



2012 ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series
Thursday, Oct. 18 – Sunday, Oct. 21, 2012
2012 Hilton HHonors Skate America
ShoWare Center (3,940) – Kent, Washington



Grand Prix First Timers

Discipline	Name
Ladies	Gold
Pairs	Davis/Ladwig Donlan/Speroff Yankowskas/Reagan
Dance	Cannuscio/McManus

What is the Grand Prix Series?

The Grand Prix Series, now in its 18th season, consists of six international events in a cumulative point-scoring format. Approximately 300 athletes from 30 countries are expected to participate in the series. Each athlete is eligible to score points in up to two of the six scheduled events. The top six point-earners in each discipline qualify for the 2012 ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating Final, set for Dec. 6-9, in Sochi, Russia. Athletes will compete for a total of more than \$1.35 million in prize money throughout the series.

Coming Up on the Grand Prix Series

Event	Dates	NBC broadcast (ET)
Skate Canada	Oct. 26-28	Oct. 28 - 2-4 p.m.
Cup of China	Nov. 2-4	None
Rostelecom Cup	Nov. 9-11	Nov. 11 - 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Trophée Bompard	Nov. 16-18	Nov. 18 - 2-4 p.m.
NHK Trophy	Nov. 23-25	Nov. 25 - 3-5 p.m.
Grand Prix Final	Dec. 6-9	Dec. 9 - Noon-2 p.m.

2012-13 Team USA Medal Count

Grand Prix Series

Gold - 0 • Silver - 0 • Bronze - 0 • Total - 0

Junior Grand Prix Series

Gold - 8 • Silver - 5 • Bronze - 5 • Total - 18

Senior B

Gold - 3 • Silver - 4 • Bronze - 6 • Total - 13

Useful Links



TEAM USA - 2012 Hilton HHonors Skate America

Discipline	Name	Hometown	Training Town
Ladies	Rachael Flatt	Del Mar, Calif.	San Jose, Calif.
	Christina Gao	Cincinnati	Boston
	Ashley Wagner	Alexandria, Va.	Aliso Viejo, Calif.
Men's	Jeremy Abbott	Aspen, Colo.	Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
	Armin Mahbanoozadeh	Alexandria, Va.	Colorado Springs, Colo.
	Douglas Razzano	Chandler, Ariz.	Scottsdale, Ariz.
Pairs	Marissa Castelli Simon Shnapir	Cranston, R.I. Sudbury, Mass.	Boston
	Caydee Denney John Coughlin	Ocala, Fla. Kansas City, Mo.	Colorado Springs, Colo.
	Gretchen Donlan Andrew Speroff	Hingham, Mass. Colorado Springs, Colo.	Boston
Ice dancing	Anastasia Cannuscio Colin McManus	Egg Harbor Township, N.J. Saugus, Mass.	Newark, Del.
	Meryl Davis Charlie White	West Bloomfield, Mich. Bloomfield Hills, Mich.	Canton, Mich.
	Lynn Kriengkrairut Logan Giulietti-Schmitt	Bismarck, N.D. Oak Park, Ill.	Ann Arbor, Mich.

Champs on Ice – All four reigning U.S. champions will compete in Kent. Perennial champions **Meryl Davis & Charlie White** will lead Team USA into Skate America. Among their career accolades: four straight U.S. titles, three consecutive Grand Prix Final wins, three World medals (including the 2011 gold) and the 2010 Olympic silver medal. They skate for a third straight Skate America title this week.

Hitting for the Cycle – U.S. champions **Ashley Wagner** and **Jeremy Abbott** are veterans to the Grand Prix Series. Wagner, who also won the 2012 Four Continents title, will make Skate America her 11th Grand Prix event, while Abbott will skate in his 14th. However, neither has competed at Skate America.

Repeat Offenders – Unlike Wagner and Abbott, several members of Team USA make repeat trips to Skate America, including two-time silver medalist **Rachael Flatt**, **Douglas Razzano**, 2010 bronze medalist **Armin Mahbanoozadeh**, reigning U.S. champions **Caydee Denney & John Coughlin**, **Marissa Castelli & Simon Shnapir**, **Davis & White** and **Lynn Kriengkrairut & Logan Giulietti-Schmitt**.

Pre-season Successes – Many Team USA athletes kicked off their 2012-13 campaign by competing at Senior B or invitational events earlier this fall. Below is a list of where they've been and how they've fared:

- Wagner** – 2012 Japan Open (1st)
- Mahbanoozadeh** – 2012 U.S. International Figure Skating Classic (2nd)
- Denney & Coughlin** – 2012 Nebelhorn Trophy (2nd)
- Donlan & Speroff** – 2012 Nebelhorn Trophy (4th)
- Cannuscio & McManus** – 2012 U.S. International Figure Skating Classic (6th)
- Kriengkrairut & Giulietti-Schmitt** – 2012 U.S. International Figure Skating Classic (3rd)

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Kickoff Event

For the second season, Skate America will kick off the ISU Grand Prix of Figure Skating as the first of six events leading up to the Grand Prix Final held in Sochi, Russia, site of the 2014 Olympic Winter Games.

Last year, Skate America proved to be the launching point for a number of skaters who went on to great success.

A Sign of What's to Come?

2011 Hilton HHonors Skate America was held in Ontario, Calif., and although Carolina Kostner of Italy earned the silver medal at the event, she went on to have the most successful season of any lady in the sport. Kostner would earn another silver medal at Trophée Bombard and gold at Cup of China before winning the Grand Prix Final, the European Championships and her first World title.

Skating to their second consecutive Skate America title, the German pair of Aliona Savchenko and Robin Szolkowy, like Kostner, also skated their way to both the Grand Prix Final and World titles later that season.

Americans Davis and White earned the gold medal at Skate America each of the last two seasons and complete the contingent of Skate America participants who went on to win the Grand Prix Final. They also finished their season with a third consecutive World medal, earning silver at the 2011 World Championships in Nice, France.

Last year, 2011 Hilton HHonors Skate America proved to be the starting point for three of the four Series champions and half of the eventual World champions. In 2012, reigning world and national medalists form a deep field of competitors at Skate America. Will the event prove again to be a launching point for the season's champions?

The Field - Ladies and Men's

LADIES

Mae Berenice Meite (FRA)
Born: Sept. 21, 1994 (Paris)
Hometown: Vitry sur Seine, FRA; Training Town: Paris
Coach: Katia Krier
Choreographer: Karine Arribert

Sarah Hecken (GER)
Born: Aug. 27, 1993 (Mannheim, GER)
Hometown/Training Town: Mannheim
Coach: Peter Sczypa
Choreographer: Edoardo de Bernardis
SP: "Asturia" by Electric String Quartet
FS: "Awakening" by Secret Garden, "Breath and Life" by Audiomachine

Valentina Marchei (ITA)
Born: May 23, 1986 (Milan, ITA)
Hometown: Milan; Training Town: Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
Coaches: Jason Dungjen, Yuka Sato
Choreographers: Yuka Sato, Massimo Scali
SP: Flamenco medley
FS: *The Artist* soundtrack by Ludovic Bource

Haruka Imai (JPN)
Born: Aug. 31, 1993 (Tokyo)
Hometown: Tokyo; Training Town: Detroit
Coaches: Jason Dungjen, Yuka Sato
Choreographer: Yuka Sato
SP: *Charade* soundtrack by Henry Mancini
FS: Mozart medley

Alena Leonova (RUS)
Born: Nov. 23, 1990 (St. Petersburg, RUS)
Hometown/Training Town: St. Petersburg
Coaches: Nikolai Morozov, Alla Pyatova
Choreographers: Nikolai Morozov
SP: *Slumdog Millionaire* soundtrack by A.R. Rahman
FS: "Poeta en la Mare" by Vicente Amigo

Adelina Sotnikova (RUS)
Born: Jan. 7, 1996 (Moscow)
Hometown/Training Town: Moscow
Coach: Elena Buianova
Choreographers: Irina Tagaeva, Tatiana Tarasova
SP: "Capriccio Espagnol" by Nikolai Rimski-Korsakov
FS: "At Last" by Etta James, *Burlesque* soundtrack

Viktoria Helgesson (SWE)
Born: Sept. 13, 1988 (Tibro, SWE)
Hometown/Training Town: Tibro
Coaches: Regina Jensen, Christina Helgesson
Choreographer: Catarina Lindgren
SP: "Poinciana" by Ahmad Jamal
FS: "Spellbound Concerto" by Miklos Rozsa

Rachel Flatt (USA)
Born: July 21, 1992 (Del Mar, Calif.)
Hometown: Del Mar; Training Town: San Jose, Calif.
Coaches: Justin Dillon, Lynn Smith, Sergei Ponomarenko
Choreographer: Lori Nichol
SP: "Contrabajissimo" by Astor Piazzolla
FS: Music from *The Firebird* by Stravinsky

Christina Gao (USA)
Born: March 7, 1994 (Cincinnati)
Hometown: Cincinnati; Training Town: Boston
Coaches: Mark Mitchell, Peter Johansson
Choreographer: David Wilson
SP: "Close Without Touching" by Kostia
FS: "Libertango" by Astor Piazzolla

Ashley Wagner (USA)
Born: May 16, 1991 (Heidelberg, GER)
Hometown: Alexandria, Va.; Training Town: Aliso Viejo, Calif.
Coaches: John Nicks, Phillip Mills
Choreographer: Phillip Mills
SP: *The Red Violin* by J. Corigliano and J. Bell
FS: "Samson and Delilah" by the Cincinnati Pops Orchestra

MEN

Michal Brezina (CZE)
Born: March 30, 1990 (Brno, CZE)
Hometown: Brno; Training Town: Hackensack, N.J.
Coach: Viktor Petrenko
Choreographer: Pasquale Camerlengo
SP: "In the Hall of a Mountain King" by Edvard Grieg
FS: *The Untouchables* soundtrack by Ennio Morricone

Tomas Verner (CZE)
Born: June 3, 1986 (Pisek, CZE)
Hometown: Borovany, CZE; Training Town: Toronto
Coach: Robert Emerson
Choreographer: Pasquale Camerlengo
SP: *Dracula* soundtrack by Philip Glass
FS: "It Ain't Mean a Thing If It Has No Swing" by D. Ellington and L. Armstrong, "La Vie En Rose" by L. Armstrong, "Sing, Sing, Sing" by B. Goodman

Yuzuru Hanyu (JPN)
Born: Dec. 7, 1994 (Sendai, JPN)
Hometown: Sendai; Training Town: Toronto
Coaches: Brian Orser, Tracy Wilson
Choreographers: David Wilson, Jeffery Buttle
SP: "Parisienne Walkways" by Gary Moore
FS: *Notre-Dame de Paris* soundtrack by Riccardo Cocciante

Takahiko Kozuka (JPN)
Born: Feb. 27, 1989 (Nagoya, JPN)
Hometown: Toyota, JPN; Training Town: Yokohama, JPN
Coaches: Nobuo Sato, Kumiko Sato
Choreo: David Wilson, Marina Zoueva, Fedor Andreev
SP: "Concert Overture" by The City of Prague Philharmonic and N. Raine
FS: "Introduction Et Rondo Capriccioso Op. 28" by Saint-Saens

Tatsuki Machida (JPN)
Born: March 9, 1990 (Kanagawa, JPN)
Hometown: Hiroshima, JPN; Training Town: Lake Arrowhead, Calif.
Coaches: A. Liu, A. Hata, E. Nakayuki, E. Kikkawa
Choreographers: Stephane Lambiel, Phillip Mills
SP: "F.U.Y.A." by C2C
FS: Music from *The Firebird* by Stravinsky

Konstantin Menshov (RUS)
Born: Feb. 23, 1983 (St. Petersburg, RUS)
Hometown/Training Town: St. Petersburg
Coach: Evgeni Rukavitsin
Choreographer: Olga Glinka
SP: "Lillies of the Valley" by Jun Miyake
FS: "Allegro," "Rose" and "Night Run" by R. Aubry

Alexander Majorov (SWE)
Born: July 19, 1991 (St. Petersburg, RUS)
Hometown/Training Town: Lulea, SWE
Coach: Alexander Majorov Sr.
Choreographers: Catarina Lindgren, Irina Majorova
SP: "Ray's Blues" by Dave Grusin
FS: "Life Begins Again" by Afro Celt Sound System

Jeremy Abbott (USA)
Born: June 5, 1985 (Aspen, Colo.)
Hometown: Aspen, Colo.; Training Town: Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
Coaches: Yuka Sato, Jason Dungjen
Choreo: Buddy and Benji Schwimmer, Y. Sato, R. Campanella
SP: "Spy" by Nathan Lanier
FS: "Bring Him Home" by Steven Jamail

Armin Mahbanoozadeh (USA)
Born: August 15, 1991 (Alexandria, Va.)
Hometown: Great Falls, Va.; Training Town: Colorado Springs, Colo.
Coaches: Christy Krall, Eddie Shipstad, Catarina Lindgren
Choreographer: Irina Romanova
SP: "Kashmir" by Led Zeppelin
FS: "Doctor Who" by Murray Gold

Douglas Razzano (USA)
Born: Oct. 22, 1988 (Mineola, N.Y.)
Hometown: Chandler, Ariz.
Training Town: Scottsdale, Ariz.
Coaches: Douglas Ladret, Lara Ladret, Grant Rorvick
Choreographers: D. Ladret, D. Razzano, G. Rorvick
SP: "Piano Concerto No. 2," "Allegro Scherzando" by Rachmaninoff
FS: "Queen Symphony" by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra and T. Kashif



The Field - Pairs and Ice Dancing

PAIRS

Qing Pang/Jian Tong (CHN)
 Training Town: Beijing
 Coaches: Bin Yao, Wei Liu; Choreographer: Lori Nichol
 Pang:
 Born: Dec. 24, 1979 (Harbin, CHN); Hometown: Beijing
 Tong:
 Born: Aug. 15, 1979 (Harbin); Hometown: Beijing
 SP: "Scott and Fran's Paso Doble" by Mark Williams
 FS: "Variations on an Original Theme, Enigma" by the Philharmonic Orchestra

Vanessa James/Morgan Cipres (FRA)
 Training Town: Paris; Dammarie les Lys, France
 Coach: Claude Peri-Thevenard; Choreographer: Romain Haguenauer
 James:
 Born: Sept. 27, 1987 (Scarborough, Ontario); Hometown: Charenton Le Pont, FRA
 Cipres:
 Born: April 24, 1991 (Melun, FRA); Hometown: Saint Fargeau-Ponthierry, FRA
 SP: "Rhumba d'Amour" by Safri Duo
 FS: Music from the *Pearl Harbor* soundtrack by Hans Zimmer

Stacey Kemp/David King (GBR)
 Training Town: Ellenton, Fla.
 Coaches: Jim Peterson, Lyndon Johnson, Alison Smith; Choreo: Jim Peterson
 Kemp:
 Born: July 25, 1988 (Preston, GBR); Hometown: Preston
 King:
 Born: May 8, 1984 (Carlisle, GBR); Hometown: Carlisle
 SP: *Amelie* soundtrack by Yann Tiersen
 FS: Selections from Edward Elgar including Pomp and Circumstance Marches

Danielle Montalbano/Evgeni Krasnopolski (ISR)
 Training Town: Hackensack, N.J.
 Coach: Kyoko Ina; Choreographer: Galit Chait Moracci
 Montalbano:
 Born: Jan. 23, 1989 (Manhasset, N.Y.); Hometown: Hackensack, N.J.
 Krasnopolski:
 Born: Oct. 4, 1988 (Kiev, Ukraine); Hometowns: Hackensack, N.J./Kiryat Shmona, ISR
 SP: Music from the *Requiem for a Dream* soundtrack by Clint Mansell
 FS: Music from *Phantom of the Opera* by Andrew Lloyd Webber

Tatiana Volosozhar/Maxim Trankov (RUS)
 Training Towns: Moscow; Hackensack, N.J.
 Coaches: Nina Mozer, Stanislav Morozov; Choreo : Alla Kapranova, Nikolai Morozov
 Volosozhar:
 Born: May 22, 1986 (Dnepropetrovsk, RUS); Hometown: Kiev, RUS
 Trankov:
 Born: Oct. 7, 1983 (Perm, RUS); Hometown: St. Petersburg, RUS
 SP: *The Godfather* soundtrack by Nino Rota
 FS: "Violin Muse" by Ikuko Kawai

Caydee Denney/John Coughlin (USA)
 Training Town: Colorado Springs, Colo.
 Coaches: Dalilah Sappenfield, Larry Ibarra; Choreo: Sappenfield, Marina Zoueva
 Denney:
 Born: June 22, 1993 (Ocala, Fla.); Hometown: Ocala
 Coughlin:
 Born: Dec. 1, 1985 (Kansas City, Mo.); Hometown: Kansas City
 SP: Rodrigo's "Concierto de Aranjuez"
 FS: *Phantom of the Opera* by Andrew Lloyd Webber

Gretchen Donlan/Andrew Speroff (USA)
 Training Town: Boston
 Coaches: Bobby Martin, Carrie Wall; Choreographer: Sheryl Franks
 Donlan:
 Born: Nov. 18, 1993 (Boston); Hometown: Hingham, Mass.
 Speroff:
 Born: May 19, 1988 (Newark, N.J.); Hometown: Colorado Springs, Colo.
 SP: "Nocturne" by Ennio Morricone
 FS: Music from *Sleeping Beauty* by Tchaikovsky

Marissa Castelli and Simon Shnafir (USA)
 Training Town: Boston
 Coaches: Bobby Martin, Carrie Wall, Mark Mitchell, Peter Johansson, Sheryl Franks
 Choreographer: Julie Marcotte
 Castelli:
 Born: Aug. 20, 1990 (Providence, R.I.); Hometown: Cranston, R.I.
 Shnafir:
 Born: Aug. 20, 1987 (Moscow); Hometown: Sudbury, Mass.
 SP: "Stray Cat Strut" by Brian Setzer Orchestra, "The Pink Panther" by Henry Mancini
 FS: "Payadora" by Julian Plaza

ICE DANCING

Kaitlyn Weaver/Andrew Poje (CAN)
 Training Town: Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
 Coaches: Pasquale Camerlengo, Angelika Krylova, Shae-Lynn Bourne
 Choreographers: Shae-Lynn Bourne, Pasquale Camerlengo
 Weaver:
 Born: April 12, 1989 (Houston); Hometown: Waterloo, Ontario
 Poje:
 Born: Feb. 25, 1987 (Waterloo, Ontario); Hometown: Waterloo, Ontario
 SD: *The Sound of Music* soundtrack by Rodgers and Hammerstein
 FD: Music from "The Legion of Extraordinary Dancers" by Nathan Lanier and Paul Dateh

Nelli Zhiganshina/Alexander Gazsi (GER)
 Training Town: Oberstdorf, GER
 Coaches: Rostislav Sinicyn, Martin Skotnický; Choreographer: Ilia Averbukh
 Zhiganshina:
 Born: March 31, 1987 (Moscow); Hometown: Oberstdorf
 Gazsi:
 Born: October 6, 1984 (Chemnitz, GER); Hometown: Oberstdorf
 SD: "Polka" by Alfred Schnittke, *Admiral* soundtrack by Igor Matvienko
 FD: "Tore My Heart" by Oona, "Et Maintenant" by Jean-Marc Zelwer, "Ramalama" by Roisin Murphy

Lorenza Alessandrini/Simone Vaturi (ITA)
 Training Towns: Trento, ITA; Milan; Detroit
 Coaches: Pasquale Camerlengo, Massimo Scali, A. Krylova
 Choreographers: Corrado Giordani, M. Scali, P. Camerlengo
 Alessandrini:
 Born: Aug. 6, 1990 (Milan); Hometown: Milan
 Vaturi:
 Born: July 20, 1988 (Milan); Hometown: Milan
 SD: "A Spoonful of Sugar" by The Sherman Brothers
 FD: *The Artist* soundtrack by Ludovic Bource

Ekaterina Bobrova/Dmitri Soloviev (RUS)
 Training Town: Moscow
 Coaches: Alexander Zhulin, Oleg Volkov; Choreographers: Zhulin, Sergey Petukhov
 Bobrova:
 Born: March 28, 1990 (Moscow); Hometown: Moscow
 Soloviev:
 Born: July 18, 1989 (Moscow); Hometown: Moscow
 SD: "Say a Word About the Poor Hussar" by A. Petrov, *Air Crew* soundtrack by Alfred Schnittke
 FD: "Man with a Harmonica" by Ennio Morricone

Meryl Davis/Charlie White (USA)
 Training Town: Canton, Mich.
 Coaches: Marina Zoueva, Johnny Johns; Choreographer: Zoueva
 Davis:
 Born: Jan. 1, 1987 (Royal Oak, Mich.); Hometown: West Bloomfield, Mich.
 White:
 Born: Oct. 24, 1987 (Royal Oak, Mich.); Hometown: Bloomfield Hills, Mich.
 SD: Music from *Giselle* by Adolphe Adam
 FD: Music from *Notre-Dame de Paris* by Riccardo Cocciante and Luc Plamondon

Lynn Kriengkrairut/Logan Giulietti-Schmitt (USA)
 Training Town: Ann Arbor, Mich.
 Coaches: Yuri Chesnichenko, Yaroslava Nechaeva; Choreo: Chesnichenko, Nechaeva
 Kriengkrairut:
 Born: Oct. 4, 1988 (Staten Island, N.Y.); Hometown: Bismarck, N.D.
 Giulietti-Schmitt:
 Born: Aug. 16, 1985 (Chicago); Hometown: Oak Park, Ill.
 SD: "Ring of Fire" and "Can't Help Falling in Love" by Chris Isaak
 FD: "Turning Tables" and "Rumour Has It" by Adele

Anastasia Cannuscio/Colin McManus (USA)
 Training Town: Newark, Del.
 Coaches: Karen Ludington, Alexandr Kirsanov, Christie Moxley-Hutson, Kat Arbor
 Choreographers: Ludington, Kirsanov
 Cannuscio:
 Born: July 1, 1992 (Philadelphia); Hometown: Egg Harbor Township, N.J.
 McManus:
 Born: March 10, 1990 (Melrose, Mass.); Hometown: Saugus, Mass.
 SD: "Eljen a Magyar" by Willi Boskovsky and W. Johann Strauss Orchestra, "Accelerationen - Walzer, Op. 234" by Willi Boskovsky and W. Johann Strauss Orchestra
 FD: "Comanche" by The Revels, "Please, Mr. Jailer" by Rachel Sweet, "Jailhouse Rock" by West End Orchestra and Singers