



eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca
Central Maine

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Steven Wallace, CEO
YMCA of Auburn-Lewiston
207-795-4095 x215
swallace@alymca.org

Melanie LaMore Gagnon,
Executive Director, YWCA
Central Maine
207-795-4050
mgagnon@ywcamaine.org

YMCA AND YWCA PARTNER TO FORM UNITED YOUTH ORIENTED SWIM TEAM

Auburn, October 5, 2021 –

The YMCA of Auburn-Lewiston and YWCA Central Maine announced today they are uniting their individual youth swim programs into one entity, the Twin Cities Swim Team. The purpose of this exciting collaboration is multi-fold. First, to grow and sustain a high-quality, championship swim program in the greater L/A area, and second, heighten community awareness and education to the importance of water safety.

“We are excited to embark on a new collaboration between our two organizations. Water safety, equity in competitive swim programs, and the advancement of high-quality championship opportunities for youth is important to the mission of the YWCA and our hope is that the strengths of each organization will allow us to better serve the young swimmers in our community.” states YWCA Executive Director, Melanie LaMore Gagnon

“We’re excited to make a long-term commitment to youth swimming and water safety in the greater Lewiston-Auburn area. The data unequivocally shows communities that embrace swim programs not only build confident, healthy participants, but save lives through child and adult learn to swim programs,” states YMCA CEO Steve Wallace. “I see our swim team partnership as just the beginning of a much broader community safety partnership.”

The team will be led by Head Coach Vanessa Williamson. She will be assisted by coaches Louise Tirabassi and Mark Tremblay. Practices are slated to begin

on October 25 at the YWCA, and swimmers will compete both state-wide and nationally in YMCA and USA Swimming leagues.

For more information, to include links to program registration and upcoming parent information nights, go to www.alyymca.org or www.ywcamaine.org.

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About the YMCA of Auburn-Lewiston

Serving the greater L/A communities since 1868, the YMCA of Auburn-Lewiston is a 501(c)3 charitable educational organization that seeks to strengthen the foundations of local communities through collaborations and services that focus on youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. Each year, the YMCA serves more than 1,800 children in its youth sports, camp and child care programs and serves over 2,000 members in its health, wellness, and fitness programs.

About the YWCA Central Maine

YWCA Central Maine has been in the Lewiston-Auburn communities since 1878 and originally founded out of a concern about the living conditions, educational, and childcare needs among women and girls. Our mission is eliminating racism, empowering women and promoting peace, justice, freedom and dignity for all. From addressing food insecurity to childcare services, aquatics programs, and other programs that address issues that pervade our communities and daily lives, YWCA Central Maine provides quality services for all youth, families and individuals, with special programs and services that enhance the intersectional identities and lives of women and girls.