

**KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS-KAPALAMA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE HAWAII GIRLS TRACK & FIELD PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (July 2, 2021) — In its 36th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Tatum Moku of Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama High School** as its **2020-21 Gatorade Hawaii Girls Track & Field Player of the Year**. Moku is the second Gatorade Hawaii Girls Track & Field Player of the Year to be chosen from Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama 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 Moku as Hawaii's best high school girls track & field athlete. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Girls Track & Field Player of the Year award to be announced in July, Moku joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Lolo Jones (1997-98, Roosevelt High School, Iowa), Allyson Felix (2002-03, Los Angeles Baptist High School, Calif.), Robert Griffin III (2006-07, Copperas Cove High School, Texas), Grant Fisher (2013-14 & 2014-15, Grand Blanc High School, Mich.) and Candace Hill (2014-15, Rockdale County High School, Ga.).

The 5-foot-5 sophomore won the 100-meter high hurdles with a time of 15.63 seconds and took gold in the pole vault with a clearance of 11 feet, nine inches at the Interscholastic League of Honolulu championships this past season. Moku ranked first in the state in both events in 2021. She also placed second in the long jump at the ILH meet with a leap of 16-0.25.

Moku has volunteered locally on behalf of the Special Olympics and toy-donation drives. "Tatum has shown that she is one of the rare athletes who is extremely gifted but also willing to work hard at improving her abilities," said Kamehameha coach David Friedemann. "She approaches each daily practice in a very positive manner, ready for the hard work involved. She is such a joy to coach."

Moku has maintained a 3.49 GPA in the classroom. She will begin her junior year of high school 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.

Moku joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Girls Track & Field Players of the Year Chenoa Frederick (2019-20, 2018-19, & 2017-18, Kamehameha Schools-Hawaii), and Kristen O'Handley (2016-17, Kaiser High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Through Gatorade's cause marketing platform "Play it Forward," Moku has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national youth sports organization of their choosing. Moku 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 playeroftheyear.gatorade.com, on Facebook at facebook.com/GatoradePOY or follow us on Twitter at twitter.com/Gatorade.

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