

David, Gladys & Candace Groudine Scholarship Recipients:

Gianna Ross, Colonie Central High School

Gianna is an aspiring playwright and activist for the LGBTQA community. Gianna has been a member of their high school GSA for two years, and were elected Co-President this year. Theatre is Gianna's passion, and they hope to work as a playwright to bring gender diversity to Broadway in the future. Gianna has acted in three high school shows, including *Beauty and the Beast* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. They have also been a member of the theatre technical crew for four years. Gianna will be attending SUNY New Paltz majoring in English with either a double major or minor in Theatre.

Jack Einstein, Shaker High School

Jack Einstein is a transgender activist who created the I AM HUMAN Project to raise awareness for transgender student rights. This project has taken off and as a result he has talked on WRPI's HomoRadio, presented to NYSUT's Civil and Human Rights Committee, and has visited several schools to present the project. Jack is also a GLSEN New York Capital Region Youth Board Member and four-year president of his school's Gay-Straight Alliance. In the fall he plans to attend Seton Hall University's School of International Relations and Diplomacy and after graduation he hopes to engage in foreign service work for LGBTQA people in Russia and the Middle East.

Gregg Stein Scholarship Recipient:

Raina Briggs, Bethlehem Central High School

Raina is from Delmar, NY. They live with their mother and three-legged cat, Jackson. They identify as gender non-binary. They enjoy playing musical instruments with friends, like flute, electric guitar, and bass. Working both within the LGBTQA community and outside of it, Raina often uses their artwork to change people's perceptions about the world around them. This is done through conveying messages that might cause political and social change in the viewer. Raina will be attending the School of Visual Arts to receive a Bachelor in Fine Arts, with a major in Visual and Critical Studies.

Pride Center Youth Scholarship Recipient:

Cecelia Mary Longo, Emma Willard

Cecelia is an active member and advocate of the LGBTQA community. She identifies as polysexual. An avid public speaker, she has honed this skill through her involvement with Forensics, where she achieved Academic All-American; as co-head of Model UN; and as co-head of Pride Alliance and Amnesty International. Cecelia is a Girl Scout too.

Recently earning her Gold Award on a project about college campus safety. She will be attending Lewis & Clark to double major in History and Gender Studies.