



March 28, 2023

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 2, 2023, at 6 p.m. at the Knight Stage at the Akron Civic Theatre. 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 \$750,000 into the Greater Akron community since it was founded in 2001. In addition, the GCEF Scholarship Fund has awarded more than \$45,000 in postsecondary scholarships to students who have made a meaningful difference in the LGBTQ+ community.

This year’s celebration will showcase the life-changing work of our grant recipients and feature the presentation of the 2023 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, beverages and entertainment.

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 or Adam Besenyodi at 330-687-8527 or adam.besenyodi@hotmail.com. Thank you for your generosity.

Sincerely,

Michelle Krocker
Event Co-Chair
GCEF Advisory Board Secretary

Adam Besenyodi
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 2, 2023 | 6 p.m. | The Knight Stage at the Akron Civic Theatre

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

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

Enlightenment Sponsor: \$1,500 (\$1,170 is tax deductible)

- 6 VIP+ admission tickets
- Prominent logo or name placement in promotional materials
- Access to an open bar

Wisdom Sponsor: \$1,000 (\$730 is tax deductible)

- 6 VIP admission tickets
- Logo or name included in promotional materials
- 2 complimentary drinks per guest

Knowledge Sponsor: \$500 (\$410 is tax deductible)

- 2 VIP admission tickets
- Logo or name included in promotional materials
- 2 complimentary drinks per guest

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 in Greater Akron.

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

I wish to remain anonymous.

Name/Organization: _____ Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

(see reverse)

Payment Options:

1. Online

Reserve your sponsorship online at www.akroncf.org/exhale.

2. Credit Card

Visa / MasterCard / Discover (*circle one*)

Amount: \$ _____ Name as it appears on card: _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Authorized Signature: _____ This is a corporate card.

3. Check

Enclose a check made payable to **Akron Community Foundation** with "GCEF exhALE" written in the memo line.

If paying with a credit card or check, please return this completed form with your payment by April 10, 2023* to:

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

**See additional information below for details about payments accepted after this date.*

Additional Information:

- We will happily accept sponsorships until the date of the event; however, to **ensure the inclusion of your name or logo in promotional materials**, sponsorships must be received by **April 10, 2023**. Sponsorships received after this date cannot be guaranteed inclusion in all materials.
- Please email the names of your guest(s) to dhoffman@akroncf.org. Names must be received by **May 26** to be printed on name tags.
- Sponsors should email high-resolution **logo files** in PNG or EPS format to dhoffman@akroncf.org.
- We gladly accept gifts from **donor-advised funds and IRAs**. However, 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 the event with a gift from your donor-advised fund or IRA, please contact Deb Hoffman at 330-436-5614 or dhoffman@akroncf.org.

Questions?

For more information, please contact Deb Hoffman at 330-436-5614 or dhoffman@akroncf.org.



The Gay Community Endowment Fund is a fund of Akron Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) public charity. Your tax acknowledgment card will confirm your reservation. Sponsorships and tickets are nonrefundable, but tickets may be transferred. Please notify Akron Community Foundation of any changes to contact person(s) or company names by calling 330-376-8522. Learn more about the fund at www.gaycommunityfund.org.