

The Coolest Place In DC

**It's National Skating Month!**

# Rinkroundup

## A Great End to a Good Year

2013 ended on a busy note at FDIA. December was jammed with activity, beginning with the MK Young Artist Showcase Competition and Fundraiser and followed by the DC Open Speedskating Competition, the Kids On Ice® holiday show, and the 21st annual Purple Puck Hockey Tournament, organized by FDIA Board Member John Cotten and hosted by the Gonzaga College High School Eagles. Our annual appeal was well received, raising more than \$16,000 in individual contributions in just 30 days. And finally, we registered nearly 300 children in our Winter KOI and KOI P.L.U.S. classes which begin January 11. Program Director Leticia Moreno Enos worked many long hours to ensure everyone who met the registration deadline and participation criteria was included. With the Winter Olympics just weeks away, 2014 is bound to be a great year for ice sports. Thanks again to all our families and supporters. We look forward to seeing you all on the ice!



Pictured: top left, Adam Blake wows the MKYAS4 crowd with a back flip; Bottom left, KOI synchro skaters perform at MK YAS4; top right, Speed skaters fly around the rink during competition; bottom right, KOI skaters perform to "You've Got A Friend" in the Holiday Show production of "Toyland:"



| Dates To Remember |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Jan. 20           | Open House 11 am—1pm  |
| Jan. 25           | No Basic Skills classes ; KOI P.L.U.S. held as scheduled; No public skate |
| Jan. 25           | Washington Figure Skating Club Eastern Synchro Send-off 11-1:30           |
| Feb. 17           | Open House 11 am—1 pm   |

**Public Skating Hours\***

Fridays  
12pm to 1:50 pm

Saturdays  
11:45am—12:45 pm

Prices:  
Ages 12 to 55..... \$5.00  
Under 12 & Seniors .... \$4.00  
Skate Rental.....\$3.00  
*\*Days and times subject to change*

**Special Open House**  
**Monday Jan. 20**  
**11 am - 1 pm**

- ♦ Free skate rental
- ♦ Free 15 minute group lessons from 11-12pm

*Skate sizes and lessons available first come, first served*

## FDIA Honors 2013 Supporter of the Year



Audrey Weisiger, pictured left with FDIA Chairman of the Board Willem Polak, was presented a commemorative vase at this year's holiday show, in recognition of her selection as our 2013 Supporter of the Year. Founder and CEO of Grassroots To Champions, and a respected Olympic Level Figure Skating Coach, Audrey is also a member of the rink's Advisory Board. In addition to organizing the recent Showcase Competition and fundraising event at FDIA, Audrey regularly recruits talented skaters to perform at KOI events like our holiday show. Thank you, Audrey, for your continued support.



Many thanks to all the parents, siblings and friends who helped make the Holiday Show a success by volunteering their time and talents, including, but not limited to: **Kristen Coulon, Stacey Downey, Alison Cernich, Vinnie White, Jehrica Cummings, Tina Thompson, Dawnya Mauney, Stephanie Brown, Deborah Vaughan-Gaines, Tamela Price, Tom Hallewell, Youshea Berry, Fran Bruntman, Kevin O'Neill, and Katie Schmuecker.**  
We couldn't have done it without you!



Special thanks to **Carolynn Bane** for going above and beyond assisting with costumes and set design. The kids did a great job skating with the props!

## Gonzaga Prep Division Team Wins 2013 Purple Puck Championship!



Congratulations to the Gonzaga players and coaches (pictured left) for their 6-0 victory over the Hun School of Princeton, N.J., in the title game of the 21st Annual National Capital Purple Puck Tournament. This was the 2nd time in 3 years, and the 6th time in team history, that the Eagles have won this tournament they organize and sponsor each year. Gonzaga did a great job coordinating the 5 day event that included a Wounded Warriors Exhibition Game, as well as an opportunity for kids to try hockey free during a 2-hour Washington Pride Clinic. More than 30 youngsters (pictured below

with Pride Team Members) took advantage of the clinic to pick up a stick, strap on pads and a helmet and try the sport. It was lots of fun. Thanks Gonzaga!



## Amazing Acts of Generosity Birthday Girls Request Donations In Lieu of Presents

As a non-profit, FDIA sees generous acts of giving all the time, but recently, three young ladies made the most self-sacrificing donations ever — they asked friends and family to make a donation to the rink instead of buying them gifts! **Kennedy Solaru**, who turned 7 in October, took her first Snowplow Sam class here in 2011 and is beginning Basic 4 classes this winter. Her birthday wish was to give other kids the same ice skating opportunity that she enjoys. When asked about her generous decision to give up getting gifts she said “when you do good things in life, good things will happen.” We were so happy to learn that Kennedy recently received a writing scholarship to Writopia at The Hill Center on Capitol Hill, further illustrating the power of her altruistic philosophy.



Kennedy Solaru

**Libby O'Neill**, 9, and **Kira Bernstein**, 8, met three years ago when they began synchronized skating with DC Edge. Passionate skaters, the girls currently compete on the DC Edge Preliminary Team. They “discovered” FDIA when they attended the Showcase Competition December 1. Having already planned a joint birthday celebration at Cabin Jobn Ice Rink on December 23, the two decided to ask their party guests to make donations to FDIA instead of bringing presents. These 3 young philanthropists raised over \$500 for FDIA between their two parties! The donations will go directly to our KOI programs and help support our efforts to teach as many children as possible that it's GREAT TO SKATE!



Libby O'Neill and Kira Bernstein

### Have Your Party Here!



If you're looking for a fun, affordable, and COOL way to celebrate a birthday, anniversary or special occasion, reserve our party room for the event. Available most Saturdays September thru mid-March on a first come, first served basis. A non-refundable fee of \$100 is required to make a reservation. The fee includes use of the party room for 4 hours, as well as admission and skate rental for 10 people to skate during the public skating session. Additional skating guests cost just \$5.00 each. There is no charge for non-skaters. Call 202-584-5007 or e-mail [jrossi@fdia.org](mailto:jrossi@fdia.org) for more information.

### The Staff

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Ty Newberry—Executive Director/General Manger | Mike Mullenex—Staff    |
| Leticia Moreno Enos—Program Director          | Thurman Jackson—Staff  |
| Janet Rossi—Business Office Manager           | Suliman Abdulah—Staff  |
| Ron Slomski—Director of Fundraising           | Randy Cheek — Security |
| Raymond Norman—Facility Manager               |                        |
| Jermaine Stewart—Staff                        |                        |
| Mike Gunn—Staff                               |                        |
| Sharon McKay—Concessios                       |                        |
| Frank Mobley—Security                         |                        |



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Every Child Deserves A Chance To Skate. Choose Your Ice Sport!



Basic Skills



Advanced Figure



Synchronized Skating



Learn To Play



Speedskating

### Help Support Kids On Ice® With Your Tax-Deductible Contribution

- \$50 Helps provide helmets and gloves for Learn to Skate students.
- \$120 Helps provide skates for hockey and speed skating students
- \$250 Sponsors two children for an 8 week Learn to Skate session
- \$500 Sponsors a school group of 30 children for two skating lessons.
- \$\_\_\_\_\_ Any amount you can send today helps keep our programs going!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, please add me to your mailing list!

Please make checks payable to Friends of Fort Dupont Ice Arena and mail to 3779 Ely Place SE, Washington, DC 20019. Or, make a secure donation online at [www.fdia.org](http://www.fdia.org).