



2011 APPLICATION

Scholastic Honors Program
Coordinator
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Dear Athletes:

U.S. Figure Skating and the Program Development Committee are pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the 2011 Scholastic Honors Team. The Scholastic Honors Team is a program designed to recognize high school-age U.S. Figure Skating members who have distinguished themselves both in figure skating and high school academics.

The entrance criteria are listed on page two of the enclosed application. Please feel free to copy the application. **The application and all supporting materials must be fully completed and postmarked by Sept. 17, 2010, or the applicant will not be considered.** If there are any questions, you can either contact me using the above information or Zeffer Betts at U.S. Figure Skating Headquarters at 719.228.3457.

Thank you for your interest in the Scholastic Honors Team. The committee looks forward to receiving your application.

Good Luck!

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jonathan P. Geen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Jonathan Geen
Coordinator, Scholastic Honors Program

What Is the Scholastic Honors Team?

The U.S. Figure Skating Scholastic Honors Team is designed to recognize and provide support to competitive figure skaters who have excelled not only in their sport but in their high school academics and in their contributions to their communities. Each year U.S. Figure Skating, in conjunction with the Program Development Committee, accepts applications from high school junior and seniors who have competed during the past two years at a qualifying competition at the novice level or above in singles, pairs, dance and/or synchronized. Being selected to the team is an impressive achievement, as each year's team is limited to 10 members.

What Team Members Receive

- Recognition on ice at the AT&T U.S. Figure Skating Championships in January and a profile in SKATING magazine
- A \$2,500 scholarship to help defray college expenses
- A Scholastic Honors Team jacket reflecting team membership
- An honor notice sent to the skater's school
- A \$1,000 donation in the skater's honor made to charity selected by the skater in the skater's home town or area

Instructions for Completing Application

- Applicants must meet the following criteria:
 - Be an eligible skater and current member of U.S. Figure Skating
 - Be a full-time student entering the junior or senior year of high school in the fall of 2010. Applicant must be enrolled in a fully accredited secondary school, attend classes and carry the minimum number of credit hours necessary to be a full-time student as defined by the student's high school registrar.
 - Maintain at least a 3.4 GPA (based on a 4.0 scale) or 93 percent (based on a 100 percent scale) during the last two years
 - Must have competed at a U.S. Figure Skating qualifying competition (regional, sectional and/or U.S. championships) at the novice, junior or senior level in singles, pairs, dance and/or synchronized at least once during the past two years (2008-09 or 2009-2010 season)
- Applicant must complete and submit the following by the due date:
 - Official 2011 Scholastic Honors Team application. Application may be neatly hand written, but the essay **MUST** be typed.
 - An **official copy** of a high school transcript including grades through the last reporting period. Transcript must be mailed; faxes or copies will not be accepted. Transcripts can either be mailed separately or together with the rest of the items requested.
 - SAT/ACT test results to the extent available
 - An explanation from your school as to how grade point averages are computed and weighted, and any information on AP and Honors classes.
 - A color head-and-shoulder photograph, at least 4x6 in size (not returnable). Copies or faxes will not be accepted.
 - An essay on one of the topics listed in this application. The essay should be ***no more than 500 words and must be typed***. Please identify the essay topic you choose to use.
- Applicant should **NOT** submit the following:
 - Videos, DVDs, CDs, cassettes or other tapes or any other media
 - Letters of reference or recommendation
 - Duplicative materials
 - Supplemental materials that exceed ten (10) pages in total; or
 - Any materials or accomplishments after the application deadline. **NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- Please do not staple or bind the application in any way.

- The completed application form and all supporting documents **must be postmarked by Sept. 17, 2010**. Send all material to:

Jonathan Geen – Scholastic Honors Team Application
C/O Zeffer Betts, U.S. Figure Skating
20 First Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80906

- Failure to meet the entrance criteria and all of the appropriate deadlines will result in disqualification of the applicant.
- All applicants will be notified of the results in writing in November 2010. All selections are considered final. All submitted materials become the property of U.S. Figure Skating and will not be returned.
- Winners will be recognized during the Scholastic Honors Team ceremony at the 2011 AT&T U.S. Figure Skating Championships in Greensboro, N.C.

2011 SCHOLASTIC HONORS TEAM APPLICATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

Home Skating Club _____ U.S. Figure Skating # _____

Jacket size (unisex), please circle one: **XXS** **XS** **S** **M** **L** **XL** **XXL**

Name and address of local newspaper, radio or TV station: _____

SCHOOL INFORMATION

School _____ Phone (____) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Principal's Name _____ Year of Graduation: 2011 2012

(Additional pages may be included if necessary)

School Honors, Awards and Activities: _____

Leadership Experience: _____

Community Service Activities and Awards: _____

SKATING HISTORY

Highest Test Past: Figure _____ Dance _____ Moves in the Field _____
Freestyle _____ Pairs _____

Competition Record: Qualifying and international competitions entered in the past two years

Competition	Level	Event	Placement I = Initial Round F = Final Round (Required Information)
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Other Skating Activity: Give examples of participation in club or U.S. Figure Skating activities, Special Olympics, Basic Skills, etc.

Certification by Club Officer

I hereby approve the application of this skater and certify that he/she is a member of the club in good standing and is an eligible skater in accordance with the current U.S. Figure Skating Rulebook.

Name and Signature of Club Officer Title Date

ESSAY TOPICS

Please submit a type-written essay (**maximum of 500 words**) on *one* of the following topics. Please identify which topic you have chosen to answer.

- 1) Dan Gable said "Gold medals are not really made of gold. They are made of sweat, determination and a hard-to-find alloy called guts." Relate this quote to your experiences in figure skating.
- 2) Charles Baudelaire said, "Dancing can reveal all the mystery that music conceals." Relate this quote to any program to which you have skated.
- 3) Describe a character in fiction, a historic figure or a creative work (as in art, music, science, etc.) that has had an influence on you and explain that influence.

CERTIFICATION BY SCHOOL OFFICIAL

(Principal or Guidance Counselor)

I have reviewed the applicant's scholastic information in this application, and I attest that, to the best of my knowledge, it is accurate.

School Official:

Signature

Date

Print Name

Title

Applicant Signature:

By signing this, I testify as to the authenticity and originality of the information represented in this application. I also attest that I did not receive assistance in preparing the essay.

Application Review Process

Each completed submitted application will be initially reviewed and screened by the Scholastic Honors Team program coordinator. Thereafter, applications will be reviewed by a group of judges from all over the country who are knowledgeable about both the sport of figure skating and scholastic achievement. While the program judges have diverse backgrounds, each of them is a high-level figure skating judge with impressive academic and professional credentials.

In reviewing each application and in selecting this year's Scholastic Honors Team, the judges weigh and consider a number of factors including:

- a. The applicant's grade point average and class rank, the number, variety and difficulty of courses taken (such as AP and honors classes), and the reputation of the applicant's school;
- b. Academic honors, awards and the applicant's other academic achievements;
- c. The variety and extent of the applicant's involvement in community and other extracurricular activities;
- d. The applicant's achievements as a competitive figure skater; and
- e. The creativity, clarity, writing style and grammar of the applicant's essay.

Please direct any questions to Jonathan Geen, program coordinator, using the information located on the first page, or to Zeffer Betts, U.S. Figure Skating Headquarters liaison, at zbetts@usfigureskating.org or 719.228.3457.

ANSWERS TO FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHOLASTIC HONORS TEAM

1. I have not competed at the novice level or have not yet competed at a regional or sectional competition. Do I qualify?

No, you must have competed at the novice level or above at a qualifying competition within the past two years. This requirement in no way is intended to discount the achievements of skaters who have competed at the intermediate or lower levels and/or those who have competed at nonqualifying competitions. Some threshold criteria, however, had to be set, and the competition for the team is already serious.

2. I compete as a Theatre On Ice skater. Am I qualified to apply?

Maybe. Your competitive results as a Theatre On Ice skater should be listed and are considered. However, Theatre On Ice does not have a specific "qualifying competition." You must, therefore, have also competed at a qualifying competition in the past two years at the novice level or above in singles, pairs, dance or synchronized.

3. I compete as a Showcase skater. Am I qualified to apply?

Maybe. See answer to Number 2 above.

4. I take a reduced course load. Am I qualified to apply?

Maybe. It depends how reduced your course load is. You must be taking the minimum number of classes to be considered a "full-time" student by your high school. If there is any doubt, you would be well advised to provide documentation from your high school confirming your full-time student status.

5. I take courses online or by correspondence. Do I qualify?

Probably not, as you must attend classes and be taking the minimum course load to be considered a "full-time" student. The team is really designed to honor those students who balance attending high school and a full class schedule with competitive skating and community involvement. If a student regularly attends class and has a full course load but has an additional online course or some such situation, that is an exception to the rule.

6. What consideration is given to community involvement and extracurricular activities?

The applicants' achievements outside the rink and the classroom are considered and given due weight. In considering these other activities, the judging panel considers their nature, extent and any benefits the skater has brought to his/her community. Therefore, applications should detail the nature and extent of the applicant's time commitments in these activities and any notable achievements or results from these efforts.