

**DC Department of Parks and Recreation hosts  
30th Annual Black History Invitational Swim Meet (BHISM)**

February 12 - 14, 2016 at the Takoma Aquatic Center (300 Van Buren St. NW, Washington, DC).  
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The event hosts on average 800 swimmers, and over 1,000 spectators each year. The age range of participants is typically 5-18, although we do have open events for adults. The majority of coaches and swimmers are African-American.

**History of the Black History Invitational Swim Meet**

This unique event was co-founded in 1987 by the DC Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) and the United Black Fund, Inc. (UBF) in honor of Black History Month. These two organizations have worked together every year since to produce the first swim meet in the nation

to celebrate this important month that highlights the contributions of African Americans to US society.

The invitational was founded with the goals of providing urban youth nationwide with a positive outlet for expression, exposure to strong competition, a forum to meet positive role models, and the opportunity to visit the nation's capital. Since the very first year, DPR and UBF are proud that the Black History Invitational Swim Meet has fulfilled these goals and has grown from a small, local competition to one now hailed by USA Swimming, the national governing body for the sport of swimming, as the "premier minority swim competition in the United States and in the World." The three-day annual event now attracts nearly 800 minority competitors, ages 5–18, from swim teams in Los Angeles, Atlanta, Detroit, Cleveland, New York and other metropolitan areas in the United States.

**Sponsorship benefits**

<b>Platinum</b> Advertisement in event program; the host table at the honoree's event; sponsor logo on banner, event webpage and BHISM tee shirt; media coverage including radio, news and press release.	\$10,000
<b>Gold</b> Advertisement in event program; 4 seats at the honoree's event; sponsor logo on banner and event webpage and BHISM tee shirt; press release coverage.	\$6,000
<b>Silver</b> Advertisement in event program; 2 seats at the honoree's event; sponsor logo on event webpage.	\$5,000
<b>Bronze</b> Advertisement in event program; sponsor logo on event webpage.	\$2,500
<b>Advertising</b>	\$1,500
<b>Volunteer Sponsors</b> In-kind commitment of 6-8 volunteers hours to assist in event coordination and timing during the races.	25 volunteers per day

\*\*Specialized packages available upon request.