



HAPPY HOLIDAYS



A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT JOHN ELLIS

IT'S ALL ABOUT THE PEOPLE

When I joined the GMF Board, President Jack Lewis said “keep in mind, we have a working board.” He couldn’t have said it better. Our volunteer board works to do the things needed to make GMF a success. Our ongoing loyal donor base continues to support the award programs on a level that make other charities envious.

This year we have a full complement of Board members for the first time (post COVID), and as you know we are completing a survey poll, which is giving us the knowledge of where you feel we should be heading for the future. Our goal is to use a full Board to implement the ideas from the survey for a strong and successful future for GMF. We will be sharing ideas soon on the results of the survey.

For so many years the people that are active on an ongoing basis continue to be continuing donors, committee members, award readers, board members and officers. All reaching for a common goal.

One of those people, Martin Culbreth, stepped down this year from the Board after serving all functions including Pres, Exec director, awards director, Board member and unofficial historian. We are proud to have named Martin, *the first Director Emeritus*, in honor of his endless service. Martin is the type of person that makes GMF what it is today.

On a personal basis I want to pay tribute to Scott Kahle who I consider a friend as well as a devoted GMF supporter. In addition to serving as President before me, he has served as a board member, Grants director, and Secretary until stepping back this year after several years. I am proud to have worked with Scott and I encourage all to thank Scott for his service.

As we celebrate the Holidays, be proud of your support of GMF, and be proud as a donor of what we do as an all volunteer group to help make the lives of our friends in the LGBT community better.

We hope to see you at our South Florida fundraiser in Feb and hopefully some other localized events in major areas.

On behalf of the Foundation Directors, please accept our "Best Wishes" for a wonderful Holiday Season and New Year. Thank you for your ongoing support of Your Foundation!

THE FOUNDATION THANKS THE RECENT DONATIONS "IN MEMORY OF" AND " IN HONOR OF"

Bill Britt - IMO - Bob Baxter, Finn Longinotto - IMO - Lai Can, Mr. & Mrs. Jack McCulloch - IMO - Bob McCulloch, Bryan Koepl - IMO - Michael Pack, Bryan Koepl - IMO - George Douglas, John Ellis - IMO - George Douglas, Jan Donsback and Jordan Budd - IMO - Eugene Avert, Gordon James - IMO - Richard Lisenbee, Edward Richard - IMO - Warren Kendrick-Richard Gordon James - IMO - Richard Lisenbee , Jack Varga - IMO - Chi-Yi Lin

Lloyd Julson - IHO - Cliff Pettit, Lloyd Julson - IHO - Cliff Pettit, Joe Pacetti - IHO - David Andrews



WELCOME BILL HAYDEN, NEW MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND NEW SECRETARY OF THE GAMMA MU FOUNDATION.

Bill was born, raised and has always resided in the Chicago area. he enjoys a lot of what Chicago has to offer from long walks around the city to its cultural venues. He also shares his great love of the city of Chicago as a volunteer giving architecture tours.

Bill retired as an accountant in 2020 after working 30 years for an electric utility in various financial positions. He holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from the University of Illinois Chicago and an MBA from DePaul University. He is also a CPA.

In Bill's own words: "The Gamma Mu Foundation's vision to promote health, acceptance and pride in the LGBT community is in line with my personal beliefs especially in its quest to make a positive difference in rural and underserved communities. I will support the foundation with the skills I learned through my education and career including financial expertise, project management, business planning and process improvement."

Elected to the Gamma Mu Foundation Board on October 2nd, 2023, Bill is already working a new format for our annual report and has volunteered to be the new Secretary of the Foundation.



GAMMA MU FOUNDATION
presents

Celebration!

Feb 10th 2024 | **RICHARDSON PARK FREE PARKING**

3-Day Weekend
in Sunny Fort Lauderdale

\$150 per person. 100% of proceeds go to the work of The Gamma Mu Foundation

Main event on Saturday, with other events throughout the weekend >>>>>

For more information or to purchase tickets to go GAMMAMUFUNDATION.ORG

YOUR DONATIONS HELPING THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY

For the Period Ending June 2023: The Foundation received a total of \$194,000 in donations from over 100 donors during the fiscal year ended June 30,2023. This amount includes \$40,000 of net revenue from our Annual "Celebration" Fundraiser.

We awarded \$174,000 in Grants, plus \$123,000 in Scholarships, for a total of \$297,000 during the past fiscal year. These awards support our mission to effect positive change within the LGBTQ community.

LIFE TO DATE GRANTS - 534 GRANTS FOR \$3,652,000
LIFE TO DATE SCHOLARSHIPS - 350 SCHOLARSHIPS FOR \$784,000

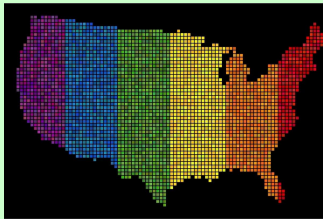
Due to the growth of the Foundation's portfolio investments, we are able to distribute more than donations received in the fiscal year. The members of the Gamma Mu Foundation Board of Directors do not receive any form of compensation, and this has always been the case.

WELCOME ERIC SCOTT BAKER, NEW MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Eric Scott Baker is a lawyer residing in New York City with his partner William Kapfer. Since 2006, Eric has worked for Starbucks Coffee Company as Associate General Counsel leading various legal teams. Between 2021 and 2023 Eric resided in London, England where he built and led the legal team for Europe, Middle East and Africa for Starbucks. Eric recently returned from this assignment and is currently acting as chief legal counsel for Starbucks Canada and splits his time between New York City and Toronto. Oftentimes you will find Eric and Bill in their house in southern Arizona.



Eric is grateful to have the opportunity to serve on the board of the Gamma Mu Foundation. He and his partner Bill have been members of Gamma Mu since 2002. Bill previously served on the board for several years. Eric's desire is to help continue the amazing success of the Foundation and help it serve more young people needing assistance in these uncertain times. Eric believes that "while we have made great progress over the years, it feels as though we are regressing in some ways. Now is the time to redouble our efforts to help young people be their authentic selves and succeed in their chosen profession."



WHAT ARE THE MOST LGBTQ+ FRIENDLY CITIES IN THE UNITED STATES?

By Bill Browning
Lgbtqnation November 6, 2023

The list considered several factors when ranking each of the metros: The reported population of LGGBTQ+ people, affirming healthcare providers, number of Pride events, and number of anti-LGBTQ+ laws were all considered, among other factors.

While San Francisco held onto the top spot - coming as no surprise to anyone who has a passing knowledge of American culture - second place Hartford Connecticut, might come as a surprise.

Other well-known cities that are widely assumed to be queer-friendly didn't entirely fall in line, either. New York City didn't make the top 10 list, falling at number 20. Meanwhile, famous southern queer meccas - like Miami, Florida and Dallas, Texas - landed in the bottom five.

New Orleans, Louisiana was the only southern city to make the top 10 list. Seven of the bottom 10 were in the South.

California cities placed the highest rankings four times. Florida cities, located within the hotbed of anti-LGBTQ+ laws and activism, scored in the bottom rankings three times.

Fifteen of the most populated cities had their standings immediately lowered because they are in states with "Don't Say Gay" laws. Memphis, Tennessee was deemed the absolute worst.

The ranking found that Raleigh, North Carolina has the highest number of LGBTQ+ affirming healthcare providers per capita (5.73), while Buffalo, New York had the lowest at just 0.09 providers per capita.

Residents of Providence, Rhode Island, and Nashville, Tennessee were the most supportive of anti-discrimination laws - just 9% of residents oppose them. Kansas City, Missouri and Birmingham, Alabama has the highest opposition rate against such laws, at 33%.

The top 10 most LGBTQ+ - friendly cities in the United States are:

1 San Francisco, California 2. Hartford, Connecticut 3. Las Vegas, Nevada
4. Portland, Oregon 5. Denver, Colorado 6. Los Angeles, California 7. San Diego, California
8. Sacramento, California 9. Chicago, Illinois 10.
New Orleans, Louisiana

The bottom ten were:

1. Memphis, Tennessee 2. Houston, Texas 3. Jacksonville, Florida 4. Birmingham, Alabama 5. Miami, Florida 6. Dallas, Texas 7. Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 8. St.Louis, Missouri 10. Kansas City, Missouri



THANK YOU TO ALL THE DONORS WHO HAVE COMPLETED THE 2023 GAMMA MU FOUNDATION SURVEY.

YOUR INPUT IS CRITICAL FOR THE LONG TERM PLANNING AND GOALS OF THE FOUNDATION.

RESULTS OF THE SURVEY AND LONG TERM PLANNING GOALS WILL BE PUBLISHED WHEN AVAILABLE.

***Register Now for "Celebration 24"
Print and mail the form below.***



Presenting CELEBRATION 24 Sponsorship & Tickets

This year CELEBRATION, a fundraising event for the Gamma Mu Foundation, will be held Saturday February 10, 2024
At the Richardson Manor 1937 Wilton Dr Wilton Manors FL 33305 Starting at 6:30 PM.

Please Reserve My Ticket/s for CELEBRATION

A SPONSORSHIP OF \$150 PER PERSON IS EXPECTED

The value of goods and services provided is \$50 (\$100 deduction)

PLEASE RESERVE _____ SPONSOR TICKETS / MY PAYMENT IS INCLUDED

Print and complete this form and mail to:
Gamma Mu Foundation
PO Box 23520
Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33307-3520

YES! I Also want to be a Donor

- ___ Platinum Level\$2,000
- ___ Gold Level.....\$1,000
- ___ Silver Level.....\$500
- ___ Fellow level.....\$350
- ___ Other amount.....

Additional donations above sponsorship tickets are cumulative To
Cliff Pettit Fellow and other laddered giving rungs and apply to
annual gift to remain active.

Name (s): _____ & _____
 Phone: _____
 E-mail 1: _____ Email 2: _____
 Street Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
 Name and city of residence for all guests included above: _____

REGISTER ON LINE ALSO AT WWW.GAMMAMUFUNDATION.ORG/EVENTS

Check enclosed (payable to Gamma Mu Foundation, Inc.)
 Please charge my credit card (please circle one) - AMEX / VISA / MASTERCARD
 Credit card number: _____ Exp _____
 Name as appears on card: _____
 Signature: _____

The Gamma Mu Foundation is a non-profit charitable foundation that seeks to make a positive difference in the lives of the LGBT community, primarily in rural and other under-served populations of the United States.
The Foundation is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization pursuant to section 501 c 3 of the Internal Revenue Service Code.

IT'S NOT TOO LATE!

***THANK YOU IF YOU HAVE ALREADY DONE SO, BUT IT IS NOT
TOO LATE TO DONATE TO THE FOUNDATION AND TAKE A
2023 TAX DEDUCTION.***

<http://gammamufoundation.org/>

Gamma Mu Foundation | P. O. Box 23520, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33307-3520

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