

Tourism News



For Immediate Release, December 2, 2016

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3rd Annual Walkway Marathon Registration Opens Tuesday, December 6, 2016

POUGHKEEPSIE—Athletes nationwide and from around the globe are expected to converge once again on Dutchess County June 10-11, 2017, for the third annual Walkway Marathon race series. The series is presented by the Walkway Over the Hudson nonprofit organization in partnership with Dutchess County Government, NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation, and Marist College. The race series features a Marathon, Half-Marathon, 5K, and the second annual ThinkDIFFERENTLY Dash, a one-mile run/walk for people of all abilities.

Athletes registering for any of the Walkway Marathon races can do so starting Tuesday, December 6, at WalkwayMarathon.org. Held in June, the Walkway Marathon race series has established itself as a premier Hudson Valley running event. Competitive and fun for registrants and spectators alike, the series has attracted athletes from 35 states and six countries, many of whom qualified for the Boston Marathon.

“We look forward to building upon the tremendous success of the Walkway Marathon race series which has drawn more than 2,500 athletes annually from across the nation and internationally, allowing thousands to enjoy the beautiful Hudson River Valley,” said Walkway Executive Director Elizabeth Waldstein-Hart. “The third annual Walkway Marathon race series will provide a world-class running experience for everyone, as well as a festive atmosphere for spectators, families, and volunteers.”

County Executive Marc Molinaro said, "Dutchess County is again proud to host the Walkway Marathon, utilizing our award-winning Dutchess Rail Trail for the majority of the course. Thousands of runners from around the globe have taken part in this world-class race series since its inception, and they've marveled at all Dutchess County has to offer - from the one-of-a-kind vistas they'll enjoy while running, to the lure of our exceptional dining and tourist attractions, to the undeniable charm of our residents. The second annual ThinkDIFFERENTLY Dash will again display Dutchess County's inclusive environment for participants of all ages and abilities. We look forward to another successful Walkway Marathon weekend, one that will make lifelong memories for all involved."

Certified as the first “green” race in New York State by Athletes for a Fit Planet, the event will use 18 eco-friendly practices that align with county Solid Waste Management initiatives to Reduce Waste, Increase Recycling, and Convert Waste to Energy, such as using compostable paper cups and working

with Metro Pool and NY511Rideshare to decrease fuel emissions. Organizers are committed to offering participants a race that is fun, unique, and eco-friendly.

Sponsors and partners to date include Royal Carting Service Company, Arnoff Moving and Storage, Arc of Dutchess, iHeartMedia, and Mid-Hudson Road Runners Club. Additional sponsors are welcome. If interested, contact Walkway Over the Hudson Director of Development, Evelyn Friedman, at (845) 454-9649, ext. 104.