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Northside High Senior Presented Georgia Leadership Award



HOUSTON COUNTY, GA - Northside High School senior Jonelle Christopher has been honored with a 2018 Georgia Youth Leadership Award. She was one of 21 outstanding youth leaders recognized at the 10th annual Georgia Youth Leadership Awards on Feb. 24 and presented a \$250 grant. The event was held in Atlanta at the College Football Hall of Fame. 21st Century Leaders, a Georgia-based non-profit youth leadership and talent development program, announced the top 21 youth leaders.

In July 2017, Jonelle founded Goal Diggers, Inc., a nonprofit organization to empower young women to set goals and improve their unique skills. Goal Diggers also helps prepare young ladies for post-secondary education. Jonelle connected her program to resources and activities that support student advocacy, self-awareness and goal setting during weekly meetings. Within one month of its founding, Goal Diggers had 43 members.

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Jonelle's leadership story is featured in the book *Young Revolutionary: A Teens Guide to Activism*, which was released this month. She has served as Northside High's FBLA parliamentarian and an Interact Club project leader. A member of the 21st Century Leaders' Youth Leadership Council, she attended [Summer Youth Leadership Institute](#) in 2016 and Turner Voices Youth Media Institute in 2017.

After high school, Jonelle intends to earn a degree in political science before advancing to law school. She plans to live out her passion to advocate for others by becoming a politician.

Since 2008, 21st Century Leader's (21CL), in partnership with business and civic leaders, has recognized 20 of Georgia's outstanding high school students who have made a significant impact on their schools, communities and beyond. In honor of the 10th annual Georgia Youth Leadership Awards, all nominated candidates were participants of 21CL's programs, with 21 students selected this year. Students were chosen by a 21-member committee comprised of Atlanta Business Chronicle's 40 under 40 members, 21CL Board of Directors, 21CL alumni, 21CL corporate partners and 21CL student peers.

Northside High School is located at 926 Green Street in Warner Robins. Dr. Greg Peavy serves as principal. For more information about the Georgia Youth Leadership Awards, please visit www.21stcenturyleaders.org.

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