



## INTRODUCING KOVA AND ROSS!

Kassandra Kovakou (16) and Justin Ross (19) are both second year students at Mesa College. Kassy graduated from high school at the age of 15 and immediately enrolled at Mesa to pursue an AA Transfer Degree and then go on to obtain a B.A. in Political Science from the University of California, San Diego. Justin is all about dance! He is after an Associate Degree in Dance in order to pursue his chosen career in professional skating and coaching.

On January 2010 Kassy Kova and Justin Ross, will become the first African-American ice dancing team to compete in Novice Dance at the 2010 United States Figure Skating National Championships in Spokane, Washington. Over their five-year partnership, Kassy and Justin have climbed through the ranks, finishing 7<sup>th</sup> in the nation in their last year in the Intermediate Division (2008) and 5<sup>th</sup> at US Sectional Championships their first year in the very competitive Novice Division (2009) and now capturing the Pewter Medal at Sectionals.



As we all know, competitive sports is all about the next level of competition and focusing completely on that step. Kassy and Justin need our help to make it to Spokane. They have the talent but they struggle mightily with resources in one of the most expensive of competitive sports. They have both been raised and supported by single mothers, who both have middle-income careers. The team is looking for sponsors and tax-deductible donations. They are registered to receive Tax Deductible donations with the New England Amateur Sports Foundation, a 501 (c)3 foundation. To learn more about how you



can help Kova and Ross achieve their goals, go to the Kova and Ross website at <http://www.kovaandross.com>. The team's email is [kovaandross@gmail.com](mailto:kovaandross@gmail.com) in addition you may wish to visit their Flickr photo stream at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/kovaandross>.

I met with Kassy and Justin in my office this week and I asked them for an estimate of what it would take to get them to Spokane in January. They agreed to come up with a budget (**see attached**) that places their total costs at \$10,600. The Physical Education and Exercise Science Division, Associated Student Government and President's Office at Mesa College have all agreed to contribute toward the team's costs. I hope that we can meet and exceed this goal because any amount beyond their immediate need can give them a jump-start on their next objective--**the 2014 Winter Olympics!**

Let's get Kassy and Justin to the United States Figure Skating Championship in Spokane and beyond....

**President  
San Diego Mesa College**

# U.S. Figure Skating National Championships

## Budget for Kassy Kova and Justin Ross

<u>Athletes (2: Kassy Kova and Justin Ross)</u>		<u>Days</u>		
Flights	\$ 300.00		2	\$ 600.00
Hotel - Athletes	\$ 150.00	6	2	\$ 1,800.00
Ground Transportation	\$ 300.00		2	\$ 600.00
Per Diem	\$ 50.00	6	2	\$ 600.00
Sub-total Athletes				<u>\$ 3,600.00</u>
<u>Coaches (2: Christine Fender-Binder, Wendy Smith)</u>				
Coaching	\$ 250.00	6	2	\$ 3,000.00
Hotel	\$ 150.00	6	2	\$ 1,800.00
Ground Transportation	\$ 300.00		2	\$ 600.00
Per Diem	\$ 50.00	6	2	\$ 600.00
Sub-total Coaches				<u>\$ 6,000.00</u>
<u>Affiliated Costs</u>				
Official Practice Ice	\$ 50.00	6	2	\$ 300.00
Unofficial Practice Ice	\$ 50.00	6	2	\$ 300.00
Warm-ups	\$ 150.00		2	\$ 300.00
Team 2014 Registration	\$ 50.00		2	\$ 100.00
Sub-total Affiliated costs				<u>\$ 1,000.00</u>
<b>Grand Total</b>				<b><u>\$ 10,600.00</u></b>