



2026

GRANT AND SCHOLARSHIP

AWARDS BOOKLET

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



Gamma Mu Foundation, Inc.

PO Box 23520

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307-3520

info@gammamufoundation.org

<https://gammamufoundation.org>



A GROWING LEGACY

We are proud to celebrate the recipients of the **Gamma Mu Foundation's 2026 grants and scholarships**. Through the work of the organizations we support and the determination of our scholarship recipients, meaningful change is taking place in LGBTQ+ communities throughout the United States.

Since its founding in 1988 by members of the Gamma Mu Social Fraternity, the Foundation has grown from a small philanthropic effort into a national organization supporting LGBTQ+ communities and students. Over nearly four decades, donors have helped the Foundation raise **approximately \$11 million** and distribute **nearly \$6 million through grants and scholarships**.

That commitment continues to grow. In **2026, the Foundation awarded 23 grants totaling more than \$252,000 and 75 scholarships totaling \$237,500, nearly \$500,000 invested in organizations and students nationwide**. Since 2020, annual funding has more than doubled, reflecting both increasing need and the generosity of our donors.

The impact extends well beyond the dollars awarded. Foundation grants help organizations strengthen services, expand programs, build partnerships, and leverage additional resources. In recent years, Foundation-supported programs have reached **more than 7,000 people annually**, while scholarships are helping students pursue education across a wide range of disciplines and professions.

Nearly every dollar donated supports the Foundation's grant and scholarship programs. Together, our donors, grantees, scholarship recipients, and partners are building on a legacy of generosity, **creating opportunities today while strengthening LGBTQ+ communities for generations to come**.



GRANTS PROGRAM

In 2026, the Gamma Mu Foundation awarded **23 grants totaling \$252,607** to organizations serving LGBTQ+ people, with a continued emphasis on rural and underserved communities. Funding supported **12 HIV & Health programs, eight Community Support programs, and three Public Education & Research initiatives**, reflecting the range of needs addressed through the Foundation's grantmaking.

Grant funding increased **31% over the previous grant cycle and 63% since 2020**. The average grant reached nearly **\$11,000**, compared with \$6,452 in 2020, enabling the Foundation to provide more substantial support to selected organizations. Of the 23 organizations funded, **15 were returning grantees and eight were receiving Foundation support for the first time**, balancing long-term partnerships with investment in new organizations and communities.

The Foundation also strengthened communication throughout the application and review process. More than **220 people registered for pre-application webinars**, giving prospective applicants greater clarity about eligibility, priorities, and expectations. Expanded communication before and after the application process has helped make the Foundation's grantmaking more transparent, accessible, and responsive.

The impact of these investments extends well beyond the grants themselves. **During the 2025–2026 grant cycle**, Foundation-supported programs reached **more than 7,200 people nationwide** and generated **more than 20,000 service interactions, health screenings, program visits, educational contacts, and community engagements**. Foundation funding also acts as a catalyst, helping grantees leverage additional funding, partnerships, and organizational resources to extend the reach of their work.



SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

In 2026, the Gamma Mu Foundation awarded **75 scholarships totaling \$237,500**, representing one of the largest scholarship classes in the Foundation's history. This included **16 Named Scholarships of \$5,000 each** and **59 scholarships of \$2,500 each**. Recipients included **44 undergraduate and 31 graduate or professional students**, with approximately three-quarters receiving a Foundation scholarship for the first time.

The scholarship program has expanded significantly in recent years. Funding grew from **\$60,000 for 24 students in 2020 to \$237,500 for 75 students in 2026, a 48% increase over 2025 and a 296% increase since 2020**. This growth has enabled the Foundation to support substantially more students pursuing higher education.

The 2026 recipients reflect the Foundation's commitment to students who have demonstrated financial need, resilience, leadership, and service. **Nearly half of undergraduate recipients are first-generation college students, and 58% qualified for a Pell Grant or Federal Direct Stafford Subsidized Loan**, highlighting the significant financial barriers faced by many of those selected.

Recipients are pursuing degrees in fields including **medicine, law, public health, education, science, engineering, business, the arts, and public policy** at institutions ranging from state and regional universities to nationally recognized colleges and professional schools. Their academic paths reflect the breadth of talent, ambition, and service represented within this year's scholarship class.



LOOKING AHEAD

As we look ahead, the Gamma Mu Foundation remains committed to strengthening and expanding its **grant and scholarship programs**.

For our grantees, that means continuing to invest in organizations whose work improves lives, expands access to essential services, and responds to the evolving needs of LGBTQ+ people, **particularly in rural and underserved communities**. The Foundation will continue strengthening the grantmaking process while building lasting relationships with the organizations we support.

For our scholarship recipients, it means continuing to help students pursue their educational and professional goals. The Foundation will remain focused on supporting students who demonstrate financial need, leadership, resilience, and a commitment to their communities, including first-generation college students and those who have faced barriers to accessing higher education.

The grantees and scholarship recipients featured in this booklet represent the Foundation's mission in action. Through their work, studies, leadership, and service, they are creating change in their communities and building possibilities for the future.

We look forward to following their progress, celebrating their achievements, and continuing to grow these programs so that **more organizations and students can benefit in the years ahead**.

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR



MARK HENDON

CHAIR, GRANTS COMMITTEE | DALLAS, TEXAS

*This has been an extraordinary year for the Gamma Mu Foundation Grants Program. Building on the changes we introduced last year, we continued to strengthen our outreach and communication with applicants. More than **220 people registered for our grant webinars**, demonstrating both growing awareness of the Foundation and the significant need for support within LGBTQ+ communities, particularly in rural and underserved areas.*

*What matters most is what these grants make possible. Foundation funding helps organizations expand services, strengthen programs, build partnerships, and reach more people. In many cases, our grants also act as a **catalyst**, helping organizations leverage additional funding and existing resources to extend their impact well beyond the initial award.*

The organizations featured in this booklet are responding to the diverse needs of LGBTQ+ communities in ways that are both practical and deeply human. Their work ranges from expanding access to HIV prevention, mental health support, and elder care to supporting young people and strengthening community connections.

Just as importantly, many are working directly with healthcare providers, educators, and other professionals to help create more welcoming environments in healthcare settings and schools.

Together, these efforts reflect both the challenges facing LGBTQ+ people and the resilience and commitment of the organizations working to meet them.

I am deeply grateful to our donors, reviewers, and grantee partners. Their generosity, time, and dedication make this work possible and help ensure that Foundation resources continue to create meaningful and lasting impact.

MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR



DOUGLAS MORTON

CHAIR, SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE | PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

*This has been another meaningful and inspiring year for the Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship Program. In 2026, we awarded **75 scholarships totaling \$237,500**. Behind each of those awards is a student working hard to pursue an education, overcome obstacles, and create new opportunities for their future.*

Our scholarship recipients represent a wide range of backgrounds, experiences, and ambitions. They include undergraduate, graduate, and professional students preparing for careers in healthcare, law, education, public policy, science, business, engineering, the arts, and many other fields. While their goals may differ, they share a commitment to learning, growing, and making a difference in their communities.

Many of the students we support have faced real financial and personal challenges along the way. Nearly half of our undergraduate recipients are the first in their families to attend college. Many are balancing demanding coursework with jobs, family responsibilities, and financial needs. Their persistence, courage, and determination are a powerful reminder of why this work matters.

Our Named Scholarships make that impact even more personal. This year, 16 Named Scholarships were awarded, creating a direct connection between generous donors and the students whose lives they are helping to shape. For a student, receiving a scholarship often means more than assistance with tuition or books. It can mean reassurance that someone believes in them and is cheering them on.

On behalf of the Scholarship Committee, I want to thank everyone who makes this program possible, our generous donors, our dedicated scholarship reviewers, and especially the students who have trusted us with their stories and hopes for the future. Each scholarship represents more than financial support. It is an investment in a student's potential and a reminder that there is a community behind them, believing in what they can achieve.

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.



THE SOURCE LGBT+ CENTER

Visalia, California

Awarded – \$15,000

Project: HIV Prevention Education & Testing

RICHARD J. VANDEN HEUVEL & DEAN GREESON AWARD

The project increases HIV awareness, reduces stigma, expands access to testing and care, and strengthens provider competency in serving LGBTQ+ communities across Tulare and Kings counties, while supporting people affected by HIV and STIs.

 thesourcelgbt.org



THE HULSEY NETWORK

Dinuba, California

Awarded – \$11,610

Project: OUT559

OUT559 expands mobile HIV/STI outreach and testing services in rural Tulare County, strengthening connections to care and building trust with LGBTQ+ communities facing barriers to accessing services.

 thehulseynetwork.org



OUT MY CLOSET, INC.

Miami, Florida

Awarded – \$11,475

Project: Queer Men's HIV & Mental Health Empowerment Workshops for Underserved LGBTQ+ Communities

GORDON MANN AWARD

The empowerment workshops serve 250 queer men of color through 10 sessions, increasing HIV literacy, PrEP awareness, mental health engagement, and connections to care, while reducing isolation and stigma in a region with high HIV incidence.

 outmycloset.org

HIV AND HEALTH INITIATIVES



AIDS RESPONSE SEACOAST

Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Awarded – \$11,475

Project: Client Direct Support

ARS provides food, emergency housing support, and transportation that help people living with HIV meet basic needs, reduce barriers to care, remain engaged in treatment, and maintain positive health outcomes.

 aidsresponse.org



INREACH

New York, New York

Awarded – \$11,340

Project: Activate Appalachia—Resource Identification Where We Need It Most

GAMMA MU 50TH ANNIVERSARY GRANT

This project expands access to LGBTQ+ resources for individuals living in underserved rural Appalachian communities by increasing verified service listings, strengthening referral pathways, and improving visibility so they can more easily find safe, supportive care close to home.

 inreach.org



TRIPRIDE TN, INC.

Johnson City, Tennessee

Awarded – \$11,070

Project: Appalachian Pride Health Initiative

The project increases HIV testing, prevention knowledge, and linkage to care among LGBTQ+ people across the Appalachian Highlands, helping individuals in Tennessee and Virginia access trusted services earlier, reduce barriers to care, and make more informed decisions about their sexual health.

 tripridetn.org

HIV AND HEALTH INITIATIVES



PANHANDLE AIDS SUPPORT ORGANIZATION

Amarillo, Texas

Award – \$10,935

Project: Outreach and HIV Testing

The project strengthens care coordination and follow-up for LGBTQ+ people living with HIV in the Texas Panhandle, helping individuals connect to treatment, remain engaged in care, and address barriers that can disrupt ongoing HIV care.

 panhandleaso.org

SERENITY



A Holistic Approach

SERENITY

Petersburg, Virginia

Award – \$10,935

Project: Serenity Pride

The project provides case management, housing support, and advocacy that help LGBTQ+ people secure stable housing, connect to HIV and health services, remain engaged in care, and reduce barriers that can interrupt treatment and overall well-being.

 serenity-crater.org



HUMAN RIGHTS ALLIANCE OF SANTA FE

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Award – \$10,800

Project: Human Rights Alliance Mental Health Initiative Expansion

The project expands high-demand mental health services from one group per week to five, enabling 100–150 LGBTQ+ clients to access consistent support, strengthen coping and resilience, reduce isolation, and improve overall mental health and well-being.

 hrasantafe.org

HIV AND HEALTH INITIATIVES



FRATERNITY HOUSE, INC.

Vista, California

Award – \$10,800

Project: San Diego County Rental Assistance for the HIV/AIDS Community

GRANNY VISE MEMORIAL AWARD

Fraternity House provides stable housing for LGBTQ+ people living with HIV in San Diego County who are experiencing housing insecurity or displacement, helping them remain safely housed, stay connected to HIV care, and achieve greater health and personal stability.

 fraternityhouse-inc.org



LEGACY COUNSELING CENTER

Dallas, Texas

Award – \$10,665

Project: Legacy Cares Counseling and Substance Abuse Program

Legacy's Counseling Center provides professional mental health and emotional support services to LGBTQ+ people living with HIV through individual, group, family, and substance use counseling.

 legacycares.org



ROCKLAND COUNTY PRIDE CENTER

Nyack, New York

Award – \$7,020

Project: Healthy Futures: free HIV testing and cancer prevention for LGBTQ+ young people

Healthy Futures provides free HIV testing, outreach, education, and connections to primary care for underserved LGBTQ+ young people across the suburban and rural Hudson Valley, while expanding services to include cancer prevention and screening.

 rocklandpridecenter.org

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.



MONTANA QUEER ALLIANCE

Helena, Montana

Awarded – \$11,340

Project: Common Ground Housing Expansion for Rural Gay Montanans

JONES & KAHLE GRANT IN HONOR OF MARTIN CULBRETH

Common Ground Housing provides emergency housing assistance, including help with rent, deposits, and other immediate housing costs, to gay people living in rural and frontier Montana, helping 17–20 additional households secure or maintain safe, stable housing.

 montanaqueeralliance.org



FREE2LUV

Seattle, Washington

Awarded – \$11,340

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

The project strengthens mental wellness and social-emotional skills among LGBTQ+ youth and young adults, helping them build resilience, healthy relationships, and the confidence to thrive.

 free2luv.org



FAIRBANKS QUEER COLLECTIVE NATIVE MOVEMENT

Fairbanks, Alaska

Awarded – \$11,340

Project: Interior Alaska Queer Community Care

The project reduces isolation and suicide risk among LGBTQ+ people in Interior Alaska by expanding access to community connections, peer groups, and healing arts programming that foster belonging and stronger networks of care.

 nativemovement.org

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES



THE MOSAIC PROJECT
OF SOUTH TEXAS

THE MOSAIC PROJECT OF SOUTH TEXAS

Corpus Christi, Texas

Awarded – \$11,205

Project: Expanding Community-Led LGBTQ+ Support & Connection

The Mosaic Project expands access to professional mental health services for LGBTQ+ people in rural South Texas, helping reduce isolation and strengthen emotional well-being through community-based care and LGBTQ+ stories shared through Unity 89.1 FM.

 tmpst.org



KIDPOWER TEENPOWER FULLPOWER

Santa Cruz, California

Awarded – \$11,205

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

PridePower equips LGBTQIA+ participants in rural and underserved areas with practical skills and strategies to strengthen personal safety, build confidence, improve communication, and navigate relationships and interactions with friends, family, coworkers, online, and in the broader community.

 kidpower.org



WESTERN MONTANA GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER

Missoula, Montana

Awarded – \$9,648

Project: Connected Care: LGBTQ+ Youth & Family Initiative

The project equips caregivers with knowledge and resources to better support LGBTQ+ youth while helping teens reduce isolation, build peer connections, and strengthen family and community support networks.

 lgbtmontana.org

COMMUNITY SUPPORT SERVICES



EQUALITY MAINE FOUNDATION

Portland, Maine

Awarded – \$10,665

Project: Engagement of more LGBTQ+ older adults around Maine and enhancement of Network for Older Adults programming

The project reduces social isolation among LGBTQ+ older adults, especially in rural communities, by strengthening social connection, access to resources, community participation, and self-empowerment.

 equalitymaine.org



CHARLOTTE GAYMERS NETWORK, INC.

Charlotte, North Carolina

Awarded – \$10,530

Project: Project Save Point

Project Save Point provides microgrants to low-income LGBTQ+ individuals and rural community members to cover housing, healthcare, and basic needs, improving stability, safety, and long-term resilience.

 charlottegaymersnetwork.com

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.

NEW MEXICO COMMUNITY AIDS PARTNERSHIP

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Award – \$11,935

Project: Continuing Education Classes for Medical and Behavioral Health Professionals

RICHARD KARPAWICH RESEARCH AND EDUCATION AWARD

New Mexico Community AIDS Partnership increases access to culturally appropriate medical and behavioral health care for LGBTQ+ people in rural areas of New Mexico by providing training to medical and behavioral health professionals on the needs and experiences of LGBTQ+ patients.

 nmaidspartnership.org

STONEWALL NATIONAL MUSEUM, ARCHIVE & LIBRARY

Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Award – \$10,800

Project: Advocacy in Action: LGBTQ+ Interactive Digital Learning Program

CLIFF PETTIT FOUNDER AWARD

The project expands access to LGBTQ+ history, fostering pride, belonging, leadership, and civic engagement while empowering LGBTQ+ people and allies to create positive social change.

 stonewall-museum.org

LEGACY HEALTH FOUNDATION

Portland, Oregon

Award – \$10,474

Project: Three Drugs, Two Pills, One Algorithm: HIV PrEP, PEP, and Treatment Initiation Consolidated Guidelines for Resource-Limited and Non-Specialty Settings

The project increases PrEP and HIV treatment prescribing through continuing medical education for healthcare providers; test a novel algorithm integrating PrEP, PEP, and HIV treatment; and identify rural providers to participate in a clinical trial evaluating the algorithm.

 legacyhealth.org

NM Aids Partnership



SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



TODD SPECKHARD

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

School: Case Western Reserve University, Ohio

Hometown: Provo, Utah

ROBIN MCDONALD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

"My heart is filled with gratitude for your incredible generosity in awarding me this scholarship. To be selected as a Gamma Mu Foundation Scholar is a tremendous honor. Your support provides vital financial assistance that will allow me to continue and complete my graduate education. Because of your investment, I can fully immerse myself in my coursework, dedicate time to research, and focus on my clinical psychiatric rotations without the constant burden of financial uncertainty."



CHRIS BALBO

Graduate Degree Program: Doctorate in Clinical Psychology

School: University of Hartford, Connecticut

Hometown: Millburn, New Jersey

ART HUSKEY AND PHILIPS HERMAN SCHOLARSHIP

"Thank you so much for your generous donation to the Gamma Mu Foundation, allowing for my continued education as a clinical psychologist. Your support will allow me to advocate for and represent the queer community in academia and healthcare. Thank you again for your continued generosity."



IAN KAPLAN

Graduate Degree Program: Master of Education in Social Justice Education

School: University of Massachusetts at Amherst

Hometown: Dover, New Hampshire

GAMMA MU 50TH ANNIVERSARY SCHOLARSHIP

"I am writing to express my heartfelt gratitude for your generous support. I am honored to have been selected as a scholarship recipient, and your investment in my education means more than words can fully convey. Coming out as a gay man in the field of education, I experienced friction and felt enormous pressure to hide portions of my identity for the comfort of others. Thanks to your support, I am pursuing my Master's degree in Social Justice Education at UMass Amherst. This program is helping me deepen my understanding of equity, advocacy, and inclusive educational practices, tools I plan to use to create meaningful change in classrooms and communities alike."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



SALVADOR GUTIERREZ RUIZ

Graduate Degree Program: Masters of Social Work

School: San Jose State University, California

Hometown: San Jose, California

WADE SIMPSON AND GORDON MANN SCHOLARSHIP

"Thank you so much for selecting me as a recipient of the Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship. I am truly grateful for this support as I begin my Master of Social Work at San José State University. As a gay Mexican immigrant and first-generation student, this scholarship means more than the award itself. It reminds me that my story, my education, and my commitment to serving others are valued. Thank you for believing in students like me. I hope to honor this support by continuing to serve my community with compassion, dignity, and pride."



JOSHUA LEWIS

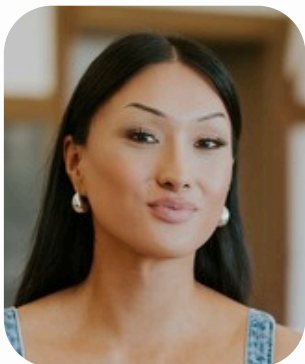
Graduate Degree Program: Doctorate of Osteopathic Medicine

School: Alabama College of Osteopathic Medicine

Hometown: Houston, Texas

TONAMORA SCHOLARSHIP

"Thank you for your generosity and for investing in students like me. I am truly honored to be selected as a recipient of this scholarship. I recently began my first year of osteopathic medical school, where I am working toward my goal of becoming a physician who serves underserved communities while advocating for greater health equity. Medical school is both an incredible opportunity and a significant financial commitment. Your support helps ease that burden, allowing me to spend more time focused on learning, serving my community, and growing into the physician I aspire to be."



MONROE LACE

Graduate Degree Program: Doctor of Education

School: San Francisco State University, California

Hometown: San Ramon, California

PHIL PAPEL MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



DANIEL DORSKY

Graduate Degree Program: Doctorate in Clinical Psychology

School: Palo Alto University, California

Hometown: Los Angeles, California

CLIFF AND AILEEN PETTIT SCHOLARSHIP

"Thank you so much for your thoughtful and generous contributions to this organization. The support I've received from the Gamma Mu Foundation has helped me pursue a PhD in clinical psychology, which will allow me to pursue providing therapy for LGBTQ+ people sustainably for the rest of my career. This support has opened the door for me to pursue education specifically in LGBTQ+ psychology and clinical work with our community. It has also provided me with unique opportunities to conduct therapy with LGBTQ+ people in community mental health settings, allowing me to hone my skills while giving back to our community."



QUINN LUONG

Graduate Degree Program: Master in Public Policy

School: Harvard Kennedy School, Massachusetts

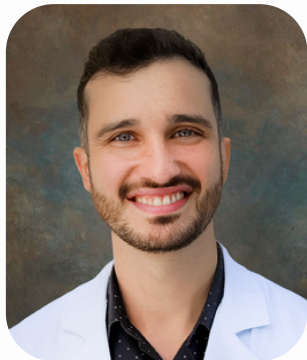
Hometown: Haverford, Pennsylvania

STEVE LOTTERER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

"Thank you so much! Your support means that I can pursue a career in public service and give back to my community. Your generosity is a reminder of how far I have come thanks to the support of my community."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



JONATHAN ADAMS

Graduate Degree Program: Doctorate of Nursing

School: University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Hometown: Biloxi, Mississippi

"Thank you so much for this scholarship and for the foundation's generous support. As a second-year SRNA in the DNP/CRNA program at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga, I truly appreciate this recognition."

"My path to anesthesia has grown from years of working in critical care, flight nursing, and organ procurement. These experiences inspired me to give back to the communities that have shaped who I am. In my DNP project, my co-authors and I are developing standardized, evidence-based anesthesia protocols for organ procurement. We hope this research will help providers feel more confident and, in the end, save more lives."



PEDRO BONILLA

Graduate Degree Program: Doctor of Medicine

School: Michigan State University

Hometown: Los Angeles, California

"Thank you so much for this wonderful opportunity and for having credibility in continuing to support me in my career in medicine and encouraging me to keep striving for success. The work I do with my community could not be possible without the gracious generosity from donors like you. Individuals who believe in the power of paying it forward and enhancing our lives to keep being agents of change in our communities. Thank you again for selecting me for this wonderful scholarship; words cannot describe how much these scholarships mean to me."



AUSTIN HAMILTON

Graduate Degree Program: Juris Doctor

School: Texas Southern University Thurgood Marshall School of Law

Hometown: Rock Hill, South Carolina

"As a first-generation law student and military veteran, beginning my legal education is both a tremendous honor and a profound responsibility. The support of the Gamma Mu Foundation donors means the world to me, and this scholarship empowers me to pursue my passion for systemic advocacy with absolute focus. Your belief in my potential provides incredible validation, and I look forward to honoring your generosity by spending my career giving back and uplifting our community."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



CARLO DELA ROSA

Graduate Degree Program: Masters of Business Administration

School: The Tuck School of Business at Dartmouth, New Hampshire

Hometown: San Jose, California

"Growing up gay in a low-income, hyper-Catholic environment was a lonely, taxing journey. When I moved to San Francisco, arguably the gayest city in the world, I unlocked something meaningful and grew to realize the power of community and identity. It's remarkably difficult to preserve the spark of authenticity in an uncompromisingly straight world, but having support like this is what kept me alive, literally. Outside of the financial support, this scholarship serves as a reminder that I am not, and never was, alone. Moreover, it highlights that there are strong, generous, brilliant, and resilient people in my corner, rooting for me to win. I'll pay this sentiment forward and champion LGBTQ+ leaders in my lifetime ahead."



ORION MCCLUSKEY

Graduate Degree Program: Doctor of Osteopathy

School: Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine

Hometown: Centreville, Maryland

"I would like to thank donors of the Gamma Mu Foundation for this opportunity and support. This scholarship will ease the financial burden of my medical school journey and allow me to pursue my goals of becoming a physician to aid underserved communities. The generosity of donors means a great deal to me and I am extremely grateful for those who choose to support the next generation."



GEOFFREY XUE

Graduate Degree Program: Doctor of Medicine

School: The University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine, Illinois

Hometown: Gilbert, Arizona

"I am writing to express my deepest gratitude as a recipient of the Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship Award. I graduated from The Ohio State University last year with a B.S. in Psychology and a minor in Studio Art. As someone committed to advancing health equity, this scholarship will allow me to focus my energy towards community service, research, and leadership in medical school."

Your generous support will make a lasting impact on my education. In my future career as a physician, I will carry forward the same support that you have so kindly extended to me."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



ANDREW MOREIRA

Graduate Degree Program: Doctorate in Higher Education Leadership

School: Florida Atlantic University

Hometown: Cliffside Park, New Jersey

"I am deeply grateful to have been selected as a recipient of the Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship. This support means more than financial assistance; it is an affirmation of my academic journey, my commitment to service, and my belief in the power of education to create more just, inclusive, and hopeful communities."

As a gay, first-generation Brazilian American doctoral student pursuing a Ph.D. in Higher Education Leadership, I have seen firsthand how access to education can transform not only individual lives, but also the communities we are called to serve. My academic and professional path has been shaped by a commitment to LGBTQ+ advocacy, student leadership, mentorship, and building spaces where people can feel seen, supported, and empowered to lead authentically."



CRISTOPHER ESPINO

Graduate Degree Program: Master of Public Administration

School: University of Pennsylvania

Hometown: Tustin, California

"Your generosity has made it possible for me to pursue a lifelong dream of attending graduate school. I wanted to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude for your investment in both my education and my future. Without your support, I would not have the opportunity to continue growing as a leader, expanding my knowledge and developing the skills necessary to one day make a meaningful difference through public service. Your belief in my potential is a gift I will carry with me throughout my career, and I am profoundly thankful for your confidence and generosity."



JULIO MANRIQUEZ

Degree Program: Doctor of Audiology

School: University of Memphis, Tennessee

Hometown: Memphis, Tennessee

"Thank you with all my heart. This scholarship reminds me how incredibly blessed I am to be in this position. As a first-generation student, I understand that the opportunity to pursue higher education was not always an option for my family. With this scholarship, I can put my focus towards my education and work towards my future as an audiologist."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



HSIN-TA TSAI

Graduate Degree Program: Doctor of Philosophy & Doctor of Public Policy

School: Georgia State University

Hometown: Taichung City, Taiwan

"Thank you so much for your incredible generosity and for selecting me as a recipient of the 2026 Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship. This award means more to me than I can adequately express. As a first-generation, low-income doctoral student navigating the final year of my joint PhD while facing significant financial challenges, I will be greatly relieved of the burden of school-associated fees and living expenses by this scholarship. It allows me to focus more on completing my dissertation and continuing my research on LGBTQ+ equity and educational access for marginalized communities, work that is deeply personal to me."



ETHAN PARKER

Graduate Degree Program: Master of Physician Assistant Studies

School: Case Western Reserve University, Ohio

Hometown: Southfield, Michigan

"I am truly honored to be selected as a recipient of the 2026 Gamma Mu Foundation Gay Male Graduate Scholarship. Because of Gamma Mu, I am one step closer to achieving a career that aligns with who I am and my passions. Your support has made the financial burden of attending PA school a little lighter and allows me to focus more fully on pursuing my education. I set out on this journey with the goal of completing my education with little to no debt, and this scholarship moves me closer to achieving that goal. I am incredibly grateful for this award and for the investment you have made in my future. Thank you to the Gamma Mu Foundation and its supporters for your generosity and for making this opportunity possible!"



LOUIS LEE

Graduate Degree Program: Masters of Public Health

School: Northwestern University, Illinois

Hometown: Fullerton, California

"Thank you so much for this amazing opportunity. I cannot overstate how grateful I am for your support in pursuing my academic and professional goals. With the recent federal defunding of public health institutions, I was concerned about how I would find funding for graduate school. Without your financial assistance, I would have had to take up another job on top of school and my low-paying fellowship. Now, I can focus on learning as much as I can without concern."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



CHRISTIAN FREEMAN

Graduate Degree Program: Doctorate of Philosophy in Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Development

School: University of Minnesota

Hometown: Muncie, Indiana

"Thank you very much for selecting me as a recipient of the Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship. I am honored to receive this award. In my work, I've seen how high-quality education and research can directly impact an academic field, international development programming, and LGBTI+ advocacy and communities. This scholarship will better allow me to advance the data collection and analysis of my dissertation research. My long-term professional goal is a career in academia where I can continue working across institutions, teach, and conduct research on LGBTI+ education, leadership, and social movements."



RANEN MIAO

Degree Program: Juris Doctor

School: Harvard Law School, Massachusetts

Hometown: Millburn, New Jersey

"As an aspiring civil rights lawyer, this scholarship will help me fight for LGBTQIA+ rights, racial equity, and gender justice in courtrooms and legislative chambers. Thank you so much for investing in my potential and the next generation of LGBTQIA+ leaders!"



TONI LABARBARA

Graduate Degree Program: Masters of Management Science & Engineering

School: Stanford, California

Hometown: New York, New York

"As a first-generation student, I never dreamed of graduate school as a possibility. This Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship will help me fund a master's in Management Science & Engineering at Stanford University, where I will research economic policy to fund climate resilience in vulnerable communities. I believe climate change is the greatest threat to diverse, underserved communities like mine in South Brooklyn, threatening centuries of vibrant culture and livelihoods with erasure. This degree, with your support, will help me choreograph much-needed infrastructure development to protect my home from disaster. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for your consideration and selection for this scholarship. You've help change my life for the better."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



ROBERT DEL CARLO

Degree Program: Doctor of Medicine

School: David Geffen School of Medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles

Hometown: Reno, Nevada

"I am humbled and grateful to be among those chosen for recognition and generous scholarship. Your continued support on my journey means so much, not only to lessen the financial burden, but emotionally, as a sign of support from my community. These last couple years have been isolating and challenging, not only from the world's waning acceptance and inclusivity but personally from the rigors of medical education. Your scholarship is a lifeline to my future stability and is presently a lifeline to my community. Thank you very much for this gracious gift. I look forward to paying forward your kindnesses in service to the greater public over the next year."



CLAYTON BUSH

Degree Program: Juris Doctor

School: Sandra Day O'Connor College of Law at Arizona State University

Hometown: Gulf Breeze, Florida

"Thank you for your generosity and for investing in students like me. Receiving this scholarship is both an honor and a meaningful source of support as I continue my education. Your kindness helps ease the financial burden of school, allowing me to focus more fully on my studies and my future goals."

As a gay man, it is especially meaningful to receive support from an organization that uplifts and empowers members of our community. Your commitment to helping LGBTQ+ students pursue higher education is inspiring, and I am grateful to be a recipient of your generosity."



KRISTOPHER MORRISON

Degree Program: Master of Science in Integrated Design and Media

School: New York University

Hometown: Powder Springs, Georgia

"Thank you so much for your generous support through the Gamma Mu Foundation. Receiving this scholarship means more to me than words can fully capture. Pursuing a career shift into human-computer interaction and user experience design has been a deeply personal goal, and this award represents both a vote of confidence in that path and a tangible step toward achieving it."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



JAELEN BARRETT

Degree Program: Master of Social Work & Master of Public Healths

School: University of Pennsylvania

Hometown: Hoffman Estates, Illinois

"I wholeheartedly thank you all for your generosity, as this scholarship will help me further my education at the University of Pennsylvania. This scholarship will also allow me to spend more time focusing on my course load, my practicum placement, and intentionally pouring into the Greater Philadelphia community. As the first person in my family to graduate from a post-secondary institution as well as pursue a graduate level degree, this scholarship is not only a positive stride in the direction of obtaining both my Master of Social Work and Master of Public Health degrees, it'll also show my younger siblings that the sky is the limit and that we can do anything that we put our mind to, no matter our socioeconomic background! "



JESSE ROGERS

Degree Program: Masters in Library and Information Sciences

School: University of Wisconsin, Madison

Hometown: Oostburg, Wisconsin

"I would like to sincerely thank all of the donors who generously give to make these scholarships possible. It's such a special feeling to receive this kind of support from other members of the queer community.

Books by marginalized communities, and especially queer books, are being challenged and banned at an alarming rate across the nation, and your support will put me in the best possible position to join the frontlines of the fight to keep our stories on the shelves and in the hands of the people who need them."



PATRICK RYAN

Degree Program: Doctor of Medicine

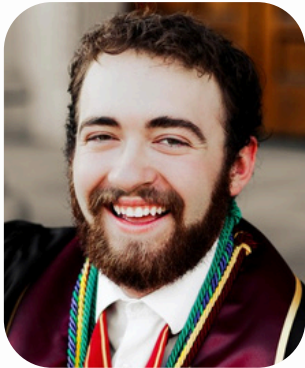
School: University of Connecticut School of Medicine

Hometown: Ridgefield, Connecticut

"I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Foundation's donors. Their generosity has been an invaluable support of my medical education these past four years. I am excited to be entering my last year of medical school and to be one step closer to becoming a psychiatrist! It has been an honor to host community events and educational panels on LGBTQ+ health topics at my program, and I look forward to future engagement in the community as a physician."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



JACK ROSS

Degree Program: Doctor of Medicine

School: The Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University, Rhode Island

Hometown: Plymouth, Minnesota

"Thank you so much, Gamma Mu donors, for your generous support of my medical education. At Brown, I will become the first doctor in my family. As someone that grew up with no gay or queer role models, knowing I have the support of successful queer individuals at the Gamma Mu foundation is incredibly motivational. At a time where our community is facing significantly increased barriers to quality health care, your financial support will allow for me to spend less time worrying about finances and more time learning how to support the health needs of our community through extracurriculars and elective courses. I hope to one day pay back the amazing generosity and support that you have offered me."



ANTHONY HOPE

Degree Program: Juris Doctor

School: University of California, Davis - King Hall School of Law

Hometown: Surrey, British Columbia

"I am thrilled to have been selected to receive a Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship to support me during my upcoming year as a first-year law student at UC Davis King Hall. Navigating a career change and going back to school is not easy, but I am extremely optimistic and excited for this journey and the career in law ahead. The financial support from the Foundation will go a long way toward easing the financial burden and will help me focus on more deeply engaging with my colleagues and professors through classes and experiential learning."



NICK RANDOS

Degree Program: Juris Doctor

School: New York University School of Law

Hometown: Belmont, New Hampshire

"Growing up in a single-parent, low-income household meant many things. It meant learning to do more with less, going after what you wanted, and being considerate of others. It also means that my family, no matter how much they might want to, cannot support me financially as I chart my career path. Law school is expensive, and I would not be able to pursue this critical next step at my dream school of NYU without the generosity of the Gamma Mu Foundation's donors. I truly owe a debt of gratitude to each of you who not only made my scholarship possible, but also the scholarships of my peers in this year's cohort, who, like me, now get to chase their dreams because of your support."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



DON TRAN

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Global Affairs

School: University of Notre Dame, Indiana

Hometown: Plano, Texas

PROFESSOR PETER W. SPERLICH FUND SCHOLARSHIP

"Two years ago, I was terrified to transfer to the University of Notre Dame. I had never been to the Midwest, I didn't know anyone at the university, and I had just changed my major to Global Affairs because I wanted to pursue work that could make a meaningful difference on a humanitarian and global scale. It was a leap into the unknown, but one I knew I had to take."

As an openly gay man from a family that has struggled financially, earning my degree means so much to me. Right now, I'm living in my dad's office because there isn't enough room in our house with my sisters moving back home. Experiences like this remind me every day why finishing college is so important. To me, financial security means stability, but it also means freedom, independence, and the ability to live authentically and comfortably as myself."



AIDEN COLE

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts

School: Dartmouth College, New Hampshire

Hometown: Diamond, Ohio

ROBERT L. MCCULLOUGH SCHOLARSHIP

"The day before I received an incredible email telling me I had been awarded \$5,000 for my educational goals, I was sitting in the Dartmouth Financial Aid Office. I am in the office quite often- I am there a few days a week working a part-time receptionist job. But I was there for a different reason. I had recently been accepted to Oxford for an exchange program, at the cost of over \$20,000. Fortunately, I had won the Dartmouth scholarship to cover most of it, but was still worried about covering the full cost of attendance. I met with financial aid officers, and was offered a few thousand dollars at a 6% interest rate. I told them I would think about it, and get back to them. The very next day, I got your email. What impeccable timing! I cannot thank you enough for bridging this financial gap for me and affording me the opportunity to attend such an amazing institution."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



ELIJAH GUERRERO

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems & Informatics and User Experience Design

School: University of Texas at Austin

Hometown: Spring, Texas

DR. JOHN BLOCK & CHUCK KUGLEN SCHOLARSHIP

"From the bottom of my heart, I express my deepest gratitude for awarding me this scholarship. 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. THANK YOU!"



CHRISTOPHER OU

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Human Biology & Public Policy

School: Stanford University, California

Hometown: Katy, Texas

DOUGLAS MORTON SCHOLARSHIP

"I am incredibly honored to be selected as a recipient of the Douglas G. Morton Scholarship, thank you to the Gamma Mu Foundation, generous donors, and friends for making this opportunity available! I'm the first in my family to attend a four-year university in America, and the financial uncertainty that comes with such a path is significant. It's because of organizations like Gamma Mu that I'm able to pursue my interests in queer health policy and disparities without postponing or limiting my goals.

Receiving this scholarship is living proof that the hours spent distributing banned books, collecting testimonies, and translating queer health resources has not gone unnoticed. It sends a powerful message not just to me, but to a host of young LGBTQ+ students and advocates that our visibility is not a burden, but a strength."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



GIOVANNI LEDOUX

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Molecular & Cellular Biology

School: University of California, Santa Barbara

Hometown: Rohnert Park, California

STEINHILBER WEISER FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

"Thank you Gamma Mu Foundation and its donors that make my academic success possible as a first-generation gay Latino undergraduate; as an independently-financial undergraduate undergoing immunotherapy, this donation makes it possible to support myself and my professional development."



ALEXANDER ROYAL

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Public Health

School: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Hometown: Sandy Springs, Georgia

STEPHEN CROCKER & DONALD JOLLY SCHOLARSHIP

"Achieving queer health equity cannot be done alone or in a vacuum. Rather, it depends on the generosity and ongoing support of people like the sponsors of the Stephen Crocker & Donald Jolly Scholarship. I am beyond appreciative of your investment in my education, which provides the financial support to further my passion for inclusive healthcare and HIV/AIDS advocacy. During seasons of challenge, I will always remember the confidence you placed in me through the Gamma Mu Foundation."



DAVID RACE

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Engineering

School: University of Michigan

Hometown: Virginia Beach, Virginia

FOLISI AND GOODWIN SCHOLARSHIP IN MEMORY OF RAY WILLIAMS

"I want to give a very big thank you to the Gamma Mu Foundation and its donors. Your generous scholarship will significantly lighten the financial burden of my education and will allow me to focus more on completing PhD program applications this coming fall. My education is a serious investment, and I am very grateful to receive part of that financial investment from an organization that uplifts our community."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



JACKSON SHEPLER

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Life Sciences

School: Oberlin College, Ohio

Hometown: Tonawanda, New York

CLARK TRUST SCHOLARSHIP

"This is absolutely a tremendous honor, and I cannot thank you enough! My mom is sobbing. Oberlin is so expensive, and this scholarship means I'll be completing my first year without taking out any loans!

Saying "thank you" is not adequate. For me, and my whole family, this means so much more than the money. There is still a long way to go to make acceptance the "default mode" in America but think how far we've already come! My Gramps had to hide his identity. He went to Tonawanda High School too, and he wasn't allowed to actually be himself when he was there, or for decades after he graduated. If he had let his truth be known, he would have been in danger - and that meant he only got a few years of happiness with Grandpa Denny before he passed away.

Here I am, his grandson, being celebrated and supported. Knowing there are people out there, rooting for me not "despite" the fact that I'm gay, but BECAUSE I am doing my best to represent the gay community. I cannot put it into words how powerful that is. Some days are hard, and I feel isolated or alone. Tonawanda is small. But I am not alone. And in just a few weeks I'm going to Oberlin College, where I'll be part of a massive LGBTQ+ community. Thank you so much for everything. Thank you!!!"

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



ZUZU HILL

Degree Program: Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fine Arts & Critical Theory

School: School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Illinois

Hometown: Emerson, New Jersey

"I would like to extend my sincerest thank-you to the Foundation and its donors. This scholarship will help to significantly ease the financial burden of pursuing my degree, and will allow me to focus on my education and my career. I am honored to have been selected and to be a part of this amazing organization. Thank you!!"



BRADY HALVORSEN

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Linguistics & Applied Mathematics

School: Brandeis University, Massachusetts

Hometown: Bellevue, Washington

"I am incredibly honored and grateful to be selected as a recipient of the 2026 Gamma Mu Foundation Gay Male Undergraduate Scholarship. Thank you so much for your immense generosity and for investing in my education and future. As a student planning to pursue graduate education, this scholarship provides the financial peace of mind that allows me to focus less on the stress of educational expenses and more on making a meaningful impact through my studies. Receiving this award inspires me to continue striving for success in my field and growth in my community, and I am forever appreciative. Thank you for your remarkable support and for making this chapter of my life possible."



DEREYON BELL

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Marketing & Entertainment Management

School: University of Central Florida

Hometown: Oviedo, Florida

"I'm so grateful for this scholarship, thank you, and I can only imagine what it will help me achieve. This past year, I had the opportunity of volunteering across the country and executing GRAMMY Week, which was such an unreal experience for me. I'm so ambitious, and this scholarship allows me to continue double-degreeding in Marketing and Entertainment Management. I have a passion for the music and entertainment industry, where I want to be an artist or tour manager. Receiving this scholarship has only inspired me more to continue working endlessly to have a career in music and entertainment. I truly appreciate the generosity of Gamma Mu Foundation and its donors, my successful education journey so far would not have been possible without you guys."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



RYLAND MORING

Degree Program: Bachelor of Architecture

School: Ball State University, Indiana

Hometown: Leo, Indiana

"I cannot thank you enough for your generosity and for investing in students like me. Receiving this scholarship is so much more than financial assistance to me. This is a reminder that others believe in my potential and the goals I'm working towards. As an architecture student I am passionate about designing spaces that improve health, wellbeing and quality of life. This scholarship is going to help ease the financial burden of my education and allow me to focus more on my coursework and opportunities to grow as a student, resident assistant, and future architect. I am truly grateful for your support and the opportunities your generosity makes possible. I hope to one day make a positive impact on others just as you have made one on me."



DEPREE HENDERSON

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

School: Cleveland State University, Ohio

Hometown: Cleveland, Ohio

"Thank you to the Gamma Mu Foundation and its generous donors for your investment in my education and my future. As a Black LGBTQ+ student, I recognize the importance of having organizations and individuals who believe in creating opportunities for students from diverse backgrounds. Your generosity not only eases the financial burden of my education but also reminds me that my experiences, identity, and aspirations are valued. This scholarship encourages me to continue pursuing my goals with confidence while striving to uplift and advocate for others in my community. I am deeply grateful for your support and for the meaningful difference you are making in my academic journey."



DIEGO ALBARRAN

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education

School: National Louis University, Illinois

Hometown: Grayslake, Illinois

"I am truly honored and ecstatic to be a recipient of this scholarship and so grateful for the support and assistance the Gamma Mu Foundation has provided me through this award, which has helped me pursue my career as an educator and become the best version of myself."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



WILLIAM PIGGOTT

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

School: University of California, San Diego

Hometown: San Ramon, California

"Thank you so much for this generous scholarship award. With this support, I will continue my studies in political science and eventually make my way to law school. I plan on becoming a civil rights litigator to bolster LGBTQ+ rights and protections. I want to honor those who have laid the foundation for me to be able to exist as an out gay man by pushing to ensure others can similarly live unfettered as their true selves. Thank you for helping put me into a position where I can strive to effectuate positive change and work to give back to a community that has given me so much."



JORGE JIMENEZ

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Nursing

School: Denver College of Nursing

Hometown: Denver, Colorado

"I am deeply grateful and honored to receive this scholarship. This means more than just financial support- it's a reminder of the grit, strength, and compassion of the community that has supported and paved the way for me."

I am determined to keep following my journey, and I'm filled with happiness and hope, knowing the foundation believes in me and inspires me to keep my head up. I am determined to give back whenever I can."



DAVID GARCIA

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Nursing

School: University of North Florida

Hometown: Haltom City, Texas

"Thank you for your generosity and support through this scholarship. Receiving this award means more to me than words can fully express. As the first person in my family to attend college, pursuing a nursing degree is a dream I never thought would become a reality. This scholarship will help ease the financial burden of my education and allow me to focus more fully on my studies and clinical training as I work toward becoming a nurse. Your investment in my future is not only helping me achieve my educational goals but is also giving me the opportunity to make a positive difference in the lives of others through nursing. I am deeply grateful to the Gamma Mu Foundation and its donors for believing in students like me."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



REESE FAIRCHILD

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Computer Science & Mathematics

School: University of Washington

Hometown: Kennewick, Washington

"I sincerely thank you for your help. Your generosity is helping a first-generation, gay student finish out his undergraduate degree and lifting the stress of tuition by a great degree. I have struggled these past five years with finding funding and financial aid, and every bit helps. Your contribution is supporting not only my education but also my ability to serve as the chair of an LGBTQ+ affinity group in STEM at my university, conduct important research on ethical research practices, and work as a teaching assistant. After this year, I intend to pursue graduate studies in computing. My long-term goal of becoming a researcher is getting closer, thanks to you."



ANDREW HEFFNER

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Biology

School: University of Maryland

Hometown: Columbia, Maryland

"I am writing to express my sincerest gratitude for the generous scholarship you have provided me. It is an honor to have been selected as a recipient, and I am incredibly grateful for the support this scholarship will provide as I pursue my academic goals at the University of Maryland, College Park."

As a student, I am constantly seeking opportunities to grow and learn. This scholarship will not only assist me in achieving my academic goals, but it also serves as a source of motivation for me to work even harder and make the most of my educational experience. This scholarship has not only lightened my financial load, but it has also given me the confidence and encouragement to continue to pursue my academic dreams."



HAYDEN HOOPER

Degree Program: Bachelor of Fine Arts

School: Belmont University, Tennessee

Hometown: Collierville, Tennessee

"Thank you so much for selecting me as a recipient of the Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship. I am incredibly honored and grateful to receive this award. Knowing how competitive this year's selection process was makes this recognition even more meaningful, and I truly appreciate the Foundation's investment in my education and future."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



BRANDON GROTH

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Biology

School: University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Hometown: Firth, Nebraska

"Thank you to the Gamma Mu Foundation and its generous donors for your support. This scholarship provides me with the opportunity to further my education in the field of biology as I pursue my pre-dental journey. I am excited to expand my knowledge in the sciences and, one day, use that knowledge to give back to others through compassionate patient care."

STEM can be an intimidating field, especially for those who feel they do not belong. I am committed to making the classroom, the laboratory, and my campus more welcoming and inclusive for all individuals, and I hope to carry that same commitment into my future career in healthcare."



HANS BODE

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Economics

School: University of Pennsylvania

Hometown: Chestnut Hill, Pennsylvania

"Thank you so much for your continued generosity and support. Receiving this scholarship for a third year is an incredible honor, and it means more to me than I can express. Your investment in my education allows me to focus more fully on learning, serving others, and preparing for the next step of my journey toward medical school."

As I approach graduation, I am deeply grateful for the opportunities your generosity has made possible. Knowing that people I have never met believe in my potential is incredibly motivating. I hope to honor your investment by dedicating my career to caring for others and making a meaningful difference in the world."



BRANDON KARWOSKI

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Finance

School: Chapman University, California

Hometown: Montvale, New Jersey

"Thank you so much for your generosity and for believing in students like me. This scholarship will help me continue my education while easing some of the financial stress that comes with paying for college. I truly appreciate your support, and I'm grateful for the opportunities your kindness makes possible."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



MASON KAHLEY

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education

School: Kutztown University of Pennsylvania

Hometown: Mahanoy City, Pennsylvania

"I am extremely grateful for your generosity and for supporting LGBTQ+ students like me. It means a lot to know that there are people who believe in students like me and want to help me continue my education."

This fall, I will be attending Kutztown University to major in Primary Education. This scholarship will help make the transition to college a little easier by helping with the expenses that come with starting this new chapter. It will allow me to focus more on my classes, my experiences, and becoming the best student and future teacher I can become."



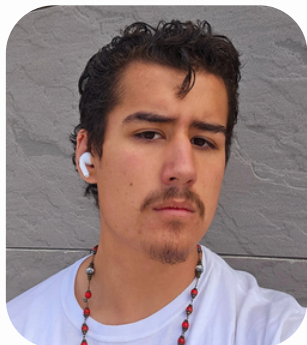
TY SCHLESMAN

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

School: Washington & Jefferson College, Pennsylvania

Hometown: Greensburg, Pennsylvania

"Receiving the Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship is both an honor and a profound source of motivation. This support allows me to focus fully on my education in behavioral health, bringing me one step closer to becoming a Child Psychiatrist. This scholarship is more than a monetary contribution to my medical education. It is an investment in a future where mental health care is characterized by outstanding skills and deep human connection. It is a future where I can close the gap between diagnosis and dignity and make every child I encounter feel heard, understood, and empowered. It is a future where I can take my own personal resilience and turn it into a professional legacy. I am deeply grateful to the Gamma Mu Foundation for believing in my mission to support and heal our communities."



DASHEL MARTINEZ

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Human Biology

School: University of Colorado at Denver

Hometown: Brighton, Colorado

"Thank you so much for selecting me for this opportunity. I truly appreciate your generosity, and this support will help cover essential educational expenses like tuition and textbooks, allowing me to focus more fully on my studies. I'm honored by your investment in my future and sincerely grateful for this support."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



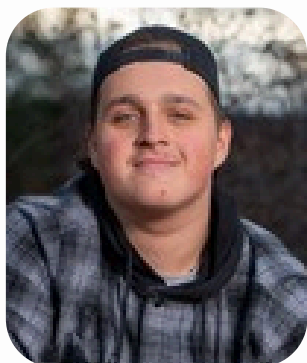
JOSEPH VOLLERO

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering

School: Georgia Institute of Technology

Hometown: Kennesaw, Georgia

"I am so unbelievably grateful for being selected to receive this scholarship. I know having this opportunity of aid will allow me to focus on my studies and pursue ways that I can help the world optimize chemical productions. I am also so grateful to have such a sense of community with the members of the LGBTQIA+ community. It is difficult to be a part of this community, whether it be from discrimination, hate, or bullying, but the stories, memories, and opportunities from these people make any negative worth it. Thank you all so much for making so many people feel as though they deserve to belong."



LOGAN BECKETT

Degree Program: Bachelor of Business Administration

School: Lewis Clark State College, Idaho

Hometown: Rathdrum, Idaho

"Thank you so much for selecting me as a recipient of the Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship. I am truly honored to receive this award and grateful for your investment in my education and future."

It means a great deal to be recognized alongside such an inspiring group of LGBTQ+ student leaders. Your support will help ease the financial burden of college, allowing me to focus on my academic goals and continue serving my community."

I sincerely appreciate the time and care the Foundation devoted to reviewing applications and supporting students like me. Thank you for believing in my potential and for empowering LGBTQ+ students to pursue higher education with confidence."



WYATT ZALESKI

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Economics

School: Johns Hopkins University, Maryland

Hometown: Fair Haven, New Jersey

"I would like to thank the Gamma Mu Foundation donors, who through their generosity and kindness have empowered me to continue my education and my work in the LGBTQIA+ community. I am truly grateful to be honored alongside so many young champions of our community."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



JOHN CHRISTIAN

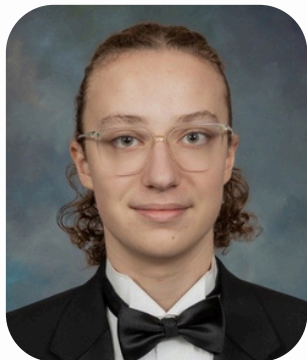
Degree Program: Bachelor of Business Administration

School: Brown University, Rhode Island

Hometown: Glen Gardner, New Jersey

"As an LGBTQ+ student, receiving this scholarship is especially meaningful. I am deeply appreciative of the Foundation's commitment to supporting LGBTQ+ students and fostering future leaders. Knowing that a community believes in and invests in students like me is both encouraging and inspiring as I begin this next chapter.

Your generosity will help ease the financial burden of my education, allowing me to focus more fully on my academic pursuits, personal growth, and opportunities to contribute to the Brown community. This scholarship is not only financial support but also a meaningful vote of confidence in my future."



SAMUEL SEVERSON

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

School: Oberlin College, Ohio

Hometown: Atlanta, Georgia

"When I first figured out what I want to do in life (long story short, go to law school and become a politician to ensure minorities are celebrated and safe in the United States for centuries to come), I was overwhelmed by the amount of work that would go into it and the sheer magnitude of the problems I want to tackle. My parents told me to take it one step at a time and to start small. I distinctly remember a conversation with my mom I had last year, where she said, 'the first thing you have to do is get into college and figure out how to pay for it. Worry about the rest later.

I was lucky enough to not only find the Gamma Mu Foundation Scholarship but also be selected for it, and I am beyond grateful for the opportunities it is affording me."



JAMES LUO

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Arts & Sciences

School: Stanford University, California

Hometown: North Potomac, Maryland

"This gift is a reminder of the immense support and strength of a community that embodies belonging and love. I know that these values uplift us and inspire confidence and empathy, and it's this collective support for one another that truly sustains our community. Knowing this, I strive to strengthen it through sharing and discovering our histories and art, and I'm so grateful for this gift, which allows me to pursue an education that will enable me to do that."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



JACK MCWADE

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

School: University of California, Davis

Hometown: Pasadena, California

"I wanted to say a huge thank you to the Foundation's donors who make this scholarship possible. As a first-generation, low-income student, it means so much to have people like you creating opportunities for myself and many others to succeed and uplift our community. I believe higher education is so valuable and for many is inaccessible due to many barriers, one of the most common being the cost. This scholarship will be directly contributing to my direct costs (tuition and housing) while helping me avoid debt and the stress that can bring."



KALEI YOSHIMURA

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Public Health

School: University of Hawaii at Manoa

Hometown: Pearl City, Hawaii

"I would like to thank the Foundation's donors for this amazing scholarship. If it were not for the support of the Gamma Mu Foundation, I would have had to postpone my academic journey. Going to college has always been a dream of mine, as I believe education is essential to both personal success and the advancement of entire societies. Being able to attend university with the backing of an organization that proudly empowers LGBTQ+ individuals makes this journey even more meaningful. Your generosity allows me to focus on my studies, and I am deeply grateful for your continued commitment to the next generation of community leaders."



JACOB GUTIERREZ

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science & Criminology

School: Pennsylvania State University

Hometown: Cerritos, California

"Thank you to the donors of the Gamma Mu Foundation; it truly is a blessing, and it is such an incredible honor to have been selected as one of the recipients of a scholarship during this award cycle. By receiving this scholarship, it helps alleviate the financial burden that is paying for a college education, and as a first-generation college student, this further helps end my family's cycle of poverty and gives me the opportunity to uplift not only my Hispanic community but additionally the LGBTQIA+ community."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



ANTONIO SMITH

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

School: University of Richmond, Virginia

Hometown: Washington, DC

"I want to begin with a very simple yet profound expression of gratitude. Your generosity means more than I can articulate in words. Thank you for believing in and contributing to the educational journeys of all Gamma Mu students!"

Because of your unwavering support, stories will continue to be shared, lessons will persist, and a lasting impact will be made. Thank you sincerely for being a beacon of hope and resilience during times of uncertainty, oppression, and marginalization."



TRISTAN WHITE

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences

School: Florida State University

Hometown: Gibsonton, Florida

"I sincerely thank the donors who have allowed for me to have this opportunity to win this scholarship. Navigating the many challenges that have come along with being an openly gay man in a Florida high school hasn't been easy, but it's helped me build a story and a deep connection with the LGBTQ+ community. It's inspired me to use my own personal struggles and experiences into a desire to create change and help others. I'm thrilled to say the scholarship money I have received will be used to help fund my education as I pursue a degree in biological sciences on a pre-med track. I'm excited to continue my involvement within the LGBTQ+ community in college, and in my future in the medical field."



ETHAN GREIG

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science

School: University of Colorado, Boulder

Hometown: Evergreen, Colorado

"Thank you so much for the vote of confidence and financial support that you have extended to me with this scholarship. This award will greatly help me with the cost of my college education. It is so easy to talk about what a scholarship would mean to me when applying for it. It is another thing entirely to realize what it does mean to me when I actually get it. I am completely filled with pride and gratitude for everyone involved for reading and appreciating my application, and for granting me this opportunity. My gratitude is only compounded by the fact that it comes from an organization dedicated to helping and serving people like me."

SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

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



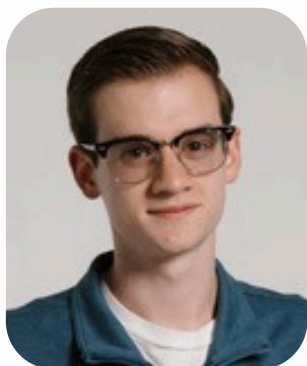
JOSUE MARTINEZ

Degree Program: Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre

School: Pace University, New York

Hometown: Lawrenceville, Georgia

"Thank you so much for the scholarship! I appreciate it so much. This scholarship will fund my education at Pace University and will help me reach my artistic goals. I will make sure to save a front-row seat on Broadway for you!"



CLAYTON WELLBORNE

Degree Program: Bachelor of Arts in Political Science & Philosophy

School: University of Houston, Texas

Hometown: Kingwood, Texas

"Receiving this scholarship is a vote of confidence in the work I've spent my life building towards. Since I was in high school, I've thrown myself into civic life: representing my district on the Houston Mayor's Youth Council, founding Equal Pages to bring books and needs-assessment research into underserved communities, and now stepping up to flip my local school board, because I believe every student deserves to feel safe in the place they spend most of their day.

That last part matters to me deeply. I'm running because I want LGBTQ+ youth in my district to walk into their schools knowing they'll be protected, respected, and given the same shot at success at everyone else. Reading stories of the previous years' scholarship recipients only reinforced why that work is worth doing. I'm heading into the University of Houston, double majoring in Political Science and Philosophy, with a career in public service ahead of me. This scholarship gives me the room to keep organizing and keep showing up for the communities I care about, without having to choose between that work and my education."



JACKSON CASE

Degree Program: Bachelor of Science in Chemical Biology

School: University of California, Berkeley

Hometown: Long Beach, California

"Thank you very much for your generosity and for supporting students in the LGBTQ+ community. This scholarship will make a meaningful difference in my ability to pursue my education at UC Berkeley and stay focused on my academic and personal goals. Your support not only eases the financial burden of attending college, but also reminds me that there is a community behind me that believes in my potential. I am truly grateful for your commitment to helping students succeed."

GET IN CONTACT

Gamma Mu Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 23520
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307-3520
info@gammamufoundation.org
<https://gammamufoundation.org>

