



News Release

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

Thirty-Four Athletes Accept Invitations For 2013 USA Basketball Women's U19 World Championship Team Trials

-- Thirteen Gold Medalists Return To Vie For USA U19 Team Slot --

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. (May 7, 2012) -- Thirty-four of the nation's top athletes age 19-years-old or younger (born on or after Jan. 1, 1994), including 13 who previously have helped USA Basketball earn gold in international competition, have accepted invitations to participate in the 2013 USA Basketball U19 World Championship Team trials, USA Basketball today announced. Trials to select the 12-member USA squad will be held May 16-19 at the U.S. Olympic Training Center (USOTC) in Colorado Springs, Colo. Invitations to the trials were issued by the USA Basketball Junior National Team Committee.

"This group has a nice nucleus with some former gold medal winners in the mix and some new candidates that will allow us to field a very competitive team," said committee chair **Jim Foster**, who has been a member of nine different USA Basketball coaching staffs.

"I think it's a fantastic, dynamic, diverse group for international play," said USA and University of Miami head coach **Katie Meier**. "The committee understands the important parts of what it takes to win internationally. There's a lot of great and versatile size in this group, some really dynamic players who can do a lot of special things from 20-feet in. This is a really exciting, athletic group who are also very, very skilled. That's a real sign for the growth of our game throughout the country, that the U19s have this level of skill.

"This is going to be a very competitive trials. We've got a lot to play for, and the young ladies who have already won gold have already proven how competitive they are. But, I think there will be another sense of, absolutely, nothing is given. There's no automatic 'you're going to make the team.' That's obvious. We don't even have enough slots for everyone who's won a gold medal, and then you look at the rest of the talent who's coming in hungry for their first chance to win gold. We're going to see a very, very high level of competition and probably some of the best scrimmages we've ever seen."

Six members of the 2012 USA U18 National Team that earned the USA its 2013 FIBA U19 World Championship berth are returning to compete for a spot on the 2013 USA U19 World Championship Team – as is the coaching staff. Assisting Meier and the U19 squad are collegiate head coaches **Nikki Caldwell** of Louisiana State University and **Kelly Graves** of Gonzaga University. Additionally, American University head coach **Matt Corkery**, University of Wisconsin head coach **Bobbie Kelsey** and University of Tulsa head coach **Matilda Mossman** will serve as court coaches during the trials.

Accepting invitations to participate in the trials were: **Jordan Adams** (Southern California / Irvine, Calif.); **Candice Agee** (Penn State / Victorville, Calif.); **Jillian Alleyne** (Oregon / Fontana, Calif.); **Ameryst Alston** (Ohio State / Canton, Ohio); **Shacobia Barbee** (Georgia / Mufreesboro, Tenn.); **Amber Campbell** (Northwood Academy / Charleston, S.C.); **Oderah Chidom** (Bishop O'Dowd H.S. / Oakland, Calif.); **Nia Coffey** (Hopkins H.S. / Minneapolis, Minn.); **Kendall Cooper** (St. Anthony's H.S. / Carson, Calif.); **Rebekah Dahlman** (Braham Area H.S. / Braham, Minn.); **Kaela Davis** (Buford H.S. / Suwanee, Ga.); **Amber Deane** (Dayton / Lathrup Village, Mich.); **Lia Galdeira** (Washington State /

Kamuella, Hawaii); **Bashaara Graves** (Tennessee / Clarksville, Tenn.); **Gabby Green** (St. Mary's College H.S. / Oakland, Calif.); **Tiaria Griffin** (Georgia / Monticello, Miss.); **Linnae Harper** (Whitney Young H.S. / Chicago, Ill.); **Moriah Jefferson** (Connecticut / Glenn Heights, Texas); **Alexis Jones** (Duke / Irving, Texas); **Brittney Martin** (Oklahoma State / Syracuse, Utah); **Stephanie Mavunga** (Brownsburg H.S. / Indianapolis, Ind.); **Xylina McDaniel** (North Carolina / Columbia, S.C.); **Sydney Moss** (Florida / Union, Ky.); **Kelsey Plum** (La Jolla Country Day / Poway, Calif.); **Jordan Reynolds** (Central Catholic H.S. / Portland, Ore.); **Tyler Scaife** (Little Rock Hall H.S. / Little Rock, Ark.); **Ieshia Small** (Florida State University H.S. / Tallahassee, Fla.); **Breanna Stewart** (Connecticut / North Syracuse, N.Y.); **Brittney Sykes** (Syracuse / Newark, N.J.); **Morgan Tuck** (Connecticut / Bolingbrook, Ill.); **Brianna Turner** (Manvel H.S. / Pearland, Texas); **Courtney Walker** (Texas A&M / Edmond, Okla.); **Marqu'es Webb** (Hoover H.S. / Montgomery, Ala.) and **A'ja Wilson** (Heathwood Hall H.S. / Hopkins, S.C.).

Stewart is the most experienced USA Basketball alum attending trials. The MVP of the 2012 FIBA Americas U18 Championship and member of the five-member 2009 All-FIBA U19 World Championship Tournament Team, Stewart has helped USA squads earn gold at the 2010 U17 and 2011 U19 FIBA World Championships, as well as the 2009 U16 and 2012 U18 FIBA Americas Championships. Further, the 2011 USA Basketball Female Athlete of the Year was the lone high school athlete on the 2011 USA Pan American Games Team.

In addition to Stewart; Agee, Cooper, Graves, Jefferson and Tuck were members of the 2012 USA U18 National Team that captured the FIBA Americas U18 Championship to secure a berth to this summer's competition.

Also winning gold for the USA in 2012 were Chidom, Davis, Harper and Turner as members of the 2012 USA U17 World Championship Team; while Davis and Turner earned a second gold medal last summer at the FIBA 3x3 U18 World Championship.

Returning from the most recent USA U19 squad that captured gold at the 2011 FIBA U19 World Championship are Adams, Jones, Stewart and Tuck.

Davis, Harper and Mavunga teamed up to help the U.S. win gold at the 2011 FIBA Americas U16 Championship. Davis and Harper competed later that summer in the inaugural FIBA 3x3 U18 World Championship and after falling to Italy in overtime of the semifinal with just two healthy players on the court and being forced to forfeit in the bronze medal game due to a lack of players, were awarded an honorary bronze medal by FIBA.

In 2010 Adams, Graves, Stewart and Tuck were members of the gold medal-winning USA U17 World Championship Team; while Jones captured gold that summer at the FIBA Americas U18 Championship.

Adams, Graves and Stewart earned their first gold medal with USA Basketball at the 2009 FIBA Americas U16 Championship.

In addition to the 13 gold medalists attending the USA U19 trials, 10 athletes have participated in a USA Basketball trials previously, including Alson, Coffey, Dahlman, Green, McDaniel, Plum, Reynolds, Scaife, Small and Sykes.

The USA squad, which is on a quest to capture a fifth-consecutive gold medal at the U19 Worlds, will compete in the 2013 FIBA U19 World Championship, hosted by Lithuania from July 18-28 in Klaipeda and Panevėžys. The team will regroup for training on July 1 at the USOTC prior to traveling to Europe for the competition.

The FIBA U19 Worlds will feature 16 teams with athletes 19-years-old or younger. While Lithuania earned an automatic berth to the tournament as host, the remaining 15 nations were determined by the five FIBA zone qualifiers in 2012. In addition to the U.S., nations qualified out of the FIBA Americas zone include Brazil (silver medalist), Argentina (bronze medalist) and Canada (fourth place). Senegal (gold medalist) and Mali (silver medalist) will represent FIBA Africa; advancing from FIBA Asia are China (gold medalist), Japan (silver medalist) and South Korea (bronze medalist); Australia took FIBA Oceania's spot after winning the best-of-three series against New Zealand; while FIBA Europe will be represented by France (gold medalist), Russia (silver medalist), Serbia (bronze medalist), Netherlands (fourth place) and Spain (fifth place).

Drawn into Group D, the U.S. will play its preliminary and second round games in Panevėžys, and opens against Lithuania on July 18, followed by China on July 19 and caps the preliminary round against Mali on July 20.

The top three finishing teams from each first-round group will advance to the second round, held July 22-24. The 12 nations qualifying for the second round will be divided into Groups E and F. Each team will play the three new teams in its new group, with all results of games played in the preliminary round carrying over to determine the second-round standings.

Teams finishing in first through fourth places in the second round will qualify for the quarterfinals, with the opportunity to advance to the semifinals and finals. The medal round will be played in Klaipeda, with the quarterfinals held on July 26, semifinals slated for July 27 and the gold medal game on July 28.

Current collegiate athletes invited to participate in the 2013 USA U19 World Championship Team trials are eligible and may also be considered for the 2013 USA World University Games Team. Trials for both teams will take place in staggered sessions May 16-19. The 2013 World University Games women's basketball competition is scheduled for July 8-15 in Kazan, Russia.

Chaired by NCAA representative **Jim 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.

FIBA U19 World Championship History

Originally known as the FIBA Junior World Championship, the tournament was held every four years starting in 1985. FIBA changed its calendar in 2006 and now conducts the U19 World Championship every other year. USA women's teams are 57-12 in the U19/Junior World Championships, capturing a fourth-consecutive gold with an 8-1 record most recently in 2011.

Numerous top athletes have represented the United States at the U19s, including **Alana Beard** (2001); **Essence Carson** (2005); **Tamika Catchings** (1997); **Crystal Langhorne** (2005); **Jantel Lavender** (2007); **Lisa Leslie** (1989); **Rebecca Lobo** (1993); **Maya Moore** (2007); **Nnemkadi Ogwumike** (2009); **Vickie Orr** (1985); **Courtney Paris** (2005); **Cappie Pondexter** (2001); **Katie Smith** (1993); **Dawn Staley** (1989); **Breanna Stewart** (2011); **Diana Taurasi** (2001); **Abby Waner** (2005); and **Candice Wiggins** (2005). Additionally, eight athletes from the first seven USA U19 squads have advanced to compete in the Olympic Games, including Catchings, Leslie, Lobo, Moore, Pondexter, Smith, Staley and Taurasi.

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 basketball competitions, as well as for some national competitions.

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 Championships; men's and women's FIBA U17 World Championships; and the men's and women's U18 and U16 FIBA Americas champions; as well as winners of the women's FIBA 3X3 World Championship and 3x3 U18 World Championship.

2013 USA Basketball Women's U19 World Championship Team Trials Schedule

Thursday, May 16

4:30 - 6:15 p.m. Trials Session 1

Friday, May 17

8:30 - 10:30 a.m. Trials Session 2
4-6 p.m. Trials Session 3

Saturday, May 18

8:30-10:30 a.m. Trials Session 4
4-6 p.m. Trials Session 5

Sunday, May 19

8:30 a.m. U19 Team Announcement

NOTES:

- All times listed are local, MDT
- All sessions will be held at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo., and are open to credentialed media.
- The team announcement is open to athletes only.

2013 USA Basketball Women's U19 World Championship Team Trials Roster

NAME	POS	HGT	WGT	DOB	YOG	SCHOOL	HOMETOWN
Jordan Adams	G	6-1	165	02/10/94	2016	Southern California	Irvine, CA
Candice Agee	C	6-6	190	09/14/94	2016	Penn State	Victorville, CA
Jillian Alleyne	F	6-3	184	09/08/94	2016	Oregon	Fontana, CA
Ameryst Alston	G	5-9	---	01/20/94	2016	Ohio State	Canton, OH
Shacobia Barbee	G/F	5-10	---	08/09/94	2016	Georgia	Murfreesboro, TN
Amber Campbell	G	5-9	149	11/24/94	2014	Northwood Academy	Charleston, SC
Oderah Chidom	F	6-3	165	07/09/95	2013	Bishop O'Dowd H.S./*Duke	Oakland, CA
Nia Coffey	F	6-1	155	06/11/95	2013	Hopkins H.S./*Northwestern	Minneapolis, MN
Kendall Cooper	C	6-3	190	08/19/95	2013	St. Anthony's H.S./*Duke	Carson, CA
Rebekah Dahlman	G	5-9	145	08/11/94	2013	Braham Area H.S./*Vanderbilt	Braham, MN
Kaela Davis	G	6-2	160	03/15/95	2013	Buford H.S./*Georgia Tech	Suwanee, GA
Amber Deane	G	5-9	140	02/22/94	2016	Dayton	Lathrup Village, MI
Lia Galdeira	G	5-11	---	04/24/94	2016	Washington State	Kamuela, HI
Bashaara Graves	F	6-2	185	03/17/94	2016	Tennessee	Clarksville, TN
Gabby Green	G	6-1	148	10/18/95	2014	St. Mary's College H.S.	Oakland, CA
Tiaria Griffin	G	5-8	132	08/30/94	2016	Georgia	Monticello, MS
Linnae Harper	G	5-7	140	01/31/95	2013	Whitney Young H.S./*Kentucky	Chicago, IL
Moriah Jefferson	G	5-7	122	03/18/94	2016	Connecticut	Glenn Heights, TX
Alexis Jones	G	5-8	160	05/08/94	2016	Duke	Irving, TX
Brittney Martin	G	6-0	162	01/03/94	2016	Oklahoma State	Syracuse, UT
Stephanie Mavunga	G	6-3	184	02/24/95	2013	Brownsburg H.S./*North Carolina	Indianapolis, IN
Xylina McDaniel	F	6-2	175	11/18/94	2016	North Carolina	Columbia, SC
Sydney Moss	G/F	5-11	196	03/06/94	2016	Florida	Union, KY
Kelsey Plum	G	5-9	145	08/24/94	2013	La Jolla Country Day/*Washington	Poway, CA
Jordan Reynolds	G	5-11	165	08/04/95	2013	Central Catholic H.S./*Tennessee	Portland, OR
Tyler Scaife	G	5-9	135	12/13/94	2013	Little Rock Hall H.S./*Rutgers	Little Rock, AR
Ieshia Small	F	6-8	170	12/17/94	2013	Florida State University H.S./*Baylor	Tallahassee, FL
Breanna Stewart	F/C	6-4	175	08/27/94	2016	Connecticut	North Syracuse, NY
Brittney Sykes	G	5-9	145	02/07/94	2016	Syracuse	Newark, NJ
Morgan Tuck	F	6-2	190	04/30/94	2016	Connecticut	Bolingbrook, IL
Brianna Turner	F	6-3	150	07/05/96	2014	Manvel H.S.	Pearland, TX
Courtney Walker	G	5-8	160	04/28/94	2016	Texas A&M	Edmond, OK
Marqu'es Webb	F	6-1	235	03/23/95	2013	Hoover H.S./*Vanderbilt	Montgomery, AL
A'ja Wilson	F	6-4	175	08/08/96	2014	Heathwood Hall H.S.	Hopkins, SC

Head Coach: Katie Meier, University of Miami

Assistant Coach: Kelly Graves, Gonzaga University

Court Coach: Bobbie Kelsey, University of Wisconsin

Assistant Coach: Nikki Caldwell, Louisiana State University

Court Coach: Matt Corkery, American University

Court Coach: Matilda Mossman, University of Tulsa

*Has signed a National Letter of Intent to attend and compete for school indicated.

#Has verbally committed to attend and compete for school indicated.