

FRIENDS OF PROJECT 10 INC.

FALL UPDATE 2019

<http://FriendsOfProject10.org>

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MODELS OF EXCELLENCE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS 2019



Friends of Project 10

Congratulates
the

**Models
of
Excellence
Scholarship**

Recipients

2019

The annual Models of Excellence scholarship ceremony was held on Sunday, June 30, 2019 at the lovely Eden Garden Bar & Grill in Pasadena. A new record, \$45,000, was awarded to 21 Southern California high school students and to 10 students who were renewed and who are currently enrolled in colleges and universities. These students were honored for their outstanding commitment to the advancement of LGBTQ civil rights. Over one hundred twenty people were there to celebrate these honorees.

The students' activities included starting up and leading GSAs, creating antibullying campaigns, working with the mentally ill, providing on-campus LGBTQ resources, reforming the school's health education curriculum to be LGBTQ inclusive, hosting discussions for sharing cultural connections and narratives, promoting the advancement of LatinX students, working with LGBTQ homeless youth, volunteering as a social justice liaison, researching HIV/AIDS, conducting HIV/AIDS outreach to homeless youth, conducting clothing drives for LGBTQ centers, creating social programs for LGBTQ youth, and so much more! Many of them participated in the AIDS Walks, their school's Day of Silence, and the Transgender Day of Visibility.

A good number of these students had to overcome antigay obstacles in both their family and school environments as well as great financial struggles. We could not be more proud of these fine young people!

Support for these young scholars/activists could not be possible without the support of you, our donors!

Please visit our website at <<http://friendsofproject10.org/scholarships.html>> to view our scholarship program the and photos from the event.

Quarterly *Updates* are produced by **FRIENDS OF PROJECT 10 INC.**, a tax-exempt educational organization established in 1986 to assist schools and school districts in setting up counseling programs modeled after the Project 10 program in the Los Angeles School District. **FRIENDS OF PROJECT 10 INC.** works with parents, community members, teachers, school administrators, elected officials, and other professionals.
Update Editor, Gail Rolf. Tax id.#95-4080446

THANK YOU TO OUR SCHOLARSHIP SPONSORS!

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California Community Foundation
Timothy Still
Uptown Gay & Lesbian Alliance (UGLA)
Bernard Vyzga, Jr.

What Amazing Kids! By Timothy Still

I first heard about Project 10 in the late 1980's and thought, "Wow, I wish they'd had that when I was in high school!" But that wasn't going to happen at a Catholic prep school in the mid-1960's, right? I became a Friends of Project 10 donor for the last 30 years or so but had never attended a Models of Excellence Scholarship award ceremony until this last June when 31 college-bound students received their scholarships for the first time or as renewals.

Obviously, the honorees were great students because the vast majority were going to be attending well-known, four-year colleges. It was even more impressive to hear these confident, aspiring young adults talk about their advocacy for LGBTQ civil rights while still in high school and their plans to continue to do so in college and in their future careers in medicine, the arts, government and social services. They obviously had thought about their lives and planned things out. However, from my admittedly old-fashioned 1960's perspective, I noted sadly that few of the scholarship recipients in the area where I was sitting were accompanied by two parents to receive their honor. Some had been joined by one parent, usually their mother, some by a sibling or other relative, some by a friend. I imagine that there are a lot of reasons for that, but I couldn't help wondering if these students had come from challenging home situations.

I became more impressed with their achievements as I talked to the honorees seated around me. Many of them had gone to large public high schools where very few graduates went to four-year colleges. Most of their fellow graduates were going directly into the labor force or to community colleges. One honoree told me that only about 30 graduates from her large high school had gone on to four-year colleges. "Our" kids were clearly exceptional: the achievers, the best of the best and recognized as such, smart, hard-working and motivated beyond their peers.

Many of speakers told us that the Models of Excellence scholarship opportunity is making a critical difference to their college careers. I guess there's nothing to do but keep supporting our LGBTQ youth and their allies!

MORATORIUM ON FRIENDS OF PROJECT 10 INC.

With the passing of our esteemed founder and extraordinary leader, Dr. Virginia Uribe, the board of Friends of Project 10 Inc. have decided to re-evaluate the future of the organization, it's mission and objectives.

As a result, we are placing a moratorium on the acceptance of new contributions until further notice. Any contributions that we do receive, will for the time being, be returned to the donors. Monthly and annual contributors who give through their workplace and financial institutions will need to contact their advisers. Thank you!

Communications can be made directly to Gail Rolf at <friendofproject10@hotmail.com>, or by writing to: Friends of Project 10, 115 W. California Blvd., #116, Pasadena, CA 91105.