



# MEDIA RELEASE

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## Actor Sean Astin to Start and Run 39<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps Marathon

*“Rudy” to join Kennedy Space Center director and skydivers at MCM start in Arlington, VA*

QUANTICO, VA (Oct. 20, 2014) – Actor Sean Astin, best known for his title role as “Rudy,” and for his recurring role in “The Lord of the Rings” trilogy, will start and run the [39<sup>th</sup> Marine Corps Marathon](#) (MCM) on Sunday, Oct. 26 in Arlington, VA. Astin, who currently stars in “The Strain” on the FX Networks, will join the U.S. Marines and thousands of participants to run his first MCM.



On Marathon morning, Astin will be joined by Robert D. Cabana, Director of Kennedy Space Center, former Astronaut and retired Marine. Cabana will signal the start for more than 120 hand cycle and wheelchair participants at 7:40 a.m. The official start for the 39<sup>th</sup> MCM will follow at 7:55 a.m. on Route 110 in Arlington, VA.

Medal of Honor recipient and retired Marine Cpl. William Kyle Carpenter will skydive into the MCM start with 11 other jumpers delivering a 7,800 square-foot American flag. Carpenter will then run the MCM for the Semper Fi Fund.



Also in attendance on the MCM start and finish lines is Marine Corps Commandant Gen. Joseph F. Dunford Jr. Dunford, the 36<sup>th</sup> Commandant of the Marine Corps, will lead the Marines working to make the 39<sup>th</sup> MCM a memorable experience. Nearly 30,000 will participate in the MCM and MCM10K. Both events finish on the Marine Corps War Memorial.

Astin and Carpenter will be available to media on Friday, Oct. 24 at the MCM Press Conference hosted at the National Press Club at 529 14<sup>th</sup> Street in Washington, DC. Media can pick up credentials immediately following the press conference.

All media must be credentialed to cover the events of MCM Weekend from Oct. 23-26. Media should complete the [Credential Request Form](#) by Wednesday, Oct. 22. Pick up times and locations are listed on the Media Services page at the MCM website at [www.marinemarathon.com](#). For additional questions regarding coverage, contact Tami Faram, MCM Public Relations Coordinator at [tami.faram@usmc.mil](mailto:tami.faram@usmc.mil) or 703-432-1840.

More information about the Marine Corps Marathon is available at [www.marinemarathon.com](#).

*The Marine Corps Marathon (MCM), the third largest marathon in the United States and eighth largest in the world is voted “Best Marathon in the Mid Atlantic” and “Best Marathon for Spectators.” The MCM honors the dedication, sportsmanship and patriotism of its participants. Also known as “The People’s Marathon,” runners from all walks of life participate in the MCM, the largest marathon not to offer prize money. The 39th MCM sponsored by Arlington, Brooks, GE and Hyundai, will be held on October 26, 2014 in Arlington, VA. No federal or Marine Corps endorsement is implied. #RunWithTheMarines*

Astin photo by Jeff Vespa. Cabana photo courtesy of NASA.

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