



Herald-Tribune

Riverview students awarded Embracing Our Differences scholarships



Sarah Wertheimer, EOD's executive director; scholarship winners Chloe Labrecque and Cam Pham; and Ben Jewell-Plocher, EOD's education director.

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Chloe Labrecque and Cam Pham, two Riverview High school seniors who have served as members of the school's Coexistence Club, were recently awarded \$1,000 four-year renewable scholarships by Embracing Our Differences.

EOD education director Ben Jewell-Plocher said the students are part of an inaugural EOD scholarship initiative that will grant annual \$1,000 renewable scholarships to three students at regional high school Coexistence Clubs. Current Coexistence Club locations include Booker, North Port, Riverview, and Sarasota high schools.

Coexistence Club members serve as docents for thousands of students from area elementary and middle schools who visit EOD's outdoor exhibit every year in

addition to designing and leading student-driven initiatives in their schools to promote inclusion and acceptance.

“The fierce commitment of Coexistence Club members to promote diversity, inclusion, integrity and respect in their schools and at EOD’s annual exhibit led us to consider how we could further honor their efforts while also supporting their education after graduation,” Jewell-Plocher said. “We are thrilled to have the chance to work with all the amazing students in our Coexistence Clubs, congratulate Cam and Chloe on being the inaugural recipients of the Riverview High School Coexistence Club scholarship and thank Riverview club adviser Dena Sturm for her mentorship of both students.”

Jewell-Plocher said award recipients need to demonstrate how the Coexistence Club and their participation as docents for EOD’s exhibit has had an impact on their life, point of view, and high school career.

For more information, call 941-404-5710 or visit embracingourdifferences.org.