

# VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR | FWDancesport #2046

## That They May All *Dance*

BY: JEAN KRUPA

The 2010 national award for Volunteer of the Year was presented to a group of volunteers for their dedication to bringing the joy of dance to everyone and to showing that ballroom dancing is for everyone.

**The Unified Sports Dance Partners of FWDancesport #2046 have earned this award for partnering in ballroom dancing with the athletes of Special Olympics in Fort Wayne, Indiana.**

Team sports are about having fun, promoting physical health and bringing people together. Special Olympics Unified Sports teams do all of that, and shatter stereotypes about intellectual disability in the process.

USA Dance and the volunteers participating as Unified Sports Partners are proud to work with Special Olympics and open the door for more individuals to share in the world of ballroom dancing. We strive to ensure that all people, regardless of their ability, have the chance to learn how to express themselves through the rhythm of ballroom dancing and enjoy the thrill of a ballroom dancing competition.

This USA Dance pilot program uniting the ballroom dance world and the Special Olympics world was a history-making event with 26 couples taking to the dance floor to compete. And it sparked interest in the program in 14 other states—more than double from the previous year's inquiries.

All amateur dance couples are cordially invited to compete in the 2010 USA Dance FWDancesport Championships July 31 & August 1, 2010 and see this special and unique event. It's a competition you will never forget. ■

- Andres, Bill
- Blasius, Sheree
- Bloomfield, Roseann
- Clemens, Allen
- Davis, Chuck
- Davis, Stacy
- Erickson, Edward T.
- Gallmeyer, Jessica
- Hamilton, Chris
- Hans, David
- Hapner, Jacob
- Hernandez, Roger
- Hinkle, Steve
- Jackson, Mick
- Jones, Bonnie
- Kanzawa, Linda
- Keck, Dan
- Kieffer, Susan
- Kite, Tori
- Lake, Arline
- Leonard, Don
- Lewis, Sharon
- Lofgren, Richard
- Luarde, Frank
- Martin, Mike
- Mauller, Jeffrey
- McCann, Jim
- Michael, Rae Ann
- Moser, Steve
- Muchler, Robert
- Myers, Juanita
- Myers, Tom
- Palyo, Kathy
- Rigby, Terry
- Steffen, Marlise
- Straley, Sherry
- Vachon, Steven
- Watson, Richard
- Wilkinson, Sandi
- Worman, Gene