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### **MacKenzie Bezos Makes Major Gift to Point Foundation & LGBTQ Youth**

*Bezos' gift will support LGBTQ students pursuing higher education, who face unique challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic*

Today, MacKenzie Bezos announced a major gift to [Point Foundation](#), the nation's largest LGBTQ scholarship fund, as part of a new grantmaking commitment. As LGBTQ students face new challenges amid the COVID-19 pandemic, Bezos' gift recognizes Point Foundation's pioneering work to cultivate young LGBTQ leaders and its critical efforts to support students in its network during the pandemic.

"We are so grateful for MacKenzie Bezos' support of our work to empower LGBTQ students and springboard a new generation of LGBTQ leaders toward success," said **Jorge Valencia, Executive Director and CEO of Point Foundation**. "Bezos' support comes at a critical moment as we broaden and deepen our efforts to support LGBTQ students who are Black, Indigenous and people of color and LGBTQ students who are grappling with the COVID-19 pandemic. Since colleges and universities began shuttering their campuses, our students have faced incredible challenges, from losing safe housing after campus closures to losing jobs and income. We know that LGBTQ young people are powerful and resilient and Bezos' gift will allow us to help more LGBTQ young people pursue higher education and achieve their full potential as leaders in our society."

Bezos' gift comes as Point Foundation redoubles efforts to support LGBTQ students of color and to support students during the COVID-19 pandemic. In June, Point Foundation announced a [new scholarship fund](#) initiative specifically for Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) who are LGBTQ. Since the COVID-19 pandemic shuttered college campuses in March, the foundation has supported its scholarship recipients, who have faced immediate- and long-term challenges as LGBTQ young people. The foundation has helped some students secure safe housing after campus closures, provided financial aid to pay for rent and groceries for students who lost jobs or paid internships and addressed a host of other sudden and urgent needs.

#### **About Point Foundation**

Point Foundation empowers promising LGBTQ students to achieve their full academic and leadership potential—despite the obstacles often put before them—to make a significant impact on society. Point Foundation promotes change through scholarship funding, mentorship, leadership development and community service training.

Learn more at [www.pointfoundation.org](http://www.pointfoundation.org).

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