



2025

# GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP

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AWARDS BOOKLET

# Making a **Positive** Difference in the Lives of **LGBTQ+ People**



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# INTRODUCTION

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We are proud to celebrate the extraordinary recipients of the Gamma Mu Foundation's 2025 grants and scholarships. Thanks to the dedication of the grassroots organizations we support and the resilience of our scholarship recipients, lasting change is taking root in rural and underserved LGBTQ+ communities nationwide. As the only national LGBTQ+ foundation explicitly dedicated to these populations, we are honored to stand alongside them, ensuring vital resources reach those advancing equity and inclusion every day.

Since our founding in 1988 by members of the Gamma Mu Social Fraternity, the Foundation has raised more than \$10 million to advance LGBTQ+ equality. By the end of 2025, we will have distributed over \$5 million in grants and scholarships, transforming lives and strengthening communities nationwide. Last year, more than 150 individual donors, both recurring and new, joined together to make our work possible, showing that every act of generosity creates lasting change.

Over the decades, this commitment has fueled remarkable growth. Since 1988, the Foundation has awarded 581 grants totaling more than \$4 million to 291 organizations in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico. What began in 2000 with just two modest scholarships has now grown to 426 scholarships awarded, valued at more than \$1 million. Each award reflects the belief that education and service can change lives, made possible through the generosity of our donor community.

In 2025 alone, the Foundation distributed \$353,399 through 21 grants and 47 scholarships. This amount represents a 51% increase in funding since 2020 and demonstrates the expanding reach of our programs. Nearly every dollar donated goes directly to recipients, ensuring that change remains at the heart of everything we do.



A photograph of several rainbow flags waving in the wind at an outdoor event, likely a pride parade. The flags are in the foreground, with a blurred background of green trees and other people.

# GRANTS PROGRAM

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In 2025, the Foundation awarded \$200,971 through 21 grants to strengthen nonprofits serving rural and underserved LGBTQ+ communities. These awards advanced 10 Community Support Services projects, 10 HIV and Health Initiatives, and 1 Public Education and Research project, each contributing to the health, dignity, and well-being of LGBTQ+ individuals nationwide.

This year marked a strategic shift. While fewer grants were awarded, each selected organization received increased funding compared to previous years, thereby carrying greater potential for meaningful change. Sixteen organizations previously funded by the Foundation received renewed support, reinforcing partnerships with proven community leaders. Engagement also reached new heights, with more than 200 participants joining pre-application webinars to strengthen proposals. Following the grant awards, a post-application webinar provided feedback to those not selected, equipping them with tools and insight to prepare stronger applications in the future.

The review process also advanced to ensure fairness and consistency. Thirteen volunteer reviewers from within our donor community, up from eleven the year before, brought a balanced mix of new perspectives and returning experience. Weighted scoring questions added structure and equity, allowing applications to be assessed on a level playing field. These improvements strengthened confidence among applicants and assured donors that their contributions are supporting the projects with the greatest impact.





# SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

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For the 2025 academic year, the Foundation awarded 47 scholarships totaling \$160,000. This total included 16 Named Scholarships at \$5,000 each and 31 scholarships at \$2,500 each. Among this year's recipients were 20 graduate students and 27 undergraduates, each moving closer to educational and professional goals with less financial strain.

This year's recipients represent 43 hometowns across the country, from small rural towns of only a few thousand residents to large metropolitan centers. Nearly two-thirds grew up in communities of fewer than 50,000, where resources for LGBTQ+ youth are often scarce. Students from larger cities also faced challenges, including housing insecurity and discrimination. Collectively, their stories highlight resilience, determination, and the power of opportunity. The Foundation is proud to stand beside them as they continue creating change in their lives and communities.

This commitment reflects our dedication to supporting a diverse cross-section of the LGBTQ+ community and ensuring that students from all regions and backgrounds have access to transformative educational opportunities.



# LOOKING AHEAD

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As we celebrate these milestones, we remain focused on the work ahead. In 2026, the Foundation will continue expanding opportunities for both grantees and scholars, building on the progress of recent years. Priorities include broadening Named Scholarships, expanding outreach to applicants in rural areas, and increasing investments in community-based organizations that address needs such as mental health, aging, documenting our history, and inclusive education.

Most importantly, we will continue to direct nearly every dollar donated to those we serve. Through the steadfast generosity of our donor family, the Gamma Mu Foundation will continue to be a vital lifeline for LGBTQ+ individuals and organizations nationwide, demonstrating once again that together we can create lasting change and stronger, more inclusive communities.



# MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR



**MARK HENDON**

CHAIR, GRANTS COMMITTEE | DALLAS, TEXAS

*This year has been a highlight of my Gamma Mu Foundation Grants program service. We offered grant webinars for the first time to applicants, and over 200 registered. Participation demonstrated the LGBTQ+ community's growing need for services and increased awareness of our program, particularly in rural and underserved areas.*

*Passion permeated the application procedure. A record 220 grant applications were submitted, our most ever. Equally significant, the applications' overall quality showed a noticeable rise in competitiveness and quality, with higher weighted scores overall. These outcomes demonstrate the commitment of the applicant organizations as well as their faith in the Foundation's capacity to have a substantial impact.*

*The stories behind these data stand out. These applications show the challenges and resiliency of our community, from young people suffering isolation to seniors in need of affirming housing to communities still addressing HIV prevention and care. Reading the applications serves as a reminder that our awards offer more than just financial support; they also provide hope and validation.*

*I'm proud to lead a program that gives voice to those who are often overlooked and directs resources to create lasting impact. Our donors, whose kindness makes this possible, have my equal gratitude. Your ongoing assistance bolsters our capacity to compassionately and resolutely address growing needs, ranging from housing and mental health to HIV prevention and care.*

*We are continuing our legacy of service while addressing current demands. I am grateful to work with you and encourage you to join our grant evaluation team. Your input and commitment will influence our resource allocation decisions, enabling us to benefit the most deserving communities.*

# MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR



## DOUGLAS MORTON

CHAIR, SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE | PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

*This year has been one of the most rewarding I've experienced with the Gamma Mu Foundation's scholarship program. We awarded 47 scholarships totaling \$160,000, an increase of 12 awards and \$35,000 from last year. Among the recipients are 10 freshmen, 15 undergraduates, 20 graduate students, and 2 LGBTQ+ students, each now facing less financial strain as they pursue their education. It was also especially meaningful to present the Cliff Pettit Founder Award to a scholarship recipient for the first time, honoring our past while investing in our future.*

*I am especially proud of the improvements we made to the scholarship process. We added new application questions, including whether recipients are first-generation students or face significant financial need, to better understand our applicants. In their follow-up forms, students were invited to share personal remarks of gratitude, many of which you'll see later in this booklet. We also reached out to each of our Named Scholarship donors, sharing information about the student whose life they helped change. In total, 16 Named Scholarships were awarded this year, deepening the bond between donors and recipients.*

*Every application carries a story of courage, resilience, and hope. Our scholarships provide more than financial aid. They affirm the voices and potential of these students. Each award validates their worth and inspires them to lead, achieve, and dream bigger. By investing in education, we are easing financial burdens while nurturing future leaders who will help create a more open and welcoming society for us all.*



# COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES

Programs designed to support underserved LGBTQ+ populations, including young people, seniors, survivors of domestic violence, and those experiencing isolation, while fostering empowerment and inclusivity.



## FREE2LUV

Seattle, Washington

**Awarded – \$11,550**

Project: EXPRESS IT! Enhancing, Transforming, and Saving Youth's Lives Through Mental Health Education and the Arts

**GAMMA MU 50TH ANNIVERSARY GRANT AWARD**

 [free2luv.org](https://free2luv.org)



## CHARLOTTE GAYMERS NETWORK, INC.

Charlotte, North Carolina

**Awarded – \$11,250**

Project: Project Paperclip

**JONES & KAHLE AWARD IN HONOR OF MARTIN CULBRETH**

 [charlottegaymersnetwork.com](https://charlottegaymersnetwork.com)



## YOUTH OUTLOOK

Naperville, Illinois

**Awarded – \$2,130**

Project: Community Services for LGBTQ+ Youth in Rural Illinois

 [youth-outlook.org](https://youth-outlook.org)

# COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES



## MODERN MILITARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

Washington, DC

**Awarded – \$10,650**

Project: Mental Health and Community Support for LGBTQ+ and HIV-positive Military Service Members, Veterans, and Families

 [modernmilitary.org](https://modernmilitary.org)



## BRAVE TRAILS

Los Angeles, California

**Awarded – \$7,000**

Project: Outreach to LGBTQ+ Youth in Rural Communities

 [bravetrails.org](https://bravetrails.org)



## TETON YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES

Jackson, Wyoming

**Awarded – \$10,350**

Project: Empowered Minds

 [tetonyouthandfamilyservices.org](https://tetonyouthandfamilyservices.org)



## WILLIAM WAY LGBT COMMUNITY CENTER

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

**Awarded – \$10,200**

Project: Elder Initiative Food and Nutrition Program

**GRANNY VISE MEMORIAL AWARD**

 [waygay.org](https://waygay.org)



# COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES



## KIDPOWER TEENPOWER FULLPOWER

Santa Cruz, California

**Awarded – \$6,700**

Project: Mental and Behavioral Health & Safety Skills-Building to Empower Rural/Underserved LGBTQ+ Populations Struggling with Bullying, Violence, Prejudice, Discrimination, Equality, and Inclusion

 [kidpower.org](https://kidpower.org)



## THRIVE ALLEN COUNTY

Iola, Kansas

**Awarded – \$8,375**

Project: Mustang Pride & Peace

 [thriveallencounty.org](https://thriveallencounty.org)



## PIZZA KLATCH

Olympia, Washington

**Awarded – \$9,900**

Project: Support Groups for Rural LGBTQ+ Youth

 [pizzaklatch.org](https://pizzaklatch.org)

# PUBLIC EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

Initiatives aimed to increase awareness and understanding of LGBTQ+ issues, foster a more inclusive environment for the community, and establish a foundation for evidence-based advocacy.



## SAFE SCHOOLS SOUTH FLORIDA

North Miami, Florida

**Awarded – \$10,800**

Project: Safe Schools Project

**RICHARD KARPOWITZ AWARD**

 [safeschoolssouthflorida.org](https://safeschoolssouthflorida.org)



# HIV AND HEALTH INITIATIVES

Interventions designed to meet the needs of persons, caregivers, and families impacted by HIV and other health conditions (e.g., aging and mental health), including support and educational activities.



## WYOMING EQUALITY

Cheyenne, Wyoming

**Awarded – \$15,000**

Project: Healthcare Access Project - HIV/STD Education, Prevention, & Treatment for the LGBTQ+ Community

**GORDAN MANN AWARD**

 [wyomingequality.org](https://wyomingequality.org)



## THE SOURCE LGBT+ CENTER

Visalia, California

**Awarded – \$10,944**

Project: HIV Prevention & Testing (HPET)

 [thesourcelgbt.org](https://thesourcelgbt.org)



## WESTERN MONTANA LGBTQ+ AND MONTANA GAY HEALTH TASK FORCE

Missoula, Montana

**Awarded – \$11,100**

Project: Western Montana LGBTQ and Montana Gay Health Task Force

 [lgbtmontana.org](https://lgbtmontana.org)

# HIV AND HEALTH INITIATIVES



## AIDS RESPONSE SEACOAST

Portsmouth, New Hampshire

**Awarded – \$7,400**

Project: Direct Support Services to Persons Living with HIV

**RICHARD J. VANDEN HEUVEL & DEAN GREESON AWARD**

 [aidsresponse.org](https://aidsresponse.org)



## MAUI AIDS FOUNDATION

Wailuku, Hawaii

**Awarded – \$10,950**

Project: Behavioral Health Services

 [mauiaids.org](https://mauiaids.org)



## COLORADO MANREACH

Nederland, Colorado

**Awarded – \$5,400**

Project: Reaching Rural Gay and Bisexual Men to Improve Social Connection

 [manreach.org](https://manreach.org)



## WE ARE FAMILY

North Charleston, South Carolina

**Awarded – \$10,500**

Project: QTBIPOC Youth Leadership and Wellness Program

 [waf.org](https://waf.org)



# HIV AND HEALTH INITIATIVES



## BRIDGERCARE

Bozeman, Montana

**Awarded – \$6,700**

Project: Protecting LGBTQ+ Reproductive & Whole-Person Care for the Intermountain West

 [bridgercare.org](https://bridgercare.org)



## OUT MEMPHIS

Memphis, Tennessee

**Awarded – \$8,375**

Project: OUTMemphis HIV Education & Prevention

 [outmemphis.org](https://outmemphis.org)

## SERENITY



A Holistic Approach

## SERENITY

Petersburg, Virginia

**Awarded – \$6,600**

Project: Enhancing HIV Support Services in Rural Communities

 [serenity-crater.org](https://serenity-crater.org)

# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following graduate students were awarded Named Scholarships of \$5,000 each.



## JOE SERVIDIO

**Graduate Degree Program:** Juris Doctor

**School:** Yale Law School, Connecticut

**Hometown:** Belleville, New Jersey

### ROBIN MCDONALD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

*"Law school can be an isolating experience, and I'm lucky to have your backing as a reminder of why I went to law school to begin with. I owe my life to the gay community's generosity, compassion, and fun-loving spirit, and I look forward to paying it forward once I'm a working attorney."*



## ANDREW HARTZLER

**Graduate Degree Program:** Master of Public Administration

**School:** University of Missouri, Kansas City

**Hometown:** Lee's Summit, Missouri

### TONOMORA SCHOLARSHIP

*"Thank you so much for believing in me."*



## ROBERT DEL CARLO

**Graduate Degree Program:** Doctor of Medicine

**School:** University of California, Los Angeles - David Geffen School of Medicine

**Hometown:** Reno, Nevada

### WADE SIMPSON & GORDON MANN SCHOLARSHIP

*"Although it is entirely unoriginal that someone training to be a doctor wants to be someone who helps other people, it does describe me well. As such, I feel I must share something in common with you because your generosity is an extraordinary help to me and our community. I often think that one day, when I am able, I too will pay it forward to the next generation of people who need help."*



# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following graduate students were awarded Named Scholarships of \$5,000 each.



## JOSHUA KIM

**Graduate Degree Program:** Doctor of Medicine

**School:** University of California, Los Angeles - David Geffen School of Medicine

**Hometown:** San Diego, California

### CLIFF AND AILEEN PETTIT SCHOLARSHIP

*"As a second-year medical student, I am deeply committed to caring for underserved communities that have historically existed on the fringes of the existing healthcare system. Your support brings me one step closer to this lifelong goal, and I truly appreciate the investment that you all have made in my education and future career. Thank you again so much, and I hope to similarly support future students in the same way that you all have supported me."*



## DANIEL DORSKY

**Graduate Degree Program:** Doctor of Clinical Psychology

**School:** Palo Alto University, California

**Hometown:** Burbank, California

### STEINHILBER WEISER FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

*"Thank you so much, donors, for giving me the chance to dedicate my life to serving our community as a psychologist specializing in LGBTQ psychology. The positive lives I've been able to make through my clinical and research work would not be possible without you. I am deeply and truly grateful."*



## TODD SPECKHARD

**Graduate Degree Program:** Master of Social Work & Master of Nonprofit Organizations

**School:** Case Western Reserve University, Ohio

**Hometown:** Provo, Utah

### GAMMA MU 50TH ANNIVERSARY SCHOLARSHIP

*"Coming from a background where queer success was neither visible nor valued, your support affirms my worth in a way that is healing and hopeful. Thank you again for believing in me. Your generosity inspires me to keep building a more inclusive, affirming world. I would be honored to stay connected and give back to the Gamma Mu Foundation in any way I can in the years to come."*

# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following graduate students were awarded Named Scholarships of \$5,000 each.



## DYLAN RILEY

**Graduate Degree Program:** Doctor of Medicine

**School:** Ohio State University College of Medicine, Ohio

**Hometown:** Snoqualmie, Washington

### FOLISI AND GOODWIN LGBTQ+ SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF RAY WILLIAMS

*"I am truly honored and deeply grateful to receive the Folisi and Goodwin Scholarship in memory of Ray Williams. This scholarship means so much more than financial support; it is a powerful reminder of the strength, resilience, and kindness of the community that has paved the way before me.*

*Knowing that the Foundation believes in me and my journey fills me with hope and determination to work even harder toward my dreams. I will carry the spirit of Ray Williams' legacy with me as I move forward, and I promise to honor this gift by giving back whenever I can."*



# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following graduate students were awarded scholarships of \$2,500 each.



## RAFAEL BITANGA

**Graduate Degree Program:** Master of Science in Learning Design and Technology

**School:** Stanford University, California

**Hometown:** Kodiak, Alaska

*"Thank you for supporting my educational journey through the Gamma Mu Scholarship. At Stanford, I will be studying in the Learning, Design, and Technology program to equip myself with the knowledge and skills to develop educational technology tools that better serve rural communities, such as Kodiak. My focus will be on digital storytelling as a means of cultural preservation and academic engagement."*

*The values of community service, cultural awareness, and academic excellence I developed in Kodiak continue to guide my work.*

*Thank you again for believing in me and for your continued commitment to supporting the educational pursuits of students in rural Alaska."*



## DEREK BURLING

**Graduate Degree Program:** Joint Master of Business Administration and Master of Public Policy

**School:** University of Chicago Booth School of Business, Illinois

**Hometown:** Bloomington, Minnesota

*"I am deeply honored to be selected as a recipient of the Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship. As a proud gay man and a student pursuing a joint MBA and Master of Public Policy, this recognition means more to me than I can fully express."*



## JON SCHROEDER

**Graduate Degree Program:** Bioproducts and Biosystems Engineering

**School:** University of Minnesota

**Hometown:** Wausau, Wisconsin

*"Thank you to the generous donors who make these scholarships possible for gay men like me to pursue further education. I'm grateful I have the opportunity to continue my education this fall in the sustainability sphere, while also pursuing my Human Sexuality Certificate. This scholarship will allow me to focus on the educational piece of my journey, and I look forward to sharing the knowledge I gain with the LGBTQ+ community in my endeavors after my degree is completed."*

# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following graduate students were awarded scholarships of \$2,500 each.



## JOAO PEDRO SCHUCHTER DE OLIVEIRA

**Graduate Degree Program:** Master of Analytics in Operations Research and Industrial Engineering

**School:** University of California, Berkeley

**Hometown:** Serra, ES, Brazil

*"Thank you so much for your generous support. Growing up gay in rural Brazil taught me the importance of creating spaces where everyone can belong. This scholarship helps me continue that mission as I pursue my master's at UC Berkeley, using data and compassion to fight inequity and build inclusive communities."*



## PREDRAG RADAKOVIC

**Graduate Degree Program:** Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine

**School:** Midwestern University, Illinois

**Hometown:** Downers Grove, Illinois



## HASAN FRIGGLE

**Graduate Degree Program:** Juris Doctor

**School:** Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, Illinois

**Hometown:** Muscat, Oman

*"I'm honored to be selected and grateful for the opportunity to continue my education and gain skills that will allow me to continue contributing to my community."*



# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following graduate students were awarded scholarships of \$2,500 each.



## MARK ELINSKI

**Graduate Degree Program:** Juris Doctor

**School:** Northwestern Pritzker School of Law, Illinois

**Hometown:** Troy, Michigan

*"Thank you so much for this generous scholarship! I am extremely grateful for your support. As a law student, I am passionate about using my skills and knowledge to advocate for marginalized communities, such as the LGBTQ community. This scholarship will help me continue to pursue my dreams in law school and beyond."*



## JUAN JIMENEZ

**Graduate Degree Program:** Doctor of Medicine

**School:** Michigan State University College of Human Medicine

**Hometown:** Roseville, California

*"I want to extend my most sincere thanks and gratitude to those who have generously donated and supported students like myself in our educational endeavors. It means a lot to know some people recognize the importance of queer voices in spaces that have often felt exclusionary, especially when factoring in intersectional identities."*

*Receiving this scholarship from the Gamma Nu Foundation allows me to recognize that support from and for the LGBTQ community exists and is waiting for people like me. Thank you to every donor who believes in people like me. It is another debt I hope to repay by working with and advocating for queer youth as a future physician."*



## CALEB AKANA

**Graduate Degree Program:** Master of Applied Child and Adolescent Psychology

**School:** University of Washington

**Hometown:** Lacey, Washington

*"Thank you so much! I genuinely would not be able to attend my program without this."*

# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following graduate students were awarded scholarships of \$2,500 each.



## JAMAL SAYID

**Graduate Degree Program:** Juris Doctor

**School:** Western Governors University, Utah

**Hometown:** Troy, Michigan

*"I am truly honored to have been selected as a recipient of the Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship. Your generous support has made a meaningful difference in my educational journey, and I am deeply grateful for your investment in students like me."*

*This scholarship not only helps ease the financial burden of continuing my studies, but also motivates me to keep striving toward my goals with purpose and determination. Knowing that there are individuals and organizations who believe in the potential of students pursuing a wide range of academic and professional paths is incredibly encouraging."*



## ANUP CHANDORA

**Graduate Degree Program:** Juris Doctor

**School:** Mercer University, Georgia

**Hometown:** Lilburn, Georgia

*"Thank you for selecting me as a Gamma Mu Scholar! I'm very grateful for your support in my educational journey as a law student at Mercer Law, where I just finished my 1L year. I'm involved in professional organizations, such as the American IP Law Association, Mercer OUTLaw, and the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association."*

*It's encouraging to be supported by an organization that uplifts LGBTQ+ students, especially those from communities like mine. Thank you for reminding me that I'm not alone in this journey and that I belong here."*



# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following graduate students were awarded scholarships of \$2,500 each.



## PATRICK RYAN

**Graduate Degree Program:** Doctor of Medicine

**School:** University of Connecticut School of Medicine

**Hometown:** Ridgefield, Connecticut

*"Thank you so much for selecting me as one of the recipients of a 2025 Gamma Mu Foundation scholarship. I am very honored to have been selected among a group of qualified LGBTQ+ applicants. I am currently in my third year of medical education at the University of Connecticut, and the financial assistance I have received from the Gamma Mu Foundation all three years has been tremendously helpful. These funds help to support my living expenses while I am a student, allowing me to participate in additional extracurricular activities that support LGBTQ+ health concerns. I am very appreciative of your time and generosity!"*



## ANTONIO HERNANDEZ

**Graduate Degree Program:** Juris Doctor

**School:** University of Pennsylvania Law School

**Hometown:** Pharr, Texas

*"Thank you so much for your generous support of my legal education. As a first-generation Latino student, my path to law school has been shaped by persistence and grit. Being open about my sexuality as a gay man has been a journey for my family, and at times, it has affected the level of financial support available to me. That's why receiving this scholarship means more than I can fully express.*

*I plan to focus on health law and civil rights to help expand access to lifesaving health care and preventive services, especially for LGBTQ+ individuals and other underserved communities.*

*At a time when so many of our rights are under attack, I'm more committed than ever to gaining the necessary skills to be an agent of positive change. Thank you for investing in that future."*

# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following undergraduate students were awarded Named Scholarships of \$5,000 each.



## CHASE BENNETT

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Applied Science in Applied Health Sciences (Biomedical Sciences)

**School:** Eastern Florida State College

**Hometown:** Cocoa Beach, Florida

### CLARK TRUST SCHOLARSHIP

*"Thank you so much for this very generous scholarship award. Your contribution to my education will help me further my path towards medical school. As a future physician, I will use my voice, training, and lived experience to expand access to healthcare and promote respect for all individuals. Thank you again for your generosity and support. It means a great deal to me."*



## RYAN BALL

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Political Science and Bachelor of Laws

**School:** University of Arizona

**Hometown:** Westbrook, Maine

### STEVE LOTTERER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

*"I am a first-gen senior at the University of Arizona. I am honored to be awarded a Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship. I want to give my sincere thanks to you, because you are providing me with invaluable support. Without your support, my experience as a University of Arizona Wildcat would not have been possible."*

*Through your support, you are helping me to achieve my goals. I am a double major in political science and law with a minor in criminology, intending to attend law school post-undergrad. I hope to be allowed to defend LGBTQIA+ hate crime victims and minority voting rights worldwide, ensuring that their right to exist and thrive is protected."*



# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following undergraduate students were awarded Named Scholarships of \$5,000 each.



## ORION MCCLUSKEY

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Science in Biology

**School:** Allegheny College, Pennsylvania

**Hometown:** Centreville, Maryland

### DOUGLAS G. MORTON SCHOLARSHIP

*"Thank you for your generosity in making this scholarship possible. Because of you, I will have less of a financial burden in pursuing my undergrad, the first step in my career path of becoming a primary care physician. As a rural gay man, it is so meaningful that I am able to attain higher education, as many around me are not. Thank you so much for this opportunity!"*



## YAHIR HERVEY BRITO

**Degree Program:** Majors in Medicine, Health, and Society; History; and Communication of Science and Technology

**School:** Vanderbilt University, Tennessee

**Hometown:** Presidio, Texas

### ROBERT L. MCCULLOUGH SCHOLARSHIP

*"I am truly honored to be selected as a recipient of the Robert L. McCullough Scholarship through the Gamma Mu Foundation. As a first-generation, gay Latino student from a small border town in Texas, this scholarship symbolizes much more than financial support; it means recognition and validation for individuals like me, as well as support in realizing my dreams.*

*Growing up in an environment where embracing my identity was often met with ignorance, I never expected to be acknowledged for my authenticity. Your belief in my potential reaffirms that embracing one's true self is indeed a strength.*

*Thank you for your investment in students like me. I carry this honor with gratitude and a desire to one day leave a positive impact on the world."*

# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following undergraduate students were awarded Named Scholarships of \$5,000 each.



## JACK BACHMAN

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Arts in Modern Culture and Media, and Economics

**School:** Brown University, Rhode Island

**Hometown:** Lansdale, Pennsylvania

### JOHN BLOCK & CHUCK KUGLEN SCHOLARSHIP

*"I'm writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for your generous support through the Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship program. It is an incredible honor to be selected as a scholarship recipient for the second year in a row, and I'm truly thankful that I'll be able to continue my studies without the financial burden that higher education has presented to my family and me."*

*"This scholarship is more than just financial support, but it's a reminder that there's a community that believes in my journey and wants to see me thrive. Your generosity empowers me to continue pursuing my education with focus and purpose. I hope to use what I learn at Brown to not only lead, but to lead with empathy, bringing care, curiosity, and compassion into whatever path I take."*



## MYLES CHAPMAN

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Business Administration with a Concentration in Finance and a Minor in Political Science

**School:** Morehouse College, Georgia

**Hometown:** Aurora, Colorado

### CLIFF PETTIT FOUNDER AWARD

*"Thank you so much for this amazing opportunity to support students like me who are queer. It truly means a lot. Having an identity that is oftentimes marginalized can be difficult to navigate, but knowing that there are organizations like these that support me gives me the motivation to keep going and make a difference."*



# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following undergraduate students were awarded Named Scholarships of \$5,000 each.



## BRANDON MICHAEL KARWOSKI

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance

**School:** Chapman University, California

**Hometown:** Montvale, New Jersey

### STEPHEN CROCKER & DONALD JOLLY SCHOLARSHIP

*"I am incredibly honored and thankful to be chosen as a recipient of the Stephen Crocker and Donald Jolly Scholarship. The generous support of the donors not only eases the financial burden of my education but also uplifts my ability to accomplish my goals. Thank you for investing in my future and educational endeavors. I am proud to be a part of this community that elevates the excellence and success of young people pursuing a higher education."*



## ROTCY AUGUSTIN

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

**School:** Barry University, Florida

**Hometown:** Ottawa, Ontario

### ART HUSKEY & HERMAN PHILIPS SCHOLARSHIP

*"I sincerely appreciate your support and generosity - both of which are helping me move my life towards furthering my academic development. I've come a very long way with my identity & expression, being a gay male is not a label but a piece of my heart and soul."*

*"I can only hope that you truly understand the reach and the impact of your efforts. Your contributions are so much more than a charitable gift. You're sending a lifeline to Gay males going against statistics and beating the odds stacked against them. You are an essential part of fostering positive change and social wellness in our community."*

# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following undergraduate students were awarded Named Scholarships of \$5,000 each.



## JOSUE MARTINEZ

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre

**School:** Pace University, New York

**Hometown:** Lawrenceville, Georgia

### PROFESSOR PETER W. SPERLICH FUND SCHOLARSHIP

*"Thank you for selecting me as a recipient of the Professor Peter W. Sperlich Scholarship. I am truly honored and grateful to receive this \$5,000 award, which will support my artistic and academic journey as a Deaf gay man at Pace University in New York City.*

*Your investment in my journey means the WORLD to me. I'll be sure to save a row for you at my Broadway debut! Again, thank you."*



## DESPINA DROSINOS

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Anthropology

**School:** College of the Holy Cross, Massachusetts

**Hometown:** Portsmouth, Rhode Island

### PHIL PAPEL MEMORIAL LGBTQ+ SCHOLARSHIP



# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following undergraduate students were awarded scholarships of \$2,500 each.



## HADEN FINCHAM

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Science in Biology

**School:** West Virginia Wesleyan College

**Hometown:** Berkeley Springs, West Virginia

*"As I approach the end of my time at my school, I've been realizing how many activities I've taken up and have felt busier and busier. With that being said, I so appreciate your generosity in alleviating my financial stress! During the semester, I led my college's queer-straight alliance and biological honors society, ran our high tunnel, and sat on various committees.*

*However, your donation is allowing me to continue leading and learning. In addition, I'll be able to volunteer time to continue my research on gene regulation in the bacteria that cause Lyme disease (*Borrelia burgdorferi*) in the Fall."*



## ELIJAH GUERRERO

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Business Administration in Management Information Systems and Bachelor of Science in Informatics

**School:** University of Texas at Austin

**Hometown:** Spring, Texas

*"THANK YOU! From the bottom of my heart, I express my deepest gratitude for awarding me this scholarship. Receiving this news was an incredible moment, and I'm truly honored by your belief in my potential. Thank you for taking a chance on me and for the hope you inspire.*

*Being here at UT, surrounded by seemingly endless possibilities, is a privilege I do not take for granted. I was incredibly fortunate enough to be raised in a household where the values of hard work and education were consistently emphasized, two constants that have propelled me to have the gracious opportunity as a first-generation college student to sit here and write this thank you letter. Your support not only lightens my financial burden but also motivates me to continue striving for excellence and giving back to others."*

# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following undergraduate students were awarded scholarships of \$2,500 each.



## BRENDEN KYLE SULLIVAN

**Graduate Degree Program:** Bachelor of Science in Health Administration

**School:** West Coast University, California

**Hometown:** Anaheim, California



## RYAN DANIEL TENG

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Science in Nursing

**School:** San Jose State University, California

**Hometown:** Long Beach, California

*"I want to sincerely thank you for your generous support and for choosing me as the recipient. To me, your contribution is more than financial assistance; it is an investment in my future and the communities I care deeply about. With your help, I can continue pursuing my Bachelor of Science in Nursing at SJSU, and I'm committed to continuing on to graduate school to earn my PhD in Nursing."*



## CALEB RIDDLE

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Science in Marketing

**School:** Western Governors University, Utah

**Hometown:** Chesapeake, Virginia

*"Thank you so much for the scholarship; it genuinely means a lot. I'm currently working toward my degree at Western Governors University, and your support helps ease some of the financial pressure that comes with that."*

*More than anything, it just feels good to know that people out there want to support LGBTQ+ students like me. It gave me a boost of motivation and a reminder that people are rooting for me, even from a distance."*



# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following undergraduate students were awarded scholarships of \$2,500 each.



## DAVON XAVIER BUTLER

**Graduate Degree Program:** Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity and Digital Forensics

**School:** Marshall University, West Virginia

**Hometown:** Huntington, West Virginia

*"Thanks to your generosity, I'm able to pursue my education with more confidence and less stress. I'm really excited about what's ahead, and I'm incredibly grateful to you for helping make it possible."*



## HANS BODE

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Science in Global Health

**School:** University of Pennsylvania

**Hometown:** Long Beach, California

*"Your gift has taken a huge weight off my shoulders, and I cannot say thank you enough. Thanks to your contribution this year and last year, my family will officially have enough to cover my first two years of college, meaning I won't have to worry about student loans until my third year, which, if I stay on track with my goal of graduating in three years, will be my final year at Penn."*

*I have been working in a hospital in The Gambia this summer, which has truly solidified my plan of becoming a doctor. In The Gambia, I've been working hands-on in a hospital setting, supporting HIV outreach, helping develop infrastructure improvement plans, and learning firsthand about the challenges of global health in underserved communities.*

*Every bit of help I receive toward my undergraduate education means I've received not only financial support but also a vote of confidence from someone who believes in me. Thank you for investing in my education, my future, and the care I hope to provide others one day."*

# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following undergraduate students were awarded scholarships of \$2,500 each.



## DIEGO ALBARRAN

**Graduate Degree Program:** Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education

**School:** National Louis University, Illinois

**Hometown:** Grayslake, Illinois

*"I am so honored to receive this award from the Gamma Mu Foundation and its members; it is incredible that our community has the means to support students like myself and help us reach our greatest potential."*



## ALEXANDER MITKI

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Arts in Political Science (Public Law and Political Philosophy)

**School:** Boise State University, Idaho

**Hometown:** Pasadena, California

*"I deeply appreciate the scholarship, which will help me become an attorney. By helping me attain a bachelor's degree. Thank you for your generosity and support of gay men trying to better themselves."*



## DEAN STANGROOM

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Science in Computer Science

**School:** Rochester Institute of Technology, New York

**Hometown:** Tyngsboro, Massachusetts

*"My husband and I want to extend our heartfelt gratitude to all the Gamma Mu Foundation donors who make these scholarships possible. Being a young, gay, married couple, we face our share of social and financial challenges, but having our community supporting us and uplifting us makes the journey that much easier."*



# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following undergraduate students were awarded scholarships of \$2,500 each.



## BENJAMIN CABRAL

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Arts in International Studies

**School:** Morehouse College, Georgia

**Hometown:** Asheville, North Carolina

*"After stumbling upon a motto used by an organization dear to my heart, the phrase 'What they see is what they'll be' has become a pillar in the way I view education. As I reflect on my academic journey, I've come to realize the true importance of representation during the formative years of one's life.*

*Prior to my collegiate career, I saw myself as an anomaly—without role models who looked like me or lived experiences that mirrored my own, being a queer Black man was rare in the spaces I navigated. Everything began to shift when I entered college. The diversity of my school allowed me to see the beauty and diversity of both the Black and queer communities. For the first time, 'What they see is what they'll be' was more than just a phrase.*

*Thanks to your generosity and support, this is now a reality for me. Receiving this scholarship is more than just a financial blessing—it's an affirmation. It tells me that my story matters, that my potential is worth investing in. I am so very grateful to know that there is a community standing behind me."*



## DEREYON BELL

**Graduate Degree Program:** Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in Marketing and Bachelor of Science in Entertainment Management

**School:** University of Central Florida

**Hometown:** Green Cove Springs, Florida

*"Thank you to the sponsors, the Gamma Mu Foundation, and everyone affiliated. I'm beyond grateful for this scholarship, as it shows my work being recognized. This will help me immensely. I can now focus on internships and study hours instead of side-hustle hours.*

*I'm excited to bring my dreams into fruition, and I promise to constantly meet the goal post as it's moving. This will not be the last time you'll be hearing from me, and I'm excited to show you how I continue to grow."*

# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following undergraduate students were awarded scholarships of \$2,500 each.



## SHAUN CORNELL

**Degree Program:** Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering

**School:** Clarkson University, New York

**Hometown:** Norcross, Georgia

*"I want to express my most sincere and heartfelt thanks to the donors that made this possible. Without your help, my education would've been made nearly impossible due to the financial burdens. I will strive to make sure your investment in me is well used."*

*"My education and career as a Civil Engineer at Clarkson University will leave a lasting, positive impact on my community. I endeavor to be someone that the LGBTQ+ community can be proud to call its own, and your generosity goes a long way towards making that possible."*



## THOMAS WALDER

**Graduate Degree Program:** Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy

**School:** Harvard College, Massachusetts

**Hometown:** Wilmington, Delaware

*"I am beyond grateful to be the recipient of a Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship! Growing up as a gay person can, at times, teach you that you're wrong for chasing a better, greater version of yourself."*

*"This scholarship will go such a long way in helping me realize that version of myself in college! This additional aid will be indispensable in alleviating some of the financial burden of my Harvard education. At Harvard, I hope I can make the most of the trust you've placed in me and create a future where marginalized communities are fully seen, heard, and embraced. Once more, from the bottom of my heart, thank you!"*



# SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

The following undergraduate students were awarded scholarships of \$2,500 each.



## JAZIEL CORREA GOMEZ

**Graduate Degree Program:** Bachelor of Music in Music Education

**School:** State University of New York at Fredonia

**Hometown:** Dunkirk, New York

*"Thank you, Gamma Mu Foundation, for investing in my future! This scholarship opportunity means so much as a first-generation Hispanic student pursuing a degree in music education!"*



## ELIJAH EKANEM

**Graduate Degree Program:** Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

**School:** Purdue University, Indiana

**Hometown:** Fort Wayne, Indiana

*"Thank you so much for selecting me as a recipient of your scholarship. I'm incredibly honored and grateful for your support as I continue my education and work toward building a future grounded in purpose, compassion, and service to others."*

*"This scholarship means more to me than just financial relief; it's a reminder that people believe in what I'm striving for. I believe mental health care should be accessible and affirming for everyone, no matter who they are or where they come from."*



## MICHAEL VITLIN

**Graduate Degree Program:** Bachelor of Science in Mathematics

**School:** University of Pennsylvania

**Hometown:** Columbia, Maryland

*"I would like to thank the Gamma Mu Foundation for this amazing opportunity to further my education!"*

# GET IN CONTACT

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