

Intel Announces Team Intel Athletes for the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018

Jan. 8, 2018 — Intel today announced six Olympic athletes representing Team Intel at the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018.

Team Intel athletes include:

- **Ayumu Hirano** – Japanese snowboarding phenom and silver medalist in halfpipe at the Olympic Winter Games Sochi 2014.
- **Fan Kexin** – Chinese short track speedskater and silver medalist in the 1,000 meter at the Olympic Winter Games Sochi 2014.
- **Hannah Brandt** – Forward on the U.S. women's Ice Hockey Team and University of Minnesota's all-time points leader.
- **Marissa Brandt** – South Korean ice hockey defender and former star at Gustavus Adolphus College.
- **Maia and Alex Shibutani** – U.S. ice dancing team and current two-time U.S. champions.

Get to Know Team Intel:

Ayumu Hirano

- Sport: Men's Snowboard Halfpipe
- Country: Japan
- Hometown: Murakami, Japan
- Currently Resides: Murakami, Japan
- Olympic Status: Olympic Winter Games Sochi 2014 silver medalist
- Social Media:
 - Facebook: [Ayumu Hirano](#)
 - Twitter: [@AyumuB](#)
 - Instagram: [@ayumuhirano1129](#)



Did You Know That...

- at a mere 110 pounds, Japan's rising son of snowboarding has defied the little-guys-can't-fly stereotype by boosting huge air, reaching 18-plus feet above the halfpipe lip
- in 2013, at age 15, Hirano was the youngest rider ever at the World Snowboard Tour Halfpipe Championship*
- in 2013, Hirano won silver in the superpipe and is the youngest medalist in history at the Aspen Winter X-Games*
- in 2014, Hirano took silver in the Olympic Winter Games Sochi 2014, making him the youngest "snow" medalist of all time
- his family owns a skate park and, along with his brothers, Hirano grew up competing in vertical skateboarding contests since age 4

Fan Kexin

- Sport: Women's Speedskating
- Country: China
- Hometown: Qitaihe, China
- Currently Resides: Beijing, China
- Olympic Status: Won silver in the women's 1,000 meter at the Olympic Winter Games Sochi 2014
- Social Media:
 - Facebook: [Fan Kexin](#)



Did You Know That...

- one of her most memorable sporting achievements was winning gold in the 500 meter at the 2015 World Championship* in Moscow
- in 2014, she was named an Elite Athlete of International Class by the General Administration of Sport of China
- in 2011, she was presented with the Sport Honour Medal by the General Administration of Sport of China
- her nicknames are Shadow of Wang Meng and Fan Ye

Hannah Brandt

- Sport: Women's Ice Hockey
- Country: USA
- Hometown: Vadnais Heights, Minnesota
- Currently Resides: St. Paul, Minnesota
- Olympic Status: PyeongChang will be her first trip to an Olympic Games, where she could find herself face-to-face with her sister Marissa, who has been playing for the South Korean National Hockey Team in preparation for the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018.
- Social Media:
 - Twitter: [@hannahbrandt16](#)
 - Instagram: [@hannahbrandt22](#)



Did You Know That...

- as a member of the U.S. Women's National Team, she has played in three International Ice Hockey Federation Women's World Championships* (gold: 2015, 2017; silver: 2012), three Four Nations Cups* (1st: 2016, 2017; 2nd: 2014) and IIHF Twelve Nations Invitational Tournament Series* (2011)
- she played for the Minnesota Whitecaps*, an independent team, during the 2016-17 season
- she is a three-time member of the U.S. Women's Under-22 Select Team at the Under-22 Series* (2012, 2014, 2015), attended the 2014 U.S. Women's National Team Evaluation Camp*, and was a three-time Women's National Festival invitee* (2010, 2012, 2014)

Marissa Brandt

- Sport: Women's Ice Hockey
- Country: South Korea
- Hometown: Vadnais Heights, Minnesota
- Currently Resides: Mounds View, Minnesota
- Olympic Status: PyeongChang will be her first trip to an Olympic Games, where she could find herself face-to-face with her sister Hannah, who has been playing with USA Hockey in preparation for the Olympic Winter Games PyeongChang 2018.
- Social Media:
 - Twitter: [@marissabrandt22](https://twitter.com/marissabrandt22)
 - Instagram: [@marissacbrandt](https://www.instagram.com/marissacbrandt)



Did You Know That...

- she is a defender in the South Korean National Hockey Team* and listed as “Park Yoon-jung” in official Korean National Team lineup sheets
- she helped South Korea capture the IIHF Women’s World Championship – Division II Group A - in Gangneung, South Korea, this past year
- she played hockey at Gustavus Adolphus College, where she helped guide the team to three Minnesota Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championships*, two MIAC Playoff Championships, and two NCAA* fourth place finishes while garnering two MIAC All-Conference Honorable Mention awards
- Marissa was born in South Korea and adopted by the Brandt family in Minnesota when she was 4 months old
- Marissa started playing hockey at 8 years old along with her younger sister, Hannah (who is on Team USA). They both started out figure skating, but when Hannah switched to hockey, Marissa followed suit.
- Marissa is married to Brett Ylonen, a former soccer player at Gustavus Adolphus

Maia Shibutani

- Country: USA
- Currently Reside: Ann Arbor, Michigan
- Sport: Figure Skating – Ice Dance
- Olympic Status: 2014 U.S. Olympian
- Social Media:
 - Twitter: [@MaiaShibutani](https://twitter.com/MaiaShibutani)
 - Instagram: [@maishibutani](https://www.instagram.com/maishibutani)



Alex Shibutani

- Country: USA
- Currently Reside: Ann Arbor, Michigan
- Sport: Figure Skating – Ice Dance
- Olympic Status: 2014 U.S. Olympian
- Social Media:
 - Twitter: [@AlexShibutani](https://twitter.com/AlexShibutani)
 - Instagram: [@AlexShibutani](https://www.instagram.com/AlexShibutani)

- Team Social Media:
 - Facebook: [ShibSibs](#)
 - Twitter: [@ShibSibs](#)
 - Snapchat: ShibSibs
 - Instagram: <http://instagram.com/shibsibs>
 - YouTube: www.youtube.com/ShibSibs

Did You Know That...

- they began skating at the ages of 4 (Maia) and 7 (Alex) while growing up in Connecticut, but began ice dancing as a duo five years later
- the duo has won a medal at the U.S. Championships* for 13 straight years, are two-time U.S. Champions (2016, 2017), and U.S. Champions at the intermediate (2006), novice (2007), and junior levels (2010)
- they are the 2017 Four Continents silver medalists and World bronze medalists (2011, 2017)
- their YouTube videos have garnered more than 5 million views
- Maia's hobbies include spending time with her two dogs, her family and friends, cooking, reading, and traveling
- Alex enjoys following sports, trying new foods, photography, and videography

For more details visit: www.Intel.com/Olympics

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