



Summer 2009 will be a busy one for gymnastics. USA Gymnastics will host several gymnastics events in cities around the United States, featuring all of the disciplines in our sport.

Rhythmic gymnastics will have a new international showcase at the **Chicago Cup**, June 18-23 in Chicago, Ill. This international invitational will feature top junior and senior elites. We are also hosting a Level 10 division with gymnasts from the United States, as well as the Junior Olympic Championships for Levels 7-9.

The **2009 International Sport and Cultural Festival** takes place in Fort Worth, Texas, June 23-28. USA Gymnastics, the Pan American Gymnastics Union and the American Sokol Organization are hosting this event that showcases participants from around the world. The event will include something for everyone with TeamGym, GymFest, City Performances, Festival Rhythmic, Aesthetic Group, and more.

USA Gymnastics returns to St. Paul, Minn., for the **Acrobatic Gymnastics Freedom Cup and World Cup**, July 10-12. The Freedom Cup is a World Cup international acrobatic gymnastics invitational featuring age group, junior and senior competition. The Junior Olympic Championships for Levels 5-10 will be held in conjunction with the Freedom Cup.

The **U.S. Classic and Challenge** takes place July 24-26 in Des Moines, Iowa. This serves as a women's gymnastics qualifier to the Visa Championships. The event will include both junior and senior elite competition, as well as the Hopes division.

Finally, the **Visa Championships** for men, women, rhythmic, acrobatics and trampoline and tumbling will take place Aug. 12-15 in Dallas, Texas. This year's championships will serve as a precursor to the Worlds in all of those disciplines with the exception of acrobatics.

Held in conjunction with the 2009 Visa Championships, **the 45th Annual USA Gymnastics National Congress and Trade Show** will take place at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel Aug. 13-15. A full three days with 180 sessions will include current and valuable topics from all four colleges of USA Gymnastics University. Each Congress attendee will receive 15 USA Gymnastics University credits.

USA Gymnastics welcomes the Disney Institute to the **10th Annual Business Conference** taking place along with the Congress. The theme is "Experience the Business Behind the Magic." Gymnastics leaders will learn the keys to success from a global corporate leader in business areas including leadership excellence, people management, quality service, brand loyalty and inspiring creativity. This session will include seminars on Disney's "Approach to Leadership Excellence" and "Approach to Quality Service."

Throughout the week in Dallas, we will also be announcing new advancements in the educational opportunities available through USA Gymnastics University, along with other developments in the organization.

We look forward to seeing you throughout this summer at these special events.

See you in the Gym,

Steve Penny
President/CEO