

Mareena Mattison

*Special
Olympics
Illinois*



Sport: Gymnastics
Hometown: Prospect Heights, IL
Age: 19

1. How long have you been with Special Olympics?

Hi! My name is Mareena and I have been with Special Olympics for 11 years. As you can see, my favorite sport is gymnastics.

2. How has Special Olympics changed your life?

I'm a Global Messenger, and talking in front of others is not easy for me, but Special Olympics is such an important part of my life, and the life of others. I've grown in so many ways because Special Olympics allowed me to be me, and it cheers me on to reach my goals. I plan on attending college in Fall 2022.

3. What has been your biggest obstacle to overcome?

My health and the effects of my challenges.

4. What makes you most proud?

Me.

5. What are some other accomplishments you are proud of?

Illinois state and national champion of gymnastics multiple times. I have a key to the city, city proclamation; I'm a high school graduate, global ambassador, and teen leader.

6. What other interests or hobbies do you have?

I enjoy Xbox and animals.

7. Who do you admire most and why?

My family because they always push me to do my hardest.

8. What does attending USA Games mean to you?

AMAZING, no words. I want to be the best role model for others that I can be.



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9. How are you preparing/training for USA Games?

I'm preparing by training, practicing, and taking good care of my health.

10. Have you been to a World Games or USA Games before?

None

11. Are you employed? If so, where at and what's your role?

None

12. Are you a currently a student? If so, where and is it a Unified Champion School?

Harper College



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