

**MILTON ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE MASSACHUSETTS BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 16, 2023) — In its 38th year of honoring the nation's best high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Kaan Inanoglu** of **Milton Academy** is the **2022-23 Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Inanoglu is the second Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from Milton Academy.

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 Inanoglu as Massachusetts' best high school boys soccer player. Now a finalist for the prestigious Gatorade National Boys Soccer Player of the Year award to be announced in June, Inanoglu joins an elite alumni association of state award-winners in 12 sports, including Ben Bender (2019-20, Calvert Hall College High School, Md.), Jacob Shaffelburg (2017-18, Berkshire School, Mass.), Jack Harrison (2013-14, Berkshire School, Mass.) and Steve Cherundolo (1996-97, Mt. Carmel High School, Calif.).

The 5-foot-11, 165-pound junior forward scored 23 goals and passed for four assists this past season, leading the Mustangs (17-1-4) to the New England Prep School Athletic Council Class A Tournament championship game this past season. Inanoglu was the Independent School League Offensive MVP in what was his first year at Milton. He was also a First Team All-New England selection by the New England Soccer Journal.

A practiced pianist, Inanoglu has volunteered locally as part of multiple community service initiatives through his school. "Kaan scored goals that aren't often seen at the high school level," said Mike Karin, head coach of The Governor's Academy. "Kaan compares to some of the great ISL players of the past—players that were so talented they raised the level of play of both their teammates and their opponents."

Inanoglu has maintained an A-minus average in the classroom. He will begin his senior 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 leverages experts including coaches, scouts, media and others as sources to help evaluate and determine the state winners in each sport.

Inanoglu joins recent Gatorade Massachusetts Boys Soccer Players of the Year Augustine Boadi (2021-22, Northfield Mount Hermon School), Andrew Ortiz (2020-21, Longmeadow High School), Khamari Hadaway (2019-20, Northfield Mount Hermon School), and Jacob Shaffelburg (2018-19, Berkshire School), among the state's list of former award winners.

Being a Gatorade Player of the Year means paying it forward for the next generation. Through Gatorade's Play it Forward initiative, every Player of the Year receives a grant to give to one of Gatorade's social impact partners, supporting Gatorade's ambition to fuel the future of sport. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners' grants have totaled more than \$3.5 million across more than 1,300 organizations.

For nearly 40 years, Gatorade has honored high school athletes at the top of their game as teammates, supporting their communities and achieving academic success. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes and community leaders, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport.

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

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