



Tina Broussard (SFSU 2013)

## Kristine “Kristi” Tsuya Yamaguchi United States Figure Skater

Kristine Tsuya Yamaguchi was born in 1971 in Hayward, California. She is a Japanese American. She grew up in the nearby City of Fremont, California. Although given the name Kristine at birth, she is better known as Kristi. She was born with clubfeet. Kristi grew up watching her older sister ice skate, she loved it, and later joined her sister when she was six. Yamaguchi was in junior high school when she competed in the pairs contest in 1986. Together she and her partner Rudy Galindo won the US championships for that year. In 1989 and 1990 Yamaguchi and Galindo won the senior pairs US championship. Yamaguchi moved to Alberta, Canada so she could train to become a solo skater. She excelled in her performances, and in 1991 she won the World Championship. Yamaguchi’s perseverance, hard work, and competitiveness have allowed her to win a gold medal in Albertville, France in the 1992 Winter Olympics. Today Kristi Yamaguchi is a wife, a mother, an author of two children’s books, and the founder of Always Dream Foundation.