

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Evelyn Gates Award Winner to be Announced on Wednesday, November 15**

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

**KANSAS CITY, MO (November 13, 2023)** – The 18th annual Evelyn Gates Award will be presented on Wednesday, November 15. 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.

Each year, Kansas City metro area high school coaches nominate and select an award recipient that exhibits top tier skill, spirit and sportsmanship in the Kansas City vicinity. For 2023, the four finalists are as follows:

- Carlie Cisneros | Liberty North High School
- Logan Parks | Blue Valley North High School
- Skyler Pierce | Olathe Northwest High School
- Chloe Tyrrell | Olathe East High School

“Throughout her life, Evelyn Gates impacted thousands of young athletes and changed the landscape of women’s sports in our region,” says Kathy Nelson, President and CEO of the Kansas City Sports Commission and WIN for KC. “Many of the Evelyn Gates Award recipients and finalists have gone on to play for some of the best collegiate volleyball programs in the country. Now, with the announcement of KC Pro Volleyball, I hope we someday see these talented young women playing professional volleyball right here in Kansas City.”

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 – Wednesday, November 15

Time – 1:30 pm

Location – Olathe Northwest High School

Address – 21300 College Blvd, Olathe, KS 66061

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](http://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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