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## ABOUT US

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**Missouri Courage Scholarship (MCS)** is the largest state-wide LGBTQ scholarship organization in Missouri. We fund annual scholarships for graduating high school seniors pursuing higher education. Our mission is to acknowledge, affirm, and reward students who demonstrate courage and take a stand for social justice.

We have awarded over \$215,000 in scholarships to students since our founding in 2015. MCS is a federally-recognized 501c3 organization; all donations are tax-exempt.

We currently award scholarships in a variety of categories; anyone who receives a scholarship is a **Courage Scholar**:

*The Missouri Courage Award (MCA)* is dedicated each year to a Missouri student who has either demonstrated their commitment to work for change in their community that advances the lives of LGBTQ people and other social justice causes.

*The Rural Courage Award (RCA)* is intended for students residing in rural Missouri communities who meet the MCA scholarship qualifications. If applications are received from Dent County, Missouri, those applicants will be given an advantage in the selection criteria.

*The Trans Courage Award (TCA)* is dedicated each year to a Missouri student who identifies as transgender / gender non-binary and meets the MCA scholarship qualifications.

*Pride Partnership Awards.* MCS also acts as the scholarship arm of multiple Pride organizations in Missouri. We coordinate the process, collect and review the applications, and assist the organizations with the awards.

*Pay It Forward Awards* are personalized awards for student athletes with an interest in political science, pre-law or related subjects. We have other personalized awards with specific focus areas.

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## HOW YOU CAN HELP

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We count on our donors, sponsors, and partners to make this a sustainable effort. **ALL DONATIONS GO 100% TO SCHOLARSHIPS**, our administrative costs are covered by our Board.

**DONATE:** Become a sustaining member or make an annual gift <https://actionnetwork.org/fundraising/support-mcs> (all donations are tax deductible)

**FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:** Twitter @MCScholarship and Facebook at <http://facebook.com/couragescholarship>

**GET UPDATES & LEARN MORE ABOUT OUR COURAGE SCHOLARS:** <http://courage-scholarship.org>

**BECOME A COMMUNITY PARTNER:** We also partner with corporations and other organizations who want to support students who work for change in their communities. We have four levels of community sponsorship:

|             |                   |                 |                           |
|-------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|
| \$250-\$499 | Friend of Courage | \$1,000-\$2,499 | Champion of Courage       |
| \$500-\$999 | Ally of Courage   | \$2,500+        | Sponsor-Named Scholarship |

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## WE'D LOVE YOUR SUPPORT

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Contact our Board President Geneviève Steidtmann ([genevieve@courage-scholarship.org](mailto:genevieve@courage-scholarship.org)) anytime to discuss ways you can make a difference to young people in Missouri.