

Thankful & Grateful November E-News from STRIDE!

Message from the CEO and Director of Snowsport programs:

Our Winter Snowsports Programs

STRIDE operations in the winter are different than other seasons, and my role dramatically changes from 'behind the desk' to 'on the slopes'. As



most know, we operate multiple adaptive snow programs in different locations. Last year we ended a 17- year relationship with Ski Sundown because they wanted to create a separate nonprofit in Connecticut with paid positions. STRIDE created this sustainable and successful carbon-copied program to fly on its own; This created space for the start of a brand new program in the ADK's, ready-made with all the equipment. Longtime volunteers Mindy & Mike Fairchild moved to Saranac Lake and offered to start a program at Titus Mountain. We continue to operate 2 large programs at Jiminy Peak and Catamount. Snow season is here and we are off and running!

I also wear the hat of Education staff for PSIA/AASI Eastern Division for nearly 20 years, meaning that I obtained the highest level of adaptive certification, and serve as an educator for the eastern states division of this national organization that provides the standards for the sport. This role allows our program to be of highest quality for Northeast programs.

<u>Operations</u> The hierarchy at STRIDE begins with me, as Snowsport Director. I oversee all 3 programs and gatekeeper for setting training, standards and scheduling, attendance, and requirements for coaches applying for a staff position. I coordinate the program with each of the Mountain Admin managers, often the owners. Pre-season training generally begins in October with an orientation, virtual and indoor classes including pre-recorded videos with quizzes.

Most people do not realize that STRIDE does not take payment for lessons, the mountains do. We are volunteers. At each mountain an appointed volunteer supervisory staff works with me. They make assignments for lessons and pairing of coach to student, and keep attendance. Experienced and certified coaches become the trainers for our staff of nearly 100 coaches. Training requirement is much greater than other sports that STRIDE offers and generally equals 20+ hours. The season generally opens by Thanksgiving and closes in April. As a ski coach, you have the opportunity to join PSIA to obtain your certification beginning at Level I. This provides great credibility for STRIDE, STRIDE is a member school of PSIA/AASI and over 50% of our coaches have obtained certification. I also oversee all the equipment needs, national industry

latest and greatest gear that's needed. I coordinate with equipment manufacturers and other programs across the

standards, purchasing and providing all programs with the

Intern Profile Brandon Taveras

As a college student in my senior year, it is time to start thinking about my career and what kind of work I want to do after graduation.

Being an athlete all my life I know I want to work in sports, whether that means playing or working in an environment where I'm surrounded by sports. As an intern at STRIDE



Adaptive sports, I get to be around sports that are adapted for people with physical or intellectual challenges. What makes it special is I learn more about adaptive sports and meet great people involved, while making memories. In my internship I learned about sport management such as organizing events, planning, as well as evaluating how to continue to improve business and increase participants within programs. I also implement marketing strategies preparing for the degree I am currently pursuing. I am developing skills to help STRIDE grow a social media presence to build awareness of STRIDE., having the opportunity to be hands-on with administrative duties grows my knowledge in these fields and to dig deeper in the professional business world.

Being a part of the college baseball team grew my awareness for adaptive sports. I recently learned that there are a wide variety of adaptive sports and it is fun to watch and be a part of. It brings me joy seeing athletes of all ages and abilities come together and enjoy different sports in a team setting and get to be a part of something bigger. My first event was sled hockey tryouts and a friendly shootout game at the end. Watching the athletes of all ages on the ice playing their sport with joy made me smile and reminisce about my memories I had as a young baseball player. I didn't know much about adaptive sports coming in, but I am learning daily that these sports require a lot of skill and are not easy! Some of the volunteers were able to get in sleds and skate around to interact with the athletes on the ice. They were being assisted by the athletes when kept tipping over struggling to find balance or had difficulty propelling themselves; meanwhile the athletes made it look so easy! The lessons I'm learning in this internship are important because I'm now aware that people with any kind of disability have a chance to enjoy sport. STRIDE connects people in so many ways such as building a supportive community no matter the differences. Sports are a way to connect people and their communities in a positive way.

Yoga, Barre, Step, Weight training,

country to make sure we have the technological advantage.

Hiring requirements are different at each mountain but the benefits to becoming a snowsport coach is amazing if you are involved in this very expensive sport. For your volunteer time and commitment of teaching one full day every week for the entire season, you can earn a seasons pass for yourself as well as your family. Join our team or take a lesson... see you on the slopes!

Mare Whitney, CEO & Founder



Friday, December 16, 2022

Sensory Friendly

Suggested ages U13

5:00pm - 6:30pm

Photos with Santa DIY photo frame craft Refreshments Dance Party Suggested ages 14+

6:30pm - 8:30pm

Holiday dance music Performance by STRIDE elves Refreshments

Location: STRIDE SHARE Center 4482 NY Route 150 West Sand Lake, NY 12196



Updated registration form and liability waivers required to participate.

To enroll you must contact cronan@stride.org

Snowsports Season is Here!!!

Have you ever thought about how fun it would be to ski or ride EVERY week? Consider sharing your passion for the sport and get a season's pass for you (and family) by volunteering. Best friends you can ever make, best time you can have in the winter, Best volunteer work you'll ever do! We have 3 locations!! Jiminy Peak in the Berkshires; Catamount in Hillsdale, NY; and new program in the

Adirondacks - Titus

Mountain! Contact mwhitney@stride.org

Tabata & HIIT... something for ALL SHARE Center Winter Fitness

ON STRIDE ADAPTIVE SPORTS

DECEMBER 2022 SCHEDULE

MONDAY

5:30-6:15 PM **Circuit** with Lois 6:15-7:00 PM **Barre** with Lois

TUESDAY

5:30-6:00 PM 30-Minute Specials

6:00-7:00 PM Power Yoga with Lois

- December 6 Tabata Step/Weights with Kate
- · December 13 Kickbox Sculpt with Diana
- · December 20 Tabata Step/Weights with Kate
- · December 27 Cardio, Core & Strength with Lois

WEDNESDAY

6:30-7:30 PM Interval Training with Kate / Kirstein

THURSDAY

9:00-9:45 AM Circuit with Lois

9:45-10:30 AM **Barre** with Lois.Check out the schedule on the web calendar. Fitness Classes - FREE for athletes and volunteers! A suggested donation of \$15 per class for community members.

Interested in reserving a block of time to work out, or want to join a class? Contact <u>CommunityWellnes@stride.org</u>

Check out our new equipment at the SHARE Center. Thank you to the Mother Cabrini Foundation for funding to purchase new equipment including the Nordic Trax stationary bike.











Deepest sympathies to the family of former ski coach, Keith Pickett on his passing



- Deepest sympathy to ski coach Richele
 - Ford and family on the passing of her father
- Congratulations to Ski coach Tyler Woodbury on scholarship and college acceptance to Springfield U.
- Huge thanks to our IT Specialist Charles Newton for all he does for us and our systems!
- Congratulations to Warrior Roman Goddeau for passing his state EMT test! He's official!
- Congrats Mare Whitney for presenting to the National ARV conference in Orlando this month

WINTER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Volunteering is a great way to have fun, fill community service requirements, make friends, and make a difference

Doing What?

- Friday night monthly respite program;
- Jiminy Peak, Catamount and Titus Mountain skiing/snowboarding instructors
- Tennis and sport volunteers
- Fundraising/office work

All Volunteers

- 1.) Fill out a volunteer registration form.
- 2.) Sign liability waivers.

Contact cronan@stride.org for info

HAVE YOU SEEN **OUR NEW LOOK?**



We launched our brand new

website! Fresh and updated; with automated efficiency. Thanks to Mother Cabrini Foundation for funding this project!

Check us out: <u>www.stride.org!</u>

We Couldn't Do It Without You! **Partners 4 Programs**

Make a big impact in the lives of youth with special needs and

NTER 22-23



November Donors

HEARTFELT THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!!! We would like to take this opportunity to thank November contributors for their financial and in-kind support. These contributions help make STRIDE adaptive programs possible.

Donors

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Jessica Lamoreaux - 3rd Party FR Jeff Bacon Frances Loeffler Amy Versocki Robert&Peggy Dixon

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In Memory of John Wysnomirski Theresa Johns

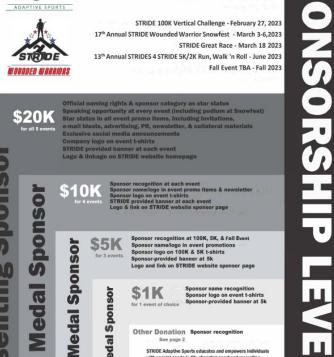
In Kind Donations:

Wounded Warriors by becoming a sponsor for one (or all) of STRIDE's 2023 Events. For more information contact Chris, cgolden@stride.org



SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE





SLED Hockey Awesome Promo Video completed... Thanks to the Dralla Foundation!





Rolling with STRIDE Bowling

STRIDE's new competitive bowling league made up of athletes aged 16-53, practice every Monday at Spare Time in Latham.

New York Special Olympics Team: On December 10th athletes will compete in a Special Olympic Bowling

Singles Tournament in Saratoga. In 2023, the team will be holding a Bowl-at-hon fundraiser stay tuned!

Kendra Scott Jewlery Ben & Jerry's Legoland Horses Lounge Hilton Garden Inn/Recovery Jethro Breuer The family of Fred Liebel

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STRIDE Holiday Auction

Beat the crowds and shop local

- * Passes to Legoland * Basket of Cheer
- * Brown's Brewing Brew Basket * Kendra Scott necklace * Ben & Jerry's Swag

Bag....and MORE! Ends 12/16 Bid Now!! Click here to view items...

Time to Get your Teams together for the 2023 100K Vertical Challenge!



Are YOU Up For The Challenge??!!

1 Day 4 People 87 Runs





Fundraising 4 STRIDE Golf Tournament

> NPA Financials LLC dropped by to present a check for \$3500, proceeds from the Charity Golf tournament this fall





The team of Don and Charles Reutemann along with Mare Whitney placed third for big money for STRIDE!



We have a very active "SOCIAL" life at STRIDE! Join us on Facebook, for all the latest and greatest activities and resources.









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