

# MASTER OF SPORT

Within each program, USA Gymnastics recognizes coaches that have achieved the highest level of coaching distinction. Select current and past coaches have been recognized by their program

with the title of Master of Sport! This is an honorary title awarded to the coaches who have demonstrated their ability to train and produce an athlete that has represented the United States of America in the highest

level of competition in a Pan American, World Championship, and/or Olympic Game. As USA Gymnastics celebrates its 50 years of Champions, it is timely to share and celebrate those coaches who have reached a mastery

level of their sport. USA Gymnastics is grateful to have coaches such as these that have led the sport with their expertise of coaching knowledge. We congratulate the following Masters of Sport.

**Criteria: Named personal coach of an athlete or named Coach of a Group who participated on an Olympic, World or Pan American Games Team**

## Rhythmic Program

Efrossina Angelouva  
Maria Bakos  
Cindy Bickman\*  
Kathryn Brym  
Yelena Chshukareva  
Marina Davidovich  
Marian Duncan  
Jan Exner  
Karyn Lyon Glover  
Wendy Hilliard\*  
Maureen Holdreith\*  
Mary Ellen Holdreith\*  
Lucy Kerznerman  
Irina Khamadullina\*  
Natasha Kilmouk  
Nataliya Kiriyenko  
Marina Kukhta\*  
Olga Kutuzova  
Michelle Larson\*  
Lana Lashoff  
Paula Lord  
Margarita Mamzina  
Mimi Masteva  
Tracey Callahan Molnar\*  
Charlene Negron\*  
Larissa Nikitina\*  
Graciela Yanes Ojeda  
Elena Savenkova  
Svetlana Scherba\*  
Andrea Schmid  
Alla Svirsky  
Iordanka Takova  
Rossitza Todorova

Irina Vdovets  
Nora Veyette  
Catherine Yakimovich  
Angelina Yovcheva

*\*indicates first personal coach of Group team Member*

## Acro Program

Marie Annonson  
Igor Ashkinazi  
Marilyn Bauman  
Tonya Case  
Gawain DuPree  
Dan Hoff  
Daniil Kostovetskiy  
Cricket Lapeyre  
Craig Patterson  
Jurek Pol  
Sherri Reiakvam  
Anatoliy Solodar  
Youri Vorobiev

## Women's Program

Artur Akopyan  
Diane Amos  
Dan Baker  
Ashly Baker  
Armine Barutyan  
Andrea Bieger  
Tammy Biggs  
Aimee Boorman  
Nataliya Boyarskaya

Luis Brasesco Mihai  
Brestyan  
Sylvia Brestyan  
Kevin Brown  
Rick Brown  
Becky Buick  
Jennifer Bundy  
Chris Burdette  
Jack Carter  
Soren Cepoi  
Teodora Cepoi  
Maureen Chagnon  
Jim Chudy  
Jenny Coco  
Bill Coco  
Scott Crouse  
Teri Crumley  
Al Fong  
Jim Fontaine  
Tom Forster  
Lori Forster  
Luminita Garcy  
Todd Gardiner  
Tim Garrison  
Jim Gault  
John Geddert  
Kathryn Geddert  
Tony Gehman  
Paula Gehman  
Steve Gerlach  
Laurie Glazer  
Terry Gray  
Muriel Grossfeld

• Hal Halvorson  
Laprise Harris-Williams  
Michael Harris

Alan Hatch  
Kelli Hill  
Rod Hill  
John Holman  
Leonard Isaacs  
Ivan Ivanov  
Cheryl Jarrett  
Jim Jarrett  
Debbie Kaitschuck  
Bela Karolyi  
Martha Karolyi  
Date Kephart  
Eugene Koehnke  
Lorraine Koehnke  
Avis Tieber Kollinger  
Kristi Krafft  
Roe Kruetzer  
Laurent Landi  
Bob Levesque  
Yujiju Li  
Hao Quan Liang  
Peggy Liddick  
Valeri Liukin  
Mike Lynch  
Nataliya Marakova  
Galina Marinova  
Antonia Markova  
Chelle Stack Marcella  
Yvegeny Marchenko  
Bud Marquette  
Greg Marsden  
Jeanelle Memmel  
Tom McCarthy  
Dale McClements-Kephart  
Andy Memmel  
Dan Miller

Christi Mitchell  
Linda Mulvihill  
Dick Mulvihill  
Robin Netwall  
Rick Newman  
Steve Nunno  
Deana Parish  
Meredith Pauticivic  
Tatiana Perskaia  
Gheza Popszar  
Liang Qiao  
Kip Reed  
Patty Resnick  
Neil Resnick  
Cassie Rice  
Bozhidar Russev  
Steve Rybacki  
Beth Rybacki  
William Sands  
Marvin Sharp  
Peter Sielski  
Joe Stallone  
Milan Stanovich  
Dan Connelly  
Roger Council  
Harold Frey  
Ken Friedheim  
Yefim Furmin  
Ed Gagnier  
Thom Glielmi  
Kurt Golder  
Abie Grossfeld  
Sadao Hamada  
Jim Hartung  
Yoshi Hayasaki  
Jim Howard

Jiani Wu  
Pat Yeager  
Mark Young  
Jian Zhang  
Peter Zhao  
Liwen Zhuang  
Paul Ziert  
Kim Zmeskal-Burdette

## Men's Program

Francis Allen  
Yin Alvarez  
Vladimir Artemev  
Miles Avery  
Ron Barak  
Jack Beckner  
Ron Brant  
Ed Burch  
Mike Burns  
Greg Buwick  
Dan Connelly  
Roger Council  
Harold Frey  
Ken Friedheim  
Yefim Furmin  
Ed Gagnier  
Thom Glielmi  
Kurt Golder  
Abie Grossfeld  
Sadao Hamada  
Jim Hartung  
Yoshi Hayasaki  
Jim Howard

Leonard Isaacs  
Randy Jepson  
Peter Kormann  
Newt Loken  
Stacy Maloney  
Vitaly Marinitch  
Kevin Mazeika  
Tim McNeill  
Bill Meade  
Tom Meadows  
Rusty Mitchell  
Bruce Morganegg  
Michael Naddour  
Don Osborn  
Carl Patterson  
Charles Pond  
Don Robinson  
Fred Roethlisberger  
Mark Russo  
• Makoto Sakamoto  
Karl Schier  
Rustam Sharipov  
Art Shurlock  
Nathan Simmons  
Justin Spring  
Casimiro Suarez  
George Szypula  
Yoichi Tomita  
Fred Turoff  
Armando Vega  
Barry Weiner  
Gene Wettstone  
Mark Williams  
Xiao Yuan  
Paul Ziert

## Trampoline & Tumbling Program

Jim Aamodt  
Keith Baker  
Greg Baldrige  
Jon Beck  
Kyle Bowen  
Brad Davis  
Peter Dodd  
Wayne Downing  
Dr George Drew  
Oleg Fedosov  
Sergio Galvez  
Carl Patterson  
Bill Gandy  
Lisa Gandy  
Larry Gleason  
Dave Green  
William Green  
Tara Guidry  
Konstantin Gulisashvili  
Tim Hall  
Lancel Hatch  
Patricia Henderson  
Kristi Huff  
Danny Irish  
Stacy Jauch  
Shaun Kempton  
Tatiana Kovaleva  
Linda Laaker  
Zac Lawson  
Beverly Lloyd  
Justen Millerbernd  
Shawn Moore

Sherry Mulkey  
Hans Neilsen  
Jaroslav Novak  
Jaroslav Novakova  
Robert Null  
Joe Pierce  
Dmitri Poliaroush  
Stephen Raymond  
Peggy Rayson  
John Reeves  
Pete Roberts  
Craig Smith  
Bret Stout  
Paul Swafford  
Jay Umenhofer  
Amber Van Natta  
• Max Vercruyssen  
Gail White  
Terry Wight  
Glen Wilson  
Judy Willis-Cline  
Tex Womack  
Aaron Zink



Two retired coaches in Hawaii were given Master of Sport recognition by USA Gymnastics (the national governing body for gymnastics) and added to this historic list. **Makoto Sakamoto** was a 3-time US Olympian, Olympic Coach, and the coach of many famous US Olympians in Men's Artistic Gymnastics. **Max Vercruyssen** coached four age group World Champions and his daughter Nani at all world events except the Olympic Games in trampoline gymnastics. Both are still active at Hawaii Academy in Honolulu.

A third coach lives and works in Buffalo, Wyoming, but before that was Vercruyssen's Coach in Montana and has been an affiliate coach at Hawaii Academy since 1999 — **Hal Halvorson**. All three still enjoy teaching gymnastics in their 60s.

(e.g., see the AARP commercial at [www.HawaiiAcademy.com/news2013.html](http://www.HawaiiAcademy.com/news2013.html)).