

# CENTRAL YORK U18AA 2021/22 MEDIA GUIDE



## **FOREWORD**





#### **Contact Information**

Phone: 416-206-2343 Email: ryansx29@gmail.com

On behalf of Coach Britt, Bree, Kevin & I we appreciate your interest in our U18AA Panther High Performance (PHP) program. We are proud of our athletes, the people they are and who they are growing & developing into. As a coaching staff we work diligently with each athlete to guide them towards their goals while empowering them to take ownership of their own personal journey. Our team is made up of 18 driven athletes from 18 great families. From a birth year perspective, 1 athlete was born in 2004, 9 were born in 2005 and 8 were born in 2006. Our 2021/22 team have players coming from 5 different 2020/21 teams including 2 athletes who are in their first season as a Panther. All of our athletes have aspirations to earn a spot at the PWHL next season and the Canadian USports or US NCAA level beyond that.

Coming off of a COVID season is challenging for everyone across all of hockey but it has reaffirmed our love of the game of hockey and our gratitude for the gift of competition that the game affords us all to be a part of. Early into our 2021/22 season our athletes came together to commit to FOUR PILLARS we would strive to represent on and off the ice, in and outside of hockey. They are Family, Ambition, Respect and Resilience. It is our expectation that as you get to know our athletes you will observe these qualities demonstrated in their actions and in your interactions with them.

The players have created their own profiles in the following pages of this Media Guide which have been reviewed by team staff to ensure accuracy. We thank you in advance for looking at our player profiles and encourage you to reach out to myself if you require any further information regarding our athletes under consideration for your program or if have any questions in relation to our players or our team. Best of success as you move forward with your scouting and recruitment process.





## TOURNAMENTS



#### 2021 Stoney Creek University Showcase

October 15<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup>, 2021 Stoney Creek, ON

https://scgha.com/Tournaments/1199/October Showcase/

#### Kitchener / Waterloo - USA Canada Cup

December 3rd - 5th, 2021

Kitchener and Waterloo, Ontario

http://www.kitchenerwaterloorangers.com/news/detail.aspx?item=4139f328-dfcb-43c0-8dcb-8743be28ec24

#### Mississauga Hurricanes Winter Showcase

January 7th - 9th, 2022

Mississauga, Ontario

https://ggts.ca/events/event/mississauga-hurricanes-winter-classic-tournament/

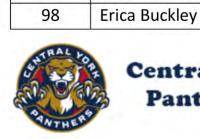




## ROSTER



	Service Control of the Control of th	Goalies
1	Mya Lucifora	2005
31	Jalyn St. Louis	2005
		Defense
9	Alyson Smyth	2006
11	Lauren Macartney	2004
18	Jodie Rose	2005
21	Morgan Liew	2006
23	Kyra Lou	2005
94	Hannah Franz	2005
		Forwards
5	Jersie Lindley	2005
12	Kaitlyn Brown	2006
17	Kalista Kurtes	2005
22	Hailey Lyn	2006
24	Amber Esterbrooks	2006
55	Delaney Hancock	2005
63	Phoenix Richardson	2006
71	Simona Papasodaro	2005



93

Klaire Essex

Central York U18AA Panthers 2021/22



2006

## HEAD COACH

## **RYAN ESSEX**





Phone: 416-206-2343

Email: ryansx29@gmail.com

2021/22 will be Ryan's 13th season as a coach within the Panther organization.

His coaching philosophy is centered on instilling confidence within each athlete to reach their best within an inspiring team environment. On and off the ice, respect, speed, hard work and discipline form the foundation of Ryan's teams and will again for the U18AA team in the 2021/22 season.

These attributes have garnered much success for his teams as players develop and learn the game by being given the opportunity to play in all game situations. Hockey is a game of mistakes - learning from them takes time, patience and a determined level of "compete."

Ryan believes in open and transparent communication with the players and their parents to ensure expectations of each other are known and aligned to ensure a positive experience for everyone. Making a positive experience the #1 priority has led to improved player development, a strong team culture and a very high player retention rate.

Ryan has spent the last 24 plus years with the Miller Group as a Professional Engineer within Canada and the U.S. and holds an MBA.





# STAFF



## Brittany Crago Assistant Coach



Brittany has extensive experience as a player, strength and conditioning coach and coach, and is excited to be joining the U18AA team after coaching the Bantam AA team for two years. While earning her Honours Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology & Minor in Psychology at Wilfrid Laurier University, she won two OUA Hockey Championships in 2010 & 2012, a National Bronze place finish in 2010, and was the team's leading scorer in 2013.

Brittany went on to complete her Bachelor of Education and Masters-of-Education at Nipissing University, where she was an Assistant Captain, and helped the Nipissing Lakers Women's Hockey team establish a National Ranking in the USport League, while earning the PRIDE Award and CIS All-Canadian Athletic/Academic awards.

While completing her degrees, Brittany worked as an on-ice Hockey Instructor and Strength and Conditioning Coach where she helped develop specialized strength and conditioning programs for athletes to maximize their performance.

Brittany was also an Assistant Coach with the Markham-Stouffville Stars MAA in 2016. Looking on to the 2021-2022 season, Brittany's goals are to create a positive learning environment that encourages players to learn and develop on and off the ice with a strong focus on communication, responsibility and accountability. Brittany is a secondary school teacher in the York Region District School Board

#### Kevin Dutcher Assistant Coach



Kevin grew up and played minor hockey in Mississauga. He attended the University of Waterloo and played Varsity Football. He also played hockey in the Provincial Junior Hockey League (PJHL) for one year while attending University.

Kevin started coaching boy's minor hockey in 2006. He also has seven years of coaching experience in the CYGHA as both a head coach and associate coach at both the AA and A levels. He has coached teams which have earned a Silver Medal and placed 4th at the OWHA provincial championships.

Kevin's focus will be on individual skill development and team tactics to set the players up to succeed in their positions and roles.





# STAFF



## Bree Grant Assistant Coach



The U18AA Panther High Performance Program is pleased to announce the appointment of Breanne Grant to the position of Assistant Coach for the 2021-22 season.

Bree began her hockey career playing boys minor hockey in New Liskeard, Ontario where she was born and raised. Bree played Minor Hockey with the Toronto Aeros in the PWHL and was invited to Team Canada U18 Selection Camp where she attended August Camp/Fall Festival. Along with that she was a member of the OWHA Team Ontario Red Program in her senior year of high school where she attended PEAC School for Elite Athletes. Bree went on to play NCAA Division 1 on a full scholarship at The Ohio State University (2013-2017) and completed her senior year as Captain.

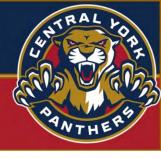
After graduating from Ohio State, Bree went on to complete her MBA at University of Kentucky (2018-2020). Bree is excited to share her knowledge about the recruitment process for NCAA hockey, on and off ice player development as well as working with our athletes towards achieving their goals.



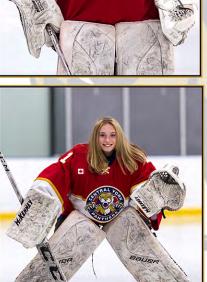


## **1** Mya Lucifora

Goalie | 5'6" | 130 LBS. | Shoots Left Born: 2005 | Oshawa, ON | Grad 2023







Previous Team: Central York U18 AA

School: Crestwood Preparatory College

Current Average: 88%

Academic Interest: Biology, math, business, fitness/health

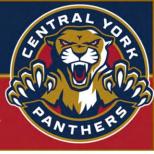
About Myself: I am a dedicated, hard-working, and determined student-athlete. I show up to the rink every day with a positive attitude and the mindset to work hard on and off the ice. I always push myself to achieve my goals. I have been playing competitive hockey for most of my life as well as competitive soccer and many school sports I am considered a strong leader on the team and always support and encourage my teammates. Hockey has made me the person I am today and has given me so many opportunities. I have made lifelong friends that are more like family, and I have developed most personal traits from my hockey experiences. I hope in the future I can achieve my goals of playing hockey at the highest level, then playing university hockey. I believe that if I continue to work hard and push to achieve my goals, I will be successful.





## **31** Jalyn St. Louis

Goalie | 5'6" | 115 LBS. | Shoots Right Born: 2005 | Holland Landing, ON | 2023





Previous Team: Central York U18 AA

School: Dr JM Denison Secondary School

Current Average: 83%

Academic Interest: Health Promotion/Sports Medicine / Physical Therapy

About Myself: I enjoy the competitive nature of hockey and have played for more than ten years within the Central York organization at the highest level. I started playing goal in Novice and have won three gold provincial championships where twice I was the only goalie. I am highly competitive, driven and consider myself a good teammate. I am a multi-sport athlete that plays rep soccer and varsity field hockey where I am currently the co-captain. I work hard on and off the ice and look forward to playing at the university level.



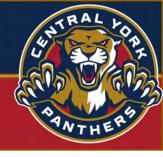






### **Jersie Lindley**

#### Forward | 5'5" | 125 LBS. | Shoots Left Born: 2005 | Brooklin, ON | Grad 2023





Previous Team: Central York Panthers U18AA

School: Brooklin High School

Current Average: 89.93%

Academic Interest: Law and business

About Myself: I am a determined, dedicated and humble student athlete. I started playing hockey at the age of 4 and instantly fell in love with the game. On the ice, I am a confident passer who sets plays for those goal scoring moments. I have the ability to be a powerful offence and defensive player, that leads me to easily read the game of hockey. I have the desire and drive to win with the presence of being very coachable. I congratulate my teammates on their successes and continue to support them daily. I am a multi-sport athlete who maintains honour roll status each year and strives to improve in academics every day. In addition, I have received a kindness award and athletic award while in school. I look towards playing hockey at the university level while planning to continue an education in law or business studies.

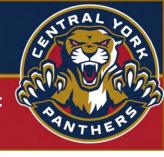






## **9** Alyson Smyth

Defense | 5'3" | 115 LBS. | Shoots Right Born: 2006 | Aurora, ON | Grad 2024





Previous Team: Central York Panthers U15AA

School: Aurora High School

Current Average: 95%

Academic Interest: Undecided

About Myself: Grade 10 student athlete who achieved a 95% average my first year at Aurora High School. Graduated elementary school with honors. Have been playing competitive hockey with the Central York Panthers for 8 years. My last team was the U15AA Central York high performance team. I value hard work, respect, and teamwork in myself and my teammates. I am a determined person who is always looking to improve my skills by setting ambitious goals on and off the ice. During the off season I maintain my strength and fitness through regular workouts and other sports, such as field lacrosse. Currently I am interested in pursuing a career in the field of architecture and design. while keeping my options open. Hockey has taught me many life lessons, including the importance of preserving and never giving up even when faced with difficult obstacles.







## 1 1 Lauren Macartney

Defense | 5'4" | 135 LBS. | Shoots Right Gorn: 2004 | Richmond Hill, ON | Grad 2023





Previous Team: Central York Panthers U18A

School: Aurora High School

Current Average: 90%

Academic Interest: Psychology and Teacher

About Myself: I balance my grade 12 school work, playing high level hockey and my job while still managing to do each and every task at my fullest potential. I started playing hockey with the Panthers when I was 8 years old and have played high level lacrosse with the Redbirds during the summer. I have learned how to work with a team, how to manage my time and countless other things. I have always been an offensive and defensive player as I've played defender and forward throughout the years. While on the bench I am constantly cheering on my team and congratulating any good plays made. I understand the amount of work needed to achieve goals and being a dual- sport student-athlete I have developed all the tools needed to balance the work while still giving it 100%. I've always been very involved with other school sports while maintaining a 90% GPA.





## 12 Kaitlyn Brown

#### Forward | 5'7" | 138 LBS. | Shoots Right Born: 2006 | Gilford, ON | Grad 2024





Previous Team: Central York Panthers U15 AA

School: Bradford District High School

Current Average: 93.75%

Academic Interest: I enjoy and excel in Science, Math, English, and Personal Fitness.

About Myself: I am a very driven and determined student athlete and am focused on achieving my goals. I have maintained a 93.75% average. I play soccer for the Lake Simcoe Red Devils at the CSL level. I participate in flag football, cross-country, Future Aces Club and Student Athletic Council to date at my school. I enjoy swimming and I am working towards getting my life guarding certification. Outside of school and sports, I love to read, do puzzles, play the piano and go for long runs. I am a hard worker on and off the ice and I am a multi-positional player with a great 200-foot game. I am very positive and look at life's challenges as a chance to learn and grow. My future goal is to play university hockey at the highest







## **17** Kalista Kurtes

Forward | 5'6" | 115 LBS. | Shoots Left Born: 2005 | Aurora, ON | Grad 2023







Previous Team: Central York Panthers U18 AA

School: Aurora High School

Current Average: 85%

Academic Interest: Undecided

About Myself: My name is Kalista Kurtes and I am a left wing for the Central York U18AA team. I am a very passionate student athlete, as I work hard both on ice and off ice. I have set several goals for myself and one of them is to continue to play hockey for a university team. When I was younger I was a multi-sport athlete. I played hockey, soccer, softball and lacrosse. I also trained as a gymnast for several years but I realized that I loved hockey and stuck to it. In 2019 I received athlete of the year when I graduated and got recognized by the Sport Aurora Hall of Fame. I am an uplifting, team player and encouraging person and bring all my energy to the ice. I am continuously trying to improve my hockey abilities as I am determined to be the best player I can be.





## 18 Jodie Rose

#### Defense | 5'4" | 130 LBS. | Shoots Right Born: 2005 | Pickering, ON | Grad 2023





Previous Team: Central York Panthers U18AA

School: Dunbarton High School

Current Average: 93%

Academic Interest: Criminology, Forensic Science, Forensic Psychology

About Myself: Hockey has always been one of the most important things in my life. I developed a passion for the game of hockey at a very young age and have been working to become a better player every day. I am an offensive defence who loves to rush the puck when I see an opportunity. I have great hockey IQ which allows me to make intelligent plays in all 3 zones of the ice. I have taken on a lot of re sponsibility with a leadership role on my team. I always stick up for my teammates and encourage them to become better individuals on and off the ice. Aside from hockey, school is my number one priority. I have been on honor roll throughout high school and strive to maintain it this year in grade 11. My goal is to continue to play hockey at the university level and to become the best player and individual that I can be.







## 21 Morgan Liew

Defense | 5'4" | 108 LBS. | Shoots Right  $\bigcirc$  Born: 2006 | Richmond Hill, ON | Grad 2024





Previous Team: Central York Panthers U15AA

School: Bayview Secondary School (Pre-IB)

Current Average: 97%

Academic Interest: Accounting or Computer Science

About Myself: I am an individual who has a strong work ethic and sense of responsibility both in sport and academics. As a team-oriented defenseman, I am able to quickly analyze situations to anticipate plays and create opportunities. In addition to hockey, I play competitive field lacrosse for the Newmarket Lady Redbirds, where I participated in the 2019 U18 Worlds Festival. In regards to academics, I am enrolled in the International Baccalaureate program, achieving a 97% average. I am a peer math tutor and on the executive committee of my school's Mental Health Club, where we strive to uplift the school community. In my grade 8 graduation, I was recognized with the Excellence in Education and Outstanding Leadership Awards. At the post-secondary level, I would like to pursue a degree in computer science or accounting. Simultaneously, I seek to grow as a player to earn the opportunity to play at the university level.





## **22** Hailey Lyn

Forward | 5'4" | 120 LBS. | Shoots Left
Born: 2006 | Richmond Hill, ON | Grad 2024





Previous Team: Central York Panthers U15AA

School: Bayview Secondary School

Current Average: 91%

Academic Interest: Sciences, Engineering

About Myself: Having played competitive hockey for seven years, I see myself as a hardworking and dedicated student athlete. I pride myself in being a team player as well as having a strong work ethic both on and off of the ice. As part of my school's IB Diploma Programme, a few of my strengths include strong time management and organizational skills, as I hold myself to high standards in order to achieve my goals. Additionally, as a student involved with their school community, I have competed with my school's health occupations (HOSA) club at the international level, as well as participated in multiple provincial and national speech competitions (among other clubs). As a way to give back to the community, during weekends I enjoy volunteering my time with the CYGHA Panther Cub program, Overall, I consider myself to be a well rounded person and continuously strive to improve myself every day, both on and off of the ice!





## **Kyra Lou**

#### Defence | 5'7" | 135 LBS. | Shoots Left Born: 2005 | Aurora, ON | Grad 2023







Previous Team: Central York Panthers U18AA

School: St. Maximilian Kolbe CHS

Current Average: 92.5%

Academic Interest: BioMedical engineering and Orthodontistry

About Myself: I am a dedicated, responsible, and diligent student-athlete. I understand the need for great time management and determination to achieve my goals. I have been playing competitive hockey since the age of 7 and have participated in multiple other sports during the off-season. I am both an offensive and defensive-minded player with strong playmaking, puck handling and shooting skills. Aside from hockey tactics, I always congratulate my teammates on their successes and continuously support and encourage them. After high school, I want to continue to play hockey at the university level while also studying BioMedical engineering on route to becoming an orthodontist. I take great pride in my school life; I maintain a 92% average. and am involved in numerous clubs and sports Outside of school, I work a part-time job and train part-time in Karate; I received my black belt in 2020.





## Amber Esterbrooks/5

#### Forward | 5'4" | 115 LBS. | Shoots Right Born: 2006 | Alliston, ON | Grad 2024





Previous Team: Clearview IceCats U15A

School: Banting Memorial High School

Current Average: 88%

Academic Interest: Business, Physical Fitness, Science and Nutrition

About Myself: I am a very focused individual who will always give 110%, set goals, and strives to finish them. I always work hard on and off the ice. My hard work has helped me maintain an 88% average. I get involved in my school by participating in clubs and sports. In Grade 8 I received the Athlete of the Year award.



I started my hockey career with the Barrie Sharks at the age of 5. I play ball hockey for my home town at the provincial level and qualified for nationals in 2022.

This year I have been thinking about my future and I would like to continue playing high-level hockey. My goal is to play University Hockey. Sports and Recreation Management is the career path I have chosen because of my academic interest. I am a person who believes that by working hard, setting goals and not giving up, you can achieve anything.

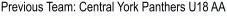




## **55** Delaney Hancock

Forward | 5'3" | 122 LBS. | Shoots Left Born: 2005 | Peterborough, ON | Grad 2023





School: St. Peter Catholic Secondary School

Current Average: 97%

Academic Interest: Law

About Myself: I strive for excellence as a student-athlete. I am an advanced placement student who has achieved honour roll two years in a row, won a best-all-around award and the Oshawa Kicks Academic Award. I strive to refine my skills and hockey sense through training with Ashley Jones, weekly on-ice shooting sessions and mental skills training. On the ice, I am a right-handed physical forward, a strong skater, two way player and a playmaker. In the classroom, I am a highly motivated learner who is very passionate about her education. I am a Ontario Cup Finalist and multisport athlete which has helped improve in hockey. Additionally, I have a small business, timekeep hockey, and officiate soccer. I have also volunteered with the First Shift program and a novice girls team.







## **63** Phoenix Richardson

Forward | 5'3" | 126 LBS. | Shoots Right Born: 2006 | Schomberg, ON | Grad 2024





63

Previous Team: Central York Panthers u15 AA

School: St. Maximilian Kolbe CHS

Current Average: 86.9%

Academic Interest: Kinesiology, Physiotherapy

About Myself: I am a hard-working, passionate, and dedicated student-athlete on and off the ice who has goals set that I strive to achieve one day. Hockey has been an important part of my life ever since I started playing competitive hockey at 4. I'm a great mindsetted player when it comes to making plays, shooting, and passing. In my offseason I enjoy still being active on the ice and in the gym but also playing other sports such as ball hockey, lacrosse, and golf. Following high-school I have dreams to play hockey all through university at the highest level possible and beyond as a Canadian Professional Hockey Player. In university I hope to study kinesiology and physiotherapy with a science undergrad for a 2-3 year physio degree which will take me into becoming a physiotherapist. In addition, I'd like to take real estate courses to get my real estate license.





## **71** Simona Papasodaro

Forward | 5'1" | 110 LBS. | Shoots Left Born: 2005 | Aurora, ON | Grad 2023





Previous Team: Central York Panthers U18AA

School: Aurora High School

Current Average: 74%

Academic Interest: Veterinarian

About Myself: I am an ambitious and driven person. I thrive on challenges and constantly set goals for myself as opportunities to improve. I started playing hockey at the age of 5 and also played soccer in the off season. Hockey is the second most important thing in my life as family comes first for me. Once I enter the hockey rink, my mindset is to work hard every shift, give 100%, focus on game plays, try my best to score and setup goals and win the game. As a player, I am strong and determined and a player that my teammates can count on. I am responsible for my position and my role as a team player and look for opportunities to improve my skills to become a better hockey player and as a person.

I would like to become a Veterinarian in the future because I love animals and want to help them in any way I can.

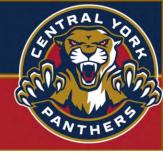






## **Klaire Essex**

#### Forward | 5'6" | 125 LBS. | Shoots Left Born: 2006 | Aurora, ON | Grad 2024





Previous Team: CYP U15AA

School: St. Maximilian Kolbe CHS

Current Average: 87%

Academic Interest: Sport Management

About Myself: Born in Stockbridge, Georgia I started playing hockey when our family moved to Canada when I was 4. I have played every year since and absolutely love the game of hockey, its competitiveness and the ability to make new friends each year. I have a high hockey IQ and strong puck handling skills that allow me to see the ice well to make smart plays. I work diligently to maintain my strong slap, snap & wrist shots and pride myself on continuing to improve my solid passing skills. I respect the importance of maintaining good grades while working a part time job and training year round. At school I play multiple sports and won multiple awards at my grade 8 graduation (athletic & geography). I enjoy watching hockey on TV, attending live sporting events and concerts. My goal is to continue playing hockey at the University level while pursuing a Sports Management degree.

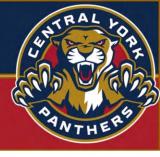






## **94** Hannah Franz

#### Defense | 5'6" | 145 LBS. | Shoots Right Born: 2005 | North Bay, ON | 2023





Previous Team: North Bay Ice Boltz U18 AA

School: Sir William Mulock Secondary School

Current Average: 95%

Academic Interest: Veterinary Medicine

About Myself: I am self-disciplined and hardworking with a diligent & dependable mindset developed from athletics and academics. I understand the importance of working as part of a team, learning from others, and developing as a player and person. I am an able, accomplished student and have consistently received good grades throughout my years of school while maintaining a 94% average. On the ice, I am a strong skater and can shoot the puck hard and low from the point. I am a very coachable team player and truly want to keep getting better at the game. I love how competitive the game of hockey is and strive to play at the university level while studying veterinary medicine.







## **98** Erica Buckley

#### Forward | 5'4"| 129 LBS. | Shoots Left Born: 2006 | Aurora, ON | 2024





Previous Team: Central York Panthers U15AA
School: St. Maximilian Kolbe CHS

Current Average: 85%

Academic Interest: Undecided

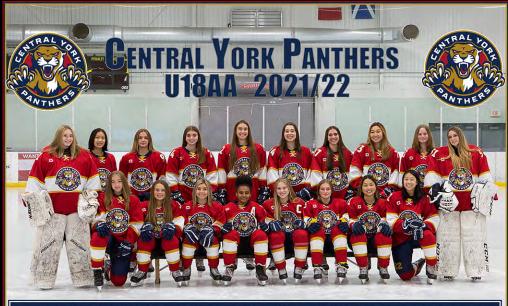
About Myself: I am a passionate, and dedicated student-athlete who understands the need for strong time management skills. I have been playing competitive hockey since the age of 7 and have played multiple other sports during the on and off seasons. In addition to hockey, I also played competitive field lacrosse with the Newmarket Lady Redbirds where I participated in the 2019 U18 Worlds Festi val. Hockey has been a big part of my life and has helped me meet new people and see things differently. I have a high hockey IQ, strong shooting and puck handling skills, strong playmaking skills, along with being a fast and strong skater. Besides skills, I am a positive and supportive teammate who is always willing to grow and learn. I want to continue my hockey journey by playing at the highest level in university. I hold myself to high standards because I know that in order to be the best player and person, I have to work for it. I work to create good relationships with new people while still maintaining strong friendships.











Front Row: Alyson Smyth, Delaney Hancock, Simona Papasodaro, Jodie Rose, Jersie Lindley, Phoenix Richardson, Lauren Macartney, Hailey Lyn

BACK ROW: MYA LUCIFORA, MORGAN LIEW, ERICA BUCKLEY, AMBER ESTERBROOKS, KAITLYN BROWN, HANNAH FRANZ, KALISTA KURTES, KYRA LOU, KLAIRE ESSEX, JALYN ST. LOUIS

