John Ellis

As you read this newsletter, your Foundation is completing the process of funding the Grants and Scholarship awards for this fiscal year. I want to thank Peter Harvey and Doug Morton, and their respective committees, for their hard work in making this another successful award period. We have also completed the 2022 Annual Report, which will be sent to you electronically soon as well as being posted on the web site. Hard copies of the report will be mailed to anyone who requests one.

Each year about this time, we begin the process of sending information regarding the fall year end fund drive. As always, your donations are paramount to our ability to fund next years’ award programs. Naturally, all donations are deductible because the
Foundation is a 501c3 charity. As an all-volunteer charity, keep in mind your donations are used in their entirety for awards as opposed to salaries and overhead.

We were very pleased to host a breakfast at the recent Gamma Mu Chicago fly in which was attended by nearly all of the registered guests.

Celebration 23 has been scheduled this coming January 14 holiday weekend in the Fort Lauderdale area. We are planning multiple events for the weekend. Please plan to visit Florida and take a “winter weather break.”

On behalf of our Board of Directors, thank you in advance for your ongoing support, and best wishes for a pleasant fall period.

Our appeal this year will be to help us continue to increase the awards we give to the “rural and underserved” community. Our award winners need what we do and there is no lack of qualified applicants. We appreciate the generosity of our loyal donor base and thank you for your ongoing support.

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**Fiscal Year 2022 Scholarships**

**Forty Five Scholarships totaling $127,400**

Since the inception of the Scholarship Program in 1999, the number of awards and the amount of the awards has dramatically increased. This year we were able to fund $127,400 for 39 scholarships.

We currently have 12 named scholarship awards. These named awards are by donors who have contributed the $50,000 threshold necessary to name a scholarship award in perpetuity. Each named scholarship is for $5,000. The remaining 27 scholarships are for $2,500 each.

**Phil Papel Memorial Scholarship**

Taite Griffen - attending American University Washington College to pursue a Juris Doctorate.

**Folisi & Goodwin Scholarship in memory of Ray Williams**

Sebastian Sylvester - attending University of Pennsylvania at Bloomburg to pursue a degree in American Sign Language and Interpreting.

**Art Husky and Herman Phillips Memorial Scholarship**
Adam Sherwood - attending University of Wisconsin Madison to pursue a Bachelor of Arts in International Studies.

Robin McDonald Memorial Scholarship
Adam Stoker - attending Alliant International University to pursue a PhD in Clinical Psychology.

Wade Simpson and Gordon Mann Scholarship
Nicholas Maggard - attending Cornell University to pursue a BA in Applied Economics and Management.

Steve Lotterer Memorial Scholarship
Nicholas Cicchinelli - attending The Fletcher School at Tufts University to pursue a Doctor of Philosophy in Internal Relations.

Steinhilber WEISER Foundation Scholarship
Jacob Lopez - attending University of Texas at Austin to pursue a Bachelor of Biochemistry.

Clark Trust Scholarship
Clayton Bush - attending University of Florida to pursue a BA of Family Youth, and Community Science.

Cliff and Aileen Pettit Scholarship
Jason Gomez - attending Stanford School of Medicine to pursue a MD and MBA.

Gamma Mu 50th Anniversary Scholarship
Daniel Dorsky - attending Palo Alto University to pursue a PhD in Clinical Phycology.

Tonomora Scholarship
Evan Hinchliffe - attending University of Arkansas to pursue a Bachelor of Psychological Science and Philosophy.

Doug Morton Scholarship
Clayton Singleton - attending Clark University to pursue a Bachelor of Music.

A GAMMA MU FOUNDATION GRANT RECIPIENT.

A LETTER TO GAMMA MU FOUNDATION FROM CAMPUS PRIDE

These are the most hostile and unsafe campuses for LGBTQ+ students in the country, Gamma Mu Foundation. And you won’t
These 193 campuses make up our 2022 Worst List – campuses that openly discriminate against LGBTQ+ students, receive tax-payer dollars, and some of which even received a religious exemption from the government for the sole purpose of discriminating against their queer students.

We’re releasing our annual Worst List today to shine a harsh spotlight on these dangerous anti-LGBTQ practices – and to let these institutions know that we see them, and we will hold them accountable.

Click here to check out the full Worst list – and help spread the word, to make sure prospective students know which campuses are the most dangerous for LGBTQ+ students.

More than two-thirds of these colleges and universities have anti-LGBTQ policies written directly into their student handbook. Some have pushed queer students into conversion therapy – while others have expelled queer students, simply for trying to live authentically.

These 193 colleges and universities inflict real, lasting harm in the lives of queer students each and every day.

Our annual release of the Worst List helps ensure these campuses are seen for what they are – higher education institutions with policies, programs and practices that abuse and inflict real harm on LGBTQ+ students, often in the name of religion.

With your help, we will hold anti-LGBTQ higher education institutions accountable – and empower queer students across the country to fight back against these harmful policies.

Thank you,
Shane Mendez Windmeyer
Executive Director, Campus Pride
Campus Pride

Campus Pride is a multiple year recipient of Gamma Mu Foundation Grants.

SAVE THE DATE!

Once again CELEBRATION will return to Wilton Manors, Fl. in 2023.

January 14 Holiday Weekend 2023

A Gamma Mu LGBT Scholarship
Respect for individual and/or human differences
Describe how you plan to use your education to increase respect for the individual and/or human difference in society.

In college, I plan to major in ASL interpretation and minor in gender studies. I will use my degree in ASL to increase accessibility for deaf people by interpreting for them in primary hearing situations. I will use my minor in gender studies to help with LGBTQ+ advocacy on the side. It is important to me to increase the rights and accessibility of everyone and not just myself which is why I am majoring in ASL to help deaf people and gender studies for queer people, and maybe another minor if I can. We cannot be free until all of us are free, my advocacy will never be single-minded, or only to benefit myself because all of us need to be free and equal. From increasing access to visibility, it is important that I keep everyone in mind in my advocacy, and use my college education to bolster and sustain that.

Discrimination Challenges
Describe any challenges you have had with discrimination and how it has made you a stronger individual today. Which experience has made you the most proud and reflects your passions?

I was forced to go to catholic school for middle and elementary school. There I felt held down and repressed by their bigotry and lack of allowing for individuality. I was forced to wear the girl's uniform and be called my legal name. As a trans man, this was stifling and impossible. Not to mention they never even told us that queer people existed because, in their minds, we didn't. I faced this by cutting my hair short (the second person to do this) and wearing a suit to graduation (the first to do this) people tried to ignore me or pass it off for feminism, but in reality, there was no denying my act of defiance. Although I couldn't go by my preferred name or pronouns, I decided that whenever I had the opportunity (when we weren't forced to wear uniforms) I would dress as myself. I even got the uniform changed to allow anyone to wear pants when previously they forced anyone they perceived as a girl to wear a skirt all through winter. These little things allowed me to feel a bit more like myself and showed the school that no matter how many restrictions they put on us, they would never be able to control who we are.

Club and Organization Affiliation
Please describe any LGBT clubs or organizations you have belonged to and or any personal positions of leadership you have had.

I am currently the president of my school's Sexuality and Gender Alliance (SAGA) and in the past, I have been the vice president and the secretary. In this club I ran some meetings in the past, and have run all of the meetings this year, making weekly presentations on LGBTQ+ issues in our school and the larger community. I was also the president of an LGBTQ+ youth chorus last year. In this position, I helped younger singers get the hang of the material and set an example of a good chorus member. I also gave advice on being queer and showing your truth, acting as an elder queer for some of the younger members.

Please describe your financial situation in relation to obtaining your education. Please also indicate if you are from or intend to attend a school in a rural area.

My current financial education is that I can barely afford to go to the college that I want, having this scholarship would lessen the financial burden on my family as I am the second kid that they are attempting to put through college. I only have one working parent and have not been able to get a job myself to help with college expenses. Scholarships are very important to me right now as they make going out of state to a college that has my major and a good program possible. It is also important that I take the pressure off my mom who is currently sustaining the entire household. Scholarships are my best chance at being able to go to the college I want without being a giant financial burden, and this one could go a long way to helping me in that respect.

Out LGBTQ+ Elected Officials Jump to Record Level in Past Year

There are at least 1,043 out LGBTQ+ people in elected office around the nation, up 5.8 percent from a year ago.

BY TRUDY RING
The Advocate
AUGUST 19 2022

There are at least 1,043 out LGBTQ+ people in elected office around the nation, notes the report, “Out for America 2022,” issued Thursday. This year the number exceeded 1,000 for the first time,
and the group is diverse in terms of race, gender, sexual orientation, and gender identity.

Among the indicators of growing diversity: The number of LGBTQ+ elected officials of color increased by 12.3 percent since 2021, compared to just 1.3 percent for white LGBTQ+ elected officials. Noncisgender elected officials have increased more than tenfold in last five years, from six in 2017 to 77 in 2022. Trans elected officials grew by almost 10 percent this year.

Having representation is more important than ever, noted Annise Parker, president and CEO of the LGBTQ Victory Institute and Victory Fund (the former provides training and leadership development for politicians, while the latter works to elect out LGBTQ+ people to office).

“With a historic number of anti-LGBTQ legislation introduced this year, unprecedented attacks against trans kids and ongoing efforts to censor classrooms and libraries across the country, LGBTQ elected officials are on the front lines of defending our rights and freedoms,” Parker said in a press release. “They have demonstrated true grit and selflessness in the face of wave after wave of bigotry. Despite the fact the LGBTQ community has never had equitable representation in government — and we still have a long way to go — there are clear signs of progress. They represent the strength and diversity of not only who we are as a society now, but also the America we aspire to build for future generations.”

To achieve equitable representation, 35,854 more out candidates would have to be elected to office, according to the report. While LGBTQ+ people make up 7.1 percent of the U.S. population, they represent just 0.2 percent of elected officials. The additional representation is needed at all levels of government — local, state, and federal.

LGBTQ+ elected officials are significantly more racially and ethnically diverse than the overall elected official population but less diverse than the U.S. population as a whole. Still, there were increases over the past year in Black, Native American/Alaska Native, Asian American, and Latinx officials. There were also increases in nonbinary, genderqueer, bisexual, and pansexual officials.

Three-fourths of out elected officials are Democrats, and just 3 percent are Republicans, with the rest being independent or nonpartisan.

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The Gamma Mu Foundation
Summer Meeting/workshop was
held July 15-16 in Dallas Texas
The Summer Meeting and Annual Meeting of the Gamma Mu Foundation was held at the Warwick Hotel in Dallas Texas.

The Board of Directors Meeting was brought to order at 9am by President John Ellis. It included a partial Virtual Zoom meeting for scholarships.

Committee Reports and updates thru June 2022 were presented by corresponding committee chairman.

Discussion about Grant and Scholarship updates and process was presented. Further discussion on future GMF planning and fundraising took place.

After a recess, a Call to Order was called for the 2022 Annual Meeting.
Approval of the annual meeting minutes Oct 11, 2021 was made.
Committee reports for the FY ended June 30, 2022 were presented.
Election of Directors, Ken Thompson was unanimously elected to a 3 year term.

A reception for all attendees and local donors to the Foundation was hosted by Jim Jones and Scott Kahle at their beautiful home.

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FISCAL YEAR 2022 GRANTS

This Fiscal Year $260,000 in Grants were awarded.
There were four named awards.

Pride and Joy Foundation, Queen Creek Arizona - Vanden Heuwel & Greeson Award of $11,960

Safe Schools South Florida, Fort Lauderdale - The Richard Karpowich Award for Research and Education of $11,400.
Legacy Cares, Dallas Texas - *The Gamma Mu 50th Anniversary Award* of $11,000.

Alzheimer's Association, Minnesota-North Dakota Chapter, Edina, MN. - *The Jones-Kahle Award of $11,250 In Honor of Martin Culbreth.*

Brave Trails, Los Angeles CA. - *The Gordon Mann Memorial Award*

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The Gamma Mu Foundation 2022 annual report is now available online.

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**GAMMA MU FRATERNITY**

The Gamma Mu Foundation is proud of the long term affiliation with Gamma Mu and founder Cliff Pettit. The Gamma Mu Fraternity is celebrating its 55th year in 2022 as the nation's preeminent social and fraternal organization for professional gay men.

In 1988, the members of Gamma Mu established a non-profit Foundation that today occupies a unique niche in the charitable world, providing grants to worthy organizations in rural America to combat the threat of HIV, and to promote diversity and tolerance in smaller and rural cities, communities, high schools, and colleges, and through scholarships in the LGBTQ+ community.

The Board of the Gamma Mu Foundation thanks Cliff and the membership of Gamma Mu for the long term ongoing support that has generated millions of dollars support the LGBTQ+ community.

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*A MESSAGE FROM THE GAMMA MU FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS.*
The Board of Directors thank you for the role you are playing in strengthening the LGBTQ+ community. As a donor to the Gamma Mu Foundation we are reaching out in hope that you will continue your commitment to supporting our Foundation in the *Fall Appeal*.

**THE GAMMA MU FOUNDATION HAS RECEIVED 4 MILLION DOLLARS SINCE IT'S INCEPTION AND AWARDED IN EXCESS OF 4 MILLION DOLLARS IN GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS WHILE MAINTAINING A HEALTHY INVESTED CORPUS.**

With your help, the Gamma Mu Foundation will play an even bigger role in 2023 and beyond. The earlier your financial support, the more our Foundation can invest in helping non-profit groups and student scholarships in the LGBTQ+ rural community.

**Please consider signing up for a recurring monthly donation.**

Together we have a giant opportunity to continue to make outstanding financial contributions to those in our community who most need our financial support.

*We wish to thank the following for their "Special" donations "In Memory Of" and "In Honor Of".*

Gene Svrcek & Paul Gitnick IMO Bernie Langellutig  
Cliff Pettit  IMO Donn Wells  
Bryan Koeppi IMO Donn Wells  
John Ellis IMO Donn Wells  
Gordon James IMO Rich Lisenbee  
Scott Kahle IHO Ken Thompson

**New Cliff Pettit Fellows**  
John Wallace  
Anthony Klatt  
Ralph Smith Foundation  
Cyril Bacani

**Deceased Cliff Pettit Fellows**  
Bernie Langelutig  
Donn Wells

*We invite all donors and friends to join the Gamma Mu Facebook Page.*

GMF Facebook Page

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**WHAT YOUR DONATIONS HAVE DONE OVER TIME !**

Since the Gamma Mu Foundation was formed 34 years ago a total of 891 awards have been made for $4,138,742. The highest amount ever awarded is Fiscal Year 2022 at...
Grants

A total of 513 Grants have been made for $3,477,242. In 1990 the first two grants were awarded at $750 each. 192 Organizations have been awarded Grants. 95 organizations have been repeat winners. 10 organizations have won over 9 awards.

Scholarships

318 Scholarships have been awarded for $661,500. In 2000 the first scholarships awarded at $1000. 300 different students have been awarded Scholarships.

Join the great group of donors who volunteer time to the operations of the Gamma Mu Foundation.

The Foundation welcomes anyone who wishes to participate in the operations of our great organization. Many donors and friends of the Foundation have expertise that could be a benefit to the Foundation. Contact any member of the Board of Directors for information on how you can volunteer and contribute your time and knowledge.

Anyone interested in becoming an evaluator for either Grants or Scholarships for the 2022/23 fiscal year, please contact Doug Morton (palmspringsdoug@gmail.com) for Scholarships or Peter Harvey (pharvey@sbcglobal.net) for Grants.

PLEASE USE THE WEBSITE TO MAKE DONATIONS

Our Foundation is receiving an unprecedented number of requests for Grants and Scholarships and we are only able to fund a small fraction of our requests.

Please consider making an "Extra" donation during these uncertain times so that the Foundation can fulfill more requests.

The Foundation is an all volunteer organization and every dollar that you donate is awarded to Grants or Scholarships.