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**USTA Heart Initiative** 

**2022 National Championships** 



United States Twirling Association Phone: 321-206-3242 Fax: 509-275-3242 Website: www.ustwirling.com

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Check out news, photos and videos on USTA's Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube platforms.

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Fall and 2022 Season!

Fall can be seen as the end of things, but it can also represent the beginning. Take the time and use this season to help you find your beginning and the balance you need. All of us have been through so much since March of 2020 but as our National Championship Week demonstrated... we are up to the challenge.



On the horizon, in October, we will kick off the season with iTwirl21. (See story and registration link on the next page.) If you didn't attend any of the previous three iTwirl events you missed a great opportunity. Hopefully, we will see you in Nashville!

As you begin to hit your stride for the 2022 season, please continue to take advantage of all the wonderful tools we offer our athletes and professionals. We are in this together. The U.S. Twirling Association's National Board of Directors, Director of Operations and our department leaders are here to help anytime you need us.

Stay safe and well. Have a great season.

Warm Regards,

Karen Cammer

President

### **CELEBRATING SCHOOL TWIRLERS!**

High school and middle school twirlers and twirling lines can submit their photo and info HERE to be featured in USTA's Friday Night Lights! College twirlers and twirling lines can submit their photo and info HERE to be featured in USTA's Saturday Game Day! Both are on USTA's Facebook and Instagram stories! And check out U.S. Twirling on the 50-Yard Line too!



# Take your twirling to the next level!

# iTwirl21

Take your twirling to the next level with iTwirl21!
Register by September 30 to get the lowest prices!

iTwirl21, an educational expo for athletes, coaches and parents, will be held October 9-10 at White House High School, located 25 minutes north of Nashville, Tenn. Athletes of all levels will be inspired to take their twirling to the next level with classes in rolls, aerials, contact material, bodywork, multiple baton skills and more. Coaches will learn valuable teaching techniques, how to choreograph different kinds of routines and how to help their athletes grow and succeed. Special classes for parents will cover everything from supporting the competitive twirler to preparing for college twirling auditions.

Participants can register for Saturday, Sunday or both days.

Athlete registration (full weekend) \$100.00
Athlete registration (Saturday only)\$75.00
Athlete registration (Sunday only)\$60.00
Coach (full weekend) \$135.00
Coach (Saturday only)
Coach (Sunday only)\$75.00
Parent (full weekend)
Parent (Saturday only)
Parent (Sunday only)

(Register now! Prices increase after Sept. 30.)
REGISTER FOR iTWIRL21 HERE.

# iTwirl21 features some of the best clinicians from across the country, including:

### Paige Campbell California



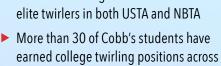


- ► Director of Valley Baton Club- San Jose, CA
- State, regional and national champion in individual and team events
- ► 18 years as a middle school classroom teacher and now owns a tutoring business
- USTA Coaches Department member and U.S. World Team Coordinator

### Lori Cobb Virginia



the country



- Past member of USTA Coaches
   Department, participated in scoresheet revision in NBTA and is a former Vice-President for AAU Baton Twirling
- Cobb's greatest "accomplishment" in the sport of baton twirling is her daughter,

Danielle Cobb, who was a four-time Miss Majorette of America, multiple year Junior and Senior USTA Grand Champion in Solo, 2- and 3-Baton, Strut and Artistic Twirl; International Cup Gold medalist in Solo, 2- and 3-Baton (multiple times) and WBTF Bronze Medalist in Jr. Freestyle and team, three-time WNBTA X-Strut Champion, WNBTA Solo and Freestyle Champion

### **Ginnette Groome**

- USTA Certified Coach and Master Judge
- Coach of many state, regional and national champions and U.S.
   World Team members and IC athletes



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# iTwirl21

### Continued from page 3

- Specialist in coaching multiple baton events in the U.S. and Canada
- ► Recently helped train potential IBTF Judges in the multiple baton disciplines
- ► Has completed a progressional series of 3-Baton videos, now available through Twirl
- Nations on Demand
- ► Helped write the 2/3 baton sections of the **WBTF Coaches Manual**
- ▶ Past Grand National Champion in 2- and 3-Baton. USTA's first Grand National 3-Baton Champion. Was honored to have the National 3-Baton Cup named after her.
- Has served on the U.S. Technical Committee and Essentials Commission, helping to create and establish the current USTA Compulsory and Movement Technique levels

### Michael Lopez, Texas

- ► Many-time Grand National Men's Champion in both **USTA** and NBTA
- ► Gold, Silver and Bronze medalist at World and International Championships in Solo, 2- and 3-Baton and Artistic Twirl
- ► University of Texas-San Antonio feature twirler from 2014-2018
- Certified USTA Coach, certified USTA Level III Judge and certified NBTA Judge
- Currently studying for the WBTF Master Judge certification

# **USTA DEBUTS NEW LOGO, WEBSITE**

If you haven't visited the United States Twirling Association (USTA) website (www.ustwirling.com) lately, you need to!



As the nation's leading sport baton twirling organization - a 501@3 not-forprofit organization dedicated to positive youth development through the sport of baton twirling - USTA is continually investing in people, programs and resources to help us fulfill that mission and deliver value to our members,

who are recreational and competitive athletes, parents, coaches, judges, contest directors and other twirling supporters.

The launch of a beautiful, userfriendly website is the latest step in that process. It follows the unveiling of a fresh new logo. Both the website and the logo are important steps to keep USTA - and its members - at the forefront of the baton twirling world.

The website and branding projects were led by USTA Board member and former world and national champion athlete Jason Lee.

"Given all of the amazing work being done by USTA, our organization deserves an equally amazing website," Lee said. "I am so thrilled with USTA's new look and online presence, and I hope all our members are too."

He worked with a committee of USTA members, including President Karen Cammer, Director of Operations Sandi Rios, Director of Media and Technology Monica Lee, Director of Communications Anna Osborn Dolan, Director of Professional Development Dale White and Professional members and former athletes Cassandra Broadway, Madison Eis and Richie Terwilliger.

The new website follows the launch of the new USTA Member Portal,

where USTA members and others can get or renew USTA memberships, access educational resources, sign up for national competitions or clinics and take advantage of other benefits of membership like requesting a certificate of insurance to rent facilities, etc.

USTA worked with JustGo, a leading business application provider, to develop the new USTA Member Portal, and with Summit Athletics, a creative agency specializing in sports marketing and design, to develop the new website and logo.

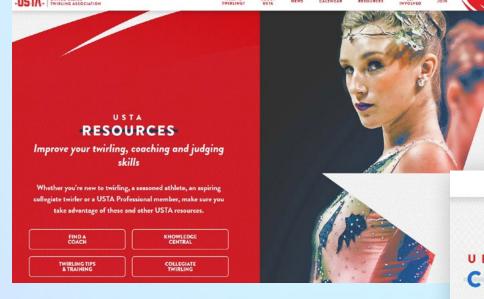
"We are committed to continuing to bring our members the best tools and resources to help them achieve their goals in the sport of baton twirling," Lee said.

WHAT IS









**USTA NATIONAL CHAMPIONS** 

Kylie Cates

### UPCOMING COMPETITIONS

### 2022 U.S. Trials

Date: likely late March/early April 2022 Location: to be announced

2022 U.S. PreTrials, National Baton Twirling Championships and the Future

Date: July 2022

Location: Stockton Arena, 248 W. Fremont St., Stockton, CA 95203

2022 World Baton Twirling Championships

Date: August 4-7, 2022 Location: Turin, Italy

OTHER USTA-SANCTIONED COMPETITIONS

cember 2019, she graduated fro

## RENEW YOUR USTA MEMBERSHIP NOW

USTA members can renew their USTA memberships for the 2021-22 season on the new USTA Member Portal at <a href="https://ustwirling.justgo.com/">https://ustwirling.justgo.com/</a>. (Bookmark this link!) You can also purchase new memberships there.

Remember, your Username is your USTA number, with enough zeroes in front to make it six digits.

Don't miss out on any of the benefits of USTA membership, including insurance coverage, educational resources and events, and the ability to purchase certificates of insurance for coaches renting facilities and groups or councils holding competitions. It's going to be a great season, so renew your membership now!

### PLEASE NOTE: Renewals and new memberships are no longer available on the USTA website.

The USTA Member Portal is also where you can check Compulsory and Movement Technique records and enter national competitions.

These helpful "How-To Guides" will help you with other things you may want to do in the USTA Member Portal:

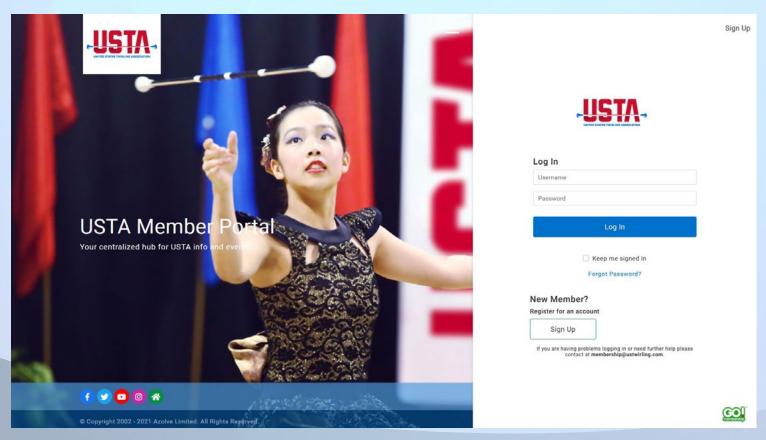
- ▶ USTA Member Portal Overview
- ▶ Registering for an account
- ▶ Updating account info
- ► Creating a family group
- ▶ Purchasing or renewing a membership

- ► Twirling club pages
- ► Searching the file library
- ► Submitting an inquiry

All of the guides are available for download <u>HERE</u>.
You can also watch the USTA Member Portal webinar HERE.

IMPORTANT: If you have been a USTA member in the past, please DO NOT CREATE A NEW ACCOUNT in the USTA Member Portal. Just follow these steps to claim your existing account:

- 1. Go to https://ustwirling.azolve.com/
- 2. In the "username" field, put your six digit USTA member ID. (If your USTA Member ID number does not have six digits, add a zero or zeros at the beginning of your number until it is six digits.)
- 3. Then, click the "Forgot Password" link.
- 4. A password reset email will be sent to the email address you have on file with USTA.
- 5. Follow the instructions on that password reset email to set a password for your member portal account.
- Then you should be able to log in at <a href="https://ustwirling.justgo.com/">https://ustwirling.justgo.com/</a> and start exploring the USTA Member Portal.



# **TOGETHER AGAIN!**



The 2021 U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships were a celebration of twirling and togetherness! Nearly 800 athletes from 26 states, along with their families, coaches, judges, volunteers and other twirling supporters, gathered at the Ocean Center in Daytona Beach, Florida for six days of fun, friendship and fabulous twirling!



The week started with the U.S. PreTrials and the inaugural Athlete of the Year competitions. Thursday and Friday featured individual events for both Nationals and Festival of the

Future and the largest-ever Collegiate Championship. More than 40 of the nation's best collegiate twirlers proudly represented their schools and wowed the crowd with incredibly entertaining



performances. Congratulations to 2021 Collegiate Champion and Arizona State University Feature Twirler Bower



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# **2021 NATIONALS**













Next up was the Nationals Finals show, featuring the top two junior, senior and adult finalists in 2-Baton, Strut, 3-Baton, Artistic Twirl, Men's Solo and Women's Solo. We will never forget the electric moment when Savannah Miller finished a flawless solo performance with a quad illusion, then collapsed with emotion as the judges flashed five perfect 10s and the crowd gave her a standing ovation. You can watch Miller's perfect 10 performance HERE.

Congratulations to Miller, Women's Solo and Artistic Twirl Grand National Champion; Bower Sarra, who added the titles of Men's Solo, 2-Baton and 3-Baton Grand National Champion to his collegiate win, and Kylie Cates, who earned the title of Strut Grand National Champion!

Nationals week wrapped up with National and Festival group competitions. Congratulations to all the groups that competed!

We can't wait to be together again next year! Check out the 2022 Nationals info on pages 11 and 12!



# VOLUNTEERS MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

The 2021 National Championships were a huge success due in large part to the army of volunteers who served as floor monitors, lane starters, tabulation runners, results posters and more! One group of unsung heroes spent nearly four hours building the two sport court floors in the Exhibit Hall. It was like putting together two huge puzzles! We are

so grateful to Kevin Guidroz, Scott Leitzel, Steve Gurney, Bridgette Decent, Jeri Garland, Satyra Deaver, Michael Arciola, Kim Keyes Melling, Janice Higgens, Erica Geiser, Niki Riley, Rose Ferree, Chris Decent, Tracy Leitzel, Apryl Gurney and anyone else we missed!

















# INAUGURAL USTA HEART INITIATIVE A HUGE SUCCESS

In 2021, the U.S. Twirling Association began the USTA Heart Initiative, an annual effort to give back to the cities that host our National Championships. This year, USTA partnered with the Halifax Health Hospital in Daytona Beach, Florida and created two opportunities to give back.



On the first morning of nationals, former Grand National Champions, Savannah Miller, Laney Puhalla and Bower Sarra, headed to the hospital and put on an exciting and impressive performance for patients, nurses and administration. It was a very unexpected and happy surprise for many coming into work. Our athletes were also invited up to the pediatric ward to visit with children, pass out gifts and sign the Wall of Fame...next to the likes of Olympians and Savannah's

actor crush...Grey's Anatomy star Patrick Dempsey. It was an incredibly special moment to see these athletes put smiles on faces all around the hospital.

Throughout the week, our USTA community donated hundreds of toys that were collected to be given out to children at the hospital throughout the next year. Small toys are given to patients whenever they get an injection or are having a tough time. The amount of toys donated by you far surpassed our goal and the collection boxes

were overflowing! We can't thank you enough for participating in this initiative so passionately.

We're excited to continue on this tradition of warming the hearts of communities and giving back. USTA is already planning how we will give back next year in Stockton, California! Stay tuned.

By Jennifer Marcus, USTA Board of Directors



















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