
2023 USTA Missouri Valley Annual Conference Speakers



Brooke Austin

Brooke Austin grew up in Indianapolis playing in the Midwest Section, she went on to play college tennis at the University of Florida where she won two NCAA Titles (one individual and one team). She played on the Pro Tour for a while where she was ranked top 300 WTA in singles and doubles. After retiring she went on to work in the cybersecurity world for the last three years and then transitioned back into tennis where she is now the Director of Digital Business Development and oversees all of our enterprise partnerships amongst our digital applications such as USTA Connect.

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Mary Buschmann

Mary Buschmann has guided USTA Missouri Valley as its Executive Director for more than 25 years. She is a devoted advocate for the game of tennis throughout the section. She has overseen continued growth of the game throughout her tenure with USTA Missouri Valley. She is a staunch advocate for inclusion and is driven by her desire to truly make tennis accessible for all.

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Todd Carlson

Todd is a seasoned tennis professional with over 20 years of industry experience. He works at the USTA National Campus in Orlando as the USTA Director of Tennis Venue Services, Community Tennis Associations, and Public Parks. He services the industry demands and needs of tennis and racquet facilities throughout the country through business, technical, operations, and advocacy services.

Other responsibilities include developing and strengthening the network of 760 nonprofit Community Tennis associations (CTAs) and USTA's strategic relationship with the National League of Cities (NLC), PlayCore Inc, National Association of Parks Foundation, National Recreation and Park Ethnic Minority Society (NRPEMS), USTA's Executive Ambassador Park Cohort, American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), and the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA).

Prior to USTA, Todd had worked for 12 years with USTA Texas in a variety of roles. He has been involved with advocacy, community tennis associations, adult recreation, Tennis on Campus, wheelchair, adaptive, and enhancing Texas tennis facilities.

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Marquetta D. Finley, MS, CPP, CCT

Marquetta Finley is a former nonprofit executive and has spent more than twenty-five years as a professional in the not-for-profit and nonprofit industry. Marquetta is currently President/CEO and Co-Founder of Xtraordinary Business Consulting LLC where she has the wonderful opportunity to pour out her passion for helping nonprofits and small businesses advance their mission and grow and scale their organizations. Marquetta enjoys nature, archery, helping others, spending time with her family, and staycationing. Marquetta has been married to her husband Morris for sixteen years and has three beautiful daughters.

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Zach Frampton

Zach Frampton is an experienced professional with more than five years in the racquet sports industry spending time with Wilson Sporting Goods, Grand Canyon University, Lifetime Fitness and currently, the United States Tennis Association. Zach has a meaningful passion for tennis and is focused on continually growing the game at all levels of play. In his current role as Regional Sales Manager, Digital Products & Services, he works closely with the Serve Tennis application as well as gaining exposure with the ITF World Tennis Number. Zach is located at the USTA National Campus in Orlando, Florida.

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Ben Gildehaus

Ben grew up in the St. Louis area and began playing tennis and competing in junior tournaments at age 8. He played varsity tennis at Kirkwood High School on a team that competed for the state championship three times. Ben played four years of intercollegiate tennis at Knox College and then worked for Tenacity, Inc. in the Boston area, teaching tennis to underserved youth. Ben has a Master's degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and an MBA. He is a Licensed Professional Counselor and certified School Guidance Counselor. Ben has 16 years of professional experience working with at-risk youth in community-based and school settings as a provider and supervisor.

Today Ben is a USPTA-certified professional and provides tennis instruction at the Frontenac Racquet Club and the Highlands' Golf & Tennis Center. Ben co-founded Breakpoint Tennis & Life Skills Academy with Paul Paige in 2020. He is responsible for leading and providing strategic oversight of Breakpoint's tennis and education programming and operations.

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Kimberly Hughes Gill

As President of BKJ & Associates LLC, Kimberly Hughes Gill is passionate about providing professional consulting services to individuals and small business owners. As a native of East St Louis, Illinois and a current resident of St. Louis, Missouri she has worked throughout the metropolitan area in the private, public, nonprofit, and governmental sectors. She holds a Masters Degree in Management. Her 35-year career path includes the Internal Revenue Service, Metro-Bi State Development Agency, City of St Louis, Edward Jones, UHY Advisors to BKJ & Associates, LLC. BKJ & Associates, LLC focus, and successes are providing accounting, tax preparation, payroll, and consulting services. Kim is married, mother of two daughters and Gigi to her princess granddaughter. She is also an active member of her community, church, a passionate tennis player and a Board

Member of the East St Louis Community Tennis Association. Kim currently serves as Vice President on the United States Tennis Association Missouri Valley Board of Directors. She also serves on the USTA National Community Tennis Association committee. In 2023, Kim was one of 16 women recognized by USTA at the US Open as a Champion of Equality.

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Peter Hall

Peter Hall is a seasoned professional with a passion for tennis and a proven track record in the tennis industry. With over two decades of experience, Peter has made significant contributions to the sport through a variety of roles, demonstrating his commitment to its growth and development.

In his current role, as the Customer Success Manager for Serve Tennis, Peter is dedicated to helping tennis clubs and professionals streamline their operations by implementing the Serve Tennis Software. Peter also leads all training webinars on the Serve Tennis platform, ensuring that users are well-equipped to maximize its potential. Additionally, he's responsible for the rollout and delivery of SmartAccess solutions, helping facilities control access, track data, and create revenue streams.

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Alex Lee

Alex Lee has been the president of USTA Missouri Valley since the spring of 2023. This is the culmination of more than 20 years of service on the USTA Missouri Valley Board of Directors. He has made numerous contributions to growing the game of tennis in his district all the way up to the national level.

Outside of his volunteer service, Alex is the head coach for the men's and women's tennis teams at Friends University in Wichita, Kan. He is also the executive director of the McAdams NJTL chapter in Wichita. Alex is a certified coach by both the USPTA and PTR.

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Tony Mullican

Tony is the Executive Director of Operations at First Serve OKC. He is a proud citizen of the Chickasaw Nation and a native Oklahoman who has worked in the nonprofit community of Oklahoma as a coach, teacher, advocate, and leader for almost 25 years.

He received a BA in Leisure: Camp Administration from Oklahoma Baptist University and an MS from Northwest Missouri State University in Recreation: Parks and Recreation Administration.

Tony has always loved serving, teaching, and empowering the youth of the urban core of Oklahoma City. He loves to play yard games with his family and compete in USTA leagues with his tennis friends.

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Kathy Myers

Kathy joined the USTA in August 2018 with a 16 yr background in software design. She is particularly focused on the User's eXperience (UX) and the ease in which software is adopted by consumers. Her mantra has always been "If it ain't easy, they won't use it." Her dedication to how the User Interface contributes to the UX gives her the necessary perspective to review and train on software enhancements as they are being released in the USTA's Serve Tennis digital platform. Her current position as Senior Manager, Digital Strategy and Business Development has afforded her the opportunity to perform market research and analysis on other software products and insight as to how to continue to build USTA software products to better serve our tennis family at large.

Kathy is originally from the Mid-Atlantic area, having been born and raised in Maryland and graduating from the University of Maryland with a Bachelor's of Science in Information Systems Management. She was with the National Security Agency in Ft. Meade MD for more than 13 years until she and her family moved to VA and later West Virginia. Her position with the USTA relocated her to Orlando, Florida. She is the mother of 3 grown daughters, loves to travel and has had a menagerie of animals when she had her West Virginia farm.

Kathy plays USTA and non-USTA league tennis and can be found on USTA tournament draws monthly. If she's not playing tennis, you will likely find her out on the lake she lives on, fishing rod in hand.

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Kaitlin Roselius, PhD

Kaitlin Roselius serves as the Director of Community Outreach and Evaluation for Woods Tennis Center (WTC), in Lincoln, Nebraska. Under her guidance, WTC continues to "Take the Game to the Community" by offering tennis and educational programming to at-risk youth across the city of Lincoln and surrounding areas in partnership with other nonprofit and for-profit organizations. Annually, WTC serves over 2,000 non-paying players from their community outreach programs, neighborhoods, and low-income families who depend on public facilities. Kaitlin also oversees WTC's adaptive tennis programs, "Tennis Without Limits" and "Tennis Buddies," in partnership with Special Olympics Nebraska, serving youth and adults with intellectual disabilities. Prior to her current role, Kaitlin began as a part-time teaching instructor at Woods back in 2011, working her way up to an assistant teaching pro and eventually the Community Outreach Director in 2017.

Kaitlin earned her Master of Science degree in 2020, adding a Ph.D. in Global Family Health and Wellbeing in 2023, both from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her research and evaluation work focuses on identifying best practices for community-centered programming and engagement strategies by increasing community capacity through asset-building and strengthening resilience.

Kaitlin has been recognized by USTA-Nebraska as the recipient of the Contributor to Youth Tennis and Outstanding Diversity Achievement awards.

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Lauren Rothstein

Lauren Rothstein is the Manager of Community Tennis Digital Services at the USTA national office where she focuses on the growth and implementation of the ITF World Tennis Number through digital products. Prior to this role, Lauren spent 5 years at the USTA in Junior Competition. Before coming to the USTA, Lauren coached and managed tennis programs in New Jersey.

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Brian Vahaly

Brian Vahaly of the USTA Mid-Atlantic Section began a two-year term as First Vice President on the USTA Board of Directors in January 2023. He has served four non-consecutive terms on the USTA Board, having most recently served as Secretary-Treasurer and Chair of the Budget Committee. Vahaly previously served as Chair of the Audit Committee, and as a member of the Investment Committee. He was also the Board Liaison on both the Player Development and Youth Tennis Councils.

Vahaly played tennis professionally for seven years, and peaked at a career-best No. 64 in the world in 2003. He was the only male college graduate in the Top 100 rankings during that time and the first gay man to publicly come out after playing on the ATP Tour. Vahaly graduated from the University of Virginia as an Academic All-American with a double major in finance and business management. He was a three time All-American, having reached the NCAA singles final in 2001. As a top USTA junior player, Vahaly won the Easter Bowl.

After retiring from professional tennis, Vahaly went on to a career in private equity and venture capital, serving as the Chief Operating Officer at Venturehouse Group and NextGen Venture Partners, as well as the CFO of Solidcore. Vahaly is currently the CEO of YouFit Gyms.

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