

The 2023 GSAFE Youth Scholarship Application



The GSAFE Youth Scholarship awards up to four high school seniors \$2500 each. The recipients of these awards will have demonstrated a commitment to promoting just and respectful schools for all, with an emphasis on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) students and topics. This scholarship is open to all Wisconsin high school seniors, regardless of sexual orientation and/or gender identity/expression. We especially encourage youth of color and trans and nonbinary youth to apply.

Examples of student activities that might bring an applicant to the attention of GSAFE include, but are not limited to, an LGBTQ+ student or ally who has:

- Demonstrated leadership in the school community.
- Worked to improve their community.
- Promoted racial, transgender, gender, and/or educational justice.
- Faced and sought to overcome obstacles related to LGBTQ+ topics.
- Helped form, continue, or build a GSA or an educational justice or similar club.
- Consistently included LGBTQ+ materials in their coursework.
- Actively participated in community efforts involving LGBTQ+ topics.

Requirements for the Youth Scholarship

- Graduating High School Senior
- Resident of Wisconsin
- Completion of enclosed application
- Two (2) letters of recommendation. One recommendation must be written by a member of your school staff.
- **If awarded scholarship: Attending our Celebration of Leadership awards event in Madison the evening of May 20th, 2023.** Please place a hold on your calendar for this event. Our current plans are to present the awards in person. We are working with health official as well as banquet venue to plan a safe and accessible event and will be in communication with all scholarship recipients as we get closer to the date. GSAFE will support travel and lodging for students and guests on a case-by-case basis.

Application Deadline: All applications must be received or postmarked by February 20th, 2023.

Submission of the Scholarship Application: Application can be submitted through any of the following options:

- Online in writing through the electronic form at <https://bit.ly/gsafescholarship2023>
- Online via a link to YouTube video responses posted in the electronic form
- Electronically as a Word or .pdf attachment to info@gsafe.org
- As a hard copy that is hand-delivered or mailed to the office of: GSAFE, Attn: Scholarship Committee, 122 East Olin Avenue, Suite 100, Madison, WI 53713.

For further information email info@gsafe.org, or visit www.gsafe.org.

**Part 1:
About You**

first name	last name	pronouns	
address	city	state	zip
name of your Wisconsin school district		name of your Wisconsin high school	
date of birth	phone (GSAFE can <input type="checkbox"/> call &/or <input type="checkbox"/> text me at this number)		e-mail
university/college name (if applicable)	city	state	zip

**Part II:
Future Plan**

This scholarship has been developed to allow students who have demonstrated interest in LGBTQ+ issues to pursue further activism and learning. **Please write an essay of 250 words or less** which answers the questions below. Attach essay on a separate sheet.

- What are your plans following high school?
- What will this scholarship mean for you?
- How will you use this scholarship to continue working for justice for LGBTQ+ people?

**Part III:
Contributions to the LGBTQ+ community**

Congratulations! Imagine you are at our **May 20th scholarship event** and you have 3-4 minutes to deliver your acceptance speech. Please write that speech, **ensuring it is between 500 and 1000 words**. Your submission will be reviewed by a committee of volunteers who are unfamiliar with your work and efforts, so please make sure you clearly demonstrate your contribution to the LGBTQ+ community. You may choose to submit a video of yourself delivering your speech on YouTube. If you choose to do this, please provide a link to the video in your response.

In preparing your acceptance speech, consider the following:

Tell us a story that demonstrates your road to success in activism. If there is a specific person, situation, or movement that catapulted you to action, tell us about it. Think about who helped you get where you are, and which leaders inspired you to do the work you've done. Talk about the hurdles you had to overcome in order to achieve something important to you in your life and/or community. Please feel free to quote local and legendary leaders, although this is not required.

**Part IV: GSAFE
Youth Scholarship Recommendation Letter 1**

The student named below is applying for the GSAFE Youth Scholarship. This award is given annually to a Wisconsin high school senior who has demonstrated a commitment to promoting equity for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) people.

Please return to:

GSAFE

122 East Olin Avenue, Suite 100, Madison, WI 53713

Submit by Email: info@gsafewi.org

Submit Online: <https://bit.ly/letterofrec2023>

Application deadline: February 20th, 2023

For Further Information

Awards Committee, info@gsafewi.org

More information, including a PDF and Word document of this application, may be found at our website:

www.gsafewi.org.

All referral forms must be received or postmarked by February 20th, 2023 and will be kept confidential.

Applicant's name:

Please describe how you feel this student has best demonstrated their commitment to the LGBTQ+ community. Specifically please address the following three questions:

1. How has this student worked for racial, transgender, gender, and/or educational justice for LGBTQ+ people in your school or community?
2. How essential and/or enduring is the impact this student has had on your school or community?
3. What environment or climate did the student work within to create change? What obstacles, if known, did the student encounter in the school or community while doing this work?

Please answer these questions on a separate sheet of paper or via email.

Please keep this application reference confidential. Thank you.

referee's name

pronouns

relationship to applicant

address

city

state

zip

telephone

e-mail

signature

**Part V: GSAFE
Youth Scholarship Recommendation Letter 2**

The student named below is applying for the GSAFE Youth Scholarship. This award is given annually to a Wisconsin high school senior who has demonstrated a commitment to promoting equality gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ+) people.

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GSAFE

122 East Olin Avenue, Suite 100, Madison, WI 53713

Submit by Email: info@gsafewi.org

Submit Online: <https://bit.ly/letterofrec2023>

Application deadline: February 20th, 2023

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Please answer these questions on a separate sheet of paper or via email.

Please keep this application reference confidential. Thank you.

referee's name

pronouns

relationship to applicant

address

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state

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telephone

e-mail

signature

**Part VI: GSAFE
Confidentiality Statement & Press Release**

All documents received by the Awards Committee are considered confidential. However, some material is carefully selected from applications and letters of reference to prepare introductions to the recipients at the annual awards presentation ceremony. Answers to this section are not considered in award selection.

_____ If chosen to receive an award, may we make this information available to members of the press who report awards?

_____ If chosen to receive an award, can we use part of your essay for promotion and fundraising purposes?

I verify that the information I have supplied is accurate and true.

signature

date

**GSAFE
Scholarship Checklist**

All of the following application materials must be dated and/or postmarked by February 20th, 2023 to be eligible for review. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Materials sent after the deadline may not be accepted.

- This completed application form. Your application can be submitted through the online form (either in writing or via YouTube video), electronically as a word attachment, or as a hard copy that is hand-delivered or mailed to the GSAFE office.
- Answers to essay questions or other attachments.
- Two letters of recommendation. One recommendation must be written by a member of your school staff. Letters of recommendation can be sent separately by recommenders.