

**For Immediate Release:**

## **Raquel LeeAnn Rosete Award at Judo Winter Nationals®**



**CLAREMONT - (July 24, 2016)** Sensei Gary Goltz, Host and Founder of the USJA / USJF Grassroots Judo™ Winter Nationals® announced today that this year's event will include a special memorial tribute to the late Raquel LeeAnn Rosete. Raquel a 10-year-old judo player from North Island Judo in San Diego was killed by a hit and run driver while walking with her friend near her home last February.

Sensei Goltz learned about Raquel at the recent Jesse Jones Memorial California State Games Judo Event where she was honored. Details of the tragic accident can be found in this [local news video](#).

Goltz stated “when I saw the photos of Raquel with her gold medal from the 2015 Winter Nationals® and her little gi with our back patch, it pulled at my heartstrings. Raquel is exactly what our tournament is about, a youngster getting involved in judo at a hometown community dojo and reaping the benefits found in judo. I knew right then and there that I was going to make this an annual award starting with our upcoming tournament which is held the first Saturday in December at Azusa Pacific University.”

“We will choose a player who best depicts Raquel’s spirit for judo and life. It is my sincere hope that this can eventually evolve into a scholarship program as well” said Goltz.

For more information on the event go to the [Judo Winter Nationals®](#) website or contact Gary Goltz at 909-702-3250.