

Putting the Arts on Ice

By **Macy Goodnight**



Tulsa ice organizations like the **Tulsa Oilers** and the **Tulsa Figure Skating Club** have a new home at the recently opened **WeStreet Ice Center**.

For frosty family fun and entertainment, the newly introduced WeStreet Ice Center is the coolest place to spend time this summer! The premier entertainment and dining complex offers much more than just an ice day.

With a grand opening in March of this year, the recently developed space is a revitalization of the old Macy's Department Store at Promenade Mall in midtown Tulsa. The result is 140,000 square feet of dining and entertainment, a cutting-edge concept that offers two NHL regulation hockey rinks, exceptional eats at Puck's Sports Bar and Grill, a hockey pro shop, multiple game simulator rooms and an arcade. Public skating is available seven days a week, and the facility offers rental space for parties and events. Additionally, it is the official practice facility of the Tulsa Oilers hockey team and home of the Tulsa Figure Skating Club.

The Tulsa Figure Skating Club is the fourth oldest club of its kind in the state and was founded in 1938. The organization has been

inspiring figure skaters for over 85 years. They are affiliated with the Tulsa Figure Skating Foundation, a collaboration that presents, supports and promotes the Theatre on Ice Tulsa Team.

"This group is made up of youth and adult skaters and is aimed at giving them a new avenue of skating outside of the traditional path in this sport," said Kat DeAngelis, community engagement director for Tulsa Ice Centers, as well as director and head coach of the Theatre on Ice team. "I lead practices and we do collaborations, so it is an extension out into the figure skating community. Our education is figure-skating specific. The foundation's mission is to bring educational programs to Tulsa that center around ice skating and sports."

The Theatre on Ice team is comprised of children as young as 4 years old through adults, and their goal is to learn and exhibit an array of skills required to perform a theatrical production on ice. Last year, the team presented "The

Minions," inspired by the popular family movie. In the summer, a series of classes and clinics is planned with different themes to introduce skaters to new ways of training. The workshops will present collaborations with movement and dance experts, and session time with seasoned industry professionals is also planned.

As a nonprofit organization paving the way for skaters to explore their passion, support from the community is always welcome and vital to the sustainability of the Tulsa Skating Foundation programs. The group's members are charged with fundraising, but financial assistance is necessary for the program's continuity and success. Sponsorships are available, and interested donors can visit their website at tulsaskatingfoundation.org for more information.

"I just want everyone to know that you don't have to be the stereotypical athlete to be a figure skater and that so many people in this sport have a range of interests

and abilities, so the main point of the Theatre Team is to encourage people of all walks of life to come and be a part of it," Kat said. "It's important for people to try something new because you never know what's on the other side of an opportunity. You never know when you'll find your favorite interest in the world. Sometimes, it's just a glide away."

Check out all the exciting events coming to WeStreet Ice Center in the coming months by following them on Instagram, or their website at westreeticecenter.com. For more information on the Tulsa Figure Skating Club and Theatre on Ice, visit their website at tulsafsc.com. **TK**

Macy Goodnight is a freelance writer and photographer from Broken Arrow. She loves spending time with her family and friends, and has a keen interest in studying history, gardening, hiking, and traveling.

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