

## Centennial Olympic Park's Iconic Fountain of Rings Being Modernized with Grant from Woodruff Foundation

*Park's visitor information center being remodeled, celebrates Olympic heritage*

ATLANTA, May 21, 2024 – Today Georgia World Congress Center Authority (GWCCA) announced that Centennial Olympic Park's iconic Fountain of Rings is being modernized thanks to a generous \$2.5 million grant from the Robert W. Woodruff Foundation that aims to improve both its operational reliability and guest experience. The upgrades mark the first major enhancement of the Fountain of Rings since 2007.

Key to the modernization project include updated technology and controls, upgraded water valves and lighting, repair of the fog system, and the ability to remotely access the system. Once complete, the new system will unlock near limitless capabilities for the Fountain's lighting, water propulsion, and fogging systems as well as provide the ability to customize Fountain shows and interactive experiences, both during the day and in the evening, related to any special holiday, event, or celebration.

"The Fountain of Rings is the centerpiece of Centennial Olympic Park and one of the most photographed landmarks in Georgia," said Frank Poe, executive director of Georgia World Congress Center Authority. "We extend our deepest gratitude to the Woodruff Foundation for their generous support and longstanding commitment to Centennial Olympic Park. These enhancements will not only preserve an iconic symbol of Atlanta's Olympic heritage but also elevate the visitor experience, ensuring the Fountain of Rings remains a cherished attraction for years to come."

GWCCA has partnered with Fountain People™, who were part of the original Fountain of Rings design team and are the country's leading and largest designer and manufacturer of custom water features, on the new design. Hogan Construction Group, with offices in Atlanta and Greenville, S.C., will serve as general contractor for the project. Work is expected to begin in August and be completed in December.

GWCCA also announced the renovation of the Park's visitor information center. Currently in progress with an anticipated reopening of mid-July, the space is being transformed into a dual-purpose facility that will include an operations outpost and a dedicated Olympics exhibit. The new exhibit will celebrate the 1996 Summer Olympic Games, showcasing an array of local memorabilia and providing detailed information about the historic event. The renovation aims to create an engaging and informative space for visitors, highlighting the significant impact the Olympics had on the community and preserving the legacy of the games for future generations.

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### **About Centennial Olympic Park**

Centennial Olympic Park (COP) opened in 1996 and served as the world's gathering spot during the Summer Olympics. Today, the 22-acre Park serves as Georgia's legacy of the Centennial Olympic Games and has attracted billions of dollars in new development to downtown Atlanta, contributed immeasurably to strengthening the local tax base, created new jobs, promoted downtown livability, and enhanced the quality of life in the greater metropolitan region. GWCCA serves as steward of the Park.

### **About Georgia World Congress Center Authority**

Georgia World Congress Center Authority's (GWCCA) championship campus, a key driver for Georgia's economy, is the largest combined convention, sports, and entertainment destination in North America. Established in 1971, the GWCCA campus includes Georgia World Congress Center, Centennial Olympic Park, Mercedes-Benz Stadium, and Signia by Hilton Atlanta. To learn more about the No. 1 convention, sports, and entertainment destination in the world, visit [www.gwcca.org](http://www.gwcca.org) or follow GWCCA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).

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