Ice Theatre of New York 1995 Benefit Honoree



Cisa McGraw Webster

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Lisa McGraw Webster was born in New York City, the daughter of Elizabeth and Curtis McGraw, and grew up in Princeton, New Jersey, where she still makes her home. Her parents were charter members of The Princeton Skating Club and introduced her to skating on Sunday afternoons in 1933. Then, as now, club sessions were held at Princeton University's Baker Rink, one of the oldest artificial ice surfaces in the United States.

She became interested in both free skating and dance, and skated regularly at the Princeton rink during the school year and at Lake Placid during the summer. The war interrupted her skating when Baker Rink was turned into a dormitory for military trainees.

Lisa did not have an opportunity to skate while completing her degree at Finch College and while working in New York following graduation. She returned to Princeton in 1947 and helped revive The Princeton Skating Club, which has remained her home club until this day. She is also an honorary member of the board of the Skating Club of Vail, Colorado and a member of the Sun Valley Skating Club, Idaho where she maintains second homes.

Lisa has been an active but virtually invisible sponsor of some of the finest skaters the United States has produced. She started with one of the very best -- Paul Wylie whom she first met when he was eleven years old during his visit to Vail for an exhibition. She began her sponsorship when he went to Harvard College in 1986. She was not only a sponsor but one of his most ardent fans right through his Olympic Silver triumph at Albertville in 1992.

With the help of Mary Scotvold, Lisa also began sponsoring Nancy Kerrigan in 1988. She was on hand as a sponsor and fan when Nancy won the Bronze medal at Albertville in 1992 and the Silver in Lillehammer in 1994. Probably every skating enthusiast has seen the exhibition that Paul and Nancy perform as a pair. One can only imagine the special joy that this inspiring *Miss Saigon* performance brings to Lisa.

Among the other skaters silently sponsored by Lisa are David Liu, Men's Champion of Chinese Taipei, and six time British Men's Champion Steven Cousins, each with a very special talent and particular promise. Lisa has been an important sponsor of the Ice Theatre of New York since 1984, its inception, and has also supported The Next Ice Age and The John Curry Company. She is also on the board of the Princeton Hospital Medical Foundation.

Lisa has a son, Curtis, and two daughters, Lisette and Marian. Marian is married to the well-known show skater, Herman Maricich, former director of the famous Sun Valley skating facility.

Lisa has been blessed with eight grandchildren, all of whom she has introduced to skating.