Annual Report 2008
The mission of the GCEF is to provide grant funding to nonprofit organizations and agencies in the greater Akron area that initiate and/or conduct programs or services that support or positively impact gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people and serve as a catalyst for full participation of GLBT people in our society.
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Founded in 2001, the Gay Community Endowment Fund is a permanent philanthropic fund of Akron Community Foundation. The fund provides grants to organizations and agencies in the greater Akron area that initiate and/or conduct programs or services that support or positively impact gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender (GLBT) people and serve as a catalyst for full participation of GLBT people in our society.

The fund promotes philanthropy within the GLBT and allied communities.

In seven years, it has built a fund balance of over one half million dollars through gifts, fundraising, and bequests. The earned income from this balance is distributed through annual grantmaking.

The interest areas of the fund include organizations, programs and services benefiting GLBT youth, the arts, health issues, operational needs and programming with a connection to the mission of the fund. The fund prefers to support organizations in which a small grant can make a big difference.

A small grant can make a big difference
As 2008 arrived, the board of the Gay Community Endowment Fund envisioned a $1 million fund balance by the end of 2010. Soon after, the nation’s financial crisis took hold. Our fund balance was not immune to the losses all experienced, individually and institutionally. What a difference a year can make. To loosely quote poet Robert Burns, the best laid plans of mice and men did, indeed, go awry.

What does this mean to our grantees, our donors and our community?

On the positive front, our 26% loss for 2008 beats a national average loss for endowment funds of 29.1%, and because of our affiliation with Akron Community Foundation, we continue to enjoy the advantage of highly professional management, rigorous investment practices, and low administrative costs. The economy will rebound, and our fund will prosper.

For organizations seeking funding from GCEF, the news is also good: We will not significantly reduce grantmaking in 2009. The grantmaking of all ACF funds, including ours, is based on the 12 quarter average market value of our investment pool, so this year’s market decline is averaged out over three years, two of which showed strong gains.

We are keenly aware of the potential during this economy for you, our donors, to temporarily focus your giving on immediate needs, or even to decrease giving levels. The GCEF is committed to maintaining much needed support for critical issues affecting the GLBT community, and this will require continuing contributions through 2009. The market has possibly reached its low point, which provides a very good opportunity for us to invest new funds and be positioned for serious gains when the market rebounds.

In 2008, we awarded a record number of grants, including our largest grant to date: $10,000 toward the building campaign for the new Akron Pride Center. Our awards, however, can only provide a part of the total funding needed. This year, we again received requests for over twice the amount we had available. If you have any doubts about the need for this fund, please read the growing list of organizations we’ve funded (pg 6).

So while 2008 wasn’t the year any of us envisioned, we were able to end it on a high note with the awarding of grants and the seventh annual Sugar Plum Tour, which raised nearly $29,000 for the fund’s corpus. My thanks for a terrific event go to co-chairs Tia Stathopoulos and David Leonti and their fine committee, patron party hosts Dr. James and Gerri George, our generous homeowners, sponsors, volunteers and attendees. These efforts were rewarded with significant media coverage, further enhancing the fund’s reputation in our community.

In closing, I want to thank Steven Schmidt, past chair of GCEF, for his wisdom and guidance in my first year as board chair. He has been instrumental to the success of the GCEF. I also wish to welcome John Petures as new president and CEO of Akron Community Foundation and to thank the foundation staff for all the work they do on our behalf. Finally, thank you for your continued support of the fund. Together through philanthropy, we will make this a better community for all its residents.

Sincerely,

Christopher Hixson
Chair, GCEF Advisory Board
On November 14, 2008, the Gay Community Endowment Fund of Akron Community Foundation awarded grants totaling $32,994 to nine Greater Akron nonprofit organizations, including the largest grant in the fund’s history: $10,000 for the Akron Pride Center “Building Pride” Capital Campaign.

Since awarding its first grants in 2005, the fund has reinvested a total of $71,974 into local nonprofit initiatives promoting well-being and full inclusion of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender citizens in the Greater Akron area. The fund prefers to support organizations in which a small grant can make a big difference. With your continued support, the GCEF is poised to make even more significant grants in the years to come. Currently, one cycle of grants is awarded annually, with grant applications due September 15th.

**2008 Grant Awardees**

**Akron Area Pride Collective**
Amount: $10,000
A leadership gift to the Akron Pride Center “Building Pride” capital campaign to renovate and open the new GLBT community center in Firestone Park, including conference room naming recognition.

**Akron Area Pride Collective**
Amount: $2,000
To fund the Out in Akron 2008 festival program printing.

**Akron Art Museum**
Amount: $5,000
To support “Isaac Julien: True North,” an exhibition of work by the gay British artist.

**Akron PFLAG**
Amount: $2,000
To fund the Bruce G. Kriete Speaker Series.

**Children’s Hospital Medical Center of Akron**
Amount: $2,534
To fund the purchase of GLBT library materials for the Adolescent Health Center.

**Community AIDS Network**
Amount: $6,460
To fund an ad campaign in city buses to promote HIV testing among at-risk youth.

**Equality Ohio Education Fund**
Amount: $2,000
To support the Akron-area ‘Safe Places, Safe Spaces’ Program for direct care providers.

**First Grace United Church of Christ**
Amount: $1,500
To fund StandOUT: Open Door After School Program for GLBT youth and teens.

**Fusion Magazine**
Amount: $1,500
For operating support of Kent State University’s award-winning student-published magazine, which provides insightful journalism about GLBT issues.

**GranT awardees Prior To 2008**

2007
- Akron AIDS Collaborative
- Akron Area Pride Collective
- Archives of American Psychology, Univ. of Akron
- Fusion Magazine
- Rape Crisis Center
- University of Akron Foundation

2006
- Diversity Alliance of Stark County
- Fusion Magazine
- Portage Path Community Mental Health Center
- Violet’s Cupboard/Community AIDS Network

2005
- Battered Women’s Shelter
- Child Guidance and Family Solutions, Inc.
- The University of Akron Foundation
- Weathervane Community Playhouse
The Seventh Annual Sugar Plum Tour of Gracious Homes welcomed a record 498 tourgoers and over 190 Patron Party attendees into some of the area’s finest homes, lavishly decorated for the holidays. Thanks to the generosity of tourgoers, sponsors, homeowners and volunteers, the 2008 Sugar Plum Tour raised $28,883.91.

**Homeowners:**
Gerri and Dr. James George, 
*patron home*
Carolynne and 
Dr. Fabian Breaux
John Crawford and 
Frank Spinelli
Jennifer and William Frantz
Martha Kaltenbach and 
Thomas Trotter
Steven Martin and Dana Merrill

**Tour Sponsors:**
Bricco (David Glenny)
Gerald K. Larson
Pilot Property Management
Lisa Akey
Angel Falls Coffee Company
Ray Bologna and 
Andrea Rodgers
Mr. and Mrs. Eric Czetli
Brian Elter
Dr. John and 
Mrs. Sheila Hutzler
Eric Jones
Diane Kovachik
Clay and Nancy Reinhart
Roetzel and Andress
James Simon
Studio W Interior Design
James Maguire Jr.
Papa Joe’s

Special thanks to Sugar Plum Tour co-chairs Tia Stathopoulos-Butterworth and David Leonti, home selection chair Eric Jones, patron party hosts Gerri and Dr. James George, patron party chair Roberta DeBarr, and the 50+ volunteers and committee members for their hard work.
2008 Gay Community Endowment Fund Donors

$5000+
Lisle M. Buckingham
Endowment Fund
Stephen C. White and
John J. Shea, Jr.

$1000-$4999
Cathy Chapman
Gerald K. Larson
John and Margaret McBride
Pilot Property Management

$500-$999
Lisa A. Akem
Angel Falls Coffee
Company, Ltd.
Raymond Bologna and
Andrea Rodgers
John Grafton and
Richard Worswick
Christopher Hixson and
Morton Kahan
Diane Kovach and Jo Dangel
James S. Simon
Virginia R. Robinson
Patricia J. Rubin and
Theresa A. Smith
Jim Zwiker and Gary Zeller

$100-$499
Nancy and Ronald Alber
Suzanne T. Allen
John Antro
Anna M. Arvay
Sandy and Mark Auburn
Julia Bain
Allison L. Ball
Ms. Patricia Biddinger
Jeff Boby
Claudia Bjere
Nicky Bloodworth
Nancy J. Brennan
Joel A. Brown
Todd A. Brown MD
Ernie Cahoon
Rita and Todd Chambers
Judy Ciccilini
Mr. and Mrs. Eric M. Czetli
Thomas E. Davis
Ken Deltsoson
Deborah D. Dockery
Ms. Susan DuCovna
John Dukes
Brian Eiser
Equality Ohio
Mary Fazio
Bill Flemm
Joan Gangle
Tom Gober
Prescott F. Griffith and
Joel R. Wolfgang
Sandi Haramis
Mary Beth Harper
Richard and Tatiana Harnis
Louise Kuhns Harvey
Stacey A. Harvey
Thomas Heggen
Tom Hutchison
Dr. John and
Mrs. Sheila Hutzel
Jeffrey A. Jobe
Eric J. Jones
Donald Keith
Patricia A. Kemph
Bernie Kiel
Mary Anne Krepi
Karen M. Krin
Andrew Kyprianou
Georgia A. Lehman
James F. Maguire Jr
Robert and Cass Mayfield
Timothy Maynard and
Ernest Stone, DDS
Judy McClelland
Dana Milicia-Humphreys
Vaughn Morrison
Lindsey L. McClain
Brian McCombs
Francie Mishler
Cheryl Morris
Annette Nicoloff and
Kristine Mikolajczyk
Papa Joe’s
Christine M. Parner
Cynthia Parns
Susan Revak
Clay and Nancy Rhodehart
Roetzel & Andress
Rick and Alita Rogers
Steven Schmidt and
Rick Krochka
Laurie Morgan Schrank
Margo Snider
Glen Stalcup

Georgia and John
Stathopoulos
Nancy Steed
Susan Stone
Studio W Interior
Design Group, Inc.
Barbara Talevich
Sarah Vradenburg
Cheryl Waters
Joy Watts
Rod Wellman
Michele J. Whitehurst
Steve Williams
Elizabeth Wilson
Rebecca S. Wilson
Virginia Wojno-Forney
Bruce W. and
Mary Helen Wright
Gregory S. Wurglar
Mary Yeager
Reid Yoder
David Young
Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Zarconi

Under $100
Jon and Kathryn Antervari
James Armstrong
Laura Austin
Barb Baker
Susan C. Baker
Wenda Bolas
Nancy Boshard
Dana Bowman
Tim Brown
Harnet Calcagno
Jennifer Caufield
Georgann Ciolekovich
Jim Connelly
Bingh Sid Consliv
Elise Conslio
Sara Copeland
Pete Crossland
Robert E. Cunningham
Betty Dalton
Jo Anne Dawson
Colleen A. Denholm
Patricia Dill
Deborah K. Dobol
Fran Doll
Dr. Hans R. Dorfi
Tiffany Edwards
Dr. and Mrs. Ernest Estep
Sharon Fenwick
Jon Fiume
Barbara A. Gardner
Brenda Garman
Jamie Gellner
Tom and Daralee Ghinder
Jane Good
S. Mark Goodman
Douglas Green
Harold W. Greene
Brenda A. Hairston
Donna J. Hajeck
Dale Harding
Theresa M. Heaton
Brianne R. Henderson
Marsha Hintz
Lynnette Horn
Danny Horn
Ruth A. Hotchkin
Bob Lafelice
Theresa L. Incorvia
Jewell Jackson
Susan Janota
Tracy Jensen
Matthew T. Jones
Martha Kaltenbach
Dana Kern
Alice Kirkbaumer
Louise Kisha
Diane Kozak
Grace Krochka
Sandra J. Kurt
Jim Lake
Mary Lou Leising
Syliva Levinson
Cynthia Liska
Lynne Malone
David Maltz
Trecia Mandala
Karen Marcinkoski
Marie McDonald
Dennis and Michelle Miller
Deborah Morsefield
Vince Morvatz
Amelia Moton-Butler
Colleen Neal
Cathy Nelson
Emily M. O’Brien
Donna J. Osborn
Martha Peysk
Dr. Lon Pittsinger
Kimberly Pozza
Margaret M. Reagan
Steve Reed
Rosemary Reymann
Renee Rice
Cynthia A. Richards
Jean Rieger
Shirley Root
Anastacia L. Rose
Patricia C. Roy
Donna K. Rumman
Pat A. Sargent
Becky Scaglione
Robbie Schildman
William Schweinsberg
Lisa Shaheen
Lita R. Shaver
Elizabeth Sheeler
Raymond Skelton
Judith Snyder
Beverly Stark
Dan Steffens
Dave Stonson
Jim Swartz
Irene Smania
Denise D. Taylor
Coxette L. Thomas
Russ Todd
Dee Tomich
David Topper
Jennifer D. Towell
Anthony W. Troyer
Patricia A. Trudics
Sue Turns
Mark Umpleby
James R. Urban
Patricia J. Waliga
Patricia Walker
Stephen Walker
Ann L. Wehener
John Werner
Zachary Whitesel
William Wiley
Melanie H. Wood
Ken Woods
S. James Work
Matt Xander
Kim Young
Tony and Dana Zaratsian
Janet Zazo
Lorain Zender
The Gay Community Endowment Fund of Akron Community Foundation welcomes gifts in any amount from individuals, families, businesses and organizations. Consult your tax advisor to determine the best method of giving for you.

### Cash
Cash gifts generally qualify for the maximum allowable income tax deduction. Checks should be made payable to the Gay Community Endowment Fund.

### Securities or Real Estate
When securities or real estate have been held for the required long-term capital gains holding period and then are gifted to the fund, the donor can usually deduct the full fair market value as a charitable contribution and avoid capital gains tax on the appreciation.

### Charitable Remainder Trusts
Deferred gifts may be made to the fund in the form of charitable remainder trust that pay a lifetime annuity to the donor, with all assets and income going to the fund at the donor’s death.

### Charitable Lead Trusts
Conversely, a donor may create an immediate annuity interest for the fund for a period of years, with the remainder interest returning to the donor or (with the proper estate planning) passing to children or grandchildren.

### Life Insurance
By assigning ownership to the fund, the donor may receive an immediate income tax charitable deduction in the amount of the policy’s present value. All premium payments thereafter made by the donor will also be deductible, and the full face value of the policy will be removed from the donor’s estate.

### Bequests
This is probably the simplest and most common form of planned giving. Bequests to the fund are entirely free from federal excise tax and can, therefore, offer substantial estate savings.

### Pooled Income Fund
A donor may make a minimum contribution of $5,000 and receive a pro rata share of the fund’s income. Upon the death of the donor or other designated beneficiary, the remainder of the charitable gift is transferred to the fund.

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**Individuals, Businesses and Foundations whose cumulative gifts or pledges to GCEF exceed $1000**

**SUSTAINING DONORS**

**$100,000+**
- Estate of Paul A. Daum

**$25,000+**
- Gill Foundation

**$10,000+**
- Claudia Bjerre**
- Prescott F. Griffith and Joel R. Wolfgang**
- Harry E. Jackson**
- Peter Schofield**

**$5,000+**
- Lisle M. Buckingham Endowment Fund
- Bruce G. Kriete**
- Fred Martin**
- John and Margaret McBrine**
- Stephen C. White and John J. Shea Jr.

**$1,000-$4,999**
- Adolph Optical Service Inc.
- Allen Aircraft Products, Inc.
- Angel Falls Coffee Company Ltd.
- Anonymous Donor*
- Anonymous Donor*
- Anonymous Donor*
- William F. Bartolini*
- Dwan Barger and John Vandevere
- Jeanne M. Bauhart*
- Fred and Laura Bidwell*
- Bricco
- Cathy Chapman*
- Mr. and Mrs. Eric M. Czeiti
- Marc A. D’Antonio*
- Jo Dangel and Diane Kovachik*
- Brian Elker
- Matthew Frenicks*
- John Grafton and Richard Worswick*

The Greenhouse
- James L. Helmuth*
- Christopher Hoxson and Mitchell Kahan*
- Joseph F. Jadick & John G. Robertson*
- Jeter Systems Corporation
- Eric J. Jones*
- Donald Keish*
- Katherine Kleski
- Gerald K. Larson*
- Judy McClelland
- Brian McGuire and Joe Haban II*
- Dana Milicia-Humphreys
- Julius Nemeth
- Charitable Trust
- Pilot Property Management
- P.F.L.A.G. Inc.
- Robert Renner*
- Harry H. Roth and Joseph Burian*
- Patricia J. Rubin and Theresa A. Smith*
- Eva Salem
- Dr. Steven P. Schmidt & Richard J. Krochka*
- Phil Siebel and Gerardo Cisneros*
- Richard Shirey*
- James S. Simon
- Ernest Stone DDS and Timothy Maynard*
- Scott Swaldo and Jeff Hicks*
- Rod Wellman
- Elizabeth Wilson
- Joel R. Wolfgang & Associates Inc.
- Jim Zwsler and Gary Zeller*

**Charitable Remainder Trust Donor**
- Walter Sheppe

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**donate online**

www.gaycommunityfund.org

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**Original Cornerstone Level Donor**  **Original Founding Level Donor**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tr>
<td>Sugar Plum Tour (net of expenses)</td>
<td>28,883.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gill challenge grant</td>
<td>9,575.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General contributions &amp; pledges</td>
<td>8,800.00</td>
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<td>Gain / loss on investments</td>
<td>(181,002.35)</td>
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<td><strong>Total revenue</strong></td>
<td><strong>($133,743.44)</strong></td>
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<td>Grant awards</td>
<td>(32,994.00)</td>
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<td>Misc. fund expenses (annual mtg, letterhead, website)</td>
<td>(3,084.33)</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACF administrative fees</td>
<td>(7,675.16)</td>
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<td><strong>Total expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>($43,753.49)</strong></td>
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</table>

**Net change in fund balance**

ADD: January 1, 2007 beginning fund balance

**Ending December 31, 2008 fund balance**

$501,040.93
2008 GAY COMMUNITY ENDOWMENT FUND ADVISORY BOARD

Christopher Hixson, Chairman
Claudia Bjerre
John Grafton
David Horowitz
Eric Jones
Jim King
Diane Kovachik
Rick Krochka
Judy McClelland
Kristine Mikolajczyk
Jim Pickard
Virginia Robinson
Peter Schofield
Steven Schmidt
Mary Helen Wright
Celebrating 54 years of building community philanthropy, Akron Community Foundation is a $138.6 million philanthropic endowment with a growing family of more than 320 funds. In 1955, a $1 million bequest from the estate of Edwin Shaw established the foundation, which works to improve the quality of life in greater Akron. It accepts charitable gifts and bequests from individuals, families, organizations and corporations committed to making a difference in the community for generations to come. To date, the foundation and its affiliate funds (including the Gay Community Endowment Fund) have awarded more than $76 million in grants to qualified nonprofit organizations. For more information, call 330-376-8522 or visit www.akroncommunityfdn.org.