

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**More Than Bootstraps College Student Leader
Awarded Point Foundation Access Scholarship**

WESTFIELD and PASSAIC, NEW JERSEY – December 16, 2025.

[More Than Bootstraps](#) (MTB), a New Jersey non-profit is thrilled to announce that one of our students, **Alexa (Ale) Perez-Cuahtepitzi**, has been awarded a 2025 [Point Foundation Access Scholarship](#). Ale was selected as an Access Scholar based on academic commitment, community engagement and impact, financial need, and demonstrated potential for leadership in the LGBTQ+ and ally community. This award carries both financial support and access to leadership and professional development.

Ale served as part of Garden State Equality's "Changemakers" program, a summer camp that is dedicated to empowering LGBTQ+ youth across NJ by fostering leadership and activism skills. Following these experiences, they served as a member of the Youth Advisory Board and helped establish the "Flow State Art Gallery" for NJ queer youth. They returned to Changemakers as a Councilor in Trainer, where they worked with staff to maintain a positive environment for campers and created a workshop for campers that focused on immigration justice.



Ale, a 2025 graduate of Passaic Academy for Science and Engineering (PASE), is a first-year student at Montclair State University, where they are studying animation and visual effects as well as computer science.

Ale was a member of the 2025 class of MTB High School Fellows. They now serve as a College Student Leader, mentoring younger high school peers through the college search, application, and confidence-building process.

Of the Access Scholarship, Ale commented: "As I continue my journey in social change and activism, being selected as a Point Access Scholar is an opportunity that I know will help me not just in my education but to uplift my community as well. I am glad to see LGBTQ+ organizations such as Point Foundation strive to make education accessible to all, despite one's background. Activism is all about looking out for one another, which I strongly value as a part of this award."

This achievement empowers me to continue giving back to the communities I am forever grateful for, such as MTB and Garden State Equality. I hope that this award motivates the next generation of changemakers and first-generation leaders as we tackle new challenges head-on every day and uplift one another.”

More Than Bootstraps congratulates Ale for this well-deserved recognition of her commitment, engagement, and leadership.

“We are thrilled that Ale’s leadership skills, academic talents, and drive to empower others has been recognized and celebrated by the Point Foundation. We know Ale will not only make great use of the resources that this award provides but will pass along that knowledge to others within our More Than Bootstraps community,” said **Audrey Fisch**, president of More Than Bootstraps.

Interested donors are invited to visit the MTB website: www.morethanbootstraps.org/donate.

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About MORE THAN BOOTSTRAPS

[More Than Bootstraps](http://www.morethanbootstraps.org) builds a community of first-generation, underrepresented students who empower each other to access and succeed in higher education. *More Than Bootstraps is a 501(c)3 organization, Tax ID 83-2245008.* For more information, visit www.morethanbootstraps.org or call (908) 397-0893.

MTB DIGITAL PRESS KIT: www.morethanbootstraps.org/mtb-digital-press-kit

About the POINT FOUNDATION

For more than 20 years, Point Foundation has been empowering promising LGBTQ students to achieve their full academic and leadership potential – despite the obstacles often put before them – so they can make a significant impact on society. Point is the nation's largest scholarship-granting organization for LGBTQ students, providing vital scholarship funding, mentorship, and leadership development to the next generation of LGBTQ leaders.



The [Point Foundation Access Scholarship](http://www.pointfoundation.org) aims to mitigate obstacles for LGBTQ+ and ally students who are, or will, be the first in their family to earn a bachelor’s degree and/or come from low-income backgrounds by providing them with financial support and access to leadership and professional development.



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