



USTA HONORS THE GREATER COLUMBUS TENNIS ASSOCIATION AS 2014 NATIONAL COMMUNITY TENNIS ASSOCIATION OF THE YEAR

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y., July 28, 2014 – The USTA today announced that the **Greater Columbus Tennis Association (GCTA)** in Columbus, Ohio, was selected as the **2014 Community Tennis Association of the Year**. The organization will be honored during the annual USTA Tennis Development Workshop (TDW) held Nov. 6-9 at the Sheraton Atlanta.

For more than 60 years, the GCTA has promoted the game of tennis as a means of healthful recreation and physical fitness in Columbus. The GCTA provides multiple USTA programs and leagues annually, supports the Columbus Recreation and Parks Department (CR&P), and provides grants to many local area organizations including Steppin' 2 Tennis and Buddy Up Tennis, Inc.

“We take great pride in representing the Central Ohio area as well as the Midwest section,” said Philip T. Diaz, M.D., president of the GCTA board of directors. “We are especially proud of the partnerships we have forged with innovative programs that expand the reach of tennis in our community to diverse and unique populations.”

The GCTA is represented by a diverse board of 30 local volunteers including tennis club owners, teaching professionals and business people who are passionate about promoting the game of tennis in Columbus.

“As defined by the USTA, Community Tennis Association is one ‘which supports or provides programs that promote the growth and development of the game of tennis’,” cited Diaz. “I believe we do an outstanding job of meeting this definition. To be recognized by the USTA for this national award is a tremendous honor, especially considering the many excellent community tennis associations across the country. We are proud of what we do and the organizations we are able to help.”

“The Greater Columbus Tennis Association defines what it means to be a great CTA,” said Kurt Kamperman, USTA Chief Executive of Community Tennis. “The GCTA doesn’t just provide major financial support for local tennis programs; their members invest their time to make an impact on the residents of the community. We are proud to honor the organization’s leaders and many volunteers with the 2014 Community Tennis Association of the Year Award.”

The USTA CTA of the Year Award was established in 2002 to honor a CTA for outstanding service rendered in growing and developing the sport of tennis in its community. The award recipient is selected from 17 nominees, one from each of the USTA sections, by a panel of USTA Community Tennis Association Development Committee members.