



# MICHIGAN STATE

## VOLLEYBALL

Media Relations: Austin Overmann (overman1@ath.msu.edu, 563-505-7545)

### 2023 TEAM FACTS

**Key Returners:** Nalani Iosia (Sr., DS/L), Aliyah Moore (Jr., OH), Maradith O’Gorman (So., OH), Nil Okur (So., MB), Evie Doezema (So., OH), Jayhlin Swain (So., DS/L), Julia Bishop (Jr., S)

**Key Additions:** Amani McArthur (5th, MB - First Team All-C-USA, Averaged 2.00 K/S and 1.2 B/S over last three seasons at Charlotte hitting .372), Karolina Staniszewska (Fr., OH - Named best outside hitter at 2022 U19 European Championships for Poland), Cameron Berger (Fr., S - Top 100 recruit in Class of 2023 by PrepDig)

**Letterwinners Returning/Lost:** 11/6

- Michigan State returns 72.8% of its kills (1,034/1,421) and 81.1% of its digs (1,209/1,490) from 2022
- The Spartans welcome two new assistant coaches into the fold in 2023 with Zheng Xiang and Maddie Beal
- Hosting new tournament in 2023, the inaugural **Kathy DeBoer Invitational presented by Auto-Owners Insurance**, named for Michigan State Athletics Hall of Famer and recently retired AVCA Executive Director
- Heavy focus on increasing offensive tempo throughout the spring season
- Partnership with renowned mindset and peak performance coach **Seth Makowsky** for 2023 using chess to help the team make quicker decisions, implement game plan and in-game adjustments faster and communicate in match under pressure
- The Breslin Center will serve as MSU’s home venue for the second consecutive season after setting the highest average home attendance in program history in 2022 (3,208 per match)



**Julia Bishop**

Junior / Setter / Dearborn, Mich.

- Named Team Captain for second consecutive season alongside Nalani Iosia
- Will take on an expanded role in her third season as a Spartan
- High energy player that is a vocal leader on the team
- Second on the team in assists (257) in 2022, averaged 3.92 assists per set when MSU played in a 6-2



**Aliyah Moore (uh-LEE-uh)**

Junior / Outside Hitter / Surprise, Ariz.

- Led the Spartans in kills (322) and kills per set (2.82) in 2022 while ranking second in points per set (3.03)
- Active leader outside of volleyball as a participant in the 2023 BIG Life Series: Selma to Montgomery and the Black Student-Athlete Summit
- High flying athlete who is entering her second season as a Spartan





**Leah Johnson**

Head Coach / 2nd Season / Missouri State '04 & '06

- MSU's 13 wins under Johnson were the most by a first-year head coach in East Lansing since 1974 (Annelies Knoppers, 20)
- Approaching 200th career coaching victory in 2023
- Has Spartans positioned with No. 8 ranked recruiting class for 2024
- Previously served as head coach at Illinois State (2017-21) and SIUE (2011-16)
- 2021 AVCA North Region Coach of the Year
- Made four consecutive NCAA trips at Illinois State (2018-21)

**2023 TEAM FACTS (continued)**

- Michigan State's 11 returners rank third in the Big Ten behind Indiana and Wisconsin (12)
- 2023 roster features five international student-athletes with two from Turkey (Aslayan/Okur), two from Poland (Kulig/Staniszevska) and one from New Zealand (Holdem)
- MSU looks to extend active neutral site winning streak (current, 32) at Razorback Classic (Aug. 26 vs. Tulsa) and Dog Pound Challenge (Sept. 16 vs. Brown & Sept. 17 vs. Binghamton)

**2022 IN THE RECORD BOOK**

- Nalani losia's 467 digs last season ranked 9th all-time in MSU program history
- Maradith O'Gorman's 260 kills ranked 9th all-time by a Michigan State freshman
- Nil Okur's .307 hitting percentage ranked 4th all-time by a Michigan State freshman
- Team GPA of 3.48 in 2022 was the highest in program history

# 2023 Michigan State Volleyball Roster

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Yr.	Hometown / Last School
1	Nalani losia	DS/L	5-8	Sr.	Torrance, Calif. / Texas
2	Karolina Stanizewska	OH	6-0	Fr.	Marki, Poland
4	Selin Aslayan	OH	6-4	So.	Kadikoy, Turkey / Doga Acibadem Koleji
5	Makya Clayton	DS/L	5-6	Fr.	Lee's Summit, Mo. / Lee's Summit
6	Nil Okur	MB	6-1	So.	Rize, Turkey / Ozel Sezin Okullari
9	Zuzanna Kulig	MB	6-4	Fr.	Chrzanow, Poland
10	Maradith O'Gorman	OH	6-2	So.	Lake Odessa, Mich. / Lakewood
11	Avery Horejsi	DS/L	5-4	Jr.	White Lake, Mich. / Walled Lake Central
12	Evie Doezema	OH	6-3	So.	Grand Rapids, Mich. / Grand Rapids Christian
13	Aliyah Moore	OH	5-9	Jr.	Surprise, Ariz. / Illinois State
14	Taylah Holdem	OH	6-2	Fr.	Christchurch, New Zealand
16	Grace Kelly	OH	6-0	Jr.	Alexandria, Va. / Virginia Tech
17	Jayhlin Swain	DS/L	5-4	So.	Elk Grove, Calif. / Cosumnes Oaks
18	Rachel Muisenga	S	6-1	Jr.	Wheaton, Ill. / Penn State
19	Amani McArthur	MB	6-3	5y.	Kennesaw, Ga. / Charlotte
21	Kaya Hood	MB	6-5	Jr.	Roswell, Ga. / Samford
23	Cameron Berger	S	5-11	Fr.	Eden Prairie, Minn. / Eden Prairie
25	Julia Bishop	S	5-11	So.	Dearborn, Mich. / Mercy

**PRONUNCIATION GUIDE**

- Selin Aslayan - say-LIN OSH-lie-on
- Jake Barreau - buh-ROO
- Makya Clayton - muh-KYE-uh
- Evie Doezema - EHV-ee DOO-zuh-muh
- Taylah Holdem - TAY-luh HOLD-um
- Kaya Hood - KYE-uh
- Avery Horejsi - hor-AY-she
- Nalani losia - nuh-LAW-knee yo-SEE-uh
- Zuzanna Kulig - zoo-ZON-uh KOOL-igg
- Rachel Muisenga - myzenga
- Nil Okur - KNEEL oh-KOOR
- Karolina Stanizewska - care-oh-LEE-nuh stanis-SHEF-ska
- Jayhlin Swain - JAY-iin
- Zheng Xiang - CHUNG SHAWN