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- Online Services
- Quick Links
- Popular Pages

search website...



BACK TO 2015

Press Releases

2015

2014

2013

2012

2011

2010

2009

2008

2007

2006

2005

Government > Press Releases > 2015

## Press Release



### Family Self Defense Center, Novi Parks' Martial Arts School, adds to their growing collection of awards

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NOVI, Mich, August 13, 2015 - Family Self Defense Center (FSDC), in partnership with Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services, had students and Senseis achieve top honors in three Isshinryu Karate summer tournaments.

In June, at the Kiai Grand Nationals held in Beverly Hills, Michigan, eighteen students earned 49 total awards. Benjamin Matas earned the tournament's top Grand Championship title for underbelts, while Krishna Kiru earned the Grand Championship title for Black Belts. The students also earned 29 first place national titles, along with 11 second, six third and one fourth place winner.

Those earning national titles and the right to compete in the Grand Championship round included:

Weapons: Teddy Donahue, Ben Matas, Drew Adomaitis, Mitchel Huang and Shaelyn Carroll

Kata: Teddy Donahue, Ben Matas, Drew Adomaitis, Jack Stephens, Trevor Adomaitis, Joshua Huang, Krishna Kiru and Mitchel Huang

Kumite: Drew Adomaitis, Lizzy Arnold and Shaelyn Carroll

The school traveled to Gatlinburg, Tennessee in July to compete in the Isshinryu Hall of Fame National Awards Banquet and Tournament. The school was honored with 11 National "Top Five" Awards for students and Senseis with two students earning the "Number One" ranking in the country.

Awards included:

Young Female Karate Ka 12 and under:  
Shaelyn Carroll, who earned the "Number One" title

Young Female Karate Ka 13-17:  
Krishna Kiru, Anwasha Sarangi and Ryan Swanson

Young Male Karate Ka 13-17:  
Andrew Swanson

Jr. Female Competitor:  
Lizzy Arnold and Tanaz Naterwala, who earned the "Number One" title

Female Instructor:  
Sensei Ryan Swanson and Master Chris Szalap

Spirit of Isshinryu Senseis:  
Master Z Szalap

Top Five Isshinryu Dojo in the Country:  
Family Self Defense Center, for the eight consecutive years

In early August, 15 students traveled to Princeton, New Jersey for the Isshinryu World Karate Association Tournament. At the competition, Elizabeth Arnold became the top ranking Jr. Black Belt in the World for females ages 15-17 in Kumite while Shaelyn Carroll earned the title of World Champion Jr. Black Belt for Weapons ages 11 and under. The students also earned four second, three third and two fourth place awards.

The school has the distinction of having more than two dozen Black Belts on their teaching staff. FSDC offer classes through Novi Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services including all-ages Martial Arts and Samurai Sword, a home school class held during the day and an adult only class. More information can be found at [www.karatebyfsc.com](http://www.karatebyfsc.com).



**At the Kiai Tournament in Beverly Hills, MI**

Front Row: (L to R) Krishna Kiru and Benjamin Matas Middle Row: (L to R) Joshua Huang, Shaelyn Carroll, Rowan Adomaitis, Theodore Donahue and Trevor Adomaitis Back Row: (L to R) Ram Kiru, Anwasha Sarangi, Mitchel Huang, Elizabeth Arnold, Andrew Adomaitis, and Jack Stephens



**Isshinryu Hall of Fame National Awards Banquet and Tournament in Gatlinburg, TN**

Front Row: Emily Kasper and Shaelyn Carroll  
Back Row: Ryan Swanson, Ms. Chris, Elizabeth Arnold, Andrew Swanson, Mr. Z, and James Takeshita

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