



Do the Right Thing of Rochester, Inc.

2020-2021 Annual Report

Rochester Police Department
do the
RIGHT
things
awards



A blue arc is positioned above the text, and a blue smile-like curve is positioned below the star graphic.

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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 [website](#). 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. 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 in the media, courtesy of program sponsors News 10NBC WHEC-TV and the Democrat and Chronicle. Stories are televised on WHEC, published in the print edition of the Democrat and Chronicle, and highlighted on-line for both outlets as well. Visit their websites at WHEC.com and Democratandchronicle.com for more information.

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. Multiple ceremonies are held each school year, with up to fifty students recognized each year. 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. Normally, students selected as winners must attend an award ceremony in order to officially be considered a Do the Right Thing Award

Winner, however due to the restrictions in place due to the pandemic, and in order to keep everyone safe, we only had two ceremonies this year, and both were held virtually.

Since the program began, we have recognized over 4,000 nominees, 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.

2020-2021 Ceremonies

In total, we recognized thirty students in two ceremonies during the 2020-2021 school year. This included twenty-two incidents that involved times of bravery and courageousness while helping family or first responders during serious incidents such as medical emergencies, 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 in our area as well, such as the Golisano Children's Hospital. 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!

Our virtual ceremonies were held on December 10, 2020 and May 6, 2021. Both were broadcast live via Facebook. The first ceremony that was scheduled to take place in October was cancelled, so those winners were recognized at our December ceremony. Only a limited amount of staff were present at each ceremony, and our winners and their family 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. Visit our [Facebook page](#) to view the ceremony video and see photos of our winners as they accepted their prize packages.

Program Sponsors and Executive Board

Unfortunately we had no new sponsors this program year. But many of our previous sponsors continued to make donations, and thanks to their generosity, each winner was still awarded an impressive prize package.

We welcomed two additional directors to the Executive Board - Anthony Campbell from the Memorial Art Gallery, and Major Lou Tomasetti from the Monroe County Sheriff's Office.

We are always looking for more people to volunteer to serve on our Executive Board. If you are energetic, and have ideas, time and resources to help our program grow so that we can recognize even more students, and are interested in working with our team, please reach out to any of our staff or board members to apply! For more information about our program and to view a copy of our by-laws, please visit our website at www.cityofrochester.gov/DoTheRightThing.

25th Anniversary

The 2020-2021 program year celebrated 25 years of Do the Right Thing in Rochester! We had originally planned on hosting a ceremony to celebrate this accomplishment in September of 2020, however the event was cancelled due to the pandemic. Instead, in an effort to recognize the many supporters of our program from throughout the years, including past winners, staff, and sponsors, we plan on producing a publication highlighting the program's history, filled with 25 years of wonderful memories of Do the Right Thing in Rochester! We hope to complete this project before the end of 2021.

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.

*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



PROGRAM STAFF



Sergeant Jose Vargas
Program Director



Laurie Kingsley-Henry
Program Coordinator



Lisa Hayes
Program Assistant

Do The Right Thing Program

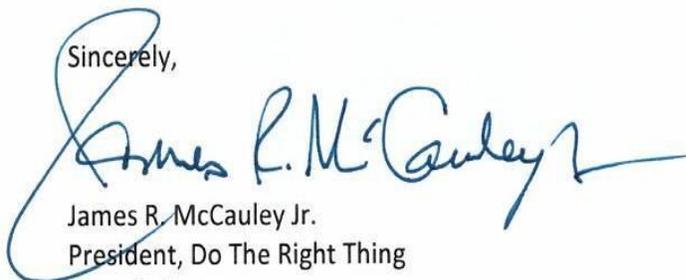
Rochester Police Department
185 Exchange Boulevard, Room 105
Rochester, New York 14614
Phone: (585) 428-7863 Fax: (585) 428-6093

This certainly has been an interesting couple of years, not just locally here in Rochester or even the state of New York, but globally. Covid-19, civil unrest, political upheaval and controversies, have become norm. There has never been a more important time to celebrate our youth than right now.

Do The Right Thing, in conjunction with our many partners, strives to encourage young people to become invested in our community and take a personal stake toward its improvement. In an age where mayhem and crime seem to dominate the media, we seek out young people who in the immortal words of Robert Kennedy "Some people see things as they are and ask why?" I see things as they could be and as why not?" We are experiencing more referrals than ever before on behalf of young people who are making a difference. Thanks in no small part to the tireless efforts of our Program Coordinator, Laurie Kingsley-Henry and Assistant Program Coordinator Lisa Hayes. The Do The Right Thing program has experienced exponential growth and is making roads to all areas of our community.

As the President of this wonderful organization, I am looking forward to the upcoming school year where we will continue to inspire and uplift our youth.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "James R. McCauley Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

James R. McCauley Jr.
President, Do The Right Thing
Awards Program

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS



2020-2021 Program Year

Mayor Lovely Warren (City of Rochester)

Police Chief Cynthia Herriott-Sullivan (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 and Program Coordinator: Laurie Kingsley-Henry (City of Rochester)

Program Director: Sergeant Jose Vargas (Rochester Police Department)

Anthony Campbell (Memorial Art Gallery)

Carlos Cotto, Jr. (Rochester City School District)

LaShay Harris (American Medical Response)

Glen Jeter (McDonalds, Upper Falls Boulevard)

Nydia Padilla-Rodriguez (Borinquen Dance Company)

John Picone (City of Rochester)

James Sheppard (Rochester City School District)

Brennan Somers (News 10NBC WHEC-TV)

Grace Tillinghast (The Battery)

Lou Tomasetti (Monroe County Sheriff's Office)



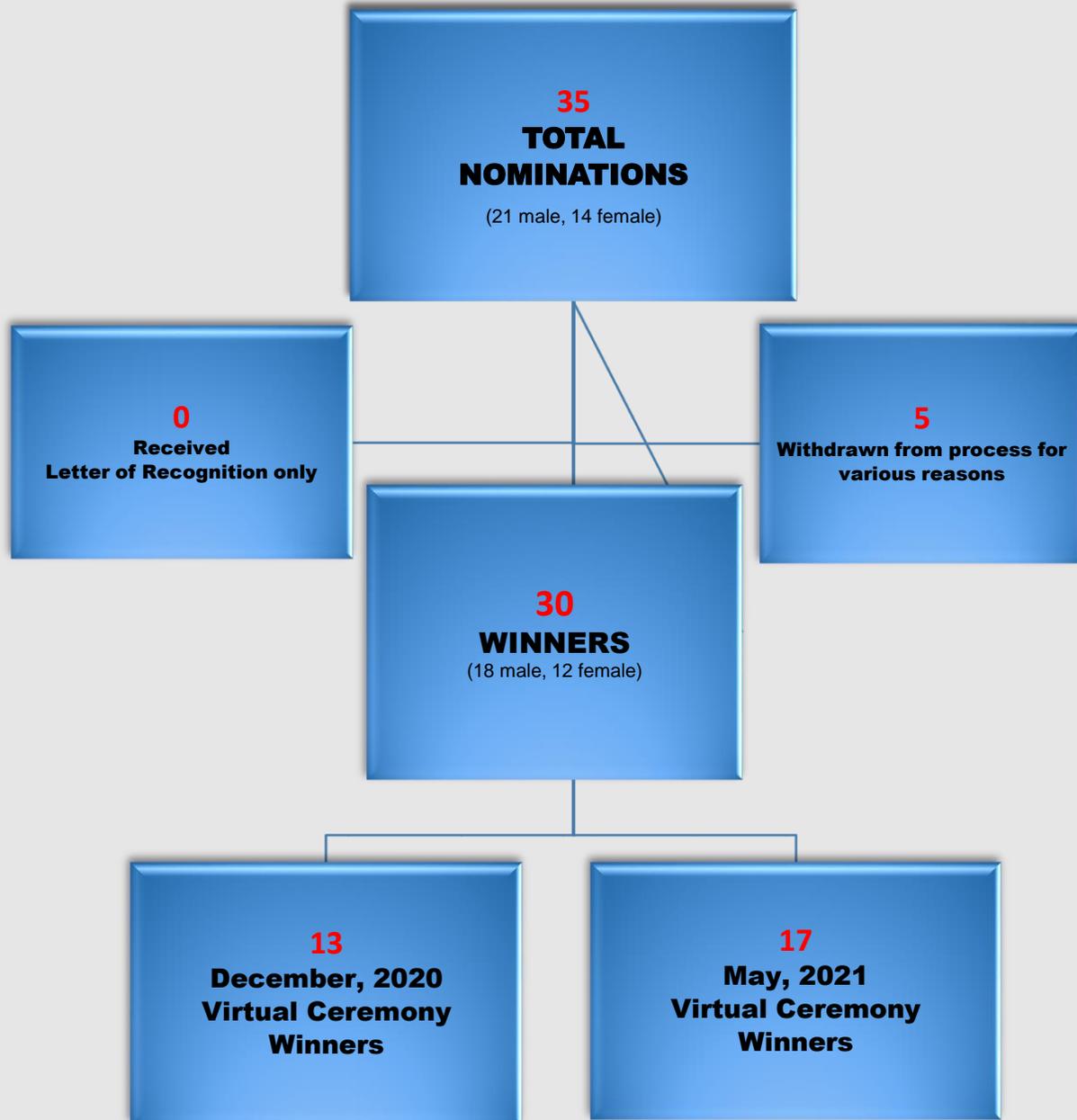
PROGRAM SPONSORS

American Medical Response
Ames-Amzalak Memorial Trust
The Battery
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
The Democrat and Chronicle
Dynamic Recording Studio
Lyons National Bank
McDonalds, Upper Falls Boulevard
Memorial Art Gallery
News 10NBC WHEC-TV
NYRA Trophies & Awards

Pirate Toy Fund
Rochester Americans
Rochester City School District
Rochester Knighthawks
Rochester Museum and Science Center
Rochester Police Department
Rochester Police Foundation
Rochester RazorSharks
Rochester Red Wings
Salvatore's Old Fashioned Pizzeria
Seabreeze Amusement Park
Seneca Park Zoo
Target
TOPS Friendly Markets
Wildlife Educators Coalition



PROGRAM STATISTICS





WINNERS BY SCHOOL DISTRICT

School District	Winners
Charter School	0
Homeschool	0
Private School	13
Brighton CSD	0
Brockport CSD	0
Churchville-Chili CSD	0
East Irondequoit CSD	2
East Rochester CSD	0
Fairport CSD	0
Gates-Chili CSD	0
Greece CSD	1
Hilton CSD	0
Honeoye Falls-Lima CSD	0
Penfield CSD	1
Pittsford CSD	2
Rochester City School District	7
Rush-Henrietta CSD	0
Spencerport CSD	1
Webster CSD	0
West Irondequoit CSD	2
Wheatland-Chili CSD	0
Geneseo CSD*	1
TOTAL	30

WINNERS BY GRADE

Grade Level	Winners
Kindergarten	0
1	3
2	2
3	2
4	1
5	3
6	1
7	2
8	8
9	1
10	0
11	2
12	4
Graduated*	1
TOTAL	30

*Program rules dictate any student enrolled in grades Kindergarten - 12 in any school within Monroe County is eligible for nomination, however:

- One student was nominated when they were a high school senior, but the selection process was not completed until after they graduated high school.
- An exception was made this year for a student that is enrolled in a school district outside of Monroe County, however the act they performed occurred within Monroe County.



FINANCIAL REPORTS

Do The Right Thing of Rochester Inc.				
Balance Sheet as of 7/31/2021				
	Jul 31, 21	Jul 31, 20	\$ Change	% Change
ASSETS				
Current Assets				
Total Checking - Discretionary	6,776.68	7,621.98	-845.30	-11.09%
Total Checking - Non-Discretionary	0.00	1,024.28	-1024.28	100.00%
TOTAL ASSETS	6,776.68	8,646.26	-1,869.58	-21.62%
LIABILITIES & EQUITY				
Equity				
Opening Bal Equity	581.74	581.74	0.00	0.00%
Unrestricted Net Assets	8,064.52	3,020.44	5,044.08	167.00%
Net Income	-1,869.58	5,044.08	-6,913.66	-137.07%
Total Equity	6776.68	8,646.26	-1,869.58	-21.62%
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$6776.68	\$8,646.26	-\$1,869.58	-21.62%

Do The Right Thing of Rochester Inc.	
Revenue & Expense Year Ending 7/31/2021	
	Aug '20 - Jul '21
Income	
Foundation and Trust Grants	1,000.00
Corporate Contributions	1,000.00
Individual Business Contributions	100.00
Total Income	2,100.00
Expense	
Scholarships	2,000.00
Ceremonies	268.08
Miscellaneous Expense	450.00
Seabreeze)	1,251.50
Total Expense	3,969.58
Net Income (Loss)	-\$1,869.58

2020-2021 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 30 of them and their commendable actions at four award ceremonies throughout the 2020-2021 school year. Listed below are each of their incredible stories.

December 2020 Ceremony



EmmaLee was nominated by her neighbor, Diane Sturmer, for her kind and caring heart. EmmaLee's genuine care and love for people shines in all of her relationships, and is reflected in the many facets of her life. EmmaLee has been involved with Heart of Dance since she was eight years old. Heart of Dance is an inclusive dance troupe that includes performers of all abilities – trained dancers, dancers with wheel chairs, dancers with developmental disabilities, and many guest dancers from around the Rochester community. EmmaLee has performed with dancers that have Down's Syndrome and dancers that are in wheel chairs. These dancers have ranged in age from a few months old to over 80 years young. Each year she has performed with the troupe at their annual performance at Nazareth College's Arts Center. Throughout the rehearsals, EmmaLee has always been a leader and great teacher to those around her. She has a gift with people, and loves to choreograph and teach beautiful dance numbers. One of EmmaLee's favorite works was with Shelly, who is in a wheel chair. The

song was Bad Day, and was performed in honor of a friend with Down's Syndrome who had passed away. EmmaLee and Shelly formed a very meaningful connection, and their part in the dance reflected this. EmmaLee has also been involved with Flower City Work camp since 7th grade, working both with children as well as helping with homes. She has participated in mission trips to Puerto Rico in 2018 and West Virginia in 2019. Unfortunately both her trip to Alaska and Flower City Work Camp experience were canceled this year due to Covid-19. Additionally she is the captain of her varsity gymnastics team, and treasurer in the school drama club. Her school counselor, Nathan Miller, says that EmmaLee is an amazing young lady that works extremely hard in all that she does, is a model student amongst her peers, and can be counted on for any task.



GENERAL LINDSAY

11th Grade

@

**Rochester City
School District**



General was nominated by Bruce Tehan, supervisor of the Arnett Branch of the Rochester Public Library, for the outstanding efforts and exceptional attitude he has exhibited over the past two years as a volunteer at the location. Mr. Tehan notes that General is polite, kind and respectful to everyone, including adults, children, and his peers. Community-based libraries such as the Arnett Branch depend on patrons to make the library a warm and welcoming place, and General's conduct at the library definitely contributes to that positivity. General purposely makes the library a better place each day by taking it upon himself to help maintain the appearance of the location by cleaning the floors in the teen and children's areas, and using a carpet sweeper to clean the carpets in both areas. General's innovative mind has been of great value to the library as well. The staff at the library often ask General to evaluate and help create different fun and educational teen programs. He enthusiastically tackles these tasks, and has performed in an exceptional manner. In short, General is always doing the right things to benefit the Arnett Branch Library community.

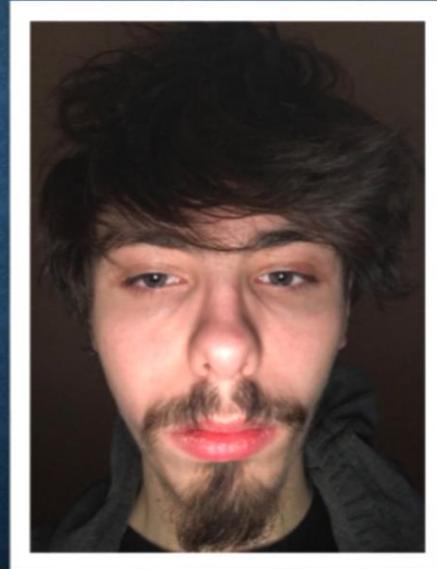


JASON MAIO

11th Grade

@

**Rochester City
School District**



Jason Maio was also nominated by Bruce Tehan, supervisor of the Arnett Branch of the Rochester Public Library. Mr. Tehan notes that he has always been impressed by Jason's polite and friendly demeanor as a patron of the location, and has often observed this intelligent young man helping other teen patrons with homework and computer gaming issues. But it was the actions of Jason on one particular day this past March that Mr. Tehan felt Jason should be recognized for. On March 12, 2020 Jason ensured a very young child's safety, relieved a family's fear and distress, and helped library and Rochester Police Department staff resolve a difficult situation. On this date, Jason noticed a small child, still in diapers, walk down Arnett Boulevard and enter the Arnett Branch Library without an adult. The child quietly started playing with toys in a corner of the library where he may have gone unnoticed had it not been for Jason's quick thinking. Jason immediately alerted library staff to the situation, and when RPD police officers responded, he calmly and accurately answered the officer's questions. The child's caregiver, distraught with fear over her missing child, was soon located and the two were reunited. Many individuals Jason's age would not have been astute enough to notice this lone young child, yet Jason not only noticed him, but then alerted the appropriate authorities who could find help for the child. Jason's actions were remarkable!

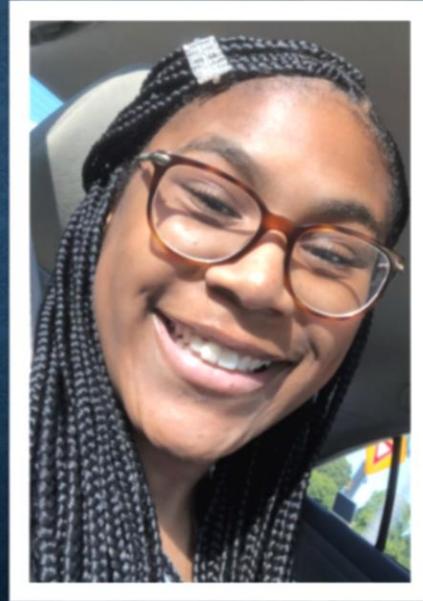


LAILA MITCHELL

7th Grade

@

**East Irondequoit
Central School District**



Laila was nominated by Cindy Babcock, a bus monitor for the Rochester City School District, for standing up to bullies. Laila was a student in the Rochester City School District last year, and for quite some time last year, several students on Laila's bus had been acting very disrespectfully towards the bus monitor - making fun of her physical features, mocking her, and using profanity towards her. Finally one morning back in March, Laila had enough of the bullying and told the students to stop. After she got off the bus she immediately reported the behavior to her Principal and Assistant Principal. That afternoon the Vice Principal came onto the bus and addressed the students. Laila could easily have ignored the inappropriate behavior, but instead she stood up to the other students and did what was right. Ms. Babcock was so proud of Laila, and thankful for her help. It's not always easy standing up to your peers in these types of situations, but luckily Laila did the right thing before the situation escalated further. Laila's principal David Passero stated that Laila is a leader. Other students look up to her because she stands up for what is right and is a constant advocate.

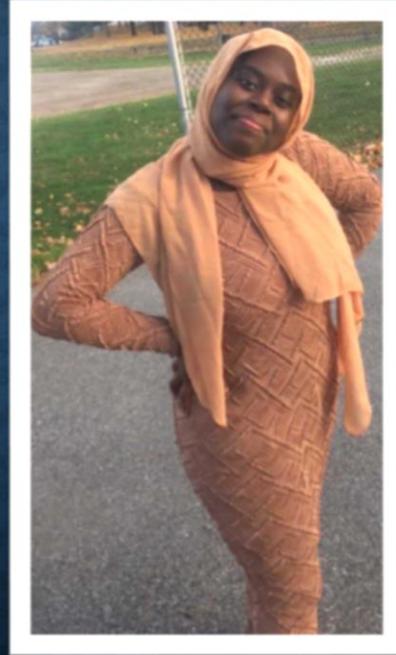


ANEY NOOR

9th Grade

@

**Rochester City
School District**



Aney was nominated by Vicki Meek, the Student & Family Support Coordinator at Henry Hudson School #28, for her mature and responsible actions. Aney attended this school last school year. One morning back in March, Aney arrived at school and immediately sought out Ms. Meek as she was concerned for the welfare of one of her friends. Aney had not seen or heard from her friend that morning, and she informed Ms. Meeks about an alarming social media post the friend had made the night before. Due to Aney's actions, Ms. Meeks not only located Aney's friend and addressed the safety issue, but Ms. Meeks was also able to identify a second friend who was in distress and contemplating self-harm. Interventions occurred to help this friend as well. Aney's actions on this day potentially saved two young lives, and both students received the necessary help they needed during a very distressing time in their lives.

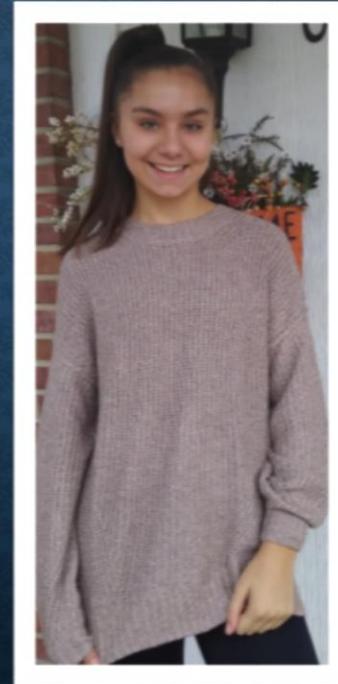


ALYSSA YANOSH

8th Grade

@

**West Irondequoit
Central School District**



Alyssa was nominated by her mother, Meredith Yanosh, for her quick actions and calm demeanor during a very scary medical emergency. While at their aunt's house this past June, thirteen year old Alyssa and her younger brother Joey, who was ten at the time, climbed a tree. When Joey jumped out of the tree, he landed on an old, rusty fence post, impaling his right thigh. Alyssa quickly and calmly lifted Joey up and freed him, then together they ran to the house for help. Initially Joey did not feel any pain, but as soon as they reached an adult, Joey began getting sick, and everyone realized the severity of Joey's injury - a large gash in Joey's thigh, which narrowly missed a major artery. The wound required twenty stitches at the hospital, and his pediatrician said it was one of the worst lacerations he has seen in his career in a child. Alyssa was so calm during this situation, and helped her brother without hesitation. Had she not reacted so quickly and calmly, the injury could have been much worse. All that normal sibling rivalry was put aside on this day, and Alyssa's only thought was helping her brother and getting him to safety. Joey insists that his sister saved his life!



Chase Brock

6th Grade @ Seton Catholic School

Kennedi & Riley

Tellier

3rd & 5th Grades @ Holy Cross School



Kennedi and Riley are sisters, and Brock is their cousin. All three were nominated by their grandfather, Frank Geraci, for their generosity and giving spirit. At the end of August, all three of Mr. Geraci's grandchildren participated in a community garage sale at the Rochester Public Market. Together they earned \$200 from this sale. They used the entire proceeds from this endeavor to purchase items from the Golisano Children's Hospital's Wish List. The three went to Target, picked out and bought several items for the pediatric patients at the hospital, and then delivered these items to the Golisano Children's Hospital. The three were able to deliver several bags of toys and other fun items for the children at the hospital to enjoy during their hospital stays.

If you are interested in following in these young role models footsteps, and would like to make a donation to the Golisano Children's Hospital, please visit the following website which provides information about how to make financial donations and information on their online wish list.

<https://www.urmc.rochester.edu/childrens-hospital/ways-to-give/ways-to-give/our-wish-list.aspx>

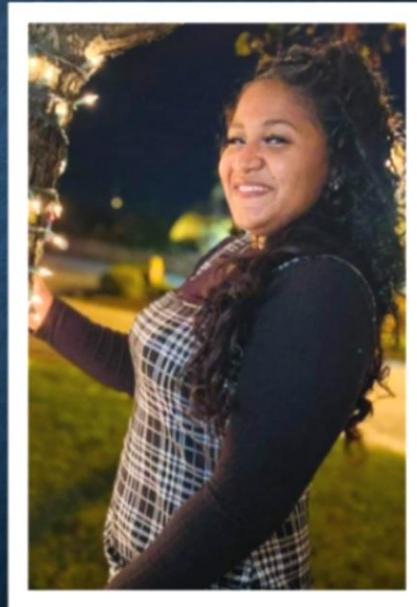


YARILIZ DEJESUS

Graduated June 2020

from

**Rochester City
School District**



Yariliz was nominated this past March by Cassandra Matalavage, a special education teacher at Henry Hudson School #28 in the Rochester City School District. Yariliz was nominated for her big heart and hard work that she displayed during her senior year while volunteering in Ms. Matalavage's 5th grade classroom. While school was in session, Yariliz spent her free period in Ms. Matalavage's classroom helping 27 students during their science class. Acting similar to a student teacher, Yariliz always supported the students who need extra help. Yariliz was always punctual, responsible, and willing to support in any way needed, going above and beyond what is expected of a volunteer, and became a critical part of this classroom community. Ms. Matalavage was so grateful to Yariliz for all of the help and support she provided to her class last year!

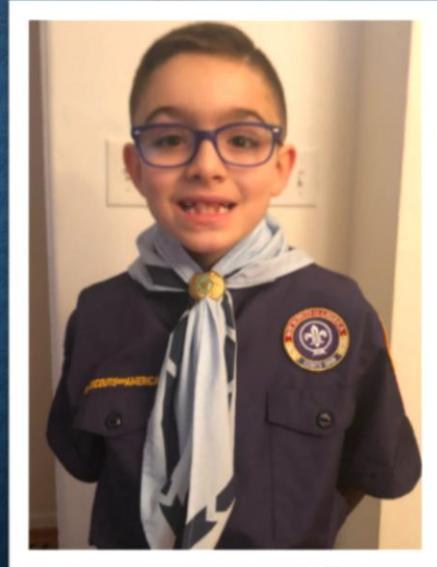


CARMELLO PAULINO

4th Grade

@

**West Irondequoit
Central School District**



Carmello was nominated by his mother, Marci Paulino, for his generosity and thoughtfulness during the school closure at the end of last school year and throughout the summer. From March-August, Carmello found many ways to help other members in his community. He created two online petitions. One petition called for people to pledge to vote in the November election. The other encouraged people to 'unplug' their electronics. He called it 'Unplug to Reconnect'. Carmello also organized and collected food donations for the Irondequoit Community Cupboard to feed those in need. Additionally, he opened a lemonade stand with the help of his little sister, Vivienne. Together they donated all of their earnings to the Sisters of Saint Joseph of Rochester Transition at St. Joseph's Northside. With the money earned, St. Joseph's Northside funded a large community barbecue where Carmello and Vivienne helped serve food and beverages. At nine years old, Carmello is a caring, empathic, and good-hearted young man, always thinking about others, and shows this care through his community actions.



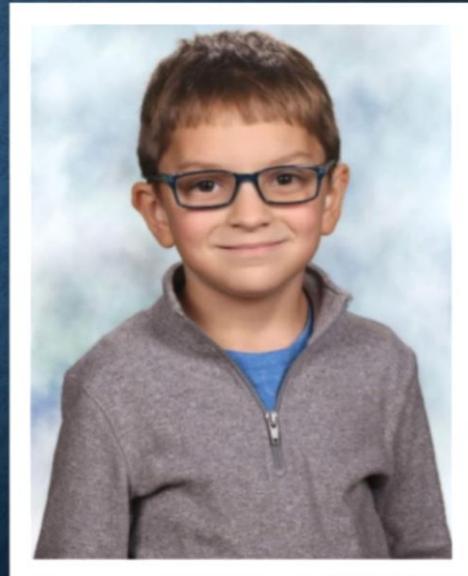
EMMITT SIMS

2nd Grade

@

Pittsford Central

School District



Emmitt was nominated by 911 Telecommunicator Kathleen Burns for his ability to remain calm and level-headed during a scary situation that occurred on the day before his 7th birthday. This past March, Ms. Burns received a call from Emmitt's neighbor requesting medical help for Emmitt's mother. The neighbor stated she was out for a walk when Emmitt approached her asking for help, stating his mother was on the floor. Emmitt was able to provide helpful information while the neighbor called 911, and he was heard comforting his mother the entire time they waited for an ambulance to arrive. Ms. Burns was so impressed that Emmitt was able to remain calm and seek help during an emergency situation. Thanks to Emmitt his mother received medical care and is doing well!

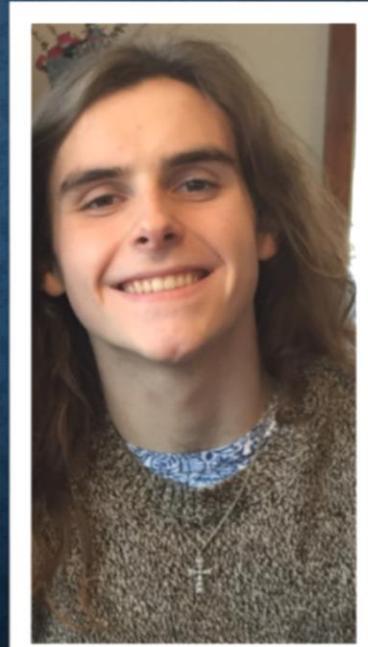


LIAM WORDEN

12th Grade

@

**Greece Central
School District**



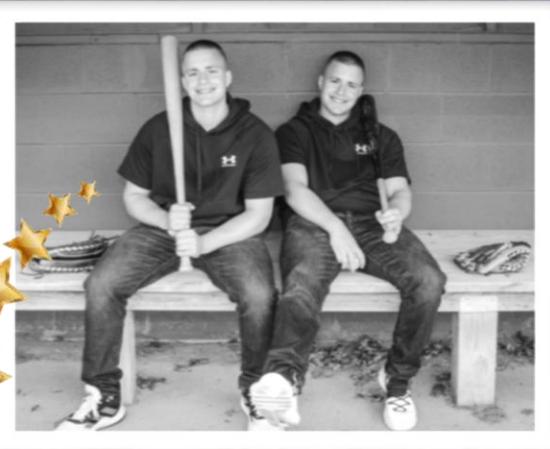
Liam was nominated by Bruce Schaubroeck, the owner of the House of Guitars, and Mr. Schaubroeck's friend Joyce Palumbo, for his amazing actions during a very scary situation back in September. One evening around 5:00 pm, Liam was driving to his part-time job at House of Guitars when he noticed a woman lying on the sidewalk near Holy Sepulchre Cemetery on Lake Avenue. Liam thought this woman may need medical help, and without hesitation turned his car around so he could provide assistance since he has his CPR certification. When he approached the woman lying on the ground, he immediately saw that she had a knife in her hand and was bleeding. Liam was able to disarm the woman, removing the knife from her hands, all while talking quietly to keep her calm. He learned the woman was distraught over the loss of her husband. He stayed with the woman until officers from the Rochester Police Department arrived. His employer found out about his commendable actions because an officer called Mr. Schaubroeck to let him know why Liam was going to be late to work. Mr. Schaubroeck and Ms. Palumbo are so proud of Liam for his actions, and have no doubt that Liam helped save a life on this day!

May 2021 Ceremony Winners

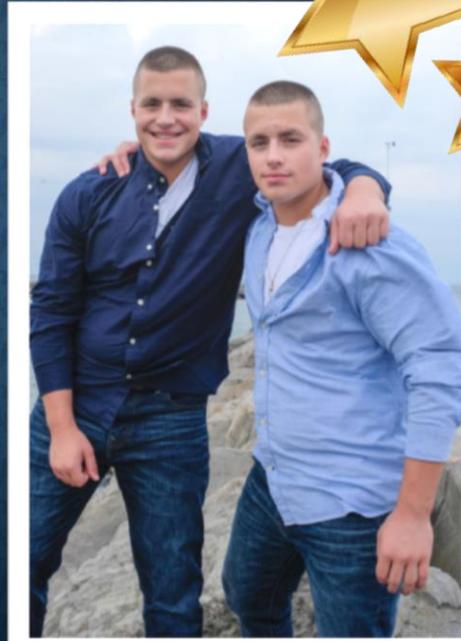


**Alejandro Aguilar, Zachery Morin, Eugene Carcone,
Payton Ostrowski, Thomas Triassi, Da-Siah White**
8th Graders @ Bishop Kearney Middle School

Social Studies teacher Ms. Christina Smith nominated Alejandro, Geno, Zachery, Payton, Tommy, and Da-Siah for their initiative and kind act which took place during her class back in January. During a snowstorm on January 26th, a visitor to their school got his vehicle stuck in a snow bank in the school parking lot, which is visible through their classroom window. Alejandro asked if he could help push the car out of the snow, and other members of his friend group asked if they could help as well. Ms. Smith gave them permission, so Alejandro, Tommy, Geno, Zachery, Payton, and Da-Siah all helped shovel and push the vehicle, staying outside in the cold and snow for about twenty minutes, ultimately freeing the unknown visitor's vehicle. Ms. Smith was so impressed by the actions of this group of young men on that cold, snowy day, and Bishop Kearney is proud to have them as part of their school community!



**Joseph & Paul
Conroy**
12th Grade@ Hope Hall



Joey and Paul are identical twins. Their sister, Marissa Conroy, nominated her brothers for the compassion they showed to a group of young boys back in November. Marissa shared that her brothers love baseball. Whenever possible, they help at training camps at The Battery, a baseball and softball indoor training facility in Gates, NY. They have volunteered at The Battery's camps and training sessions since they were in 8th grade, and prior to that they participated in many of the training camps as students. One Saturday while volunteering at a training session this past November, there was a power outage at the facility. Being in the dark may not scare adults, but it sure can be scary for young boys ages 8 - 10 years old. Joey and Paul not only had comforting words for the young players, but used the lights from their cell phones to help the children collect their equipment and lead them outside to meet their parents. Joey and Paul stayed until the last boy left the building. Not only was their family very proud of the concern and empathy Joey and Paul showed towards the younger students, but the staff at the facility were also impressed as well!

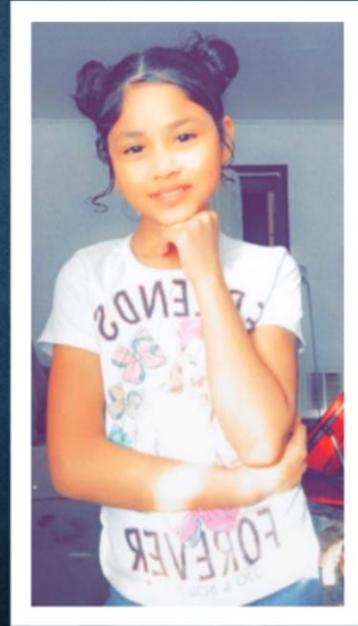


ASHIKA DARJEE

5th Grade

@

**Rochester City
School District**



Ashika was nominated by 911 Telecommunicator Kathleen Burns for her ability to remain calm and provide valuable assistance during a medical emergency. Back in February, Ms. Burns answered a 911 call from Ashika, who was calling on behalf of her mother, who only speaks Nepali and needed medical attention. Ashika was able to answer all of the necessary questions to get her mother the help she needed. She provided important information regarding her mother's condition, all while translating instructions from Ms. Burns to her mother and other family members. Ms. Burns was very impressed with Ashika, and proud of how helpful and calm she was during the entire phone call.

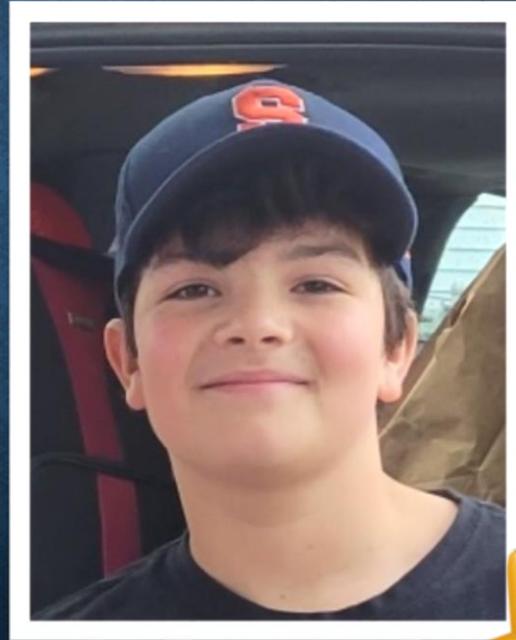


EVAN DICATALDO

7th Grade

@

**Spencerport Central
School District**



Evan was nominated by his father for the compassion he showed during an incident that occurred this past December. One evening, Evan appeared upset, but was hesitant to tell his father why. Eventually he shared that he was trying to help a friend from Snapchat who told him she was taking pills, and had been over the course of a few hours. Once Mr. DiCataldo learned of the situation, they contacted 911. Evan did not know where this girl lived, but he continued to remain in contact with her, letting her know that people cared about her and wanted to help. She refused to tell him where she was, and when she found out the police were called she became upset with Evan for telling on her. Despite this, Evan continued to communicate with her. With the information that he was able to provide, two local law enforcement agencies were able to work together and locate the girl after several hours. She was transported to the hospital for evaluation, and the next day she reached out to Evan and thanked him for his concern. It was not easy for Evan to tell his father what was happening, and it was upsetting for him to have this girl call him names and make other statements for what he was doing to try to help her. Evan did not think they would be able to locate his Snapchat friend, but by reaching out to a trusted adult, and through his cooperation, law enforcement was able find her and get her the help she needed.

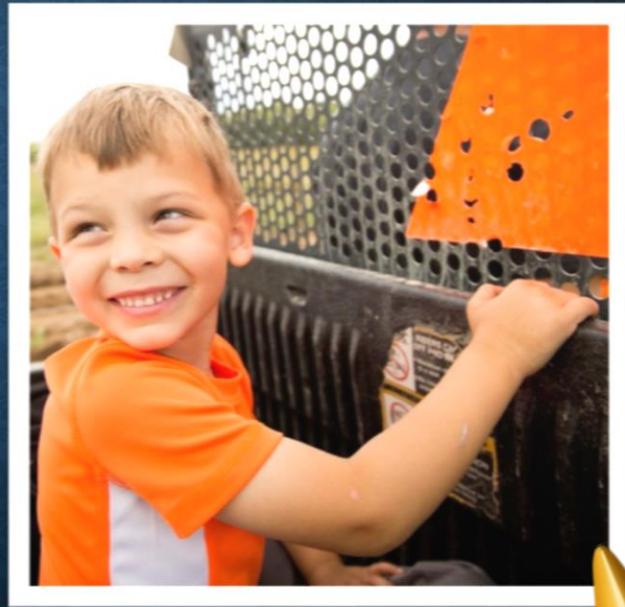


CHARLIE GASCON

1st Grade

@

**Pittsford Central
School District**



Charlie was nominated by Matthew Payne, Fire Chief of the Pittsford Fire Department, for his quick thinking and heroic actions. On a very cold day back in January, Charlie was outside playing when he noticed smoke coming from his neighbor's house. Charlie recognized the danger and immediately went inside to let his father know the neighbor's house was on fire. Charlie's father called 911, and the fire department arrived on scene just a few minutes later. At that point the fire was still contained in a small portion of the house. The firefighters were able to knock down the fire before it spread to other areas of the home and neighboring houses. The owner was not at home when the fire started, so without Charlie recognizing the danger and alerting his father to call 911, the fire would have continued to spread, causing more damage to that home and potentially neighboring houses as well. Charlie's observations and quick actions helped save a significant amount of the structure and its contents from burning, and also helped the fire department by preventing potential injuries that could have resulted from having to fight a more dangerous fire. Chief Payne is incredibly grateful and proud of Charlie for his astute observations and quick thinking during this incident!

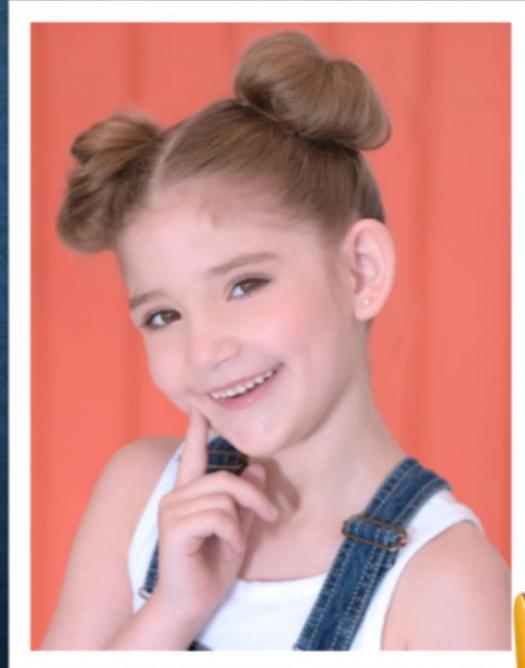


ELLA KIRCHOFF

1st Grade

@

**Geneseo Central
School District**



Ella was nominated by the Chief of the Lakeshore Fire Department, James O'Coin, because he was so impressed with Ella's thoughtfulness and giving-spirit. Despite her young age, Ella has already competed in several pageants. Two years ago she won the title of World's Perfect New England Little Miss. She then made it to the top ten in her division while competing in Florida at the International Pageant. This year she won the title of North America's Little Miss and USA Top Model Tiny Miss. Early on Ella realized that she could use pageantry as a platform for awareness of the so many people going hungry in the world. She started a food drive, placing a box at her pre-school, and asked her friends and family to donate. She collected several large boxes and donated them to a local food pantry. Last year she developed Operation Feed the Tummies, where she placed collection boxes in several different locations throughout Monroe and Livingston Counties. Her goal was to collect enough food to feed 100 families. She was able to make a large donation last year just before COVID shut everything down. She is currently collecting food again for Operation Feed the Tummies, and this time she hopes to surpass last year's goal and feed 500 people! She has many boxes throughout Monroe and Livingston Counties. Before the pandemic, she also asked if she could feed the firefighters because they are so busy they don't always have time to cook and eat. Last February she went to the Lake Shore Fire Department and provided lunch for all of the firefighters. They were so grateful for her kindness and generosity. She hopes to continue providing food to other area first responders once COVID restrictions are lifted.

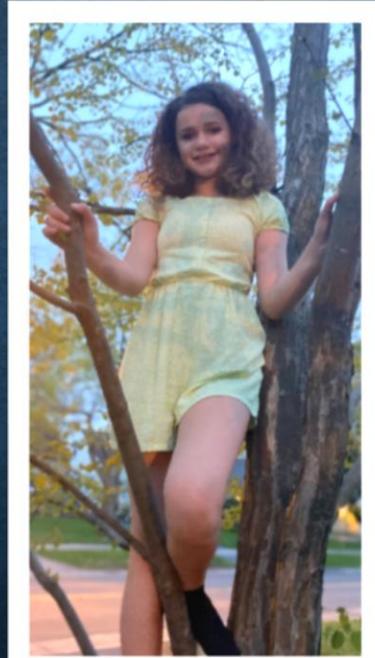


CLARE KRAWCZYK

5th Grade

@

Holy Cross School



Clare was nominated for her selflessness and generous heart by Lynn Sullivan, President and Chief Executive Officer of Volunteers of America of Upstate NY, Inc. Ms. Sullivan first met Clare approximately four years ago when Clare helped set up for a fundraising gala at Holy Cross School. Though only seven years old, Clare helped set the tables and prepare for the event that raised funds for her school. Then, in October of 2019, shortly after Ms. Sullivan became the CEO at Volunteers of America of Upstate NY, Clare reached out to ask how she could help homeless individuals in our community. After learning about the organization, Clare worked to collect personal care items, blankets and book bags, and put together over fifty blessing bags which were distributed to homeless individuals in the City of Rochester. Her efforts truly helped make a positive difference in the lives of those this organization serves. Additionally, this past summer, Clare sewed over 100 cloth masks and delivered them to a local nursing home. At a time when masks were in short supply, her efforts helped to keep safe the nursing home residents, one of the most vulnerable populations and at greatest risk of contracting COVID. She also wrote and delivered Christmas cards to the same nursing home this past holiday season to let the residents know they weren't forgotten. Clare is a young woman who is focused on giving back to the community in which she has been raised. Even though she is only eleven years old, she has already made a positive difference in so many lives. She always has a smile on her face, never asks for anything in return, is constantly thinking of others before herself, and is always trying to make a difference in our community. There is no doubt that she will continue to make a positive difference in our community for many years to come!

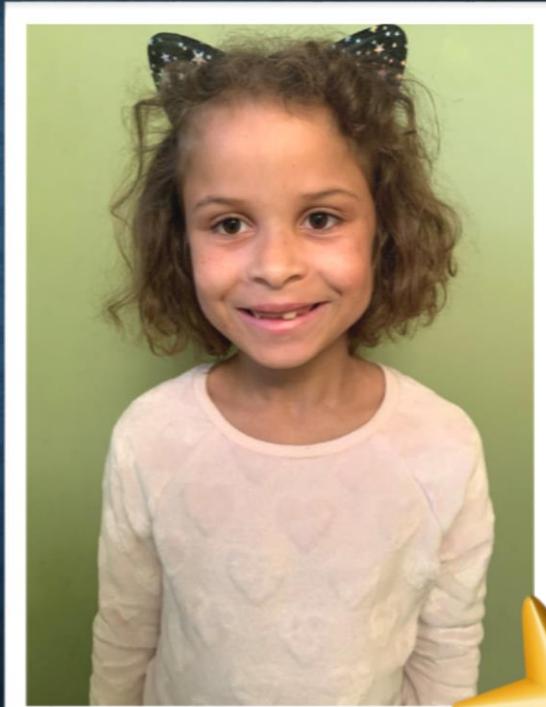


RUBY LEPORT

2nd Grade

@

**Rochester City
School District**



Ruby was nominated by her mother, Jessica Kilpatrick, for her astute observations during a criminal incident that occurred back in September. Ruby attends an after school program in the City of Rochester. One day when her mother was picking her up, she alerted her mother that she just saw a male hitting her camp counselor's vehicle tire with something sharp. Ruby was able to provide a description of the male, who had left the area. The counselor realized that her tire was damaged and flat, and 911 was called. Responding officers located the male, who had a knife in his possession. Ruby helped the officers by identifying the male (who was not known to the camp counselor) and telling them what she saw. Ruby observed a completely random, unprovoked criminal act, and did the right thing by reporting it immediately to an adult. Because of her actions, the male was arrested and was not able to damage any other vehicles in the area.



BOBBY MAPES

1st Grade

@

**East Irondequoit
Central School District**



Bobby was nominated by his great aunt, Annie Lane, for his heroic actions for an incident that occurred last summer. On a nice warm day back in July, Bobby was at his great aunt's house enjoying some pool time with other family members, including Ms. Lane's two year old grandson, Trenton. When Trenton drifted into the deep end of the pool, without hesitation Bobby quickly swam to Trenton and brought him safely back to the shallow end. Although Trenton was not actually in imminent danger as he was wearing a float and four adults were very close by, his family was nonetheless very proud and impressed by Bobby's quick thinking and brave actions. Bobby loves the water, enjoying both pool and beach time during the Rochester summers, and would like to remind everyone that it's very important to be safe around the water!

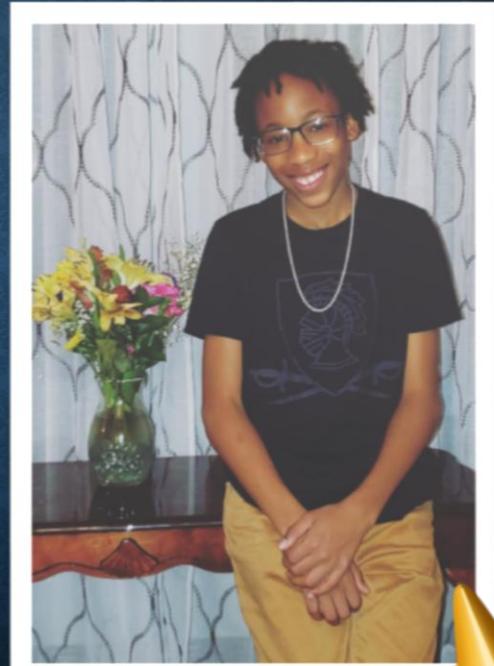


MATAI WHITE

8th Grade

@

**McQuaid Jesuit
High School**



Matai was nominated by one of his former teachers, Ms. Shauna Clark. Ms. Clark taught Matai in preschool, and although he was only four years old, she knew then that he was special for his ability to show empathy for others, as well as his commitment to work hard. Ms. Clark has kept in touch throughout the years, and has continued to watch him grow into the young man he is today, maintaining all of the positive qualities he displayed when they first met. Over the years, Matai has been drawn to helping others less fortunate than himself. He has donated his time, money, gift cards, blankets, hand warmers, an ear, and anything he could to help the homeless in his neighborhood. He became very close with one of these individuals last year. They would spend time talking, and the man would leave Matai with words to think about until they saw each other again. Since the pandemic they have not seen each other, but Matai still looks for him and continues to pray for his safety. Matai and his mother lived with his great grandfather for six years. Last year Matai became a caretaker to his great grandfather when he was placed in at-home hospice care. Matai checked on his great grandfather regularly without being asked, kept him company, helped feed him, and made sure he was comfortable. The two were very close, and Matai even chose to attend school remotely so that he could stay home and keep his great grandfather safe while he was ill. Unfortunately his great grandfather passed away on December 2, 2020, leaving a void that can never be filled. Makai's commitment to others is very impressive. He is energetic, enthusiastic, passionate, and caring, and would help anyone who needs it, as he is always hoping that he will improve the day and life of others!

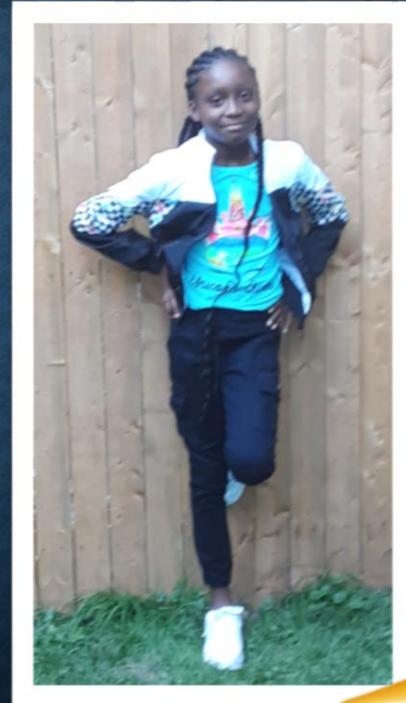


PARADISE WILLIAMS

3rd Grade

@

**Rochester City
School District**



Paradise was nominated by 911 Telecommunicator Kathleen Burns for her ability to remain calm and provide valuable information during a recent call to 911. This past February, Paradise called 911 and requested an ambulance for her mother who was ill. She provided Ms. Burns with detailed information about her location, including a description of her house, and which door first responders should go to. During the interview the line disconnected, and when Ms. Burns called back, Paradise's mother answered and declined the need for an ambulance. Even though this did not end up being a medical emergency, Ms. Burns was still very impressed with Paradise's actions. She did a great job when calling 911, and was very knowledgeable and concerned for her mother's well-being.

PRIZE PACKAGE PICK-UPS

OCTOBER WINNERS



DECEMBER WINNERS



MAY WINNERS







**CONGRATULATIONS
TO ALL OF THE
2020-2021 DO THE
RIGHT THING AWARD
WINNERS!**

2021 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Congratulations to our 2021 scholarship winners, Jaeden Cortes and Rose Palmer!

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.

A selection committee reviews all applications, and the number of winners selected each year is determined by the amount of program funding available. Our program has award over \$100,000 in college and/or trade school scholarships to 108 students since 1997!

This year we had six students apply for our scholarship. Two applicants won the award in 2012, three in 2013, and one in 2014.

Each winner was awarded a \$1000 college scholarship.



Jaeden Cortes



Jaeden graduated from Webster Schroeder High School, and will be attending the University of Rochester, where he will major in Biology Pre-Med. He aspires to be a cardiothoracic surgeon.

Jaeden was a Do the Right Thing winner in October 2012, when he was a 4th grader at Plank South Elementary in Webster. He was nominated for his courage and heroism when he saved his three year old cousin who jumped into a pool without her safety floats.



Rose Palmer



Rose graduated from Greece Olympia High School, and will be attending the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry, where she will major in Environmental Science. She hopes to become a researcher in her field of study.

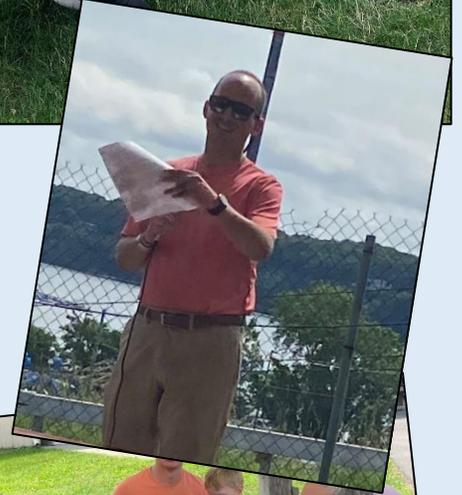
Rose was a Do the Right thing winner in November 2012 when she was in 4th grade at Craig Hill Elementary School. She was nominated, along with a friend, for her honesty and integrity, after they turned in a wallet containing a large sum of cash that they found stuck in the seat of their school bus.



SEABREEZE AMUSEMENT PARK FAMILY CELEBRATION DAY

Our Do the Right Thing Family Celebration Day event at Seabreeze Amusement Park was held on July 16th. All winners from both the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years were invited to attend, along with their family members. Typically this event is held each summer for the winners of the previous school year only, but since we had to cancel our 2020 Seabreeze event, we invited the winners from the previous two years. It was the first time in over a year that we were able to host an in-person event, and what a success it was! Thirty-two winners were in attendance, as well as one of our scholarship winners. In total, over 130 family, friends and program supporters joined us! The weather was beautiful, the food supplied by Seabreeze was delicious, and everyone had a great time!











DO THE RIGHT THING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Unfortunately, due to the Coronavirus pandemic, we were unable to participate in any community engagement activities this program year.

We missed the fun opportunities that we had in the past to set up our table, interact with members from the community and share information about our program.

However, as with so many others during this unique time, we became very adept at interacting remotely. We were very active with our social media accounts (both Facebook and Instagram), including weekly posts, as well as broadcasting our virtual ceremonies via Facebook Live. It's been fun interacting with our followers! We love reading all of your comments, most especially on ceremony days, supporting both our program and all of the winners! We've even been able to connect with some of our past winners through this medium!

Please make sure to follow us on social media and keep in touch with us, and hopefully we will be able to begin attending community events again next program year.

Do the Right Thing of Rochester, Inc.

*** Rochester Police Department***

Phone: (585) 428-7863 Fax: (585) 428-6093

Email: DotheRightThing@cityofrochester.gov

Website: www.cityofrochester.gov/DoTheRightThing

Follow us on Facebook: [@DTRTROC](https://www.facebook.com/DTRTROC)

Follow us on Instagram: [@DTRT_Rochester](https://www.instagram.com/DTRT_Rochester)



DO THE RIGHT THING PROGRAM FEEDBACK

Parents View - Nomination Process was EASY!
The program should be out at Community
EVENTS with a TEXT TO GET THE WORD
OUT. Example Lilac Festival talk with parents
or STUDENTS provide flyers or something to
Remember the program.

The program Does Recognize The students very well
We Recieved ~~it~~ from our Town P.D.
Shettens

I was suprised with the amount of gifts given.
I thought "The Do the Right Thing" awards are so generous.

Email from Jaeden Cortes, 2021 Scholarship Winner:

'Thank you so much for awarding me this scholarship! Being an awardee at the age of 10 was an honor and set me on the path towards community service. Your scholarship will help me achieve my dream of becoming a surgeon one day!'

Check out our [Facebook](#) posts for so many positive comments about our program and our winners!

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 virtual 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. From family and friends, to government officials and sponsor representatives, we were overwhelmed by the amount of people who not only watched our virtual ceremonies via Facebook Live on both December 10th and May 5th, but also reacted and commented to our posts as well! 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 our virtual 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 for your help recording the virtual ceremonies during our Facebook Live event.*
- *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 bring in more nominations so that we can recognize and reward even more students! 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.



2021-2022 CEREMONY DATES

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

November 4, 2021

March 10, 2022

May 5, 2022

We hope to resume the traditional ceremony format, where ceremonies are held at 10:30 am at the Rochester Police Department Public Safety Building at 185 Exchange Boulevard, however if restrictions are still in place due to the current pandemic, we will hold virtual ceremonies via Facebook Live on the above dates. Either way, the ceremony will be recorded and shared Live on our Facebook page. Updates will be posted to our Facebook page as the dates get closer.

Rochester Police Department
do the
RIGHT
things
awards



The graphic features the text 'Rochester Police Department' in yellow on a blue arch. Below it, 'do the' is in orange and green. 'RIGHT' is in large red letters, 'things' is in purple, and 'awards' is in yellow. A silver star with '25 Years' is centered over 'awards'. A blue arc is at the bottom.



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/DOOTHERIGHTTHING 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



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 (Donor Code ID # 3383)
- ★ Make a tax deductible contribution. Do the Right Thing is a 501(c) (3) non-profit 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



CONTACT PROGRAM COORDINATOR
LAURIE KINGSLEY-HENRY
FOR MORE INFORMATION
EMAIL: DOOTHERIGHTTHING@CITYOFROCHESTER.GOV
PHONE: (585) 428-7863



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA!



- ★ FACEBOOK [DO THE RIGHT THING OF ROCHESTER](#)
- ★ INSTAGRAM [DTRT_ROCHESTER](#)

