PFLAG-HATCH Youth Scholarship Foundation is now Out for Education

PFLAG-HATCH Youth Scholarship Foundation (PHYSF) has changed its name to Out for Education. President David Schwan explained the name change quite frankly, “It was a mouthful to say ‘PFLAG-HATCH Youth Scholarship Foundation’, and it was burdensome to write. Even the abbreviation (PHYSF) was difficult to remember.” While PHYSF has been the primary source for scholarships for LGBT youth in Houston for fifteen years, the organization decided to build on its legacy with a new identity. “It was a difficult decision that we carefully considered, and we acted slowly in the name change because we know how important this organization is to college-age LGBT youth in the area,” Schwan said. The board of directors approved the name change to Out for Education in 2013. With special assistance from Trevor Eade, the organization revealed its new logo at a reception in November. Expect to see both names used interchangeably as the organization completes its rebranding by mid 2014. In 1999, PFLAG-Houston and HATCH (now part of Montrose Center) founded PHYSF as a separate organization, and the organizations have been legally separated since then. Out for Education will continue to work with both PFLAG-Houston and HATCH in their shared goals of forwarding LGBT interests in the Houston area.

Out for Education awarded $82,000 in scholarships to 31 students for the 2013-14 academic year!

Spring Fling Honorees

2013 Blake & Gordon Weisser
2012 Tony Carroll & Bruce Smith
2011 Fiona Dawson
2010 Todd Amdor
Creating a legacy of education

Houston’s LGBT organizations continue to rely on Out for Education to provide scholarships on their behalf. In 2013, Pride Houston provided funds for its first scholarship. They join EPAH (the Executive and Professional Association of Houston), the Frost Foundation, the Hollyfield Foundation, Krewe of Olympus, and PFLAG-Houston as community non-profits that support Out for Education. Tax laws make it difficult for most non-profits to provide scholarships, so Out for Education serves the community by finding and selecting scholars on behalf of donors, like these organizations.

An endowed scholarship can also create a lasting legacy. The first Kenner Harris Endowed Scholarship was will be presented in 2014. Kenner’s gift will allow Out for Education to award this scholarship well into the future, and the organization looks forward to presenting this scholarship annually to a deserving scholar.

For information about organizational or endowed scholarships, contact President David Schwan at davidschwan@gmail.com.

Our diverse group of 2013-14 scholars represent a variety of backgrounds, areas of study, ethnicities, genders, and gender identities.

Todd Amdor & Matthew Stone Scholarship: Dante Duran
Bracewell & Giuliani Scholarship: Ashley Thomas
Tony Carroll & Dr. Bruce Smith Scholarship: Darren Arquero
Bryan Cotton Properties Scholarship: Christian Smith
Trevor Eade & Stephen Hill Scholarship: Kendrick Woodard
Charlie & Linda Elder Scholarship: Roy Lei
EPAH Scholarship: Juan Lerma
John Frels Scholarship: Michael Grant
Tom Fricke Scholarship: Austin Cooke
Frost Foundation Scholarships: Max Friedman & Aaron Rogers
Kenner Harris Scholarships: Deisree Padilla & Curtis White
Mike Holloman & Tim Surratt Scholarship: Carlos Hernandez
Hollyfield Foundation Scholarships: Rocky Cooley & Jordan Mills
Hope & Encouragement Scholarship: Michael Tran
King & Spalding Scholarship: Raymundo Delgadillo
Jim Kovach & Ben Montalbano Scholarship: Lisa Liu
Krewe of Olympus Scholarship: Donnie Lopez
Hon. Steven Kirkland Scholarship: Huy Truong
F. U. Livani Scholarship: Stephanie Mercer
Dr. Randy Mitchmore DDS Scholarship: Elizabeth Rhyne
OutSmart Scholarship: Alexander Brown
PFLAG-Houston Scholarship: Yesenia Chavez
Pride Houston Scholarship: Jorge Waggoner
Richard Proto & Sergio Rosas Scholarship: Amanda Kelso
David Webb Scholarship: Gustavo Huerta
Gordon & Blake Weisser Scholarship: Rebecca Keo
Curtis Wolff Scholarships: Genesis Garfio & Aaron Williams

Our 2013-14 scholars include graduating high school students and current college students. The recipients attend a variety of colleges and universities, including:

Columbia University
Houston Community College
Lone Star College
Northwestern State University
Texas A&M University
Texas State University

University of California, Berkeley
University of Houston
University of Texas
University of Texas—Pan Am
University of Texas—San Antonio
UT—MD Anderson Cancer Center
Webster University

Left: Juan Lerma receives the EPAH Scholarship. Below (L to R): Curtis White & Desiree Padilla earned the Kenner Harris Scholarships. Max Friedman is one of the recipients of a Frost Foundation Scholarship. Jorge Waggoner is presented with the Pride Houston Scholarship.
Pinstripes and Pearls was the Cat’s Meow!

On April 26, 2013 guests were welcomed to the Gardens on Bammel Lane for “Pinstripes & Pearls,” a 1920’s themed extravaganza. The spring celebration is our primary fundraising event. Over 150 guests joined to socialize and support student scholarships. Entertainment was provided by Tye Blue, a past scholarship winner, and Dr. Jay Ornelas shared a few words about his journey from scholarship recipient to medical doctor.

Led by board members Bryan Cotton, Lisa Hopkins and Robert Shipman, the event was the Bee’s Knees! Honorary event chair, artist Taft McWhorter, also created a special work of art for the event. Pinstripes and Pearls honored Blake and the late Gordon Weisser for their support of the PFLAG-HATCH Youth Scholarship Foundation and PFLAG-Houston over the years.

Out for Education (formerly PFLAG-HATCH Youth Scholarship Foundation), is a 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation and one of the most successful LGBT scholarship granting organizations in the United States. It provides scholarship funds solely to Houston-area LGBT youth.

Out for Education was founded in 1999 by the well-known Houston GLBT organizations, PFLAG-Houston and HATCH, and named the PFLAG-HATCH Youth Scholarship Foundation. It was renamed Out for Education in 2013. To date, the organization has granted more than $1.3 million in scholarships to further our objective of educating the future leaders of our diverse community. From 1999 to 2013, Out for Education has awarded 314 scholarships to a diverse body of scholars. Scholarships have enabled students from over 70 high schools to attend 60 colleges and universities across the country.

Donations by individuals, foundations, and corporations allow the foundation to provide scholarships to qualifying students.

Photos Courtesy of
William Denson Photography

We wish to extend special thanks to our generous donors and our volunteers, many of whom are current or past scholarship recipients!

We can’t wait for next year’s soiree!
We are OUT in the community.
We are OUT in the schools.
We stand FOR EDUCATION.
We are Out for Education.

Follow us on facebook: Out For Education
New website arriving soon: OutForEducation.org

Out For Education 2013 Report Card
(formerly PFLAG-HATCH Youth Scholarship Foundation)

Out for Education (formerly PFLAG-HATCH Youth Scholarship Foundation) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation.

Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.

Donate online at physf.org

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