

# NEWS RELEASE

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### U.S. Figure Skating Announces Recipients of 2017-18 U.S. Figure Skating Community Development Grants

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colorado (July 14, 2017)** – U.S. Figure Skating announced today the recipients of the 2017-18 U.S. Figure Skating Community Development Grants. Six member clubs and programs have been awarded \$2,000 each for the purpose of developing community-based programs and events designed to attract, involve and inspire new generations of figure skaters.

A five-member selection committee reviewed 39 applications and awarded grants to those clubs and programs that were most effectively able to demonstrate how they would use the award to develop their initiatives.

The recipients of the grants are Brooklyn Blades on Ice (Brooklyn, Ohio); Friends of Fort Dupont Ice Arena (Washington D.C.); Glacier Skate Academy (Whitefish, Montana); Jefferson City Parks and Recreation (Jefferson City, Missouri); Mentor Figure Skating Club (Mentor, Ohio); Scott Hamilton Skating Academy (Antioch, Tennessee).

The grants will be used in the following ways:

- **Brooklyn Blades on Ice** will purchase new and replace 15-year-old rental skates for the John M. Coyne Recreation Center, allowing nearly 100 Learn to Skate USA participants to have a positive and safe skating experience with up-to-date equipment.
- **Friends of Fort Dupont Ice Arena** will expand Learn to Skate USA, Schools and Camps Skate for Fitness, and KOI P.L.U.S. (Positive Living Using Skating) within their Kids On Ice program, which provides free and/or subsidized skating lessons to local children from disadvantaged neighborhoods six days a week.
- **Glacier Skate Academy** will expand their winter seminar to include both boys and girls age five and older at the Basic 1 level or above. The two-day seminar provides on- and off-ice training with the goal of inspiring skaters to continue skating beyond Learn to Skate USA.
- **Jefferson City Parks and Recreation** will offer fully funded group lessons for The Boys and Girls Club of Jefferson City. The six-week skating session will include transportation, a 30-minute lesson, 30 minutes of practice time and skate rental.
- The **Mentor Figure Skating Club** will host a Synchro Skills event within the North Eastern Ohio Elementary School Ice Skating Championships. The event will promote the establishment of Learn to Skate USA synchronized skating teams in each school currently participating in the Mentor After-School Bus Program.
- The **Scott Hamilton Skating Academy** will expand available programming by developing a curriculum specially tailored to individuals with mental health disabilities and challenges such as autism and social anxiety disorder.

The Community Development Grants, started by the Robert V. Hauff and John F. Dreeland Foundation, were established in 2010 with the purpose of providing funding to eligible member clubs and Learn to Skate USA programs throughout the United States. Formerly known as the Hauff and Dreeland Community Development Grant, the U.S. Figure Skating Community Development Grants were awarded to the applicants who successfully demonstrated program plans that embody the principles of U.S. Figure Skating's mission and that will be strong role models in promoting the sport of figure skating throughout their communities. For more information on the grants or any of the recipient programs, please click [here](#) or contact U.S. Figure Skating.

– U.S. Figure Skating –

*U.S. Figure Skating is the national governing body for the sport of figure skating in the United States as recognized by the United States Olympic Committee and the International Skating Union. U.S. Figure Skating is comprised of more than 700 member clubs, collegiate clubs, school-affiliated clubs and more than 1,000 registered Learn to Skate USA programs representing more than 181,700 members. U.S. Figure Skating is charged with the development of the sport on all levels within the United States including athletes, officials, sanctioning of events and exhibitions, and establishing the rules and guidelines by which the sport is governed.*