U.S. Figure Skating announces recipients of Community Development Grants

U.S. Figure Skating has announced the recipients of the 2016-17 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 23 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 Ice (Brooklyn, New York), Friends of Fort Dupont Ice Arena (Washington, D.C.), Friends of the Kelly Rink (Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts), Klamath Ice Sports (Klamath Falls, Oregon), the University of Notre Dame Skating Academy (Notre Dame, Indiana) and the William G. Mennen Sports Arena (Morristown, New Jersey).

The grants will be used in the following ways:
- Brooklyn Ice will continue an existing program by providing free figure skating lessons to underserved children, offering students the opportunity to attend skating shows and supporting a community performance/lesson series with guest skaters from Ice Theatre of New York.
- Friends of Fort Dupont Ice Arena will expand synchronized skating and advanced figure skating instruction within their Kids on Ice Positive Living Using Skating (KOI PLUS) program, which provides free and/or subsidized skating lessons to local children from disadvantaged neighborhoods six days a week.
- Friends of the Kelly Rink will purchase skates with more sizes and replace worn-out rentals for their Learn to Skate USA program, which strives to make ice skating accessible and affordable to every member of the community.
- Klamath Ice Sports will provide scholarships for underprivileged students in their Wednesday After School on Ice program, which includes bus transportation to and from school, admission and skate rental.
- The University of Notre Dame Skating Academy will expand its adaptive skating program to include adults with limited-to-no mobility through the use of special sleds.
- The William G. Mennen Sports Arena will implement “Explore Your Skills: Try Different Figure Skating Programs!” The program will give children the opportunity to try synchronized skating, ice dance, ice theater and freestyle (jumps and spins).