



The Junior Board presents the



Jersey Coast FSC Newspaper

Holiday Show

By: Lana VanNote

December 16, 2018 marked the date of the 8th annual holiday show for the Jersey Shore Figure Skating Club. Entitled "A Very Merry Disney Holiday", skaters performed to musical selections from Disney soundtracks, from Frozen to Cinderella, each with a holiday theme. The audience was treated to wonderful performances by our club's talented freestyle skaters, Ice-Lantics teams, ice dancers, and Learn to Skate members.

Skaters performed solos and group numbers to their festive selections. At the end, the entire cast of performers joined together on the ice for the grand finale, a group photo, and a special visit from Santa! Lots of hard work, practice, and planning was put into this event to make it successful and enjoyable for everyone.

Lynn Massone, the show's director, and the club president, Gail Damiano, aided greatly in a tremendous effort with their time, creativity and dedication, making the holiday show a pleasant time for all.

Our club's coaches and junior coaches also played a huge role in helping select music, create choreography, coordinate costumes, and make sure each skater was prepared for this day. Numerous volunteer club members pitched in, offering their time to help make the show a success.

The Jersey Coast Figure Skating Club's Junior Board was responsible for the selling of candy grams during the show, which was delivered to skaters after their performances. Proceeds earned from this fundraiser benefited the Valvaro Family. We weren't in Disney, but it sure seemed like it with warm smiles all around at the Very Merry Disney Holiday show!



Reminder!



The annual Jersey Coast FSC Banquet will be on March 24th, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00p.m. Come hang out with skaters out of the rink with games, food, and more!

The Valvano Family

By: Nicholas Bausenwein

This year during the Holiday Show the Junior Board ran the candy gram fundraiser for the Valvano family and were able to raise \$550 for them. The junior board was able to use the funds raised from the Frankenskate Bake Sale to purchase supplies which enabled them to donate every penny earned directly to the family. While the Junior Board sent out an email explaining their situation, here is a more in-depth view of the family:

The Valvano family was composed of a mother, father, as well as the two twins. Patrick and Julianne attended Monmouth Regional High School in Tinton Falls. The twins were in their junior year of high school- a time where they should be worrying about SATs and college- when they received the devastating news of their father's stroke. Because a stroke is when an area of the brain loses blood flow, it can cause vital brain cells to die which has long lasting effects. Unfortunately this stroke was the beginning of a long downward spiral of the father's health. Shortly after the stroke, he was diagnosed with dementia and the mother decided it would be best to place their father in a nursing home which put an extreme financial burden on the family. They lost more than half of their family's income while simultaneously incurring thousands of dollars of debt to give their father the best medical care that he could possibly have.

The Valvano's mother is a teacher who has been serving her community for the past thirty years and the twins are both freshmen in college. The twins graduated from Monmouth Regional High School last year and were both members of the band and National Honor Society. Julianne was attending Penn State and Patrick was at the University of Delaware, but both had to transfer to Brookdale Community College to save costs due to financial reasons. Their whole family has been making sacrifices for so long, so on behalf of the Junior Board, I would like to say thank you to everyone who donated for your generosity. The twins started a fundraiser to surprise their mother, so if anyone would be able to spread the word or donate if they did not get the chance it would be a great way to help out. <https://www.gofundme.com/help-valvano-medical-expenses>



Frankenskate

By: Tess McGuiness

The Jersey Coast Figure Skating Club hosted the annual Frankenskate Competition, this year held on October 27. We had a huge competition this year, one of the biggest we have ever had! Packed with lots of skaters, the competition held freestyle, basic skills, dance, and excel events, many of which our own club members participated in. Congratulations to all JCFSC competitors!

Many of our Junior Board members volunteered to help with the competition by being ice monitors, runners, photographers, timers for warm ups, and helping with medal ceremonies. One of our members was even a judge for the competition. The Junior Board also had a very big and successful bake sale! Many members contributed by making muffins, cookies, brownies, etc. Overall, it was a spook-tacular time and a great competition.

Solo Dance Series

By: Ainsley Vetter

The U.S. Figure Skating National Solo Dance Series was first launched in January of 2011. The series allows ice dancers without partners to compete for the chance to skate at the National Solo Dance Series Final which is being held in Provo, Utah this year. Skaters have the chance to qualify for Nationals in three different events: solo pattern dance, solo combined dance, and shadow dance.

Solo pattern dance is an event where skaters compete the pattern dances for levels preliminary through international. For each competition, two dances will be selected ahead of time for each level of dance. Skaters compete in both dances and the points scored in each dance are totaled to determine the placements.

Solo combined dance features levels juvenile through senior. In this event, for levels juvenile through novice, skaters begin the event with a pattern dance selected the day of the event. After this part of the event skaters perform a free dance and the points are totaled. In the junior and senior level, skaters perform a short dance with a specific pattern dance determined before the season begins as a required element. At the junior and senior level, skaters also perform a freedance.

Shadow dance is an event where two skaters do a specific pattern dance next to each other. The goal of this event is to stay in sync and to stay as close together as possible without actually touching. Skaters should look like shadows of one another. The levels offered for shadow dance range from juvenile to senior/international.

Interviews with...

Evelyn Blacucci!

By: Katherine McCarthy

It takes time to develop a talent for something. Evelyn Blacucci is eight years old and started figure skating when she was four and hasn't stopped since. She started skating because both her brother and her father skated and she wanted to learn as well. For the past couple of years, this young skater has worked towards improving her moves and competing in advanced competitions. She skates individually twice a week and practices with the club's synchronized ice skating team, the Icelantics, on weekends.

When she's not on the ice, Evelyn spends her time playing the piano, dancing, and practicing karate. As noted in Evelyn's bio in the Disney Holiday Program, she has her Senior Blue belt in karate and loves baking as well as surfing along the Jersey Shore! But ice skating is what she really enjoys. She loves competing and hopes to make it big. Keep an eye out for Evelyn at the Olympics or Worlds someday!



Maggie!

By: Ava Pettigrew, Lindsey Byer, and Grace Wartmann

1.) How much time and effort does it take to plan figure skating events?

The one skating event that Maggie is in charge of planning is the many test sessions hosted at Jersey Shore Arena, every other event is organized along with other of her coworkers. Maggie and her coworkers always work hard to make sure the events go smoothly.

2.) How long have you been working at Jersey Shore Arena?

Maggie has been working at the Jersey Shore Arena for thirteen years now.

3.) What inspired you to be a worker at the Jersey Shore Arena?

When Maggie was a child, she used to skate all the time.

4.) Do you have children who have an interest in figure skating or hockey?

Maggie was quick to answer this question with a definite "not at all."

5.) What is your favorite part of your job?

This was a tough decision for Maggie to make, but in the end, she said her favorite part was meeting new people every day.

Congratulations to the Graduating Seniors...



Nicholas Bausenwein!

I started skating when I was about seven or eight years old after being inspired by the Disney Channel Original Movie, Ice Princess. I began taking group classes and eventually switched into private lessons and started to compete. I took from Arlette Evans from my first competition to my Senior Moves. Then as I began to eye Regionals I began to take from Lynn Massone from seventh grade to now, and for the past three years I have taken from Stephanie Roth who also choreographed my programs.

After a heartbreaking first regionals where I missed the podium by 0.06 points, I was able to rally the year after and win my first regional medal. I placed at Regionals five times, winning two pewter, one bronze, and two silver medals which also meant I advanced to the Sectional Championships. In addition to placing at Regionals I also won the Special Achievement Award for Best Spins for the past four years, and other ones including: highest performance and execution marks, +2 GOE, and for earning a bonus point on a jump.

Being able to compete at Regionals and Sectionals allowed me to set and accomplish so many goals and shaped me into the person I am today. I am so thankful for all the experiences figure skating has given me and for all the people, especially my parents and my coaches, who have helped me make my dreams come true.

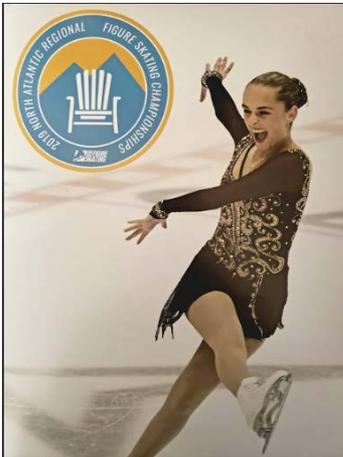


Leanne Byer!

It all started with a Barbie movie. At the age of 4, I had told my parents that I wanted to go ice skating. They took me public skating every chance they got. From there, I started basic skills classes, quickly zipping through all the levels. It was then when my first coach, Steven Rice, approached my parents and said they should think about private lessons.

After a few short months, I started private lessons. And from there, my journey was just beginning. Figure skating has done a numerous amount of things for me, including teaching me life lessons, making friends and never give up. This also isn't the easiest sport; for there were times that I considered quitting. I soon realized that figure skating is an important part of who I am.

If I hadn't realized that, I wouldn't of accomplished all I had done. I have competed at 7 Regional Championships, making it to finals in 2014. My biggest accomplishment of figure skating is making it to the 2017 Solo Dance Finals and placing 5th in the nation. I started to dance in February 2017 and my goal was to make it to the finals. I was one of three ice dancers to place first at three qualifying competitions on the East Coast. I was extremely proud of myself. Without figure skating, I don't know where I would have been today!



And from Ice-lantics...

Elena Cuesta!



Sophia Sager!

**Congratulations to all
our seniors and we
wish you the best!**

Regional Championships

By: Leanne Byer

Every year, figure skaters from across the country are preparing for their Regional Championships. These skaters, ranging from levels Juvenile to Senior, train all throughout the summer mainly for this competition. This requires drive, determination, and hard work. This year, the Jersey Coast Figure Skating Club was fortunate to have had eight skaters compete at the 2019 North Atlantic Regional Championships.

These skaters are Leanne Byer, Lindsey Byer, Lana VanNote, Ainsley Vetter, Cameron D'Mello, Tess McGuinness, Kaitlynn N and

and Nicholas B. These skaters competed in Lake Placid, New York. Leanne and Nicholas competed in their final regionals, Lindsey (intermediate level) and Tess (novice level) both made it to final rounds and Nicholas qualified for the 2019 Eastern Sectional Championships. In order to qualify for sectionals, you must be in the top four at regionals. Nicholas placed fourth, which meant he had qualified for sectionals. He placed tenth out of twelve at sectionals, ranking him as the tenth on the East Coast.

Newspaper Editor- Cameron D'Mello