

Pioneer Hall of Fame: Oganna Nnamani, class of 2001



Oganna Nnamani '01 is being presented with the Pioneer Hall of Fame Award due to her significant contributions in the fields of education, leadership and athletics. She has held herself to high standards and has met those goals in the classroom and on the court.

While at U-High, Nnamani was a four-year member of the Student Senate and was Student Body President as a senior. She graduated as valedictorian of her class, a member of National Honor Society and a member of the Mu Alpha Theta Math Society. Concurrently, she helped lead the U-High volleyball team to four top eight finishes in the IHSA state championship – from eighth her freshman year, to fourth her sophomore year, and then finished with back-to-back championships her junior and senior years. She was also named High School Player of the Year by Gatorade, ESPN and Volleyball Magazine.

Nnamani was a standout volleyball player at Stanford University, where she graduated with her Bachelor of Arts degree in Human Biology. This combination of top performance both on the court and in the classroom was thoroughly recognized as evidenced by just a few of her awards:

- Freshman of the Year Award from ASICS, Pac 10 Conference, American Volleyball Coaches Association (AVCA) Pacific Region, and Volleyball Magazine
- Four-time Academic All-American
- Four-time AVCA All-American
- Four-time NCAA Pacific Region Team
- Four-time First Team All-Pac-10
- 2004-2005 recipient of the Honda-Broderick Female Athlete of the Year
- Three-time NCAA Final Four All-Tournament Team
- 2004 Academic Athlete of the Year
- NCAA Post Graduate Scholar
- 2005 AI Master's Award Recipient (Stanford University's Athlete of the Year)
- Two-time member of the U.S. Olympic Volleyball Team; 2008 silver medal winner

Between classes and volleyball, Nnamani made time to be a Stanford Student Council member, Student Athlete Liaison to the Board of Trustees, Stanford Student Panel Member, and an Advisory Board Member of the Bay Area Women's Sports Initiative. She has also volunteered for Special Olympics, Youth Asthma Program and Go Girl Go Initiative. Since graduating from Stanford, Nnamani has been very active playing in the Puerto Rican, Swiss, and Turkish professional volleyball leagues. She expects to compete in the 2012 Olympics in London and then move on to medical school. As she states, "I have a passion for medicine. I want to be in a field where I make a difference for people."

Congratulations to Ogonna Nnamani on her 2009 induction into the University High School Pioneer Hall of Fame!