

## *Nomination Form for **Rinaz Jamal** for Youth Initiative Award*

Allow me<sup>1</sup> to introduce Rinaz Jamal. Miss Jamal is a freshman who attends Franklin High School. I met Miss Jamal four years ago when she was a sixth grader at Grassland Middle School (GMS). I am one of the GMS Battle of the Books (BoB) team coaches and, right away, it was apparent that Miss Jamal is extraordinary. (As a side note, our team went on to win the Williamson County BoB tournament for Miss Jamal's three years on the team; she served as team captain for two years and our team did not miss a single question during the county tournament.)

Miss Jamal contributes to our community significantly as a Williamson County 4-H'er. She serves as an assistant teacher with 4-H Girls STEMPowerment, STEM Fun, and Electric classes (approximately 15 youth per class). She volunteers during the Williamson County Fair. She is a key volunteer during Destination Space, a 4-H event in partnership with Girls STEAM Ahead with NASA and the Williamson County Public Library, attended by 150 local youth. She moderates our Women in Science educational road show where select students speak to schools, libraries, museums, and other organizations to spread awareness about women's contributions to science. She assisted with multiple Girls Have No Limits STEM workshops funded by a grant from Mercedes Benz and Mattel at the Williamson County Library and other county venues during which she impacted approximately 100 youth. She served as a 4-H Summer STEM intern during which she led STEM activities at 12 county schools through the Williamson County School-Aged Child Care program. In that role alone, she impacted over 400 county youth from all over our county.

Miss Jamal represented our county and state 4-H program at the 2021 Youth Summit presented by the Intrepid Sea, Space & Air Museum in New York City. Miss Jamal and I hosted Gitanjali Rao's<sup>2</sup> record-breaking Innovation Session for Williamson County and Metro Nashville gifted students. Miss Jamal and I collaborated with Time Magazine and Nickelodeon to surprise Miss Rao on national television with the announcement that she had been selected as a finalist by Kristen Bell.

This past summer Miss Jamal co-facilitated a two-week girls STEM program called Brite through a grant from the National Girls Collaborative Project and The Hello Studios; 20 local girls participated, and Miss Jamal will be speaking this afternoon on a national webinar about her Brite youth educator role. Most recently, on September 11, Miss Jamal spent her day teaching local Girl Scouts in the woods.

Miss Jamal's volunteer efforts and leadership have profoundly impacted Williamson County 4-H'ers, Girls Scouts, public school students, and library patrons. I cannot think of a better role model for the youth in our community. My best estimate is that Miss Jamal has logged at least 300 volunteer hours in the past year valued at \$4500. You also should know that Miss Jamal is kind, humble, hard-working, authentic, responsible, and thoughtful. Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to further discuss Miss Jamal. Without reservation, I submit her name for consideration for the Youth Initiative Award.

Respectfully,

Jennifer Hartsell Stockdale

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<sup>1</sup> I have been an attorney with the United States District Court for the Middle District of Tennessee for the past 22 years. I also serve as a Youth Educator for the Williamson County 4-H. In my 4-H role and other teaching roles, I work closely with hundreds of students each year.

<sup>2</sup> Gitanjali Rao is a former Williamson County resident and 4-H'er. See <https://time.com/5916772/kid-of-the-year-2020/> and [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gitanjali\\_Rao\\_\(scientist\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gitanjali_Rao_(scientist)).