2014 - 2015
ANNUAL
REPORT
& YEARBOOK

GSBA
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
In 2015, we supported 48 scholars with $350,000 in educational scholarships. LGBTQ and allied students, many who have no traditional means of support. GSBA realizes that today’s students are tomorrow’s leaders and is committed to supporting our students who exhibit leadership potential, demonstrate strong academic abilities, and who are actively involved in school and community organizations. Our scholars represent a diverse group of students who have dreams of making our community and the world a better place; and each of them possesses the skills, talents, and dedication to make those dreams a reality.

GSBA realizes that today’s students are tomorrow’s leaders and is committed to supporting our community’s future leaders by providing financial resources, role-modeling and hope to outstanding students who have dreams of making our community and the world a better place; and each of them possesses the skills, talents, and dedication to make those dreams a reality.

In the 25 years of the GSBA Scholarship Fund, we have awarded over $2 million to over 300 students. In 2015, we supported 48 scholars with $350,000 in educational scholarships.

Dear Scholarship Fund Champions,

This has been a year of exploration as we celebrate the Scholarship Fund’s 25th anniversary. We are humbled and awed by the steadfast support that you and our community give to the GSBA Scholarship Fund. We continue to grow the fund in terms of dollars given out and students supported; and, we know that we are having a huge impact on opening up opportunity for LGBTQ students who otherwise would not be able to go to college. We have scholars sitting on our Board of Directors; launching careers in technology, government and teaching; becoming scholarship donors and interviewers; and joining the Chamber as professionals.

However, given the huge challenges our students have in being able to remain in college, what more can we be doing to support our students? We hear from college advisors that, as important as providing hope and financial support is to our students, many would greatly benefit by having an ongoing relationship with their community. The Fund is already a source of deep pride for our community, donors and scholars, but our students and donors are wanting more: more community, more contact, more continuity between generations and more support “beyond the dollar”. The GSBA Scholarship Fund has matured, and with maturity comes an increased responsibility to deepen our commitment to ensure our students are able to attend college and graduate.

Leveraging the skill and talent of our Board of Directors, the GSBA Scholarship Steering Committee, donors and past scholars, we are exploring new programs to support our scholars. We researched conferences that provided leadership training and we are proud to say we were able to send two students to the Creating Change conference in Denver this year. We are partnering with corporate members to create a new Leadership Program which will provide additional tools so that our scholars can succeed to become that next generation of leaders able to remain in college, what more can we be doing to support our students? We hear from college advisors that, as important as providing hope and financial support is to our students, many would greatly benefit by having an ongoing relationship with their community. The Fund is already a source of deep pride for our community, donors and scholars, but our students and donors are wanting more: more community, more contact, more continuity between generations and more support “beyond the dollar”. The GSBA Scholarship Fund has matured, and with maturity comes an increased responsibility to deepen our commitment to ensure our students are able to attend college and graduate.

For the future,

Louise Chernin
President & CEO

Martha Davis
Board Chair
A celebration of the past, present and future—the GSBA Scholarship Fund celebrated its 25th Anniversary. We honored our founders, who in 1990 created the first LGBTQ scholarship fund of its kind, by welcoming them to the stage and capturing their stories on video. Our 48 incredible scholars were awarded $350,000 in scholarships, and through the tears and cheers we awarded our two-millionth dollar.
The annual TASTE of GSBA combines incredible food, delectable drinks, a local wine district and lively entertainment, along with live and silent auctions, to raise money for the GSBA Scholarship Fund. Member restaurants, bars and caterers are all highlighted at one of the swankiest events of the year.

Sweet Charity, the 2014 TASTE of GSBA once again broke all records as over 830 guests raised more than $727,000 (a 24% increase over 2013) for the next generation of LGBTQ and allied leaders.
INCOME STATEMENT

<table>
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<th>Income</th>
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<td>Net Revenue</td>
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</table>

INCOME

- Corporate & Foundation Giving: 26%
- Individual Donations: 50%
- In-Kind Donations: 13%
- Interest & Dividends: 1%
- Net Event Income: 21%

EXPENSES

- In-Kind Expenses: 53%
- Scholarships Awarded: 53%
- In-Kind Donations: 53%
- Student Outreach & Application Process: 26%
- Fundraising & Donor Cultivation: 14.5%
- Administration Expenses: 6.2%

2014 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Named in the top ten supporters of LGBTQ education/safe schools work by Funders of LGBTQ Issues. Their report, which was released in 2014, analyzed 2011 and 2012 giving and found that organizations invested nearly $14.9 million in LGBTQ education and safe schools work—which amounted to nearly 8% of LGBTQ funding in the US.
- Successfully launched a rebranding of the GSBA Scholarship Fund, alongside the Greater Seattle Business Association. This rebrand allows us to visually show the connectivity between the Fund and the chamber. Created new collateral materials which allow us to convey the importance of the Fund.
- Approved the expansion of a leadership initiative that would provide an additional investment in scholars beyond financial support.
- Held a lively retreat for the Scholarship Steering Committee which focused on sustainability and growth. The outcomes will define our work over the coming years.
- Awarded $330,000 to 44 to scholars ranging from 17 to 49 years old, including 4 graduate scholarships. These incredibly motivated scholars were selected from over 300 applications.

2015 GOALS

- Provide renewable scholarships to scholars so they are able to focus on academics and community involvement in order to successfully reach graduation.
- Reconnect and engage with our founders in preparation for the 25th Anniversary.
- Create a Leadership Matching Fund which will encourage stretch gifts at the Scholarship Awards Dinner and TASTE of GSBA.
- Evaluate the scholarship application and review process for effectiveness, consistency and efficiency.
- Outline a plan to define and evaluate program success with the collection of data.
- Continue strengthening relationships with underrepresented populations. Encourage applications from students of color, undocumented students and transgender students. Increase diversity of scholarship interviewers.
- Encourage past scholars to become members and donors, which will keep the GSBA chamber and the Scholarship Fund sustainable.

INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE: DENA AND RON LEVINE

When Dena and Ron Levine attended their first TASTE of GSBA in 2004, they were experiencing nonprofit burnout and had recently taken a break from attending charitable events. However, it did not take them long to understand the impact they could have on our scholars. “You can really feel and understand the difference GSBA Scholarships make when you go to the events,” says Ron. “You meet the individuals and you can see the impact it has on their lives.” The Levines have become Emerald Jewel donors and hosted countless tables at the TASTE and the GSBA Scholarship Awards Dinners. Dena serves on the Board of Directors, volunteers as a scholarship interviewer and brought her company – DML Insurance – on as the sponsor of the annual Ruby Slipper Club Reception.

Beyond their generosity, Dena and Ron are continually humbled by the students they have met over the years. As straight allies, Dena and Ron credit the Scholarship Fund for “opening our eyes to the challenges of the LGBTQ community and is teaching our family the importance of acceptance, appreciation and respect.” Their children have also been involved with the Fund and they know that their family’s support will not end with them, but will be carried on for years to come.

The Levines are wonderful ambassadors, saying “It’s easy to tell others about the Scholarship Fund because it has become so important to us. Listen to the stories, be a part of the community and see what the money does. Education is the best way to change and improve the world. It is the circle of life: we give now so that the scholars will help better our community, our family and the world.”

“We came for the fun at the TASTE of GSBA, but the scholars grabbed our hearts and that’s what has kept us around,” adds Dena.
LAE KAIER

Oscar / Veronica Beltran (Vancouver) - Oscar/Veronica is completing an Associate’s degree and Women’s Studies certificate at Clark College, where they have served as President of the Queer Penguins and Multicultural Students Club. They have also worked as a Peer Mentor in the Center of Diversity and Equity. In the fall, they plan to continue studies at WSU with a degree in Communications and Women’s Studies in order to continue to work with marginalized students on college campuses.

Krysta Campagna (San José) – Krystal is attending Bastyr University and pursuing an undergraduate degree in Nutrition and Culinary Arts. She is an advocate for homeless youth and LGBTQ rights and, in the future, Krystal hopes to open her own non-profit organization geared toward helping homeless youth in the queer community. According to Krystal, even helping one youth at a time can make all the difference in the world.

Mike Carrillo (Tacoma) - Michael is a Latino from Bellingham attending the Science and Math Institute. He advocates for LGBTQ rights and immigration laws in his community. One day he wants to become a teacher to inspire students to advocate for their rights. He has interned at different middle schools in Tacoma as well as the Rainbow Center to educate himself about the LGBTQ community and what it takes to become a teacher. Michael is the recipient of a Rich Thoelke Memorial Scholarship.

Alik Brundrett (Boulder, CO) – Alik is attending the Art Institute of Seattle and is in his final year of the BFA Web/Graphic Design program. He works as a Digital Media Designer for Planned Parenthood of the Great Northwest in Seattle, and is on the Board of Advocates for the non-profit group Seattle Subway. Alik uses his design and digital media skills to raise awareness of LGBT healthcare & advocacy groups in the Northwest.

Audrey Chavarria Calderon (Mexico City) – Audrey studies Computer Science at the University of Washington – Tacoma. Audrey and her family moved to Washington from Alabama because of a rising wave of anti-immigrant laws and hostility against members of the LGBT community. He is a leader of the Latino LGBTQ group El Batallón Unido at the Rainbow Center in Tacoma. He also works to motivate Latinos and minorities to attend college and study Computer Science. Audrey is the recipient of a Microsoft Scholarship.

Forrest Allison-Brown (Seattle) – Forrest will be pursuing a Bachelor’s of European Politics at King’s College London. Stemming from an interactive globe he received as a child, his fascination with languages and cultures has driven him to partake in activities like Hands for a Bridge, a local social justice program based on international affairs. Forrest’s goal is to work for an NGO such as Amnesty International that puts pressure on governments that allow human rights violations to take place.

Phillip Christian (Mexico) – Phillip is a high school senior on track to simultaneously graduate with his diploma and Associate’s Degree through the Running Start program. He is bisexual and wants to show his pride for the LGBTQ community wherever he goes. His goal is to attend the University of Washington to pursue a Master’s in Social Work. He plans to become an active member of the GSA on campus.

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Lawrence / Aiysha Christian (Raymond) - Aiysha is currently attending Raymond High School, where she was elected student body president as an openly gay woman. She comes from a low income and religious household. She struggled with her sexuality but now she is strong and confident in who she is. She hopes to find a career where she can have a positive impact on the community and make sure that all children and teens feel safe and have someone to reach out to. Aiysha’s struggles are all behind her, and now she’s ready to make a difference.

Henri Barnes (Coupville) - Henri is attending the University of Alaska and will earn an undergraduate degree in Geological Engineering. She is working towards a career as a Planetary Geoscience Engineer for NASA or a private space company. She helped create a GSA in high school and continues to work within the LGBT community at college involved in both the GSA and with PFLAG. She is excited to represent LGBT women of color in the field of Engineering.

Mike Carrillo (Tacoma) - Michael is a Latino from Bellingham attending the Science and Math Institute. He advocates for LGBTQ rights and immigration laws in his community. One day he wants to become a teacher to inspire students to advocate for their rights. He has interned at different middle schools in Tacoma as well as the Rainbow Center to educate himself about the LGBTQ community and what it takes to become a teacher. Michael is the recipient of a Rich Thoelke Memorial Scholarship.

Kelly is the recipient of the Future Ribbons to underserved and marginalized populations. She plans on providing mental health services to women living with HIV. She believes in approaching the work to end all forms of domestic and sexual violence as forms of oppression and shows that the work to end violence is inextricably linked to the work to end all forms of injustice and oppression.

Kelly Hill (Seattle) – Kelly attends Antioch University while working toward her Master’s degree in Clinical Social Work. A long time domestic violence survivor and sexual assault advocate, she is an activist, speaking out and organizing to highlight the roots of domestic and sexual violence as forms of oppression and shows that the work to end violence is inextricably linked to the work to end all forms of injustice and oppression.

Katy Imbroom (St. Paul, MN) – Katy is a 27-year-old returning student and mathematics tutor studying mathematics and education at the Evergreen State College. She is passionate about education and working class reform and empowerment, with the goal of deconstructing the systematic tracking-out of students from technical fields and mathematics. Katy is pursuing a dual BA/BS with a focus in Applied Mathematics and Pedagogy, with plans to become a middle or high school mathematics teacher.

Lane Kaiser (Bremerton) – Lane is currently working towards his Bachelor’s at Portland State University’s School of Social Work. As a transagender man from a military town, Lane understands all too well the hardships that LGBT youth experience. Like many trans youth, he has overcome financial hardship, harassment and discrimination. After completing his degree, Lane will work on an accredited level to continue his current work helping marginalized youth access systems and obtain social justice.

Eric King (Seattle) – Eric is currently a junior at the University of Washington in the School of Public Health. Throughout the past two years Eric has gained research experience in the Department of Neurological Surgery focusing on glioblastoma. At a young age Eric experienced several health disparities, and through his public health education he plans to advocate for increased health access for marginalized populations in the battle against the health inequality crisis.

Lindsey Kirkham (Bonney Lake) – Lindsey Kirkham is a third year student at the University of Washington pursuing a dual degree in Public Health and Sociology. Her social activism focuses on HIV, sexual violence, LGBTQ issues, feminism and intersectionality. She is the founder of the Bi Women Support Network. After graduation, she hopes to join the Peace Corps and pursue a Master’s degree in public health.

Laura Yanez (Silverton, OR) – Laura attends Portland State University pursuing a dual degree in public health and economics. She is an advocate and activist for the LGBTQ community. Laura has overcome financial hardship, harassment and misunderstanding. She plans to pursue a career in health policy and work to ensure equal and affordable access to all forms of health care.

Deanna Mendenhall (Silverton, OR) – Deanna is currently attending North Seattle Community College pursuing her AA in order to transfer to a four year university. After a five year break in traditional schooling, she is incredibly excited to be back in the world of academia. She has served two years of national service with AmeriCorps and has worked extensively with at-risk youth. She is a passionate advocate for LGBTQ rights. She loves nature and leaving her comfort zone.

Chantelle Korver (Bonney Lake) – Chantelle is working on a Bachelors/Masters degree in Acupuncture and East Asian Medicine at Bastyr University. They will follow this with a Doctorate of Naturopathic Medicine, and eventually open an integrated clinic with their life partner. They wish to create an open and welcoming environment, where people of any identity can seek healing without prejudice and without judgment. Chantelle is committed to ensuring medical access to homeless youth, forty percent of which are LGBTQ.

Rafael Alejandro Padilla (Seattle) – Rafael is attending the University of Washington and working toward a degree in Nursing. Through medicine he hopes to expand quality health care to underrepresented minority and LGBTQ communities who would otherwise have financial or other impassable obstacles. By pursuing a career as a Nurse Practitioner he also hopes to open his own clinic which directly addresses the conditions that either exclusively or more commonly affect LGBTQ and other underrepresented communities.

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Ashley Peers (Gold Bar) – Ashley is a sophomore at Western Washington University pursuing a degree in Psychology with a minor in Queer Studies. She has a strong sense of civic duty and hopes to utilize her education and experience to help those who are often ignored, misunderstood and underserved. Ashley hopes to connect medical resources to those who desire them so that people may live authentically and comfortably in their own skin.
YOUR INVESTMENT AT WORK: former scholar, Arianna Allahyari, shares her successes.

“Receiving a GSBA scholarship means so much more than lessening the financial burden that comes with obtaining an education; it means having an entire community of individuals who believe in me and inspire me to be the best I can be,” says Arianna Allahyari, who received GSBA scholarships in 2011 and 2012.

“The best part . . . is that the feeling of emotional investment from the GSBA community never fades. Even now, three years after being awarded my last scholarship, I more acutely realize the tremendous wave of support from GSBA, and I carry that feeling with me in everything I do. . . . GSBA has continued to be a backbone of support for me as my involvements shift and expand. GSBA provides such a diverse range of networking and professional development opportunities that I didn’t know were available to me!”

With a BS in Urban and Regional Planning from California State Polytechnic University-Pomona and an MS in Civil Engineering from the University of Washington, Arianna is making a name for herself as a transportation planner at the multinatonal engineering and design firm Parsons Brinckerhoff. In this role, Arianna works with local, regional and statewide agencies on a number of major planning efforts, with particular emphasis on transit and water issues. Recently, she helped Sound Transit evaluate the cost of sustainable design elements (solar panels, green roofs, etc.) for future Link Light Rail service from Northgate to Lynnwood. She is also working with King County Metro to improve the speed and reliability of current bus service, while looking ahead to future capacity needs and constraints. Moreover, she supports Parsons Brinckerhoff’s San Francisco office with a number of regional transit planning efforts across the Bay Area.

When Arianna talks about Seattle’s boom, she says, “It’s an exciting time and place . . . for the work that I do, thinking about both short- and long-term transit investments that better connect our communities.”

Now that Arianna is a full-time professional, she makes giving back to the community a priority. Currently she is a member of the Young Professionals Task Force and the Alumni Outreach Committee. She says, “My hope is to continue drawing from my personal experiences as a scholar and as a young professional to help and support current scholars set themselves up for success in their careers, as well as introduce more and more young professionals to the value GSBA has to offer. There is something for everyone at GSBA.”

Jazmine Perez (Quincy) - Jazmine is studying Physiology and Gender, Women, Sexuality Studies at the University of Washington. As the Program Coordinator for SARVA (Sexual Assault and Relationship Violence Activists), she hopes to create a culture at UW that does not tolerate power-based violence. Her goal is to become a Psychiatrist, focusing on sexual assault trauma and understands there are a disproportionate number of LGBTQ and people of color who experience this type of violence. Jazmine is the recipient of a Glenn Johnson and Michael Melancon Bright Horizon Scholarship.

Althea Poteet (Bellevue) - Althea is a senior at Interlake High School. She will be graduating in June, and will also be receiving an Associate of Arts degree from Bellevue College through the Running Start program. A queer youth leader in her LGBTQ community and class president at the Interlake High School, Althea hopes to combine her experiences with a major in Psychology and a minor in Gender Studies.

Zane Rapilian (Shoreline) - Zane self-identifies as genderqueer, a radical activist and a polymath. They are receiving an AS degree from Seattle Central College, where they serve as president of the Queer Straight Alliance, and plan to transfer to the University of Washington to pursue an undergraduate degree in Neuroscience in the fall.

Colby Rezayat ( Bainbridge Island) – Colby is seeking his Master’s in Social Work at the University of Washington. He has spent the last three years as an advocate for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. He also works as a Counselor with Camp Whistler in Mount Vernon. He hopes to combine his passions for mental health, the LGBTQ communities and anti-violence work.

Zeena Rivera (Des Moines) - Zeena is a first-year Humanities for Leadership student at Seattle University. She is the founder and editor-in-chief of Bel Magazine and is now on Hall Council. She is involved in Campus Ministry as one of the leaders for Gender and Sexualities Programming where she planned Transgender Day of Remembrance. Academically, she is driven and wants to become a professor to study the psychology of sexuality and gender.

Juan Serrano (White Swan) - Juan is a senior in high school. He is in numerous school clubs, and serves as a student government officer. He is also involved in three very different sports: cheer, wrestling and tennis. Being able to be involved in so many clubs, Juan says that he wants to work on increasing the number of teen-friendly LGBTQ events. Inspired by his own guidance counselor in high school, he wants become a counselor to inspire young teens both inside and outside of their schools.

Sherry Sternhagen (Seattle) - Sherry is pursuing an undergraduate degree in Social Work at the University of Washington. Through feminist, anti-racist, queer identity activism, Sherry is dedicated to the struggle to end oppression and promote social justice. Some long term goals include providing sexual education to LGBTQ teens, offering dual birth support to women in low resource communities and teaching media literacy. Sherry plans to pursue an MSW and a PhD in Gender Studies.

YOUR INVESTMENT AT WORK: former scholar, Whitney Kershner, shares her successes.

Whitney has constantly faced classmates, coworkers and clients who discount her capabilities as a young, openly gay woman. The only out lesbian at Seattle’s Chief Sealth High School, she was President of the Gay Straight Alliance and was outspoken in her advocacy for equality. As a result, she completed her Bachelor of Arts degree from the Evergreen State College and graduated with a BS in Psychology and Economics. She remembers the importance of receiving support from GSBA, saying, “The Scholarship made a huge impact on my life. I was so proud and grateful to be recognized and be given this support. It was a feeling that stuck with me throughout my college years and beyond.”

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Julia Weaver (Bremerton) - Julia is a 17-year old completing their last year of high school through the Running Start program, they will be graduating with their diploma and an Associate of Arts degree. They plan on going to college and earning a Master’s degree in Environmental Engineering. Julia has been a long time youth leadership council member at their local LGBTQ+ nonprofit youth organization and a volunteer for planned parenthood.

Angela Tang (Seattle) - Angela is a student at Whitman College studying Economics. An advocate for equality for communities of color and LGBTQ communities, she hopes to instigate change through implementing social justice programming at Whitman as Co-President of GLBTQ+ and other marginalized arts in the music industry. Harley currently serves as a Peer Advisor for incoming students, and is the Communications Director for the Berklee Internet Radio Network. Harley is the recipient of a David Barzilai Memorial Scholarship.

Harley Tonelli (Seattle) - Harley is a Seattle native currently studying at Berklee College of Music in Boston. Majoring in Music Business & Management, Harley hopes to use this training as a tool to expand visibility and facilitate the success of LGBTQ+ and other marginalized artists in the music industry. Harley currently serves as a Peer Advisor for incoming students, and is the Communications Director for the Berklee Internet Radio Network. Harley is the recipient of a David Barzilai Memorial Scholarship.
Lori Dugdale knows the power of education and is deeply invested in helping people achieve their educational goals. Now the Director of Communications at the University of Washington Information School, Lori’s first introduction to GSBA came while she was working at Antioch University Seattle. She remembers working with then-student and GSBA Scholar, Aidan Key, to promote his Gender Odyssey Conference. Aidan shared his story with Lori and talked about how greatly he benefited from the GSBA Scholarship. She says the encounter with Aidan made it easy to understand the power the Scholarship Fund could have on students and the wider community.

As Lori learned more, she was drawn to the unique combination of a business chamber lifting up the next generation of LGBTQ leaders. She soon joined the Board of Directors and served as the Marketing Chair for GSBA. She is deeply invested in helping people achieve their education goals. “GSBA represented a great opportunity for me to give back, as an individual member, as a program chair and as a board member.”

While Lori is no longer on the Board, she never misses the TASTE of GSBA and always looks for ways to introduce people to the Fund. “Higher education is vital but also expensive. As a donor, I believe my contribution is a solid investment that will help people contribute to the next generation of LGBTQ leaders. She soon joined the Board of Directors and served as the Marketing Chair for GSBA. She is deeply invested in helping people achieve their education goals. “GSBA represented a great opportunity for me to give back, as an individual member, as a program chair and as a board member.”

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For more information on stock transfers or estate planning, contact the office at 206.363.9188.

Your investment in our scholars provides funding for our current programs and scholarships. All donations are 100% tax-deductible. Donate online at thegsba.org or by mail or phone: GSBA Scholarship Fund, 400 E Pine, Ste 322 Seattle, WA 98122 or 206.363.9188.

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INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE: DR. THOMAS YETMAN

Dr. Tom Yetman, the current CEO for Providence Medical Group Northwest Washington, has been a steadfast supporter of the GSBA Scholarship Fund since moving to Seattle in 2006. He has always been passionate about education and supporting LGBTQ students. His education has been essential to his career success and he feels it is a duty to help other members of our community achieve their maximum potential.

“We have the honor of supporting perhaps the next Maya Angelou, the next Albert Einstein, or the future Barack Obama when we support the GSBA Scholarship Fund. Who knows the wonderful things that we have robbed our society of by not supporting some students in their educational aspirations? Shame on us if we allow even one person with potential to wither and wilt for lack of education and opportunity.”

Tom, who did not come out until later in life, is continuously amazed and inspired by the young people that have embraced their truth. Moreover, he is encouraged by the transgender community and believes we have so much to learn from our transgender brothers and sisters.

Tom is not only an Emerald Slipper Club member, but he also mentors LGBTQ students interested in medicine. He believes we have a duty to support our young people and says, “It is so important to constantly send messages of love and support to our LGBTQ youth. They need to know that their LGBTQ family has their back and will always be there for them.”

GSBA Scholarship Fund
400 E Pine St, Ste 322
Seattle, WA 98122-2300