

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Florida Region of USA Volleyball to Award \$131,000 in Scholarships

In 2024, the Florida Region of USA Volleyball will award \$131,000 in scholarships to high school seniors within their organization.

Eustis, FL – March 11, 2024 – The Florida Region of USA Volleyball appreciates the hard work and dedication demonstrated by all student-athlete members both on the volleyball court and in the classroom. Each year since 2007, the organization has given back to deserving high school seniors that are moving on to college to further their educational goals.

This year, the Florida Region is honored to be awarding scholarships, ranging from \$1,000 up to \$16,000, to high school seniors that are in good standing with the organization at the upcoming 2024 Florida Region Awards Ceremony. The ceremony will be held at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL on April 19, 2024, at 6:30 PM EST in conjunction with the 2024 ASICS Florida Volleyball Challenge event.

Since the inception of the scholarship program in 2007, the Florida Region has awarded scholarships to 306 student-athletes. The total amount awarded through 2024 is \$867,100. The Norelli Family Foundation is once again matching all legacy scholarships, creating four-year renewable scholarships for the recipients.

Below is a list of the 2024 Scholarship Recipients (in alphabetical order):

- Aisha Keric (Naples, FL) Performance Volleyball Academy
- Alexandra Pantano (Orlando, FL) Oviedo Volleyball Academy
- Alyssa Carey (Clarksville, FL) Tallahassee Volleyball Academy
- Anna Pantano (Orlando, FL) Oviedo Volleyball Academy
- Ashley Giraldo (Naples, FL) Florida Gulfside Volleyball Academy
- Ashlyn Anderson (Fleming Island, FL) Jacksonville Skyline
- Ashtyn Sims (Winter Garden, FL) Oviedo Volleyball Academy
- Austin Knight (Maitland, FL) OTVA
- Balianna Coles (Naples, FL) Florida Gulfside Volleyball Academy
- Benjamin Herrington (Orlando, FL) Orlando Gold
- Brianna Taggart (Port Orange, FL) Winter Park Volleyball Club
- Brooke Spurgeon (Naples, FL) Performance Volleyball Academy
- Deanna Disinger (DeLand, FL) Winter Park Volleyball Club
- Dylan Elferdink (Hernando Beach, FL) Team Kiwi
- Emily Collings (Jacksonville, FL) Powers Volleyball Club
- Emily Miller (Spring Hill, FL) Club Steel Volleyball
- Emma Voehl (Valrico, FL) Tampa United Volleyball Academy
- Gabriela Ayala (Lake Worth, FL) Tribe Volleyball Club
- Hanna Virts (Ponte Vedra, FL) Jacksonville Juniors Volleyball Association

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- Isabella Salvador (Coral Gables, FL) Tribe Miami
- Jocelyn Aguirre (Deland, FL) Power Volleyball Academy
- Joni Furtwaengler (Miami, FL) Miami Select Volleyball
- Maya Pace (Miami, FL) Miami Hype
- Mayte Camacho (Oviedo, FL) Top Select Volleyball Academy
- Samantha Crosby (Haines City, FL) Lakeside Beach/Central Florida Beach/Optimum Beach
- Sophia Rodriguez (Jupiter, FL) Jupiter Elite
- Taelyn Graham (Jacksonville, FL) Jacksonville Skyline Juniors
- Teyhlor Thomas (Pompano Beach, FL) Boomers Volleyball Academy

Note: Scholarship recipients will find out which scholarship they have been awarded during the awards ceremony in Orlando.

The Florida Region of USA Volleyball would like to thank the following individuals and organizations for their generous support of the Florida Region Scholarship Program:

- Norelli Family Foundation
- ASICS America
- Baker's Sports
- Molten USA
- Rothman Orthopedics
- Smack Sportswear
- SpikeNet
- Team Travel Source
- Excel Events Presented by Monica & Luke Ewalt
- Florida Region Commissioner's Presented by Mary Andrew
- James Philips Founders Presented by the Florida Region
- JVC Tournaments Presented by AJ & Jennifer Joseph
- Ben Jordan Memorial Presented by Leisa Jordan
- Bill Littell Memorial Presented by the Florida Region
- Doug Handy Memorial presented by SportWrench
- Ned Degroot Memorial Presented by Em DeGroot, Melissa Batz, & Paige Murtagh
- Kevin Schar Memorial Presented by JVC Tournaments
- Mark Foster Memorial Presented by Kim Foster

"Congratulations to the 2024 scholarship recipients!" stated **Steve Bishop**, Executive Director/President of the Florida Region. "Each year, since 2007, we have been able to recognize many amazing Florida Region high school seniors with a scholarship award. This year we look forward to celebrating 28 more outstanding student-athletes, alongside their parents and friends, for what will be an exciting evening. Our generous group of scholarship donors & supporters will join us to present the scholarships along with a few words of encouragement to the class of 2024. We look forward to this special night of celebration."

2024 Florida Region Awards Ceremony are limited and can be purchased here: https://floridavolleyball.launchtrack.events/register/2024-florida-region-awards-ceremony-tickets

A Facebook live broadcast will be available for portions of the ceremony here: <u>Florida Region of USA Volleyball</u> <u>Facebook</u>

About Florida Region of USA Volleyball:

The Florida Region of USA Volleyball is a 501c3 non-profit that began operations in 1977 and was officially incorporated in 1982 to promote the sport of volleyball and to create competitive playing opportunities for volleyball enthusiasts of all ages throughout the State of Florida. The Florida Region is one of the 40 regional volleyball associations under the umbrella of USA Volleyball and currently serves 19,800 members. Indoor, outdoor, and para programming is available for adults, juniors, coaches and officials. The Florida Region of USA Volleyball is headquartered in Eustis, FL and manages the 21-court Hickory Point Beach Sand Volleyball Complex in Tavares, FL. Additional information on the Florida Region can be found at: www.FloridaVolleyball.org.

For additional information, please contact:

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