

OUR CREED

I am **BOLD** and beautiful I am CONFIDENT and STRONG I NEVER give up! In life, like on ICE, when I fall I get back up! I am the dreams of women past And I am the hope of those to come I shine bright like a STAR I work hard like a PRO I have the heart of a CHAMP I was born to be a LEADER I am Figure Skating in Harlem



Since its establishment more than two decades ago, Figure Skating in Harlem (FSH) and its chapter in Detroit (2017) has impacted the lives of thousands of girls of color, positioning them to be the leaders of our generation through the power of education and access to the sport of figure skating. Our programs promote sisterhood, health and serve as a strong foundation for girls to become Champions in Life.

MISSION

To help girls transform their lives and grow in confidence, leadership and academic achievement.

VISION

To empower every young girl with the foundational academic, social and leadership skills to achieve her dreams. She will be a powerful speaker, effective leader, live a healthy lifestyle and be a global citizen.

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As you girls age throughout this program, you will realize how fortunate you are to have Figure skating in Harlem as a safe haven. These past few months have been especially difficult: COVID-19, working tirelessly online for school, the loss of loved ones, and fighting for our basic human rights as people of color. You may have feelings of frustration, confusion, sadness, and defeat. But if Figure Skating in Harlem has taught us anything it is, "When you fall you get right back up "...this phrase is really the foundation of every adversity we face in our everyday lives. Figure Skating in Harlem has taught us many valuable life lessons, provided us with many resources from academics to connections, and most importantly this program has been a crutch when our world is crumbling down. Figure Skating in Harlem has equipped me with the tools necessary to boldly enter this next phase of my life with confidence.

- Ariel Clarke, Senior, 9 years at FSH





THE LETTER

Dear Friends and Family,

Bold. Black. Beautiful. Our girls brought their "A" game to Summer Dreams Camp, Leader's Café and our *I Can Excel* (ICE) school-year program. 2019-2020 was an exceptional season, *not* because of COVID-19, but because of all that came before it. Then like all great skaters, we pivoted with speed and grace to keep our girls learning and feeling connected in this unprecedented new reality.

For this, we are beyond grateful to our incredible Board, our Team, our Families, our Students and all of you, our Supporters, for creating a vibrant community in person and virtually for our girls to truly excel.

Our students seized all opportunities, from meeting Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor and visiting colleges, to interfacing with corporate professionals and Olympians. As they prepared for a thrilling Ice Show celebrating environmental sustainability, they learned that process still counts, even if the results couldn't be realized.

Inside these pages, you will read about **the resilience that comes after disruption, the achievement that results from equity, and ultimately the power of community.** You'll read about three of our graduating seniors – Shamyah, Cheyenne and Ariel – who embody these values we nurture at Figure Skating in Harlem and Figure Skating in Detroit.

At this historic time in our country, we have a responsibility to supercharge our impact. For nearly 25 years, we've been committed to doing all we can to meet the needs of our girls; support them with the emotional, physical and educational changes at hand; and ultimately prepare them for leadership and self-empowerment.

Weathering the crisis we are still in is paramount and your continued help is absolutely vital. Our aim, however, is to use this as an opportunity to deepen our commitment to girls of color, a mission that grows more crucial each day.

Shan loke

Sharon Cohen Founder & CEO

Tima Limdge

Tina Lundgren Chair, Board of Directors



OPPORTUNITY Economic Empowerment Diversity & Inclusion Gender Equity



EDUCATION

Academic Classes Financial Literacy Tutoring College Prep



LEADERSHIP

Mentorship Career Exploration Cultural Field Trips



WELLNESS

Skating Instruction Teambuilding Fitness Health & Nutrition

OUR STORIES: FROM HARLEM TO HOWARD

These three young women met at Figure Skating in Harlem in elementary school. After a decade of skating, learning and growing together, all three are poised to attend Howard University this Fall. The sisterhood they built through hard work on the ice and in the classroom and the support system they shared through adolescence has given them a bond for life. Each embodies the tremendous values and impact of FSH. We could not be any prouder.



RESILIENCE

Shamyah Williams, 10 years at FSH

A shy six-year-old who grew up with her mom in heart of the Bronx, Shamyah has overcome incredible odds and used lessons central to figure skating as a guide through her life. She has said, "in life you will fall down, but what really matters is how you get yourself back up and move forward." This attitude and the tenacity and resourcefulness she developed one stroke at a time led her to become a successful student at the High School for Mathematics, Science, and Engineering at the City College of New York and a dedicated synchronized skater. With her reserve of resilience, Shamyah gracefully balanced her many commitments. She was invited to share her experience and knowledge at the United Nations and the Laureus Foundation, and has written poetry featured in a video for Beyonce's Ivy Park brand. The pandemic surely won't slow her down from reaching her next goal of becoming a biomedical engineer.

Cheyenne Walker, 10 years at FSH

Cheyenne's experience at FSH has been one filled with growth and achievement since she entered the program 10 years ago. Born in Harlem, she stated that being a part of FSH has been well worth the challenge. It's kept her at the top of her class through school and incentivized her to work especially hard as a longtime member of the Harlem Ice synchronized skating team, of which she eventually became captain. Cheyenne skates with exceptional heart, is a recent graduate from the United Nations International School and is proud of her hard fought achievements. "By the time you complete the program you will have experienced a lifetime of many different emotions, but through it all, FSH will make you stronger, wiser, and a force to be reckoned with."



ACHIEVEMENT



POWER

Ariel Clarke, 9 years at FSH

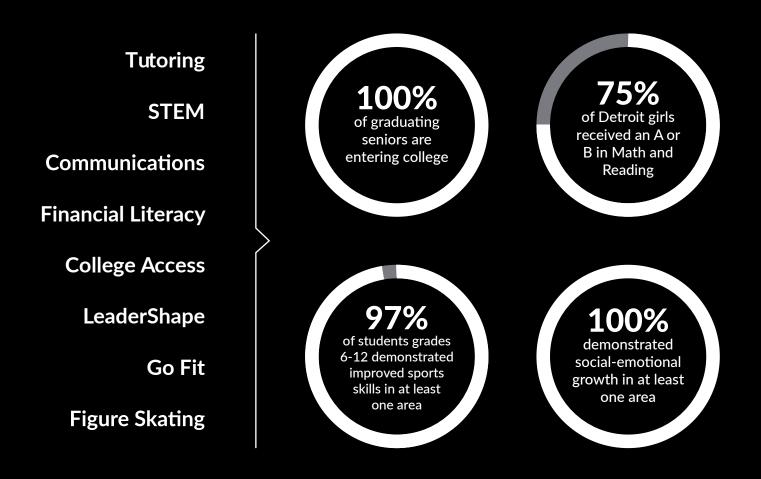
For Ariel, learning to skate from a young age took much patience and perseverance. As she grew and developed on the ice, she discovered it was also the perfect physical activity to complement her studies at Cardinal Spellman, where she was a role model to others. Devoted to her academic career, she was determined to ace her advanced math and science courses throughout high school. During her tenure at FSH, it was clear Ariel gained the poise, strength and quiet confidence of a natural leader. So, when it was time to march for her rights and others' rights in her community in the spring of her senior year, she turned her conviction into action and used her powerful voice. She is excited to enter Howard University even in these uncertain times and will no doubt forge a powerful path of her own.

IMPACT

FSH is committed to serving black and brown girls ages 6-18, many of whom face multiple challenges as girls growing up within a culture of generational poverty. Nearly 25 years ago, we set out to help at-risk students who face lack of access to positive educational experiences and exercise, poor nutrition and low graduation and college readiness rates.



Over **300** girls ages 6-18 each participated in up to **800** hours of health, education and leadership programming though our signature **I Can Excel (I.C.E.) School-Year Program** and our **Summer Dreams Camp**.



THE PIVOT TO FSH LIVE

As we reached the end of an action-packed season, the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic forced us to abruptly stop all of our in-person programming in mid-March—just before the year's beloved culminating events, our annual Ice Show and Awards Ceremony. The FSH core team pivoted with speed and grace to ensure FSH students stayed connected and supported, uniting around a vision to engage students virtually. By March 30, "FSH Live" was created and implemented. Serving both Harlem



and Detroit students, **the new online platform focused on off-ice fitness and health, emotional resiliency and leadership as well as continued high school and college access four days a week.** We were proud to conclude the program year in June with a beautiful virtual Acknowledgement Ceremony, highlighting speeches by our graduating seniors. Amidst upheaval and uncertainly in our students' lives, FSH has remained a vital resource at a critical time.



THE HIGHLIGHTS



From the Supreme Court to Morgan Stanley: Students Meet Extraordinary Women

Students traveled to the highest court in the land to meet with **Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor** as part of our Career Week. Our high schoolers were mesmerized by the Justice's inspirational personal story and her words of encouragement during a lively exchange. Students also met with the Dean of the Howard University Law School and visited The Museum of African American History. FSH Alumna Flo Ngala documented the trip after photographing Stacey Abrams for Rolling Stone Magazine. In New York City, students met with an impressive array of female leaders of color at **Bloomberg, BET, PIMCO, Google** and **ViacomCBS**. While at **Morgan Stanley**, our girls met Vice Chairman and Managing Director **Carla Harris** who shared her incredible professional journey and wisdom.







Harlem Skating Team Wins Three Gold Medals

2019-2020 marked the tenth competitive season for the Harlem Ice Synchronized Skating Program. In this team-oriented discipline, our girls remained the only teams of color in their region. With hard work and guidance from coach Katie, our Synchro Skills 2 team won three gold medals in competition. Together as a team for three years, we can't wait to see what their future holds.



FSH Wins Coveted National Sports Award

In November, we were honored to receive the **2019 Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Sports Award**. FSH was recognized as an influential leader and model for improving community health through sports. Our shared mission with RWJF to help girls improve their health and well-being has impacted thousands, and we continue to aim to use this award to raise visibility for the effectiveness of sports-based youth development programs in helping people and communities transform their lives.







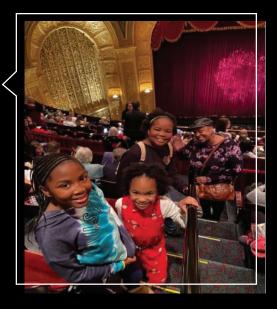
Recognition by The Heisman Trust

In December, students and alumnae represented Figure Skating in Harlem at the **2019 Heisman Trophy Dinner** where we were recognized out of more than 200 partner organizations nationally for excellence in meeting the needs of youth through sport and educational activities. The festive evening culminated in announcing the winner of the famous Heisman Trophy for college football.

DETROIT HIGHLIGHTS

Inspiring the Next Generation of Women Leaders

Providing cultural field trips for our students is one of the ways we are so effective at building leaders. Sponsored by The Greater Wayne County Chapter of the Links, Inc., our girls in Detroit experienced the full gamut with trips to the Detroit Opera House, Detroit Institute of Arts, and the Fisher Theater. A highlight was a visit to Chrysler FIAT where they were hosted by the Women Engineers, who mentored and introduced them to opportunities in the field of engineering.





Detroit Students Kick Off Winter Blast

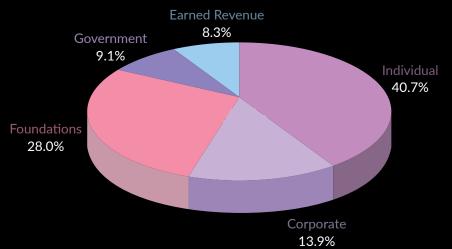
Figure Skating in Detroit's winter fundraiser, Skating with the Stars, was a success, raising much-needed funds for our girls in Detroit. The City looked on as our girls performed on the ice, and several local stars participated, sharing their skating and vocal talents. FSD board member, emcee and Chair for the event, Tati Amare, welcomed and introduced guests such as fellow board members, Olympic Gold Medalist Meryl Davis and champion skater Ameena Sheikh, along with her partner Jasmine Rippy of Ladies in Law. Other Stars in attendance included an America's Got Talent winner, the phenomenal Detroit Youth Choir, and WDIV media partners Jason Carr, Rhonda Walker and Evrod Cassimy.

OUR BRIGHTEST STARS POWERED FIRST VIRTUAL GALA

When New York City shut down in early April because of COVID-19, FSH was one of the first organizations to pivot by hosting our Champions in Life Gala virtually on May 14th, as announced in a New York Times sports article. Drawing on incredible star power, the brightest of which were our own students, we began with a virtual 'cocktail hour' curated by DJ Commish with stunning visuals of our girls, past galas, and tributes to our donors and leadership. Nearly 1,000 guests attended virtually, and the formal, festive program was emceed by Journalists Andrea Joyce and Harry Smith, including appearances by former U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, Chris Rock, Andy Cohen, and Olympic skaters Adam Rippon, Kristi Yamaguchi, Nathan Chen, Maia and Alex Shibutani, and Jason Brown. The legendary Scott Hamilton and former Macy's CEO Terry Lundgren were presenters. With all of that amazing talent, none were more moving than our very own students who spoke powerfully and from the heart along with our founder Sharon Cohen and our incredible honorees-Olympian and National Pairs Champion, JoJo Starbuck, FSH Alumna and Goldman Sachs VP, Sherrie Smith and FSH Board Co-Vice Chair, Angela Thompson Howard and UPS, our Corporate Trailblazer. Each of them were lauded for their worthy contributions in what was a mission-focused and innovative event raising nearly \$1,000,000 for educational programs in Harlem and Detroit.



THE NUMBERS



SUPPORT AND REVENUE

FISCAL YEAR 2020

Individual	872,185	40.7%
Corporate	298,380	13.9%
Foundations	600,513	28.0%
Government	195,500	9.1%
Earned Revenue	177,365	8.3%
Other	564	0.0%

Total Support And Revenue

2,144,507

EXPENSES

Program Services	1,683,549	77%
FIOGRAFIT SELVICES	1,000,947	///0
Support Services, General and Administrative	216,351	10%
Fundraising	286,144	13%
Total Expenses	2,186,044	
Change in Net Assets	(41,537)	
Net assets beginning of year	1,270,168	

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NEW YORK

OLYMPIC CHAMPION \$100,000 AND UP

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For a complete list of Educators, Skating Coaches, Social Workers, Counselors and Volunteers visit figureskatinginharlem.org



Dedicated to the memory of Hilda Pacheco, long-time senior counselor, big sister, mother and friend to thousands of FSH students.

Thanks to our rink partners Riverbank State Park, Lasker Rink, Chelsea Piers, City Ice Pavilion, the Ice Hutch and World Ice Arena "From Harlem to Howard" photos courtesy of Joshua Kissi



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