

# Catch It!

## Congratulations to USTA's 2018 Hall of Fame Inductees



Lynda Baskett Barton



Julienne Close-Walsh



Karen Ogden



Gloria Smith



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2018 State Champions

Hall of Fame Inductees

2018 PreTrials Athletes and Coaches

60th Anniversary U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships

34th World Baton Twirling Championships



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Dear Members,

As unbelievable as it seems, we have reached the summer issue of Catch It! That means our regular season is just about at an end.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the USTA leadership: National Board of Directors, department directors and council presidents, as well as the hundreds of volunteers who serve our membership and sport throughout the season. Your desire to serve and give of your time and talents is so very appreciated.

To all members - athletes, professionals and family members - thank you for your consistent support and participation in the USTA. We realize you have a choice and we are so glad you are part of the USTA family.

A special thank you to Anna Dolan for her caring and great work keeping us all in the loop and for being a great team player as we navigated this season without an executive director.

I hope to see many of you at the 60th Anniversary U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships in Jacksonville, Florida. If I don't, have a wonderful summer!

Warmly,

Karen Cammer

President

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## The USTA Benefactor Foundation

Did you know that the USTA Benefactor Foundation presents cash scholarships to athletes at the U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships? Depending on donations received, scholarships are presented to athletes who are competing in the semi-final and final rounds of individual events and members of eligible first place national groups. Please consider making a donation to support our athletes! Scholarship donors are listed in the national program (if donations are received by June 20), are eligible for special seating at the arena and announced when their scholarship is presented. Get the Benefactor Foundation form [HERE](#).





# CONGRATULATIONS 2018 STATE CHAMPIONS!



## ARIZONA STATE GRAND CHAMPIONS

Jayden Mendez, Men's Solo; Amanda Cook, Dance Twirl; Catelyn Cosper, 2-Baton; Megan Ekstrom, 3-Baton; Madelaine Schmidt, Solo.



## COLORADO STATE GRAND CHAMPIONS

Carlie Andersen, Solo, Strut and Dance Twirl; James Koehler, Men's Solo, 2-Baton and 3-Baton.



## ILLINOIS/WISCONSIN STATE CHAMPION

3-Baton Champion Precious Nickerson.



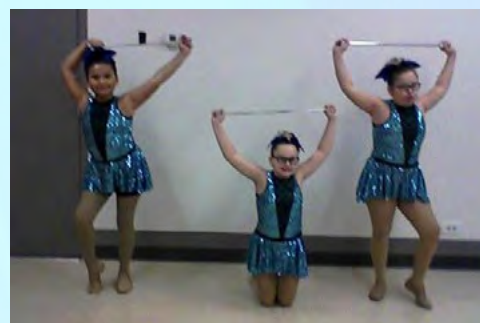
## CALIFORNIA STATE GRAND CHAMPIONS

Sophia Barden, Women's Solo, 2-Baton, Strut and Dance Twirl; Brandon Ennis, Men's Solo; Amelia DiPaola, 3-Baton.



## FLORIDA STATE GRAND CHAMPIONS

Amanda Trujillo, Women's Solo, 2-Baton, Strut and Dance Twirl; Kurt Burrows, Men's Solo; Julia Arciola, 3-Baton.



## ILLINOIS/WISCONSIN STATE CHAMPIONS

Jr. Trio Champions: Dulce Cervantes, Lucia Banaszak (kneeling), Dominica Banaszak.



# CONGRATULATIONS 2018 STATE CHAMPIONS!



## INDIANA STATE GRAND CHAMPIONS

Alicia Dennie: Solo, 2-Baton and 3-Baton; Aria Summers, Dance Twirl and Strut.



## KANSAS STATE GRAND CHAMPIONS

Olivia Pennington, Dance Twirl and 3-Baton; Bri Tayfel, Solo and 2-Baton.



## KENTUCKY STATE CHAMPIONS

Madison Wyatt and Eleijah Lyle, Sr. Dance Twirl Pairs; Jordyn Melton and Savannah Waltz, Juv. Pairs; Kazuki Ichimura, Grand Champion in Men's Solo, Dance Twirl, 2-Baton and 3-Baton; Tara Howard, Grand Champion in Women's Solo and Strut; Tara Howard and Emily Barney, Jr. Dance Twirl Pairs; Kylee Barney and Nicholas Howard, Primary Dance Twirl Pairs.



## MARYLAND STATE CHAMPION

Bailey Ciprich, Pri. Solo, Strut, Dance Twirl and 2-Baton.



## LOUISIANA STATE GRAND CHAMPIONS

Keriann Hollis, 2-Baton and 3-Baton; Keragan Ogden, Solo and Dance Twirl.



## MICHIGAN STATE GRAND CHAMPIONS

Cynthia Nowak, 3-Baton; Tara Zielinski, Solo, Strut, 2-Baton and Dance Twirl.



# CONGRATULATIONS 2018 STATE CHAMPIONS!



## MICHIGAN STATE GRAND CHAMPION

Paul Cunnington, Men's Solo.



## NEW JERSEY STATE CHAMPIONS

Back row L to R: Anne Rowan, Adult 2-Baton; Rowan/Rowe, Sr. Pairs; Nicole Ray, Jr. Dance Twirl; Friedman/Higgins, Juv. Pairs; Christiana Selby, Sr. Dance Twirl, Sr. 2-Baton, Sr. Women's Solo; Kailey LaPooh, Jr. 2-Baton; Miller/Norman, Sr. Dance Twirl Pairs. Front row L to R: Rosen/Rosen, Jr. Pairs; Sadie O'Sullivan, Pri. Women's Solo, Pri. 2-Baton; Delaney Higgins, Juv. Dance Twirl; Nana Taguchi, Juv. Women's Solo, Juv. 2-Baton; Desiree Fink, Jr. Women's Solo.



## OHIO STATE GRAND CHAMPIONS

Claudia Swauger, 3-Baton; Grace Wennerberg, Solo, Strut, Dance Twirl, 2-Baton.



## OREGON STATE CHAMPIONS

From L to R: Makenzie Elliot, Jr. Strut, Jr. Dance Twirl, Jr. 2-Baton and Jr. Solo; Maggie Salter, Sr. Dance Twirl; Ami Hawley, Sr. Strut, 3-Baton, Sr. 2-Baton, Sr. Solo; Zoe Yamaguchi and Hana Yamaguchi, Dance Twirl Pairs.



## TENNESSEE STATE CHAMPIONS

Front row L to R: Sydney Tinker, Jr. Solo; Claire Decent, Juv. 2-Baton, Solo and Strut; Madison Brode, Jr. 3-Baton and Dance Twirl; Caitlyn Sullivan, Jr. 2-Baton and Strut. Back row L to R: Adeline Rucker, Juv. Dance Twirl; Alexis Carey, Juv. 3-Baton.



## TEXAS STATE GRAND CHAMPIONS

Adaline Bebo, Solo, Strut and Dance Twirl; Michael Lopez, Men's Solo and 3-Baton; Emily Perkins, 2-Baton.



# 2018 USTA Hall of Fame Inductees

## LYNDA BASKETT BARTON



Lynda Baskett Barton

If there is one word that sums up Lynda Baskett Barton's life, it is love. Her love for family and friends. Her love for a unique and challenging sport. Her love for life. And the love others felt for her.

"Everyone knew and loved her," said daughter Dawn Baskett Hooker, recalling the woman who meant so much to others as a wife, mother, grandmother, twirler, coach, judge, mentor and friend.



Jimmie Lynda Justice twirling

Jimmie Lynda Justice was born in 1943 in McMinnville, Tennessee. As a teenager, she started taking baton

lessons from a twirler named James C. Baskett, who taught in many small towns in Tennessee and Kentucky. Lynda was a natural and advanced quickly. She twirled at McMinnville High School, then became a Golden Girl at Tennessee Tech, where Baskett was the drum major. When she was 19, Lynda won the title of Miss Tennessee USTA and competed in the National Pageant in Galveston, Texas. She placed second in that competition and always remembered that trip to Texas.



Tennessee Tech Golden Girl Jimmie Lynda Justice with Drum Major James C. Baskett

In 1961, Lynda and James Baskett were married. They started a family and founded what would become the longest-running twirling program in USTA history. The family included son Jamison, daughter Dawn and son Jason. Their oldest, Jamison, was an amazing twirler and competed on many championship teams at USTA Nationals. Jason, the youngest, was always seen riding his bike at twirling camps and tagging along. When Dawn was born, the doctor told the Basketts that "they had a Golden Girl," which wasn't far from the truth. Dawn Baskett Hooker grew up to be an

outstanding twirler in her own right, becoming the feature twirler at Memphis State University and twirling in the Miss Tennessee Pageant. Hooker said her mother was always her biggest supporter.



Lynda and daughter Dawn Baskett during the Miss Tennessee Pageant

"She was always there cheering me on to achieve my dreams, making sure I never gave up and always being my biggest fan," Hooker recalls. "I owe so much to her, looking back she did so much for myself and my brothers. We were so lucky that she was our Mom."

While they were raising their family, the Basketts established the Tennessee Twirling Institute. Over the course of 45 years, Lynda coached thousands of TTI twirlers, helping many earn state, regional and national titles in individual and team events. Lynda believed in every child that joined TTI. No matter their socio-economic status or their background, she worked with families to give children opportunities to grow, travel and expand their experiences. She showed her students that they could do more than they thought they could. She built their confidence. She taught them about twirling, and more importantly, about life.

"Her students still tell me today... 'I



# 2018 USTA Hall of Fame Inductees

am who I am today because of the wonderful influence your mom had on me,” Hooker said. “Those young girls have become moms themselves and achieved so much in their lives. They are principals, doctors, lawyers, teachers, business owners and more.”

USTA coach and judge Sheri Carter had the privilege of working with Lynda, first as a 15-year-old assistant and later as an instructor at TTI camps. She remembers one particular camp at Cumberland College.

“One memorable moment at that camp was when Ken Sasser, Michael Cruz and myself were left at Opryland,” Carter explained. “This was pre-cell phone days. Needless to say, I thought I would never be asked back!”

But Carter was asked back and she taught and judged with Lynda many times.

“I loved her spunk and her work ethic,” Carter said. “I loved that she never forgot anyone

who worked with any of her kids in her program. I will forever be grateful to Lynda. She is forever in my heart.”



Lynda and Glenn Bittenbender with TTI National Champion Team

The Basketts divorced in 1979 and Lynda continued coaching, changing TTI into the Tennessee Twirlers, Inc. As the TTI competitive program expanded over time, Lynda brought Glenn Bittenbender and Kristi Ogden to Tennessee to grow her athletes’ ability and opportunities. Anyone who knew Lynda understood her competitive drive. She greatly enjoyed traveling around the world for performances such as the 1986 Costa de Sol, Spain tour or the 11-year winning streak from 1995 to 2006 in the Senior Large Dance Twirl Team division.

“Mrs. B always taught her students that hard work pays off,” said Kelly Mullins, a former student and current TTI coach. “I remember staying up crazy hours of the night drilling technique, exchanges and individual tricks at summer camp. She always had us ready to step on the floor at state, regional and national competitions. We worked hard and played hard.”

One of Glenn Bittenbender’s most memorable moments was a time at summer camp when the baton twirlers toilet-papered Lynda’s new convertible. Glenn said, “We always had fun at camp, playing jokes on each other. I can hear Lynda’s voice – ‘You better get that toilet paper off my convertible now!’”

At USTA Nationals in 1990 in San Antonio, Texas, Lynda and fellow twirling coach Mary Hooker introduced their children to each other. Dawn Baskettt met Todd Hooker and soon another nuptial was born of baton twirling. Lynda eventually took on another role, that of loving grandmother to Harrison and Blake Hooker and Sophiella Baskettt, daughter of Jason and Jennie Baskettt.



The Barton and Hooker families

“Mom was always there for them. She attended every school program, every game and even volunteered at their elementary school,” Dawn Hooker said. “The boys called her ‘Mom’ and always loved her spending time with them, taking them to the park, helping at their schools Bike Rodeo, cooking their favorite desserts and her big hugs!”

Jan Miller, the current executive director of TTI, recalls the staff awaiting Lynda’s next trip to Tennessee so she could show off her grandchildren’s latest accomplishments.

“I really miss those daily chats,” Miller said.

Later in her life, Lynda found love again, marrying Ron Barton in 2000. He was by her side as she bravely battled cancer, which took her life in 2010. Though Lynda is gone, her legacy lives on in her beautiful family, in generations of Tennessee Twirlers and in USTA, an organization she loved and was fiercely loyal to.

“She was such a proud member of USTA, first as a student, then as a coach and judge,” Hooker said. “I know she would be so honored to be inducted into the USTA Hall Of Fame.”

*Congratulations to Lynda Baskettt Barton, 2018 Hall of Fame Inductee.*

# 2018 USTA Hall of Fame Inductees

## JULIENNE CLOSE-WALSH



Julienne Close-Walsh

Believe it or not, USTA owes a debt of gratitude to the Howdy Doody show. The 1950's children's television show is where Julienne Close-Walsh first saw a baton twirler.

"She had that silver stick and it was magical and I was going to get one," Julienne said. "I knew that the minute I saw her on TV."

Her parents, Stanley and Gertrude Brotko, were skeptical, so Julienne researched where she could take lessons, how much it cost, what a baton cost and so on. She convinced her parents to let her take the bus from their home in Lake Station, Indiana to downtown Gary, Indiana every Saturday (accompanied by her brother) to take baton lessons. A year later, her mother came to see how she was doing.

"My coach said 'She works hard, she practices, I think she could really be good at this,'" Julienne said. "But my mother, still skeptical, said 'Good at what?'"

Still, Julienne persevered. She began taking private lessons in her home town. Then she began teaching baton, charging 10 cents a lesson. She taught throughout high school, earning enough money to buy her own clothes

and even a car. She twirled for both her junior high school and her high school. At one point, she began taking lessons from Bobbie Mae, who lived in Chicago, and competing in NBTA contests.

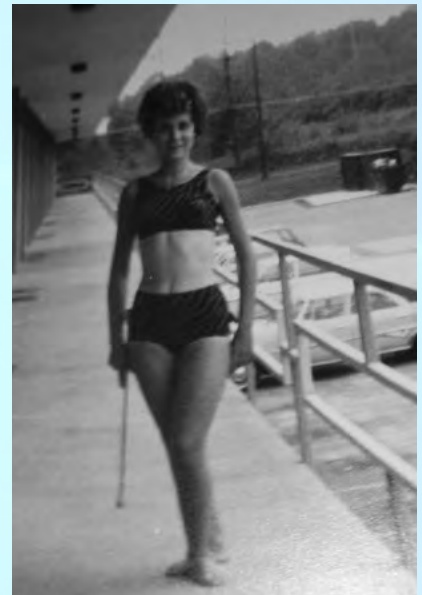
Over time, her parents became her biggest twirling supporters. In fact, Julienne taught her mother baton basics and Gertrude then taught Julienne's beginning twirlers and later accompanied them to state, regional and national competitions. Julienne's father served as commander of NBTA Chapter 166 while Julienne was junior commander. Then Bobbie Mae told them she was part of a push to start a new, democratic twirling organization called the United States Twirling Association (USTA). Mae encouraged Julienne and her parents to join her.



An early twirling photo of Julienne Close-Walsh

"At that point, we left NBTA and joined USTA, not knowing if it would survive," Julienne explained.

But survive it did. Thanks to Bobbie Mae, one of USTA's founding members, and people like Julienne, the new entity grew and thrived.



An early twirling photo of Julienne Close-Walsh

Julienne attended and twirled at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, where the band director told her she was "too skinny" and where she met her first husband, Paul Close. After college, they settled in Lake Station where Paul was a teacher and coach and Julienne began teaching school. But she discovered that what she really wanted to teach was baton twirling. So Julienne's Jet Twirlers, a drum and baton corps, was born. At first, they only performed in parades.



Julienne's Jet Twirlers in 1969

"If there was a parade, we attended it," Julienne remembers. "One 4th of July, we marched in three parades. We had a police escort to make it to all three."



# 2018 USTA Hall of Fame Inductees



Julienne's Performing Stars in 1993

As the group's twirlers advanced, they began attending state, regional and national competitions for some 25 years in a row. One year at nationals, they took first in every division of parade corps. Julienne later changed the name of her group to Julienne's Performing Stars and added dance and pom-pom classes in order to attract more athletes.

During those years, Julienne earned her coaching and judging credentials and became active in both the Indiana Baton Council and the Mideast Region Baton Council, where she served as president for 30 years. At the same time, she and her husband raised three sons, Mark, Jason and Chad (whose middle name is Houston, because Close-Walsh judged a contest in Houston shortly before his birth.)



Julienne with sons Mark, Jason and Chad.

"Everything in my life somehow relates to baton twirling," she laughs.

Julienne's children now have children of their own. Oldest son Mark and his wife Caron have three sons, Wayne, Zachary and Austin. Wayne and his wife Rachel have given Julienne two great-granddaughters, 7-year-old Emma and 4-year-old Cora. Middle son Jason

and wife Jenny are the proud parents of 19-year-old Kyle, 16-year-old Maura and 14-year-old Drew. Julienne's youngest son Chad and his wife Sylvia have 9-year-old Riley, 5-year-old Sofia and 9-month-old Victoria.



Julienne Close-Walsh (left) with lifelong friend Jackie Stewart

In the 1970s, at an Indiana council meeting, Close-Walsh met someone who would become a lifelong friend.

"Oh my, who do I meet there, but this little, perky blonde person who thinks she knows everything," Julienne exclaimed.

That "little, perky blonde person" was Jackie Stewart, a USTA coach, judge and board member.

"Julienne is the Bette Midler of baton twirling. Bawdy, gaudy and lives up to her name 'Jewel,'" Stewart said. "She's a Diva with a capital D and adores her grandchildren." (Julienne has nine beautiful grandchildren.)

Julienne and Bobbie Mae helped develop USTA's Festival of the Future, a national competition for beginner and intermediate athletes. Julienne ran the competition for the first two years when it was held in a separate facility. She also served seven terms on USTA's Board of Directors, where she promoted the growth and development of grassroots programs and supported worldwide recognition of baton twirling as a legitimate sport. Later, she served on the Competitive Events commission and department, which established USTA's Collegiate Event. But Julienne says the highlight of her USTA service was the 14 years she served as world team coordinator.

"I absolutely loved working with our world team athletes," she said.



Julienne with second husband Mike Walsh

In 2000, Paul Close passed away, leaving his wife in a dark and difficult place. Fortunately, two years later, baton twirling provided a lifeline in the form of Mike Walsh. He had recently lost his wife, Pat, after 43 years of marriage and nearly 30 years of running New York's Sparklers, one of the nation's most successful twirling groups.

Julienne said the two became "great, great friends" before deciding to marry in 2005. They were together for seven years before Mike Walsh passed away in 2011.



Julienne was a confirmation sponsor for her granddaughter Riley Close

Today Julienne splits her time between homes in Indiana and New York, judging across the U.S. and around the world, and spending time with her three sons and nine grandchildren. She says the time she's spent in baton twirling has been a labor of love.

"I love our organization and I love our sport," she said.

*Congratulations, Julienne Close-Walsh, USTA Hall of Fame Inductee.*



# 2018 USTA Hall of Fame Inductees

## KAREN OGDEN



Karen Ogden



Ogden was the feature twirler at Texas Christian University

When Karen Ogden learned she had been named to the United States Twirling Association Hall of Fame, she said simply, “Why me?”

Her humble nature belies her many contributions to USTA and the sport of baton twirling as an athlete, a coach, a judge, a council member, a commission member, a PreTrials director and much more.

Just as Ogden’s humility belies her accomplishments, her southern sweetness can obscure her ironclad commitment to excellence. For more than five decades, she has been one of the most successful baton twirling and dance coaches in the state of Louisiana.

On May 27, 2018, Karen Ogden Studio held its 49th annual recital, titled “Bright Lights, Big City,” in the small town of Sulphur, Louisiana, where everyone calls Ogden “Miss Karen.” It’s the same town where Ogden fell in love with twirling at age 13, when she started taking lessons from the local high school twirler, and later, from Carl Dunn.

“She really liked it,” said Ogden’s daughter, Kristi Ogden O’Quain. “Her mom would sell real estate half the year to make money for twirling. The other half of the year they would go to clinics and competitions.”

Ogden went on to become the feature twirler at Texas Christian University, where she earned her degree in Spanish. She taught school in Texas for a while, where she met her husband, Don, but they soon made their way back to Sulphur. Not long after, Ogden was coaching in all the communities around Sulphur, as well as her own front yard.

Ogden stopped teaching school in 1968 and opened Karen Ogden Studio (KOS), where she began producing national team and individual champions, including her daughter, O’Quain, and later, her granddaughters, Keragan Ogden and Karrington O’Quain, as well as Amanda Book Guidroz and Lori Lewis Perkins. Both of them are now USTA judges, coaches and members of the KOS staff, along with Kristi O’Quain.

Along the way, Ogden also became a Master Judge and Master Judge Clinician.

“Karen is the most compassionate judge I know,” said Perkins. “I’ve seen her tell complete strangers who have forgotten their routine on the floor to “Do your roll section now,” or “Don’t worry, just start over.” She smiles and cheers for you and sends positive thoughts your way during every performance.”

“I first knew Karen as a judge when I competed, then as a colleague in the

judging community,” recalls fellow judge Sheri Carter. “I had the privilege of judging many state, regional and national competitions with her. She has been a mentor to me in both life and baton.”

In addition to judging at the local, state, regional and national level, Ogden has also served on several USTA commissions and is a long-time member of the Technical Advisory Committee. She is a member of the Central Region Baton Council and is the Central Region PreTrials Director. But she says her favorite role, by far, is that of coach.

“Just being able to participate in the development of our athletes and seeing them achieve their goals, that’s what I enjoy the most,” Ogden said.

“Karen is a world class coach,” Perkins said. “She is able to break down any skill into a logical progression. She expects attention to detail and has the patience to work with each student to help them reach their maximum potential.”



Ogden and Lori Perkins after receiving Coach and Choreographer of the Year awards in 2011.

Ogden was honored as “Coach of the Year” and Perkins (who shared the credit with O’Quain) was recognized as “Choreographer of the Year” at the 2011 Nationals in Little Rock, Arkansas, after KOS teams won the national



# 2018 USTA Hall of Fame Inductees

Jr. Large Twirl Team, Jr. Large Dance Twirl Team, and Juv. Small Dance Twirl Team titles, as well as two second place awards.



KOS Black & White, 2011 National Jr. Large Twirl Team Champion



KOS Deeper Well, 2011 National Juv. Small Dance Twirl Team Champions

Ogden's tutelage over the years helped her granddaughter, Keragan Ogden, and Perkin's daughter, Emily Perkins, make Team USA for the 2011, 2013 and 2015 International Cup competitions, and the 2016 and 2018 World Championships. Both of them are also collegiate feature twirlers: Keragan at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette and Perkins at the University of Oklahoma.



Ogden with granddaughter Keragan Ogden, feature twirler at the University of Louisiana-Lafayette.



Emily Perkins, feature twirler at the University of Oklahoma

"I wanted them to have the joy of performing on the football field with the band around them," Ogden said. "It's a thrill you don't get anywhere else."

Ogden believes she has given her

students, who number in the hundreds, an appreciation for the value of hard work, in twirling, and perhaps more importantly, in life.

"I think they have learned how to accomplish a goal, that you have to try and try again," Ogden said. "They have developed a strong work ethic."



But Ogden says she hasn't done it alone. She says her husband, Don, who passed away in 2016, her daughter, Kristi Ogden O'Quain, provided incredible family support. That, combined with staff members including Guidroz, Perkins and others, has enabled her to build a successful program and positively impact the lives of generations of twirlers.

*Congratulations Karen Ogden, USTA Hall of Fame Inductee.*



# 2018 USTA Hall of Fame Inductees

## GLORIA SMITH



Gloria Smith

“Be enthusiastic!” “Think positive!” “Kindness is the greatest virtue.” “Be generous of yourself and help others whenever you can!”

Those were some of the words Gloria Smith lived by every single day of her life. Those who knew and loved her said she was a “fearless dynamo,” “one in a million,” “a remarkable leader” and “the heart and soul that kept pushing us to perfection.”



Jones Beach Water Ballet

Gloria Miligi was born in Freeport, New York in 1926. She swam in the Jones Beach Water Ballet and graduated from Syracuse University where she was the featured baton twirler and fire baton twirler with the Syracuse Marching Band. She married Wesley Lott Smith of Baldwin, New York. Smith was a Jones Beach lifeguard and played football at Syracuse. The couple had four wonder-

ful daughters: Tracey Smith McCauley, Kimberly Smith Hysni, Dana Smith and Westey Smith Mandriota. They would later give her eight beloved grandchildren and 10 adored great-grandchildren.



Gloria Smith was the featured twirler with the Syracuse University Marching Band

In the early years, Gloria worked as an elementary school teacher in Merrick, New York. She started teaching baton twirling in the late 1950s and taught twirling for many years at St. Patrick's School in Huntington. She had students from all over Long Island.



Gloria Smith founded the Huntington Thunderers in 1964

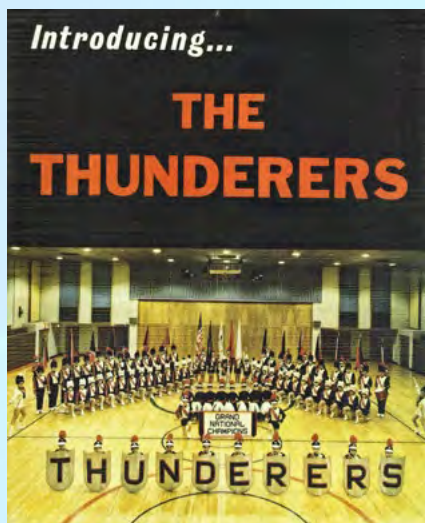


In 1964, she founded and became director of the Huntington Thunderers, a musical marching band and baton corps that had a unique jazzy sound. The Thunderers played Cole Porter tunes and big band songs arranged by the late Clem DeRosa and Ray Wilson. The group won multiple Grand National Championships and the World Show Corp Championship. The Thunderers marched in four, consecutive Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parades in New York, the Rose Bowl Parade in Pasadena, and the group was invited to France, Luxembourg, Switzerland and the U.S. Virgin Islands to perform and represent the United States and the youth of America. In 1970, the Thunderers recorded an album, “Artistry In Swing,” with songs like “St. Louis Blues,” “April In Paris,” “Girl From Ipanema” and “Watermelon Man,” which were performed by the talented Thunderers musicians who were all 18 years old or younger. The Thunderers had a Junior Corps as well, which also won the Grand National Champions title and performed in the US Virgin Islands Carnival in 1972.

The hundreds of young people who were fortunate enough to be Thunderers say the experience, and especially Gloria Smith, changed their lives for the better, and forever.



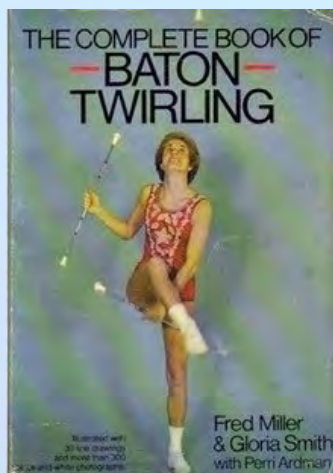
# 2018 USTA Hall of Fame Inductees



"I'm not sure Gloria realized at the time she started the Mighty Thunderers the effects it would have on our collective lives," said John Auletta after Smith's passing in 2013.

"The difference Gloria made in my life is immeasurable," recalled Connie Crane Todd. "She boosted the confidence of a little, red-haired, freckle-faced girl, making her believe if she worked very hard, she could accomplish anything. I have carried her confidence in me throughout my life, and always will."

"Gloria made us all believe anything was possible and provided us with the courage and confidence to be successful," said Gail McDermott Morritt.



In 1978, Gloria co-wrote "The Complete Book of Baton Twirling" with

longtime friend and competitor Fred Miller, director of Millers Blackhawks in Ohio. Gloria's twirling teams and solo students excelled, winning many national awards throughout the years. But Gloria worked with twirlers of all ability levels, instilling in each of them self-esteem, confidence, determination, perseverance, a strong work ethic and good sportsmanship. Gloria's daughter, Westey Smith Mandriota, remembers her mother working with two specific twirlers, one who was deaf and one who was blind.

"During their lessons, which my mom gave at our house, there was a lot of cheering, a lot of laughter and a lot of smiles, including my own," recalls Mandriota. "There were times when these girls were beaming with pride at the end of their lesson, feeling so good about their progress and accomplishments. I'm so proud of my mom for making them believe and know that they could do anything, and that their special needs would not stop them from doing anything they wanted to do."



The Smith's historic home on Huntington Harbor

In 1973, Gloria expanded her talents and opened the Yankee Peddler Antiques and Workshop in Huntington Station, NY. It was an antique emporium with more than 20 dealers on three floors, offering furniture stripping and refinishing – known as the "best stripper in town!" In 1979, Gloria and Wes bought and restored a historic waterfront home on Huntington Harbor, East Point, which Gloria successfully marketed as a location for print ads, commercials and movies, including "Dogs of War" with Christopher Walken and JoBeth Williams, "Empire" with

Isabella Rossellini and John Leguizamo, a Debbie Gibson music video, the TV show "Central Park West," photo shoots for Italian and French Vogue and Elle magazines, plus appearances by celebrities such as Howie Long in his Hanes Underwear, Lena Horn, Steve Allen, top NFL players and James Earl Jones who "let his fingers do the walking."



Gloria was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother, friend, teacher, mentor and devoted director of the Huntington Thunderers. She touched and influenced the lives of myriad children and families with kindness, selfless devotion, unconditional love and her all-consuming belief that all children can soar to greatness and achieve things they never dreamed possible.

USTA President Karen Cammer was a Thunderer and said Gloria will always hold a special place in her heart.

"Gloria Smith was probably the most influential woman in my life other than my mom. She treated every one of us as one of her own children. Gloria was an angel and a force I will never ever forget," Cammer said.

*Congratulations, Gloria Smith,  
USTA Hall of Fame Inductee.*



# USTA'S PRETRIALS PROGRAM

## BUILDING BETTER TWIRLERS

Congratulations to the athletes and coaches who are participating in the 2018 PreTrials program! Designed to prepare athletes, coaches and judges for the rigorous and prestigious U.S. Trials program, PreTrials is one of the most exciting and challenging programs offered by USTA.

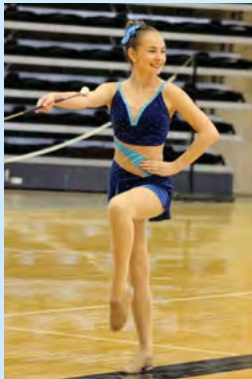
PreTrials is available to individuals, who compete in compulsories or short program and freestyle, and to pairs and teams. It has four levels of competition: A, AA, AAA and Elite. The first three levels have content restrictions to ensure

that athletes are utilizing the proper skills by performing movements that are of their ability level.

The A Level is offered only at USTA regional competitions. AA, AAA and Elite Level athletes must receive a qualifying score at a regional competition in order to continue to the U.S. PreTrials, held each July during the U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships.

It's our pleasure to introduce you to some of the athletes and coaches participating in PreTrials this year!

### JUV. A FREESTYLE



**Alyssa Brewer**  
Colorado

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I love to twirl and dance!"*



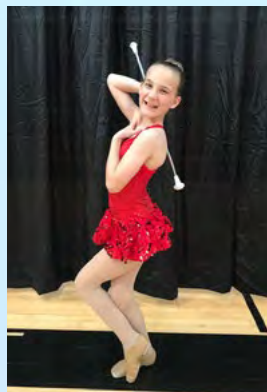
**Loralei Bryce**  
Maryland

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I have the passion to go further in my twirling. I love twirling! I want to inspire others to twirl. It has become part of my life."*



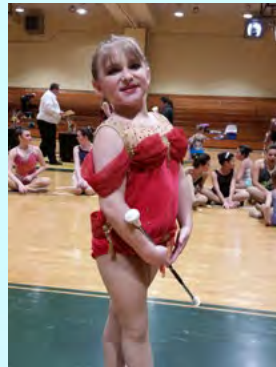
**Allora Ferree**  
Maryland

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I've learned that you have to challenge yourself to be better than you were the day before."*



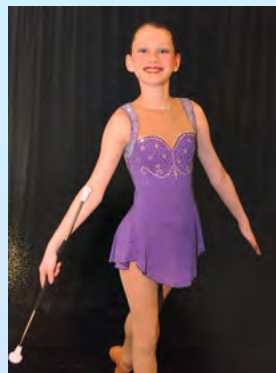
**Addyson Gurney**  
Kansas

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I want to compete at a higher level with different people to step up my game and meet new people!"*



**Margaret Jackson**  
Maryland

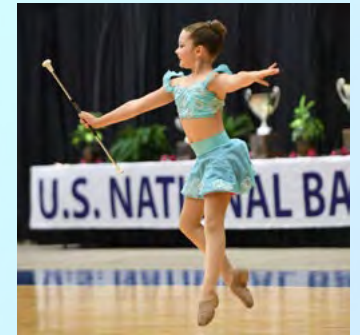
*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I love to twirl, I like performing in front of crowds, and having lots of emotion in my routines. I also wanted to challenge myself and improve in baton. This is my very first PreTrials and I hope I can make the crowd feel something."*



**Alexa Leitzel**  
Kansas

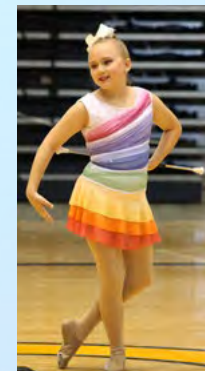
*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I just learned my first freestyle and have been working*

*towards PreTrials all year. It has always been one of my goals to compete in PreTrials."*



**Leighton Paschal**  
Washington

*"I like doing freestyle because it brings out my creative side."*

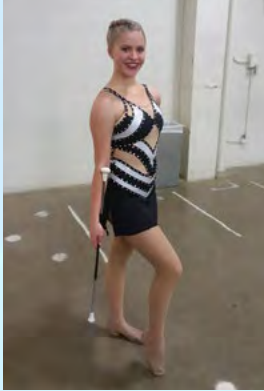


**Hannah Vandeventer,**  
Colorado

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I love twirling at competitions. I figure competing in PreTrials is a great opportunity to challenge myself."*

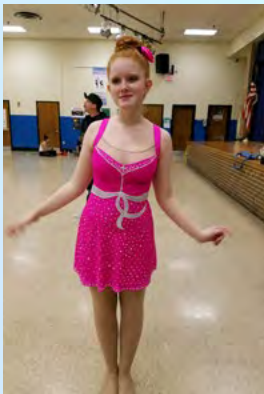
# USTA'S PRETRIALS PROGRAM

## JR. A FREESTYLE



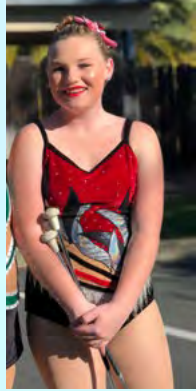
**Emma Alexander**  
Colorado

*"I chose to do PreTrials because I knew that it would push me as a twirler and allow me to work on skills that I otherwise would not have worked on."*



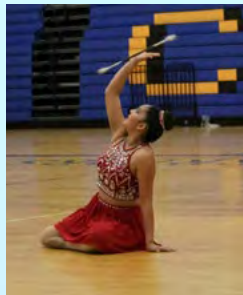
**Lydia Bryce**  
Maryland

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I was looking forward to doing it for the first time last year, however I got injured. This year I can't wait to be able to perform."*



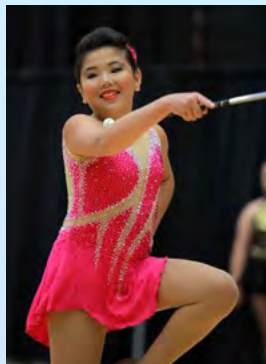
**Jacey Callahan**  
California

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I think it will be a great opportunity to advance my twirling skills and get to twirl at a new level of competition."*



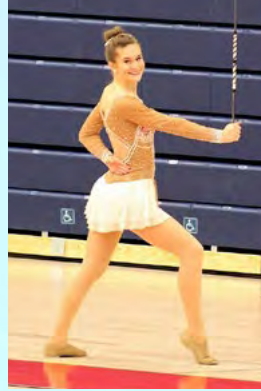
**Ava Kaiser**  
New York

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I want to push myself to be a better twirler and love the rush of performing!"*



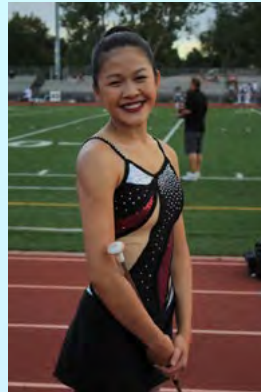
**Maiya Keen**  
Maryland

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year to advance my twirling skills and to gain confidence when performing."*



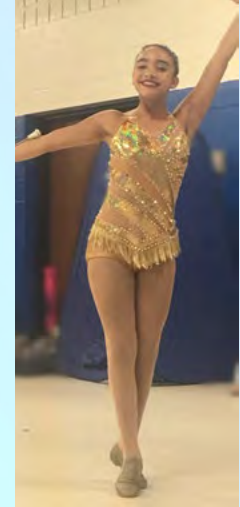
**Sarah Kouns**  
Colorado

*"I chose to do PreTrials because I just finished my first year competing with the USTA side of baton twirling. I wanted to use this opportunity to improve my twirling and meet more people who love the sport as much as I do."*



**Katie Lam**  
Colorado

*"I chose to do PreTrials because it is an amazing experience and it will challenge me to become better."*



**Sereneah Lloyd**  
Maryland

*"I chose to do freestyle this year because I want to further my creative and artistic performance abilities."*



**Victoria Schmahl**  
New York

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I love this part of twirling, the rush and adrenaline is crazy. Solo and dance twirl are the same every time. When I perform freestyle it feels like a whole new experience. I love this sport and doing PreTrials is an experience I wouldn't miss."*



# USTA'S PRETRIALS PROGRAM



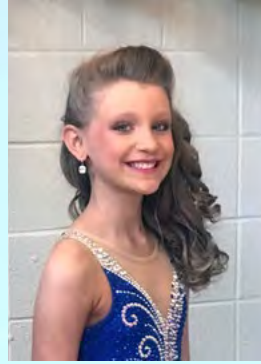
**Brandy Martin**  
Maryland

*"The reason I chose to do PreTrials this year is because twirling is an escape from my teenage life and sharing it with others is an honor."*



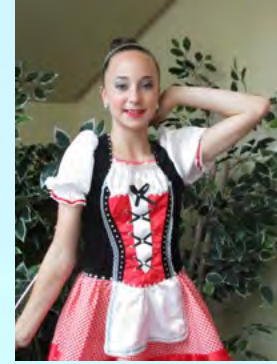
**Hanna Tapia**  
Florida

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I thought it would be a great experience and will prepare me for participating in US Trials."*



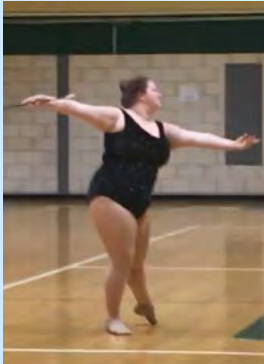
**Alexis Brock**  
Maryland

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I wanted to improve and grow as a twirler. Plus I thought it would be fun!"*



**Brooke Boullion**  
Louisiana

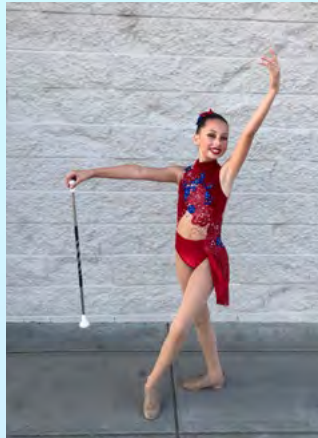
*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I like Dance Twirl and my coach encouraged me to enter freestyle."*



**Marilyn Simmers**  
Maryland

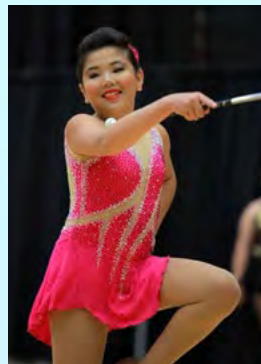
*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because it's FUN."*

## JUV. AA FREESTYLE



**Lavina Baird**  
California

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because it's a new experience for me and I get to twirl to my own music."*



**Bella Sebree**  
Tennessee

*"I like competing in PreTrials because it challenges me and it is fun performing to songs I like."*



**Cierra Carter-Henry**  
Maryland

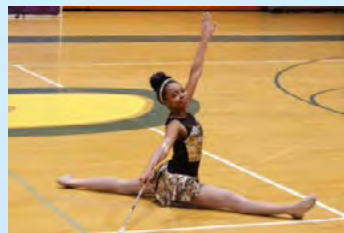
*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because twirling to music of my choice allows me to really express myself and shine."*



**Liz Anne Soeth**  
Colorado

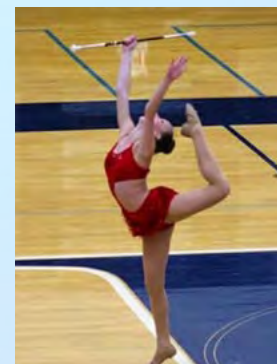
*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because with twirling with my school's marching band and doing color guard have helped me become much better at baton and I felt that PreTrials was a good way to show my improvement."*

## JR. AA FREESTYLE



**Lauren Anthony**  
Maryland

*"I participate in PreTrials because it allows me to push myself and express my love of dance and twirling with a song of my choice."*

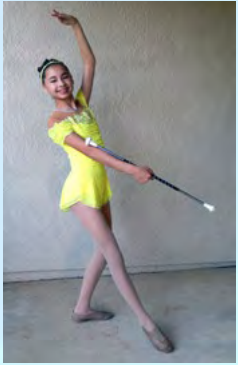


**Holly Forbes**  
Ohio

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I love to express myself performing a routine that fits my personality."*

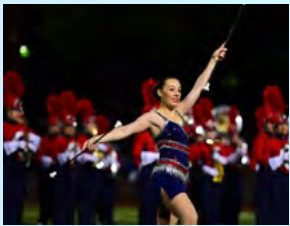


# USTA'S PRETRIALS PROGRAM



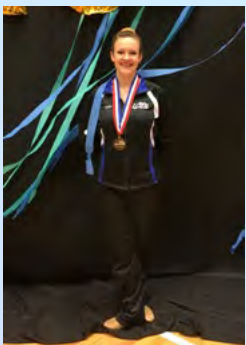
**Sabrina Gouker**  
California

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because participating in the event will make me a better twirler. It will also give me the opportunity to express my passion for baton twirling."*



**Alexa Lytle**  
Colorado

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I want to follow in the footsteps of my role models and hopefully make new friends and have fun!!"*



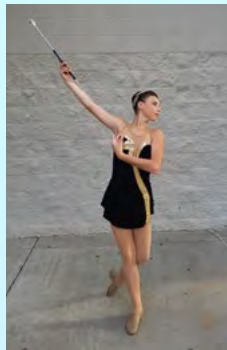
**Lydia McDonald**  
Colorado

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because of the experience that I can gain and the chance to push myself to become better!"*



**Grace Papile**  
New York

*"I choose to do PreTrials this year because I would like the experience of competing at the national competition in Jacksonville, Florida. I also would like to better myself as a twirler."*



**Harlie Peterson**  
Nevada

*"I am doing PreTrials this year to have the chance to express myself through my freestyle and perfecting my twirling technique."*



**Carly Pometto**  
Maryland

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I want to have a chance to compete alone (but not just in individuals) with more than just one judge."*



**Erin Smith**  
Alabama

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because it's exciting to be able to participate and compete in an event with some of the best U.S. twirlers. I especially enjoy being able to show some individuality in freestyle."*



**Emma Wright**  
Michigan

*"I chose to do PreTrials because I love the challenge!"*

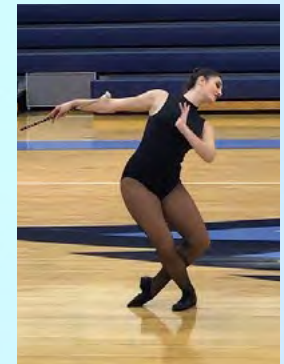


**Gina Zarccone**  
New York

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I love following my pas-*

*sion and achieving personal goals that help me lead to success. I love the bonds and friendships I create with my fellow athletes that I will cherish forever. I also love how PreTrials builds my skills by training and practicing really hard and push myself to exceed my limits. Overall, I love twirling and that's why I do PreTrials."*

## SR. AA FREESTYLE



**Sofia Cano**  
Florida

*"I chose to do PreTrials because freestyle is my favorite event and I feel PreTrials gives me the best opportunity to compete against people who truly are at my skill level."*

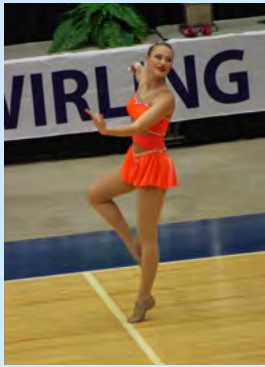


**Savannah Gilmore**  
Ohio

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because twirling has always been a huge part of my life and I believe this is an amazing opportunity for me to continue on in my twirling career, as well as make me a better athlete altogether."*



# USTA'S PRETRIALS PROGRAM



**Sarah Okes**  
Maryland

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I wanted to push myself and show my personality through my routine. I am a shy person and I enjoy expressing myself through my routine on the floor. I especially love my routine this year, because I can be powerful and strong. I love the sport of baton twirling. I have met and made many friends through the sport and I love seeing how we all progress from year to year."*



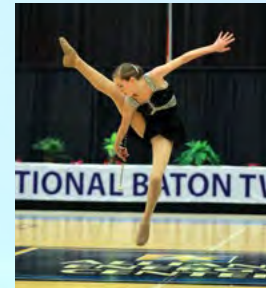
**Tara Zielinski**  
Michigan

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I really want to perform my freestyle at Nationals, so everyone can see it."*



**Autumn Barfield**  
Florida

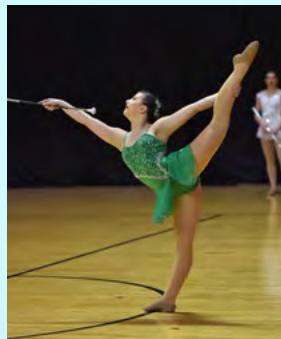
*"I chose to do PreTrials because I would like to better myself as an athlete. I see PreTrials as an opportunity for athletes to understand twirling on a larger scale than they have previously been exposed to."*



**Madison Brode**  
Tennessee

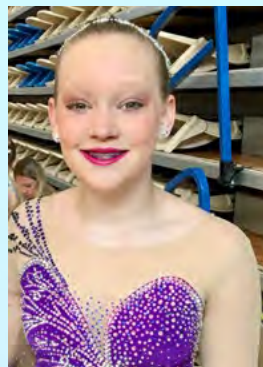
*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I like being able to twirl to unique music."*

## JR. AAA FREESTYLE



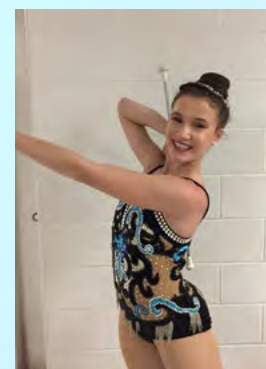
**Emily Arpino**  
New York

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year not only because it is incredibly challenging to perform alone on the floor, but because it allows me the opportunity to express my individuality through the music that I have selected."*



**Emma Brock**  
Maryland

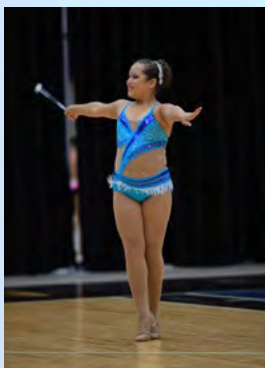
*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I wanted to push myself to become the best twirler that I can be."*



**Kalista Kahler**  
New York

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because it challenges me to be a better twirler."*

## JUV. AAA FREESTYLE



**Kansas Crawford**  
California

*"I chose to do Pre Trials this year because one day I want to be on the World Team."*



**Julia Keisling**  
Tennessee

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I get to express my personality through freestyle. PreTrials is one of my absolute favorite things about baton."*

# USTA'S PRETRIALS PROGRAM

## SR. AAA FREESTYLE



**James Koehler**  
Colorado

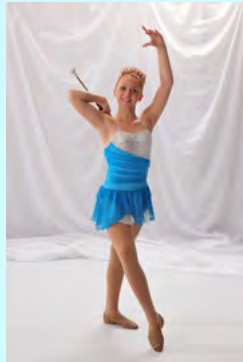
*"I chose to do PreTrials because I never had the opportunity before and I would like to step out of my comfort zone and try something new. I also very much enjoy freestyle and interpreting music while doing the sport I love."*



**Austin Peterson**  
Nevada

*"I am doing PreTrials this year to help me perfect my twirling and I enjoy performing my freestyle."*

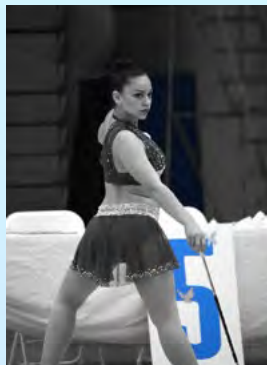
## JUV. ELITE FREESTYLE



**Jaida Jobe**  
California

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year to perform in front of a large crowd, so I can continue to improve my dance and twirling technique so that I am at my best and ready, when my time comes!"*

## JR. ELITE FREESTYLE



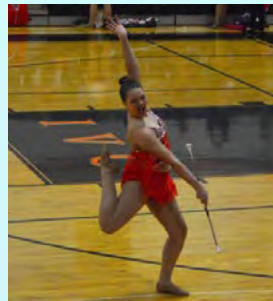
**Josie D'Acquisto**  
California

*"I'm participating in PreTrials to prepare myself for Trials in two years."*



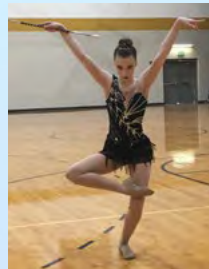
**Cadence Doms**  
California

*"I chose to do PreTrials because it's the single event that allows me to express myself in the music of my choice and the twirling style that best suits my abilities."*



**Sarah Lewis**  
Ohio

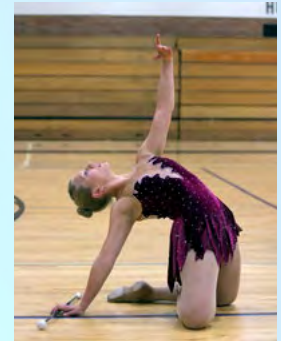
*"I chose to do PreTrials because I love perfecting my compulsories so that my technique is at the elite level. I also love doing freestyle because I get to demonstrate my twirling abilities while being able to show my personality."*



**Madeline Stiehl**  
Ohio

*"I enjoy participating in the PreTrials program because I love choosing my own unique music to twirl to."*

## SR. ELITE FREESTYLE



**Carlie Andersen**  
Colorado

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I have always enjoyed getting to pick a beautiful piece of music that speaks to me and allows me to take on a whole new challenge of choreography."*



**Alicia Dennie**  
Indiana

*"I chose to do PreTrials this year because I love twirling to different music and performing for the audience. Freestyle is my favorite part of PreTrials. I love seeing everyone's unique routines."*



# USTA'S PRETRIALS PROGRAM



**Konlie Westerfield**  
Indiana

*"I love PreTrials and I'm especially excited this year to do short program instead of compulsories."*

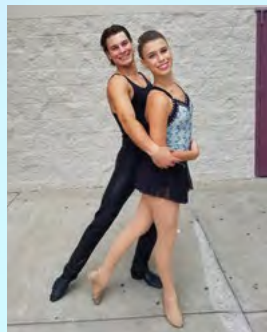
## JR. AA PAIRS



**Taylor Fuqua and Kylie Broussard**  
Louisiana

*"We chose to do PreTrials this year because we have enjoyed competing as Dance Twirl Pairs partners for the last four years. We wanted the opportunity to perform creative and fun choreography to a song we chose with the help of our coach Lori Perkins for the Freestyle Pairs event. We have had a blast with this routine this year!"*

## SR. AA PAIRS



**Austin Peterson and Harlie Peterson**  
Nevada

*"We are doing PreTrials Pairs this year because we love twirling and performing together."*

## JR. ELITE PAIRS



**Josie D'Acquisto and Cadence Doms**  
California

*"We chose to do PreTrials because twirling has taken two strangers that live on opposite ends of the state and made us lifelong friends. We love twirling together. We are like sisters now."*

## AA TEAM



**KOS Junior Twirl Team:**  
Taylor Fuqua, Breanna Neal, Kylie Broussard, Brooke Boullion, McKenzie Gomez, Maggie Chrudimsky, Kerriann Hollis, and Destiny LeBrun

*"We chose to do PreTrials this year because it gave us an opportunity to come together as a team, combining each of our strengths and abilities to work toward our goals of competing in the future at the international level."*

## PRETRIALS COACHES



**Paige Campbell**  
California

*"I encourage the Valley Baton Club athletes to set goals and a game plan to achieve them. Pre-Trials combines the compulsory skills and freestyle artistry together allowing athletes to reach beyond their competitive events."*



**Michelle Dawson**  
Colorado

*"I encourage my athletes to do PreTrials because the event pushes them to perform better and to show their artistic talent."*



**Kyle Keiser**  
Michigan

*I encourage my athletes to do PreTrials, because it is part of the long term process of nurturing their growth. It is part of the path to elite and is an amazing way for them to "own" their style and their twirling. When I choose their "identity" for the season, they sometimes have no connection or understanding why I chose the piece for them.....until they get to "become" that freestyle. I love watching their growth.*



Join us in Jacksonville for the  
**60TH ANNIVERSARY  
U.S. NATIONAL  
BATON TWIRLING  
CHAMPIONSHIPS!**

**July 8-14, 2018**

**Veterans Memorial Arena  
Jacksonville, Florida**





# 2018 U.S. NATIONAL BATON TWIRLING CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK

## ESTIMATED SCHEDULE (Competition will move forward when possible)

### SATURDAY, JULY 7TH

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Judges Workshop
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	U.S. Pre-Trials Judges Focus Meeting
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Registration Open at Hyatt Regency
3:45 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	U.S. Pre-Trials Music Test
7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	USTA General Assembly at Hyatt Regency

### SUNDAY, JULY 8TH

7:00 a.m.	Registration & Doors Open to Public
7:45 a.m.	U.S. Pre-Trials Athletes' Meeting for U.S. PreTrials and World Team Selection
8:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.	U.S. Pre-Trials Compulsories, Short Program, Pairs, Teams and Freestyle; Jr. & Sr. Women, Sr. Men, Team USA Medal Round; Awards

### MONDAY, JULY 9TH

7:00 a.m.	Registration & Doors Open to Public for the International Cup Qualifier Competition
8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.	International Cup 2 & 3-Baton, Artistic Twirl & Artistic Pairs, Solo, International Team and Groups.
9:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.	International Cup Qualifier Announcements

### TUESDAY, JULY 10TH

7:00 a.m.	Registration & Doors Open to Public
7:45 a.m.	Opening Ceremony, Introduction of Judges & Board of Directors, President's Welcome
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	National 2-Baton, National 3-Baton, Awards
3:00 p.m. - 10:40 p.m.	National Dance Twirl & Dance Twirl Pairs, Awards

### WEDNESDAY, JULY 11TH

7:00 a.m.	Registration & Doors Open to Public
8:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	National Strut, Awards
10:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	National Solo and Pairs, Awards
4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	National Finals Show
7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Champions' Celebration/Athletes' Party in Sports Club Area
9:30 p.m.	Building Closes

### THURSDAY, JULY 12TH

7:00 a.m.	Registration & Doors Open to Public for Group and Collegiate Competition
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	FOF & National Twirl Teams, Parade Corps, Show Corps, Show Teams, Collegiate Event, International Cup Team and Groups
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	National Twirl Team Finals, Command Performances by 2018 National Champions, US World Team, Collegiate Awards, Team Retreat

### FRIDAY, JULY 13TH

7:00 a.m.	Registration & Doors Open to Public for Group Events
8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	FOF & National Dance Twirl Teams and Trios
3:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.	National Dance Twirl Team Finals, Command Performances by High Scoring Show and Parade Corps, Introduction of the Stars of the Future - US Pre-Trials Gold Medalists, Command Performances by 2018 USA Team Gold Medalists, US Pen Sales, Team Retreat
7:00 p.m.	USTA 60TH Anniversary Celebration & Dinner at Hyatt Regency

### SATURDAY, JULY 14TH

7:00 a.m.	Registration & Doors Open to Public - Festival of the Future Events
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.	Festival of the Future Foundation Events: awards presented at judges' tables
	FOF Strut
	FOF Dance Twirl, Dance Twirl Pairs; Strut and all Dance Twirl Awards
	FOF 2-Baton, 3-Baton
	FOF Solo, Pairs, Awards



**REGISTRATION DEADLINE EXTENDED**

# Judges Level III Workshop

**July 7, 2018**

**Clinicians: Krystal Mignone and Abby Moore, Jacksonville, FL**

## Schedule

Saturday, July 7  
9am-7pm

## Workshop outline

- Advanced vs. Elite
- Solo
- Two-Baton
- Three-Baton
- Strut
- Artistic Twirl
- Artistic Twirl Pairs
- Duet
- Twirling Team
- Dance Twirl Teams and Trios
- Tape Critiques
- Parade Corps
- Show Teams and Show Corps

## Questions?

### Contact –

Krystal Mignone

krystal@ustwirling.com

## LOCATION

**Hyatt Regency  
Jacksonville Riverfront**

225 E. Coastline Drive  
Jacksonville, FL 32202

## Who may attend

Current Level II Judges who want to certify at Level III.

Current Level I, II & III Judges who need seminar credit may attend.

Any professional USTA member (coach sit-in) who would like to come and sit in and observe how the judges are trained. Think of it as a coaches training session from a judges point of view. Come for ½ day or full day. All professional members, 16 years or older, may attend judges workshops for information purposes; however attendees must be 18 years or older to test for certification.

## Requirements

To test for Level III certification: must be a professional member of USTA and have attained at least Level II status.

## Advance Preparation

Participants wishing to test to become a Level III judge must be familiar with the material in the manual including the range descriptions and role model videos.

## Materials needed

Judges' Level II/III Manual (mandatory) \$50.00\*

Order in advance at [www.ustwirling.com/shop](http://www.ustwirling.com/shop).

\*Not mandatory for coaches sit-in.

Bring a notebook, post-it notes, pens, high lighter, snacks, digital recording device (phone).

**Lunch will not be provided.**

## Fee/Registration

**Register via email by June 1, 2018.** Include the information below in your email, and then put your check in the mail. Judges and coaches must pre register;

**Level III:** \$100.00 and testing fee \$10.00

**Coach Sit In:** ½ day \$50.00, Full day \$100.00

USTA # \_\_\_\_\_ NAME \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

USTA Professional Status \_\_\_\_\_

PH. # \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to USTA.

Mail to: USTA, 4023 Bernice Road, Seaford, NY 11783

Email: [keri@ustwirling.com](mailto:keri@ustwirling.com)

Credit card payments must include: billing name, billing address, credit card number and expiration date.





# Picnic party

2018

## CHAMPIONS' CELEBRATION!

Wednesday, July 11th

7-9 pm

Sports Club Area

### The Grill Is On!!

Hamburger and Hotdogs

Salad

Vegetable

Desserts & Refreshments

\$15 per person

\$20 Onsite- Per Person/ Party Only

Dinner not Included

CLICK HERE TO  
REGISTER!





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## Join us for the USTA's 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration & Hall of Fame Inductions

**Friday, July 13<sup>th</sup> 7pm at the Hyatt Regency  
Jacksonville, Florida**

**Celebrate USTA's 60 Years of the Best in Baton Twirling  
Witness the induction of the Hall of Fame's 2018 Class**

**Lynda Baskett Barton**

**Julienne Close-Walsh**

**Karen Ogden**

**Gloria Smith**

*The evening will be a wonderful testimony to our long history and the people who served us all. The Hall of Famers will be introduced by a speaker of their choice and accept the honor in person or by a special person. Our Master of Ceremonies, Thomas Breuckman, will lead us down Memory Lane as we share good food, good friends and good times!*

**Purchase your seat at the table today. \$60 per person Deadline: June 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Tickets, IF available at the door: \$80**

Pay by check (Payable to USTA) or credit card.

Mail your completed reservation form and payment to:

USTA Anniversary Dinner  
4023 Bernice Road  
Seaford, NY 11783

### USTA 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY DINNER

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ Number of People: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Payment: Check or Credit Card

Name on Credit Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Card Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount to be charged: \_\_\_\_\_

For Questions email [KJCammer55@gmail.com](mailto:KJCammer55@gmail.com)

Mail To: USTA Anniversary Dinner • 4023 Bernice Road, Seaford, NY 11783





# THE CHAMPIONS ARE COMING...

## ARE YOU ?

**August 2-5, 2018  
Kissimmee, FL, USA**

Hosted by:



## CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS AND BENEFACTORS!

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

USTA will be hosting the 35th World Baton Twirling Championships in Kissimmee, Florida, August 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>, 2018. This is the most prestigious event for our sport, and is a very large financial undertaking.

Because this event does not generate revenue for the USTA, we are asking all State/Region Councils, Professional Members, interested individuals and teams/groups for volunteers and financial assistance to help run the competition and cover the costs of these championships.

The success of this endeavor is of great importance to the sport of baton twirling in this country as well as throughout the world. On behalf of the USTA Executive Board, Technical Advisory Group, and the 2018 World Championships Staff, thank you in advance for your generosity and support!

Please email any and all questions to Karen Cammer at [president@ustwirling.com](mailto:president@ustwirling.com).

### VOLUNTEER!

Volunteer to help as practice gym coordinators, competition and practice monitors, food, refreshment and hospitality, administration, digital/social media, ceremonies, celebrations, tabulation, country host, registration, print work.....and the list goes on!

### DONATE!

Your generous donations will go towards the Welcome Party for the Athletes, the Reception for the World Delegates, Ceremonies, the Live Stream, and more!

Benefactor form:

<http://www.ustwirling.com/content/getattachment/Benefactor-Foundation/2017-Benefactors-Form-updated-042017.pdf.aspx>

Be sure to select "2018 World Championships, Kissimmee, FL" as the designation for your donation.

# florida

THE LEGEND BEGINS

## 2018 WORLD BATON TWIRLING CHAMPIONSHIPS

AUGUST 2-5, 2018  
KISSIMMEE, FLORIDA, USA



### WBTF Coaches Level 1 Certification Workshop

Sunday, July 29th, 2018  
Kissimmee, Florida, USA

This Level 1 workshop is designed to train coaches on how to effectively develop quality twirlers from beginning to elite athletes.

With this workshop, coaches may become a WBTF Level 1 Certified Coach and gain professional recognition in their country.

## Twirl Nations! Inspiring to be more



34th World Baton Twirling Championships  
Saturday, August 4, 2018  
Kissimmee, Florida, USA

(Clinic will begin 30 minutes after Semi-Finals concludes)

Instructors:

BERTRAND ROYER, JENNIFER MARCUS, SEISHI INAGAKI,  
KARRISSA WIMBERLEY, CHIHARU TACHIBANA, MARK NASH



## MASTER JUDGES WORKSHOP

July 30 - 31, 2018, 09:00 to 18:00  
Kissimmee, Florida

**This Workshop is ideal for:**

- Anyone who would like to become a WBTF Certified Master Judge
- Current Master Judge who would like to attend to update their certification date
- Any professional WBTF member (Coach) who would like to come and sit in and observe how the judges are trained