

Longwood Gardens 2009 Ice Spectacular Skater Bios

Blake Rosenthal

Blake was named 2009 Senior Ladies South Atlantic Regional Champion. Most recently she earned the title of 2010 Eastern Sectional Champion, thus qualifying her for the 2010 Olympic Trials. She is a 5-time U.S. National Championship and international medalist. Blake has also been accepted to Harvard University as a part of the class of 2014.



Nate Bartholomay and Erika Choi Smith

Nate's honors include fifth and sixth place finishes at the 2007 and 2008 U.S. National Championships in Junior Pairs, respectively. As a single skater, Erika was the 2003 North American Challenge Silver medalist and the 2008 Thornhill Bronze medalist. This will be Erika's fourth year skating in the Longwood Gardens Christmas Ice Spectacular. More recently, Erika and Nate were 2009 U.S. National Junior Pairs competitors, as well as 2010 Eastern Sectional Champions.

Dirke Baker

Born in Whangerei New Zealand, Dirke began her skating career at the age of 5. Upon moving to the States, she earned a Pewter medal at the U.S. National Championships as a Junior lady. In 2000 she switched representation and competed for her country of birth, New Zealand. This included competitions at Junior Worlds, Trophee Lalique Grand Prix, Four Continents, Worlds and New Zealand Nationals, at which she earned the title of New Zealand National Champion.





Emma Phibbs

A five-time U.S. National Championship competitor in pairs, Emma holds a title as the 2004 Pairs Eastern Sectional Silver medalist and has had numerous experiences competing internationally. This will be Emma's fourth year skating in the Longwood Gardens Christmas Ice Spectacular.

Emmanuel Savary

Inspired by the 1998 Nagano Olympics, Emmanuel was first introduced to the sport of skating at the age of 3 by his older brothers who were skaters. Emmanuel jumped into the ranks of elite figure skaters, as he is the 2009 Intermediate Men U.S. Junior National Champion, 2009 South Atlantic Champion, and 2014 Olympic hopeful.



Geoffrey Varner

At the junior level, Geoffrey earned titles as the Bronze medalist at the 2005 Grand Prix Final in Ostrava, Czech Republic and the 2006 U.S. National bronze medal. From there he was a competitor in the 2006 Junior World Championships in Ljubljana, Slovenia.

Kevin Sun

Kevin began skating at the age of 6 in a neighbor's backyard while living in upstate New York. He is a four-time South Atlantic Regional medalist and three-time Eastern Sectional Competitor. He joins the Longwood Skating Spectacular for his 3rd year this year.





Kristin Zinsmeister

Born and raised in Harrisburg PA, Kristin began skating at the age of 6. She is a five-time South Atlantic Regional medalist and the 2002 U.S. Junior Nationals Juvenile Pair Silver medalist. She is a competitor on the University of Delaware collegiate skating team. Her academic successes include receiving the Fred Rust Scholarship award for excellence in academics and athletics.

Lauren Farr and Kevin Curtis

A junior level pair team, Lauren and Kevin are in their first season as a pair. Each of these skaters has competed at the national level.



Felicia Zhang and Taylor Toth

Felicia is the 2008 U.S. National Novice Bronze Medalist and Taylor is a 3-time U.S National Championship competitor. In their first year together they are competing internationally as a junior pair team, and will compete at the U.S. National Championships in January.

Megan Williams

A six-time U.S. National Championship competitor, Megan has also won Gold at the 2006 Ondrej Nepela Memorial held in Bratislava, Slovakia and a Silver medal at the 2007 Nebelhorn Trophy in Oberstdorf, Germany. Megan has also earned a 2009 Puerto Rico silver medal.





Michael Solonoski

Michael is a U.S. Collegiate National Silver medalist and international competitor. In addition to performing at the Longwood Skating Spectacular for the 3rd year, Michael is also a 2010 Bachelor of Architecture candidate at Drexel University.

Shaun Rogers

Born and raised in Baltimore, Maryland, Shaun has earned titles such as the 2000 U.S. National Novice Men's Champion and the 2002 U.S. National Junior Silver medalist. Having competed nationally and internationally, Shaun was the 2008 Finlandia Cup international silver medalist and 2009 and 2010 Eastern Sectional Champion. Demonstrating incredible athleticism and talent, Shaun is one of the few male skaters at the U.S. National level that performs quadruple jumps.



Tiffany Scott and Philip Dulebohn

Having skated together for 13 years, Tiffany and Philip have achieved the highest level of competition—U.S. Olympic Team members. In addition, they are the 2003 U.S. Champions, four-time World Team members, and competed internationally for 7 years.

Jazmyn Manzouri

Jazmyn was the 2009 New England Regional Senior Ladies Champion, and a two-time Eastern Sectional competitor. She is also a recipient of the 2008 Fred Rust Scholarship Award and in 2008 was granted the Women of Promise Award.





JoAnn Tinker

Recently, JoAnn achieved the title of 2009 South Atlantic Juvenile Champion, and was also a 2009 U.S. Jr. National competitor.

Andrew Nagode

Andrew was the 2009 South Atlantic Regional Novice Champion, and additionally participated as an Eastern Sectional competitor.

