



Jan. 19, 2024

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 7, 2024, at 6 p.m. at the Knight Stage at the Akron Civic Theatre. Guests will enjoy heavy hors d’oeuvres, beverages, and an inspiring program highlighting the fund’s recent grant and scholarship recipients.

The Gay Community Endowment Fund annually 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 \$55,000 in postsecondary scholarships to students who are making a meaningful difference for the LGBTQ+ community.

This year’s event will celebrate the Gay Community Endowment Fund’s impact in the community. Fund leaders will also present the 2024 Paul Daum Award to a community member who has demonstrated a significant commitment to LGBTQ+ causes in Greater Akron. All proceeds from the event will support academic scholarships for LGBTQ+ and allied students in Greater Akron.

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 100 community leaders and supporters. This is an excellent opportunity 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 Affiliate Fund Event & Volunteer Coordinator Malia Rivera at 330-436-5649 or mriviera@akroncf.org. Thank you for your generosity!

Sincerely,

Kim Rivers
Event Co-Chair
GCEF Advisory Board Member

Mar-quetta Boddie
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 7, 2024 | 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 (\$1,080 is tax deductible)**
 - Six event tickets, including access to an open bar for the duration of the event
 - Prominent logo or name placement in promotional materials, including event invitation and program
 - A post acknowledging your support of the event on the Gay Community Endowment Fund's social media accounts

- Wisdom Sponsor: \$1,000 (\$780 is tax deductible)**
 - Four event tickets, including two complimentary drinks per guest
 - Logo or name in promotional materials, including event invitation and program

- Knowledge Sponsor: \$500 (\$390 is tax deductible)**
 - Two event tickets, including two complimentary drinks per guest
 - Logo or name in promotional materials, including event invitation and program

- 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 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 8, 2024* 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 8, 2024**. Sponsorships received after this date cannot be guaranteed inclusion in all materials.
- Please email the names of your guest(s) to mriviera@akroncf.org. Names must be received by **June 3** to be printed on name tags.
- Sponsors should email high-resolution **logo files** in PNG or EPS format to oeastly@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 Affiliate Fund Event & Volunteer Coordinator Malia Rivera at 330-436-5649 or mriviera@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 gaycommunityfund.org.