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**World and Olympic Ice Skaters Announced to Perform in Ann Arbor to Benefit North Star Reach**

Ann Arbor, Michigan – World and Olympic ice skaters will join together on Sunday, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 5pm for a performance benefiting North Star Reach, a camp for children with serious health challenges.

**FrenchieSkate 2014** is a rare opportunity for skating fans of all ages to see many of the US and world's greatest figure skating stars perform together, many of whom live and train in Michigan.

The event promises to be a particularly historic and joyous evening as a group of athletes at the peak of their training, perform for friends, family, fellow students and skating fans from across the country at the recently renovated Yost Ice Arena on the campus of University of Michigan. The roster of performers will include Jeremy Abbott, 2014 and 2010 US Olympic Team, 2014 Team Bronze medalist and 4-time US Men's Champion; Alissa Czisny, 2-time US Ladies Champion; Kaitlyn Weaver and Andrew Poje, who placed 7<sup>th</sup> for Canada in the 2014 Olympics; Valentina Marchei skated for Italy in the 2014 Olympics; Alexandra Aldridge and Daniel Eaton, World Junior Ice Dance Bronze medalists; Elladj Balde, Canadian Junior Champion; Reyna Hamui, Mexican Ladies Champion; Alissandra Arnow and Colin Brubaker, US National Champions competitors, Georgia Glastris, 3-time Greek Ladies Champion; Holly Moore and Daniel Klaber, US Junior Champion competitors in ice dance; Ann Arbor Hockettes Synchronized Skating Team and the Harmony Theatre Company.

Michael Buckley, internet celebrity and vlogger will be the guest emcee of the event. The show is organized by University of Michigan student athletes in association with US Figure Skating, University of Michigan Figure Skating Club and Detroit Skating Club.

Adult, child, student and group tickets as well as VIP Meet & Greet and Sponsor Packages that include a post-show reception are available for prices ranging from \$20 to \$175. Tickets are on sale now at the [Michigan Union Ticket Office](http://MichiganUnionTicketOffice.com) (734-763-TKTS) and online at [www.MUTOTix.com](http://www.MUTOTix.com).

"We are thrilled to be able to bring together this incredible group of skaters, to perform in front of so many friends and to honor the memory of my great friend Francesca "Frenchie" Persico, who lived life so fully and fought pediatric cancer so bravely. We chose North Star Reach as the beneficiary of FrenchieSkate because their goal is to bring joy to these special children and allow them to let go of their diagnosis and just be kids at camp" says event founder, Georgia Glastris, reigning Greek National Champion; and a junior at the University of Michigan.

North Star Reach is planning to break ground on their accessible camp located in Pinckney, MI this spring and open for their first camp session in 2015. Here campers will experience the adventure and independence that camp provides and they will leave with improved self-esteem, restored childhood, and a sense of accomplishment from attempting challenges in an environment that provides individualized physical, emotional, and medical support.

"We are honored to be the beneficiary of FrenchieSkate 2014, we appreciate the opportunity to share our mission with the community and update them on our progression towards opening in 2015" said Doug Armstrong, North Star Reach Founder and CEO.

For more information about FrenchieSkate go to [www.FrenchieSkate.com](http://www.FrenchieSkate.com) where information on the performers will also be announced. To learn more about North Star Reach and how you can support their mission, visit [www.northstarreach.org](http://www.northstarreach.org).

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### **About North Star Reach**

North Star Reach is a provisional member of SeriousFun Camps, the world's largest family of medical specialty camps for children with serious illnesses founded by Paul Newman in 1988. North Star Reach enriches the lives of children with serious health challenges by providing life-changing camp experiences that are fun, safe, and empowering, always free of charge to the child and their family. Approximately 1,500 children with serious health challenges will be free to attend North Star Reach's empowering camp programs annually and just be a kid at camp. North Star Reach is located in Pinckney, Michigan on a peninsula set among tall trees and rolling hills 40 minutes northwest from Ann Arbor. For more information on the camp, visit [www.northstarreach.org](http://www.northstarreach.org) or call 734-680-8744.

### **About SeriousFun Children's Network**

SeriousFun Children's Network is a growing global community of 30 camps and programs serving children with serious illnesses and their families, always free of charge. Founded by Paul Newman in 1988, SeriousFun has served over 400,000 children and families from more than 50 countries. Each member camp is an independent, not-for-profit organization dependent upon private funding to serve all children at no cost to their families. A Support Center provides central standards and services for all SeriousFun camps and programs. To learn more about SeriousFun, visit [www.seriousfunnetwork.org](http://www.seriousfunnetwork.org).