



## **Matt Stutzman, Three-Time Paralympian in Archery to Headline The American Association of Adapted Sports Programs (AAASP) ASPIRE Awards in October**

**Atlanta, July 22, 2024**– Matt Stutzman, a three-time Paralympian, and Silver Medalist, 2022 Para Archery World Champion in Dubai, will headline the Sixth annual ASPIRE Awards for the American Association of Adapted Sports Programs (AAASP) on Sunday, October 27, 2024. The **Adapted Sports Programs in Recreation and Education (ASPIRE) Awards** recognize those who are critical in the push to make adapted sports available across the nation, and those who serve as role models for their action and initiative in supporting competitive sports programs for athletes with disabilities. The AAASP will honor several individuals and organizations who exemplify these efforts and have shown a passion for inclusivity, accessibility, and advocacy for adapted sports programs.

Stutzman, a world-class archer, smashed a world record at the Paralympic Archery Team Trials, solidifying his spot on Team USA for the 2024 Summer Paralympic Games in Paris. Stutzman will join the organization, in October after the Games, to celebrate the nominees and recipients, as well as share his incredible story at the ASPIRE Awards. Born without arms, Stutzman never let his situation be a barrier for him. Stutzman’s parents encouraged him to try various sports to see which he liked best – he attempted basketball, bull riding, soccer, racecar driving, archery and BMX, just to name a few. While some of the sports did not work out, Archery emerged as the sport where Stutzman excelled. Stutzman will share his journey – hurdles and triumphs – with adapted sports families during the keynote speech that night.

The ASPIRE Awards shine a light on those who have advocated and supported the programs and resources that make adapted sports possible for so many athletes. It is through this advocacy and support that so many athletes have the invaluable chance to get into the game and realize the benefits that sports offer to people’s physical, emotional, and mental well-being. For more on Matt, please visit: <https://adaptedsports.org/2024-aaasp-aspire-awards/>.

Celebrate the 2024 ASPIRE Award nominees with us on October 27<sup>th</sup>!

**Date/Time: Sunday, October 27, 2024 – 5:30 -7:30 pm**  
**Maggiano’s Little Italy Buckhead**  
**3368 Peachtree Road, Atlanta GA 30326**

**Please visit: <https://adaptedsports.org/aaasp-aspire-awards/> to purchase tickets for this year’s event.**

The American Association of Adapted Sports Programs (AAASP), headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, just celebrated its 27th year as a not-for-profit association dedicated to developing interscholastic adapted sports programs in partnership with national, state, and local educational agencies. It represents a standardized approach to extracurricular adapted team sports and has developed one of the nation's most comprehensive school-based athletic programs for students with physical disabilities attending elementary, middle and high schools. For more information, please visit our website at <http://adaptedsports.org> or join our conversations on Twitter at: @AdaptedSports.

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Contacts:

Atlanta: Terri Grunduski, Grunduski Group – [terri@grunduskigroup.com](mailto:terri@grunduskigroup.com) 404-226-7497

Donna Feazell, Grunduski Group – [donna@grunduskigroup.com](mailto:donna@grunduskigroup.com) 404-290-1929