

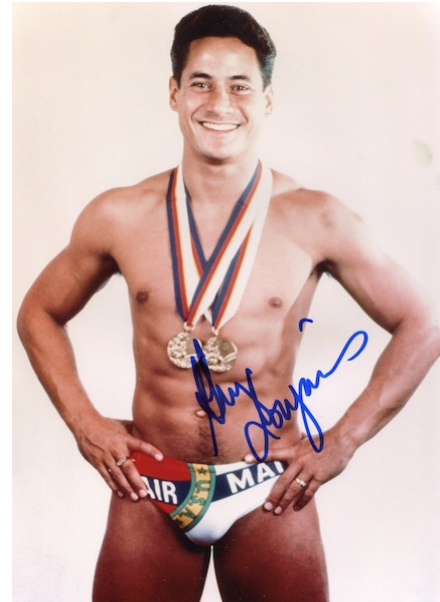
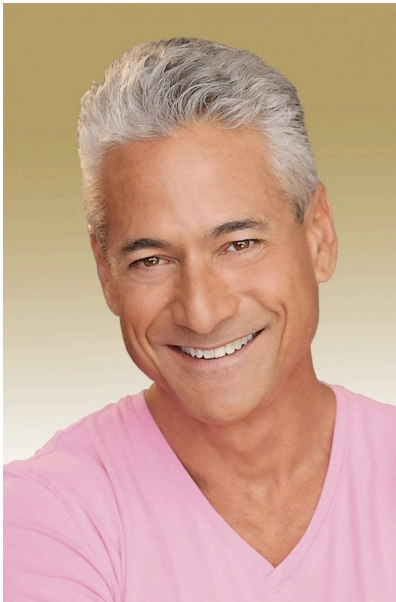


Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association

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www.strawberryfestival.org

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**GREG LOUGANIS, 4X GOLD MEDAL OLYMPIC CHAMPION
NAMED GRAND MARSHAL OF THE 62ND ANNUAL GARDEN
GROVE STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL'S PARADE
TO BE HELD IN GARDEN GROVE, CA ON
SATURDAY, MAY 23, 2020 AT 10:00 A.M.**

**“Celebrating The Olympics” Announced As Theme of the
62nd Annual Garden Grove Strawberry Festival to be held on
Memorial Day Weekend, May 22 – 25, 2020 in Garden Grove, CA**

Garden Grove, CA (January 29, 2020) – **GREG LOUGANIS, four-time Gold Medal Olympic Champion has been named Grand Marshal of the 62nd Annual Garden Grove Strawberry Festival’s Parade, to be held in Garden Grove, CA on Saturday, May 23, 2020 as part of the Festival’s FREE four-day Memorial Day Weekend celebration, May 22 – 25, 2020.**

Christine Ball, President of the Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association, producers of the annual event, said: “It is my privilege to announce our Parade Grand Marshal for this year will be four-time Gold Medal Olympic Champion, **Greg Louganis**, the greatest diver in the world. We are honoring Greg Louganis in observance of the 36th Anniversary of his first two Gold Olympic Medals, which he won here in Los Angeles at the 1984 Olympics, while at the same time celebrating Greg’s 60th Birthday, which is January 29th. Our theme for this year’s Strawberry Festival will be **‘Celebrating The Olympics.’** Additional celebrity talent riding in the parade will be announced in the near future.”

Greg Louganis said, “It is my great honor to be selected as Grand Marshal of the 62nd Annual Garden Grove Strawberry Festival’s Parade. I am very grateful for my career and the opportunities I have been given and feel it’s important to give back. The Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association is a perfect example of a volunteer organization, which gives back to their community by raising monies at their annual Festivals, which is then awarded to deserving non-profits serving the citizens of Garden Grove. At the end of the day, that’s what life is all about, giving back.”

To learn more about the Garden Grove Strawberry Festival, please visit <https://strawberryfestival.org/> Continue the conversation with us on Facebook: [@StrawberryFestivalGardenGrove](https://www.facebook.com/StrawberryFestivalGardenGrove)
Twitter: @GGStrawberryFst
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/strawberry_festival
Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/ggstrawberry/>
#GGSTRAWBERRYFEST2020
@greglouganis (-more-)

More About The Garden Grove Strawberry Festival:

Save The Dates for The 62nd Annual Garden Grove Strawberry Festival to be held on the Village Green at Euclid Street and Main Street in Garden Grove, CA on Memorial Day Weekend, Friday – Monday, May 22 – 25, 2020. The Festival’s Parade, which will feature Celebrities, Garden Grove Civic Leaders and Organizations, Miss Garden Grove and Her Court, Bands, Equestrians, Specialty Characters and Floats, will be held on Saturday, May 23, 2020 at 10:00 a.m.

The four-day FREE Festival also will feature a Free Strawberry Shortcake Grand Opening Ceremony, Free Music and Shows in the Amphitheatre and at the Showmobile, a VIP Pancake Breakfast, Meet and Greet Celebrity Autograph Signings, Food Vendors, Carnival Rides and Games, and Fun Contests with Prizes including: Berry, Berry Beautiful Baby Contest, Redhead Roundup, Strawberry Idol Karaoke and Tiny Tots King and Queen.

The Garden Grove Strawberry Festival is an annual 501(c)(3) non-profit FREE event produced by the Garden Grove Strawberry Festival Association, a dedicated volunteer group, which has raised more than \$7 million for various charities since its inception in 1958. The Festival’s mission and goal is to give back to the community serving Garden Grove citizens by donating to non-profit organizations which provide services for children, seniors, youth, the community, and which support the arts. **To learn more and for updates, please visit, www.strawberryfestival.org**

More About Greg Louganis:

Greg Louganis is simply the greatest diver in history. You would be hard pressed to find a person who watched either the 1984 or 1988 Olympics who was not enthralled by the poetry that was Greg Louganis: the beauty and power of his diving captured the world.

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Greg Louganis has earned a total of five Olympic medals, five World Championship titles and 47 national titles — more than any person in U.S. history. His records remain unbroken. Louganis won his first Olympic Silver Medal at the 1976 Montreal Olympics in 10m Platform diving, at the tender age of 16. This year, 2020, marks the 36th Anniversary of Louganis' first two Olympic Gold Medals in 3m Springboard and 10m Platform in the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics. In 1988, Louganis repeated his 1984 victories winning two additional Olympic Gold Medals in 3m Springboard and 10m Platform in the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

In 1988 Greg Louganis also tested positive for HIV. Coming out as a gay athlete in a time when it simply was not done, his 1995 autobiography, *Breaking the Surface*, co-written with Eric Marcus, spent five weeks at Number One on the *New York Times* bestseller list. The book was later made into the 1997 television film, *Breaking The Surface: The Greg Louganis Story*, starring Mario Lopez as Greg Louganis.

In 2015, *Back On Board: Greg Louganis*, a feature length documentary film, premiered on HBO. Directed by Cheryl Furjanic, and produced by Will Sweeney, the film was nominated for an Emmy Award® in 2016. The film garnered both critical and audience acclaim on the film festival circuit, screening at over 40 festivals worldwide, winning awards at the Los Angeles OUTFEST, Ashland Independent Film Festival and Salem Film Fest, US, in addition to being nominated for seven other awards, including the PGA Awards, AFI Docs Festival, Hamptons International Film Festival and the Palm Springs International Film Festival.

In 2016 General Mills announced that Greg Louganis would receive a Wheaties Box for his achievements, and that development was so significant it warranted a *New York Times* exclusive. He had the honor of being included in ESPN's 2016 annual Body Issue, and in 2017 was the first openly gay Grand Marshal of The Rose Parade.

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Since 2019, Greg Louganis has been serving as Sports Director for Red Bull Cliff Diving, a division of Red Bull, one of the world's best-known brands. Louganis is working with Red Bull toward eventual inclusion of high diving in the Olympics.

The story of Greg Louganis' life is a story that has inspired millions. He regularly is a Keynote Speaker to the most significant organizations and companies in the world to share that story. Recent speeches range from companies such as Coca-Cola, Exelon, Nomura and HSBC Banks, Visa, Gift of Adoption, and many more.

In May of 2019, Louganis participated as a Co-Host and was recognized for his achievements at the Paley Center's LGBTQ+ Achievement in Television Honors, for the 50th Anniversary of Stonewall, held in New York City. Today, as a speaker, author, actor, activist, humanitarian and designer, Greg Louganis continues his tradition of excellence in every field he touches.

The diving legend was featured in a three page exclusive spread in January 27, 2020 issue of *People* magazine, in celebration of his 60th birthday, January 29, 2020. On February 19, 2020 in an exclusive interview with *Deadline*, Louganis announced he will be teaming up with his manager, Greg H. Sims, of Arya Worldwide Entertainment, to develop a feature about his life story with Matthew Wilder (*Dog Eat Dog, Regarding the Case of Joan of Arc*) writing the screenplay. The film will focus on Louganis' Olympic career as well as his role as a pioneer from the gay sports community.

To learn more, please visit: <https://greglouganis.com/>
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