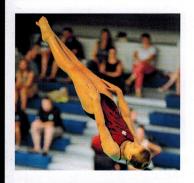


JUNIOR FEMALE ATHLETE OF THE YEAR PRESENTED BY RICHMOND SPORT HOSTING



RENEE BATALLA - Diving

Won gold on the 10-metre platform at both the 2022 junior and senior national championships, with her win at the senior level coming over two Olympians. She also won the platform event at the British junior elite championships and capped her season by earning a silver medal at the FINA World Junior championships in Montreal. Now 16, Victoria's Batalla was just 15 when she qualified for the Commonwealth Games, the youngest Canadian athlete at the event.



OONAH GAMBOA - Karate

The year 2022 just kept getting better for Gamboa, winning the junior women's kata (forms) division at the May BC championships and two months later the national title. In August she won the Pan-American junior championship and closed out her campaign with a bronze medal at the junior world championships in Turkey. It had been more than a decade since an athlete from Karate BC stood on the world podium for the kata discipline.



GRACEY HEMSTREET- Cycling

Dominated the junior women's mountain bike World Cup downhill ranks, winning five races while also garnering two seconds and two thirds to finish her season as junior women's overall downhill World Cup champion. Sechelt's Hemstreet also earned silver in the junior women's downhill at the 2022 UCI Mountain Bike World Championships after taking the bronze medal at the 2021 event.



LAUREN KIM - Golf

Surrey's Kim was named 2022 Pacific Northwest Golf Association junior girls Player of the Year for an outstanding season that saw her win gold in the team and silver in the individual competition at the Canada Summer Games and finishing tied for third at the Canadian Women's Amateur Championship. Kim, 17, also qualified for the US Women's Open in North Carolina and represented Canada at the World Amateur Championships.



ALICIA ZHANG - Ultimate

Vancouver's Zhang dominated the junior ultimate ranks in 2022, winning gold at the BC high school championships, the BC junior championships and the junior women's division at the Canadian championships. She also earned a bronze medal at the World Flying Disc Federation U20 Ultimate championships in Poland. She was recently named to Canada's roster for the U24 World Ultimate championships in Nottingham.