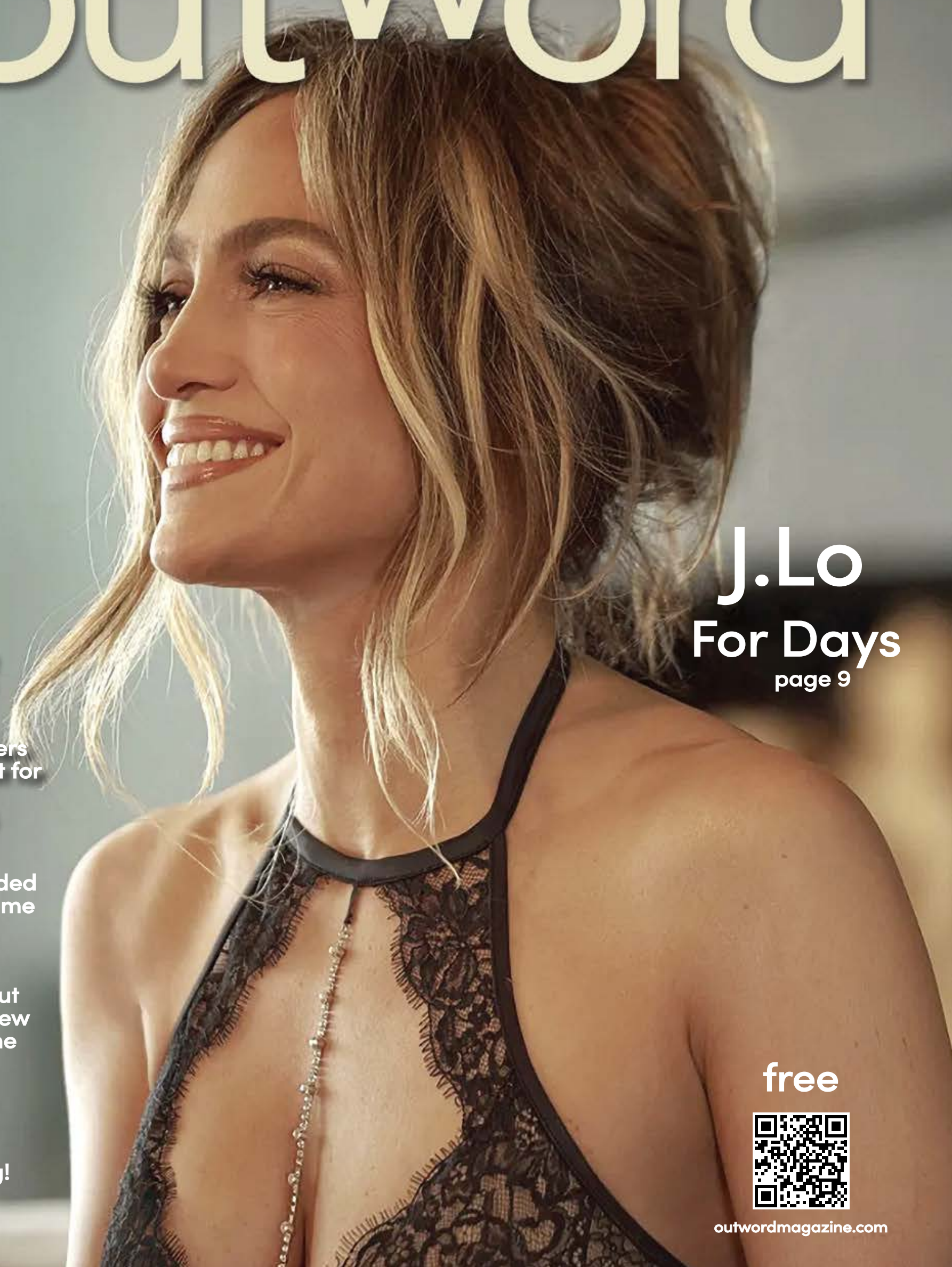


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Jennifer Lopez sporting some of her new high-end lingerie.
Photo by Norman Jean Roy.

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New Report on Black and African American LGBTQ Youth, Spotlights Unique Challenges

staff writer

The Human Rights Campaign (HRC), in collaboration with the University of Connecticut, has produced a comprehensive report on Black and African American LGBTQ youth, spotlighting the unique challenges and resilience within this community. This research, part of a larger effort to understand the varied experiences of LGBTQ youth, dives deep into the intersection of racial and LGBTQ+ identities and their impact on the well-being of Black LGBTQ+ youth.

The Human Rights Campaign (HRC), in collaboration with the University of Connecticut, has produced a comprehensive report on Black and African American LGBTQ youth, spotlighting the unique challenges and resilience within this community. This research, part of a larger effort to understand the varied experiences of LGBTQ youth, dives deep into the intersection of racial and LGBTQ+ identities and their impact on the well-being of Black LGBTQ+ youth.

The HRC and UConn survey brings to light the pervasive discrimination faced by Black LGBTQ+ youth. More than three-quarters of respondents reported hearing negative comments about LGBTQ+ individuals from family members, and nearly half experienced ridicule from family for their LGBTQ+ identity. This discrimination extends beyond the familial realm, with 67% of participants facing verbal insults due to their LGBTQ+ identity and 90% encountering racial discrimination. Additionally, the survey revealed profound mental health challenges, with 80% of these youth frequently feeling depressed, anxious, or under stress, and nearly half grappling with negative feelings towards their LGBTQ+ identities [oai_citation:1,HRC and UCONN Survey Reveals Black LGBTQ Youth Are at Heightened Risk for Discrimination - Human Rights Campaign](https://www.hrc.org/news/

hrc-and-uconn-survey-reveals-black-lgbtq-youth-are-at-heightened-risk-for-d).

In parallel, The Trevor Project's findings underscore the severe mental health disparities among Black LGBTQ+ youth. Notably, 17% reported being physically threatened or harmed due to their LGBTQ+ identity, and this figure rises to 25% for Black transgender and nonbinary youth when considering threats or harm due to their gender identity. Despite these challenges, there are glimmers of hope through protective factors. A significant majority (82%) reported having at least one supportive person in their life, and high family support correlated with lower rates of attempted suicide among Black transgender and nonbinary youth. Access to LGBTQ-affirming spaces also emerged as a critical protective factor, with those having access to such spaces showing a 50% lower rate of suicide attempts compared to their peers without access [oai_citation:2,All Black Lives Matter: Mental Health of Black LGBTQ Youth | The Trevor Project](https://www.thetrevorproject.org/research-briefs/all-black-lives-matter-mental-health-of-black-lgbtq-youth/).

These findings point to a complex landscape for Black LGBTQ+ youth, who navigate both racial and LGBTQ+ identities amidst systemic barriers. The study not only highlights the discrimination and mental health challenges faced by these youth but

also illuminates the resilience and potential for positive outcomes through support and affirmation.

Addressing these challenges requires a multifaceted approach. Families, schools, and communities must become more aware and supportive, creating environments that affirm the identities of Black LGBTQ+ youth. Youth-serving professionals need training in inclusivity and anti-racism to effectively support these youth. Furthermore, the availability of LGBTQ+-affirming spaces is crucial for the mental health and well-being of Black LGBTQ+ youth, underscoring the importance of such spaces in mitigating the risk of suicide.

This report serves as a crucial call to action for stakeholders across society to prioritize the needs and well-being of Black LGBTQ+ youth. By dismantling systemic barriers and fostering supportive, inclusive environments, we can ensure that Black LGBTQ+ youth are empowered to thrive, contributing to a more equitable and just society for all.

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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Tribal leaders Hold Summit for MMIP

words and photo by Chris Allan

The Wilton Rancheria and Yurok Tribe hosted the second annual MMIP (Missing and Murdered Indigenous Peoples) Summit and Day of Action in downtown Sacramento last week. The two-day event brought Tribal and elected leaders, law enforcement and affected families together to raise awareness and work toward substantive policy changes. The event included a press conference, march, keynote speakers and meetings with political leaders including Attorney General Rob Bonta.

California has the fifth highest number of missing and murdered indigenous people cases in the country. Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning and Two Spirit are a particularly vulnerable population identified in a 2020 Public Health Framework for Action Plan for Missing and Murdered Native Americans.

"The fight to end sexual assault and interpersonal gender based violence in our communities is our shared struggle," noted Indigenous Justice Executive Director Morning Star Gali as part of the event's press conference. "More police, more people in prison and more laws addressing gender violence will meaningfully address these matters. This is particularly upheld for homophobia, transphobia and colonial gender norms historically imposed by the national state and its laws."



Participants hold a sign for a missing loved one at the MMIP Day of Action Press Conference.

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Gay Square Dancing? What?

Capital City Squares is an LGBTQ+ square dancing club in Sacramento, California, with membership open to any adult.



Capital City Squares Dancing in the Sacramento Pride Parade.
Photo by Kati Garner

We offer Modern Western Square Dancing and classes ranging from SSD (Social Square Dancing) to Advanced levels throughout the year. We meet each Wednesday night from 6:30 PM to 9:15 PM at the Fruitridge Community Center, 4000 Fruitridge Road, Sacramento.

When were you last in a square?? We promise that our activity bears very little resemblance to the square dancing most of us did in school!

Just like other LGBTQ+ clubs in the bay area, you don't need a partner to dance with our club, and we do not require the wearing of traditional square dance attire. We enjoy fun and lively dancing to all kinds of music.

In LGBTQ+ square dancing, any dancer, regardless of gender preference or presentation, can learn either the "boy" or "girl" positions.

Participants are taught a series of

movements or "calls" and learn to have quick recall when they are presented in real time by the live caller. The fun, and the challenge, is to work together with the other seven dancers to keep the square moving to the calls and not to break down.

Our members have danced at conventions and other events (called fly-ins) throughout the United States and Canada, where we have met and made life-long friends. We particularly enjoy dancing down the street each year at the Sacramento Pride parade.

Started in 1981, the club is a founding member of the International Association of Gay and Lesbian Square Dance Clubs.

This is a sober, low-impact aerobic social activity, and we hope you'll join us!

We can be reached at www.capitalcitysquares.org, or by email at capcitysquares@gmail.com for more information about our club or our next class.

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Missouri Proposes Nine Anti-Transgender Bills

staff writer

The legislative landscape in Missouri had become a battleground, with nine proposed bills aiming to curtail the rights and freedoms of transgender people. These bills ranged from restrictive definitions of sex to granting healthcare providers the legal right to deny treatment to transgender individuals based on their identity. Four of these proposed laws specifically targeted the use of bathrooms by transgender people, seeking to force them into spaces that do not align with their gender identity.

In the heart of the American Midwest, amidst the bustling clinical rotations of a Kansas City medical school, Charlie Adams found himself at a crossroads not just of his medical career but of his very existence. On a day when he could have been immersed in patient care or studying for exams, Adams instead embarked on a three-hour journey to the Missouri Capitol. The stakes were high, transcending the usual rigors of medical education to touch upon the fundamental rights and recognition of transgender individuals in Missouri.

At 27 years old, Adams embodied the very essence of the debate that swirled around these bills. Standing before a committee of legislators, his physical appearance—complete

healthcare, and daily life.

Adams' confrontation with this wave of legislation is a microcosm of the struggle faced by transgender individuals across the country. His journey to the Missouri Capitol was not just a personal stand but a representation of the larger fight for dignity, recognition, and basic human rights. The implications of these laws stretch far beyond the bathrooms and into the very homes, workplaces, and healthcare facilities of transgender people.

The story of Charlie Adams, set against the backdrop of the Missouri Capitol, serves as a powerful narrative of resistance and advocacy. It highlights the personal toll and emotional labor undertaken by individuals

“My life before testosterone, I was not happy. And now I finally get to live a good life. I have come so far and found so much happiness. The thought of detransitioning because of lack of access is the worst thing that could possibly happen to me.” – Charlie Adams

with a full beard and a deep voice—posed a silent but poignant question about the absurdity and cruelty of denying transgender individuals the right to exist in public spaces according to their true selves. His rhetorical question to the legislators, regarding their comfort with him using a women's restroom, cut to the core of the issue, challenging the logic and humanity of such restrictive measures.

This moment in Missouri is symptomatic of a larger, national crisis. Across the United States, Republican-dominated legislatures have been diligently crafting and enacting legislation that erodes the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals, with a pronounced focus on the transgender community. While previous legislative efforts mostly targeted adolescents and their presence in schools, a disturbing shift towards restricting the rights of adult transgender individuals signifies a new, more comprehensive phase of discrimination.

The legislative fervor in Missouri reflects a broader agenda that seeks to fundamentally alter the social and legal recognition of transgender individuals. More than a hundred laws have been passed in recent years, aiming to limit LGBTQ+ rights, revealing a concerted effort to roll back the gains made by the community. This legislative trend not only challenges the rights but also the very existence of transgender individuals in public spaces,

forced to defend their existence against a legislative onslaught. Adams' story is a poignant reminder of the human stakes in political debates, where the outcomes have a direct impact on people's lives, freedoms, and happiness.

As this battle unfolds in Missouri and beyond, the narrative of Charlie Adams and the legislative challenges faced by the transgender community underscore a critical juncture in the fight for civil rights in America. It is a call to action for all who believe in equality and dignity for every individual, demanding attention, empathy, and action in the face of mounting discrimination. The fight against these legislative measures is not just about securing rights but about affirming the value and humanity of every person, irrespective of their gender identity.

Charlie Adams, a transgender resident of Missouri whose access to medication is under threat from pending legislation. Information courtesy of HRC.org.

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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Little Activisms by Judy Saint

Hand These To Candidates

“Breaking News: Local Officials Enact New LGBTQ+ Rights” Ahh, what could those be we wonder as we excitedly read the story: Trans bathroom solutions? Harsher punishments for hate crimes? Adoption protections for gay couples? Proclamations for a new DEI Month? Homeless gay teen shelters? School Board sensitivity training? Book ban reversals? The mind boggles hoping for all these and more.

Not a dream. You have a strong hand in making laws like these happen; or not happen. You vote for the people who make the laws.

I don't want to hear the Debbie Downers. We know you're frustrated, but this column only lets you be frustrated for so long, then it's back to work in the little ways that are comfortable for you, and that we know make a difference. Here's one.

Today's Little Activism is best if you have a printer. Got one? Borrow one? After that, it's one of the easiest and most impactful kick-in-the-shorts you can give to your community lawmakers and those running to be lawmakers.

Today's Little Activism is to hand a business card (or mail it or email a photo of it) to anyone running for office and anyone holding office. That includes all elected positions from dog catcher to school board to supervisors to governor. We want them to know that they have constituents in their districts who support separation of church and state in all matters, including LGBTQ+ rights. If no one tells them, they might assume we don't care.

LEVEL I (easy level)

Print out the graphic seen here onto business cards or any paper, maybe write a personal note, maybe your address to prove you are their constituent, or maybe just a thank you. Then mail it to candidates and officials in your district. Just mail it.

Even simpler is to snap a photo to insert into an email to their offices. Printing is better, but they'll get the message, either way.

LEVEL II (harder level)

Print out the graphic seen here onto business cards or any paper, and hand these in person wherever candidates are out shaking hands and smiling. This has a huge impact. Candidates must keep smiling and can't be seen throwing your paper away. Whether you say anything depends on your comfort level.

You could say, "I'm your constituent. Thank you for being here to meet us. Please remember many of your voters do not like mixing religion with government." Shake hands, give them your paper, and off you go with a big smile inside that you did something impactful. And it is impactful.

Or just hand them the paper, even if you just walk away.

Don't forget you can always print extra for your friends to hand out. Plus, there is no need to send only one between now and election day, right? Print a bunch. You got this!

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. She and her wife live in Roseville, CA.

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J.Lo For Days

by Chris Narloch

Get ready for an onslaught of Jennifer Lopez. The triple-threat talent has a mini-movie musical just out on Prime Video, a full-length CD of new music, a concert tour coming to our Golden 1 Center this July 17, and an upcoming documentary about the making of all of this, that debuts on Prime Video this Feb. 27.



J.Lo has never been one to rest on her laurels. She and her team have obviously mastered the fame game, and sometimes I think that her greatest skill is for self-promotion. Truth be told, she is a so-so singer, a decent actress when given the right role, a dynamite dancer, and an extremely sexy, beautiful woman. (Did I forget to mention that J.Lo also recently launched a high-end lingerie line?)

The new CD and mini movie (essentially a massive, 66-minute music video) are both titled “This Is Me...Now,” a reference to her 2002 album, “This Is Me...Then,” which was dedicated to her lover at the time, Ben Affleck. Well, lo and behold, “Bennifer” is back together; the pair married in 2022 after rekindling their romance in 2021.

If love is better the second time around, then I wish Jen and Ben all the best. I plan to check out her new CD and its companion movie musical soon, but I will probably skip the documentary and her concert tour. Speaking only for myself: a little J.Lo goes a long way.

“Zora & Langston” at Celebration Arts

Black History Month is almost over, but here at Outword we think every month should be BHM (and Women’s History Month and Jewish History Month and Queer History Month, etc.)



Celebration Arts, Sacramento’s premier destination for Black theatre, also celebrates Black history all year round and will open a new production, titled “Zora & Langston,” on the last official day of Black History Month, March 1st.

March 1st is also the first day of Women’s History Month, and “Zora & Langston” is the second production in Celebration Arts’ 2024 season, titled “Black Girl Magic.”

At the height of the Harlem Renaissance, we find two bright talents: Zora Neale Hurston, a fiery novelist with a flair for eccentricity, and Langston Hughes, a cerebral poet who plans to strategize himself to the top. A friendship quickly blossoms, filled with artistic passion, emotional depth, and a streak of competition.

Written and directed by the immensely talented local actor, writer and director Imani Mitchell, “Zora & Langston” will perform March 1-17, 2024 at Celebration Arts. Please visit: www.celebrationarts.net



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The Go-Go's Among Newest Adds to Hall of Fame

words and photos by Chris Allan

Earlier this month, the California Hall of Fame grew by ten new members. The red carpet event was held at the Secretary of State's Building, where Governor Gavin Newsom and First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom inducted the 17th class into the prestigious group of Golden State trailblazers. The Hall of Fame is an ongoing exhibit at the California Museum in Sacramento that now honors 165 Californians for their outstanding achievements in a variety of disciplines.



Iconic Rock Band, The Go-Go's

This year, the new members include:

- Helene An: Master chef
- Willie L. Brown, Jr.: Former mayor of San Francisco and Speaker of the CA Assembly
- Vinton G. Cerf: Computer scientist and a "Father of the Internet"
- Ava DuVernay: Storyteller and award-winning filmmaker
- The Go-Go's: All-female pop punk band
- Thelton E. Henderson: Federal judge and civil rights leader (who notably ruled that the gay community was entitled to equal protection under the U.S. Constitution 28 years before the US Supreme court ruled in favor of gay marriage)
- Los Lobos: Iconic Chicano rock band
- Cheryl Miller: Pro basketball player, coach and sports broadcaster
- Leon E. Panetta: Former U.S. Secretary of Defense
- Brenda Way: Artistic director and choreographer



Basketball Legend, Cheryl Miller

All but one of the honorees attended the ceremony, along with some representatives of earlier classes: LGBTIQ activist Stuart Milk, nephew of Harvey Milk (Class of '09), longtime queer ally and UFW labor leader Dolores Huerta ('12), and local businessman Terry Sidie and friends representing José Sarria (Posthumous Class of '23), the first openly gay candidate for public office in the U.S. and founder of the Imperial Court System.

Oscar Fever Heats Up

by Chris Narloch

The 96th Academy Awards are on their way, movie fans, with final voting happening on Feb. 27, and the actual ceremony scheduled for March 10, 2024, on ABC.

To begin with, the brouhaha over "Barbie" and its failure to receive nominations for Greta Gerwig and Margot Robbie has less to do with sexism and everything to do with the fact that the Academy has never respected comedies and other popcorn movies as much as serious, high-toned dramas like "Killers of the Flower Moon" and "The Zone of Interest," two films from last year that I think are somewhat overrated, although both received multiple Oscar nominations.

I do hope Lily Gladstone is the first Native American woman to win an Oscar as Best Actress, not because she is Native American but because she gave a beautiful performance that was the saving grace of Martin Scorsese's latest movie. Her stiffest competition is Emma Stone, who took a truly risky role and ran with it, fearlessly, in "Poor Things." Sandra Huller, who gave two terrific performances last year, in "The Zone of Interest" and "Anatomy of a Fall," could sneak in as a dark horse for "Anatomy..." but it doesn't look good for Annette Bening ("Nyad") or Carey Mulligan ("Maestro").



Annette Bening as Diana Nyad and Jodie Foster as Bonnie Stoll in "Nyad." Photo courtesy of Netflix.

Best Actor will almost certainly be Cillian Murphy, who is suddenly a household name after giving great performances in a wide variety of roles for more than two decades, for his towering performance in "Oppenheimer." Murphy's only real competitors are Paul Giamatti for "The Holdovers" or Jeffrey Wright in "American Fiction," although Bradley Cooper and Colman Domingo also gave fine performances in "Maestro" and "Rustin," respectively.

I'm not going to list all the supporting actor and actress nominees because the winners in those categories are (more or less) shoo-ins: Robert Downey Jr. for "Oppenheimer" and Da'Vine Joy Randolph in "The Holdovers."

Greta Gerwig's failure to secure an Oscar nomination as Best Director this year was a shame, but it was less a sexist snub than proof - if anymore was needed - that the Academy has contempt for comedy. (There is also the awkward fact that there are now up to ten slots for Best Picture but a firm five for Best Director, which means that as many as five filmmakers can be left out in the cold each year.) Look for Chris Nolan to receive his first (and long overdue) Oscar as Best Director this year, for "Oppenheimer."

I would love to see "Barbie" win Best Picture, for my own sentimental reasons: Sacramento native Greta Gerwig did a fantastic job with a premise that could have easily flopped; the win would help ease the pain of Gerwig and Margot Robbie not being nominated as Best Director and Best Actress, respectively; and it would help make up for the shameful fact that no American comedy has won the Best Picture Oscar since "Annie Hall" back in 1978. (My Best Picture money this year is on the other half of Barbenheimer - "Oppenheimer.")

Although comedy continues to be slighted, the Academy is embracing queer content in films more and more, with numerous examples among this year's nominees. All four acting categories contain at least one queer character among the five nominees, and at least two of them are played by queer actors: Jodie Foster and Colman Domingo. At least four of the Best Picture nominees also feature characters on the queer spectrum.

As a gay man, I am hoping that the Oscar ceremony itself has some queer appeal: if Ryan Gosling dons his fur coat and spray-tanned bare chest from "Barbie" to sing the Best Song nominee, "I'm Just Ken," what could be gayer than that?

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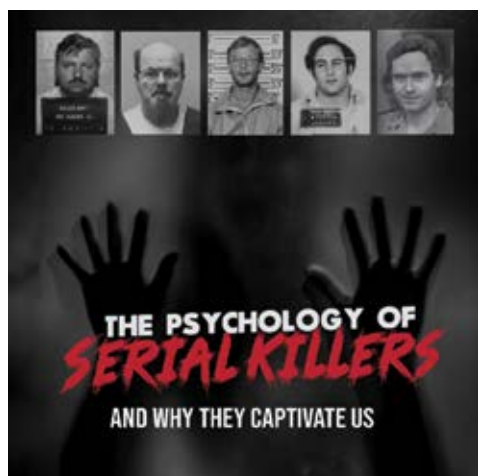


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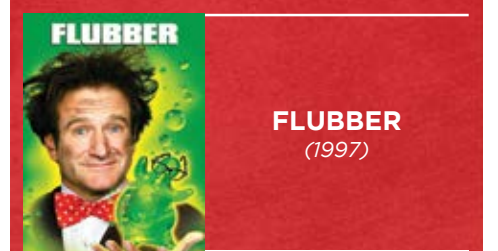
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SUNDAY | MAR 03



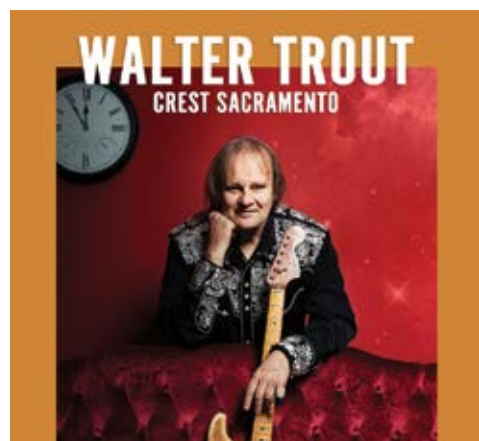
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“An Evening with Stephanie J. Block” at STC

The Tony-winning, Broadway star of “Wicked,” “Into the Woods,” “Anything Goes,” and “Falsettos,” who won the 2019 Tony Award for Best Actress in a Musical for playing Cher in “The Cher Show,” will headline an intimate evening this March, at Sacramento Theatre Company (STC).

Stephanie J. Block has established herself as one of the most versatile voices in contemporary musical theatre, and her one-night-only performance at STC on Friday evening, March 22, is an opportunity to enjoy the powerful talents that have made Ms. Block a star, while getting to know the woman behind the lights.

Stephanie will share stories about her journey to stardom and her personal life, and for those interested in meeting her, there will be a post-show event with dessert, champagne, and a chance to chat with Ms. Block. (For those who want to experience the thrill of being on stage with Stephanie as she performs, there is limited on-stage seating.)

STC’s main stage offers excellent views and acoustics from any seat in the house but get your tickets early because this special event will likely sell out.

Visit: www.sactheatre.org/shows/spring-gala



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UPCOMING EVENTS



Mystic Pizza

FEBRUARY 28 - MARCH 3, 2024

A new musical you'll love at first slice as three working-class girls navigate the complexities of life in a small-town pizza joint. Featuring megahits of the '80s and '90s, from "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" to "Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now."



Trailblazing Women of Country: A Tribute to Patsy, Loretta, and Dolly

MARCH 8, 2024

Patsy, Loretta, and Dolly revolutionized country music and blazed a trail for future generations of female artists. Featuring soloists, Miko Marks, CMT's 2022 "Next Woman of Country," and Nashville based singer, Kristina Train, supported by a 5-member all-female band.



Preservation Hall Jazz Band

MARCH 11, 2024

Throughout its history, New Orleans has been the point at which sounds and cultures from around the world converge, mingle, and resurface. PHJB has held the torch of New Orleans music aloft for more than 60 years.



Lyle Lovett and his Acoustic Group

MARCH 14, 2024

Singer, composer, actor, and multi-Grammy-Award winner, Lyle Lovett has broadened the definition of American music in a career that spans 14 albums. The Texas-based musician fuses elements of country, swing, jazz, folk, gospel, and blues.



TISRA: Zakir Hussain, Sabir Khan, and Debopriya Chatterjee

APRIL 24, 2024

Tabla virtuoso Zakir Hussain is proud to present TISRA (three) with two of India's finest young musicians, Sabir Khan and Debopriya Chatterjee, showcasing the rich folk and classical traditions of the Indian states of Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Punjab.



The Cher Show – A New Musical

MAY 9-12, 2024

35 smash hits, six decades of stardom, two rock-star husbands, a Grammy, an Oscar, an Emmy... The Cher Show is the Tony Award-winning musical of her story, and it's packed with so much Cher that it takes three women to play her.

**Tickets available online or call the box office:
HarrisCenter.net | (916) 608-6888**

Bob Marley & A Trio of Tower Movies *by Chris Narloch*

If you missed the wild queer flick “All of Us Strangers” by the great gay director Andrew Haigh, when it was briefly in theaters recently, that movie will be available on Hulu and digital this Feb. 22.

The movies reviewed below are also available this month, either at a multiplex near you or, in most cases, at Sacramento’s historic Tower Theatre.

Bob Marley: One Love

The patron saint of pot (before Snoop Dogg and Willie Nelson took over the mantle), Bob Marley is best remembered as the King of Reggae, and his tragic death at just 36 sealed his reputation as absolute music royalty.

Marley’s widow, Rita, and some of his children were involved in the making of this movie, a faithful biopic that charts the musician’s highs and lows.

While “Bob Marley: One Love” is not the thrilling film I had hoped for, there is (obviously) much great music in it, and the actor who plays Marley (Kingsley Ben-Adir) has the requisite charisma for the role. Currently in wide theatrical release.



Bob Marley: One Love



The Taste of Things

The Taste of Things

Food and love are inseparable in this very romantic movie about a cook (played by the radiant French actress Juliette Binoche) and her boss (the equally great Benoit Magimel), who talk and cook and fall in love, while living at a French country manor circa 1885.

The couple’s love story is much more adult than in most American rom-coms – it’s sweet without being cloying – and you will likely want to head to the nearest French restaurant after the film is over. “The Taste of Things” opened at the Tower on Valentine’s Day.

The Teachers’ Lounge

This fascinating film follows an idealistic young teacher at a German secondary school (played by the terrific Leonie Benesch), who sets out to catch a thief at her workplace and instead catches holy hell, running afoul of students, parents, and other faculty.

If you have ever had one of those unusually bad days that snowballs into a bad week (or month?), you will relate to this riveting, Oscar-nominated drama, which was still playing at the Tower as we went to press.



The Teachers’ Lounge



War Is Over! Inspired by the Music of John & Yoko.

2024 Oscar Nominated Shorts

I haven’t had time to see all the nominated short films yet, but I did watch the animation, which I thoroughly enjoyed, especially “War Is Over! Inspired by the Music of John & Yoko.” The five animated mini movies include one from Iran, three U.S. shorts, and an Israeli film.

Tower is not showing the documentary shorts this year, but the five live-action mini movies are being presented, and I greatly admired the sole title I had time to watch, Wes Anderson and Steven Rales’ “The Wonderful World of Henry Sugar.”

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Our Annual LGBTQ+ Pride Special Issues

1

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May 30,
2024



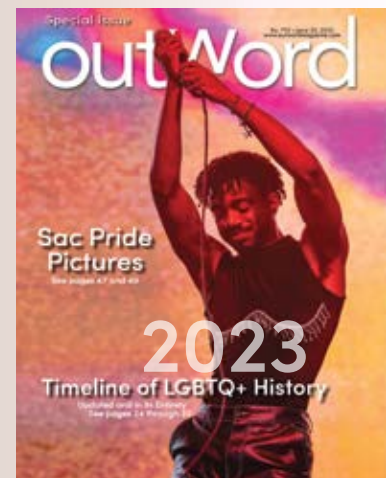
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CA Pride
June 13,
2024



3

Pride History
June 27
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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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Out & About with Matthew Burlingame

So much is happening in Sacramento the next few weeks! Starting with March 10 being National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day. Almost 23% of HIV cases in the U.S. are women, with the highest new diagnoses among ages 25 to 44. In 2024, prevention, testing, care and treatment at every stage must be a priority! A virtual summit will be held Mar. 15, aligning with National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day and National Youth HIV/AIDS Awareness Day.

Sacramento's Original Drag Bingo takes the stage at Mango's, 1930 K St. on Mar. 7 at 7 p.m. This month the event benefits Sunburst Project. Bring a \$20 cash donation for eight games hosted by the fabulous DoMe Moore. Rainbowchamber.com

Sacramento's most spectacular Drag Brunch, Mama's Makin' Bacon 2024, unfolds Sunday, Mar. 3 at the historic Sacramento Memorial Auditorium, 1515 J St. Doors open at 11 a.m. and the show kicks off at noon. Delight in drag, burlesque, circus acts, and a live auction, all paired with a plated brunch and mimosas. Funds raised support Sacramento LGBT Community Center programs. Saccenter.org

Norcal Resist is hosting a Pozole Fundraiser Dinner on Saturday, Mar. 2, from 6-10 p.m. at The Met, 810 V St. Enjoy entertainment, raffles, and a dessert auction alongside a delicious dinner featuring Pozole (vegan options available). Groove to the beats of Radio Xicanismo. All proceeds support Norcal Resist's vital mutual aid programs. Tinyurl.com/pozole2024

Don't miss the Crabaret, Sacramento's favorite crab feed and cabaret hosted by the Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus! Join them on Saturday, Mar. 2, from 6-9 p.m. at Turn Verein, 3349 J St. Enjoy a social hour followed by a delicious dinner, live music by SGMC members, exciting games, a dessert dash, raffles, and auctions guaranteeing an entertaining evening. It's a night filled with great food, entertainment, and the chance to support SGMC's mission of fostering pride and enhancing lives, one song at a time! Sacgaymenschorus.com



Miko Marks in Harris Center's "Trailblazing Women Of Country: A Tribute to Patsy, Loretta, and Dolly" on Friday, March 8. Photo by Amanda Lopez.

Harris Center for the Arts, 10 College Pkwy in Folsom presents a remarkable

tribute to country music's iconic women: Patsy Cline, Loretta Lynn, and Dolly Parton. On Friday, Mar. 8, witness the legacy of these trailblazing artists brought to life through the captivating performances of Miko Marks, CMT's "Next Woman of Country," and Nashville-based singer Kristina Train. Backed by a talented all-female band, they'll celebrate the groundbreaking contributions of these legends, whose timeless hits continue to inspire and resonate with audiences of all generations. Harriscenter.net

Experience whimsical hilarity at Once Upon a Line, an improvised comedy show turning fairy tales into laughter! Join the fun at Sacramento Comedy Spot, 1930 J St. on Mar. 7. Saccomedyspot.com

Catch Fall Out Boy at the Golden 1 Center, 500 David J Stern Walk, on Sunday, Mar. 3, as they headline the So Much For (2our) Dust tour. Joining them are Jimmy Eat World, The Maine, and Daisy Grenade. Don't miss this electrifying lineup for an unforgettable night of music. Falloutboy.com

It's an extraordinary night of nostalgia and music with "Mania: The ABBA Tribute" on Friday, March 15, at 7:30 p.m. Experience the best ABBA tribute concert ever at Crest Sacramento, 1013 K St. Mania has captivated audiences since 1999, selling out theaters across the UK and playing 18 weeks in the Strand Theatre London. Don't miss this iconic performance that recreates the ABBA phenomenon. Maniatheshow.com

On Monday, Mar. 4, 2024, at 7 p.m. experience the raw energy of Municipal Waste Brainsqueeze Tour featuring Ghoul, Necrot, and Dead Heat. Richmond's Municipal Waste, pioneers of '80s thrash metal revival, will ignite the venue with their electrifying performance at The UC Theatre, 2036 University Ave. in Berkeley. General Admission Standing Room with Limited Seating. Theuctheatre.org

Experience the Sacramento premiere of "Fade" by Tanya Saracho, directed by Dena Martinez. Opening on Mar. 13 at Capital Stage (2215 J St.), the play delves into class and race within the Latinx community. Join Lucia, a novelist navigating a white male-dominated TV set, and her unlikely friendship with janitor Abel. Capstage.org

Do you have events, birthdays, or announcements to share? Feel free to send them to matthew@hengemedia.com.

Thank You Outword Supporters!

Current as of December 14, 2023

Once again we would like to thank those that have become sponsors of Outword Magazine! Your contribution will help us keep the lights on and the closet doors wide open. Here are a list of our Sponsors at the level they participated, so far. We will continue to run this page, with any updates, for the next several issues.

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New Netflix Music Docs Sing! *by Chris Narloch*
There have been so many pop star portraits in recent years, many of them vanity projects and/or promotional tools masquerading as music docs, that I am often leery when another one appears on the horizon.

That changes with the arrival of two dynamite docs on Netflix that tell a story and entertain, both musically and emotionally. Read on for details.

The Greatest Night in Pop

This 2024 documentary film, directed by Bao Nguyen, is about the creation of the renowned 1985 charity single “We Are the World,” which assembled a who’s who of pop stars in one recording studio to make history and raise a lot of money for African famine relief.

The late, great Harry Belafonte and Michael Jackson, along with Lionel Richie, were instrumental in the song’s creation, but they were hardly the only superstars involved. “We Are the World” featured brief solos by twenty-one singers -- backed by a chorus of more celebrities – including Diana Ross, Stevie Wonder, Kenny Loggins, Paul Simon, Billy Joel, Willie Nelson, Kenny Loggins, Steve Perry, Daryl Hall, and Bob Dylan.

Several of the finest artists involved have since passed (Tina Turner, Kenny Rogers, Ray Charles, Al Jarreau, two-thirds of The Pointer Sisters, and James Ingram, to name a few), making the new documentary even more poignant.

In addition to great archival footage from the recording session, the doc features essential new interviews with singers who were there, including Bruce Springsteen, Dionne Warwick, Huey Lewis, and Cyndi Lauper.

“The Greatest Night in Pop” is blissful nostalgia for those of us who were alive in the mid-’80s and remember when you couldn’t turn on a radio without hearing “We Are the World.”



American Symphony

The multi-talented musician Jon Batiste, who embarked on a successful recording career after serving as the ultra-hip bandleader on The Late Show with Stephen Colbert for more than six years, was winning awards (and new fans) left and right when his life partner, author Suleika Jaouad, learned that her cancer had returned.

“American Symphony,” which premiered late last year, very movingly documents the extreme highs and extreme lows that can happen when your professional life is soaring while your personal life is in disarray.

Many people experience that type of life stress, but few couples navigate it with the faith, commitment, and grace displayed in this wonderful documentary about the pair’s inspiring struggle to hold on to life and love.



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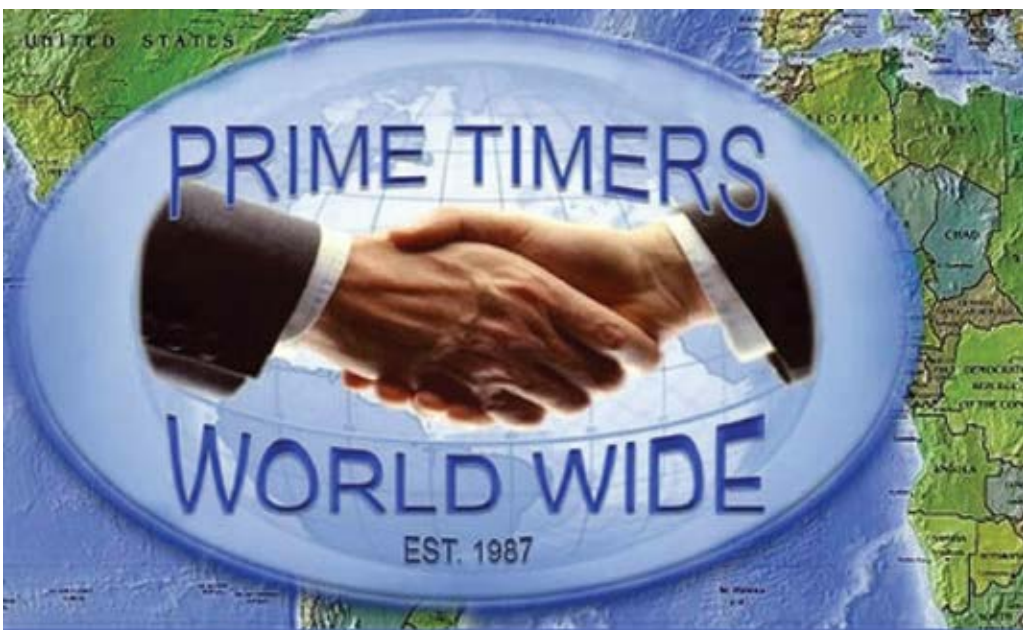
- 23 PrimeTimers Eat around the Globe @ NOROC East European- 6PM
- 27 PrimeTimers Pizza Nite @ Zelda's 5:30PM
- *28-3 Mystic Pizza @ Harris Center

March

- 1 Happy Hour @ Roscoe's with PrimeTimers 4PM
- 3 Mama's Makin' Bacon
- 7 Drag Bingo @ Mango's
- *8 Outord Happy Hour @Badlands
- 11 Preservation Hall Jazz Band @ Harris Center
- 14 River City Brewing co. - Dinner with PrimeTimers @5:30PM
- 19 Rainbow Chamber Networking Mixer
- *22 Rainbow Chamber's Business and Community Excellence Awards & Expo

2024 Pride Events

- 5/18 Roseville Pride
- 6/1 Sonoma County Pride
- 6/1 Davis Pride
- 6/8-9 LA Pride
- *6/8 Sacramento Pride
- 6/22 Elk Grove Pride
- 6/29 San Francisco Pride
- 7/20 San Diego Pride
- 9/8 Oakland Pride Parade & Festival



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www.PrimeTimersofSacramento.org



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DINNER PARTY in the CASTRO

2024 SUBARU FORESTER SPORT CVT

Lease for only
\$259
plus tax for 36 mo



MSRP \$36,415
\$6,675 DUE AT SIGNING
MODEL: RFG-24
VIN/STK: 23719S/RH463807, 23690S/RH46643,
23686S/RH460666, 23711S/RH464219,
23689S/RH460750

MSRP \$36,415. 36-month lease on approved credit, \$6,675 due at signing includes tax, title, fees and \$0 security deposit. 10,000 miles per year, plus 15¢ per mile in excess. Cannot be combined with any other incentives or offers. VIN/STK: 23719S/RH463807, 23690S/RH46643, 23686S/RH460666, 23711S/RH464219, 23689S/RH460750 Offer ends 2/29/24

2024 SUBARU OUTBACK LIMITED CVT

MSRP \$39,524
\$6,400 due at signing
MODEL: RDF-34
VIN/STK: 23727S/R3226592, 23713S/
R3226154, 23645S/R3219290, 23661S/
R3223153, 23705S/R3225109



Lease for only
\$299
plus tax for 36 mo

MSRP \$39,524. 36-month lease on approved credit, \$6,400 due at signing includes tax, title, fees and \$0 security deposit. 10,000 miles per year, plus 15¢ per mile in excess. Cannot be combined with any other incentives or offers. VIN/STK: 23727S/R3226592, 23713S/R3226154, 23645S/R3219290, 23661S/R3223153, 23705S/R32251095 Offer ends 2/29/24

2023 SUBARU SOLTERRA LIMITED SST

Lease for only
\$299
plus tax for 36 mo



MSRP \$50,372
\$5,875 due at signing
MODEL: PEG-31
VIN/STK: 23649S/PA043940,
23648S/PA044063

MSRP \$50,372. 36-month lease on approved credit, \$5,875 due at signing includes tax, title, fees and \$0 security deposit plus \$7500 EV Tax Credit. 10,000 miles per year, plus 30¢ per mile in excess. Cannot be combined with any other incentives or offers. VIN/STK: 23649S/PA043940, 23648S/PA044063 Offer ends 2/29/24

0% FOR 72 MONTHS ALL ON 2023 SOLTERRA'S



Subject to credit approval, vehicle insurance approval, & vehicle availability. Finance & lease offers cannot be combined with any other incentives. Not all buyers may qualify. APR Offer: *Now through February 29, 2024, get 0% APR Financing for 72 months on a new 2023 Solterra. No down payment required. Monthly payment of \$13.89 per \$1,000 financed. See Dealer for offer details. Must take delivery from retailer stock by February 29, 2024.

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