



This year's USA Gymnastics National Congress and Trade Show will take place in Dallas, August 13-15, and where every USA Gymnastics discipline will be featured together at the Visa Championships – men's and women's artistic, rhythmic, acrobatic gymnastics, and trampoline and tumbling. The National Congress and Trade Show will be conducted at the headquarters hotel – the Sheraton Dallas Hotel.

Dallas makes perfect sense for this extraordinary event! Dallas is the home of the past two Olympic All-Around Champions, Carly Patterson and Nastia Liukin, both from WOGA. Plus, Texas is a big gymnastics state with the second largest number of USA Gymnastics members. The state boasts quite a few former U.S. champions including Mary Lou Retton, Kim Zmeskal, and Kurt Thomas, just to name a few, as well as being the home of the USA Gymnastics National Team Training Center for women.

During Congress there will be three days of education with more than 170 sessions given by recognized leaders in our sport. Of course the Trade Show will be a highlight and feature 200 booths of products and services from more than 90 Industry Members. Special events include the pre and post Congress education courses, Business Conference, USGSA Mega Raffle, Dance Party, and the annual Hall of Fame luncheon.



There is much to see and do in Dallas along with watching the nation's top gymnasts. You can visit the Dallas Museum of Art, the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden, or swing by Pioneer Plaza, located outside the convention center, to see the largest bronze monument in the world. You can check out the Sixth Floor Museum and revisit the life, times, death and legacy of President John F. Kennedy, or stop by the set of "Dallas," which is possibly one of TV's most popular shows. The Southfork Ranch is a 300-acre ranch and now a popular tourist stop!

Make your plans now. I look forward to seeing you in Dallas at the Visa Championships and USA Gymnastics National Congress and Trade Show! Read more details on the upcoming events in this issue and watch for a registration form in the April issue of Technique.

See you in the Gym,

Steve Penny
President/CEO