

**LA SALLE ACADEMY STUDENT-ATHLETE NAMED  
GATORADE RHODE ISLAND BOYS SOCCER PLAYER OF THE YEAR**

**CHICAGO** (June 14, 2024) — In its 39<sup>th</sup> year of honoring the nation’s most elite high school athletes, Gatorade today announced **Moises Morales** of **La Salle Academy** is the **2023-24 Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Soccer Player of the Year**. Morales is the tenth Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Soccer Player of the Year to be chosen from La Salle Academy.

The award, which celebrates the nation’s top high school athletes for excellence on the field, in the classroom and in the community, distinguishes Morales as Rhode Island’s best high school boys soccer 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 Lyle Yorks (1987-88, E.O. Smith High School, Conn.), Alecko Eskandarian (1999-00, Bergen Catholic High School, N.J.) and Ben Bender (2019-20, Calvert Hall College High School, Md.).

The 5-foot-10, 155-pound senior midfielder led the Rams to a 16-1 record and Division 1 state championship this past season. Morales scored 13 goals and passed for eight assists. A two-time Providence Journal All-State selection, he played in the state final despite partially tearing his meniscus and anterior cruciate ligament in his right knee in the state semifinals.

Morales has volunteered locally with Project GOAL, supporting underserved youth as a mentor, tutor and soccer coach. He has also donated his time on behalf of the Rhode Island Community Food Bank and the Summer Mundialito League Tournament, a non-profit organization that raises funds to award scholarships to people in need. “Moises has a natural feeling for the game that makes the players around him better,” said Mike Stinton, head coach of Portsmouth High School. “His skill level is great and his soccer IQ is high. Wish I had a player like him.”

Morales has maintained an A-minus average in the classroom. He will attend Worcester Academy to complete a postgraduate year 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.

Morales joins recent Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Soccer Players of the Year Dan Goba (2022-23, North Kingstown High School), Michael Hofstetter (2021-22, La Salle Academy), Nathan Lagoa (2020-21, La Salle Academy) and Roy Barrios (2019-20, Tolman 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, 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](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 X(Twitter) at [x.com/Gatorade](https://x.com/Gatorade).