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Contact: LBGT Resource Center at Michigan State University,
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LBGT Resource Center Announces Scholarship Award Winners

East Lansing, MI – July 7, 2014

Honors College member Jessica Sun has been awarded the 2014 MSU Pride Scholarship for demonstrating involvement with and/or support for the LBGT community and showing commitment to academic success. 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.

Jesse is an MSU junior who hails from West Bloomfield, Michigan. Jessica is majoring in Supply Chain Management in the Eli Broad College of Business at MSU, and is preparing for a future MBA. She has an exemplary 3.84 GPA in her MSU career thus far. Jessica serves on two LGBT caucuses on campus. These groups hold weekly events, participate in the campus-wide Coalition alliance and offer a voice and space to students. She has also served as a member of the LGBT Speakers Bureau as a panelist.

Aaron Kuhn of Rochester Hills, Michigan has been selected as the 2014 recipient of the Steven P. Pougnet and Christopher J. Green Endowed Scholarship. Each recipient will receive approximately $5000. Mr. Pougnet and his husband 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.

Aaron Kuhn is a Social Relations and Policy major in James Madison College. His journey of self-acceptance has paralleled the recent national trend towards public acknowledgement of the existence and rights of LBGT citizens and families. Aaron has aspirations of continuing his studies and leadership on campus. After completing his degree, he hopes to continue on to a career of civic engagement to advance social justice and equality for ordinary Americans.

Steven Pougnet is a graduate of Michigan State University. He is a former Vice President of the Colorado School of Mines and held the position of Associate Director, National Corporate Leadership Program for the United Way of America in Alexandria, Virginia. Steven has served as the Mayor of Palm Springs California since 2007. Steven Pougnet is married to Christopher Green and they are the parents of twins.

If you have questions about the scholarship, 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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