

Michelle Kwan

Michelle Kwan is the most-decorated skater in U.S. Figure Skating history, having won two Olympic medals, five World titles and nine U.S. titles. The only other skater to have earned nine U.S. titles was Maribel Vinson Owen. Kwan also holds an unbeatable record for the most 6.0 marks [no longer in use] at the U.S. Championships and for the most 6.0 marks at the U.S. Championships and international competitions combined. Kwan's eight consecutive U.S. titles (1998-2005) and 12 consecutive U.S. medals (1994-2005) are records. She is the only lady in figure skating history to reclaim the World title three times (1998, 2000, '03). Kwan's illustrious skating background is coupled with an equally successful career in international relations and diplomacy. In 2006, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice named Kwan a public diplomacy ambassador, a position that continued under the Obama administration. In 2009, Kwan graduated from the University of Denver with a degree in international studies. In 2011, she earned a master's degree in international relations from Tufts University's Fletcher School of Diplomacy. The same year she was named adviser to the U.S-China Women's Leadership Exchange and Dialogue (Women-LEAD).

Personal Background

Born: July 7, 1980

Birthplace: Torrance, Calif.

Hometown: Los Angeles

Coaches: Frank Carroll, Rafael Arutunian

Choreographers: Tatiana Tarasova, Christopher Dean, Lori Nichol, Sarah Kawahara, Nikolai Morozov

- Fun Facts:**
- Parents are Chinese immigrants from Hong Kong
 - Is the youngest of three children
 - Started skating at age 5 after watching her brother, Ron, play hockey
 - Her older sister, Karen, is a former skater and now coaches with her husband Peter Opegard
 - Wears a necklace with a Chinese good luck charm, a gift from her grandmother
 - Wrote two books, *Heart of a Champion* and *The Winning Attitude*
 - Was appointed to the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports in 2009

Michelle Kwan – U.S. Figure Skating Hall of Fame Class of 2012

Awards and Honors

Year	Award
1996, 1997, 1998, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005	USOC Athlete of the Month
*1994, 1996, 1998, 1999, 2001, 2002, 2003	SKATING magazine Readers' Choice Figure Skater of the Year Award (she is the only person who has won multiple times)
1996, 1998-2001, 2003	USOC Female Figure Skating Athlete of the Year
1998	Women's Sports Foundation Sportswoman of the Year
1999	Los Angeles Chinese American Museum History Makers Award
2001	James E. Sullivan Award
2003	USOC SportsWoman of the Year
2004	USOC Citizenship Through Sports Alliance Award
2002	Teen Choice Award as America's favorite female athlete
2002-2003	<i>International Figure Skating Magazine</i> Most Influential Skater Award
2002 and 2003	Kids' Choice Award for America's favorite female athlete
2006	U.S. public diplomacy ambassador
2007	Billie Jean Contribution Award
2010	Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Southern Vermont College
2011	Named adviser to U.S.-China Women's Leadership Exchange and Dialogue (Women-LEAD)

*In 2003, U.S. Figure Skating renamed the Readers Choice Award the "Michelle Kwan Trophy."

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Competitive Skating History

Personal Best Total Score: 175.20- 2005 World Championships

Event	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98
Olympic Games			Alternate				2 nd
World Championships			8 th	4 th	1 st	2 nd	1 st
World Junior Championships			1 st				
U.S. Championships	9 th (junior)	6 th	2 nd	2 nd	1 st	2 nd	1 st
Grand Prix Final					1 st	2 nd	
Skate America			7 th	2 nd	1 st	1 st	1 st
Skate Canada					1 st		1 st
Nations Cup					1 st		
Trophee Lalique				3rd		1 st	
Goodwill Games			2 nd				1 st
Gardena Spring Trophy		1 st (junior)					

