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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Emi McGonegal Named Boys & Girls Club of Troy Youth of the Year

TROY, MI - Troy Athens High School senior Emilse "Emi" McGonegal was selected as the 2019 Boys & Girls Club of Troy Youth of the Year. Emi 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 and Toyota.



As the 2019 Youth of the Year honoree for the Boys & Girls Club of Troy, the 18-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.



"Emi has been one of the most active members at the Boys & Girls Club of Troy. Whether she leading a meeting as the President of our Keystone Club or helping kids complete art projects as one of our Junior Staff, Emi has become an outstanding young leader. We have witnessed her grow from a quiet and shy child to a leader for all of our youth here. I'm amazed by not only by how far Emi has come both academically and personally, but that she continues to give back to the club that has given her so much," 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 2019 Youth of the Year," said Brendan. "I thank the Boys & Girls Club of Troy for providing me with a platform to share my story, to grow my voice, and to 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."

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Emi has been a member of the Boys & Girls Club for five years. She has volunteered in a number of roles throughout the Club, most notably as the current President of the Keystone Club. Additionally, Emi volunteers in throughout our clubs programs areas. She credits the Club with helping her to find her passion for working with youth. She plans to follow her passion to get a degree in Elementary Education at Oakland Community College and Oakland University.

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 for more information.

ABOUT BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA

For more than 100 years, Boys & Girls Clubs of America (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.