

Media Advisory FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: Christina Yamanaka, (512) 476-7223 November 5, 2015

3M Half Marathon Seeks US Olympic Marathon Trials Qualifiers to Run 2016 Event

Austin, Texas– **The 3M Half Marathon** (<u>www.3Mhalfmarathon.com</u>) is seeking American distance runners who have been accepted into the US Olympic Marathon Team Trials to compete in an invitational elite half marathon race on Sunday, January 24, 2016.

"The 3M Half Marathon has an international reputation for speed and beauty. What better venue for our Olympic hopefuls to get in a time trial than here in Austin?" said 3M Half Marathon Race Director, Christina Yamanaka.

The **3M Half Marathon Invitational** features a fast, well-supported USA Track & Field sanctioned and certified point-to-point course with a net elevation drop of 306'. The **3M Half Marathon** was named by Outside Magazine as one of the 10 most lconic Races in the U.S. in 2015 (<u>http://www.outsideonline.com/1979501/10-most-iconic-races-us</u>) and was ranked number one on the Austin Fit Magazines 'Bucket List' of 2015 running events. Over 6,500 runners are expected to take part.

U.S. Athletes accepted into the **3M Half Marathon Invitational** will be eligible for:

- Complimentary entry
- Travel expense reimbursement
- Complimentary lodging for three nights
- Meal per-diem

To qualify for one of a <u>very limited number of slots</u> in the **3M Half Marathon Invitational**, U.S. athletes must have been accepted into the 2016 U.S. Olympic Marathon Team Trials in Los Angeles on February 13, 2016.

Further, athletes must meet these requirements:

- Never been sanctioned by USADA or WADA for a doping offense.
- Be willing and available to participate in school visits and media appearances on Thursday or Friday, January 21-22, 2016.

U.S. athletes who meet these requirements and are interested in participating in the **3M Half Marathon Invitational** should send an email of interest to <u>christina@conleysports.com</u> no later than 4 p.m. CST, November 30, 2015. Athletes accepted into the invitational will be notified by return email no later than December 14, 2015.

For more than 20 years, the **3M Half Marathon** in Austin, Texas, has provided runners with a traditionally downhill, fast course through northern and central Austin. Ranked as one of the best Half Marathons in the United States by Runner's World Magazine in 2014 and one of the 10 Most Iconic Races in the US by Outside Magazine in 2015, the **3M Half Marathon** boasts the fastest course in North America along some of the most scenic roads in Texas. The 2016 **3M Half Marathon** benefits Girlstart, an afterschool STEM (**S**cience, **T**echnology, **E**ngineering and **M**ath) education program for girls.

About 3M

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