

Largest YMCA national gymnastic championships ever will feature Olympic gymnast, Shannon Miller

The Phoenixville Branch of the Freedom Valley YMCA has announced final plans for the 2009 YMCA Nationals Gymnastic Championships to be held at the United Sports Training Center in Downingtown, Pa. from June 24-27, 2009.

The theme of this year's competition is "Gymnastics Revolution" and is set to be the largest ever. Over 4,000 YMCA gymnasts and their families from across the country are scheduled to attend opening ceremonies on Wednesday, June 24. The evening will feature a "Parade of States" and outdoor activities for competitors.

Olympic gymnast, Shannon Miller, will be the Keynote Speaker to kick off the four-day competition, with a special appearance by The Philly Phanatic. Following will be a "Taste of Philly"—a festival of food, fun and games that will include cheesesteaks, soft pretzels, water ice and Tastykakes, along with huge inflatables and entertainment provided by Solid Ground and Eventive Productions (Sumo Suite wrestling and Human Foosball)

The competition begins Thursday, June 25 and runs through Saturday, June 27.

Olympians Raj Bashavar and Courtney Kupets will host the closing ceremonies on Saturday, which features an exhibition by the Temple Men's Gymnastic Team with a special appearance by HIP HOP, the 76er's mascot.

More information is available at www.ymcanationals2009.org or by contacting Kelly Burton at 610-933-5861 ext 5749 or kburton@fymca.org.

