



EXCEPTIONAL TEEN RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS HONOR; NAMED *NEW JERSEY* MILITARY YOUTH OF THE YEAR BY BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA

Victor Oluwagbemi set to receive college scholarship and vie for regional title this summer

Clifton, New Jersey, June 13, 2018 – Victor Oluwagbemi from McGuire Youth Program has been named the New Jersey Military Youth of the Year by Boys & Girls Clubs of America for his leadership, service, academic excellence and dedication to live a healthy lifestyle. The Youth of the Year title is a prestigious honor bestowed upon an exemplary young person in recognition of leadership, service, academic excellence and dedication to live a healthy lifestyle. Now in its 71st year, the program honors our nation’s most awe-inspiring young people on their path to great futures and encourages all kids to lead, succeed and inspire. As the new teen representative and one of three military youth finalists competing for the honor, Victor will represent all members of Boys & Girls Clubs-affiliated youth centers in New Jersey. He will receive a \$8,500 college scholarship -- \$5,000 from Boys & Girls Clubs in America and \$3,500 from Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey.

Victor is a Freshman at Pemberton High School where he is on the Honor Roll. He received the Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers Achievement Award, Advanced Proficient Scores and Sports Achievement Awards. Victor has been a Club member for seven years where he is currently Keystone President. He has also held the roles of Torch Club President and Keystone Vice President. Victor’s community service initiatives include his volunteer work at Saint Jude Hospital, Ronald McDonald House, MS Walk, Animal Shelter of Burlington County, Mount Holly Children’s Home and Food Bank of South Jersey. Victor hopes to attend Princeton University where he plans to major in Law.

“Victor and all Youth of the Year nominees are living proof that Boys & Girls Clubs across the country are inspiring and enabling young people to achieve great futures,” said Jim Clark, president and CEO, BGCA. “Being named Youth of the Year is a lifelong honor. As the New Jersey Military Youth of the Year, Victor will serve as a spokesperson for our young people, sharing his inspiring story and leading the way to transform communities for the better.”

Boys & Girls Clubs of America’s National Youth of the Year recognition program is presented by Disney, who has supported the youth advocacy organization for more than 50 years, empowering young people

to reach their full potential and providing youth with access to the tools they need to build the great futures they imagine. Toyota, the Signature Sponsor of Youth of the Year, is dedicated to inspiring the next generations of engineers, thinkers and leaders who will help drive the American economy.

This month, Victor will join other state military winners to vie for the Northeast military regional title. If named the regional winner, he will be awarded an additional \$10,000 college scholarship, renewable for four years up to \$40,000. Six youth will advance to Washington, D.C. in September 2018 to compete for the title of Boys & Girls Clubs of America's National Youth of the Year. The National Youth of the Year will receive an additional scholarship of \$25,000, renewable for four years up to \$100,000.

For more information about the Youth of the Year program, visit www.youthoftheyear.org.

About Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey

Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey is an alliance of 22 Boys & Girls Club organizations serving over 70,000 youth ages 5-18 throughout the Garden State. Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey is a collaborative effort representing all 22 Clubs with the purpose of building local Club capacity; raising public awareness; and securing resources and financial support to increase the impact and reach of local Clubs. Learn more at www.bgcnj.org

About Boys & Girls Clubs of America

For more than 150 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of America (<http://www.bgca.org>) has enabled young people most in need to achieve great futures as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Today 4,300 Clubs serve 4 million young people annually through Club membership and community outreach. Clubs are located in cities, towns, public housing and on Native lands throughout the country, and serve military families in BGCA-affiliated Youth Centers on U.S. military installations worldwide. They provide a safe place, caring adult mentors, fun, friendship, and high-impact youth development programs on a daily basis during critical non-school hours. Priority programs emphasize academic success, good character and citizenship, and healthy lifestyles. In a Harris Survey of alumni, 54 percent said the Club saved their lives. National headquarters are located in Atlanta. Learn more at [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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