



Albany **INK** FROM THE RINK

DECEMBER 08/JANUARY 09

CONGRATULATIONS!

Clifton Park Ice Arena 2008 Holiday Recital, December 12:

- Eleanna Sakoulos
- Sophie Kemp
- Karissa Shelton
- Lily Digman
- Abigail Smentkowski
- Katelyn Masullo
- Emily Digman
- Rachel Galloway
- Emma Paradise
- Verena Mohanlall
- Kyra Fragale
- Allie Pigliavento

Skaneateles FSC 12th Annual

Invitationas: December 12:

Morgan Gilles:

- Pre-Preliminary B Freeskate: 3rd Place

Albany FSC Winter Ice Show

December 21:

Isabelle Lombardi: Started off the show by singing the "Star Spangled Banner"

Achilles Edge Open-Juvenile Synchronized Skating Team: Rachel Bluth, Sarah Booker, Gianna Foley, Anne Kennedy, Jessica Marinstein, Erin O'Sullivan, Danielle Sgroi, Claire Triller, Leah Triller

- Samara Finkle
- Emma Kimble
- Isabelle Lombardi
- Verena Mohanlall
- Stephanie Lombardi
- Sabrina Zayas
- Jennifer Glenn
- Megan Clawar
- Helen Serafini
- Soojee Eckardt-Rigberg
- Anna Barnett
- Christina Lombardi
- Shelby Lynn Fichter
- Aislyn DiRisio
- Rachel Bluth

Achilles Edge Pre-Juvenile Synchronized Skating Team: Catherine Amodeo, Shea Coleman Foley, Grace DiRisio, Morgan Gillies, Rachel Gray, Izabella Martin, Trisha Roohan, Lea Sposito, Allie Tedeschi, Samantha Zayas

- Kylar Coleman Foley

- Bryce DiRisio
- Lukas Sotola
- Alexandra Richer
- Gianna Foley
- Amy Barba
- Jessica Marinstein

Achilles Edge Intermediate Synchronized Skating Team: Emma Briceland, Hannah

Conroy, Quinn Desiderio, Gina DiNapoli, Aislyn DiRisio, Alyssa Hopsicker, Katie Howard, Taylor Kennedy, Christine Lombardi, Isabelle Lombardi, Stephanie Lombardi, Maddie Olberg, Rachel Staudt, Adi White

- Claire Triller
- Lea Sposito
- Danielle Sgroi
- Emily Mueller
- Desiree Larrivee
- Gina DiNapoli
- Rachel Staudt
- Aislyn DiRisio & Lukas Sotola
- Allie Tedeschi
- Samantha Zayas
- Ginny Mahoney
- Olivia Serafini
- Hope Hickman
- Will Fichter
- Emma Briceland

Presentation of Awards:



Christina Lombardi: Senior MIF



Ginny Mahoney: Adult Gold MIF



Olivia Serafini: Senior MIF

Saratoga Springs First Night

Recital: December 31:

- Emma Briceland



2009 Lake Placid ISI

Championships January 15-17:

Lea Sposito:

- Freestyle 1 Program: 1st Place
- Interpretive FS 1: 1st Place
- Artistic 1: 1st Place

Emma Briceland:

- Freestyle 6 Program: 4th Place
- Artistic 6: 2nd Place

Izabella Martin:

- Freestyle 3 Program: 5th Place
- Interpretive FS 3: 1st Place
- Artistic 3: 2nd Place

Mohawk Valley Classic 2009:

January 18:

Shea Coleman Foley:

- Pre-Preliminary A Freeskate: 1st Place
- Preliminary Compulsory MIF: 1st Place

Amanda Gemmiti:

- Intermediate Compulsory MIF: 2nd Place
- Intermediate Ladies Freeskate: 3rd Place

Morgan Gillies:

- Pre-Preliminary B Freeskate: 4th Place

Saratoga Springs FSC Test

Session, January 25, 2009



Christina & Stephanie with their coach, Missy Williams, after passing their Gold Dance Tests!
CONGRATULATIONS!

Christina Lombardi:

- Westminster Waltz
- Gold Dance Test

Stephanie Lombardi:

- Westminster Waltz
- Gold Dance Test

Amy Barba

- Preliminary MIF

Adi White:

- Rocker Foxtrot

Katie Howard:

- Junior MIF

Aislyn DiRisio:

- Rocker Foxtrot

Emily Digman:

- Preliminary MIF

Abigail Smentkowski:

- Preliminary MIF

Emma Briceland:

- Starlight Waltz
- Junior MIF

Isabelle Lombardi:

- 14-Step

Samantha Zayas:

- Pre-Preliminary FS

Morgan Gillies:

- Intermediate MIF

Trisha Roohan:

- Preliminary FS
- Juvenile MIF

Lea Sposito:

- Dutch Waltz

Jennifer Glenn:

- Juvenile FS

Lukas Sotola:

- Foxtrot

Pai Worapatkitkul:

- Willow Waltz
- Ten Fox
- Bronze Dance Test

Alyssa Hopsicker:

- European Waltz
- Pre-Silver Dance Test

Taylor Kennedy:

- Hickory Hoedown
- Willow Waltz
- Ten-Fox
- Bronze Dance Test



SYNCHRO NEWS

The synchro competition season began on a positive note in December, when the Intermediate team took gold at the Terry Conners Open in Stamford, Connecticut on December 7th. Congratulations to the skaters and coaches on this impressive win!

All three teams debuted their new programs for the public at the Albany FSC Winter Ice Show on December 21st. Despite the snowy weather, the Pre-Juvenile, Open Juvenile, and Intermediate teams performed beautifully for a big crowd of family and friends.

The synchro holiday party, which was postponed due to the weather, took place on January 2nd. The synchro skaters and their families enjoyed pizza, snacks, and other goodies, and the skaters had fun with the limbo contest and the chicken dance. This year, instead of a gift exchange, skaters were asked to bring donations of baby items for Community Maternity Services. The skaters collected more than three big boxes of items at the Winter Ice Show for this worthy cause.

On January 10th, all three teams traveled to Lowell, Massachusetts for the Colonial Classic competition. This major synchro event attracted over 100 teams from all over the Northeast, and the competition was very tough. Our teams were also performing new, higher-level programs in large, highly competitive flights. The Pre-Juvenile team placed 8th, the Open Juvenile team also placed 8th, and the Intermediate team placed 9th. All three teams skated extremely well – we were very proud of you.

The Intermediate team will compete for the first time in the 2009 Eastern Synchronized Skating Sectional Championships in Morristown, New Jersey on January 29th and 30th. Coaches Liz Spiller and Karla Schallehn have added more difficult elements to the program, and the skaters are working very hard to master them for this competition. Make sure to wish the skaters good luck in their first synchro qualifying competition.

For more information about our synchro program, contact team manager Dawn Hopsicker at jhopsick@nycap.rr.com.



BASIC SKILLS 2008-2009

This is our most successful season yet with close to 100 skaters registered in our program. Skaters of all age levels are participating from preschool to adult and all are enjoying their time on the ice.

Practice starts this coming Sunday for our Basic Skills group numbers. We hope our club members will come and cheer them on at the Spring Ice Show!

Visit our website www.albanyfsc.org or contact Janet Sotola jsotola@nycap.rr.com or 518-861-6705 for more information on our Basic Skills Program.



Happy Birthday!

DECEMBER 2008

- Rachel Bluth: December 23
- Emma Briceland: December 3
- Aislyn DiRisio: December 18
- Soojee Eckardt-Rigberg: December 27
- Will Fichter: December 20
- Rachael Gray: December 5
- Isabelle Lombardi: December 14
- Judy Min: December 18
- Olivia Serafini: December 20
- Karissa Shelton: December 11
- Ellory Smith: December 6
- Rachel Staudt: December 8
- Marc Tracey: December 23
- Pai Worapatkitkul: December 6



Happy Birthday!

JANUARY 2009

- Catherine Amodeo: January 8
- Megan Geurds: January 11
- Elizabeth Kalin: January 6
- Desiree Larrivee: January 18
- Adriannah Saunders: January 11

ITEMS OF INTEREST:

1. **HELP NEEDED:** The Albany Figure Skating Club will be holding a test session on March 1, 2009 at the Bethlehem Area YMCA from 8-4. We are looking for volunteers to help with registration, ice monitoring, and music/announcing. The shifts will be available in 2-hour blocks. Please consider volunteering if your skater is testing. We are also in need of food donations to feed our judges. Please RSVP to Jeanne Wilson at jjBooker@nycap.rr.com. Any questions feel free to contact Jeanne or Michele Zayas zayasszroc@aol.com.

2. **STARS ON ICE TICKETS AVAILABLE:** Once again 110 tickets are available for Stars on ice on Ice show on Sunday, March 29, 2009 at 3:00 p.m. The seats are the same sections as last year (section 126, rows J-R). If we sell 100 tickets we can attend the warm up session with the skaters. The cost of a ticket is \$17. If you would like tickets, please let Debbie Sgroi (dntsgroi@aol.com) know how many & write your check to AFSC. Mail to:
Debbie Sgroi
76 Fields End Drive
Glenmont, NY 12077



SKATING ON TV:

1. **February 7, 4-6 PM on NBC:** Skate for the Heart



IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

1. **Sunday March 8, 2009, 5-7:30:** AFSC Spring Ice Show @ YMCA
2. **March 29, 2009:** Stars on Ice. Group rate tickets will be available. More information to come!

UPCOMING COMPETITIONS FOR THE SEASON:

USFS COMPETITIONS:

1. **Saturday & Sunday March 14 & 15, 2009:** 2009 Skate Challenge, at the Cicero Twin Rinks in Cicero, New York. Visit www.sccny.org for more information.
2. **Saturday, March 21, 2009:** Garren Invitational, Troy, NY. Visit www.hmfsc.org for more information.

3. **Sunday, April 26, 2009:** Colonial FSC Basic Skills Spring Skate, Boxborough, MA. Visit www.colonilafsc.com for more information.
4. **May 16 & 17, 2009:** The Colonial Open, Boxborough, MA. Visit www.colonilafsc.com for more information.

ISI COMPETITIONS:

1. **April 4 & 5, 2009:** 12th Annual Saratoga Springs Invitational. For registration forms and information visit <http://saratogaspringsfsc.com/19.html>. Entry deadline March 1, 2009.

UPCOMING USFS TEST SESSIONS:

2. **Sunday March 1, 2009:** Sponsored by Albany FSC @ the YMCA Delmar, NY.
3. **Tuesday March 3, 2009:** In Woodstock, VT, visit their website: www.unionarenasc.org for more information.
4. **Sunday March 29, 2009:** Sponsored by Saratoga Springs FSC @ Weibel rink Saratoga Springs, NY.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

119 MEMBERS!

Questions? Contact Membership Chair Janet Sotola @ jsotola@nycap.rr.com

NEXT AFSC BOARD MEETING

Tuesday February 24, 6:30-8:30 at the YMCA



