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OPENING CEREMONY

The Empire State Winter Games' opening ceremony begins at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31, in the 1980 Herb Brooks Arena. The cauldron will be lit at 7:15 p.m. and the event will conclude by 7:20 p.m.

The arena floor configuration will be similar to this month's International Children's Winter Games' Opening Ceremony. The stage will be set behind the Zamboni entrance blue line, facing center ice. The athletes' procession begins, as usual, from the Zamboni end of the ice at 6:45 p.m. They will parade in front of the players' benches and take seats in the front of the stage.

BROADCAST MEDIA will have dedicated space the Herb Brooks Arena, section 24, rows A and B. This position allows for cameras to be fixed on the athletes' procession, stage and cauldron for the 7:15 p.m. lighting. Glass will be removed from this area, allowing for a clear view and a **mult box** has been dedicated capture direct audio.

PHOTOGRAPHERS/WRITERS can work from the same area for access, but TV needs proximity to the **mult box**. Photographers can also have access to the mezzanine-level for additional pictures

If you would like, we can get athletes for interviews when the event concludes. We'll be there to assist with the above.

Thank you.

Carrie Gentile, ROOST, & Jon Lundin, ORDA

