

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(St. Louis, Missouri – May 11, 2020) Missouri Courage Scholarship (MCS) is proud to announce the recipients of our 2020 scholarship awards. Each year, MCS awards scholarships to students who demonstrate courage and take a stand for social justice. MCS and our community partners – Pride St. Charles, GLSEN-Greater Kansas City, and Tower Grove Pride – are awarding \$25,000 in scholarships to 24 outstanding high school seniors from across Missouri pursuing higher education this Fall.

Since MCS was founded in 2015 we have awarded over \$100,000 to more than 90 Missouri students. This year we received 207 applications from high school seniors in 93 different cities and towns across the state. “We are proud Missouri Courage Scholarship is known throughout the state and we have so many amazing young people competing for these awards each year. The 2020 class of Courage Scholars are truly stand out students and courageous leaders who make a difference in their schools and communities across Missouri,” said Genevieve Steidtmann, Board President.

We are thrilled to share our 2020 Courage Scholars:

Elias Strebe Rural Courage Founder’s Award, Salem High School, Salem (first year)	Alexander Paul , Missouri Courage Award, Lutheran High School North, St. Louis, MO
Garrett Nichting , Rural Courage Award, Kirksville Senior High School, Greentop, MO	Requested Anonymity , Rural Courage Award, Blair Oaks High School, Jefferson City, MO
Lyle Chafa , Trans Courage Award, Republic High School, Republic, MO	Cameron Massieon , GLSEN-KC Courage Award, Park Hill High School, Kansas City, MO
Jaycob Hayes , Trans Courage Award, Staley High School, Kansas City, MO	Rachel Ruddy , Tower Grove Pride Courage Award, Villa Duchesne, St. Louis City, MO
Cole Hammett , Rural Courage Award, Southern Boone High School, Ashland, MO	Daniel , Missouri Courage Award, St. Louis University High School, High Ridge, MO
Brandon , St. Charles Pride Courage Award, Winfiled High School, Foley, MO	Kyla Warman , Missouri Courage Award, Kearney High School, Kearney, MO
Hayden Ashley , Rural Courage Award, Central R-III High School, Park Hills, MO	Mason Tucker , Missouri Courage Award, Festus Senior High School, Festus, MO
Octavian Stickann , Trans Courage Award, Jefferson City High School, Jefferson City, MO	Teague McElroy , Missouri Courage Award, Kickapoo High School, Springfield, MO
Rhys Timpe , St. Charles Pride Courage Award, Timberland High School, Lake Saint Louis, MO	Alyssa Farrar , St. Charles Pride Courage Award, Troy Buchanan High School, Troy, MO
Benjamin Haug , Missouri Courage Award, Brentwood High School, Brentwood, MO	Taylor Baker , Rural Courage Award, Jefferson City High School, Jefferson City, MO
Gabriella Miesner , Missouri Courage Award, Cor Jesu Academy, St. Louis, MO	Nathan , Missouri Courage Award, Van Horn High School, Independence, MO
Ty Bushnell , Rural Courage Award, Kirksville High School, Kirksville, MO	Jake Stotler , Rural Courage Founder’s Award, Salem High School, Salem (second year)

MCS awards multiple types of scholarships:

The Missouri Courage Award (MCA) is awarded to high school seniors in Missouri who have demonstrated their commitment to work for change in their community that advances the lives of LGBTQ people or furthers other social justice causes.

The Rural Courage Award (RCA) is intended for students residing in rural Missouri communities who meet the MCA scholarship qualifications.

The Trans Courage Award (TCA) is intended for Missouri students who identify as transgender and who meet the MCA scholarship qualifications.

Founder's Award is a two-year award given to winners from Dent County at the discretion of Jacob Wilson, our Founder, who started the organization to help LGBTQ students from that county.

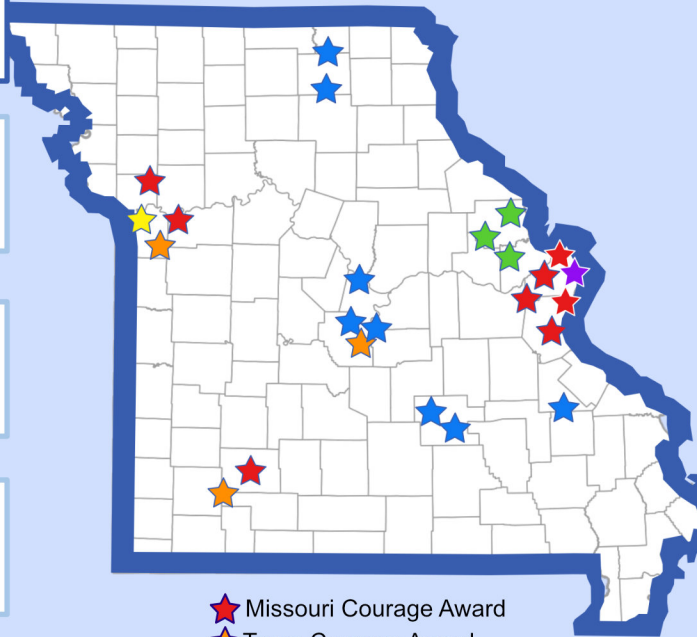
Community Partnership Awards are scholarships awarded to students through partnership with community organizations. In 2020 MCS partnered with Pride St. Charles, GLSEN Greater Kansas City and Tower Grove Pride to award scholarships.

Missouri Courage Scholarship is the largest state-wide LGBTQ scholarship organization in Missouri. MCS is a 501c3 organization; all donations are tax deductible. Please visit our website at www.courage-scholarship.org for more information.

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2020 COURAGE SCHOLARS

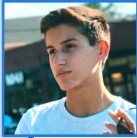
Our mission is to acknowledge, affirm, and reward students who demonstrate courage and take a stand for social justice.



- ★ Missouri Courage Award
- ★ Trans Courage Award
- ★ Rural Courage Award
- ★ Pride St. Charles Courage Award
- ★ GLSEN-Greater KC Courage Award
- ★ Tower Grove Pride Courage Award



Cameron Massieon
Kansas City
GLSEN-KC Courage Award



Elias Strebe
Salem
Rural Courage Award
(Founder's Award)



Alexander Paul
St. Louis
Missouri Courage Award



Octavian Stickann
Jefferson City
Trans Courage Award



Hayden Ashley
Park Hills
Rural Courage Award



Garrett Nichting
Greentop
Rural Courage Award



Mason Tucker
Festus
Missouri Courage Award



Nathan
Independence
Missouri Courage Award



Daniel
High Ridge
Missouri Courage Award



Taylor Baker
Jefferson City
Rural Courage Award



Jaycob Hayes
Kansas City
Trans Courage Award



Rachel Ruddy
St. Louis City
Tower Grove Pride Courage Award



Cole Hammett
Ashland
Rural Courage Award



Ty Bushnell
Kirksville
Rural Courage Award



Kyla Warman
Keamey
Missouri Courage Award



Brandon
Foley
Pride St. Charles Courage Award



Teague McElroy
Springfield
Missouri Courage Award



Ben Haug
Brentwood
Missouri Courage Award



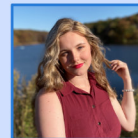
Gabriella Miesner
St. Louis
Missouri Courage Award



Requested Anonymity
Jefferson City
Rural Courage Award



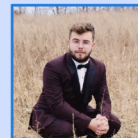
Rhys Timpe
Lake St. Louis
Pride St. Charles Courage Award



Alyssa Farrar
Troy
Pride St. Charles Courage Award



Lyle Chafa
Republic
Trans Courage Award



Jake Stotler
Salem
Rural Courage Award
(Founder's Award)