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YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee
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Milwaukee Y Gymnastics Teams Place in Top 10 at 2015 YMCA National Championship

12 local girls competed against 2,000 gymnasts from 100 Ys nationwide

MILWAUKEE – The YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee’s gymnastics teams participated in the 2015 [YMCA National Gymnastics Championships](#) in Wichita, Kansas, June 24-27, winning over 35 individual and team medals. The team consists of 12 gymnasts, ages 7-19, from across Southeastern Wisconsin and two coaches, Alexandria Schmidt of Milwaukee and Katy Stern of Mequon, Wisconsin. The Milwaukee Y’s Level 1 team finished in third place overall and the Level 2 team finished eighth.

“These young women are pushing to improve their athleticism while learning the Y values of teamwork, self-confidence and healthy competition,” said Leila Wright, Product Director of Sports and Recreation at the Milwaukee Y.

More than 2,000 gymnasts from 100 Ys nationwide competed at the National Championships. In order to participate in the three-day competition, each athlete had to earn a qualifying all-around score from a previous USA Gymnastics judged competition. The full results for Milwaukee Y participants:

Level 1 team – placed third overall

- Alexandria Watkins of Milwaukee: Fifth on vault, fourth on bars and fifth all-around
- Mandalyn Callen of Port Washington, Wisconsin: Second on bars, fifth on beam, fourth on floor and third all-around
- Mary Grace King of Cedarburg, Wisconsin: Second on beam, third on floor and second all-around
- Sasha McKinney of Mequon, Wisconsin: Third on bars and second on floor
- Francesca Evitch of Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin: Fifth on bars

Level 2 team – placed eighth overall

- Tori Bogenschutz of Grafton, Wisconsin: Third on vault and fourth on floor
- Madeline Jaworski of Sussex, Wisconsin: Second on bars, third on floor and third all-around
- Kate Bogenschutz of Grafton, Wisconsin: Seventh on bars and seventh on floor
- Alaina Jarmuz of Grafton, Wisconsin: Fifth on bars, first on beam, third on floor and second all-around

Level 3 team

- Sofia Hagopian of Germantown, Wisconsin: Fifth on beam, fourth on floor and fifth all-around

- Elizabeth Stern of Mequon, Wisconsin: Fourth on vault, sixth on bars, fourth on beam, fourth on floor and fourth all-around

Platinum team

- Claire Blanchard of Mequon, Wisconsin: Fourth on bars, fourth on floor, eighth on vault and eighth all-around

“These 12 girls spent hours and hours training to get to this year’s national championships. Whether on the beam, vault, bars or floor, they came prepared to face tough competition. They excelled at the highest level, and I couldn’t be prouder of them for their dedication,” said Milwaukee Y Gymnastics Coach Alex Schmidt.

The [Milwaukee Y’s competitive gymnastics program](#) is offered year-round with 6-7 hours per week of training available at the YMCA Gymnastics Center in Mequon, Wisconsin, along with the opportunity for competition within the Wisconsin YMCA Gymnastics system. Each gymnast competes as an all-around gymnast, performing routines on floor exercise, balance beam, uneven bars and vault. Contact Head Coach Alexandria Schmidt at (414) 357-2828 or aschmidt@ymcamke.org for a skills evaluation or more information.

Gymnastics skills classes for beginners are available for infants starting to crawl to kindergarten-aged children. Progressive, non-competitive gymnastics classes provide beginners as well as intermediate gymnasts a chance to try a wide-variety of gymnastics related activities. An all-boys parkour class for 7-year-olds and older takes the physical discipline of gymnastics outdoors. For more information or to register for a gymnastics class, go [online](#) or contact Dawn Marie Herrboldt at (414) 357-2818 or via email at dherrboldt@ymcamke.org.

About the YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee

The YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee is a powerful association of men, women and children of all ages and walks of life joined together by a shared vision to create a stronger, healthier Milwaukee where families of all incomes and backgrounds truly thrive. Supported by the generosity and vision of our benefactors, the Milwaukee Y offers solutions that reduce health issues that plague our community, such as chronic diseases and preventable injuries; provides safe places seven-days-a-week where kids can have fun, families can gather and seniors can build meaningful connections; serves as an access point for vital community needs, such as preventative health care and reliable, safe before- and after-school care; partners with families, schools and other non-profits to help kids grow into productive adults; and makes fitness fun and accessible for all. Comprising five locations throughout the Milwaukee area, as well as YMCA Camp Minikani on the shores of Lake Amy Belle in Hubertus, Wisconsin, the Milwaukee Y has been a part of the lives of the greater Milwaukee area’s kids and families since 1858. For more information, visit www.ymcamke.org.

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