

## 2011 Scholarship Recipients

1. Morganne Murphy (Squaw Valley) \$1000 Squaw Valley Ski Team
2. Jordan Schweitzer (Mt. Bachelor) \$1000 MT. Bachelor Sports Education Foundation
3. Lila Lapanja (Sugar Bowl) \$1000 U.S. Ski Team
4. Tara Hines\* (U.S. Ski Team) \$1000 U.S. Ski Team
5. Dylan Murtha (Sugar Bowl) \$750 Sugar Bowl Ski Team
6. Dylan Brooks (Sugar Bowl) \$750 Sugar Bowl Ski Team
7. Linnea Baysinger (Team Alpental) \$750 Team Alpental Snoqualmie
8. Stephan Splitsoser (Mt Hood) \$1000 Mt. Hood Academy sponsored by Mountain High Snowsports Club (Portland, OR)
9. Kirk Carlson (Mammoth) \$500 Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
10. Garret Driller (Squaw Valley) \$500 Squaw Valley Ski Team
11. Ali Gunesch (Mt. Hood) \$500 Mt Hood Academy sponsored by Bergfreunde Ski Club (Portland, OR)
12. Foreste Peterson (U.S. Ski Team) \$1000 U.S. Ski Team sponsored by Castro Valley Ski Club (Castro Valley, CA)
13. Cai Yamamoto (Mission Ridge) \$500 Mission Ridge Ski Team
14. Scott Cooper (Sugar Bowl) \$500 Sugar Bowl Ski Team
15. Rose Caston (Park City) \$500 Park City Ski Team
16. Hanna Johnson (Diamond Peak) \$500 Diamond Peak Ski Team
17. Lucas Underkoffler (Mammoth) \$500 Mammoth Mountain Ski Team
18. Haley Hanseler (Mission Ridge) \$500 Mission Ridge Ski Team
19. Alexa Wehsener (Mammoth) \$1000 Mammoth Mountain Ski Team sponsored by San Diego Council of Ski Clubs
20. Jordan Schweitzer (Mt Bachelor) \$1000 Mt. Bachelor Sports Education Foundation sponsored by Skiyente Ski Club (Portland, OR)

\* Tara Hines declined the scholarship when she was unable to raise the prerequisite funds for USSA Development Team membership.

## The 2011-2012 FWSA Athletic Scholarship Recipients Biographies

**Linnea Baysinger** (\$750), age 16, is from North Bend, WA, and attends Mt. Si High School in Snoqualmie, WA. She is a member of the Team Alpental Snoqualmie and stands at 9<sup>th</sup> in Downhill and 13<sup>th</sup> in Giant Slalom in her age group. Linnea maintains a 3.95 GPA. Both of Linnea's letters of recommendation commend her for her dedication and discipline. According to her coach, she brings desire and passion to skiing.

**Dylan Brooks** (\$750), age 19, from Mammoth Lakes, CA, is in his final year of USSA junior racing. A member of the Sugar Bowl Ski Team, he is ranked 7<sup>th</sup> in Super G and Giant Slalom in his year group. The highlight of the 2011 season was finishing in the junior top 10 at the U.S. Nationals. Dylan held a 3.96 GPA while attending the Sugar Bowl Academy. Last year, Dylan was received Sugar Bowl Academy's Skier of the Year award and the 2011 Student-Athlete award in recognition of his dedication, leadership and academic performance.

Kirk Carlson (\$500), age 17, is a senior at Mammoth High School and a member of the Mammoth Mountain Ski Team. He was ranked 9<sup>th</sup> in Downhill and 14<sup>th</sup> in Super G and Giant Slalom in 2011. Kirk is a 4.0 student and a member of the national Honor Society. He is an all-around athlete who participates in golf, tennis, football, basketball and baseball.

**Rose Caston** (\$500), age 19, is from Salt Lake City, UT, and a member of the U.S. Ski Team's development team. She formerly raced for the Park City Ski Team. She is a strong all-around skier whose 2011 rankings placed her 4<sup>th</sup> in Downhill and Super G, and 5<sup>th</sup> in Giant Slalom. Rose graduated from the Rowland Hill Winter Sports School with a 3.7 GPA. She excels in both soccer and skiing. Her ski coach noted that Rose is the type of athlete that will succeed in all of life's endeavors.

**Scott Cooper** (\$500), age 18, is from Reno, NV, and a graduate of the Sugar Bowl Academy where he maintained a 3.7 GPA. Ranked 18<sup>th</sup> in Giant Slalom, Scott reached the podium in two Giant Slalom races and one slalom race during the 2011 season.

**Garret Driller** (\$500), age 15, attends North Tahoe High School in Tahoe City, CA. A member of the Squaw Valley Ski Team, Garret is ranked 10<sup>th</sup> in Super G, 5<sup>th</sup> in Giant Slalom, and 5<sup>th</sup> in Slalom in his age group. He maintains a 3.88 GPA. According to his coach, Lee Schmidt, Garret is an extremely gifted athlete and participates and excels in the season's sports: soccer, water skiing, lacrosse, mountain/road biking, and alpine ski racing.

**Ali Gunesch** (\$500), age 17, is from Government Camp, OR, and attends Sandy High School and the Mt. Hood Academy. A member of the National Honor Society, Ali maintains a 4.0 GPA. Her coach notes that she is hard working and very receptive to instructions and new ideas. Ali is ranked 2<sup>nd</sup> in Downhill and 4<sup>th</sup> in Super G. She is sponsored by Bergfreunde Ski Club, a Far West Ski Association affiliate.

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**Haley Hanseler** (\$500), age 17, from Longview, WA, was formerly a member of the Mt. Hood Ski Team, but has recently joined the Mission Ridge Ski Team. Despite an early season injury, Haley finished the 2011 season 4<sup>th</sup> in Downhill and 2<sup>nd</sup> in Super G. She was one of four junior women from the 1994 year group to compete in the U.S. Nationals where she finished in the top 50% for Super G. A senior in high school, Haley carries a 3.7 GPA.

**Tara Hines** (\$1000), age 19, is from Helena, MT, and was selected for the U.S. Ski Team's development team. During the 2010-2011 season, she trained at Mission Ridge, WA, and achieved a 7<sup>th</sup> in Downhill and Super G, and a 9<sup>th</sup> in Giant Slalom. She is a graduate of Helena High School with a 3.97 GPA. Unfortunately, Tara was unable to raise the requisite funds to sustain her development team membership and she was forced to withdraw. Although Tara subsequently declined our scholarship, we feature her here in recognition of her hard work and terrific athletic talent.

**Hannah Johnson** (\$500), age 15, attends Incline High School in Incline, NV, and holds a 4.0 GPA. Her coach at Incline, Hanzi Deschermeier, praises her desire and ability to ski fast, and her incomparable sportsmanship. Hannah finished the 2011 season 11<sup>th</sup> in Downhill, 8<sup>th</sup> in Super G, and 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> in Giant Slalom and Slalom respectively.

**Lila Lapanja** (\$1000), age 16, is the first FWSA scholarship recipient to be selected to the U.S. Ski Team's development team. A native of Incline, NV, Lila attends the Forest Charter School in Truckee, NV, where she maintains a 4.0 GPA. Lila is one of the top all-around junior alpine racers with top 10 standings in all four disciplines: 8<sup>th</sup> in Downhill, 6<sup>th</sup> in Super G, 8<sup>th</sup> in Giant Slalom, and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Slalom.

**Morganne Murphy** (\$1000), age 17, is from Truckee, CA, and is a member of the Squaw Valley Ski Team. She finished the 2011 season ranked 3<sup>rd</sup> in Downhill, 14<sup>th</sup> in Super G and 7<sup>th</sup> in Slalom. Morganne won the combined championship at the 2011 J-2 Nationals and placed 20<sup>th</sup> in Super G at the U.S. Nationals. She is currently the #1 ranked U.S. woman in Ski Cross and has earned a World Cup start for the 2011-2012 season.

**Dylan Murtha** (\$750), age 17, is a senior at the Sugar Bowl Academy and a 3.9 student. He finished the 2011 season standing in 15<sup>th</sup> place in Giant Slalom and 23<sup>rd</sup> in Slalom. Dylan's coach, Guenther Birgmann, credits him with being "an incredible competitor with goals, and the work ethic to achieve them."

**Foreste Peterson** (\$1000), age 18, earned a spot in the U.S. Ski Team's development team in 2010 but was sidelined by injury for most of the 2010-2011 season. Foreste raced to first place in the overall combined at the 2010 J-2 Nationals with a 1<sup>st</sup> place in Giant Slalom and a 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Slalom. That same season, she scored a 3<sup>rd</sup> place in both the super combined and Giant Slalom (junior competition) at the U.S. Nationals. She graduated from Berkeley High School with a 3.95 GPA. Foreste is sponsored by

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the Castro Valley Ski Club of Castro Valley, CA.

**Jordan Schweitzer** (\$1000), age 17, has been a top ranked competitor in Downhill for most of her racing career. She finished the 2011 season ranked 1<sup>st</sup> in Downhill, eighth in Super G, eighteenth in Giant Slalom and twelfth in Slalom for her age group. Jordan is a member of the Mt. Bachelor Ski Team and a senior attending on-line classes through the Oregon Connections Academy where she holds a 3.8 GPA. Jordan is the 2011 recipient of the \$1000 Erin Nicole Award sponsored by the Skiyente Ski Club of Portland, OR.

**Stephan Splitstoser** (\$1000), age 17, is a member of the Mt Hood Ski Team, and attends West Linn High School in West Linn, OR. Stephan is a 4.0 student and stands nationally 8<sup>th</sup> in DH and 6<sup>th</sup> in Super G for his year group. Stephan is sponsored by the Mountain High Snowsports Club of Portland, OR.

**Lucas Underkoffler** (\$500), age 15, a member of the Mammoth Mountain Ski Team, completed the 2011 season in 10<sup>th</sup> place in Downhill and 12<sup>th</sup> in Super G. Lucas is a sophomore at Mammoth High School where he maintains a 4.0 GPA. As an example of Luca's drive and dedication, Brent Forsythe, Mammoth Race Department Manager and Head JV Baseball Coach, points to the time Lucas competed in two Downhill races and then, on the same day, moved on to play in a high school baseball game as starting shortstop, then 2<sup>nd</sup> base, and finally pitcher.

**Alexa Wehsener** (\$1000), age 16, is sponsored by the San Diego Council of Skiers. She is in her junior year of high school where she maintains a 4.2 average through the IHigh Virtual Academy (San Diego Unified School District). Alexa is one of those athletes whose rankings belie her abilities. Her best standing is in Downhill where she finished the 2011 season 28<sup>th</sup> in her year group. However, she is no stranger to the podium. She has a 1<sup>st</sup> in Downhill and a 2<sup>nd</sup> in Giant Slalom, as well as three top ten finishes in Slalom to her credit for the 2011 season. Her Mammoth Mountain Ski Team coach notes that she finished the 2011 season consistently as the fastest girl on the team.

**Cai Yamamoto** (\$500), age 17, is a senior at Quincy High School in Quincy, WA, and a member of the Mission Ridge Ski Team. As a sophomore, Cai was a starting running back for the Quincy High football team. The same hard work and dedication that won him a starting position in football is reflected in his ski racing. He finished the 2011 season ranked 4<sup>th</sup> in Giant Slalom and Super G and 8<sup>th</sup> in Downhill in his age group. His coach, Ryan Shorter, praises Cai for the intensity and focus he brings to everything he does.