



Do The Right Thing of Rochester Award Program **SPRING 2024 NEWSLETTER**

Welcome!

Since our last newsletter, we've had two ceremonies – February 29th, and our last ceremony of the 2023-2024 school year on May 2nd. In total this school year we recognized 30 amazing role model students from our community! If you missed any of the ceremonies, make sure to check out our Facebook page, Do The Right Thing of Rochester. All ceremonies are recorded and posted via Facebook Live!

We're excited to spend the day with all of our 2023-2024 Do The Right Thing winners at our Family Celebration Day at Seabreeze Amusement Park on Wednesday, June 26th. Invitations have been sent to all 30 winners, so make sure to check your email!

It's hard to believe that another school year is almost done! With summer right around the corner, please don't forget about our program! Keep sending us nominations, and spread the word about our program. Share, like, and comment on our social media posts, tell your friends and family about us, and most importantly, let us know about the great kids in our community so that we can recognize them! You can find more information about our program, and how to nominate a student, on our [website](#) and throughout this newsletter. Nominating a student is quick and easy, and students that are selected as winners receive generous prize packages. Thank you so much for supporting the Do The Right Thing of Rochester Awards Program, and we hope everyone has a happy and healthy summer!

Do The Right Thing of Rochester, Inc.
*** Rochester Police Department***

Phone: (585) 428-7863
Email: DotheRightThing@cityofrochester.gov
Website: www.cityofrochester.gov/DoTheRightThing

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About Our Program

The Do The Right Thing Award Program has been part of the Rochester Police Department since 1995. The goal of the program is to foster positive relationships between local area law enforcement and the youth within Monroe County. The Do The Right Thing Award Program recognizes children for their positive behavior, accomplishments, and good deeds by rewarding students who strive to make good choices, do well in school, give back to their communities, or demonstrate “turn-around” or improved behavior. Any student enrolled in grades Kindergarten - 12 in any school within Monroe County is eligible for nomination, and can be nominated for acts of courage and bravery, such as assisting first responders, as well as acts of volunteerism, leadership and role model behavior. Students may be nominated for incidents that have occurred within one year of the nomination, and within Monroe County.

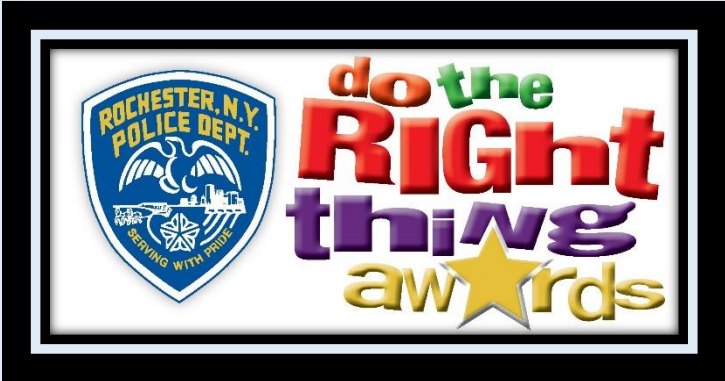
Anyone over 18 years old can nominate a student (this includes first responders, teachers, coaches, family, friends, etc.). Nominations are accepted throughout the year, and are reviewed by a committee that selects students to receive the Do The Right Thing Award. Selected students are celebrated at a ceremony at the City Public Safety Building. Ceremonies are held during the school year, and family and friends are welcome to attend. All ceremonies are also recorded and shared on Facebook, so you’ll never have to worry about missing a ceremony, and you can always go back and watch past recorded ceremonies as many times as you’d like!

Do The Right Thing Award winners are eligible to receive several rewards and prizes donated by program sponsors, and winners may also apply for a college or trade school scholarship when they are high school seniors. Since the program began, we have received over 4,000 nominations, awarded over 1,100 winners, and contributed over \$100,000 towards scholarships for our winners. Students selected as winners must attend an award ceremony in order to officially be considered a Do The Right Thing Winner, unless the ceremony is held virtually. All students that are nominated will receive a letter of recognition for their act, even if they are not chosen as a winner.

Each ceremony and the winners are highlighted in the media, courtesy of program sponsor News 10NBC WHEC-TV. Stories are televised on WHEC and highlighted on-line as well. Visit their website at WHEC.com to view past highlights.

For more information about our program, or to nominate a student, please visit our webpage at Cityofrochester.gov/DoTheRightThing.

We are also on social media. Please take a moment to like and follow our [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#) pages. You can find all contact information for the Do The Right Thing Award Program in the green box on page 1.



Do The Right Thing Program Staff

Please contact a member of our staff with any questions or feedback you may have. We welcome your input, and are excited to work together to celebrate many more years of Do The Right Thing in Rochester!



Sergeant Jose Vargas
Program Director



Laurie Kingsley-Henry
Program Coordinator



Lisa Hayes
Program Assistant



Members of the Executive Board

The Rochester Police Department's Do The Right Thing Award Program is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization governed by a Board of Directors, and operated under the auspice of the Rochester Police Department.

The Board of Directors includes the following ex officio positions – the Mayor of the City of Rochester or their designee; the Chief of the Rochester Police Department or their designee; and the Program Coordinator. All directors are appointed by the Rochester Police Chief.

Executive Board of Directors

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Police Chief David M. Smith (Rochester Police Department)

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Grace Tillinghast (The Battery)

Jeffrey Wagner (Monroe County Sheriff's Office)

Jessica Williams (The Summit Federal Credit Union)

Welcome to new board members Luis Aponte and Kenneth Council. Both are employed at American Medical Response, and were welcomed at the February board meeting!

Interested in becoming a member of the Do The Right Thing Executive Board?

- Visit our website at Cityofrochester.gov/DoTheRightThing to learn more about Do The Right of Rochester and read program By-Laws.
- Contact Program Coordinator Laurie Kingsley-Henry at (585) 428-7863 or DoTheRightThing@cityofrochester.gov for more information.

Sponsors

Sponsorship and donations help make this program possible. Donations received are used to directly impact the program and its winners. Gifts are distributed to award recipients through prize packages at each award ceremony, and financial contributions help fund the daily operation of the program, as well as provide college/trade school scholarships. At each ceremony, winners receive sponsor-branded merchandise, gift certificates, opportunities to attend various experiences in our area, and a variety of other rewards and opportunities that are provided by the below sponsors. Thank you for your generosity!

Altitude Trampoline Park
American Medical Response
Ames-Amzalak Memorial Trust
Arlene's Costumes
Bill Gray's
Camp Good Days and Special Times
City of Rochester
C.J. & B.S August Family Foundation
The Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation
Dynamic Recording Studio
Genesee Country Village & Museum
Glen Jeter (Horace Jeter Inc.)
Grace Tillinghast (The Battery)
John F. Wegman Fund (via RACF)
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Memorial Art Gallery
Monroe County

News 10NBC WHEC-TV
NYRA Trophies & Awards
Pirate Toy Fund
Rochester Americans
Rochester Knighthawks
Rochester Museum & Science Center
Rochester Police Department
Rochester Police Foundation
Rochester Red Wings
Salvatore's Old Fashioned Pizzeria
Seabreeze Amusement Park
Seneca Park Zoo
The Strong National Museum of Play
The Summit Federal Credit Union
Tim Hortons Iceplex
TOPS Friendly Markets

Interested in Becoming a Program Sponsor?

We award up to 50 students each school year. Donations are helpful and appreciated. We are continuously welcoming new sponsors to our program. If you have services or prizes that you would like to donate to our Do The Right Thing Award winners, or if you would like to make a financial donation to the program, please contact us! The Do The Right Thing Award Program is a 501(c) (3) non-profit organization, and every donation directly impacts each winner that is selected. All sponsor information is proudly displayed on our website, in informational brochures that we distribute, and at ceremonies and other events that we attend.



February 2024 Award Ceremony Winners

8 students were awarded at the February 29th, 2024 Award Ceremony.



ANMOL BISWA
10th Grade
School of the Arts (RCSD)



Anmol was nominated by School Support Staff member Leslie Hunter for his role model behavior and civic mindedness. Ms. Hunter says that Anmol has a steadfast interest and belief in personal and community responsibility. He and his family are from Nepal, and over the past two years, he has displayed the qualities of a personally responsible individual including courage, persistence, and self-control. He takes his education and personal growth seriously, as well as his civic responsibilities, and has never failed to demonstrate that they are sincere, family and community based. A notable incident that Ms. Hunter learned about occurred this past spring, when Anmol was walking to school. While on East Main Street in front of the Riverside Convention Center, he noticed an object on the ground. Curious, he picked it up, inspected it, and found it to be a real bullet. Instead of ignoring it or keeping it, he immediately called 911 and waited for the police to arrive so that he could turn it over to them, thus removing a potentially dangerous item from the street. Alan Tirré, Academy Director at School of the Arts, says that Anmol is an extraordinary human being who is a likeable and friendly young man who sees the best in everyone. Despite experiencing hardship and struggles in his young life, Anmol continues to rise above by maintaining good grades and excellent attendance at school, and is a leader amongst his peers.





CARTER BLONDELL
3rd Grade
Rochester Classical Academy



Carter was nominated for his honesty and kindness by Rochester Classical Academy Principal Katie Curtis. According to Ms. Curtis, the school has a lot of foot traffic alongside its green space, and often during the overnight hours people visit and leave items behind. Back in October while outside during recess, Carter found \$150 cash in the bushes. A \$100 bill and a \$50 bill are very exciting to 8 year olds, yet Carter knew it did not belong to him and immediately gave the money to Ms. Curtis. Later, when all of the students were discussing what they would do with money, Carter's idea was to donate it to the church the school rents the space from (Solid Rock Church). Ms. Curtis was so impressed with Carter's selfless idea! The school held on to the money for two weeks to see if anyone tried to claim it. When no one did, the money was offered to the church, who in turn donated the money back to the school to be used for the students' benefit. The school decided the money will be used for a pizza party for the entire school during School Spirit Week in March, so every student at the school will benefit from Carter's remarkable act!





NIKKYAH BOONE

7th Grade

Northwest Junior High at Douglas (RCSD)



Nikkyah was nominated by Principal Rodney Moore for her heroic actions during Home and Careers class earlier this year. When two students began arguing back and forth with one another, the teacher and some other students attempted to calm the situation. Instead it escalated when one student became enraged, grabbed a pair of scissors and rushed toward the other student. The teacher tried to intervene, and as she was trying to separate the two students, Nikkyah jumped up to assist by grabbing the young man with the scissors and holding him back. While she was securing him, she was able to wrestle the scissors away from him, de-escalating a situation that could have resulted in serious injury. Mr. Moore says that Nikkyah did not hesitate to assist the teacher, and her actions potentially saved the life of one of her classmates as well as keeping the other students safe. Mr. Moore also says Nikkyah is a positive role model at Northwest Junior High, always putting forth her best effort, is a joyful person who always assists her classmates with problems, and acts as a calming force in the classroom. Nikkyah's counselor, Jennifer Greenberg, says that Nikkyah is honest, focused and a great friend to her peers, and never hesitates to do the right thing even when she is not asked to do so.





AZ'RYEL CASTRO
6th Grade
Charles Carroll School #46 (RCSD)



Az'Ryel was nominated by his principal, Gina DiTullio, for his role model behavior as a peer mediator for his classmates and the younger students at School #46. Az'ryel has been demonstrating leadership in restorative practices this year. He recently intervened when two first-grade students were engaged in a conflict. Az'ryel discussed that fighting was never the answer, and encouraged both of the boys to take a break or ask for help from an adult if need be. He told them, "So no more fighting, okay? Promise. That's not what we do at this school." He hugged them both, and then walked them back to class with the assistant principal. Ms. DiTullio was so impressed with Az'ryel's ability to mediate the young students, show compassion, and drive home the message that while conflict happens, there are more appropriate options than fighting. Az'Ryel reinforced the positive culture of School #46, and in this situation, Az'ryel demonstrated a great deal of maturity and understanding of restorative practices that everyone at School #46 strives for.





CANARI JOHNSON
3rd Grade
Roberto Clemente School #8 (RCSD)



Biljana Ilievka is a Telecommunicator at 911, and nominated Canari for the way she handled herself while her mother was experiencing a medical emergency this past summer. When Canari's mom wasn't feeling well, she called 911, but was having trouble communicating with Ms. Ilievka, who was the 911 operator that answered the call. Canari took the phone from her mother and relayed information between the 911 operator and her mom. Ms. Ilievka said that Canari did a very good job at remaining calm and answering all the questions asked by the operator, relaying information to her mom and keeping mom calm while help was on the way. Canari's mom is grateful for the help she provided during this stressful situation. Canari's teacher, Michele D'Alessandro, said that Canari is kind and caring, always helpful in class, makes good choices for herself and others, and is a model student at School #8!





ANGELENA LIPANI
12th Grade
Penfield High School (Penfield CSD)



Lena was nominated by School Counselor Amy Williams for being an outstanding role model student, describing her as an absolute stand out in this year's graduating class! Throughout high school, she has been involved in a myriad of activities that highlight her versatility, strong leadership, and commitment to her ideals, and carries herself with tremendous integrity across all settings. Lena is a natural leader, whether it be by example or an actual role that she has taken on. Lena has a 99.427 GPA, and has chosen the most demanding program of studies that a student can select at Penfield High School. She is a year-round athlete, an avid volunteer, a part-time employee, and a member of several student leadership clubs at the school. She is recognized as an outstanding leader in this community and is frequently asked to represent the student body or to serve as a peer leader in the school. Lena is always willing to get involved, and does so enthusiastically! She radiates positivity, and is always looking for ways to elevate experiences for others by being supportive of her peers and intentionally inclusive in all that she does. Lena truly stands out in all that she does, and Ms. Williams is confident that this amazing young lady is going to accomplish truly remarkable things in her future.



ZAVIONA RADCLIFFE

10th Grade



NYLA RIVERA

11th Grade



Rochester Early College International High School (RCSD)

School Social Worker Roberta McGill nominated Zaviona and Nyla for their heroic actions when they helped a fellow classmate at school. One day in November, Zaviona and Nyla moved into quick action when they saw another student struggling with a medical emergency. They immediately called the administrators, who in turn notified the school medical staff. As it turns out, the student was having a serious asthma attack and ultimately needed to go home. The actions of Nyla and Zaviona helped prevent their classmate from having an even more serious outcome. Ms. McGill is proud of both girls, and says both girls are positive role models for their peers. She says that Nyla possesses natural leadership abilities, and is consistently encouraging students to cooperate or comply with staff. She says Zavionna is friendly, always has a positive attitude, and has a great deal of insight and emotional intelligence.

Zaviona was unable to attend the February ceremony, so she was recognized at the May ceremony.



NYLA



ZAVIONA



CLAYTON SHIRLEY

3rd Grade

Renaissance Academy Charter School of the Arts



Clayton was nominated by his teacher, Kyle Hall, for being a consistent role model and always doing the right thing, whether in an academic, social or personal setting. Mr. Hall says that Clayton is an excellent example of emotional regulation, hard work, and kindness in his classroom. He is always checking in with his own emotions and those of his peers and teachers around him, and consistently shows friendship to all of his classmates. He brings positivity to the classroom, and cares deeply for his classmates. Hailey Korpi, School Principal, says that Clayton puts exceptional effort and takes pride in all of his schoolwork. Recently, he starred in a schoolwide video to promote positive peer-to-peer interactions and self-regulation, even though this was outside of his comfort zone.















May 2024 Award Ceremony Winners

12 students were awarded at the May 2nd, 2024 Award Ceremony.



ANDY CARDOT

6th Grade

Greece Athena Middle School (Greece CSD)



Andy was nominated by his grandmother, Jan Cardot, for his role model behavior as an exemplary student and kind heartedness. At school Andy is a high honor roll student. He is friends with everyone, and is always helping other students. His counselor Heather Heupel says he values his educations and shows his best effort every day. Andy has a natural helpful personality. Whenever he is at an athletic camp, he not only befriends younger athletes, but he takes the time to help them with their drills. He also stays afterwards and helps clean up. Grace Tillinghast, longtime Do The Right Thing Executive Board member and owner of The Battery indoor baseball and softball training facility in Gates, says that Andy trains at her facility, and he always comes in with a smile, is polite, and constantly helping others. He is also helpful to his neighbors and family as well. When Andy's neighbor lost her husband and was ill herself, he would put her garbage and recycling to the curb for her. And his grandparents really appreciate the help he provides when he visits them, whether it's stacking firewood, mowing the grass, carrying in the groceries or bringing things to the basement. Andy's grandmother says that it isn't always the one big thing that someone does to make them shine, but sometimes, like Andy, it is the many small wonderful gestures that makes him such a good person and distinguishes him from those around him!





ETHAN DUNHAM

7th Grade

Barker Road Middle School (Pittsford CSD)



Ethan was nominated by his teacher, Hillary Petroske, for the dedication and hard work he has shown in his service to his school, peers, and community. Last summer and throughout this school year he has participated in TIES. Together Including Every Student (TIES) is a Pittsford Central School District program that promotes belonging and participation for young people with special needs in extracurricular and community activities. Trained high school and middle school student volunteers provide the individualized support needed by TIES participants in a spirit of fun and learning. The student partnerships formed are based on shared interests and provide a natural impetus to friendship building among group members. Ethan has also participated in Mizzionpalooza, a program run by the Episcopal Diocese of Rochester, which is a weeklong summer community service project where he made lunch for senior citizens, cleaned Pocket Park and helped organize the clothing closet at Cameron Community Ministries. Ethan is very service minded, with a heart that is kind and committed to helping others.





JOSIAH GONZALEZ
3rd Grade
Roberto Clemente School #8 (RCSD)



Josiah was nominated by his mother, Donna Gonzalez Joseph, for the bravery he displayed during a recent family medical emergency. In February, Josiah's baby brother, who was only nine months old at the time, had two severe seizures. While this was happening, Josiah immediately took his two year old sister aside and talked to her, calming her down, and held her while the ambulance was there. This was a very scary and emotional time for everyone, and Josiah was so nervous and frightened, but he pushed his feelings aside and remained calm until help arrived, acting as a brave hero to his entire family during a very traumatic situation!



DELANEY GRAVES
12th Grade
Hilton High School (Hilton CSD)

Delaney was nominated by her mother, Michele Graves, for her strength and determination to make a drastic ‘turn-around’. Delaney had struggled with her behavior and grades in school throughout her first few years at Hilton High School. She now attends the district’s Alternative Education Center, which is designed for students who struggle in the traditional high school setting. With guidance, self-awareness and determination, Delaney has completely turned things around over the past year and a half. With this program’s support, Delaney has brought her GPA from the mid 60s to mid 90s. Since making a turn-around in her behavior, attendance, and studies, she has consistently received High Honor and an Academic Merit. Delaney has continued to excel in school while holding a part-time job, studying Karate, as well as being a huge help at home for her family. Delaney often helps take care of her younger brother, and has proven to be a good role-model for him, using her past mistakes to guide him in the right direction. Delaney aspires to become a zoologist and has always had a love for animals. Her passion for animals shows in how well she takes care of her dogs and cat at home. In the past, Delaney has collected donations for animal shelters in place of receiving birthday gifts from her friends. She even volunteered as a Zoo Teen at Seneca Park Zoo. School Administrator Laura Malta says Delaney is a sweet, hard-working and respectful young lady who has grown so much over the last two years, both academically and personally. The smaller academic setting has allowed her to develop coping strategies, gain confidence, and achieve very high grades, and the growth she has made is extraordinary. She is simply a wonderful young lady who has worked incredibly hard to overcome her obstacles, and everyone at Hilton is very proud of her and looking forward to watching her cross the graduation stage in June!





ISAIAH RODRIGUEZ
12th Grade
All City High School (RCSD)



Isaiah was nominated by his teacher, Michelle Saporito-Springer, for being a leader and role model at his school. All City High is a non-traditional, mature young adult high school program that offers students in grades 10-12 who are between the ages of 17-21 years old an opportunity to get caught up on high school credits and, in some cases, accelerate graduation. Ms. Saporito-Springer says that Isaiah is a young man that is actively involved and engaged in his education. He participates in the school's Student Government, helping to plan, implement and bring excitement for school events throughout this year. He's worked with other students and his advisor to implement school spirit weeks & Black History month activities, and used his graphic design skills to create the colorful schedules for each spirit week and activities. These were posted around the school to inform and encourage all students and staff to participate. Having a program full of mostly seniors from different places, Isaiah has helped create an inclusive and welcoming experience for his classmates, and he brings so much school spirit and positive vibes to the entire school! Another teacher, Victoria DiMatteo, says that Isaiah has exhibited exceptional growth in the short time he has been at All City, and that his leadership comes naturally. He encourages his fellow students to follow their dreams and attain their goals.





ASHER SIMPSON

2nd Grade

Dewitt Road Elementary School (Webster CSD)



Asher was nominated by Webster Chief of Police Dennis Kohlmeier and Captain Mark Reed for his astuteness during an event which occurred involving the Webster Police Department. This past fall Webster Police officers responded to a commercial location for a larceny in progress in which three suspects were stealing merchandise. The suspects stole over \$1,700 in merchandise and fled from officers on foot. One of the suspects ran through a nearby plaza and was being chased by an officer, refusing to comply with verbal commands to stop, and continued to evade arrest. The above actions caught the attention of eight year old Asher, the son of a retired police investigator. Asher and his dad were in the plaza about to enter one of the businesses when Asher observed the officer chasing the suspect, and immediately told his dad "We have to help the police, he is getting away". This prompted Asher's father to leave the business and assist the officer in the apprehension of the fleeing suspect. Officers would not have successfully apprehended the suspect without the assistance of Asher's father, and Asher's father would not have known to act had it not been for Asher's situational awareness and quick thinking. The

Webster Police Department is truly grateful for the assistance the Simpsons provided, and are proud to recognize Asher for doing the right thing! Asher's father says that Asher wants to be a police officer when he grows up!





JENNA TILLINGHAST

7th Grade

Bishop Kearney



Jenna was nominated by her grandmother, Ellen Schulte, for being an all-around outstanding person who is always willing and eager to go the extra mile, looking to help others both at home, school and in the community. Jenna is full of energy and finds positive ways to use it. For several years she has participated in Wreaths Across America, and she also helps make centerpieces for senior citizen luncheons on a regular basis. When she has days off, she helps her neighbors by taking their dogs out while they are at work, and she is always helpful with chores both at home and at her grandmother's. She volunteers at many events at her school, Bishop Kearney. Previously, when she was a student at St. Kateri School, she was a volunteer helper at their before care program. Since moving on to Bishop Kearney, Jenna continues to go back and volunteer at Saint Kateri, helping with field days, school plays, and their after school program. In addition to her volunteer activities, Jenna has always been active in sports. She is on a travel softball team, and also plays modified volleyball. On top of all this, academically she is on High Honor Roll with a 95% average, and is a member of the Junior National Honor Society. According to her teacher, Theresa Aldridge, Jenna is a focused, diligent and motivated student who shows tremendous school spirit. She also said that Jenna steps up and volunteers without hesitation, displays care and compassion for those she works with, and is a true friend and supportive, loving human being.





KAILI'AN TOWNSEND

4th Grade

Dr. Walter Cooper Academy School #10 (RCSD)



Kaili'an was nominated by her teacher, Kenisha Campbell, for acting as a role model during an incident that occurred at school recently. Back in November, Kaili'an showed leadership when there was an altercation in the music room. While other students crowded around the fight and watched, Kaili'an instead was the only student who went to seek an adult to address the situation. Ms. Campbell says that Kaili'an always puts 100% into her schoolwork, actively engages in classroom discussions, and is a role model for all of her peers.





CHARLES VITKUS
12th Grade
Irondequoit High School (West Irondequoit CSD)



Charles was nominated for his dedication to his community and co-workers by his supervisor, Morgan Nelis, who is the Manager at the Adams Street Rec Center Aquatics Program. Charles works as a lifeguard at the Adams Street R-Center pool, and Ms. Nelis says that he is a natural born leader. He teaches youth swim lessons, and is very good working with the children. He is able to have fun and be silly with the kids, while working safely and establishing their trust, especially when working in the deep end. He also teaches lifeguard courses, and works as a lifeguard at Durand Eastman Beach during the summer. Charles has demonstrated a great level of responsibility and matureness as a life guard, and he is great at rule enforcement. Charles is always showing up for his co-workers and the patrons at the pool, and has a proven track record of backing up the rest of the staff on a regular basis. He is never afraid to do the right thing even if that thing may be uncomfortable. Ms. Nelis says that Charles is an asset to their staff, and they are grateful to have him as an employee!





HALEIGH WILKINS
8th Grade
Merton Williams Middle School (Hilton CSD)



Haleigh was nominated by her mother, Krystle Wilkins, for being kind, caring and generous. Haleigh is a member of a Masonic Youth Group - Fidelity Triangle, which is a local chapter of Organization of Triangle. In October she was elected and installed as the Beloved Queen of Fidelity Triangle. The Beloved Queen performs her duties for one year, and during her term, is expected to plan activities and meetings throughout the year, as well as choose charitable organization(s) where she can volunteer, gather donations, or raise funds. Haleigh chose Mickeys for Bronson as a charity that she will support.

Mickeys for Bronson was created by Bronson's mother, Bridget Martinez, after Bronson passed away from SIDS at 4 months old, and was started as a way to honor Bronson, spread SIDS awareness, and generate donations for research at the Roberts Program at Boston Children's Hospital. Bronson's mother would like for people to remember Bronson by buying a Mickey Mouse stuffed animal and leaving it, along with an informational card provided by Mickeys for Bronson, somewhere special. Her hope is this will not only bring a smile to a child's face, but also spread awareness and honor all babies who have gone too soon. While many Mickeys are placed in Disney parks, they can be placed anywhere.

When Haleigh learned about Mickeys for Bronson, she knew immediately that this was the charity that she wished to support! At Haleigh's installation as Beloved Queen, she requested on her invitations that guests bring a stuffed Mickey to donate to her charity instead of gifts to herself. Her goal for her term is to collect 50 Mickeys. Her first evening as Beloved Queen she collected 11 Mickeys, and also raised approximately \$400 in donations towards her charity. Continuing her generosity, Haleigh celebrated her 14th birthday in early March, and in lieu of presents, she again asked for Mickey donations. After creating an event on Facebook to help spread the word, she collected over 70 stuffed animals that she plans to use to help Mickeys for Bronson!

Haleigh's thoughtfulness does not end there. Over this past summer she volunteered as a junior cheerleading coach, which she plans on doing again this summer. She even continued to support the athletes that she coached by attending some of their competitions in the fall. All of this while fulfilling her own dedication towards cheer by being a member of on an elite competitive cheer team herself. There is not a moment that Haleigh does not display her caring and kind qualities. She assists where she can and is always seeking out her next path of generosity.



Help honor Bronson and those affected by SIDS!

If you would like to place a Mickey to honor Bronson, please email mickeysforbronson@gmail.com and they will mail you a postcard with directions on how to participate!

If you are interested in making a donation to Robert's Program at Boston Children's Hospital to benefit SIDS research, visit <http://Tinyurl.com/BCHDonatetoSids>

Visit the Facebook page **Mickeys for Bronson** for more info.



DAYQUAN WYNNE
5th Grade
John James Audubon School #33 (RCSD)



Dayquan was nominated by his teacher, Erin Sperry, for being a leader and speaking up for one of his friends. A few months ago, Ms. Sperry received a phone call from the grandmother of another student (we'll refer to him as 'J') who had concerns that her grandson was having issues with a student being unkind to him. When the grandmother approached her grandson about this, he would not talk about what was going on because he didn't want to get anyone in trouble. The only reason the grandmother knew about the situation was because Dayquan told the student's father at football practice. Ms. Sperry then had a private conversation with Dayquan about what was going on with the other two boys. Dayquan said "Well, 'the boy' keeps bothering 'J'. He sprayed water on him in the bathroom and poured water on his paper. He also took his snacks." Dayquan said he always sticks up for 'J' and tells 'the boy' to leave him alone. Dayquan said 'J' is a good friend to him and he does not deserve someone being mean to him. During their talk, Ms. Sperry told Dayquan that sometimes kids are so nice they don't want to say anything and just take people being mean to them. Dayquan got a big smile and said "Yeah, that's what type of person 'J' is!" Ms. Sperry is so proud of Dayquan for standing up for his friend and letting an adult know what was going on so the situation could be properly addressed.

















New Sponsors

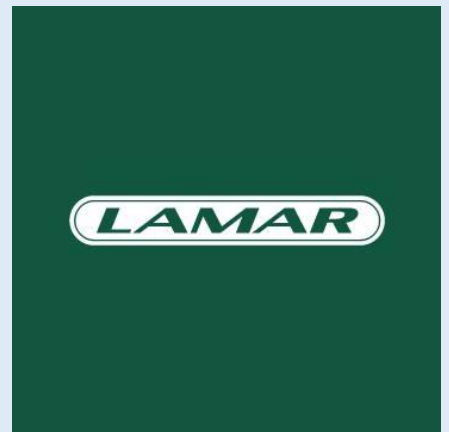
In February we welcomed three local businesses as new sponsors of our program. All three provided prizes to both our February and May winners.

Thank you to Altitude Trampoline Park, Arlene's Costumes and Bill Gray's for supporting students in Monroe County who Do The Right Thing!



Thank you Camp Good Days & Special Times, courtesy of their Homework Huddle program, for donating a generous amount of school supplies that will be provided to each Do The Right Thing winner beginning at the May award ceremony!

And thank you to Lamar Advertising Company of Rochester for your continued support. Earlier this school year we partnered with Lamar Rochester to use their digital billboard network to promote Do The Right Thing award winners! Shortly after each ceremony, winners were featured on various billboards throughout Monroe County. Winners information, including their name and grade, along with a very brief description of why they earned the award and a picture of the winner from the award ceremony, cycled through for several seconds each, along with other advertisements. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for when and where billboards will be displayed!



School Supply Drive

The last two years Do The Right Thing participated in the Annual Healthy Moms Family Resource Fair that took place in the parking lot at St. Mary's Medical Campus. We plan on doing so again this year. The event is scheduled for August 15th.

This is a free community event where families are able to connect with community resources, and receive supplies for the upcoming school year. Each student receives a free backpack filled with school supplies, and children of all ages are able to fill a bag with gently used clothing to take home.

We will again be collecting school supply donations for this event. Beginning June 5 and through the month of July boxes will be set up in the atrium at the Public Safety Building. You can help by donating new backpacks and school supplies, which will be distributed to families at this event. The school supply drive last year was quite a success, and we hope to collect even more items this year! School supply donations needed:

- Backpacks
- No. 2 pencils
- Pens
- Crayons
- Markers
- Highlighters
- Composition or spiral notebooks
- Loose-leaf paper
- Two-pocket folders
- Post-it notes with arrows
- Glue or glue sticks
- 12-inch rulers



We Need Nominations!!
Submit a Summertime Nomination!!



We accept nominations all year long. If you know a student that should be recognized for a remarkable act, please visit our [website](#) and submit a nomination.

- Nominations can be submitted at any time, throughout the entire year.
- Anyone over 18 years-of-age can nominate.
- Nomination forms can be completed and submitted electronically.





Ceremony dates for 2024-2025:

Thursday, November 7, 2024

Thursday, February 27, 2025

Thursday, May 1, 2025

All ceremonies take place at 10:30 a.m.

at the

Public Safety Building

185 Exchange Boulevard

Rochester, New York 14614



**do the
Right
thing
awards**

Each ceremony will also be broadcast Live on Facebook.

Make sure to 'Like' and 'Follow' our [Facebook](#) page at Do The Right Thing of Rochester so that you can watch the ceremony if you are unable to join us in-person.

