

Sun Valley Winter Olympians

A breeding grounds for world-class athletes

Ever since Sun Valley's Gretchen Fraser became the first American woman to win Olympic gold in alpine skiing at the 1948 Olympic Games in Switzerland, Sun Valley has had a long history of training Winter Olympic athletes. To date, 56 former and current Olympians hail from Sun Valley and many more have trained here—did you know that every alpine Olympic medalist from Sun Valley is awarded their own run on Baldy? Here are some highlights from the past 85 years!

85 years

1930

2021

Berlin
Sapporo
St. Moritz
Oslo

Squaw Valley

Sapporo

Innsbruck
Sarajevo

Calgary

Albertville
Lillehammer
Nagano

Salt Lake City

Torino
Vancouver
Sochi

1952

BETTY (BELL) WEIR 1952 Games in Oslo, Norway. At the Olympics, she was exposed to Nordic skiing and eventually introduced the first pay-to-use Nordic trails and cross-country ski school in Sun Valley.

1960

CHUCK FERRIES 1960 & 1964 Olympics. Became the first American to ever win a European classic gate race at Austria's famous Hahnenkamm slalom. He was also named the 1963 *Sports Illustrated* "Best U.S. Skier."

1972

SUSIE CORROCK Ran what is considered the best run of her career to win the bronze medal in downhill, 1972 Olympic Games.

1984

CHRISTIN COOPER Born in California but raised in Ketchum. Won the silver medal at the 1984 Olympic Games in Sarajevo.

1998

MUFFY DAVIS One of the top junior skiers in the country when a freak skiing accident paralyzed her from the chest down. Undeterred, the Sun Valley native went on to win medals at both the 1998 and 2002 Winter Paralympic Games.

2002

LARS FLORA 2002 Games in Salt Lake City and the 2006 Games in Torino, Italy. Both Lars and fellow Olympian Morgan Arritola were originally from Oregon, but trained in Sun Valley.

2014

KAITLYN FARRINGTON grew up in Bellevue, Idaho. She won the gold medal in the women's half-pipe competition at the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia.

1940

BILL JANSS 1940 Olympic Team (canceled when Germany invaded Poland and ignited WWII). Janss bought Sun Valley Resort in 1963.

1948

GRETCHEN FRASER The Godmother of Olympic skiers, Gretchen Fraser was the first American to win a gold medal in skiing at the 1948 Games in St. Moritz, Switzerland. Raised in Washington, Gretchen moved to Sun Valley in 1939 and is still the second oldest woman (28) to ever win an alpine Olympic event.

1976

SUSIE PATTERSON Born and raised in Sun Valley, Susie was a member of the U.S. Ski Team from 1971 until 1979. Competed at the 1976 Winter Games in Innsbruck, Austria.

1988

SONDRA VAN ERT A teenaged national ski racing champion turned snowboarder, Sondra boarded in both the 1988 Games in Calgary, and the 2002 Games in Salt Lake City, Utah.

1994

MEGAN GERETY Originally from Alaska, Megan trained in Sun Valley and competed at the 1994 Olympic Games in Lillehammer, Norway.

1998

PICABO STREET The first American woman to win a World Cup downhill title. Picabo was a three-time Olympian. Claimed gold in the Super G at the 1998 Winter Games in Nagano, Japan.

2006

GRAHAM WATANABE 2006 Games in Torino, Italy, and 2010 Games in Vancouver, Canada. Graham was also the first American to win a World Cup event in snowboardcross in 2004.

2010

MORGAN ARRITOLA 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver, Canada.

1936

DICK DURRANCE A 17-time national skiing champion, Dick was a member of both the 1936 and 1940 Olympic teams. Considered one of America's skiing pioneers, Durrance helped cut trails on Bald Mountain.

1976

PETE PATTERSON Competed with his big sister at the 1976 Winter Games (at only 19 years old). Also 1980 Olympics, Lake Placid, New York.

1992

REGGIE CRIST Skied the men's downhill at the 1992 Winter Games in Albertville, France.

1998

NTALA SKINNER Sun Valley native Ntala competed in the 1998 Games in biathlon.

2006

CHRIS COOK Was on the United States ski team at the 2006 Olympics in Torino, Italy.

2010

SIMI HAMILTON Competed in cross-country events in the 2010 Winter Games in Vancouver, Canada.

