



**MEDIA CONTACT:**  
Jim Adams  
248.689.1687  
jimbgctroy@comcast.net

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 27, 2017**

## **Katelyn Claxton Named Boys & Girls Club of Troy Youth of the Year**

**Troy, Mich.** – Troy Athens High School freshman Katelyn Claxton was selected as the 2017 Boys & Girls Club of Troy Youth of the Year. Katelyn will now compete against members of other Boys & Girls Clubs in the state for the Michigan Youth of the Year title and a \$5,000 college scholarship courtesy of program sponsors which include Disney, University of Phoenix, Toyota, and Taco Bell.



As the 2017 Youth of the Year honoree for the Boys & Girls Club of Troy, the 14-year old is among hundreds of teens across the country being recognized by Boys & Girls Clubs of America (BGCA) for sound character, leadership skills and willingness to give back to the community.

BGCA's premier youth recognition program, Youth of the Year is the highest honor a Boys & Girls Club member can receive. The program encourages Club members to reach their full potential by achieving academic success, leading healthy lifestyles and contributing to their communities.



"Katelyn is an outstanding young leader. I'm amazed by not only how many activities she is involved with, but how successful she is in each of them," said Boys & Girls Club of Troy CEO Jeff Evans. "Her talent, personality and work ethic make her a well-deserved representative of the Boys & Girls Club of Troy and the local community."

"It is an honor to represent the Boys & Girls Club of Troy as the 2017 Youth of the Year," said Katelyn. "I will make certain that my voice is heard and I will always show pride and respect for my Club. I will also make sure that everyone knows how amazing it is to be a part of a great environment, the Boys & Girls Club of Troy."

Katelyn has been a member of the Boys & Girls Club for eight years. She has volunteered in a number of roles throughout the club, most notably as the emcee of the annual Summer Program Talent Show for three years. She has participated in the Club's soccer leagues, running club, and Smart Girls program. Katelyn is a past winner of the Power Hour Student of the Month.



**MEDIA CONTACT:**

Jim Adams  
248.689.1687  
jimbgctroy@comcast.net

Outside of the Club, Katelyn is a member of the state recognized Athens High School Varsity Cheerleading team. She was selected as the only freshman to the Varsity team, and serves as one of the team's flyers. Additionally, she's volunteered with the Salvation Army, Hope Center, senior care centers and in her school. In the future, Katelyn plans on attending the University of Michigan and majoring in education.

Each year, thousands of Club teens participate in local, state and regional Youth of the Year events. Six teens, including five regional winners and a national military youth winner, advance to Washington, D.C., for the National Youth of the Year Gala & Celebration Dinner, where one outstanding young person is named Boys & Girls Clubs of America's national teen spokesperson. The National Youth of the Year is a role model, leader and advocate for the nearly four million youth served by Boys & Girls Clubs each year, and all of America's young people.

**ABOUT THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF TROY**

The Boys & Girls Club of Troy, located at 3670 John R Road, is a non-profit youth development organization that provides educational and recreational activities, in addition to mentoring programs, to more than 1,200 children, aged six to 18, in the tri-county area of metropolitan Detroit. For nearly four decades, the Club's positive environment has enabled members to become responsible, self-reliant, and caring adults. Visit [www.bgctroy.org](http://www.bgctroy.org) for more information.

**ABOUT BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA**

For more than 100 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of America ([GreatFutures.org](http://GreatFutures.org)) has enabled young people most in need to achieve great futures as productive, caring, responsible citizens. Today, some 4,000 Boys & Girls Clubs serve nearly 4 million children and teens through Club membership and community outreach.