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## **WTA professional tennis tournament comes to Hawaii**

*The 2016 Hawaii Open presented by The Hawaii Tourism Authority, a WTA 125k Series Event, will be held November 20-27, 2016, at the Patsy T. Mink Central Oahu Regional Park.*

HONOLULU, HI., June 9, 2016 – The Hawaii Open presented by the Hawaii Tourism Authority, a Women’s Tennis Association (WTA) tennis tournament, is preparing to host its first-ever world class tennis tournament held November 20 - November 27 at the Patsy T. Mink Central Oahu Regional Park in Waipahu, HI.

Misaki Doi, Christina McHale, Daniela Hantuchova, and other top-ranked WTA players will join rising WTA athletes such as American favorites CiCi Bellis and Lauren Davis to include a 32-player singles main draw, an 8-player qualifying draw and an 8-team doubles draw.

The courts at the Patsy T. Mink Central Oahu Regional Park are scheduled for resurfacing this summer in preparation for the Hawaii Open. As a native Hawaiian, Patsy T. Mink was the first woman of an ethnic minority elected to Congress. Mink represented Hawaii beginning in 1965 for 12 terms and is known as the principle author of Title IX, which prohibits gender discrimination in public education and paved the way for equal opportunities in sports for girls and women.

The Hawaii Open has partnered with local nonprofit Hawaii Foodbank. The tournament will serve as a drop off location for donations throughout the week of Thanksgiving. Further promotions will be announced in the upcoming weeks.

Organizers are thrilled to bring WTA tennis to Oahu for the first time. “Given our beautiful venue and the support of our presenting sponsor the Hawaii Tourism Authority, we expect it to be a successful event for the whole family to enjoy for years to come,” said Ben Goldsmith, Tournament Director of the Hawaii Open. “We are lucky to host this event at the Patsy T. Mink Central Oahu Regional Park. With 20 tennis courts, it’s a tennis fan’s paradise.”

The Hawaii Open is the only WTA tournament held after the US Open in the United States and

the only tournament held during Thanksgiving Week. It is the first WTA tournament held on Oahu.

Tickets for the 2016 Hawaii Open are on sale now. Patrons can purchase reserved box seat ticket packages or individual daily box seats. General admission seating will go on sale this November.

For more information about The 2016 Hawaii Open and to purchase tickets, visit [www.hawaiitennisopen.com](http://www.hawaiitennisopen.com)

**About the WTA:**

The WTA is the global leader in women's professional sport with more than 2,500 tennis players representing 92 nations competing for a \$130 million in prize money. The 2016 WTA competitive season includes 57 events and four Grand Slams in 33 countries. In 2015, The WTA was watched by 395 million fans on television and digital channels around the world. The 2016 WTA competitive season concludes with the BNP Paribas WTA Finals Singapore presented by SC Global, from October 23-30, 2016 and the WTA Elite Trophy in Zhuhai, China from November 1-6, 2016. Further information on the WTA can be found at [www.wtatennis.com](http://www.wtatennis.com); [facebook.com/WTA](https://facebook.com/WTA) and [twitter.com/WTA](https://twitter.com/WTA).

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