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McDONALD'S REVEALS 800+ NOMINEES FOR 2019 ALL AMERICAN GAMES McDonald's is investing in the next generation of basketball talent by nominating high school players now eligible to make final rosters for the prestigious McDonald's All American Games

Chicago, III. (Jan. 16, 2019) – Today, McDonald's is supporting the next generation of basketball talent by unveiling the list of more than 800 top male and female high school basketball players from across the country nominated for the prestigious chance to play in the 42nd annual <u>McDonald's All</u> <u>American Games</u>. The <u>list</u> of notable seniors will be used by the Games' Selection Committee to identify the top 24 boys and 24 girls to play in the annual event and become a part of a historic basketball legacy. The teams will take the court on Wednesday, March 27 at the State Farm Arena in Atlanta, marking the fourth time the city will host the Games (1983, 1992 and 2018).

This year, <u>players</u> from 46 states and the District of Columbia were nominated by their high school coaches, athletic directors, principals, and members of the McDonald's All American Games Selection Committee. High school players from Texas received the most nominations (82), followed by California (64), Florida (50) and Maryland (46). These players represent the next generation of basketball stars.

"We are excited to recognize these McDonald's American Games nominees and give fans a first look at some of the nation's biggest rising basketball stars," said Morgan Wootten, McDonald's All American Games Selection Committee Co-Chairman.

"As we head into final roster selection, we applaud these athletes for their accomplishments both on and off the court," said Joe Wootten, McDonald's All American Games Selection Committee Co-Chairman. The final rosters for the 2019 McDonald's All American Games will be revealed on Thursday, Jan. 24 at 3 p.m. ET on ESPN's *The Jump* and at 6 p.m. ET on *SportsCenter*. Follow @McDAAG on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u> for the latest news and announcements.

Fans can watch the 18th annual McDonald's All American Girls Game on ESPN2 at 5 p.m. ET Wednesday, March 27. The 42nd annual Boys Game immediately follows at 7 p.m. ET and will also air live on ESPN2.

2019 McDonald's All American Games Tickets

Tickets for the 2019 McDonald's All American Games will go on sale on Thursday, January 24 at 3 p.m. ET via <u>Ticketmaster</u> or the State Farm Arena box office.

Games week will kick off on Sunday, March 24 with the McDonald's All American Games Fan Fest at Centennial Olympic Park (265 Park Ave W NW, Atlanta, GA 30313) from 2 p.m. – 6 p.m. ET. The Fan Fest will be a free family event comprised of all-day activities, delicious McDonald's food, and special musical performances.

On Monday, March 25, the All Americans will showcase their skills at Wheeler High School during the annual POWERADE Jam Fest, which can be seen on ESPN2 at 8:00 p.m. ET.

The McDonald's All American Games will continue to benefit <u>Ronald McDonald House Charities®</u> (RMHC[®]) through its network of local Chapters. At RMHC, programs like the Ronald McDonald House, Ronald McDonald Family Room and Ronald McDonald Care Mobile provide comfort and compassion to families with sick children so they are fully supported and able to be a part of their children's care.

In addition to investing in the future of basketball and local communities, McDonald's is committed to investing in the future of its employees through <u>Archways to Opportunity</u>[™]. This program has increased education access for eligible U.S. McDonald's employees by providing an opportunity to earn a high school diploma, receive upfront college tuition assistance, access free education advising services and learn English as a second language. In 2018 alone, many Atlanta area crew members have been given the chance to continue on their educational journey*.

@McDAAG

Get in the Game by following the McDonald's All American Games on <u>Twitter</u> and <u>Instagram</u> for exclusive access to players. Follow @McDAAG to receive up-to-date information and a behind-the-scenes look at the 2019 Games, including key announcements, local player/coach recognitions, fan giveaways and historical Games facts and figures.

About McDonald's USA

McDonald's USA, LLC, serves a variety of menu options made with quality ingredients to more than 25 million customers every day. Nearly 90 percent of McDonald's 14,000 U.S. restaurants are independently owned and operated by businessmen and women. Customers can now log online for free at approximately 11,500 participating Wi-Fi enabled McDonald's U.S. restaurants. For more information, visit <u>www.mcdonalds.com</u>, or follow us on Twitter <u>@McDonalds</u> and Facebook <u>www.facebook.com/mcdonalds</u>.

About Ronald McDonald House Charities

Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC), is a non-profit, 501 (c) (3) corporation that creates, finds, and supports programs that directly improve the health and well-being of children and their families. Through its global network of over 275 Chapters in more than 64 countries and regions, and its three core programs: the Ronald McDonald House, the Ronald McDonald Family Room and the Ronald McDonald Care Mobile, RMHC helps families with sick children stay together, and close to the medical care their child needs at leading hospitals worldwide. RMHC programs not only provide access to quality health care, they enable family-centered care ensuring families are fully supported and actively involved in their children's care. For more information, visit <u>rmhc.org</u>. Follow @RMHC on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and LinkedIn.

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* Most McDonald's restaurants are operated by independent franchisees who are independent employers, and set their own employment policies and practices, including pay and benefits for the people working in their restaurants. McDonald's does not control the independent franchisees' employment policies and practices and does not employ those working at franchised restaurants. The benefits described here are available at McDonald's owned restaurants and the restaurants of participating franchisees.

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