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**MORE THAN 20,000 LIONS ARE ROARING INTO  
HONOLULU, HI, USA, JUNE 26-30**

**OAK BROOK, Illinois, USA, June 1, 2015**—More than 20,000 members of Lions Clubs International and their families will gather in Honolulu, Hawaii, USA, as part of the association's 98<sup>th</sup> Lions Clubs International Convention. Convention events will be held Friday, June 26 through Tuesday, June 30 in the Hawaii Convention Center (HCC).

Highlights of the convention will include:

- A spectacular Parade of Nations with 10,000 Lions from over 120 countries and geographic areas, many in native dress, along with bands and colorful floats. The parade will begin at 9:00 on Saturday, June 27 and will take place in downtown Honolulu on Kalakaua Avenue in the Waikiki District. The parade route is approximately 1 mile (1.5km) long.
- Recognition of the young winners of the 27th Lions International Peace Poster Contest and Our World, Our Future Essay Contest for blind and visually impaired students.
- A colorful flag ceremony with the flags of Lions nations from around the world on Sunday, June 28.
- Presentation of the 2015 Lions Humanitarian Award, the highest honor of the association, to Carolyn Miles, President and CEO of Save the Children, on Tuesday, June 30. The award includes a US\$250,000 grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation for continuing



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humanitarian activities. Previous recipients include composer/singer/songwriter David Foster, former U. S. President Jimmy Carter and Mother Teresa.

- Election of Dr. Jitsuhiro Yamada of Minokamo, Gifu, Japan, as the 2015-2016 Lions Clubs International president on Tuesday, June 30.

Presiding over the convention will be 2014-15 International President Joseph Preston, from Dewey, Arizona, USA. President Preston has led the association through the first year of the Lions Centennial Service Challenge to benefit 100 million people through service campaigns to impact youth, sight, hunger, and the environment.

Lions Clubs International is the largest service club organization in the world. Our 1.4 million members in more than 46,000 clubs are serving communities in more than 200 countries and geographical areas around the globe. Since 1917, Lions clubs have aided the blind and visually impaired, championed youth initiatives and strengthened local communities through hands-on service and humanitarian projects. For more information about Lions Clubs International, visit [lionsclubs.org](http://lionsclubs.org).

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***Attention media:** Media passes for events will be available from the Convention Operations Office, at the Hawaii Convention Center. All events at HCC are closed to the general public. For more information about convention events, visit [facebook.com/lcicon](https://facebook.com/lcicon).*