

**GEORGETOWN DAY SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VOLLEYBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (January 8, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Clara Yu** of **Georgetown Day School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade District of Columbia Volleyball Player of the Year**. Yu is the second Gatorade District of Columbia Volleyball Player of the Year to be chosen from Georgetown Day School.

The award, which celebrates the nation’s top high school athletes for excellence on the court, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Yu as District of Columbia’s best high school volleyball player. From CEOs and coaches to star athletes, Gatorade Player of the Year winners showcase the power of sport, touting an all-star group of alumni that includes Harper Murray (2022-23, Skyline High School, Mich.), Kerri Walsh Jennings (1995-96, Archbishop Mitty High School, Calif.) and April Ross (1999-00, Newport Harbor High School, Calif.).

The 5-foot-10 senior setter led the Mighty Hoppers to a 22-5 record and the DCSAA Tournament title this past season. Yu amassed 575 assists, 153 digs, 96 service aces and 61 kills to earn Second Team All-Met honors from the Washington Post. She recorded 25 assists, 14 digs and three aces in Georgetown Day’s 3-0 win over Jackson-Reed High School in the DCSAA championship match to earn tournament MVP honors.

Yu founded and is the co-leader of a mental health support group at GDS and she served as a student leader at a sexual assault and consent summit through the organization I Have The Right To. She has also volunteered locally as an SAT tutor through Schoolhouse.world in addition to donating her time as a GDS tour guide and youth volleyball coach. “Not many setters can back-set as well as Clara can, which was the key to the Hoppers’ success,” said Jenna McGinn, assistant coach at the Flint Hill School. “She had full control of the court and she is a very strong server as well.”

Yu has maintained an A average in the classroom. She has made a verbal commitment to attend Columbia University, where she will play volleyball, beginning 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.

Yu joins recent Gatorade District of Columbia Volleyball Players of the Year Pam McCune (2022-23, St. John's College High School), Summer Campbell (2021-22, Wilson High School), and Rachel Richardson (2020-21 & 2019-20, St. John's College High School), among the state’s list of former award winners.

As part of Gatorade’s commitment to breaking down barriers in sport, every Player of the Year also receives a grant to donate to a social impact partner. To date, Gatorade Player of the Year winners’ grants have totaled more than \$4.9 million across more than 1,600 organizations.

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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