FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: LBGT Resource Center at Michigan State University, lbgtrc@msu.edu (517) 353-9520

LBGT Resource Center Announces Scholarship Award Winners

East Lansing, MI – July 11, 2013

The MSU Pride Scholarship was established in January of 2000 to aid LGBT students in attending MSU. Candidates must demonstrate involvement with and/or support for the LBGT community. They also must show commitment to academic success. Shelby Cieslinski, an MSU freshman who hails from Macomb Township, Michigan is the 2014 recipient of the MSU Pride Scholarship. Shelby will enter Lyman Briggs where she will major in Chemistry with the objective of pursuing a career in forensic chemistry. Bill Beachler, an MSU alumnus, is the scholarship’s founder and was instrumental in working with MSU and GLFSA to set up the scholarship. This year’s award is $5000.

Elliot Zirulnik and Madalyn Gildea has been selected as the 2013 recipients of the Steven P. Pougnet and Christopher J. Green Endowed Scholarship. Each recipient will receive approximately $2500. Steven Pougnet is an MSU graduate who serves as the major of Palms Springs California. Mr. Pougnet and his partner Christopher Green established the Pougnet and Green Scholarship to be awarded annually to MSU juniors or seniors who demonstrate academic excellence and involvement with or contributions to the LGBT community.

Elliot Zirulnik is an active volunteer and leader with several campus LBGT and Ally student organizations as well as several disability advocacy and support programs at Michigan State University. Elliot is an outstanding student and a committed community servant who is entering is senior year at Michigan State studying media and information in the College of Communication Arts and Sciences.

Mady Gildea took on extraordinary leadership and learning responsibilities within the LBGTA community in just her first year at Michigan State University while thriving in the rigorous Lyman Briggs College as a microbiology student. Mady hopes to join the Spartan Marching Band in her second year and will continue as a leader within LBGTA organizations.

If you have questions about the scholarships, please contact Michigan State’s LBGT Resource Center by e-mail at lbgtrc@msu.edu or by phone at (517) 353-9520.

To make a contribution to one of the scholarship programs, contact Jennifer Bertram, Associate Vice President for University Development, (517) 432-7330, bertram9@msu.edu.

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