

Theo Gruber

LEAF senior Theo Gruber plans to work a lot over the summer and take some classes at River Valley Community College.

LEAF humanities teacher, Chris Becker describes Theo as a “student who showed up this year with a big smile, a huge heart, and an awesome sense of humor!” Theo is equally appreciative of Chris. “I’d say my favorite class would be Chris’ class because he interacted so well with us and he made it very interesting. I enjoy learning about history and Chris has only made me more interested. He opened my mind in so many ways and it was so amazing.” Theo also appreciates art and music teacher Sammy Burhoe. “Sammy was the first teacher to make a difference for me. On my first few days(at LEAF), it was really difficult and he let me have a safe place. That left a lasting impression on me, that LEAF was a safe place.”

Theo’s favorite memory of LEAF is “connecting with my classmates.”

Theo appreciates the difference the LEAF community has made. “LEAF honestly saved my life. I wouldn’t be here if I hadn’t made the switch to coming here. I was actually treated like a human and people worked with me and saved me. I was treated with respect. LEAF was the change I desperately needed and I am forever grateful I was given the opportunity to be here.” Theo’s favorite memory of LEAF is “connecting with my classmates.”

Theo offers the following advice to incoming LEAF students: “Just be you. Life is so short. The drama, the worries, the self-deprecation: they are all not worth the energy. Put your energy into being your true self and surround yourself with those who bring out the best version of you. Enjoy life. You got this!”