



News & Press Releases

John J. Nelson to Race to the Top at Empire State Building Run Up for Make-A-Wish® Hudson Valley

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New York, NY (January 23, 2017) – PKF O'Connor Davies, LLP, the nation's 26th largest accounting and advisory firm, announced today that John J. Nelson, a senior accountant at the Firm, will participate in the 40th Annual *Empire State Building Run Up* on Feb. 1 on behalf of Make-A-Wish® Hudson Valley. Over 200 runners will race up 1,576 steps, a vertical distance equal to about a fifth of a mile, to reach the iconic building's famed observatory tower.

"It's an honor to be participating in this marquee tower race on behalf of Make-A-Wish® Hudson Valley," said Nelson. "At PKF O'Connor Davies, giving back is baked into our culture -- it's fundamental to who we are as a firm. Every pledge we earn in support of the important work of Make-A-Wish® Hudson Valley is going to push me to get up those stairs faster."

Both Nelson and PKF O'Connor Davies are longtime supporters of the organization's efforts. Nelson has helped to raise thousands of dollars as a participant in the Make-A-Wish® Hudson Valley Annual *5K Walk/Run for Wishes*. The Firm regularly contributes to the chapter and made the initial contribution to Nelson's pledge drive for the *Empire State Building Run Up*.

"On behalf of our Wish kids and their families, we thank John Nelson and PKF O'Connor Davies for their continued commitment to our special mission," said Thomas J. Conklin, President and CEO of Make-A-Wish® Hudson Valley. "For each and every step he takes toward reaching the goal, he will be making a difference in the lives of the Wish Kids and their families."

Pledges can be made in support of Make-A-Wish® on John's [fundraising page](http://www.wish.org/site/TR/WISHDIY/Make-A-WishAmerica?px=3188114&pg=personal&fr_id=2321)

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