

52nd Harlem Skyscraper Cycling Classic

Press Release

Sunday, June 16th, 2024



Harlem Community
Development
Corporation

For Immediate Release

Harlem, USA, Thursday, May 9, 2024

With renewed community support and a prize fund exceeding \$15,000, the Harlem Skyscraper Cycling Classic (HSCC) tradition proudly celebrates its 52nd Anniversary, announces Richard Cox, the event's race director and Executive Director of Team Unity Incorporated. As a Harlem native and former HSCC competitor, Cox is thrilled to uphold the race's community-centered origins each year.

Established in 1973 by David Walker, a former New York Police Community Affairs Detective in Harlem's 25th Precinct, the Harlem Skyscraper Cycling Classic was conceived as a community-focused event centered on bicycle racing and youth safety programs. Within three years, the race grew to become one of the premier attractions of the United States Cycling Federation, now known as USA Cycling. Each year, the event draws over 400 licensed cyclists from the greater NYC area, as well as participants and spectators from across the nation and around the world to Marcus Garvey Park—the race's historic venue since inception. The Harlem Skyscraper Cycling Classic is the 2nd longest running event on the USA Cycling calendar and the longest running event organized by the BiPOC community.

This year's major sponsors include Foxworth Realty and the Harlem Community Development Corporation.

The Harlem 'Youth Components' will receive support from the Bahati Foundation, GIANT Bicycles, USA Cycling, Black Girls Do Bike, Ride Upgrades, and the Major Taylor Iron Riders. Our fixed gear events will be powered by SPECIALIZED Bikes.

"I am delighted to see true community partnership as we embark on our 52nd year," states Cox. "With a prize list exceeding \$15,000, we anticipate an influx of professional cycling talent contributing to the Harlem economy."

Since its inception, the Skyscraper Classic has attracted national and international champions, including Olympic medalists like Nelson Beasley Vails. Vails, a Harlem native and professional cyclist from 1988 to 1995, won a silver medal in the 1000-meter Match Sprint at the 1984 Summer Olympics in Los Angeles—making history as the first African-American cyclist to achieve this feat. Vails was inducted into the US Bicycle Hall of Fame in 2009 and will serve as an official spokesperson for this exciting event.

"Before 1973, there were limited opportunities for the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) community to participate in USA Cycling at this level of competition. Our event remains committed to reaching out to the underserved."

"Let's continue to breathe life into our communities." The 52nd Harlem Skyscraper Cycling Classic will take place on Sunday, June 16th, 2024 at Marcus Garvey Park, Harlem USA—starting at 8:45am.

THANK YOU for your continuous support.

Please contact press at 347 948 6479 or unitysportsPRO@gmail.com

