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Evelyn Gates Award Winner to be Announced on Thursday, November 11

Honors top female high school varsity volleyball player in Kansas City area

KANSAS CITY, MO (November 10, 2021) – The 16th annual Evelyn Gates Award will be presented tomorrow, Thursday, November 11. The award, the only one of its kind to commemorate a female official in the states of Missouri and Kansas, honors the top female high school varsity volleyball player in the Kansas City region. For 2020, in lieu of a winner, the committee recognized local athletes through an honorable mention designation on the WIN for KC website.

Each year, a committee comprised of area high school coaches selects an award recipient that exhibits top tier skill, spirit and sportsmanship in the Kansas City vicinity. For 2021, the four finalists are as follows:

- Addison Beagle | Liberty North High School
- Ashley Mullen | Liberty High School
- Chloe Kaminski | Blue Springs High School
- Sydney Handel | Lee's Summit West High School

“As we look to the future and the continued success of women’s athletics, it’s important to acknowledge trailblazers, like Evelyn Gates, whose passion, commitment and support impacted tens of thousands of high school athletes,” says Jessica Blubaugh, Director for WIN for KC. “Her enduring legacy is a testament to both her officiating career and mentorship during the Title IX movement.”

The annual traveling trophy will be presented to the athlete to display at her school along with a \$500 stipend, which will be awarded to the athletic department of the winner’s school.

Award ceremony details:

Date – Thursday, November 11

Time – 10:45 a.m.

Location – Liberty North High School

Address – 1000 NE 104th St, Liberty, MO 64068

For more information about the Evelyn Gates Award and WIN for KC click [here](#).

About Evelyn Gates

Evelyn Gates (1932-2003), a retired histology technician from KU Medical Center, officiated high school and college volleyball, softball and basketball for over 45 years in the Kansas City area and was a staunch supporter of girls’ high school sports. During her officiating career, she touched the lives of tens of thousands of high school athletes, parents and officials. She mentored many women officials in the sports of softball, basketball and volleyball during the infant stages of the Title IX movement and

continued that mentoring during her officiating career. Evelyn died of cancer on May 5, 2003 and a memorial fund has been established to support the Evelyn Gates Award.

About WIN for KC

The Women's Intersport Network for Kansas City (WIN for KC), was established in 1994 under the umbrella of the Greater Kansas City Sports Commission, with the mission to ignite girls and women through advocating and promoting the lifetime value of sports and fitness, while providing opportunities for participation and leadership development. WIN is a volunteer, membership-driven organization that operates as a program of the Kansas City Sports Commission and Foundation. For more information, visit WINforKC.org. For the latest on WIN for KC news, follow on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

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WIN for KC

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