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Christmas Tree Collection & Free Drop Off Events

City of Sacramento residential yard waste customers can place trees in the street for pickup as part of the City's Leaf Season service. The last day that trees, or any yard waste, can be placed out on the street for collection is January 31.

City customers can find out when the next on-street collection is estimated for their address by checking the Leaf Season schedule at www.sacrecycle.org or calling 311.

Holiday Tree Recycling Guidelines: Tress should be clean of all lights, tinsel, decorations etc. and have no stand attached; Flocked trees will be accepted; Make sure there is space between the curb and tree to allow water to flow to storm drains; and Do not place trees in bike lanes.

Free Drop-off Events for Residents who do not receive City service:

Sacramento Recycling and Transfer Station 8491 Fruitridge Road 8 am to 5 pm

Saturday, January 9 Also accepting trees December 26 - January 31, Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (from Jackson Highway, south on Florin Perkins Road, right on Fruitridge Road)

SMUD - Corporation Yard, 6100 Folsom Blvd. 8 am to 3:30 pm Saturday, January 9

North Area Recovery Station, 4450 Roseville Road 8 am to 6 pm Saturday, January 9 and Sunday, January 10 (I-80 to Watt, left on Roseville Road)

Kiefer Landfill, 12701 Kiefer Blvd. 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Saturday, January 9 and Sunday, January 10 (from Jackson Highway, north on Grant Line, right on Kiefer)

Elder Creek Recovery and Transfer, 8642 Elder Creek Road 8 am to 3 pm Saturday, December 26, January 2 and January 9 Also accepting trees December 26 - January 31, Monday through Saturday, 8 am to 3 pm (from Jackson Highway, south on Florin Perkins Road, left on Elder Creek).

Restaurants and Dates for Dine Downtown Announced

Downtown Sacramento's vibrant food scene is on a roll. Shortly after being named as the "Next Great American Food City" by Southwest: the Magazine, the Downtown Sacramento Partnership has announced that 30 restaurants have signed on to participate in the annual "foodie" celebration.

Produced by the Downtown Sacramento Partnership, the dates of the 10th Anniversary Dine Downtown Restaurant Week are from January 7 through January 16, 2016. In fact, there's no better time to be a "foodie" than during Dine Downtown when indulgent, three-course dining experiences are priced at just \$35.

Launched in 2005, Dine Downtown boasts decadent dining experiences at Sacramento's finest restaurants, including special menus assembled by amazingly talented and creative local chefs.

Plus, food enthusiasts can feel good about their culinary experiences since \$1 from every Dine Downtown meal will be donated to the Food Literacy Center, a non-profit organization dedicated to inspiring change in community food education.

In 2015, \$14,000 in funds were generated for the Food Literacy Center from this program which allowed them to proactively reach even more children with important messaging about food literacy, ongoing food literacy programs will be in place in eight local schools by the New Year.

Funds generated by the 2016 Dine Downtown effort will go toward moving food literacy education into the daytime curriculum -- not just as an after-school program -- which underscores food literacy education is as critical as reading, writing and arithmetic.

Participating restaurants to date include: 58 Degrees & Holding Co, Biba, Blackbird Kitchen + Beer Gallery, Blue Prynt, Brasserie Capitale, Cafe Plan B, Cafeteria 15L, Chops Steakhouse, Dawson's Steakhouse (Hyatt Regency), Downtown & Vine, Empress Tavern, Esquire Grill, Fat City Bar & Café, The Firehouse Restaurant, Foundation Restaurant & Bar, Frank Fat's, Grange Restaurant & Bar, Hock Farm & Craft Provisions, Hook & Ladder Manufacturing Co., Il Fornaio, Localis, Mayahuel, The Melting Pot, Paragary's, The Pilothouse, The Porch Restaurant & Bar, Red Rabbit Kitchen & Bar, Rio City Café, and Ten22.

Dine Downtown is produced by the Downtown Sacramento Partnership. Event partners include the Food Literacy Center, Yelp and Sacramento365. Follow the conversation on social media including Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram with the hashtag #DineDowntown2016. For more information about Dine Downtown, please visit GoDowntownsac.com.



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Outword Magazine (3)



PUBLISHER Fred Palmer

ART DIRECTOR/PRODUCTION Ron Tackitt

> **GRAPHIC DESIGN** Ron Tackitt

EDITOR **Charles** Peer editor@outwordmagazine.com

> **ARTS EDITOR** Chris Narloch

> > SALES Fred Palmer

CONTRIBUTING WRITERS Diana Kienle Frances Furio Colt McGraw Chris Narloch Bonnie Osborn **Charles** Peer

PHOTOGRAPHY Charles Peer

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Outword Magazine Inc.

Office 372 Florin Road, #133 Sacramento, CA 95831

PHONE: (916) 329-9280 FAX: (916) 498-8445

www.outwordmagazine.com sales@outwordmagazine.com

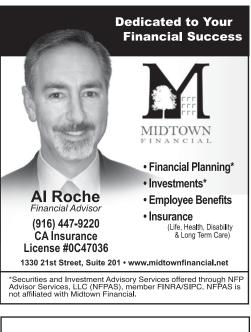
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Add Some Sparkle to Your New Year's Eve Celebrations

by Diana Kienle

The holiday season is the perfect time to share a glass (or two) of Champagne with family and friends. It is a tradition to ring in the New Year with and serves as a festive apéritif at holiday dinners.



True Champagne comes from only one region (the Champagne region), 90 miles north of Paris. The complex process by which Champagne is made involves a secondary fermentation during which carbon dioxide is trapped inside each bottle. The trapped CO2 will eventually become Champagne bubbles.

There are three grape varietals from which true Champagne is made. The white is from Chardonnay grapes, which are used for their finesse. Bottles labeled 'Blanc de Blanc' are made solely from Chardonnay. Red varietals include Pinot Meunier, a common ingredient added to non-vintage Champagne, which contributes fruitiness and body. Another red varietal is Pinot Noir. It's used in most Champagne (except Blanc de Blanc) and contributes body, texture, and aroma.

Do you ever wonder what those descriptors on the label mean? Here is a listing of the levels of sweetness (residual sugar) represented by those descriptors:

Extra Brut: Very, very dry, 0 to 0.6% sugar Brut: Very dry, less than 1.5% sugar Extra Dry: Off dry, 1.2 to 2% sugar Sec: Lightly sweet, 1.7 to 3.5% sugar Demi-Sec: Sweet, 3.3 to 5% sugar Doux: Quite sweet, more than 5% sugar Here's a quality tip for Champagne - the

smaller the bubbles, the finer the blend. Bubble size is affected by both the length of time the wine ages and the temperature of the aging cellar (smaller bubbles mean longer aging time and a cooler temperature).

Don't shy away if you see "NV" on the label, it simply means non-vintage. Traditionally, Champagne is a blending of vintages. Usually, there will be wine from four to six different years in a bottle.

Champagne can be pricey. Some of the greats like Dom Perignon may cost upwards of \$100. While this wine is lovely, there are sparkling wines that can readily fit the occasion.

California makes some great choices such as NV Roederer Estate Brut. This is consistently one of the best buys in California sparkling wine and widely available at wine retailers and liquor stores (from \$18-\$20).

Another option is Prosecco from Italy, the fastest growing wine in the sparkling segment. One of my favorites is La Marca, which is readily available from \$13 to \$18.

It is time to celebrate - and Enjoy! Diana Kienle is a freelance writer and blogs about wine at www.dianaswineblog. com. She can be reached at diana@ dianaswineblog.com.



Hyatt Regency Sacramento Awards Community Grant To Sacramento LGBT Center

Have the services that help LGBT people feel welcome, needed and safe.

The Hyatt Community Grants is a philanthropic program that empowers Hyatt colleagues to guide charitable giving. The Hyatt Community Grants program, which is now in its eighth year, encourages hotels around the world to identify and nominate local nonprofits for funding consideration.

The program builds on Hyatt's belief that no one better understands a local community's most pressing issues – and their solutions – than those who live and work there. Since 2008, colleagues at Hyatt hotels have helped direct more than \$2.35 million to 197 nonprofits in 43 countries around the world.

"We are honored to support Sacramento LGBT Community Center and their valuable contributions to our community," said general manager, Scott VandenBerg. "It is so important for us to care for and make an impact in in the city we call home, and this program gives us the great opportunity to give back to a local organization that does so much for community relations in our city. We are honored to have had a relationship with the LGBT Community Center for many years."

All participating nonprofits must have a significant local presence and must support one of Hyatt's four philanthropic pillars – Environmental Sustainability, Education & Personal Advancement, Economic Development & Investment, or Health & Wellness.

"Receiving this grant is a great honor, and we are thankful that Hyatt Regency Sacramento nominated our organization to be the recipient of this generous donation," said Julia Robinson, Director of Development for the Sacramento LGBT Community Center "This grant will be put toward the Center's Youth Program, particularly its drop-in center called the Q-Spot. The Q-Spot's goal is to provide young people with a place where they can feel safe, welcome and affirmed for who they are, as well as access services and learn life skills that will

help them make positive choices for their health and wellbeing."

Funding for the Hyatt Community Grants program is provided by Hyatt. Hyatt Regency Sacramento will be among 31 Hyatt hotels around the world that will award grants totaling \$350,000 to nonprofits in their local communities in 2015.

"By giving our colleagues the opportunity to determine where the greatest needs are in their cities, Hyatt is able to invest in our communities accordingly and through local nonprofit organizations help them advance and meet these needs, which often vary across different regions," said Brigitta Witt, global head of corporate responsibility, Hyatt. "This program is a part of our commitment to the success and prosperity of the communities around the world that we call home and I am thrilled that we have reached such a significant milestone of giving more than two million dollars throughout the last eight years of our grant program. I look forward to continuing this positive momentum in the future to help many more of these well-deserving non-profit organizations."

For more information on the recipients of the Hyatt Community Grants program, please www.hyattcommunitygrants.com.

Hyatt Regency Sacramento, a 503-room hotel, is located in the heart of downtown Sacramento, across the street from the California State Capitol. It features all new redesigned guestrooms with high definition televisions, Hyatt Grand Beds, two awardwinning restaurants, a resort-style swimming pool and is adjacent to the Sacramento Convention Center. For additional information about Hyatt Regency Sacramento or to make reservations, please visit www.sacramento.hyatt.com.

To learn more about The Sacramento LGBT Community Center visit www. saccenter.org



Pictured in the front row are the Centers Executive Ddirector Donald Bentz and Director of Development Julia Robinson; the Hyatt's Human Resource Director Richard A Hernandez; Center board member Georege Raya; and Hyatt General manager Scott Vandenberg. In the back row are Center youth group members and organizers Jesse Archer, Katie Campbell, Joshua Behn. Christopher Packey and Kent McCord.



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What Is Your Favorite New Year's Toast? *Asked at Outword's Happy Hour and WEAVES Toy Drive*



Beth Hassett

If I had a ticket to heaven and you didn't have one too, I'd rip mine up and throw it away and go to hell with you. Happy New Year!



T.J. Bruce May all your troubles last as long as your New Year's resolutions!



Stephanie Slagel Happy New Year– eat, drink and be merry.



Mark Hinte

Here's to the heat. Not the heat that burns down the shanties, but the heat that pulls down the panties. Happy New Year!



Jessica Palmer Here's to a new year and a new beginning



Will Crews Friends may come, and friends may go, friends may peter out you know, but we'll be friends through thick and thin, peter out or peter in.

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Thanks for the Toys!



Outword's monthly Happy Hour at Badlands, held Dec. 11, was a toy drive for WEAVE. Pictured here are Julie Bornhoeft and Fred Palmer of *Outword* amongst the hundreds of toys destined for children escaping domestic violence.



Mr. Bolt Leather 2016 Ray Sherman hosted a Naughty or Nice Party! on Dec. 12 at the Bolt Bar that featured a toy drive for Mama's Family. Pictured are Santa's Helper Ms Truffles, Sandy "Mama" Reinhardt and Sherman.



FACES, with some help from CGNIE, hosted "Turnt Up Toy Drive!" on Dec. 13, with all toys and donations benefitting Sunburst Projects, an organization helping families impacted by HIV/AIDS. Pictured are Santos Ashley St. James, Chris Packey, Teddy "Ophelia Loins" Kis and Kyle Adragna who helped organize the drive.



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The Gay Year in Review: Hot Topics That Had Us Talking in 2015

This year the LGBT community laughed, cried, and celebrated together as news broke on issues important to us all. To refresh your memory on the year that almost was, here are our picks for the top headlines that had us talking in 2015.



Was it bigotry or just good pizza that brought customers back to Memories Pizza?

Pizza parlor says it won't cater same-sex weddings, raises nearly \$1 million after backlash

The power of the Internet – and idiocy – ran amuck early in the year when the Christian owners of Walkerton, Indiana's Memories Pizza told a local news station it wouldn't cater a hypothetical same-sex wedding, in response to a religious objections law Indiana had recently passed. Backlash ensued – the parlor received so much criticism it shut its doors for eight days – but in the meantime, donations to the tune of nearly \$1 million flooded in from dummies around the world that pledged their financial support to uphold discrimination.



Celebrations like this one at SCOTUS broke out all across the U.S. after the Court's decision.

Supreme Court legalizes same-sex marriage in the United States

June 26, 2015, forever will be recognized as the day the United States granted gay and lesbian couples the fundamental right to marry after a years-long battle for equality.

Before the landmark decision was handed down by the Supreme Court in a 5-4 ruling in the case *Obergefell v. Hodges*, 36 states, Washington D.C., and Guam already were issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples – but the about-face that required all states to immediately issue licenses and (8) Outword Magazine recognize marriages validly performed in other jurisdictions wasn't met with open arms by all. Conservative activists, in particular, spoke out against the ruling, and even as late as mid-December – presidential hopeful Marco Rubio – who ranked third among candidates at the time, behind Donald Trump and Ted Cruz – promised to reverse the decision if elected.

It's highly unlikely, however, that either of those things will ever happen.



Was it about the law, religious freedom or Kim Davis?

Kentucky clerk Kim Davis becomes famous overnight for being a bigot

What motivated anti-gay movementmartyr Kim Davis to take on the Supreme Court by refusing to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples is still up for interpretation – was she sticking to her religious convictions as she claimed, or was she hoping to cash in on the controversy like Memories Pizza? – but her eagerness to break the law worked in her favor. Despite spending five days in the clink, Davis became a household name who dominated headlines for weeks before compromising on the issue by allowing her office to grant the licenses – but without her signature.



Some transitions you can make esier than others, and Caitlyn Jenner just couldn't find a way to leave the political party that hates her the most.

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Caitlyn Jenner raises awareness of trans issues with high-profile transition

Caitlyn Jenner has made several questionable statements since coming out in June – like revealing that she still plans to vote Republican, and encouraging trans people to dress the part more effectively so they don't make others uncomfortable. Yet despite all the criticism she's received since forging her life as a woman in the public eye, there's no denying that her high-profile transition has brought national attention to trans issues, and we could use more of it.



Although all the Republican candidates have expressed thier support for repealing marriage equality, Sen. Ted Cruz has won the support of NOM.

Republican presidential candidates up the ante on anti-LGBT rhetoric

Surprise! Republicans still don't like gay people.

Along with Rubio, four other presidential candidates – Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, former Pennsylvania Sen. Rick Santorum, Louisiana Gov. Bobby Jindal, and retired neurosurgeon Ben Carson – signed the National Organization for Marriage's pledge in August "to take several specific actions as president to restore marriage to the law and protect people of faith from discrimination because of their support of traditional marriage."

In November, Cruz and Jindal joined Mike Huckabee at pastor Kevin Swanson's National Religious Liberties Conference, where Swanson called for the punishment of homosexuality by death – as he's known to do.

Don't be shocked if by the New Year these A-holes are trying to cart us off to concentration camps.

Boy Scouts of America lift longtime ban on gay leaders

Atheists and agnostics still aren't allowed to join the Boy Scouts of America because their beliefs conflict with the organization's "Duty to God" principle (and we're sure they're all beat up about it), but as of July 26, 2015, gay and lesbian adults can serve as scout leaders, a reversal of a policy that prohibited "open and avowed" homosexuals



Lesbians and gay men can now take leadership positions in the BSA, although escape clauses do still allow troops with strong religous connections to excludse them locally.

from participation.

All it took was 105 years and the threat of a lawsuit.

Roland Emmerich's *Stonewall* hits brick wall at the box office

What happens when you "whitewash" a pivotal moment in LGBT history by focusing on an attractive, straight-acting, Caucasian male lead instead of telling the true story of drag queens, butch lesbians, trans women, and people of color who played a prominent role in the pop-off of the gay liberation movement? You get Roland Emmerich's *Stonewall*, the universally panned box office flop (it made less than \$175K total), very loosely inspired by the 1969 Stonewall riots.



Passion runs deep in soccer, for both players and fans.

Gay athletes continue to forge path toward acceptance in sports

Collegiate and professional sports still have a ways to go before being considered institutions of LGBT acceptance, but more and more athletes are coming out to their teammates. According to *Outsports*, from National Coming Out Day 2014 to one year later, 73 LGBT players, coaches, trainers, and media professionals have broken down sexual-orientation barriers within their respective organizations with success.

Every one of them a hero, indeed.

Mikey Rox is an award-winning journalist and LGBT lifestyle expert whose work has been published in more than 100 outlets across the world. He splits his time between homes in New York City and the Jersey Shore with his dog Jaxon. Connect with Mikey on Twitter @mikeyrox.

La Femme Magnifique **Returns to Sacramento** by Matt Burlingame

Trom the beginning of the modern LGBT rights movement to television celebrities like Dame Edna, female impersonation is an art that transcends many barriers. Whether it be RuPaul's Drag Race, a Las Vegas Revue, or a night at the local gay nightclub, we are fascinated by true gender illusion.



Priscilla Blacstone and Madam Anita DuMoore, winners of the 2014 La Femme Magnifique.

This year the California La Femme Magnifique International and California La Femme Magnifique Plus International pageant is again seeking the best of the best to compete in the second annual statewide competition.

The goal of the pageant is to select the best drag performers to represent California in the International competitions. Winners receive a sash, crown, cash prize package and gift bags from local businesses, but the real prize is knowing they are considered among the best female illusionists in the world.

On Sunday, January 24, 2016 Sacramento will play host to the second annual California La Femme Magnifique International and California La Femme Magnifique Plus International pageant. Over 900 people are expected to attend, as well as more than 20 contestants entering for a chance to win the two titles.

The winners of each pageant, and their runner-ups, will go on to compete Labor Day Weekend in Portland, Oregon for the world title. They also will have bragging rights to the title of the most glamorous female impersonators in California.

"La Femme embodies the highest level of excellence in female impersonation through talent, creativity, glamour, costuming and poise," says Pageant producer Michael Kennedy, also known as Misha Rockafeller La Femme Magnifique International 1997. "I'm proud to again bring this opportunity for recognition to the many talented drag performers in California."

"Last year's contest winners Chantal (CLFM) and Katrina Duall, (CLFMP), were simply amazing," Kennedy recalls. "All the

girls were. We were very well represented in the international contest.

Since 1982 La Femme Magnifique International has been one of the most prestigious female impersonator titles across the globe. The pageant highlights only the most beautiful and glamorous female impersonators from around the world. The pageant was started by legendary drag entertainer Darcelle XV of Portland to find the most glamorous and polished drag queens in the world.

"It's not just about who looks real, but also their creativity, talent, stage presence and glamour," explains Kennedy. "Contestants must be drag queens and not have had any gender augmentation or hormones."

Contestants will be judged in several different categories including black and white dress, evening gown (formal wear), talent, and showgirl. The showgirl competition is one of the most important and anticipated segments of the pageant. Contestants must construct a Vegas style headdress and model it with the same poise and grace as professional showgirls.

Some of the headdresses can be very elaborate and even breathtaking," says Kennedv.

The pageant will be held at the Crest Theatre, 1013 K St. in Sacramento at 5 p.m. on Sunday, January 24, 2016.

Applications for contestants, as well as tickets for those who wish to attend are available along with further information at calafemme.com.

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Birth names give added knowledge to the chosen life purpose; names can be changed throughout one's life to give added dimension to our life.

Each human spirit has a set of numbers as does the Universe which we all live. The Universe goes through numerical cycles as our Birth Path. 1-9 are the numbers that give basic conditions to the personal year being experienced.

2015 is an 8 Universal year (2+0+1+5=8). Meanings associated with this number are basically power and authority. The many incidents of this 8 year have been pretty powerful from marriage equality, medicinal Cannabis, political indiscretions, let alone personal power struggles that include us all.

The silver lining to this year is it's nearly over! Remember to play safe and don't speed!

2016 enters the Universal Number 9; about a week before New Year's the energy will change and settle, the year brings a cleansing of Spirits! Situational endings occur, nothing new begins. It will be a year of disbanding clientele that no longer fits. Energy levels are in celebration of how far we have come in the last nine years, 2007 began so much. Many of the beginnings



canceled out but much of the goodness continued to create.

The world in pieces portraying condolence, jubilation, partnership and creativity will relax and send Universal temperance back at you! It will be a terrific year.

As mentioned earlier each of us also, because of our birthday also has a Birth Path... beginning at a 1 year with new beginnings and going in a 9 year cycle: each year giving us knowledge to help us make the best of this Life time.

Please have a Grateful end to 2015! Namaste!

Judy Wright has been a Numerologist for 35 years and was born and raised in Sacramento. She can be reached at judiah224@aol.com.

Six-episode First Season of Her Story to Premiere Online



On January 19, the groundbreaking new series *Her Story* will release its six-episode first season on their website, herstoryshow.com, for free. The scripted new-media series follows two captivating trans women in Los Angeles who had given up on love, when suddenly, chance encounters give them hope. Pictured here are actors Angelica Ross and Christian Ochoa Photo by Tamea A. photobytamea.com

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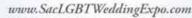
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Where to Celebrate Your 2015 New Year's Eve

2015 has been a great year, so why not celebrate and toast to an even better 2016! Here is a rundown of ways to do just that, from a night at the local clubs and fireworks to a little get-away info on the City.

The 16th Annual New Year's Eve Sky Spectacular, the region's biggest New Year's Eve bash returns to the historic waterfront in Old Sacramento as the annual Sky Spectacular lights up the skies on New Year's

Eve. Produced by the Sacramento Convention and Visitors Bureau (SCVB) and sponsored by the City of Sacramento, the free, familyfriendly evening will feature two incredible fireworks shows (9 p.m. & Midnight), as well as games, delicious seasonal food and drinks, and live music throughout the evening.

Attendees of all ages can enjoy a DJ, magician, 3D game trucks, and treats like hot chocolate from Steamers Café, followed by a sky concert with fireworks set to musical hits from 2015. Following the early show, the popular Thunder Cover band will take the stage, with more exciting musical acts to follow. An awe-inspiring fireworks display from multiple locations will serve as the evening's finale.

Admission is free and The New Year's Eve Sky Spectacular will take place rain or shine. Please note that the Tower Bridge will be closed to pedestrian traffic for 30 minutes leading up to and after each of the two firework shows. Hotel deals are also available for those who don't want to miss a moment of the fun.

If going to a club is more to your liking, Sacramento's gay clubs know how to celebrate!

FACES celebration will feature a buffet and the traditional balloon drop, with non-stop dancing to the beats of Chi Chi LaRue. Doors open at 8 p.m. and

s, advance tickets are \$25. FACES. net. 2000 K St.

Badlands NYE is featuring an Ultimate NYE Giveaway, with a

chance to win tickets to see Justin Bieber, Janet Jackson, Maroon 5 and Rihana! There will also be dancing, topped off with a midnight balloon drop with cash and prizes. SacBadlands.com. 2003 K St.

Next door at the Depot you can celebrate at their NYE Bash starting at 9 p.m. – and there is no cover! 2001 K St. The Bolt Bar is ringing in the New Year with free hors d'oeuvres, party favors, and Champagne at midnight! Plus, you can win big prizes in their midnight balloon drop! Doors open at 2 p.m. No cover! SacBolt.com. 2560 Boxwood St.

If you are looking to get away, there are many parties and events at clubs in the City, but the two major ones are Colossus and Bearacuda.

Colossus, celebrating 30 years, is back, and bigger than ever, with \$20,000 decor and

production improvements, and giant sound, light and laser systems to help you dance your way into 2015! Circuit-Star

DJs Marco Da Silva, Alexander and Billy Lace are lining up unique beats and polished sets of your favorite music. The party is from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 470 Stevenson St. Tickets are \$64.99 in advance and this event usually sells out. guspresents.

com Bearracuda is for the Bears, their admirers and those that just like a different vibe. The celebration starts at 9 p.m. and parties on

until dawn at the 10th annual dance, featuring DJs Paul Goodyear and Steve Sherwood, and all the usual party favors and hijinks. \$20 advance tickets. Beatbox, 314 11th St., SF. Bearracuda.com.



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Queer Films For The Holidays Carol and The Danish Girl by Chris Narloch

ust in time for the holidays, the movie studios have gifted LGBT movie fans with two fabulous new films: "Carol," a lipstick lesbian love story from the great gay director Todd Haynes, and "The Danish Girl," featuring Eddie Redmayne in another Oscar-worthy performance.



Eddie Redmayne and Alicia Vikander star in The Danish Girl. Carol

I wasn't able to preview this highly acclaimed flick before our deadline, but it is currently scheduled to open at Sacramento's Tower Theatre on Christmas Day.

Based on the novel The Price of Salt by Patricia Highsmith (The Talented Mr. Ripley), which was adapted for the screen by Phyllis Nagy, Carol stars Rooney Mara and Cate Blanchett.

The actresses play a shopgirl (and aspiring photographer) and an older woman going through a difficult divorce who begin a secret

romance.

The movie is set in New York City circa 1952, and Blanchett and Mara are reportedly sexy and superb in Hayne's first film since his excellent HBO remake of Mildred Pierce.

Advance praise for *Carol* is off the charts; by all accounts, this is the breakthrough film for lesbian cinema, at least artistically, as Brokeback Mountain was for gay cinema.

The Danish Girl

I did see an early screening of this fascinating new film from Tom Hooper, director of The King's *Speech* and the recent big screen musical of Les Miserables.

The Danish Girl was inspired by the true story of Lili Ebe, one of the first known recipients of sex reassignment surgery.

Eddie Redmayne, who won Best Actor at the Oscars this year, will almost surely be nominated again for his captivating portrayal of a man who models for his painter wife wearing women's clothes and discovers that he likes it.

In addition to Redmayne, The Danish Girl also stars two other terrific (and beautiful) actors: Alicia Vikander, who plays Redmayne's wife, and Matthias Schoenaerts, who plays the couple's friend.

Rather than spoil any more of this delicious movie's surprises, I'll just tell you to see it, preferably on the big screen.

Note: Please go to www. outwordmagazine.com to read Chris Narloch's interview with Tom Hooper, the director of The Danish Girl.



Rooney Mara and Cate Blanchett star in Carol. outwordmagazine.com



Bestwishes for you & your family from Ernesto's New Year! 2016

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SGMC's He! Ha! Ho! Holiday **Show Was a Huge Success**

The Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus held their annual holiday show December 4th through 8th at the First United Methodist Church, with sold out and nearly sold out performances.

Titled *He Ha! Ho! A Down-Home Holiday Show*, the concert featured lively traditonal Christmas music with a bit of a twang from Boy Howdy, an original composition by Neil Treganza, and featured soloists Martha Kight, Kay Hight, Heather Mercer and Patrick Van. Learn more about the Chorus' upcoming shows at sacgaymenschorus.org.









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The tax year is ending soon—please consider the Rainbow Chamber Foundation as a year-end tax-deductible contribution!

The Rainbow Chamber Foundation was established as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization in 2007 with the mission to promote mentoring, guidance, and education, and to support programs that improve the quality of life of the LGBTQI community.

Since 2008, the Foundation has contributed more than \$60,000 to fund college and vocational education scholarships for LGBT and LGBT-supportive youth and non-profit organizations, including the Sacramento Gay & Lesbian Center, National Suicide Prevention Program, Trevor Project, GSA Network, Transgender Law Center, Sacramento International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival (SIGLFF) and the Equality California Institute. The Foundation focuses most of its giving on scholarships and organizations that help LGBTQI youth.

Your contribution to the Rainbow Chamber Foundation is tax deductible and goes right back into our community and youth here in the greater Sacramento area.

To make a secure online donation, visit <u>http://rainbowchamber.com/about-the-foundation/</u> and click on the Donate button. Or mail your check, payable to Rainbow Chamber Foundation, to P.O. Box 160126, Sacramento, CA 95816.

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Diana Rogalski Foundation Chair





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Pretty White Boys Make Beautiful Music: Justin Bieber and Troye Sivan Reviewed

by Chris Narloch

The only thing the public enjoys more than watching a celebrity crash and burn is seeing a famous person rise from the ashes of their personal problems and come back bigger and better than ever.



Troye Sivan

Justin Bieber's detractors should have known better than to count him out. Even after a string of potentially career-killing crises, the handsome 21-year-old has one of the hottest albums on the charts.

Entitled *Purpose*, Bieber's disc recently produced two singles that landed in the ITunes top three during the same week.

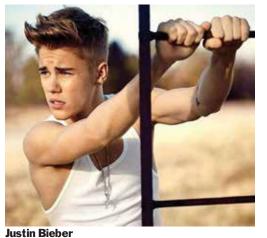
In addition to Bieber's new CD, I also review a gorgeous new record by an "out" gay singer named Troye Sivan.

Justin Bieber – Purpose

I never thought I would ever actually review a Justin Bieber CD, but his latest release is so commercially successful that it cannot be ignored.

Purpose also has some really dynamite dance songs on it, including the hopelessly addictive hit "Where Are U Now?," which was produced by the brilliant team of Skrillex and Diplo, two enormously popular dance music artists.

Other smash singles on *Purpose* include Bieber's current hits "Sorry" and "Love



Yourself," as well as the dynamite dance track "What Do You Mean?"

Bieber has always been a masterful dancer, but his rhythmic sense also extends to his singing; he wraps his sweet, feathery voice around the lyrics without overdoing it.

The non-dance tracks tend to be weaker here, but when the beats kick in on the faster songs, Bieber is transformed in to the King of Disco.

Troye Sivan – Blue Neighbourhood

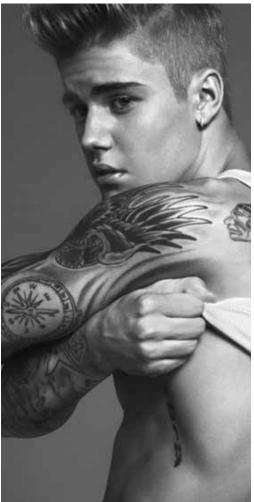
This multi-talented and openly gay performer played the young James Howlett in X-Men Origins: Wolverine. In addition to acting, Sivan is a gifted singer/songwriter who recently released his debut disc.

Sivan told *The Advocate* that "these songs are about boys," referring to the excellent self-penned lyrics on Blue Neighbourhood, his confessional new CD.

There are so many fine songs on Sivan's disc that I hardly know where to begin, but my favorite cuts include the incredibly catchy single "Youth" and two totally hypnotic tracks,"DKLA" and "Talk Me Down."

Sivan has a beautiful voice, and his songwriting is surprisingly mature for someone who isn't even twenty-one yet.

Blue Neighbourhood is a must for queer music fans.



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Pippin Rings in the New Year for Broadway Sacramento by Chris Narloch

Tinner of four 2013 Tony Awards, including Best Musical Revival, *Pippin* has been turned into an eye-popping, jawdropping extravaganza.

Now, the musical's recent smash Broadway revival will close out this year and ring in the next one for Broadway Sacramento.

The musical was created and first appeared on Broadway during the Vietnam War era, and its unusual story has an anti-war vibe that never goes out of style.

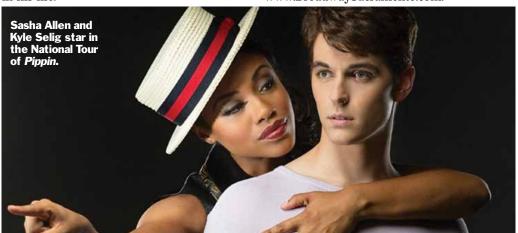
The title character is a prince looking for adventure who becomes disillusioned after going to war and then searches for purpose in his life.

Full of extraordinary acrobatics, wondrous magical feats and soaring songs from the composer of Wicked, Pippin has been transformed into a near-three ring circus of a show in this wondrous production.

The result is an enormously entertaining mash-up of Broadway musical and Cirque du Soleil-style spectacle.

The National Tour of Pippin plays Dec. 29 - Jan. 3 at Sacramento's Community Center Theater. Visit

www.BroadwaySacramento.com.



Experience a Divine Culture, **Shen Yun Soars in Sacramento**

by Chris Narloch

n hen Yun is returning to River City again this January, for three performances over two days. It performs classical Chinese dance, ethnic and folk dance, and story-based dance, with orchestral accompaniment and solo performers.



Everyone likes a good story, and Chinese culture has 5,000 years of them.

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visit deep-sea palaces. Dive into these action-filled stories embodying the wisdom and virtues of ancient China when Shen Yun graces the stage of Sacramento's Community Center Theater, January 12-13.

Visit www.ShenYun.com/CA for more information.

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In the Grayscale Looks at Coming Out in Midlife



This sensitive, well-acted romantic drama puts a delicate and mature twist on the classic coming-out story, following an emotionally ill-at-ease, married architect's journey of sexual discovery, which switches into high gear after he meets an intriguing gay man. Featuring Emilio Edwards and Francisco Celhay, you can watch the trailer at www. wolfevideo.com.

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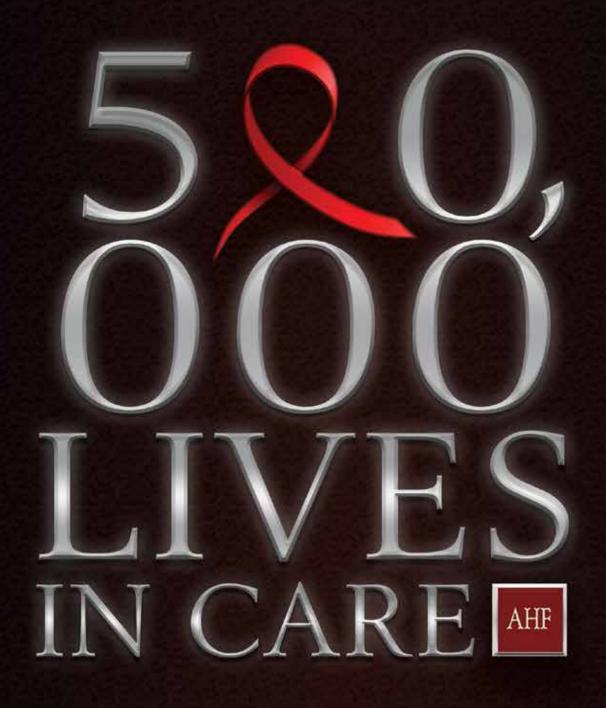
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