



Katya Sasha Rubin

Adaptive Figure Skating

While reflecting on how to make ice skating a more inclusive sport and witnessing the limited opportunities available to her brother with autism, Katya created Ice SkateAble, a sensory-friendly program welcoming all children to the skating rink regardless of disabilities. Before the event took place, Katya led an hour-long training with volunteers to explain how to support children with different needs through scenario-based learning. Through her project, she was able to accommodate children in wheelchairs, children who were visually or hearing impaired, and those who had difficulties communicating. Adding to her list of accomplishments, one of her students began competing in skating competitions with Katya's help, despite a lack of adaptive elements in most Arizona-based events.

