



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS**  
OF LANIER

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# NEWS

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier’s “Ignite the Future” Celebration  
to Honor Inspiring Youth of the Year Finalists**

**Gainesville, GA – [SEPTEMBER 19, 2025]** – [Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier](#) (BGCL) is proud to announce its annual [Youth of the Year Celebration](#), which will take place October 16, 2025, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Ramsey Conference Center at Lanier Technical College in Gainesville, Georgia. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. Youth of the Year is the Club’s premier recognition program and has brought awareness, hope, and opportunity to some of our most inspiring young people. Each year, one exceptional Club member is selected to be the BGCL Youth of the Year, serving as an ambassador for Boys & Girls Club youth as well as a voice for local young people. Over the decades, these individuals have exemplified the Boys & Girls Club mission and are proof of the impact Clubs have in transforming and saving kids’ lives.

“The Youth of the Year Celebration is one of the most inspiring events of the year,” said Chief Executive Officer, Steve Mickens. “It’s an opportunity to shine a spotlight on the incredible teens who are not only overcoming challenges but also leading with vision, character, and determination. These young people represent the very best of what our Clubs stand for.” The winner will receive up to \$2,500 in scholarship from the Duane Hinshaw Scholarship fund and go on to contend for the Georgia Youth of the Year title and receive a \$5,000 college scholarship from Boys & Girls Clubs of America.

Selected through a highly competitive process, Youth of the Year candidates advance through local, state, and regional competitions. Six finalists from across the country, including five regional winners and the National Military Youth of the Year—will go on to represent their peers in Washington, D.C. at the National Youth of the Year Gala & Celebration Dinner. Among them, one outstanding young person will be named Boys & Girls Clubs of America’s National Youth of the Year, serving as a national teen spokesperson and advocate for nearly 4 million Club members.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier Youth of the Year Celebration will highlight the journeys, accomplishments, and dreams of outstanding local youth who embody the values of leadership, perseverance, and community impact. To sponsor, volunteer or learn more details about the program, visit [Youth of the Year Celebration](#).

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*Created in 1954, the Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier’s mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. The Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier serve more than 4,700 children in the Hall, Habersham and Forsyth counties each year. Boys & Girls Clubs of Lanier is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.*