

**LAHAINALUNA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE HAWAII GIRLS BASKETBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (March 14, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Lola Doney** of **Lahainaluna High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Hawaii Girls Basketball Player of the Year**. Doney is the third Gatorade Hawaii Girls Basketball Player of the Year to be chosen from Lahainaluna High 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 Doney as Hawaii’s best high school girls basketball 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 Candace Parker (2003-04, 2002-03 & 2001-02, Naperville Central High School, Ill.), Paige Bueckers (2017-18, Hopkins High School, Minn.) and Juju Watkins (2022-23 & 2021-22, Sierra Canyon School, Calif.).

The 5-foot-11 senior guard averaged 27.3 points and 6.4 rebounds, 4.1 assists and 3.3 steals per game this past season, leading the Lunas (16-7) to the Division I state tournament semifinals. Doney was named to the Hawaii High School Athletic Association’s Division I state tournament team. She set the state’s single-game state tournament scoring record with 41 points on 16-of-22 shooting in a 69-66 win over Waiakea in the quarterfinals.

An active member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Doney has volunteered locally with the World Central Kitchen, helping to assist the Lahaina community as it recovers from widespread wildfires in August of 2023. “Not only is she hands-down the best player in the state, but I think it was very admirable that she came back home to Lahainaluna to play for her home after the devastation of the wildfires,” said Alexis Straight, head coach of Kamehameha-Kapalama High School.

Doney has maintained a 3.85 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a national letter of intent to play basketball on scholarship at the University of California-Berkeley 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.

Doney joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Girls Basketball Players of the Year Laynee Torres-Kahapea (2022-23, Punahou School), Jovi Wahinekapu Lefotu (2021-22, Iolani School), Lily Lefotu Wahinekapu (2020-21, Iolani School) and Caiyle Kaupu (2019-20, Konawaena 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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