

**WINTON WOODS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE OHIO GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (March 9, 2022) — In its 37<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Chance Gray** of **Winton Woods High School** is the **2021-22 Gatorade Ohio Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Gray is the first Gatorade Ohio Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Winton Woods 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 court, distinguishes Gray as Ohio'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 March, Gray 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, CyFair 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 5-foot-9 senior guard led the Warriors to a 25-2 record and the regional semifinals this past season. Gray averaged 26.7 points, 5.1 rebounds, 3.5 assists and 3.2 steals per game. A McDonald's All-American and the District 16 Player of the Year, she is a three-time All-State selection and was named as one of five national finalists for the Naismith Girls High School Player of the Year award.

Gray has volunteered locally on behalf of Ronald McDonald House Charities, Boys and Girls Club of West Chester and youth basketball camps. "I've been coaching in Ohio for 12 years and Chance Gray is the best player any of my teams has played against," said Matt Tolliver, head coach at Milford High School. "She dominated the league every single night this year. She makes the right basketball play over and over again, and she handles herself with class, on and off the court."

Gray has maintained a weighted 4.11 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of Oregon 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Gray joins recent Gatorade Ohio Girls Basketball Players of the Year KK Bransford (2020-21, Mount Notre Dame High School), Madeline Westbeld (2019-20, Kettering Fairmont High School), Jordan Horston (2018-19, Columbus Africentric Early College High School), and Kierstan Bell (2017-18, Canton McKinley High School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Gatorade has a long-standing history of serving athlete communities and understands how sports instill valuable lifelong skills on and off the court. Through Gatorade's "Play it Forward" platform, Gray has the opportunity to award a \$1,000 grant to a local or national organization of their choosing that helps young athletes realize the benefits of playing sports. Gray is also eligible to submit a short 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 \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 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](http://playeroftheyear.gatorade.com) or follow us on social media on Facebook at [facebook.com/GatoradePOY](https://facebook.com/GatoradePOY), Instagram at [instagram.com/Gatorade](https://instagram.com/Gatorade) and Twitter at [twitter.com/Gatorade](https://twitter.com/Gatorade).

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