



***Senior  
Spotlights***  
**Congratulations  
Class of 2017**



# Senior Spotlights



**Ashley Berthiaume** has been a valuable member of Extreme Air of NH since she was in fourth grade. When Ashley first joined our team she was this quiet, shy little girl and then became the type of athlete that any coach would be proud to have on their team. Ashley is a hard working, dedicated individual that has the ability to share the passion that she has for jump rope through workshops and demos in a way that everyone feels it. Ashley proves that with determination and hard work you will succeed. She has proven this by competing at Regionals, Nationals and Grand Nationals, showing that working hard at something and never giving up, will bring success.

In addition to jump rope, Ashley was the Class of 2017 president for four years, a member of the National Honor Society, went to Dominican Republic as part of Outreach 360 service trip and other community service projects. Ashley has been accepted to several colleges and will soon make her decision on where she will study secondary education. One thing we know for sure, she will do great things!



**Spencer Billings** is a senior and who will graduate from Harford Technical High School and has been jumping for 12 years. He has been a Hoppin' Hawks Performance Team Member for 7 years and a Competition Team Member for 9 years. Spencer is a wonderful asset to our team and helps encourage younger jumpers (especially the boys in our program) to keep jumping as you can do amazing things in this sport. Spencer enjoys traveling to workshops with his jump rope family and the wonderful team bonding that often takes place on such trips. Spencer enjoys helping other jumpers learn new tricks and also helps the team by choreographing group routines. He has grown into a natural leader and strives to make sure the team is prepared for performances. Throughout his jump rope career he has competed regionally and nationally. He enjoyed representing jump rope by performing with team J.U.M.P in the 2015 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Even though he became injured prior to the parade and was only able to participate in the 1 minute live segment he made sure to support his teammates and assist J.U.M.P wherever needed. His teammates describe him as encouraging, funny, and supportive. Spencer plans to attend Harford Community College after graduation. We will miss you Spencer and wish you all the best!



**Alexandra (Ali) Bottari** has been a dedicated member on the Forbes Flyers Jump Rope Team for over ten years. She is one of four co-captains on the team and one of her responsibilities is to lead practices and mentor our younger jumpers. Ali has competed on the regional, national and international level and she has been on the grand national stage several times. She has competes annually at the Apollo in New York and she is a current member on the USA Jump Rope All-Star Team. She has won numerous jump rope awards and recognitions.

Ali is a very busy lady. She has played Soccer since she was eight years old. She has sung with a choir known as Chorus Angelicus for about ten years. She plays the trumpet and saxophone in her school's symphonic, marching and jazz bands since 4<sup>th</sup> grade. She has also been involved in the school's theater program for all four years of high school. She has taken piano lessons for the past two years and has even danced for ten years before retiring. She is involved with her school's National Honor Society and Interact Clubs. She plans on pursuing a career in film/video production, hopefully at Syracuse University in the Fall. We know her talents will take her far but her jump rope family knows that "We Believe She Can Fly" and we wish her the best as she moves into her college experience.

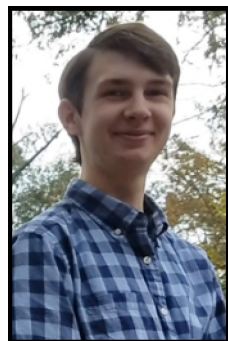


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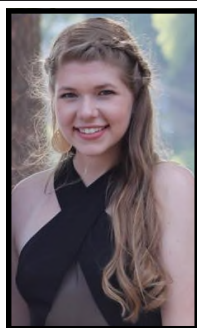
**Sarah Brescia** is a senior at Green Hope High School in Cary NC and will graduate in June. Sarah started jumping on Tri-Force Jump rope when she was 9 years old and has been a YMCA Super Skipper for the past 2 years. Jump rope has given Sarah many opportunities to travel and teach others her love of the sport. She is a two time Grand National Champion and has competed at the Apollo as well as jumped in two Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parades.

When Sarah is not at jump rope practice or Drama Club rehearsals, she is working at Carpenter Animal Hospital and caring for her three foster animals. In the fall, Sarah will be attending UNC Wilmington. She would like to thank Coach Sh'ay, Coach Tyler and Coach Catherine for all their love and support.



**Brett Caldwell** is a high school senior at Montgomery High School in Montgomery, TX, where he has lived all his life. He began jumping in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade and became a member of High Velocity. In order to compete in group events, Brett began to transition to Palpitations in Huntsville, TX, in 2016, where he is now a full time team member. Brett has attended and staffed a number of workshops and camps, as well as performed at various venues around TX, including Dallas Children's Christmas Parade twice and NRG Stadium – Houston Texans halftime. He loves jumping and giving back to the jump rope community. With the hard work, Brett has enjoyed success at regional and national tournaments throughout the years, including winning 3<sup>rd</sup> place for 2013 overall individual junior male at Long Beach Nationals. The most prized being crowned 2014 Grand National Champions with his long-time High Velocity teammates and friends for Single Rope Speed Relay.

Brett also hits the books hard, where he ranks number six in his class of over 550. Extra-curricular activities in high school have included soccer and marching band, as well as being a member of National Honor Society, Mu Alpha Theta, Spanish Honor Society and UIL Math & Science teams. Being a talented percussionist, Brett has advanced with a variety of percussion instruments and competed in an assortment of contests. In the fall he will attend University of Houston to study Chemical Engineering and join the marching band. Through jump rope, Brett has had many opportunities to grow as a jumper and as a person. This experience has provided him the ability to step out and step up. He treasures the friendships established off the court, the competitive drive and at the same time super support of those friends – jump rope is a very special family.



**Miranda Chartier** started jumping in the 4<sup>th</sup> grade with the Salem Elementary Skipits team. In 5<sup>th</sup> grade she tried out for and made the Super Skippers team, jumping on both teams that year. Being on the Super Skippers has given her the opportunity to travel to multiple states. The Super Skippers team has become more of a family to her, developing very close and lasting relationships with other jumpers.

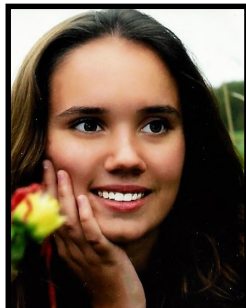
Miranda will be graduating from the Academy of Information Technology track of Apex High School this year. Part of that program includes an internship, which she completed last summer at a local orthodontist. She will be attending Appalachian State this fall with a major in Biology, on her way to be an Orthodontist. Besides school and jump rope, Miranda works as a hostess at a local pub/restaurant, which keeps her very busy.







## Senior Spotlights



**Rachel Chattaway** has been a member of the HT High Flyers since the team's inception 14 years ago. Through the years, she garnered medals, ribbons, and top ten finishes in AAU Junior Olympics, USA Jump Rope National Championships, and participated in qualifying for FISAC World Championships in South Africa. She was recognized with her teammates by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives for accomplishments in competition and for promoting lifetime physical activity. She has taught jump rope workshops and done events on Capitol Hill and at the White House for Nickelodeon's Worldwide Day of Play. Most importantly, she leads by example and is a well-respected mentor for all our jumpers. Rachel will graduate from Grove City College in spring 2017 with a B.S. in Elementary and Special Education. She was inducted into Lamda Epsilon Delta Education Honorary, Kappa Delta Pi Education Honorary, and the Crown and Scepter Service Honorary. She has been on the Dean's List each semester, she served as Secretary on the Council for Exceptional Children, and Life Advocates. Her career goals are to teach in a Pre-K-8<sup>th</sup> grade special education position or work with adults with intellectual disabilities in the Pittsburgh area. We know Rachel will continue to mentor and teach and stay involved with jump rope, coaching and working with children.



**Simone Costa** has been a part of the Hurricane Jumpers since she was seven years old. As a competitor she is dedicated, determined, and goal oriented. Accolades and achievements include top ten places and medaling at regional, national, and international tournaments. She placed second for her favorite event, Double Dutch Pairs Freestyle, at the 2016 Grand Pan American Championship.

Beyond competition, Simone acts as a teacher, mentor, assistant coach. With incredible vision and creativity coupled with knowledge of our sport, music and skilled athletes she has become our team's artistic director. Teammates and their parents will go to Simone to request her guidance on music cuts, choreography, skills, and much more. Her leadership has assisted many in achieving their best. In addition, Simone contributes to the sport of jump rope through numerous tremendous varied outreach activities and teaching. As a volunteer, she has performed at various Health Expos, Fitness Festivals, charity events, schools, universities and more, demonstrating the benefits of our sport. She has also taught children and adults many times at conferences, workshops, camps, and recreation classes.

Outside of jump rope, Simone has participated in choir, musical theater, photography, and creative writing. She graduated Magna Cum Laude from Bridgeprep Academy of Arts and Minds. She has yet to decide what college she will be attending, but plans to major in Sociology and pursue a career in Education Reform. She hopes to continue jumping wherever life takes her.



**Damarius Dy** has been a member on the Forbes Flyers Jump Rope Team since third grade. Damarius has grown into a confident and supportive leader and team member for nearly nine years. She has competed in jump rope on both the regional and national level, winning many awards. She has competed at the Apollo and participated in numerous shows and festivals over the years. She has mentored many younger jumpers helping them to enjoy this sport that she has made a major focus of her young adult life. She held the position of secretary of the National Honors Society at her high school as well as secretary of the Red Cross Club. She is a certified Nursing Assistant. Damarius enjoys painting and hanging out with friends. She is also a Red Cross Blood Drive volunteer.

She has been accepted into Quinnipiac University located in Hamden, CT and plans to pursue a bachelors degree in Radiological Sciences.



## Senior Spotlights



**Zoe Ellis** has been a part of the YMCA Superskippers for 6 years and jumping competitively for 9 years. She is one of 5 children and is fortunate to enjoy this wonderful sport with all three of her sisters. She has participated in local, national, and international competitions with USA Jump Rope, AAU Jump Rope, and WJR. She has had wonderful opportunities sharing her love of the sport with others while working with the underprivileged at a local ministry and teaching both local and international jump rope camps.

Zoe is currently involved with a wonderful program at the local community college which allows high school students to take college level classes while receiving both high school and college credit. She has been inducted into both the Gamma Beta Phi and Sigma Delta Mu honors societies at Durham Technical Community College. Her plans include completing her Associates of Arts degree by summer of 2018.



**Kadie Goodin** is a member of the Hoppin' Hawks Jump Rope Club in Harford County, MD. She graduated from New Covenant Christian School and has been jumping for 12 years. She has been a member of the Hoppin' Hawks Performance team for 7 years and a competition team member for 8 years. She has grown from a shy and quiet jumper into a wonderful leader and mentor on our team. The younger jumpers enjoy working with Kadie and appreciate her patience and encouragement as she helps them learn more difficult skills. Kadie is a wonderful instructor and is passionate about helping the next generation of jumpers. She is an amazing role model and can always be found encouraging her teammates to try their best and never to give up. Some of her teammates even call her "Mom" as she is more than just a teammate, she is a genuine friend who always puts others before herself. Team parents have said that the world would be a better place if there were more people like Kadie around. Kadie is often the first to welcome new jumpers to the performance team and tries her best to make sure they feel included.

Everyone in the Hoppin' Hawks family is thankful for Kadie's love for jump rope and that she has shared her expertise whenever possible. We have all been blessed to jump with Kadie all of these years. Throughout Kadie's jump rope career she has performed in many shows in our area and the surrounding area in addition to competing regionally and nationally.

Kadie plans to attend Messiah College in Pennsylvania and major in Biochemistry. We will miss you Kadie and wish you all the best in your future endeavors!



**Hailey Haymond** attended jump rope camp the summer before 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, when her friend Alex encouraged her to try out for the YMCA SuperSkippers in Cary, NC. She never looked back. Jump rope has been her passion, and her teammates are some of her best friends.

Whether or not she's traveling for a jump rope competition or event, Hailey's accompanied by a jump rope on every trip. The furthest her jump rope has traveled is La Paz, Bolivia, where she shared the sport she loves with students and strangers on the street as she demonstrated double-dutch. Closer to home, jump rope has been a source of development of her leadership skills, competitive spirit, and a love of working with a team for a common goal. For her it's fun, it's inspiring, and it's family. She'll always treasure her memories, and the values instilled by her coaches, teammates, and the many volunteers who make the sport great.

Hailey graduated from Green Hope High School in June 2017. She is attending UNC Chapel Hill, majoring in Biology and one day pursuing a career in the field of genetics.



## Senior Spotlights



**Christina Kratzmeier** has been a member of Kangaroo Kids since first grade and has competed in both the AAU Junior Olympics and USA Jump Rope National Championships for the past 9 years where she has won numerous ribbons and medals in addition to placing at Grand Nationals.

During her time with the Kangaroo Kids, she has loved coaching younger children every week and at workshops, bonding her team through being a team captain, and choreographing routines used by the team. She has also enjoyed performing at various shows, including college basketball halftime shows, health fairs, other community shows, and both the 2013 and 2015 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parades.

Outside of jump rope, Christina has played both high school and club level volleyball, participated in her high school spring musicals, and is a member of her school's Madrigal

Chamber Choir.

She is extremely thankful for the vast range of opportunities that jump rope has offered her especially the life-long friendships she has made and the overall supportive community around the sport. Christina plans to attend the University of Maryland, College Park next year to study biochemistry and mathematics.



**Sara Lipschutz** will be attending University of California, Davis this fall. She is majoring in Ecological Management and Restoration within the college of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences. She has a passion for sustainability, and has promoted it on campus as the treasurer/secretary of her high school's Aquaponics Club. Sara is also an active member of her school's environmental club, participating in weekly clean-up and recycling events.

Sara has been on the Coronado Speed Spinners for ten years, and on the demo team for six years. She loves getting to know all the jumpers on her team in order to motivate them to push themselves to be their best. Through her own hard work and dedication, she sets a strong example for her teammates. This past year, she has continued her leadership role as team captain of the Speed Spinners and as a member of the 2016-2017 Allstar Team.

She has had so much fun on the All-stars because she has made many amazing friends while representing the sport of jump rope throughout the country. One of her favorite parts of jump rope is teaching at summer camps because she gets to pass down her jump rope knowledge to future generations of jumpers. As of now, she plans on continuing to jump rope throughout college!!



**Grace Lohr** has enjoyed being a part of the Skip Wizard Jump Rope Team from Jefferson, Maryland for the past 9 years. She really loves traveling with the team each year to workshops as well as competition & has many fond memories! She is sometimes known as "the juggling girl" when at jump roping events.

Aside from jumping, Grace enjoys cooking, playing the ukulele, & performing various entertainment gigs such as stilt walking, character work, and performing in her family's Vaudeville show. She has even incorporated jump rope into her Vaudeville routine!

Grace will continue to assist the team after graduation while she attends the local Community College.



**Clark Malchow** will graduated from Northshore High School with honors after taking many honors and college level courses. He ran Cross Country for 3 years and lettered 2 years. During high school, Clark was active in many clubs including Ambassadors, Student Council, Art Club and Key Club. Clark has been an active member of Aldersgate United Methodist Church and was involved in many programs and mission projects, including various mission trips across the country, Vacation Bible School, and high school youth group. Clark will attend Louisiana Tech University in the fall and study Architecture.





## Senior Spotlights



**Nicole Martin** is a member of the Glastonbury Jumpers (Region 10, Connecticut). When Nicole was in third grade she joined the morning jump rope club at her elementary school. The club was brand new, so there were no experienced jumpers there for the new members to learn from. Nicole borrowed a Jump Rope for Heart instructional video from the PE teacher and practiced until she learned all of the single rope skills on the video. In sixth grade Nicole decided to compete, so she trained on her own and entered a small tournament as the sole member of her own new team. Nicole's freestyle routine earned first place at the tournament, so she was invited back to her former elementary school to demonstrate her routine on field day. That day, a couple of elementary students were inspired to join the team, and those original Glastonbury Jumpers have been jumping together ever since!

Aside from jump rope, Nicole has also been very active in her musical endeavors, playing trumpet in the high school Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, and Youth Symphony. She was part of the pit orchestra in several musicals, and was honored to earn a seat in the past two years' Regional Music Festivals, as well as a seat at this year's All-State Music Festival. Nicole volunteers with the middle school Jazz Band, and she also teaches private trumpet lessons.

Nicole has been an active member of the Art and Psychology clubs in high school, and has served in leadership roles for these clubs the past two years.

Nicole will be majoring in Psychology and Neuroscience at the University of New England. She is looking forward to following her passionate interest in helping children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.



When **Madison McClellan** tried out for the Super Skippers in 2007, she had no idea jump rope would become such a major part of her life. What started out as going to jump rope camp during the summer has now turned into a sport that will always hold a place in her heart. Madison has had the opportunity to travel all over the United States to learn, teach, and compete. She has also made some of her best friends that will last a lifetime. Madison is a member of the USA Jump Rope All-Star Team, and she even had the opportunity to teach a workshop in Alaska with the All-Stars earlier this year. She has also been in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade twice in New York City. Madison has jumped and won at Grand Nationals various times throughout the years, which have been some of the best memories she's made from jump rope.

Madison plans to study Business at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. She hopes to stay involved with the sport of jump rope, and she looks forward to staying connected with the sport of Jump Rope. The bonds she's made over the past ten years are inseparable, and Madison is very grateful for everything jump rope has given her.



**Justin McCormac** started jumping when he was eight years old for Impact Tri-Force Jump Rope. Little did we know when we started this journey what an impact it would have on his life. Justin enjoys friendships from around the world as well as locally. His teammates are his best friends, his family!

Justin has been fortunate enough to win two Grand National awards and be a part of the USA All-Star Team. He has traveled to twenty-four states to either teach, perform or to compete and has loved every minute of it. This year, he traveled all the way to the North Pole, Alaska! His experiences performing at such venues as the Macys Parade, Apollo Theatre and others as well and friendships forged on these journeys will be with him forever!

Justin graduated from Cary High School in June of 2017. He is headed to East Carolina University in the Fall of 2017 and plans to pursue a career in Nursing with his goals set on being a Nurse Anesthetist.



## Senior Spotlights



**Megan McGuire** has been a part of Kangaroo Kids since first grade and has competed in USA and AAU Jump Rope regional and national competitions. She also enjoys performing in shows around the community and coaching the younger jumpers. Megan's favorite part about jump rope is getting to meet new friends from across the country and she is incredibly thankful for all of the opportunities that jump rope has provided her.

Megan will be attending Towson University in the fall to study Elementary and Special Education.



**Devin Meek** joined the Kangaroo Kids at the age of six and began competing with them at the age of nine. Devin has competed at regionals, AAU, Nationals, and Worlds. He enjoyed doing a special performance and placing at Grand Nationals with his Double Dutch teams over the years and receiving AAU MD athlete of the year awards. With the Kangaroo Kids, Devin has had a lot of leadership roles such as team captain, making group routines, coaching classes, camps and workshops. Devin's favorite part of jump rope is making/sharing new tricks as well as meeting people from around the world as he travels to help staff workshops and perform. He is thankful for the many life experiences jumping has provided: volunteering in Baltimore at a community center to teach jump rope, jumping in the Macy's Parade twice, and co-founding the group WEjumpROPE to expand the sport.

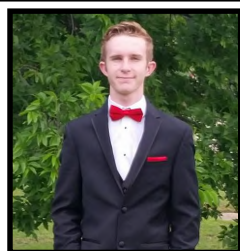
In 2016, he also joined Flight Crew Jump Rope which gave him further opportunities at Onward, performing for Nickelodeon, the Arnolds, and celebrating the new year in China. Devin plans on attending UMBC to earn a degree in Communications/Marketing.



**Drew Meininger** has been a part of the Kangaroo Kids since the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade, when an after-school jump rope class was offered at his elementary school. After progressing through classes, he joined the Travel team, getting to perform at various community events, college basketball halftime shows and even the Macy's Day Parade. He eventually joined the Competition Team in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, and has jumped at USAJR Nationals and AAU Junior Olympics and will be competing at this year's World Jump Rope competition.

Drew has enjoyed coaching younger jumpers in weekly classes, camps and workshops for the Kangaroo Kids, as well as coaching workshops out of state with other teams. He was able to use jump rope to work with kids on a mission trip to El Salvador last summer. At school, he has shared his skills with classmates at talent shows, pep rallies, and even landed a part as a jump roping basketball player in his school's production of High School Musical!

Jump rope has given Drew the chance to push himself creatively and physically, taking risks which have landed him success, and at times, just landed him on his head! But he always gets up and keeps trying! Most importantly, jump rope has given Drew lifelong bonds and friendships. Drew plans to attend Virginia Tech in the fall to study Engineering.



**Stephen Miles** has been a member of the Falcon Flyers in Lake Dallas, TX for 11 years. He has competed for Team USA and is a member of the USA Jump Rope All-Star team where he has made many close friends and traveled around the USA teaching and performing.

He graduated from Lake Dallas High School and is attending North Carolina State University and plans to major in Human Biology with future goals to become a physical therapist.





# Senior Spotlights



**Ben Mulroy** has been a member of the Summerwind Skippers since March of 2011. Ben was inspired to join the team when they performed for his school when he was in 6th grade. Ben is an integral part of the team and excels at bringing dance moves into the ropes and instructing. He does an awesome job teaching two jump rope clubs each week. His "students" love his fun personality.

Ben plans to attend Boise State University. Good luck, Ben, The Summerwind Skippers love you!



**Abigail (Abby) Navin** has been a member of the Forbes Flyer Jump Rope Team since third grade. Over the years we have watched Abby grow into a very dedicated jumper who takes pride in this sport and promotes it at every opportunity. She is one of four co-captains on the team. She has so many of our younger jumpers who follow her around seeking her attention and support, which she gives willingly. She has competed at a regional, national and international level winning many awards and recognitions, with several opportunities to compete on the Grand National Stage. She has also competed at the Apollo and at many fairs, festivals and workshops. She is currently a member on the USA Jump Rope All Star Team.

Her hobbies are many, she loves the outdoors, music, coaching her little sister in softball, laying on the beach, playing with her dogs, horseback riding, watching her favorite television shows, spending time with her friends and family. She loves country music but enjoys listening to almost anything!! Jump rope will always be her passion and she plans on starting her own team sometime down the road! She will be attending Coastal Carolina University to pursue a teaching career. Our team slogan and theme song is "I believe I Can Fly" and we truly believe Abby will soar in whatever she chooses to pursue.



**Kylie O'Connor** is a senior with the YMCA Superskippers and has been jumping since she was 8 years old. She first competed with Tri Force Jump Rope in Des Moines, IA for AAU where she won the gold for her individual freestyle. Her original group for AAU was comprised of herself, Zoe, Justin, and Sarah, however the following year she and Zoe moved to the Skipsations then later to the YMCA Superskippers. Now here at Nationals the original AAU group has come full circle as a DD group for the YMCA Superskippers. Kylie and Zoe have been teammates traveling on this jump rope road since the beginning and will be competing as pairs for their final USAJR Nationals.

Kylie will be graduating from Millbrook High School in Raleigh, NC this June. Kylie has made some incredible friends through this sport with lots of laughter along the way and as sports so often do provided life lessons about the highs and lows of competition as an individual as well as being part of a team. What a journey and the many wonderful opportunities jump rope has provided for her such as jumping in the Macy's Day Parade. We are so proud of the young woman Kylie has become and look forward to seeing where life takes her and her next adventures. Kylie will be attending the University of Pittsburgh this fall as a freshman, or as she likes to say she is joining the cult of "Hail to Pitt".



**Morgan Parker** began taking jump rope classes in second grade and has been a member of the Heartbeats for the past eight years. Some of her favorite memories include competing in the 2012 World Championship, participating in the 2013 and 2015 Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, spreading her passion for the sport by teaching jump rope classes, and creating friendships that will last a lifetime. Morgan is eternally grateful for the relationships she's made through this incredible sport and cannot adequately express how thankful she is for the support of her family and coach.



## Senior Spotlights



**Andrea Peters** has jumped with the Falcon Flyers from Lake Dallas, TX for 11 years. She was a member of Team USA in 2012 and 2014 and is currently a member of the USA Jump Rope All-Star team.

She plans to continue in the sport as she moves to Elon University in North Carolina! She plans to major in International Business and Minor in Political Science before attending medical school. Someday she hopes to be pediatric orthopedic surgeon, and perhaps someday the president!



**Bruce Poirier** has been a member of the Forbes Flyers Jump Rope Team since third grade. Bruce is a very dedicated member of the team. He is one of four co-captains this year on the team. As a co-captain he has led practices keeping younger jumpers on task and focused. Bruce reads a daily quote to the jumpers and looks for them to share their thoughts on the meaning of the quote. He guides them at regionals to stay focused and motivated to do their best. His shyness as a beginner jumper changed over to a leader with great ideas to share and champion. Over the years Bruce has attended numerous jump rope shows and competitions both on a regional and national level, focusing on speed and triple events.

Bruce attended Oliver Wolcott Vocational high school and plans on going directly into plumbing and heating following graduation. We wish Bruce the best in his future vocation and "We Believe He Can Fly".



**Matthew Russell** is a member of the YMCA Super Skippers (Cary, NC), and has been jumping for 10 years. With this sport, he's had the opportunity to compete in many tournaments and meet lots of fantastic athletes and friends. A few fond jump rope memories include meeting former first lady Michelle Obama and Kelly Ripa on the "Live with Kelly" show, representing Team USA at the FISAC competition in 2012 and jumping in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade and traveling to North Pole, Alaska representing the USA Jump Rope All-Star Team.

Matthew is attending East Carolina University this fall. He is excited to be running as a member of the Cross Country and Track teams for the university. Working toward a degree in Exercise Physiology, Matthew plans to become a physical therapist.



**Theresa Schachte** is another long-time member of the HT High Flyers when she followed her sister onto the team as a young jumper. She loves to do speed events and is a medalist and top ten finisher in AAU Junior Olympics and USA Jump Rope National Championships. She has participated in college basketball halftime shows, events at the Carnegie Science Museum, the Children's Museum in Pittsburgh and numerous other events across the country. She also was one of our jumpers recognized by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.

Outside of jump rope, Theresa was inducted into the National Technical Honor Society, the National Honor Society, and the National Home Builders Association. She is a Varsity athlete and letter winner in Track and Field. She is a 10-year member of 4-H where she has shown and taken projects in horse, goat, rocketry, bicycle, dog, and pet care. She is a top ten finisher at the Pennsylvania State 4-H Horse Show Championship. She has held president and vice-president positions in her local clubs. Theresa participated for five years at Penn State Achievement Days in Hippology for 4-H. She will be going into the construction field after graduation.



## Senior Spotlights



**Anna Schaeffer** began jumping rope with the Allen Elementary All-Stars in fourth grade, and from there she was hooked. She has been a part of the Heartbeats since 2011 and has loved every minute of it, from the hours of practice with Subway runs partway through to the Team Show victory in 2015 to the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. Being a part of the Heartbeats has provided opportunities for teaching, creativity, personal growth, and ultimately, friendships that will last a lifetime. Anna hopes every person in the audience gets to try jump rope someday (and every child should sign up for our classes!) Anna is thankful for every member of the team and the board and all they do, and especially thanks to Dot Hepp for making this adventure possible and Mrs. Evans for being the best jump rope coach ever.

Most of all, she thanks her parents for their unending love and kindness and for investing so much in her passions!



**Ronnie Shvueli** has been Jumping Rope since she was eight. This is a great passion of hers and an inseparable part of her life. She's made friendships on the team which will last her a lifetime. Over the years she participated in numerous competitions all over the country. She's also volunteered at camps, mentored young jumpers and supported her teammates.

Ronnie loves to work. She holds two jobs; one at a plant nursery and more recently at a classy restaurant in Apex. While loving both plants and great food, what she enjoys most is working with people and her colleagues.

Ronnie plans to attend the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill and – no commitments—she is leaning towards a major in Business and minor in French. Whichever direction she chooses, her upcoming years in college look promising in every way and she and her family are increasingly excited for her and this next chapter in her young life.



**Ashleigh Steadman** started jump rope when she was 8 years old through jump rope summer camps. She quickly fell in love with the sport and joined the Superskippers that same year.

Ashleigh has been a Grand National Champion 3 times in her speed events and has been awarded 4 Grand National awards as an overall individual. Her favorite memories of jump rope include jumping the MACYS Thanksgiving Day Parades in 2013 and 2015 as well as traveling to California for USAJR Nationals.

Ashleigh graduated Cary High School in June, 2017 and she is attending North Carolina State University this fall to study Human Biology. Ashleigh dreams of attending medical school and becoming an orthopedic surgeon.



**Jillian Stevens** has been jumping with the Brewster Bayside Skippers since first grade. She loves the sport as well as the surrounding community. She has made many friends from teams all over the country. She has competed at USAJR Nationals for the past 8 years, jumping at Grand Nationals once, and is excited to compete in her ninth USAJR National Competition this year.

She also had the amazing opportunity to jump in the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade twice. Jilly also played JV and Varsity lacrosse at Nauset Regional High School. She is still deciding where she will go to college with dreams of studying athletic training. Good Luck Jilly!!





## Senior Spotlights



**Abby Strickler's** love of jump rope began at the age of 4 when she watched her first performance at a local elementary school. On that day, she announced that one day she would be on a jump rope team. That day came 4 years later when she earned a spot on this same school's performance team. At 10 years old, she decided she wanted to progress to a competition team and became a member of the YMCA SuperSkippers.

During her jump rope career, she has been fortunate to compete in Grand Nationals several times winning 3 awards including the single rope female pairs freestyle championship in 2014. Abby also twice had the honor of participating in the Macy's parade. Jumping at Grand Nationals and performing in the Macy's parade are memories that will stay with her for a lifetime. She will miss the friendships she has forged and her jump rope family.

Abby graduated from Apex High School in June and will be attending the College of Textiles at North Carolina State University in the fall. She will be majoring in Textile Brand Management and would like to work for a major fashion entity in the future. She also hopes to represent NC State on the sidelines as a cheerleader next year!



**Sara Trauterman** has been a member of the Brewster Bayside Skippers for the past 12 years. What started as an afterschool activity turned into a passion. Sara has competed in the past 8 USAJR National competitions placing in the top ten several times with her Pairs, Double Dutch, and Double Dutch Pairs team. In 2014 Sara competed at Grand Nationals with her DDP team. Jumping Rope has been an important part of Sara's life. Not only has it provided opportunities and experiences that have encouraged and contributed to her life, but it has developed friendships and relationships with her coach and teammates that will make up a lifetime of laughs and memories.

Sara has been accepted to several colleges where she plans to pursue a degree in Secondary Education in Mathematics.



**Ivy Tubman** has been a member of the Brewster Bayside Skippers since first grade. She would have joined in Kindergarten if it were permitted. Ivy, at age 5, would watch the team at practice, studying their moves and then come home and try all the tricks until she had mastered them. Her dedication and determination has continued to this day. Ivy has won numerous ribbons and medals at both the Regional and National level.

Ivy enjoys sharing the sport of Jump Rope with others and is always eager to teach the younger kids on the team. This year, Ivy took on a coaching role with the local recreation team. She, along with one of the team coaches, have developed a summer program and plan to continue to work with the recreation team as they foster new members for the competition team. Ivy is a true role model for these up and coming athletes.

Ivy also has a passion for the sport of Crew. Ivy has been a member of Cape Cod Youth rowing for four years. Not only does Ivy row, she also takes on the role of coxswain, who is responsible for steering the boat and motivating the rowers. Ivy has competed in numerous races all over Massachusetts, in addition to racing in Canada. Ivy competed in the Head of the Charles in 2016 in the youth women's quad division.

Ivy hopes to pursue a career in the sports industry focusing on Athletic training with a minor in coaching. She plans to attend the University of Maine, Orono.

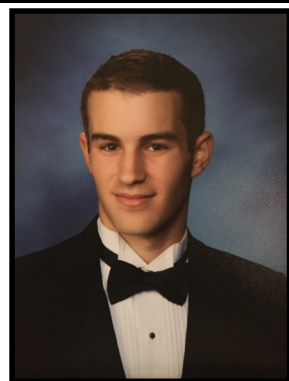


## Senior Spotlights



**Kayla Turner** graduated from C. Milton Wright High School. She has been a member of the Hoppin' Hawks Jump Rope Team for the last 8 years. She has been on the Competition Team for 6 years and the Performance Team for 5 years. Kayla is a wonderful team member who the younger jumpers look up to. During her time on the team she has had to overcome injuries, including one that prevented her from jumping most of her senior year which was a great loss for the team. While she was unable to jump she still attended as many practices and performances as possible. She helped her teammates create new routines and offered suggestions to improve current skills. Kayla was still able to perform in numerous shows while injured and mastered creating rope manipulation routines so she could "jump" and perform while not allowed to actually jump. Throughout her jump rope career Kayla has grown into a confident young woman who no longer hesitates as long to make decisions. She is able to provide constructive criticism to younger jumpers to help them improve in the sport. While Kayla has enjoyed competing and had competition success she also enjoyed attending workshops and making memories with her teammates. Kayla was chosen to participate in Team J.U.M.P for the 2015 Macy's Parade and executing a clean routine at Herald Square will always be a favorite jump rope accomplishment and memory. Kayla will attend Stevenson

University in Maryland and major in Biology. We will miss you Kayla and wish you all the best in all that you do!



**Aaron Weingrad** has worked tirelessly at attempting to master the sport of jump rope since the first grade. Throughout, Aaron has learned many life skills, one of the most important being leadership. Whether he is teaching at a workshop or out on the floor competing, Aaron's main goal has always been to support and to inspire other jumpers. Also, traveling for the sport has included many unique national and international opportunities. He has worked with inner city kids, helped establish new teams, coached, performed and has shared his passion with many jumpers near and far. Last year Aaron became a member of Flight Crew Jump Rope which allowed him to perform for a variety of clients.

One of the unique things that Aaron likes about jump rope is that you can take a rope to a lot of cool places. In fact, he co-founded a group dedicated to traveling to various locations to shoot videos to promote the sport. [www.wejump rope.com](http://www.wejump rope.com)

Aaron has his sights set on becoming a trauma surgeon. Recently, he passed the State of Maryland boards to become an EMT in Howard County MD and is part of the 5<sup>th</sup> District Volunteer Fire Department. He is attending the University of Maryland in the Fall.

**Christian Whitsel** is a 12-year member of the HT High Flyers, a Grand National Championships participant in individual freestyle and speed events with numerous top ten and medal finishes in USAJR National Championships and AAU Junior Olympics. He was on Team USA for FISAC World Championships in Hong Kong, he has taught workshops, and participated twice in the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade. He represented the HT High Flyers on Capitol Hill with the NFL and Members of Congress, at the White House for Nickelodeon's Worldwide Day of Play, and last summer with Sony Pictures for an Angry Birds promotional event. He has demonstrated at numerous other events and been recognized by the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.



In high school, Christian was the men's varsity cross-country team captain and four-year letter winner, varsity letter winner in track and field, Senior Class Vice-President, a member of the National Honor Society, and President of the French National Honor Society.

He has volunteered with Meals on Wheels and the American Heart Association and is a member of St. James Lutheran Church Council. He will be attending Gettysburg College to study health sciences to prepare for a career in medicine.



## Senior Spotlights



**Ashlyn Worthington** began her jump rope career at the age of 8 when she aspired to join her elementary school jump rope team, the Salem Skip Its. The next year she tried out for the Cary Super Skippers and jumped on both teams through elementary school. While most of her success has been in speed events, she finally achieved a Grand Champion award in 2016 for Female Double Dutch Freestyle. In her 9 years with the Cary YMCA Super Skippers, she has enjoyed teaching clinics, being a team captain and performing at various events including the Macy's Thanksgiving Day parade, NC State Basketball, Duke Basketball and Virginia Tech Basketball games. While jump rope is her passion, she also played softball

and lacrosse and enjoys being a part of various clubs at Apex High School including being co-anchor of Cougar TV, President of National Technical Honor Society, National Honor Society and proudly serving as an ambassador for Apex High giving tours to perspective students. Her jump rope career has come full circle as she returned to the Apex Skip Its to volunteer coach at their summer camp and various practices.

Ashlyn will graduate from Apex High School in June 2017 with honors as a member of the Apex Academy of Information and Technology program. She is attending UNC-Charlotte in the fall to study Public Health in hopes of pursuing a career at the CDC. She will be joining other Super Skippers and jump rope alumni in Charlotte as a member of the Queen City Skippers.

To accomplish great things, we must not only act, but also dream; not only plan, but also believe.

*Santiz Anatole France*