



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS

METRO DENVER

FALL 2018



MALACHI WINS!

Denver Teen Named Boys & Girls Clubs' National Youth of the Year

We are thrilled to announce our very own Club member, Malachi Haynes, has been named Boys & Girls Clubs of America's National Youth of the Year!

Standing alongside Denzel Washington at the national competition in Washington D.C., Malachi was selected from six finalists as the official spokesperson for 4 million Boys & Girls Clubs members.

Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Youth of the Year recognizes outstanding members for their contributions to their family, school, community and Club.

As the National Youth of the Year, Malachi receives a \$100,000 college scholarship and he will help promote the life-changing work happening in Boys & Girls Clubs across the nation.

"Malachi has demonstrated his outstanding leadership, commitment, and perseverance. He is a wonderful role model and this honor is well deserved," said Erin Porteous, CEO of Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver.

Malachi credits Boys & Girls Clubs with helping him through rough patches and literally saving his life. He saw

peers who stopped attending the Club go in the wrong direction, and he is grateful for the opportunities the Club offered to spend time productively and the staff who taught him to believe in himself.

"I am forever grateful to the Boys & Girls Club for having a Club in my neighborhood, and providing positive alternatives to how I spend my time," Malachi said.

Malachi grew up in a neighborhood and community that often lacks positive role models and opportunities for youth. He witnessed former friends and neighbors make poor decisions, like joining gangs and engaging in violent crimes. After joining his local Club, Malachi was determined to become part of the solution as a leader that kids in his community could admire and emulate.

"I have failed plenty of times throughout my life, whether it was on tests, in debate competitions, or small things in life, but I refuse to let those failures define me," he said. "I will continue to lead, persevere, and work hard so I can leave an impactful legacy on this world."

“
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”
- Malachi





DENVER BRONCOS: CHAMPIONS IN THE COMMUNITY

The Denver Broncos Boys & Girls Club opened its doors in 2003, becoming the first Club fully sponsored and supported by a professional sports team. Nearly 15,000 kids and teens have been helped by the Club since then. The Broncos have donated almost \$5 million over the past 15 years to ensure outstanding Club facilities and provide members with opportunities for happy and healthy lives.

The Broncos partnership with Boys & Girls Clubs is about more than just funding. Several current and former Broncos players are alumni of Boys & Girls Clubs. Along with other players and Denver Broncos Football Club staff, alumni share their time and serve as role models for current Club members.

“The entire Broncos organization cares about strengthening our communities for generations to come,” said BGCMD CEO Erin Porteous. “We are grateful to partner with such a generous and committed organization.”

The team provides exclusive programming, skill development and special events for members from all 16 Clubs in the Metro Denver area.

Pat Bowlen, the Broncos owner, has pushed for the same excellence in community development that he has from his team. To honor his contributions, Boys & Girls Clubs named the outdoor turf field at the Suncor Boys & Girls Club after Bowlen.

It's hard to summarize all the amazing good the Broncos organization has done in the past 15 years. We look forward to continuing to partner with them and change lives in the future.



Denver Broncos Safety Will Parks playing with Club members.



Denver Broncos owner Pat Bowlen addresses the crowd at the opening of the Denver Broncos Boys & Girls Club in 2003.



CLUB MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

When 15-year-old Michelle first stepped inside the Boys & Girls Club nine years ago, she was a bit overwhelmed by all the activity.

“I remember playing dodgeball in the gym, reading a book in the Learning Center, and coloring a beach scene in the Art Room,” Michelle said. “I was worn out by the end of the night, but I couldn’t wait to come back the next day.”

Nine years later, you can find Michelle all over the Club. She plays soccer, creates original pieces in the art room, and is involved in leadership programs. Michelle is known for her creativity, kindness, and work ethic. She is an ambitious student who maintains a heavy course load and has already completed AP classes.



**Without commitment and hard work,
I can’t achieve my future goal –
to become a neurosurgeon.**

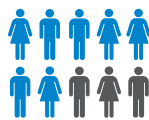


Michelle
Age 15

Michelle believes that everyone can be a leader, and she encourages other Club members to get involved in activities and takes time to help them achieve their own goals. She is a Peer Leader for the Club’s reading program, where she helps younger members improve their reading skills and stay motivated to learn.

“I wouldn’t trade my time, my friends, or my experience at the Club for love, nor money,” Michelle said.

THE IMPACT of BULLYING



70% of young people reported seeing bullying in their school.

Half of children in grades 4-12 reported being bullied at least once during the past month.



15% of high school students experienced cyberbullying in the past year.

Statistics from StopBullying.gov

Just over a month ago, a 9-year-old Denver student took his own life after reportedly being bullied by his classmates. His tragic death is a painful reminder of the trauma and despair that bullying can cause in a young person’s life.

Both kids who are bullied and those who bully others may have serious, lasting problems. Bullied students will often keep quiet about their experiences, but there are warning signs. Caring adults should suspect bullying if children present unexplained injuries, lost or destroyed belongings, feelings of depression or anxiety, or loss of interest in school or hobbies.

HOW BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS HELP



To combat bullying, Boys & Girls Clubs provide a safe, judgment-free space where kids can learn, grow and express themselves. Our staff work to develop positive relationships with Club members, so kids know they have an ally who will listen if they experience bullying.

Boys & Girls Clubs partner with school districts and community organizations across the nation to raise awareness of the issue and create community-wide bullying prevention strategies.



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METRO DENVER

Helping Kids. Building Communities.

Program Support Center

2017 West 9th Avenue, Denver, CO 80204

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in the Community



Club Member Spotlight



The Impact of Bullying



**SAVE
the DATE
DEC. 4**



It's more than just a day.
It's a movement that inspires
thousands to donate
to Colorado nonprofits.

Can't wait until Colorado Gives Day?
Donations can be scheduled ahead of time,
starting on November 1, 2018.

**Join the movement at
www.bgcmd.org/cogives**



GreatFuturesDenver.org



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