

Garrett Meadows selected 25th recipient of Ted Gruszkowski Jr. Youth Star Award

Garrett Meadows is the 2019 recipient of the prestigious NCAUSBCA Ted Gruszkowski Jr. Youth Star Award, which is named in honor of the late association Hall of Fame member who was a strong supporter of area youth bowling. The announcement of this year's winner took place January 20 at Bowl America Falls Church during the NCAUSBCA Youth 50th Annual Invitational Scratch Singles Tournament.

The award winner, honored for bowling achievement and/or service to youth bowling, was presented with a plaque and \$200 in scholarship funds, which will be administered through the USBC SMART program. In addition, his name is the first that appears on a second plaque of honorees, the completed first of which contains the names of the 24 previous award recipients.

Garrett, 17, currently is a junior at Annandale High School. Through balancing bowling, choir, football, and community services, he has maintained an impressive 3.65 GPA. Garrett excels in math and sciences, and for the past two years, he has achieved perfect scores on his SOLs (Standards of Learning) for math, while scoring a near-perfect score in science this past year. Through all these achievements, he was nominated to join the National Society of High School Scholars.

Garrett shows heavy interest in giving back to his community by volunteering at a local soup kitchen for the homeless whenever he is able. He helps there not because he has to but because he likes seeing the joy in people's eyes as he watches them receive the service.

Garrett also is a member of the NCAUSBCA Youth Committee. Being a part of this committee, he gets a say in meetings and all discussions that have to do with the youth, as he is a youth representative. He also takes part in helping run local tournaments when he is available and not bowling.

Garrett started to bowl at the age of 2½. He has had a strong love for the sport ever since he picked



Garrett Meadows (center) displays his Youth Star Award plaque while appearing with Youth Committee members Robin Hollyfield and Adam Mitchell.

Past NCAUSBCA Ted Gruszkowski Jr. Youth Star Award recipients

- 2008 — Eric Helmrich, Adam Mitchell,
Allen Windsor
- 2009 — Alonso "A.J." Kinney Jr.
- 2010 — Malcolm James
- 2011 — Jason Eman, Brandon Lowe,
Kayla Meadows
- 2012 — Zahir Holmes
- 2013 — Conner Kolessides
- 2014 — Gene Blair, Nicholas Dean,
Michael Simpson
- 2015 — Samuel Anderson, Tabitha DeBat,
Amara Speights
- 2016 — Cayla Davidson, Brandon Driver,
David Zweiban
- 2017 — Jarrett DeFalco, Deborah Epps,
Thomas Rush
- 2018 — Andre Andrews, Joey Hansen

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up his first bowling ball. He has a 223 book average and a 225 in his Saturday morning youth league. Garrett bowled league at Bowl America Shirley for a number of years before traveling over to Bowl America Woodbridge's youth league in 2016. He also has bowled in the youth travel league for the past four years, each year showing respect and kindness to his fellow teammates.

Garrett has had many achievements at numerous tournaments, including a second-place finish in the 2017 600 Club Tournament of Champions, where he bowled his first certified 300 game during the stepladder finals. He placed third at the 2018 Youth Invitational Scratch Singles Tournament, throwing a high game of 279 to advance in the standings and ultimately place third in the A Division.

Garrett has bowled two honor scores of 800. His high set of 837 consisted of the games 269-269-299, which also was the youth house record at Bowl America Woodbridge for a period of time.

He has qualified for the Junior Gold Championships for the past three years. Each year, he has bowled the Junior Gold Survivor tournament and qualified for the next year's Junior Gold by placing 10th out of 180 boys to grab his spot.

He has bowled the Danny Wiseman Tournament for the past three years, each year making the cut to the second day. This past year, he

had an amazing run and reached the fourth round of match play.

Garrett plans to obtain a computer engineering degree and would like to continue to bowl in college, possibly with the help of a scholarship award.

While he loves to bowl, he also loves to assist anyone who needs help.

Garrett Meadows is a worthy recipient of the NCAUSBCA Ted Gruszkowski Jr. Youth Star Award, not only for his accomplishments on the lanes and in the community but also because he is a kind, loving, and well-rounded individual with a great passion for the sport of bowling.