

**KAMEHAMEHA SCHOOLS-KAPALAMA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED
GATORADE HAWAII SOFTBALL PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

CHICAGO (June 7, 2024) — In its 39th year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Mua Williams** of **Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama High School** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Hawaii Softball Player of the Year**. Williams is the fourth Gatorade Hawaii Softball Player of the Year to be chosen from Kamehameha Schools-Kapalama High School.

The award, which celebrates the nation’s top high school athletes for excellence on the field, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Williams as Hawaii’s best high school softball 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 Amanda Freed (1997-98, Pacifica High School, Calif.), Cat Osterman (2000-01, Cypress Springs High School, Texas), Rachel Garcia (2014-15 & 2012-13, Highland High School, Calif.) and Ava Brown (2022-23 & 2021-22, Lake Creek High School, Texas).

The 5-foot-8 senior shortstop led the Warriors to a 14-6 record and a berth in the Division 1 state championship game this past season. Williams led the state with a .638 batting average, 50 RBI and 17 home runs. She also earned Interscholastic League of Honolulu Player of the Year honors.

Williams has volunteered locally with a Nike RBI youth softball camp, instructing players ages 5-12 a variety of softball skills. She has also donated her time to multiple community service initiatives through her church. “Mua is a force on both the defensive and offensive side of the game,” said Wendell Au, head coach at Leilehua High School. “Defensively, she is one of the best if not the best shortstop in the state. She’s very fast and has a cannon of an arm. From the offensive side, she not only makes great contact, but can also generate power to crush the ball, and she can motor around the bases.”

Williams has maintained a 3.16 GPA in the classroom. She has signed a National Letter of Intent to play softball on scholarship at the University of Georgia 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.

Williams joins recent Gatorade Hawaii Softball Players of the Year Taryn Irimata (2022-23, Campbell High School), Ailana Agbayani (2021-22, Iolani School), Jenna Sniffen (2020-21, Maryknoll School) and Liliana Thomas (2019-20, Maryknoll 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, the Gatorade Player of the Year program has provided more than \$4.9 million in grants to winners across more than 1,900 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 X(Twitter) at x.com/Gatorade.