

# ICE CHIPS

Fort Collins Figure Skating Club

## Mark Your Calendar

*\*\* All events at EPIC unless otherwise noted.*

### Fort Collins Classic

**\*\*LATE REGISTRATION CLOSES: Tuesday, March 14th, 10pm!**

March 30 - April 2

### Scheduled Test Sessions

- March 30

### Ice Extravaganza Ice Show

Two shows both on May 13, 1pm and 6pm

**TICKETS GO ON SALE APRIL 3rd.**

## Letter from FCFSC President

Dear Club Members,

Apparently Spring is right around the corner. It doesn't feel like it, but maybe we'll get there one day? Green grass, blooming flowers, warm breezes and oh yes, VOLUNTEERING! That's right, it's volunteering time. The time we need you the most to keep our club going. We have Fort Collins Classic coming up in a few short weeks and right after that, we start ice show rehearsals. This year we need you all more than ever!

The City is no longer funding any part of the ice show, we are doing it all on our own. That means the show is 100% managed and run by volunteers like you! That is in addition to running our 32<sup>nd</sup> annual Fort Collins Classic Competition. We have some big holes to fill this year in our volunteer leadership staff and we really hope you will consider joining us this year at Classic and the Ice Show. There will be open positions listed in this newsletter so please grab one and join us. It is a lot of work, but a lot of fun as well.

If you don't want a leadership position, please consider signing up to volunteer your time at one or both of



Skaters on ice with Chantelle Kerry during the seminar!

## Club Education

Board volunteers have been running a table in the lobby during Learn to Skate for the past couple of months and many of our skaters volunteered to perform for Learn to Skate skaters to spread excitement about the world of figure skating and to share information with new families about what our club is all about! Thank you to all volunteers and skaters who helped make that happen.

Have ideas for club education? Email Coach Ali at [sturtevant.ali@gmail.com](mailto:sturtevant.ali@gmail.com)



these fun events. We will be posting a [signup.com](http://signup.com) list of open positions in a few days, after registration closes and the referee builds the schedule. So, watch your email and club social media for more information on that in the coming days.

We will also be posting the Ice Show cast list and schedule soon. Please make sure you are receiving club emails. We have a lot going on and we want to be sure you are all in the know!

Happy Spring, and I'll see you around the rink!

Amy



## Zach Donohue/ Chantelle Kerry Seminar



Olympian Zach Donohue and Australian National Champion Chantelle Kerry shared their expertise with FCFSC skaters and parents in a seminar the club hosted in January.





# Testing

Welcome to all our newest Fort Collins Figure Skating Club Members! If you are new here, TESTING, is a term that we use all the time that comprises the official US Figure Skating process for moving up in a skater’s skill level. Our club hosts about 9 official “Test Sessions” a year and you may see emails from the club about registering for these. These test sessions are specifically for higher level (not learn to skate) skaters who are working with a private coach and are ready to take a skating skills or free skate test in front of official judges. If your skater is ready to begin private lessons with a skating coach, please feel free to reach out to our club at [fcfigureskating@gmail.com](mailto:fcfigureskating@gmail.com) and we can help guide you in the process. For more information about the US Figure Skating Testing structure see this [link](https://www.usfigureskating.org/skate/test-structure) for all the details.



Congratulations to Reede Lunt for passing the Senior Free Skate test in December!

<https://www.usfigureskating.org/skate/test-structure>

Congratulations to the following skaters for passing their recent tests at our test sessions in December and February. Please retrieve your certificates from US Figure Skating in your family folders in the file boxes in the Green Rink by the coach’s room.

## December 2, 2022

Bailey Hood	Pre-Preliminary Moves
Hannah Irish	Pre-Preliminary Free Skate
Lauren Paul	Preliminary Moves, Fiesta Tango, Cha Cha, Adult 2I+
Alexis Foster	Pre-Juvenile Moves and Free Skate, Dutch Waltz, Canasta Tango
Yaretzi González	Pre-Juvenile Moves
Lauren Knuckey	Pre-Juvenile Moves
Kaiya Goodwin	Juvenile Moves



Mackenzie Irish	Juvenile Moves
Fiona Carpenter	Intermediate Moves
Katherine Pietras	Intermediate Moves
Megan Doherty	Intermediate Moves
Mayley Miller	Intermediate Moves
Anya Schuster	Intermediate Free Skate
Valeria Elkin	Novice Moves
Winton and Mayley Miller	Juvenile Pairs
Scott Schneider	Juvenile Pairs
Regina Bower	Adult Bronze Free Skate
Lola Lebsack	Swing Dance, Adult 21+
Robyn Seldin	Canasta Tango, Rhythm Blues, Dutch Waltz, Adult 50+
Stephanie Hopkins	Cha Cha
Emma Farrar	Canasta Tango, Dutch Waltz
Addison Lambrecht	Cha Cha, Fiesta Tango, Swing Dance
Patricia Reed Kuyper	Hickory Hoedown, Ten Fox, Adult 50+

December 9, 2022 (at Denver Figure Skating Club)

**Reede Lunt**

**Senior Free Skate**

February 17, 2023

Abby Meazoa	Pre-Preliminary Moves & Free Skate
Olivia Soto	Pre-Preliminary Moves & Free Skate
Dolly Jessness	Pre-Preliminary Moves & Free Skate
Maline Jessness	Pre-Preliminary Moves & Free Skate
Claire Schump	Pre-Preliminary Moves
Braelyn Banning	Preliminary Moves
Aubrey Tyrrell	Preliminary Free Skate
Sarah Stump	Preliminary Free Skate

Mackenzie Irish	Preliminary Free Skate
Scarlett Austin	Pre-Juvenile Moves
Nour Hamden	Pre-Juvenile Free Skate, Intermediate Moves
Katherine Hicks	Pre-Juvenile Free Skate
Kaiya Goodwin	Pre-Juvenile Free Skate, Intermediate Moves
Lindsey Seldin	Intermediate Moves
Valeria Elkin	Intermediate Free Skate, Ten Fox
Olivia Melchert	Novice Moves
Kara Richardson	Novice Moves
Grace Carpenter	Junior Moves
Addison Lambrect	Hickory Hoedown
Reede Lunt	Ten Fox, Hickory Hoedown, Willow Waltz
Maddigan Ward	Willow Waltz
Addison Mitchell	Rhythm Blues, Canasta Tango, Dutch Waltz, Cha Cha (Honors), Swing Dance, Fiesta Tango
Megan Doherty	Canasta Tango, Rhythm Blues (Honors), Dutch Waltz
Quincette Bogosian	Dutch Waltz
Melina Miller	Canasta Tango, Dutch Waltz, Rhythm Blues

Our next test session will be on Thursday March 30<sup>th</sup>, ahead of the Fort Collins Classic Competition. To register your skater for a test, follow the links here for the test session. <https://www.fortcollinsfsc.org/testing/>

Please reach out to Gayleen Carpenter (Gayleen.carpenter@gmail.com) or Betsi Mead (betsimead@gmail.com) for any testing related questions.

\*\*U.S. Figure Skating recognizes skaters who pass their Novice tests and above by sending a congratulatory letter to the student's school. To request a recognition letter, parents should contact U.S. Figure Skating by logging in to the members only site with your user name and password at [usfsaonline.org](http://usfsaonline.org) then click on "testing", then "overview". Scroll down to the highlighted link for "School Recognition Request Form". All requests are only considered by USFSA within 2 months of completion of the test. This is not done by the FCFSC Test Chair or President, but by the skater or parent.

## Ice Show Fundraising

We are looking for additional ice show sponsors. Sponsorship levels start at \$250. For details please contact the Ice Show Fundraising Committee at [fun4fcfsc@gmail.com](mailto:fun4fcfsc@gmail.com).

Thank you to the businesses and individuals that have become 2023 Ice Show Sponsors. We greatly appreciate your support!



## 2023 Ice Extravaganza Sponsors

### **TOE LOOP \$250 - \$499 LEVEL**

**ProCheck Inspection Services**

**Foothills Family Dental**

**Rachel Soto Vesta, The Group Real Estate**

### **DOUBLE TOE LOOP \$500 - \$999 LEVEL**

**Your name could be here!**

### **AXEL \$1000 LEVEL**

**Mary Beth Fisher, CMTA Real Estate**

"Please contact Maria Miller at [fun4fcfsc@gmail.com](mailto:fun4fcfsc@gmail.com) with any questions regarding ice show fundraising."



## Club Membership

**Current Membership Count: 279**

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Welcome all new club members! All club members have a family folder in the filing cabinets by the coaches room in the green rink at EPIC. If you have any questions about membership, need your membership number, or are not receiving club emails, please contact Maria. We are a great community with so many opportunities for you and/or your skater to participate. Please take a look at our website [fortcollinsfsc.org](http://fortcollinsfsc.org) to familiarize yourself with these opportunities, including competitions, pairs skating, synchronized skating, adult, showcase, testing, junior board, social events, seminars and much more.

We are run 100% by volunteers and need your help! We cannot run competitions and events without you! Two of our biggest volunteer opportunities Fort Collins Classic March 30th - April 2nd and Ice Extravaganza Ice Show May 13th are quickly approaching.

Be sure to check your club emails and the bulletin board in the green rink lobby for more information about volunteer opportunities and club events!

Maria Miller  
FCFSC Membership Chair  
[fcfsc.membership@gmail.com](mailto:fcfsc.membership@gmail.com)

## Coaches' Corner

February was TrueSport's Sportsmanship Month! For a great reminder about the many lessons you can learn as a human involved in figure skating check out the article [How to Treat your Sport Circle and Show Sportsmanship.](#)

Remember that the Fort Collins Classic deadline is coming up. **Registration closes March 10th, 11:59PM Eastern Time** so be sure to [register on EMS](#) soon!

Have ideas for the Coaches Corner? Email Coach Ali at [sturtevant.ali@gmail.com](mailto:sturtevant.ali@gmail.com)

# EPIC Productions

## EPIC Productions Gets Underway for the 2023 Season

The FCFSC national showcase group EPIC Productions is underway preparing for an exciting 2023 performance season. The 19-skater group started rehearsals in February with an innovative team-building exercise designed by parent volunteer Maria Miller. The exercise, a scavenger hunt around Old Town, helped reveal the big news that the skaters had been eagerly waiting for: EPIC Productions will perform an excerpt from the Broadway musical *Suessical*, complete with the *Cat in the Hat*, *Gertrude McFuzz*, the *Grinch*, and even a *Sour Kangaroo*! EPIC Productions will travel with coaches Marianne Strobel and Denaysa Sisemore to Boston, Massachusetts this August to compete.

At the end of February, the coaches also announced themes and casting for the three mini-ensembles – smaller groups of 5 to 8 skaters that perform a 2:30 to 3:30 minute number. This season's mini-ensembles include seven of the Greek muses from the animated film *Hercules*, schoolchildren from *Matilda* the Broadway show singing



about being “Revolting Children,” and a gang of pirates from Peter Pan. We can’t wait to see them put on their eye-patches and swashbuckle across the ice!

The 19-skater group rehearses weekly to develop theatrical and skating skills throughout the season, like learning how to skate in blocks, coordinate an axel, and slide on their knees across the ice. Elaborate costumes and set pieces created by parent and skater volunteers give the ensembles the flare they need to embody each different character. Skaters help out as Team Captains and Coordinators for costumes, make-up, promotions, and events.

Want to help? Support our skaters by participating in the EPIC Productions fundraising events! In the coming months, the group will put on fun activities to raise money for travel, costumes, and props, including a skate-a-thon, a garage sale, and more, coordinated by parent volunteer Alison Coatman. We hope you can help out!

Catch a sneak preview of an EPIC Productions number when the team performs the 2023 large ensemble program Seussical in the FCFSC spring ice show on May 13th here in Fort Collins!

## Junior Board

This year’s Junior Board members have made the decision to prioritize getting Learn to Skate members more involved in the club. To do this we have started getting our members as well as others in the club to perform short exhibitions at Learn to Skate classes. We are also doing a stuffed animal toss at Fort Collins Classic to show our support for our younger skaters when they compete. Junior Board is collecting stuffed animals on March 19th, 25th, and the 30th. We will have a member there on these dates to collect the stuffed animals. We ask that if you have old stuffed animals in good condition that you do not want anymore to please consider donating them. Our goal as a Junior Board is to be people who skaters can come to with question or concerns and who skaters feel like they can trust to have their best interests at heart.



## Volunteer Needs Spotlight

Looking for a way to get involved with FCFSC?

We are looking for a couple of Committee Chairs for events we host. You might be a great fit!

### Competition Chair Openings (Fort Collins Classic/ Fright Fest):

**Hospitality Committee Chair:** Organizes hospitality for a variety of club events, including competitions, club education, testing, and annual Ice Show. Committee responsibilities include coordinating catering orders, soliciting donations, hospitality set up and clean up, serving food, and occasionally shopping and/or cooking. This is such a fun committee and a great way to get to know other club members - training and support will be provided!

**Practice Ice:** Oversees practice ice time sales and directs PI volunteers to check skaters in and make sure the correct number of competitors are on the ice.

**Setup/Teardown:** Assist with facility preparation and clean up during show week. This committee will set up and take down staging, props, curtains, quick change rooms, vendor/volunteer stations, and other facility needs prior to show. Availability to help after the final show is important. Committee help is primarily during Show Week.

### Ice Show Chair Openings:

#### **Advertising Chair **\*\*URGENT NEED\*\***:**

- Promotes the Ice Show with advertising on local event websites, social media, flyers, and other creative advertising venues with end goal of raising \$10,000.
- Contacts local businesses for promotion opportunities, creative brainstorming for social media exposure, hanging flyers, reaching out to new audiences for our ice show (i.e. retirement communities), and more.
- The committee will coordinate with the Fundraising committee as some ventures may overlap.
- Hours vary; commitment period is expected to be March – April.

## Member News and Highlights



### **In Memoriam**

Sadly, on February 21, 2023, FCFSC lost one of our long-time members and the father of Coach Susan Geiser. Kenneth Miller of Fort Collins passed away at the age of 94.

Ken began skating at a young age using tie on blades over his shoes. He learned how to ice skate in high school, skating on local ponds. After retirement, Ken, age 57, began taking private lessons. Age 60 he started competitive figure skating, which became his serious athletic past-time for twenty-one years. He skated in one-hundred sixteen events. 92 gold medals help comprise Ken's awards collection he'd earned in this sport. At 80, he skated in an International World Event (his last) and won 2 more medals.

Ken skated to the song Kenny Rogers "Though the Years" for his wife for their 50<sup>th</sup>, 60<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversaries. He was named Fort Collins Recreator of the Year in 2018; you might notice his photo for this in against the boards in the blue rink.

Knee replacement slowed him down, but he laced up weekly and skated at EPIC in Fort Collins until recently.

He was more than an amazing person; he was an inspiration to many people. Ken was always a high achiever at everything he did. His energy, dedication and passion throughout his life have touched many lives.

A celebration of life will be held on Saturday, March 25th 2023 at 10:00 AM at the First United Methodist Church (1005 Stover St, Fort Collins, CO 80524).

Please click this link for more details and memorial requests:

**Obituary - Kenneth James Miller**

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**Preliminary Freeskate Test Passed**



**Club Members Participate in the Donohue/  
Kerry Seminar**

Back row: Dolly Jesness, Guest Coach Chantelle Kerry, Olivia Soto, Claire Schump, Effie Whitlock  
Front row: Hadley Cristiani, Sophie Rummel, Addison Mize, Maline Jesness



*Sarah Stump and Mackenzie Irish minutes after passing their preliminary freeskate tests!*



## FCFSC Competitors Compete at High Altitude Competition

*Laramie, WY*



Jordan Rummel, Sophie Rummel, Quetzalli Gonzalez



Maebelle Jesness, Hannah Irish, Mackenzie Irish



Olivia Stephens, Coach Ali + Vanna Rhey at the 1st High Altitude Competition

## Skater of the Quarter: Jess Hansen



- Age: 44
- Skating Level: Double gold medalist freestyle and moves, passed all silver dances
- Coach(es): Katie & Denaysa
- How many days a week do you skate: 4-5 days a week
- What are your most celebrated skating accomplishments: Passing my Senior MIF and Free skate a year after having a 12 hour back surgery.
- What do you love the most about skating: I love my friends at the rink and how skating makes me live in the moment.
- Tell us something that we don't know about you: I was an Oncology Massage Therapist.
- What is a pastime you enjoy outside of skating: I love the ocean and any body of water. I love to go snorkeling, fishing and paddle boarding.
- What is your favorite move or spin: I love doing spread eagles and back spins.
- What skills are you working on now: I am working on my Silver Solo Free dance for Adult Nationals.
- What is one of the favorite parts you've had in a show or what is a favorite competition you've skated in? I loved being Annie in an ice show when I was younger, and I skated to the song "Tomorrow."