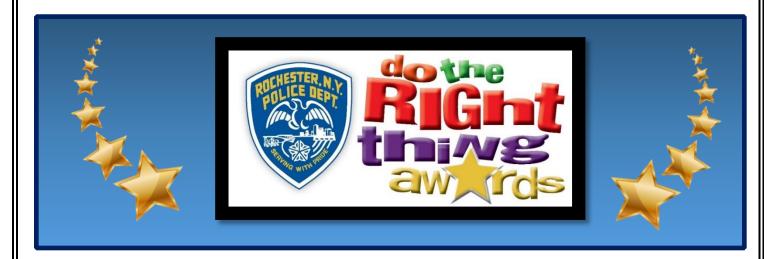


# **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

| Program History and Overview                                 | 4-6   |
|--|-------|
| Program Staff  | 7     |
| Letters from Mayor, Police Chief & Executive Board President | 8-10  |
| Executive Board Members                                      | 11    |
| Program Sponsors   | 12    |
| Financial Reports  | 13    |
| Program Statistics   | 14-15 |
| 2022-2023 School Year Do The Right Thing Award Winners       | 16-52 |
| 2023 Scholarship Winners                                     | 53-54 |
| Seabreeze Amusement Park Family Celebration Day              | 55    |
| Do The Right Thing Community Involvement                     | 56-57 |
| Thank You  | 58-59 |
| 2023-2024 Ceremony Dates                                     | 60    |



## 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. 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.

#### **2022-2023 Ceremonies**

In total, we recognized twenty-nine students throughout three ceremonies during the 2022-2023 school year. This included twenty-eight incidents that involved times of heroism, bravery and courageousness while helping family and/or first responders during serious incidents such as reporting unsafe situations to school staff; calling 911 or helping family members during emergency situations; acts of kindness, thoughtfulness, generosity, and volunteerism; as well as role model behavior. 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 the winners are!

All ceremonies were in-person this year, and were very well attended by family and friends of the winners, as well as many other supporters of the program. We also continued broadcasting the ceremonies via Facebook Live for those that were unable to attend. This allows everyone to watch the ceremony again at a later time if they would like. Make sure to visit our <u>Facebook page</u> to view past ceremonies and see additional coverage of each winner!

Something interesting and fun that occurred this year – each ceremony had a winner whose sibling was a previous Do The Right Thing Award winner! Each past winner was also highlighted in our 'It Runs in the Family' newsletter segments. These are included in this report as well. And don't forget our very own Mayor Malik D. Evans was also a past winner!

#### **Scholarship Announcement**

At the May 2023 Do The Right Thing award ceremony, we announced that effective this year, The Summit Federal Credit Union partnered with the Do The Right Thing award program and pledged to match funds to support our annual Do The Right Thing Scholarship Program. To acknowledge this partnership, the scholarship will now be named the **Do The Right Thing / The Summit Federal Credit Union Scholarship Program.** This year we awarded two \$2000 college scholarships. We look forward to continuing this partnership for years to come!

#### **Sponsor Information**

In addition to The Summit Federal Credit Union, we would also like to welcome The Strong National Museum of Play as a new sponsor of the Do The Right Thing Program. Beginning with the May 2023 ceremony, each winner was gifted a pair of passes for admittance to The Strong National Museum of Play, and future winners will be provided this gift as well!

#### **Changes to the Executive Board**

This year we were excited to welcome two new Executive Board Members – Jessica Williams from The Summit Federal Credit Union, and Emily Putnam from News 10NBC WHEC-TV. Emily also took over as MC at the award ceremonies, replacing Brennan Somers, who filled the role for the last three years. While we were sad to say farewell to Brennan, Emily has been a wonderful addition to our team, enthusiastically speaking at every ceremony this year, as well as providing news coverage of each winner and their story on News 10NBC WHEC-TV.

### **Social Media and Newsletter**

This year we continued sharing information and news with all of our supporters in a variety of ways. We post frequently to our <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u> 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 <u>website</u> 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.

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

Website: www.cityofrochester.gov/DoTheRightThing

Follow us on Facebook: <a href="mailto:oDTRTROC">ODTRTROC</a>

Follow us on Instagram: @DTRT Rochester

Follow us on Twitter: <a>@RPD</a> <a>DTRT</a>

# **PROGRAM STAFF**



Sergeant Jose Vargas

Program Director



Laurie Kingsley-Henry

Program Coordinator



Lisa Hayes
Program Assistant



Malik D. Evans Mayor

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

October 11, 2023

Do the Right Thing Awards Program c/o Rochester Police Department 185 Exchange Blvd. Rochester, NY 14614

Dear Students, Organizers & Sponsors:

The "Do the Right Thing" program has celebrated Rochester's youngest citizens for their courage, kindness, and generosity for 27 years. Our community is filled with young people with outstanding character and integrity, and today, we applaud them as they grow into our future leaders.



Congratulations to the 29 students who were recognized during the 2022-23 program year. They exemplify what it means to be a role model and they serve as proof that so many of our parents, guardians, mentors, and teachers are guiding our youth along the right path.

Whether they reported unsafe conditions, called 911 during an emergency, helped a family member, or simply helped clean up their neighborhood, this cohort of Do the Right Thing award recipients give us hope that every generation gets better, wiser, and stronger. Their sensibility encourages all of us to do better and inspires us to do good and serve with excellence, pushing Rochester into the upper echelon of communities across the country.

I would like to thank the Summit Federal Credit Union for partnering with the Do the Right Thing Awards this year to provide matching funds for its scholarship program.

Once again, congratulations to our exceptional young citizens 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

Employer

Fax: (585) 428-6059

TTY: (585) 428-6054

EEO/ADA



### City of Rochester

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



October 3, 2023

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 2023-2024 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

David M. Smith Chief of Police

(4)

Phone: 585.428.7033

Fax: 585.428.6093

TTY: 585.428.6054

EEO/ADA Employer



### Do The Right Thing of Rochester, Inc.

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

Dear Do The Right Thing Sponsors and Supporters,

This certainly has been an exciting 2022-2023 program year for all involved with the Do The Right Thing program! Under the fine leadership of Laurie Kingsley-Henry (Program Coordinator) and Lisa Hayes (Program Assistant), we have increased student referrals and sponsors!

During the 2022-2023 program year we had three ceremonies honoring twentynine students, fourteen of which came from the Rochester City School District. Their accomplishments were many including identifying a student who was in school with a loaded handgun! Another who helped a person escape a house fire! Each one of these students exemplified tremendous courage and leadership! We must continue to honor and thereby encourage our young people to do the right thing!

One of the other highlights of 2022-2023 was establishing our partnership with the Summit Federal Credit Union who has pledged matching funds to support our annual scholarship that goes to graduating students, that have previously won the Do The Right Thing award and who will be attending college or trade school. It will now be known as The Do The Right Thing / The Summit Federal Credit Union Scholarship Program.

It is important now more than ever before to seek out, identify, and encourage our students, who in the face of so many obstacles, continue to strive toward excellence. This is our mission at Do The Right Thing.

James R. McCauley Jr.

**Board President** 

## **EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS**



## 2022-2023 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: Anthony Campbell (Memorial Art Gallery)

**Treasurer: Suzanne Warren** (City of Rochester)

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

Program Director: Sergeant Jose Vargas (Rochester Police Department)

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)

Emily Putnam (News 10NBC WHEC-TV)

James Sheppard (Rochester City School District)

Keith L. Stith (Rochester Police Department)

**Grace Tillinghast** (The Battery)

Jeffrey Wagner (Monroe County Sheriff's Office)

Jessica Williams (The Summit Federal Credit Union)

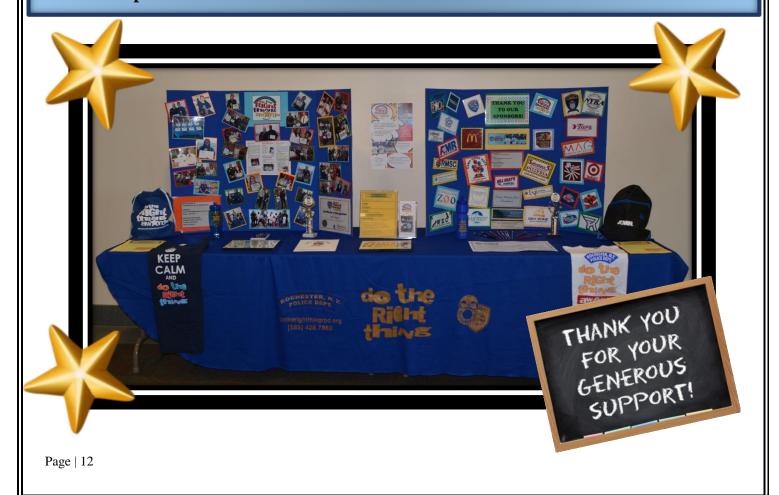




## PROGRAM SPONSORS

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 Red Wings
Salvatore's Old Fashioned Pizzeria
Seabreeze Amusement Park
Seneca Park Zoo
The Strong National Museum of Play
The Summit Federal Credit Union
TOPS Friendly Markets



# **FINANCIAL REPORTS**

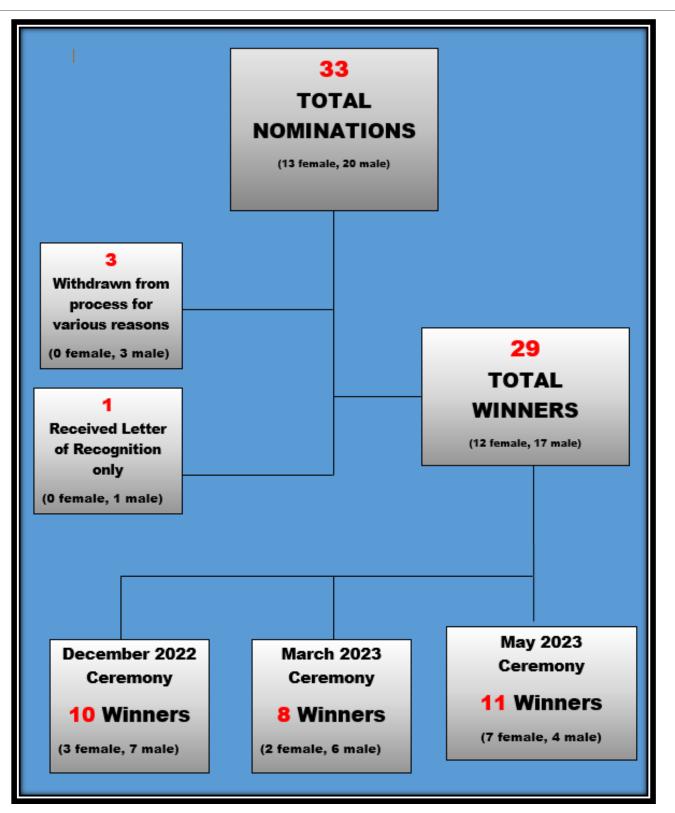
| Do The Right Thing of Rochester Inc. Balance Sheet as of 7/31/2023 |               |               |             |          |
|--|---------------|---------------|-------------|----------|
|  | July 31, 2023 | July 31, 2022 | \$ Change   | % Change |
| <u>ASSETS</u>  |               |               |             |          |
| Current Assets   |               |               |             |          |
| Total Checking -   | \$9,857.68    | \$12,455.91   | -\$2,598.23 | -20.86%  |
| Discretionary  |               |               |             |          |
| Total Checking - Non-  | \$0.00        | \$0.00        | \$0.00      | 100.00%  |
| Discretionary  |               |               |             |          |
| TOTAL ASSETS   | \$9,857.68    | \$12,455.91   | -\$2,598.23 | -20.86%  |
| LIABILITIES & EQUITY   |               |               |             |          |
| Equity   |               |               |             |          |
| Opening Bal Equity   | \$581.74      | \$581.74      | \$0.00      | 0.00%    |
| Unrestricted Net   | \$11,874.17   | \$6,344.94    | \$5,529.23  | 87.14%   |
| Assets   |               |               |             |          |
| Net Income (Loss)  | -\$2,598.23   | \$5,529.23    | -\$8,127.46 | -146.99% |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY   | \$9,857.68    | \$12,455.91   | -\$2,598.23 | -20.86%  |

| Revenue & Expense Year Ending 7/31/2023 |                         |  |
|---|-------------------------|--|
|   | August 2022 - July 2023 |  |
| Revenues                                |                         |  |
| Individual & Business Contributions     | \$1,900.00              |  |
| Donations via United Way                | \$1,489.18              |  |
| Summit FCU Scholarship Contribution     | \$2,000.00              |  |
| Seabreeze Receipts                      | \$1,720.00              |  |
| Total Income                            | \$7,109.18              |  |
| Expenses                                |                         |  |
| Scholarships                            | \$4,000.00              |  |
| Ceremonies & Promotional Items          | \$717.61                |  |
| Seabreeze*                              | \$4,464.00              |  |
| Miscellaneous Expenses                  | \$525.80                |  |
| Total Expense                           | \$9,707.41              |  |
| Net income                              | -\$2,598.23             |  |

\*Balance of 2022 Seabreeze event paid in 2022-2023 program year.

2022 and 2023 Seabreeze events were held in August 2022 and June 2023, so the events for last year and this year both fell in the 2022-2023 Fiscal Year.

# **PROGRAM STATISTICS**



| WINNERS BY SCHOOL DISTRICT     |         |  |
|--------------------------------|---------|--|
| School District                | Winners |  |
| Charter School                 | 4       |  |
| Homeschool                     | 1       |  |
| Private School                 | 1       |  |
| Brighton CSD                   | 0       |  |
| Brockport CSD                  | 0       |  |
| Churchville-Chili CSD          | 1       |  |
| East Irondequoit CSD           | 0       |  |
| East Rochester CSD             | 0       |  |
| Fairport CSD                   | 0       |  |
| Gates-Chili CSD                | 1       |  |
| Greece CSD                     | 2       |  |
| Hilton CSD                     | 1       |  |
| Honeoye Falls-Lima CSD         | 0       |  |
| Penfield CSD                   | 0       |  |
| Pittsford CSD                  | 0       |  |
| Rochester City School District | 14      |  |
| Rush-Henrietta CSD             | 1       |  |
| Spencerport CSD                | 0       |  |
| Webster CSD                    | 3       |  |
| West Irondequoit CSD           | 0       |  |
| Wheatland-Chili CSD            | 0       |  |
| TOTAL                          | 29      |  |



| WINNERS BY GRADE |         |  |
|------------------|---------|--|
| Grade Level      | Winners |  |
| Kindergarten     | 1       |  |
| 1                | 2       |  |
| 2                | 1       |  |
| 3                | 2       |  |
| 4                | 2       |  |
| 5                | 3       |  |
| 6                | 4       |  |
| 7                | 6       |  |
| 8                | 1       |  |
| 9                | 4       |  |
| 10               | 1       |  |
| 11               | 1       |  |
| 12               | 0       |  |
| TOTAL            | 29      |  |



# **2022-2023 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 29 of them and their commendable actions at three award ceremonies throughout the 2022-2023 school year. Listed below are each of their incredible stories.



## December 2022 Ceremony Winners



**Xzaveon Alfonso** 

9<sup>th</sup> Grade

**Northeast College Preparatory H.S. (RCSD)** 

Xzaveon was nominated last school year when he was an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at John Williams School #5 by his social studies teacher, Ms. Jamie Bruce, for his courageous actions. When a student in Xzaveon's classroom told classmates that they had brought a weapon into school, Xzaveon chose to let an adult know so that the situation could be handled appropriately. Despite being called a snitch, bullied and even threatened for reporting the situation, Xzaveon's courage to stand up for what was right helped keep his classmates and school community safe. He took immediate action, and responsible adults were able to swiftly address this potentially dangerous situation. Thanks to Xzaveon, everyone went home safe from school

that day.





Abby was nominated by Ms. Diane Sturmer for her kind heart and selfless spirit. Ms. Sturmer is the Artistic Director of Heart of Dance, which 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. She says that Abby has been a valuable asset to the troupe, always willing to help out with any choreography or anything else that needs to be done, is comfortable with all participants, and especially enjoyed dancing with another dancer with wheels.

Abby is also an invaluable asset to her community, volunteering many hours at various organizations in the area. Abby has been involved with Girl Scouts for over seven years, and throughout this time has contributed many hours to her community through activities like volunteering at 5K events, organizations like Happy Birthday Cha Cha Cha, and Christmas caroling at senior communities. She completed her Girl Scout bronze award which included a project to assist pets waiting for their forever homes. She worked with Verona Street Animal Shelter to help get the word out about the need for fosters by creating PSAs for social media, helped make foster bags and thank you cards for families that foster pets, volunteered at Verona Street's Fast & Furriest fundraising event and made dog toys to donate to Verona Street & Rescue Pups. She finished her bronze award by traveling to Friendship, NY to help Rescue Pups clear a walking trail for their volunteers and dogs to use. For the last six years Abby has also volunteered her time to help take care of the community garden at Hope House in Webster during the summer. Hope House provides food for many people in the Webster community. She has also volunteered at Foodlink, as well as made cards for veterans for Veterans Day, painted pumpkins and put together holiday treat bags for the residents at Cherry Ridge Rainier Grove, and volunteered at the Challenger Miracle Field Halloween Party. Challenger Baseball is Little League's adaptive baseball

program for individuals who are differently-abled physically and intellectually, and Miracle Field provides a dedicated field to ensure a safe space for these teams to play.

At school, Abby is an excellent student. She was elected by her peers to represent the 6th graders in Blue House on student council, and has participated in volunteer work through this as well.

Well-rounded, making a difference in both the community where she lives as well as her school community, Abby is a wonderful role model for not only other students, but adults as well.





Nicholas was nominated by his neighbor, MJ Stark, for the maturity and bravery he displayed during a recent alarming incident. In May Nicholas was riding his scooter alone in his neighborhood when he was followed and approached by a stranger in a vehicle who attempted to engage Nicholas in inappropriate conversation. Nicholas was uncomfortable and sensed danger, so he immediately went home and reported what happened to his parents. On his way home he even told the nearby neighbor to be safe. His parents called 911 and the Monroe County Sheriff's Office responded to investigate. Nicholas was brave and provided the deputies very detailed information about the man and the car he was driving. Nicholas did the right thing by going to a safe location and immediately telling an adult, and reacted courageously when he spoke to law enforcement and provided them very important information. His actions serve as a model for children of what to do if they are ever in a similar situation, and hopefully his bravery and willingness to speak up will encourage others to do the same.



## **Daryl Goodwin**

### 9<sup>th</sup> Grade

Daryl was nominated by his coach as well as his school counselor for his strength, resilience and great attitude while dealing with some very traumatic events recently. First Daryl's mother suddenly and unexpectedly passed away. Then several months later the house where he resides caught fire in the middle of the night. Daryl was able to alert his family, and thanks to his actions, everyone was able to safely escape. Despite all of this, Daryl shows up to school every day, as well as sports practice, always with a smile on his face, ready to work and play hard. Several of his teachers note that Daryl is a hard worker and a pleasure to have in class. Daryl's coach wants everyone to know that Daryl is a tough young man who is a bright spot in our community, and his family wants everyone to know they are proud of him and that he is a hero.





### Morgan Grandberry Graduated June 2022 from Wilson Magnet High School

Morgan graduated last year from Wilson Magnet High School, and currently attends the University of Buffalo where she is pursuing a degree in nursing. She was nominated last school year before she graduated by Natalie Fabretti, a College Access Counselor at Monroe Community College, for the motivation, drive and good attitude she displayed throughout high school.

Throughout high school Morgan actively sought out ways to serve her community. She volunteered at Foodlink by packing boxes for organizations within the community that make and distribute meals, as well as MCC's snack and supply distribution events.

At school she served as a student leader to plan online activities and events. She designed a vision board that included personal and professional goals which she shared with her peers. She taught younger students about healthy food and activity choices through the Choose Healthy Action Teens program. She taught several classes and debriefed with her leader in order to improve each time. She applied and was accepted to the Ag Innovators Experience where she completed training, planned lessons with peers, and taught younger students about ways to protect the environment, working with a variety of age groups.

Morgan was accepted to the Perry Initiative where she did hands-on activities with orthopedic

surgeons which shows her dedication to learn more about her future career. She was also accepted to Project SEED, a that program connects high school students with current university professors to learn how to do research.

In everything she does, Morgan is always willing to do whatever is needed, and attitude. with а good high Morgan's school counselor, Ms. Jamie Miner, said that Morgan is a natural and effective leader who charismatically guides her peers and always has a willingness to help others.





John was nominated by his grandmother, Paula Stagnitto, for overcoming obstacles and his sense of responsibility to his community. John has Spina Bifida. As a baby doctors said he would likely never walk, however after nine surgeries he proved them wrong! While he may be slightly slower than a lot of children his age, John has been walking since the age of two! He tires quickly and after a hard day at school or playing you can recognize the difference in his ability to walk, but that doesn't stop him from one of his passions — caring for the environment. John can often be found after a long day of school, or even on the weekends, walking around his neighborhood or a nearby park with plastic bags and gloves on picking up loose trash. His family is so proud of John for working hard and always helping others in his community.





Kamden was nominated by family friend Jeanne Charlton Markman after she learned of his heroic actions this past August. On the morning of August 1<sup>st</sup>, Kamden was watching tv when the carbon monoxide detector went off. Kamden woke his two older siblings and all three were able to safely evacuate the house. Kamden then called his parents to tell them what was happening, and they contacted 911. The fire department and RGE responded, and determined that there was a carbon monoxide leak from the kitchen stove. Thanks to Kamden's quick actions, his family is healthy and safe.



and children, had a great time!



### Ryker Metras 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Burger Junior High School (Rush-Henrietta CSD)

Ryker was nominated by 911 telecommunicators Rachel DiVirgilio & Roxanne Angst for the way he responded during an emergency situation that occurred this summer. On August 14<sup>th</sup> Ryker called 911 to report his neighbor's lawn was on fire. He provided very detailed descriptions and updates, such as how rapidly the fire was spreading and how close the fire was getting to the neighbor's house. He answered all the questions that were asked of him to the best of his ability, and provided crucial information which helped the fire department respond as quickly and efficiently as possible. While he did not know the exact address of his neighbor's house, he gave very specific details of what the house looked like, which helped the telecommunicators pinpoint the exact location. During the entire conversation, the 911 telecommunicators noted Ryker was always very helpful and polite. Mr. Lane, the principal at Ryker's school, says that Ryker is a kind, conscientious and thoughtful young man, and an absolute role model for his peers.



## Leah Passero 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Homeschool

Leah was nominated by Arnett Branch Librarian Bruce Tehan for her outstanding role model behavior which she displayed when she volunteered at the location. During June and July 2022 Leah volunteered two shifts per week at the Arnett Branch Library. Her duties included shelf reading, creating book displays, and helping conduct children's arts and craft programs. Leah was polite, hardworking, responsible and smart, and her work was exceptional. She was a key reason children had fun and educational experiences at the Arnett Branch Library, and because of this she has helped children develop a life-long love of libraries and reading. She is a truly outstanding young lady, and has provided a wonderful service for her

community.





#### IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY!

Two of Leah's siblings are also past Do The Right Thing winners!

- \* Johanna (June 2018, pictured bottom left)
- \* Stephen (December 2019, pictured bottom right)

And bottom right photo....Leah pictured with two more of her sisters (hopefully two future Do The Right Thing Award winners)!





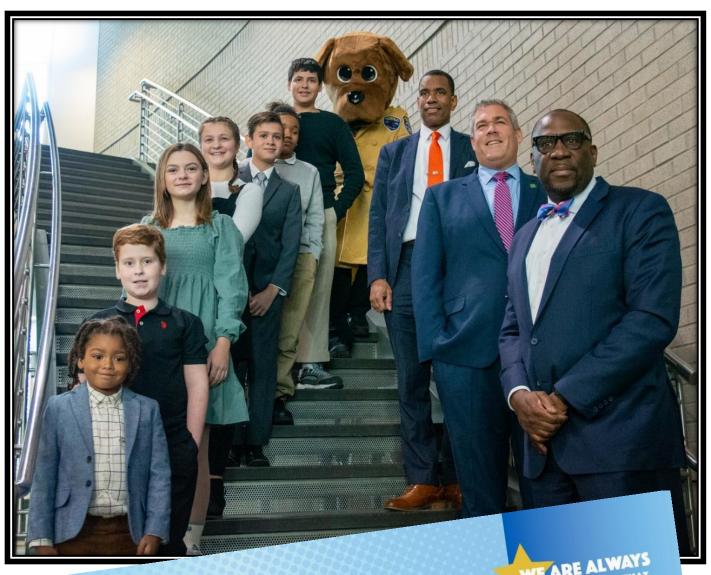






Emir was nominated last year by his 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher at John James Audubon School #33, Ms. Stacy Calvin, for his positive attitude and role model behavior. Ms. Calvin said that Emir is a young man that feels deeply about doing the right thing, and is always kind and caring to everyone around him. Last year he was always assisting others in class if they needed a partner, help with a class task, or if they needed a friend. One time one of his fellow classmates was injured while coming to school. When he heard of this he immediately asked what he could do to help. He was also always kind to all of the staff as well, and did so without asking or expecting anything in return. One time last year when he saw a teacher struggling to carry several items, he stopped and offered to help carry her items to the third floor. When she tried to give him something for his help and kindness, he politely declined and said he didn't need anything for helping her. Emir was a safety patrol student at School #33, and took his job very seriously by helping all members of the school community. He would often come early or stay late just in case staff or parents needed assistance with anything, from holding a door to carrying an item. Emir was also very serious about his school work, and helped others succeed as well. Ms. Calvin said that Emir was such a pleasure to have in her school and classroom, and we have no doubt that he is now a valuable asset to his new school this year at UPrep Rochester.







WE ARE ALWAYS
LOOKING FOR KIDS THAT
DO THE RIGHT THING!

NOMINATIONS CAN
BE SUBMITTED AT ANY
TIME, THROUGHOUT
THE ENTIRE YEAR.

IF YOU KNOW SOMEONE, PLEASE NOMINATE THEM TODAY!



Page | 28

## March 2022 Ceremony Winners



**Carlos Cullet** 

3<sup>rd</sup> Grade

Virgil I. Grissom School #7 (RCSD)

Carlos was nominated by 911 Telecommunicator Kathleen Burns for his bravery during a family medical emergency that occurred in March 2022. Carlos, who was seven years old at the time, was at home with his grandfather while his mother was at work. When Carlos was unable to wake his papa, he called his mother who then called 911. During this 911 call, Carlos' mother was able to also get Carlos on the phone and had him on speaker so he was also able to communicate with 911 as well. While Carlos was on the line, he was so calm and helpful, answering the telecommunicator's questions and comforting his upset mother. Unfortunately Carlos' papa had passed away in his sleep, but Ms. Burns wanted to make sure Carlos' heroic actions were recognized, saying that 'the bravery that he had just amazed me, for being so young and for literally experiencing one of the worst case scenarios, I commend him. He is such a great little boy with the strength of a grown up'.





Skylar was nominated by his grandmother, Judy Nolan, for his calm and brave actions during a family medical emergency that occurred this past October. When Skylar got home from school that day, he recognized that his grandfather wasn't feeling well and called his grandmother at work to tell her. After Ms. Nolan spoke with her husband and realized how sick he sounded, she left work immediately to come home. While enroute, Skylar tried calling his grandmother several times to tell her that papa fell. When he was unable to reach his grandmother, he called his mother and told her what had happened. Now with both women headed to the house, and 911 contacted by one of them, Skylar handled multiple phone calls between the two, where he was told the ambulance was coming and would likely arrive before either of them. During these conversations, he kept both family members informed of how papa was doing, assuring them he was conscious, breathing, and encouraging him to talk. He also secured the dog, and went to meet the ambulance when they arrived and helped them into the home. Skylar handled this chaotic emergency at 9 years old better than some adults would have! He stayed calm and kept his grandmother and mother informed until medical help arrived. When asked afterward what he would have done if he would have been unable to contact either of them, he confidently said that he would have called 911 himself. Skylar's family is so proud of him!



Brian was nominated by 911 Telecommunicator Kathleen Burns for the impressive way he handled a recent medical emergency. This past November, Brian was home alone and called 911 because he was having trouble breathing. During the entire phone call he remained calm and answered all of the questions that Ms. Burns asked. Even though he was in a scary situation, his ability to remain calm and effectively communicate with Ms. Burns was very impressive. Brain was transported to the hospital, but is now doing just fine!

Rochester Prep Middle School 3 (Charter School)



### **Xzavianna Matos**

Xzavianna was nominated by her 6<sup>th</sup> grade teacher, Ms. Carletha Bell, for her honesty and integrity. Last school year an adult from an outside organization was volunteering in their classroom at Abelard Reynolds School #42, and accidentally left her iPhone 13 Pro in the restroom. Xzavianna found the phone and turned it in to the office. The volunteer was contacted and the phone was returned to its rightful owner. The volunteer was very grateful to have her phone back, and everyone at School #42 was very proud of Xzavianna for choosing to do the right thing and turn the phone in.





#### 10th Grade Our Lady of Mercy School for Young Women **OlaRose Ndubuisi**

OlaRose was nominated by her mother, Dr. Olachi Mezu-Ndubuisi, for her leadership and advocacy for children with scoliosis. At the beginning of 9<sup>th</sup> grade, OlaRose was diagnosed with scoliosis. Initially she felt alone and afraid. Although her curved spine and back brace were visible, her pain was not. However, she has managed to take what could have been a very negative experience in her life, and turn it into something very positive by helping raise awareness of this medical condition.

This past December, OlaRose started a project called Finding Scoliosis Kindly (FiSK) to increase scoliosis awareness, and to advocate for early management and treatment to prevent or improve the challenging physical, social, and emotional effects of scoliosis. She is passionate about her FiSK project because she believes that the effects of scoliosis are hidden and need to be revealed and understood in a kind way. OlaRose designed a t-shirt which she is selling in an effort to raise funds for free scoliosis screening in an underserved community. She also developed a research survey about scoliosis awareness, which has reached over 20 states, as well as other countries, and has enabled her to connect with other high school students. Both adults and children have participated, and through this project students have expressed increased knowledge about scoliosis, more empathy for those suffering from it, and have pledged to do an act of kindness a day.

Olarose uses poetry to convey and navigate her emotions and scoliosis journey. Writing poetry has helped her to freely express her experience with scoliosis and turn her pain into something beautiful and relatable. OlaRose hopes to start a Finding Scoliosis Kindly Club in her school. She envisions a club that would encourage writing and art as therapeutic, positive outlets for expression, for those both with and without scoliosis. She hopes to create a supportive, fun environment where students can feel comfortable communicating their thoughts verbally and artistically, without judgement or feeling that their emotions are not valid. To raise scoliosis awareness, OlaRose intends to organize monthly service projects that the club can do to help those in underserved communities to help prevent, improve, or manage scoliosis.

This young lady is an exemplary leader and role model for her peers and others in the community to use their voices, no matter how small, to raise positive awareness for causes affecting the vulnerable in the community.

★ Follow OlaRose on her Instagram & Twitter pages @olaroseofficial where she shares her poetry, art, volunteerism and scoliosis advocacy. ★ You can also find a link to her research survey on her Instagram OlaRose would welcome your participation in this quick 5 minute survey! page.

★ Visit this link if you are interested in purchasing a t-shirt https://www.customink.com/fundraising/olarosendubuisi-finding- $\underline{scoliosis\text{-}kindly\text{-}fisk\text{-}project?side\text{=}front\&type\text{=}1\&zoom\text{=}true}$ 





By OlaRose Ndubuisi (15 years)

August 3rd, 2022

The window shatters into pieces of my past.

I put them together, one by one,

But they don't seem to fit anymore.

Rather than fixing something that is broken,

I find that repurposing history is the golden token.

Why return something to its original, flawed state,

When you can begin again and start a clean slate?

I hold the isolated piece of glass against the luminous backdrop of the heavens.

Translucent is the glistening piece of glass,

For it effortlessly lets the sun's morning glow filter through the cracks and pass.

The damaged pieces of our past don't have to become the fragments of our future.

Instead, we can use them as pieces in the nebulous puzzle of the present.

When the pieces form a bigger picture,

When we see that the window of truth is restored,

We will realize that even the most fragile things can radiate boldly.

Maybe the things in life that seem broken are what make us feel whole.



OlaRose (pictured above),
reading her poem

The Wholesomeness of Brokenness,
at the March ceremony.

Nikolai was nominated by his mother, Rebecca Jason, as well as his sister, Santii Patel. Santii was a Do The Right Thing winner in October 2019 when she was a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader. She was nominated for her kind and giving spirit. Nikolai has decided to follow in his sister's footsteps and give back to the community as well. He has a huge heart and wants to continue giving back to our local first responders. He's held lemonade and hot cocoa stands to raise funds to buy treats for the local fire department, and is currently saving money to buy them lunch. Nikolai is always looking for ways to help his community as well. He goes around the neighborhood and picks up any trash he finds, and has turned in lost property that he found at the store to security. His sister has also had a huge impact on him with making the world more inclusive, and he assists her in her mission of helping build inclusive playgrounds in the area. Along with Santii, he's attended meetings with local state representatives and business leaders to keep making playgrounds accessible for everyone!





### IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY!

Nikolai, pictured left at the March ceremony with his older sister Santii, younger sister, parents, and Greece Police Department Sergeant Jared Rene.





8<sup>th</sup> Grade



Javon was nominated by his school counselor, Ms. Sherrolletta Scissum, for his heroic actions this past fall. Javon loves hanging out with his cousin and friends as they venture throughout the neighborhood making videos. One Sunday in October during one of their adventures, Javon's cousin was electrocuted. The light from the shock was so bright Javon was not able to see for a moment. Once he was able to see he observed his cousin was laying on the ground unresponsive, and immediately ran over to help him. Javon called 911 and started CPR until the Rochester Fire Department and paramedics arrived. Once help arrived, Javon called other family members to let them know what was happening. Javon's cousin was rushed to the hospital in critical condition, where he remained for over two months. He had to have his hand amputated, but is now home and doing well in part because of Javon's quick thinking. Everyone at school, as well as his friends and family, think Javon is a hero!





#### Dominic Turturro 11th Grade Churchville-Chili High School

Dominic was nominated by 911 Telecommunicator Kathleen Burns for the way he handled a recent family medical emergency. Back in September, Dominic was watching his two year old sister while their mother was at work. He called 911 after his sister had what appeared to be a seizure. During the call, Dominic was very brave, and was able to stay calm and focused as he provided Ms. Burns the necessary information needed in order to send the appropriate help. Thanks to Dominic's actions, his sister is happy and healthy today, and his family is so proud of him for being such a caring big brother! Ms. Burns said that she could tell during that phone call just how much Dominic loves his little sister!





### May 2022 Ceremony Winners

 $\overset{\wedge}{\Rightarrow}$ 

Mia Butchino

4th Grade

**Genesee Community Charter School** 

Mia was nominated by her grandmother, Amy Collins, for her brave actions. This past fall one of Mia's classmates brought a bullet to school. After the student showed Mia and several other students, Mia realized this was a dangerous item and immediately told her teacher. Mia knew the right thing to do was to tell a responsible adult when she felt something wasn't right, even though some of her classmates called her a snitch afterwards, which upset her. But hopefully by reporting this incident, the other students learned that it is not ok to bring dangerous items to school, no matter what their intent, and Mia's actions helped keep everyone safe.



Latrail was nominated by her teacher, Lindsay Kelly, for the positive choices she is making this school year. Recently Latrail broke up a fight amongst two students at the front of the line when the class was walking to the bus for dismissal. Latrail held one of the students until the teacher was alerted and could address the situation. Ms. Kelly said she was so proud of Latrail for assisting when she could have done nothing at all, or even encouraged it to continue. Instead, she did the right thing when no one was looking, and Ms. Kelly wanted to recognize Latrail for this, especially when she has come so far in terms of her own behavior. Latrail has had a difficult time in previous years, but has demonstrated significant improvements over the course of this school year in her attendance, behavior, and work ethic. In the past, Latrail would resort to physical aggression to solve her problems, but this year Latrail has been working very hard to develop and use problem-solving strategies. She is coming to school on a regular basis, completing work 100% of the time, forming positive peer relationships and developing leadership skills. Ms. Kelly and everyone at School #33 is so proud of Latrail's positive turn-around behavior this year!





Katura was nominated by her father, Daniel Greathouse, for the courageous and brave way she handled an incident that took place at school. This past fall, Katura saw another student with a gun and immediately notified school staff. After an investigation, it was discovered that the student did indeed possess a loaded handgun, and the student did not enter the school through the main entrance, but rather was let into the school by another student at a different door. Thanks to Katura's bravery, she recognized the potential danger and possibly prevented something tragic from occurring. She spoke up, even while putting herself in jeopardy, as she was threatened afterwards by other students because they said she snitched. Katura has since changed schools, and has received positive praise from her teachers, who say that Katura shows initiative in her studies, and is a wonderful advocate for both herself and her peers.





Kalena was nominated by her school administrators, Principal Dr. Eva Thomas and Assistant Principal Michele White, for her kindness and consideration of others. Last fall, Kalena noticed that there was a large population of homeless individuals in the City of Rochester. Worrying that the people she observed were cold, she asked Dr. Thomas if she could help them by collecting blankets. It was then that 'Kalena's Gift of Warmth' was created. Kalena asked her art teacher, Mrs. Allyn Walters, to help, and together they created collection boxes, which were placed in the main lobby of the school. During the month of December more than 40 blankets were collected! The following month Kalena, her mom, and Dr. Thomas brought the donation of blankets to the Open Door Mission. Kalena exemplifies the qualities of a Cooper Scholar in every way, and everyone at School #10 is so proud of her!





De'Real was nominated by his teacher, Krystal Romilly, who describes De'Real as a delightful student who is a natural born leader and overall excellent role model. He is kind, caring, compassionate and considerate, and is always willing to help a friend in need, as well as supporting his classmates academically. Not only does he look out for his classmates, but he also looks out for his teachers and other staff members at the school. An example of this would be recently, De'Real found out that one of his classmates brought a knife to school. Without hesitation, he let a teacher know about what he saw, and the issue was addressed quickly and without incident. Ms. Romilly is extremely proud of De'Real for being courageous and insightful enough to let an adult know of this potentially dangerous situation.



| ★ Alanna Johnson | 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade | John James Audubon School #33 (RCSD) |
|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
|------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|

**☆ Amarianna Moton** 5<sup>th</sup> Grade John James Audubon School #33 (RCSD)

Alanna and Amarianna were nominated by their teacher, Erin Sperry, for their bravery. Recently during dismissal, as the class was exiting the classroom, Alanna and Amarianna approached Ms. Sperry and asked if they could talk to her. The girls then told their teacher that another student had a knife in their backpack and told students if anyone messed with them that they would be stabbed. Upon investigation, a knife was indeed found and the situation addressed. The girls reported the knife as soon as they knew, and their courageous actions kept everyone safe in their classroom and school, possibly preventing a dangerous event from occurring. In Ms. Sperry's class, she talks about if you see something, say something and you could save a life. Together the girls did just that!





Zion was nominated by 911 Telecommunicator Kathleen Burns for the bravery he displayed during a family medical emergency. In February, Zion and his mother remained in the car while his father went into the store. While they were waiting, his mother began experiencing a medical emergency. Zion, who is 8 years old, called 911 and spoke with Ms. Burns. He was able to provide helpful information about his mother and her condition. Zion also flagged down other people in the parking lot who were able to help Zion and provide additional assistance to 911 as well. Zions' mother quickly received medical attention and is doing well, thanks to Zion's quick actions. Ms. Burns is so proud of what a great job Zion did during this very scary situation!





Mckayla was nominated by her aunt, Janet VandenBerg, for the bravery she displayed during a family medical emergency that occurred earlier this year. While their mother was at work, Mckayla, who was 12 years old at the time, and her 4 year old brother, who has autism, were home with their grandfather when her grandfather suffered a medical emergency and became unresponsive. Mckayla quickly knew to call 911 to get help for him. She stayed with him and her brother until help arrived. When the paramedics arrived, they told Mckayla she should go into another room with her brother, which she did, remaining strong and calm for him. Mckayla's mom was notified and left work immediately. When she met the ambulance in the driveway, the paramedics told her that Mckayla's quick thinking and calling 911 immediately most likely saved her grandfather's life.





Nicholas was nominated by his school Community Site Coordinator, Chereeze Hall, for his astuteness during an event that occurred at school recently. While in his third floor classroom this past January, Nicholas heard the sound of glass breaking from outside and immediately ran to the window. In the school parking lot he observed an unknown male climbing out of the rear window of a Kia Soul and began to yell at the male. This action scared the individual, who then got into another vehicle waiting nearby, which quickly left the area. Nicholas was able to alert his teacher, who informed the administrative staff that a vehicle was being broken into, and the security team was notified. Nicholas' courageous actions prevented the vehicle from being further damaged or stolen, and he was able to provide security with helpful information that was given to the Rochester Police Department. The staff at School #3 is grateful for Nicholas' actions on this day.





One morning in March while driving Ramire to school, his mother began choking on a piece of food. When Ramire realized what was happening and that his mom was having trouble, he remained calm and told her to pull the vehicle over. She did while Ramire repeatedly hit her on her back until she was able to cough up the food that was lodged in her throat. Thanks to Ramire's quick actions, he saved his mother's life! His levelheaded response by having his mother quickly stop the car also kept everyone around them safe as well. Ramire was nominated by his teacher, Meghan Mirrione, after she learned of his heroic actions.



#### Thank You Primetime 585!

Thank you Karen Iglesia of Prime Time 585 for attending the May 2023 ceremony and providing coverage of the ceremony on your social media outlets!

Karen is the recipient of the 2023 Willie W. Lightfoot Youth Advocate of the Year! Through her work with PrimetimeBall, she strives to bridge racial, economic & geographic barriers, promoting youth through their sports and other activities.

Make sure to follow Prime Time 585 on their social media outlets (listed in box to right).

Instagram: <a href="https://www.instagram.com/primetime585/">https://www.instagram.com/primetime585/</a>

Twitter: <a href="https://twitter.com/PrimetimeBall">https://twitter.com/PrimetimeBall</a>

Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/primetime.ballers.39">https://www.facebook.com/primetime.ballers.39</a>















## **2022 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS**

Each year, all previous Do The Right Thing Award winners that are currently high school seniors may apply for a scholarship to be applied towards the payment of their college or trade school tuition and/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 112 recipients \$114,000 in college and/or trade school scholarships!

At the May 2023 Do The Right Thing award ceremony, we announced that effective this year, The Summit Federal Credit Union will be partnering with the Do The Right Thing awards program and pledging matching funds to support our annual Do The Right Thing Scholarship Program. To acknowledge this partnership, the scholarship will now be named the **Do The Right Thing / The Summit Federal Credit Union Scholarship Program.** 

This years' selection committee consisted of two employees from The Summit Federal Union, as well as two members from the Do The Right Thing Executive Board. We had three students apply, and two applicants were selected as winners - **Morgan Grandberry** and **Jamie Kosten**.

The winners were announced and recognized at a small ceremony that was held during our annual Seabreeze event. In attendance to present each winner were Do The Right Thing Executive Board President James McCauley, and three representatives from The Summit Federal Credit Union - Dawn Kellogg, Public Relations and Community Engagement Specialist, Twanda Christensen, Vice President of Marketing and Community Engagement and Jessica Williams, Main/Winton Branch Manager (she is also a Do The Right Thing Board of Director). Both winners were each awarded a \$2000 college scholarship (\$1000 from DTRT and \$1000 form The Summit FCU).



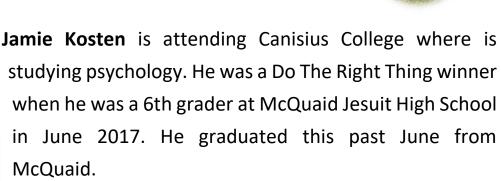
Morgan Grandberry graduated in June 2022 from Wilson Magnet High School in

the Rochester City School District, and is currently studying Nursing at the University at Buffalo. She was nominated when she was a senior, and recognized as a Do The Right Thing award winner at the December 2022 ceremony.

She was nominated by her school counselor for the motivation, drive, and great attitude she displayed throughout high school.







He was nominated by 911 telecommunicator Kathleen Burns after he called 911 when his father suffered a severe allergic reaction from a bee sting.



# SEABREEZE AMUSEMENT PARK FAMILY CELEBRATION DAY

Family Fun Celebration Day took place at Seabreeze Amusement Park on Wednesday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. All of our 2022-2023 winners and their families were invited! Over 150 people attended, and while the weather was a bit dreary, the day was still full of fun, food, and great camaraderie!

Thank you Seabreeze for sponsoring this event for over 25 years!



# DO THE RIGHT THING COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

#### **Supporting the Pirate Toy Fund Holiday Toy Drive**

The Pirate Toy Fund is a nonprofit organization dedicated to distributing new toys year-round to children in need throughout the Greater Rochester region. Co-Founded by local children's entertainer, Gary the Happy Pirate and Dave and Lorrie Simonetti, the Pirate Toy Fund has distributed almost 400,000 toys since 1995, and continues to actively pursue new avenues to expand its mission. The founders were inspired by the extraordinary life of Christie Simonetti; daughter of Dave and Lorrie and special friend to Gary.

The Pirate Toy Fund has supported the Do The Right Thing Program for 20 years by providing toys for each winner. To thank them for their generosity, Do The Right Thing hosted a toy drive this holiday season, setting up collection boxes at the Public Safety Building to collect donations of new, unwrapped toys. On January 17<sup>th</sup>, Pirate Toy Fund Executive Director Otto Harnischfeger stopped by to pick up four very large boxes full of toy donations!

Thank you to all who donated, and for helping the Do The Right Thing Program give back to one of our sponsors! To learn more about this great organization, visit their website at <u>piratetoyfund.org</u>.



#### **Behind the Badge with Monroe County Sheriff's Office**

Do The Right Thing was invited on the Behind the Badge with MCSO Podcast.

Sheriff Baxter & Deputy Tisdale highlighted the Do the Right Thing Awards Program with Program Coordinator Laurie Kingsley-Henry and Rochester Police Department Public Information Officer Lt. Greg Bello. Click on the link below to view the podcast.

YouTube: <a href="https://youtu.be/cX2hmR2pGpo">https://youtu.be/cX2hmR2pGpo</a>



#### **Healthy Moms Family Resource Fair and School Supply Drive**

On August 17<sup>th</sup> Do The Right Thing participated in the 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.

Before the event, we set up boxes at the Public Safety Building and collected school supplies which were donated to the event. It was quite a success (see the below picture), and we plan on doing this again next summer! Thank you to everyone that made a donation!



### **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 recognizing 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 attend or remotely watch this years' 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 ceremonies via Facebook Live, 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 the ceremonies and board meetings. Your support and input for our program is invaluable, and we appreciate 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!

#### ★ Those that donated to the Do The Right Thing of Rochester Award Program

In addition to our program sponsors, thank you to those who provided generous financial donations to the program, including Grace Tillinghast and Keith Stith, as well as everyone that chose to direct their annual United Way campaign donations to Do The Right Thing of Rochester (donor code ID # 3383). Also, thank you TOPS Friendly Markets for providing a significant donation of gift cards on top of what you contribute towards each award ceremony.

#### **★ Staff from the Rochester Police Department and Other Law Enforcement Agencies**

- Thank you to all of the Rochester Police Department staff that help make each ceremony a success!
- 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 <a href="CityOfRochester.gov/DoTheRightThing">CityOfRochester.gov/DoTheRightThing</a>.



## 2023-2024 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.



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!



0



Do The Right Thing Of Rochester

FACEBOOK INSTAGRAM TWITTER



CityofRochester.gov/DoTheRightThing