

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Contact: <u>Elliott Scott</u>

Kate Hwang Announced as Kissick Construction Game Changer Award Honoree for the 2024 Women's Sports Awards

KANSAS CITY, MO (December 19, 2023) – Today, WIN for KC announced Kate Hwang would be the recipient of the Kissick Construction Game Changer Award at the 2024 Women's Sports Awards presented by Burns & McDonnell. The annual awards program is WIN for KC's biggest fundraiser and the largest luncheon in the country celebrating National Girls and Women in Sports Day.



Nearly 20 years ago, Kate suffered a traumatic brain injury while working as a police officer for the Kansas City Missouri Police Department. And although she eventually became a detective, Kate medically retired from the force as a result of seizures and complications from her brain injury. After struggling to find a new career as fulfilling as her police work, she discovered adaptive sports. Kate went on to get her master's degree and pivoted her career toward helping others experiencing trauma and disability. She is now an Adaptive Sports Manager at The Whole Person, a Cross-Fit coach and competes at the Endeavor Games for athletes with physical disabilities.

"Coaching and mentoring adaptive athletes has given my life a renewed sense of purpose and introduced me to a community full of supportive, understanding and loving people," says Hwang. "Sports helped me in so many ways following my accident and I want to ensure others, whether young or old, have the same opportunities."

The 2024 WIN for KC Women's Sports Awards, which takes place in the historic Municipal Auditorium, kicks off by honoring local 2023 female high school state champions with their celebratory march across the stage. Then, throughout the luncheon, event attendees learn about the six honorees in the following categories: Children's Mercy Kansas City Rising Star Award, Lockton Courage Award, Kissick Construction Game Changer Award, UMBFC Charitable Foundation Lifetime Sportswoman Award, Hallmark Cards Leadership Award and Forvis BE BOLD Award. Finally, the keynote speaker delivers an electrifying speech reflective of her challenges and triumphs in the world of sports.

"Kate is making a difference every day as she helps adaptive athletes discover the innumerable benefits of sports," says Andrea Kimball, Sporting KC Vice President and General Counsel, as well as incoming Chair for the WIN Advisory Board. "The Kissick Construction Game Changer Award is presented to someone positively impacting the landscape of sports for girls and women behind the scenes. As a coach and mentor, Kate is having a profound impact in our Kansas City community."

The 2024 Women's Sports Awards presented by Burns & McDonnell will be on Tuesday, January 30th. For more information, please click <u>here</u>.



WIN for KC

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About WIN for KC

The Women's Intersport Network for Kansas City (WIN for KC), was established in 1994 under the umbrella of the Greater Kansas City Sports Commission, with the mission to ignite girls and women through advocating and promoting the lifetime value of sports and fitness, while providing opportunities for participation and leadership development. WIN is a volunteer, membership-driven organization that operates as a program of the Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation. For more information, visit <u>WINforKC.org</u>. For the latest on WIN for KC news, follow on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u>.

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