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PROGRAM HISTORY AND OVERVIEW

About the Program

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. A copy of the by-laws can be found on our <u>website</u>. Program sponsors provide generous donations which are distributed to award winners, and also help fund program operations.

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. Actions 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. The ceremony and our winners are highlighted on our social media, as well as through program sponsor News 10NBC WHEC-TV. Stories are televised on their nightly news broadcasts, as well as on-line at WHEC.com.

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 entire year, and are reviewed by a committee that selects students to receive the Do The Right Thing Award. The committee is comprised of members of our community and representatives from our sponsor organizations.

Selected students are celebrated at a ceremony which is typically held at the City Public Safety Building. Up to fifty students are recognized each school year throughout multiple ceremonies. Do The Right Thing Award winners receive several rewards and prizes donated by program sponsors, and winners may also apply for a college or trade school scholarship when they are high school seniors. Normally, students selected as winners must attend an award ceremony in order to officially be considered a Do The Right Thing Award Winner, unless restrictions cause us to hold the ceremony virtually.

Since the program began, we have awarded over 1,100 winners, and contributed over \$100,000 towards scholarships for our winners. Most students that are nominated will receive a letter of recognition for their act, even if they are not chosen as a winner.

2021-2022 Ceremonies

In total, we recognized twenty-eight students in three ceremonies during the 2021-2022 school year. This included twenty-three incidents that involved times of heroism, bravery and courageousness while helping family and/or first responders during serious incidents such as emergency situations involving fire, medical or other life-saving incidents; standing up to bullies, or addressing other negative or harmful behavior; acts of kindness, thoughtfulness, generosity, and volunteerism; as well as role model behavior. Some of these acts benefitted not only peers, friends, and family, but charitable organizations as well, such as Foodlink, Heritage Christian Services, Special Olympics New York, St Jude Children's Research Hospital, and Toys for Tots. Many of these acts would be remarkable if adults had done them, so it's even more phenomenal when you read these stories and see how young some of our winners are!

We continued with the virtual ceremony format for the first two ceremonies this year, where only a limited amount of staff were present, and our winners and their families and friends were invited to watch the ceremony from remote locations as it took place on our Facebook page. After each ceremony, we made arrangements for each winner to come to the Public Safety Building so they could receive their prize package. However we finally returned to a sense of normalcy at the end of this program year. Our last ceremony was an in-person event held at the Public Safety Building. After over two years and five virtual ceremonies, we were so excited to finally be able to celebrate all of our winners together, along with their families and friends in attendance, as well as other supporters of our program. As we did previously, we broadcast our virtual ceremonies via Facebook Live, and have decided to continue broadcasting our in-person ceremonies as well for family and friends that are unable to attend, or would like to go back and watch the ceremony afterwards. Make sure to visit our Facebook page to view past ceremonies and see photos of our virtual winners as they accepted their prize packages, and follow the page to receive updates of new events.

25th Anniversary

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Do The Right Thing Awards Program in Rochester, we assembled a book highlighting many memorable moments since the program began in 1995. Nearly 200 pages, the book can be viewed online at our website www.cityofrochester.gov/DoTheRightThing. Page 61 in this report has more information about this book as well. If you would like a bound hard copy, you can obtain one with a minimum donation of \$10. Contact our office by phone or email for more information.

Social Media and Newsletter

This year we continued sharing information and news with all of our supporters in a variety of ways. We've made quite an effort to consistently post to our Facebook and Instagram pages, and have continued to send out a newsletter since our first issue was published in the Winter of 2019. If you missed any, make sure to visit our website where we have posted each issue! Each issue is full of fun information about our program!

Additionally, our website contains quite a bit of useful information about the program, including copies of each Annual Report since 2006.

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, and comment and share our posts! You can find all of our contact information in the box below.









Do The Right Thing of Rochester, Inc.
* Rochester Police Department*

Phone: (585) 428-7863 Fax: (585) 428-6093 Email: Dotherightthing@cityofrochester.gov

Website: <u>www.cityofrochester.gov/DoTheRightThing</u>

Follow us on Facebook: <u>@DTRTROC</u>

Follow us on Instagram: <u>@DTRT_Rochester</u>

Follow us on Twitter: @RPD DTRT

PROGRAM STAFF



Sergeant Jose Vargas
Program Director



Laurie Kingsley-Henry

Program Coordinator



Lisa Hayes
Program Assistant



City of Rochester

Malik D. Evans Mayor

City Hall Room 308A, 30 Church Street Rochester, New York 14614-1290 www.cityofrochester.gov

November 1, 2022

Dear Citizens,

The 2021-22 "Do the Right Thing" Annual Report recognizes our community's youngest citizens for exhibiting qualities of bravery and selflessness. We applaud their courage and will continue to rely on these individuals as our leaders of the future.



I think back to when I roamed the halls of Wilson Magnet High School as an 11th grader. In May of 1997, I was recognized along with four peers as a "Do the Right Thing" Award Recipient. Exactly 25 years later, we have double the number of award winners. I can't wait to see future reports as we continue to build our community with strong moral leaders.

For that reason, the 23 incidents profiled in this report, involving 28 students from 21 participating school districts, also serve as occasions for hope. They show that our parents and teachers are guiding our youth along the right path and helping our community, and our society, thrive.

The children we're honoring this year for "doing the right thing," like the hundreds of others recognized since this program began, provide us with immense hope that our next generation is capable of making mature, thoughtful, and ethically responsible decisions. They should also inspire us to hold ourselves to the same high standard as individuals, as a community, and to work more effectively to reach those "at risk" of slipping through the cracks.

Congratulations to each of these outstanding young individuals who have inspired us all, and to their families. You have made us all so proud.

Sincerely.

Malik D. Evans

Mayor

Phone: (585) 428-7045 Fax: (585) 428-6059 TTY: (585) 428-6054 EEO/ADA Employer



City of Rochester

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



October 18, 2022

Do The Right Thing 185 Exchange Blvd. Rochester, NY 14614

To the Do The Right Thing Families, Sponsors and Supporters:

On behalf of Do The Right Thing of Rochester, and the Rochester Police Department, I would like to commend you on the accomplishments of the 2021-2022 program year, which have acknowledged some of our outstanding youth in our community.

Upon learning of these nominations, I am always amazed by the stories of courage, heroism, honesty, volunteerism, kindness, and leadership provided by our youth. The role modeling shown during this past year gives us pride and encouragement in our youth and our future. This type of involvement shown by our youth is an investment both on a personal and professional level.

I would also like to acknowledge the parents, teachers, administrators, officers, firefighters, caregivers, and other community members, who took the time to nominate these outstanding young individuals and to help bring their remarkable stories to light. It is easy to become too busy with our day to day tasks, however, we should always take the time to encourage and reward our youth for their contributions to our community.

Lastly, this essential program would not exist if it were not for our sponsors and partners in promoting kindness in our community. We understand 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. Thank you for all that you have done for this program.

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

Sincerely,

Dayid M. Smith 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

We are certainly amid some perilous times in this world. In 2021 there were 700 mass shootings in this country. As of today, we are well over 500 so far in 2022. In Rochester, we seem destined to surpass all homicide records, for a year. It appears everyone is crying out for the answer to all this violence and mayhem. Trying to find a way for people to do the right thing...

The Do The Right Thing Program has been a major force in our community for twenty-seven years. We have honored more than 1100 winners and awarded over \$100,000 in scholarships. In the past five years alone, we honored 139 winners and distributed 14 scholarships. We continue to highlight those young people who make the right choices in difficult situations. We continue to garner the support of like-minded community partners who realize the importance of holding up and encouraging our young people. By doing so, it is our belief that we are "planting trees" to prevent the further erosion of values and moral decay in our city and in our country.

It is my privilege to serve as a small part of this wonderful organization. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff, the board of directors, and most importantly, the children we will continue to serve.

James R. McCauley Jr.

President, Board of Directors

Do The Right Thing

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS



2021-2022 Program Year

Mayor Malik D. Evans (City of Rochester)
Police Chief David M. Smith (Rochester Police Department)

President: James McCauley (Camp Good Days and Special Times)

Vice President: Joan Roby-Davison (City of Rochester)

Treasurer: Suzanne Warren (City of Rochester)

Secretary & Program Coordinator: Laurie Kingsley-Henry (Rochester Police Department)

Program Director: Sergeant Jose Vargas (Rochester Police Department)

Anthony Campbell (Memorial Art Gallery)

LaShay Harris (American Medical Response)

Glen Jeter (Horace Jeter Inc.)

Carmen Jones (City of Rochester)

Sheri Landers (Emergency Communications Department)

Mark Mura (Rochester Police Department)

James Sheppard (Rochester City School District)

Brennan Somers (News 10NBC WHEC-TV)

Grace Tillinghast (The Battery)

Jeffrey Wagner (Monroe County Sheriff's Office)





PROGRAM SPONSORS

American Medical Response
Ames-Amzalak Memorial Trust
Bill Gray's Regional Iceplex
Camp Good Days and Special Times
City of Rochester
C.J. & B.S August Family Foundation
The Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation
Dynamic Recording Studio
Genesee Country Village & Museum
Glen Jeter (Horace Jeter Inc.)
Grace Tillinghast (The Battery)
Memorial Art Gallery
Monroe County
News 10NBC WHEC-TV

NYRA Trophies & Awards
Pirate Toy Fund
Rochester Americans
Rochester City School District
Rochester Knighthawks
Rochester Museum & Science Center
Rochester Police Department
Rochester Police Foundation
Rochester RazorSharks
Rochester Red Wings
Salvatore's Old Fashioned Pizzeria
Seabreeze Amusement Park
Seneca Park Zoo
TOPS Friendly Markets



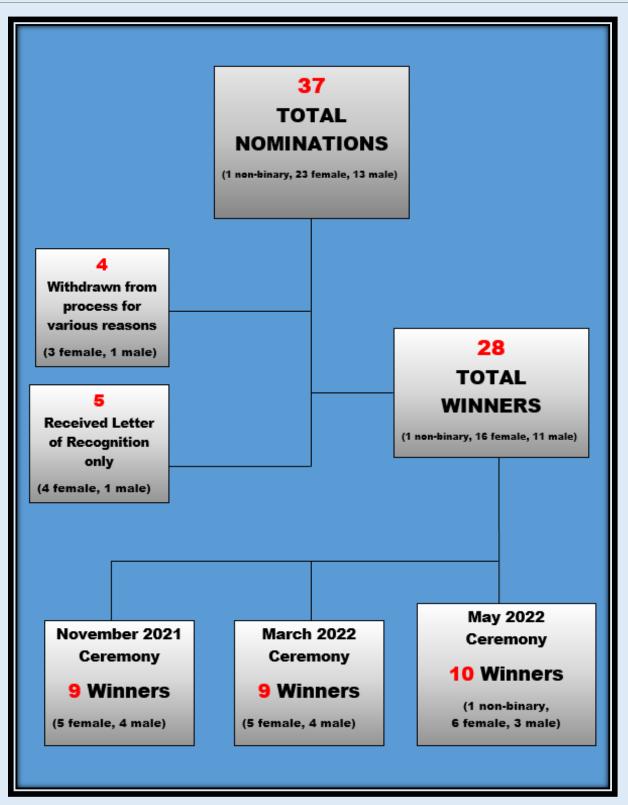
FINANCIAL REPORTS

Do The Right Thing of Rochester Inc. Balance Sheet as of 7/31/2022				
	July 31, 2022	July 31, 2021	\$ Change	% Change
<u>ASSETS</u>				
Current Assets				
Total Checking -	12,455.91	6,776.68	5,679.23	83.81%
Discretionary				
Total Checking - Non-	0.00	0.00	0.00	100.00%
Discretionary				
TOTAL ASSETS	12,455.91	6,776.68	5,679.23	83.81%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Equity				
Opening Bal Equity	581.74	581.74	0.00	0.00%
Unrestricted Net	6,344.94	8,064.52	-1,719.58	-21.32%
Assets				
Net Income (Loss)	5,529.23	-1,869.58	7,398.81	395.75%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$12,455.91	\$6,776.68	\$5,679.23	83.81%

Revenue & Expense Year Ending 7/31/2022	
	August 2021 - July 2022
Revenues	
Foundation and Trust Grants	
Daisy Marquis Jones	6,000.00
August Family Foundation	2,000.00
Ames Amzalak	1,000.00
Individual & Business Contributions	1,065.00
Donations via United Way	301.00
Seabreeze Receipts	817.62
Total Income	11,183.62
Expenses	
Scholarships	2,000.00
Ceremonies & Promotional Items	2,681.76
Seabreeze*	500.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	472.63
Total Expense	5,654.39
Net income	5,529.23

^{*}Balance of Seabreeze event paid in 2022-2023 program year.

PROGRAM STATISTICS



WINNERS BY SCHOOL DISTRICT		
School District	Winners	
Charter School	1	
Homeschool	0	
Private School	0	
Brighton CSD	1	
Brockport CSD	0	
Churchville-Chili CSD	1	
East Irondequoit CSD	2	
East Rochester CSD	2	
Fairport CSD	1	
Gates-Chili CSD	6	
Greece CSD	0	
Hilton CSD	0	
Honeoye Falls-Lima CSD	1	
Penfield CSD	0	
Pittsford CSD	1	
Rochester City School District	9	
Rush-Henrietta CSD	1	
Spencerport CSD	1	
Webster CSD	0	
West Irondequoit CSD	1	
Wheatland-Chili CSD	0	
TOTAL	28	



WINNERS BY GRADE		
Grade Level	Winners	
Kindergarten	1	
1	2	
2	0	
3	1	
4	2	
5	7	
6	3	
7	2	
8	3	
9	2	
10	3	
11	0	
12	2	
TOTAL	28	



2021-2022 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 28 of them and their commendable actions at three award ceremonies throughout the 2021-2022 school year. Listed below are each of their incredible stories.



November 2021 Ceremony Winners



Jalyia was nominated by the CEO of her school, Dr. Donna Marie Cozine, for the exemplary way she handled a frightening situation back in June. While not in school, Jalyia was texting with a friend, when the friend made comments that led Jalyia to think that they were having trouble and would possibly harm or kill themself. Jalyia told an adult, who contacted the Rochester Police Department. When the police officer arrived, Jalyia was very helpful in answering their questions and providing assistance the officer. The responding officer was able to get in touch with the school to get the other child's address so that they could conduct a wellness check. Fortunately, Jalyia's friend was at home with her family and unharmed



Kimora was nominated by Ms. Jeanne Markman, the Assistant Principal at her school, for the kindness and compassion she demonstrated towards another classmate last school year. This past May, Kimora noticed that another student had been wearing the same clothes to school. Thinking he might need some new clothing, Kimora went out of her way to talk to her classmate and learn more about him. She then told her grandmother about the situation, and Kimora's grandmother took her to Walmart where Kimora purchased three new outfits for her classmate. This selfless act shows what a big heart Kimora truly has.



Marc was nominated by his father, Michael Kita, in recognition of his hard-work and kind spirit. Marc has autism spectrum disorder (ASD), and always gives his best regardless of the differences he has to deal with. Mr. Kita says Marc deserves to be honored and to highlight the fact that kids like Marc and other kids with ASD just want to be included and accepted like everyone else. Marc is always looking out for others and would be the first one to give you his shirt off his back. One example of his generous spirit – recently while on vacation, Marc brought several of his Hot Wheels toy cars with him and handed them out to random children for them to keep and enjoy. He also participated in a food drive at school last year, helping his father select and purchase a large assortment of food which he delivered to the school. As he is getting older he is starting to realize he is different, but that doesn't stop him from trying to fit in socially and do what his peers are able to do. Marc is always doing the right thing, giving his best self each and every day, and always trying to lend a helping hand to both students and staff at his school. Even as obstacles brought on by the pandemic, as well as having to spend the last three years in three different school buildings due to how the district is structured, he has faced these challenges head on and has even received praise from his teachers. His teacher, Ms. Creary, notes that Marc is a shining example to his classmates, as he always puts forth above average effort, has an outstanding work ethic, and is friendly, respectful, responsible, and always follows the rules!



Isabella was nominated by Ms. Alexandra Wagner, a mentor at her school, for being a motivated student, kind and caring person, and role-model to her peers. During virtual schooling, Isabella consistently participated and engaged in online learning. She was often the first person to raise her hand or seek help when needed. Not only was she an outstanding student for her teachers, she was also considerate and caring to her friends and peers as well. During virtual schooling, a time that many students found difficult, she was constantly checking in on other students and trying to help them whenever she could. For example, she reached out to a friend who was struggling and started playing video games with him. Her reaching out gave him much needed social interaction during a time when children were deeply deprived of that. Since returning to the classroom, the relationship they developed helped provide a great support for him in their classes as well.

Isabella is also an advocate for all of the youth at her school. She noticed that her many of her peers were still struggling with COVID learning practices, so she was part of a team that created a spirit week to boost everyone's morale. One of the days was cultural day. As a school with much diversity, this was a great opportunity for everyone to display pride in their culture. That is just one example of how she advocates for social justice and diversity in the classroom. She fights for what she believes in and should be honored for her contributions to EMHS.



Jamere was nominated by Ms. Jody Rumfola for displaying bravery and role model behavior during an incident that happened last school year. Ms. Rumfola is the social worker at Pinnacle School #35, which is the school Jamere attended for 6th grade. Back in May, while riding the after school bus home, one of his 6th grade classmates became angry at a younger 3rd grade student who was also on the bus. This 6th grader punched the 3rd grader in the face multiple times. Jamere stepped in and pulled his classmate from the 3rd grader, stopping the assault. The younger student and his parent strongly believe that Jamere saved the boy from serious injury. There were several other younger students on the bus that witnessed Jamere's brave actions as well. Everyone at School #35 was very proud of Jamere for standing up to a peer and protecting a younger student.



Ernest and Essence are siblings, and were nominated by Investigator Michael Romach of the Brighton Police Department for their heroic actions that occurred this past April while they were attending a family pool party at a hotel in Brighton. There were several young children with their group, including a five year old boy who was swimming in the shallow end of the pool near the steps. This young boy appeared to be swimming without any help and was doing back floats. At one point, he even gave a thumbs up to Ernest. Several minutes later, Essence noticed the boy had gone under water and not returned to the surface. She observed him at the bottom of the pool, and without hesitation, Essence swam down to the bottom of the pool and attempted to bring him to the surface. After not being successful, Essence made another attempt to grab the boy, and was able to bring his lifeless body up to the surface. She swam him over to a ladder in the deep end, where Ernest met them and pulled the boy up from the ladder and onto the pool deck. Quickly realizing he was not breathing, Ernest began administering rescue breaths and CPR. Within several minutes, the boy spit out a mouth full of water and began breathing on his own. Emergency responders arrived on-scene to find the boy semi-conscious and breathing on his own. The boy was transported to Strong Hospital where he was treated and has since made a full recovery. He is alive today because of the quick thinking and actions of both Essence and Ernest. Ernest learned CPR during his 8th grade health class while attending Martha Brown Middle School in Fairport!



Solomon was nominated by his aunt, Ms. Kimberly Davis, for his ability to remain calm during a frightening medical emergency involving a family member. Back in June, Solomon and his grandfather, Dwight Stevens, were at the Westside YMCA for their weekly swim session. During this time, Solomon's grandfather had a medical emergency in the swimming pool area. Solomon realized his grandfather was in distress and notified the lifeguard and also pushed the emergency pool button to alert the local fire department, police department and EMS. Solomon then called his father, advising him of the situation, and his father in turn alerted all immediate family members to head to the Westside YMCA. Solomon's grandfather was assisted at the pool by EMS and is now doing great! During this frightening situation, Solomon was able to keep his cool and notify the necessary people to assist his grandfather. Solomon and his grandfather are now back enjoying their weekly swim time at the Westside YMCA.



School Counselor Ms. Brya Potter nominated Alayah for her bravery and good deed which occurred last school year. At the end of May while in class, Alayah responded to a friend from another school who was messaging her with thoughts of self-harm. Alayah was honest in telling her teacher the circumstances, then cooperated with her counselor and administrator to provide information to locate her friend. Every step of the way she cooperated with both school officials and the police to give important details which assisted in locating her friend in need. It is because of Alayah's courage and compassion that her friend was given the supports needed to be safe. At East Irondequoit Middle School, they both value and honor students who demonstrate Lancer Pride. Alayah's good deed is an example of Lancer Pride, and by recognizing Alayah's actions, East Irondequoit Middle School hopes that other students will be courageous enough to seek out a trusted adult to help a friend in need just like Alayah did.

November Virtual Ceremony Prize Pick-Up





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March 2022 Ceremony Winners



Haley and Jayla were nominated by their teacher, Mrs. Laurie Ashodian, for their honesty and integrity. During a recent routine reading group, they were discussing cheating and doing the right thing, and that sometimes 'doing the right thing' can be really hard. Jayla then made a 'text-to-self connection' and wanted to share an incident that occurred on her school bus a few weeks prior. Jayla shared that while she and Haley were sitting together on the bus, they found a pair of expensive Apple AirPods on the bus seat. They discussed what they should do with them, and talked about keeping them vs. giving them to the bus driver. They thought about how they would feel if they had lost them, and decided to give them to the bus driver. The bus driver told the girls they knew that earlier a high school student had lost a pair on the bus and they would be so happy to know that the girls were honest and turned them in! Mrs. Ashodian is so proud of Jayla and Haley for putting themselves in the shoes of someone else and deciding to do the right thing. Jayla and Haley exemplify the Gates Chili Central School District Spartan Way by demonstrating the values of Respect, Responsibility, Hard Work and Compassion!



De'Shawn and Ja'Lycia were nominated by their teacher, Ms. Angela Ferris, for their positive role model behavior. Last fall during the school day, De'Shawn and Ja'Lycia found a bag of marijuana while playing on the school playground. Despite a peer trying to convince them to keep it, they immediately brought it to Ms. Ferris. They could have kept the contraband, but instead, without hesitation, they made the right choice and avoided a potentially dangerous situation by turning it in to a trusted adult.



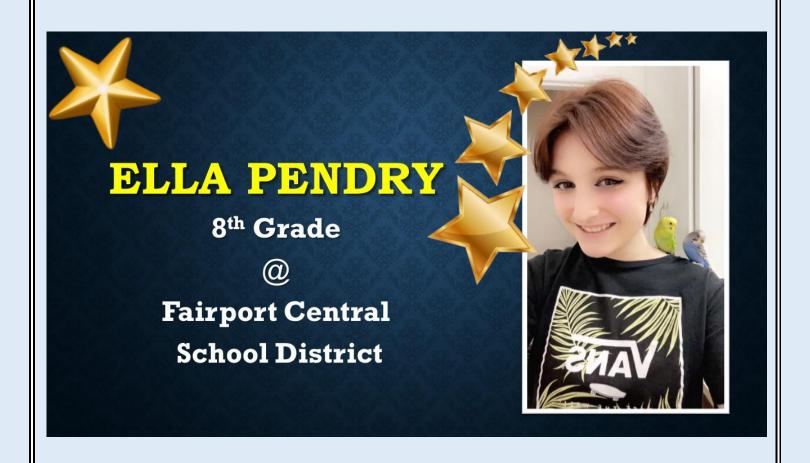
Vayda was proudly nominated by her best friend's mother, Andrea DiBella, for the courage she displayed during a bullying incident. Back in June, Vayda was in a group chat where some of the participants started to bully a friend by using hate speech. Vayda recognized that what was being said was dangerous, hurtful and inappropriate, and immediately stopped the conversation. She also took screen shots and sent them to an adult. Vayda was a true friend and stood up to the bullies, despite receiving backlash. Vayda's quick actions displayed courage, leadership and compassion, and quickly stopped the situation from getting out of control.



Blake was nominated by his school counselor, Mr. Michael Fici, for his role this past fall in helping first responders and putting the needs of others before his own. Blake arrived late to school one day, and after Mr. Fici learned the reason why, he immediately excused Blake's tardiness and proceeded to nominate him for his good deed. Mr. Fici learned that while driving himself to school that morning, Blake witnessed a motor vehicle accident. Rather than continuing on to school, he stopped, called 911, and spoke with the people involved ensuring they were ok. Blake waited until law enforcement arrived and provided them with valuable information that helped them to accurately complete their motor vehicle accident report. Not only was Mr. Fici impressed with Blake's actions, responding deputies from the Monroe County Sheriff's Office were also impressed and appreciative that Blake stopped and provided helpful assistance and information as a witness to the accident.



Logan was nominated by family acquaintance, Ms. Shauna Clark, in recognition of his outstanding efforts of helping others and combatting bullying. Logan is on the autism spectrum and is always thinking of ways to be kind to others. During the pandemic, Logan wrote nice messages in chalk throughout the neighborhood to help inspire others. He also helped create 500 sensory bags to give away to other kids in his community. Unfortunately Logan has also been a victim of bullying, but instead of showing anger for the way he was treated, he took this as another opportunity to reach out and help others by teaching kindness and creating anti-bullying videos. His videos let those that are bullied know they are not alone, emphasize how serious bullying can be, and challenge everyone to stop bullying and think of the feelings of others. The videos are creative, honest, and informative. Some are themed around the month they were created, and some even display Logan's sense of humor! Follow Logan's mother's TikTok account @ awesome5mom if you'd like to see his videos, and help Logan spread the message to #stopbullying!



Ella was nominated by her school counselor, Mr. Chris Geng, after he learned of her kind actions while helping a stranger in need recently. While on the canal path near the village of Fairport, Ella witnessed an elderly (84 year old) gentleman crash his bicycle after an animal had run out in front of him. Several people were nearby and witnessed this event, yet Ella was the only one to stop and come to his aid. This gentleman was so appreciative of Ella's assistance, and expressed how kind and thoughtful she was. Ella's social studies teacher conveyed that Ella has a great moral compass, and is the type of person that always does the right thing because it is the right thing to do.



Jonathan was nominated by his school administrator, Mr. Steven Colabufo, for the brave and courageous way he handled an emergency situation this past fall. Jonathan, who is on the autism spectrum, was home alone with his grandmother, when he smelled smoke. Unbeknownst to them, a fire had started in a downstairs electrical outlet. Jonathan calmly helped his Nana, who has dementia, out of the house and contacted 911. Thanks to Jonathan's quick actions, he and his grandmother were able to safely escape a devastating house fire which destroyed their home and almost all of their possessions. Unfortunately the family lost several pets in the fire, but thanks to Jonathan's quick actions, he and his grandmother escaped unharmed.

March Virtual Ceremony Prize Pick-Up

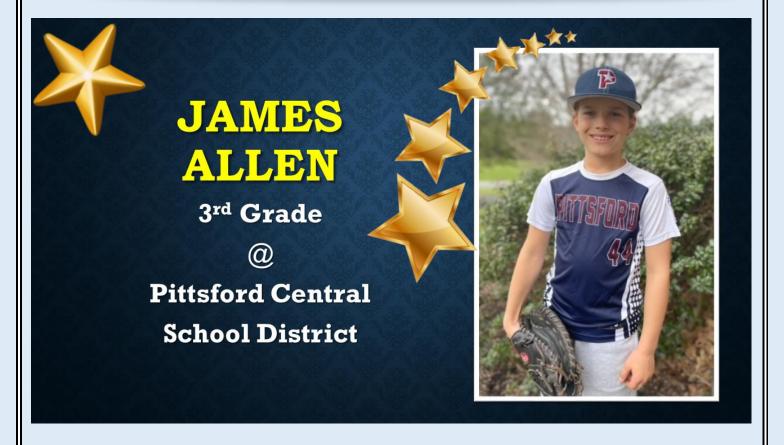








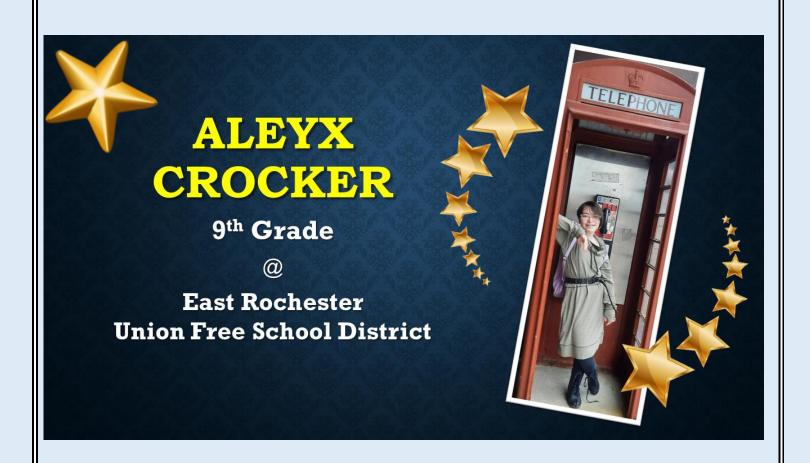
May 2022 Ceremony Winners



James was proudly nominated by his grandfather, Tom Allen, for his honesty and integrity while playing in a Pittsford house league baseball game last summer. While James was playing second base, there were two outs, and the next batter tried to stretch a single into a double. The outfielder threw the ball to James as the runner was starting his slide into second when the umpire, who was somewhat behind James, believed James tagged the runner out and called it that way. As his team was heading to the dugout, the runner insistently exclaimed "He didn't tag me!" The umpire approached James and asked if this was true. James honestly responded "No, I never tagged him". Hearing this, the umpire brought the two opposing coaches together, told them of his mistake, and decided to have the runner re-take his time at bat. Both coaches agreed and the game went on. What James did was the right thing because he told the truth. James' action was positively acknowledged by the opposing team's coach, who sent a message to James' coach after the game and said he was 'especially impressed by the amazing show of sportsmanship by his second baseman. You and his parents should be proud.' Great job James!



Jessie was nominated by Irondequoit Police Department's Officer Jonathan Lawton for the selflessness and generosity he displayed this past holiday season. In December, Jessie was selected by the West Irondequoit School District to be a participant in the Irondequoit Police Department's Nightstick Club's Annual Shop With A Cop event. This program allows children to purchase Christmas gifts for themselves that they would otherwise not have the opportunity to receive. Each child was allotted \$100 to use towards gifts for themselves. Rather than shop and pick gifts for himself, Jessie instead decided to donate his \$100 to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Officer Lawton said 'Jesse deciding to make this donation instead of using the money on himself demonstrates putting others before yourself. This is a trait that I believe is very important and one that not a lot of people possess, let alone in 5th grade. I can tell you that his deed warmed my heart.' Great job Jessie!



Aleyx was nominated by School Psychologist Dan O'Leary for demonstrating initiative and empathy while aiding an injured staff member. Back in January, Aleyx fell on the icy sidewalk while on their way into school and injured their knee. Aleyx called staff member Helen Jacob for assistance. As Ms. Jacob stepped outside to assist Aleyx, she also slipped and fell, sustaining a significant injury to her shoulder. Aleyx immediately helped Ms. Jacob into the building and to the nearest classroom, then sought the school nurse as they recognized Ms. Jacob was in shock and needed medical attention. Aleyx remained calm throughout this incident, putting Ms. Jacob's needs ahead of their own. Ms. Jacob is grateful for the assistance Aleyx provided during this scary incident. Great job Aleyx! Aleyx is a proud member of the school's Gay Straight Alliance Network.



Kimberly was nominated for her bravery and ability to remain calm and helpful during a scary medical emergency. She was nominated by both her school social worker Ms. Shanna Cialini, as well as 911 telecommunicator Matt Santee. Back in November, Kimberly was home with her grandmother while Kimberly's mother was at the hospital being treated for an injury. During this time, her grandmother suffered a significant medical episode which caused her to fall to the ground and become unconscious. Kimberly used a cell phone and called 911. She answered all of the 911 telecommunicator's questions, followed instructions, and remained on the phone providing helpful information until the paramedics arrived. She remained calm throughout the call, and did a great job answering questions to make sure that 911 was sending the correct response. Because of the information Kimberly provided, doctors at the hospital were able to properly diagnose her grandmother's medical condition based on what she described she observed. Kimberly was already worried for her mother, and yet showed bravery and maturity when faced with this additional situation. Her responsible and mature actions helped her grandmother get the medical attention necessary to save her life. Kimberly's responsible behaviors can also be seen at school on a daily basis where she is a role model student. She is extremely motivated, and always puts forth her best effort. She is a good friend to others, is always ready to lend a helping hand, and always strives to make everyone feel included. Your family and school are very proud of you Kimberly!



Carmalena was nominated by her father, Andrew Loughlin. Every year Mr. Loughlin participates in the Polar Plunge to benefit the New York State Special Olympics. This year, six year old Carmalena overheard her father speaking to someone about the plunge and began asking him questions about it. After they talked, she told him that she also wanted to participate, because she wanted to help other people get the chance to compete in the same kind of activities that she likes to play. With only a few days until the plunge, her father registered her for the event, set up a fundraising page, and let friends and family know of her intentions. Carmalena set a fundraising goal of \$60, in hopes of receiving a Polar Plunge sweatshirt. Not only did she surpass her goal, she raised well over \$400! Mr. Loughlin told Carmalena that if she didn't feel comfortable or only entered her feet in the water and turned around, that would be ok, but to his surprise, she showed no fear entering the water with him. The event took place on February 6th, and Caramlena entered the water up to her shoulders before they turned around and went back to shore! Her family and loved ones are so proud of her bravery and willingness to help others. Great job Carmalena!



Alexandra, Brianna, and Catalina are sisters, and were nominated by Gates Police Chief Robert Long and Gates Fire District Fire Prevention Officer Kali Herouvis for the bravery and maturity they displayed during a recent fire at their house. While at home one January evening, Brianna noticed there was a smell of something burning and observed smoke in the house. She immediately told her mother, who observed a fire in the wall in a bedroom, but was unable to put it out. The girls' mother could not find a phone, so Alexandra used her cell phone to call 911 while the entire family safely exited the house. Alexandra remained calm and provided information to the 911 Telecommunicator, which helped first responders arrive quickly, and the Gates Fire District was able to put out the fire and save the residence. Catalina, the youngest of the three sisters, has ADHD, yet during this emergency she remained calm and followed directions the entire time as the family evacuated the house. Once outside, she helped keep the family dog warm as they waited safely in the car.

Ms. Herouvis teaches fire safety in the Gates Fire District, and recently taught at the girls' school. Catalina went up to her at school the day after this incident and told her what happened, and how she learned what to do from Ms. Herouvis.

Great job Alexandra, Brianna and Catalina!



Jeryca was nominated for her volunteer work and role model behavior by family friend Diane Sturmer. Ms. Sturmer has known Jeryca since she was born, and says that she always has a heart to help others. Her contributions to her community certainly prove this! Jeryca has volunteered her time in many different ways throughout the years. She has volunteered at Food Link, giving out food in impoverished areas of Rochester. She has also volunteered at the thrift store A Second Thought in East Rochester, sorting and organizing clothing and other items. All of the proceeds from this store go to Guatemala to help a camp for people with disabilities. Additionally, Jeryca volunteers her time working with adults with developmental disabilities at Heritage Christian Services Pieter's Family Life Center on Wellness Wednesdays. There she plays basketball, games, drumming, and spends time getting to know the people that attend. Jeryca has danced with Heart of Dance, which is a group of dancers of all abilities, ages, and ethnic backgrounds. She has always been willing to help any of the dancers, and has added her own choreography to several songs. She is also a part of her dance ministry at her church Love Fellowship Worship Center, and has helped with outreaches to the Rochester community through her church distributing food and other items to people in need.

In addition to her giving heart, she is also an incredible athlete and student. She has been a positive team mate on the school Varsity Track and Field and Cross Country teams, and maintains a 3.5 GPA. Her coach and math teacher, Shannon Times, said that 'although Jeryca can be quiet at times, her actions speak louder than words. She is a hard worker, strives to do well and wants to see others improve and do well too. She is kind and funny, and makes her peers feel comfortable in their interactions with her.' Great job Jeryca!



Noah was nominated by his grandmother, Deb Milne-O'Brien. Ms. Milne-O'Brien is the founder and Executive Director of The Kade Project. The Kade Project is a non-profit organization that helps support those in need in the Honeoye Falls and Mendon communities. Ms. Milne-O'Brien states that Noah has been involved with nearly every project or fundraiser held within the Kade Project since he was four years old. One event the Kade Project is involved with every year, which Noah especially loves, is the Toys for Tots fundraiser. Every day from October through December, Noah is busy helping by promoting this event, setting up over twenty-five Toys for Tots boxes in the Honeoye Falls community, monitoring, collecting and distributing toys, and the break-down of this yearly fundraiser. Generally over 3,000 toys are collected and distributed each year with Noah's help.

This past year, Noah also participated in a fundraiser in Honeoye Falls to benefit the St. Baldrick's Foundation (a charity dedicated to raising money for childhood cancer research). He raised over \$550 for this cause by having his head shaved. Noah is a member of his school's Make-A-Difference

Committee. Assistant Principal Joelle Weaver said that Noah 'goes above and beyond to motivate his peers and give back to the Honeoye Falls-Lima School community!' Noah is always kind, a leader among his peers, and very supportive of first responders. He makes his family and community very proud!

This article provides more details about the Kade Project, and why it is so important to Noah and his grandmother:

https://www.gvpennysaver.com/my_hometo wn/hometown_stories/personal/the-kadeproject-making-a-difference-by-servingothers/article_a00b4562-e482-11e9-b24c-

May 2022 Ceremony

















2022 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to our 2022 Do The Right Thing scholarship winners, **Jahleeya Roberts** and **Caleb Shepard**!

Both winners graduated from Rochester City School District's World of Inquiry School #58, and attended our Family Fun Celebration Day at Seabreeze, where we recognized their accomplishments and presented each of them with a \$1,000 'check' which will be used towards their college expenses.

This year we had five students apply for our scholarship.







Jahleeya Roberts

Jahleeya will be attending Monroe Community College where she will major in Early Childhood Education. She aspires to be a preschool or kindergarten teacher, or a daycare provider.

Jahleeya was a Do The Right Thing winner in December 2016, when she was a 7th grader at World of Inquiry School #58. She was nominated for the courage and compassion she displayed when she helped a fellow student who was in crisis.



Caleb Shepard

Caleb will be attending RIT where he will major in Biomedical Engineering. He also hopes to continue to pursue his passion for music.

Caleb was a Do The Right thing winner in November 2015 when he was in 6th grade at Frank Fowler Dow School #52.

He was nominated after he performed the Heimlich

Maneuver on a fellow classmate that was choking.

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 or expenses. A selection committee reviews all applications, and the number of winners selected each year is determined by the amount of program funding available. Since 1997 our program has award 110 recipients \$110,000 in college and/or trade school scholarships!

CRIME STOPPERS GOOD CITIZEN AWARD

Beginning in December 2020, Crime Stoppers created the Good Citizen Award to present to selected high school age Do The Right Thing award winners to provide additional recognition to those who have stepped up in the community. Crime Stoppers Board Members have presented the following Do The Right Thing winners with the Good Citizen Award:



2020

December 2020 winner **Liam Worden**

2021

November 2021 winners

Ernest & Essence Singleton

2022

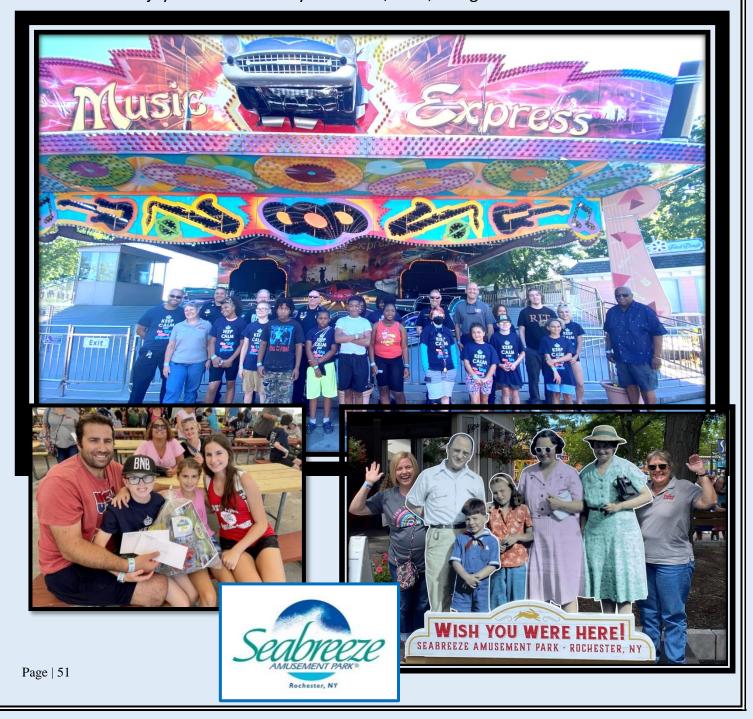
March 2022 winner

Jonathan Raplee



SEABREEZE AMUSEMENT PARK FAMILY CELEBRATION DAY

Family Fun Celebration Day took place at Seabreeze Amusement Park on Wednesday, August 10th. All of our 2021-2022 winners and their families were invited! In total, 156 people attended and enjoyed a beautiful day full of fun, food, and great camaraderie!















DO THE RIGHT THING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Together Program Coordinator Laurie Kingsley-Henry and Executive Board President James McCauley kicked off spring on April 16th at the 2022 Spring Fling, which was held at Bill Gray's Regional Iceplex. 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 20 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!







On August 12th Do The Right Thing participated in the 2ND ANNUAL HEALTHY MOMS FAMILY RESOURCE FAIR that took place in the parking lot at St. Mary's Medical Campus.

This was a free community event where families were able to connect with community resources, and receive supplies for the upcoming school year. Each student received a free backpack filled with school supplies, and children of all ages were able to fill a bag with gently used clothing to take home. Other community partners that participated included the Rochester Fire Department, the Rochester Public Library, Unity Dental Group, Mobile Mammography Unit, as well as outpatient social workers. To learn more about this event, call Mary Ann Brady at (585) 512-5673.













Do The Right Thing staff participated in the *PROJECT TIPS* event that was held on August 25th at Jones Square Park in the City of Rochester.

Project TIPS (Trust, Information, Programs & Services) is a series of events during the summer months where community agencies and law enforcement personnel work in selected neighborhoods to rebuild trust amongst residents and to share valuable information.

Since its inception, Project TIPS has quickly evolved into a community-wide effort with support and

participation from the Partners Against Violence Everywhere (PAVE) Initiative, Project Exile Advisory Board, Rochester Police Department, Rochester Fire Department, **United States Marshals** Service, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Urban League, City of Rochester Recreation Department, New York State Police, New York State Parole, Pathways to Peace, Monroe County District Attorney's Office, Monroe County Probation, Monroe County Sheriff's Department, US Attorney's Office, Monroe County Department of Human Services, Humane Society at Lollypop Farm, Strong Memorial Hospital, and numerous other law enforcement and community agencies.



Attendees are able to speak with law enforcement and other community agencies, receive information and valuable items, have a cookout, and play games. For more information or to become a Project TIPS partner or vendor, please call James McCauley at (585) 624-5555 or imccauley@campgooddays.org.

25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

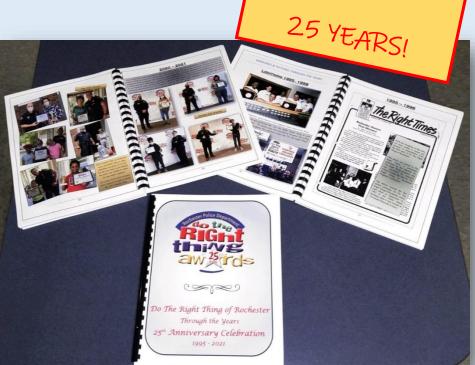
We are so excited to be celebrating 25 years of the Do The Right Thing Awards Program in Rochester! We have recognized a lot of remarkable young community members since the program began in 1995, and have made a lot of wonderful memories for so many people during this time. To recognize this accomplishment, we assembled a book to capture several of the memories from throughout the years. Numerous ceremonies and events were held throughout the past twenty-five years, from award ceremonies to scholarship presentations, contests, and special events that have included outings to museums, amusements parks, sporting events, and camps. There were also safety fairs, parades and parties where we've bowled together, celebrated holidays and many other fun occasions. This book is a compilation of many of these memories and people who have made this possible, including past winners, staff, sponsors, and supporters, and includes events through program year 2020-2021.

Nearly 200 pages, the book can be viewed online at our website www.cityofrochester.gov/DoTheRightThing. If you would like a bound hard copy, you can obtain one with a minimum donation of \$10. Contact our office by phone or email for more information.



Email: <u>Dotherightthing@cityofrochester.gov</u>





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 participated in our award ceremonies

We appreciate the support shown to both our winners and our program from all who took the time to watch our virtual award ceremonies in November and March, and either watched or attended our in-person ceremony in May. From family and friends, to government officials and sponsor representatives, we were overwhelmed by the amount of people who not only watched our ceremonies via Facebook Live, but also reacted and commented to our posts as well! And the amount of people that were at our ceremony in May filled our hearts with joy! After more than two years of virtual ceremonies, it was wonderful to see everyone celebrating together again! We cannot thank you enough for taking time to join us, interact and show your support!

☆ Our Executive Board Members

Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to participate behind the scenes by attending the 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 and appreciated the gifts they have received. Prizes, ceremonies, scholarships, and more would not be possible without the generous contributions from our sponsors. Thank you!

Staff from the Rochester Police Department and Other Law Enforcement Agencies

- Thank you Sergeant Justin Collins and Public Safety Aide Scott Corey for your help recording the virtual ceremonies during our Facebook Live events.
- Thank you Officer Carlos Alvarado for your help recording the ceremonies and putting together wonderful highlight videos of each ceremony as well.
- Thank you Tara Becker for patiently editing and printing photographs so that we are able to share hard copies with everyone!
- Thank you to the other local police agencies that have gone out of their way to also recognize our winners, and for sharing information about our program on their social media pages.

★ 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 recognizing our winners and sharing updates with everyone through social media. Please help us by sharing our posts, newsletters, brochures, etc! It is our hope to recognize and reward even more students next year! If you know a student who has gone above and beyond and deserves to be recognized, consider nominating them for the Do The Right Thing Award. To find out more information, and to nominate a student, visit our website at CityOfRochester.gov/DoTheRightThing.



2022-2023 CEREMONY DATES

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



All ceremonies will be held at 10:30 am at the Rochester Police Department Public Safety Building at 185 Exchange Boulevard, and will also be recorded and shared Live on our Facebook page. **

^{**} Format subject to change based on current Covid guidelines.



For over 25 years the Do The Right Thing Award Program has recognized Monroe County role model students in grades k-12, rewarding their positive behavior, accomplishments, and good deeds. Winners are celebrated at public ceremonies during the school year, earn generous prize packages, and have the opportunity to apply for a college/trade school scholarship when they are high school seniors.

Visit WWW.CITYOFROCHESTER.GOV/DOTHERIGHTTHING

to learn more about the program.



ANYONE OVER 18 CAN NOMINATE A STUDENT (THIS INCLUDES FIRST RESPONDERS, TEACHERS, COACHES, FAMILY, AND FRIENDS). NOMINATIONS ARE ACCEPTED THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. SUBMIT A NOMINATION ONLINE AT WWW.CITYOFROCHESTER.GOV/DTRTNOMINATIONFORM



CONTACT PROGRAM COORDINATOR
LAURIE KINGSLEY-HENRY

FOR MORE INFORMATION

EMAIL: DOTHERIGHTTHING@CITYOFROCHESTER.GOV

PHONE: (585) 428-7863



WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT

- * NOMINATE A STUDENT
- Follow and share our social media
- Donate to help support the program
- United Way donors, please consider directing your annual gift to Do
 The Right Thing of Rochester (United Way Donor Code ID # 3383)
- ★ Make a tax deductible contribution. Do the Right Thing is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization
- Become a program sponsor and donate gifts that can be used as prizes for winners
- Volunteer your time by joining our Executive Board of Directors

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!







- ★ INSTAGRAM @dtrt rochester
- * TWITTER @rpd_dtrt

