## THE ARMORY FOUNDATION AND NIKE PARTNER TO ENHANCE AND EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH TO ENGAGE IN RUNNING, TRACK & FIELD

## The World's Most Famous Indoor Track Complex Will Be Renamed The Nike Track & Field Center at The Armory

**New York, NY – January 12, 2023**: The Armory Foundation and Nike announced today that they have entered into a multi-pronged partnership to greatly enhance and expand opportunities for children of all ages to engage in The Armory's array of fitness-based activities rooted in running, including its acclaimed CityTrack, Little Feet and Tiny Feet programs for elementary and middle school kids, its Armory College Prep program for high school students and Armory College Prep Middle School and Great Minds programs for younger children.

Under this partnership, the iconic venue serving Washington Heights and the world will be renamed **The Nike Track & Field Center at The Armory**. Long known as a hub for sport and community, where more than one million miles are run every year, the legendary track and field complex has welcomed thousands of Olympic and World medalists, providing a memorable backdrop where more track records have been set than at any indoor facility globally.

The partnership announcement was made by Jonathan Schindel and Rita Finkel, Co-Presidents of The Armory Foundation. They noted that The Armory, home to celebrated indoor track and field competitions, including the famed Millrose Games, and Nike, the most recognized sports brand across the globe, share a deep and long-standing commitment to the physical, educational, and social well-being of youth, with a special emphasis on children and communities.

"The synergy between our organization and Nike cannot be overstated," said Mr. Schindel. "Keeping kids physically, mentally, culturally, socially, and intellectually fit during their school years, and beyond, is paramount. The best way to achieve this is to develop healthy, well-rounded children who are prepared for success in and out of the classroom, instill in them a love and passion for movement, and then provide them with fun opportunities to develop this passion. Now thanks to Nike, we will be able to ensure that children in our neighboring communities of Washington Heights, Inwood, and Harlem will continue to have such opportunities, while enabling us to expand our outreach."

Ms. Finkel echoed these sentiments, and added that, "Nike is the world's most prestigious sports brand and comes with an array of resources in terms of vast expertise in running, youth play, sports, and movement. Nike's coaching prowess, its relationship with some of the world's best athletes and events, including the premier high school indoor event of season, Nike Indoor Nationals, will cement our position both as the leading track and field complex in the world and as a top youth fitness organization in New York and beyond."

"Our partnership with The Armory Foundation underscores Nike's deep commitment to ensuring that communities have access to running and opportunities to play and stay active," said Roderick Blaylock, Vice President, NYC, NIKE, Inc. "The Armory is not only one of the preeminent track & field facilities in the world, but it also has a long history of preparing students as young as fourth grade for higher education and college. Rooted in our belief that running and sports have the power to bring people together, we are teaming up with The Armory to champion community and athletes."

## **About The Armory Foundation**

The Armory Foundation is a New York City non-profit institution, with the mission of "Keeping Kids on Track." Each season The Armory – the proud home of the Millrose Games – hosts more than 100 track & field meets and welcomes more than 220,000 athlete visits. Among its many youth sports and educational programs, including the acclaimed Armory College Prep program, The Armory runs the leading collegiate indoor track meets with the Dr. Sander Invitational Columbia Challenge and the HBCU Showcase sponsored by KPMG and hosts the largest high school indoor track meets with the Hispanic Games, the U.S. Army Coaches Hall of Fame Invitational, and The Armory Holiday Classic. New York Road Runners is a proud sponsor of all athletic events at The Armory. The Armory runs the CUIMC Team Relay Marathon presented by New York Road Runners, which is the world's largest indoor marathon relay. The Armory is also the home to the National Track & Field Hall of Fame and dozens of very large education-focused events. For more: Please visit Armory.NYC and ArmoryTrack.org.

## **About Nike**

NIKE, Inc., based near Beaverton, Oregon, is the world's leading designer, marketer and distributor of authentic athletic footwear, apparel, equipment, and accessories for a wide variety of sports and fitness activities. For more information, individuals can visit <a href="http://about.nike.com/en/newsroom">http://about.nike.com/en/newsroom</a> and follow @NIKE.