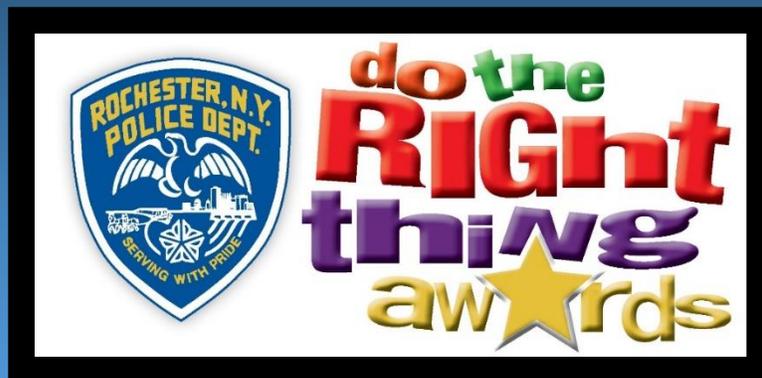




Do the Right Thing of Rochester, Inc.
2018-2019 Annual Report

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PROGRAM HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

The Do the Right Thing Award program has been part of the Rochester Police Department since 1995, and incorporated as a 501(c)3 nonprofit corporation in March 2000. The program functions under the auspices of the Rochester Police Department, and is overseen by an appointed Executive Board of Directors. Program sponsors provide generous donations which are distributed to award winners, and also help fund the daily operations of the program.

The goal of the Do the Right Thing Award Program is to foster positive relationships between all local law enforcement and school-aged youth. The program recognizes students for their exemplary behavior. Acts such as volunteering in the community, aiding law enforcement and other first responders, acts of heroism, leadership and role model behavior, and demonstrated “turn-around” or improved behavior are acknowledged. Highlighting these students and their stories in the media promotes positive recognition for these youth, and shows that good choices are newsworthy. Program sponsor News 10NBC WHEC-TV televises a news segment about each ceremony, and each winner may be individually highlighted and their story broadcast as well. Often these stories are also featured on their website.

Any student enrolled in grades Kindergarten - 12 in any school within Monroe County is eligible for nomination. Students may be nominated for incidents that have occurred within one year of the nomination, and the act must have occurred within Monroe County. Anyone over 18 years old can nominate a student - this includes first responders, teachers, coaches, family, friends, and neighbors. Nominations are accepted throughout the year, and are reviewed by a committee that selects students to receive the Do the Right Thing Award. The committee is comprised of representatives from our sponsor organizations.

Selected students are celebrated at a public ceremony which is held at the City Public Safety Building. Typically five ceremonies are held each school year, with up to ten students recognized at each ceremony. Do the Right Thing Award winners receive several rewards and prizes donated by program sponsors, and winners may also apply for a scholarship when they are high school seniors. Students selected as winners must attend an award ceremony in order to officially be considered a Do the Right Thing Award Winner. All students that are nominated will receive a letter of recognition for their act, even if they are not chosen as a winner.

Since the program began, we have recognized over 4,000 nominees, awarded over 1,000 winners, and contributed approximately \$25,000 towards scholarships for our winners.

This was a very dynamic year for the Do the Right Thing Program. Sydnie Evans, who had served as the Program Coordinator since 2010, stepped down from the position in November, and Laurie Kingsley-Henry took over shortly thereafter. At that time, Lisa Hayes also joined the program as the new Program Assistant.

Due to the changes in staffing, the first two ceremonies that were scheduled for the 2018-2019 school year were cancelled. Despite these changes, we were still able to honor 23 students for the remainder of the school year. Additionally, we had over 120 people (consisting of winners and their families) join us for our Family Celebration Event at Seabreeze Amusement Park at the end of the school year. Thirteen former winners applied for our 2019 scholarship, and we were proud to award two students each a \$1000 college scholarship.

We have managed to ramp up our social media presence, which helped spread the word about the program resulting in an increase of submitted nominations. Additionally, we started a quarterly newsletter which highlights all of our accomplishments each season.

The three award ceremonies that we held this school year were well attended by not only family and friends of our winners, but by many local dignitaries as well, to include Monroe County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo, Rochester Mayor Lovely Warren, Monroe County Sheriff Todd Baxter, Rochester Police Chief La’Ron Singletary, and many other local police chiefs from within Monroe County. Additionally, joining us to support our winners were several staff members from the Emergency Communications Department (also known as the 911 Center), staff and administrators from several local school districts, government offices, fire departments, and other businesses in our area. We also gained five new sponsors this program year, and our winners were able to experience several exciting opportunities thanks to their generosity.

We look forward to helping this program continue to grow, and recognizing even more students!

For more information about the Do the Right Thing Award program, or to nominate a student, please visit our website. Also, make sure to follow us on social media. You can find all of our contact information in the box below.

Do the Right Thing of Rochester, Inc.

***Phone: (585) 428-7863**

***Fax: (585)428-6093**

***Email: Dotherightthing@cityofrochester.gov**

***Website: www.cityofrochester.gov/DoTheRightThing**

***Follow us on Facebook: @DTRTROC**

***Follow us on Instagram: @DTRT_Rochester**

***Follow us on Twitter: @rpd_dtrt**



PROGRAM STAFF



Sergeant Jose Vargas
Program Director



Laurie Kingsley-Henry
Program Coordinator



Lisa Hayes
Program Assistant



Nathan Marshall, Police Cadet

Learn more about RPD's [Police Recruit Education Program \(PREP\)](#).



City of Rochester

Rochester Police Department
185 Exchange Boulevard, Suite 630
Rochester, New York 14614-2124
www.cityofrochester.gov/publicsafety/police/

La'Ron D. Singletary
Chief of Police

September 19, 2019

Dear Do The Right Thing Families, Sponsors and Supporters,

On behalf of Do The Right Thing of Rochester, Inc., and the Rochester Police Department, I would like to commend you on the accomplishments of the 2018-2019 program year, which has been instrumental in helping to acknowledge the best parts of our community.

Having had the honor of conferring these awards, I am never ceased to be amazed by the stories of courage, heroism, honesty, volunteerism, kindness, and leadership, which always serves to instill us with pride in our youth, and assures us that our future is in good hands. This type of involvement is a model of caring and a solid investment which will pay great dividends, both personally and professionally, in the long run.

I would be remiss if I did not also acknowledge the parents, teachers, administrators, officers, firefighters, caregivers, and other community members, who took the time to nominate outstanding young people and to help bring these remarkable stories to light. We should never forget, or be too busy to recognize, encourage, and reward our children, our future influencers, for honorable contributions to our society.

Lastly, this essential program would not exist if it were not for our sponsors, our partners in this alliance to help promote what is best in all of us. We realize that the continued success of this program can only happen with the funding, participation, and generous support of our various private donations and public business partners. We cannot thank you enough.

As Chief of the Rochester Police Department, I officially congratulate all of you on a job well done.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'La'Ron D. Singletary'.

La'Ron D. Singletary
Chief of Police

Phone: 585.428.7033

Fax: 585.428.6093

TTY: 585.428.6054

EEO/ADA Employer



Do The Right Thing Program

Rochester Police Department
185 Exchange Boulevard, Room 105
Rochester, New York 14614
Phone: (585) 428-7863 Fax: (585) 428-6093

September 17th, 2019

Dear Do the Right Thing Sponsors,

First and foremost, thank you all for your support to help recognize young individuals in our community who go above and beyond to make this world a better place. Your assistance helps us celebrate the good in what is sometimes a cruel world. I remain inspired after each Do the Right Thing Ceremony where the public learns how young lives are making a big difference. They are changing lives—and in some cases—saving them too! It's important that we continue to highlight examples of positive behavior now more than ever before.

Your support not only enables us to shine a public light on good deeds but reward them as well. We've had an amazing, banner year seeking out and finding new stories of young people who are making a difference in their communities and it is all thanks to the assistance you provide.

There are no words to express my sincere gratitude to all of you.



Patrick S. Taney

DTRT Board President

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS



Mayor Lovely Warren (City of Rochester)

Police Chief La’Ron D. Singletary (Rochester Police Department)

President: Pat Taney (News 10NBC WHEC-TV)

Vice President: Joy Claboine (The Gregory Jefferson Memorial Scholarship Fund)

Treasurer: Suzanne Warren (City of Rochester)

Secretary and Program Coordinator: Laurie Kingsley-Henry (City of Rochester)

Program Director: Sergeant Jose Vargas (Rochester Police Department)

Program Assistant: Lisa Hayes (City of Rochester)

LaShay Harris (American Medical Response)

Glen Jeter (McDonalds, Upper Falls Boulevard)

James McCauley (Camp Good Days and Special Times)

Nydia Padilla-Rodriguez (Rochester City School District)

John Picone (City of Rochester)

Joan Roby-Davison (City of Rochester)

Brandon Smith (Memorial Art Gallery)

Grace Tillinghast (The Battery)



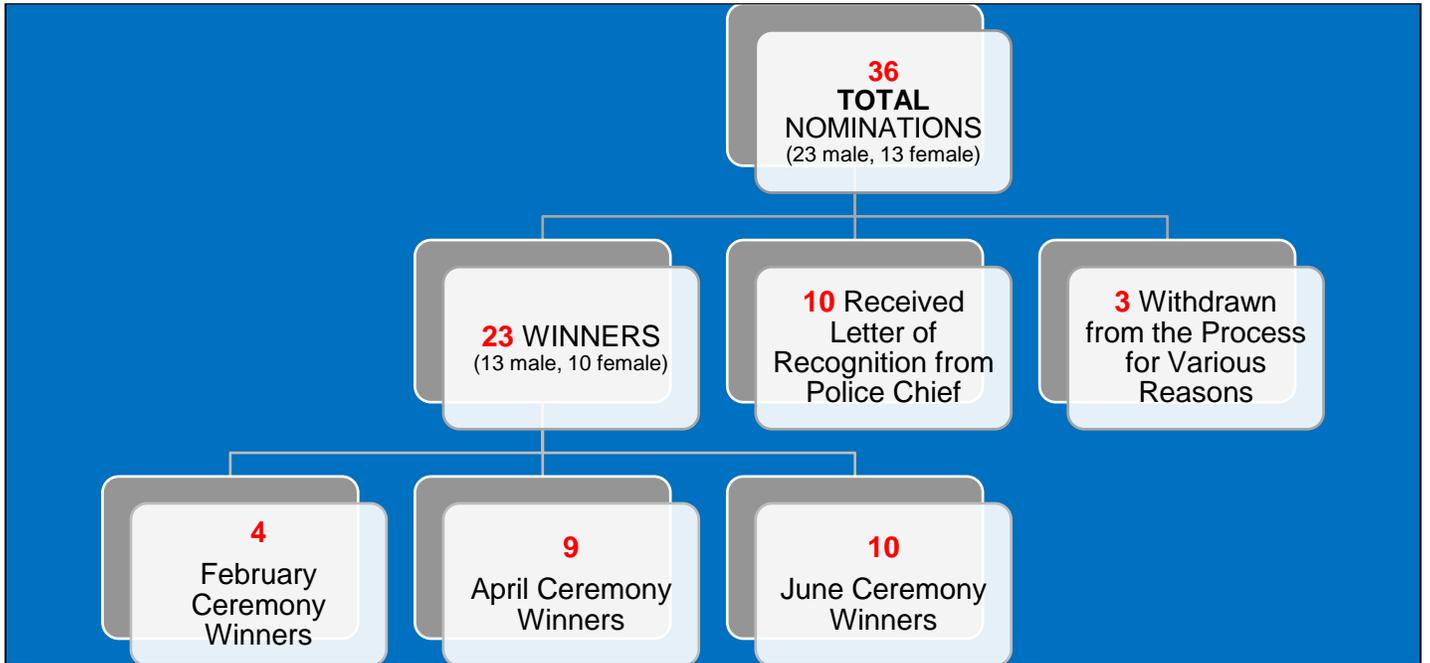
PROGRAM SPONSORS

American Medical Response
Ames-Amzalak Memorial Trust
The Battery
Buffalo Bills
Camp Good Days and Special Times
City of Rochester
C.J. & B.S August Family Foundation
The Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation
The Democrat and Chronicle
Dynamic Recording Studio
The Gregory Jefferson Memorial
Scholarship Fund
McDonalds, Upper Falls Boulevard
Memorial Art Gallery

News 10NBC WHEC-TV
NYRA Trophies & Awards
Pirate Toy Fund
Rochester Americans
Rochester City School District
Rochester Museum and Science Center
Rochester Police Department
Rochester Red Wings
Salvatore's Old Fashioned Pizzeria
Seabreeze Amusement Park
Seneca Park Zoo
Sky Zone Trampoline Park
TOPS Friendly Markets
Wildlife Educators Coalition



PROGRAM STATISTICS



School District	Nominations	Winners
Charter Schools	3	1
Private Schools	3	1
Churchville-Chili CSD	2	1
East Irondequoit CSD	2	2
Gates-Chili CSD	3	2
Greece CSD	3	2
Hilton CSD	1	0
Honeoye Falls-Lima CSD	1	0
Penfield CSD	1	1
Rochester City School District	16	12
Webster CSD	1	1
TOTAL	36	23

Grade Level	Nominations	Winners
Kindergarten	1	1
1	0	0
2	2	2
3	2	2
4	1	0
5	4	3
6	4	3
7	2	1
8	3	0
9	2	2
10	4	3
11	1	0
12	9	6
Unknown	1	0
TOTAL	36	23

FINANCIAL REPORTS

Do The Right Thing of Rochester Inc.

Balance Sheet as of 7/31/2019

	<u>Jul 31, 19</u>	<u>Jul 31, 18</u>	<u>\$ Change</u>	<u>% Change</u>
ASSETS				
Total Checking/Savings - Discretionary	3,602.18	2,494.40	1,107.78	44.41%
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>3,602.18</u>	<u>2,494.40</u>	<u>1,107.78</u>	<u>44.41%</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Equity				
Opening Bal Equity	581.74	581.74	0.00	0.0%
Unrestricted Net Assets	1,912.66	5,064.24	-3,151.58	-62.23%
Net Income	1,107.78	-3,151.58	4,259.36	135.15%
Total Equity	<u>3,602.18</u>	<u>2,494.40</u>	<u>1,107.78</u>	<u>44.41%</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u>3,602.18</u>	<u>2,494.40</u>	<u>1,107.78</u>	<u>44.41%</u>

Do The Right Thing of Rochester Inc.

Revenue & Expense Year Ending 7/31/2019

	<u>Aug '18 - Jul 19</u>
Income	
Foundation and Trust Grants	
Restricted - Daisy Marquis Jones	5,000.00
Unrestricted	1,000.00
Seabreeze Receipts (add'l tickets)	480.00
Total Income	<u>6,480.00</u>
Expense	
Scholarships	2,000.00
Ceremonies	1,207.22
Miscellaneous Expense	410.00
Seabreeze	1,755.00
Total Expense	<u>5,372.22</u>
Net Income	<u>1,107.78</u>

2018-2019 AWARD WINNERS

It isn't always easy for children these days to do the right thing. Standing up against bullies, acting courageously during a traumatic event, or acting unselfishly and putting the needs of others before their own, are things that can be difficult for anyone at any age. But there are many Monroe County youth that choose to go above and beyond, and we were privileged to recognize 23 of them and their commendable actions at three award ceremonies throughout the 2018-2019 school year. Listed below are each of their incredible stories. News 10NBC WHEC-TV broadcast a highlight of each award ceremony, and featured many of the winners and their stories individually as well. Links for news coverage for those that participated in individual interviews are included in the below summaries.

February 2019 Ceremony Winners

★ Lance Grayson, Jr.

6th Grade

Henry Lomb School #20

In April, 2018, school staff member Ms. McCuller fell while walking into school and hurt her knee. As she was laying on the ground, shocked at what had occurred, she heard a voice say "Excuse me, Miss. Do you need help? Are you ok"? She looked up to see a young boy standing over her with his hand out. That boy was Lance, who helped Ms. McCuller up off the ground and assisted her with entering the building. Lance explained to the Principal what had happened, and remained to make sure the nurse examined Ms. McCuller. At the end of the day, he even checked on Ms. McCuller again to make sure she was okay. Lance demonstrated a level of maturity and compassion for which Ms. McCuller was truly grateful, and in return, she nominated Lance for this award. Lance's principal said Lance's demonstration of selflessness and caring in that situation demonstrated the true nature of his character. While there are so many instances where students would laugh or turn the other way when someone is in need, Lance did not. In fact, he was the only student who offered to assist Ms. McCuller in getting to her feet.



[Click here to watch Lance's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)

★ Paola Laboy

9th Grade

School of the Arts

Paola is a 9th grade honors student, majoring in Drama. Back in September, Paola noticed some of her classmates making mean and inappropriate comments to a new student in the lunchroom. Paola walked up to the table, asked the students to stop making the comments, and invited the new student to come sit with her. The students who were engaging in the mean comments then began making inappropriate comments to Paola. Paola quickly reported the bullying, and all parties participated in a restorative circle at the school. The students got a chance to respectfully express their opinions and feelings, and came to a peaceful understanding/resolution regarding the lunchroom incident. Paola invited the new student to sit with her at lunch moving forward. Paola was nominated by her school counselor, Ms. Coccia, who says Paola has a way of putting her classmates at ease and making them feel comfortable, even in the most difficult situations. Ms. Coccia says Paola is 'truly is a rare teenager that leads by example and makes "doing the right thing" look effortless'.



[Click here to watch Paola's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)

★ Charlie Novick

3rd Grade

Holy Cross School

While camping with his family over the Labor Day weekend, Charlie saw a small child jump into the pool. Although several adults were around, no one noticed the child go under the water. Charlie began yelling 'a baby is under the water'. When the adults did not hear him at first, Charlie, who cannot swim, jumped into the pool and helped pull the child out. That child was two year old Khloe, and thanks to Charlie's heroic actions, Khloe is now a healthy three year old and doing just fine! Charlie overcame his own fears in order to help Khloe. Holy Cross School Principal Ms. Martell nominated Charlie for his bravery. Everyone at Holy Cross School is so proud of him, and Khloe's mom Carrie considers Charlie a hero!



[Click here to watch Charlie's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)

In October 2018, Kamilah's class was at Stokoe Farms for a field trip. As the class was lining up getting ready to leave, Kamilah approached her teacher, Mrs. Perkins, and told her that there was a little girl nearby crying because she couldn't find her mom. Mrs. Perkins found the little girl, who was no older than three, and confirmed she was upset because she had no idea where her mother was. A Stokoe Farms staff member was located and able to assist the little girl. Mrs. Perkins was impressed that Kamilah was able to recognize someone else's distress and act on it. 'This says so much for her as a good, caring human being. Kamilah always thinks of others before herself', said Mrs. Perkins.

[Click here to watch Charlie's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)



April 2019 Ceremony Winners

[Click here for news coverage of the April 2019 Ceremony by News 10NBCWHEC-TV.](#)

★ **Eddie Avilez**

5th Grade

Laurelton Pardee School

Eddie was nominated by school nurse, Ms. Praino-Magill, who recently retired. When Ms. Praino-Magill was still working at the school, Eddie would usually check in with her every morning. One morning back in October, Eddie had just left the health office and was using the bathroom before going to homeroom. Shortly thereafter, Eddie returned to the nurse's office and appeared upset, pacing around the office. When asked if something was wrong, Eddie stated, "Mrs. Magill, I have something to tell you because I am afraid someone will get hurt." He proceeded to tell her that while he was in the bathroom, a classmate took out a pocket knife from his pants and was displaying it to himself and another student, and told them how he would use the knife if someone bothered him. Ms. Praino-Magill ensured the proper school staff were notified and the situation was handled. Due to his courage and honesty, Eddie was instrumental in protecting other students from harm. He could have easily left the bathroom and said nothing, but instead acted bravely, expecting nothing in return.



[Click here to watch Eddie's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)

★ **Jordan Klembcyk**

12th Grade

Penfield High School

Jordan was nominated by his neighbor Diane Sturmer. While at home recently, Ms. Sturmer was having difficulty breathing due to an allergic reaction. Jordan was nearby and noticed she was having a medical challenge and asked how he could help. He was able to get her medication, then went to his house to let his mother know what had occurred, and continued to check on Ms. Sturmer until she was able to work through the allergic reaction. This isn't the first time Jordan has helped his neighbor. There have been many times when Jordan has assisted his neighbor with various chores without any expectation of compensation or recognition. Jordan is a member of the National Honor Society, and is a three-season athlete, participating in volleyball, indoor and outdoor track. Additionally, he has volunteered for the past five years with Flower City Work Camp, both as a builder helping to fix homes, and as a soccer camp counselor.



Christian was nominated by his proud parents. Recently, after watching a special about a girl that committed suicide, they had a discussion with him about this difficult topic. About a week later at school, one of Christian's classmates made a statement regarding their feelings that caused Christian to be concerned for his friend's well-being. Christian immediately went to a trusted adult at school, and explained what had just happened. As a result, the student was able to express their feelings to the appropriate school staff and family members. Christian's mother did not know what Christian had done until the school's social worker called and let them know what a great job he did. Christian's actions are a great example of what being an 'Upstander' is – a person who speaks or acts in support of someone else!



[Click here to watch Christian's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)

On January 27th at 4:45am, the carbon dioxide alarm woke five year old Julia up. Her father and younger sister did not hear it. Julia went to her dad's room and called to him. When he didn't wake up she jumped on him. He eventually woke up feeling ill and nauseous, but was able to get the three of them out of the house and call 911. The fire department arrived and the three of them were transported to the hospital to be checked for carbon monoxide poisoning. Both Julia's father and younger sister had high levels of carbon monoxide and were treated for this. Fortunately for the McNally family, Julia was brave and persistent in waking her father. The outcome could have been much worse, and yet despite her heroic act, she is very humble.



[Click here to watch Julia's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)



★ **Adriana Mendoza**

12th Grade

Webster Thomas High School

Adriana was nominated by family friend Ivette Rodriguez for her high degree of motivation both in and out of school. Academically, she has managed to maintain high honor roll with distinction since 6th grade, and takes many challenging Advanced Placement classes. She is currently a student in the highly selective Monroe BOCES New Visions Program, and a member of the National Honor Society. She complements her schooling with several extracurricular activities. She is a cheerleader, and does a great deal of volunteering. She has been volunteering since she was eight years old, participating in missions in her parents' native country, Ecuador. Additionally she has volunteered locally, at both Rochester General and Strong Memorial Hospitals, has helped at the Holy Trinity Church's Bible Camp, and every December since 2014, she has helped at the Xerox HAPA Christmas Party for Migrant workers and their families. This is an event during which first need items and toys are distributed to migrant worker's children. Her former Chemistry teacher, Mr. Bertrand, had nothing but praise for Adriana. 'Adriana is a person of great moral character who strives to leave her school and the world around her a better place. She is heavily involved in volunteer activities through Rotary Interact where she volunteers her time performing many different duties. Knowing Adriana, I know that she does these things, not to simply pad a resume to make her look good, but because she has a sincere desire to help others'.



[Click here to watch Adriana's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)

★ **Brandon Murrell**

7th Grade

School of the Arts

Brandon was nominated by Rochester Police Department Clinton Section Officer Contreras. On January 27th, Officer Contreras and other officers responded to Brandon's home for the call of an unresponsive female. Upon arrival, officers were notified via dispatch that the caller was very upset, but was following directions to assist the unresponsive female. Once officers were on scene, Brandon ran downstairs and directed police, fire, and paramedics to the unresponsive woman. It was learned at the chaotic scene that Brandon was the 911 caller, and the unresponsive female was Brandon's mother, who was having a medical emergency. Brandon's swift actions and ability to remain calm under a very stressful situation ultimately saved his mother's life. Despite being scared, Brandon was able to articulate what was happening to the 911 telecommunicator, and followed the directions that were provided to him.



[Click here to watch Brandon's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)

★ **Gianna Potter**

10th Grade

School of the Arts

Gianna was nominated by Shanice Bridgewater, who was hit by a car on the morning of February 8th. Ms. Bridgewater said that without hesitation, Gianna, who was waiting at a nearby bus stop, ran up to her offering comfort and assistance as she was injured and bleeding. Despite being nervous, Gianna called 911 and stayed with Ms. Bridgewater until first responders arrived. Gianna helped keep Ms. Bridgewater calm, and ensured all of her personal belongings were gathered and safely left with her. Ms. Bridgewater was so grateful for Gianna's presence during such a traumatic moment, and nominated Gianna as a token of gratitude.



[Click here to watch Gianna's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)

★ **Zane Thieleman**

12th Grade

Greece Arcadia High School

Zane was nominated by Investigator Frank Camp who works in the Rochester Police Department's Chief's Office. Zane is a member of the Boy Scouts of America and working towards his Eagle Scout status. Zane called the Chief's Office looking to volunteer to work on a project. Zane was told about the ["Books and Bears" program](#) started by Mayor Warren, a program in which the Rochester Police Department accepts new books and stuffed teddy bears that our officers can then offer to small children who experience or witness violence or some other traumatic event. Zane took this idea and ran with it. He spent the next year raising funds by holding bake sales and soliciting donations while constantly updating the Police Department as to his progress. This past February, Zane delivered 200 individually wrapped waterproof packages each containing a new teddy bear, coloring book and crayons. RPD often gets donations of books and bears, but rarely in this quality and quantity, and never from one individual. We are proud to report that each of Zane's bear packages have been distributed to our various sections throughout the City, which will enable our officers to provide one more thing that may help a child in need.



[Click here to watch Zane's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)



In July of 2018 Rochester Police Department Clinton Section Officer Wassinger responded to a 911 call at a residence for a check the welfare of an eleven year old girl. Upon arrival he located Keizhra, who was at home alone with her three younger brothers. Officer Wassinger learned that Keizhra had placed the call. She was calm and was confident when answering the officer's questions, and provided helpful information. Officer Wassinger was so impressed with Keizhra's composure that he nominated her for the Do the Right Thing Award. Not only did Keizhra show strength and intelligence by calling the police when she felt she needed help, but she was also appreciative of the officer's assistance. 'The leadership and mindfulness Keizhra displayed says a lot to the level of maturity and great moral character she has for herself and for her younger brothers' said Officer Wassinger.



[Click here to watch Keizhra's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)



June 2019 Ceremony Winners

[Click here for news coverage of the June 2019 Ceremony by News 10NBCWHEC-TV.](#)

★ Joseph Brown	12th Grade	Leadership Academy for Young Men
★ Daequan Enterline	12th Grade	Leadership Academy for Young Men

While outside of their school for lunch break on March 25th, friends Joseph and Daequan witnessed a blind man walking in the middle of busy Lake Ave. Without hesitation, the three young men went into quick action to help the man to safety. Together they stopped on-coming traffic, assisted the man out of the street, then continued to walk with him so that he arrived safely at his destination.



[Click here to watch their story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)

★ Colton Madsen	10th Grade	Gates Chili High School
★ Ethan Routly	10th Grade	Greece Arcadia High School

On Easter Sunday, friends Ethan and Colton were riding their bikes at the Charlotte Pier. When they stopped to rest at the end of the pier, a distraught woman came to the end of the pier and crossed to the water side of the ropes. She was crying and said that she was going to jump. Colton immediately went to her, talking to her and causing a distraction while Ethan called 911. First responders arrived and the woman was taken to the hospital for care. Colton and Ethan's quick actions and excellent teamwork brought a positive resolution to a very stressful situation.



[Click here to watch Colton and Ethan's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)

★ **Kaitlyn Carey**

9th Grade

East High School

On a cold snowy day this past February, Kaitlyn was on her way to school when she spotted an elderly woman who had slipped and fallen on the snowy sidewalk. The elderly woman was in pain, injured, and unable to get up. Kaitlyn called 911 and requested an ambulance. She remained with the woman and another passerby, and did not leave until the ambulance left to transport the injured woman to the hospital. Kaitlyn was nominated by her former teacher, Ms. Osgood-Wojtylak, after she learned about this commendable act.



★ **Jacob Carroll**

12th Grade

Churchville Chili Senior High School

On March 26th while at school, two students were getting into an argument and posturing for a physical altercation. Jacob stood up between the students and maintained position with one of the students to help keep them separated. As the students kept moving around trying to fight, Jacob remained in between the two to help keep them separated until staff members were able to assist in separating the students. Jacob was nominated for his role model behavior by the school's Assistant Principal Mr. Colabufo.



★ **Hadassah Dumas-Smith**

6th Grade

Wilson Foundation Academy

Hadassah was nominated by 911 Telecommunicator Tanya Velazquez, who took the call when 11 year old Hadassah called 911 this past February when her mother was having an asthma attack. Hadassah was able to provide the information needed in a very calm and polite manner. She performed the instructions that were given and kept her mom calm while she waited for the ambulance to arrive.



★ **Sa'Miya Gibson**

2nd Grade

Anna Murray Douglass Academy #12

On February 7, 2nd grader Sa'miya showed great courage when she reported a potentially dangerous situation within her school. Sa'miya saw one of her classmates take matches out of his backpack and walk out of the classroom with the intention of lighting them in the stairwell. Even though she is friends with that student, she immediately told her teacher. The student was located lighting the matches in the stairwell. The situation was addressed and everyone remained safe thanks to Sa'miya's actions.



★ **Jeffery Nesmith**

3rd Grade

Dr. Walter Cooper Academy #10

Nine year old Jeffrey found a cell phone in his neighborhood. Instead of keeping it he checked the phone to see who it belonged to. He learned that it was his neighbor's phone and then returned it to his neighbor. Afterwards he told his friends what he did, and they told him if they found it they would have kept it. Fortunately Jeffrey did the right thing and returned the phone to its rightful owner.

[Click here to watch Jeffrey's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)



★ **Haylee Pacheco**

6th Grade

East Irondequoit Middle School

Haylee was nominated by school nurse Ms. Batek. Earlier this school year the East Irondequoit Middle School submitted to the PTSA a wish list of items the nurse's office could use to better assist students throughout the year. Haylee's mom is part of the PTSA, and she mentioned to Haylee what was needed. Haylee decided to use her own money to buy supplies that would help students be more prepared for issues that happen in school, so they can remain in school rather than having to leave or wait for their parents to bring them needed items. Haylee and her mom went shopping, and Haylee then brought in a big bag of supplies to the nurse's office, which included 9 pairs of black leggings for girls, as well as several packs of feminine hygiene products. This gesture of kindness merits recognition as it demonstrates great generosity and thoughtfulness towards her fellow students.

[Click here to watch Haylee's story featured on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.](#)





2019 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Each year, all previous Do the Right Thing Award winners that are currently high school seniors may apply for a scholarship to be applied towards the payment of their college or trade school tuition.

Thirteen applications were submitted for this year's scholarship, and we were proud to have awarded two \$1000 college scholarships. The winners were announced at our Family Celebration Event, and one of the winners was able to attend for a 'check' presentation.

Shahia Matthews-Anderson

Shahia graduated from Rochester Prep High School, and is attending the University at Buffalo, where she will major in Business and Accounting, and minor in Counseling.

Shahia won the Do the Right Thing award in November 2010 while in 4th grade at Urban Choice Charter School. She was nominated by her mother for her quick thinking when her younger sister suffered a medical incident while riding on the school bus.



Mikah McDonnell



Mikah graduated from Webster Thomas High School, and is attending The College of William and Mary. She will major in Business and Finance, minor in Math, all while playing Division I collegiate golf. Unfortunately she was unable to attend our Seabreeze event.

Mikah won the award in November 2009 while in 3rd grade at Klem Road North Elementary School. She was nominated by her mother for her kind heart and giving spirit by twice donating her hair to charities that make wigs for individuals who have lost their hair to cancer.

SEABREEZE AMUSEMENT PARK FAMILY CELEBRATION DAY

June 28th was our Do the Right Thing Family Celebration Day event at Seabreeze Amusement Park. All winners from this past school year, along with their family members, were invited to attend. Over 120 people joined us for a beautiful, but hot, day of rides, slides, food, prizes, and lots of fun. This event would not have been possible without the generosity of program sponsor Seabreeze Amusement Park, the Pirate Toy Fund, and TOPS Friendly Markets.

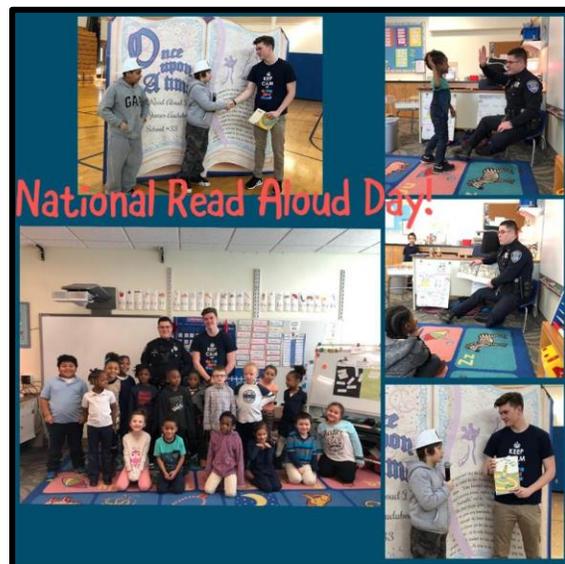
[Click here to check out the article published in the Democrat and Chronicle highlighting our action-packed day.](#)



DO THE RIGHT THING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

National Read Aloud Day

Every year on World Read Aloud Day, people all around the globe read aloud together and share stories to advocate for literacy as a human right that belongs to all people. On February 1, many Rochester Police Officers, along with our Cadet Nathan, went to read to the children at John James Audubon School #33 in the RCSD to create a strong relationship with the police, the children, and our community! Together they shared many stories, laughs, and smiles!



Rochester in Focus

Deputy Chief LaRon Singletary and Laurie had the opportunity to talk about our program on an episode of Rochester in Focus, which aired on February 3rd on WHEC TV10. They are one of our proud sponsors, and also televise highlights of the ceremony on the evening news on the day of each ceremony.

[Click here to view the interview.](#)

Youth Sports Expo

On February 9th, Laurie attended the Youth Sports Expo event at the Armory. Hosted by the Rochester Youth Sports Foundation, in collaboration with City of Rochester R-Centers and the Rochester City School District, this event provided families and youth an opportunity to become engaged in healthy and safe activities, giving them opportunities to speak with representatives from City youth sports and various active play organizations from the area.



Amerks Hometown Heroes Game

Laurie attended the Amerks Hometown Heroes Game on February 23rd, where she was able to set up a table to promote our program while cheering on some of our local heroes as members from RPD played hockey against members from the MCSO Jail Bureau. This game took place before the Amerks played the Belleville Senators.

2019 Spring Fling at Bill Gray's Regional Iceplex



Laurie and Nathan had a great time on March 31st at the 2019 Spring Fling at Bill Gray's Regional Iceplex, which was sponsored by KISS 106.7. A perfect cure for cabin fever for young families, Bill Gray's Regional Iceplex was transformed into a giant playground for this one day event, where two of its four ice rinks were covered with flooring to create 34,000 square feet of space to play! Featuring over 50 vendors, much fun was had by all! Attendees enjoyed a wide range of activities, including bounce houses, face painting, interactive games, music, and more! It was a wonderful opportunity to meet lots of people and share information about our program!

Project T.I.P.S.

Do the Right Thing enjoyed sharing information about our program by having a table set up at each of the four Project T.I.P.S. events this summer. Hosted by Camp Good Days & Special Times, Project T.I.P.S. stands for Trust, Information, Programs & Services. Project T.I.P.S. involves community agencies and law enforcement personnel working in selected neighborhoods to rebuild trust amongst residents and share information. Locations are selected by the Rochester Police, in collaboration with the Rochester Fire Department and other partner agencies. For more information about this about Project T.I.P.S. visit their website at

<https://www.campgooddays.org/programs-project-tips>.



DO THE RIGHT THING PROGRAM FEEDBACK

Thank you for all you do for the youth in our community! Now, more than ever before it is so very important to recognize positive, good behavior and show children we are behind them to support them.

Thank you for giving me the award. Do the right thing is a great program. It has and will continue to help our community. I am proud to say "I am a do the right thing winner."

Christian major

My mom cried when she got the call she is always so proud of me and getting this award was her favorite mothers day present, and Dad's too. Surrounding myself around positive things helps like, exploring, volunteering w/mom, and being in marching band. Thank you guys for everything I am truly thankful to God for showing me to have a godly heart and spread my love to whoever needs it.

-Haylee M. Anderson 😊

In the way they are doing it is perfect and very nice. This program has impacted Kamilah and us in a very positive way. She has always had a positive attitude but now this program has been taken to a more positive attitude. Kamilah sees the police now even more as heroes and role models. She is very happy and surprised with all the gifts and with all the attention received.

We are very happy that this program exists and that it highlights the good actions that the children do and even to make the program do the right thing more successful and that they can receive a scholarship for the studies waooo this has impacted our lives in a very nice way. We are very proud of her for what she did.

Please continue with the program give us encouragement of a better future for our children they feel like heroes with this program helps us to commit to doing good and see the police in a very positive way as heroes who are and friends even more like a family. Thank you.

Mrs Kingsley-Henry and Do The Right Thing
Committee,

Thank you so much for selecting me to be one of the "Do The Right Thing" scholarship winners. To be named a winner is such a great honor and is greatly appreciated! I am disappointed I was unable to attend the ceremony last Friday due to a golf qualifier I had. Thank you so much again!

Mikah McDonnell

Facebook Comments

Cierra Hawkins Ceremony was very well put together and really shined a bright light on these wonderful children. They are exceptional



Merari Rowley-Pacheco recommends Do The Right Thing of Rochester.

June 28 · 🌐

What a great experience my daughter Haylee had and it was all for just caring for others over herself which shows her to continue to keep doing what she does because it is not going unnoticed, thank you to everyone that works all year around to make this happen. ❤️, love from the Pacheco Family



Janet Musson McNally recommends Do The Right Thing of Rochester.

April 11 · 🌐

Thank you for a beautiful ceremony today. You do a superb job recognizing the achievements of these children in our community. Congratulations to all the award recipients!

Rivera Rivera Do the right thing program I LOVE IT💖💖💖 thanks for everything we enjoyed a lot. Att: Kamilah Rivera family

Denise Sitarski Wierzba Congratulations to all the award winners & to the scholarship winners!! Fantastic job!!

Email Correspondence

Hello, I wanted to take the time to say thank you for the beautiful award, gift cards, book bag, great things inside, cool animal visit, and even more the pizza of course I could not forget the pizza 🍕👍.

My mother taught me to always appreciate people for the good that is done to me and today was truly a good thing to be recognized for just caring and spreading the love of God wherever I will continue go in life. Mrs. Batek what you did was so cool. Thank you for nominating me ☺️. Hope you all have a great summer I know it's already starting amazing for me with all the goodies and SEABREEZE tickets yay thanks again.

-Haylee Pacheco

"No Act Of Kindness, No Matter How Small, Is Ever Wasted"

THANK YOU

We would like to take a moment to sincerely thank everyone that helped make this program year such a success!

★ **Everyone that took the time to nominate a student**

Without you this program would not exist. Thank you for taking the time to recognize the many youth in our community that deserve to be honored for their role model behavior.

★ **Our Selection Committee**

Thank you for taking the time to thoughtfully read through all of the submitted nominations, provide your feedback, and select our winners.

★ **All of the nominated students**

Whether or not you were selected as a winner, each of you made the conscious decision to go above and beyond by doing the right thing, and we are so proud of each and every one of you! We hope that you continue to be wonderful role models, and we look forward to hearing more inspiring stories about you in the future!

★ **Everyone that attended our award ceremonies**

We appreciate the support showed to both our winners and our program from all who attended this year's ceremonies. From family and friends, to government officials and sponsor representatives, we were overwhelmed by the amount of people that attended all three ceremonies. We cannot thank you enough for taking time out of your busy schedules to join us and show your support!

★ **Our Executive Board Members**

Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to attend our ceremonies and board meetings. Your support and input for our program is invaluable, and we love the teamwork you've displayed.

★ **Our Program Sponsors**

Your generous donations and contributions help sustain the program, and our winners and their families have greatly enjoyed the gifts they have received. Prizes, ceremonies, scholarships, and more would not be possible without the generous contributions from our sponsors. Thank you!

★ **Office Staff from the Rochester Police Department Chief's Office**

Thank you so much for your assistance during each ceremony. Karen Coriddi, Sylvia Dobbs, Carmen Pellegrino, and Lily Sepulveda-Soto - your help makes each ceremony run smoothly and efficiently, and we could not do it without you!

★ **The Rochester Police Department Technician Unit and Photo Lab**

Thank you for providing a photographer at each ceremony, and at our Family Celebration event at Seabreeze. Your technicians helped capture the joy of each event, and because of this, we have been able to share the many happy memories with all of our winners, their families, and our supporters. All of the photographs displayed throughout this document were taken by these talented employees. Tara Becker – thank you for patiently editing and printing these photographs so that we are able to share hard copies with everyone!

★ **PSB Building Services Staff**

Thank you for your help setting up before each ceremony, and for your assistance cleaning up afterwards.

★ **Everyone that has viewed, commented, or shared our social media posts, or in any way shared information about our program**

Thank you for helping spread the word about the Do the Right Thing program. We enjoy publically recognizing our winners, and sharing what we have been up to, with everyone through social media. We hope to make our presence even greater in the future! Please continue sharing our posts, newsletters, brochures, etc! Hopefully the more people that know about our program means even more nominations we will receive, and that means the more students we can recognize and reward!

We look forward to recognizing even more students in 2019-2020, the continued support from all of you, and even more partnerships in the future, so that this program will keep on growing! Thank you!

2019-2020 CEREMONY DATES

Please join us as we recognize outstanding students from Monroe County who have chosen to do the right thing!

October 10, 2019

December 12, 2019

February 13, 2020

April 2, 2020

May 28, 2020

**All ceremonies are held at 10:30 am
at the Rochester Police Department
Public Safety Building at 185 Exchange Boulevard.**

