAMES OLYMPIAD AMONG TOP 20 EVENTS

The Hickory Nut Gorge Olympiad has been named a "Top 20 Event" by The Southeast Tourism Society. To be considered for the list events must have been in existence for three years.

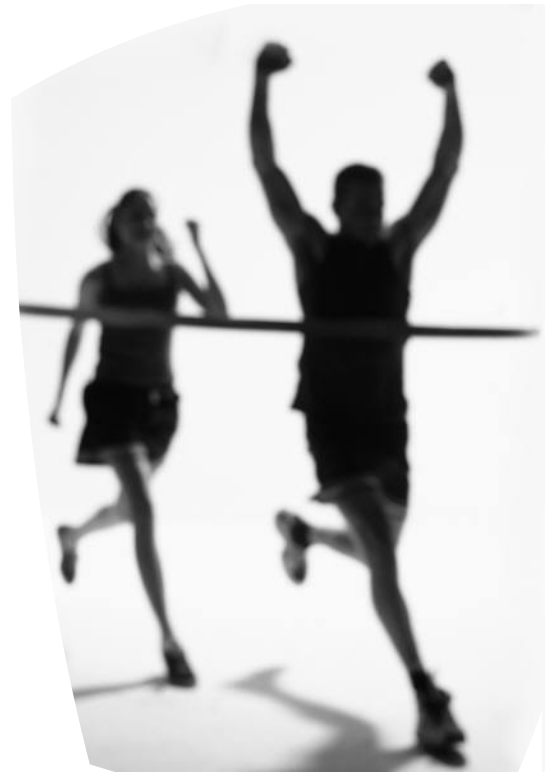
Founded in 2005, this is the first year the Olympiad has been eligible for consideration. With events from 12 states competing for placement on the prestigious list, the Olympiad is making big waves by being chosen in its first year of entering. Other key criteria include the stipulation that the event must draw an attendance of at least 1,000 people.

"With all the criteria necessary for submission, it was a wonderful honor to be selected," said Olympiad Board Chairman Bob Keith. "It shows that the Olympiad is valued beyond our community and even our state as a first-rate

event. I look forward to more growth as a result of this distinction."

About The Southeast Tourism Society

Since 1985, the Southeast Tourism Society has published the Top 20 Events. Through a nomination process, the Southeast Tourism Society chooses the Top 20 Events going on in the Southeast for each month of the year. A list of winners is published quarterly. The Top 20 Events publication is published in over 1,600 newspapers, magazines, radio stations, TV stations, AAA publications and others. The combined circulation runs into the millions. For more information on Top 20 Events or the Southeast Tourism Society, visit www.southeasttourism.com.



HELP US GROW!

Sponsors and donors are vital to the growth and longevity of the Olympiad. Every year the event gets better and better thanks to the dedicated support of our community. If you are interested in becoming an event sponsor, please contact sponsorship chairman Skip Marsh at 828-429-0916.