

THE ACADEMY

A PUBLICATION OF THE UNITED STATES SPORTS ACADEMY

**Remembering Academy
Founding President**

**Dr. Thomas P.
Rosandich**

**Programs Expanding
FastTrack Option Launched**

**Annual Awards of Sport and
Graduation to be Held in 2021**

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The United States Sports Academy is an independent, non-profit, accredited, special mission sports university created to serve the nation and the world with programs in instruction, research and service. The role of the Academy is to prepare men and women for careers in the profession of sports.

ACCREDITATION

The United States Sports Academy is regionally accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

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The United States Sports Academy accepts students regardless of race, color, sex, national origin, religion, age, disability or genetic information.



America's Sports University®

One Academy Drive
Daphne, AL 36526-7055

Phone: (251) 626-3303

Fax: (251) 621-2527

E-mail: academy@ussa.edu

Website: www.ussa.edu

Editor: Eric Mann

Layout and Design: Corey Blake

COVER ARTWORK

"USSA President"

by Mina Papatheodorou-Valyraki

The original painting "USSA President" was gifted to Founding President Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich on the occasion of his 80th birthday in 2012 by world renowned painter Mina Papatheodorou-Valyraki, of Greece.

Recognized as the Academy's 2002 Sport Artist of the Year, Valyraki is known worldwide for her abstract expressionist paintings featuring a variety of subjects from athletes to automobiles. A longtime friend to Rosandich and the Academy, Valyraki's pieces can be viewed across the globe in such locales as the National Gallery in Athens, the Olympic Museum of Lausanne and the United Nations Building in New York, N.Y. Valyraki's acrylic painting, "Still Life in Yellow," became a permanent piece in the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C.



A resident of Athens, Greece, Valyraki was also the winner of the International Olympic Committee's 2014 Art and Sport Award. The artist also has numerous works on display at the Olympic Museum located in Lausanne, Switzerland, that were selected by former IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch.

Many of her works, including the cover art the "USSA President," are featured at the Academy's American Sport Art Museum and Archives (ASAMA).

To view more of Valyraki's work, please visit her website below:

<http://www.minapapatheodorou.gr/>

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Remembering Academy Founding President

Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich

7 August 1932 - 29 August 2020

Celebrating a Life Well-Lived and a Race Well-Run

Cover story written by Dr. T.J. Rosandich



On August 29, 2020, the United States Sport Academy marked a milestone in its history with the passing of the institution's Founding President, Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich.

Rosandich founded the Academy in 1972 and subsequently served as its President and CEO for 33 years until he stepped down in 2015. Rosandich went on to serve for an additional two years as the President Emeritus working on special projects and fundraising until he retired as an employee in 2017. However, he remained an active member of the Board of Trustees until he passed in August.

Given the instrumental role of Rosandich in the founding and building of what has become known around the world as "America's Sports University," it is wholly appropriate to look back at his many contributions to education and sport.

What follows is an expanded version of the eulogy delivered by Dr. T.J. Rosandich - the current Academy President and Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich's son - at the founder's funeral

During his time as the All-Marine Track Coach, Rosandich mentored Olympic gold medal decathlete Bob Mathias; javelin world record holder Al Cantello; and world class miler Wes Santee.

service that was streamed live online and attracted an audience from as far away as New Zealand and Australia.

First and foremost, my father Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich was a builder. As he traveled down his career path from his earliest days, he left behind him not only physical structures of sports and schools, but more importantly, he built the sport and education programs that changed so many lives.

Following graduation with a degree in physical education from the University of Wisconsin -Lacrosse, he entered the Marine Corps as a young officer. In many respects service in the Corps was a formative experience insofar as Rosandich remained imbued with the Marine Corp ethos through his whole life. As a young lieutenant, he very quickly became immersed in sports where he was appointed the All-Marine Track Coach at Quantico, Virginia. Taking charge of the Marine track and field program, he built a stable of world-class



COVER STORY (CONT.)

athletes – many who went on to set world records and compete in the Olympic Games. It was here he built his very first program, the Quantico Relays, that became an enduring event. In 1956, he was named the All-Service Track and Field Coach and was selected for the coaching staff for the 1956 Summer Olympic Games in Melbourne, Australia, where he was charged with training the military athletes who participated in the Games.

Soon after, he entered civilian life (although remaining a member of the Marine Corps Reserve) and took an assignment as a Goodwill Ambassador of Sport for the United States State Department. In this capacity, he travelled throughout Southeast Asia developing coaching programs and building training facilities where there were none. His tour took him to Malaya, including stops in the Borneo States of Sabah and Sarawak as well as the Sultanate of Brunei. His other stops included Kuala Lumpur in peninsular Malaya, Singapore and Laos. While he didn't know it at the time, when he was organizing track programs by coaching athletes and training coaches, he was building a network of contacts that would become involved with the Academy in the future.

Illustrative of his work at the time in Southeast Asia was his experience in the Kingdom of Laos. When he arrived in the country, he asked about the track team and found there was none. Brought to a military base, the Minister of Sport pointed to a battalion of paratroopers and said, "There's your team." With no facilities or equipment, he set about not only training these soldiers to be athletes, but also putting them to work building the first ever stadium in Laos. He and his men fanned out through Vientiane appropriating supplies and equipment and in so doing, they became known as "Rosandich and the 400 thieves." On one foraging expedition, he came across a huge shipment of long underwear that had been sent to tropical Laos by the U.S. State Department USAID Program. Rather creatively he deemed them to be sweat suits and outfitted the soldiers accordingly. On



In the 1950s, Rosandich served as an "Ambassador of Sport" for the U.S. State Department, where he trained coaches and track teams throughout Southeast Asia including Borneo (before it became part of Malaysia), Malaya, Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia.

inauguration day for the new stadium, he assembled the team all decked out in their long underwear and marched them past the reviewing stand wherein sat the Minister of Sport, the U.S. Ambassador, and other assembled dignitaries in what was a subtle, but evidently an effective, dig at bureaucrats running the American foreign aid at the time.

After a short stint as a history teacher and track coach at Brookfield High School in Wisconsin, where he met the love of his life – Sally, he accepted an offer to become the national track and field coach and special advisor to the Minister of Sport in Indonesia in the early 1960s. This was a time of extraordinary tension between the United States and the communist Eastern Bloc nations. The Indonesian government of then-President Sukarno was an active participant in the non-aligned movement but was leaning more toward the communist camp than the West. Nonetheless, Rosandich prevailed upon Sukarno to allow the first ever Peace Corps Volunteers into that country.

These volunteers were American coaches that fanned out through the Indonesian archipelago and worked under his guidance to build the first ever truly national sports program in that country. However, the American coaches were not the only ones working in Indonesia at that time, with many coaches coming from Eastern Bloc nations such as East Germany, Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. Very significantly, Rosandich was exposed to a different way of thinking about the science of sports coaching, an experience that would have a future impact on him as an educator.

At this time in the early 1960s, coaching was more an art than a science in the United States. There were physical education programs, LaCrosse being one of the better ones,



Rosandich and his wife Sally, with President Sukarno, the first President of the Republic of Indonesia.



The coaches pictured here are at the Indonesian National Sports Academy where they prepared a site for the Harvard Step Test. The Indonesian National Sports Academy was the first of several built by Rosandich and served as a precursor for the U.S. Sports Academy a decade later.

but many of those aspiring to be coaches learned their craft from other coaches that were well-established. This approach contrasted significantly with coach development in the Eastern Bloc nations where coaching was more of science with skills taught through national institutes of sport such as the famed East German Deutsche Sporthochschule Köln. Rosandich recognized the value of this approach and prevailed upon Maladi, the Indonesian Minister of Sport, to develop the Indonesian National Institute of Sport that eventually evolved into a degree-granting institution. There he brought together under one umbrella coaches from both East and West to serve as faculty and created an organized sport coaching curriculum. The institute became the first sports academy developed by Rosandich and a precursor to what was to become the United States Sports Academy.

Rosandich coached the Indonesian Track and Field Team in the 1962 Asian Games held in Jakarta to a respectable finish behind only Japan. He was also involved in the preparation of the athletics team for the 1964 Tokyo Olympics but was disappointed when the Indonesian government boycotted the Games owing to a controversy arising out of Sukarno's participation in the Non-aligned Movement. Matters came to a head with the communist coup in Indonesia in 1965 that sent Rosandich back to the U.S., where he settled in the deep woods of northern Wisconsin. It was there that he built the first ever year-round sports training camp in the United States called Olympia.

Ever the educator, my father used that platform to not only train aspiring athletes but to also conduct coaching clinics and to share with them the concepts he learned in Indonesia. While at Olympia, he also founded the Paavo Nurmi Marathon in

1969, which has become the longest-running marathon event in the Midwest. The Paavo, as it is so fondly known, celebrated its 50th anniversary this past year.

The year 1969 brought other changes for Rosandich as it was then that he took a post as the first athletic director for the University of Wisconsin-Parkside. Parkside, based in Kenosha, was a brand new university being carved out of the farmland and woods just north of the city. Here, again, Rosandich the builder led the effort to plan and build that institution's first ever sport and recreation facilities and launched the intercollegiate sports program that was started from scratch. He continued working in the Wisconsin system taking a post as the athletic director at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. There he was faced with a new set of challenges surrounding the new Title IX Equal Opportunity requirements that passed into regulations in 1972. Following careful analysis, he determined that the only way UWM could come into compliance was through terminating the football program and did so. In so doing, he also tendered his resignation as he knew that his decision would be immensely unpopular. However, he was already thinking about the need for a sport university in the United States.



Rosandich, the first athletic director at the University of Wisconsin-Parkside, together with key members of his coaching staff. Paul Ward (center), served as the strength and conditioning coach and went on to the Dallas Cowboys, while Bob Lawson, athletics coach, worked in many other areas with Rosandich including clinics at Camp Olympia and as a track coach in Academy projects in the Philippines, Malaysia, and Brunei.

As a collegiate athletic director and a member of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA), Rosandich saw first-hand the generally deplorable state of sport in America. He had to deal with the fallout from the franchise fights for athletes between the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU - which at the time served as the national governing body for five sports), the US Olympic Committee (USOC), and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA). Sadly, this turmoil accrued to the detriment of American

COVER STORY (CONT.)



University athletic directors from around the U.S. gather for the 1972 National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA) Convention. The athletic directors pictured here composed the first Board of Visitors for the United States Sports Academy and played a role in the development of the institution's first curriculum.

athletes. These problems were laid bare in 1972 with the comparatively poor showing of the US Olympic team in the 1972 Munich Olympic Games. That experience played a role in the establishment of the 1975 President's Commission on Olympic Sports. The final report of the Commission in 1977 resulted in the Amateur Sports Act of 1978 that set out and defined the roles of the national governing bodies and the US Olympic Committee.

Founding the Academy

Concurrently, 1972 saw the publishing of the Blythe-Mueller Report, a seminal piece of research conducted at the University of North Carolina. This report empirically demonstrated the

connection between the professional preparation of coaches and the degree and severity of injuries sustained by their athletes. In short, untrained coaches hurt athletes. This situation was compounded by the unavailability of athletic training or sport medicine practitioners for the treatment and rehabilitation of injured athletes.

All of the foregoing were topics of discussion among my father's athletic director colleagues, particularly at the NACDA annual conferences. These discussions added a further impetus for him to launch the Academy as he viewed education as the means for change. Many of his NACDA colleagues formed the Academy's first Board of Visitors and helped design the institution's curriculum at the master's degree level and spread the word in the profession that there was now an alternative for professional development.



Rosandich, Drs. Whiddon and Uhlig with the first two master of sport science degree graduates of the institution.

Rosandich set out to build the Academy without, as he liked to say, "two nickels to rub together." Determined to succeed, he incorporated the Academy as a not-for-profit educational institution in Wisconsin and assembled his first Board of Directors consisting of Dr. Robert Block, a media and advertising entrepreneur as Chairman of the Board, himself as President and CEO, Mr. Charles Cape, an attorney who assisted with the founding documents, Dr. George Uhlig, a faculty member in the UWM College of Education and Mr. Gerald Hock, an accountant.

With the institution founded and the curriculum set by him and his NACDA colleagues and the other members of the Board, Rosandich set about building the first teaching faculty. This National Faculty (NAFAC), as it came to be known, was

COVER STORY (CONT.)

comprised of many highly regarded sport professionals from around the United States. They came from various disciplines including sports psychology, exercise physiology, sports coaching, biomechanics, sports medicine, and sports administration.

Block also provided space in a building that he owned in Milwaukee for the first Academy offices and classrooms. From this initial NAFAC, Rosandich organized and taught a wide array of courses over the next few years. It was from this facility that I had my own first involvement with the Academy as I was tapped to conduct a sports study tour to the 1976 Montreal Olympic Games. Little did I know that this would start a 44-year association with the Academy that has seen me go to so many countries and engage in so many different sport activities around the world.

In many ways, this is not surprising insofar as the Academy has always had an international orientation. Harking back to his days as a Goodwill Ambassador of Sport in Southeast Asia, my father reached out to his former athletes and coaches and through them began to offer the Academy sport education programs for delivery in their respective countries. In servicing these agreements, the Academy's National Faculty was afforded the opportunity to also travel the world. The scope of these international programs ranged from the full-service conduct of an entire national sport effort that included providing national level coaches, developing the first ever sports medicine and human performance center (a sister institution to the Academy through which courses were taught that mirrored the Academy's own), to one time specialized seminars and symposia. All told, the Academy has sent hundreds of faculty abroad for unique educational opportunities while reaching thousands of aspiring coaches and sport professionals in 67 nations around the world. It is through this outreach that the Academy has embodied



Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich and his beloved wife Sally at one of the Academy's Awards of Sport events on campus.

its tag line of "American's Sports University." Recognizing that so much of the institution's work would be done in developing nations, many of them in tropical climates, Rosandich began looking for a symbol location for the institution. Uhlig had since taken a position as the Dean of Education at the University of South Alabama and arranged a meeting between Dr. Fred Whiddon, President of University of South Alabama and Rosandich in 1976. An agreement was reached and later that year the Academy relocated to the USA campus in Mobile where it stayed until 1980. During this time, the Academy experienced incredible growth and very simply outgrew the ability of USA to accommodate the institution. The Academy finally settled at its current campus in Daphne, Alabama, in 1986.

Under my father's guidance, the Academy grew into what is arguably the largest sport education program in the United States. It evolved from a master's degree granting institution to a complete graduate school with the addition of a Doctor of Education Sports Management degree program that was accredited in 1996. The Academy developed an upper-division (junior and senior year) Bachelor of Sports Science degree program in 2004. The institution is now seeking to add the lower-division (freshman and sophomore years).

Ever the innovator, my father often said, "I can teach sports under yonder tree," as he pointed out his window to the campus grounds. Just as the Academy has always had an international orientation so too does the institution have nontraditional roots. The Academy has always had a robust



President George Bush received the 1987 Dwight D. Eisenhower Fitness Award at the White House recognizing his contributions spanning a lifetime of service in a ceremony.

COVER STORY (CONT.)



Rosandich greets his close personal friend, His Majesty King Hamed bin Isa Al Khalifa of Bahrain. The two worked together to provide sport education programs to the nation for over 30 years.

system of correspondence education that evolved into distance learning beginning in 1994. The Academy's distance learning program was reviewed and approved by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) in 1996. This was followed by putting the Academy curriculum entirely into an online web-based delivery format in 1998. So adept did the Academy become with online distance learning that the institution was invited to be a part of the US Department of Education Distance Learning Demonstration Project in 2002. Through it all, the Academy has turned out almost 6,000 professionals with degrees in sport who have had an impact on building professionalism in the disciplines of sport in this country. The people all around the world who were given the training and professional preparation they needed to work in the sport profession are probably his most lasting legacy.

Artistic Legacy and the Awards of Sport

While Rosandich was first and foremost an educator, he also had a deep infinity for art. On more than one occasion he stated that had he not been a coach, he would have been an artist. He had the vision to see the intersection of sport and art, and often noted that a society is known not only by the games that the people play, but also by the art, music, and other cultural expressions they create. The fusion of the two is evident in sports to even the most casual observer. For example music and dance are used in sports such as figure skating, gymnastics, and synchronized swimming. From ancient times to present, the human form captured in movement and competition has been fertile ground for artists. It was this understanding that led him to found the American Sport Art Museum and Archives (ASAMA)

on the Academy campus in Daphne, Ala.

From humble beginnings in 1984 until today, the ASAMA collection has grown to be what is thought to be the largest in the genre in the United States if not, the world. The collection totals more than 1,700 pieces in all media with an aggregate value in excess of \$12 million. My father believed art was something to be shared and enjoyed by all and thus the ASAMA collection is open to the public free of charge during normal Academy operating business hours.

Associated with ASAMA is another creation of his: "The Academy's Awards of Sports: A Tribute to the Artist and the Athlete." One of the little ironies of the Academy is that as "America's Sports University," the institution is among the few universities in the states without any sports teams. With a rather wry sense of humor, my father would comment from time-to-time that as an athletic director, "he knows better." However, in all seriousness, that the Academy does not field any sports teams reflects the way the institution grew from a master's degree special mission institute to an upper division baccalaureate program at which time the entire student body of the Academy was studying online.

He always felt that as an institution of higher learning dedicated to the study of sport, it was appropriate to recognize contributors to the profession through an honors and awards program. The Academy's Awards of Sports (AAOS) was launched in 1984 with a black tie event at a downtown hotel in Mobile, Alabama. The first program recognized the first Sport Artist of the Year for 1983, the late Ernie Barnes who embodied the fusion of sport as a professional (NFL) player and artist of



Rosandich signs a contract with Major General Al-Ghamdi, Commander of the Royal Saudi Air Force (RSAF) in 1979. Valued at \$80 million, the Academy provided physical fitness, sport, and recreation programs, as well as the care and maintenance of the RSAF sports halls, in five cities around the Kingdom.



The formal portrait taken of Rosandich on the occasion of him being invested with the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

national repute. Also honored at the inaugural AAOS were the amateur and professional Male and Female Athletes of the Year. On the men's side was the Olympic diving champion, Greg Louganis and Hershel Walker, the Heisman Award winner and professional football player. On the women's side was professional golfer, Nancy Lopez and Olympic basketball standout, Cheryl Miller.

Over the years, the AAOS program grew to include 12 categories in what came to be known as the Medallion Series. The Medallion series bears the names of individuals who made significant contributions to sport and society through their work in the various disciplines of the profession. Examples include the Ronald Reagan Media Award, named for "the Gipper," as Reagan was known during his early career as a sportscaster in Illinois. IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch lent his name to the Disabled Athlete Award and the estate of baseball great Jackie Robinson agreed to the Humanitarian Award. Over the ensuing 36 years, the Academy has recognized individuals for their contributions to sport or through sport to society as a whole; they have been among the most distinguished contributors to the sport profession around the world.

The Great Communicator

My father often liked to say that, "next to love there is probably no other word more important in the English language than communication." It is truly appropriate to say that he was a great communicator and an individual possessed of a flair for public relations. He authored books such as *Track and Field Theory and Technique* and *The American Training Patterns*. Early in his career, he also wrote and published a monthly newsletter entitled *Track Times* from the basement of his home in Wisconsin. He never learned to type or, for that matter, bothered to use a computer although he intuitively understood the power of the computer. His able assistant in this regard, and in fact, virtually everything that he did, was his beloved wife Sally. While he would write content in longhand, Sally would laboriously type out the articles on a special typewriter that would yield block pagination. Once printed, the rest of the family would pitch in to get the newsletters labeled and to the post office for mailing.

Within the Academy, he used his natural talent as a communicator to develop print publications such as the *USSA News*, *The Academy*, *The Sports Supplement*, and *The Sport Digest*. *The Sport Digest* evolved into an online, web-based blog featuring "news that you can use" and short posts to help professionals stay current in the profession. He also launched *The Sport Journal* that was among the first online, peer-reviewed research publications in sports. Hailing back to his experience in Indonesia, he believed that the dissemination of science-based knowledge is important to the profession as *The Sport Journal* has never been placed behind a pay wall. Now in its 20th year, the *Journal* has an extraordinary reach with it being accessed more than 650,000 times each year.



Rosandich received the highest award of the U.S. Olympic Committee; the USOC President's Award in recognition of his many contributions to the Olympic Movement in the U.S.

COVER STORY (CONT.)

Unique Character and Accomplishments

Over the course of a long and illustrative career, he garnered many honors for his contributions to sport, education and society. For his work in the Olympic movement, he received the IOC Olympic Order from then President Juan Antonio Samaranch and the USOC President's Award from then President Bill Hybl. For the Academy's long service to the Kingdom of Bahrain, Rosandich received the Order of Bahrain First Class from the Emir, Isa bin Salman Al-Khalifa, and the Ellis Island Medal of Honor in recognition to his contributions to American society as a first-generation American. He was inducted into many sport halls of fame including the Helm's Track and Field Hall of Fame, the International Sports Hall of Fame and the Mobile (Alabama) Sport Hall of Fame, just to name a few.

While awards are important, they are not the true measure of a man. My father had a laser-like focus and demanded the best from those around him. He was in so many ways a perfectionist and embodied the belief that anything worth doing was worth doing right. Those who worked with him found that he would not allow them to dissemble or deflect criticism but as he used to say, "I always play my cards

on top of the table and not beneath it." You always knew where you stood. While this characteristic made some uncomfortable, he genuinely tried to use those instances where individuals made a mistake as a learning experience.

Perhaps most importantly is that he believed in and had a strong sense of integrity and ethics. This is best evidenced by an incident early in his career as a young Marine officer. In the early 1950s, the Marine track team was invited to Virginia to participate in an invitational meet. When they arrived, he was told that the black athletes would not be allowed to compete. His response was simple: "It is all or none." When the proper reply didn't come from the meet organizers, they boarded the bus and returned to Quantico.

When all is said and done, my father was a man of unique character and accomplishments. When he saw something that needed to be done, he simply did it. He believed sport is a universal language and he never paid heed to race or creed. It is due to this commitment that the Academy has accomplished what it has around the world. His legacy lives on in the countless thousands of people that his work touched over the course of a long and fruitful life.



Three generations of the Rosandich clan celebrated the life of Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich at his memorial reception at the Academy.



International Programs

Outreach in Europe, Latin America, and the Caribbean

The Academy has recently bolstered its international sports education offerings with new post-secondary, non-degree programs in Finland, Spain, and Colombia.

Finland

In Finland, working with the Varala Sports Institute and Proftraining Finland, the Academy graduated its first class of students in its first fully online International Certification in Sports Management (ICSM) program there. Under the guidance of Academy instructors, every student in the cohort completed the ICSM program and received their certification.

The students were able to complete the program in approximately eight months and are now considered Academy alumni, a designation which will provide them access to a network of thousands of peers working in the world of sport. The program focused on relevant sports management topics such as those in administration, sports marketing, sports facilities and events, sports business, human resources, sports security, and public relations. Formula W racecar driver Emma Kimiläinen was a member of the first Finnish student cohort. She said

online studies are perfect for a person like her, who is an active professional athlete with a family and responsibilities.

“I can highly recommend studies with the United States Sports Academy,” Kimiläinen said. “The Academy’s online options are especially beneficial right now with what’s going on in the world. No matter where you are, you can still educate yourself in this very moment.”



Formula W racecar driver Emma Kimiläinen was a member of the first Finnish student cohort.

Joining Kimiläinen in finishing the first iteration of the program in Finland was a group of students with a diverse background in sport.

Academy Provost Dr. Tomi Wahlström said he was pleased that the program had a 100 percent retention and completion rate in the institution’s first fully online international program.

“I am particularly excited about this program since I am from Finland myself,” Wahlström said. “It is a great honor to work with Atte Varsta and the ProTraining team, as well as Varala and these outstanding students. We are also excited that Emma Kimiläinen was part of this program. “This is the first of many

programs we will offer in Finland, and we look for a very rewarding long-term relationship with our partners as well

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as success for our new students. I was particularly pleased that every student who participated finished the program.”

In addition, the Academy and Proftraining Finland announced plans to launch cutting edge, professionally developed and delivered coaching education programs there. The multi-tiered post-secondary, non-degree International Sports Coach Development Curriculum is designed by sports industry experts to provide the appropriate technical, tactical, and interpersonal knowledge and experiences at three distinct



Sports Authority of Thailand leaders treated Academy faculty members Dr. Roch King and Jillian Rosandich to a meal in Bangkok.

milestones on the coach development pathway. The curriculum features three tiers: the Lead Coach Development Program (LCDP), the Head Coach Development Program (HCDP), and the National Coach Development Program (NCDP).

The curriculum meets the standards of the International Sports Coaching Framework (ISCF) developed by the International Council for Coaching Excellence (ICCE) and the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF).

“Opening these coaching programs in my country of origin is a dream come true for me personally,” Wahlström said. “The Academy has a lot to offer in Finland, and it is very exciting to be able to make a contribution to coaching education through these programs, and to provide coaches in Finland the benefit of our international perspective and experience.”

Spain

In May, the Academy announced plans to partner with the Spain-based GBSB Global Business School to provide online sports management courses to graduate students enrolled with the Barcelona-based educator.

The agreement calls for the teaching of the Academy’s ICSM program utilizing computer mediated technology. The Academy is an acknowledged leader in education technology having first placed its courses completely online more than 25 years ago. The GBSB Global students who participate in the program are enrolled in the GBSB Global Business School master’s degree in sports management program.

“We are very excited about this collaboration as GBSB Global is part of the international community of ACBSP accredited schools,” Wahlström said. “Online education is gaining popularity in Europe and we are proud to be a part of it. We are looking forward to a long lasting partnership with our friends in Spain.”

Colombia

The Academy partnered with the Colombian School of Rehabilitation (ECR) to offer its brand new online maternity wellness course to nursing students in the South American country.

The Maternity Wellness program for ECR students is the first Academy course ever to be offered in the Spanish language. The five-part course covers the benefits of exercise during pregnancy, guidelines for safe physical activity during pregnancy, fitness for birth, types of maternity fitness training,



Academy Provost Dr. Tomi Wahlström met Fulbright Colombia executive director Adriana Gaviria and Escuela Colombiana Rehabilitación rector Goe Rojas.

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and post-partum recovery. The course was developed in collaboration with ECR faculty, who provided supplemental content so that it can be offered to nursing students there. The English language version of the course is specially designed with pregnant students in mind.

Studies show that exercise that is light-to-moderate in intensity can improve your quality of life, lessen many discomforts associated with pregnancy, and provide for a better labor and delivery experience. This course is designed to help students better understand the changes their body undergoes during pregnancy. The course also covers common pregnancy discomforts, and exercise techniques to prepare your body for birth and favorable recovery.

“We are excited about this collaboration as our colleagues at ECR understand the importance of maternity wellness,” Academy Provost Dr. Tomi Wahlström said. “Strength and conditioning exercises used before and during pregnancy can greatly enhance the likelihood of healthy childbirth. Using the training techniques taught in this course, women can also recover from pregnancy faster and better. This reduces healthcare costs and improves public safety. We are proud to work with ECR to make this positive contribution in Colombia.”



Faculty member Robert Herron taught the ICSM program to students in Bangkok, Thailand.

Thailand

Before the COVID-19 pandemic caused global travel disruptions, the Academy sent exercise science faculty member Robert Herron and national faculty member Dr. Dave Shrock to Thailand to teach courses for the ICSM program on behalf of the Sports Authority of Thailand (SAT) in that country. In Bangkok, the Academy also teaches its International Certification in Sports Coaching (ICSC) program.



Thai students participate in one of the Academy's International Certification in Sports Management courses in Bangkok.

Earlier in the year, the institution sent chair of sports coaching Dr. Roch King and sports management instructor Jillian Rosandich to teach there. King taught advanced sports psychology, while Rosandich taught sports event planning.

Each year under the program approximately 100 students are drawn from the Sport Authority of Thailand (SAT) and its affiliated sport organizations around the country to attend the certification programs — typically 50 for each certification.

Sports education cooperation between the Academy and Thailand goes back to the 1980s, and the Academy and the SAT have a Memorandum of Understanding to work together in sports education and training through 2020.

Trinidad and Tobago

In the Caribbean, the Academy is making inroads with possible programs in the dual-island nation of Trinidad and Tobago. The institution is working on a pair of agreements that will allow it to teach its sport education programs to students in Trinidad's College Prep (CP) institution that offers online services to college students, athletes, high school coaches, college coaches, and sports enthusiasts.

In addition, the Academy is working to develop a facilities and events management program for the Sports Company of Trinidad and Tobago. The program would prepare sports professionals for careers at sports mega-facilities there.

Since its founding a half-century ago, the Academy has leveraged its role and resources as a special mission sports university to make a global impact through quality sport instruction, research and service programs in 67 countries around the world. More: <https://ussa.edu/international/>



Faculty members boost sport education efforts

Members of the Academy faculty continue to boost the institution's sport education efforts in the United States and around the world.

Coaching Education

In an effort to strengthen its commitment to high quality sports coaching instruction, the institution has endorsed the newly revised National Standards for Sports Coaches (NSSC) set forth by the Society of Health and Physical Educators (SHAPE America) and promoted by the United States Center for Coaching Excellence (USCCE).

The new SHAPE America standards include 42 standards such as athlete-centered coaching philosophy, long-term athlete development, unified vision in strategic planning, alignment with rules and regulations and needs of the community, and management of resources in a responsible manner. The new NSSC are organized into the seven core responsibilities of sports coaches which closely align with

both the International Sports Coaching Framework and the Quality Coaching Framework from the United States Olympic Committee.

The endorsement comes on the heels of the Academy's successful bid for a much anticipated comprehensive accreditation for its Bachelor of Sports Science degree in Sports Coaching from the National Committee for

the Accreditation of Coaching Education (NACE), which works under the auspices of the USCCE. The accreditation signifies that the Academy's coaching bachelor's degree program is aligned with the National Standards for Sport Coaches (NASPE, 2006) and the NACE Guidelines for program supervision, personnel, and operations. The Academy is the only institution in America with an NACE accredited degree program and organizational memberships in both the USCCE and the ICCE.

In addition, Academy chair of sports coaching Dr. Roch King was recently elected to the board of directors of the United States Center for Coaching Excellence (USCCE). King will serve as the USCCE board secretary, a voting position which handles communications channels for the organization. The USCCE serves as a link between the International Council for Coaching Excellence (ICCE) and coaching educators in the United States.



Dr. Roch King



Dr. Brandon Spradley

Concussion Awareness

Poster presentations tackling sport-related concussion issues crafted by a pair of Academy faculty members were featured by the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) at its recent virtual conference.

Chair of sports management Dr. Brandon Spradley and exercise science faculty

FACULTY ACHIEVEMENTS

member Robert Herron had three abstracts accepted as poster presentations at the ACSM conference, which was held online instead of in person due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

The presentations cover issues related to use of the King-Devick concussion test on high school athletes. Spradley is the lead author of the presentation titled “Between-Trial Reliability of the King-Devick Test in Female High School Athletes,” while Herron is the lead author of “Between-Trial Reliability of the King-Devick Test in Male High School Athletes.” The presentations are available online until 31 December 2020 and a link can be found at the Academy website, ussa.edu.



Jillian Rosandich

“Sports, Society, and Culture”

Sports management faculty member Jillian Rosandich has been accepted to attend and participate in the International Symposium “Sports, Society, and Culture” in December 2020.

The international symposium was co-sponsored by Harvard’s

Center for Hellenic Studies in Washington D.C. and the International Olympic Academy (IOA), with support from Harvard’s Center for Hellenic Studies in Greece. The symposium brings together students and faculty from universities around the world for a scholarly exchange of ideas on sports, society, and politics. The event will be held online this year because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic.

Wahlström Promoted to Provost

In a move that will help the Academy streamline the delivery of its 100% online sports education programs, Dr. Tomi Wahlström was promoted to the position of Provost at the institution, where he will oversee the institution’s academics and student services departments.

A resident of Fairhope, Ala., Wahlström previously served as the Academy’s vice president of academic affairs. He is a multilingual, multicultural academic leader with expertise in teaching, business and academic management, consulting and clinical human services.



Dr. Tomi Wahlström

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STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to the Academy's Students of the Month!

The Student of the Month program kicked off in September 2019 and is an ongoing recognition opportunity. Each month, Student of the Month nominees are submitted by Academy faculty and staff; then a committee is charged with selecting the honoree. Students are selected based on their performance in the classroom, dedication to the Academy's programs, service to the community, and more.

August 2020:

Ashley Schnorf

B.S.S. Sports Coaching

When Schnorf graduates, she wants to pursue a career as a professional football coach.



May 2020:

Cheryl Tabone

Ed.D. Sports Management

Tabone works as a coach, adjunct professor, and a nonprofit organization president in the Buffalo, N.Y. area.



July 2020:

Umar Muhammad

Ed.D. Sports Management

Muhammad is an entrepreneur and a professor at St. Augustine's University, and a collegiate cycling coach.



April 2020:

Cory Baker

B.S.S. Sports Management

Baker is the junior varsity basketball coach at Parkland (N.C.) Magnet High School.

June 2020:

Diego Real

B.S.S. Sports Coaching

Real hopes to use his Academy degree to become a soccer coach and aide the growth of the sport in the United States.



March 2020:

Daniel Kane

Ed.D. Sports Management

Kane is a faculty member in the department of tourism and hospitality at Kingsborough Community College, part of CUNY in Brooklyn.



Alumna of the Year

Dr. Kristene Kelly wins 2020 honor

Dr. Kristene Kelly, a 2014 Doctor of Education degree graduate, has been named the Academy's 2020 Alumna of the Year.

A native of the U.S. Virgin Islands, Kelly joined the Vanderbilt University athletic department this year as the deputy athletic director for internal affairs, senior woman administrator, and member of the executive team. She is the athletic department's liaison to the Title IX office and to the Dean of Students.

Kelly has worked within each of the NCAA's three divisions and boasts one of the most diverse resumes of any college administrator as one of the few – even perhaps the only – to hold throughout her career the titles of sports information director, associate athletic director, senior associate athletic director, executive associate athletic director, faculty athletics representative, senior woman administrator, and athletic director.



ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENTS



Maj. Marc Holum

(M.S.S. Sports Coaching 2011)

is an assistant men's basketball coach at the United States Air Force Academy.

Dr. China Jude

(M.S.S. Sports Management 1996)

is the senior associate athletics director and SWA at the University of Wyoming. She was named to the 10th annual Sports Business Journal Game Changers: Women in Sports Business class.



Melody Webb

(Ed.D. student)

is the athletics director at Norfolk (Va.) State University.



Byron Cunningham

Los Angeles Rams, Director of Rehabilitation
received the Alumnus of the Year Award for 2019

Derrick Mitchell

(M.S.S. dual degree Sports Coaching and Sports Coaching)

is the head men's basketball coach at Wiley College in Marshall, Texas.



Amy Brooks

(M.S.S. Sports Management 1989)

is the girls' basketball coach and assistant athletic director at Savannah (Ga.) Country Day School.



Rick Tice

(M.S.S. Sports Coaching 1989)

is the assistant commissioner of the Great Midwest Athletic Conference.



Rick Fenoglio

(M.S.S. Sports Management 1989)

is a soccer club management professional in Sandback, England.

Dr. Tessie Bradford

(Ed.D. Sports Management 2009)

is the dean of student services at Lamar State College Port Arthur in Texas.



Lorenzo Canalis

(M.S.S. Sports Management 1991)

recently retired after 25 seasons as the winningest women's soccer coach in Berry College history.



Robert Jackson

(M.S.S. Sports Management 2003)

is the principal at Westwood High School in Blythewood, S.C.



Dr. Monique Carroll

(Ed.D. Sports Management 2012)

is the athletic director at Huston-Tillotson University in Austin, Texas.



Programs Expanding

Degree Programs Expanding Into The Future

The Academy continues to be a leader in online education as it introduces additions to its FastTrack option for graduate degree programs and eyes expansion of its Bachelor of Sports Science degree program. In addition, the institution is adding courses to its master's degree program and announced moves to help students impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

FastTrack Option Launched

In a move that will bolster its commitment to student success and career preparation, the Academy is expanding its online FastTrack degree option to its renowned doctoral program and is adding a second master's degree cohort to the program in Spring of 2021.

Introduced with its first Master of Sports Science degree cohort in Fall 2020, the Academy's FastTrack option allows graduate students to complete their degree in half the time of the institution's traditional online education programs. At the master's level, students can complete their degree in as few as 15 months. Now with the FastTrack option, Academy Doctor of Education degree seekers can finish their course work in three years, with one additional year to complete their dissertation – a total of just four years for a doctoral degree.

The Academy's new FastTrack option launched its first round of courses on September 1, 2020, and the institution is currently seeking students to join the next cohort for January 2021. The institution offers FastTrack master's degrees in sports management, sports coaching, and sports exercise science and a Doctor of Education degree in sports management.

Interested students should contact the Academy's admissions team by phone at 1-800-223-2668 or via email at admissions@ussa.edu for registration information.

"I believe that this new option will be ideal for some students who want to get through our program fast and interact with other learners," Academy Provost Dr. Tomi Wahlström said. "This will be the most interactive and engaging way to learn online and we are excited to be able to offer it." The FastTrack option follows a lockstep cohort model, meaning students enroll together at a specific start date and progress through the program together. The order of courses is predetermined so there is no need to worry about what course to take next. In addition to the speed of the program, the FastTrack will also help students develop better time and workload management skills. Students are able to manage their time better while focusing on one course at a time."

Bachelor's Program Growing

The institution has applied to its accreditor to add freshman and sophomore study to its existing upper division – junior and senior year – bachelor's degree program. For the first time in the Academy's 48-year history, the institution will offer a full, four-year online bachelor's degree program that would begin in the Spring 2021 semester.

Founded as a graduate school of sport in 1972, the Academy admitted its first two-year, degree completion bachelor's degree student cohort in the Fall 2004 semester. The Academy submitted its application for four-year bachelor's status to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges (SACSCOC) in June 2020.

PEOPLE, PLACES, AND PROGRAMS

If the landmark change is approved, the institution will begin admitting freshmen for a four-year Bachelor of Sport Science (B.S.S.) degree program and teaching general educational core curriculum courses in the Spring semester 2021.

“The Academy has been planning this change for some time,” said Dr. T.J. Rosandich, the Academy’s President and CEO. “As an upper-division baccalaureate program for the past 16 years, all of our undergrads have been transfer students and typically bring to the institution a very wide array of lower division courses. Unfortunately, it is not uncommon for these students to have earned college credits that we cannot apply to our degree programs and so this represents wasted resources in terms of time and money on their part. But with us being able to offer the complete 120 semester hour degree, we’ll be able to better serve the students seeking a path to a career in sports.”

Tuition to Remain the Same for 2020-2021 Academic Year

In a move recognizing the profound nature of the global economic disruption brought forth by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Academy did not raise tuition for its bachelor’s, master’s, or doctoral degree programs for the 2020-2021 academic year.

The institution has also waived the \$50 application fee for its Bachelor of Sports Science degree programs as the nation tries to recover from the economic impact of

social distancing and business shutdowns across the United States due to the pandemic. Please contact the institution’s admissions team at 1-800-223-2668 or via email at admissions@ussa.edu for registration information.

Analytics Course Added to MSS Curriculum

The Academy will soon offer a sports analytics course to Master of Sports Science degree students and advanced level bachelor’s degree seekers. Sports analytics, a concept made popular by the 2003 Michael Lewis book *Moneyball: The Art of Winning an Unfair Game* and the subsequent 2011 film *Moneyball* starring Brad Pitt, is the use of evidence-based data when making sports management decisions. *Moneyball* tells the story of the 2002 Oakland Athletics baseball team and their manager Billy Beane’s attempts to use statistical analysis to assemble a winning team on a slim budget.

The course, SAM 520 Sports Analytics, is designed to aid students in an understanding of the development and application of analytical, evidence-based methods when making sports management decisions. Students will use quantitative methods and statistics to understand and interpret data from major sports including, but not limited to baseball, football, and basketball. Students are introduced to the theory, development, and practice behind the use of analytics in sports. This course will give students an opportunity to explore the tools necessary to evaluate performance, recognize trends, and forecast outcomes.



Founding President Honored by Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame

The late Academy founding president Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich (1932-2020), a long-time leader in sport and sport education around the world, was recently selected as the winner of the Lifetime Achievement Commendation Award from the Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame.

The Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame has honored and recognized Alabamians aged 60 or older for their outstanding contribution to the lives of older members in their local communities since 1983. Those selected as Permanent Members of the Hall of Fame are formally honored and recognized for their selfless advocacy and dedication of service to others at an official ceremony held in Montgomery each year.

IN MEMORIAM

Don Porter

Leading international softball official Don Porter, a former member of the Academy's Board of Visitors and a one-time member of its national faculty, passed away on 7 June 2020, in his hometown of Oklahoma City, Okla., at the age of 90. Porter served in the Army during the Korean War (1951-52) and was awarded the Korean War Medal in 2001 by the Minister of Defense of the Republic of Korea.

Porter served as the president of the International Softball Federation (ISF) for 26 years and played a crucial role in softball's inclusion in the Olympics. Porter helped to establish the World Baseball Softball Confederation (WBSC) in 2013 with current WBSC president Riccardo Fraccari.

Under Porter's leadership, softball was first elected to be part of the Olympic program for the Atlanta 1996 Olympics. After the sport's removal from the Games following the Beijing 2008 Olympics, Porter helped found the WBSC, which set as a goal the inclusion of baseball and softball in the Olympic program. Softball will be reintroduced to the Olympic program for the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo in 2021.



Mike Moran

Longtime United States Olympic Committee (USOC) communications leader, Academy honoree and friend Mike Moran passed away from complications related to pneumonia on 7 July 2020.

Born in Omaha, Nebraska in 1942, Moran served the USOC as its chief communications officer and principal spokesman from 1978-2003 and during the Olympic games starting in Lake Placid in 1980 through Salt Lake City in 2002.

A friend of the Academy, Moran was instrumental in working with the institution to organize the U.S. Olympic Sport Art Competition, which the Academy hosted for four consecutive summer Olympic cycles between 2000 and 2012. He earned the Academy's 2006 Distinguished Service Award for his lifetime of dedication to the Olympic movement in the United States.



Julian L.D. Shabazz

Late Academy student Julian L.D. Shabazz was issued an "In Memoriam" certificate recognizing his work toward his Doctor of Education degree in sports management. Shabazz, of Clinton, S.C., passed away on 14 June 2020 at age 52. Shabazz earned a master's degree in parks and recreation management from Indiana University before joining the Academy doctoral program. He was also the author of the book *Black Stars of Professional Wrestling*.





The Awards of Sport

Welcome Home!

The Academy will host its Graduation and Homecoming ceremony and celebrate Awards of Sport honorees in June 2021. A final date for the rescheduled program will be announced once burdensome travel restrictions have been eased for honorees and guests traveling from abroad and COVID-19 infection rates have been reduced to safe levels. This year's AAOS event is set to be a special one. The Academy plans to welcome recent graduates and honored guests including Eagle Award winner and World Baseball Softball Confederation President Riccardo Fraccari, Sport Artist of the Year (Painter) Brian Fox, Sport Artist of the Year (Sculptor) Sergey Eylanbekov, and Honorary Doctorate recipient and International ESports Federation President Vlad Marinescu.

The Graduation Ceremony will commemorate Academy graduates from the past and the present. Anyone who earned their degree from the institution is encouraged to visit the Daphne, Ala., campus on the beautiful Alabama Gulf Coast is welcome. Guests will meet Academy faculty and staff, tour our unique facility, and take part in the graduation experience at this special event. Visit ussa.edu for updates regarding the rescheduled date for the program.

Brian Fox: Sport Artist of the Year

Because of his meticulous attention to detail and uncanny ability to capture the iconic expressions of his larger-than-life subjects, nationally renowned painter Brian Fox is the Academy's 2020 Sport Artist of the Year, Painter.

A resident of Somerset, Mass., Fox paints the world's legends in sports and music. Fox has painted some of the biggest icons of our time, including Jackie Robinson, Rolling Stones guitarist Keith Richards, Olympic swimmer Michael Phelps,



2020 Sport Artist of the Year, Painter Brian Fox

Johnny Depp, Muhammad Ali, baseball Hall of Famer Derek Jeter and soccer superstar Pele.

"Being recognized by the United States Sports Academy is an incredible honor," Fox said. "I am as humbled as I am grateful. Having been selected for this honor is truly one of the highlights of my career, especially given that I'm in the company of such talented artists as Stephen Holland and LeRoy Neiman—previous recipients—who have positively influenced my life's work."

Over the course of a 20-year career, Fox has also been able to forge relationships with celebrities, athletes and corporations, and charitable organizations. Because of those relationships, Fox's work can be found in many corporate and private collections, including those owned by singer Steven Tyler, NFL quarterback Tom Brady and supermodel Gisele Bündchen, actor Mark Wahlberg, NASCAR's Dale Earnhardt Jr. and many others.



ASAMA News

Jubilee Festival Art Unveiled at ASAMA

The Eastern Shore Chamber of Commerce unveiled the featured poster art for the upcoming 32nd Annual Jubilee Festival of Art at the American Sport Art Museum & Archives (ASAMA) on the Academy campus.

The painting, “Jubilant Crabs,” produced by local artist Ricky Trione, depicts crabs congregating during a jubilee on the Eastern Shore of Mobile Bay. A jubilee is a natural phenomenon that occurs sporadically on Mobile Bay on Alabama’s Gulf Coast in which many species of crab and shrimp and other bay life leave deeper waters and swarm in high numbers in a shallow coastal area of the bay. The events draw large crowds seeking an abundance of easy-to-catch seafood.

The Jubilee Festival of Art is traditionally home to a confluence of art, music, and local seafood vendors set along the oak-lined streets of Olde Towne Daphne.



Jubilee Festival artist Ricky Trione unveils “Jubilant Crabs” at ASAMA.

The venue for the unveiling was particularly fitting given the role of the Academy in housing ASAMA. Unique to Baldwin County, the surrounding areas, and the world, ASAMA is believed to be the largest collection of sport art in the world. The collection is home to more than 1,800 works of sport art across a variety of media, including paintings, sculptures, assemblages, prints and photographs.

The unveiling was part of the Chamber’s June “Business After Hours” event, the first of its kind since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic that has caused great economic and social disruptions across the globe. Understanding its role in minimizing the risk of exposure to guests, the Academy limited the number of visitors allowed in the building and performed temperature screenings, provided guests with personal protective masks, hand sanitizer and surgical gloves, and encouraged social distancing. In addition, all food and beverages were served in individual containers to limit contact between staff and the public.

Founding President’s Estate Donates Hans Erni Originals

Three original pieces by renowned artist Hans Erni were donated to ASAMA by the estate of Founding President Dr. Thomas P. Rosandich.

The original serigraphs are entitled the “Daphne Series” and were created when the artist visited Daphne, Ala., in 1987 to accept his Sport Artist of the Year award. During the visit, Erni met young art students from the area and conducted a live painting event where he created the “Daphne Series” pieces. After hanging in the Founding President’s personal collection at his home prior to his passing, the pieces are now on prominent display at ASAMA.

Erni was a Swiss graphic designer, painter, illustrator, engraver, and sculptor known for his work for the International Olympic Committee and the Swiss Red Cross.

Lester Adds Jesse Owens Piece to Olympics Series

American painter Steven Lester will unveil a series of original Olympic-themed paintings during a solo exhibition at the prestigious Tokyo-American Club concurrent with the upcoming Summer Games in Tokyo in 2021.

Known for his paintings that depict action sports themes that resonate with vibrant life and elicit a visceral and emotional response, Lester was named the United States Sports Academy's 2019 Sport Artist of the Year. The artist's latest series, titled "The Olympic Spirit," depicts the underdogs, scrappers and overcomers who defy the odds, deal with adversity, and make the impossible seem possible.

Lester's latest entry in "The Olympic Spirit" series – a piece called "Race Against Hate" – depicts famed African-American athlete Jesse Owens at the 1936 Olympics in Berlin. Owens, the grandson of a slave and son of a sharecropper in rural Alabama, won four gold medals at the Berlin Olympics and single-handedly upstaged Adolf Hitler's plan to prove the superiority of the "Aryan" people at the Games.



2019 Sport Artist of the Year Steven Lester with his Jesse Owens piece, "Race Against Hate."

Remarkably, when Owens returned to America after his win, he couldn't find a job, sit in the front of the bus, or use a "whites only" water fountain. Sadly, even President Franklin D. Roosevelt never invited Owens to the White House, sent

a telegram or acknowledged his triumphs. A decade after Owens' death, President George H.W. Bush awarded Owens the Congressional Medal of Honor and called his victories in Berlin "an unrivaled athletic triumph, but more than that, a triumph for all humanity."

Joseph Sheppard Donates "50 Years of Art" DVD to ASAMA

Award winning painter and sculptor and United States Sports Academy honoree Joseph Sheppard recently donated to the institution a promotional DVD from his 2001 traveling exhibition titled "50 Years of Art."



2015 Sport Artist of the Year Joseph Sheppard.

Sheppard, known as one of the great contemporary masters of figurative art in the realist tradition, was honored as the Academy's 2015 Sport Artist of the Year. His 2001 book, *50 Years of Art*, is a major contribution to the appreciation of the outstanding American artist, surveying his achievements of 50 years as a professional artist. Opposing trends in modern art, Sheppard has created a highly individual style both in his paintings and sculpture. Though people are familiar with his portraits, landscapes and still life, his reputation has come mainly from his vibrant renderings of the human figure. This book sums up the last 50 years by presenting 20 large paintings, 12 portraits, 20 drawings and 16 sculptures.

The DVD Sheppard donated to the Academy's American Sport Art Museum & Archives (ASAMA) was used as a promotional item for the *50 Years of Art* book tour. The DVD will be housed in the ASAMA collection, which already includes Sheppard's original painting, "The Fighter," depicting a boxer and his trainer in their corner of the ring during a fight.

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