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**Out To
Innovate**

PRESS RELEASE

“SPEEA Aerospace Career Enhancement Scholarship Awarded”

Scholarships Awarded for LGBTQ Undergraduate Students in Aerospace

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Aug. 30 2021

Out To Innovate Announces SPEEA Aerospace Career Enhancement Scholarship

The winner of the 2021 SPEEA ACE \$5000 Scholarship is Elliott Khilfeh. Elliott is completing a bachelor's degree in Physics at Western Washington University, where he has spent this summer working in an astronomy lab. These are some initial steps towards accomplishing his goal to work as an astrophysicist for NASA. "Being an openly queer and transgender Palestinian-American student has come with a lot of struggles. I am so grateful for Out to Innovate and the SPEEA ACE Scholarship, which recognizes my experiences and encourages me to become a proud queer astrophysicist. Growing up, I never saw scientists like me, and I want to change that. My time as an undergraduate has made it apparent that the physics community still has a long way to go with diversity. This scholarship gives me the opportunity to use my visibility and voice to foster a more inclusive environment in physics, and encourage other LGBTQ+ STEM students to keep chasing their dreams."



Pictured: Elliott Khilfeh.

About Out To Innovate

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PRESS RELEASE

“Amy A. Ross Scholarship Awarded”

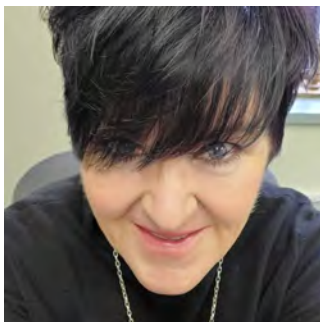
Scholarships Awarded for LGBTQ Undergraduate Students in Bioscience

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Aug. 30 2021

Out To Innovate Announces Amy A. Ross Scholarship in Bioscience

Today, Out to Innovate is proud to announce the 2021 Amy A Ross Scholarship in Biosciences.

LaVinia Ray is the winner of the 2021 Amy A. Ross Scholarship in Bioscience \$2000 Scholarship. LaVinia is a histotechnology professional at Southern Research, where she contributes to a wide range of research topics spanning from HIV to COVID-19. In order to further her career and become a subject matter expert, she is completing a Bachelor's degree at University of West Alabama. “I am so honored to receive the 2021 Amy A. Ross Scholarship in Bioscience. As a woman scientist and a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I have encountered many barriers to my growth and development, however one thing has held strong... my commitment to making the path an easier one for those who follow in my footsteps. We, as a community, must be a support systems for one another and I will honor the support this scholarship has given me by being a supportive of others.”



Pictured: LaVinia Ray

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PRESS RELEASE

“Avangrid Scholarships Awarded”

Scholarships Awarded for LGBTQ Students in Engineering

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Aug. 30 2021

Out To Innovate Announces Avangrid Scholarships

Out to Innovate is proud to announce the winners for the 2021 Avangrid \$5000 Scholarships: Kara Lindstrom, Claire Love, Art Hamilton, Zahara Spilka, Jeremy Fertig, and Jon Siemon.



Pictured: Kara Lindstrom, Claire Love, Art Hamilton, Zahara Spilka, Jeremy Fertig, and Jon Siemon

Kara Lindstrom

Kara is completing her undergraduate degree at Duke University, where she is double majoring in Mechanical Engineering and Material Science. She has a strong interest in robotics and has used her knowledge to print 3D assistive devices as well as design under-water robots as part of Duke’s RoboSubmarine Team. "I am grateful to the Out to Innovate Scholarship Committee for their commitment to supporting members of the LGBTQ+ community such as myself, and as I continue my educational journey I will strive to similarly provide support to my peers in an effort to create a more welcoming and inclusive environment within STEM fields."

Claire Love

Claire is a Chemical Engineering PhD student at the University of California –Los Angeles. Her graduate research focuses on the use of nanophotonics for effective luminescent solar concentrators, which combines her passions for renewable energy, programming, and

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PRESS RELEASE

“Inphi Scholarships Awarded”

Scholarships Awarded for LGBTQ Undergraduate Students in Physics and Engineering

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Aug. 30 2021

Out To Innovate Announces Inphi Scholarships

Today, Out to Innovate is proud to announce the winner for the 2021 Inphi Scholarship in Physics and Engineering.

The Inphi Graduate Physics/Engineering Scholarship for \$5000 is awarded to Suhas Eswarappa Prameela. Suhas is a Mechanical and Materials Engineering PhD student at Johns Hopkins University where he works to design lightweight magnesium alloys for lightweight vehicles to improve fuel efficiency. He is very active in diversity and inclusion efforts at Johns Hopkins and has also founded a visibility project to promote LGBTQ+ academics through the Queer Faculty Project. “I am thrilled to receive the 2021 InPhi Scholarship and very happy to be recognized for my academic work, diversity and inclusion efforts. Thanks to InPhi and Out to Innovate for continuing to promote and bring visibility to LGBTQ+ students in STEM. I am humbled to receive this award along with many other talented and hard-working individuals.”



Pictured: Suhas Eswarappa Prameela

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**Out To
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PRESS RELEASE

“Out To Innovate Scholarships Awarded”

Scholarships Awarded for LGBTQ STEM Students

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Aug. 30 2021

Out To Innovate Announces Scholarship Winners

Out to Innovate is proud to announce the winners for the 2021 Out to Innovate™ Scholarships, made possible by an Innovation Generation grant from the Motorola Solutions Foundation.



Pictured: Kaylin Moss, Emily Sanchez, Amelia Leon, Zach Huit, Cindy Phan, Shawn Bryant

The winner of the 2021 Out to Innovate \$8000 Undergraduate Scholarship is Kaylin Moss. Kaylin is studying Computer Science at Marist College. Kaylin is a leader within the Marist College community. She spearheaded the creation and establishment of a National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) chapter, and serves as a liaison between the Fox Pride and Black Student Union organizations. Kaylin hopes to merge her passion for art and computer science and pursue a career in software development. "I am so excited to be the recipient of the \$8,000 Out to Innovate scholarship! It is a great relief knowing that I will not have to worry about how to fund my education. This scholarship will enable me to continue to be a trailblazer in technology and a leader in my community."

The winner of the 2021 Out to Innovate \$3000 Undergraduate Scholarship is Emily Sanchez. Emily is studying Human Developmental and Regenerative Biology with a Minor in Global Health and Health Policy at Harvard University with the goal to become a physician scientist specializing in pediatric immunology.

The winner of the 2021 Out to Innovate \$8000 Graduate Scholarship is Amelia Leon. Amelia is working on a Masters of Epidemiology at Florida International University. Amelia

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PRESS RELEASE

“BHE Foundation CARES Scholarships Awarded”

Scholarships Awarded for LGBTQ Undergraduate Students in Engineering

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, Aug. 30 2021

Out To Innovate Announces BHE Foundation CARES Scholarships

Out to Innovate is proud to announce the winners for the 2021 BHE Foundation CARES \$5000 Scholarships: Aziz Dridi, Jada Cannon, Alexander Stewart, Margaret D'Auria, and Alexandra Loyot.



Pictured: Aziz Dridi, Jada Cannon, Alexander Stewart, Margaret D'Auria, and Alexandra Loyot.

Aziz Dridi

Aziz is a PhD student in Engineering Education at Purdue University where he creates tools to address the longstanding issue of women's underrepresentation in engineering by leveraging the affordances of virtual reality and cross-cultural storytelling. His research and academic accolades are matched by his diplomacy and advocacy as a co-founder, and later president, of "Mawjoudin", the first LGBTQ organization in Tunisia to advocate for the decriminalization of homosexuality. "It's a true honor to be the recipient of the Out To Innovate Graduate Student Scholarship for this year. I am humbled to see my work and activism in my home country Tunisia but also in the US being recognized by my peers. Out To Innovate is a testament to our community's talent and courage but also a reminder that we, as a community, have come a long way in our fight for equality and visibility. Nevertheless, we must not forget that there are still 69 countries around the world where

love is illegal and that being Out To Innovate is a privilege that shall be wielded to send ripples of hope to our people there."

Jada Cannon

Jada is an incoming Architecture graduate student at Cornell University. Her interest in architecture was initially sparked as a way to combine art and geometry but has evolved along with her interests into a way to uphold values and needs in the built form. "I have always strived to focus my efforts on designing projects that prioritize inclusion and safety for underrepresented groups throughout my time studying architecture. As an LGBTQ+ student and a woman of color, I know firsthand how spaces can feel exclusionary, especially in technical fields. My background has bolstered my commitment to a career that enhances diversity in the field of architecture and building technology. I plan to continually reinforce the efforts to make sure the LGBTQ+ community and other marginalized groups feel seen in architectural design. Receiving this scholarship not only reduces the financial burden of my graduate-level education but enables me to focus more fully on researching further avenues to bring equity into the built environment. I feel honored to join the Out To Innovate family as a scholarship recipient!"

Alexander Stewart

Alex is an undergraduate student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where they are a double major in Physics and Mathematics. Active in the LGBTQ+ community, Alex is the Director of Hacker Experience for the first queer-focused hackathon on the UNC campus. They also created and presented LGBTQ+ inclusive training for the UNC Physics department. "Thank you all for your support! This scholarship will carry me through to finish my senior year of my undergraduate career, and will allow me to save up to be financially stable as I enter graduate school. I will use this support to better my abilities as a physicist, and show that out LGBTQ+ people can thrive in academia!"

Margaret D'Auria

Margaret is an incoming graduate student at the University of California – Berkeley in the Energy, Civil Infrastructure, and Climate program within the Civil Engineering Department. Inspired to make life better for all, Margaret hopes to design sustainable urban infrastructure. "I am so grateful for this scholarship! Being an LGBTQ+ STEM student is something I am very proud of, and it is an honor to be recognized. This scholarship will help me as I begin my master's degree studies at the University of California, Berkeley in their Energy, Civil Infrastructure, and Climate program. I hope to be a voice for those most impacted by climate change and an advocate for sustainable infrastructure."

Alexandra Loyot

Alexandra is a Multidisciplinary Engineering major at Purdue University. Drawn to engineering for its applications in solving problems, she hopes to address interdisciplinary problems such as climate change and food sustainability. At 17 years old, Alex was the youngest college-level intern to work at NASA's Kennedy Space Center. "I am so grateful to be a recipient of this scholarship to help further my education in engineering at Purdue University. I couldn't have gotten to where I am today without help from my incredible mentors. My goal is to be a role model for other young queer women in STEM and to show young queer people that there will always be a place in STEM environments for them. I look forward to continuing to be a voice for my community and to proudly represent my queer identity throughout my career in engineering."

About BHE Foundation

"The BHE Foundation is proud to sponsor Out to Innovate scholarships for STEM students who identify as part of the LGBTQ community. Berkshire Hathaway Energy is committed to a

diverse and inclusive workplace that enriches the lives of our employees and enhances the communities where we live and work. Supporting the advancement of people of diverse backgrounds is critical to our industry, as well as Berkshire Hathaway Energy's vision to be the best energy company in serving our customers, while delivering sustainable energy solutions."

--Darla Zink, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Director, Berkshire Hathaway Energy.

About Out To Innovate

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researches experiences of intimate partner violence in transgender and cisgender women at the Southern HIV & Alcohol Research Consortium (SHARC) Lab. They also are the lead organizer for Reflect Collective, an organization with a mission to raise awareness of sexual assault within the LGBTQA community and provide support for survivors. "I am so honored to have received 1st place for the Out to Innovate Scholarship. This means the world to me. Thank you on behalf of me and on behalf of all LGBTQIA+ survivors. We're one step closer to justice through STEM initiatives."

The winner of the 2021 Out to Innovate \$3000 Graduate Scholarship is Zach Huit. Zach is a Clinical Psychology PhD student at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln. A champion of advocacy and community building, Zach brings this perspective to his research and clinical work with a mission to support sexual and gender minority youth and families to promote resilience and well-being. "I am proud to represent queer and AAPI communities in the field of Clinical Psychology. As a Doctoral Student, this scholarship opportunity will allow me the opportunity to attend a national conference and support my research understanding the well-being and family relationships for transgender and gender diverse youth. Thank you Out to Innovate for your diligent work to support queer students across STEM fields and supporting scientific progress for LGBTQIA communities."

Cindy Phan is recipient of a 2021 Out to Innovate Community College Transfer Scholarship for \$1500. Cindy is studying Engineering Technology at Chandler Gilbert Community College with a passion for innovating technological solutions and will continue her education in mechanical engineering at Arizona State University. "Describing the emotions felt after receiving the acceptance email is difficult but just know this was just the thing I needed this week. I appreciate all Out To Innovate members' time and efforts that have been put into an event such as this one! I am very excited to head into this new semester especially now with the financial support and trust from your team. This Out To Innovate scholarship brings light, motivation, and an open path towards success in my college career. The STEM and LGBTQ+ communities are a proud name for me to participate in and dedicate my life to, despite the hardships that come with them. I personally have dedicated much time towards becoming a person I would have needed when I was younger and someone I will need when I am older. Someone strangers, friends and family, or student peers can reach out to for a helping hand, a listening ear, or encouraging words. Your financial support and emotional support will only fuel that fire. I want to thank each and every one of you for believing in not only me, but also our communities. Thank you so much for rewarding me with this scholarship opportunity!"

Shawn Bryant is recipient of a 2021 Out to Innovate Community College Transfer Scholarship for \$1500. Shawn has earned an Associate of Science Degree from Thomas Nelson Community College and is starting this Fall as a Biology major at the College of William & Mary. Shawn is a demonstrated leader and organizer with a bright future in biology. "I am so excited to be a recipient of the Out to Innovate Community College Transfer scholarship. As a non-traditional student, I'm grateful for Out To Innovate's dedication to empowering LGBTQ+ scientists at every step of their educational journey, and I hope to bring this same dedication with me throughout my career by continuing to organize for queer mental health care and awareness. This scholarship will be extraordinarily helpful to me as I transition to a full-time student at the College of William & Mary this fall, where I will be undertaking my first independent research project studying soil virology. My goal is to someday work with viruses to engineer new varieties of targeted antibiotics."

About the Motorola Solutions Foundation

As the charitable and philanthropic arm of Motorola Solutions, the Motorola Solutions Foundation partners with organizations around the globe to create safer cities and equitable, thriving communities. We focus on giving back through strategic grants, employee volunteerism and other community investment initiatives. Our strategic grants program

supports organizations that offer first responder programming and technology and engineering education, and align to our values of accountability, innovation, impact, diversity and inclusion. The Foundation is one of the many ways in which the company lives out its purpose of helping people be their best in the moments that matter. For more information on the Foundation, visit: www.motorolasolutions.com/foundation

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About InPhi Corporation

Inphi is a leader in high-speed data movement specializing in data movement interconnects between and inside data centers. Inphi offers semiconductor components and optical subsystems for their networking original equipment manufacturer (OEM), optical module, cloud and telecom service provider customers. The company prides themselves in its execution, people, innovation, and customers. The company embraces open communication and treats each person with respect. Visit <https://www.inphi.com/> to learn more about InPhi.

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machine learning. "I'm really excited to see the work Out To Innovate is doing to support queer people in STEM, and I am so proud to accept this award."

Art Hamilton

Art is majoring in Industrial Design at Western Washington University. Finding his calling earlier than most, Art was drawn to industrial design when he started learning 3D printing and CAD modeling in elementary school. "It is an honor and privilege to be recognized by Out To Innovate and Avangrid with this scholarship. I have dedicated my life to improving my community, which is something this award further empowers me to do through funding my engineering education. As someone in STEM, I recognize that the diversity of perspective can be paramount to creating solutions for problems. Therefore, the ability of an LGBTQ+ person to get an education has the possibility to change the world, which is exactly what I plan to do. "

Zahara Spilka

Zahara is an incoming Computer Science PhD student at the University of Minnesota. She is passionate about community service and has interests in design, computer science, art, and the human experience. Zahara hopes to combine these interests into a career in animation that creates accurate and realistic depictions of people ranging in different races and ethnicities, body types, religions, genders, and sexualities. "This is an amazing opportunity, and I am very happy to be one of the Out To Innovate's scholarship recipients."

Jeremy Fertig

Jeremy is a junior at Duke University pursuing his undergraduate degree with a major in mechanical engineering and a minor in energy engineering. As a member of Duke's FOCUS program, Jeremy immersed himself studying past, present, and future global energy issues. This experience fueled Jeremy's passion to accelerate innovative engineering solutions that help society. Currently, Jeremy has been working to develop an alkaline water electrolyzer and hydrogen storage system capable of providing lower cost, clean fuel for cooking and heating versus electricity from a higher cost, conventional electrochemical battery. "I am grateful for the Avangrid Scholarship which will help me pursue my engineering work designed to help others. Thank you Out To Innovate for your recognition and support."

Jon Siemon

Jon has completed an Associate in Science Program at Cape Fear Community College as a dual enrollment high school student. This fall, he is starting at the University of Texas at Austin as a Mechanical Engineering major. "I am humbled and thrilled to be recognized by Out To Innovate and excited to become a member of this community. I thank you for this honor. Knowing that organizations such as Out To Innovate support Proud engineering students like myself propels me to pursue my education and make my dreams of roller coaster design come true as I start my academic career at the University of Texas at Austin, Cockrell School of Engineering."

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