



EXCEPTIONAL NEW JERSEY TEEN RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS HONOR; NAMED 2022 NEW JERSEY “MILITARY YOUTH OF THE YEAR”

Sabrina Nunez Receives \$6,000 College Scholarship from Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey and Boys & Girls Clubs of America – To Vie For Regional Title in June

Clifton, NJ, May 19, 2022 – Sabrina from the McGuire Youth Center has been named the 2022 New Jersey Military Youth of the Year by Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey and Boys & Girls Clubs of America. 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 living a healthy lifestyle. Now in its 75th year, the program honors our nation’s most awe-inspiring young people on their path to great futures. As the 2022 New Jersey Military Youth of the Year, Sabrina will serve as an ambassador for all teens throughout the state. She will receive a \$6,000 college scholarship from Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey and Boys & Girls Clubs of America, and will go on to contend for the regional Youth of the Year and ultimately the national title.

Nunez has been a Club member of the Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst McGuire Youth Programs for three years where she has participated in many Club programs including Torch Club, SMART Girls, and the Photography Club. Presently, she serves as President of the Keystone Club; a teen group dedicated to leadership and community service projects. From the Keystone Club, Sabrina developed a strong passion for community service. She participated in volunteerism opportunities across the installation such as Purple Up Month of the Military Child Extravaganza for over 400 youth and the blankets for the homeless program. She believes that her Military Club experience gave her a strong sense of belonging and inspired her to be an advocate for youth in her community.

Nunez attends the Burlington County Institute of Technology, where she maintains a 3.2 GPA and is taking classes toward earning her cosmetology license. Her career aspiration is to be an Entrepreneur and to start a business and own her own salon. The Club programs that she participated in that made a big impact on her include SMART Girls, in which she was able to learn how to become an independent and confident young woman. She also enjoys mentoring young people at the Youth Center as well as others in her community.

“We are incredibly proud of Sabrina and all the Youth of the Year nominees,” said Susan Haspel, State Director of Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey. “Being named Youth of the Year is a lifelong honor. As the New Jersey Military Youth of the Year, Sabrina will serve as a spokesperson for kids and teens across the state who face the many unique challenges associated with military life.”

Founded in 1947 as Boys & Girls Clubs of America’s premier youth recognition program, Youth of the Year recognizes outstanding contributions to a member’s family, school, community, and Boys & Girls Club. The Youth of the Year program is supported by Toyota and Mondelēz. As the Signature Sponsor of Youth of the Year, Toyota is committed to partnering with Boys & Girls Clubs of America to ensure local Clubs provide life-enhancing opportunities for kids and teens to explore, develop and apply the essential skills they need to be successful in life and work. As the Lead Sponsor of Youth of the Year, Mondelēz International, will engage with local Clubs year-round to help foster a new generation of leaders prepared to live in and lead a diverse global economy. Youth of the Year representatives are the workforce leaders, innovators, and problem-solvers of tomorrow.

On June 23, Sabrina will compete for the title of Northeast Region Military Youth of the Year and an additional \$20,000 college scholarship. Five regional winners will advance to the National Youth of the Year event in Los Angeles in October 2022 to compete for the title of National Military Youth of the Year. The final stage of the journey, National Youth of the Year, presents the opportunity to receive an additional scholarship of \$50,000 and a brand-new Toyota Corolla.

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 more than 71,000 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 NJ Clubs. Learn more about Boys & Girls Clubs in New Jersey at www.bgcnj.org.

About Boys & Girls Clubs of America

For 160 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA.org) has provided a safe place for kids and teens to learn and grow. Clubs offer caring adult mentors, fun and friendship, and high-impact youth development programs on a daily basis during critical non-school hours. Boys & Girls Clubs programming promotes academic success, good character and leadership, and healthy lifestyles. More than 4,700 Clubs serve over 4.3 million young people 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. National headquarters are located in Atlanta. Learn more about Boys & Girls Clubs of America on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

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