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**For Immediate Release**

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**Junior Achievement Student from Gates Chili Awarded SU Scholarship**

Reya Thompson, a senior from Gates Chili High School, has been awarded a full-tuition scholarship to Syracuse University.

This scholarship is awarded annually by Syracuse University to one outstanding Junior Achievement of Central Upstate New York (JACUNY) student based on academic record and involvement in Junior Achievement (JA). Students must have participated in a JA program and embody the JA spirit, as demonstrated through their life experiences, drive, and future aspirations.

Thompson participated in multiple JA programs throughout her time at Gates-Chili including JA Economics, JA Titan, JA Take Stock in your Future and JA Inspire. She also took part in the JA High School Heroes, a leadership development opportunity where she delivered JA programs to younger students in grades 3-5.

Thompson will attend SU beginning in the fall of 2021.

“Junior Achievement is proud to partner with Syracuse University to bring this opportunity to a JA student,” stated Patricia Leva, president and CEO of Junior Achievement of Central Upstate New York. “We are grateful for their on-going commitment to youth development in the Central Upstate New York Region, and for their continued support of JA students.”

“For many years, we have seen the value of our students’ participation in Junior Achievement,” said Superintendent of Schools Christopher Dailey. “We beam with GC Pride for Reya Thompson and all her academic successes at Gates Chili. I know she will go on to achieve great things with this outstanding foundation of skills.”

**About Junior Achievement**

Junior Achievement is the world's largest organization dedicated to giving young people the knowledge and skills they need to own their economic success, plan for their future, and make smart academic and economic choices. JA programs are delivered by corporate and community volunteers, and provide relevant experiences that give k-12 students knowledge and skills in financial literacy, work readiness and entrepreneurship. Junior Achievement of Central Upstate New York (JACUNY) delivers programming to students in a 25-county region throughout Central and Update New York State. To learn more about JA of Central Upstate New York, visit [www.jacuny.org](http://www.jacuny.org)

**About Gates Chili CSD**

The Gates Chili Central School District serves more than 3,700 students in four elementary schools for grades UPK-5, a middle school for grades 6-8, and a high school for grades 9-12. Along with rigorous curriculum and highly qualified staff, Gates Chili offers instructional technology to assist with educating the 21st century student. Computers in every classroom, computer labs, mobile wireless computer labs, teacher websites, and online learning opportunities are some of the technology resources available to students and staff.