



March 15, 2022

Dear Friends,

As advisory board members of the Gay Community Endowment Fund, we would like to personally invite you to “exhALE: Advancing Lived Equality,” GCEF’s annual celebration, which will take place Friday, June 3, 2022, at 6 p.m. at The Trailhead at Cascade Lofts. We’re thrilled to once again host this signature event, which was postponed the last two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The event celebrates the Gay Community Endowment Fund’s impact in the community and recognizes our most recent grant and scholarship recipients. Proceeds support academic scholarships for LGBTQ+ and allied students in Greater Akron.

Each year, the Gay Community Endowment Fund awards grants to nonprofit organizations that positively impact the local LGBTQ+ community. Recent grants have created safer environments for LGBTQ+ youth, combated phobias of the LGBTQ+ community, and supported mental health and suicide prevention programs for LGBTQ+ people. Altogether, the fund has reinvested more than \$690,000 into the Greater Akron community since it was founded in 2001. In addition, the GCEF Scholarship Fund has awarded more than \$36,000 in postsecondary scholarships to students who have made a meaningful difference in the LGBTQ+ community.

This year’s event will showcase the life-changing work of our grant recipients and feature the presentation of the 2022 Paul Daum Award to a community member who has demonstrated a significant commitment to LGBTQ+ causes in Greater Akron. Guests will enjoy heavy hors d’oeuvres, live music and entertainment, and the chance to win a 50/50 raffle.

We encourage you to make a lasting difference in the lives of LGBTQ+ students by becoming an event sponsor. Your commitment to inclusion and equality will be recognized at the event, which is annually attended by more than 150 community leaders and supporters. This is an excellent opportunity for you to show your support for Greater Akron’s LGBTQ+ community and help us build a brighter future for the next generation of LGBTQ+ students and allies.

Enclosed is a list of sponsorship opportunities for your consideration. For more information, please contact Michelle Krocker at 330-760-4716 or [krockabaloo@hotmail.com](mailto:krockabaloo@hotmail.com) or Gregory Hail at 330-714-6758 or [ghail@aol.com](mailto:ghail@aol.com). Thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Michelle Krocker  
Event Co-Chair  
GCEF Advisory Board Member

Gregory Hail  
Event Co-Chair  
GCEF Advisory Board Member

AN ANNUAL CELEBRATION

# exhale

ADVANCING LIVED EQUALITY



**GAY COMMUNITY  
ENDOWMENT FUND**  
An Akron Community Foundation Fund

BENEFITING THE GCEF SCHOLARSHIP FUND

June 3, 2022 | 6 p.m. | The Trailhead at Cascade Lofts

## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

*Your generosity will support academic scholarships for LGBTQ+ students and allies.*

**Enlightenment Sponsor: \$1,500** (\$1,236 is tax deductible)

- 6 VIP+ admission tickets
- Prominent logo or name placement in promotional materials
- Open bar for 3 hours

**Wisdom Sponsor: \$1,000** (\$784 is tax deductible)

- 6 VIP admission tickets
- Logo or name included in promotional materials
- Open bar for 2 hours

**Knowledge Sponsor: \$500** (\$428 is tax deductible)

- 2 VIP admission tickets
- Listed in promotional materials
- Open bar for 2 hours

**Learning Sponsor: \$\_\_\_\_\_** (fully tax deductible)

I cannot attend, but I would like to make a tax-deductible gift to support scholarships for LGBTQ+ students and allies.

Please print your name as you wish it to appear in event materials:

Name/Organization: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

(see reverse)

## Payment Options:

### 1. Online

Reserve your sponsorship online at [www.akroncf.org/give/GCEF](http://www.akroncf.org/give/GCEF). Please note “exhALE sponsorship” in the comments section.

### 2. Credit Card

Visa      MasterCard      Discover

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Full Name (as it appears on card): \_\_\_\_\_

Authorized Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  This is a corporate card

### 3. Check

Enclose a check made payable to **ACF/GCEF** with “exhALE” written in the memo line.

**If paying with a credit card or check, please return this completed form with your payment by April 8, 2022, to:**

Gay Community Endowment Fund  
c/o Akron Community Foundation  
345 W. Cedar St.  
Akron, OH 44307

### Additional Information:

- To ensure inclusion in promotional materials, sponsorships must be received by **April 8, 2022**. Sponsorships received after this date cannot be guaranteed inclusion in all materials.
- High-resolution logo files should be sent to [dhoffman@akroncf.org](mailto:dhoffman@akroncf.org).
- Please email the names of those attending with complimentary tickets to [dhoffman@akroncf.org](mailto:dhoffman@akroncf.org) by **May 20, 2022**.
- On-site parking for guests is complimentary. Valet parking will be available for an additional fee.
- Per IRS regulations, **sponsorships from donor-advised funds and IRAs** cannot receive any benefits, including but not limited to event tickets, gifts, food, beverages and other items of value. If you plan to support this event with a gift from your donor-advised fund or IRA, please contact Deb Hoffman at 330-436-5614 or [dhoffman@akroncf.org](mailto:dhoffman@akroncf.org).

### Questions?

For more information, please contact Deb Hoffman at 330-436-5614 or [dhoffman@akroncf.org](mailto:dhoffman@akroncf.org).