

Catch It!



Congratulations U.S. World Team

INSIDE *(click on title to jump to page)*

Newly Certified Coaches & Judges

US Trials Results

Colorado Scholastic Twirling

New Benefactor Foundation Coordinator

Council President Feature

National Championships, Jacksonville



New Benefactor
Foundation
Coordinator





United States Twirling Association

4023 Bernice Road

Seaford, NY 11783

Phone: 321-206-3242

Fax: 509-275-3242

Website: www.ustwirling.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Honorary Board

John Kirkendall/MI

Fred Miller/OH (deceased)

Bobbie Mae (deceased)

George Walbridge (deceased)

Nick Michalares/IN (deceased)

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President/Karen Cammer/NY

Vice President/John Chamberlain/FL

Secretary/Thomas Breuckman/OR

Jason Lee/Washington DC

Susan Skaggs/ME

Jackie Stewart/TN

USTA DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

Communications/Anna Osborn Dolan

Coaches/Kathy Forsythe

Judges/Kathy Butera-Fanney

Member Services/Keri Cooke

Technical/Sandi Rios

Catch It! eZine Editor / Anna Osborn Dolan

Catch It! Winners' Issue Editor /

Krystal Mignone

Graphic Designer / Steve Cross



Find us on
Facebook



Check out news and photos
on USTA's Facebook page and
Twitter and Instagram feeds!

Newly Certified Coaches and Judges



COACHES LEVEL I

Amanda Giammona, NY

Anya Ording, NY

Christina Rocco, NY

Colleen Murphy, GA

Cynthia Peralta, CA

Elizabeth Dardar, MS

Emily Arpino, NY

Gabrielle Roan, NY

Haley Lena, CO

Jonathan Burkin, PA

Jenni Rustan, FL

Kristi Lightfoot, AK

Madelaine Schmidt, CO

Molly MacEachen, CO

Pam Maierhofer, PA

Selah Johnson, WA

Suzanne Beaudoin, NY

Taffie Smith, OH

Tracy Larson, PA

Vanessa Campbell, PA

JUDGES

Level 1 Part 1 Home Study

Lisa Bartfield, MO

Congratulations to these newly certified coaches and judges! For more information on becoming a certified coach or judge, visit the [USTA website](http://www.ustwirling.com) and click on About Us>Coach Judge Training.

Alexandra Beresford, CO

Audrey Carlson, AZ

Callene Derrick, OH

Lindsey Finkel, FL

Melinda Haley, AK

Kali Johnson, TN

Pete Kerr, TN

Michael Lopez, TX

Level 1 Part 2

Callene Derrick, OH

Kathleen Hartshorn, OH

Kali Johnson, TN

Pete Kerr, TN

Level 2

Cassandra Broadway, NY

Katherine Sargent, FL

Level 3

Mary Brace, CA

Jeff Brickles, OH

Melanie Falcon, KS

Catreena Hale, CA

Berta Lane, CA

Amy Rundgren, WV

Julie Rutan, MO

Shannon Stark, KS



Team USA Selected for World Baton Twirling Championships

A talented team of 20 women and five men has been selected to represent the United States at the 34th World Baton Twirling Championships, to be held August 2-5, 2018, at the Osceola Heritage Park Silver Spur Arena in Kissimmee, Florida. Nearly 200 of the world's best sport baton twirlers from 17 countries, including the United States, Canada, France, Italy and Japan, will compete for bronze, silver and gold medals in the twirling equivalent of the Olympic Games.

Team USA athletes were selected

during the prestigious U.S. Trials Competition, held March 24-25 in Shelbyville, Indiana. The Junior Women, Senior Women and Senior Men will compete for final placement at the U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships, July 8-14, in Jacksonville, Florida.

In the Junior Men's division, USTA ruled that competitor Brandon Ellis, who achieved a score less than one point away from the qualifying score, will be given the opportunity to re-compete at the U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships to achieve the

qualifying score necessary to represent the U.S. at the World Baton Twirling Championships.

Team USA will represent the U.S. in Men's and Women's individual Freestyle, Pairs and Team at the World Baton Twirling Championships.

The U.S. Trials and the U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships are sponsored by the U.S. Twirling Association (USTA). For more information about these events, USTA and the sport of baton twirling, visit www.ustwirling.com.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THE NEW MEMBERS OF TEAM USA:

JUNIOR WOMEN

Sophia Barden – CA
Laney Puhalla – MD
Ally Duda – MD
Grace Wennerberg – OH

SENIOR WOMEN

Savannah Miller – MO
Adaline Bebo – IN
Lexi Duda – MD
Jenny Hannah – TN

SENIOR MEN

Michael Lopez – TX
D. Bower Sarra – PA
Richie Terwilliger – NY
Jacob Griffith – VA

JUNIOR PAIRS

Katie Limb – NY
Jillian Pirozzi – NY

SENIOR PAIRS

Katiana Welsheimer – WA
Kirsandra Welsheimer – WA

TEAM

Carlie Andersen – CO
Julia Bergquist – OH
Trina Catterson – NY
Emily Harmon – OH
Savannah Miller – MO
Keragan Ogden – LA
Emily Perkins – TX
Madeline Stiehl – OH
Amanda Trujillo – FL
Grace Wennerberg – OH

HERE ARE THE RESULTS OF THE U.S. TRIALS FINALS:

[Junior Women](#)

[Junior Men](#)

[Senior Women](#)

[Senior Men](#)

[Junior Pairs](#)

[Senior Pairs](#)

[Team](#)

SCHOLASTIC TWIRLING MAKING

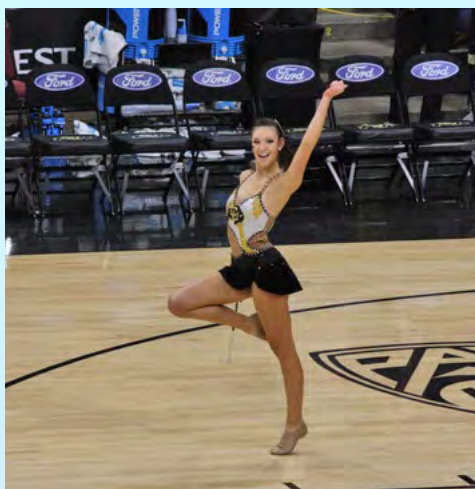


Kaitlyn Turnbull, Sophomore
University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado



Two years ago, Kaitlyn Turnbull became the first feature twirler at the University of Colorado in more than two decades.

state. For the first time in decades, you'll find Colorado middle and high school baton twirlers on the football field, in front of the marching band, performing with school spirit squads and sharing the sport of baton twirling with a larger public audience.



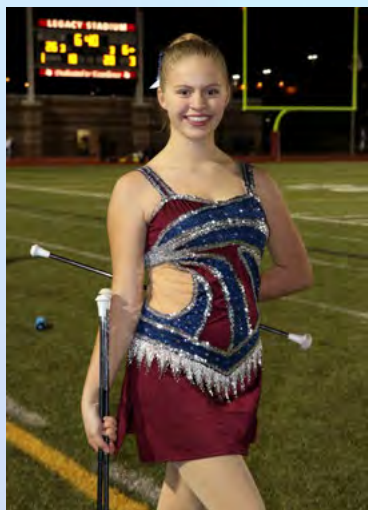
Jolina Andrews, 8th grade
Eaglecrest High School, Centennial, Colorado

"I hadn't seen a baton twirler in a long time and I thought it would be a wonderful added element and it was!" said Jason Mabrey, band director at Eaglecrest High School in Centennial, Colo. "It was something out of the ordinary. I received many comments on it throughout the season. People liked it."

Mabrey took a chance and added a twirler to his marching band this year for the first time in school history, after Jolina Andrews, an 8th-grader at a middle school that feeds into Eaglecrest High School, inquired about twirling opportunities. Andrews is thrilled to be the inaugural twirler at EHS. During her first year as part of the EHS Raptor Regiment, she performed at parades, pep rallies and football games. Eaglecrest went to the Colorado 5A Football Championships, which were held at Mile High Stadium where the Denver Broncos play. Eaglecrest also performed at a Colorado State University-Pueblo football game.

"Being the first feature twirler at CU in 20 years has been a life changing experience," said Turnbull, a sophomore from Clovis, Calif. "Not only has CU accepted me but all of Colorado has as well. Every time I perform in my CU costume, everyone is very welcoming and always excited to see my batons fly up in the air."

Turnbull, who is studying psychology, is a high profile twirler who is helping pave the way for a new generation of scholastic twirlers in the Centennial



Emma Alexander, Freshman
Cherokee Trail High School
Aurora, Colorado

G A COMEBACK IN COLORADO

Andrews says it has been an honor to represent the high school she will attend next year.

"It's been lots of fun meeting people and contributing to school spirit," she said.

Emma Alexander, a freshman and the first-ever twirler at Cherokee Trail High School in Aurora, Colo., agrees.

"The first time the student section saw me twirl, they went wild, chanting 'twirler!' and even chanting my name. That moment is one I will never forget," said Alexander, who twirls with the pep band, since CTHS doesn't have a marching band.

Andrews and Alexander are among more than a dozen athletes who are now twirling for their Colorado middle and high schools after a dearth that lasted at least two decades. Some people attribute the change to increased awareness of scholastic twirling that has come via the internet and organizations including USTA, which highlights [middle, high school](#) and [college twirlers](#) on its website and social media channels, as well as entities such as [CollegeMarching.com](#), which includes twirlers in its online coverage of college marching bands.

Regardless of the reasons for the change, Colorado twirlers are thrilled to have the opportunity to share their sport and represent their schools.

"The best thing about twirling for my high school is that I get to showcase my sport and be a part of high school team," said James Koehler, a senior at Windsor High School, which has a team of four twirlers and is argu-

ably the best scholastic twirling group in Colorado. Koehler says it can be a challenge to be a twirler at a school or in a state where people aren't always familiar with the sport.

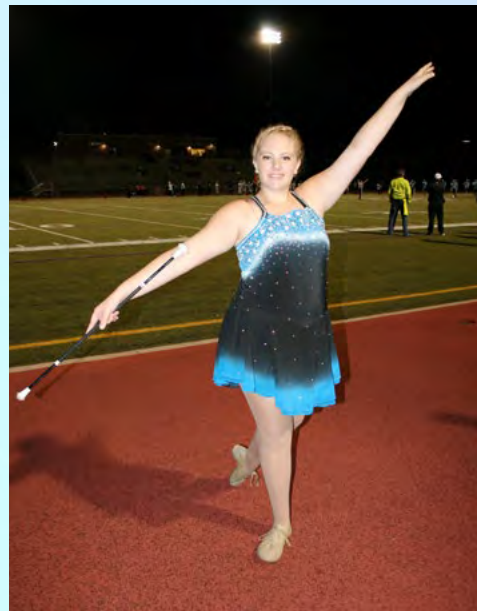
"Persevere," Koehler said. "Not all schools know what to do with a twirler. Sell it. We had to in Windsor. Practice a lot and plan to be part of a team of great people."

Koehler and his fellow twirlers had the opportunity to perform at a powerful national event.

"My junior year we went to the 75th Anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor and performed in a parade and performance event," Koehler recalled. "It was humbling, yet an honor. And we took first out of 15 bands!"

Audrey Schultz, a junior at Windsor High School and one of Koehler's twirling teammates, agrees that travel is one of the benefits of scholastic twirling. Another is the opportunity to share the sport of baton twirling with a broader audience.

"Twirling for my high school finally shows all of my friends what I have



Liz Anne Soeth, Freshman
Mountain Range High School
Westminster, Colorado



Jazmyn Santistevan, 7th grade; Ashlyn Koenke, 6th grade;
Elle Koenke, 8th grade; Ellie Mock, 7th grade
Banning Lewis Prep Academy, Colorado Springs, Colorado



Jessica Cantor, Senior; Alexa Lytle, Sophomore
Cherry Creek High School, Greenwood Village, Colorado



Sarah Kouns, Freshman
Berthoud High School, Berthoud, Colorado



been working towards for the past nine years,” Schultz said. She encourages any twirler who has an interest in scholastic twirling to pursue the opportunity.

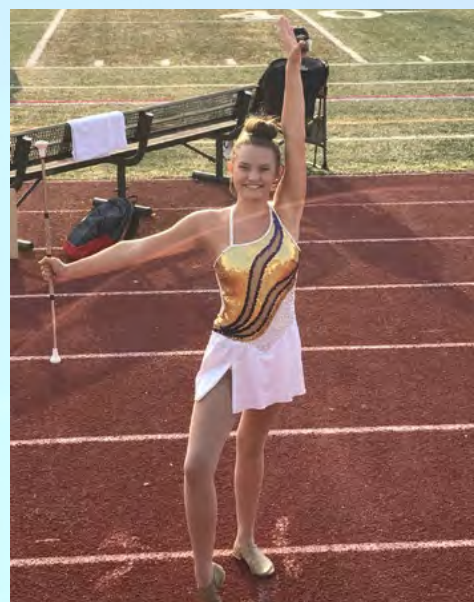
“My advice to twirlers who want to twirl for their school is don’t be nervous,” Schultz said. I know from experience that freaking out and getting nervous does no good.”

“Remember to work hard and believe in yourself,” added Alexa Lytle,

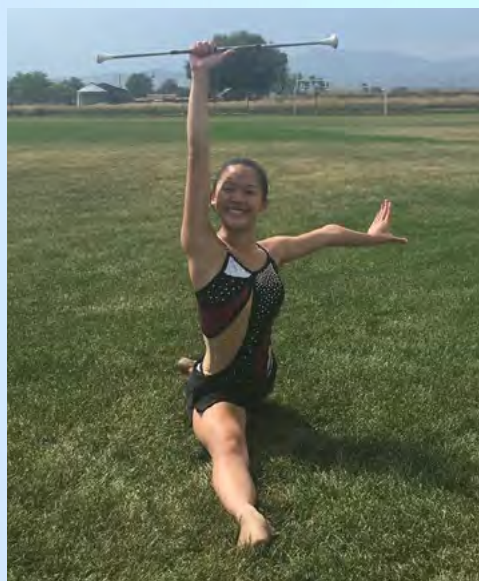
a sophomore at Cherry Creek High School in Greenwood Village, Colo., who twirls with senior Jessica Cantor.

“Be proud of what you do and always do your best,” said Eaglecrest’s Andrews.

CU’s Turnbull summed it up this way: “Keep on twirling and to always push yourself to be the best twirler and person you can be!”



Payton Greene, Freshman
Fort Collins High School, Fort Collins, Colorado



Katie Lam, Sophomore
Silver Creek High School, Longmont, Colorado



Maggie O'Grady, Senior
Poudre High School, Fort Collins, Colorado



Jordan Yonce, Senior; James Koehler, Senior;
Emma Young, Freshman; Audrey Schulz, Freshman
Windsor High School, Windsor, Colorado



Get ready for 2018 **#WorldBatonTwirlingDay**, coming up on April 10! Find the music and routine on the World Baton Twirling Federation (WBTF) website at <http://wbtf.org/content/2018-world-baton-twirling-day-april-10th>. Learn the routine, put your own special twist on it, and get ready to post it to the USTA and WBTF Facebook pages on April 10!! Let’s show the world the power and beauty of baton twirling!

USTA Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/ustwirling/>

WBTF Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/WorldBaton/>



USTA and Benefactor Foundation welcome new coordinator

Cassandra Olivos, or Cassie for short, is looking forward to returning to her roots.

The Long Island native has been involved in baton twirling for most of her life. She grew up in Mineola where she started twirling at age five as a member of the *Golden Showstoppers*. Over the years, her love for all things twirling continued to grow.

“Twirling and color guard were my whole life in high school,” said Olivos, who attended Mineola High School. “I loved to perform, dance and obviously, twirl things — batons, flags, rifles, sabres!”



Olivos and her teammate, Jess, prepping for their first Nationals in Wichita, KS.

Olivos says her twirling teammates were among her best friends growing up and some of her fondest memories are of their trips to Nationals in 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008. Even though some of them were in college by then, they promised to twirl together until their youngest teammate graduated from high school.

“Those friendships were everything,” Olivos recalls. “Though life has pulled us in different directions, with some of us living in different states, we still try to meet up annually and we pick up right where we left off!”

After retiring from competitive twirling, Olivos became a Certi-

fied Level I coach, working with her younger sister and other members of the Golden Showstoppers. Then college and career became her primary focus. Olivos studied public relations and advertising at New York Institute of Technology, earning a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Communication Arts. She followed that with a Master of Science degree in International Communications from St. John’s University.



Olivos and her Golden Showstoppers teammates at the USTA Northeast Regionals competition.

Along the way, Olivos discovered her passion for social media marketing on a local and global scale. She is now director of marketing and special projects at Scorpion Internet Marketing in Islandia, New York and an adjunct professor at Hofstra University where she teaches a PR Tools class covering everything from social media management and content creation, to crisis communication and graphic design.

Even with that workload, Olivos has reached a point in her life where she wants to give back to the sport that gave her so much growing up.

“Twirling was a huge influence on me, not just as an athlete, but as a person,” Olivos said.

She’s looking forward to using her professional expertise and twirling background as coordinator of the USTA Benefactor Foundation, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that supports the growth and development of USTA and the programs and services it provides to its athletes and other members.

The Benefactor Foundation was established in 1997 under the guidance

of volunteer Paula Romeo. Janie Arnold was the volunteer coordinator from 2001 to 2011, followed by Dyan Carness from 2012 to 2016. Paige Campbell, Wendy Maul and Callene Derrick lent their support their support to the Foundation in 2017 and now Olivos is taking the helm.

She’s looking forward to building on the Benefactor Foundation’s primary programs: the Membership Program, which allows you to designate your tax-deductible membership donation for a variety of important programs and projects, and the Cash Scholarship Program, which enables you to contribute to scholarships that are presented to deserving athletes during the U.S. National Baton Twirling Championships each year. Learn more about both of those programs here.

Of course, Olivos has plenty of new ideas too, so watch your email, the USTA website, and follow USTA on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to keep up with the excitement!



Golden Showstoppers take Savannah, Georgia! Taking a break from practice, posing in front of the James Oglethorpe Monument in Savannah, Georgia in 2006.



Coach Olivos and her fellow coaches with their Golden Showstoppers team at a local Long Island competition.

Meet USTA's Council Presidents, *Part 7*



Amby Darr Taylor, Southeast Region Council President

Enjoy this Q&A with Amby Darr Taylor, president of the Southeast Regional Council.

How did you initially get involved in baton twirling?

I got my first baton because I twirled the “sticks” that we used in the windows of our old farm house. My dad was really tired of taking splinters out of my fingers, so I got my first baton. Once I got my first baton, I started with a local group at the age of nine and the rest is history. Actually, many years after beginning my twirling career, my dad told me that he always wanted one of his daughters (I’m the youngest of six children—four girls, two boys) to twirl. (He wanted me to



Taylor, far right, with her fellow East Carolina University feature twirlers in 1979.

wear the short boots with the tassels!) Luckily, my twirling allowed me to attend East Carolina University on an out-of-state tuition waiver scholarship between the School of Music and the Athletic Department. As the youngest of six, this paid for half of my college tuition and allowed me to receive my teaching degree. I was the first one in my family to go to college, so it was really important to me that I was able to help pay for part of my tuition.

How have you been involved in twirling over the years....as an athlete, coach, judge, contest director, council member, USTA roles, etc.?

I became a USTA member in 1973 (so I’ve been a USTA member for 45 years!!) I competed at local competitions from the age of 9-12 (Growing up in Virginia, there were competitions every weekend in VA, MD, and WV. I attended my first regional competition, Northeast Regionals, in 1974 when I was 12, then my first Nationals at the age of 13, also in 1974. My birthday is in July, so I competed at one age all year, but went up an age for Nation-

als. Nationals were in August when I competed. I competed at the national level from 1974 to 1980. I became a judge in 1981 and began judging at Nationals in 1985. Those dates mean I’ve been judging for 37 years! I have been a member of the U.S. Technical Department since 1988, so I originally became the Southeast Regional representative. As our council grew, thanks to Karen Cammer for coming to SER years ago, to help us set-up our regional council, we began working together to hold the regional championships each year.

When did you become your council president?

To be honest, I can’t remember when I became president. I do know that I was the vice-president for the region while John Chamberlain was president. Once he became president of USTA’s Board of Directors, he talked me into becoming president.

Why were you willing to take on the presidency?

Behind John’s leadership I was ready to become president in order to continue the hard work that had been done to



Taylor with Glenn Bittenbender, Ann Bittenbender and Taylor’s mother, Judy Darr, at USTA’s 50th Anniversary celebration in 2008



2017 Southeast Regional Champions: Sabrina Smith, Sr. Solo, Strut, 2-Baton and 3-Baton; Amanda Trujillo, Jr. Strut and Dance Twirl; Allison Wagner, Sr. Dance Twirl; Julia Arciola, Jr. Solo, 2-Baton and 3-Baton.

make our region successful.

Tell me about your council – how many members, what types of events or activities it sponsors, special things it does, etc.

Our region is large in land area, but most of the members are concentrated in Florida and Tennessee. With that being the case, we alternate years to

hold our Regional Championships. In even-numbered years we hold our regionals in Florida and in odd-numbered years, we hold regionals at Loftis Middle School in Hixson, Tenn. We are very fortunate to have the facility in Hixson. Because of the relationship with Tracy Hughes and United Twirling, we get this facility free of charge, except to pay the custodial staff to clean after the three-day competition.

In Florida, we are lucky to have Tessah Ceballos because she gets sports grants for us to get facilities at a reduced rate, as well as some help with hotels, etc. We are very happy to have Alabama becoming active in our council and we really look forward to adding Alabama to our rotation very soon. Each year after our Saturday competition, we hold our regional meeting.

We are also available to our members through email as well as setting up our USTA SER Council Facebook page, thanks to Tricia Terrell and Amy Trujillo. To be perfectly honest, being the SER President is really a team effort! Vice President Kelly Mullins, Secretary Amy Trujillo, Treasurer Tracy Hughes and Lori Marcus, Tessah Ivey Ceballos and John Chamberlain are all vital pieces of the puzzle. Whenever our National Championships are held in our region, the SER Council

helps with monetary donations as well as volunteer manpower. We are very excited that in 2018 our 60th Anniversary U.S. National Championships are being held in Jacksonville, Fla., and the 2018 WBTF World Championships are being held in Kissimmee, Fla.!

What is the biggest challenge and the biggest reward of being your council president?

The biggest challenge is being able to keep costs, including travel, entry fees, etc., down each year in order to hold a successful championships. The biggest reward to me is having an amazing team because I'll tell you, IT'S NOT ME....IT'S THE SER TEAM! Our teamwork is what makes us successful! Really, I'm very lucky to be the SER Council president because it's not me as an individual....it's the team—the entire council!

What are the qualities of a successful council president?

As I've stated before, being president of my council is an honor, but if I didn't have my team, I wouldn't be able to be president.

[Continued on page 15](#)



Taylor with USTA judge Diana Loomis after judging Florida State a few years ago.



Taylor and her husband Keith with their grandchildren Lydia and Hudson.

Join us in Jacksonville for the
**60TH ANNIVERSARY
U.S. NATIONAL
BATON TWIRLING
CHAMPIONSHIPS!**

July 8-14, 2018

**Veterans Memorial Arena
Jacksonville, Florida**



2018 U.S. NATIONAL BATON TWIRLING CHAMPIONSHIP WEEK

ESTIMATED SCHEDULE (Subject to change based on entries received)

SATURDAY, JULY 7TH

9:00 am - 4:00 pm	Judges Workshop
1:00 - 5:00 pm	U.S. Pre-Trials Judges Focus Meeting
4:00 - 6:00 pm	Registration Open at Hyatt Regency
5:00 - 6:00 pm	U.S. Pre-Trials Music Test
7:00 - 9:00 pm	USTA General Assembly at Hyatt Regency

SUNDAY, JULY 8TH

7:00 am	Registration & Doors Open to Public
7:45 am	U.S. Pre-Trials Athletes' Meeting
8:00 am - 5:30 pm	COMPETITION FOR THE DAY: U.S. Pre-Trials Compulsories, Short Program, Pairs, Teams and Freestyle; Jr. & Sr. Women, Sr. Men, Team USA Medal Round; Awards

MONDAY, JULY 9TH

7:00 am	Registration & Doors Open to Public
8:00 am - 6:00 pm	IC COMPETITION FOR THE DAY: International Cup 2 & 3-Baton, Artistic Twirl & Artistic Pairs, Solo, Team & Groups International Cup Qualifier Announcements

TUESDAY, JULY 10TH

7:00 am	Registration & Doors Open to Public
7:45 am	Opening Ceremony, Introduction of Judges & Board of Directors, President's Welcome
8:00 am - 7:00 pm	COMPETITION FOR THE DAY: National 2-Baton, National 3-Baton, Awards National Dance Twirl & Dance Twirl Pairs, Awards

WEDNESDAY, JULY 11TH

7:00 am	Registration & Doors Open to Public
8:00 - 3:30 pm	COMPETITION FOR THE DAY: National Strut, Awards National Solo and Pairs, Awards
4:00 - 7:00 pm	National Finals Show
7:00 - 9:00 pm	Athletes' Party/Champions' Celebration in Sports Club Area
9:30 pm	Building Closes

THURSDAY, JULY 12TH

7:00 am	Registration & Doors Open to Public
8:00 am - 6:30 pm	COMPETITION FOR THE DAY: FOF & National Twirl Teams, Parade Corps, Show Corps, Show Teams, Collegiate Event National Twirl Team Finals, Command Performances by 2018 National Champions, US World Team, Collegiate Awards, Team Retreat

FRIDAY, JULY 13TH

7:00 am	Registration & Doors Open to Public
8:00 am - 4:30 pm	COMPETITION FOR THE DAY: FOF & National Dance Twirl Teams and Trios National Dance Twirl Team Finals, Command Performances by High Scoring Show and Parade Corps, Introduction of the Stars of the Future - US Pre-Trials Gold Medalists, Command Performances by 2018 USA Team Gold Medalists, US Pen Sales, Team Retreat
7:00 pm	USTA 60TH Anniversary Celebration, Hall of Fame Inductions & Dinner at Hyatt Regency

SATURDAY, JULY 14TH

7:00 am	Registration & Doors Open to Public
8:00 - 3:00 pm	COMPETITION FOR THE DAY: Festival of the Future Foundation Events: awards presented at judges' tables FOF Strut FOF Dance Twirl, Dance Twirl Pairs; Strut and all Dance Twirl Awards FOF 2-Baton, 3-Baton, Awards FOF Solo, Pairs, Awards

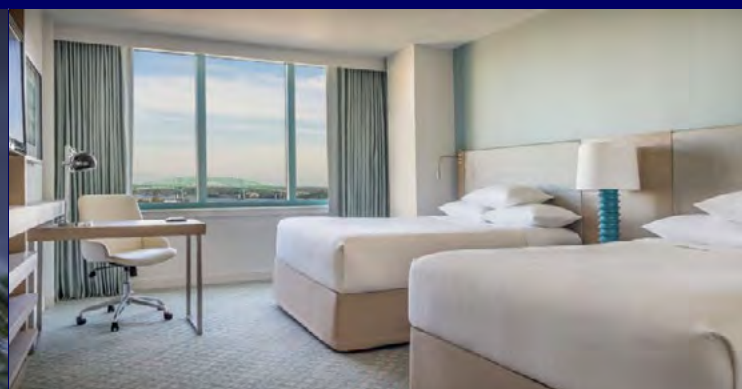
USTA's HEADQUARTERS HOTEL

Registration, meetings and 60th Anniversary Celebration will take place here



HYATT REGENCY JACKSONVILLE RIVERFRONT

225 East Coastline Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32202 | Phone: (904) 588-1234



USTA SPECIAL GUEST ROOM RATES:

Flat Rate 1-4 Occupancy:	\$ 129.00 + tax
Premier Suite:	\$ 50.00 additional per room
Regency club:	\$ 30.00 additional per room
Queen waterfront Upgrade:	\$ 35.00 additional per room
King Waterfront Upgrade:	\$ 45.00 additional per room
Junior Suite:	\$ 239.00 + tax
VIP Suite:	\$ 850.00 + tax
Presidential Suite:	\$1200.00 + tax
Suite Pricing: All suite prices are quotes with one bedroom	
Room rates are quoted exclusive of applicable state & local taxes (currently 13%)	

ALL ACCOMMODATIONS OFFER

- Free Wi-Fi available in guest rooms & social spaces, excluding meeting spaces
- Hyatt Grand Bed® • Spectacular St. Johns River or Downtown views
- Television with remote control, cable movie channels and in-room pay movies
- Video account review and checkout • Mini Fridges in all of the rooms
- Two telephones with voicemail and speakerphone • Individual climate control
- Electronic door lock • Full bathroom amenities and hair dryer
- Coffeemaker with complimentary coffee • Iron / ironing board
- iHome® alarm clock radio

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

- Pool: Outdoor, rooftop heated pool / hot tub; pool bar open seasonally
- 24-hour Hyatt StayFit®: state-of-the-art fitness center featuring cardio machines, free weights, weight machines and lockers

MAKING RESERVATIONS

A dedicated website is now available for you to book your hotel rooms online. Reservations can be made starting **July 15, 2017** at this web address:

To make your reservations, please click here.

Calling = 1-888-421-1442. **ASK FOR US TWIRLING GROUP RATE**

Team Directors wishing to book multiple rooms for their group should call this number: **1-904-360-8683** OR EMAIL.

After the contracted rooms are filled, Hyatt will automatically offer guests their prevailing rates via the same attendee website, based on availability.

RESTAURANTS & BARS

- Trellises Restaurant: serving breakfast, lunch and dinner in a casual atmosphere with an emphasis on fresh regional favorites
- JAXX Sports Bar: catch all the sports on four big-screen TVs while enjoying light fare and a great selection of beer, wine and spirits
- Currents Lounge: a favorite meeting place for cocktails and conversation; a purveyor of Starbucks® products and breakfast items to go in the morning
- Providing complimentary wireless internet access
- Morton's Steak House on property!

OTHER AMENITIES

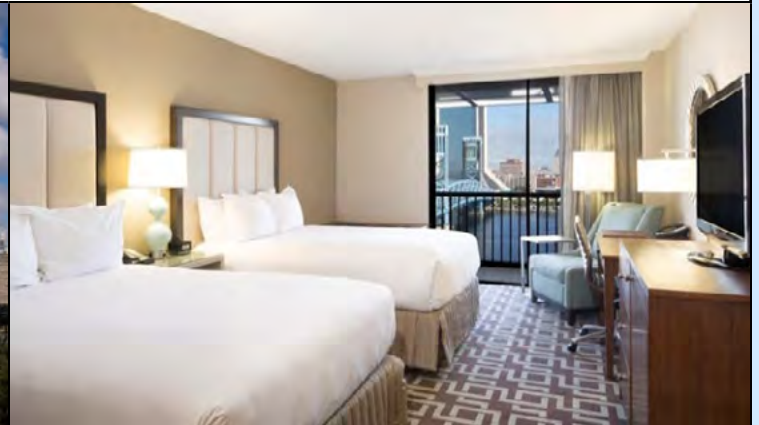
- Multilingual staff • ATM • Safe-deposit boxes at front desk • Gift Shop
- Laundry/Dry Cleaning • Valet and self-parking • Convenience Collection
- Prevailing parking rate will apply. Overnight valet parking is currently \$20.00 with "in & out" privileges, and overnight self-parking is available for \$15.00.

ADDITIONAL PROPERTIES WITH SPECIAL USTA RATES



DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Jacksonville Riverfront

1201 Riverplace Blvd, Jacksonville, FL 32207 | Phone: 800-222-8733



Located in the vibrant downtown area on the Southbank of St. John's River, DoubleTree by Hilton Jacksonville Riverfront offers a modern experience. Beautiful guest rooms and suites with walk-out balconies offering exceptional views. Two restaurants and a lounge, including Ruth's Chris Steak House. 24-hour fitness center, outdoor swimming pool and terrace with loungers and tables. or Your Comfort and Convenience

AMENITIES:

24/7 On-Site Security / Automated Teller (ATM) / Baggage Storage / Bar Area / Concierge Desk / Electric Service / Elevators / Extended Stay Available / Gift Shop / Hilton Honors Digital Key / Keurig Coffee Makers / Laundry/Valet Service / Lounge / Luggage Hold / Martin Coffee Co. Coffee / Multi-Lingual Staff / On-Site Convenience Store / Premium Aroma Actives Products / Room Service / Safety Deposit Box / Snack Shop / Sweet Dreams Bedding / Walk-Out Balcony in All Rooms / iHome Connectivity / Fitness Room and Pool / The group has a reduced self-parking rate of \$10. Currently our overnight self-parking rate is \$12. Valet is current \$20. Valet rates will be subject to prevailing rates at check in.

USTA SPECIAL GUEST ROOM RATES:

Single/Double Occupancy: \$ 129.00 + tax

\$10 for each additional adult over two adults per room.

Guaranteed Riverfront room subject to \$20 additional charge per room.

Ask for Special Rate requesting the 2018 US Baton Championships Rate Code:

UST

To make your reservations, please [click here for Booking Website:](#)

Room rates are quoted exclusive of applicable state & local taxes (currently 13%)

MAKING RESERVATIONS

A dedicated website will be available for you to book your hotel rooms online. Reservations can be made starting mid-July 2017 at the web address which will be provided.

If you need additional assistance, please call **800-222-8733**

Team Directors wishing to book multiple rooms for their group should call this number: **904-360-8873**



JACKSONVILLE-DOWNTOWN-I-95

1331 Prudential Dr, Jacksonville, FL 32207

Phone: (904) 396-7770



Main amenities

Free hot/cold buffet breakfast and WiFi / Outdoor pool / 24-hour fitness center / Self parking / 24-hour business center / 24-hour front desk / Coffee/tea in a common area / Convenience store / ATM/banking services / Laundry service

USTA SPECIAL GUEST ROOM RATES:

Single/Double Occupancy: \$ 119.00 + tax

Ask for Special Rate requesting the 2018 US Baton Championships

Rate Code: **UTA**

To make your reservations, please click here for [Booking Website](#).

Room rates are quoted exclusive of applicable state & local taxes (currently 13%)

MAKING RESERVATIONS

A dedicated website will be available for you to book your hotel rooms online. Reservations can be made starting mid-July 2017 at the web address which will be provided.

If you need additional assistance, please call (904) 396-7770

Team Directors wishing to book multiple rooms for their group should call this number: (904) 396-7770



JACKSONVILLE DOWNTOWN-SOUTHBANK

1201 Kings Ave, Jacksonville, FL 32207

Phone: (904) 396-6888



USTA SPECIAL GUEST ROOM RATES:

Single/Double Occupancy: \$ 129.00 + tax

\$10 for each additional adult over two adults per room.

Ask for Special Rate requesting the 2018 US Baton Championships Rate Code: **NBT**

To make your reservations, please click here for [Booking Website](#).

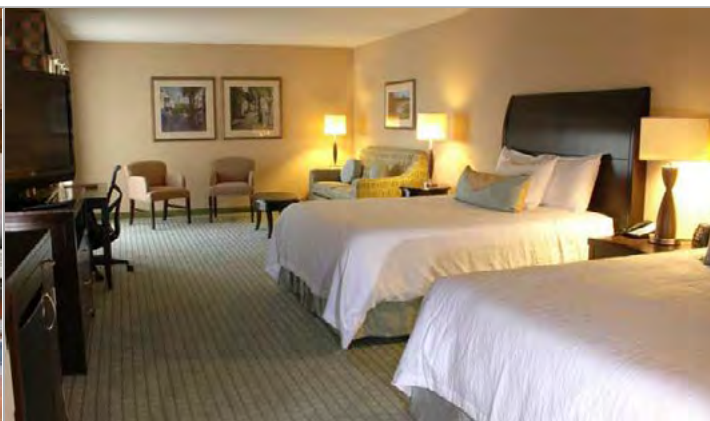
Room rates are quoted exclusive of applicable state & local taxes (currently 13%)

If you need additional assistance, please call 904-396-6888.

Team Directors wishing to book multiple rooms for their group should call this number: **904-396-6888**

Room rates are quoted exclusive of applicable state & local taxes (currently 13%)

- Spacious suites with one king- or one king and one queen-size beds - all with a pull-out sofa bed.
- Suites have separate living and sleeping areas.
- Fully equipped kitchens with new granite countertops and cabinets featuring a full-size refrigerator, microwave, dishwasher and two-burner stovetop.
- Complimentary internet access.
- Enjoy a complimentary Suite Start™ hot breakfast daily and an evening social* Monday through Thursday evenings.


USTA SPECIAL GUEST ROOM RATES:

Single/Double Occupancy: \$ 109.00 + tax

Ask for Special Rate requesting the 2018 US Baton Championships Rate Code: **NBT**

MAKING RESERVATIONS

To make your reservations, please click here for **Booking Website:**

Room rates are quoted exclusive of applicable state & local taxes (currently 13%)

If you need additional assistance, please call 904-396-6111.

- This Hilton Garden Inn features complimentary WiFi
- 24-hour Business Center
- complimentary fitness center
- full-service restaurant on the property

Team Directors wishing to book multiple rooms for their group should call this number: **904-396-6111**

Continued from page 9, Amby Darr Taylor, Southeast Region Council President



Taylor with her granddaughter Lydia at an East Carolina University football game.

Are there folks you would like to thank?

Of course, my parents who always supported me, my husband Keith, and my sons, Travis and Troy, for being so understanding about me travelling for twirling wherever it has taken me! My twirling coaches, Lee Walters and Ann Bittenbender, who were both visionaries for our sport. Ann also taught my first judge's workshop in 1981 and she recommended me to be the SER Technical Committee Representative. Again, thanks to my council officers and state representatives for allowing me to be the SER president.

What else would you like to add? We are a rather young council and we have held successful championships and I'm very proud to say that our SER athletes have held several national

titles as well as represented the US in the WBTF World Championships and in International Cup and Grand Prix competitions.



Taylor and her grandson Hudson.



Judges Level III Workshop

July 7, 2018

Schedule

Saturday, July 7
9am-7pm

Workshop outline

- Advanced vs. Elite
- Solo
- Two-Baton
- Three-Baton
- Strut
- Artistic Twirl
- Artistic Twirl Pairs
- Duet
- Twirling Team
- Dance Twirl Teams and Trios
- Tape Critiques
- Parade Corps
- Show Teams and Show Corps

Questions?

Contact –

Krystal Mignone

krystal@ustwirling.com

LOCATION

**Hyatt Regency
Jacksonville Riverfront**

225 E. Coastline Drive
Jacksonville, FL 32202

Clinicians: Krystal Mignone and Abby Moore, Jacksonville, FL

Who may attend

Current Level II Judges who want to certify at Level III.

Current Level I, II & III Judges who need seminar credit may attend.

Any professional USTA member (coach sit-in) who would like to come and sit in and observe how the judges are trained. Think of it as a coaches training session from a judges point of view. Come for ½ day or full day. All professional members, 16 years or older, may attend judges workshops for information purposes; however attendees must be 18 years or older to test for certification.

Requirements

To test for Level III certification: must be a professional member of USTA and have attained at least Level II status.

Advance Preparation

Participants wishing to test to become a Level III judge must be familiar with the material in the manual including the range descriptions and role model videos.

Materials needed

Judges' Level II/III Manual (mandatory) \$50.00*

Order in advance at www.ustwirling.com/shop.

*Not mandatory for coaches sit-in.

Bring a notebook, post-it notes, pens, high lighter, snacks, digital recording device (phone).

Lunch will not be provided.

Fee/Registration

Register via email by June 1, 2018. Include the information below in your email, and then put your check in the mail. Judges and coaches must pre register;

Level III: \$100.00 and testing fee \$10.00

Coach Sit In: ½ day \$50.00, Full day \$100.00

USTA # _____ NAME _____

EMAIL _____

USTA Professional Status _____

PH. # _____

Make checks payable to USTA.

Mail to: USTA, 4023 Bernice Road, Seaford, NY 11783

Email: keri@ustwirling.com

Credit card payments must include: billing name, billing address, credit card number and expiration date.



THE CHAMPIONS ARE COMING...

ARE YOU ?

**August 2-5, 2018
Kissimmee, FL, USA**

Hosted by:



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS AND BENEFACTORS!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

USTA will be hosting the 35th World Baton Twirling Championships in Kissimmee, Florida, August 2nd-5th, 2018. This is the most prestigious event for our sport, and is a very large financial undertaking.

Because this event does not generate revenue for the USTA, we are asking all State/Region Councils, Professional Members, interested individuals and teams/groups for volunteers and financial assistance to help run the competition and cover the costs of these championships.

The success of this endeavor is of great importance to the sport of baton twirling in this country as well as throughout the world. On behalf of the USTA Executive Board, Technical Advisory Group, and the 2018 World Championships Staff, thank you in advance for your generosity and support!

Please email any and all questions to Karen Cammer at president@ustwirling.com.

VOLUNTEER!

Volunteer to help as practice gym coordinators, competition and practice monitors, food, refreshment and hospitality, administration, digital/social media, ceremonies, celebrations, tabulation, country host, registration, print work.....and the list goes on!

DONATE!

Your generous donations will go towards the Welcome Party for the Athletes, the Reception for the World Delegates, Ceremonies, the Live Stream, and more!

Benefactor form:

<http://www.ustwirling.com/content/getattachment/Benefactor-Foundation/2017-Benefactors-Form-updated-042017.pdf.aspx>

Be sure to select "2018 World Championships, Kissimmee, FL" as the designation for your donation.