

**MOORE HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE OKLAHOMA GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (May 27, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced Aaliyah Moore of Moore High School as its 2020-21 Gatorade Oklahoma Girls Basketball Player of the Year. Moore is the second Gatorade Oklahoma Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Moore High School.

The award, which recognizes not only outstanding athletic excellence, but also high standards of academic achievement and exemplary character demonstrated on and off the field, distinguishes Moore as Oklahoma's best high school girls basketball player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Basketball Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Moore joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Skylar Diggins-Smith (2008-09, Washington High School, Ind.), Nneka Ogwumike (2007-08, Cy-Fair High School, Texas), Maya Moore (2006-07, Collins Hill High School, Ga.), Candace Parker (2002-03 & 2003-04, Naperville Central High School, Ill.), and Lisa Leslie (1989-90, Morningside High School, Calif.).

The state's returning Gatorade Player of the Year, the 6-foot-3 senior forward averaged 25.2 points, 11.6 rebounds, 2.3 steals and 2.2 blocks per game this past season in leading the Lions (16-9) into the Class 6A tournament. Moore shot .540 from the field and .770 from the free-throw line in 19 games for the Lions before hip surgery forced her to miss the postseason, where her team fell in the west region finals. A McDonald's All-American who was one of five finalists for Naismith National Girls High School Player of the Year, Moore is ranked as the nation's No. 5 prospect in the Class of 2021 by Prospects Nation and No. 6 by ESPN. She graduated with 71 double-doubles and her career 1,803 points and 882 rebounds are the most in program history.

A National Honor Society member and a peer tutor, Moore has volunteered on behalf of the Hoodies for the Homeless organization as well as Ally's House, a long-term care pediatric cancer facility. Moore has also donated her time with the Buddy committee, a group of 10 students that assists intellectually challenged students at school. "My team the last couple years played against a lot of the top talent in the state, and Aaliyah was the biggest matchup problem night in, night out," said Rabu Levy, head coach at Booker T. Washington High. "You couldn't put a guard on her because she's too big, and you couldn't put a big on her because her handle is so good. We'd double-team, but she could handle it. She's a different kind of kid, a different kind of player."

Moore has maintained a weighted 4.01 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Texas this fall.

The [Gatorade Player of the Year](#) program annually recognizes one winner in the District of Columbia and each of the 50 states that sanction high school football, girls volleyball, boys and girls cross country, boys and girls basketball, boys and girls soccer, baseball, softball, and boys and girls track & field, and awards one National Player of the Year in each sport. The selection process is administered by the Gatorade Player of the Year Selection Committee, which works with top sport-specific experts and a media advisory board of accomplished, veteran prep sports journalists to determine the state winners in each sport.

Two-time winner Moore joins Gatorade Oklahoma Girls Basketball Players of the Year Gabby Gregory (2018-19, Holland Hall High School), Jessi Murcer (2017-18, Westmoore High School), and Ana Llanusa (2016-17, Choctaw High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Moore has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Moore is also eligible to submit a 30-second video explaining why the organization they chose is deserving of one of twelve \$10,000 spotlight grants, which will be announced throughout the year. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$2.7 million across 1,117 organizations.

Since the program's inception in 1985, Gatorade Player of the Year award recipients have won hundreds of professional and college championships, and many have also turned into pillars in their communities, becoming coaches, business owners and educators.

To learn more about the Gatorade Player of the Year program, check out past winners or to nominate student-athletes, visit www.playeroftheyear.gatorade.com, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at www.twitter.com/Gatorade.