



## **2018 NL Skating Academy Guest Coaches**

**All lessons will be \$25 per 15 minutes.**

**Josee Picard (Week 1 Technical)**- Josee has coached skaters in singles, pairs and dance at the World and Olympic level. Some of her most accomplished skaters include Isabelle Brasseur and Lloyd Eisler, Shae-Lynn Bourne and Victor Kratz. Most recently, Josee has coached the team of Julianne Seguin and Charlie Bilodeau to the recent Olympic Games in Pyeongchang. Josee is very passionate about skating and has an extraordinary ability to bring the most out of every skater she works with.

**Rebecca Babb (Week 1 Choreography and Skating Skills)** – Rebecca is a native of Harbour Grace and represented NL in ice dance for many years with her brother Josh Babb. Together, they were crowned the 1999 Canadian Jr Dance champions and were 2 time national team members. Rebecca currently coaches in the Kitchener-Waterloo area and has worked with outstanding dance teams such as Tessa Virtue/Scott Moir and Kaitlyn Weaver/Andrew Poje. She is currently working with dance, single skaters and world class pair teams in the areas of stroking, footwork and choreography.

**Valerie Saurette (Week 4 Choreography)** - Valerie is a National Level coach focussing on choreography as well as technical lessons. Valerie had a very successful career in pair skating attending many international competitions including the 1999 World Championships. Valerie currently teaches in the Montreal area and assists many singles skaters and pair teams at the national and international level.

**Elladj Balde(Week 4 Technical and Choreography)** – Elladj has recently retired from competitive skating and hopes to continue to be involved in the sport with coaching and performing in numerous shows around the world. Elladj was a Junior National Champion and a member of the Skate Canada Senior Team. He competed at many international events and is known around the world for his innovative routines and outstanding showmanship!

**Lyndon Johnson (Week 5 Technical)** - Lyndon was a World Silver medalist in Pairs and a National Champion in singles. He currently teaches at the Ellenton Ice Complex in Florida and has taught many skaters at the National, International and Olympic level.

**Joey Russell (Week 5 Technical)** - Joey is originally from Labrador City and has lived and trained all over Canada. Some career highlights include: Junior Canadian Champion, Senior Canadian Bronze Medalist, and Canadian National and World Championship Team Member. Now, a skating choreographer in Toronto, he works with all levels of skaters and travels across North America conducting seminars, choreographing, and performing touch-ups for athletes. NCCP certified, he is passionate in packaging skaters and choreographing programs which are unique and competitive.

**Elizabeth Putnam (Week 5 Choreography)** – Elizabeth is a former Canadian National Team member in both singles and pairs. Upon retiring from competitive skating, Elizabeth spent six years travelling internationally performing as both a single and adagio skater. She coaches full time between several top training centres in Vancouver and focuses mainly on program components and choreography. She is very passionate about helping her students reach their full potential as skaters and performers.

## **Special Guest (Program Performance – off ice)**

**Lessons will be \$100 per hour (1 hour minimum)**

**Michelle Dawley (Week 4)** - Originally from Calgary Alberta Canada, Michelle Dawley has been perfecting her craft for over 20 years by training in all genres of dance at prestigious institutions such as the National Ballet School of Canada, The Randolph Academy of Performing Arts, The School of Alberta Ballet and the International School Of Ballet. Michelle has also worked as an assistant to many renowned choreographers such as Ray Leeper, Dee Caspary and Sonya Tayeh on So You Think You Can Dance as well as being a proud member of Sonya Tayeh's Dance Company. Currently, Michelle can be found performing alongside Selena Gomez in performances for the MTV Video Awards, Dancing With The Stars, The Billboard Awards, The Radio Disney Music Awards as well as in her latest music video "Come and Get It".