

BEARS CELEBRATE TWO EXCEPTIONAL 2023 LATINO YOUTH LEADER RECIPIENTS: KYLE RAMIREZ & YENIAH MATOS DELGADO

The Chicago Bears proudly introduce the 2023 recipients of the Latino Youth Leader Award: Kyle Ramirez from Maine West High School in Des Plaines, Ill., and Yeniah Matos Delgado from Morton East High School in Cicero, Ill. These exceptional student-athletes have earned the Latino Youth Leader Award for their remarkable achievements both in their school and communities.

The Latino Youth Leader Award acknowledges Latino football and girls flag football players who not only excel academically and sports for their school but also actively engage in community service, passionately advocate for the Latino community, demonstrate strong leadership abilities, uphold exemplary character and exhibit resilience in the face of adversity.

Kyle and Yeniah were honored as honorary captains, alongside former Bears center Roberto Garza, during the Chicago Bears Latino Heritage game on Sunday, Oct. 1. They received a warm welcome from President & CEO Kevin Warren, who presented them with their Latino Youth Leader plaque just before the kickoff. During this moment, he congratulated them and encouraged them to continue being exemplary leaders in their school and community. At halftime, Kyle and Yeniah had the opportunity to be interviewed by the hosts of the Spanish-language broadcast on Latino Mix 93.5 FM, Omar Ramos and Miguel Esparza. During the interview, they shared their experiences that led to their selection as recipients of the Bears Latino Youth Leader award.

As part of the award, Kyle and Yeniah will represent the Chicago Bears alongside honorees from the other 31 NFL Clubs, each of whom has also recognized their own exceptional male and female student-athlete winners. The full list of honorees will be recognized by the NFL and the Hispanic Heritage Foundation, with a selection of eight "finalists" receiving scholarship money for college, while being celebrated at a special ceremony during the week of the 2024 Pro Bowl in Orlando, Fla., or Super Bowl LVIII in Paradise, Nev.



Kyle and Yeniah w/ President & CEO Kevin Warren



Kyle and Yeniah w/ former Bears Roberto Garza



Honorary Captain Walk w/ QB Justin Fields



Latino Mix 93.5 FM Halftime Interview

Learn more about the 2023 Latino Youth Leader Award recipients:

Kyle Ramirez:

The 17-year-old student-athlete, Kyle Ramirez, is set to graduate from Maine West High School in 2024 and currently holds a 3.9 GPA. Proud of his Mexican heritage, Kyle's connection to his grandparents and parents, all of Mexican descent, has instilled in him a profound sense of cultural identity and a strong work ethic. On the football field, Ramirez was a three-year starter for the Maine West Warriors, excelling in his roles as a linebacker and tight end. His dedication led to an Honorable Mention All-Conference recognition during his junior year, and he was nominated for Warrior Athlete Player's Association (WAPA), which aims to make a positive difference and listen to the needs and concerns of student athletes. Kyle faced challenges on his journey, including an injury during the offseason prior to his junior year, but his determination to undergo rehabilitation seriously and maintain a positive attitude allowed him to return on time to support his team and teammates.

Beyond her athletic and academic accomplishments, Kyle's leadership extends to the school community, where he serves as a commissioner for the Link Crew mentor-leader program, providing guidance and support to incoming freshmen. He actively participates in other school programs such as the Key Club and Raices Club. In the Pilsen community, he volunteers for the St. Procopius Church Youth Board, dedicating his time to uplifting the underprivileged Latino community, including organizing Easter Egg hunts for children and selling food at the annual Quermes fundraising summer festival.



Yeniah Matos Delgado:

The 17-year-old student-athlete, Yeniah Matos Delgado, is set to graduate from Morton East High School in 2024 and currently holds a 3.6 GPA. Born in Las Piedras, Puerto Rico, Yeniah carries a deep Puerto Rican heritage instilled by her mother and grandparents on both sides, serving as a profound source of inspiration in her life. With the support from her family, Yeniah naturally took leadership roles on the field as she played both quarterback and linebacker for the Morton East Mustangs Girls Flag Football team. During the 2022 season, Yeniah's exceptional skills contributed to her team success as she led in interceptions on defense while taking charge as the starting quarterback on offense, ultimately earning her the title of team MVP of the season.

Beyond her athletic and academic accomplishments, Yeniah's leadership extends to her community involvement, where she volunteers at her church, assisting elderly members, nurturing young children and providing invaluable support to individuals with disabilities. She embraces her Puerto Rican heritage, celebrating Independence Day and sharing her rich culture and heritage with others in her community. Yeniah's journey has not been without its challenges, as she faced the loss of her mother during her freshman year and navigated the complexities of grief and difficult family circumstances. Despite these hardships, she displayed strength and resilience, finding a nurturing and understanding community that helped her thrive.

