

# outword

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*Let Love Win*

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# A Legacy of Leadership and Advocacy

words by Matthew Burlingame  
photos by Chris Allan

**O**n September 29, 2023, Democratic Senator Dianne Feinstein, a woman who distinguished herself not only as a dedicated public servant but also as an unwavering advocate for LGBTQ rights, died at her home in Washington, D.C., at 90 years old.

Born June 22, 1933, in San Francisco, Feinstein was raised in a modest yet nurturing environment, and in her early years, she developed a profound sense of civic responsibility, which ultimately led to her journey into politics when she entered the world of local government in the 1960s.

Feinstein served on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors from 1969 to 1978, eventually becoming its first female president. Her tenure witnessed several accomplishments, including groundbreaking legislation on gun control and urban development. However, her path to national prominence came through the tragic assassination of Mayor George Moscone and Supervisor Harvey Milk in 1978. Thrust into the role of acting mayor, Feinstein demonstrated composure and natural leadership in the midst of chaos, earning the respect of her city and the nation at large.

"There is simply nobody who possessed the strength, gravitas, and fierceness of Dianne Feinstein," said Governor Gavin Newsom as he ordered state flags to be flown at half-staff in her honor.

In 1992, Feinstein made her way to Washington, D.C., becoming California's first woman senator. There she would show a tireless dedication to a range of issues, including healthcare and the environment. Yet one aspect of her career that continued to stand out was her steadfast support for LGBTQ rights.

Feinstein consistently championed equal rights for the LGBTQ community, even in the face of overwhelming opposition. Her advocacy included voting against the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) in 1996, a law that denied federal recognition of same-sex marriages. Her prescient stance on this issue, long before it gained widespread

support, showcased her unwavering commitment to justice and equality.

Feinstein's commitment to LGBTQ rights only deepened as her career continued. She played a pivotal role in the fight for marriage equality in 2013. When the Supreme Court took on the case of *United States v. Windsor*, which challenged the constitutionality of DOMA, Feinstein filed an amicus brief in support of marriage equality. Her advocacy contributed to the Court's landmark decision to strike down DOMA, a watershed moment in the ongoing struggle for LGBTQ rights.

Feinstein continued her advocacy by co-sponsoring the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) and the Student Non-Discrimination Act (SNDA), both aimed at preventing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity. Her unwavering commitment to these issues reflected her principled approach to policymaking.

Beyond her support for LGBTQ+ rights, Feinstein's career is marked by her tireless work on issues like gun control, climate change, and women's rights. As the first Jewish woman ever in the United States

Senate, she became a trailblazer for women in politics.

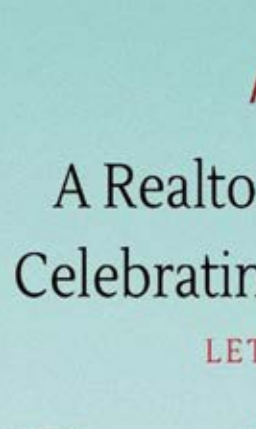
In a recent press release by Democratic Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro of Connecticut, she stated, "As the longest-serving woman in the Senate, she broke barriers for women in government. She mentored women working in politics, pushed for legislation that promotes gender equality, and used her platform to encourage more women to seek elected office."

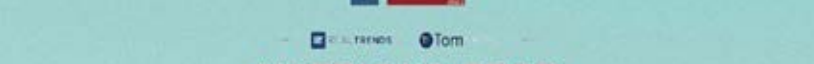
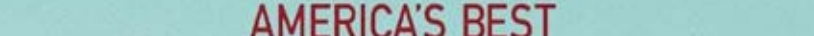
Feinstein's career is a testament to her unwavering commitment to justice, equality, and human rights, and she left an indelible mark on the LGBTQ movement.

"She was a leader who took risks," says National LGBTQ Task Force Executive Director Kierra Johnson. "She was an original co-sponsor of the Equality Act and a key champion for legislation like the Violence Against Women Act. She is succeeded by and undoubtedly inspired a deep bench of congresspeople like Tammy Baldwin...bold and unapologetic freedom fighters who are unrelenting in their quest for freedom and justice for all! She will be deeply missed."








  

  
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# Governor Gavin Newsom Appoints Laphonza Butler to Complete Senator Feinstein's Term in the U.S. Senate

*photo by Chris Allan*

Governor Gavin Newsom announced the selection of Laphonza Butler – the President of the nation’s largest organization dedicated to electing women, EMILY’s List – to complete the United States Senate term of the late Senator Dianne Feinstein, which runs through 2024.



Butler, a longtime senior adviser to Vice President Kamala Harris, labor leader, and advocate for women and working people, will be the first openly LGBTQ person to represent California in the Senate. She will also be the first Black lesbian to openly serve in Congress in American history and the second Black woman to represent California in the Senate following Vice President Kamala Harris.

“An advocate for women and girls, a second-generation fighter for working people, and a trusted adviser to Vice President Harris, Laphonza Butler represents the best of California, and she’ll represent us proudly in the United States Senate,” said Governor Newsom. “As we mourn the enormous loss of Senator Feinstein, the very freedoms she fought for – reproductive freedom, equal protection, and safety from gun violence – have never been under greater assault. Laphonza will carry the baton left by Senator Feinstein, continue to break glass ceilings, and fight for all Californians in Washington D.C.”

Butler comes from a working-class family. Her father – a small-business owner – was diagnosed with a terminal illness and died when Butler was 16 years old. Her mother was the household's sole provider, working as a classroom aide, a home care provider, a security guard and a bookkeeper to provide for Butler and her two siblings.

With her selection to the Senate, Butler will step down from her role as president of EMILY's List, where she was the first woman of color and mother to lead the organization. Prior to joining EMILY's List, Butler ran political campaigns and led strategy efforts for numerous companies, organizations, and

elected leaders – including for Vice President Kamala Harris and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Butler was a key leader of Vice President Harris's presidential campaign. For more than a decade, she served as the president of the largest labor union in California – SEIU Local 2015 – a union representing more than 325,000 nursing home and home-care workers throughout the state.

Previously, Butler served as President of SEIU United Long Term Care Workers (ULTCW) and also as SEIU's Property Services Division Director, in which she was responsible for the strategic direction of organizing on behalf of more than 250,000 janitors, security officers, window cleaners, and food service workers across the country. Butler also served as an SEIU International Vice President and president of the SEIU California State Council.

Butler was the former director of the Board of Governors of the Los Angeles branch of the Federal Reserve System. In 2018, she was appointed to the University of California Board of Regents by Governor Jerry Brown, where she served until 2021. She served in various other roles, including as a board member for the National Children's Defense Fund, BLACK PAC, and the Bay Area Economic Council Institute, and as a fellow for the MIT Community Innovators Lab.

Butler was named a "Champion for Change" by President Barack Obama.

Butler received a bachelor of arts degree in political science from Jackson State University. Butler is married to her wife, Neneki, and together they have a daughter, Nylah.



# Show Your Support for Domestic Violence Survivors and their Pets during October, Domestic Violence Awareness Month

The human-animal bond can be one of the most powerful; our pets are often thought of as family. That's why RedRover is dedicated to helping people and pets in need, especially those experiencing abuse.

According to one study, more than 70 percent of pet-owning women entering domestic violence shelters reported that their batterer had injured, killed or threatened family pets for revenge or psychological control. As many as 48 percent of domestic violence survivors won't leave an abuser because they fear what will happen to their pets if they can't take them.

Compounding the issue, only about 18% of domestic violence shelters have pet-friendly spaces onsite.

We've been committed to ensuring more survivors and their pets can escape abuse together since 2007, when we awarded our first Safe Escape grant to board a beloved pet while the survivor healed in a shelter that didn't allow pets. Since 2012, we've given Safe Housing grants to domestic violence shelters to enable them to become pet friendly. "Pet friendly" means shelters can accept companion animals/pets, in addition to service and emotional support animals.

In 2019, we partnered with Purina to create the Purple Leash Project (PLP) to raise even more awareness about this issue and to increase the number of pet-friendly spaces at domestic violence shelters nationwide. And through this partnership awareness and support has grown, but we still have a long way to go.

This year we launched the 25 by 2025 campaign with our partners Greater Good Charities, which is powered by PetSmart Charities, and supported by Purina. The 25 by 2025 campaign supports domestic violence survivors AND their pets by helping 25% of domestic violence shelters nationwide to become pet friendly by 2025.

Our partnerships with Purina, PetSmart Charities, and Greater Good Charities and generous supporters will help us reach our goal to ensure 25% of domestic violence shelters are pet friendly by 2025.

This Domestic Violence Month we want to share ways that you can help survivors and their pets and other exciting opportunities to watch out for:



- For the first time Purina is offering a \$200,000 match! For every donation made to RedRover in October in support of PLP, Purina will match up to \$200,000 - meaning donations can double to \$400,000!! You'll see the promotion in stores on Tidy Cats, Beggin' Strips, Cat Chow, and Friskies Party Mix packaging. Look for the QR code and you can donate directly. Or you can visit [RedRover.org/purpleleashproject](http://RedRover.org/purpleleashproject).

- DoorDash has created a virtual Purple Leash Project Store! This is another first-of its kind promotion that we are so excited about. Now through October 31st if you give \$5+ to RedRover in support of our Purple Leash Project partnership with Purina, DoorDash will ADD a \$5 credit to YOUR account within a week. DoorDash will award up to \$30,000 to the Purple Leash Project! Limit \$5 in DoorDash credits awarded per person. Donate through your cart today to earn \$5 back in credits: [bit.ly/ddredrover](https://bit.ly/ddredrover).

- Time Magazine will include a special feature on a domestic violence survivor who escaped abuse with her beloved dog, and resided in a pet-friendly shelter RedRover + Purina's Purple Leash Project helped to fund. Look for the issue to hit stores October 23.

- Purple Thursday is October 19. This is a day to show your support for domestic violence survivors and their pets and your commitment to ending abuse. Wear your purple shirts, hats, ties, socks, or any purple to signify your support - and post on social media with #25by2025 and #petsarefamily.

- Join Purple Leash Project! With a recurring donation of at least \$5 a month, or a one-time gift of \$60 or more, you'll receive our limited-edition purple dog leash or cat collar featuring our Purple Leash Project motto: Walk. Heal. Together. [RedRover.org/purpleleashproject](http://RedRover.org/purpleleashproject)

- Join the 25 by 2025 movement to show your support for more pet-friendly domestic violence shelters. Learn more at [25by2025.org](http://25by2025.org).

If you or someone you know is a victim of domestic abuse, call or visit the Domestic Violence Hotline 24/7 for support and resources: 1-800-799-SAFE (7233) or [www.thehotline.org](http://www.thehotline.org). To find a domestic violence shelter that accepts pets or offers services for pets, visit [DomesticShelters.org](http://DomesticShelters.org) and look for the paw to signify they are pet friendly. To learn more about RedRover and its work bringing animals from crisis to care, visit [RedRover.org](http://RedRover.org).

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# Attorney General Bonta Leads 20 States in Opposing Indiana Anti-Transgender Law

California Attorney General Rob Bonta led a multistate coalition of 20 attorneys general in opposing a state law in Indiana that severely blocks the ability of transgender youth to access critical, lifesaving gender-affirming care.

The plaintiffs in K.C. v. Indiana are suing to block Indiana's Senate Enacted Act (S.E.A.) 480, which prohibits healthcare professionals from providing gender-affirming care to transgender youth. Today, the coalition, led by Attorney General Bonta, filed an amicus brief in support of the plaintiffs, stressing the importance of gender-affirming care for the health and well-being of transgender youth.

"Every person deserves equal and comprehensive access to medical care to lead a healthier and happier life," said Attorney General Bonta. "As we continue to witness the growing number of attacks against our LGBTQ+ community in California and across the nation, today's legal action is a testament to our ongoing

transgender people by denying them medically necessary care that protects their physical, emotional, and psychological health.

Is discriminatory and violates the Equal Protection Clause of the U.S. Constitution by banning medical treatment for transgender youth while permitting the same treatment for cisgender youth.

Attorney General Bonta continues to build on his ongoing commitment to protecting the rights of transgender individuals. Last month, Attorney General Bonta announced a lawsuit to immediately halt the enforcement of the Chino Valley Unified School District Board of Education's mandatory gender identity disclosure policy, which threatens to cause transgender students with mental, emotional, psychological, and potential physical harm. In August, Attorney General

"Every person deserves equal and comprehensive access to medical care to lead a healthier and happier life," said Attorney General Bonta. "As we continue to witness the growing number of attacks against our LGBTQ+ community in California and across the nation..."

commitment to ensuring the rights of transgender youth are safeguarded and fully available. At the California Department of Justice, we will continue to stand up against any action that targets and compromises the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of our most vulnerable communities."

Many transgender teens suffer from gender dysphoria, which results from the incongruence between their gender identity and sex assigned at birth. Gender dysphoria has been found to cause severe distress and anxiety, depression, fatigue, decreased social functioning, substance misuse, and a poorer quality of life. Among transgender people, suicide attempts are nine times more common than in the overall U.S. population. Those risks are even higher among transgender youth.

Enacted in April 2023, Indiana's S.E.A. 480 is aimed at blocking transgender minors' access to medical treatment such as hormone therapy and puberty blockers that help treat gender dysphoria.

In their amicus brief today, the coalition supported the plaintiffs' lawsuit seeking to block the enforcement of S.E.A. 480, arguing that the law:

Significantly harms the health and lives of

Bonta led a multistate coalition in filing an amicus brief opposing state laws in Kentucky and Tennessee restricting transgender youths' access to critical and lifesaving healthcare. In June, the Attorney General issued the «State of Pride Report» highlighting the California Department of Justice's recent efforts to support, elevate, and defend the rights of LGBTQ+ communities throughout California and beyond. In May, he led a multistate coalition in supporting a challenge to a Florida rule restricting access to gender-affirming care and joined another multistate coalition defending a Colorado law that prohibits gay and transgender conversion therapy on children and youth. In June, he joined a coalition in support of the Ludlow School Committee's efforts to create a safe and supportive environment for transgender children and all students.

In filing this amicus brief, Attorney General Bonta was joined by the attorneys general of Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington, and the District of Columbia.

A copy of the amicus brief is available at: <https://oag.ca.gov>



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## End Citizens United // Let America Vote Endorses President Biden

**E**nd Citizens United // Let America Vote (ECU // LAV), the leading grassroots organization committed to protecting the freedom to vote and reforming the broken campaign finance system, today endorsed President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris for reelection.

"Our democracy is facing a clear and present danger—one that demands our collective attention and commitment to action," said ECU // LAV President Tiffany Muller. "The rise of Republican election denialism, dark money groups, and corruption threaten the very foundation of our nation. President Biden and Vice President Harris share these concerns and have consistently championed reforms to address these critical issues.

Muller added, "President Biden and Vice President Harris' commitment to these core democratic values have uplifted the nation from our darkest days to a brighter, more promising future. With their leadership, we can overcome the challenges posed by Republican dark money groups that endanger our democracy and build a stronger, more resilient nation that truly represents the will of people and serves the interests of all Americans. We are proud to endorse President Biden and Vice President Harris for reelection and we look forward to doing everything we can to help them win next November."

The endorsement reflects ECU // LAV's recognition of President Biden and Vice President Harris' dedication to democracy

reforms, like the Freedom to Vote Act and the John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act. These transformative bills are aimed at ending the dominance of Big Money in politics by shining a light on dark money; making it easier to vote and ending partisan gerrymandering; and, ensuring accountability in Washington by strengthening ethics rules. The endorsement is also a testament to the administration's success in taking on corporate special interests and delivering real results for the American people, like lowering the cost of prescription drugs and tackling the climate crisis.

Earlier this week, Muller penned a scathing op-ed "Behind the Facade: The Dark Money Game of No Labels" exposing the group's use of dark money, the Big Money donors behind the operation, and their motivations to play spoiler in the 2024 elections.

ECU // LAV is dedicated to combating the two biggest challenges facing our democracy: the corrosive impact of Big Money and attempts to block access to the ballot box. Since its founding in 2015, the group has had over 1 million donors and raised \$200 million, with an average donation of just \$14. The group has more than 4 million members nationwide.

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# Standing Strong Outword Sits Down with Pastor Casey Tinnin

words by Chris Allan and Chris Narloch  
photo courtesy of Casey Tinnin  
This article was originally featured in our  
June 22, 2023 issue. We will be printing a  
follow up in the October 26, 2023 issue.

**H**e doesn't have any visible battle scars, but make no mistake, Casey Tinnin has been to hell and back courtesy of the culture wars.

"I certainly have been afraid for my safety and for my church and for my people," says Tinnin, in one of two interviews with *Outword*.

Tinnin is the articulate, embattled pastor of the LGBTQ-friendly Loomis Basin Congregational Church. You may recall that he was at the center of a firestorm earlier this year after a secretly recorded and deceptively edited video of him was released by Project Veritas, a far-right activist group that spreads disinformation in an effort to discredit mainstream media organizations such as *Planned Parenthood*, *NPR*, *CNN*, and *The Washington Post*.

Project Veritas's video attempted to portray Pastor Tinnin as a "groomer," in line with Republican-led efforts around the country to attack the LGBTQ community, ban drag shows, and demonize trans people and anyone working to support queer youth.

"They showed up at church on Sunday. They had been to PFLAG. They said they were coming from Berkeley and trying to find a safe space for their trans child," says Tinnin. They set up a lunch meeting with Tinnin, and in good faith he met and tried to honestly address their questions. Did he have any idea he was being recorded at the time? "Of course not!"

Tinnin first heard about the video after church, and when he realized how manipulated his comments had been in such a flagrant violation of trust, he was "sad and sick."

"I am someone who prides myself in meeting with strangers," he says. "Being present for the community. I don't see my role as just pastor to the church; I see my role as pastor to the community."

Veritas went after Tinnin because he facilitates The Landing Spot, a small, non-religious support group for LGBTQ youth and their parents in Placer County. They serve young people aged 13 - 18, as well as their parents. Parents meet in one space with a licensed therapist and the kids meet in another spot for peer support, to hang out, play games and watch movies. The group first met regularly at Loomis UCC and then expanded into the Roseville Joint Union High School District (RJUHSD).

After the controversial video was released on March 19, RJUHSD and Western Placer Unified School District severed all ties with The Landing Spot, and Pastor Tinnin received death threats and other threats of violence.

This was insult on top of injury, since RJUHSD had just directed the Landing Spot to cancel the youth group's drag show fundraiser at Roseville High School three weeks prior, due to threats of violence resulting from drag paranoia among the religious right.

At that time, the members of The Landing

Spot, who did not get the chance to perform this year, were understandably crushed. The show was to have been their third. The idea grew out of their desire to fund a summer camp as an alternative to the churches many of them had grown up in and the religious trauma that queer kids sometimes experience in that environment.

"They wanted to have that experience of going to youth camp like they would have had with their peers," says Tinnin.

After two hugely successful drag shows to raise money for the summer retreat, their dream came true and 19 queer kids went to camp in 2022.

"The kids named it 'Camp Fruit Loop', and it looked like anything a normal camp is: arts and crafts, they made rainbow bracelets, they baked bread, they swam, they hiked, they watched movies," Tinnin says.

As their drag show audiences kept growing, they knew they needed a larger facility and approached the school district.

Going through the proper channels, they secured the Patti Baker Theater at Roseville High School for a March 31 performance date.

"Within 48 hours of us releasing the tickets, we had 200 (out of 500 available) sold. That says something," says Tinnin. Unfortunately, the religious right, and those in the current anti-drag conservative movement got wind of the planned performance, and it was canceled on February 23.

"Basically, what we were told was that due to the threats of violence against students and faculty, there was a need to cancel the show," said Tinnin. "That's what we were told by the district."

A few weeks later, after the storm had begun to calm down slightly, Project Veritas released its video. At that point, all hell broke loose for Pastor Casey, who feared for his personal safety after extremely violent threats.

"The whole messaging that I am robbing parents of their children, or that I am grooming children is tragic to me because we understand that the only way for these young people to be their whole selves and to live authentically is with the support of their parents," says a frustrated Tinnin. He confirms that every Landing Spot meeting always involves at least two adult volunteers and that "they are professional people and college-age students." Tinnin says these volunteers have been background-checked, as with any regular school protocol.

"There were no allegations," he says. "There was nothing that we had done wrong, and we created The Landing Spot to keep families together and to keep queer youth safe in our community."

So, where do things stand now with this determined Placer County pastor? It turns



out, Tinnin is taking a much-needed sabbatical this summer that was pre-planned before the entire ordeal involving The Landing Spot and Project Veritas.

After doing some research into his Chickasaw background, Tinnin is on a Civil Rights Pilgrimage, reading the history of ministers who have had the courage to stand up to hate. While taking this time to rejuvenate, he is still an employee at Loomis Basin UCC and will return in the fall, preaching from the pulpit on Sunday mornings.

In terms of the Landing Spot, Tinnin says: "We have doubled our participants from last summer. Camp is still happening, and we are really excited. We have more parents and teens than we have ever had at our meetings, and I think that speaks to the importance and credibility of our work."

The group meets every third Monday of the month, and for more information, The Landing Spot can be reached directly via their Instagram account.

In terms of Project Veritas, the group seems to have moved on to viciously attacking trans folks.

As for his relationship with the various school districts, Tinnin says that he has "yet to hear from any school board member to reach out to say anything," referring to Roseville Joint Union High School District, West Placer Unified School District, and Placer Union High School District.

Casey says that Del Oro High School in Placer UHSD did an internal investigation, and they found no wrongdoing. During their April 18, 2023 board meeting, Western Placer reportedly announced that they were also conducting an investigation, but to date no final report appears to have been released to the public in subsequent board meetings.

Meanwhile, Loomis Basin has a "Love Back Fund" to help the church offset all the extra security, safety, and legal costs they have incurred during the past few months, which can be reached at <https://www.firstchurchberkeley.org/help-loomis-basin-ucc-fight-back-against-hate/>

The good news is that Pastor Casey Tinnin is unbowed and unbroken in the knowledge that his mission to provide a safe space for queer youth and queer families has made a difference, and he's looking to the future with hope.

"We have big dreams, and we want to see our program expand!" says Tinnin.

During Pride Month especially, we can all be thankful to him for that.

*This resource is supported in whole or in part by funding provided by the State of California, administered by the [California State Library](#) in partnership with the [California Department of Social Services](#) and the [California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs](#) as part of the [Stop the Hate](#) program. To report a hate incident or hate crime and get support, go to [CA vs Hate](#).*





## Little Activisms by Judy Saint Hallowe'en Activisms

**H**ave you noticed the annual celebrations that catch on over time all have something to do with gathering together and food? It's like we want any excuse to buy some over-the-top yummys to eat as we forget our cares for an evening or a day. I'm in!

Hallowe'en became associated with candy. Oh, sure, honoring our ancestors, celebrating the dead, dressing up as nurses and ghosts, blah blah blah... You know you have a secret stash of those really great candy bars you love, set aside just for you! If not, you're missing out, fool! Go do that now. The grocery store is on your way back from wherever you're going today.

Trick-or-Treating from house to house waned as a main goal over the last decade or so, but the pandemic really put a stop to the last of it. We haven't had a single visitor in years. I wonder if hiding and turning off the porch light was part of that, we'll never know. No, really, you just don't see many kids out in the streets doing that nearly as much anymore.

In its place are the parties. Now, I might add that as I see it, the adults are the ones who really party hearty on Hallowe'en. The kids dressing up is now merely a cute school parade during class time around the playground, but the adults - Bring It! (I loved being a Lyft driver on Hallowe'en!!)

My Little Activism suggestion for Hallowe'en is to think of your opportunity to educate. Oh, sorry, I mean have some untraditional fun.

You can promote your favorite activism cause two ways. One, through your costuming. Two, through your treats you hand out or bring to a party. Three (I can't count), altering your home decorations. By the way, I read that people spend waaay more money on Hallowe'en decorating than any other occasion. I believe it. We have entire stores that pop up just for that single season. <Trigger warning: politics> Did you see that meme where someone photoshopped the familiar orange "Spirit Halloween" banner across the marquee on Trump Tower? Funny, considering his impending forced sale of the property. But I digress. </trigger warning>

### COSTUME

You and a partner can dress up as sustainable power sources like a windmill and a solar panel, maybe accented with black oil stains. You could pretend to be an iceberg by wearing an outfit that partially disappears every half hour (ooh lala). A handmaid in that red gown with white hat is a bit passé now, though, isn't it? Pick a cause, do something fun.

### TREATS AND FOOD:

With talent and the internet, you can create yummys that resemble about anything you want, though beware the "nailed it" joke by lowering your expectations a little. Or maybe make treat selection into a game with two trays to select from, depending on whether you have read a banned book or not (better treats in the 'Yes' tray). Be creative. It's fun.

### DECORATIONS:

You might mix a few conversation starters in with your goblins and spiders. Maybe a sheet over a chair with a sign saying, "lift to see a real ghost" but there's a sign underneath that says, "ghosts aren't real."

I don't have enough space here to keep playing with options, but you're all clever people. You'll "nail it" one way or another if you follow your cause with some humor and a little interactive play.

Thanks for considering it.

*Little Activisms encourages readers to consider small changes we can make to help social causes, and to feel good about ourselves for taking small risks. Judy Saint is President of the Greater Sacramento Chapter of Freedom From Religion Foundation and author of The Pleasant Atheist Adult Coloring Book available on Amazon.*

# Coming Soon



Artwork Deadline:  
Oct. 16, 2023

Street Date:  
Oct. 26, 2023



This issue will include the Pet Photo Contest winner. It could be you, if you submit a photo by 5 pm on Oct. 16, 2023, to: [graphics@outwordmagazine.com](mailto:graphics@outwordmagazine.com)

[click Here to send a pic or two.](#)

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# Governor Newsom Signs Legislation Supporting LGBTQ+ Californians

Governor Gavin Newsom has signed legislation strengthening protections and supports for LGBTQ+ Californians, including measures to better support vulnerable youth.

The measures include AB 5 by Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur (D-Los Angeles), which sets implementation timelines for required LGBTQ+ cultural competency training by public school teachers and staff. The Governor also signed SB 857 by Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz), which will establish an advisory task force to identify LGBTQ+ pupil needs statewide and assist in implementing supportive initiatives, and AB 223 by Assemblymember Christopher Ward (D-San Diego), which requires any petition for a change of gender and sex identifier by a minor to be kept confidential by the court.

"California is proud to have some of the most robust laws in the nation when it comes to protecting and supporting our LGBTQ+ community, and we're committed to the ongoing work to create safer, more inclusive spaces for all Californians," said Governor Newsom. "These measures will help protect vulnerable youth, promote acceptance, and create more supportive environments in our schools and communities. I thank Senator Eggman and the LGBTQ Caucus for



Governor Gavin Newsom

their dedicated leadership and partnership in advancing our state's values of equality, freedom and acceptance."

"This year the LGBTQ Caucus took up the important work of protecting our communities in the face of vile anti-LGBTQ+ rhetoric, discriminatory laws across the country, and hatred. I appreciate the Governor's partnership in signing some of our priority and endorsed legislation today, and hope we can continue to educate about the harm LGBTQ+ people will continue to face if we fail to act," said Senator Susan Talamantes Eggman, Chair of the California Legislative LGBTQ Caucus.

"While states across the nation are passing legislation that puts LGBTQ+ people and especially youth at risk, California is sending a clear message today – hate-filled attacks will not be tolerated and we will continue protecting and ensuring the safety of all members of the LGBTQ+ community," said Equality California Executive Director Tony Hoang. "We are thankful to our legislative partners for championing these important bills and to Governor Newsom for continuing to be such a strong ally in improving and protecting the wellbeing of the LGBTQ+ community as we face

growing attacks from far-right extremists."

The full list of bills signed by the Governor can be found below:

AB 5 by Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur (D-Los Angeles) – The Safe and Supportive Schools Act.

AB 223 by Assemblymember Christopher Ward (D-San Diego) – Change of gender and sex identifier.

AB 760 by Assemblymember Lori Wilson (D-Fairfield) – Public postsecondary education: affirmed name and gender identification.

AB 783 by Assemblymember Philip Ting (D-San Francisco) – Business licenses: single-user restrooms.

AB 994 by Assemblymember Corey Jackson (D-Moreno Valley) – Law enforcement: social media.

SB 372 by Senator Caroline Menjivar (D-San Fernando Valley/Burbank) – Department of Consumer Affairs: licensee and registrant records: name and gender changes.

SB 407 by Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) – Foster care: resource families.

SB 760 by Senator Josh Newman (D-Fullerton) – School facilities: all-gender restrooms.

SB 857 by Senator John Laird (D-Santa Cruz) – Advisory task force: LGBTQ+ pupil needs.

## NATIONAL GAY MEN'S HIV/AIDS AWARENESS DAY IS SEPTEMBER 28

# KNOW YOUR HIV STATUS!

## FREE CONFIDENTIAL HIV/STD TESTING





IN THE NEXT FEW PAGES YOU WILL FIND RESOURCES, WEBSITES, AND HOTLINES REGARDING HATE CRIMES, HATE CRIME REPORTING, LEGAL ASSISTANCE, AND ADVOCACY GROUPS IN CALIFORNIA

**An incomplete, non-vetted "open-Source" document compiled by a concerned LGBTQ Citizen  
for those who are against hate in all of its forms.**

*This resource is supported in whole or in part by funding provided by the State of California, administered by the [California State Library](#) in partnership with the [California Department of Social Services](#) and the [California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs](#) as part of the [Stop the Hate](#) program.*

*To report a hate incident or hate crime and get support, go to [CA vs Hate](#).*



**WEAVE-** WEAVE's mission is to promote safe and healthy relationships and support survivors of sexual assault, domestic violence and sex trafficking.

Website: <https://www.weaveinc.org>



**CA vs. Hate-** All victims and witnesses of hate incidents and hate crimes can report and are eligible for free hotline support services. California vs Hate is not affiliated with law enforcement, and you can report anonymously.

Website: <https://www.cavshate.org>



**The Center at Sierra Health Foundation-** In March 2022, the California Department of Social Services chose The Center to serve as a regional lead for the Stop the Hate program. In this role, The Center directs grants to qualified organizations to provide support and services to hate crime victims and survivors and their families. The grants also equip organizations to facilitate hate incident and hate crime prevention measures.

Website: <https://www.shfcenter.org/programs-and-initiatives/stop-the-hate/>



**Asian Resource, Inc.-** Asian Resources, Inc. (ARI) is a nonprofit community-based organization established in 1980 dedicated to providing multiple social services needed in our community and empowering everyone we serve to become a vital part of our changing, diverse society.



**OCA Sacramento-** OCA represents Asian Pacific American Advocates, a national organization dedicated to advancing the social, political and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Islander Americans in the United States.

Website: <https://www.ocasacramento.org>



**Sacramento LGBTQ Community Center-** The Sacramento LGBTQ Community Center works to create a region where LGBTQ+ people thrive. We support the health and wellness of the most marginalized, advocate for equality and justice, and work to build a culturally rich LGBTQ+ community.

Website: <https://saccenter.org/mission-values>



**Civil and Human Rights and Equity Department-** Our mission is to maintain and strengthen the city's diversity, equity, and accountability. We are focused on reducing bias and injustices while leveling the playing field through community engagement, equity initiatives, and upward mobility programming.

Website: <https://civilandhumanrights.lacity.gov/laforall>



**LA vs. Hate-** LA vs. Hate is a community-centered program designed to support all residents of Los Angeles County. Led by the Human Relations Commission, LA vs. Hate partners with community partners from all five County districts, representing a diverse coalition of voices committed to ending hate.

Website: <https://211la.org/anti-hate-programs>



**Stop AAPI Hate-** Stop AAPI Hate is a U.S.-based coalition dedicated to ending racism and discrimination against Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAs & PIs). We strive to advance the multiracial movement for equity and justice by building power for our communities, working in solidarity with other communities of color, and advocating for comprehensive solutions that tackle the root causes of race-based hate.

Website: <https://stopaapihate.org/our-mission/>



**Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance-** The Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance, Inc. (OCAPICA) was established in 1997 with the mission to build a healthier and stronger community by enhancing the well-being of Asians and Pacific Islanders through inclusive partnerships in the areas of service, education, advocacy, organizing, and research.

Website: <https://www.ocapica.org>





**The Arc California**- The Arc promotes and protects the human rights of people with intellectual and developmental disabilities and actively supports their full inclusion and participation in the community throughout their lifetimes.

Website: <https://thearcca.org/who-we-are/mission/> &  
<https://thearcca.org/california-launches-new-hotline-to-report-hate-crimes/>



**San Diego Sheriff's Office (Hate Crimes and Hate Incidents)**- To report a hate crime in progress or an emergency, call 9-1-1. For non-emergencies, call (858) 565-5200

Hate crimes attack the basic values of American society by targeting the right of every individual to live safely and freely. The San Diego Sheriff's Department makes hate crime threats a priority in its investigative and crime prevention efforts.

Website: <https://www.sdsheriff.gov/resources/hate-crimes>



**NAPABA**-First, if you wish to report an emergency, please contact your local authorities and call 9-1-1 immediately. If you believe that you have been the victim of a hate crime or hate incident, and if you wish to retain a pro bono (free) attorney for legal assistance, NAPABA may be able to assist and connect you with appropriate legal resources. NAPABA has a nationwide network of nearly 90 affiliate organizations, and we are an intake provider for the Alliance for Asian American Justice. NAPABA is here to assist in combatting hate fueled attacks against the AANHPI community.

Please note that NAPABA is not a direct provider of legal advice or legal services. Instead, NAPABA may be able to connect you with the appropriate organizations that can assist you in your request for an attorney. The information provided on this site is for general informational purposes only.

Website: <https://www.napaba.org/page/HateCrimeResources>



**LAPD**- The City of Los Angeles is a diverse metropolis, whose residents represent nearly every culture, nationality, race, religion, sexual orientation, political affiliation and physical disability. The combination of all these different groups has made the City of Los Angeles rich in diversity with its own unique blend of cultures. Sadly, there are specific groups and individuals that are motivated by hate and are willing to act violently towards others based upon these differences. These criminal acts referred to as hate crimes affect not just individuals, but entire communities.

Website:

<https://www.lapdonline.org/office-of-the-chief-of-police/office-of-special-operations/detective-bureau/detective-support-and-vice-division/hate-crimes/>



**CAIR California**- The Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR) is a nonprofit 501(c)(3), grassroots civil rights and advocacy group. CAIR is America's largest Islamic civil liberties group, with regional offices nationwide. The national headquarters is located on Capitol Hill in Washington D.C. The California offices are located in San Francisco, Sacramento, San Diego, and Greater Los Angeles.

Website: <https://ca.cair.com>



**CARECEN**- CARECEN empowers Central Americans and all immigrants by defending human and civil rights, working for social and economic justice and promoting cultural diversity.

Website: <https://www.carecen-la.org>



**Los Angeles LGBT Center**-The Los Angeles LGBT Center is one of the leading organizations advancing civil rights and freedoms for LGBT people.

By mentoring and developing a new generation of leaders, domestically and internationally, we're strengthening the global LGBT movement while we educate the public about LGBT issues, mobilize constituents, advance policy initiatives, and work with political leaders throughout the U.S. to promote equality and justice for LGBT people.

Website: <https://lalgbtcenter.org>



**JACL**-The Japanese American Citizens League is a national organization whose mission is to secure and safeguard the civil and human rights of Asian and Pacific Islander Americans and all communities who are affected by injustice and bigotry. The leaders and members of the JACL also work to promote and preserve the heritage and legacy of the Japanese American Community.

Website: <https://jacl.org>



**Muslim Advocates**- Muslim Advocates is a national civil rights organization working in the courts, in the halls of power and in communities to halt bigotry in its tracks. We ensure that American Muslims have a seat at the table with expert representation so that all Americans may live free from hate and discrimination.

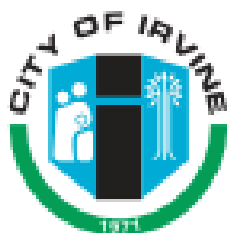
Website: <https://muslimadvocates.org/about/>





**California Conference for Equality and Justice-** At CCEJ, we lead people of all backgrounds in deep examinations of power and privilege at the personal and societal levels, inspiring them to build community across differences and work together to advance equity, inclusion and justice. We create “brave” spaces for participants to discuss vulnerable topics such as the harmful impacts of racism and discrimination, and to create plans for action and change. Our programs incorporate Restorative Justice practices to support youth and adults to increase their resiliency and ability to address identity-based conflict.

Website: <https://www.cacej.org>



**City of Irvine in Partnership with Irvine PD-**IPD recognizes the importance of protecting Irvine’s diverse community through the vigorous investigation and documentation of all hate crimes and hate incidents that occur within its jurisdiction. If you are a victim or witness to a hate crime or hate incident, please contact IPD directly at (949) 724-7200, or 9-1-1 in case of emergency. An officer will meet with you in person to collect the information necessary to thoroughly investigate what has occurred and document it in a police report. Victims, witnesses, or other involved persons who prefer not to call the police department directly may report hate crimes or hate incidents online by clicking the appropriate links above.

Website: <https://www.cityofirvine.org/departments-administration/reporting-hate-crimes-and-hate-incidents>



**South Asian Americans Leading Together-**SAALT’s vision is to help build a South Asian American community with shared values that uplift all people of color, and will cross lines of race, caste, gender, sexuality, and religion to abolish systems of oppression and achieve collective liberation. South Asians will come together around the belief that none of us is free until all of us are free, understanding that we can only reach this collective liberation by centering and prioritizing the demands of those most marginalized. South Asians in the U.S. will work in unity to combat policies, rhetoric, and action stemming from systemic racism, Islamophobia, and white supremacy; acknowledging the transnational connections to this violence and its impact on the U.S. Diaspora.

Website: <https://saalt.org/about/>



**Right to Be-** Our work focuses on turning the care we have for each other into simple, creative, effective action. We want to build a world that’s free of harassment and filled with humanity. Every day, we train hundreds of people to respond to, intervene in, and heal from harassment. We hold a space for people experiencing harassment to share their stories for affirmation and support. And we prepare new leaders to create workplaces, schools, and communities around the world that are filled with humanity.

Website: <https://righttobe.org>



**City of San Jose- Anti Asian Hate-** The Office of Racial Equity is steadfastly committed to collaborating with community members and other key stakeholders on strategies to combat hate crimes and violence against Asian and Pacific Islander communities in San José and promote the safety and well-being of individuals facing racism, harassment, and violence.

Website:

<https://www.sanjoseca.gov/your-government/departments-offices/office-of-the-city-manager/racial-equity/migrant-affairs/combating-anti-asian-hate-crimes>



**City of Tustin-** The Tustin Police Department recognizes that hate crimes that occur within our jurisdiction require prompt investigation and special sensitivity to the trauma experienced by victims.

The Tustin Police Department has established a Hate Crime Hotline to report hate-related incidents at (714) 573-3299. If this is an emergency or crime in progress, please call 9-1-1.

Website: <https://www.tustinca.org/1240/Hate-Crime>



**City of San Diego with the SD Police Department SAFE PLACE Program (LGBTQ+)-** The members of the San Diego Police Department strive to serve all members of our community including the LGBTQ+ community. We work collaboratively with our communities to have an understanding of what challenges the LGBTQ+ community may face, protect individual rights, and treat every person with dignity and respect. We are dedicated to providing the highest level of police service to all persons of all communities, including the LGBTQ+ community.

Website: <https://www.sandiego.gov/police/safeplace/lgbtq>



**Asian and Pacific Islanders-San Diego** is home to one of the largest Asian and Pacific Islander (API) populations in the nation. The San Diego Police Department serves all San Diegans including members of the API community. SDPD works collaboratively with business owners, non-profit organizations and community leaders to build relationships and trust with our immigrant and refugee communities to prevent crime and ensure they have the resources they need to report crimes when they occur.

Website: <https://www.sandiego.gov/police/safeplace/api>





**Rohnert Park PD x Safe Space Program**-Rohnert Park Department of Public Safety is dedicated to providing our city with the most comprehensive emergency services presented in our industry. Placing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) at the forefront of our safety objectives, Rohnert Park DPS implemented the Safe Space anti-hate LGBTQIA+ program. Partnering with local stakeholders, our agency increases community safety when a safe environment or "Safe Space" is accessible to those in an emergency at all times, twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

Website: [https://www.rpcity.org/city\\_hall/departments/public\\_safety/safe\\_space](https://www.rpcity.org/city_hall/departments/public_safety/safe_space)



**Napa County Hate Crime Reporting**- The California Department of Justice has tools and resources available to aid and assist local, state, and federal law enforcement authorities in the investigation of possible hate crimes, including the identification, arrest, prosecution, and conviction of the perpetrators of those crimes. The California Attorney General offers the following information on how to identify and report hate crimes and the services available to victims of hate crimes.

Website: <https://www.countyofnapa.org/3233/What-You-Need-to-Know-to-Protect-Yourself>



**The Asian American Foundation**-To serve the Asian American and Pacific Islander community in their pursuit of belonging and prosperity that is free from discrimination, slander, and violence. An America where opportunities to participate in all aspects of society are equally accessible, and individuals and communities are not rendered invisible, nor singled out for false stereotypes, discrimination, or hate on the basis of race.

Website: <https://www.taaf.org/about-us/home#mission>



**City of woodland**-The Woodland Police Department condemns all forms of hate. We are dedicated to providing a safe and inclusive community. The Woodland Police Department offers the following information on how to identify and report hate crimes and the services available to victims of hate crimes.

Website: <https://cityofwoodland.org/1321/Hate-Crimes>



**Freemont Police**- The City of Fremont is one of the most diverse cities in the U.S. and has been recognized as a national model of how people from different cultural, ethnic, and religious backgrounds can live and work together in peace and harmony. This is our City's greatest strength. Fremont Police Department recognizes that hate crimes require a speedy investigation and special sensitivity to the emotional trauma experienced by victims of these crimes. If you believe you are a victim of a hate crime and have not reported it, please do so now by calling Fremont Police Department at (510) 790 6800 and select option 3.

Website: <https://www.fremontpolice.gov/about-us/transparency-portal/hate-crime>



**South Asian Network**- South Asian Network (SAN) is a community based organization advancing the health, emotional & mental well-being, and civil rights of South Asians in Southern California. SAN believes in self-sustaining communities who actively raise their voices, take leadership and challenge social injustices, both within and beyond the South Asian community. Huge resource for survivors of hate crimes.

Website: <https://southasiannetwork.org/resources/resources-for-survivors-of-hate-crimes/>



**The Trevor Project**- The Trevor Project is an American nonprofit organization founded in 1998. Focused on suicide prevention efforts among lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning youth, they offer a toll-free telephone number where confidential assistance is provided by trained counselors.

Website: <https://www.thetrevorproject.org>



**My Sisters House**- To serve Asian and Pacific Islander and other underserved women and children impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking by providing a culturally appropriate and responsive safe haven, job training, and community services.

Website: <http://www.my-sisters-house.org>



**Just Safe**-We know what solutions work to make our communities safe. Over-enforcement and incarceration don't keep us safe. Providing support for victims, mental health, addiction treatment, healing, and housing do. We're fighting to redefine what safety means for all Californians. With our platform, we're reaching the hearts and minds of our community to invest in a safe future.

Website: [www.justsafe.org](http://www.justsafe.org)



**Asian Health Services**-Asian Health Services, founded in 1974, provides health, social, and advocacy services for all ages regardless of income, insurance status, immigration status, language, or culture. Our approach to wellbeing focuses on "whole patient health," which is why we provide more than primary care services, including mental health, case management, nutrition, and dental care to more than 50,000 patients in English and 14 languages.

Website: <https://asianhealthservices.org/>





**Use your voice to report hate by calling  
833-8-NO-HATE or visit [CAvsHate.org](https://CAvsHate.org)**



Anti-Trans and anti-LGBTQ+ hate are on the rise. If you are a victim or witness to hate, you can receive free support from the California vs Hate hotline. We will help identify options for next steps after a hate act and make connections to community-specific resources. Anyone can report anonymously and your report will not be shared with law enforcement without your consent unless required by law.





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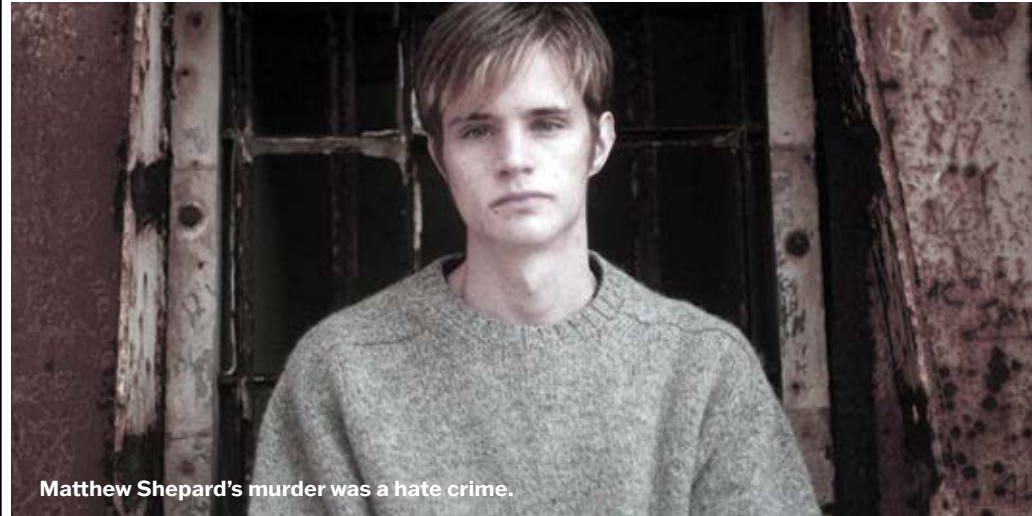
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## Hate Incidents vs. Hate Crimes What's the Difference?

by Matthew Burlingame

This month, we commemorate the 25th anniversary of the death of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student at the University of Wyoming, who was beaten, tortured, and left to die while tied to a fence near the city of Laramie. It was this brutal murder that brought much-needed attention to hate crime legislation across the country.



Matthew Shepard's murder was a hate crime.

But there is still widespread confusion regarding the differences between a "hate crime" and a "hate incident," both of which disproportionately affect the LGBTQ and other marginalized communities.

While both terms share a common thread of prejudice and bias, they differ significantly in terms of their legal implications and the personal impact they carry.

A hate incident, in many ways, echoes the indignities and microaggressions that LGBTQ individuals often face. It encompasses any act or behavior that is perceived as motivated by a bias based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or other protected characteristics.

The most common is, of course, verbal abuse and offensive language. There are few in our community who haven't experienced some variation of verbal vitriol yelled from a passing truck or spoken in anger in public spaces, online, or even within the supposed safety of our own homes.

The vandalism of public or private property with hate symbols, offensive imagery, or discriminatory messages is an all-too-familiar occurrence. Our local queer library, community center, and other venues have all, at one time or another, had to wash away painted graffiti created to sow the seeds of intolerance.

In the digital age, hate incidents no longer know physical boundaries. Online harassment, including cyberbullying and hate speech on social media, are the most common examples of attacks LGBTQ individuals face far too frequently.

These non-violent expressions of hatred, including anti-gay and anti-trans rallies and demonstrations, may not necessarily involve criminal activity or physical violence that leads to criminal charges, but they nonetheless can inflict substantial psychological and emotional harm.

Hate crimes, however, pose a real and discernible threat, such as physical violence, property damage, or other tangible acts of

aggression that are motivated by bias or prejudice based on their victim's identity.

Hate crimes come with specific legal ramifications and are subject to enhanced penalties under the law. In California, the Attorney General's office has developed a Hate Crime Rapid Response Protocol, which acts as a supplemental resource to local, state, and federal enforcement agencies. This ensures local agencies have the full resources of the Department of Justice at their disposal.

The reporting and prosecution of hate crimes are pivotal not only for the individuals they were perpetrated on but also for the communities who find themselves vulnerable to these types of attacks. It conveys a powerful message that society will not tolerate acts of violence or discrimination based on prejudice. By holding hate crime perpetrators accountable for their actions, it helps society work toward eliminating deeply ingrained prejudices that persist in our society.

Hate incidents and hate crimes are both critical issues that demand our attention. Recognizing these distinctions is essential as we strive to create a more inclusive and accepting society for LGBTQ and other marginalized communities.

To report a non-emergency hate crime, call the Sacramento Police Department at 916-808-5471, or the Sacramento Sheriff at 916-874-5115. For hate crime information and resources, log on to: [sacda.org/in-the-courtroom/criminal-prosecutions/hate-crimes-unit](http://sacda.org/in-the-courtroom/criminal-prosecutions/hate-crimes-unit). You can also check [CAVsHate.org](http://CAVsHate.org) for resources and the report hate crimes.

*This resource is supported in whole or in part by funding provided by the State of California, administered by the California State Library in partnership with the California Department of Social Services and the California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs as part of the Stop the Hate program. To report a hate incident or hate crime and get support, go to <https://www.cavshate.org/>.*

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## Outrageous Pumpkins & Candlelight Concerts

by Chris Narloch

If you want to pick up some tips on carving the perfect pumpkin this Halloween or want to chill out to some macabre music, *Outword* has you covered with October fun for the whole family.



The cast of Food Network's "Outrageous Pumpkin"

### Outrageous Pumpkins

Food Network's competition series "Outrageous Pumpkins" is back for another season of colossal carves, as eight elite pumpkin carvers battle it out for a \$25,000 prize and the title of Outrageous Pumpkins Champion.

You'll want to tune in each week because this year the challenges are bigger and more outrageous than ever, with jack-o'-lanterns, 3D carvings, structures, and Atlantic Giants.

Host Damaris Phillips joins judges Terri Hardin and Ralph Attanasia to guide the contenders through these ghoulishly great carves to see who will be the best in the patch.



A candlelight concert photo

### Candlelight Concerts

This candlelight concert series is expanding its portfolio of programs in Sacramento and invites locals to enjoy special Halloween-friendly music this month.

Candlelight concerts' haunted evenings feature favorite movie themes and soundtrack music from terrifying films such as "Psycho," "The Exorcist," and "Halloween," plus familiar pop hits like "Ghostbusters" and Michael Jackson's "Thriller."

The unique musical program invites everyone 8 years old and up to enjoy a fun evening of spooky music in the California State Railroad Museum.

"Candlelight: A Haunted Evening of Halloween Classics" will perform Oct. 26–29 in Sacramento. To purchase tickets, visit <https://candlelightexperience.com>

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## Sac Phil Explores American Landscapes

One of the most popular symphonies of all time opens the 2023-24 season of the Sacramento Philharmonic & Opera, exploring American themes.

Dvořák's towering masterpiece, Symphony No. 9, "From the New World" anchors a program with Copland's beloved "Lincoln Portrait" and Derrick Skye's sonic search for beauty, "Prisms, Cycles, Leaps."

Known for her incisive presence on the podium, acclaimed conductor Cosette Justo Valdés leads the Sacramento Philharmonic & Opera and SP&O Chorus.

American Landscapes: From The New World performs at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 21, 2023, at the SAFE Performing Arts Center. Go to: [www.sacphilopera.org](http://www.sacphilopera.org)



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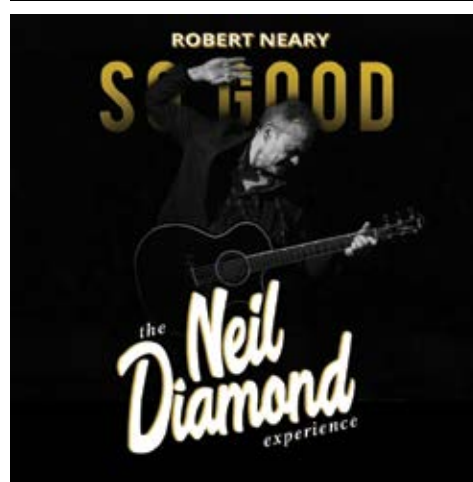
FRIDAY | OCT 13



SATURDAY | OCT 14



THURSDAY | OCT 19



FRIDAY | OCT 20



SATURDAY | OCT 21



TUESDAY | OCT 24



FRIDAY | OCT 27



SATURDAY | OCT 28



SUNDAY | OCT 29



TUESDAY | OCT 31



WEDNESDAY | NOV 01



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(2023)

FRIDAY, OCT 13, 7:00PM



WHITE ZOMBIE  
(1932)

SUNDAY, OCT 15, 3:00PM



HOCUS POCUS  
(1993)

SUNDAY, OCT 22, 7:00PM



VHCREST PRESENTS  
DEAD HEAT  
(1988)

WEDNESDAY, OCT 25, 7:00PM



THE ROCKY  
HORROR  
PICTURE SHOW  
(1975)

MONDAY, OCT 30, 7:00PM



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**Thursday, October 26, 2023**

It's more than a double feature, it's a night of anticipation as we toast our deserving award recipients, delight in a tantalizing dinner, and partake in a thrilling live auction! And don't worry, you'll be taken on a strange journey into the Time Warp.



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Themes:  
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# John Cusack & Alex Edelman in S.F. Plus, Eddie Izzard & Alan Cumming

by Chris Narloch

Four very different funny folks will be appearing in the Bay Area this October and November in separate appearances that promise to have their fans begging for more. Here are the details.



Eddie Izzard  
Photo by Amanda Searle

## Eddie Izzard

Star of stage and screen Eddie Izzard is looking back on an illustrious comedy career on her current North American tour, which stops into BroadwaySF's Orpheum Theatre for three dates, this month. "Eddie Izzard - The Remix: The First 35 Years" will feature Izzard's favorite comedy stories and performs in San Francisco this Oct. 19-21.

## Alex Edelman

There are gutsy comedians and then there is Alex Edelman, who decided -- after he was the target of a string of anti-Semitic online attacks -- to go undercover as a racist and attend a meeting of White Nationalists in Queens. This shockingly relevant and reportedly hilarious show, "Alex Edelman: Just For Us," tells what happened next, after Edelman came face to face with the people behind the keyboards. Direct from a universally acclaimed Broadway run, for four performances only, Oct. 26-28, at San Francisco's Curran Theater.

## Alan Cumming

In "Alan Cumming Is Not Acting His Age," the Scottish triple-threat talent covers all the bases: sex, death and bacchanalia, with a set list as eclectic as the man himself. Songs from "Cabaret" authors Kander and Ebb blend with contemporary favorites and even a self-penned paean against plastic surgery. He also discusses the effects of gravity, the time the mum from the Brady Bunch punched him, and what his dog taught him about quality of life. One show only, this Nov. 2, at San Francisco's Curran Theater.

## John Cusack

Step into the surreal world of "Being John Malkovich" with a special screening of that mind-bending classic starring John Cusack, followed by a captivating post-show discussion with the iconic star himself. Dive deep into the film's surreal narrative as Cusack shares exclusive insights and takes audience questions. One performance only, this Nov. 19, at San Francisco's Curran Theater.

For information about all these performances and more, please visit:  
[www.broadwaysf.com/events](http://www.broadwaysf.com/events)

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# Out & About

Everything came together beautifully for the Rainbow Chamber Foundation's Farm 2 Scholar dinner that was held on the American River College grounds, by the Culinary Arts & Horticulture Departments, on September 28. The weather was perfect, the set up was gorgeous and the food was amazing. Scholarships were given out and a silent auction helped provide more funds for future awards. All around, a lovely evening.

Photos by Amy Medina Photography







# UPCOMING EVENTS



## On Your Feet!

NOVEMBER 2-5, 2023

### THEIR MUSIC, THEIR STORY, THEIR PASSION...

On Your Feet! is the story of Emilio and Gloria Estefan, two people who—through an unwavering dedication to one another and their pursuit of the American dream—showcased their talent, their music, and their heritage to the world in a remarkable rise to global superstardom.

### SOME OF THE MOST ICONIC SONGS OF ALL TIME...

Featuring music by Emilio Estefan, Gloria Estefan, and Miami Sound Machine, including Grammy Award winning songs "The Rhythm is Gonna Get You," "Conga," "Anything for You," "1-2-3," "Get On Your Feet," and "Here We Are."

Prepare to be on your feet from start to finish!



## Ruben Studdard & Clay Aiken - Twenty | The Tour

NOVEMBER 10, 2023

Ruben Studdard & Clay Aiken are thrilled to reunite 20 years after captivating audiences during their historic run on the second season of Fox's *American Idol* in 2003. Due to overwhelming demand, and on the heels of the first leg of their critically acclaimed *Twenty | The Tour*, the multi-platinum recording artists are hitting the road again for the second leg of their reunion tour. From Clay's iconic rendition of "Bridge Over Troubled Water" to Ruben's soulful single "Flying Without Wings," join America's favorite odd couple for an unforgettable evening of music and memories, delivered as only these true superstars can.



## MANNHEIM STEAMROLLER CHRISTMAS BY CHIP DAVIS

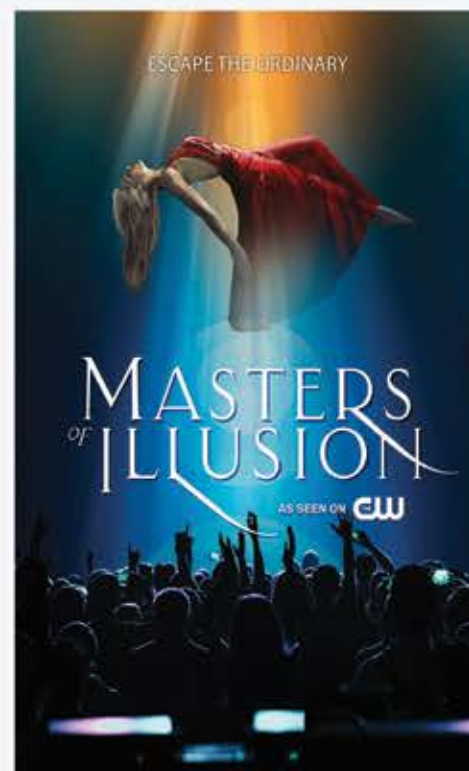
NOVEMBER 28, 2023  
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### Best Selling Christmas Artist of all Time!

Chip Davis, founder and creator of Mannheim Steamroller, is celebrating over 35 years of his annual Christmas concert tour, making it the longest running concert tour in the entertainment industry!

A Grammy Award winner, Mannheim Steamroller has sold more than 41 million albums, with over 31.5 million in the Christmas genre. Their holiday CDs have become synonymous with Christmas and occupy top positions on Billboard's Seasonal Chart every year.

This year's show will feature classic Christmas hits from the Mannheim Steamroller holiday albums, along with multimedia effects in an intimate setting.



## Masters of Illusion

JANUARY 7, 2024

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Audiences will be held at the edge of their seats by the jaw-dropping grand illusions, and laugh out loud at the hysterical comedy magic as performers from around the world combine fantasy, fervor and flair with magic created in front of their very eyes.

Watch closely as you experience things that just can't be done..... or can they?

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# New Short Films by Two Great Directors Reviewed

## Plus, Julia Garner and Joan Baez on The Big Screen

by Chris Narloch

The good news out of Hollywood is that the Writers Guild strike is over, and the studios have resumed talks with SAG-AFTRA, which means that the actors' strike could be over by the time you read this (fingers crossed).

The Hollywood strike has wreaked havoc on theatrical release schedules, with many major movies temporarily pushed back until next year, but there are still new films around to review.

October is routinely the graveyard for bad

horror movies, and this year appears to be no different, with "The Nun II" and a new "Exorcist" film stinking up theaters.

I did manage to scare up four very interesting new (non-horror) films to write about, and you can read those reviews here.



### Strange Way of Life

My favorite living movie director, Spain's Pedro Almodovar, has been teasing his U.S. fans, making short films that mark the first time he has worked in English rather than Spanish.

Is he getting ready to finally make a full-length feature in Hollywood? We shall see, but in the meantime, you can watch both of his English-language shorts on a double bill that was still playing at Sacramento's Tower Theatre as we went to press.

The new short, "Strange Way of Life," stars Ethan Hawke and Pedro Pascal as former lovers in the Old West who reunite after the son of Pascal's character kills a woman, and Hawke's sheriff character is tasked with bringing the killer to justice.

The movie looks like a Technicolor western mini-movie, with cool costumes from Saint Laurent and an attractive cast, and its lovely wide-screen images demand to be seen on the big screen.

Only about 30 minutes, the sexy movie – which contains a sizzling flashback with the younger versions of our hunky male leads gulping red wine and making out – is too short, but I still enjoyed seeing Hawke and Pascal play ex-lovers who become lovers again.

The new Almodovar short is paired with his last (even better) mini movie, "The Human Voice" from 2020, which is also in English and stars the great Tilda Swinton as a woman abandoned by her lover who gets revenge.

"The Human Voice" is classic Almodovar, boiled down to a half hour, and Swinton is riveting in it. Together, the two films provide movie fans with a compact hour of Almodovar awesomeness.



### Joan Baez: I Am a Noise

The iconic folk singer Joan Baez is inarguably one of the finest protest singers and political activists our country has ever produced.

Baez's recordings of "Diamonds & Rust" and "The Night They Drove Old Dixie Down" are timeless, and this documentary follows the now-82-year-old on her farewell tour from a few years back, as she reminisces about her amazing life and career.

"Joan Baez: I Am a Noise" is also a deep dive into Baez's lifelong struggles with anxiety and depression, even drugs for a time, but it rewards her fans with a very intimate, brutally honest portrait of a complex woman who seems to have finally put her demons to rest. This movie opens at Sacramento's Tower Theatre on Oct. 13.



### The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar

Another short film by a famous director, this mini-movie by Wes Anderson features all his trademarks – immaculate production design, a great cast, fluid camerawork, an odd story – and in just 40 minutes.

Benedict Cumberbatch, Ben Kingsley, Ralph Fiennes, and Dev Patel shine in Anderson's entertaining and surprisingly moving adaptation of Roald Dahl's short story about a rich guy who learns from a wise man how to see without using his eyes.

I enjoyed "The Wonderful Story of Henry Sugar" even more than Anderson's most recent feature, this summer's "Asteroid City," and if you have Netflix, you can already watch "Henry Sugar" for free.



### The Royal Hotel

Also playing at Sacramento's Tower Theatre, last time I checked anyway, is this wild drama about misogyny and male privilege starring two terrific young actresses, Julia Garner and Jessica Henwick.

The pair play somewhat naïve best friends who agree to an adventure while backpacking through Australia that finds them working as temporary live-in barmaids at a very remote watering hole in the Outback.

The patrons of the bar are almost all horny male miners, most of whom could accurately be described as drunken sexist pigs.

While "The Royal Hotel" is not technically a horror film, the sexual politics at play in the movie's bar are horrifying. I won't say if or how the two young women extricate themselves from the scary situation they find themselves in, but the film is a mostly successful and very provocative cautionary tale.



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## Disney On Ice presents “Into The Magic” at Golden 1

Hosts Mickey Mouse and Minnie Mouse bring audiences on an expedition across raging seas, snow covered mountains and the marigold bridge in Disney On Ice presents “Into The Magic.” This action-packed extravaganza, produced by Feld Entertainment, Inc., features Disney’s Moana, Frozen, Coco and Beauty and the Beast with other beloved Disney characters returning to be featured in seven fun-filled performances November 2-5, 2023 at Golden 1 Center.



Coco On the Ice  
Photo by Feld Inc

“Into The Magic” takes families on a high-sea adventure as Moana sets sail on a life-changing quest to save her island with help from the demigod Maui. With the ice floor transformed into the vast oceanic scape, Disney On Ice allows Moana’s strength and determination to take center stage. This engaging atmosphere lets audiences deepen their existing connection to their favorite wayfinder and discover one’s true identity is never out of reach.

Continue honoring Dia de los Muertos and journey across the Marigold Bridge with Miguel from Disney/Pixar’s “Coco” into the magnificent and mystical Land of the Dead and discover a vibrantly colorful performance with skeletons in a beautiful cultural celebration of family.

Beautiful production numbers invite audiences into the world of “Beauty and the Beast,” as Belle shows what it means to be fearless. Along with her new friends in the enchanted castle, Belle is encouraged to step outside the ordinary and find joy in the bleakest situation. As she looks beyond the harsh exterior of the Beast to reach his gentle heart, fans learn there are teachable moments in everyday life.

Through the athleticism and grace of Anna and Elsa, Rapunzel and Flynn, and Cinderella, brave heroes from “Frozen,” “Tangled” and “Cinderella” ignite passions to believe. Showgoers will witness each characters’ unique qualities and talents inspiring children around the world to discover their inner hero.

Sacramento audiences can enjoy a 20 percent discount on select seats with the code MOM20 (case sensitive). For specific Sacramento local event information please visit <https://www.disneyonice.com/into-the-magic/sacramento-ca-golden-1-center>.

## Travel the “Glamour Road” at CA Auto Museum

Inspired by Jeff Stork’s and Tom Dolle’s book “Glamour Road,” a current exhibit at Sacramento’s California Automobile Museum explores the seldom told story of how glamour, fashion, design, and styling became the focus of automotive marketing from the postwar 1940s through the 1960s.

Following the end of World War II, the American automotive industry hired many designers and stylists from the fashion industry, as automakers made a direct appeal to the rising sophistication and influence of women. The colors, materials, and angles of many cars from this era all reflect this mindset.

“Glamour Road: Color, Fashion, Style and the Midcentury Automobile” continues through late October of 2023. For more information, please visit: [www.calautomuseum.org](http://www.calautomuseum.org)



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# Halloween Horror at Crocker & Sutter Street Theatre

by Chris Narloch

As a hardcore fan of classic horror, I get giddy whenever someone programs old-school horror films and the like. This month, there are several local opportunities to celebrate Halloween early with fun frights. Read on for two such events.



## Frankenstein

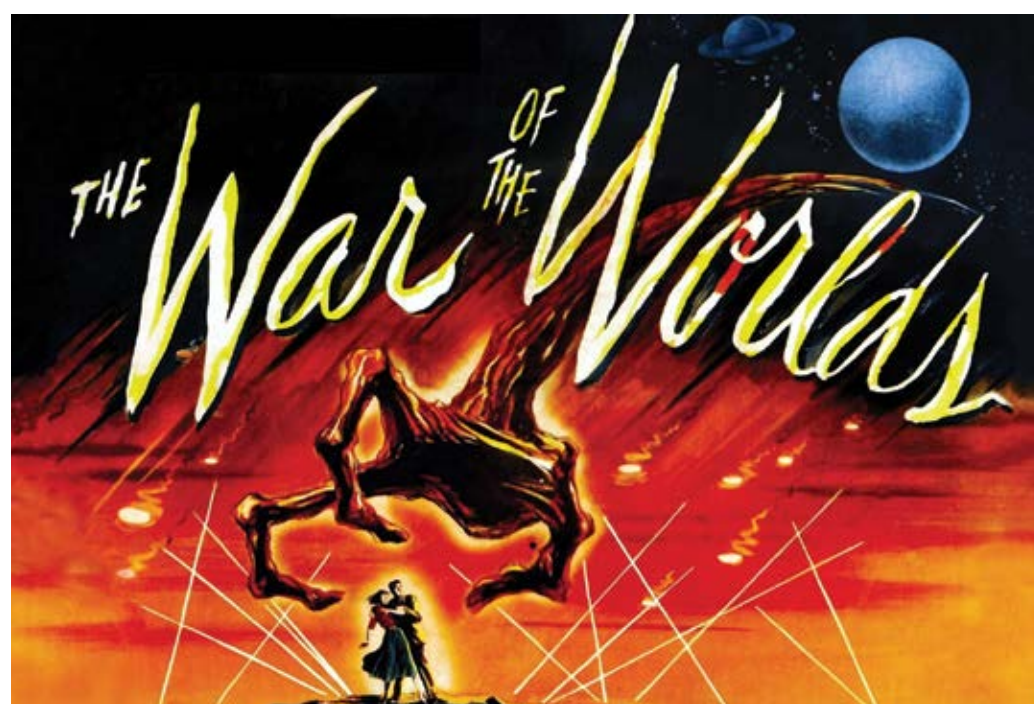
Curated by a lovely, young queer couple who run the divine Dreamland Cinema in midtown Sac, the film series IT'S (AI)LIVE! at Sacramento's Crocker Museum presents three movies exploring issues of ethics, morality, and identity, that parallel current anxieties surrounding the rise of AI and our increasing reliance on technology.

The series kicks off on Thursday, October 19 with James Whale's classic 1931 movie "Frankenstein," an iconic horror film that follows the obsessed scientist Dr. Henry Frankenstein as he attempts to create life by assembling a creature (Boris Karloff) from body parts of the deceased.

Both thought-provoking and entertaining, the film series mirrors and expands on ideas presented in the exhibition "AI Am I? Artificial Intelligence as Generated by Alexander Reben," which opens at the Crocker on October 22, 2023.

The other two titles in the film series are "Teknolust" with Tilda Swinton, on November 16, and "I-Be Area" by artist Ryan Trecartin, on December 21. To purchase tickets, visit: <https://my.crockerart.org/1396/1453>

You can also check out this month's eclectic offerings, most of them horror movies in honor of Halloween, at a magnificent midtown microcinema. Go to: [www.thedreamlandcinema.com](http://www.thedreamlandcinema.com)

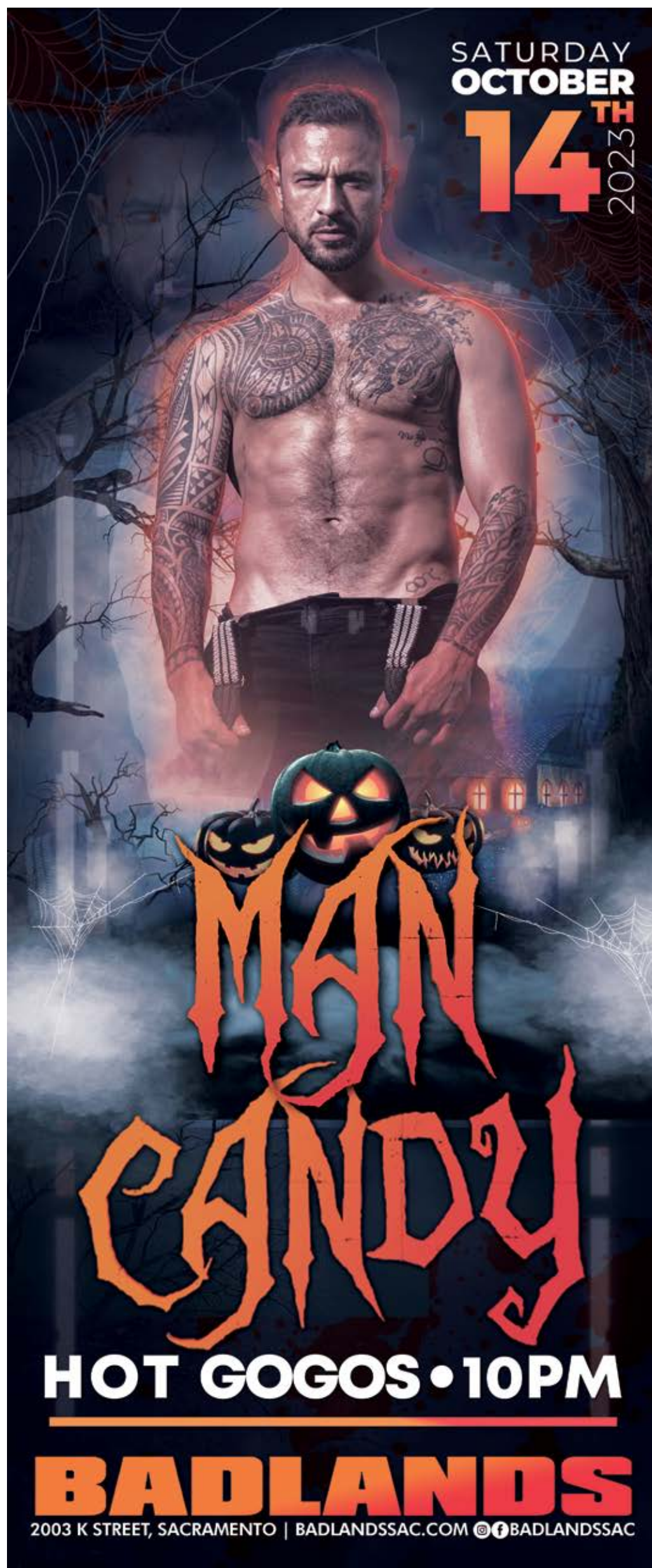


## The War of the Worlds

Sutter Street Theatre in Old Folsom will present their annual presentation of Orson Welles' "The War of the Worlds" on Saturday, October 14 at 4:00pm.

Using the original radio script, actors from Sutter Street Theatre will present the show in a replica of an old-time radio studio complete with live sound effects. (The original Mercury Theatre presentation of this broadcast, on Oct. 30, 1938, caused panic across the country.)

Tickets are just \$10 at the door for this once-a-year performance. For more information, go to: [www.SutterStreetTheatre.com](http://www.SutterStreetTheatre.com)







## Please Support the Outword Rainbow Fund

*For 28 years, we have been Sacramento's resource for LGBTQ+ information, politics, entertainment and we have helped connect and maintain our community.*

*Because of the continuing trauma being caused by COVID, many of our advertisers are doing everything they can to stay afloat - that includes Outword Magazine. At the onset of the pandemic we changed our distribution model to an online-only affair. That helped us weather the storm, but we have since returned to both online as well traditional, printed copies. Thankfully, the response we have received after returning to print has been fantastic!*

*However, we are continuing to ask that you, our readers and advertisers help us with a contribution that will be used to keep the presses rolling. This money will assist with publishing costs, both in print and online, and help pay our production staff, staff writers and distribution costs among other things.*

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<b>Spirit Supporter</b>	<b>\$10</b>

**OutwordRainbowFund.com**

## Out & About with Matthew Burlingame

Join the Hispanic Federation and the Latino Commission on AIDS on Oct. 15 to mark National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day (NLAAD). Unite in the fight against HIV's disproportionate impact on Hispanic/Latinx communities, champion HIV testing, and eradicate stigma. Together, let's prevent, treat, and end HIV transmission in the Hispanic/Latinx population.

Escape the rigors of Friday the 13th this October at Outword's ultimate Liquid Therapy Happy Hour at Badlands Sacramento, 2003 K St., starting at 5:30 p.m. Discover the perfect blend of refreshing drinks, energizing music videos, exciting giveaways, and a vibrant community of friends. Don't miss out on drink specials and the chance to make lasting memories.

Join the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce at their "Boas & Bow Ties" gala 2023 at the Hilton Sacramento Arden West, 2200 Harvard St. Celebrate the LGBTQ+ business community's contributions with awards, live entertainment, and a fantastic auction. Network, enjoy libations, and honor committee members, volunteers, and innovative businesses on Thursday, Oct. 26, from 5:30-8:30 p.m. Dress to impress for this glamorous evening! [Rainbowchamber.com](http://Rainbowchamber.com)

Get ready for a hauntingly good time at Spirits, Brews & Bites 2023 in Historic Folsom! Sip on Folsom's finest brews, cider, and spirits while savoring delicious local bites. Feel free to don your spookiest Halloween costumes! Sample regional delights from breweries, distilleries, and restaurants. Sponsored by The Folsom Hotel and Folsom Preserve Property Management, with live music keeping the vibe alive! Join the party on Saturday, Oct. 21 at 2:30 p.m. Grab your tickets early! [Historicfolsom.org](http://Historicfolsom.org)



**John Wascavage and Natasha Hause in Sierra Rep's "The Graduate" playing through Oct. 29. Courtesy photo by Sierra Rep.**

Sierra Repertory Theatre is delighted to bring "The Graduate" to the Fallon House Theatre, 11175 Washington St. in Columbia through Oct. 29. Set in the vibrant 1960s California, the play follows Benjamin, a young man with a bright future. However, an unexpected encounter with Mrs. Robinson sends him on a disastrous sexual odyssey. The adaptation promises a fresh perspective on this iconic story. [SierraRep.org](http://SierraRep.org)

Don't miss the Sacramento Premiere of "Archduke" by Rajiv Joseph, directed by Michael Stevenson, through Nov. 12. Three bumbling young men, torn between

patriotism and pudding, embark on a mission targeting Archduke Franz Ferdinand. Join Gavrilko, Nedeljko, and Trifko on their darkly comedic quest for immortality at Capital Stage, 2215 J St. [Capstage.org](http://Capstage.org)

Get ready for a wild ride! "Evil Dead The Musical," directed by Mike Jimena, runs through Oct. 31 at Sutter Street Theatre, 717 Sutter St., Folsom. This show combines elements from cult classic films like "The Evil Dead," "Evil Dead 2," and "Army of Darkness," creating a hilarious and blood-soaked theatrical experience. Whether you're a horror enthusiast or just love fun, this unique production is a must-see, complete with a 'Splatter Zone' for the ultimate experience. [Sutterstreettheatre.com](http://Sutterstreettheatre.com)



**Sinister Halloween Con 2023 welcomes Cassandra Peterson aka Elvira, Mistress of the Dark.**

Join the spooky fun at Sinister Halloween Con 2023! Meet Elvira, Mistress of the Dark herself, Cassandra Peterson, along with stars like Billy Zane and Casper Van Dien. The sinister gathering happens on Oct. 21-22 at the Scottish Rite Center, 6151 H St. Don't miss out! Get your tickets at [Sinistercreaturecon.com](http://Sinistercreaturecon.com)

Front Street Animal Shelter is dressing things up for a Howl-o-Ween treat at Paws to Party! Join us in the Elks Tower Ballroom for a masquerade extravaganza. Enjoy live music by the AzUCal Band, thrilling silent auctions, costume contests, and the beloved Wall of Wine. Hosted by Sacramento's own A La Mode. This human-only, 21+ event takes place on Oct. 28 from 6-9 p.m. at the Elks Tower Ballroom, 921 11th St., Sacramento, CA 95814. Costumes encouraged, but all attire is welcome. [Friendsoffrontstreet.com](http://Friendsoffrontstreet.com)

On Sunday, Oct. 15 at 2 p.m., experience the captivating energy and extraordinary talent of FACE Vocal Band, an internationally acclaimed all-vocal rock band from Boulder, Colorado. With five guys, five microphones, and five big hearts, they have been delighting audiences for over two decades. Don't miss their incredible performance at the Harris Center for the Arts, 10 College Pkwy in Folsom. [Harriscenter.net](http://Harriscenter.net)

*Do you have events, birthdays, or announcements to share? Feel free to send them to [matthew@hengemedia.com](mailto:matthew@hengemedia.com).*



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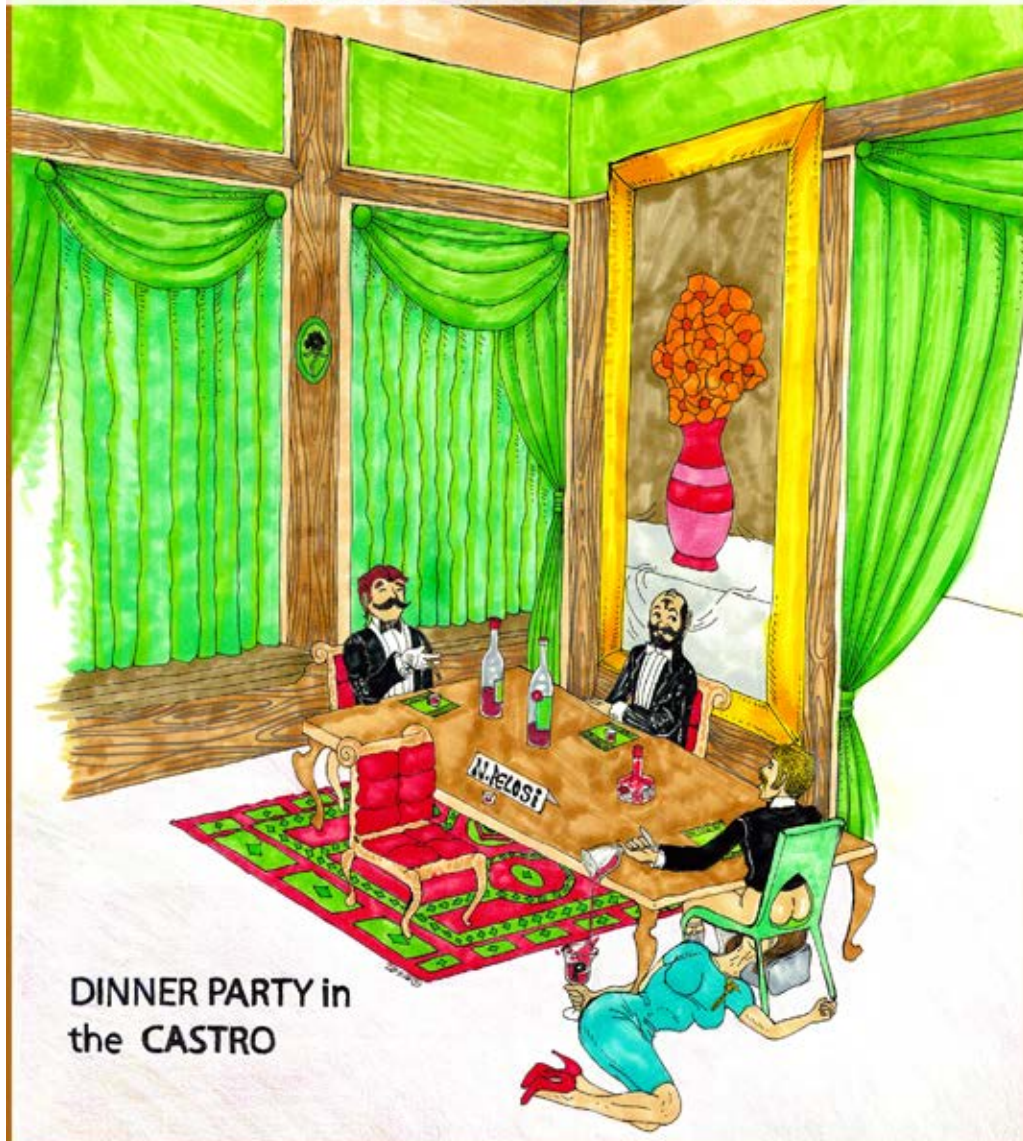
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## Activating Taste Buds

Do you miss posting pictures of your food on social media? We do too! So, we would like to highlight your food pics here in the pages of *Outword*. Email your pics to [graphics@outwordmagazine.com](mailto:graphics@outwordmagazine.com) along with a one sentence description or location, and include your name. You can also tag your image with #outwordtastebuds and we will check them out. This isn't a contest, it's just for fun. Here are two more "gourmet" images. Now activate those buds!



Broccoli Caesar Salad at  
the Grange Restaurant  
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**OCT 13**

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Thursday  
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October

- 6 Happy Hour at Roscoes with Primetimers @3PM
- 8 Q Prom Hosted by LGBT Community Center
- 10 Veggie Nite @Pho Fresh with Primetimers- Rancho Cordova
- 12 Dinner with Primetimers @ River City Brewery in Carmichael
- ▶ 13 Outword Happy Hour @Badlands
- 14 Capital Corgi Ball
- 15 FREE Museum Day @Crocker Art Museum with Primetimers @12
- 16 Movie Nite @4PM with Primetimers @ Tower Theatre
- ▶ 17 Rainbow Chamber Networking Mixer
- 24-29 Les Miserables @ Broadway Sacramento
- ▶ 26 Rainbow Chamber Boas and Bow Ties
- 29 Frankenstein @ Mondavi Center

November

- 2 Drag Queen Bingo
- 3 Celebrate Dia de Muertos Davis
- 7-12 Ain't Too Proud @ Broadway Sacramento
- 10 Straight White Men
- 11 Best of Broadway- A SARTA Cabaret
- 13 Diversity Summit
- 16 Silkroad Ensemble with Rhiannon Giddens @ Mondavi Center
- 17 CoCo Live-to-Film Concert @ Mondavi Center
- 23 Chosen Family Feast Hosted by LGBT Community Center

December

- 2 Mark O'Connor's an Appalachian Christmas @ Mondavi Center
- 10 Chamber of Music Society @Mondavi Center
- 13 Rainbow Chamber Holiday Mixer
- 27-31 Dr. Seuss The Musical @ Broadway Sacramento

## 2024 Events for future planning

- 1/25 You Better Werk! Career and Job Readiness Fair
- 6/2 10th Annual Run/Walk for Equality-Davis
- 6/8 Sacramento Pride Festival

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We are dedicated to creating a healthier Sacramento by increasing access to care for all members of our community, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, orientation, or ability to pay.



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