

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVESTMENT

YOUTH OF THE 2026 YEAR

Aon Grand Ballroom at Navy Pier
Thursday, March 5, 2026
5:30 P.M.



**BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS
OF CHICAGO**

YOUTH OF THE YEAR

Youth of the Year is Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago's signature effort to foster a new generation of leaders by recognizing the academic achievements and service of exceptional Club members, ages 14-18, and their outstanding character and leadership qualities. Youth of the Year celebrates the stories of the young finalists competing for the title of Youth of the Year. Once awarded, the Youth of the Year will serve as an ambassador and role model for thousands of Club members across our city.

Youth of the Year is also the capstone to a year-long leadership curriculum for children from elementary to high school. Contributions received through Youth of the Year help fund the mentorship and comprehensive leadership development programs that give thousands of young people the opportunity to be leaders in their communities each year.



“I want to thank Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago for being a resource for my mom, and for offering me a path to find who I am.”

Michael
Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago
2025 Youth of the Year



“Thank you to the Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago for creating spaces that make youth like me feel safe and seen. I couldn't be more grateful for you all.”

Ebonnye
Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago
2024 Youth of the Year



“I would like to be a role model for those who don't have that aspiring light as I did before I found the Boys & Girls Club.”

Tyson
Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago
2023 Youth of the Year

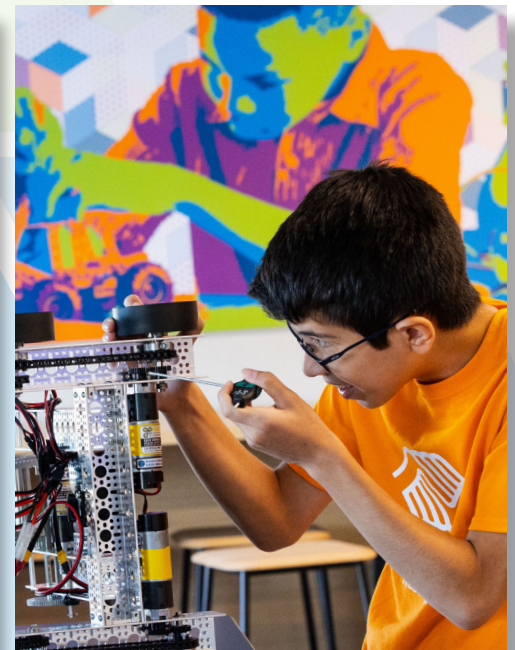
OUR STORY

Giving kids confidence for now, and a million moments from now.

Founded in 1902, Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago (BGCC) is Chicago's largest and longest-serving youth development organization dedicated to providing safe spaces for kids and teens. Its mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us the most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.

Annually serving **15,000 youth ages 5 to 20+ at 8 Club locations** across Chicago, BGCC's core programming focuses on three key areas of youth development: Academic Success, Character and Leadership, and Healthy Lifestyles. Our wide array of enrichment programming includes homework help, early literacy support, tech training, college and career readiness, sports leagues, arts instruction, and so much more.

Above all else, BGCC offers kids a safe place to learn, grow, and just be a kid. In fact, **68% of Club members say their Club has saved their lives.** Our Clubs are located in some of Chicago's most under-resourced neighborhoods, and at BGCC, we work tirelessly to adapt to meet the needs of the children and teens who rely on support they find at their Club.



YOUR IMPACT

At Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago, we believe every child is a leader. But like anything, leadership takes practice and hard work. With your investment, caring mentors work with our young people to nurture their leadership abilities every day.

92% of Club youth said they help when they see someone in need
85% of Club youth said they think through decisions they make.

Carol A. Walter Junior Youth of the Year

Youth of the Year isn't only for high schoolers. Emerging leaders, ages 11 to 14, discover their voice and embrace their leadership abilities through self-discovery workshops, public speaking seminars and interview practice sessions. Each Club nominates a candidate who competes for the title of Carol A. Walter Junior Youth of the Year.



Keystone Club

Keystone Club offers leadership development opportunities for young people ages 14 to 18. Youth participate in activities in three focus areas: academic success, career preparation and community service. With the guidance of an adult advisor, Keystone Club aims to have a positive impact on members, the Club, and community.

Torch Club

Torch Club is a small leadership group for Club members ages 11 to 13 that helps build a firm foundation of good character and integrity. Members elect officers and work together to implement projects in the four focus areas: service to Club and community; education; health and fitness; and social recreation.



Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago Youth of the Year Committee



Michael Coyne
Event Chair



Stacy Janiak
Event Chair



Bill Huffman
Event Chair



Les Coney
Honorary Chair

Event Committee

Kevin Boyle
Christina Corley
Joseph Ferraro
Bart McCartin
Anthony Romano
Robin Tebbe

Advisory Board

Eric Ayala
Kevin Collins
Doug Gessner
Ryan McDonough
Daniel Nyhan
Patty Olsen
Joe Wicklander

OPPORTUNITIES TO INVEST | YOUTH OF THE YEAR

Please count on me for an event sponsorship at the following level:

- Premier \$100,000 *Benefits include recognition in event emails, website and event signage, seating for 20 at two premium tables, and logo recognition in event program book.*

- Presenting \$50,000 *Benefits include recognition in event emails, website and event signage, seating for 10 at one premium table, and logo recognition in event program book.*

- Platinum \$25,000 *Benefits include recognition in event emails, website and event signage, seating for 10 at one premium table, and logo recognition in event program book.*

- Gold \$15,000 *Benefits include recognition in event emails, website and event signage, seating for 10 at one table, and name recognition in event program book.*

- Silver \$7,500 *Benefits include seating for 10 at one table and name recognition in event program book.*

Or I would like to make a donation of: \$

Early Recognition: To be included in the event invitation, secure your sponsorship by January 2, 2026.

To make my contribution, I will:

- Mail a check made out to Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago
- Pay online at bgcc.org/yoy
- Initiate an ACH/wire transfer – please send me the instructions

Contact Information

NAME

COMPANY

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

EMAIL ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

SIGNATURE

DATE

RETURN BY EMAIL
MICHELLE JIMENEZ AT
MJIMENEZ@BGCC.ORG
PHONE: 312-235-8025

RETURN BY MAIL
BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF CHICAGO
2102 W. MONROE STREET
CHICAGO, IL 60612

Please note: If you plan to make your gift from another entity such as a foundation or donor-advised fund, please consult with your administrator or tax advisor regarding any restrictions related to goods/services that may apply.

OPPORTUNITIES TO INVEST | LEADERSHIP FUND

Financial investment through an event is not always the right fit for every donor. **The Leadership Fund at Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago** allows partners who want to make a difference in our children's lives to do so and still meet their philanthropic goals. Contributions to the Leadership Fund finance the year-long programs at BGCC, elevating the voice of our youth and giving them a platform to cultivate their skills.

Please count on me for my fully tax-deductible gift to the Leadership Fund at the following level:

\$100,000 \$50,000 \$25,000 \$15,000 \$7,500

Or I would like to make a donation of: \$

I would like my gift to be recognized in the materials for the Youth of the Year event.

To make my contribution, I will:

Mail a check made out to Boys & Girls Clubs of Chicago Pay online at bgcc.org/yoy

Initiate an ACH/wire transfer – please send me the instructions

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PHONE NUMBER

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