



# Outword

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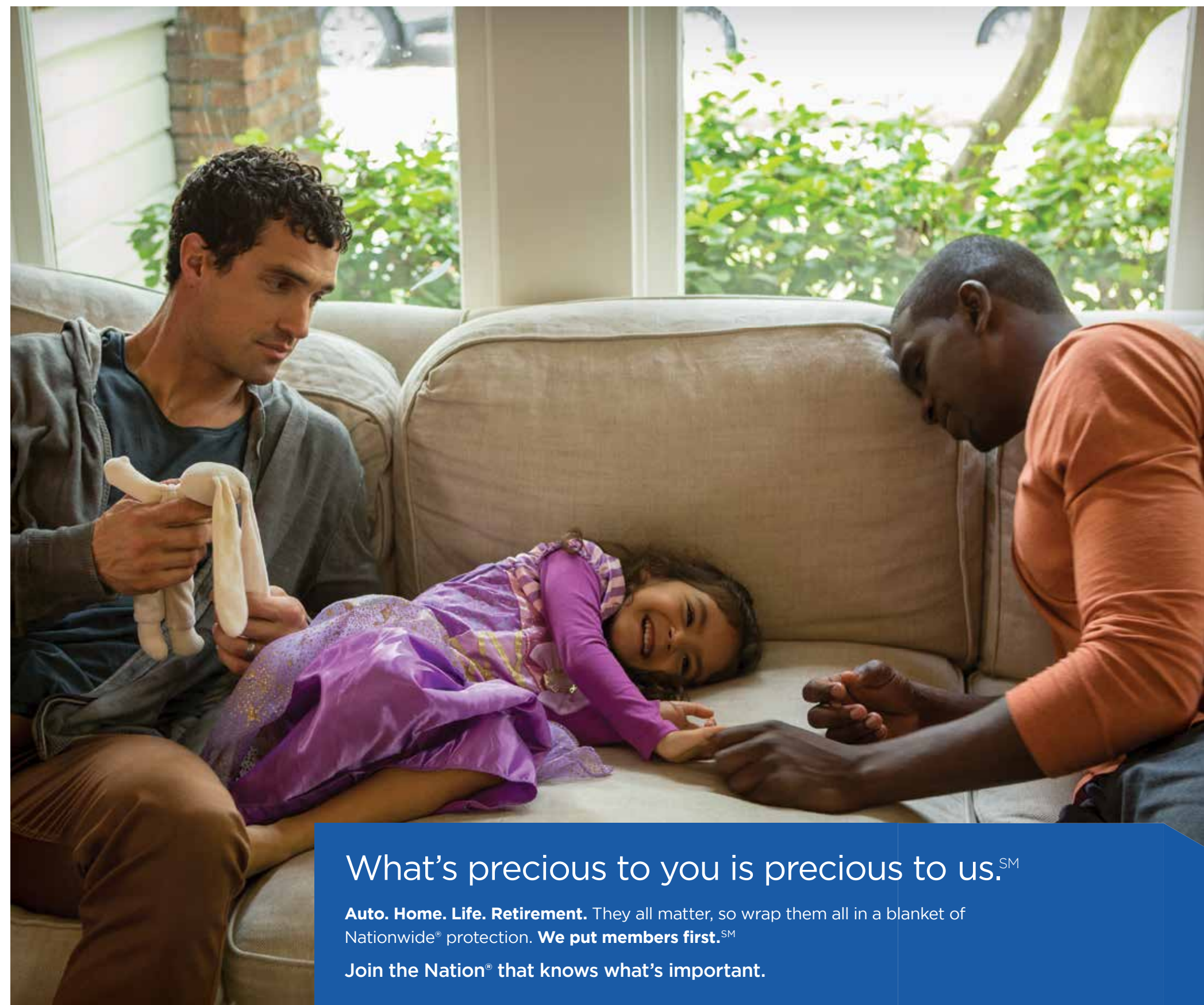
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Boy George and all the original band members of Culture Club, will be performing at Thunder Valley, Friday, Aug. 19. Photo credit Dean Stockings

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# Use Amazon Smile to Help Support LGBTQI Youth

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Either way, you'll find the same Amazon selection of products, and you can use your normal Amazon account to make your purchase. But when you use Amazon Smile, Amazon will donate 0.5 percent of your purchase cost to the Rainbow Chamber Foundation.

Since its founding in 2008, the Rainbow Chamber Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit arm of the Rainbow Chamber of Commerce, has awarded scholarships to 32 LGBT,

questioning or allied students, expanding the number of scholarships each year.

In its first funding year, 2009, the organization awarded only two scholarships; in 2015 with the addition of a SMUD STEM program scholarship and a named scholarship funded by private donors, the Foundation awarded scholarships to seven deserving students.

In addition to its scholarship program, the Foundation supports other local organizations that provide assistance to LGBTQI youth, including the Sacramento LGBT Community Center and the Gender Health Center.

For more information about the Rainbow Chamber Foundation or to access the online application, visit [www.rainbowchamber.com/about-the-foundation/](http://www.rainbowchamber.com/about-the-foundation/).

## Lily Tomlin to Be Honored with SAG Life Achievement Award



**Lily Tomlin – an entertainment maverick whose talents put her at the pinnacle of comedy, acting, writing and producing – has been named the 53rd recipient of SAG-AFTRA's highest tribute: the SAG Life Achievement Award for career achievement and humanitarian accomplishment, to be presented on Sunday, Jan. 29, 2017. “Lily Tomlin is an extraordinary actress, as equally adept at narrative drama as in comedy roles,” said SAG-AFTRA President Gabrielle Carteris. “But it is through her many original characters that Lily’s creative genius fully shines. She has an ability to create diverse and distinct characters that are at once familiar, eccentric and oh so honest – in a way that illuminates life’s hidden corners. From Edith Ann to Frankie, her characters are wholly unique, and by exposing every nuance of human behavior they widen our scope of understanding.”**

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# Standout 2016 to Celebrate Military Diversity

**A** free event designed to assist women veterans and veterans within the LGBT community as they make the oftendifficult transition from military to civilian life will take place Saturday, Aug. 13, at American River College's Student Center.

Celebrating military diversity, StandOut 2016 will arm these veterans – who are frequently the victims of discrimination, bigotry and harassment – with the resources and information to face challenges of daily living.

Assistance will include help with finding and keeping jobs and housing, getting specific legal and financial advice, obtaining health care and education, and accessing other military benefits that they rightfully deserve.

StandOut 2016, sponsored by a collaboration of veteran service organizations headed by the Volunteers of America (VOA) Veteran Family Services, will also provide a venue – complete with minister – for same sex wedding ceremonies and marriage vow renewals.

“California has more women veterans today than any time in history,” said Becca Bettis, director of veteran family services for the VOA Northern California and Northern Nevada. “Nearly 10 percent of California’s 1.8 million veterans are women;

139,000 identify themselves as LGBT. Unfortunately, unemployment and homelessness is rampant within this population. Nationwide, there are 15,000 transgender service members currently serving.

Women and LGBT individuals who are still actively serving in the U.S. armed forces are also invited to attend the daylong StandOut, which will kick off at 9 a.m. with a continental breakfast and welcoming remarks from representatives from the California Department of Veterans Affairs and other governmental agencies and Bettis.

Breakout workshops will help veterans get a better understanding of the G.I. Bill, federal Veterans Administration claims and benefits and fair housing statutes and regulations. A legal clinic and a seminar addressing financial wellbeing will also be included.

StandOut 2016 Saturday August 12, 2016 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. American River College 4700 College Oak Dr., Sacramento. The event is FREE and includes breakfast and lunch for its participants.

To register for Standout 2016 go to Eventbrite, <https://standout2016.eventbrite.com>. For more information, call 916-228-3142 or visit the StandOut page on Facebook.





# An Open Letter to the CDC on PrEP

Four years ago on July 16, 2012, the Food and Drug Administration approved use of Truvada for the prevention of HIV, which is also known as Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)<sup>1</sup>. In a report released by Gilead Sciences on June 20, 2016, they revealed the following information:

1. 49,148 total cumulative prescriptions for Truvada as PrEP have been filled based on data reported by 82% of all pharmacies. While it is unknown how many people who were originally prescribed the drug are still on it, based on adherence information in previous studies, no more than half the people actually took the drug on any type of consistent basis<sup>2</sup>. Therefore, we estimate that about 25,000 are still taking Truvada for prevention. Of these patients 79% were men or about 20,000.
2. We are assuming almost all of these 20,000 are men who have sex with men (MSM). Studies estimate that there are 4,875,000 MSM<sup>3</sup>—or 3.9% of the 125 million adult men in the US. As a result, we can conclude that less than .04% of MSM are taking Truvada for PrEP. CDC has suggested that 1.2 million men<sup>4</sup> should be on PrEP but doctors and patients are not responding to that call in large numbers. PrEP cannot be a major factor in preventing HIV when so few people are on it. On the other hand recent studies indicate that 60% of MSM use condoms regularly<sup>5</sup>, based on last sex among HIV-negative MSM.
3. African-Americans are 12% of the US population but are 44% of new HIV infections<sup>6</sup>. However, they are only 10% of people on PrEP. Young people are most at risk for new HIV infections, but made up only 7.6% of PrEP prescriptions. Whites represent 27% of new infections but made up 74% of those on PrEP. The men who are taking PrEP are those least at risk from HIV.
4. PrEP does not protect people from STDs. The rapid rise in rates of STDs such as syphilis, chlamydia and gonorrhea<sup>7</sup> indicate that fewer people are using condoms and suggesting the need to reinvigorate safer sex campaigns, which have suffered greatly as a result of the CDC's almost exclusive focus on PrEP.
5. The wide-scale advertising promotions of Truvada for PrEP by AIDS organizations and community groups funded by the manufacturer Gilead Sciences gives the impression that PrEP is very popular even though the raw numbers tell another story. Based on the large number of men who say they are on PrEP on hook-up sites such as Grindr, it would appear that they are seeking unprotected sex whether they take the drug or not.

The CDC is the national agency responsible for the prevention of HIV and other STDs. As such, we call on you to re-balance your prevention efforts to align with what patients want and need so that we can achieve better success in preventing new infections.

Thank you.

AIDS Healthcare Foundation

<sup>1</sup> Food and Drug Administration. (2012). FDA approves first drug for reducing the risk of sexually acquired HIV infection. Retrieved online: <http://www.fda.gov/NewsEvents/Newsroom/PressAnnouncements/ucm312210.htm>

<sup>2</sup> Cohen SE et al. (2014). Implementation of PrEP in STD Clinics: High Uptake and Drug Detection Among MSM in the Demonstration Project. 21st Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections (CROI). Retrieved online: <http://www.croiconference.org/sessions/implementation-prep-std-clinics-high-uptake-and-drug-detection-among-msm-demo-project>

<sup>3</sup> Jones JM. (22 June 2016). Same-Sex Marriages Up One Year After Supreme Court Verdict. Gallup. Retrieved online: <http://www.gallup.com/poll/193055/sex-marriages-one-year-supreme-court-verdict.aspx>

<sup>4</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (24 November 2015). Transcript for CDC Telebriefing: Daily Pill Prevents HIV – New CDC estimates underscore the need to increase awareness of a daily pill that can prevent HIV infection. Retrieved online: <http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2015/t1124-hivprep.html>

<sup>5</sup> Paz-Bailey G et al. (2016). Trends in condom use among men who have sex with men in the United States: The role of antiretroviral therapy and sero-adaptive strategies. AIDS.

<sup>6</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (November 2015). Diagnoses of HIV Infection in the United States and Dependent Areas, 2014. Retrieved online: <http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/pdf/library/reports/surveillance/cdc-hiv-surveillance-report-us.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (17 November 2015). Reported Cases of Sexually Transmitted Diseases on the Rise, Some at Alarming Rate. Retrieved online: <http://www.cdc.gov/uchhst/newsroom/2015/std-surveillance-report-press-release.html>



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# Carlos Marquez Takes the Helm of Sac LGBT Center

by Jonathan Taylor

In early 2016 Carlos Marquez was elected the new President of Sacramento's Gay and Lesbian Community Center. As a member of the LGBT community and with a strong foundation in advocacy, Marquez is focused on expanding the center's outreach services and community presence in the greater Sacramento area.

*Outword* wanted to find out his plans and goals for his term as president of the Center, and we were fortunate enough to speak with him on a personally good day for him, as he was celebrating a promotion to Sr. Vice President of Government Affairs at the Charter Schools Association the morning of our interview.

An active member of the community in many facets, Marquez helped organize and lead a local rally in support of Orlando at 20th and on June 12. "Being gay and Latino, the attack on the Pulse Orlando nightclub was particularly terrifying," he said. "Providing the community support and services in the wake of such tragedy is a goal of the Gay and Lesbian Center."

He chose a career of advocacy after completing the Washington Center fellowship in 2005 with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). During the Bush Administration he was able to work on opposing the Federal Marriage Amendment (FMA) in Congress, the blank check writing of the Administration to religious based organizations and the Patriot Act.

He moved to Sacramento to work on

LGBT advocacy in the Capitol, and joined the board of the LGBT Center last year and was elected president earlier this year after David Heitstuman finished his term as president.

Of the many events the Center offers throughout the year, Queer Prom is one that Marquez feels strongly about. "Young people still don't feel safe or accepted at their schools to attend prom as an openly LGBT person," he said. "The Queer Prom offers LGBT young people the opportunity to celebrate prom openly, in recognition of their sexual orientation or gender identity."

The Center's Board is currently reviewing plans to move and expand the Center. He notes that the center, now 30 years old, has a reputation of "Strong financial stewardship, leadership, accountability, and measurable programs."

However, the Center is often forced to turn people away from services and programs because of overcrowding. While plans call for the Center to stay in midtown, Marquez plans to extend outreach to all neighborhoods by building coalitions with partner organizations and satellite offices. He

wants the center to get smarter about providing LGBT workplace training to corporate, government, and business offices.

The Center devotes significant time and resources to help people escape from homelessness and human trafficking. At this year's Sacramento Pride Awards, Marquez noted that "Last year, the center helped 250 homeless and at risk youth find access to health and hygiene amenities; every day three to five people are tested for HIV/AIDS at the Center: 500 people every month found support in community groups; a record 14,000 people participated in Sacramento Pride this year; and nearly 4,000 people accessed affirming community services at the Center."

Marquez believes that there is still much to work for in the LGBT community, both locally and at the national level. "Marriage Equality cannot be understated, but people are still suffering at a disproportionate level, particularly transgender people, people with HIV and AIDS, and are youth and seniors" he says. "We must work to maintain the rights many have tried to erode."

*Jonathan Taylor has written for Examiner.com and Stonewall Democrats Quarterly and is an LGBT political and economic writer, with a B.S. in Accountancy from University of Phoenix, and a Master of Legal Studies from Drexel University.*

## Campaign Calls for Dignity & Respect for Transgender Californians

Senate President pro Tempore Kevin de León and Sacramento Mayor-elect Darrell Steinberg on August 2 at the State Capitol stood with the transgender community and joined Transform California, and along with coalition members, legislators and statewide organizations signed the Transform California pledge – opposing discrimination against transgender people.



State Senator Mark Leno

The Transform California Campaign is a statewide campaign founded by Equality California and the Transgender Law Center to promote respect, understanding and safety for all transgender Californians.

"For too long, our community has faced violence, discrimination and hate for simply being ourselves," said Ebony Harper. "This project is about bringing communities together to promote dignity and respect for all transgender Californians. This is an important time in our state's history when

we're working to create real change in the lives of transgender people."

"I'm proud to be one of the first legislators who signed the Transform California pledge when the coalition launched in Los Angeles, and it's fantastic that so many leaders and organizations are joining this important cause," said Senator De León. "Everyone deserves the opportunity to live safely, happily and without fear from discrimination – including our transgender friends and family,".

Senator De León and Sacramento Mayor-elect Darrell Steinberg were joined by transgender community leader Leon Burse, a Sacramento State graduate, staff member at Sacramento's Gender Health Center and Transform California spokesperson; members of the transgender community; Assemblymember Susan Eggman; Downtown Sacramento Partnership Executive Director Michael Ault; Equality California Executive Director Rick Zbur; SEIU California President and SEIU Local 2015 President Laphonza Butler; and ACLU's Director of California Center for Advocacy & Policy Natasha Minsker.

The celebration was held on the steps of the California State Capitol, a symbolic location illustrating that this is not uniquely a Los Angeles, San Francisco or Sacramento issue, but a statewide problem in which all Californians must take part to ensure that the transgender community feels safe and is free to live without facing violence and discrimination.

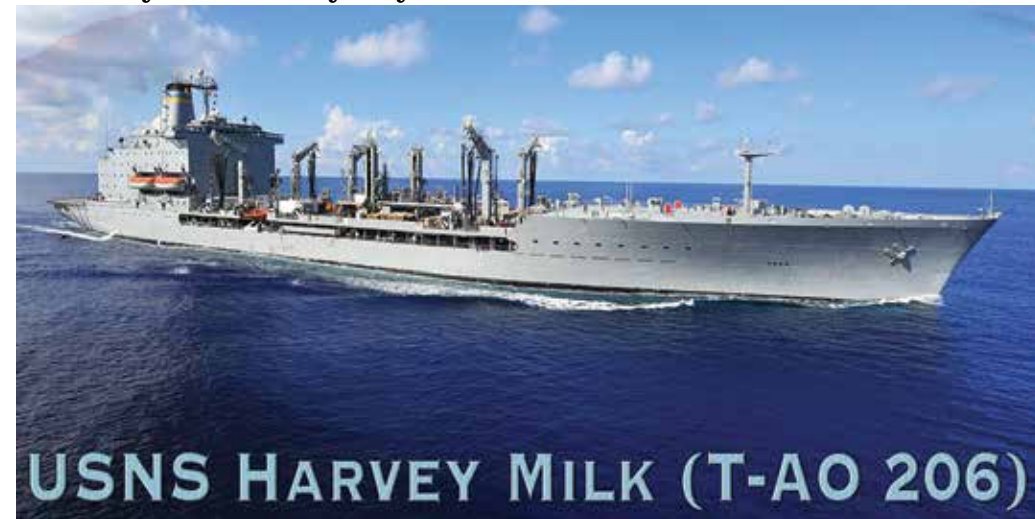
"I'm extremely proud to see our Capital City – a representation of the Golden State – standing up for real change and I encourage all communities to follow," said Sacramento Mayor-elect Darrell Steinberg. "We must work together to promote respect, understanding and safety for transgender people."

For more information on Transform California or to sign the coalition pledge and join the campaign, visit [www.TransformCalifornia.com](http://www.TransformCalifornia.com).



# Navy to Name Ship After LGBT Rights Activist Harvey Milk

The Navy is set to name a ship after LGBT rights icon and San Francisco politician Harvey Milk, according to a Congressional notification dated July 14, and signed by Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus.



The ship is a planned Military Sealift Command fleet oiler, USNS Harvey Milk (T-AO-206). The ship would be the second of the John Lewis-class oilers being built by General Dynamics NASSCO in San Diego and will provide underway replenishment of fuel to U.S. Navy ships at sea and jet fuel for aircraft assigned to aircraft carriers.

Mabus has said the John Lewis-class of fleet oilers – named after civil rights activist and congressman Rep. John Lewis (D-Ga.) – would be named after civil rights leaders.

Other names in the class include former Supreme Court Chief Justice Earl Warren whose court ruled to desegregate U.S. schools, former Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy, women's right activist Lucy Stone and abolitionist and women's rights activist Sojourner Truth.

Milk came from a Navy family and commissioned in the service in 1951. He served as a diving officer in San Diego

during the Korean War on the submarine rescue ship Kittiwake until 1955. Milk was honorably discharged from the service as a lieutenant junior grade.

Following his service, Milk was elected to the San Francisco board of supervisors and was the first openly gay California politician to be elected to office. He was killed in office in 1978. When Milk was shot he was wearing his U.S. Navy diver's belt buckle.

"Harvey Milk is an American hero and an icon for LGBT equality, and it's phenomenal that the U.S. Navy is going to honor his legacy by naming a ship after him," said American Military Partner Association President Ashley Broadway-Mack. "Harvey Milk's incredible leadership in the face of adversity continues to inspire all of us in our ongoing fight for full LGBT equality. By breaking down barriers and fighting for the dignity and worth of all Americans, he left behind an example for all of us in his service to our nation, both in and out of uniform."

## First-In-The-U.S. World Outgames To Be Held in Miami



**World OutGames Miami**, the 10-day event that will bring to life 34 sports and more than 450 events across the areas of sport, culture and human rights, has launched advanced registration. Thousands of athletes, participants, spectators and thought leaders from around the globe will converge on Miami for **World OutGames IV** to be held Friday, May 26 through Sunday, June 4, 2017. Registration is available online at [outgames.org](http://outgames.org).

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# Logo To Host LGBT-Focused Election Coverage

Logo is planning a multiplatform digital series focused on the issues that matter most to LGBT people and their families during this year's Presidential election, with LGBT advocate and social media star Raymond Braun hosting the election themed videos.



Raymond Braun with Chelsea Clinton after his 2016 DNC Logo interviews with her about her LGBT stance. The interview, and others in the series, can be watched at [www.logotv.com/shows/logo-news/video-guide](http://www.logotv.com/shows/logo-news/video-guide)

The videos can be viewed on Logo and LogoTV.com and will feature interviews with candidates, elected officials and LGBT leaders. Braun will also be reporting via Logo's social platforms including Snapchat and Facebook Live. The digital series debuted with coverage on-the-ground at the Republican National Convention in Cleveland featuring interviews with GOP supporters and other activists about their views on LGBT issues. A video featuring Montel Williams calling on the Republican Party to include LGBT people can be viewed here: <http://tinyurl.com/zbropmk>. Other episodes will feature key moments throughout the rest of the election cycle. "I'm excited to partner with Logo to shine a spotlight on the issues that matter

most to LGBT people and our loved ones and allies," said Braun. "There are still so many important issues at stake for the LGBT community. This election is critical for our community to continue moving equality. I hope to open up the political conversation and make politics more accessible to LGBT people. It's important to provide a platform for people from all political backgrounds to speak out about LGBT issues and how we can exercise our influence in the political process." Braun is a media personality, entrepreneur, and LGBT advocate recently named one of the 100 most influential LGBT people in the world on the OUT 100 list, a Forbes 30 Under 30 "All Star," and one of MTV's "16 Rising Social Media Stars in 2016."

# The Importance of Queer Havens for Queer Youth

by Alexia Roditis

I began my rainbow reign at Rush Week with a table decorated with a colorful flag and a small group of gays. I came up with the idea of the Queer-Straight Alliance for my school when a few of my friends came out to me, a fellow queer person.

My school hadn't had any active GSAs and I didn't think it would be too difficult to start a club, so I gathered my co-leaders, did the paperwork, set up my table, and there it began. Little did I know that people would flock to my table. Of course there were a couple scoffers, but when I responded to their mocking questions with honest answers, they lost interest. Either way, the tons of energetic kids who signed up allowed me to overlook those few. From that point on, we met every Wednesday at lunch to talk about something LGBT+, whether it be something that we saw on the news, a general topic and its relation to the queer community, or a simple group conversation about stuff happening in our lives. The community we formed was a source of friendship and comfort for everyone. Because of this experience, I realized how important it is to have people to identify with, especially as a high school student. More crucial than people in TV or movies are real life mentors to communicate with and see being happy with themselves, particularly with the LGBT community. Idols and examples of happy LGBT people are essential to young queer people's future relationship with their identity and others. The LGBT group we formed ensured that every kid who walked in would have someone who they could relate to. Our executive members range from a hardcore lesbian to a genderfluid-asexual and pansexuals, so needless to say, we were a diverse crowd of gender and sexuality minorities. This allowed everyone to have someone they could talk to about their identity. Everyone could see people who were like them, and they could take away positive parts of being LGBT. Through this I understood the importance of every school having some kind of LGBT alliance club. All students should have a place to be comfortable that's within their school's walls. Many kids go home to unwelcoming families or places where they have to be closeted. During school is one of the best ways to give these healthy LGBT role models for queer people growing up. Every school should have a gay haven, and no one should be afraid to start one.

## Record Number of LGBT Delegates at 2016 DNC



The LGBT Caucus to the 2016 DNC announced that there were 516 delegates who self-identified as LGBT, including a record-breaking 28 transgender delegates. That was 11.5 percent of all delegates. California and Sacramento delegate, Terry Schanz was among them and he shared his pride with a California/rainbow flag as well as a hat that read "Making America Gay Again." Photo courtesy the 2016 DNC LGBT Caucus.

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# Briefly Put

## Federal Court Strikes Down NC's Voter ID Law

On July 29, the United States Appeals Court for the Fourth Circuit struck down a North Carolina voter identification requirement in state law. In its decision, the three-judge panel invalidated a lower court's ruling that upheld the law passed by the state legislature with "discriminatory intent."

"The federal appeals court ruling is a huge win for democracy and voting rights. All across America, state lawmakers are passing voter ID laws with the intent of disenfranchising Black, Latino, transgender, and low-income voters. Instead of denying people's access to the ballot box, lawmakers should be pushing to reinstate critical protections previously available under the 1965 Voting Rights Act and work to ensure that everyone regardless of who they are, where they live, or their social economic status is able to exercise their right to vote," said Russell Roybal, Deputy Executive Director, National LGBTQ Task Force Action Fund.

## EQCA Endorses 10 Pro-Equality Candidates in Federal, State and Local Races

Equality California has endorsed 10 strong pro-equality candidates for Congress, the California Assembly and local offices throughout the state.

"LGBT equality depends heavily on the people we send to represent us at every level of government," said Rick Zbur, executive director of Equality California. "Each of our endorsed candidates has a long history of supporting the LGBT community, and we know they will be staunch advocates for us in Washington, DC, in Sacramento and across California."

The candidates are as follows: U.S. Congress – Bao Nguyen (CD 46); California Assembly – Laura Friedman (AD 43), Cheryl Cook-Kallio (AD 16), Dawn Ortiz Legg (AD 35); Local Level; Erik Howell (Pismo Beach City Council), Billie Joe Wright (Anaheim Elementary School Board of Trustees Area 1), Greg Pettis (City Council of Cathedral City), Pablo Benavente (Concord City Council), Sabrina Brennan (San Mateo Harbor Commission), and Alex Randolph (SF Community College Board of Trustees).

For more information on the candidates, visit [www.eqca.org](http://www.eqca.org)

## Federal Court Hears Argument for Transgender Clients in Lawsuit Against North Carolina's Anti-LGBT Law

A federal court on August 1st heard oral argument on a motion seeking an immediate halt to provisions of North Carolina's House Bill 2, the law that mandates discrimination against transgender people in single-sex facilities, among other things.

"All I want is to use the appropriate restroom in peace, just like everyone else. It's humiliating that this law separates me from my peers and treats me like a second-class citizen," said Joaquín Carcaño, 28, a UNC-Chapel Hill employee and transgender man who is the lead plaintiff in the lawsuit.

In March, Lambda Legal, the ACLU, and the ACLU of North Carolina, along with co-counsel Jenner and Block, filed the lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the Middle District of North Carolina. In the complaint, the plaintiffs argue that through HB 2, North Carolina sends a purposeful message that LGBT people are second-class citizens who are undeserving of the privacy, respect, and protections afforded others in the state.

## Chelsea Manning Faces New Charges, Indefinite Solitary Confinement Related to Suicide Attempt

Imprisoned whistleblower Chelsea Manning received a document from Army officials on July 28th informing her that she is being investigated for serious new charges related to her July 5 attempt to take her own life.

If convicted of these "administrative offenses," she could be placed in indefinite solitary confinement for the remainder of her decades-long sentence.

"It is deeply troubling that Chelsea is now being subjected to an investigation and possible punishment for her attempt to take her life. The government has long been aware of Chelsea's distress associated with the denial of medical care related to her gender transition and yet delayed and denied the treatment recognized as necessary," said Chase Strangio, staff attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union.

Since she was first taken into custody in 2010, Manning, a transgender woman being forced to serve out her sentence in an all-male prison, has been subjected to long stretches of solitary confinement and denied medical treatment related to her gender dysphoria.



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## Wisdom Project=LGBT Elders Host Senior Pride Fair



Sacramento Mayor-elect Darrell Steinberg was the featured speaker at a senior pride information and resource fair held July 26th at the E.M. Hart Senior Center. Over 25 organizations provided information for seniors about health care, the SSA and activities available for LGBT seniors. Visit [www.servant-hearts.org](http://www.servant-hearts.org). Photo by Photography by Larry, photographybylarry.photorelect.com

## Mayor-Elect Steinberg to Keynote 2016 Annual Rainbow Chamber Dinner

Sacramento Mayor-Elect Darrell Steinberg will be the keynote speaker at the Sacramento Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards and Scholarship Dinner on Thursday, Sept. 15, at the Dante Club.

This will not be the first time Steinberg has addressed a Rainbow Chamber dinner: in September 2007 Steinberg, then a State Senator, administered the oath of office to incoming board members and spoke at the Chamber's first annual dinner at the Holiday Inn Express, according to an article by Sacramento News & Review's Kel Munger.

"Darrell Steinberg has been a staunch supporter of LGBT equality since his days as Sacramento City Councilmember," said Chamber President Paul Weubbe. "He has attended our events, marched in Sacramento Pride Parades, and stood beside us when hate crimes and violence threatened our community. We are immensely honored to have him as our 2016 keynote speaker as he prepares to enter the historic next chapter of his public service career."

At the 2007 dinner, Steinberg urged Chamber members to work with other chambers to enact health care reform as a benefit to small business. In 2016, as Mayor-Elect, his remarks may be expected to address many equally important issues, such as solutions for homelessness and opportunities created by the skyrocketing

development around the new downtown arena. RainbowPAC, the Chamber's non-partisan political action committee, endorsed Steinberg's candidacy for Mayor.

The 2016 Awards and Scholarship Dinner will feature live and silent auctions benefiting the Chamber's 501(c)(3) Rainbow Chamber Foundation, which provides

scholarships to LGBTQ and allied students. The program will include 2016 scholarship presentations and the 2016 LGBT Business Leader of the Year Award.

Individual tickets and tables are on sale now at [RainbowChamber.com](http://RainbowChamber.com), and sponsorships and event program ads starting as low as \$125 are still available. For more information call 916-266-9630 or email [info@rainbowchamber.com](mailto:info@rainbowchamber.com).



Darrell Steinberg speaking at a rally in Sacramento after the Orlando shootings. Photo by Charles Peer.



# More Miyazaki, Plus Kurosawa at the Crest

by Chris Narloch

The 2016 Sacramento Japanese Film Festival was already held at the Crest earlier this summer, but great cinema from the Land of the Rising Sun doesn't end there.

That same midtown movie palace has two more Japanese classics screening this August, each by a celebrated director.

## Howl's Moving Castle

Hayao Miyazaki's *Spirited Away* was such a hit at the Crest recently that the theater has wasted no time bringing another animated masterpiece by the great director to their big screen.

This time, *Howl's Moving Castle*, from 2005, is the title getting the 35mm treatment at the Crest. The spectacular film, in Japanese with English subtitles, is animation at its finest.

Based on the novel by Diana Wynne Jones, the movie depicts a world of wizards, curses, demons and walking castles.

*Howl's Moving Castle* will screen at the Crest at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 13, 2016.

## Ran

The late, great Akira Kurosawa directed many fine films, and 1985's *Ran* is one of his finest. Inspired by Japanese legends as well as William Shakespeare's *King Lear*, the film is an epic cinematic experience.

The movie was the most expensive

Japanese film ever produced up to that time. It stars Tatsuya Nakadai as Hidetora Ichimonji, an aging Sengoku-era warlord who decides to abdicate as ruler in favor of his three sons.

The film was hailed for its powerful images and use of color, and costume designer Emi Wada won an Academy Award for Costume Design for her work on the movie.

Akira Kurosawa's *Ran* will be shown at the Crest at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, August 21, 2016.

For more information about these and other events playing at the theatre, go to [www.crestsacramento.com](http://www.crestsacramento.com).



# Nashville's Brandy Clark set to Sing in Sacramento

by Chris Narloch

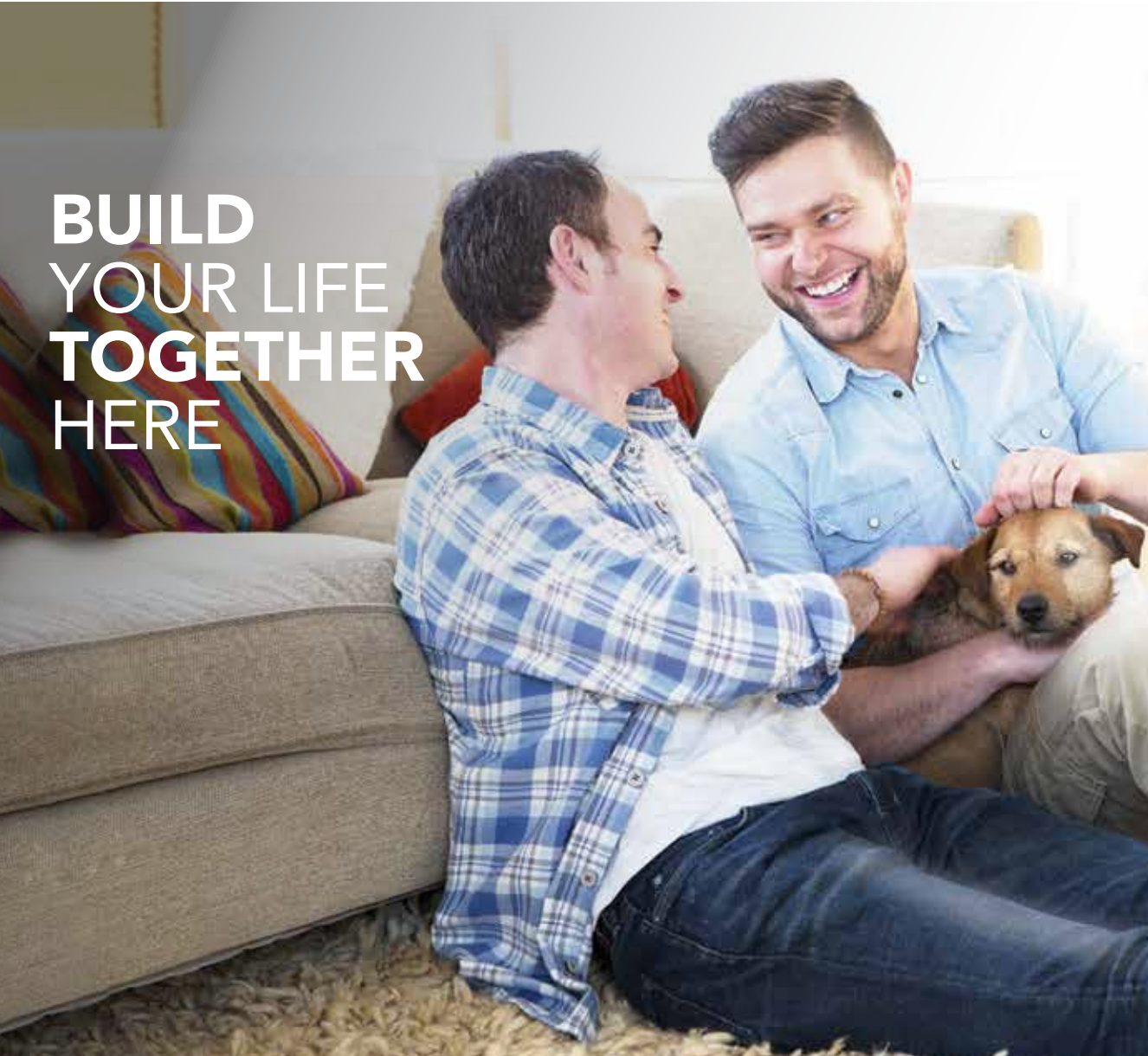
I haven't checked out River City's newest country bar yet, but I will definitely be there later this month when Brandy Clark, one of Nashville's most talented singer/songwriters, brings her current tour to Goldfield Trading Post in Midtown Sacramento.

The openly gay artist, who co-wrote the LGBT-friendly song "Follow Your Arrow" for Kacey Musgraves with Musgraves and Shane McAnally, first picked up the guitar at nine years old and made her singing debut in school musicals. She is originally from Washington State.

In addition to "Follow Your Arrow," Clark has written hits for the likes of Keith Urban, Sheryl Crow, Miranda Lambert, Reba McEntire, The Band Perry, Darius Rucker, and many more.

Clark has also released two highly acclaimed albums of her own (*12 Stories* and this year's *Big Day in a Small Town*) and was nominated for Best New Artist at the 2015 Grammy Awards.

Brandy Clark will perform one show only at Goldfield Trading Post in Midtown Sacramento (former site of Hamburger Mary's/Hamburger Patties), at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, August 18. Tickets are just \$12, and if there are any left, you can purchase them at [www.goldfieldtradingpost.com](http://www.goldfieldtradingpost.com).



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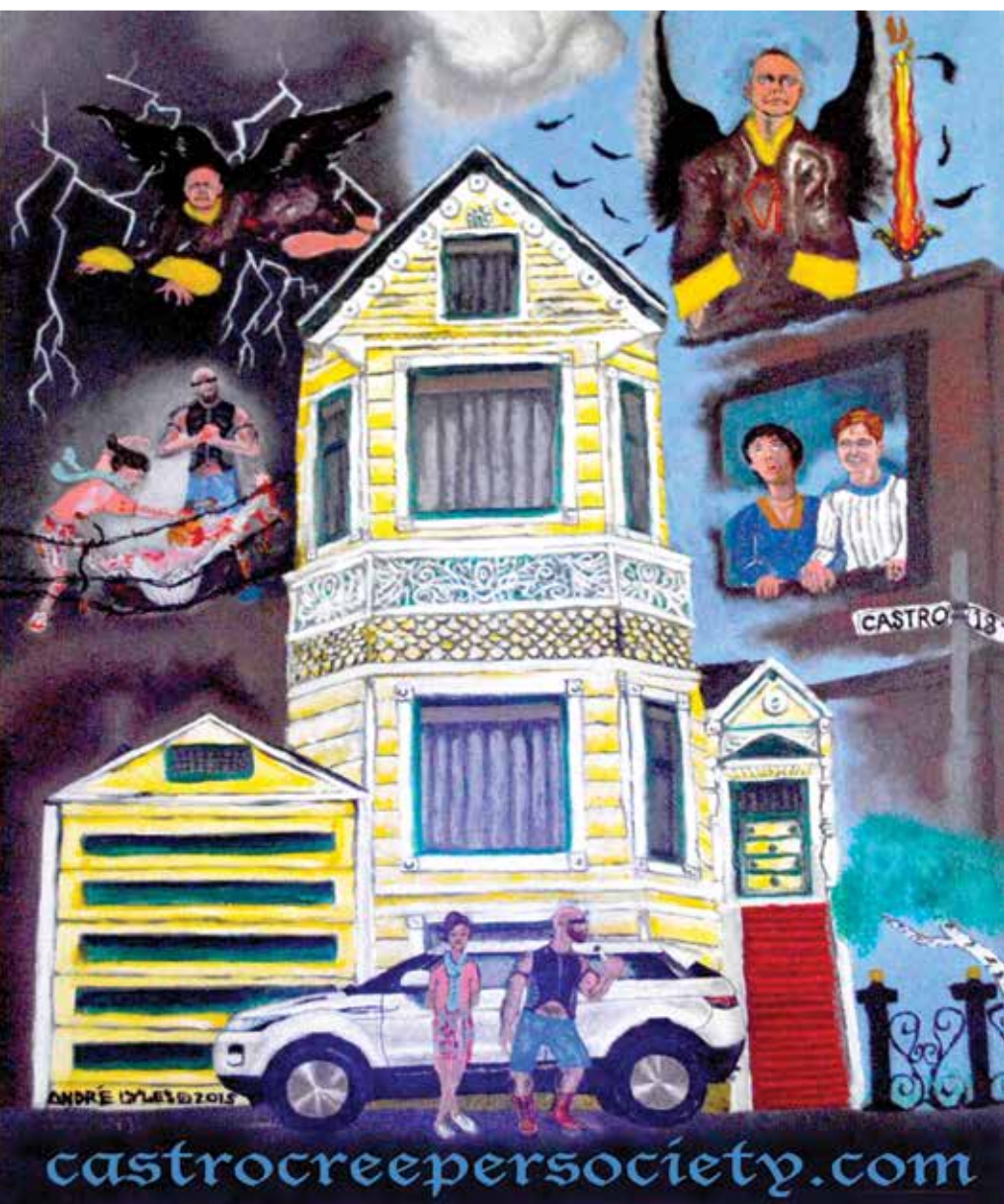


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## The Hunchback of Notre Dame at Music Circus Plus Edgar Allan Poe at Green Valley Theatre

by Chris Narloch

If your taste in musicals strays from *The Sound of Music* and *Singin' in the Rain* to something a shade darker, rejoice dear reader.

You have two opportunities to take a walk on the wild side, theatrically speaking, with the local premieres of two twisted tales for the stage.

### Nevermore

Edgar Allan Poe's darkest story was his own, and *Nevermore* blends elements of Poe's life and his writings to create a unique theatrical experience making its West Coast Premiere courtesy of Green Valley Theatre.

*Nevermore* is described as "dark and imaginative, combining haunting music, poetic storytelling, and stunning visual elements to tell the life story of an iconic American writer."

Edgar Allan Poe struggled with tragedy and addiction, poverty and loss, yet produced some of the world's most original, visionary and enduring literature, before dying in unexplained circumstances at the age of 40.

*Nevermore* blurs the line between fact and fiction, exploring the events that shaped Poe's character and career. Green Valley is the first regional theater company to produce *Nevermore*, since its 2010 and 2015 runs off-Broadway in New York.

Performances of *Nevermore* continue through Sunday, August 28, 2016. Show times will be Fridays, and Saturdays at 8 p.m., and Sundays at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$18 and are available online at [greenvalleytheatre.com](http://greenvalleytheatre.com), or in-person at the door.

### The Hunchback of Notre Dame

Sacramento's Music Circus has saved the best for last this summer with this not-to-be-missed new musical, which is the only stage collaboration from two masters of musical theatre, Alan Menken (Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and the Beast*) and Stephen Schwartz (*Wicked*, *Pippin*).



Ryan Blanning stars as Edgar Allan Poe in *Nevermore*.

With a lush, emotionally rich score and beautiful choral arrangements, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* is a dramatic retelling of the epic novel by Victor Hugo.

Darker than the Disney film and closer in plot to the tragic novel, the musical showcases the film's Oscar-nominated score and also introduces new songs.

"*The Hunchback of Notre Dame*" plays August 23-28 at Wells Fargo Pavilion. For more information, visit [www.californiamusicaltheatre.com](http://www.californiamusicaltheatre.com).

## Palestinian Friends Confront Their National and Sexual Identities in *Oriented*



*Oriented* follows the lives of three gay Palestinian friends who, determined to change their reality, form a non-violent, cultural resistance group called "Qambuta" (Cauliflower) to advocate for sexual, ethnic and gender equality in Israel and the Mideast. Watch the trailer at [www.orientedfilm.com](http://www.orientedfilm.com).



# Boy George: Making A Statement

by Colt McGraw

In 1982, the British boy band Culture Club topped the charts in eight different countries with a song that continues to resonate today. “Do You Really Want to Hurt Me” was that song, and it became the group’s first jewel in their crown, with many more hits to follow, including “I’ll Tumble 4 Ya”, “Miss Me Blind,” “Time” and “Karma Chameleon.”

The group’s enormous success can be read in black and white, with more than 50 million albums sold, a dozen top ten hits, and enough awards to fill several cases. However, their biggest impact was made in full color.

In fact, the entire rainbow was used, as front man Boy George skipped the coming out party altogether. Yes, long before Ellen, Rosie and Lance were staging coming out campaigns, George was

was traveling through Kansas.

**Hello, Boy George. Are there any good-looking men in Kansas?**

(Laughs.) Darling, they’re everywhere.

**On Australian TV, you recently referred to yourself as an “old gay.” What is an “old gay”?**

I’m very traditional in the sense that I enjoy not having any responsibility. I don’t want to have to look after anyone really. Call me

company, but if someone fell on my lap, we might have some fun. But I don’t feel like I’m missing anything. I have friends that have to be in relationships; they don’t feel whole if they don’t have someone. I’m not that person. I like my own company.

**Maybe that means you like yourself?**

Well, (laughter) maybe I’m getting there.

**Say a man wanted to make**



Boy George and Culture Club

performing for conservatives and skeptics, while dressed in makeup and sequins.

Before many would even whisper the words gay, transgender or drag queen, George did, unapologetically. At the 26th annual Grammy Awards, Culture Club was awarded Best New Artist. Upon accepting the award from Joan Rivers, via satellite in London, George said, “Thank you America. You’ve got taste, style and you know a good drag queen when you see one.”

Though George doesn’t truly see himself as a drag queen, his humor represented his ability to recognize what others were thinking and his confidence to be himself.

Now 55, George has reunited with his original band-mates for a North American tour. I had the opportunity to speak with George at the tour’s halfway point, while he

selfish. I admire anyone who wants to bring up children, straight or gay, but it’s not right for me.

**You have such a great attitude and exude so much positivity. Is there anything that just drives you bonkers?**

I think that the world is quite bonkers right now, with everything that’s going on, but I really try to focus on positivity, I have got to focus on the things that make me happy. I try to spread positive vibrations, not only in the way that I think but also in the way that I behave. Sometimes when awful things happen and you put on social media “pray for whatever,” people get very aggressive and say prayers don’t do anything. I disagree with that. I think prayer is very important.

**Let’s talk men.**

I’m not particularly looking for one. I live alone and I like my own

**George happy, what might he do?**

I think, probably kiss my ears, (laughter) kiss my ears and my neck (more laughter), and a sense of humor is important.

**In 1984, Rolling Stone Magazine asked you “what beauty product could you not live without”? Do you remember how you answered?**

No (with curiosity.)

**You replied with “the male form.” So, is that still the case?**

No, (laughter), you know what I mean? It’s like, oh please! I think when you’re younger you’re more obsessive about these things. Then when you get older it’s like, they become more of a hassle than they’re worth.

**So what could you not live without today?**

**BOY GEORGE**  
*continues on page 18*

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# Napa's 2013 Cabernet Sauvignon Harvest Was Phenominal

by Diana Kienle

I recently received a mailer from Paul Hobbs Winery, one of the most respected vintners in the Napa valley that has projects outside of the U.S. as well – in fact, Forbes magazine called him the Steve Jobs of Wine making.

With all that said – you can trust the descriptors he provides of the growing season in 2013 for cabernet:



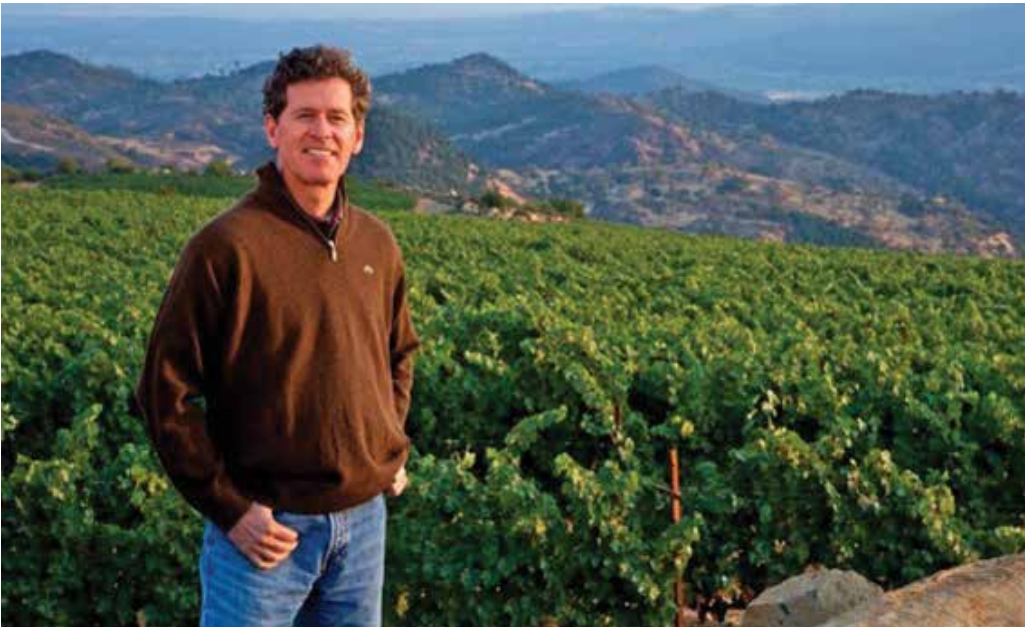
“2013 was a phenomenal growing season in just about every way. A warm, dry spring led to

early bud break, limited canopy vigor and berry size, and created ideal condition through bloom and fruit set. An abundance of long sunny days, with only one heat spike in early July, resulted in even ripening and an early harvest with exceptional flavor development. The 2013 vintage offers very high quality wines that are staking in their balance and expression.”

Why should you care about that paragraph and what does it mean to you? It means that most vineyards experienced a remarkably balanced growing season. It was one where the climate did not demand a great deal of intervention in the vineyard to provide an optimal crop.

Bud break usually occurs around St Patrick's Day in the valley. It is when the first shoots erupt from the dormant vines to begin the growing season. The canopy refers to the growth of grape leaves that emerge from the vines and that could require thinning based on the amount of sun needed to ensure even ripening of the grapes.

Berry size is a factor as well. The depth of flavor in red wine comes from contact with the skins. The desirable grape is thick



Winemaker Paul Hobbs

skinned and is a small berry for concentrated flavors.

Even ripening refers to the consistency of all the grapes in the cluster. If some are over ripe and other under ripe, it can affect the yield and the quality of the must. Must is the term that refers to the squished seeds, skins and pulp. This is essentially the wine makers “raw” material.

Wow, that is a lot to say that the wines out of Napa Valley from the 2013 vintage have the potential to be excellent. The growing

season provided a great environment to deliver wonderful fruit. Every wine maker will tell you that starting with great tasting fruit is the beginning of something wonderful.

Vintage matters and this one from Napa Valley for cabernet is a great one!

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).

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## Get Ready for Season 5 of *Where The Bears Are*



The award-winning web series is back and will feature guest appearances by Chaz Bono (*The Bold and the Beautiful*), Perez Hilton (*Hot in Cleveland*) and Paolo Andino (*The Big Gay Sketch Show*). Season 5 follows the exploits of four gay bear roommates living together in Los Angeles as they become involved with intrigue and murder, while couple Nelson and Todd are on their honeymoon in Palm Springs. Premieres September 1st at [wherethebearsare.tv](http://wherethebearsare.tv)



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## Boy George

*continued from page 15*

Food! Yeah, good food and good company; friendships and music are obviously a huge part of my life.

**Looking back, what advice would you give to your 18 year old self?**

Well, the problem with that is: you don't listen. It's only when you get older and wiser that you realize that you should've listened. People always ask me what advice I'd give to this person or that person, but I'm always worried that it's going to fall on deaf ears because young people think they know everything. So, I'm not sure if I'd just be wasting my time.

**What do you consider the best part of the live show?**

For me, probably doing "Victims." That's one of the highlights of the show every night because it's really stripped down. It's just me and the piano to start, and that's quite magical.

**What's your philosophy on fashion?**

I don't think of what I do as fashion. I think of it as personal style. I think fashion is about wearing money,

you know – "look how much my hand bag costs." So I try to stay in an area where it's more about being an individual and making my own kind of statement. I grew up in the 70s and 80s when people would wear clothing to make social and political statements. I think that clothes can be very valuable in that respect, but sometimes I think that people can take fashion far too seriously.

**Is Culture Club working on any new music?**

We have some new tracks that we are doing in the show. We sort of have most of an album recorded, but we're going to add some tracks to that. Maybe look at putting something out next year. People have been super patient. but it's important to get the record right before you get it out there.

**I understand you're going to be on the New Celebrity Apprentice. If you could pick two ideal teammates for the show, who would they be?**

Carson Kressley was on my team, and he was a great ally. Then I would probably get really shallow and choose somebody really cute like



Justin Bieber (laughter), maybe Kanye to see what he would do or Kim maybe, to see if she would get down and scrub the floors or just refuse!

**Have you been following American politics?**

Yes. At home people get very personal, but here it seems like nothing is out of bounds. People say the most shocking things. As a Brit, I don't really have a say about the outcome. I'm just kind of watching the whole thing with great fascination. What you're seeing with Donald Trump is how good he is on TV and the power of television. As an outsider, I'm very fascinated to see what the outcome will be.

On Friday, August 19, George, Roy, Mikey and Jon of Culture Club will come together for one special night at Thunder Valley Casino's Outdoor Amphitheater. 80's synth-pop band Information Society will be opening the sure to be sold out show. Get your golden ticket today by going to [ticketmaster.com](http://ticketmaster.com) and at the Thunder Valley box office, 877-468-8777, or [WorldOnePresents.com](http://WorldOnePresents.com).

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

## Grace Jones Is a Slave to the Rhythm

*by Chris Narloch*

**I**f you missed her last Bay Area appearance, don't let this phenomenal dance diva get by you again. The "one and only" Grace Jones is scheduled to perform at the Greek Theatre in Berkeley on Saturday, August 27, 2016.



Grace Jones

The last time I saw Jones – just last September, in Oakland – she sang one number while balancing a hula-hoop around her midsection for the duration of the song. (To say that Jones puts heart and soul in to her performances is an understatement; she also puts her entire body into them.)

Long before Lady Gaga, Rihanna, and Beyonce, or even Madonna, Grace Jones was a true music and fashion icon, incorporating state of the art set design and lighting, and extravagant theatrical costumes in to her shows, which are more accurately described as "events".

To say that Jones is provocative is putting it mildly, and her hit list includes such unforgettable tracks as "Slave to the Rhythm," "Pull Up To The Bumper," "Love Is The Drug," "I Need A Man," "Nipple to the Bottle" and "Sex Drive."

Grace Jones' opening act for this concert will be Devonte "Dev" Hynes, better known as Blood Orange, a highly acclaimed British singer, songwriter, composer, producer and author. It promises to be one killer show.

For tickets, visit [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).





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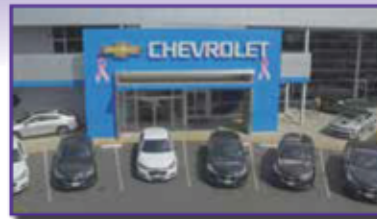


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