



Abby DeThorne

Abby started with being on a local All Star team called the CYC Raiders, where she was both an athlete and coach to younger teams. After graduating high school, she went on to cheer at the University of Minnesota for 4 years, and has now been the team coach for the past 5 years. While Abby is now the Varsity Spirit State Director for Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, North and South Dakota, her time originally began in the company by being a UCA Staff Instructor and Head Instructor for 7 years.



Alexis Gass-Wojnar

Alexis Gass-Wojnar, originally from Nebraska and now based in Memphis, TN, brings over a decade of experience to the cheerleading world as a seasoned judge and coach. Her career includes 10 years of dedication to the sport, during which she has guided four teams to State Championship titles. Known for her keen eye for precision, athleticism, and artistry, Alexis is passionate about promoting excellence and fostering growth in athletes at every level. Her commitment to upholding the integrity and spirit of cheerleading continues to inspire teams and individuals across the country.



Amanda Lyons

Amanda is a resident of Suffolk, VA and the current head coach at Nansmond River High School. Amanda is a graduate of Old Dominion University with a bachelor's degree in Business Management and currently works for a government contractor as a Pricing Analyst. Amanda has over 15 years of cheerleading experience. Amanda started her coaching career at Virginia Wesleyan University in Norfolk, VA. She left Virginia Wesleyan after 6 seasons to take a coaching position at Nansmond River High School in Suffolk, VA. She has helped her teams excel and bring home 3 regional runner ups, 2 regional championships, and 6 state appearances. She has been a certified high school judge in the state of Virginia at the Local, Regional and State level. Amanda has also judged many events under Varsity over the years. Amanda brings a wealth of cheer knowledge and enjoys judging and providing the proper feedback.



Amanda May

Amanda currently works for Varsity Spirit as the Louisiana State Director for all cheer brands. She has been judging for high school and college national events for 8 years. Before working for Varsity, Amanda was the Spirit Coordinator at University of Louisiana at Monroe. In 2007, Amanda was crowned Miss Louisiana and competed for Miss America! She currently lives in West Monroe, Louisiana with her husband and 3 children.



Amanda Syrop

Amanda Syrop has over 25 years of cheerleading experience in both Scholastic and All-Star. After attending UCA Camp, becoming an All-American, and competing at NHSCC, this all began her love for scholastic cheer. After 13 years as an athlete, Amanda took that experience and passion to the coaching and choreography level. Amanda is now a judge for Varsity Spirit and has judged UCA and State Associations Events across the east coast.



Amanda Upton

Amanda Upton has been involved in competitive cheerleading and dance since 1994. She was a part of several ranked all-star teams. She was also a cheerleader for the Jacksonville Jaguars football team where she received the "Rookie of the Year" Award. Amanda coached and choreographed cheer and dance for eighteen years before turning her focus to judging. She has been judging for over ten years as a panel, head judge, and supervisor for mostly Varsity brand events. Amanda is also the proud mother of four amazing children!



Amanda Yenscko

Amanda is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and has worked in the cheerleading industry for over 22 years. She is the former director of the NC All State Cheerleading Program and is currently serving on the Executive Board of the NC Cheerleading Coaches Association as the State Championship Chair. Amanda has judged scholastic and All-Star events across the nation and in Canada for many Varsity All-Star brands and IEPs and is excited to return to NHSCC for her 6th year.



Amy Edwards

Amy Kile Edwards is a former cheerleader and captain for the University of Tennessee. She was also a four-year UCA staff member and head instructor. She had been a Regional, State, and National judge for over 30 years. Amy is also a former National Champion gym owner and choreographer. Growing up, Amy was an elite gymnast and coach for over 15 years. Amy's accomplishments include being a National Champion coach and choreographer for both school as well as allstar teams. She is a current doctoral student in Educational Leadership at Lipscomb University with plans to graduate in 2022. Amy has over 35 years of experience in the cheerleading industry.



Amy Talley

Amy Talley has been dedicated to education, coaching, and the cheerleading community for over three decades. Married for twenty six years and a proud parent of two children, Allison and Brandin, Amy resides in Biloxi, Mississippi. With thirty one years of teaching and twenty eight years of coaching experience, she has made a lasting impact on countless students and athletes. As an active member of the cheerleading and coaching community, Amy has served on the Mississippi High School Activities Spirit Board for eight years and as the Mississippi Association of Coaches cheer representative for four years. She has also been a part of Varsity event administration for five years, contributing to the success of cheer events across the region.



Andrea Dennis

Andrea grew up in Huntsville Alabama and cheered at Sparkman High School. While competing in high school, she won 4 regional championships, 4 state championships and 3 UCA National championships. She learned so much while cheering for Lisa Aderholt and Madonna Holladay. After receiving a degree in math education from the University of Alabama, Andrea moved to Birmingham Alabama. While there, she taught math and coached the varsity cheer team at Homewood High. After two years, she moved back to Huntsville to help open James Clemens High School in 2012. While coaching at James Clemens, the team won multiple Regional Championships, 2 state championships and 1 National Championship. Andrea now work as a Varsity sales representative for Northeast Alabama. She still live in Huntsville with her husband Ryan and daughter Addison.



AnneMarie Gorman

AnneMarie Gorman, is passionate about cheerleading. She has been dedicated to the ever evolving sport of cheer as a coach, gym owner, and judges both All-Star and High School cheerleading competitions across the United States and internationally. Gorman believes in the positive impact of cheerleading on young people. She sees the sport as a powerful tool for building confidence, discipline, and teamwork.



Annie Ong

Annie Ong grew up in Gilbert, Arizona where she began cheerleading in high school, where she did sideline and competition, and continued her passion for the sport into the collegiate level at Arizona State University on their competitive cheer team. While in her second year of college, she transitioned from competitive cheerleading into the sport of STUNT and continued on the team until she graduated. Annie has worked under UCA as a head instructor and she continues to coach teams all over the valley in addition to her position as an event coordinator at a tumbling and cheerleading training facility in Arizona. Additionally, Annie judges at both the regional and national levels of cheerleading competitions for both school and all-star cheer.

**Ashley Johnson**

Ashley is the Spirit Coordinator and Head Coach of Cheer and Mascots at UTSA in San Antonio, TX.

Previously, she coached at the high school level leading her team to seven consecutive top two finishes at UIL State Championship in Texas and multiple top five placements at the national level (NCA & UCA). She is also a part of the mascot curriculum & staffing team for both NCA & UCA.

**Ashley Regan**

A graduate from Montclair State University and Monmouth University, Ashley has been involved

with cheerleading for the past 25 years, participating in High school and Collegiate cheerleading. Ashley's widespread judging experience gave her the opportunity to be apart of a variety of sanctioned events all over the country. Ashley is continuing on to her her 15th year with the UCA Northeast Instructional Staff. Ashley has had the wonderful opportunity to judge prestigious events including UCA High School Nationals in Orlando Florida as well as opportunities including bid events. Ashley has also had the wonderful opportunity to be apart of the UCA All American Parades in Philadelphia and London.

**Asia Chatman**

Asia Chatman grew up in Central Florida where she cheered at

Winter Park High School and Top Gun Orlando. For college, Asia went to the University of West Georgia where she cheered for five years and after her time as an athlete, she coached for three years. Simultaneously, she joined USA Cheer's coaching staff for Premier all-girl. In 2022, Asia began her coaching journey at The University of Alabama as the coach of the all-girl team. She is also the Georgia State Director for UCA & NCA, works part time as a VIROC choreographer, and continues to teach high school and college cheerleading camps across the country.

**Aubrey Taylor**

Aubrey comes from a long background in both cheerleading and gymnastics. She competed

and coached both scholastic and all-star cheerleading, and now enjoys the sport from the judges stand. She is in her 10th year judging and NHSCC has become one of her favorite events. She loves to see the school pride in each routine and watch this sport grow each year.

**Avory Isaac**

Avory is an accomplished NCA Staff veteran celebrated for his creative game day choreography

and competitive style of all star coaching. Small town athlete turned D1 collegiate cheerleader, Avory serves as a respected judge for numerous state association cheer competitions as well as NCA, UCA, and other Varsity Scholastic & All-Star events.

Avory continues to share his passion for cheerleading across the nation, fostering growth, confidence, and mentorship for athletes of all levels and degree.

**Bianca Treger**

With 18 years in the cheer industry, Bianca brings extensive experience as a judge, former school cheerleader, and former All Star cheerleader.

Her accomplishments include NCA Top All-American, Silver and Bronze World Champion, ICU School World Champion, 2x Summit Champion, 2x NCA All Star Champion, and Majors Grand Champion. Bianca has coached athletes internationally, traveling to countries like Spain, the UK, Australia, New Zealand, and nearly every U.S. state. As for her experience as a Varsity judge, she has judged at many UCA regional events and other prestigious events such as Cheersport Nationals, The Summit, D2 Summit, and USA All Star Super Nationals.

**Bradley Eline**

A recent graduate from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, Bradley has been involved with Cheerleading

for the past 18 years, participating in high school, collegiate, and all-star cheerleading. Currently spending his 15th summer with the UCA Northeast Instructional Staff, and has also been apart of the UCA Core Staff in 2020, 2021, and 2022, and leading UCA Summer Training's in 2023. Bradley has had the wonderful opportunity to judge prestigious events including UCA High School Nationals, UCA College Nationals, and UCA All Star Nationals all in Orlando Florida. Opportunities including Worlds Bid events, along with the Division 1 and Division 2 Summit, along with judging NCA High School Nationals and NCA College Nationals in 2022, and 2023. Bradley has also had the wonderful opportunity to be apart of the UCA All American Parades in Philadelphia, London England, Rome, and Hawaii.

**Brandi Allen**

Brandi Allen is a former collegiate cheerleader and UCA Instructional Staffer. She spent several years

devoted to All Star Coaching before returning to a full-time position with Varsity Spirit as the North Carolina State Director for camps and education. Brandi has experience teaching safety certifications to coaches and organizing and presenting at Varsity University events. Brandi has over 20 years of experience judging and coaching at all levels of cheer through Rec, All Star, and School.

**Brandi Boyd**

Brandi has over 18 years of experience in the cheerleading industry. Brandi was a high school

cheerleading coach where her teams made over 15 top 10 finishes in their respective divisions at UCA High School Nationals, to include two silver medals. Her team also received 5 top 10 finishes at Texas State UIL Spirit Championships to include 1st place in the 6A cheer category and 2nd place overall

in the 6A division. Currently, Brandi is a high school counselor and judges regional, state, and national cheer competitions.

**Bri Lannom**

Brionna Lannom is beginning her second year as the head

varsity football and competition cheerleading coach at East Coweta High School. She earned her Bachelor's degree at the University of West Georgia and earned her Masters Degree in Special Education in May 2024. While at the University of West Georgia she cheered on the all-girl competitive team, football and basketball sideline cheerleading squad for 5 years, winning 2 College National Championships as a competitive cheerleader. After Graduating, she joined the coaching staff at the University of West Georgia winning 6 College National Championships as a coach.

**Brian Franca**

Brian is a former cheerleader at Colorado State University where

he earned his bachelor's degree in History and a minor in Economics. Brian also received his MBA in Marketing Strategies from Regis University. Brian was a staff member for NCA and a staff member/head instructor for Universal Cheerleaders Association for 22 years. He has coached at high school, college, and all-star cheerleading during this time. He has judged safety and panel for more than 20 years and has judged at most major national and international championships. He currently works as a Director of Human Resources for a solid state battery company.

**Brianna Fine**

Brianna cheered at Slippery Rock University and placed top 3 multiple

times on the All-Girl team. She was also UCA Staff and Head Instructor for 11 years. Brianna judges at the local, PA state, regional and national events and coaches full time at ICE Pittsburgh. She has had multiple teams place top 10 at summit and USASF worlds.

**Brittany Hogan**

Upon graduation from The University of Texas at San Antonio with a

degree in education, Brittany Hogan moved back to North Texas where she taught for 8+ years. She has 8+ years of high school and college coaching experience and over 15 years working in various positions with UCA and Varsity Spirit. Brittany currently coaches at the High School level in Frisco, Texas, does choreography and judges game day, school and all star competitions around the country.

**Cait Smith**

Cait is a Head Instructor with UCA and has done UCA choreography

training for 3 years. She coaches the University of Florida Club cheer who just won NCA College Nationals for D1A Spirit Rally. She coached at Newberry High school as well in 2021-2022.

**Candace Gartley**

Candace is a Business Analyst for a national sports retail company, specializing in store acquisitions and company growth. A lifelong cheerleader, Candace's love of the sport continues today. Starting as a collegiate cheerleader at Slippery Rock University she took over the program after graduation and served as Spirit Coordinator for 6 years. She successfully blended organizational leadership with bold ideas and athletic excellence. She has been judging cheerleading for over 10 years. Her journey is marked by a commitment to seeing athletes grow, improve and become spirit leaders themselves.

**Carlos Munoz**

Carlos, from Dallas, TX, is a former Varsity Spirit Fashion Rep and the former National Director of Competitions for UCA/UDA and UCA All Star. He currently assists as a choreographer for UCA/UDA & NCA leadership summer material. He has choreographed for the University of Kentucky Pom Team, 2019 Russian Dance Team, 2015 NDA National Pom Champions United Middle School Dance Team. Carlos has 33 years of cheer/dance experience and served as a UCA instructor for 20 years. Carlos has judged competitions for UCA/UDA, USA, All Star Challenge, ACA, NCA/NDA at the collegiate, high school and All Star levels, in the U.S., Puerto Rico, The Cheerleading Worlds and internationally. Carlos choreographed Team USA Pom in 2017 which took the Silver Medal.

**Cassidy Hall**

Cassidy Hall is currently the Head Cheerleading Coach for The University of Rhode Island and has been for the last 5 years. As a coach, she has won a Gameday National Championship and placed in the top 7 all 5 years of Traditional All Girl 1. She was a member of the US National Team as a college athlete and has competed multiple times for Traditional Routines at UCA College Nationals. She has competed at both UCA and NCA Partner Stunt. Cassidy has been judging local and state level events as well as judged multiple years for High School Nationals.

**Bill Ahern**

Bill is a University of Kentucky Graduate. He has been with Varsity and UCA for 36 years where he works with curriculum, staff training and safety officials. Bill also works with NFHS on the cheer rules book.

**Charles Leathers III**

Charles is an energetic cheer professional with over 20 years of experience in the industry. His love of the sport began as an all-star and high school cheerleader in North Carolina. He then went on to teach summer camps and then cheered for The University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Charles has worked for Edge Cheer & Dance as Director of Choreography and Curriculum. During his time with Edge, he has won many regional,

state, and national titles with various programs ranging from junior high, high school, all-stars as well as colleges. He is now a Platinum Choreographer for NCA and serves as the coach and choreographer for the North Carolina All-State team. As a certified Varsity Allstar Judge, Charles has judged for many brands as well as UCA, NCA, Cheersport, The American Championships, The Summit, The D2 Summit and The Cheerleading Worlds.

**Chelsea Helms**

Chelsea is from San Antonio, Texas and has 25 years of cheer experience. She began cheering for school cheer in 2000 and eventually also participated in all-star cheer. She was a UCA Staff Instructor and Head Instructor for 15 years and is now the South Texas State Director. Chelsea graduated from UTSA in 2015 where she is now a part-time volunteer cheer coach. She has 10 years of experience judging state association Game Day competitions as well as Varsity regional and national events.

**Chrissy Stanionis**

Chrissy has been involved in the cheerleading industry for over 30 years. She was the head coach and program director for New Rochelle HS from 1998-2017. During that time her teams won numerous local, regional and national titles. They were the 2013 UCA Large Jv and Small Varsity NHSCC champions. She was the assistant varsity coach for North Rockland HS from 2021-2024, and won the New York State championship in 2022 and 2023 NCA National Championships. For the last 8 years she has been a judge for NYS, CHSAA and Varsity Spirit Brands. She was a deduction judge at the 2023 and 2024 NHSCC and 2024 NCA National Championships. She is excited to return to the NHSCC for her 3rd year.

**Christine Gialames**

Christine has worked in all aspects of cheerleading over the last 20 years. She cheered at Slippery Rock University on the coed team & all girl teams and was also a UCA head instructor for 10 years. After college, Christine started coaching at the high school and all star levels, and has over 10 years of coaching experience. Over the last 15 years, she has judged at the regional, state, and national levels. When Christine isn't judging, she's caring for her 2 daughters and teaching 4th grade English Language Arts.

**Colby Hall**

Colby is the head coach at the University of Massachusetts, Hall has worked with multiple teams all over the country both high school and college. She graduated from Liberty University in 2016 and now serves as the head coach and spirit coordinator at Massachusetts. She also serves on our high school and college staffs during the summer months.

**Coreen Goerner**

Coreen graduated from Florida State University with a degree in

Secondary Education. She coached at the high school level for fourteen years. Her teams were consistently among the top at the state level and moved on to be successful at the national level as well. Over the course of her coaching career, Coreen was named Coach of the Year six times. Coreen currently works as a High School Instructional Coach in Osceola County, Florida, and has been judging at both the state and national levels for the past several years.

**Courtney Reed**

Courtney grew up in eastern KY where she started cheering at a young age. After graduating from high school, she pursued a career in coaching, training and judging. She is currently the owner and operator of KoElite Tumble & Cheer Gym in West Union, Ohio. She has 16 years experience in coaching/training and 10 years experience judging on multiple platforms. She currently judges for many high school events throughout KY and OH. Aside from cheerleading, she loves spending time with her family, an amazing husband that supports all my endeavors and six (yes six) kids.

**Cristen Dearfield**

Cristen began her athletic career as a Junior Olympic gymnast trained by world-renowned Olympic coach and choreographer, Irina Milogradova. Cristen is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati, and former member of the Bearcat's nationally ranked cheer program. She was a Core instructor for Universal Cheerleaders Association and created the College Game Planning curriculum. Cristen has over 20 years of judging experience that includes UCA College, High School and All-Star National Championships. She has judged internationally in South America, Europe, and Australia. Cristen currently works for Varsity Brands' IMPACT division as a Facility Branding Project Manager.

**Crystal Swift**

Crystal Swift has over 15 years of experience as a judge at Regional, National, and International levels, bringing unparalleled expertise and passion to the cheerleading world. A former UCA Head Instructor and Choreographer, Crystal has also shared her knowledge as the Head Coach at Kutztown University for 15 years, inspiring countless athletes to achieve excellence. With a Master of Education in Business Education, Crystal combines academic insight with real-world experience, fostering growth and professionalism in the cheer and dance community.

**Damien Williams**

Damien Williams has over 28 years of cheerleading experience both as a coach and as a judge. He has judged regionally and nationally for many Varsity brands at the high school, collegiate, and all-star levels. A native of OK, Damien cheered for both Northeastern State University and University of Oklahoma where he was a two-time All-American. He

has significant coaching experience and is the former head coach of Northeastern State University and former assistant coach at the University of Oklahoma. Damien currently resides in Oklahoma where he owns two companies and is a PhD candidate at the University of Oklahoma.



Dante Tennant

Dante is a graduate of Valdosta State University where he received his bachelor's degree in Music Education, and Masters in Higher Education Leadership. He is the former Spirit Coordinator and Head Cheerleading Coach at Middle Tennessee State University. Dante began his collegiate coaching career at his alma mater. During his ten years there as Head Coach, he led VSU to four NCAA Collegiate National Championships. In addition to collegiate coaching, Dante was a member of the NCA Staff for 13 years, and he has been judging for Varsity, in the capacity of all-stars, high school, and college for 12 years.



Daron Porter

Daron Porter brings over 30 years of international and domestic judging experience to the UCA National High School Cheerleading Championship. He has served as a head judge for the International Cheer Union, Norwegian National Championships, Universal Cheerleaders Association, Athletic Championships, CHEERSPORT, JamFest, and Premier. Daron has also served several years as a panel judge for The Cheerleading Worlds. Daron was a four-year member and captain of the nationally ranked University of Tennessee cheer team. He also served as a head instructor for the UCA Staff. Currently, Daron works as a digital advertising sales leader.



Dawn Burton

Dawn is from Colorado, a graduate of New Mexico State University, with an MA in HRD. She has been an active coach in the spirit industry for over 20 years, beginning at the High School level, and currently at the collegiate level. Holding state cheer titles for teams in Texas, NM & CO. She was a head instructor for over 10 years for Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA), including part of the College Instructional staff. A certified technical and routine judge at the state, national and international levels. Judging overseas, including places such as London and Mexico. An active judge for many prestigious cheer organizations within the spirit industry: UCA, NCA, Cheersport, Spirit Express. Dawn is the current Head Cheer Coach & Spirit Director @ Colorado State University, currently in her 19th season. Actively coaching the cheer and mascot teams and managing the dance team. All things spirit at CSU.



Delina Sorrels

Delina Sorrels has been coaching for almost 30 years and judging for 10 years. She judges all stars and school locally, domestic and international. She currently judges deductions for UCA and safety for NC and AZ.



Donna Snyder

Donna Carter-Snyder is a former Wright State University Cheerleader. She is a veteran staff member for UCA with 13 years coaching experience. Donna has been judging for 34 years with 29 years at the national and international levels. This includes judging for UCA, NCA, USA, Varsity All Star, the International Cheer Union, Worlds, Summit, and D2 Summit. She has represented the ICU as a judge in Costa Rica, Chile, Puerto Rico, Japan, Germany, Scotland, Malaysia, New Zealand, and Australia. Donna is also the founder of CHEER FOR A CURE, a Breast Cancer Benefit Cheer competition in Dayton, OH. This has been a successful event for 22 years. The Event was featured in the October 2021 issue of Inside Cheerleading Magazine. The 23rd Annual event will be in February 2024.



Ellen Pisano

Ellen Pisano has been an involved coach and choreographer for over 20 years in the Highschool and All-star industries. She was a member of UCA core staff and has been judging for 10+ years. Although her career has taken her to other avenues the past few years, she enjoys continuing to be apart of the cheerleading community by judging and seeing the sport progress, especially at Nationals.



Emily Kates

Emily Kates is a highly accomplished cheerleading judge from Illinois with a distinguished career in the cheerleading industry. As a veteran USASF Cheerleading Safety Official and as a USA Cheer certified official in Rules Interpretation, Emily has judged at Cheerleading Worlds bid events and high school regionals all over the United States, sharing her passion for cheer and dance while contributing to the growth of the sport.



Emily Xanders

Emily is an Assistant Cheerleading Coach at Florida State University. Emily helped coach the team to a National Championship in 2023 and to become Runner-Ups in 2024. Emily attended Florida State University, where she was a member of the All Girl Cheerleading team. After graduation, Emily continued her cheerleading career and education at the University of West Georgia. During her time at West Georgia, she was a member of the All Girl cheerleading team, winning 2 back-to-back National Titles from the UCA College Cheerleading Championship in 2021 and 2022. Additionally, Emily was a member of the All Girl US. National Team, representing the United States at the ICU World Cheerleading Championships in 2021 and 2022.



Essence Slater

Essence cheered at and is now the Assistant Coach at the University of Maryland-College Park. She became a UCA Instructor in 2016, worked for 7 years, and has been judging High School cheerleading for 6 years. Essence is currently a nursing student in Maryland and will be working as a Neurosurgery RN in D.C.



Ginny Hitt

Beginning in 1994, Ginny had the great pleasure of working in so many different areas of UCA/UDA, Varsity Spirit, and Varsity Brands through 2020. Ginny is a former educator and cheerleading coach with over 26 years of coaching experience. Ginny spent 20 years at UCF coaching their all-girl team (2000) and continued working with the co-ed teams until retiring. In 2024, the 2007 National Championship team members and coaches were inducted into the UCF Athletics Hall of Fame. Ginny is currently the Director for Culture and Branding at the nation's second-largest high school photography company. Ginny lives in Oviedo, Florida with her husband, son and daughter.



Hack Hudson

Hack Hudson resides in Jackson, Kentucky. He has been involved with cheerleading for over 40 years as a cheerleader, coach, judge and competition organizer. He works as a Literacy Specialist for the Kentucky Department Education and serves as the President of the Kentucky Association of Pep Organization Sponsors (KAPOS).



Heather Larson

Heather has over 20 years of cheer experience. Heather has over 11 years coaching. She also enjoys choreographing and critique teams. Heather has experience judging at local, regional, state, and nationally. She is passionate about cheer and has been an active board member/director for Minnesota Cheerleading Coaches Association since 2010. Heather has been in the following roles the board; President, State Judging Director, Conference Director, Mascot Coordinator, and many other director and interim roles with MCCA. Heather also implemented a Judges training in 2018.



Helen Stephens

Helen Stephens has 30 years coaching experience at the high school level and her teams won 2 state championships in North Carolina. She currently works as the Cheer and Stunt consultant for Wake County Public Schools. Helen has many years judging experience for high school and all star competitions.



Izola Hall

Izola is a graduate of the University of Alabama (in Tuscaloosa, Al) holding a Bachelors of Arts and Science degree in Criminal Justice with a Double Masters in Business Administration and Public Administration. Izola is a former Icelandic gymnast and is married to her childhood friend (Jamichael Hall) and has a newborn daughter. She has been involved in the cheerleading industry for over 15 years with a wide variety of experience and roles as a competitor, coach, choreographer, consultant and judge; where her certifications include VAS Brand Judge and AACCA. Currently Izola is an active Southeast Head Instructor for the National Cheerleading

Association(NCA) and a athletic mentor working with inner city youth throughout the Birmingham, AL area.



Daulton Byars

Daulton Byars is a former Ole Miss Cheerleader. Daulton has cheered at the High School, Allstar, and College cheerleading level. Daulton is a former UCA staffer and head instructor for over 10 years and has been a Varsity judge for over 9 years. Daulton is safety certified for both USASF and NFHS.



Jana Gleaton

Jana is a judge for NHSCC, UCA Regionals, state and local competitions for over 20 years. She is also a former cheer coach at Jacksonville State University and former cheerleader at Troy State University. Jana is currently a Varsity Spirit Fashion Sales Representative in Central Alabama.



Jaylon Braxton

Jay Braxton is an experienced cheer judge with a diverse background in the cheer industry. His background includes cheering for LSU, coaching high school and all-star teams, being a VIROQ Master Choreographer, and serving as a UCA staffer for four years.



Jeffrey Graham

Jeffrey began his cheerleading career in 2004 as a high school and all-star cheerleader. Jeffrey was an All-American cheerleader in 2004, 2005 and 2006. After he graduated high school, he became a high school and all-star coach. He has taken all his high school teams that he has coached to the state and national levels. In 2017, Jeffrey coached his team to a championship at the D2 Summit. Jeffrey has served on multiple high school and all-star judging panels since 2011. He currently lives in the Tampa Bay area and is an Administrative Assistant for Pasco County Schools in Florida.



Jennifer Ivey

Jen Ivey has over 20 years of judging at the national level. She is a former athlete of the National Championship Small Coed team from Missouri Valley College. She is a former 3 time National Championship coach for the Small Coed team from University of Louisiana at Monroe. She is the current head coach of the 6A KSHSAA State Champion Mill Valley High School Cheer Program.



Jennifer Landon

A cheerleading veteran with over 25 years experience. Jennifer has been active with school and all star cheer as a Head Coach, gym owner and choreographer for teams across California, Washington and Hawaii. Jennifer has been a national and international Varsity Spirit Judge for over 18 years.



Jesse Hulet

Jesse Hulet is the current Tennessee State Director. He has been judging

at the high school and college levels regionally, nationally, and internationally for several years. He has extensive coaching experience on both the high school and collegiate levels.



Jessica Thomas

Jessica Thomas is from the Pittsburgh area. She began working with Universal Cheerleaders Association in 1998 while cheering at Duquesne University. After several years of working and heading camps in the summers, Jessica moved into choreography and coaching. While teaching in the south hills of Pittsburgh, she ran a high school competitive program and choreographed local routines. She has been judging locally, regionally, and nationally for the past 20 years.



Jill Kakalecik

Jill cheered at Rutgers University and earned her Bachelor's and Masters degree from there. She is a Middle School Math teacher and has been on UCA staff since 2017. She has spent those years teaching many teams technique and difficulty of skills. She began judging locally in 2021 and has judged regionally since 2022 and national since 2023.



Jillian Queen-Smith

A graduate of the University of Kentucky, Jillian has over 15 years of judging experience for dance and cheer on the local, regional, and national level. Her routines and students have achieved great success in competition and performance throughout her career as a choreographer and program director. Jillian currently resides in Ashland, Ky where she is the owner and ballet director of River Cities Performance Academy and works as the Ohio State Director for Varsity Spirit.



Jim Lord

Jim Lord is the Director of Education and Programming for USA Cheer. He is a member of the the NFHS Spirit Rules Committee and USA Cheer College Rules Committee. Jim has been involved in cheerleading since 1984 as a head cheerleader at Texas Christian University and the University of Kentucky. Jim has been a coach and choreographer of high school and college programs, spirit program administrator at the college level, high school curriculum director for UCA, and executive director for AACCA, which merged with USA Cheer in 2018. He is a nationally recognized speaker, having presented at coaches conferences in over 50 states and countries.



Jocelyn Stephens

Jocelyn Stephens is currently the Spirit Program Coordinator and Head Coach at Purdue University. Jocelyn has been a part of UCA staff since 2014 involved with core staff, masters camps, and college staff. Jocelyn cheered at Morehead State University where she won UCA College Nationals 2014, 2015, and 2016. She also won gold at ICU with USA All Girl Premier in 2015 and 2016.



Johnny Downey

With 24 years in cheerleading, Johnny brings expertise and passion to the University of Cincinnati's program. After cheering in high school, he joined UC's team, honing his skills in coed stunting and tumbling. He later coached at the middle and high school levels before becoming UC's assistant coach. A cheer judge for nearly 20 years, Johnny has a keen eye for athlete development. He earned a Master's in Education from UC in 2014, further enhancing his coaching and mentorship skills. As assistant coach, he played a key role in UC's Game Day Nationals titles in 2022 and 2023, inspiring unforgettable game day experiences.



Justin Hefner

Justin Hefner, a native of North Carolina, brings nearly 20 years of experience to the cheerleading industry as an athlete, coach, and judge. After serving the Allstar and school industries in an array of regions, Justin finalized his athletic career at North Carolina State University with Small Coed NCA Champion squad. With this substantial background of coaching & performing in both the scholastic and Allstar realms, Justin now serves as a judge in Varsity's Southwest region. Justin strives to continue to keep both competitiveness & difficulty at the forefront of cheerleading, while continuously improving the scoring process.



Kade Shrader

Kade Schrader has been judging for 5 years now. As a 6th year member of UCA staff, he has gained the up-to-date experience necessary to best understand successful Game Day routines.



Kala Carter

Kala has been involved with the tumbling, dance, and cheer industry for over 30 years. As a competitive power tumbler, she achieved top five placement at the junior Olympics, won a 4 PEAT National championship with her high school dance team, and performed in community theater projects. Kala has been an influential tumble instructor for the programs she has been involved with. As a military spouse, she relocates quite often, giving her the ability to work with athletes nation wide. She has coached multiple teams to finalist placements at Varsity's Summit championships, USASF worlds, and state level championships. This is her 10th year judging and she loves every minute of competition season.



Kara Bent

Kara Bent has been active in the cheer industry as a cheerleader, coach and judge for over 25 years. As a power tumbling instructor, Bent continued her love of cheerleading as a state recognized cheer coach. She spent 16 years as an adjudicator for IHSA as well as the ICCA (Illinois Cheerleading Coaches Association). Kara Bent served on the Board for ICCA as a regional representative and Conference and Clinics Director for the ICCA organization.

Bent judges for a variety of (Illinois) State, Varsity, and Independent cheerleading companies. Nationally recognized events including but not limited to JamFest Supers, WSF, CheerSport, Costal, GLCC, US Final, D1 Summit and D2 Summit and International Summit. Bent live's in Illinois with her son who is in his junior year of college at the University of Missouri.



Katie Morgan

Originally from Plymouth, Michigan, Katie now resides in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. She cheered for

Plymouth-Salem High School from 2000-2004, finishing in the top 10 all 4 years at UCA High School Championship. Katie then competed and qualified for partner stunts 2002-2004 when she cheered at the University of Alabama from 2004-2007. She began judging and coaching in 2006 after cheering in college and has judged on the High School and All-Star level for both UCA and NCA.



Kayla Clary

Kayla has been judging for 5 years. She was a competitive cheerleader starting in middle school and cheered both school and all star.

She has been a UCA instructor for 7 years and am currently a head instructor.



Kayla Lopez

Kayla Lopez is a veteran judge from Albuquerque, New Mexico. She currently works as a Board Certified Behavior Analyst and

school consultant. Kayla was on UCA staff for 11 years and 7 of those years was a Head Instructor. She previously coached cheer and dance in the Albuquerque Metro area for 13 years. She has judged state, regional, and national events and is excited to be back for the 2024-2025 season.



Kellie Doucette

Kellie started as a JV sideline cheer coach in Deltona, FL in 2003 where she stayed for three seasons. At

the start of the 2006-07 school year she transferred to Matanzas High School, a new school at the time, to start their Varsity cheer program. In 2010, her team placed 2nd in their division at the NHSCC. Kellie continued to teach and coach at Matanzas until 2013. In 2014 she started as a Director of Athletics at the Florida High School Athletic Association overseeing the sports of Swimming and Diving, Competitive Cheer and Softball. She was with the FHSAA for 8 years before moving into college athletics. Currently, Kellie serves as the Travel Coordinator at Harvard University. She oversees travel and logistics for Harvard's 42 D1 varsity teams. Kellie lives in Malden, MA with her 2 dogs Brady and Chara.



Kelly Fields

Kelly Fields has a rich background in cheerleading. She spent five years coaching both all-star and high school cheerleading teams, helping athletes develop their skills and confidence. After transitioning into officiating, Kelly became a GHSA Competitive Cheerleading Official, a role she has held for 11 years.

She has had the honor of judging Georgia's State Cheerleading Competition for 8 years, showcasing her expertise in the sport.



Kelsey Cooper

Kelsey is a graduate from the University of Memphis. Kelsey has worked for Varsity Spirit for 16 years and has judged many regional, state and national events across the US. Kelsey is the State Director of Sales for Mississippi for Universal Cheerleaders Association and National Cheerleaders Association.



Kimberly Hollock

Kimberly Hollock has been judging since 1998 throughout the United States as well as internationally.

She is honored to have judged all over the United States, in Costa Rica, Puerto Rico, and England. Her experiences include judging both scholastic and all star cheerleading at the state and national level. Kimberly is a speaker for Varsity University, a former ambassador for Spirit Works, and a former UCA Head Instructor for 12 years in the Northeast and Southeast regions. Kim cheered for the University of Maine co-ed squad and has coached middle school, high school, and all star. Kim is currently an Educational Consultant, and Adjunct Professor for Elementary Education, who resides in New Hampshire with her two boys.



Kirby Lynch

Kirby is currently the Spirit Coordinator and Head All Girl Cheerleading Coach at the

University of Delaware. She has helped the Blue Hens win 6 consecutive UCA Game Day National Championships along with third place finishes in the All Girl DI Division ('21 & '22) and a fourth place finish in 2023. Kirby is also the Varsity State Director for the state of New York. Kirby cheered at Indiana University where she was a part of 4 UCA National Champion teams and one second place team. She also competed on the US National All Girl Team and took home five World Championships. Kirby has been with Varsity for 12 years where she's worked on Core Staff, College Staff, & Masters Camps for UCA Camps and has judged regional and national high school competitions for the past 6 years.



Kristen Hawkins

A native of Birmingham Alabama, Kristen Hawkins comes from a lengthy background and experience in cheerleading. She became a part of UCA in 2013, and for a long time taught cheer camps during the summer across the country. From there Kristen began her coaching journey where she went on to coach at the high school level for many years, and then transitioned into collegiate coaching, working with Small Coed and All Girl teams. Kristen's accolades include a top 4 finish in Small Coed D1, as well as a top 4 finish in the All-Girl partner stunt division during her time as a collegiate cheerleader at UAB. As a coach, Kristen was able to clinch an All-Girl Division 1 National Championship in 2021, as an Assistant Coach for Eastern Kentucky University.



Kristi Boaz Harr

Kristi is a former cheerleader for the University of Houston where she won 2 Collegiate National titles. She is a certified Legality Official and has over 20 years of judging experience.



Kristen Bearden

Kristin is a graduate of Madisonville North Hopkins High School and Western Kentucky University.

She was a four year varsity cheerleader for Madisonville North Hopkins and also served as their assistant cheerleading coach 2008-2011; 2013-2014. During her coaching tenure, the team won the school's first state championship in Small Varsity. They also competed at the NHSCC where they earned a 3rd place and a 5th place finish, both in Small Varsity Division II. She is a board member for KAPOS, which is the governing body for elementary and middle school competitive cheerleading in Kentucky. She also serves as competition manager for the KAPOS Region 2 competition and has been a KHSAA certified competitive cheer judge for 16 years, and a UCA certified judge for six years. She judges at the local, state, and national levels.



Kristin Funston

Kristin Funston is a former UCA college instructor and former captain of the coed cheer squad

at New Mexico State University where she received both her bachelors and masters degrees in Communication Studies. She is the former Universal Cheerleading Association Tennessee State Director and member of UCA's teaching staff for over 12 years, as well as former contributing editor to American Cheerleader Magazine. Kristin has 20 years of judging experience for school and all-star cheerleading. Kristin currently lives in Tennessee with her husband and three daughters.



Kristy Seidel

Kristy Seidel is a current teacher at Suncoast High School in Riviera Beach, FL, and has been coaching and judging competitive cheerleading in both Georgia and Florida for the past 21 years. Her teams have won multiple local and state titles throughout the years, but she is most proud of the work her athletes have done after graduation. Kristy also spent many years in the all star cheerleading world during her daughter's tenure as an athlete at gyms such as Cheer South in Georgia and Top Gun in Miami. She currently resides in South Florida and spends her time teaching, judging, and working in the AP English community in leadership for The College Board. She is the author of the upcoming Norton Guide to AP Language and is dedicated to the youth of America, both on and off that mat.



Kyle Edwards

Kyle's journey as a seasoned cheerleading professional began in 1999 when he co-owned a cheer gym, where he was actively involved in the cheerleading community until 2004. Since

then, Kyle has remained connected to the sport by attending numerous cheerleading competitions, staying up to date with the latest trends and techniques in the field. From 2013 to 2021, Kyle was a dedicated supporter of his daughter's cheerleading career, traveling to competitions across the country and gaining valuable insight. His commitment evolved further when he began judging cheerleading competitions in 2022, leveraging his experience to provide fair and informed assessments.



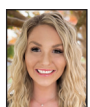
Kylie Edwards

A former competitive gymnast and state champion, Kylie later transitioned into cheerleading, where she also excelled at both the high school and all-star levels. Competing at the national level in both sports, she consistently placed among the top five at major competitions, demonstrating exceptional athleticism, skill, and dedication. After concluding her competitive career, she turned her expertise to judging, where she has been evaluating performances at the state, regional, and national levels for the last several years.



Laura Clary

Laura has been involved with cheer and dance ever since falling in love with the sport in middle school. She has experienced all perspectives of the cheer world from being an athlete, cheer parent, team mom, assistant coach, head coach and now judge. She is extremely passionate about Youth, School, All Star and Collegiate cheer having watched and coached her daughter for 10 years. Her experiences as a coach and judge have included many different scoring formats giving her the ability to score and offer comments that will help coaches achieve their team's highest potential.



Lindsey Agreste

Lindsey Agreste has been a certified Varsity judge for 8 years. Lindsey has judged many events for many brands in the all-star world, but her heart lies with scholastic cheerleading. Lindsey has also been a certified NFHS official in the state of Virginia for 10+ years, where she has judged at every level. Outside of judging, Lindsey also enjoys coaching, and she currently coaches at Nansemond River High School in Suffolk, VA. Over the last 5 years she has helped this team excel and bring home 5 regional championship titles and make 5 state appearances. Lindsey is a graduate of Old Dominion University with a Bachelor's Degree in Sport Management and a Bachelor's degree in Marketing Education. Lindsey brings a wealth of cheerleading knowledge, and she has a true passion for providing proper feedback and getting it RIGHT for the athletes!



Lindsey Driskill

Originally from Oklahoma, Lindsey has a background in multiple levels of cheerleading. She attended and competed at Oklahoma State University. She was also a team member on both the USA All Girl Premier and USA Coed Premier team for a total of 5 years. She now coaches all-star

and school teams. She is a current Assistant Coach for the US National All Girl Premier team. She has a combined 8 National titles, 3 Worlds Globes, and 3 ICU medals coaching at the college, high school, middle school, all star, and ICU levels in the last 4 1/2 seasons!



Lin Kerr

Lin Kerr is from Georgia and has twenty-eight years of cheerleading experience as a coach and judge. She spent twenty-five years as both a competition and sideline coach. Lin was named the State Coach of the Year and the NFHS Section Three Coach of the Year. As a past president of the Georgia Cheerleading Coaches Association, she has had the opportunity to represent Georgia at numerous national conferences and events. She is currently working as a Georgia High School Association judge for Competitive cheer, Game Day cheer and Dance.



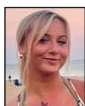
Lisa Gnapp

Lisa has coached cheer from the elementary through high school levels, and worked hard to build winning programs. She has been judging cheer for over 15 years, and cheer season is her favorite time of year. She lives in the central Florida area with her husband and children. A few of her favorite hobbies are attending my children's sporting events, going to Disney, traveling to new areas, reading, and weight lifting. She currently teaches Health and PE, and has been a teacher for over 20 years.



Lisa Knipp

Lisa, a former member of the Indiana University dance team, has been coaching and judging in the cheerleading industry for over thirty five years. The Indiana Coach of the Year Award, numerous Indiana State Championships, and high national rankings in school cheerleading are a few of her esteemed accomplishments. It has been Lisa's honor and privilege to judge for the Australian All Star Cheerleading Federation, America's Best, ACA, British Cheerleading Association, Champs Grand Nationals, CheerSport, Cheerlebrity, Cheer America, JamFest, NCA, UCA, USA, The USASF Worlds, Us Finals, Spirit Sports, WSF, The Summit, and The D2 Summit. Additionally, Lisa sat on the USA Cheer Coaches Assembly and most recently was awarded as the 2023 Varsity Spirit Outstanding Building Judge.



Lizzie Lile

Lizzie Lile grew up in highly competitive gymnastics before transitioning to both high school and All-Star cheerleading. After graduating, she committed to Arkansas State University, where she cheered while pursuing a degree in Sports Management. Throughout college, Lizzie continued to coach both competitive gymnastics and cheerleading. She spent two years on UCA staff and later took a Staffing Director Internship with Varsity Spirit. Lizzie now works full-time at Varsity as an Events Registration Specialist. Passionate about the sport, she enjoys judging because her experience on both sides of the competition

allows her to truly appreciate creative, innovative routines and exceptional sportsmanship.



Lora Solis

Lora has been a loyal Varsity Employee for over 20 yrs and was a UCA Instructor for 13 yrs. During that time she worked for the UCA Southwest Region as the Tryout & Special Events Coordinator for 5 yrs. She has also served as an Ambassador, Instructor, & Judge for the International Cheer Union. Lora then made the shift to work for Varsity All Star Fashion for 7 yrs, while holding the position of Head Cheer & Mascot Coach/Asst. Dance Coach at UTRGV for 10 yrs. In her time coaching UTRGV, the cheer team placed top 5 at UCA Nationals while competing in the D1 Game Day Division. Lora has been judging as a regional, state, national, & international judge for Varsity for 20+ yrs. She currently works for VIROC, Varsity's Choreography Division, while working collaboratively with The University of Texas El Paso.



Madison Baumann

Madison Baumann served as the Spirit Coordinator for The University of New Mexico Spirit Program from 2016-2022. She now oversees the program as an Athletic Administrator for the UNM Athletic Department. A former UCA Staff member who served as a head instructor, core staff and college staff member, she has over a decade of judging experience. Madison has previously served as the competition coordinator for the New Mexico Athletic Association helping the state transition high school cheerleading and dance as it became recognized as an official sport by the state association.



Mariah Lowder

Mariah has worked for UCA/Varsity for 11 years and has been a safety judge for 9 of those years. She judges at the local, regional, and national levels. Mariah was a member of UCA staff for 9 years traveling to many different regions where she worked with athletes of all skill levels and abilities. She also had the opportunity to be a member of core staff for 4 years where she helped train the best instructors in the country.



Marissa Witherington

Marissa has worked for Varsity Spirit for twelve years- she started as the UCA/NCA State Director and is currently a Sales Consultant in Nashville, TN. She has over twenty years of cheerleading, coaching, and judging experience. This includes judging at local, state, and National competitions for over 15 years.



Marti Fiedler

Marti Fiedler, a Northern Kentucky native, has over 30 years of cheerleading experience as an athlete, coach, and choreographer. A former cheerleader at Northern Kentucky University, she spent 16 years coaching high school cheerleading. Having transitioned from coaching, Marti now applies her extensive

knowledge to the scoring side of the sport, serving as a judge.



Matt Skorcz

Matthew Skorcz, a Texas native, brings nearly 20 years of experience in the cheerleading industry as an athlete, coach, choreographer, and judge. Matthew cheered at Oklahoma State University and coached both all-star and scholastic teams, winning numerous state and national titles. He now serves as the Scoring Experience Specialist for Varsity Spirit's Southwest region.



Meagan Hulet

Meagan is the current UCA&UDA College Program Director. Before taking that role, she was the TN State Director. She has judged Regional events, College Nationals, NHSCC, and multiple International Competitions.



Megan Urban

Megan is a seasoned cheerleader and has a passion for school traditions and the development of local community leaders. Her extensive cheerleading experience spans over 20 years including participation in High School and College cheerleading, competing in the Large Co-ed and Partner Stunt divisions at NHSCC, UCA and NCA National Championships. In addition to her dedication and commitment at Columbus State University, Megan has been a member of the Universal Cheerleaders Association for over 10 years. Her passion for cheerleading extends beyond the performance realm as evidence through her longstanding commitment to fostering growth and excellence within the cheerleading community.



Meredith Kidd

Meredith Kidd has been a dedicated high school cheerleading coach for 20 years boasting an impressive record with numerous state championships, league titles and regional championships. In 2021, she was honored as a CHSCA All State Coach and currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Colorado Spirit Coaches Association which provides leadership and education opportunities for coaches and athletes across the state. Meredith has been working for Varsity as an event staff member and judge for three years. She believes that cheer and dance are the ultimate expressions of teamwork, passion, leadership and energy.



Michael Cooper

Mike is the Head Judge for the ICU World Cheerleading Championships and represents the Country of Origin on the ICU Governing Council. He is also Director of the Technical and Judges Committees for the ICU and is the developer and head certifier of the ICU Judges Course. Mike is the former captain, coach and cheerleader at Morehead State University where he won six National Championships.



Michelle Balzano

Michelle Balzano coached for over 24 years beginning as a cheerleader herself. She is Varsity Certified, attends training yearly and has been judging Local, Regional, State and National Cheer/Dance events for over 20 years. Michelle has experiences in coaching all levels and divisions and has also consultant for cheer/dance teams for over 12 years. Michelle is married with two beautiful children and continues her education on Human Resource Management. Awarded the SPIRIT AWARD by Varsity Michelle will continue to strive on becoming SUCCESSFUL in the sport of cheerleading and hopes to continue to make an impacted-on today's youth.



Michelle Crawford

Michelle Crawford has judged competitions for about 5 years including local, regional, state and national levels. She is a former UCF cheerleader and UCA staffer. She graduated and cheered at the University of Central Florida. She coached competitive and spirit high school cheerleading for 7 years. She has been an educator for 21 years and currently teach at a public high school for neurodivergent students.



Miranda Hubbard

Miranda is the current Spirit Coordinator and Head Coach at the University of Oklahoma. She is also the Oklahoma State Director. Miranda has been judging for many years with experience at the regional, national, and international levels.



Miranda McCuller

Originally from Texas, Miranda McCuller now resides in Seattle, WA. She has been involved in the cheerleading industry for over 30 years as a competitive athlete, instructor, coach and judge. She began judging in 2006 and has judged high school and all star on the national level for NCA, UCA and USA.



Nicole Rollins

Nicole Rollins has been with UCA for over 20 years. She started as a UCA staffer and worked as core staff, college staff, curriculum team member, and material DVD. Nicole competed at UCA Nationals in high school and college. She cheered for Univeristy of Memphis 2003-2007. She began judging in 2008 and has judged regionally and nationally for high school, college, and all-star competitions. Currently, Nicole is the UCA Scoring Specialist.



Nikki Wilson

Nikki has been involved in the cheerleading community for more than 20 years. She is a former school, all-star, and collegiate cheerleader. Nikki spent five years living in central Florida where she coached her team to their first FHSA State Championship in 2011 followed by the Runner-Up title in 2012. Nikki was a UCA Head Instructor for 7 years and has been

judging for many years at the regional, state, and National levels for school, all-star, and college. She is currently a coach at Double Down Athletics in central Florida and lives with her family in Windermere.



Paige Bolton

Paige Bolton graduated from the University of Missouri in 2012 before serving as the Director of Spirit Programs at Arkansas State University from 2013-2021. Throughout Paige's time at A-State, the cheerleading program consistently finished in the top ten, until 2021 when they finished in second place at NCA College Nationals. Paige was a part of UCA Staff for 15 years where she was a head instructor and part of UCA College Staff. Paige also traveled to China and Japan with UCA to instruct and represent the USA in the first annual Asian Open held in Tokyo, Japan. She now lives in Fort Worth, TX with her husband who coaches football at Texas Christian University, while Paige is an Assistant Cheer Coach at TCU.



Payton Young

Payton has been a cheer and a gymnastics coach for over 10 years, the last four years being at the college level. She has also participated in school and college cheerleading at the competitive level.



Randi Staggs

Dr. Randi Staggs currently serves as an Associate Principal at Nashville School of the Arts. Randi is an alumnus of Belmont University, where she was a basketball cheerleader for three years. An eight-year veteran judge, she also coached sideline and competition cheer teams at the middle and high school levels for 14 years. Randi currently lives in Lebanon, Tennessee with her husband, three children, and four dogs.



Rebekah Tilson

A Florida native, with 19 years in the cheerleading industry, from athlete to coach, gym owner, choreographer and current role of judge. Rebakah is entering my 9th year as a certified judge for Varsity brands and Florida High School Athletic Association (FHSA). Her passion for the sport grew as she aged and judging has allowed her to continue enjoying watching the young athletes perfect the sport. Outside of the cheerleading world, she runs a local construction company and enjoys her time with family. On free weekends her family enjoys relaxing by the pool and showing steers in the cattle industry.



RJ Langley

RJ currently resides in Salt Lake City, UT. He has judged on the regional, state, and national levels for scholastic events through UCA, and also judges for Varsity All Star in the West region. RJ attended The University of North Carolina at Charlotte where he cheered, leading is team to compete at NCA and UCA college nationals for the first time in school history.

**Ryan Stock**

Ryan cheered 4 years at Oak Ridge HS in California. School and was on the comp team 2002-2006.

He cheered at California State

University of Sacramento Athlete from 2009-2011, placing 2nd at UCA College Nationals in 2010. He has been a Tumbling Instructor since 2006 (USASF Levels 1-6). Ryan was a Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) instructor from 2006-2017 and a UCA College Staff instructor from 2011-2016. He has been a Varsity Judge for (UCA) from 2014 to the present. Ryan was a Morehead State University Athlete and UCA College National Champion 2018 & 2019, the Morehead State University Assistant Coach All Girl and Coed-2020.

**Ryan Uitenbroek**

Ryan Uitenbroek cheered competitively for Freedom High School and the University of

Wisconsin-Platteville while in school. Ryan has been judging scholastic for the state of Wisconsin for 14 years. Ryan has also been judged for UCA including the National High School Cheerleading Championships for the past 3 years. Along with Scholastic Ryan has also judged All Star Cheer for the past 7 years. Ryan has judged for many regional and national competitions including Jamfest Nationals, Cheersport Nationals, UCA International, and Summit Series. Along with national events, Ryan has judged events in Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.

**Samantha Marshall**

Samantha is in her ninth year as a cheerleading judge. She passionate about the sport and enjoys the continuous learning and growth that comes with it. As a coach, she won numerous national titles, including those from UCA and NCA. She has also had the privilege of being a former NCA staff member. She currently judges for both school teams and all-star.

**Samantha Raker**

Samantha is originally from the Philadelphia suburbs and currently resides in Palm Beach County, Florida. Samantha has coached at the high school level in Palm Beach County, FL for seven years where her team has placed in the FHSAA and UCA National finals. This is Samantha's fourth season as a judge at NHSCC.

**Sarah Bartlett**

Sarah (D'Agostino) Bartlett has worked for Varsity for 14 years. She currently serves as the Pennsylvania & West Virginia State Director and has a passion for educating coaches and athletes across the country. Sarah has coached at the High School and All Star level, instructed College Camps and started her career as a State Director in 2016. She has many years of experience serving as a Competitive Judge and Choreographer at the High School, All Star, Local, State & National level. Sarah is a National Speaker for Varsity University and

works closely with State Associations in PA, WV and DE across various platforms.

**Sarah Costanzo**

Sarah's cheerleading career started by cheering Freshman, Junior Varsity, and Varsity in High school level where she was elected to be captain all four years in high school. After high school, she started working for Universal Cheerleaders Association (UCA) teaching cheerleading skills to Middle and High school cheerleaders over a six year period. She was then chosen to Head camps and organize staffers at Camps all over the state of Florida. She received Universal Cheerleader association staffer of the year. She attended Warner southern college, once again obtaining the role of Captain on the cheerleading team. Out of college, she began to judge for UCA regionals, and FHSAA regional and state competitions.

**Scott Bell**

Scott has been working within the cheerleading industry for over 25 years. As a former cheerleader of Morehead State and the University of Memphis he has also worked as a coach, tumbling instructor, choreographer, judge and consultant. He currently resides in Memphis, TN with his Wife Erica and son Tyler and works as an Insurance Agent.

**Shannon Bridges**

Shannon has been an educator for 24 years. She is STEM certified and is also a board member for the Alabama State Science Association. She has been a middle school and high school cheer coach for over 15 years. Her teams have competed in national, state, regional, and county competitions. She has judged at nationals, state, regional, and local competitions.

**Shannon Wylie**

Shannon Wylie has been serving as a judge for UCA high school regional and national competitions since 2022. She has worked as a clean-up consultant for V!Roc and a judge at state association competitions across the country. Prior to serving as a judge and consultant, Shannon Wylie was a high school head cheerleading coach for eighteen years. During this time, her teams were the State Association State Champions from 2016-2019 and 3rd place in 2020. At both high schools where she worked as the head cheerleading coach, she coached teams with multiple top 5 and above placements at UCA High School Nationals in both game day and performance routines.

**Shelly Reathaford**

Shelly has over 20 years of experience coaching and judging both scholastic and all star cheer. During her tenure as a varsity coach, she led her teams to 4 state championships in both all girl and coed divisions and numerous state champion runner-up titles, in both scholastic cheer and scholastic gameday competitions.

Shelly also judges nationally through VAS, where she has sat on the panel for many prestigious events, to include UCA NHSCC, Cheersport Nationals, Jamfest Nationals, and the Summit. Outside of judging, Shelly is a certified high school science teacher in Myrtle Beach, SC.

**Skylar Weinreber**

Skylar has been in the cheer world for 20 years now. Starting cheer when she was 7 at an all star gym, she stayed in cheer through high school and went on to cheer in college at the University of Louisiana at Monroe. She has been a UCA staffer going on 9 years. She is also a chemistry teacher at Haughton High School.

**Sonja Gutwerk**

Sonja Gutwerk began teaching camps for UCA in 1992. Since that time she has enjoyed successes choreographing and coaching multiple programs to finalist performances at the NHSCC. A former cheerleader at Methodist College in Fayetteville NC (ranked 3rd nationally during her time there).

**Stéphanie Bethay**

Stéphanie Bethay is a former competitive cheerleader and captain at the University of Central Arkansas. She spent 12 years on UCA staff as an instructor, head instructor, and participant in multiple special events and international camps. She continues to be involved with cheerleading as a veteran safety judge for high school, collegiate, and USASF all-star events. Stephanie currently resides in Corinth, Mississippi, with her husband, Kyle, and son, Walker. She is a practicing pharmacist and hospital Director of Pharmacy in southwest Tennessee.

**Stephanie Hause**

After graduating from the University of Wisconsin – La Crosse with a degree in education, Stephanie Hause moved to Texas where she taught special education for 15 years. She has 20+ years of high school and college coaching experience. She has also been a head instructor for UCA since 2003. Ms. Hause currently works as a Varsity Spirit Fashion Sales Representative, does choreography and judges game day, school and all star competitions around the country.

**Stephanie Williams**

Stephanie, born and raised in the New England area holds a Masters in Counseling and currently works as a school counselor, Mental Health Therapist and coach of the Royal Diamonds Dance Team at Poinciana High School. Since the age of three, she demonstrated a passion and enthusiasm for dance and cheer, which has continued to this day. In 2018, she began an organization, "The Center" for under privileged youth to grow as an individual through participation in the arts. The program enables children to explore creativity, learn artistic technique, discover the value of teamwork,

and build self-esteem. When Stephanie is not counseling her students, volunteering her time with various organizations, and being an active member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, you can find her mastering her first love... dance.



Stephon Ramos-Benavides

Stephon Ramos-Benavides is currently a cheerleader at the University of South Florida. He has competed in both Traditional Performance and Game Day at UCA College Nationals. Stephon is on Varsity staff and a head instructor. He has been a Varsity judge for the past three years.



Tami Van Treese

With over 20 years of experience, Tami has judged local, regional, and national competitions for all levels of cheerleading. She is a University of South Florida alumni cheerleader and coached high school and all-star cheerleading. She has worked for 25 years with NCA and has taught cheer camps all over the US and South Korea.



Tara Carlsrud

Born in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, Tara Carlsrud cheered throughout her school years at Central Private School, cultivating a lifelong passion for the sport. After her cheerleading career, she transitioned into coaching middle and high school teams, including in Aviano, Italy. Tara also served as Commissioner for the Gulf Breeze Sports Association and is an experienced All-Star Cheer judge, contributing her expertise to the next generation of athletes.



Taylor Anderson

Taylor Ray Anderson joins us all the way from Texas. In 2008 she was invited to be on instructional staff for UCA where she taught summer cheer camps, stunt clinics and assisted in running events. She began judging All Star and School events 14 years ago. Taylor graduated from the University of Houston Downtown with a Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies. She now lives in downtown Dallas, Texas where she is the Territory Manager for SanMar. Taylor is active in the Junior League of Dallas, Order of the Eastern Star and other volunteer organizations in her community.



Taylor Schrecengost

Taylor Schrecengost has over 20 years of experience in the cheerleading industry. An all-star cheerleader in her youth and high school years in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, she went on to cheer and graduate from Slippery Rock University. During her time there, she placed top 3 at UCA College Nationals from 2012-2014. Currently a 12-year instructor, head instructor and choreographer for UCA she has had the opportunity to teach across the country and attend several parades in Philadelphia, Orlando, London and Hawaii. Taylor has and continues to judge many

prestigious events such as UCA College Nationals, UCA High School Nationals and the Pennsylvania PIAA State Championships.



TiAnn Spence Stark

TiAnn Stark has been a part of the cheer world for more than 30 years, first as an athlete and then as a coach and judge. She coached middle school and high school, both competitive and sideline, for 25 years. After retiring from high school, she began coaching at the University of Florida for the club cheer team and is currently in her fourth year as head coach. Last year UF Club Cheer was named Spirit Rally Division 1A Champion at NCA College Nationals in Daytona. Mrs. Stark began judging high school events in 2022, waiting patiently until she retired from high school coaching. But, she has been judging allstar cheer events for more than 10 years. She has judged all the major allstar events including Cheersport, UCA Allstar Nationals and NCA Allstar Nationals. She is looking forward to again serving on the judging panel for UCA High School Nationals.



Tre Jackson

Tre Jackson has been a part of the cheer industry for 11 years. He is an 8th year veteran UCA Instructor. Tre is a former athlete of Northwestern State University and is the current coach of Large Coed Northwestern State University. He has earned a 2nd place finish in Large D1 Game Day at the 2025 UCA College Nationals and achieved the teams third consecutive win in the University World Cup.



Troy Allen

Troy joins us from Brooklyn, NY where he is the Head Cheer Coach and Admissions Recruiter for Athletics at Long Island University. Troy has judged regionally, nationally, and internationally for the last 14 years. Troy has coached at the high school and collegiate level for the last 15 years. As a coach Troy has lead his programs to many appearances in finals and claimed a Open Spirit Squad Gameday National Championship with LIU and a Division 1A All Girl Gameday National Championship with Ole Miss. Troy attended Boise State University as was a member of the first team to win a USA Collegiate Championship. After graduation Troy moved to Colorado where he earned a Masters in Sport Administration from Colorado Mesa University where he was also a cheerleader. Troy is a former UCA staff member who enjoyed getting to teach camps across the United State and Internationally.



Troy Robertson

Troy graduated from Western Michigan University where he received his Bachelor of Arts in political science. He was captain of the cheerleading team and coached for one year. Troy obtained his Master of Public Administration from Arkansas State University. He was the assistant spirit squads coach for three years coaching the highly competitive ASU cheerleaders and The Red Wolves

Dancers. Troy was a Head Instructor and Instructional Core Staff member for UCA. He received several accolades with UCA, including Midwest Male Veteran of the Year and Midwest Coaches' Choice Award. On two occasions Troy represented UCA in the London New Year's Day Parade. Troy has extensive experience judging scholastic and all-star cheerleading, as well as dance, competitions at the state, regional, and national level. Internationally, Troy has judged for JAMfest Japan. Troy is with AMAX Talent and currently resides in Dallas, TX where he works in sales.



Zoe Manutes

Zoe's judging career started in 1998 for both spirit and gymnastics. In college, she was captain for the Co-ed cheerleading team at Michigan State University. After graduation, Zoe went on to coach at her alma mater, Oakmont High School, Colorado School of Mines College, and Rock Canyon High School. She is a registered official for USASF Safety, STUNT, and Colorado High School Activities Association. She judges across many Varsity brands. When not in the gym, Zoe is found skiing in the mountains with her husband and kids.



Scott Bilbruck

Scott brings over 30 years of expertise in many areas of the band and color guard industries. He began his career teaching at Los Altos High School in California and was on staff with the USC Trojan Marching Band while he was earning his degree at USC. From there he became a teacher at Mater Dei High School and eventually Director of Performing Arts. He left Mater Dei in 2001 to do freelance work with high school bands throughout the country and was also hired by the Winter Guard Association of Southern California (WGASC) to be Executive Director. During his tenure at the WGASC, the association has become a trendsetter in industry technologies and constantly moves the bar forward with educational and adjudication tools. WGASC has grown from 180 ensembles to 555 during his time and has expanded into Southern Nevada.



Peggy Bilbruck

Peggy Bilbruck has been a performer, instructor and teacher in pageantry related activities for over 35 years. She began marching at the age of 7 with the Anaheim Kingsmen Drum and Bugle Corps and had the honor to end her performing career with the 1986 World Championship Blue Devils. From there, Peggy went on to teach at all levels of the Drum Corps, Marching Band and Winter Guard activities. Her love of the activity led her to the position of Vice President of a national uniform manufacturing company but her true passion has always been in education. Peggy earned her doctorate degree in 2011 in the area of Educational Leadership. She has been a leader in online education working for Universities and Community Colleges in Southern California.