



# News Release

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\*This release is also available on USA Basketball's World Wide Web homepage - <http://www.usabasketball.com>.

## **Thirty-One Athletes Set To Attend 2013 USA Basketball Women's World University Games Team Trials**

### **-- Ten USA Basketball Gold Medalists Return To Vie For Roster Spot --**

**COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (May 8, 2012)** – Ten players who have won gold medals with USA Basketball in international competition are among the 31 athletes who have accepted invitations to participate in the 2013 USA Basketball Women's World University Games Team trials. Trials will take place May 16-19 at the U.S. Olympic Training Center (USOTC) in Colorado Springs, Colo., and the USA Basketball Junior National Team Committee issued the invitations.

"We're fortunate that the World University Games age group allows for the development of our college-aged players and gives them an opportunity outside of the Olympics to gain international experience at the highest level," said committee chair **Jim Foster**, who has been a member of nine different USA Basketball coaching staffs. "We feel that this is a good mix of players to build a team that will represent USA Basketball well in Russia."

The 2013 World University Games (WUGs) women's basketball competition will be held July 8-15 in Kazan, Russia. Organized by the International University Sports Federation (FISU) and held every other year, the WUGs is a multi-sport competition open to men and women who are between the ages of 17 and 24 (born 01/01/89 through 12/31/95). The USA Basketball women's team will be comprised of U.S. citizens who are currently enrolled in college and have remaining eligibility.

"The trials roster boasts some incredible talent," said **Sherri Coale**, USA and University of Oklahoma head coach. "The challenge for the committee will be selecting the players who fit together best."

"First and foremost, the players must understand what an honor it is to be invited to participate in the trials. With that honor comes the expectation that they will compete and work in a manner commiserate with the legacy of USA basketball. In a relatively short amount of time we hope to ascertain not only individual strengths but also collective strengths so that we might put together a team capable of winning in a variety of ways while also representing our country in the best possible manner."

"The trials themselves will be designed to reveal skill sets, decision making ability, basketball acumen and, just as importantly, a willingness to learn and accept roles."

Accepting invitations to participate in the trials were: **Danielle Ballard** (Louisiana State University/Memphis, Tenn.); **Rachel Banham** (University of Minnesota/Lakeville, Minn.); **Crystal Bradford** (Central Michigan University/Detroit, Mich.); **Gennifer Brandon** (University of California/Sylmar, Calif.); **Cierra Burdick** (University of Tennessee/Charlotte, N.C.); **Hallie Christofferson** (Iowa State University/Hamlin, Iowa); **Aaryn Ellenberg** (University of Oklahoma/Las Vegas, Nev.); **Morgan Eye** (University of Missouri/

Montrose, Mo.); **ReShanda Gray** (University of California/Los Angeles, Calif.); **Sara Hammond** (University of Louisville/Mt. Vernon, Ky.); **Cassie Harberts** (University of Southern California/San Clemente, Calif.); **Isabelle Harrison** (University of Tennessee/Nashville, Tenn.); **Bria Hartley** (University of Connecticut/North Babylon, N.Y.); **Jordan Hooper** (University of Nebraska/Alliance, Neb.); **Brittany Hrynko** (DePaul University/Philadelphia, Pa.); **Briahanna Jackson** (UCF/Tampa, Fla.); **Betnijah Laney** (Rutgers University/Clayton, Del.); **Jasmine Lister** (Vanderbilt University/Corona, Calif.); **Tricia Liston** (Duke University/River Forest, Ill.); **Maggie Lucas** (Penn State University/Narberth, Pa.); **Tyaunna Marshall** (Georgia Tech University/Upper Marlboro, Md.); **Ariel Massengale** (University of Tennessee/Bolingbrook, Ill.); **Kaleena Mosqueda-Lewis** (University of Connecticut/Anaheim Hills, Calif.); **Amber Orrange** (Stanford University/Houston, Texas); **Haley Peters** (Duke University/Red Bank, N.J.); **Theresa Plaisance** (Louisiana State University/New Orleans, La.); **Shoni Schimmel** (University of Louisville/Mission, Ore.); **Meighan Simmons** (University of Tennessee/Cibola, Texas); **Odyssey Sims** (Baylor University/Irving, Texas); **Bria Smith** (University of Louisville/Massapequa, N.Y.); and **DeNesha Stallworth** (University of Kentucky/Richmond, Calif.).

Assistant coaches for the team will be **Brian Giorgis** (Marist College) and **Coquese Washington** (Penn State University). Additionally, **Matt Corkery** (American University), **Bobbie Kelsey** (University of Wisconsin) and **Matilda Mossman** (University of Tulsa) will serve as court coaches during the trials.

Current collegiate athletes invited to participate in the 2013 USA U19 World Championship Team trials are eligible and may be considered for the 2013 USA World University Games Team. Trials for both teams will take place in staggered sessions May 16-19.

The WUGs trials begin on May 16 with the first session at 6:30-8:15 p.m., followed by trials sessions on May 17 and 18 at 10 a.m.-12 p.m. and 5:30-7:30 p.m.

The 12-member roster is expected to be announced the morning of May 19, and all athletes will depart for home. The team will regroup for training June 25-July 1 at the USOTC prior to traveling to Russia.

Overall, Burdick, Massengale and Mosqueda-Lewis have earned three gold medals with USA Basketball teams; Hartley, Laney and Smith own two gold medals; and Gray, Harberts, Plaisance and Sims each have collected one gold with USA Basketball.

Sims will be vying for her second WUGs team after helping USA Basketball to a gold medal in the 2011 World University Games, averaging 6.3 points, 2.0 rebounds and 2.2 assists per game.

Returning to USA Basketball after having helped the USA earn a gold medal and an 8-1 record at the 2011 FIBA U19 World Championship are four players, including Burdick (5.7 ppg. and 6.0 rpg.), Hartley (11.1 ppg., 3.1 rpg. and 3.2 apg.), Massengale (7.2 ppg., 4.3 rpg. and 4.3 apg.) and Mosqueda-Lewis (7.9 ppg., 4.9 rpg. and 2.2 apg.). Additionally, Massengale was named to the five-member All-FIBA U19 World Championship Team.

In 2010 five players earned a gold medal with USA Basketball at the FIBA U17 World Championship, including Burdick (7.6 ppg. and 4.8 rpg.), Laney (7.1 ppg and 2.6 rpg.), Massengale (10.1 ppg., 3.3 rpg. and 5.4 apg.), Mosqueda-Lewis (11.6 ppg. and 4.0 rpg.) and Smith (5.1 ppg., 1.3 rpg.).

Also in 2010, four players helped the USA to a gold medal at the 2010 FIBA Americas U18 Championship (which qualified the USA for the 2011 U19 Worlds), including Gray (6.0 ppg. and 5.8 rpg.), Harberts (5.4 ppg. and 4.0 rpg.), Hartley (10.6 ppg., 3.4 rpg. and 4.0 apg.) and Plaisance (7.8 ppg. and 4.6 rpg.).

Four players also won gold at the 2009 FIBA Americas U16 Championship, including Burdick (6.9 ppg., 4.4 rpg. and 3.6 apg.), Laney (13.2 ppg. and 3.8 rpg.), Massengale (12.0 ppg., 3.4 rpg. and 4.8 apg.) and Mosqueda-Lewis (14.0 ppg., 4.6 rpg. and 3.2 apg.).

Six years ago, Gray also participated in the 2007 USA Basketball Women's Youth Development Festival, where she helped the Red Team to a 3-2 record and third-place while averaging 4.2 ppg. and 3.8 rpg.

Finally, 10 players will come to the 2013 WUGs trials with experience from previous USA Basketball national team trials, including Ballard (2010 U17 trials); Harrison (2010 U17 trials); Ellenberg (2011 U19 trials); Lucas (2011 WUGs trials); Marshall (2011 U19 trials); Orrange (2010 U18 trials); Peters (2010 U18 trials); and Simmons (2011 U19 trials and 2010 U18 trials).

The USA has been placed in Group B for the 2013 WUGs and will open at 12:30 p.m. (EDT) on July 8 against Belarus, followed by Czech Republic at 12:30 p.m. (EDT) on July 9 and its final preliminary-round opponent, Brazil, at 4:30 a.m. (EDT) on July 10. Following the preliminary round, the first and second placed teams in each of the four pools will advance to the medal quarterfinals to compete for 1st-8th places, while the remaining teams will compete for 9th-24th places. The quarterfinals will be played on July 12, with the semifinals on July 13 and the gold medal game on July 15.

In addition to Foster the 2013-16 USA Basketball Women's Junior National Team Committee includes NCAA appointees **Melanie Balcomb** (head coach, Vanderbilt University), **Lindsay Gottlieb** (head coach, University of California) and **Joi Williams** (head coach, UCF), as well as athlete representative **Kara Lawson**, a 2008 Olympic gold medalist who has played on nine USA Basketball teams.

## **World University Games**

USA Basketball women's teams have participated in 16 prior World University Games and have collected a record eight gold medals, six silvers and one bronze medal.

Since 1973, the first year the USA women competed in the WUGs, the United States has compiled a 95-15 record. In 2011 the USA, led by 2012 NCAA National Player of the Year nominees **Elena Delle Donne**, **Skylar Diggins** and **Nneka Ogumike** and Baylor's Sims, posted a 6-0 slate en route to the gold medal.

Also among the list of WUG alumni are 2012 Olympic gold medalists **Seimone Augustus** (2005), **Tina Charles** (2009), **Sylvia Fowles** (2005) and **Maya Moore** (2009); as well as Olympians **Carol Blazejowski** (1977, 1979), **Ruthie Bolton** (1991), **Anne Donovan** (1981), **Pat Head Summitt** (1973), **Lisa Leslie** (1991), **Katrina McClain** (1985), **Suzie McConnell-Serio** (1991), **Ann Meyers Drysdale** (1977), **DeLisha Milton-Jones** (1997), **Cappie Pondexter** (2005), **Ruth Riley** (1999), **Katie Smith** (1995), **Dawn Staley** (1991), **Katy Steding** (1991), **Tina Thompson** (1995), **Kara Wolters** (1995, 1997) and **Lynette Woodward** (1979).

## **USA Basketball**

Based in Colorado Springs, Colo., USA Basketball is a nonprofit organization and the national governing body for men's and women's basketball in the United States. As the recognized governing body for basketball in the U.S. by the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) and the United States Olympic Committee (USOC), USA Basketball is responsible for the selection, training and fielding of USA teams that compete in FIBA sponsored international competitions, as well as for some national competitions.

During the 2009-12 quadrennium, 1273 men and women players and 235 coaches participated in USA Basketball, including the USA Basketball 3x3 FIBA championships, USA Basketball trials and USA teams.

Between 2009-12, USA Basketball men's and women's teams compiled an impressive 264-35 win-loss record in FIBA and FIBA Americas competitions, the Pan American Games, the World University Games, the Nike Hoop Summit and in exhibition games. USA teams are the current men's and women's champions in the Olympics; men's and women's FIBA World Championships; women's FIBA U19 World Champions; men's and women's FIBA U17 World Champions; and the men's and women's U18 and U16 FIBA Americas

Championships. USA Basketball also currently ranks No. 1 in all five of FIBA's world ranking categories, including combined, men's, women's, boys and girls.

For further information about USA Basketball, go to the official Web site of USA Basketball at [usabasketball.com](http://usabasketball.com) and connect with us on [facebook.com/usabasketball](https://facebook.com/usabasketball), [twitter.com/usabasketball](https://twitter.com/usabasketball) and [www.youtube.com/therealusbasketball](https://www.youtube.com/therealusbasketball).

# 2013 USA Basketball Women's World University Games Team Trials Schedule

## Thursday, May 16

6:30-8:15 p.m. Trials Session 1

## Friday, May 17

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Trials Session 2

5:30-7:30 p.m. Trials Session 3

## Saturday, May 18

10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Trials Session 4

5:30-7:30 p.m. Trials Session 5

## Sunday, May 19

8:30 a.m. Announcement of Team

- All sessions will take place in Sports Center II at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.
- Times listed are local, Mountain Daylight Time.

# 2013 USA Basketball Women's World University Games Team Trials Roster

NAME	POS	HGT	WGT	DOB	YOG	SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
Danielle Ballard	G	5-9	162	11/16/93	2016	Louisiana State University	Memphis, TN
Rachel Banham	G	5-9	160	07/15/93	2014	University of Minnesota	Lakeville, MN
Crystal Bradford	G	6-0	165	11/01/93	2015	Central Michigan University	Detroit, MI
Gennifer Brandon	F	6-2	---	11/23/90	2014	University of California	Sylmar, CA
Cierra Burdick	F	6-2	170	09/30/93	2015	University of Tennessee	Charlotte, NC
Hallie Christofferson	F	6-3	170	11/21/91	2014	Iowa State University	Hamlin, IA
Aaryn Ellenberg	G	5-7	122	07/17/92	2014	University of Oklahoma	Las Vegas, NV
Morgan Eye	G	5-9	152	08/05/92	2015	University of Missouri	Montrose, MO
ReShanda Gray	F	6-3	185	06/01/93	2015	University of California	Los Angeles, CA
Sara Hammond	F	6-2	---	04/13/93	2015	University of Louisville	Mt. Vernon, KY
Cassie Harberts	F	6-2	190	06/04/92	2014	University of Southern California	San Clemente, CA
Isabelle Harrison	C	6-3	170	09/27/93	2015	University of Tennessee	Nashville, TN
Bria Hartley	G	5-7	145	09/30/92	2014	University of Connecticut	North Babylon, NY
Jordan Hooper	F	6-2	185	02/20/92	2014	University of Nebraska	Alliance, NE
Brittany Hrynko	G	5-8	140	04/24/93	2015	DePaul University	Philadelphia, PA
Briahanna Jackson	G	5-4	---	09/19/93	2016	UCF	Tampa, FL
Betnijah Laney	G/F	6-0	176	10/29/93	2015	Rutgers University	Clayton, DE
Jasmine Lister	G	5-4	130	05/12/92	2014	Vanderbilt University	Corona, CA
Tricia Liston	G	6-1	192	02/20/92	2014	Duke University	River Forest, IL
Maggie Lucas	G	5-10	150	11/29/91	2014	Penn State University	Narberth, PA
Tyaunna Marshall	G	5-9	162	12/22/92	2014	Georgia Tech University	Upper Marlboro, MD
Ariel Massengale	G	5-6	155	06/10/93	2015	University of Tennessee	Bolingbrook, IL
Kaleena Mosqueda-Lewis	F	6-0	185	11/03/93	2015	University of Connecticut	Anaheim Hills, CA
Amber Orrange	G	5-7	---	03/14/93	2015	Stanford University	Houston, TX
Haley Peters	G/F	6-3	178	09/17/92	2014	Duke University	Red Bank, NJ
Theresa Plaisance	F	6-5	200	05/18/92	2014	Louisiana State University	New Orleans, LA
Shoni Schimmel	G	5-9	160	05/04/92	2014	University of Louisville	Mission, OR
Meighan Simmons	G	5-9	---	01/25/92	2014	University of Tennessee	Cibolo, TX
Odyssey Sims	G	5-8	---	07/13/92	2014	Baylor University	Irving, TX
Bria Smith	G	5-10	155	02/16/93	2015	University of Louisville	Massapequa, NY
DeNesha Stallworth	C	6-3	190	05/05/92	2014	University of Kentucky	Richmond, CA

**Head Coach:** Sherri Coale, University of Oklahoma

**Assistant Coach:** Brian Giorgis, Maris College

**Assistant Coach:** Coquese Washington, Penn State University

**Court Coach:** Matt Corkery, American University

**Court Coach:** Bobbie Kelsey, University of Wisconsin

**Court Coach:** Matilda Mossman, University of Tulsa