

# outword

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Outword  
StaffPUBLISHER  
Fred PalmerEXECUTIVE ASSISTANT TO THE  
PUBLISHER  
Julie EbeART DIRECTOR/PRODUCTION  
Ron TackittGRAPHIC DESIGN  
Julie Ebe  
Ron TackittEDITOR  
editor@outwordmagazine.comARTS EDITOR  
Chris NarlochSALES  
Fred PalmerCONTRIBUTING  
WRITERS  
Chris Allan  
Matthew Burlingame  
Diana Kienle  
Chris Narloch  
Lauren Pulido  
Judy Saint  
Ron TackittPHOTOGRAPHY  
Chris Allan  
Ron TackittON THE COVER  
Cover photo of Talakai  
courtesy of the artist.

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## Outword Magazine Inc.

Mailing Address  
1026 Florin Road, #344  
Sacramento, CA 95831

PHONE: (916) 329-9280

www.outwordmagazine.com  
sales@outwordmagazine.com

## What Is Gender-Expansive Parenting?

Gender-expansive parenting is an approach that acknowledges and embraces the wide spectrum of gender identities and expressions, moving beyond the conventional binary understanding of gender as solely male or female. This method of parenting aims to create a supportive environment that allows children the freedom to explore their own identities and express themselves in ways that feel most authentic to them. In a society where traditional gender norms and stereotypes often dictate behaviors, interests, and opportunities based on one's assigned gender at birth, gender-expansive parenting seeks to dismantle these constraints and foster a world of greater acceptance and possibility for all children.

At the heart of gender-expansive parenting is the belief that gender identity is a personal, internal experience that cannot be determined by external appearances or societal expectations. Parents who embrace this approach strive to educate themselves and their communities about the fluidity of gender and work to ensure that their children feel seen, heard, and supported, regardless of how their gender identity evolves. This means providing children with access to a range of toys, activities, and clothing options, free from the limitations of "boys" and "girls" sections. It also involves using inclusive language and encouraging children to express their feelings and questions about their identities openly.

One of the critical aspects of gender-expansive parenting is communication. This involves engaging in age-appropriate conversations about gender diversity and inclusivity, explaining that people's experiences and expressions of gender can vary widely and that all are valid. By fostering an open dialogue, parents can help

their children understand and respect both their own identities and those of others, promoting empathy and inclusivity from a young age.

Gender-expansive parenting also requires challenging societal norms and advocating for environments that respect and accommodate all gender identities. This might involve discussions with educators and caregivers about the importance of using inclusive language, advocating for non-gendered bathrooms, and supporting policies and practices that recognize and protect the rights of transgender and non-binary individuals.

Critics of gender-expansive parenting sometimes argue that it can be confusing for children or that it pushes a particular agenda. However, research and testimonies from families practicing this approach suggest otherwise. Children raised in gender-expansive environments often demonstrate a remarkable capacity for understanding the complexity of gender. They tend to develop a strong sense of self and empathy for others,

equipped with the emotional intelligence to navigate a diverse world.

In essence, gender-expansive parenting is not about erasing gender or denying biological differences. Instead, it's about allowing children the space to explore who they are without preconceived limitations. It's about affirming that all children deserve to grow up in a world where they feel valued and accepted for their authentic selves. As society continues to evolve in its understanding of gender, gender-expansive parenting offers a blueprint for raising the next generation to embrace diversity, practice inclusivity, and champion equality 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 [CA vs Hate](#).*

## Statement from President Joe Biden on Nex Benedict

"I and I are heartbroken by the recent loss of Nex Benedict. Every young person deserves to have the fundamental right and freedom to be who they are, and feel safe and supported at school and in their communities. Nex Benedict, a kid who just wanted to be accepted, should still be here with us today. Nonbinary and transgender people are some of the bravest Americans I know. But nobody should have to be brave just to be themselves. In memory of Nex, we must all recommit to our work to end discrimination and address the suicide crisis impacting too many nonbinary and transgender children. Bullying is hurtful and cruel, and no one should face the bullying that Nex did. Parents and schools must take reports of bullying seriously. My prayers are with Nex's family, friends, and all who loved them – and to all LGBTQI+ Americans for whom this tragedy feels so personal, know this: I will always have your back.

To LGBTQI+ young people across the country – you are loved exactly as you are. If you're feeling overwhelmed or alone, you can call or text 988, the National Crisis Hotline, and dial the number '3' to talk to a counselor who has been specifically trained to support LGBTQI+ youth."

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## Trans Visibility Day 2024 Is Easter Sunday *by Chris Allan*

“It is revolutionary for any trans person to choose to be seen and visible in a world that tells us we should not exist,” Laverne Cox

Ten years ago, *TIME Magazine* featured trans activist and actress Laverne Cox on their cover for the story “The Transgender Tipping Point.”

Obviously, it should have been called the “Dipping Point,” considering the nasty trans-bashing to follow with the rise of the culture wars. According to translegislation.com, in 2024 alone, legislators have introduced 527 anti-trans bills in 41 states. To date, 15 have passed, 425 remain active and 87 have failed.

Into this dark landscape comes International Trans Visibility Day (TDOV). Held each year on March 31, the observation brings to light the many issues faced by the transgender community and celebrates their resilience and strength.

First observed in 2009, TDOV was created to complement the Transgender Day of Remembrance, which memorializes victims of transphobic violence. By contrast, TDOV focuses on celebrating transgender people who are living their

lives authentically and making positive contributions to society.

In recent years, there has been increased visibility of transgender people in various fields, including politics, entertainment, and sports. According to the HRC, there are now over 1.6 million trans, non-binary and gender-expansive adolescents and adults across the U.S.

This year, TDOV coincides with much of the Christian world celebrating Easter, a day of resurrection. For some trans faithful, the seat of Catholic Christianity has also provided hope for new life.

Last October, the Vatican released a document allowing transgender people to be baptized and serve as godparents and witnesses in weddings. “Before, the church was closed to us. They didn’t see us as normal people, they saw us as the devil,” said Andrea Paola Torres Lopez, a Colombian transgender woman. “Then Pope Francis arrived, and the doors of the church opened for us.”

## For Trans People Increased Visibility And Recognition Contrast With Discrimination And Violence

*by Dunja Mijatović  
Commissioner for Human Rights*

“Realising the rights of trans people is a matter of applying human rights equally to everyone, and states have the primary responsibility to lift the barriers trans people are facing in exercising their human rights,” said the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Dunja Mijatović, while releasing a report entitled “Human rights and gender identity and expression.”

The report takes stock of progress, as well as long-standing and new challenges experienced by trans people, including those who are further marginalised due to their characteristics or status, recognising that trans people are a diverse group of individuals with differing experiences, identities and views.

It covers a range of issues such as non-discrimination, violence, family law, healthcare, legal gender recognition, asylum, employment, conversion practices, education, and poverty and housing. It also addresses matters that have recently become a flashpoint for hostile public debate, such as access to gender-segregated spaces and categories in various settings such as sport, sanitation, and detention, and the related framing of trans people’s rights as a fundamental threat to women’s rights. It further addresses the rights and interests of trans children and youth in various settings, the recognition and protection of non-binary people, and interconnections with gender expression.

“The greater visibility and awareness of trans people at all levels of society, and the significant progress made in providing better legal protection and recognition of the human rights of trans people across Europe, contrast with the shockingly high rates of discrimination, violence and insecurity trans people experience in their daily lives,” underlines the Commissioner.

The report comes in the context of a current backsliding in respect of human rights, where marginalised groups are increasingly instrumentalised for political gain, and where well-organised and well-funded anti-gender movements are gaining traction. “Anti-gender

and anti-rights narratives ultimately undermine the rights of everyone, but their focus on so-called traditional norms around sex, gender and expression is particularly destructive of the rights of trans people,” said the Commissioner.

Within this framework, the Commissioner sets out 15 recommendations for states to achieve real positive change in the lives of trans people and ensure that they enjoy their human rights on an equal footing with everyone else.

A central paradigm is affirming trans people’s human dignity, physical and psychological integrity and personal autonomy. In this regard, among others, the Commissioner recommends providing access to legal gender recognition based on self-determination for trans people who want it. In addition, trans people should have access to trans-specific healthcare without a mental health diagnosis and without discrimination. The Commissioner also calls on member states to respect trans children’s human rights including by ensuring that their views are given due weight in accordance with age and maturity and pursuing their best interests.

In addition, the Commissioner shows that alleged conflicts of rights are often not borne out in reality and are mostly premised on harmful prejudices about trans people. “There is no such thing as granting ‘special’ rights, and realising the human rights of trans people does not undermine the rights of others. Human rights are universal: they apply equally to everyone,” emphasises the Commissioner.

For more information visit:  
<https://bit.ly/3wVKZsf>

## BOOK DEN AND WAREHOUSE SALES

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Teachers, libraries, schools, organizations that are planning book giveaways are welcome. The books are new and free. Bring your own boxes or bags.

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## Little Activisms You Matter

by Judy Saint

Grab your blankie and hot tea. It's story time. (Where are the drag queens when you need one?) That's OK. I'll wear this fantastic boa while I read to you. I picked out this shimmering blue to match my eyes. Do you like it? On to story time...

Once upon a time Nicky was a stockbroker with compassion. (Stop laughing, they exist.) He lived during WW II and saved the lives of 669 children from Nazi death camps by getting them transported to England. Oh, now you recognize him, right? His true story is out in theaters. The movie is called "One Life". Nicky says he was just an ordinary man. He was.

Funny thing is, other ordinary people saw his passionate attempts to save lives and they joined him. That's worth thinking about. One person jumped into action, followed by a cadre of others. All ordinary people. That's the undervalued key - other ordinary people jumping in.

My point of mentioning Nicky and his legion of caring supporters is to point out that you matter. You can find a Nicky who is running for office, a Nicky who is forming a Neighborhood Watch, a Nicky who is starting an LGBTQ+ Meetup group, a Nicky who is cleaning up graffiti on her own, or a Nicky who is leading a local activist group.

Today's Little Activism suggestion is to look around you. Where have you seen a person or group doing something worth supporting? Big or small, local or national, personal or public service... You've been

impressed by somebody or some group, surely.

Take a moment with your blankie and hot tea. Think back. Who did you see doing something, and you thought, perhaps with some emotion, "Good for you! That's the right thing!"

There you go. Now you know where you can be a link in an important chain.

Being a supporter isn't secondary, it's vital. You can't have a chain without the links. Nicky couldn't have saved 669 lives from Nazis without a lot of help. Ordinary people saw Nicky's passion, told themselves, "Good for you! That's the right thing!" and made the choice to jump in.

You have passions. You care about things. You see efforts you feel are important. You can be a valuable supporter.

You matter.

*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.*

## Celebrate Aging

by Cathy Pery,

Programs Director of Servant Hearts

Join us, at the Wisdom Project, as we celebrate all that age and wisdom can bring to enhancing and enriching humankind.

"Ageism" is not a scary word or concept, it in fact reflects the rich journey and lessons that each person experiences in their "life cycle". While aging involves adjusting to new limitations and change, it is a chapter in life to be savored while still striving to be the best that one can be. At every stage in life, community and connectedness are essential.

Wisdom Project = LGBT Elders of Servant Hearts invites the Sacramento LGBTQ+ community and beyond to join us as we CELEBRATE AGING at the:

8th Annual Senior PRIDE LGBTQ+ Fair ... "Creating Community Connections for LGBTQ+ Seniors". Thursday, April 25th 2024, from 10:00am - 1:00pm at the City of Sacramento- Hart Senior Center, 915 27th Street Midtown Sacramento. FREE Indoor Event ~ Live Music ~ Food Truck ~ Refreshments ~ Door Prizes with 35 Exhibitors ranging from Health & Wellness providers to Civic & Social organizations to Educational & Volunteer opportunities ... Something for everyone 55+ ...

The Wisdom Project = LGBT Elders of Servant Hearts has been providing programs, activities, and safe resources to the older LGBT community since 2014 and

annually celebrates aging with a Senior PRIDE Fair, where LGBTQ+ folks of Sacramento can find safe and welcoming possibilities to support their needs and changes in life.

2024 Fair Co-Sponsors Include: Outword Magazine, City of Sacramento-Hart Senior Center, PrimeTimers of Sacramento, Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce, Col. Pat Thompson & Barbara Brass, SMUD, Sacramento County Senior & Aging Services, El Hogar - SeniorLink, Latreia Healthcare Services-Hospice Provider, Wish of a Lifetime from AARP, Eskaton, & Vegan Circus.

For more information contact Cathy Perry ~ Programs Director, Wisdom Project = LGBT Elders at servant\_hearts@hotmail.com, 218.760.2415 ~ Visit our website www.servant-hearts.org

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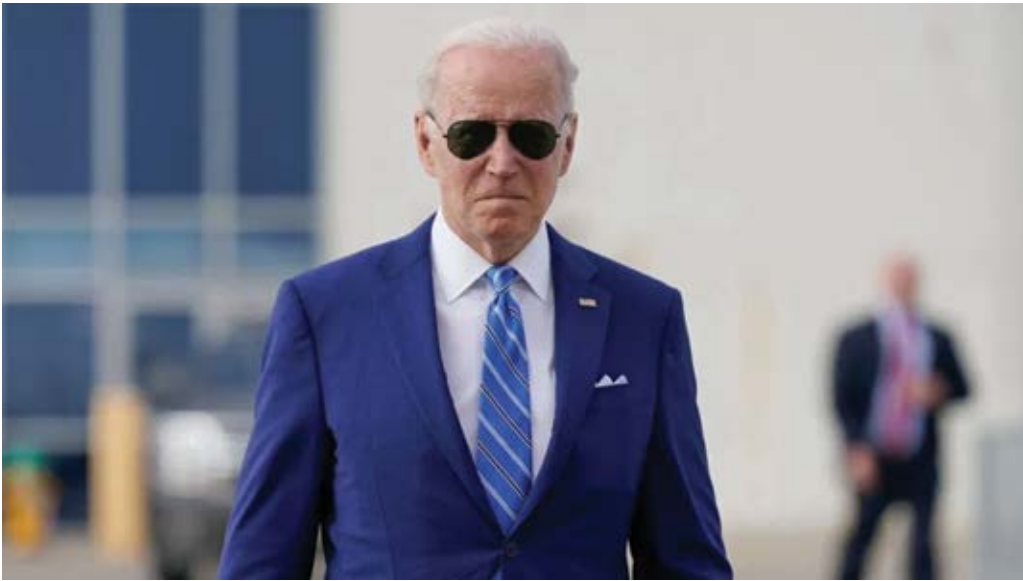
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# Biden Vows Quick Action On Codifying Roe If Democrats Get Enough Votes

by Abe Gurko - Won't Be Silent

Few issues are as polarizing as reproductive rights. With the landmark Supreme Court decision that overturned Roe v. Wade, the next election carries significant implications for the future of women's health and autonomy.



Trump is a clear and present danger to women—that cat-grabbing low life—while Joe stands as a stalwart defender of reproductive rights. Throughout his career, he has consistently championed women's access to healthcare and the right to make decisions about their bodies.

In this time of uncertainty and danger for the lives of innocent women, with Christian Nationalists breathing down the necks—and

inappropriately nosing up the skirts—of women, this is the best time to declare being a #OneIssueVoter. A vote for Joe Biden is a vote for Roe.

Abe Gurko is a Producer, Writer, and Political TikToker. A refugee from NYC, this Los Angeles transplant is in production on two documentaries, "Won't Be Silent" and "Wolf's Song". His book will be on sale in early 2024.

# Senate Health Committee Passes Senator Wiener's Bill To Address LGBTQ Health Disparities

The Senate Health Committee passed Senator Scott Wiener's (D-San Francisco) Senate Bill 957, legislation to require state health agencies to collect Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI) data alongside other demographic information in order to identify and combat health disparities. The bill passed 9-2 and heads next to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

SB 957 enacts the full recommendations of last year's state audit, which found that the California Department of Public Health's (CDPH) failure to collect SOGI data impacted its ability to protect LGBTQ health. It builds on SB 932 (Wiener, Chapter 183, Statutes of 2020) and AB 959 (Chiu, Chapter 565, Statutes of 2015), which enacted the first requirements for the collection of SOGI data from state health agencies. Last year's audit found that the state health department is sidestepping these requirements, and SB 957 closes the loopholes that allows evasion of the intent of laws that have been on the books for nearly a decade.

"We can't fix a problem we can't measure, and with SB 957 we can take a critical step to delivering true health equity," said Senator Wiener. "California must begin collecting data to understand the unique health challenges faced by LGBTQ people."

To ensure that CDPH collects complete SOGI data to effectively implement and deliver critical services for LGBTQ+ people, SB 957 will implement the recommendations from the audit report by amending existing law to require CDPH to:

Collect SOGI data from third-party entities, including local health jurisdictions, on any forms or electronic data systems unless prohibited by federal or state law;

- Provide an annual report to the public and to the Legislature on its efforts to collect, analyze, and report SOGI data;

- Improve services or program outcomes for underserved LGBTQ+ communities;
- Allow voluntarily provided SOGI data to be included with the immunization data

SB 957 is sponsored by Equality California and California LGBTQ Health & Human Services Network, San Francisco AIDS Foundation with the California LGBTQ Caucus as a co-sponsor.

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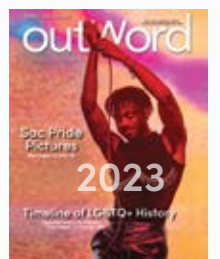
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# Out & About

On March 22, 2024, the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce proudly hosted its Annual Business and Community Excellence Awards & Expo. This hallmark event was designed to spotlight members and businesses within the community that have made significant contributions to diversity and inclusion. Congratulations, to Tri Counties Bank on winning the Corporate Advocate Award, Matthew St. Amant for winning Community Leader of the Year and Clarmundo Sullivan with Golden Rule Services for winning Business in Excellence. This event serves as a testament to the ongoing commitment to fostering an inclusive business environment and celebrating those who lead by example in this essential endeavor. **For more information visit: [www.RainbowChamber.com](http://www.RainbowChamber.com)**



Photos by: Tia Gemmell



# Life After “The Voice” for Sacramento Singer Talakai

by Chris Narloch

If you watched Season 24 of “The Voice” last year, you saw a terrific performer by the name of Talakai, who impressed viewers with his soulful singing and his remarkable resemblance to one of the TV show’s judges, John Legend. Two of the finest celebrity singers ever on “The Voice,” Legend and Reba, both turned their chairs around for Talakai, who was born and raised right here in River City.

Not surprisingly, the Sacramento artist chose his “doppelganger” as mentor after surviving the show’s blind audition, and the pair are still in touch, despite Talakai’s exit from the singing competition after battle rounds. (Legend described Talakai as looking “like a taller, more handsome version of myself.”)

While he sifts through offers after his sudden stardom, Talakai is still picking up some shifts at Sacramento’s Tower Café, where he has worked as a loyal server for 10 years.

The singer recently performed at San Francisco’s W Hotel, met with Hard Rock Sacramento about forming a show together, and he sang the national anthem in late March at River Cats stadium. Talakai also has a new single, “The Strong One,” that focuses on the importance of mental health awareness and is set to drop this April 27th.

All this success is a far cry from the 35-year-old, Rio Linda High School graduate’s

challenging childhood, which was detailed on “The Voice” and included the death of his beloved guardian/grandfather, followed by physical and emotional abuse, a short stint on the streets, and 10 different foster homes before Lisa, the mother of a school buddy, adopted him at 15 and changed the course of his life.

What “The Voice” did not tell you is that Talakai is a proud gay man with a devoted husband (Alejandro) of 7 years. In fact, the singer put his budding music career on hold for much of the last decade to concentrate on family and to give his 13-year-old son (DeAmani) the happy childhood that Talakai did not have.

Now that he has a solid support system in place with his adoptive mother, husband and son, the singer is free to again pursue his dream of a singing career, and it is full steam ahead. I spoke with Talakai recently, and here is that interview:



Photo of Talakai and John Legend courtesy of NBC’s “The Voice”



A selfie of Talakai with his husband, Alejandro, and his son, DeAmani



**Your name is very distinctive. What is the story behind it?**

So Talakai is actually my Polynesian family last name. My grandparents, who took care of me after my father passed, wanted me to be more in touch with my culture, so they gave me that last name, but it’s not the name on my birth certificate. Talakai is my stage name and a way to pay homage to my ancestry and the Polynesian culture.

**Almost everyone in Sacramento is familiar with Tower Café, and you’ve been there a long time.**

It will be ten years this June.

**It must be a good place to work.**

Most definitely. The Café’s owner, Jim, has been super supportive of my singing career, which has given me a lot of flexibility with my schedule when opportunities arise to perform.

**How did your recent show go at the W Hotel in San Francisco?**

Really good. They want me to do a Pride show this June at their Hollywood location, and it looks like I will be headlining at their other hotels as well.

**I watched your “Beautiful Day” music video on your website, and I was very impressed with the quality of the filmmaking and your performance and your son’s performance.**

That video was self-funded with my tips from Tower, and I thought it would be cool to have my son in my very first music video. I have a studio at the house where I write music and engineer and record it myself.

**Now that you’ve had time to reflect, how do you feel about your time on “The Voice” last year?**

It was so worth it. I got a lot of experience out of it and advice from John, and it has definitely propelled my singing career forward. Everyone told me, and it’s totally true, that the goal is not to win and then get locked into a contract but to be seen and heard and get your face and your voice out there.

**So, I have to ask, because I’m nosy, how did you and your husband get together?**

Basically, how every gay couple meets nowadays...

**You mean on Grindr?**

(laughs) No, on Scruff! We ended up going to the same gym and hanging out, and we got heavily in to watching “Game of Thrones” together. My son was around three at that time, and he and Alejandro really hit it off.

**That’s when you know you’re with the right person. When your family likes them.**

Exactly.

**Were you your own wedding singer?**

Funny you say that. I actually was. Instead of vows, I wrote my husband a song and sang it to him during our wedding.

*To check out Talakai’s music and connect with his socials, please visit [www.talakaiofficial.com](http://www.talakaiofficial.com)*



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FRIDAY | APR 05



**THE 50**

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FRIDAY | APR 19



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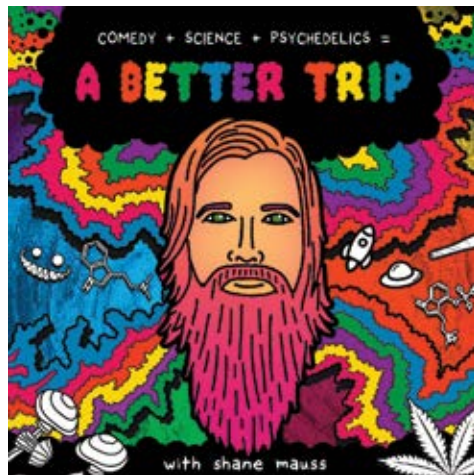
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FRIDAY | APR 26



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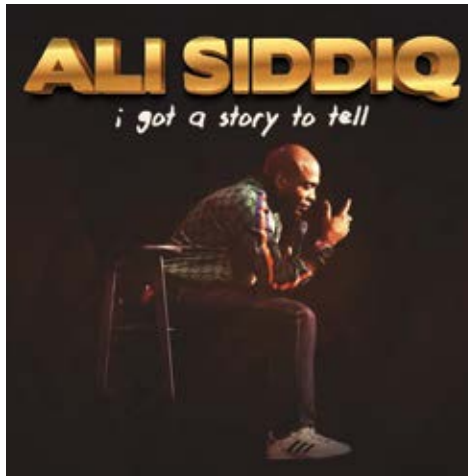
SCREENING WITH SPECIAL GUEST  
**ZACH GALLIGAN**

SUNDAY | APR 28



**MICK MARTIN**

FRIDAY | MAY 03



**ALI SIDDIQ**

*i got a story to tell*

SATURDAY | MAY 04



**CLASSIC MOVIES**



**MOANA**  
(2016)

THURSDAY, MAR 28, 1:00PM



**PRETTY WOMAN**  
(1990)

THURSDAY, MAR 28, 7:00PM



**HOP**  
(2011)

FRIDAY, MAR 29, 1:00PM



**AN AMERICAN TAIL**  
(1986)

SUNDAY, APR 07, 12:00PM



**THE MATRIX**  
(1999)

SUNDAY, APR 07, 6:00PM



**CASABLANCA**  
(1942)

SATURDAY, APR 13, 4PM & 7:30PM



**THE LAND  
BEFORE TIME**  
(1988)

SUNDAY, APR 14, 12:00PM



**THE LORD  
OF THE RINGS:  
THE FELLOWSHIP  
OF THE RING**  
(2001, EXTENDED EDITION)

SUNDAY, APR 14, 5:00PM



**THE 50**  
(2022)

SCREENING WITH Q&A

WEDNESDAY, APR 17, 7PM

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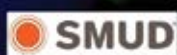
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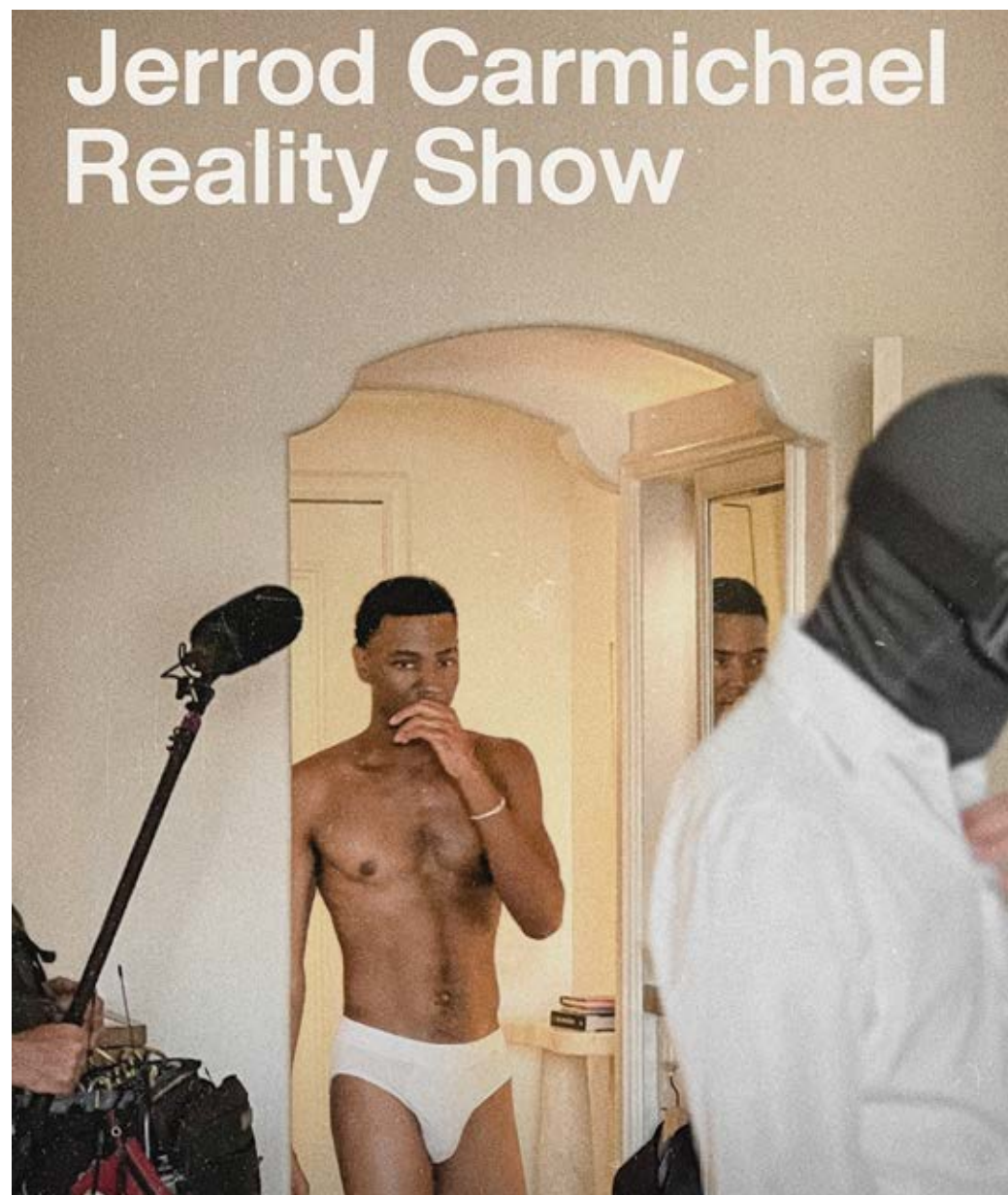
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## Jerrod Carmichael Bares His Soul On HBO

If you've seen the trailer for queer comedian Jerrod Carmichael's new HBO/MAX reality show, then you know that the docuseries, which premieres this March, looks like it will be as revealing as this publicity pic from HBO.



Carmichael is all the way out of the closet now, and he has been outspoken about his struggles around his sexuality and his very conservative-bordering-on-homophobic parents, who will be a big part of the show, if the trailer is any indication.

Revolving around Carmichael's personal life, "Jerrod Carmichael Reality Show" is described as a darkly funny documentary series about Jerrod's tumultuous quest for love, sex, and truth. New episodes of the eight-episode series will debut weekly beginning Friday, March 29.

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# Patti LuPone brings “A Life in Notes” to S.F.

by Chris Narloch

The Broadway diva-of-all-divas, Ms. Patti LuPone, will bring her many talents to San Francisco this April 14th for a one night only engagement of her latest concert, “A Life in Notes.”



Patti LuPone

Don't even think about talking or texting during Patti's performance because she is famous for having rude patrons ejected from the theater, and you do not want to be on the wrong end of the wrath of Patti.

I have had the pleasure of seeing Ms. LuPone live on stage many times, and she is always terrific. This brand new show is described as her “personal musical memoir.”

Experience the brilliance of this Broadway icon (and three-time Tony Award-winner) as she returns to the Davies Symphony Hall stage for a mesmerizing concert that delves deep into her extraordinary musical journey.

The San Francisco Symphony does not appear in this presentation, but not to worry, Patti LuPone and her magnificent voice and musicians are all that you need.

For more information, please go to: [www.sfsymphony.org](http://www.sfsymphony.org)

# CapStage Strikes Again With “Fade”

The latest production at Sacramento's Capital Stage is the entertaining and ambitious but ultimately uneven play “Fade” by Tanya Saracho, a two-person showcase that is worth seeing mainly for a couple of strong performances.

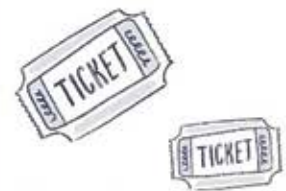


Capital Stage's  
“Fade”

Actors Jordan Maria Don and Caleb Cabrera are memorable here as, respectively, Lucia, a foul-mouthed diversity hire in the writing pool at a TV drama, and Abel, the office custodian whose life story she “borrows” to make her way up the ladder in her career. The play deals with racial profiling within the Mexican and Mexican American communities and the stereotypes and assumptions that feed into racism.

Since Saracho's own TV credits include writing for such shows as “Devious Maids” and “How to Get Away with Murder,” some of the incidents (or at least elements) in this play are likely autobiographical. Unfortunately, the playwright has applied those intriguing ideas to a predictable storyline involving artistic exploitation and career climbing. In other words, I knew exactly how the show's plot was going to play out, halfway through the performance.

Still, I can recommend “Fade,” which performs through this April 14th, for anyone who has ever had an idea stolen by a coworker and for anyone who wants to watch two actors bring complexity to characters whose fates often feel predetermined. For more information and to purchase tickets, please go to: <https://capstage.org>



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# Oscar-Winning Anime at Tower Theatre Plus, A Lesbian Thriller and Retro Horror

by Chris Narloch

I was planning to review the latest “Ghostbusters” sequel in this issue, and then I decided (since its reviews have been very mixed) that I would instead use this space to champion several smaller films that cannot compete with the enormous advertising budget of a blockbuster like “Ghostbusters.”

## Love Lies Bleeding

Kristen Stewart has come a long way from the sanitized vampire romance movies that make up the “Twilight” saga (and thank God for that). I never did understand the appeal of those tepid films, which I found unintentionally funny. The twisted lesbian love affair in Stewart’s new cinematic shocker, however, is everything those safe “Twilight” movies could never be.

Stewart plays Lou, a gym manager who falls head over heels in lust with Jackie (Katy M. O’Brian), a buff bodybuilder who likes to hit the steroids way too hard, which leads to murder and pulls Lou back into the deadly world of her own family’s secrets. Ed Harris is super scary as Lou’s very menacing father, and Rose Glass, the talented female director, who also cowrote the script, doesn’t hold back on the carnage.

“Love Lies Bleeding” is currently in wide release.



Love Lies Bleeding



Late Night with the Devil

## Late Night with the Devil

This oddball horror comedy was written and directed by two talented Aussie brothers, Cameron and Colin Cairnes, who clearly relish their ability to shock viewers and make them laugh in equal measure, while keeping us guessing about what’s really going on in their movie. The film is not for the slasher crowd – it’s a satire of ‘70s talk shows disguised as a horror film – and the script is long on dialogue and short on action, until the gory climactic sequence arrives.

David Dastmalchian is perfection as a desperate-for-higher-ratings talk show host whose live TV broadcast goes horribly wrong when one of his guests claims to have the ability to channel the devil himself.

“Late Night with the Devil” is currently in wide release.

## One Life

Real-life, London broker Nicholas “Nicky” Winton helped rescue hundreds of predominantly Jewish children from Czechoslovakia in a race against time before Nazi occupation closed the borders. Fifty years later, Winton is still haunted by the fate of those he couldn’t bring to safety, in this very moving, feel-good film directed by James Hawes.

86-year-old Anthony Hopkins is still a force on screen as Winton, Johnny Flynn nails his version of the same character in flashbacks, and the solid supporting cast includes Helena Bonham Carter, Lena Olin, Marthe Keller, Jonathan Pryce, and Alex Sharp. “One Life” was still playing at Sacramento’s Tower Theatre as we went to press.



One Life



The Boy and the Heron

## The Boy and the Heron

The latest Oscar-winning movie from Studio Ghibli may well be the final feature film by 83-year-old Hayao Miyazaki, one of my favorite filmmakers and hands down the finest living Japanese director of animation. After we saw the film, I told my friend that watching the movie was like dreaming for two hours straight.

While you’re in it, the film makes perfect sense but, after it’s over, the surrealism defies logic and yet you’re left with very powerful emotions. The Boy in the movie’s title loses his beloved mother in a fire at the start of the film and then travels to an eye-popping alternate universe in search of her.

“The Boy and the Heron” is a meditation on love and loss, and it will make a wonderful coda to Miyazaki’s fantastic filmography, if he does in fact retire for good this time. “The Boy and the Heron” had returned and was still playing at Sacramento’s Tower Theatre as we went to press.





# UPCOMING EVENTS



Falcon's Eye Theatre at Folsom Lake College presents

## Cabaret

APRIL 5-14, 2024

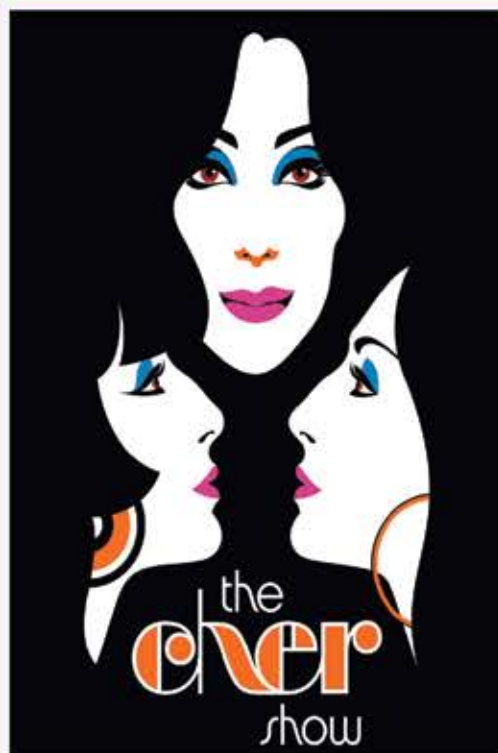
In a Berlin nightclub, as the 1920's draw to a close, a Master of Ceremonies welcomes the audience and assures them they will forget all their troubles at the Cabaret. With the Emcee's bawdy songs as wry commentary, Cabaret explores the dark, heady, and tumultuous life in Berlin as Germany slowly yields to the emerging threat of the Nazis.



## 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.



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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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**OutwordRainbowFund.com**

## Out & About with Matthew Burlingame

**B**efore I came out into the Sacramento LGBTQ community... many years ago there was a short-lived type of gay city council in Lavender Heights. Oddly enough it didn't last long as there were allegedly too many personality conflicts. In Sacramento? No! Couldn't be! So seeing our community's Rainbow Chamber continuing to thrive and grow is truly amazing. Congratulations to all the award recipients at the Chamber's annual expo and awards event.

Join the Rainbow Chamber for Drag Queen Bingo on Thursday, Apr. 4, from 7-9 p.m. at Mango's, 1930 K St. Seating is first come, first served. Play 8 games of Bingo for a \$20 cash donation. This month's beneficiary is Congregation Beth Shalom. Don't miss out on the fun! [Rainbowchamber.com](http://Rainbowchamber.com)

Explore the intersection of art and artificial intelligence in "AI Am I? ARTificial Intelligence as Generated by Alexander Reben" closing on April 28. Artist Alexander Reben delves into human-machine symbiosis, challenging perceptions of AI through a playful ethos at Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St. Don't miss this thought-provoking exhibition. [Crockerart.org](http://Crockerart.org)

Feed your appetite for entertainment at The Historic Fallon House Theatre, 11175 Washington St. in Columbia, from Mar. 28 - Apr. 28 with "Little Shop of Horrors." Featuring book and lyrics by Howard Ashman, and music by Alan Menken, this Broadway and Hollywood smash hit is a deviously delicious sci-fi musical that has captivated audiences for over 30 years. [SierraRep.org](http://SierraRep.org)

Prepare for the Sacramento Premiere of 'FADE' by Tanya Saracho, directed by Dena Martinez, at Capital Stage. Running through Apr. 14, the play follows Lucia, a Mexican-born novelist navigating a white male-dominated TV set. Featuring Caleb Cabrera and Jordan Maria Don. Venue: Capital Stage, 2215 J St. [Capstage.org](http://Capstage.org)

Join Bi+Pan Sacramento for an inclusive community gathering on Wednesday, Apr. 10, from 7-8 p.m. at Lavender Library, 1414 21st St. This awesome group fosters a vibrant and safe space for individuals with diverse attractions and gender identities. [Meetup.com/bipansacramento](http://Meetup.com/bipansacramento)

Attention leather enthusiasts and kink aficionados! Don your finest gear and join the Sacramento Leather Invasion on Friday, Apr. 5. Embark on an unforgettable journey through Lavender Heights and celebrate the leather community! Lavender Heights with stops at The Mercantile Saloon, Faces Nightclub, Badlands & Depot, and The Bolt Bar. Everyone is encouraged to don their finest gear and leather attire for this epic event! The event kicks off at 7 p.m. at The Mercantile Saloon, 1928 L St.

Join CGNIE at FACES NightClub, 2000 K St. for the ICP Ball L, a celebration honoring the hard work of ICPs and ICPRs on Saturday, Mar. 30, 5-8 p.m. Proceeds benefit



**Caleb Cabrera in Capital Stage's "FADE"**  
Photo by Charr Crail

HIV/AIDS and youth support organizations. [CGNIE.org](http://CGNIE.org)

Interested in becoming a foster care provider? Attend an informative foster class at Bradshaw Animal Shelter, 3839 Bradshaw Rd. in Rosemont, on Monday, Apr. 1 at 3 p.m. Bring a friend and learn about fostering, ask questions, and sign up to join the life-saving team. For inquiries, email [foster@saccounty.gov](mailto:foster@saccounty.gov).

Harlow's, 2708 J St. presents 'Sapphic Factory: A Modern Queer Joy Dance Party' on Friday, Mar. 29. Doors open at 7:30 p.m., show starts at 8:30 p.m. Join the celebration of eternal longing and freedom with music from Muna, Fletcher, Phoebe Bridgers, and more. For ages 21+. \$1 per ticket supports LGBT National Help Center. [Harlows.com](http://Harlows.com)

Come see Grammy-nominated stand-up comedian Nate Bargatze for 'The Be Funny Tour' on Friday, April 5, at 7 p.m. Known as 'The Nicest Man in Stand-Up,' Bargatze's clean and relatable humor has garnered acclaim. Venue: Golden 1 Center, 500 David J Stern Walk. [Golden1center.com](http://Golden1center.com)

Experience the enchanting world of goth cinema at the Colonial Theatre, 3524 Stockton Blvd. Apr. 6. Love Horror Events and the Sacramento Horror Film Festival present a Goth Night Out Double Feature: 'The Craft' (1996) and 'Repo! The Genetic Opera' (2008). Doors open at 6 p.m., show starts at 6:30 p.m. Don't miss this mesmerizing night of cinematic thrills and haunting melodies. [LoveHorrorEvents.com](http://LoveHorrorEvents.com)

*Do you have events, birthdays, or announcements to share? Feel free to send them to [matthew@hengemedia.com](mailto: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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## Billie Eilish Gets the Comic Book Treatment

It might seem odd to be grateful for a person's misfortune, but in Billie Eilish's case, if her dream of a dance career had not been cut short by a hip injury at the age of 13, we might never have heard the amazing music she and her brother, Finneas, have created over the last few years.

Eilish, who is only 22, is the youngest person to win two Academy Awards in Oscar history (for her haunting songs from "Barbie" and "No Time to Die"), and she is also the youngest Grammy winner to nab all four main categories in the same year. To call her a prodigious talent would be an understatement.

Recently, the fine folks at TidalWave Comics paid tribute to the excellent Eilish with a release that celebrates the already-amazing career of Billie Eilish Pirate Baird O'Connell, whose parents, both actors and musicians, nurtured her creative spirit. When she was 15, she and her brother, Finneas, collaborated on the song "Ocean Eyes," and people took notice.

Eilish's smoky vocals, edgy look, and uncompromising approach garnered over 100 million Instagram followers, and then she became a household name in 2019 with the stunning hit single, "Bad Guy." Born in 2001, she represents the talent of Generation Z, and you can read all about her life and early career in TidalWave's colorful comic book, which can be purchased wherever you order print and digital publications.



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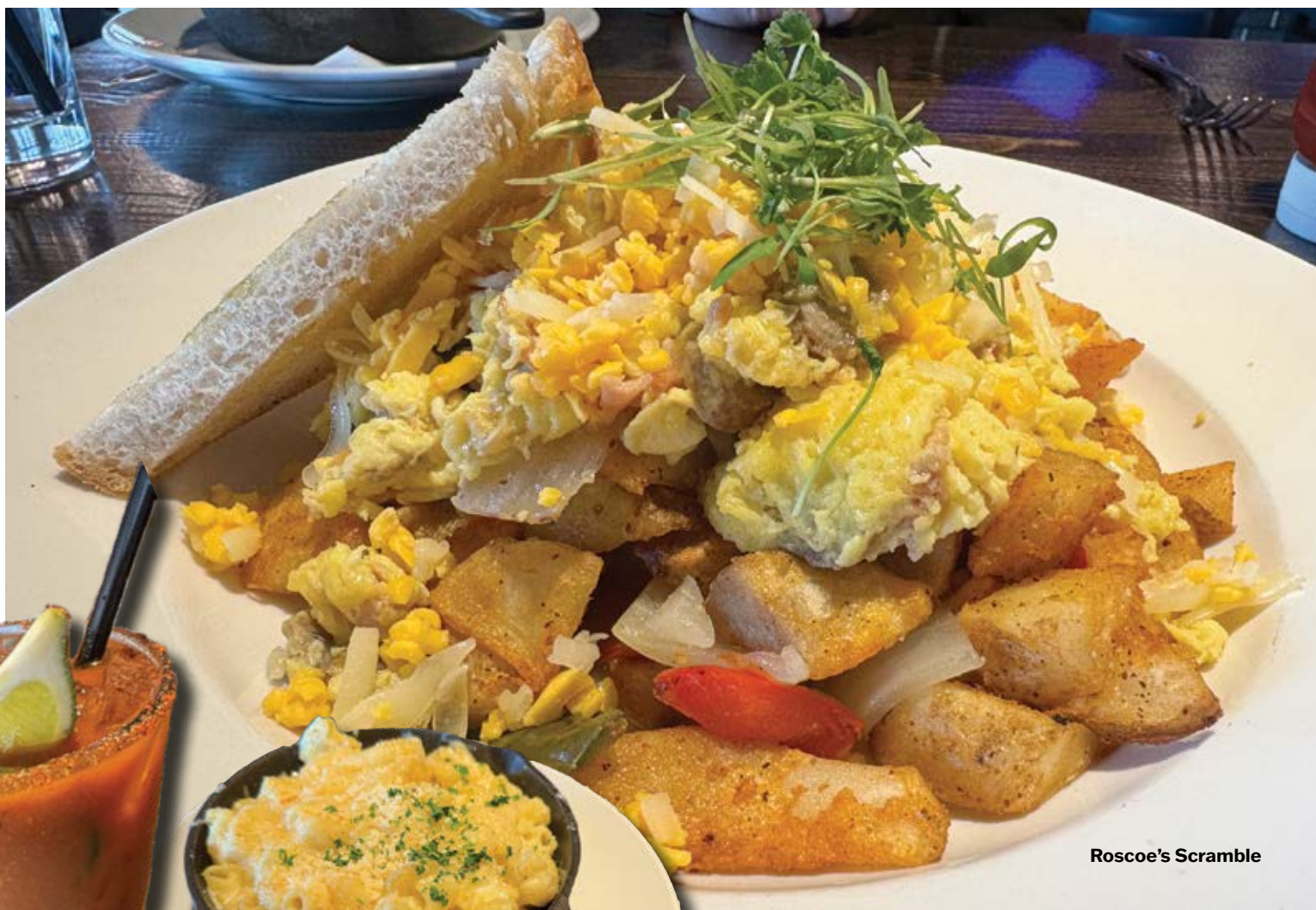
# Quick Bites – He Said, He Said

featuring Guy Ferris and Ron Tackitt, photos by Ron Tackitt

## Guy

Roscoe's Bar & Burgers located in the center of Sacramento's Lavender Heights isn't just about burgers (which, BTW, are wonderful), it also serves up a solid and satisfying brunch. After debating over the many delicious-sounding menu items, I ultimately zeroed in on the Roscoe's Scramble—a tasty, savory mix of sausage, ham, cheddar cheese, breakfast potatoes, and sourdough toast. I must have loved it because not only did I forget to offer my brunch partner a single bite, but I completely cleaned the plate myself! My only critique is that the food temperature could have been a bit hotter. However, the spicy Bloody Mary was well-crafted, proving to be the perfect complement to the meal.

The venue offers a visual feast as well: colorful magazine covers featuring LGBTQ+ icons line the walls, adding to the vibrant atmosphere, and the post-Drag Queen Bingo crowd on Sunday adds a fun layer of infectious energy. The attentive wait staff and the friendly vibe make it a great place to gather with friends. So take my recommendation, grab your brunch crew, and check it out. And, I just might see you there!



Roscoe's Scramble



Eggs Benedict

## Ron

I have been wanting to go to Roscoe's for brunch, ever since they opened. Of course, there were any number of things that kept me from going, but I finally found a Sunday that worked, and took a friend, Guy, to go check it out.

The downstairs was relatively quiet, with a few tables worth of diners, but it got much busier around the time we were leaving. Also, the Drag Brunch was happening, but it was upstairs. You could hear cheering every so often, but it was fine.

I ordered a serving of Mac and Cheese that Guy and I shared. It was very cheesy and had great texture. It could have been a little warmer, like Guy mentioned, and it could have benefitted from either a saltier cheese, or just some salt in general.

For myself, I ordered the Eggs Benedict with country fries. I was very impressed. The dish had great flavor, the egg was cooked perfectly, and I liked the sourdough toast slice instead of an English muffin. Nice, subtle twist. The portion size was really ample, more than enough for some leftovers for later.

I really enjoyed our brunch at Roscoe's. I will definitely grab some friends and visit again.

[www.roscoes916.com](http://www.roscoes916.com)



# UPCOMING EVENTS



Contact Julie Ebe to get your event on the Upcoming Calendar- Julie@OutwordMagazine.com

## April

- ★ 4 Drag Queen Bingo @ Mango's
- 5 Happy Hour @ Roscoe's -4 pm- with Prime Timers
- 5 Mondavi Center - "The Triplets of Belleville Cine-Concert"
- ★ 12 Happy Hour @ Badlands with Outword
- 5-14 Harris Center - "Cabaret"
- 14 Brunch @ Mimi's 11:30 am with Prime Timers
- 16-21 Broadway Sacramento - "Annie"
- 18 River City Bewing Co. Dinner -5:30 pm- With Prime Timers
- 25 Senior Pride Fair
- 30 Happy Hour at Bennett's -2:30 pm- With Prime Timers

## MAY

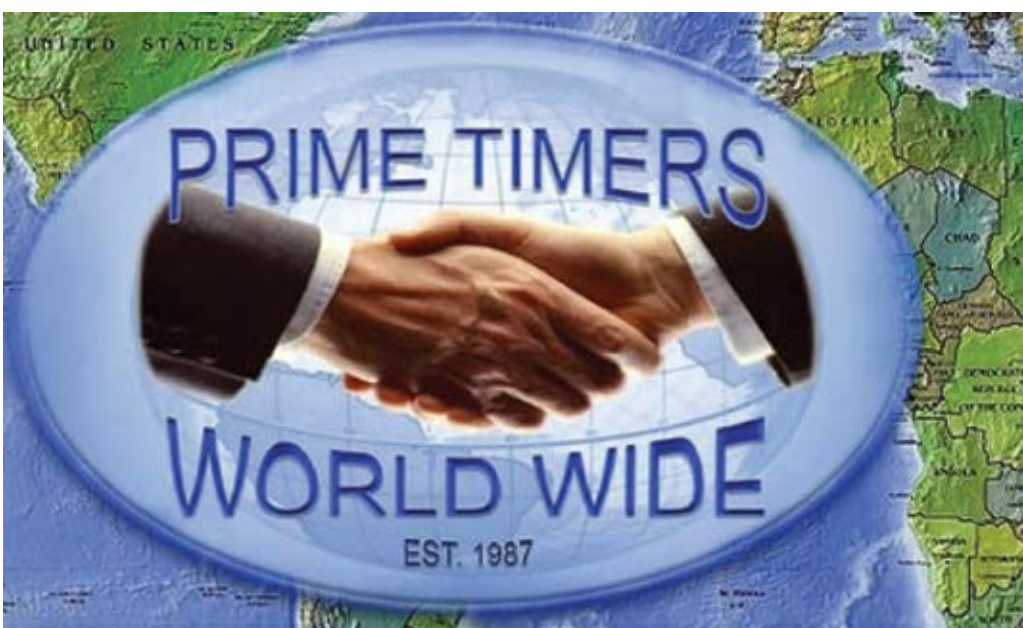
- 9-12 The Cher Show @ Harris Center
- 11 The San Francisco Symphony- Mondavi Center

## 2024 Pride Events

- 5/18 Roseville Pride
- 5/18 Placer 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
- 6/31-7/2 WEHO Pride
- 7/20 San Diego Pride
- 9/8 Oakland Pride

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All details can be found on our website, Facebook, or Meetup.com

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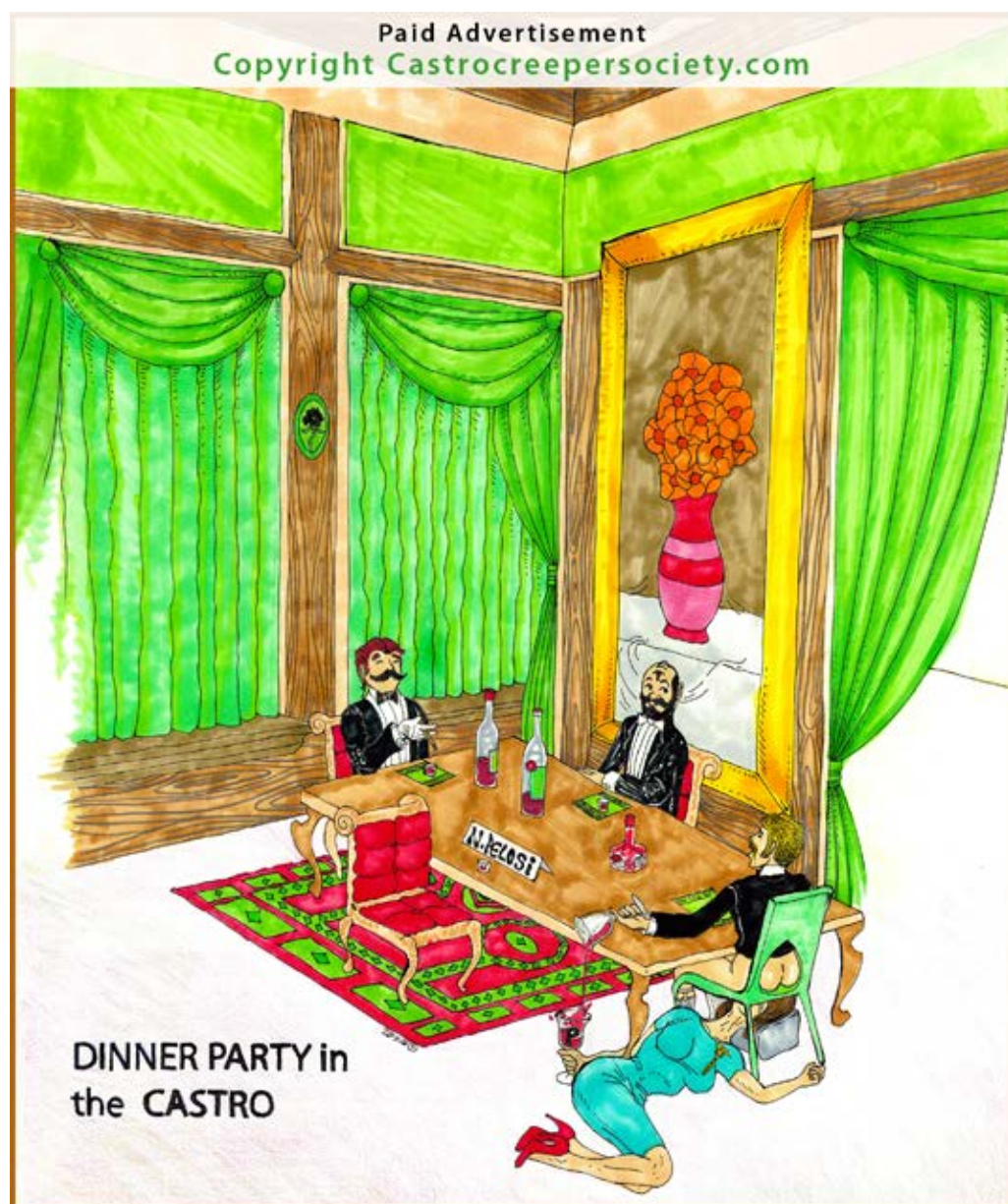
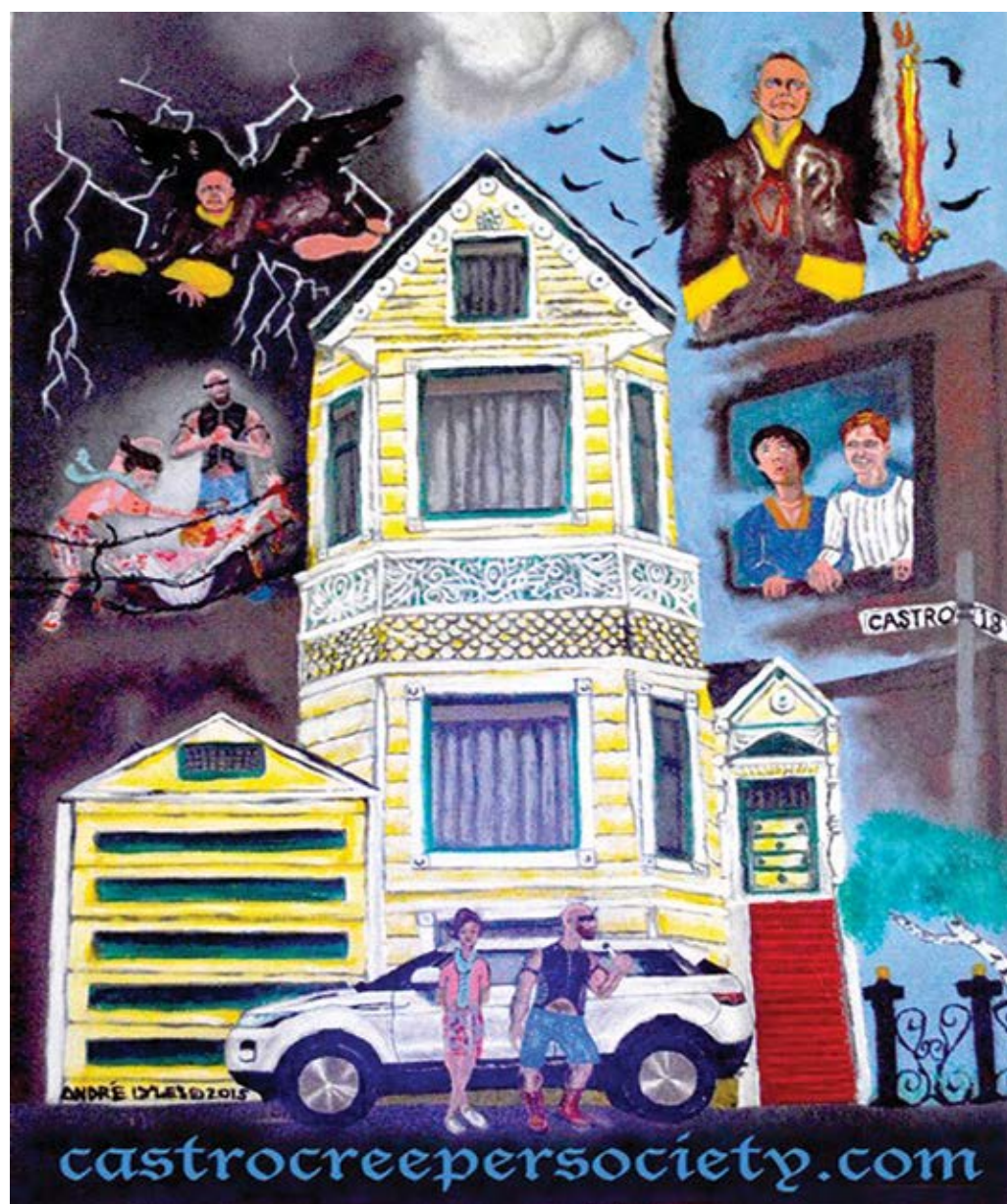
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