



The 30th Annual Sandra Pailet Memorial

Scholarship *Virtual / Online* Reception



Saturday May 8, 2021

Program of Events

- ◇ **Recognition of 2020 Scholarship Recipients**
- ◇ **Introduction – Alberto Oliver**
- ◇ **Guest Speaker – Devan Paillet**
- ◇ **In Memoriam**
 - **Stewart Butler**
 - **Betty Moynan**
 - **Niki Kearby**
- ◇ **Recognition of Scholarship Committee -**
 - **Andrea Romero**
- ◇ **Presentation of 2021 Scholarships -**
 - **Alberto Oliver, N.O. Chapter PFLAG President**
 - **Andrea Romero, Scholarship Committee Chair**
- ◇ **Tribute to Wayne Christenberry – Randy Trahan**
- ◇ **Guest Speaker -**
 - **Brian Bond, Executive Director of PFLAG National**
- ◇ **Presentation of Scholarships – Continued**
- ◇ **Event Close – Alberto Oliver**

Acknowledgements

Scholarship Selection Committee

Andrea Romero, Chair
Faubourg Private Wealth Advisors

Typhanie Butler
Loyola University New Orleans

Joe Melcher, PhD, Chair Emeritus
Xavier University

Briana Carr
Anna's Place (St. Anna's Episcopal, N.O.)

Marcus Stein
AXI Educational Solutions

Brent Mundt
Writer

Dr. Myo Myint, MD
Tulane University Medical Center

Courtney Sharp
Delgado Community College

Lynn Friedman, PhD, LPC
Private Practice

Scholarship Reception Committee

Alberto Oliver, Chair

Olivia Hill

Andrea Romero

Patti McMahon

Courtney Sharp

Randy Trahan

Grace Trapani

Sachelle Brooks

Joe Melcher

Shelley Farrell

Julie Thompson

Vanessa Carr Kennedy

Laura Galeano

Victor Andrews

Special Appreciation

Partners in Education

PFLAG thanks the following for their donations of \$100 or more:

Barbara Mamoulides

Dr. Lynn Friedman

Randy Trahan

Brent Mundt

Courtney Sharp

Personal Event Donors

PFLAG thanks the following for their donations of \$25 to \$99:

Susan Indest

Bradley Leger

Patricia Matlock

Mindy Milam

Susan Roos

Donation and Registration Comments

“In memory of Wayne Christenberry and Stewart P. Butler – two men who were largely responsible for the success that PFLAG New Orleans and the scholarship program are today.”

-Randy Trahan

“In memory of Wayne Christenberry. One of a kind.”

- Brent Mundt

“To the scholarship recipients of 2021; please know, this is only the beginning! The world is yours for the taking!!”

-Alaiyia Williams

“Scholars: Congratulations! You are spreading so much good!”

- Kiana Nelson

Scholarship Recipients

Jack Taylor Award

Recipient: **Camilla Marchena**

Generously provided by a friend of PFLAG.

Our highest annual PFLAG award is given in special recognition of a man who wanted to leave a legacy to improve the lives of others. His generous estate gift will affect the lives of many students and their families for years to come. Jack's dream of attending college had been a dream deferred through ignorance and denial. His gift made through his will is giving a whole new generation a chance to enhance their own lives through education.

In Memory of Father Howard Hall

Recipients: **Colin King** and **Alvin Dutruch**

Generously provided by John Ducote and Kenneth Barnes.

During his 50 years as a Roman Catholic priest in the Diocese of Baton Rouge, the Rev Howard provided compassionate service to the spiritual and social needs of the LGBT community. In 1973, he helped found the Baton Rouge Chapter of Dignity, a support organization for LGBT Catholics. In 1984, Fr. Howard helped establish the Baton Rouge Chapter of PFLAG. In memory of Fr. Howard's guidance and support of the LGBT community.

Dr. Robert Udick Memorial Award

Recipients: **Megan Davis** and **Des Cooper**

Endowed in loving memory of Robert A. Udick – gay-rights advocate, college teacher and philanthropist. The New Brunswick native made New Orleans his home after graduating from Louisiana State University. He earned his doctorate in social sciences from Syracuse University and went on to teach political science at Colgate University and history at LSU. He was a former member of Syracuse University's board of trustees and the state boards of the Louisiana Lesbian and Gay Political Action Caucus and the American Civil Liberties Union. "He was the epitome of the informed and conscientious citizen," said Michael Hovey, a friend from Mr. Udick's Syracuse days. "He brought a broad intellectual understanding of democratic principles and social justice to bear on his tireless involvement in social and political activism." He received a community First Award from the Louisiana Lesbian and Gay Political Action Caucus. Ever the philanthropist, he endowed a teaching award at LSU's College of Arts and Sciences and a graduate fellowship at Syracuse, and he established a scholarship at Centenary College in Shreveport in memory of his mother. He established two scholarship funds at the Greater New Orleans Foundation. Thank you Robert.

New Orleans Pride Run & Walk Award

Recipient: **Madison Slaton**

Generously provided by The New Orleans Track Club.

The New Orleans Track Club, one of the nation's oldest and largest non-profit running & walking organizations, annually produces the New Orleans Pride Run & Walk. Members of the LGBTQ+ community, along with their friends, family and allies come together during Labor Day Weekend to celebrate Southern Decadence at this safe, welcoming, family friendly event for all athletes, regardless of physical ability and speed. Proceeds from the event directly benefit the PFLAG New Orleans Scholarship Program. NOTC welcomes everyone in its mission to promote running.

In Memory of Wayne Christenberry

Recipient: **Sage McPhail**

Generously provided by the Christenberry Moll family.

Wayne was a staunch advocate for LGBTQ+ rights and volunteered for many causes, such as: NO/AIDS Task Force, Gay Halloween and Lazarus House. A former president of PFLAG New Orleans, Wayne wanted to make the community better for everyone.

In Memory of Jerry Zachary

Recipient: **Priser Breaux**

Generously provided by Henry Bernstein.

Given in loving memory of Jerry Zachary, who in 1982 founded the New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus after being inspired by the success of the Windy City Gay Men's Chorus of Chicago.

In Honor of The New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus

Recipient: **Stafford Agee IV**

Generously provided by Harry Bernstein.

Given in honor of the New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus . Since its founding in 1982, the New Orleans Gay Men's Chorus has spiritedly pursued its mission of positively influencing diverse communities by providing a musical voice to enrich and enlighten through outreach and the pursuit of artistic excellence. We look forward to their post-COVID return.

In Memory of Paul Ivan Barber

Recipient: **Herman Davis**

Funded by his sister Sonja Lanehart Schutz and her family, this scholarship honors Paul, a hairstylist, befitting his surname. Troubled by being gay, Paul didn't come out to his family until his adult years. Though he didn't graduate from college, his sister believes if he'd had the love and support to overcome his shame, alcoholism, and mental illness, he may have found peace and achieved his dreams.

Joseph Walker Award

Recipient: **Xander Leventhal**

Generously provided by Joey Walker and John Malta.

Joey is an important leader of the PFLAG Houston Chapter.

Tony Martin Guerrero Memorial Scholarship

Recipient: **Michelle Andrepont**

Generously provided by friends and family of the late Tony Guerrero.

Provided by a trust established by the late Dr. Robert Udick in memory of his partner, Tony.

Dr. Mollie Wallick Memorial Scholarship

Recipient: **Qween Amor**

Generously provided by Dr. Jonathan Wallick and Margorie Esman.

Dr. Mollie Wallick was a brilliant student and teacher who devoted her life to learning, education, and service. Emerita Professor of Psychiatry at Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Mollie Wallick became an advocate for gay and lesbian students both at the university and in the larger community. A proud graduate of McMain High School in New Orleans at the head of her class at 16, she won a scholarship to Newcomb College but family circumstances following the Depression and during World War II required her to work instead. A devoted mother, she gave herself to raise her three children, then enrolled at LSUNO, where she graduated summa cum laude.

In Memory of Dr. Mollie Wallick

Recipients: **Rorisang Kgoadi**

Generously provided by Judith Page.

Dr. Wallick received her MA and PhD from the University of New Orleans. Dr. Wallick enjoyed a long and distinguished career, which included her tenure as Educational Director of the Therapeutic Nursery School at LSUMC and Professor of Psychiatry at LSUMC. She became inspired while working with a gay student who felt isolated in coming out. The introduction to LGBT issues in such a personal way informed her teaching, writing and advocacy for the rest of her career and her life. Her seminal address to the New Orleans City Council helped extend rights to gays in housing, public accommodations, and the workplace, making New Orleans the first parish in Louisiana to ensure equal rights for gays and lesbians. In recognition of her many contributions to New Orleans and to her profession, Mollie Wallick was honored at the 2005 Women Who Dared event. Thank you, Mollie.

Keller Family Foundation Award

Recipient: **Kayleigh Braud, Stewart Roeling and Ryan Spalt**

Generously provided by a friend of PFLAG.

The Keller Family Foundation has been a longtime partner with PFLAG in promoting social justice change within and for the LGBT community. PFLAG is grateful to be a partner in the Keller Family Foundation's work to improve lives in the greater New Orleans area through recognizing and investing in leadership, education and agents of change.

Gulf South LGBT Chamber of Commerce Award

Recipient: **Jonathan Vidos**

Generously provided by the LGBT Chamber of Commerce.

The Gulf South LGBT Chamber of Commerce strives to promote an inclusive business environment by connecting LGBT-owned/operated and allied businesses throughout the Gulf South.

In Memory of Shane Scallan

Recipient: **Cass Gonzales**

Generously provided by Winter Wonderland.

Shane's creativity and love of art was legendary.

In Memory of Elizabeth “Beth” Moreaci

Recipient: **Tanner Jones**

Generously provided by Winter Wonderland.

Given in memory of Beth to honor her love of music and community.

In Memory of Errol Rizzuto

Recipient: **Shuntez Jackson**

Generously provided by Winter Wonderland.

A former Southern Decadence Grand Marshal, Errol’s legacy is imprinted in the LGBTQ+ community.

In Memory of Cliff Farish

Recipient: **Steven Goff**

Generously provided by Jack Sullivan.

Given in memory of the late Cliff Farish, a graduate of University of New Orleans. Cliff was a renowned dancer who performed with ballet companies throughout the South and devoted his lifetime to promoting both community and wellness through fitness and the movement arts. He was a volunteer for City of Hope and, for years, coordinated the popular annual New Orleans Workout For Hope.

In Memory of Christopher Karnes

Recipient: **Steven Larkin**

Generously provided by Jack Sullivan.

Given in memory of an artist whose graphic art and poetry demonstrated the beautiful spirit that filled his life.

In Memory of Chet Pourciau

Recipient: **Colin Orihuela**

Generously provided by Jack Sullivan.

Chet was the owner of Chet Pourciau Design on Magazine Street. He hosted “Chet Chat” on WLAE-TV and had weekly fashion and design segments on WVUE’s news shows. He was a previous scholarship recipient while completing his degree in Interior Design at Delgado.

Dr. Ross Gaudet Award

Recipient: **Ashton Dalton**

Generously provided by Dr. Ross Gaudet.

Dr. Gaudet, recipient of PFLAG’s first Jack Taylor Award (highest honor), found PFLAG to be a source of emotional support after a non-inclusive high school experience filled with taunting. “You were there for me and it is time to give back.”

Betty Caldwell and Dr. Niki Kearby, MD Memorial Award

Recipient: **August Steinkamp**

Generously provided by a friend of PFLAG.

Betty Caldwell and Dr. Niki Kearby were two of the founders of PFLAG New Orleans and were instrumental in starting its Scholarship Program. During their lives, Niki would often say “Please do something good for someone who needs it. If you can’t do it today, try to do it first thing in the morning.” In honor of their lives, they would want us to spend quality time with family and friends, plant something beautiful, and help someone in need.

In Honor of PFLAG New Orleans

Recipient: **Joshua Benoit**

Generously provided by Lee Adler and Robert Marks.

In Honor of PFLAG New Orleans

Recipient: **Paige DePratter**

Generously provided by Marty Simms and Skobel's Uniforms

Community Scholarship

Recipient: **Ariel Gutierrez**

Generously provided by Community.

Working to support communities like PFLAG, who cheer you on with voices raised and arms outstretched.

In Honor of PFLAG New Orleans

Recipient: **Ciera Brown**

Generously provided by Marcus Stein and Andrew Suire.

In Memory of Betty Moynan

Recipient: **Alexis Tamplain**

Generously provided by a friend of PFLAG.

Betty was a proud and hard-working mother of three gay children who recognized the need for parents to be active in fighting for their children's rights. Her big heart and attention to inclusiveness are just two of the things that made her so beloved. As a charter member, P-FLAG's mission was a grounding network that she carried with her for the rest of her life.

In Honor of Mary Zervigon

Recipient: **Drue Polkey**

Generously provided by a long-time donor to the scholarship program and a fervent supporter of equal rights for everyone.

2021 Scholarship Reception Honoree

Wayne Christenberry, August 15, 1956 – October 7, 2020

This year's scholarship reception is honoring PFLAG's long time President, Wayne Christenberry, who lost his long battle with cancer October 7, 2020. In Wayne's own words, "Wayne peacefully entered the next journey in his road to spiritual enlightenment. He bravely battled his illness with humor and strength."

A proud native New Orleanian, Wayne is survived by his mother, sister, two brothers, two beloved nephews and one niece.

Wayne loved New Orleans. He was taught from an early age the importance of giving back to the community that gave him so much.

Wayne graduated from De LaSalle High School and the University of New Orleans. A man of many talents, his careers brought him in touch with many people. His interactions with fellow New Orleanians was where he thrived; he was a true people person. His careers spanned healthcare, art, hospitality and, finally, floral design as the owner of Evergreen Florist.

Wayne's involvement with PFLAG dates back to 1993, when PFLAG New Orleans hosted the PFLAG National Convention. Over the years Wayne served on and chaired many committees culminating in his ascent to President of our local chapter.

He was also involved with many other local organizations. He co-chaired the NO/AIDS Task Force, was a board member of Hospice of St Tammany, Chaired the Associated Catholic Charities "Sweet Charity Ball", served on the board of Project Lazarus, was heavily involved in the construction of the New Orleans AIDS Monument and LAGPAC (Lesbian and Gay Political Action Caucus).

Because of his numerous volunteer endeavors Wayne was rewarded for his work and recognized by several organizations. He was the recipient of:

- ◇ PFLAG Star Award 2016
- ◇ NO/AIDS Task Force Community First Award 2000
- ◇ Project Lazarus "Angels Among Us" Award 2005
- ◇ Hospice of St. Tammany Angels Award 2000

Clearly, Wayne was very involved with many New Orleans charities; however, he made it clear that PFLAG held a special place in his heart. The annual scholarship reception was his very favorite event every year. He eagerly looked forward to reading the applications and made a point to meet each and every recipient at the reception. Throughout the years, he tried to keep up with the recipients and their loved ones by telling his friends and family about their successes. Therefore, it is very fitting that this year's reception be held in his honor.

