

Seven Performing/Theatre Arts Students Receive Bernie G. Yvon Scholarships for 2019-2020

A total of 19 students have benefitted from Bernie G. Yvon Scholarships since inception

JACKSONVILLE, Florida – September 27, 2019 — The opportunity for seven aspiring theatre artists to pursue their college education is one step closer for those who have been awarded college scholarships from a fund honoring Bernie G. Yvon, a beloved Chicago-area actor who passed away in 2014. The scholarships are made possible through the Bernie G. Yvon Memorial Fund, which was established at The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida in 2015 by his parents and supported by contributions of hundreds of friends and colleagues.

Awards of \$500 each have been presented to these outstanding performing/theatre arts students for the 2019-2020 school year.

- **PABLO ANTON** of La Mesa, CA will attend Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, PA
- **ELENA CRAMER** of Stevens Point, WI will continue at The University of Wisconsin in Stevens Point, WI
- **SAMANTHA JENKINS** of St. Johns, FL will attend The Boston Conservatory at Berklee in Boston, MA
- **TEAH MIRABELLI** of Lake Zurich, IL will attend Ball State University in Muncie, IN
- **AUSTIN NEDROW** of Lancaster, PA will attend The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI
- **MICHAEL SEMANIC** of Naperville, IL will attend Berklee College of Music in Boston, MA
- **HANNAH TARR** of Floyds Knobs, IN will attend The University of Evansville in Evansville, IN

“It’s so heartening to see how this scholarship has grown since it was established, and we are thrilled that nineteen students have now been touched by Bernie’s legacy,” his father, Professor Bernard Rene Yvon, commented. “As we said when we established the scholarship, Bernie had a happy life, and he made many other people happy. We want to give others the opportunity to do the same.”

The Bernie G. Yvon Memorial Fund makes scholarships annually in Bernie’s memory; to donate to the fund, please go to www.jaxcf.org/donate, type Yvon in the search box and follow the instructions.

About Bernie G. Yvon (1964-2014)

Bernie was raised in Old Town, Maine and after graduation from Northwestern University in Evanston, IL, quickly became a fixture in Chicago-area live theater. For three decades, he was the consummate song-and-dance man, performing in such classics as *Cabaret*, *Mary Poppins*, *The Music Man*, and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. The majority of his career was in Chicago, but he played the role of Harry Houdini in the national tour of *Ragtime*, and also worked on Broadway and at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC.

About The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida

The Community Foundation for Northeast Florida (www.jaxcf.org), Florida’s oldest and largest community foundation, works to stimulate philanthropy to build a better community. The Foundation helps donors invest their philanthropic gifts wisely, helps nonprofits serve the region effectively, and helps people come together to make the community a better place. Now in its 55th year, the Foundation has assets of \$384 million and has made \$500 million in grants since 1964.

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