

# outwOrd

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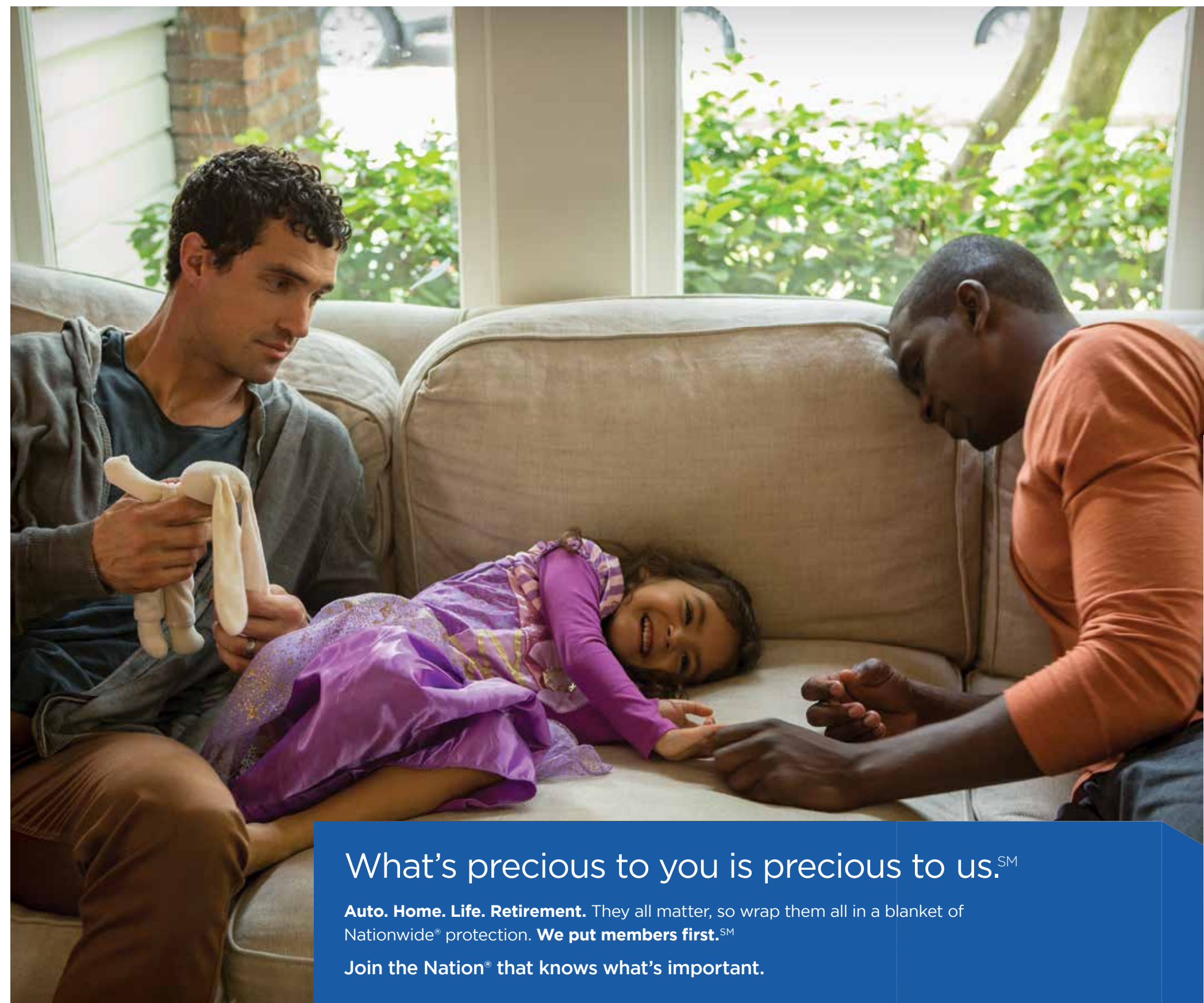
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# Jerry Sloan Needs a Little Help from His Friends

Gay activist Jerry Sloan, and we use that term because when Jerry started working for LGBT rights that's what he was called, perhaps had one dream for himself above all others, and that was to marry the man of his dreams.

One of the original founders of the Lambda Center, now the Sacramento LGBT Community Center, Jerry has worked tirelessly for LGBT rights, including the right for marriage equality. When California extended that right to same-sex couples, Jerry was able to marry the man of his dreams, Vitaly Troshin, a Russian citizen.

But as it so often is, the devil is in the details and Jerry has only been able to bring Vitaly to the U.S. for short visits.

Jerry recently sent us an email, asking our community to help him bring his dream to life. We at *Outword* would like to share it with you:

## Dear Friends,

I have established a GoFundMe account to raise money to eventually bring my husband Vitaly Troshin to the U.S.

We were married on 16 January 2014. Getting all the paper work required by Homeland Security and Immigration has been frustrating and tedious.

Hopefully in 30 days or so all the proper

paperwork will be submitted and approved. Then an interview will be made at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. Vitaly must have a physical at a chosen doctor. We must pay for the spousal visa which will make him a legal resident.

Vitaly has worked as a flight attendant for Transaero Airline which stopped operating in October, 2015. So he has been unemployed with no income.

When he is finally here we will have to get his Green Card so he can work. Also since there are no longer free flights to the U. S. we will have to pay for his flight here.

My only income is my Social Security.

All this will come to about \$3,000. I have established a GoFundMe account to raise these funds.

If you can help in any amount it would be more than greatly appreciated.

Here is the address of the account:  
www.gofundme.com/z6pdgh4s.

Thanks ... Jerry

# Drag Queen Bingo Raises \$1,595 for Wisdom Project and Sacramento Rainbow Village



On Thursday, February 4th Drag Queen Bingo, hosted by DoMeMoore and the Rainbow Chamber of Commerce raised \$1,595 for senior services provided by the Wisdom Project and Sacramento Rainbow Village. Pictured are Mary Schleeter, Diane Houltan, Linda June Wood, Paul Domemoore Crouch, Cathy Perry, Tandy Bowman, George Raya, Paul Weubbe and Richard Hernandez. Photo by Larry Lauszus.

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# Sacramento LGBT Community Center Elects New Officers

The Sacramento LGBT Community Center’s board of directors recently elected its officers for the 2016 year, while extending a heartfelt thank-you to its out-going board and especially to president, David Heitstuman, after four years of leadership.



The Sacramento LGBT Community Center publicly congratulated David Heitstuman for his years of service to the Center and the community during *Outword Magazine’s* monthly “Liquid Therapy” happy hour at Badlands on Friday, February 12. Pictured with Heitstuman, holding a plaque presented to him made from the recently installed Rainbow Crosswalk at 20th & K, is incoming Center Board President Carlos Marquez, Sage Fox, Tre Borden, new board secretary George Raya and West Sacramento Mayor Chris Cabaldon. Photo by Michael Sestak.

Carlos Marquez will be taking the helm of the board as president. Marquez is the Senior Political Director for the California Charter Schools Association where he manages elections and advocacy programs, statewide.

Marquez brings a unique portfolio of experiences to the Center in areas of public affairs, nonprofit management and civic leadership. In the past decade, he has worked in a variety of capacities advancing the missions and advocacy goals of some of the most notable progressive organizations in the country, including the United Way, SEIU, Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund and the ACLU.

Stephanie Doute is the newly elected vice president. Doute is the Director of Membership at the International Association of Business Communicators (IABC) and well-versed in the management and operations of non-profits.

Glenda Corcoran is returning for a third term as treasurer. An attorney, she has worked in the California Assembly, is on the Board of Governors of the California State Bar Association, volunteers at the Sacramento Volunteer Legal Services Clinic and is on the board of St. John’s Program for Real Change.

Sacramento native George Raya is the new secretary. Raya is a long-time Latino and LGBT activist. He was California’s first full-time LGBT rights legislative advocate and lobbied for the passage of the Willie Brown Consenting Adult Law.

An annual process, the officers’ elections marked the culmination of Heitstuman’s term as president, a position he held for four years. During Heitstuman’s tenure, the Center emerged from the brink of closure to a thriving, growing hub for services and programs.

“David’s vision, steady hand and indomitable leadership during the last four years has transformed the Center into a trusted service provider and safe space for some of our most vulnerable,” said Marquez. “We look forward to building upon his progress and thank him for his immeasurable contributions to the greater Sacramento LGBT community.”

Heitstuman will remain on the board, as will Todd Kooklakian, who held the position of secretary for the last two years. To see full biographies of the Center’s board members, visit [www.saccenter.org/about-us/board/board](http://www.saccenter.org/about-us/board/board).

The Sacramento LGBT Community Center creates events, programs and pathways to services that help lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people feel welcome, needed and safe. The Center envisions a Sacramento region where sexual orientation and gender identity and expression are recognized as a spectrum of valued personal characteristics, universally respected and affirmed.

Located at 1927 L St., the Center can be reached at 916-442-0185 or on the web at [www.SacCenter.org](http://www.SacCenter.org).

## Quote Worth Repeating

“Weddings should be an extraordinary, once-in-a-lifetime affair; not one clouded by stress and anxiety. The key to planning the perfect wedding is focusing on what you value most. Your love is unique only to you, and your day should center on what formed that eternal bond. Whether you envision a simple gathering with a few family and friends or an elaborate formal affair, stay true to your love and all the details will simply fall into place. Your journey to planning the perfect day should be centered on a few simple ideals: creating memorable, unforgettable experiences that will endure long after you vow ‘I Do!’”

Kendall Arch, Director of Events, Hyatt Regency Sacramento



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## Sacramento LGBT Leaders Unite For Steinberg For Mayor

Citing his long-standing leadership on behalf of the LGBT community and record of advancing LGBT equality, many of Sacramento's LGBT leaders have announced their endorsement of Darrell Steinberg for Mayor.

As a community leader and a public official, Steinberg has built a long record of leadership on issues such as marriage equality, HIV/AIDS prevention, LGBT student protections, landmark anti-workplace and housing discrimination laws and anti-hate crime efforts.

"Darrell Steinberg has been with us from the beginning of his public service career," said Dennis Mangers, longtime community advocate and former Assemblyman in a statement released by the Steinberg campaign. "We never really needed to lobby or persuade him because he came to public office understanding that this country has a history of denying equal rights at one time or another and has worked tirelessly on behalf of people whose aspirations, hopes and dreams were being frustrated by bigotry, ignorance and discrimination.

"We are supporting Darrell Steinberg for Mayor because he has been a champion and shown that he cares, respects and intends to include us in the broader community of people who want to help him make our

beloved City an even greater place in which to live and prosper."

To see a complete list to date of those endorsing Steinberg, visit [outwordmagazine.com/inside-outword/glb-news/1819-sacramento-lgbt-leaders-unite-for-steinberg-for-mayor](http://outwordmagazine.com/inside-outword/glb-news/1819-sacramento-lgbt-leaders-unite-for-steinberg-for-mayor).

To learn more, visit [www.steinberg4sac.com](http://www.steinberg4sac.com).



Darrell Steinberg

## Sacramento Equality Awards to Honor Four Heroes of the LGBT Community

Equality California will honor Assemblymember Rich Gordon, Mario Guerrero of SEIU, Executive Secretary to Governor Brown Nancy McFadden, and Dana Williamson, former cabinet secretary to Governor Brown, for their steadfast support of the LGBT community at this year's Sacramento Equality Awards.

Gordon will receive this year's Vanguard Leadership Award for his years of service to the LGBT community, his leadership of the LGBT Legislative Caucus and for authoring and winning passage of legislation that has improved the lives of LGBT Californians.

"As an assemblymember and leader of the state's LGBT Legislative Caucus, Rich Gordon has been a tireless advocate for the health and wellbeing of LGBT people and the many diverse communities of which we are a part," said Rick Zbur, executive director of Equality California. "As he prepares to leave the Assembly, the laws he authored are a strong legacy that advance the health and wellbeing of LGBT Californians."

Mario Guerrero will receive this year's State Farm Good Neighbor Award for making Sacramento a better place for LGBT people to live. He has over a decade of experience as a policy advocate, including serving as EQCA's government affairs director from 2010 to 2011. He currently is legislative affairs director with Service

Employees International Union, Local 1000. He serves on the board of the National



Mario Guerrero

LGBTQ Task Force and is past president of the Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento, which has worked to advance LGBT civil rights and social justice through its electoral work to elect candidates supporting LGBT equality.

"Mario's experience advocating on behalf of LGBT people makes him one of our community's most effective advocates," said Zbur.

"Throughout his career, he has advanced LGBT equality both on the job and on the many boards and committees on which he has served. As one of the leaders of Sacramento's LGBT community, he has devoted considerable time and energy to improving the lives of LGBT people both locally and across the state."

This year's Sacramento Equality Awards take place on Monday, March 7th, 2016 from 5:30-7:30 at Sacramento's Cafeteria 15L, 1116 15th St. in Midtown. Visit [www.eqca.org/equality-awards/sacramento](http://www.eqca.org/equality-awards/sacramento) for tickets.

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# For Your Wedding Day, Wear a Suit to Remember

by Elizabeth Bacon

Coco Chanel once said, "Dress shabbily and they remember the dress; dress impeccably and they remember the woman." Specializing in suits, NK Tailored is the premier tailor for ensuring you are remembered on your big day.

The owners of NK Tailored, designers and stylists Natasha Hansen and Kyle Gajeton, met while pursuing degrees in Fashion Design. Together they have begun to make their mark in turning Sacramento into a well-suited town.

Hansen and Gajeton both received multiple degrees and have spent the last five years working in the fashion industry launching their own brand in 2015 for both men and women.

Their design work can be seen walking down the streets of Sacramento, on the runway at any of the local fashion shows, and on the red carpet at the Grammy's.

They know that not all women and men are alike and customize each suit, shirt, blazer and overcoat to fit your individual lifestyle. Their clothing is aimed at empowering individuals through beautifully appointed and custom fit apparel at an achievable price.

Their process is simple, easy, and fast. The team consisting of Natasha and Kyle will

come to your home or office and you can select the fabric, style, buttons, stitching and other appointments to customize your suit, shirt, blazer, or overcoat to fit your own personal style.

They offer styling guidance on all points so your creation is uniquely your own. Measurements are taken to accommodate a perfect fit.

Fast-forward 4-6 weeks and your completely custom and one-of-kind suit, shirt, blazer, or overcoat arrives for your final fitting. You'll be amazed how a custom garment makes you look and feel. You are instantly one of the best dressed at work, a night on the town, special occasion, or wedding day.

Join those who have experienced the difference custom tailoring makes in their business and social life. Being the best dressed doesn't mean you have to pay the most for your clothing. You just have to know NK Tailored.

# Have Your Wedding Among the Vines

by Diana Kienle

That special day is an important time. From beginning to end, you want it to be perfect and a full expression of your love. Where you have your wedding is as important as any other part of the ceremony.



**Wilson Vineyards in Clarksburg offers wedding ceremonies among the vines and dinners and receptions in the elegant barn.**

For me, it was a winery event. The open air setting, the vines, and the wine all mattered for us; and we took advantage of the moment. The choice for us was a small winery in Clarksburg named Wilson Vineyards. They handled all the particulars with great care, and it was a wonderful event.

The Sacramento area and the Foothills offer you a great array of local venues to choose from for your special day. If a winery setting is what you are looking for, there is an excellent web site to peruse – [www.wineryweddingguide.com](http://www.wineryweddingguide.com). Who knew that such a resource was available?! Let me say that someone really did their homework to set up this website.

Here is how it is arranged. Choose your state! Yes, I said choose your state. Today every state in the nation has a winery. Although less

than half are offering services for a wedding, there is a veritable bouquet to choose from for you and your soon to be spouse.

Once you have settled on the state, then you select an area. For example, if Oregon is the option, there will be three major regions to choose from. In California, of course the whole state opens up with selections. Central California is where the Sacramento area will be represented. (Wilson Vineyards is there!)

Don't be held back if a winery wedding is in your future. All of California can be your "oyster" to choose from based on price and how far you want your guests to travel. There are some wonderful locations in Sonoma and all along our beautiful coast.

Know that one of the requirements (most likely) is that you and your guests will be drinking that winery's wines. You may like to sample the wine before you sign on the dotted line for your wonderful day.

Take a journey through the website. A winery is a wonderful place to start your married life! As they say on the web site, "A Winery Wedding! The perfect setting for the wedding of your dreams – unique, romantic, unforgettable, not only for the two of you but for the family and friends gathered to celebrate with you this special day."

Enjoy!

Diana Kienle is a freelance writer and blogs about wine at [www.dianaswineblog.com](http://www.dianaswineblog.com). She can be reached at [diana@dianaswineblog.com](mailto:diana@dianaswineblog.com).



# Ask the Right Questions to Find the Right Wedding Photographer

by Joan Cusick

Planning a wedding? Finding the right photographer may seem like a daunting task, but professional photos can help preserve your special day for a lifetime.

Reading *Outword* and attending the LGBT Wedding Expo in March can help you identify potential photographers. Then it's up to you to do the research – visiting websites,

you can view, share and sometimes download digital files. Ask the photographer to show you how your gallery will work.

7. What other services do you offer? This



Capturing the moment is what a good photographer is all about. Actual wedding party photo taken by Joan Cusick

checking social media pages, asking friends for recommendations.

When you've narrowed your list, set up face-to-face interviews with two or three photographers. While many couples focus only on price, there are many other factors that will go into your decision. Here are a few questions to consider.

1. Have you ever photographed a same-sex wedding? It's one thing to support gay marriage; it's another entirely to have experience photographing same-sex weddings.

2. What's your background as a photographer – your education, training and experience? Many great photographers are self-taught, but college-level education and workshop training demonstrate the professional's commitment to his or her craft.

3. Do you have insurance? Many venues will require liability insurance of \$1 million per incident. Professionals carry insurance; amateurs don't.

4. What's your approach to wedding photography? It all comes down to what's most important to you. Are you looking for great candid photos? Journalistic coverage? Posed portraits? Talk about your desired style, and bring a few favorite photos as examples.

5. What is your turnaround time for wedding photos? Many photographers require weeks for editing, but some turn around proofs in less than a week.

6. How will I access my photos? Most photos are posted to online galleries, where



Photographer Joan Cusick. Photo by Brian B. Fox

could include a second shooter, wedding photo-books, videography, and other services that may incur additional fees. Be clear about what you want and what it will cost.

Once you've found the right photographer, make sure you have a written agreement that spells out what the photographer will do and in what time frame. Putting down your deposit is the only way to make sure your photographer is saving your date.

Before the wedding, you may want to schedule an engagement portrait session or wedding site visit. Every interaction you have with your photographer is an opportunity to get to know each other better, and that will help you be more relaxed in front of the camera on your special day.

The fourth annual LGBT Wedding Expo will be held on Sunday, March 6, at the Hyatt Regency at 1209 L St. in Sacramento.

Joan Cusick is a documentary photographer with a passion for slice-of-life storytelling and believes that every photo tells a story – your story, not hers. She can be reached at [www.joancusick.com](http://www.joancusick.com).

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# Celebrating Our Weddings & Engagements

The right to marry for our community is still pretty new, and sadly, despite the U.S. Supreme Court's decision is still under attack. But that's a story for another day. And so for our annual Wedding Issue, we wanted to share the pictures our readers sent in, who have taken the plunge or are making plans to do so. Congratulations to them and to all of you out there who are also recently married or planning your own celebration!



Erin Lawrence and Tammy Marlow are engaged, but haven't set a date yet.



Ben Schafer and Nick Loucks have set June 11th for their wedding.



Mark Spotts and David Greengard, a couple for over seven years, became engaged this February.



Jeffrey Buttell and Michael Roy are getting married on June 18th at the Hyatt Regency.



Dayne Damme and Joe Billela were married on September 27th, 2014 at Frog Rock Pond, in Newcastle. Photo by Joan Cusick [www.joancusick.com](http://www.joancusick.com).



James Ozanich and Tom Erickson were married on Sept. 26th on Shell Beach at Sea Ranch. Photo by Joan Cusick, [www.joancusick.com](http://www.joancusick.com).



Debbie and Jane Dalton, two very happily married 60-year-young girls, took their vows on July 21st, 2015.





Michael Sestak and Dennis Mangers were married on June 17, 2008, by former California State Senator Sheila Kuehl.



Larry & Adam Glover-Meade were married on January 7th on St. Thomas USVI, even though Princess Erin kept trying to steal Adam.



Pete Pavey and Tony Miller were married August 2nd, 2008 on the shores of Lake Tahoe.



Shelly Bailes and Ellen Pontac were married June 16th, 2008 at 5:01 p.m, the first minute that same sex marriages were legal in California.



Roy Westfall and Chad Graham were married on August 23rd, 2013 in Salinas. Pictured with them are Don Graham, Laura Graham and Teresa Kaiser (sitting).



Brad Simmons and David Larson celebrated their 20th anniversary on January 30th at Morton's Steak House.





Ryan Maguire and George Lingonis were married on Valentine's Day, February 14th, 2014 in San Francisco'



Carrie Martin and Tamara Holmes were engaged August 6th, 2015, and will be getting married July 1.



Mike and Bill Sylliaasen-Lee were married on October 2nd, 2013, their 13th anniversary, in thier backyard with their family and their six Chihuahuas as bridesmaids!



Allies count too, and long time supporters of marriage equality Janet and Will Smith were married on April Fool's day in 1996.



Chris Mozzoni and Josh Jacoby were married on October 17th, 2015



Jason Russell and Steve Walker were married October 18th, 2015.



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# From Elegant to Simple, Make it Your Day

by Jason Russell

After ten years together, and after the winning the right to get married and then losing that right, my partner Steve Walker and I finally tied the knot this October. It also made it easier that 2015 was our ten-year anniversary so we choose to marry on the same date we meet.



Jason Russell and Steve Walker were married by Roy Semerjian in a simple and fun ceremony held in a neighborhood park on October 18, 2015.

Neither one of us had ever attended a same sex wedding and only a few opposite sex weddings. We didn't know where to start so we found a wedding coordinator through the LGBT wedding expo held annually in Sacramento.

Sarah Warner with Warner's Whole Heart Events was great, she meet with us at our home and provided us with a comprehensive to do list. Going through this process we realized we didn't want a big traditional wedding. In fact, we just wanted a big party with a little wedding thrown in.

Sarah provided us with several very exciting locations around the greater Sacramento area, but in the end we decided to do a little something at our house. We have a front and back yard taht served perfectly for a wedding at home.

We had our invitations handmade by a friend and mailed each one of them with a Harvey Milk stamp. Little did we know almost everyone on our list would actually RSVP. When you are planning a wedding there are two types of people you invite – those who you have to because either they are family or you've known them forever and then there are those you invite because they are your friends and you enjoy their company.

You also invite some people knowing they won't come because it's too far or the wrong day or as all LGBT couples understand, there are some who morally oppose your happy

day.

In our case almost everyone we invited replied they would be attending. All of a sudden we didn't have the room in our house for a ceremony. So we improvised the day of and did a flash mob wedding at the park a block from our house. We even climbed up on the jungle gym so all of our family and friends could see us. In the end it was the perfect day with everyone close to us in attendance.

I wouldn't really change anything, but I learned a thing or two.

First, don't expect to talk to everyone: even as much as you think you can you'll never have the time. I swear the day was over just as fast as it started.

Secondly, have an emergency food plan. This one I had in my pocket. Our caterer was great but his contract only called for him to be there for four hours. About three hours after he left and with the booze still flowing, guests were starving. "Round Table Pizza, I need six large pizzas as fast as you can get them here," was the call I knew I'd be making.

We should have ordered eight, but thankfully no one went home hungry and it was an amazing day Steve, our family and friends and I will always remember.

*Jason Russell, CPA has been a leader in the area of LGBT tax issues. He is the owner of Russell CPAs and can be reached at [www.RussellCPAs.com](http://www.RussellCPAs.com)*

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# Every Child Needs a Family & Lilliput Can Help Build Yours

by Norman Lorenz and Ed Condon

As early companions in life, then domestic partners and married in 2008, we want to share our experience that led us to Lilliput Children's Services with the desire to raise a family.

Becoming a family has been an ongoing journey for us. From our days in college of simply co-mingling families, to developing a rich and diverse extended family in and among gay and lesbian friends, family has been very multi-dimensional – not always easy, however, always joy-filled.

As a couple, we have been together for 35 years. With our first adoption in 1994, curiosity and dreams lead us to the Lyon-Martin Center in San Francisco. From there, fate led to Santa Rosa's Hestia House, that connected us to our first child, a daughter, legally adopted jointly in Sacramento Family Court. She is now almost 22!

Feeling fulfilled and yet knowing we wanted more children, we reached out to family and friends, only to find Lilliput with open arms. It was here that we were connected to a child through the county foster/adoption services.

Lilliput's program is all-inclusive! With programs inviting all types of families to come together for the purposes of training and understanding around the dynamics of adoption, Lilliput is second to none.

Acting as the intermediary for the family, they work with foster/adoption services in matching families like ours with children. At the time of our adoption, laws were not necessarily considered or supported, but Lilliput worked tirelessly with county and state agencies to ensure the safety and welfare of our children and family.

Needless to say, our family was thrilled on November 20, 1999, to be one of the first same-sex couples to adopt jointly on National Adoption Day. He is now 18!

During the past 18 years, since working directly with Lilliput, we have stayed involved for the first five years with support



**Norman Lorenz and Ed Condon with their family on vacation in Valencia, Spain in 2012.**

services including reunions with other families in the initial training program. In our case we spoke at future family trainings and made recommendations to family and friends to the agency to be involved. As a result, three other couples have adopted five children.

As for the two-dad household in our case, the process of raising two children has transformed our lives.

Lilliput has been supportive over the years and always out in the community promoting that "Love" is unconditional and with loving parents, the lives of children can be enriched. As adults who are also deepened in their dedication to better the world with unconditional "Love" we believe this love extends to improve humankind.

We extend our thanks to Lilliput and other like agencies for their progressive values and community engagement, creating homes where love is the first priority.

Wishing your family the very best!

For more information about Lilliput Children's Services, please call 916-923-5444 or visit them on the web at [www.lilliput.org](http://www.lilliput.org) and [facebook.com/LilliputChildrensServices](https://facebook.com/LilliputChildrensServices).

## 4<sup>th</sup> Annual LGBT Wedding Expo Set for March 6

You've made the commitment to love, honor and cherish, and now it's time to start planning for the big day. Luckily, the LGBT Wedding Expo ([SacLGBTWeddingExpo.com](http://SacLGBTWeddingExpo.com)) is just around the corner and is great opportunity to meet with professionals to help make your wedding fantastic!

Vendors at the Expo include florists, venues, caterers, DJs, and more. Plus the always popular free wine tastings from local wineries and complimentary hors d'oeuvres from an array of caterers and venues.

The Expo will also have a free raffle with some great prizes! With over 75 vendors, the LGBT Wedding Expo will cover all your wedding needs.

This festive event will feature a fashion show designed specifically for LGBT couples presented by House of Fashion. Attendance is FREE and open to the public, and parking is a special flat rate for attendees of \$7.

"During the holiday's and over Valentine's day many couples popped the question. We are so excited to bring the LGBT Wedding Expo to our community to help plan their special day," said

Outword Media CEO Fred Palmer. "Wedding business is good business for everybody. Let's support the business' that support our community year long!"

Sponsors that help make this event possible are Joan Cusick Photography, Nationwide, Residential Home Loans, House of Fashion, Infinite Entertainment and Hyatt Regency Sacramento.

Outword Media Marketing & Events Inc. and Details Details Events & Conference Planning will present the 4th Annual Sacramento LGBT Wedding Expo on Sunday, March 6, from noon to 4:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento, 1209 L St.

Visit [SacLGBTWeddingExpo.com](http://SacLGBTWeddingExpo.com) for more information.

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# Your Wedding Day Is the Start of a Lifetime Happiness

by Jolanne Tierney

Congratulations on your engagement! One of your very first next steps will be planning your wedding, and since I have been in the business of planning weddings since 1983, I have learned that the most important thing is for you both to have the wedding experience you envision – your wedding day is about you two!

Some services you need to plan for are:

## Church or Venue for your Ceremony?

If you are affiliated with a church, consult with the Officiant about your ceremony preferences. If you are not affiliated with a church, hold your ceremony at the same venue as your reception.

## Officiant for your Ceremony.

If you are not affiliated with a church, ask a friend or family member who is comfortable speaking in public to be your Officiant. It makes your ceremony that much more special. She can get a one-day license to officiate your wedding. The fee is \$120. Or she could become ordained for free by going online to Universal Life Church [ulc.net](http://ulc.net).

## Reception Venue.

Choose a venue that allows you to bring in vendors. i.e. caterer, photographer, DJ, photo booth etc... Many venues offer a list of vendors they have worked with and prefer you to hire those vendors. But, it is always nice to have the option to use vendors you both are comfortable with.

## Wedding Planner or Coordinator?

They are different. A Wedding Planner will cost more, but she will help you plan every aspect of your wedding and Will serve as the coordinator throughout your wedding day. Less expensive, go with a coordinator. There are many websites containing checklists of the services you will need or want to consider. You make the plans, including an itinerary. Your Wedding Coordinator will run your wedding day. A great Disc Jockey is often able to offer one or both of these services.

## Photographer.

Though most everyone owns a camera, cell phones included, not everyone knows how to use them! Hire a photographer who has a professional eye for high quality photos for printing. If your budget allows for it, hire a videographer as well. This is truly icing on the cake!

## Live Band or Disc Jockey?

This is a personal preference. I recommend live music for your ceremony and a Disc Jockey for your reception. A DJ can make or break your reception. It is rare that I meet a couple that does not care about dancing! Even if the couple does not like to dance, they want their guests to have a rockin' time!

Shop around, ask your friends and look at websites with testimonials before you sign a contract with any vendor. I have learned that the most expensive does not mean the best and the least expensive does not mean the worst!

Enjoy your planning! Enjoy your wedding day! Have a lifetime of happiness!

Jolanne Tierney, aka Jammin Jo, has over 30 years experience as a wedding planner,



Jolanne Tierney

DJ, and event producer and is very proud to have officiated at over 150 weddings and commitment ceremonies. She can be reached at 916-601-3710, or on the web at [www.jamminjo.com](http://www.jamminjo.com) and [facebook.com/Jammin-Jo-Productions-135160783168982/?fref=ts](https://www.facebook.com/Jammin-Jo-Productions-135160783168982/?fref=ts).

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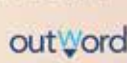
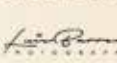


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# It Was Just About a Year Ago, That the Dream Came True

commentary by Jennie Reiken

On June 26, 2015, the freedom to marry became the law of the land in the United States – it was an incredible day, one that many people once thought they would not see in their lifetime.

Up until that point lesbian, gay, bi-sexual, and transgender (LGBTQ+) rights organizations throughout the country had been working tirelessly to make sure that all Americans could legally marry and be afforded the equal rights and protections that they and their families deserved, and through my work with Equality California, Equality Florida, and Freedom to Marry, I was given the opportunity to talk with couples and families about why marriage equality was so important to them.

For some it was being able to host a wedding – one they knew came with the full force of the legal protections marriage provides. Being able to see their special and important day through, for many, was a dream come true. Thousands of couples had been waiting for years, even decades, to simply get married – a milestone that many other couples may take for granted.

Same-sex couples I spoke with knew what music they would play (“A Thousand Years” from the movie *Twilight* was a popular first dance song – understandably so!), what their cake would look like, and envisioned friends and family dancing and celebrating – every detail planned out.

Other couples communicated the security

they felt now that they had the freedom to marry in every state. Prior to the Supreme Court ruling in 2015, many harbored fears that would have been directly alleviated with marriage equality: Same-sex partners were unable to make medical decisions for their loved one in the event of an accident, parents feared if they moved to a state with zero same-sex adoption protections, their child could be taken away, others feared that if their partner passed away, they would be left with nothing. Even if a couple had built a home and a life together, it simply wasn’t recognized.

Couples living in states that banned marriage for same-sex couples were often asked, “Why don’t you just marry in a state that allows marriage equality?” But for some families, the power and significance of their home state – the place where they grew up, fell in love, and lived each day – was so fundamentally important.

They envisioned their wedding at their favorite restaurant, at their church, or on their local beach surrounded by friends and family. Others wanted to be seen as equals to their heterosexual neighbors and colleagues. They wanted their relationship to mean just as much. They wanted to be able to say,



Although she now calls Saint Petersburg, Florida home, Jennie Reiken is well known in Sacramento for her work for marriage equality and LGBT rights. She is currently the Legislative Field Consultant for Florida Competes and can be reached at [facebook.com/jennie.reiken](https://facebook.com/jennie.reiken)

“This is my wife!” and know that was legally protected.

When thinking about that special someone in your life, for many, imaging a wedding or getting married to that person was simply a dream. As someone who fought the good fight for many years, there is no greater reward than opening up my mail box and seeing a wedding invitation from a volunteer, a couple that I interviewed, a colleague, or a friend – seriously, I’m tearing up as I write

this sentence.

To same-sex couples reading this, thank you for stepping up and sharing your story when you were in fear of possibly being shut out by your family or friends. Thank you for bringing a photo of your partner to work and placing it on your desk for others to see. Thank you for showing up to rallies, calling your legislators, and for having pride in who you are.

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Whether you are planning for a wedding reception, shower or bachelor party, a unique and exciting cocktail could be the final touch to a perfect event.

Our friends at Barefoot Wine & Bubbly have been supporters of Marriage Equality since day one – and have often donated their wines to help sparkle events from SIGLFF to the Wedding Expo, and so we wanted to share some their cocktail recipes with you – your guests will love them!

### Citrus Shaker

- 2 ounces Barefoot Bubbly Pinot Grigio
- 1 ounce Orange Juice
- 1 ounce Ruby Red Grapefruit Juice
- 1/4 ounce Lime Juice
- 1/4 ounce Camarena Tequila
- Salted Rim

Circle rim of glass with lime wedge. Dip rim into salt. Set aside. Place juices and tequila in a cocktail shaker with ice. Shake to chill. Strain into prepared glass. Top with Bubbly Pinot Grigio. Stir briefly.

### Barefoot Lemon Drop

- 3 ounces Barefoot Bubbly Extra Dry
- 2 ounces New Amsterdam Gin
- 1 ounce Lemon Juice
- 1/2 ounce Simple Syrup
- Lemon Peel Garnish

Place gin, lemon juice and simple syrup in cocktail shaker. Shake to mix and pour into champagne flute. Top with Barefoot Bubbly Extra Dry and garnish with lemon peel.



### Barefoot Wine and Bubbly's Be My Gal-entine

#### Be My Gal-entine

- 3 ounces Barefoot Bubbly Red Moscato
- 1/2 ounce Amaretto Liqueur
- 1 1/2 ounces Cherry Juice Cocktail
- Fresh cherries

Combine liquids in a cocktail shaker with ice. Shake to chill. Strain into a chilled martini glass. Top with Bubbly Red Moscato. Stir gently. Garnish with fresh cherries.



# *Hamilton* Is Coming to San Francisco

by Chris Narloch

The Broadway cast of *Hamilton* recently made a splash on the Grammy's when they performed the opening number from their show live and then collected the award for Best Musical Theatre Album.



Lin-Manuel Miranda rapped his acceptance speech, which was fitting, since he is the driving force behind this insanely successful hip-hop musical about Alexander Hamilton, one of our country's founding fathers.

(Hamilton was an immigrant from the West Indies who became George Washington's right-hand man during the Revolutionary War and was the new nation's first Treasury Secretary.)

Most of the Broadway production's tickets for 2016 have already been sold, and last time I checked authorized resale tickets through Ticketmaster for seats this spring, in the last row of the mezzanine, were going for in excess of \$500 apiece. (If you want to see the show before next year from the orchestra section, you can pay one of those legalized scalpers as much as \$1,800.)

I had the opportunity to see *Hamilton* at the Public Theatre in New York City before it transferred to Broadway and officially became A BIG DEAL, and I passed because I am neither a history buff nor a fan of most rap music. (A hip-hop musical about Alexander Hamilton sounded like torture to me at the time.)

Now, of course, I could kick myself because everyone I know who has seen the show raves about it, and the reviews from critics have been consistently ecstatic.

Ordinarily, I never listen to a show's music before I have seen the show in question because I don't want to hear the songs out of context, but with all the hype around *Hamilton* I broke down and bought the Broadway cast recording.

I was prepared to hate it and was instead pleasantly surprised by how much I enjoyed Lin-Manuel Miranda's music and lyrics. I liked but didn't love his previous Tony-winning effort, *In the Heights*, but *Hamilton*

is far more complex and ambitious than that show.

Miranda plays the title character, and he also wrote the book for *Hamilton*, which packs a remarkable amount of historical information in to its songs – they reference The Federalist Papers and have “sexy” titles such as “Cabinet Battle #1” and “The Reynolds Pamphlet.”

None of this should work, but Miranda brings history alive with his score for the show, which blends rap and rhythm and blues with traditional Broadway music – sometimes within the same song – to thrilling effect.

The result is a score that has an urgency and an edginess that previous historical musicals like *1776* have lacked. (“The Room Where It Happens,” sung by Leslie Odom Jr. as Aaron Burr, is probably my favorite number in the show, or at least on the cast recording.)

The *Hamilton* cast recording features all of the musical's 46 songs on two discs, and the music made me very excited to see the show when it comes to the West Coast on tour, beginning in March of 2017, at the SHN Orpheum Theatre in San Francisco.

*Hamilton* will anchor the SHN 2016-2017 season and joins the previously announced *The Curious Incident Of The Dog In The Night-Time*. Four additional Broadway productions will be announced this March to complete the season, and new memberships are available now at shnsf.com.

The single tickets on-sale date for *Hamilton* in S.F. has not been announced yet but should happen in late summer or early fall of this year.

For more information about *Hamilton*, please visit [www.hamiltonbroadway.com](http://www.hamiltonbroadway.com).

## Love Is in the Air in New Video *Anyone Would Know*



Valentine's Day may have passed, but Davis Mallory has a new song he calls *Anyone Would Know* about Love Equality. *Anyone Would Know* is about about a personal love story for him, and can be watched at [www.davismallory.com/music](http://www.davismallory.com/music).

[outwordmagazine.com](http://outwordmagazine.com)

February 25, 2016 - March 12, 2016 • No. 547

# *Deadpool*, *Race* & French Films at the Crest

by Chris Narloch

The success of *Deadpool*, which pulled in \$150 million at the box office over the President's Day weekend, took even its studio by surprise.

That crass action-comedy raked in more money in four days than *Race*, a far better film that tells the story of Olympic champion Jesse Owens, is likely to make in its entire theatrical run.

Read on for my thoughts on these two very different movies.

discrimination that included Adolph Hitler's attempt to have blacks and Jews banned from the 1936 Olympics, which were held in Nazi Germany.

The athlete managed to win four gold medals that year, but still had to enter a dinner given in his own honor through a



Ryan Reynolds as “Deadpool”

## Deadpool

How will we ever be able to watch the next Marvel movie with a straight face after seeing Ryan Reynolds send up every superhero cliché in *Deadpool*?

Reynolds plays a young man who is disfigured by people who promise him a solution for his terminal cancer and then turn him into a burn victim with superpowers who is hell-bent on revenge.

The movie's plot is thin and overly familiar, but that's the point – it only exists as a framework on which to hang snarky dialogue and crude, R-rated humor.

Is *Deadpool* any good? That depends on your threshold for self-referential satire and sarcasm. The film is undeniably brash and irreverent, but it's also juvenile and repetitive, with jokes that are hit-and-miss.

Nobody can say that Reynolds isn't a good sport, however. The star even allows the moviemakers to make fun of his limited acting ability.

## Race

Just in time for Black History Month, Hollywood has released an entertaining and inspiring movie about Jesse Owens, a true African-American hero and one of the greatest runners in the history of the Olympics.

Owens triumphed over extreme

back door upon his return to America.

Stephan James is terrific as Owens, as is Jason Sudeikis who plays his white coach. I learned a great deal about Owens from *Race* and was very moved by his story. Hopefully, many other people will go see the film and will feel the same way.

## Sac French Film Festival

It is also awards season in France, and in honor of that country's counterpart to the Academy Awards, Sacramento's Crest Theatre will host the 9th Winter French Short Film Festival, courtesy of the Sacramento French Film Festival.

A selection of the short films nominated for the 2016 Cesars, which are the French equivalent of the Oscars, will be shown, including animated and live action shorts, all with English subtitles.

After the films, the audience will be invited to vote for the “Sacramento César Awards.” The 40th César Ceremony will have been held a week earlier, on Friday, February 26, and the César winners will be announced at the end of the evening, along with the results of the audience voting.

The Winter French Short Film Festival will take place on Saturday, March 5 at the Crest Theatre on K Street. Please visit [www.sacramentofrenchfilmfestival.org](http://www.sacramentofrenchfilmfestival.org).

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# Grits and Glamour at Harris Center – Pam Tillis & Lorrie Morgan Live

by Chris Narloch



Pam Tillis and Lorrie Morgan

Country queens Pam Tillis and Lorrie Morgan are currently delighting old and new fans across North America on their highly successful “Grits and Glamour Tour,” which will make a stop this March at Harris Center in Folsom.

From the road to the red carpet, on center stage in a theater or under the spotlight in a honky-tonk, these two wonderful women are comfortable in their high heels.

Veteran recording artists, performers, and friends, Morgan and Tillis bring a host of hits to the country stage, including a combined total of 28 top 10 tunes, and 12

number one songs.

Among their most memorable hits are Morgan’s soaring ballad “Something in Red” and Tillis’ hilarious signature song, “Cleopatra, Queen of Denial.” The pair will also be performing selections from their excellent recent CD, “Dos Divas,” a must for fans of country music collaborations.

Lorrie Morgan and Pam Tillis bring “Grits and Glamour” to Harris Center for one night only, on Friday, March 11. Don’t miss it.

Visit [www.harriscenter.net](http://www.harriscenter.net) or [www.sblentertainment.com](http://www.sblentertainment.com) for more information.

## The Rainbow Softball League proudly presents the SPRING 2016 SEASON REGISTRATION DAY

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## In Bed With Us Features Intimate Portraits of Modern Love



NYLON has begun a new series, *In Bed With Us*, in which five-minute videos take an intimate look into a diverse set of romantic relationships with various angles. The premiere episode of the series takes a bold approach with same-sex, heterosexual, multi-racial, polyamorous and open-relationship couples of different ages and relationship lengths openly tackling the subject of “why they work?” Visit [www.nylon.com/articles/in-bed-with-us](http://www.nylon.com/articles/in-bed-with-us)



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# Movies With Live Music At Mondavi

by Chris Narloch

If you missed their recent improvised scoring of the granddaddy of all silent horror films, 1920's *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*, you will have two more opportunities to enjoy the Mondavi Center's Music + Film program this March, when *The Triplets of Belleville* and then *E.T.* are shown with live musical accompaniment.

## The Triplets of Belleville

This charming animated film tells the story of a Tour de France cyclist who is kidnapped by mysterious henchmen and spirited across the ocean.

The 2003 French film has a hot jazz score composed by Benoit Charest, who will transport audiences to 1920s Paris as he leads Le Terrible Orchestre de Belleville in a live performance of the original score during the screening.

*The Triplets of Belleville* will be shown one night only, on Friday, March 4.

## E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial

This live performance pairs the brilliance of the San Francisco Symphony with a screening of one of Steven Spielberg's most iconic



The Triplets of Belleville

and memorable films, *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial*.

The 1982 blockbuster was nominated for nine Academy Awards, winning four, including Best Original Score for the legendary Hollywood composer

John Williams.

This program will be performed once, on the evening of Thursday, March 24.

For more information about both of these Music + Film events, please visit [www.mondaviarts.org](http://www.mondaviarts.org).

# Rainbow Softball League Set to Swing Away

Sacramento Rainbow Softball, a local LGBT & Friends league put together by softball enthusiasts, opens registration for Spring co-ed softball teams now through April 10.

Sacramento Rainbow Softball League is in its 5th season, with each season having over 80 registered players and six teams. The League is intended to encourage active lifestyles, fun, socializing and building friendships.

Player registration fee is \$25, which includes a game shirt, an eight week-game schedule, free game day access, registered

referees, music and host game location.

League play is always on Sunday, with an hour time slot for each game, beginning at 10 a.m. with the last game beginning at 1 p.m. Play begins April 10, and all games are played at Grant Park, located at 205 21st St.

Registration forms and entry fees

must be returned to Sacramento Rainbow Softball League at their open registration day on March 20th from 10 a.m. to noon at Grant Park. Checks should be made payable to

Sacramento Rainbow Softball. If a player cannot make registration day please, email [rynsac@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rynsac@sbcglobal.net).

To sponsor the league, obtain registration forms, pay registration or get additional information, contact Rian Troth at [rynsac@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rynsac@sbcglobal.net).



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# RuPaul Is Turning The Heat Up To 100 for His 100th Show

**R**uPaul's *Drag Race* is celebrating all things 100! The mega-hit competition series returns to Logo with a Queen-sized 90-minute premiere on Monday, March 7th at 9:00 p.m. that also marks the 100th episode and 100th Queen to sashay into the workroom.

To celebrate the milestone, Logo will air a 'Runway to 100' marathon of the full series beginning on Thursday, March 3rd at 7:00 p.m. Throughout the marathon, viewers will be treated to all-new interviews with previous contestants who will spill all of the behind-the-scenes T on their seasons.

The 'Runway to 100' series marathon leads into the 100th episode extravaganza and the kick-off of a historic new season featuring a court of cutthroat Queens competing to snatch the crown and strut away with a \$100,000 cash prize as well as the coveted title of "America's Next Drag Superstar."

RuPaul welcomes back Carson Kressley and Ross Mathews to the permanent judging panel alongside Michelle Visage. Think you know this race? Honey, you have no idea.

Once again, RuPaul will be joined by the hottest celebrities today to help alongside show regulars Visage, Kressley and Mathews as they decide who will stay, lip-synch for their life or "Sashay Away."

This season's celebrity guest judges include

Nicole Richie, Gigi Hadid, Marc Jacobs, David and Amy Sedaris, Debbie Harry and Chris Stein of Blondie, Ester Dean, Faith Evans, Jamal Sims, Chanel Iman, Todrick Hall, Thomas Roberts, Tasha Smith and Vivica A. Fox.

For a sneak peek at the new season, visit <http://logo.to/1Qo2UFE>



**RuPaul's *Drag Race* will air its 100th episode this season, where aspiring winners of the \$100,000 grand prize will tell their stories and vie for the crown.**

## Outword Salutes Sacramento's Rainbow Chamber of Commerce

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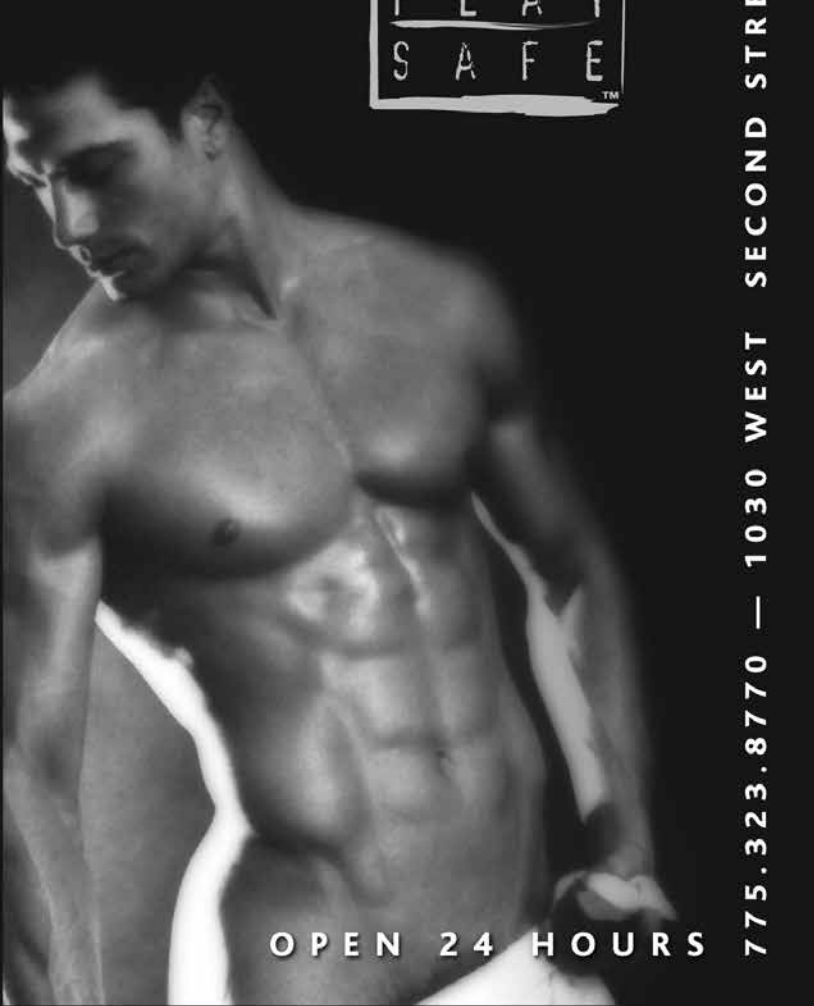
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