

# outword

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## Correction: Gary Miller is the First Openly LGBT Elected Official in Sacramento

Dear Outword:

Read the article in *Outword* (*Outword*, October 27, 2016, page 4) regarding the work Councilman Steve Hansen did in getting Sacramento a perfect score on the LGBT MEI. He is to be commended for his work.

Mr. Hansen has made a wonderful contribution to the LGBT community and the city of Sacramento.

But – contrary to what the paper says – he was NOT “Sacramento (sic) first openly LGBT elected official.”

I was. I was first elected as an open LGBT official to the Robla School Board in 1987. I had a homophobic campaign against me, but I beat both incumbents. I was re-elected to the Robla School Board, in North Sacramento, in 1992 in spite of the religious right campaigning against me. I ran again in 1996 and one of my opponents said the only reason he was running for the school board was to get the “fag” off. He came in last and I came in first.

I was also the first openly LGBT elected official in Placer County. I have served on the Roseville City School Board for eight years and am running for re-election with a homophobic campaign against me (I was planning to send you an article about the election soon after November 8.)

I demand the paper print a correction. Steve Hansen was not the first openly LGBT candidate.

Misstating that he was is a slap in my face for the work I have done.

In fact of all the LGBT elected officials currently in office, I have served the longest in the entire country. I have served as an openly LGBT elected official for almost 30 years. Councilman Hansen has served for four years.

Please print a correction and an apology. I will send you a story about my current campaign soon after Nov 8.

Gary Miller

*Editor's Note: No slap intended. In fact, we have run several stories on your achievements in the past. I regret my error and wish you continued success.*

## EJAF Awards \$4.1 Million To HIV/AIDS Programs

The Elton John AIDS Foundation (EJAF) has awarded \$4.1 million to 38 organizations addressing the HIV/AIDS epidemic in critical and innovative ways. This is the first of two grant cycles for 2016 and builds on the Foundation's ongoing support for organizations throughout the Americas and Caribbean.

“For nearly 25 years, the Elton John AIDS Foundation has been committed to aggressively confronting the HIV/AIDS epidemic where it exists,” said EJAF Founder Elton John. “We are proud of this newest round of investments, in which we fund advocacy and services in over 30 locations in the United States, Canada, Mexico, Jamaica, and the Dominican Republic.”

A key objective of EJAF's giving is to increase the resilience of LGBT people and the organizations that serve LGBT communities. As part of this grant-making cycle, EJAF provided grants to support free health and legal service programs, to strengthen fellowships and scholarships for emerging community leaders, and to bolster transgender-led organizations and programs.

The Foundation also renewed its commitment to promoting the health and rights of migrants and asylum seekers by funding related programs in New York, Los Angeles, Tijuana, and Toronto that help LGBT and HIV-positive people who have had to flee their countries and are in need of resettlement.

EJAF also dedicated a significant portion of this grant-making cycle to support initiatives advancing HIV-related policies and advocacy efforts. This includes pro bono legal and litigation services for people fighting insurance discrimination; education for state legislators about the importance of federal and state funding for programs helping people access medicines and health services; and support for HIV activists in the Southern U.S. advancing city and state policies and programs to reduce HIV infection rates and improve the health of people living with HIV.

This includes the allocation of \$710,000 to six organizations fighting the

criminalization of people living with HIV. These organizations work to change state laws that allow the arrest and criminal prosecution of people with HIV for not disclosing their status to sexual partners and



Elton John speaking at an Elton John AIDS Foundation event.

for having sex even when there is no risk of HIV transmission. Such laws are highly stigmatizing, ineffective and counterproductive in preventing HIV transmission, and need to be changed.

“Our grantees are on the front lines of the HIV epidemic,” said Scott Campbell, EJAF's executive director. “As one of the largest funders in the world dedicated to ending AIDS, we are committed to making real-time investments that address the latest trends in the epidemic and also providing ongoing support for tried and true strategies that improve access to healthcare and ensure basic human rights for people most affected by the epidemic.”

A complete list and descriptions of all 38 grants are posted at [www.ejaf.org](http://www.ejaf.org).

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# Help Change a Life By Becoming a Forever Family

by Bob Herne

Montana, now 25, was adopted when he was 15. He had been in foster care for five years and had moved to different foster homes 13 times before he met Jennifer and Minet. Looking back, Montana recalls that if he were to count overnight moves, he actually moved about 35 times, or every eight weeks.

Only through finding a forever family was Montana able to obtain stability and security.

November is National Adoption Month. Jennifer and Minet, reflecting on their decision to adopt, give the following advice: "You don't have to be perfect. If you can provide a stable, loving home that is all you really need. You can change a kid's life for the better and it's so rewarding."

There are over 400,000 children living in foster care in the United State and in just the greater Sacramento Region approximately 10 children enter foster care every day. Recent studies also indicate that LGBTQ youth are overrepresented in the system, are more likely to live in a group home, and experience a greater amount of prejudice, causing many to run away.

Not only are LGBTQ youth at greater risk while in the foster care system, but they are also the least likely group in foster care to find an affirming and loving family.

The LGBTQ Collaborative is a joint effort on behalf of Sierra Forever Families, Stanford Youth Solutions, Sierra Child and Family Services and Sacramento County Child Protective Services to identify, train, and support the families who can provide either temporary or permanent affirming homes for LGBTQ youth in foster care.

The collaboration has developed and

these youth.

Finally, we would like to give a huge thank you to Freeport Bakery! By donating a portion of the proceeds from their t-shirt sales to support LGBTQ youth living in foster care, Freeport Bakery is reminding us all that we could use "more cake, less hate"



Minet, Montana and Jennifer

evolved due to the alarming and unfortunate fact that there are simply not enough safe and nurturing homes for the LGBTQ youth entering the foster care system.

Since it's inception, the LGBTQ Collaborative has held foster parent information and recruitment events, provided an LGBTQ training to existing foster parents and has increased the existing capacity to provide supportive homes for

in the world.

Remember, as Jennifer, Minet and Montana discovered, you're never too old for a family.

Bob Herne is the CEO of Sierra Forever Families. He can be reached at 916-368-5114 or [www.sierraff.org](http://www.sierraff.org).



## The Cats Are Back

CATS, the acclaimed Andrew Lloyd Webber musical based on T. S. Eliot's *Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats*, is the mega hit show set amongst a larger-than-life junkyard playground. Plays through November 27 by Runaway Stage Production at the 24th Street Theatre. Visit [www.runawaystage.com](http://www.runawaystage.com) to purchase tickets.

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# Downtown Ice Rink Celebrates 25th Year of Urban Cheer

by Jordyn Anderson

The holidays are synonymous with cold weather, breaks from work and school, seasonal treats, and ice skating – thanks to the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink presented by Downtown Commons (DOCO).

Celebrating its 25th year, the region's oldest and most beloved ice rink is transforming the corner of 7th and K streets in Downtown Sacramento into a winter wonderland from through January 16, 2017.

Open daily in the heart of downtown and at the doorstep of Golden 1 Center in St. Rose of Lima Park, the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink is the perfect place to bring the family, a group of friends, or a special someone. This season will feature a host of special events including Princes Day, Train Day, Santa's Village, 80s Day and the famed Drag Queens on Ice.

This year's Drag Queens on Ice, hosted by *Outword*, the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink, Nationwide and the Downtown Commons, will be held on Thursday, Nov. 17th from 6 to 8 p.m. The Gay Skate Night is a fundraiser for Sacramento Pride, the Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus and the Sacramento

International G&L Film Festival. You Don't have to come in drag, just come ready to have some fun and get down with DJ Jammin' Jo. A \$10 donation, that includes skate rental, is requested. Just make your donation to the charity of your choice, they keep 100 percent of the money raised!

Downtown Sacramento Partnership has teamed up with Special Ice, the premier ice rink builder and supplier who previously managed the Roseville Galleria rink, to bring a few enhancements to the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink this year.

New this season, skate sessions are now all day long so skaters can choose how long they stay on the ice. Also, 150 new skates have been added to the rink, doubling the previous inventory. And, for those a little skate-shy, skate scooters are available for children 5 and under and new all-ages skate lessons led



Skaters enjoying the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink Photo by Xing Lui.

by professional instructors are offered Sunday mornings.

Additionally, revamped group packages and party space for birthdays, school trips and special events can be reserved in advanced. The footprint of the rink itself has also been extended so guests have more space to enjoy when taking a break from the ice.

Spend an afternoon, or two, on the ice followed by a walk around downtown exploring all the new and exciting happenings.

Admission is \$12 for adults and \$6 for children under 6. The rink is open Monday-Thursday 2-10 p.m.; Friday and Saturday 10 a.m.-10 p.m.; and, Sundays 11 a.m.-8

p.m. Holiday hours vary.

Other seasonal discounts include \$5 off with Western Health Advantage membership cards any time and \$2 off on Saturdays with the mention of My58 or Estrella TV while on-site from 12-4 p.m.

Produced by Downtown Sacramento Partnership, the ice rink attracts more than 30,000 skaters annually during the 13-week season. Discover how the Downtown Sacramento Ice Rink can be a part of your holiday traditions by visiting [GoDowntownSac.com/icerink](http://GoDowntownSac.com/icerink).

Jordyn Anderson is the Public Relations Specialist with the Downtown Sacramento Partnership.

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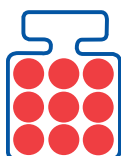
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# Five Tips for Shopping for the Health Plan That Best Fits You

With Covered California's three-month open-enrollment period starting Nov. 1, it's a great time to shop for the best fit for your health coverage. If you need help making that decision, the Sacramento LGBT Center can assist you.

During Covered California open enrollment, which runs through Jan. 31, consumers can choose among 11 name-brand health insurance plans that offer high-quality and affordable coverage.

Here are some helpful tips.

### Shop, shop, shop around.

Covered California's online Shop and Compare Tool provides consumers with detailed information about various health plans in specific regions throughout the state. You can compare premium costs, the four pricing tiers, and subsidies available to help you pay for coverage. With some health insurance premium costs expected to rise in 2017, the Shop and Compare Tool allows consumers to evaluate their options. Try out the Shop and Compare Tool.

### Get in-person help for the best value.

Health insurance is complicated. Getting help choosing the right plan and completing the application is free and confidential. There are thousands of Covered California certified insurance agents and enrollment counselors located throughout the state. They can help guide you to the health plan that is the best fit and best value for you and your family. Find free local help to enroll.

### Check out provider networks.

If you want to visit a particular doctor, be sure to check with the specific health plan to confirm that the physicians you want to see are indeed in the plan's network of doctors. In 2017, each enrollee in a Covered California health plan will be assigned a primary care physician. Learn more about primary care physicians.



### Vision and dental plans are bonuses.

While children's dental and vision coverage has always been included as part of all health insurance plans sold through Covered California, adults can now enroll in family dental and vision plans at competitive rates.

### Enroll early, get coverage earlier.

Enrolling in a Covered California health plan by Dec. 15 allows you to start the new year with coverage. Having health insurance in place starting Jan. 1 can reduce your worries about having to pay tax penalties for not being covered, which are \$695 per adult and half that amount for those under age 18 in your household or 2.5 percent of your family income – whichever is greater.

Additionally, gone is the mental gamble of hoping nothing happens – such as a car accident, sports injury, or unexpected illness. When it comes to your health, knowing that you are covered is the best plan.

The Sacramento LGBT Center believes in building a healthier community by helping you navigate your options to ensure you and your family are protected from life's "what-ifs" with health insurance. Visit [saccenter.org/programs/health-programs/](http://saccenter.org/programs/health-programs/)

Center counselors can also help with Medi-Cal enrollment and coverage changes due to special life circumstances.

## The Wind In The Willows: Saving Mr. Toad Comes to Life in New Adaptation for All Ages



Kenneth Grahame's delightful story of five fun-seeking friends receives a newly fashioned adaptation by Sacramento City College Theatre Arts' Professor Luther Hanson, with new songs and instrumental music. A family show that is perfectly timed for the holidays at Sacramento City College, Nov. 18 - Dec. 11. Visit [citytheatre.net](http://citytheatre.net)

# Mutual Housing Expands to Serve LGBT Community

Mutual Housing California – the local developer planning an affordable LGBT-welcoming, senior housing community in downtown Sacramento – is on an expansion kick.



In 2015, Mutual Housing purchased a vacant parcel at the corner of 16th and F Streets in Sacramento for the Lavender Courtyard, with the intention of making it home to 53 households whose occupants are age 62 and older.

Following its strategic plan, Mutual Housing is expanding its sustainable housing development and property management programs.

In 1988, Sacramento’s Mutual Housing was created to provide high-quality housing at affordable rents to residents throughout the county.

Today, 3,200 residents live in mutual housing in Sacramento and Yolo counties.

Planned as a zero net energy property for the corner of 16th and F streets, Lavender Courtyard at Mutual Housing, helps fulfill a critical growth strategy laid out in the organization’s strategic plan because it welcomes LGBT seniors.

“Our plan calls for expanding our mission through specific paths. One is building more green-rated housing, says Rachel Iskow, Mutual Housing’s chief executive officer and a lesbian herself. “Another is reaching out to

serve special populations that have significant challenges finding safe and affordable housing.”

Low-income seniors, many disabled, fit this definition. LGBT seniors face even greater obstacles in the rental housing market because of prevalent homophobic attitudes among staff and residents of senior housing communities.

But growth requires new funding.

“Planning and implementing new growth initiatives requires upfront charitable investment from individuals, businesses and foundations who want to see us succeed,” says Mutual Housing’s recently hired director of resource development Jay Cohen.

“Mutual Housing has a strong track record of exceptional service. Their outcomes are visible – stable families housed in well-designed, supportive communities built for sustainability.”

Michael Farnham, Trendsetters Hair Design owner in midtown, donates to Mutual Housing. “It is exciting that Mutual Housing has turned its attention to LGBT issues. With our community’s support they can help address our significant housing needs in a culturally sensitive manner.”

Mutual Housing staff also hopes to grow programs to serve former foster youth because college enrollment for youth from low-income families has decreased 10 percent since 2008.

They expect youth to be inspired by the nonprofit’s new Culture of College.

“We’ve expanded our programs for youth by creating obvious pathways to college,” said Iskow. “Mutual Housing is in a unique position to inspire a culture of college in every family we house and to let youth feel that college is accessible.”

LGBT youth in particular often lack family support both financially and emotionally. Because of this, Iskow is convinced that community institutions like Mutual Housing and LGBT organizations have a vital role to play in encouraging LGBT youth to pursue college.

The congressionally chartered NeighborWorks America shows its belief in Mutual Housing’s growth plan by recently awarding Mutual Housing a grant to support the expansion of its property management division, which will benefit other nonprofits that own residential properties.

With growth also comes the need for skilled nonprofit professionals with entrepreneurial drive and commitment to mission to join their exceptional staff. Cohen was one such addition.

Mutual Housing currently is seeking candidates to fill two key positions – director of resident programs and housing development project manager. View the position descriptions and apply at [www.mutualhousing.com](http://www.mutualhousing.com).

# Supreme Court Will Hear Separate Restrooms Case

The U.S. Supreme Court has announced that it will review a decision from the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals that found that federal anti-discrimination law protects the right of a teenage boy who is transgender, to use the men’s restrooms at his Virginia high school.

The American Civil Liberties Union and ACLU of Virginia brought the case on behalf of Gavin Grimm, challenging the Gloucester County School Board’s decision to force him to use separate, single-stall restrooms that no other student is required to use.

The Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals sided with Grimm and the ACLU, and the school board appealed.

“I never thought that my restroom use would ever turn into any kind of national debate. The only thing I ever asked for was the right to be treated like everyone else,” said Grimm, who is a 17-year-old senior at Gloucester High School. “While I’m disappointed that I will have to spend my final school year being singled out and treated differently from every other guy, I

will do everything I can to make sure that other transgender students don’t have to go through the same experience.”

The ACLU argued that the school board’s policy is a clear violation of Title IX, a federal law barring sex discrimination by schools receiving federal funding.

“It is disappointing that Gavin will probably have to finish out his high school career under this harmful, humiliating policy,” said Josh Block, senior staff attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union’s LGBT project. “These sorts of discriminatory policies stigmatize and isolate transgender students like Gavin just because of who they are. We look forward to presenting Gavin’s case to the Supreme Court as the next step in the fight to ensure fairness and equality

for trans people across the country.”

After a ruling by the appeals court, the district court issued a preliminary injunction requiring that Grimm be permitted to use the men’s restroom during his senior year of high school, which began in early September. On August 3, the Supreme Court issued a stay halting that order until it decided whether to review the case. The stay will now continue in effect until the court hears the case and issues a decision.

For more information about this case, visit [www.aclu.org/cases/gg-v-gloucester-county-school-board](http://www.aclu.org/cases/gg-v-gloucester-county-school-board)



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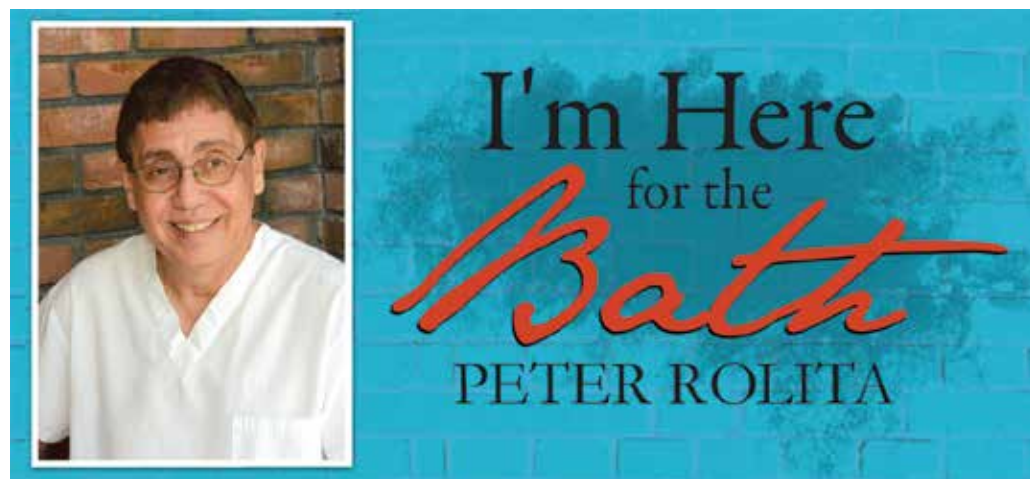
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# I'm Here for the Bath Author Peter Rolita Coming to LLACE

Author Peter Rolita finds that many people live life like they are never going to die, as if the people they love, care about and work with are never going to die. As if the people they hate, blame or condemn will be alive forever.



We all know that death is inevitable and yet we don't connect that knowledge to our everyday lives, to the people we see every day. People die all around us all the time, rarely do we witness it. In his new book, *I'm Here for the Bath*, Rolita explores these issues and tries to strengthen the connection between us all.

The Lavender Library is hosting Rolita for a reading and signing of his book on Friday, November 18, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Rolita is in a unique position in that he goes to work every day to help care for people who are close to dying and sometimes he is able to be with them when they die. He is a hospice aide and has been working at his job for over 30 years. Many times he has been moved, inspired and otherwise uplifted by his contact with the patients he cares for and the people around them.

Rolita has put together a selection of short stories about what he has seen and how it has affected him. He states that it has made

him a kinder more loving and compassionate person and he believes that it will have the same effect on anyone who reads *I'm Here for the Bath*.

Rolita has heard it said that we die like we live. In his stories he finds the truth in this statement. He has included stories about people from all walks of life. There are stories of "miracle" recoveries and unexplained occurrences that present you with mysteries that you must solve yourself.

Rolita came out as a gay man in one of the stories because it is part of the journey of his life as it intersected with the people he came to care for.

Rolita has graciously donated copies of his book to the Lavender Library, and all proceeds from the their sale will go to the library. The reading and signing of his book will be on Friday, November 18, from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the Lavender Library, 1414 21st St. in Midtown Sacramento.

For more information, visit [LavenderLibrary.org](http://LavenderLibrary.org)

## What Happens When the One Who Got Away Comes Back?



**Haunted by a distant summer fling in New York City, Dean hesitantly invites Alex to spend a weekend at a rustic house in the desert, where their heat and passion is rekindled in what at first seems like the inevitable conclusion to the most romantic of stories in *Lazy Eye*. Available on VOD/ DVD Nov. 15 from Breaking Glass Pictures ([bgpics.com](http://bgpics.com)). Watch the trailer at [vimeo.com/166672938](http://vimeo.com/166672938).**

# African-American Gay Men Search for True Love in *Don't Marry Griff*

**D**on't Marry Griff tells the story of Lyodell Archer and best friend Sutton Brown as their friendship is shaken to its core once Sutton confesses his love to Lyodell. Things get even more complicated because he chooses to do it as Lyodell is about to wed his fiancé, Griffith Lowell.

"Don't Marry Griff is a romantic comedy about love shared between African American men," explains director Steven L. Coard, who also stars in the film. "I have always dreamed of the day when I could produce my own independent film for the gay African American community. I aim to create unique and original stories that will hopefully unite our community."

Coard intends for *Don't Marry Griff* to be the first of a series of movies that tackle love stories of gay African American characters. "It's important for African American gay men to have characters they can identify with while being entertained," he says.

out. Coard was left scrambling to find someone to replace him. DeLoatch recommended he consider JR Rolley, an actor known for playing lovable guy-next-door roles.

Coard was doubtful as the role of Griffith called for a type-A, bad-ass personality. "Despite my hesitation, I brought JR in to read for the part. I immediately saw the passion in his eyes and that he was very prepared and looking for a character opposite from the pretty boy roles he usually plays."

All seemed to be back on track with filming, until the actor confirmed to play



**Don't Marry Griff**

"I think most gay black men are striving to achieve the American Dream. I know I want that white picket fence. Although I am not looking for the children part," he adds with a grin.

*Don't Marry Griff* stars Steven L. Coard, Chris DeLoatch and JR Rolley and is the latest independent film by Color of Love Production Studios.

Coard had DeLoatch in mind for the role of Sutton when writing the film. "I had seen him in the web series, *Bait*. He plays a psycho killer in the show but I saw a genuine goodness in him."

The character of Sutton is the type of guy everyone dreams about being with one day. He's honest with a sense of humor. He's confident, courageous, communicative, a natural leader who listens and takes initiative. He's not afraid to go after what he wants and most importantly, he stands up to Griffith in the film and provides Lyodell a safe haven.

Coard originally had another actor in the role of Griffith, but as so often happens in independent filmmaking, two weeks before filming was set to begin, the actor dropped

Lyodell unexpectedly dropped out, too. Pressed for time, Coard decided to take on the role himself. "I had wanted to focus on working behind the camera as executive producer and director but things don't always work out the way you plan," he laughs. "I sucked it up and called in my acting chops to start working again."

*Don't Marry Griff* is being distributed by Color of Love Production Studios, an award winning production company that specializes in creating stories about the LGBTQ community of color. Founded by Steven L. Coard, the studio strives to focus on unique issues of relevance to the gay African American identity.

"The wonderful thing about *Don't Marry Griff* is that viewers do not need to be African American and gay to enjoy it," says Coard. "Anyone who has experienced a toxic relationship can relate to the film. It entertains and is educational as well. I won't give away the ending but I will tell you, in *Don't Marry Griff*, karma is a beeeotch."

You can view the trailer at [colorofloveproductionstudios.vhx.tv/videos/don-t-marry-griff-trailer-sutton-s-verison](http://colorofloveproductionstudios.vhx.tv/videos/don-t-marry-griff-trailer-sutton-s-verison).

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# Mumm's the Word by Diana Kienle



**You** will often hear folks refer to sparkling wine as "Champagne," but this is an accurate description only if that bottle is from the French region named Champagne.

Photo by Cathy Schwamberger

There was a time when no other sparkling wines could come close to the quality produced in France, but that's not true today. California sparklers can deliver the complexity, richness, and length of finish to rival those made by the French.

Mumm is one such producer to try for your next sparkling wine. Located in Napa Valley and growing fruit in vineyards in the southern, cooler part of the valley, Mumm offers many different wines to please your palate.

A visit to the winery is not only refreshing but also enlightening when it comes to the production of their wines. Just recently, I took their tour and found it well done and informative.

Predominately, Mumm uses Chardonnay and Pinot Noir grapes to produce their sparkling wine. Rarely, the blends include Pinot Meunier. Mumm also includes small amounts of Pinot Gris in some of their wines.

One of the most interesting aspects of sparkling wine is the process by which carbon dioxide is dissolved in the wine. Mumm produces their sparkling wine by the Méthode Traditionnelle, which is the same process used in Champagne.

Secondary fermentation, which takes place in the bottle, is the beginning of the process to dissolve the carbon dioxide. The removal of the yeast "cap" is fascinating, as they freeze the neck of the bottle to remove it and then re-cork the bottle. Here is a link to their video on the process: [www.mummnapa.com/about/methode-traditionnelle](http://www.mummnapa.com/about/methode-traditionnelle).

Have you ever wondered how many bubbles are in a bottle of sparkling wine? (Yes, it has been studied.) None, if the bottle is not opened, since the gas is still dissolved in the wine.

Upon opening, a bottle contains about 100 million bubbles. The bubbles are significant in sparkling wine. It has been said that the quality of the wine is reflected in the size and quantity of the bubbles. A high quantity of smaller bubbles reflects a better quality.

Sparkling wine is not just reserved for special events and holidays today. It is a wonderful apéritif to start a meal and a perfect accompaniment to many dishes. Don't hesitate to try some wonderful blends by a variety of producers. Mumm is a great example of the quality that is available in our marketplace today.

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).*

## Kiss Me, Kill Me Is a Contemporary Film Noir/Murder Mystery, With an All-star Gay Cast



In the tradition of Alfred Hitchcock and Agatha Christie, in *Kiss Me, Kill Me* Dusty blacks out while confronting his cheating boyfriend, Stephen. When he comes to, Stephen was murdered and he's the prime suspect. Pictured are detectives Yolonda Ross (Det. Riley) Jai Rodriguez (Det. Santos). Set for VOD/DVD release on December 7, you can watch the trailer at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=LKJMyle6\\_q4](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LKJMyle6_q4)



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## John Waters Brings Christmas to the Crest

by Chris Narloch

Long before Kim Kardashian started posting nude “selfies” and Donald Trump was bragging about grabbing women’s vaginas, writer-director John Waters brought bad taste to the masses with a collection of rude and crude comedy films made between 1969 and 2004 that still hold up hilariously well.

Now 70, Waters has lost none of the edge he displayed while directing movies that include the original *Hairspray*, *Mondo Trasho*, *Multiple Maniacs*, *Pink Flamingos*, *Desperate Living*, *Polyester*, *Pecker*, and *A Dirty Shame*.

Now writing books and touring with a one-man show, Waters will make the yuletide gay this Dec. 1st when he brings his 2016 Tour of *A John Waters Christmas* to the Crest Theatre in Sacramento for one night only.

I spoke to Waters by phone recently and found him to be as warped and wonderful as ever. Here are excerpts from our

I still decorate the electric chair from *Female Trouble* that I have in my hall, every year. That’s my tree. It has so many decorations on it that you can’t even tell it was a chair. And I have one pink flamingo that somebody gave me as a present that lights up and rocks back and forth.

**What do you put in your eggnog, and are you a fan of fruitcake?**

I don’t think I have ever eaten an entire piece of fruitcake, and I hate eggnog. The thought of milk and liquor together is disgusting!

**And are you out there on Black Friday, or Black Thursday now I**

instance, you can take photos of your family and make them ugly and hang them on your tree as ornaments.

**Is there music in the show?**

Only when I walk out. No, you won’t hear me screeching any Christmas carols, although a punk rock version of “O Little Town of Bethlehem” might work. It’s a one-man show not a sing-a-long.

**You must be proud of the success and longevity that *Hairspray* has had, what with your movie and then the hit Broadway musical and the film of that?**

Yes, and now they’re doing a live



Artwork by  
Kagan McCleod

conversation.

**So what were the holidays like in the Waters household when you were a kid, John?**

Surprisingly normal, although I always hated getting up and going to church. I talk in the show about how I think we should let the tooth fairy take over Christmas.

**Do you have any Christmas traditions that have stayed with you?**

**guess, shopping for holiday deals?**

God no! Why would anyone do that? Stand in line or sleep outside to get \$2 off on a TV? I don’t understand it at all.

**So tell me about the Christmas show.**

It’s a combination of my thoughts on what Christmas has become and advice about how to survive the season and even enjoy it. For

TV version this December. I’ll be on stage somewhere with my show when it airs, but I just met the new Tracy, and Harvey Fierstein is doing it. They wanted me to be in it, but with my schedule it didn’t work out. I guess I could have played the flasher again.

For more information about John Waters and his upcoming appearance at the Crest, visit [www.crestsacramento.com](http://www.crestsacramento.com).

**Celebrating Halloween Midtown Style**

Lavender Heights was full of trolls, monsters, superheroes and cuddly critters as we came together to celebrate Halloween on Saturday, October 29th. We wanted to share some of the pics we took of everyone having a great time at The Merc, FACES, Badlands, the Depot, Sidetrax and the corner of 20th & K. You can see more of them, and download them for FREE at [outwordoutabout.shutterfly.com](http://outwordoutabout.shutterfly.com)

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# Mini Sac French Film Fest at the Crest

by Chris Narloch

**W**e don't have to wait for next summer's Sacramento French Film Festival (SFFF) to enjoy great French cinema. Get ready for the 3rd Annual Fall Mini Sacramento French Film Festival, which will take place at the Crest Theater all day Saturday, Nov. 19.



**The French wartime melodrama *Frantz* plays Nov. 19 at the Crest.**

The Mini Fest is a miniature version of the Summer Festival – a one-day only program that includes the latest and freshest French films of the season.

This five-feature film program includes four comedies and a melodrama. Two of the titles have not yet been released in France, two are U.S. premieres, and one is a West Coast premiere.

To help us face the often difficult, sad and complicated times we live in, the SFFF has composed a joyful, uplifting and positive program for its 3rd Fall Mini Sac French Film Fest.

The program includes the slapstick

comedy *Lost in Paris*, the satirical documentary *Thanks Boss!*, the classic farce *The Student and Mr. Henri*, the quirky comedy *The Fabulous Patars*, and the wartime melodrama *Frantz*, directed by Francois Ozon.

A short film will precede each feature film. The screening of *Frantz* will be followed by coffee provided by Coffee Works, and pastries.

Single tickets and Day Passes can be purchased in advance and will also be available at the door.

For more information, visit [www.sacramentofrenchfilmfestival.org](http://www.sacramentofrenchfilmfestival.org).

# A Gay Movie Masterpiece at the Tower

by Chris Narloch

**C**aucasian gay men had their movie moment with Ang Lee's great same-sex tearjerker *Brokeback Mountain* in 2005, and more recently Todd Haynes' gorgeous lesbian love story, *Carol*, gave LGBT moviegoers a "chick flick" to cheer about.



**Andre Holland and  
Trevante Rhodes costar  
in *Moonlight***

and Trevante Rhodes) who play this bullied, damaged black soul are remarkable in their ability to bring him to vivid life, even in the scenes with little or no dialogue.

The rest of the *Moonlight* cast is equally impressive, including Naomie Harris as Chiron's crack-addicted mother, Mahershala Ali as the drug dealer who befriends the young gay boy, Janelle Monae as the dealer's girlfriend, Andre Holland as the grownup object of our hero's affection, and Jaden Piner as the younger version of Holland's character.

The movie is a coming of age story that turns into a love story, and it's measured approach – including long takes and careful editing that allow the actors to soar – builds to an almost operatic emotional intensity in the final scenes, which involve two former friends reconnecting as adults.

I'll let you discover for yourself what happens to Chiron at the end of *Moonlight*. Suffice it to say that the film is a fascinating depiction of one gay man's journey and the must-see queer movie of the year.

Now, the hypnotic and bittersweet new movie *Moonlight* from director Barry Jenkins shows what it's like to be a gay black man in America today. Considering how underrepresented that community has been throughout film history, this quietly powerful movie is a historic achievement.

A trio of actors portray the movie's lead character, Chiron, at different stages, from boyhood to manhood, and all three performers (Alex Hibbert, Ashton Sanders,

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# Get Your Art On at Verge & the Manetti Shrem Museum of Art

by Chris Narloch

Two local arts hubs have exciting events happening this month. The Verge Center for the Arts in midtown Sacramento is hosting an art auction, and the brand new Manetti Shrem Museum holds their Grand Opening on the campus of UC Davis.

## The Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art at UC Davis

This exciting new, architecturally significant museum near the Mondavi Center on the UCD campus recently announced the four opening exhibitions that will inaugurate their space beginning Sunday, Nov. 13.

*Hoof & Foot: A Field Study* is a site-specific commission by Bay Area artist Chris Sollars; *A Pot for a Latch* is a participatory installation by the Mexico City-based artist Pia Camil.

*Out Our Way* is the most comprehensive museum exhibition to date to examine the creative community that in the early 1960s propelled UC Davis into the forefront of art internationally; and *The Making of a Museum* is an exhibition on the architecture and making of the new museum organized by the architectural firm SO - IL.

If you are a current UC Davis student, you can check out the Manetti Shrem Museum a day early, on Saturday, Nov. 12 from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., during a reception and celebration that includes music by Wizard Apprentice, art making, pizza, and student performances.

Show your UC Davis Student I.D. for admittance.

The public celebration begins the next day, Sunday, Nov. 13 at 10 a.m., with events and entertainment designed by local partner Verge Center for the Arts, including a birthday tribute for renowned painters Wayne Thiebaud and Roland Petersen.

Then at noon that same day, the Ribbon Cutting and Grand opening ceremony takes place. The community is invited to join campus and community leaders as the museum's artist-designed ribbon is cut and the museum is officially open for all to experience.

For more information, visit [manettishremmuseum.ucdavis.edu](http://manettishremmuseum.ucdavis.edu).

## Verge Center for the Arts

Join other art lovers and collectors for THE Art Auction, to be held on Saturday, Nov. 19th at Verge Center for the Arts at 625 S St. in Sacramento. The evening begins at 6:00 p.m. with two silent auction lots followed by a live auction at 7:00 p.m.

Among the more than 90 artists whose work will be auctioned are: Gioia Fonda,



UC Davis Jan Shrem and Maria Manetti Shrem Museum of Art Unveils Inaugural Exhibitions for November opening

Stephen Kaltenbach, Gale Hart, and Nathan Cordero. In addition to individual artist donations, THE Art Auction will also feature works from the collections of Sacramento art patrons.

Spotlighting emerging and established artists, THE Art Auction is an opportunity for new collectors to begin acquiring art. Experienced collectors can also grab pieces by renowned artists and discover new talent.

THE Art Auction ticket holders and Verge members are invited to attend a reception and auction preview at Verge on Second

Saturday, Nov. 12th.

Verge's events are known for their unusual themes and unequalled experiences and are part of a cultural movement in Sacramento that helps maintain local talent, attract national attention, and bring revenue to the city.

By supporting creative talent in our region through collaborative artist studios, music, film, and food events, Verge is doing its part to make Sacramento a cultural destination.

For more information, visit [www.vergeart.com](http://www.vergeart.com).

## Outword Salutes Sacramento's Rainbow Chamber of Commerce

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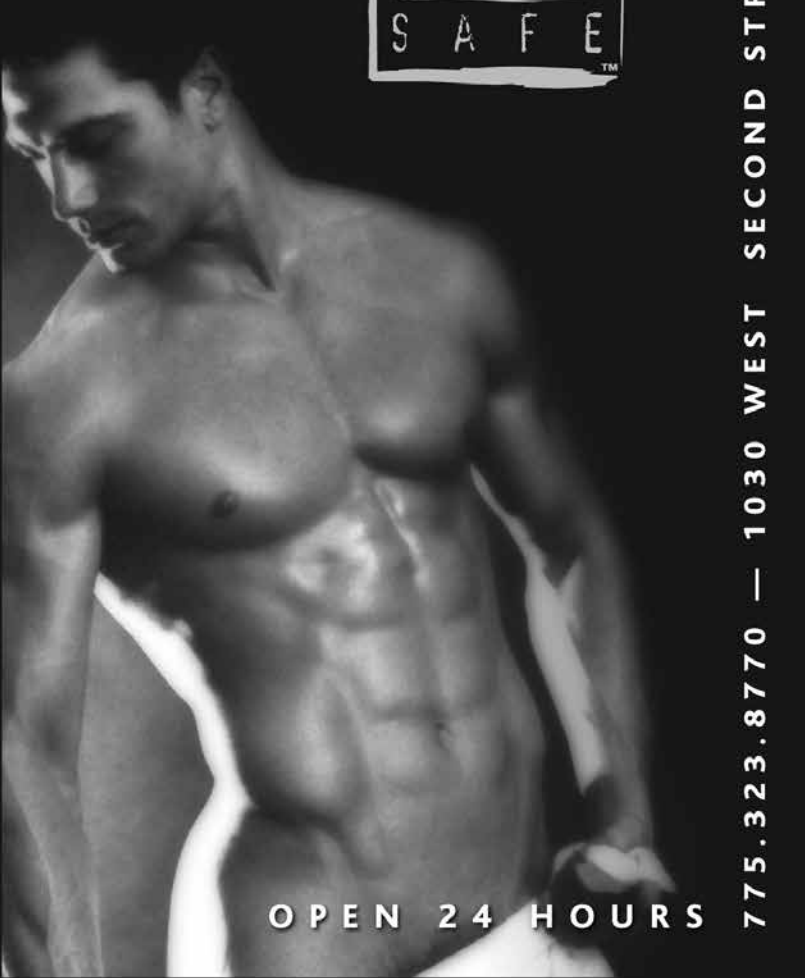
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