

# Dustin Plunkett

Special Olympics Southern California athlete Dustin Plunkett has been active in Special Olympics for more than 25 years. He has thrived as both an athlete and a public speaker, no small task for a young man with a speech impediment and a cleft palate in addition to his intellectual disability.

Dustin has risen to the highest ranks of athlete leadership as an International Global Messenger, where he has had the opportunity to travel the world. One of his fondest memories was sharing the stage with Yao Ming at the World Games in Shanghai.

Plunkett relishes each opportunity he can get to reach people and share his own story of success over adversity in order to inspire others to do the same. Special Olympics has empowered him take control of his own life.

He was a member of the Board of Directors for LA2015, as well as a member of the GOC for LA2015. During the 2015 & 2017 World Games he served as an ESPN Analyst calling the parade of athletes live on ESPN during opening ceremonies.

Today Plunkett work for Special Olympics Southern California, as a Manager of Outreach and Inspirational Speaker. He is also a member of Lakewood Toastmasters, he is currently serving as the clubs President.