

ISU Skating Awards premieres at the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2020 in Montreal

The ISU Skating Awards is a brand-new and exciting event combining breathtaking Figure Skating performances, entertaining music acts, astonishing artistic shows and a dazzling Award ceremony.

The International Skating Union, Skate Canada and Art on Ice are proud to announce that the first ever ISU Skating Awards will be held on the occasion of the ISU World Figure Skating Championships® Montreal 2020.

Awards from seven categories will be given to outstanding athletes, Choreographer and Coach. Additionally, an innovative mix of Figure Skating, Dance and Cirque Nouveau will be showcased, featuring captivating music acts and several live performances - involving all 2020 ISU World Figure Skating Champions and medalists.

The ISU Skating Awards is a new format that will take place on Sunday, March 22, 2020 between 16:00 – 18:30 EDT (21:00 – 23:30 GMT) bringing a glamorous finish to the ISU World Figure Skating Championships 2020. Guests, VIPs and ISU Skating Awards nominees will arrive on the red carpet at the famous Bell Center in Montreal.

A long list of candidates will be announced on December 1, 2019 and on-line voting will open, allowing the media, public and ISU Members to vote for their favorite candidates through a new on-line voting platform. On-line voting will be possible from December 1, 2019 to February 10, 2020.

Following the on-line vote, three nominees in each category will be selected and officially announced on March 10, 2020.

A star-studded Jury will determine the winner of each category and the winners will be revealed and presented with their Award on the occasion of ISU Skating Awards held on March 22, 2020.

ISU Skating Awards categories

There are 7 Award categories:

- 1. **Most Valuable Skater:** Honors the Single Skater or Pair or Ice Dance Couple who best managed to increase the level of popularity of Figure Skating related to the fan base involvement, media attention and sponsors appreciation
- 2. **Best Costume:** Honors the Single Skater or Pair or Ice Dance Couple presenting a costume reflecting creativity, contemporary implementation, fashion, style and originality



Art on Ice

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- 3. **Most Entertaining Program:** Honors the Single Skater or Pair or Ice Dance Couple for the music selection, expression, creativity, contemporary implementation, originality and overall performance
- 4. **Best Newcomer:** Honors a young talented Single Skater or Pair or Ice Dance Couple competing very successfully in ISU Events on the Senior level for the first season
- 5. **Best Choreographer:** Honors the choreographic work of a Choreographer who successfully inspired one or several Single Skaters and/or Pairs and/or ice Dance Couples
- 6. **Best Coach:** Honors a Coach who delivered professional and efficient work and achieved outstanding results with one or several Single Skaters and/or Pairs and/or ice Dance Couples
- 7. Lifetime Achievement Award: Honors a Figure Skating legend having achieved great success and popularity and is considered as a role model in the Figure Skating World.

The ISU, Skate Canada and Art on Ice held a press conference on October 26, 2019 to unveil the ISU Skating Awards. The panel included:

- Ms. Patricia St Peter ISU Representative
- Mr. Benoit Lavoie ISU Council Member
- Mr. Oliver Höner ISU Skating Awards Producer & Art on Ice CEO
- Mr. Ari Zakarian ISU Skating Awards Show Initiator
- Ms. Leanna Caron Skate Canada President

The full press conference is available on demand on the **Skating ISU YouTube channel**.

To receive the latest information on the #ISUSkatingAwards please subscribe to the <u>ISU</u> <u>Newsletter here</u> and for more information please visit the <u>ISU Skating Awards</u> section of <u>ISU.ORG</u> and <u>https://montreal2020.com</u>. Click <u>here</u> to buy tickets for this exclusive event.

About International Skating Union

The International Skating Union (ISU), founded in 1892, is the oldest governing international winter sport federation and the exclusive international sport federation recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) administering the sports of Figure Skating (Single & Pair Skating and Ice Dance), Synchronized Skating, Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating worldwide. The objectives of the ISU are to regulate, govern, promote and develop its sports on the basis of friendship and mutual understanding between athletes. Currently three ISU disciplines are included in the Olympic Winter Games program (Figure Skating, Speed Skating and Short Track Speed Skating). For further information please visit isu.org.



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About Skate Canada

A not-for-profit organization, Skate Canada is the oldest figure skating organization in the world and is recognized by the Government of Canada, the Canadian Olympic Committee, and the International Skating Union as the governing body for the sport of figure skating in Canada. As the largest learn-to-skate teaching organization in Canada, Skate Canada is dedicated to creating a nation of skaters both recreationally and competitively. Skate Canada is comprised of ten regional sections that are made up of over 1,200 skating clubs and 180,000 members, including over 10,000 volunteers and coaches who are dedicated to creating safe and healthy learning, training, and working environments in our communities. For further information please visit <u>skatecanada.ca</u>.

About Art on Ice

Internationally-renowned music stars performing their greatest hits live, the world's elite Olympic and Championship ice skaters choreographed in perfect synchronization and an unforgettable show with spectacular special effects – this combination of superlatives is enough to melt the ice.

Year after year, millions of viewers, whether live in the stadium or at home in front of the TV, are enchanted by the passion and power of Art on Ice and its artists.

A star-studded line-up, breathtaking performances and a show rich in emotion all converge to create an unsurpassable experience. That is Art on Ice. For Further information please visit <u>www.artonice.com</u>

