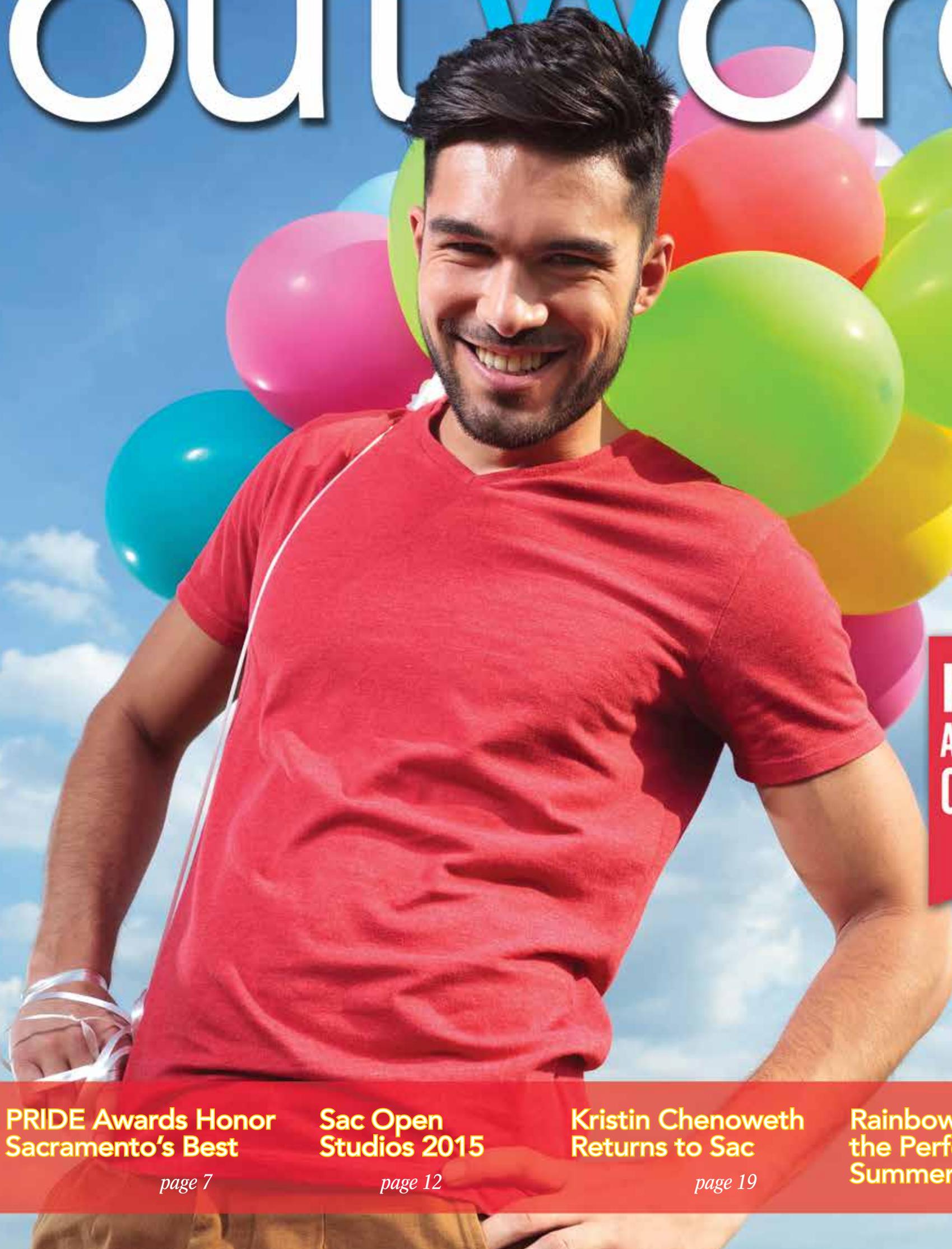


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Great leaders inspire our communities

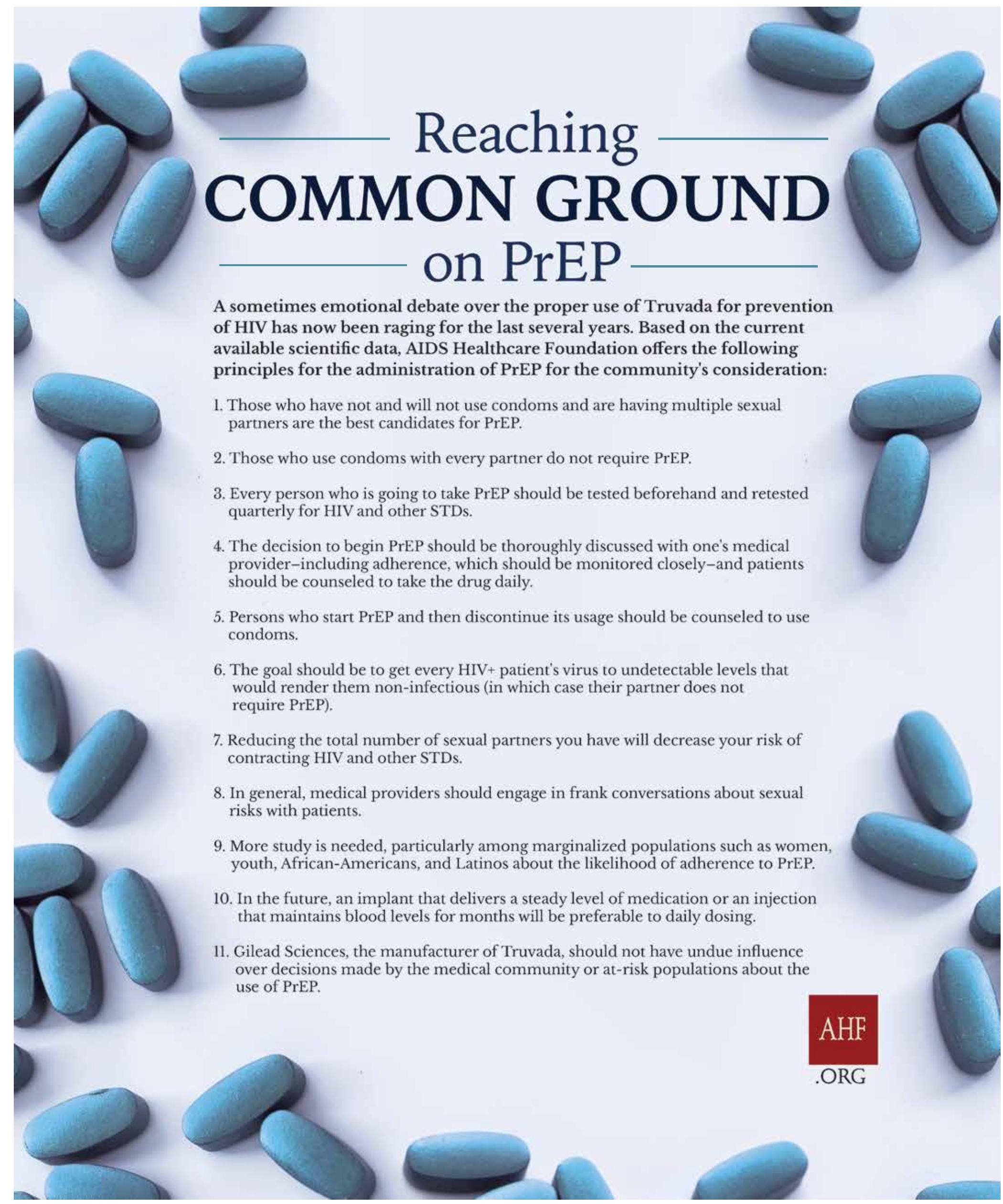


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Reaching COMMON GROUND on PrEP

A sometimes emotional debate over the proper use of Truvada for prevention of HIV has now been raging for the last several years. Based on the current available scientific data, AIDS Healthcare Foundation offers the following principles for the administration of PrEP for the community's consideration:

1. Those who have not and will not use condoms and are having multiple sexual partners are the best candidates for PrEP.
2. Those who use condoms with every partner do not require PrEP.
3. Every person who is going to take PrEP should be tested beforehand and retested quarterly for HIV and other STDs.
4. The decision to begin PrEP should be thoroughly discussed with one's medical provider—including adherence, which should be monitored closely—and patients should be counseled to take the drug daily.
5. Persons who start PrEP and then discontinue its usage should be counseled to use condoms.
6. The goal should be to get every HIV+ patient's virus to undetectable levels that would render them non-infectious (in which case their partner does not require PrEP).
7. Reducing the total number of sexual partners you have will decrease your risk of contracting HIV and other STDs.
8. In general, medical providers should engage in frank conversations about sexual risks with patients.
9. More study is needed, particularly among marginalized populations such as women, youth, African-Americans, and Latinos about the likelihood of adherence to PrEP.
10. In the future, an implant that delivers a steady level of medication or an injection that maintains blood levels for months will be preferable to daily dosing.
11. Gilead Sciences, the manufacturer of Truvada, should not have undue influence over decisions made by the medical community or at-risk populations about the use of PrEP.

AHF

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Nat. Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce
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Midtown Business Association



Happy Anniversary to Us!

by Fred Palmer, Outword Publisher

How fun is it that we see LGBT headlines in the news every single day with positive stories and successes for our community! However, as we celebrate we still have other hurdles and battles to fight for true equality for all of us in the alphabet soup of the LGBTQTI.

Over our several decades in business we have seen many struggles for our community and our industry. When we first started *Outword* there were many more LGBT newspapers in the country and most of them survived on local advertisers and local professionals like dentists, real estate agents and attorneys – and we still do.

Back then major corporate advertiser did not see the value of the gay dollar.

Today we are seeing more major companies realize our dollar power as we continue to flex our buying power muscles. We are seeing more companies support LGBT events like Pride and Gay Film festivals as they seek to earn our dollar.

With the surge of gay weddings, or as I like to call them now, just Weddings, there is an incredibly large amount of money being spent celebrating and planning weddings.

The buying power of our community continues to rise each year and this year



The very first issue of Outword!

America's LGBT 2014 Buying Power is Estimated at \$884 Billion according to Witek communications recent press release in June.

Luckily for us we have survived and diversified. I am very proud to have survived a couple recessions, market downturns, housing bubbles and more.

20 years ago I had no idea what I was about to embark upon, I was a eager to make a difference and continue to be an activist. My mission was then and still is today to inform entertain and inspire all of us.

Over the last 20 years I have learned a lot, mostly from the people around me in the community and in our office.

We have had many staff persons that assisted along the way writing for us, delivering, selling ads and other duties. Today, I am proud to have Charlie Peer by my side for more than 15 years doing what he does best, Ron Tackitt for over 13 years making it all look pretty, Kaye delivering, and Chris Narloch entertaining us.

PS thanks Kate Moore and Tina Reynolds for helping me get started and Ted Ross for helping create the name.

Enjoy this issue and please send us a line.

Rainbow Chamber of Commerce Elects New Board



Sacramento's LGBT Rainbow Chamber of Commerce elected a new board at their monthly meeting and mixer on Tuesday, Aug. 19. Pictured are Alfonso Sanchez, Jerry Dunlap, Jose Rodriguez, Richard Hernandez, all current board members; newly elected incumbent Paul Weubbe, and newly elected first-term board members Joy Reinhardt, Preston Tillotson, Kammy Caruss and Diana Rogalski. Not shown: Donald Bentz and Jacalyn Smith. For more info, visit rainbowchamber.com.

Let the community know what's on your mind.

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Governor Brown Signs Bill Strengthening Transgender Protections

A bill to strengthen legal protections for transgender people, who are frequently targeted for threats and acts of violence, has been signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown.

The bill, AB 830, clarifies that legal remedies for the victims of violence motivated by a person's gender are also available to transgender individuals and others targeted for violence because of their sexual orientation. Brown signed the bill on August 13.

This year, there have been 11 transgender people killed in homicides in the U.S., matching the total in all of 2014.

Assemblymember Susan Talamantes Eggman, the bill's author and the chair of the California Legislative LGBT Caucus, said the bill is a small part of the wave of change necessary to achieve an equal, fair and just society for transgender people.

"We need a transformation in the way

society views and treats the transgender community; meanwhile bills like this accomplish small, but necessary steps," Eggman said.

AB 830 is one of several bills passed by the legislature and signed by the governor that aims at protecting the rights of transgender men and women. Past legislation made it easier for transgender people to change their names without a court order, modify their birth certificates and prohibits health insurance discrimination based on gender identity.

"These bills reinforce California's leadership in and commitment to civil rights," said Eggman.

First Openly Transgender WH Official Appointed

National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE) staff member Raffi Freedman-Gurspan has been appointed as an Outreach and Recruitment Director for Presidential Personnel, becoming the first openly transgender official to serve in the White House.

Freedman-Gurspan will work in the White House Office of Presidential Personnel. She previously served as NCTE's Policy Advisor for the Racial and Economic Justice Initiative.

"I am elated that Raffi Freedman-Gurspan will become the first openly transgender staff member at the White House," said NCTE Executive Director Mara Keisling. "President Obama has long said he wants his Administration to look like the American people. I have understood this to include transgender Americans. A transgender person was inevitably going to work in the White House. That the first transgender appointee is a transgender woman of color is itself significant. And that the first White House transgender appointee is a friend is inspiring to me and to countless others who have been touched by

Raffi's advocacy.

Freedman-Gurspan's work with NCTE has included advocacy on issues such as improving the conditions for transgender prisoners, addressing biased policing against transgender communities, limiting the use of detention for undocumented transgender immigrants, and finding solutions to address violence against transgender women of color.

"Raffi's decade of experience brings important qualities to this historic appointment, said Keisling. "She has been a vital part of NCTE focusing on the experiences of transgender people of color and those living in poverty. Her experience and knowledge of how to accomplish policy change, as well as her core commitment to racial and economic justice, has made NCTE's work better."



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PRIDE Awards Honor Sacramento's Best

The 2nd Annual PRIDE Awards were held Tuesday, Aug. 18, recognizing individuals and organizations whose compassion, innovation, generosity, and community service help to create a safer, more welcoming, collaborative, socially just, culturally rich, and stigma free community.



Assembly Speaker Toni Atkins is congratulated by PRIDE Awards Co-host Rob Stewart for being recognized with the Person of the Year Award presented by the Sacramento G&L Center. Photo by Riverview Media Photography/Tia Gemmell.

This year's honorees have demonstrated their pride through their organizational work and in the way they live their lives every day.

Building on the success of its inaugural event last year, the Sacramento LGBT Community Center moved this year's reception to the courtyard of the Warehouse Artist Lofts - the perfect backdrop for a live performance from Unsupervised - Sacramento County Supervisor Phil Serna's multi piece band.

Co-hosted by Good Day Sacramento's Cambi Brown and KVIE's Rob Stewart, the event highlighted a number of accomplishments from activists in the community. Speaker of the House Toni Atkins was selected as the Person of the Year and Wells Fargo was named Partner of the Year for its decades of LGBT support.

Food and provisions were provided by new local hotspots South and Bottle and Barlow; gorgeous table decorations were hand crafted

by local artist Maren Conrad.

A huge success, the event raised thousands for the Center's Youth Program, which supports homeless and vulnerable LGBTQ youth to improve their health, economic status, self-esteem and self-sufficiency at making positive life choices.

The event sponsors included Wells Fargo, CBS, IHeartRadio, SMUD, *Outword*, Made in the Shade, the Rainbow Pages and the California Cannabis Industry Association.

2015 Pride Awards went to:

Speaker Toni Atkins - Person of the Year; Wells Fargo - Partner of the Year; Col. Patsy Thompson - Advocacy; Arlen Orchard - Business/Innovation; Donny Vasquez - Community Service; Taryn Thru-U - Cultural Richness; Adam Todd Howard - Media; David Sobon - Philanthropy; Larry Levine - Public Policy; and Gloria Partida - Youth Leadership.

To learn more about, and help support your Center, visit SacCenter.org.

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WHS 40th Anniversary Will Feature Speaker Toni Atkins

Women's Health Specialists (WHS) is celebrating their 40th anniversary with a cocktail party benefit featuring keynote speaker CA Speaker of the Assembly Toni Atkins.

With the goal of putting women's health in women's hands, Women's Health Specialists promotes positive images of women and provides their clients with a new perspective on their bodies and health.

"Your support benefits the clients Women's Health Specialists see at our nine clinic sights daily by affording us the ability to advocate for the reproductive rights and sexual health of women and ALL genders and provide compassionate healthcare to folks in rural and urban Northern California communities," said Shireen Dada Whitaker, WHS Outreach and Education Coordinator

Atkins is the first lesbian Speaker of the Assembly, and has been a long time advocate for women's health. She has been a staffmember of the Womancare Health Center in Hillcrest, where as Director of Clinic Services she helped expand clinic

services by acquiring the Los Angeles Feminist Women's Health Center and opening Womancare South Clinic in San Diego's South Bay.

She also worked with The San Diego LGBT Community Center's Lesbian Health Project to implement the first Lesbian Health Fair in 1991 as part of the LGBT Pride Festival and has served as president of the Coalition for Reproductive Choice, co-chair of The Center's Lesbian Health Project, and on the Womancare board of directors. She was recognized in 1997 as San Diego Pride's "Woman of the Year."

The celebration will be on Wednesday, September 2, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Portofino Room at Paesanos, 1800 Capitol Ave. Tickets are \$75 and are tax-deductible.

For more information, visit www.womenshealthspecialists.org.

What Does the Equality Act Do?

by Greg Nevins, Lambda Legal

Following the introduction of the Equality Act in July, questions have arisen about just how the bill is designed to protect LGBT people and its potential impact on employers, businesses and religious entities.

In an attempt to answer many of these questions, legal teams at Lambda Legal, American Civil Liberties Union, Center for American Progress, Family Equality Council, Human Rights Campaign, National Center for Transgender Equality, National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund, SAGE and Transgender Law Center teamed up to develop a joint guide to understanding the act and its provisions.

Topics discussed include: employment, housing, education, credit, jury service and public accommodations. Below are modified excerpts from the FAQ:

What does the Equality Act do?

The Equality Act prohibits discrimination based on an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity at work and in the context of housing, credit, education, and jury service. It also prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity, and sex in programs that receive federal funding and places of public accommodation, while also expanding the list of protected places of public accommodation to include retail stores, transportation services like airports, taxis and bus stations, and service providers like accountants.

people of the same faith but may not discriminate in employment based on race, color, sex or national origin. Religious organizations likewise may prefer people of the same faith when offering to sell, rent or allow the use of a dwelling for a non-commercial purpose, but they may not discriminate on other forbidden grounds when offering housing.

How will the Equality Act impact Title VII?

The Equality Act updates the federal employment nondiscrimination law (Title VII) by making explicit that sexual orientation and gender identity are protected characteristics, and makes clear that discrimination against LGBT people in hiring, firing, and promotions is unlawful. It also confirms that LGBT people must have access to all federal remedies currently available under Title VII.

This will not only protect LGBT people from discrimination, but it will also help eliminate uncertainty and confusion for businesses by providing employers and employees alike with confirmation that sexual orientation and gender identity discrimination are unlawful sex discrimination, and by providing clear rules that everyone knows and can follow.

Are religious entities covered under the Equality Act?

The Equality Act does not change the religious exemptions already in place in federal law. Under current federal law, religious organizations may prefer to hire

To see the entire FAQ visit www.lambdalegal.org/publications/20150723_equality-act-faq

Greg Nevins is a Lambda Legal Counsel and Workplace Fairness Program Strategist.



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National HIV/AIDS Strategy Updated through 2020

President Obama on July 30 signed an executive order releasing the *National HIV/AIDS Strategy: Updated to 2020*, detailing principles and priorities to guide the collective national work to address HIV in the United States over the next five years.

In 2010, the President launched the nation's first comprehensive National HIV/AIDS Strategy. The Strategy has changed the way the American people talk about HIV, prioritize and organize HIV prevention and care services locally, and deliver clinical and other related services that support people living with HIV and encourage their engagement in treatment and care.

This updated Strategy calls for particular focus on the following priority activities through 2020:

- Widespread HIV testing and linkage to care, enabling people living with HIV to access treatment early.
- Broad support for people living with HIV to remain engaged in comprehensive care, including support for treatment adherence.
- Universal viral suppression among people living with HIV, since it benefits their health and reduces transmission of the virus to others.

• Full access to comprehensive pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) services for those whom it is appropriate and desired, with support for medication adherence for those using PrEP. As one of the tools in the HIV prevention toolkit, PrEP is a way for people who don't have HIV to prevent HIV infection by taking a pill every day.

Continuing on the path set by the 2010 Strategy, the Update also recognizes that – for a variety of reasons – HIV does not impact all Americans equally. The HIV epidemic in the United States is concentrated in key populations and geographic areas and the Update guides our response to prioritize the following groups:

- Gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men of all races and ethnicities, noting the particularly high burden of HIV among Black gay and bisexual men
- Black women and men
- Latinos and Latinas
- People who inject drugs
- Youth aged 13 to 24 years, noting the particularly high burden of HIV among young Black gay and bisexual men
- People in the Southern United States
- Transgender women, noting the particularly high burden of HIV among Black transgender women

Despite the advances in HIV Treatment, there is still an HIV epidemic and it remains a significant health issue for the United States. Today, 1.2 million people in the United States are living with HIV and the most recent national estimates point to areas where further improvements are needed, including awareness of status, linkage to care and viral suppression that can not only improves a person with HIV's health and enhances their lifespan, but also significantly reduces their risk of transmitting HIV to partners. In 2012, only 30 percent of all persons living with HIV infection in the United States achieved viral suppression.

To guide implementation of the updated Strategy across the U.S. government, the many Federal agencies and offices engaged in HIV activities will develop a Federal Action Plan detailing the specific steps they will take to implement the priorities set by the Update.

The Federal Action Plan will be released in December.

Sac Stonewall Votes to Oppose Recall of Senator Pan

The Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento voted during a meeting on Monday August 10th to oppose the recent recall effort against Senator Richard Pan of Sacramento.

“Dr. Pan is a longtime member of Sacramento Stonewall and has consistently been a strong advocate for LGBT people,” said Jann Dorothy, President of Sacramento Stonewall. “His commitment to California’s public health is commendable. Sacramento Stonewall stands with Senator Pan and against the recall.”

The recall effort is led by a small group of vocal activists who opposed Dr. Pan’s Senate Bill 277. Dr. Pan, a pediatrician, led the effort to protect children’s health through passage of SB 277, which mandates life-saving vaccines.

Governor Brown signed SB 277 into law on June 30, 2015.



Dr. Richard Pan speaking at a press conference in support SB 277 held earlier this year.

Untangling the Confusing Web of Gender and Sexuality

by Shannon Mannion

As quickly as our culture is progressing – same-sex marriage is now legal, Laverne Cox is strutting down red carpets, your grandmother wants to discuss Caitlyn Jenner – I still get cringe-inducing questions on a regular basis.

I am a transgender woman, and I'm engaged to a wonderful man. "Oh, so you're gay?" people ask, clearly trying to do the math in their heads.

Someone with a penis loves someone with a penis – that's a gay couple, right? But no, the answer is no. I'm a straight woman in love with a straight man, a very simple truth in the middle of what seems, to many, like a complicated situation.

What attracts us to someone? Is it their possession of specific genitals, or is it their smile, their kindness, their smell in the morning?

If you're, say, a straight woman reading this story, and you go on the best first date of your life (can't stop talking, can't stop laughing, at the restaurant so late they have to ask you to leave) and then you become intimate and learn he was born with a uterus – does that negate the connection you've found?

I don't blame people for being confused. Confusion is something I know very well.

I grew up in a conservative, religious household, where any behavior that wasn't strictly and traditionally masculine was frowned upon – my birth certificate, after all, is stamped "MALE."

I was expected to do manual labor with my dad on the weekends. If I cried, it meant I was weak. I wasn't allowed to cross my legs in church; for fear that the priest would kick me out of the congregation. Which, incidentally, he did anyway.

But since I was 13 years old, I knew I was a girl. It felt the same as how it feels to know the color of your hair or the shape of your hands – it was simply true, even if people on the outside couldn't see it.

For a long time, I thought I was gay. Even when I started identifying as female, I thought, "Well, I'm not fully female yet, so I guess I count as gay."

But I've always been a woman on the inside.

In fact, I decided to forgo gender reassignment surgery during my transition. I don't need a vagina to affirm my gender identity. The truth is, I'm a woman, and I'm straight.

LGBT: lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender. Even though the acronym is ubiquitous, it can be admittedly confusing. As GLAAD explains, the first three letters indicate sexual orientation, but the last refers to gender identity, which is a different thing altogether.

Gender is defined by your sense of self, whether you identify as male or female (or both – gender fluidity, thanks to icons like Ruby Rose, is now on more people's radars than ever before). Then there's sexual orientation, defined by who you're attracted to. They're completely independent, though oftentimes conflated.

The American Psychological Association breaks it down well: Like cisgender people, transgender people can be straight, lesbian, gay, bisexual, or asexual. Some research has found that sexual orientation can change during a transition. More often than not though, transgender people stay in love with their significant other before, during, and after gender reassignment surgery, if that's the option they choose.

We define our sexual orientation based on our gender identity: I'm a transgender woman who's in love with my male fiancé, so I'm straight. A transgender man attracted to other men would more likely identify as gay.

I try not to wonder what's going through people's heads when they look at me. Expressing my gender publicly, while maintaining the sexual orientation that's always been mine, brings me a joy and confidence my 13-year-old self could only imagine. I hope that's a concept most people can understand.

This article is a part of Marie Claire's features series on what it means to transition today. To read more, or find collected articles, visit www.marieclaire.com.

StoryCorps to Visit Sacramento

StoryCorps, a renowned nonprofit organization celebrating the stories of everyday Americans, will record interviews in Sacramento from September 10 - October 9 as part of its cross-country MobileBooth tour.

Having collected more than 65,000 interviews from Americans in all 50 states, StoryCorps has gathered one of the largest single collections of human voices ever recorded.

StoryCorps' MobileBooth-an Airstream trailer outfitted with a recording studio-will be parked at the Sacramento Public Library's Belle Coolegge Branch at 5600 South Land Park Drive. Reservations will be available at 10 a.m. on August 27 and can be made by calling StoryCorps' 24-hour toll-free reservation line at 1-800-850-4406 or by visiting storycorps.org. Additional appointments will be available on September 11 at 10am.

In StoryCorps' MobileBooth, two people are able to record a meaningful conversation with

one another about who they are, what they've learned in life, or how they want to be remembered. A trained StoryCorps facilitator guides them through the interview process. At the end of each 40-minute recording session, participants receive a complimentary CD of their interview.

"StoryCorps tells the true American story-that we are a people defined by small acts of courage, kindness and heroism," says StoryCorps founder Dave Isay. "By strengthening connections between people and building an archive that reflects the rich diversity of American voices, we hope to build StoryCorps into an enduring institution that will touch the lives of every American family."



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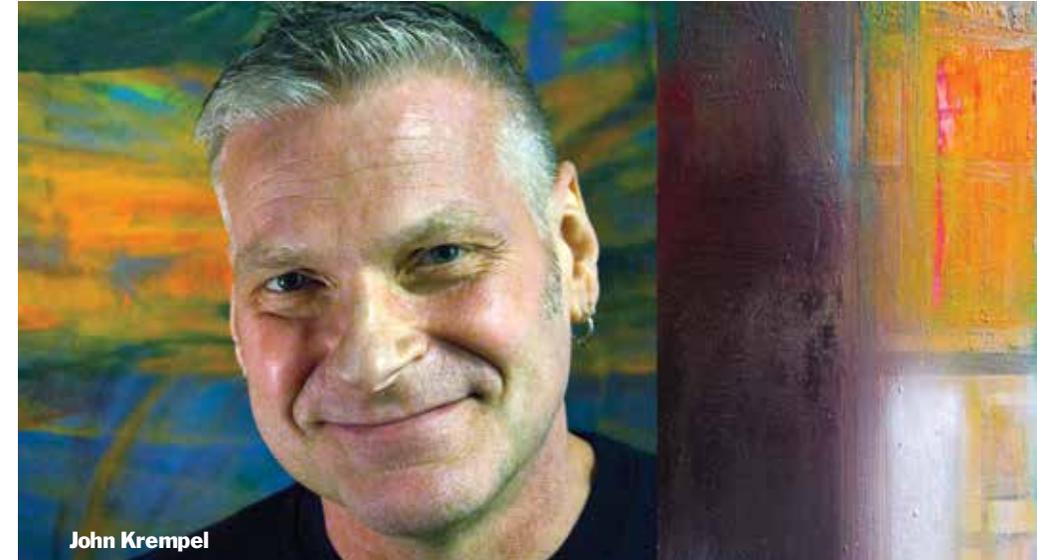
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2015 Sac Open Studios Showcases Broad Scope of Local Art Scene by Bonnie Osborn

Sacramento has an abundance of talented artists working in all media, and many of them are openly LGBT, including painter John Krempel, one of the 130 artists that will be featured on the Sac Open Studios tour, Sept. 12-13 and Sept. 19-20.



John Krempel

Krempel works almost entirely in oil on canvas, primarily abstracts as well as a large series of male nudes. His work has been featured in more than 80 art shows locally and in Southern California, and on KVIE's *Rob On the Road* and FYI Network's *Red Hot Design*.

The Ohio-born artist got his Master's degree from the University of Cincinnati and lived in New York for a time before moving to San Francisco, where he met his future husband, who happened to be from

Sacramento. The two, who have been together for 18 years, married last year and reside in Sacramento.

Krempel is just one of 134 artists featured on the Sac Open Studios tour, Sept. 12-13 and Sept. 19-20, a self-guided tour of studios and galleries throughout Sacramento County and beyond. Krempel, #104 in the tour catalog, is part of the Weekend One tour. Other featured artists include painter Laurence Fox of Artfox Gallery, mixed-media artist Michael Misha Kennedy of Kennedy

Gallery, metal sculptor Kristin Hoard and Gale Hart, who works in a variety of media.

Established in 2006 by Center for Contemporary Art Sacramento (CCAS) as a woman-focused exhibition at the California Museum, Sac Open Studios has grown to become the largest open-studio event in Sacramento County. For the second year, the tour will be produced by Verge Center for the Arts following its merger with CCAS in 2014.

This will be Krempel's second year on the tour. "The nice thing about Open Studios compared to other art shows is I get a whole new crowd of fresh faces, get to talk to them and show them my studio, which is on the first floor of my house," Krempel says. "I work here by myself, so it's kind of nice to have people coming over."

Verge will kick off the 2015 Sac Open Studios event with a Launch Party at its gallery and studio project at 625 S Street on Thursday, Sept. 10, 5 to 9 p.m., featuring the Preview Exhibition, a "teaser" display of art from each of the 130 participating artists. A prize wheel and art supply giveaways from partner Blick Art Materials will add to the fun.

The two-weekend tour is organized geographically. Weekend One, Sept. 12-13, features artists located west of I-80 and Highway 99; Weekend Two, Sept. 19-20, features artists east of 80/99, plus one each in Galt and Herald.

Free special events include a reception at Warehouse Artist Lofts on Saturday, Sept. 12, 2 to 5 p.m., featuring live performances by WAL residents; Sac Open Studios Nightcap, 6 to 10 p.m. on Sept. 12, hosted by Beatnik Studios and featuring performances by Capitol Dance Company and Aerial Evolution; and Art Quad by DISPLAY: California Sept. 19, which will transform an empty parking lot into an "interactive quad of activities" celebrating Sacramento's robust design scene. University Art will display juried selections from the tour at its 2601 J Street location during September, and partner Blick Art Materials will feature interactive art activities at its Sept. 19 grand opening at 905 Howe Avenue.

Would-be artists will find lots of ways to get involved, including a diverse mix of demos for all ages, from letterpress printing at Delta Workshop to sculptural welding with Gina Rossi to gourd projects with Janet Regan.

Whether you drop by a studio or two or make it a two-weekend immersion, Sac Open Studios offers guests not only a sampler of Sacramento's lively, eclectic art scene but a rare opportunity to meet and engage artists where they live, work and create.

For more information and a full schedule of exhibits, demonstrations and special events, visit <http://vergeart.com/sac-open-studios-2015/guide>.

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Briefly Put

Illinois Becomes 4th State to Ban Conversion Therapy

Governor Bruce Rauner on Aug. 20, signed the "Youth Mental Health Protection Act" outlawing so-called "Reparative" or "Conversion Therapy" for LGBT youth in Illinois.

Illinois now joins New Jersey, Oregon and California in banning the "therapy" that aims to turn LGBT youth straight.

"The ban on reparative therapy of minors in Illinois is a great advance in the rights of youth, and for society as a whole," said Brent Holman-Gomez of The Gay Liberation Network. "Legally banning the 'ex-gay,' identity/orientation conversion on kids prevents harm from this therapy that medicine and psychiatry professionals have already discredited."

Mexican Supreme Court Strikes Down Adoption Ban

Mexico's Supreme Court on August 11 ruled that a Campeche state law barring same-sex couples from adopting is unconstitutional, saying that a child's right to a family is paramount. The challenge to the 2013 law was brought by the state's human rights commission.

"I see no problem for a child to be adopted in a society of co-existence, which has precisely this purpose," said Presiding Judge Luis Maria Aguila said in the ruling, according to Latin American news network TeleSUR. "Are we going to prefer to have children in the street, which according to statistics exceed 100,000? We attend, of course, and perhaps with the same intensity or more, to the interests of the child."

Despite Federal Court Order, Tenn. Clerk Refuses to Issue Same-sex Marriage Licenses

Rowan County Clerk Kim Davis has filed an appeal and continued her refusal to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples based on her religious views.

Davis "likely has violated the constitutional rights of her constituents" by promoting her Christian beliefs "at the expense of others," U.S. District Judge David Bunning wrote in his order released August 12. "... Davis has arguably (violated the First Amendment) by openly adopting a policy that promotes her own religious convictions at the expense of others."

Court Rules Cakeshop Violates Civil Rights Law

The Colorado Court of Appeals ruled on Aug. 13 that a cake shop cannot refuse service to a gay couple because of who they are. The ruling comes on the heels of oral arguments from early July in a discrimination case brought by a same-sex couple against a cake shop that refused to sell them a cake for their wedding reception.

"Today is a proud day for equality and for upholding the law. In America, no one should be turned away from a shop or restaurant because of who they are or who they love," said Ria Mar, staff attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union's LGBT Project, who argued the case.

According to the opinion, "Masterpiece remains free to continue espousing its religious beliefs, including its opposition to same-sex marriage. However, if it wishes to operate as a public accommodation and conduct business within the State of Colorado, CADA prohibits it from picking and choosing its customers based on their sexual orientation."

Health Care Costs for Transgender Military Members Will Be Minimal

A new analysis published Aug. 13 in the prestigious *New England Journal of Medicine* finds that the cost of providing transition-related health care for transgender service members will be minimal after the Pentagon lifts its ban.

In response to Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter's announcement last month that a working group would study ways to end the military's ban over the next six months, some opponents of the policy change have cited cost as a reason to continue to prohibit service by transgender personnel.

The analysis found that the total price tag for the military's health care system would be an estimated \$5.6 million each year, or 22 cents per member per month. That amounts to one one-hundredth of one percent of the military's \$47.8 billion annual health care budget.

Survey of Transgender Americans Launched

The National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE) opened the 2015 U.S. Trans Survey (USTS), the follow-up to the National Transgender Discrimination Survey, in an attempt to gather a more comprehensive understanding of the experiences of transgender people in the United States.

The USTS will cover a wide range of topics that reflect the lives and experiences of transgender people today. More specifically, the USTS will assess transgender people's experiences including in employment, housing, healthcare, HIV/AIDS, disabilities, immigration, sex work, and police interactions. Participants will have at least one month to complete the survey. Results are projected to be released in Spring of 2016.

Learn more about the study at www.ustranssurvey.org.

U.S. Trans Survey

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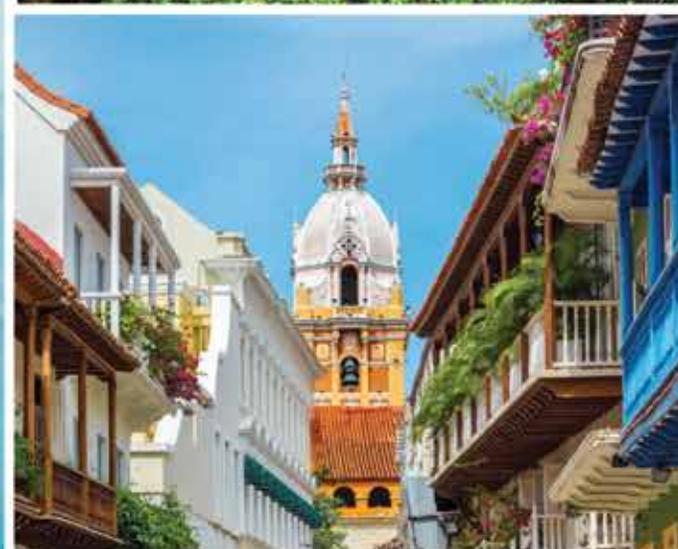
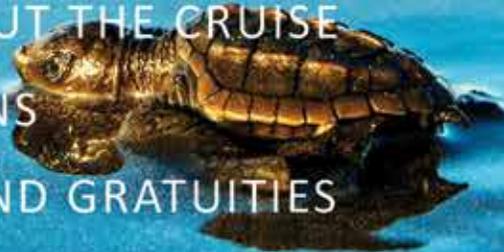
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NCLR's Shannon Price Minter To Speak at Sac State

Civil rights attorney and LGBT advocate, Shannon Price Minter, Esq., is scheduled to be the keynote speaker at Sac State's Constitution and Civic Engagement Week Activities, addressing "New Dimensions of Freedom: How the Supreme Court's Ruling on Marriage Equality Revitalized Our Constitution."



Shannon Price Minter

one of the nation's leading advocacy organizations for LGBT people and he was recently appointed to the President's Commission on White House Fellowships.

Minter is scheduled to speak Thursday night, September 17th at 7:30 p.m. in the University Ballroom at the Sac State campus, 6000 J St. At the end of Minter's talk, Courtney G. Joslin, Legal Scholar and Professor at UC Davis School of Law, will moderate a question and answer session with the audience.

Minter will be appearing as a part of Constitution and Civic Engagement (CACE) Week, an annual event organized by the Sacramento State Community Engagement Center (CEC), and is being sponsored by a grant from Associate Students, Inc. (ASI) and UNIQUE Programs.

For more information, including locations and times of all events during CACE Week, visit www.csus.edu/cec/constitutionweek.html. All events are free and open to the public.

In 2009, Minter was the lead attorney arguing before the California Supreme Court to overturn Proposition 8 and in June, 2015, he was one of the lead attorneys in the historic U.S. Supreme Court marriage victory that requires that all states grant marriage licenses to same-sex couples and recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states.

Currently Minter, who is based in Washington, D.C., is the Legal Director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR),

Amelie, A New Musical Debuts in Berkeley

Amélie captured our hearts in the five-time Academy Award-nominated French film of the same name. Now she comes to the stage in an inventive and captivating new musical.

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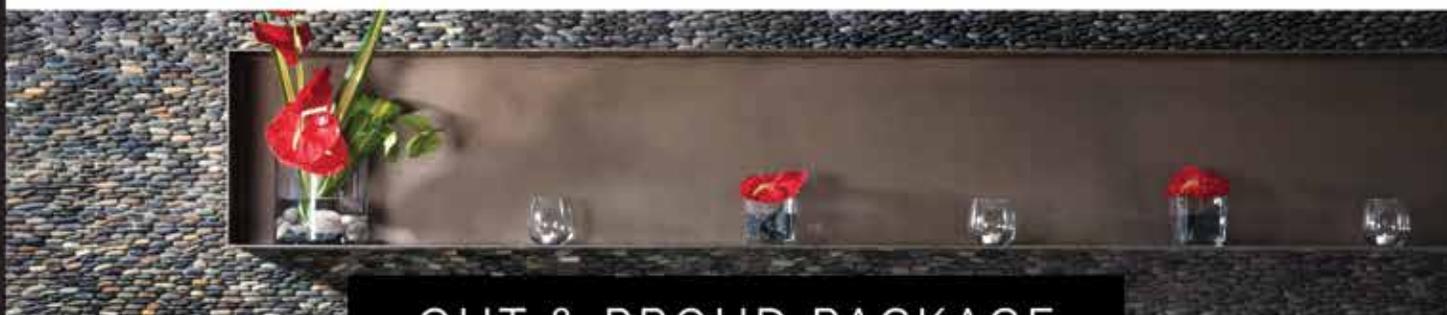
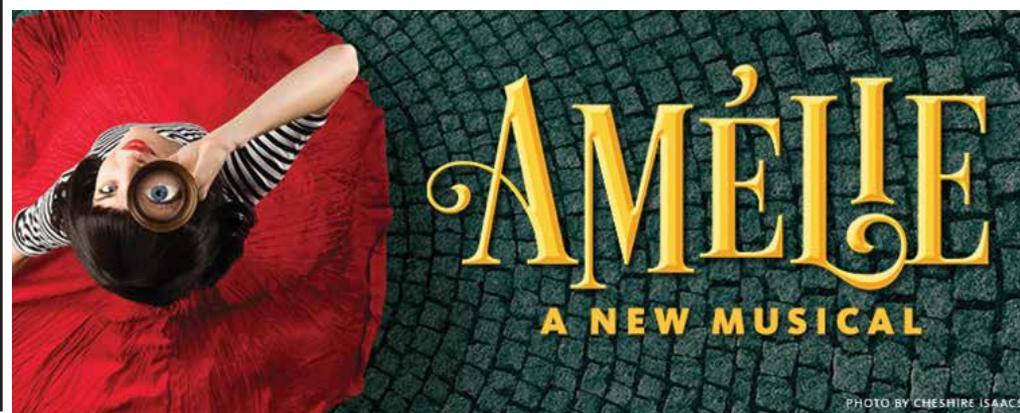
Embark on a mesmerizing journey with inquisitive and charmingly shy Amélie as she turns the streets of Montmartre into a world of her own imagining, while secretly orchestrating moments of joy for those around her.

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Amelie, A New Musical will open on August 28 and play through October 4 at Berkeley Rep.

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Word on the Street

What Is Your Favorite Memory of the Summer?

Asked at *Outword's* Happy Hour at Badlands.



Chevonne Bettis

Moving back into my house and remodeling it.



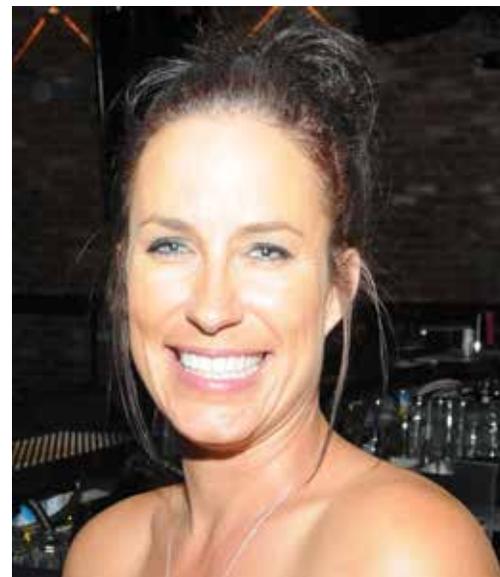
Jason Pettit

I think my favorite memory would be singing with the Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus at the Sacramento Pride Festival.



Joey Titus

Being in Mendocino for the 4th of July at the Street Fair and the beautiful, beautiful fireworks. It was a good time!



Jen Vasques

That would be going to Santa Barbara for my birthday.



Rosalyn McMullen

My vacation with my son in Hawaii.



Luke Shawyer

My birthday camping at Spicer Reservoir in Stanislaus National Forest with my dear friends.



Beach Days | Abigail VanCannon

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Kristin Chenoweth Returns to Sac with *Coming Home* Tour

by Colt McGraw

If Broadway were a father, Kristin Chenoweth would be the little apple in his eye! “I love to sing all styles, you’ll just have to come and see,” Kristin teases about her upcoming concert tour, *Coming Home*, that includes a stop in Sacramento.

With a master’s degree in opera performance from the University of Oklahoma, I wouldn’t doubt her for a mid-west moment!

I had the pleasure to interview Kristin upon her return to our capital city. “I love Sacramento and the last time I was there I gave myself a tour around downtown. I’m sure to do that again,” says Kristin. “Everywhere I go, I like to experience THAT city. Sacramento’s truly an artistic city, everything just looks gorgeous!”

Kristin took the stage of the Sacramento Community Center Theatre just once before in November of 2012. Now she returns with her latest project titled *Coming Home*, which is just what she did.

“There’s a theatre that bears my name in my hometown of Broken Arrow, Oklahoma,” she humbly admits. “So to get to do the filmed concert at that theatre was everything. My family was there and to look out and see them in the audience – amazing.”

Standing at just 4ft. 11in. tall, Kristin jokes, “Broken Arrow has grown a lot, I didn’t but it did!”

Coming Home gave Kristin the opportunity to cover some of her favorite songs. “I hope Liza is proud of me for doing ‘Maybe this Time,’” which is a signature song written for Liza Minnelli’s Oscar winning role in the film *Cabaret*. “I love and admire her so, as well as her mama.” Kristin also honored Judy Garland with a smooth and powerful recording of “Over the Rainbow.”

With the buzz surrounding the first Republican debate, I had to ask Kristin about her views on politics. “I always get nervous when I talk about politics,” she says. “I really want to know the candidates so that I can make the right vote for myself. I am an artist and I’m thrilled NOT to be running for any office of any shape, including oval!”

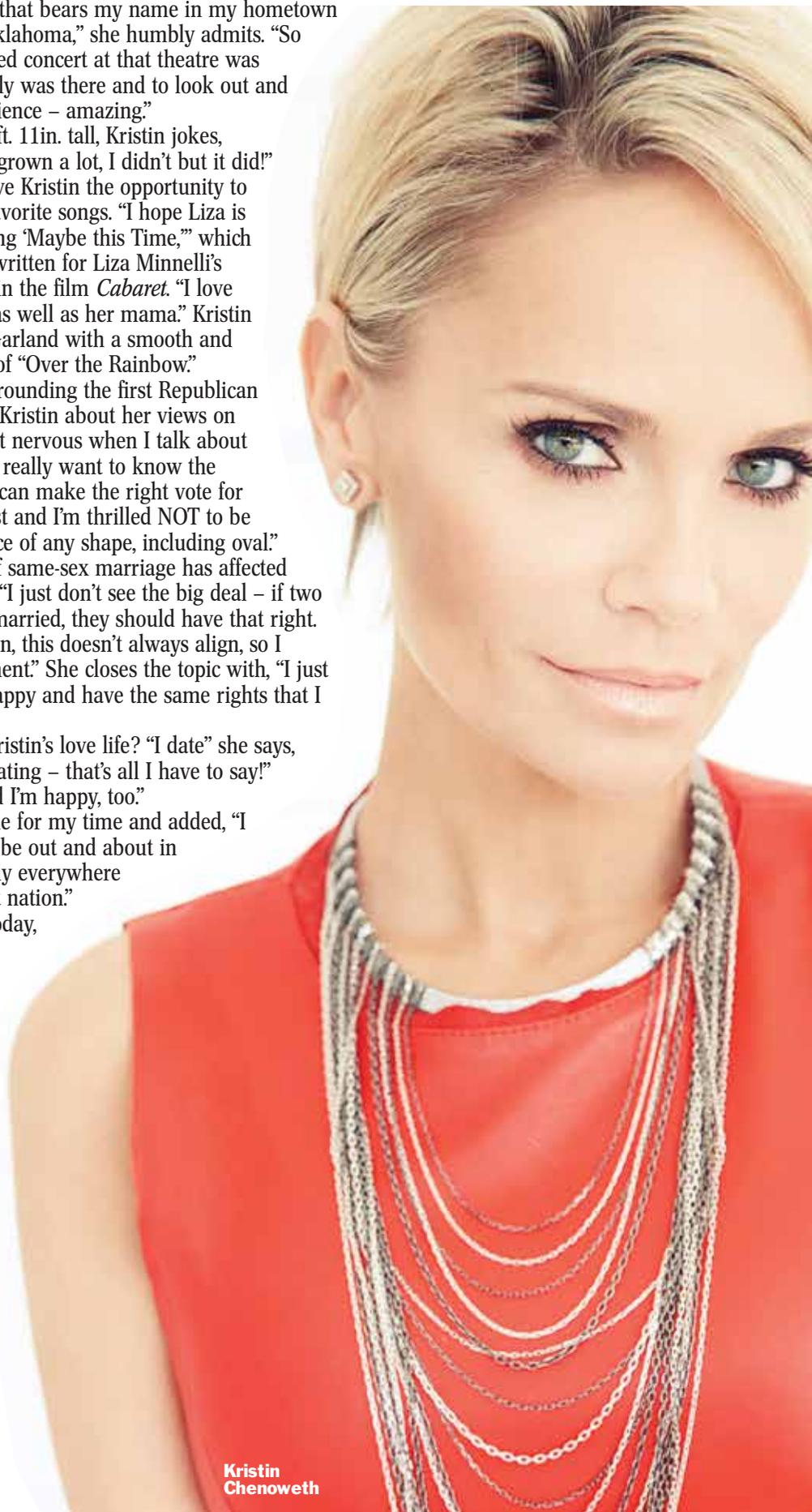
I then asked her if same-sex marriage has affected her life. She replied “I just don’t see the big deal – if two people want to get married, they should have that right. As a Christian person, this doesn’t always align, so I expect some judgement.” She closes the topic with, “I just want others to be happy and have the same rights that I do.”

But what about Kristin’s love life? “I date” she says, then adds, “and am dating – that’s all I have to say!” Then interjects “and I’m happy, too.”

Kristin thanked me for my time and added, “I am super excited to be out and about in Sacramento and truly everywhere else across our great nation.”

Get your tickets today, before it’s too late. Kristin Chenoweth will be performing one night only, Saturday, September 26, at 8 p.m. at the Sacramento Community Center Theatre. Purchase tickets at tickets.com or 916-808-5181.

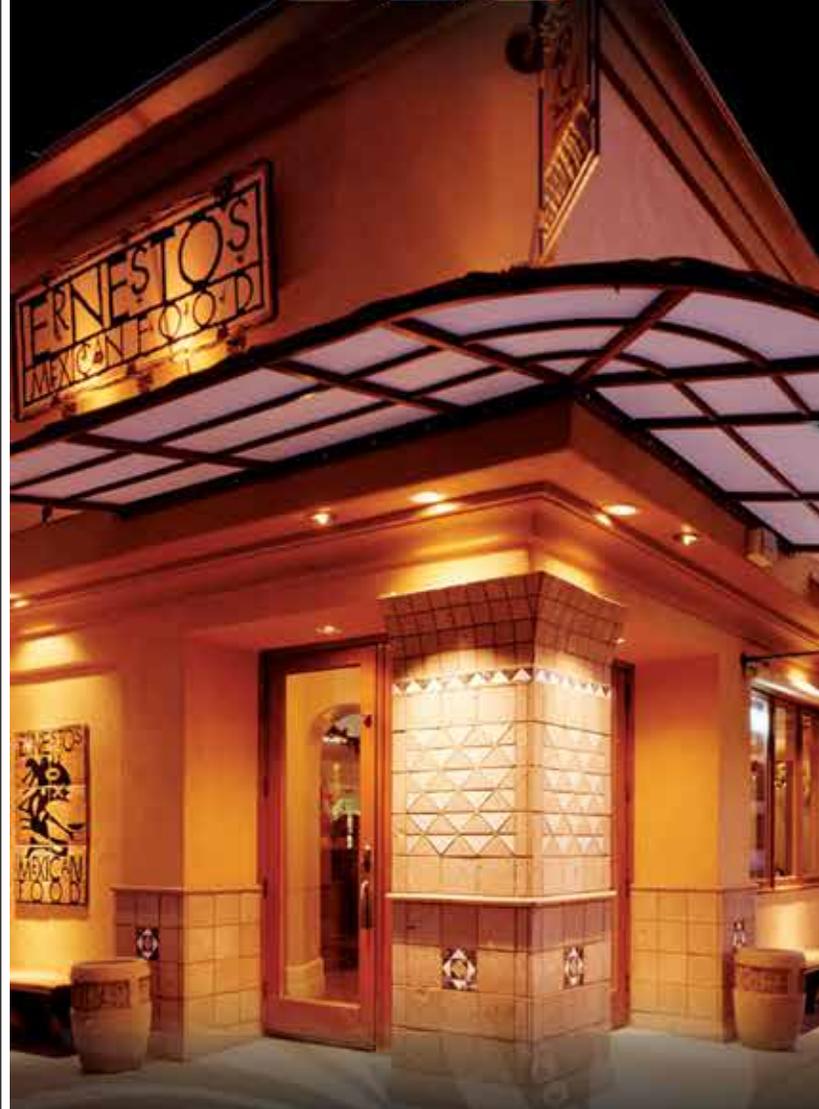
Colt McGraw is a freelance writer in Sacramento, and frequent contributor to *Outword*. He can be reached at mrcoltmcgraw@yahoo.com.



Kristin Chenoweth

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New Documentary Looks at *The Last Lesbian Bars*



JD Samson begins her queer quest for the last lesbian bars in San Francisco at the recently closed 18-year-old Lexington Club, then heads to Washington D.C. to stop at Phase 1, and to Bourbon Street for the low-down on lesbian public spaces in New Orleans. Watch the trailer at broadly.vice.com/en_us/video/the-last-lesbian-bars

Out & About

FACES Celebrates 30th Anniversary

Terry Sidie hosted a free amazing buffet dinner to celebrate the 30th anniversary of FACES nightclub on Saturday August 15, celebrating with old friends, guests and even a few Merpeeps. Congratulation to John Yant for winning that beautiful Chevy Spark! Keep up with all the exciting happenings at FACES at FACES.net or facebook.com/FacesNightClub



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Rainbow Festival Is the Perfect End to Summer

Rainbow Festival is an annual labor of love for the nightclubs and businesses at 20th & K Streets. Started in 1987 by Richard Boriolo, Terry Sidie and friends, the event was created as a LGBT pride faire with a focus on local and headline entertainment.

Centered in the heart of Sacramento's Lavender Heights neighborhood, the streets in a one block radius around 20th & K streets are closed and various stages feature live acts all day long on Labor Day Sunday only.

A "bar crowd" but also family-friendly event, the festival features vendors from all over the Northern California region, carnival-style activities and entertainers to suit a variety of tastes.



need. Rainbow Festival has given to groups such as CARES, Golden Rule Services, Breaking Barriers, Hope House, UC Davis Children's Hospital, Sunburst Projects, Fairy Godfathers' Fund, Avalon House, Sacramento LGBT Community Center, WEAVE, Kids with Cancer

Alzheimer's Society, ACT, Focus Foundation among many more.

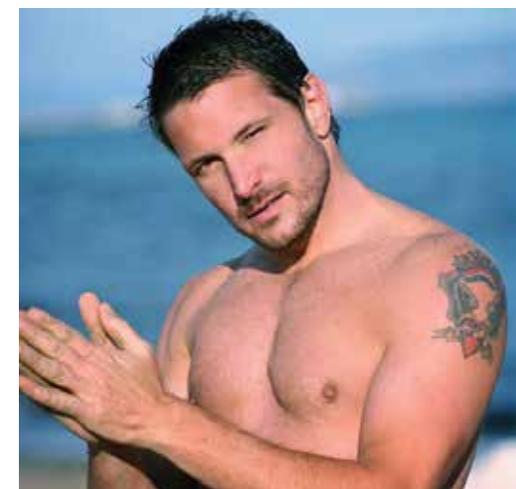
Hundreds of thousands of dollars have been disbursed over the past 28 years.

This year, the festival's primary charity recipient is the Jose Sarria International Scholarship Fund. The fund was created by the International Court System (of which Sacramento's CGNIE is one of 69 member chapters) to provide scholarships to LGBT persons in need in the United States, Canada and Mexico. Sacramento can be proud of the fact that by the end of this year's event, our community will have given over \$100,000 to this worthy cause. "My hope is that it continues as a perpetual means of support for LGBT persons who strive to make their lives better through education. This is how we support our own community", said Sidie who is one of the scholarship's chief supporters and fundraisers.

"I am grateful to all of the liquor sponsors whose arms I have twisted so hard over the years", said Sidie. "Markstein, DBI Beverage, Southern Wine & Spirits, Young's Market and now Sacconi Distributing have made all of this happen for many years. Special thanks to US Bank, Gina and Bob for their second year of sponsorship!"

To close the event, FACES 30th Anniversary celebration and Performance Chevrolet are giving away a 2015 Chevy Spark right on the main stage between 5:30-6:00PM. Remember that the last of the three cars for the anniversary giveaway - 2015 Chevrolet Camaro - is awarded on Friday October 9th ... don't forget to keep signing up! And of course after the drawing Gina hosts her annual Wet Tee Shirt / Wet Jockey contest out by the Faces pool!

"This is always a great summer highlight and I sincerely hope to see everyone there celebrating with us", said Sidie. "Much love and my sincerest thanks to this community for all your support for so many years"



Country music star Ty Herndon will headline the mainstage at this year's Rainbow Festival.

A Latin stage, anchored by actress and singer Lorena Herrera is accompanied by the Main stage featuring local bands Hayley Glines, Erica Ambrin, ONOFF, Hero's Last Mission, and comedian Sandra Valls.

Headline acts include singer and DJ Luciana and Country singer Ty Herndon. Returning as entertainment anchors are Cheer Sacramento and San Francisco along with Cheer Elite Folsom. Also of note is the addition of emcees Jeo and Pollo Del Mar. This year, both Faces and Badlands are contributing acts from their various drag revues. "Thanks to Jeo, Taryn, Jeff for making all this diversity possible", said Sidie.

The gates open at 10 a.m. on Sunday, Sept. 6, and the Festival usually runs to around 6 p.m. There is a \$10 admission. For more information, www.facebook.com/SacRainbowFest1.

Each year the net proceeds from the festival are given to local charity groups in outwordmagazine.com



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Robyn & La Bagatelle Magique Reviewed

by Chris Narloch

The diminutive dance diva Robyn, who hails from Sweden, has released another mini-album that should keep her fans entertained while we wait for the artist to drop another full-length solo CD.



Robyn & La Bagatelle Magique

Who knows when that might be? Last summer, Robyn released the 5-song EP *Do It Again* a collaboration with Royksopp that was on par with the excellent musical catalogues of both acts.

This summer, Robyn has joined up with Markus Jagerstedt and the late Christian Falk to create the supergroup La Bagatelle Magique, and the trio has released the 5-song EP *Love Is Free*.

Robyn's hardcore dance fans should be happy with the disc, but I found it less compelling than *Do It Again* and not in the same league with *Body Talk*, her groundbreaking dance opus from 2010.

The songs on *Body Talk*, such as the great "Call Your Girlfriend" and "Dancing on my Own," were radio-friendly dance-pop at its

finest.

The five tracks on *Love Is Free*, on the other hand, are more straightforward and less complex, with the kind of excessively repetitive lyrics that won't bother club-goers but might not hold the attention of listeners outside the club.

The disc's best cut is probably "Tell You (Today)", which employs samples and horns and even a harp to smashing effect.

The title cut, "Love is Free" featuring Maluca, is also a winner, as is the disc's mid-point, "Got To Work It Out."

Robyn & La Bagatelle Magique will perform their only American show this year, appearing at the Treasure Island Music Festival in San Francisco the weekend of October 17-18.

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The Breast Concert Ever at Cesar Chavez Park

Four talented and handsome male artists will share the stage in support of breast cancer awareness when "Breast Concert Ever" takes over Cesar Chavez Park in downtown Sacramento, on Friday, September 11th.



American Idol Winner Nick Fradiani will appear at Breast Concert Ever in Sacramento

You'll enjoy performances from: Matt Nathanson, Mat Kearney, Andrew McMahon in the Wilderness, and 2015 American Idol Winner Nick Fradiani.

A portion of each ticket benefits Curebreastcancer.org. In addition to the concert under the stars, the event will feature vendors, food trucks, beer, wine, cocktails and tons of activities for the entire family.

This is an all-ages show. Doors open at 5 p.m. and the music starts at 5:30 p.m. Tickets are only \$20 in advance, which works out to just \$5 per band, and they are available surcharge-free when paying with cash at all Dimple Records.

For more information about *Breast Concert Ever*, visit now100fm.com or kymx.com.

A Post Electric Play & A Trailer Park Musical

by Chris Narloch

Capital Stage and The Fair Oaks Theatre Festival are earning a reputation for bringing new and interesting theatre to town. Check out one of these eclectic offerings currently playing on Sacramento stages.

The Great American Trailer Park Christmas Musical

Christmas comes early at The Fair Oaks Theatre Festival with the wild new musical *The Great American Trailer Park Christmas Musical*, playing through September 6 at the Veterans Memorial Amphitheatre in Fair Oaks Village Park.

Visit www.FairOaksTheatreFestival.com. Mr. Burns, A Post Electric Play

If campy musicals aren't your bag, check out the highly acclaimed new offering at Capital Stage.

What will endure when the cataclysm arrives, when the grid fails, society crumbles, and we're faced with the task of rebuilding?



Trailer Park Christmas. Photo by Brian Williams.

The Fair Oaks Theatre Festival continues its musical theatre-filled season with a sequel to the 2011 favorite, *The Great American Trailer Park Musical*. This saucy new musical picks up where the last 'Trailer Park' left off.

Holiday time at North Florida's Armadillo Acres means everyone's filled with warmth and beer. But when a freak bout of amnesia strikes the trailer park Scrooge, neighborly love is put to the test.

With Betty, Lin and Pickles on hand to amp up the fracas and festivity, this all-new, all-trailer-park musical is as much of a cat-fightin', sun-worshippin', chair-throwin' good time as the original - but with tinsel and Keg Nog.

For mature audiences only, this hilarious musical is rated "R" for language and sexual innuendo.

Anne Washburn's imaginative dark comedy *Mr. Burns, A Post Electric Play* propels us forward to a post-apocalyptic world, where a group of strangers bond by recreating the infamous "Cape Feare" episode of *The Simpsons*.

From this fortuitous meeting, distant memories of Marge and Homer become the basis for shaping a new society as the play travels decades into the future.

Mr. Burns, A Post Electric Play is described as "both a marvelous meta-tribute to the iconic first-family of contemporary pop-culture, and a celebration of the power of generational storytelling."

Mr. Burns, A Post Electric Play opens on September 2 and runs through October 4 at Capital Stage on J Street. Visit www.capstage.org.



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Sac Film & Music Fest Screens *When I'm With You*

While we wait for SIGLFF (Sacramento International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival) to return to the Crest Theatre in early October, the intriguing new LGBT film *When I'm With You* is set to screen at the Sacramento Film & Music Festival.



The only family Lea has is her gay best friend and her angrily defensive teenage brother, and she's in danger of losing them both. Her brother never answers her calls or texts and seems to be falling in with the wrong crowd at school.

Lea worries about the safety of her best friend after a series of homophobic attacks plague their neighborhood. On top of that, she's in love with him, but he's quickly falling in love with another man.

When I'm With You screens on September 12 at 9 p.m., at the Jean Runyon Theater at the Memorial Auditorium on J Street. Visit www.sacfilm.com.

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www.RainbowChamber.com

Take a Kinky Tour of the Armory in S.F.

by Chris Narloch

The San Francisco Armory, at the corner of Mission and 14th streets, was constructed as an arsenal for the National Guard in 1912-1914 and has a castle-like appearance in a Moorish Revival style.

An imposing, impressive structure, it frankly looks like a place where some freaky stuff might be going down. That turns out to be the case, as the building was purchased by British web entrepreneur Peter Acworth, the man behind Kink.com, for \$14.5 million in 2006.

Kink.com, the umbrella company for a group of hugely successful porn websites, now uses the Armory as its corporate offices and as a studio for producing its videos, which focus on BDSM and fetish themes.

The porn site has become so popular that actor James Franco recently made a documentary about it, appropriately entitled *Kink*, and tours of the building frequently

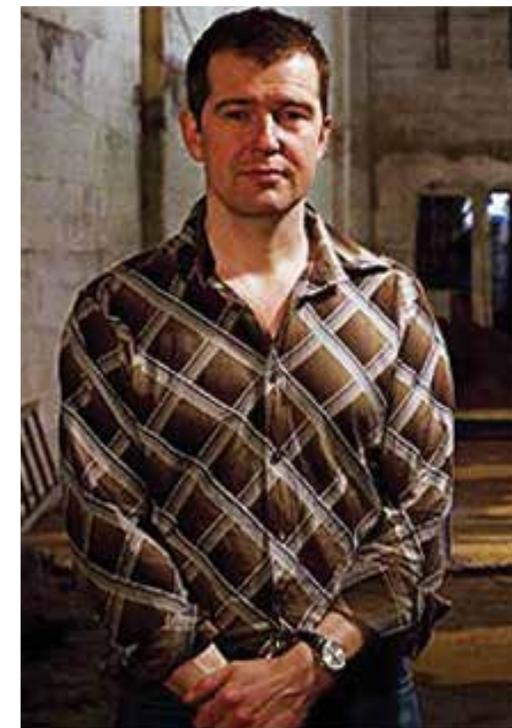
scene.

The Armory tour does not include access to the offices of Kink.com, but it does offer something even better. Patrons are instead ushered through many of the sets where the X-rated action goes down, although no actual filming or fucking is included in the tour.

This is an after-hours tour featuring a private peek at some very impressive porn sets, such as a "slaughterhouse" room with hooks hanging from the ceiling, fake bloodstains on the floor, and slabs of fake meat on display.

The "Kink University" set looks like a lusty library, and the last stop on the tour is a full Edwardian set with cameras mounted on the walls and lots of formidable bondage equipment, which is used for "Downton Abbey Gone Wild"-type action.

The tour includes plenty of opportunities for questions and answers, and it is indeed participatory. (On the evening I attended, a young man volunteered to squeeze into an extremely cramped black birdcage at one point, and a middle-aged woman stretched out in a crawlspace built into the floor that



Peter Acworth and two of his models on set at Kink.com

sell out well in advance.

I recently took one of those tours, led by an attractive young, female bondage enthusiast named Quinn, who delivered her explicit sexual commentary and information with admirable, deadpan restraint.

Among the tidbits of information you will learn while taking this tour: gay porn pays better than straight, females are paid more than males, submissive models are paid more than dominant ones, trans are at the top of the pyramid, and models can receive anywhere from \$300 to \$5,000 for a single

was covered by a grate.)

There are highly erotic, framed paintings on the walls throughout the interior of the building, but the tour doesn't only have kinky sex on its mind.

Patrons also get to see the large, impressive Armory Drill Court, and the basement of the building has an actual creek (Mission Creek) running through it that looks like something out of *Ghostbusters* or *The Toxic Avenger*.

For information about the S.F. Armory studios tour, visit www.armorystudios.com.

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Grace Jones Set to Tear Up Oakland

The one and only wild woman

known as Grace Jones will make a rare Northern California appearance live in concert this September 26, at the Fox Theater in Oakland.

A model-turned-singer-turned-actress, Jones had her first successful recordings in the mid-70s, when Donna Summer was the undisputed Queen of Disco.

The singer never attained the success on the radio that Summer commanded back in the day, but the hipsters and club kids and her many gay fans were obsessed with such sexy Grace Jones singles as "Pull up to the Bumper," "Warm Leatherette," "I Need A Man" and "Love is the Drug."

Her live shows are legendary, and if you've never seen one of Jones' wildly theatrical tours, this is your chance. Visit www.missgracejones.com or www.ticketmaster.com.



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