



Join us on April 27th for Dancing with the Stars of Mentoring 2017!!!



Dear Jo-Ann,

Don't Miss the FUN!!!

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Meet The Dancers!

Ivan Marte is the internship service manager at Year Up, so he leads by example when it comes to mentoring. So naturally, he is stepping up to raise money for the Rhode Island Mentoring Partnership's annual Dancing with the Stars of Mentoring. He says that while he doesn't consider himself a dancer, he is ready to have a blast and raise funds for an organization near and dear to his heart. Ivan says many people have contributed to the person and professional he is today. He credits Ken Senus, CIO at Navigant Credit Union, as a mentor that helped guide him personally and professionally over the last 10 years. "My promise has always been to them, that while I can't pay them back, I would absolutely pay it forward," he said. And pay it forward he has! At his day job, he is making sure interns are getting the most out of their experience, polishing their resumes and preparing for graduation. In his free time, he mentors for the Rhode Island Mentoring Partnership and the Institute for The Study and Practice of Nonviolence. He has also mentored at many other organizations over the years. Paired with The Dancing Feeling's Deb O'Donnell, Ivan is ready to reveal a trick the duo has up their sleeves, which he says will shock people. Why vote for Ivan for the People's

Choice Award? "Every single opportunity I have had to mentor has been an absolute privilege and something I am always thankful for, to play a role in someone's development both as a professional and as a person," he said. "I've been really blessed to be able to do that over and over again over, and I think this is an opportunity for the

community to get involved and support me in promoting that wonderful experience." Help Ivan promote the benefits of mentoring by supporting him in his quest to win the People's Choice Award.

[Place your vote for Ivan here!!!](#)



Deborah O'Donnell has been a dance instructor for more than 20 years at the Dancing Feeling. She teaches both ballroom and Zumba. Debbie is the reason why The Dancing Feeling is involved with the RI Mentoring Partnership! She has been with us from the beginning! This is her 11th Dancing with the Stars of Mentoring and she has led several of her partners to win various awards. She is a full-time employee at MetLife, one of the Partnership's premiere corporate supporters. Debbie feels mentoring, "gives kids the opportunity to get that special attention they need and may not get from home. It helps them get on the right path." This year she is partnered with Ivan Marte. They have a great routine for you to enjoy.

Bekah Berger can be heard each weekday from 6 to 10 am on Hot 106, but on April 27, you can see her on the dance-floor at Rhodes on the Pawtuxet for Dancing with The Stars of Mentoring. After many years of dropping not so subtle hints to her colleagues and Dancing with the Stars alumni Barbie Jo, Amy Pontes, Heather Gersten and Steve Donovan, Bekah eagerly accepted the invite from RIMP to participate this year. Mentoring has played a role throughout Bekah's life, as there was always someone, in high school, college, and her first few years in the broadcasting industry, who believed in her and pushed her. In college, she credits University of Rhode Island professor Barbara Meagher for encouraging her to get into broadcasting. When she entered the broadcasting world, Paul Giammarco guided her along the way. Nerves? Forget it! "I'm nervous for my competition," Bekah said. She and the Dancing Feeling's Anthony Scalzi are working on a cha-cha hustle hybrid and while she won't reveal her strategy for victory, she promised there would be a few surprises. Bekah is inspired by all of the work the Rhode Island Mentoring Partnership does for the kids in Rhode Island and believes that every competitor and event volunteer are the People's Champion. "When you put yourself in a position like this to be vulnerable and

learn something new but also raise money at the same time I think that's worth it alone," she said.

"Everybody participating is the people's champ." Help Bekah win the People's Choice Award at this year's Dancing with The Stars of Mentoring. [Place your vote for Bekah here!!!](#)

Anthony Scalzi began dancing in 2009 as a member of



the Rhode Island College Ballroom Dance Team. He would eventually go on to hold the title of President, and co-founded the Rhode Island College Ballroom Dance Competition. In addition to teaching social ballroom dancing, Anthony teaches and competes with his students in ballroom competitions across New England. He also competes professionally with his partner in the American Smooth Style. Anthony is proud to share his passion as he returns for his 4th Dancing with the Stars of Mentoring.

DON'T MISS THE FUN!!!

Join our hosts **Heather Gersten, of Heather & Steve in the Morning on Lite Rock 105, & Mario Hilario of NBC 10** to help us celebrate the **11th Anniversary** edition of **Dancing with the Stars of Mentoring**.

On **Thursday, April 27th, from 5:30pm-9:30pm** at **Rhodes on the Pawtuxet** our stars of mentoring and their **partners from the Dancing Feeling** will battle it out in an intense **ballroom dance competition**.

Enjoy dinner, dancing, a silent auction and our very popular Wine Grab Bag!!!

Who will be named the **Judges' Choice & Most Entertaining Award Winners?**
Who will you support for the coveted **People's Choice Award???**

Remember \$1 = 1 vote and you can **support your favorite dancer** before the event by clicking on their name below and making a donation at their fundraising page.

VOTE EARLY & VOTE OFTEN!!!

[Ivan Marte - Year Up](#)

[Bekah Berger - Hot 106](#)

[Shannon Brodeur - Cox Business](#)

[Christopher Cioe - Northwestern Mutual](#)

[Jayne Donegan - Textron](#)

[Melanie Flamand - Flamand & Associates](#)

[Rick Medeiros - PawSox](#)

[Nicole Truppi - Navigant Credit Union](#)

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Tickets are \$85
(tickets won't be sold at the door)

REGISTER TODAY!!!

Don't Miss OUT!!!

Sincerely,

Team RIMP

Jo-Ann, Sue, Pam, Nichole, Celeste, Cathy, Christopher, Darnell, Jay, & Marc

RI Mentoring Partnership | 401-732-7700 | inquiry@mentorri.org | www.MentorRI.org

STAY CONNECTED:



RI Mentoring Partnership, 3296 Post Road, Warwick, RI 02886

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