

## November E-News from STRIDE!!! Grateful!

(Today is Giving Tuesday...you can show your gratitude too on our web donation link!)

# Message from the CEO Being grateful...

On the road down STRIDE's journey, are the steps of compassion, dedication, and resilience, and walking on that road are the faces and stories of



our incredible community. As we pause this Thanksgiving to be grateful, I reflect on the milestones we've achieved together and find myself overwhelmed with gratitude for the unwavering support, boundless generosity, and tireless efforts of our volunteers and staff — our backbone, our strength.

To our volunteers, the unsung heroes of our cause, I extend my deepest gratitude. Your selfless dedication is the force propelling our organization forward. Whether you've spent hours coaching kids, organizing events, or spreading awareness, your commitment has left an indelible mark on the lives we touch. Your passion is the heartbeat of change, and for that, I am profoundly thankful.

To our donors, you are the fuel that ignites the flame of impact. Your financial contributions have not only sustained our programs but have also allowed us to dream bigger, reach farther, and impact more lives. Your belief in our cause is a testament to the power of collective action, and I am humbled by the trust you place in me to turn your generosity into impact. It's not just about the time volunteered or the funds donated; it's about the shared belief in a better world and the collective effort to make that vision a reality. As we celebrate Thanksgiving this year, I personally will be thankful for the milestones achieved together, and reflect on the lives touched, smiles shared, and the positive ripple effect that emanates from our collective actions. I recognize that without the backing of our community, these triumphs would be mere aspirations. Happy Thanksgiving!

Gratefully, Mare Whitney, CEO & Founder

Click here to Read our Annual Report

# Find you perfect Gift at STRIDE's Holiday Auction • NY Yankee Tickets • Ski Package - 5 slopes • Dining Gift Cards

- Golf Package
- Cirque du Soliel
- Tickets to performances

Bids Open Until 12/17/2023





# Marissa Kearns

Meet Marissa, a new intern at STRIDE Adaptive Sports. She is a freshman at University at Albany, majoring in human biology on the pre-med track. The reason she chose STRIDE over other options, Marissa said, was "many



of my loved ones have medical diagnoses that don't allow them to do things that most people can. This is why I found it heartwarming that this organization gives people opportunities to do such things and to live happy and healthy lives".

She is beyond grateful to be able to help people thrive beyond their diagnosis and enjoy life to the fullest. During this internship, she is hoping to learn as much as possible about different medical conditions and what can be done to overcome any obstacles in life that stop people from doing what they desire. Additionally, she will be happy to learn all of the skills that come along with working in an office setting. She will be an intern here throughout the rest of the fall school semester and also the entirety of the spring semester.

Still Accepting ... Ski and Snowboard Coaches for all 3 of our Mountain programs...last call!



# VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Teach kids with disabilities the fun of sports & recreation

Volunteers 18+ are required to complete a background check and a 90min SafeSport training

Other trainings may be required

For More Information Contact Alli Ryan aryan@stride.org 518-598-1279 stride.org









And We Are Off....Jiminy Peak is open and we have completed pre-season training and are now on to the snow! We have our first lessons already scheduled for this weekend!





# Regeneron Makes STRIDE Holiday Wishes Come True!

REGENERON
science to medicine®

STRIDE has been selected as one of the charities to benefit from donations that their employees bring to the Holiday party. STRIDE created a Holiday Wish list, and it is being filled! The list included a *brand-new Sled Hockey sled* from Canada! Thank you Regeneron for being a great community partner and making wishes come true!

#### 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.

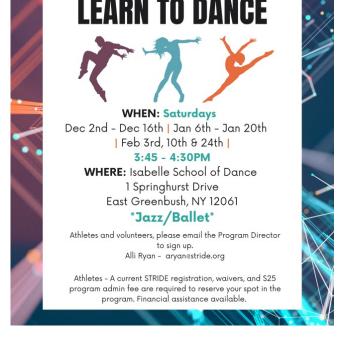
Individual Donors
Darlene DeMott
Maithao Le
Craig Hamelink
Daniel Hills
Tom & Beverly Gilbert
Phil Bayly
Bill Schollenberger
Joshua Whelan
Jon Rowe
Maruti Donepudi
Michelle Ames
Kelly Curro
Katherine Edgell
Jason Jahnel

Michael Trova

Melissa Taggert

THE ISABELLE SCHOOL OF DANCE

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# STRIDE ADAPTIVE SPORTS

# Holiday Dance Party Friday - December 15th 2023

### Sensory Friendly

Suggested ages 15 & Under

5:00-6:30 PM

Photos with Santa DIY photo frame Refreshments

#### **Dance Party**

Suggested ages 16 & Over

6:30-8:30 PM

Holiday Dance Music STRIDE elves Performance Refreshments

LOCATION: SHARE CENTER 4482 NY HWY 150 West Sand Lake, NY

To Register email Alli Ryan at aryan@stride.org



 Deepest Sympathy to the family of Rich Livesy our electrician, on the loss of his wife Barb, former volunteer.



- Get Well wishes to Mare & LJ's Mom, Kathy Gahn
  - in her battle with cancer.
- Get Well wishes to Board member Dan Bopp after injured due to a fall
- Get well wishes to fitness coach Aya Smith after knee surgery again!
- Congratulations to athlete Brock Hathaway on completion of CPR course
- Congratulations to Hockey captain Stefon
   Stillwell and his bride Ashley on their marriage!

Hannaford West Sand Lake

#### Organizations & Foundations

Move United Sport
The Picotte Family Foundation
Kissinger Family Foundation
Christopher Dailey Foundation

Disabled American Veterans, Rev, Francis A. Kelly Chapter 38

#### In Honor of Wayne Greenwald

Jon Rowe

#### In Memory of Timothy Moshier

Diane Unger

#### In Memory of John Wyszomirski

Theresa & David Johns

#### **Sled Hockey**

Phillips Hardware Union College

#### In-Kind

Joe Russo
Mare Whitney
Siena College Men's Basketball
Union College Hockey
RPI Hockey
Edison Club
Windy Hills Golf Course
Winding Brook Country Club
Waubeeka Golf Links
The Bunker

The Roosevelt Room
The Country Club of Troy
The Sagamore Resort
Mirror Lake Inn
The Troy Music Hall

Gore Mountain Saratoga Spa Golf Course

ABC Sports & Fitness Burden Lake Country Club Hollimont

Frear Park Municipal Golf Course Girvin & Ferlazzo

Albany Patroons New York Giants New York Yankees Adirondack Thunder Saratoga Performing Arts

Ski Butternut

#### STRIDE Upcoming 2024 Events - Save the Dates!

Mark your calendars for upcoming STRIDE Events:

February 26: 100k Vertical Challenge

March 2-3: Wounded Warrior Snowfest

March 16: The Great Race





Congratulations to hockey player Shawn Rawlins and wife Yajaira on the birth of their baby girl!

**Union College Hockey** Teams to **Scrimmage** STRIDE Sled Hockey!



**Union College** Hockey Men and

Woman's teams have invited STRIDE the Capital District Sled Warriors to an integrated scrimmage on

Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at Union College's Messa Rink from 5:30-7:30 PM. The public is invited to watch! Each Union Hockey player will have the opportunity to get in sleds to see their game at another level, physically and figuratively. This experiential approach not only promotes empathy but also reinforces the principles of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) in sports. By having the Dutchmen players use sleds and play with just their upper bodies while seated, they are gaining valuable insights into the athleticism and competitiveness of sled hockey players.

The emphasis on DEI in sports is crucial, fostering a culture where everyone, regardless of their physical abilities, feels welcome and encouraged to participate. This not only promotes equality but also enriches the overall sports community by embracing diverse talents and perspectives. Such initiatives play a significant role in creating awareness and breaking stereotypes, ultimately contributing to a more inclusive and equitable society. It's commendable that Union Hockey is actively participating in this movement and helping to shape a more empathetic and understanding generation of athletes.



## Race Team



#### Join STRIDE Ski/Snowboard Race Team

- 10 seasonal practices; team members are required to attend 6 to compete.
- Cost: \$330 for 5 practices (or \$70 per 1/2 day lesson) price includes rentals (if needed), lift ticket, adaptive equipment, and coach training
- \*\*Cost may be partially subsidized by NYSO and KWCF grant. Special Olympics' rules require racers to attend a minimum of 8 practices;
- \$100 refundable uniform deposit for race team jacket.
- Athletes with intellectual disabilities will be able to participate in Special Olympic events.
- Other races may include: ASF Windham, Empire Games; Mountain Dew Challenge and STRIDE Great Race. Transportation provided to all races from STRIDE.
- Ages: 8+
- Parents may be asked to assit a practices



Where: Jiminy Peak: 11 Corey Rd, Hancock, MA 01237 Starting

Mid-December Saturday's 9am-11:30am

Catamount: 78 Catamount Rd. Hillsdale, NY 12529 Starting Mid-December Sunday's 9am-11:30am



Coaches: Clif & Barbra Mark @ JP; Catamount TBD

For more info please contact Head Race Coach Clif Mark: clifmk@aol.com

or STRIDE main office aryan@stride.org (518)598-1279







#### A Spook-tacular Time at STRIDE's Halloween Dance

Dozens of teens in costume enjoyed a night of dancing, pumpkin painting and a ghoulishly good time! Shout out to the Witches of West Sand Lake all of their help and witch dance! Thank you to 43 Farms for their generous donation of pumpkins and fall decor.

Also a big shout out to Ted Cioffi, our professional DJ. Ted has Down syndrome and has been a DJ for a few years!



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

# **STRIDE 100k Vertical Challenge**

**Monday, February 26, 2024** 

**Jiminy Peak Mountain Resort** 





STRIDE Adaptive Sports, 4482 NY Highway 150, West Sand Lake, NY 12196



AND VIOLIT PROGRAM



ADAPTIVE SPORTS **DECEMBER 2023** COMMUNITY CLASSES ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC SUNDAY \*\*AERIAL
To register
contact Elissa at
Preranayoga108
@gmail.com
or call 517-763-9365. 30-MINUTE KICKBOXING 9:00-10:00 AM 9:00-10:00 AM 9:00-10:00 AM WEIGHT TRAINING WEIGHT TRAINING 9:30-10:00 AM 30-MINUTE \*\*<u>AERIAL</u> WORKSHOP Tracy Lois STRETCH COST
Classes are FREE
for STRIDE athletes
& volunteers. We
suggest \$15 per
class or a monthly
tax deductible
donation to STRIDE
for community
members. <u>DEC. 10</u> 4:00-5:30 PM Restorative Elissa \$45 5:30-6:15 PM CARDIO, CORE & STRENGTH \*\*<u>AERIAL</u> 3-WEEK SERIES with Elissa DEC. 5 & 19 DEC. 1, 22 & 29 5:30-6:30 PM RESTORATIVE 5:30-6:30 PM BARRE-FIGHT Lois DEC. 7, 14 & 21 Kate, Kirstein & Lois YOGA 5:15-6:15 PM \$75\*\*Intro Aerial 6:15-7:00 PM 6:00-7:00 PM DEC. 12 & 26 INTERVAL DEC. 8 & 15 BARRE members.
There's a donation box at the front door. 6:30-7:30 PM \$75\*\*Aerial One Lois Kate / Kirstein \*NO CLASS\* \*NO CLASS\* PERSONAL TRAINING AVAILABLE — Email communitywellness@stride.org for additional information -on-1 or small group weight training, core/balance, mat yoga, Pilates, aerial yoga, nutrition counseling, etc

STRIDE Adaptive Sports 4482 NY Highway 150 West Sand Lake NY 12196 www.stride.org 518-598-1279

STRIDE, Inc. | 4482 NY Highway 150, West Sand Lake, NY 12196

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