

Annual Romance and Wedding Special Issue!

No. 618 • February 14, 2019 • outwordmagazine.com

outWord

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(details on page 20)

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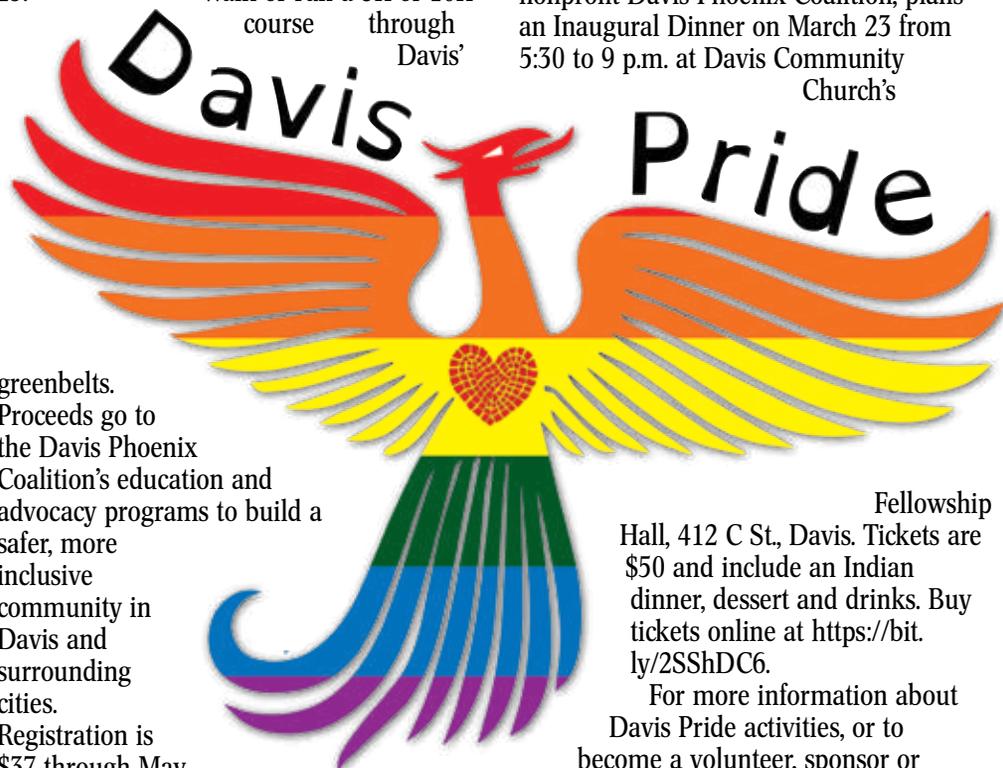
Save the Date for Davis Pride

The Davis Pride Festival returns for its fifth year on Sunday, May 19. This year's pride theme is #StonewallStrong. The theme honors the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall riots in New York City, where a police raid of the Stonewall Inn on June 28, 1969, sparked the gay rights movement - an important reminder that the fight and struggle continues today.

The free, daylong event at Central Park (401 C Street, Davis) features live entertainment, merchants and community resources, fun zones for children and teenagers, food trucks and vendors and dance parties.

Activities include the Run/Walk for Equality, starting at 8 a.m. on Sunday, May 19.

Walk or run a 5K or 10K course through Davis'



greenbelts. Proceeds go to the Davis Phoenix Coalition's education and advocacy programs to build a safer, more inclusive community in Davis and surrounding cities.

Registration is \$37 through May 18 and \$40 at the event. For community members who are not ready for a 5K or 10K, there is a 1K for \$20.

After that, there's the free Music Festival and Community Fair, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This free, family-friendly all-inclusive event will have the latest resources for the regional LGBTQ+ community and all who support it. Several entertainers and headline artists are being considered. An official announcement will be made in

early April.

Local artists interested in performing either on the main or community stages are encouraged to visit the Davis Pride website and submit information via the "Artist Submission" tab.

Meanwhile, there's another way to support this cause. The event's host, the nonprofit Davis Phoenix Coalition, plans an Inaugural Dinner on March 23 from 5:30 to 9 p.m. at Davis Community Church's

Fellowship Hall, 412 C St., Davis. Tickets are \$50 and include an Indian dinner, dessert and drinks. Buy tickets online at <https://bit.ly/2SShDC6>.

For more information about Davis Pride activities, or to become a volunteer, sponsor or vendor, visit davispride.org or visit the Davis Pride Facebook page.

Davis Pride is produced by Davis Phoenix Coalition, a nonprofit that works to foster diversity, eliminate intolerance, prevent hate-motivated violence and support LGBTQ+ youths. The coalition was founded in the aftermath of a 2013 anti-gay attack on Davis resident "Mikey" Partida. Proceeds from Davis Pride support the coalition's anti-bullying campaigns, and outreach with area police departments, churches and schools.



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ISSN # 1084-7618 United States Library of Congress

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Call to Serve – Denied

It appears that another one of President Trump's campaign promises to support the LGBT community has been broken. In an unsigned 5-4 order, the U.S. Supreme Court is allowing the Trump administration permission to proceed with broad restrictions on transgender people who serve in the military.

The ban bars those who identify with a gender different from that listed on their birth certificate from serving and prohibits the military from paying for gender reassignment surgery in nearly all cases. The ban would not apply to transgender service members who have been stable for three years in their biological sex prior to serving (meaning, after completion of surgery and hormone treatments) or those who serve under the gender identity assigned at birth.

According to a Pentagon report issued last year, there were nearly 9,000 service members who identify as transgender.

The Supreme Court has not issued a final ruling on the matter, but has lifted lower court bans on the policy's implementation while challenges to it proceed. The Alliance for Justice, Lambda Legal and other LGBT allies are confident that in the long-term, similar to "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," they are convinced transgender people will be able to serve openly.

Breaking Down Barriers to Greater Access to PrEP

Californians may soon face fewer challenges accessing HIV preventative medications. Senator Scott Wiener (D-San Francisco) and Assemblymember Todd Gloria (D-San Diego) are finalizing the details of Senate Bill 159.

The legislation would authorize pharmacists to furnish pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) and post-exposure prophylaxis (PEP) to patients without a physician prescription. It would also prohibit insurance companies from requiring patients to obtain prior authorization before using their insurance benefits to obtain PrEP or PEP. Both of these terms would expand access by increasing the places where people can get these medications, increasing the number of healthcare professionals who can provide it, and removing unnecessary insurance obstacles.

PrEP is a once-daily pill for HIV-negative people that nearly eliminates the risk of contracting HIV. PEP, on the other hand, is medication that a person takes after being exposed to HIV in order to prevent the virus from taking hold. PEP is a 28-day

course of drugs that, if started within 72 hours after exposure to HIV, significantly reduces risk of infection. The California Department of Public Health, Office of AIDS estimates there are 220,000 to 240,000 Californians with an indication for PrEP, but data suggest that only 9,000 people were taking PrEP in late 2016. For full text of the current bill, visit <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/home.xhtml> and enter "159" under "Quick Bill Search" and "Bill Number."



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New Nightlife Technology is Replacing Dated Practices, Protecting Vulnerable Communities

Most consumers are all too familiar with signs displayed by small businessowners that read, "We reserve the right to deny service to anyone." Signs once intended to discourage minor infractions are largely obsolete today, especially with the escalation of alcohol-induced violence in bars and nightclubs. Today, alcohol is a leading contributor to sexual and aggravated assault, and homicide. Vulnerable communities such as women targeted for harassment and assault may bear the brunt of these episodes.

In addition, bars and nightclubs have historically been an important gathering place and refuge for members of the LGBT community. However, they are often targeted for violent hate crimes such as the 2016 shooting at Pulse nightclub in Orlando, Florida, that claimed 49 lives. For far too long, entertainment and restaurant venues would try to protect their guests and employees by recording the names of violence prone patrons in a spiral notepad, an archaic practice that never really worked. Just as new technology has replaced cassettes and rotary phones, a manager's spiral notebook is finally being replaced with new technology.

engaged in violent conduct including anti-LGBTQ conduct. Despite the technology's obvious public safety benefits, it is also important that any technology that collects data on individuals be subject to consumer protections. Even though the software never had the ability to conduct criminal background checks or collect highly sensitive information like credit card or social security numbers. Assemblyman Jim Cooper of Elk Grove authored legislation (AB 2769) to limit the use of ID scanning technology to critical purposes such as verifying age and preventing fraud, abuse, or material misrepresentation.

As a former Sacramento County Deputy Sheriff, Assemblyman Cooper recognizes the importance business owners place on protecting their patrons and employees. It takes only one fateful incident to take a life,



Harriett Salerno, Chair and Co-Founder Crime Victims United of California

The City of Sacramento and other jurisdictions have mandated new technology that scans drivers' licenses as patrons enter nightclubs and other select drinking establishments. The scanners flag fake ID cards of underaged drinkers and allow notations (like a spiral notebook) to be made on patrons who have consistently exhibited acts of physical or sexual assault, destruction of property or threatened violence in their nightclub. As a powerful prevention tool, the information can be shared with other users of the technology, like a neighboring nightclub. Under extraordinary circumstances, patrons may even be denied entrance.

LGBTQ establishments in Sacramento and many other parts of the state and country are using this technology to help assure that their patrons are safe because they can identify individuals who may have



Rick Zbur, Executive Director Equality California

bankrupt a business, tarnish a neighborhood's reputation. Women, LGBTQ and all patrons deserve a safe refuge when they enter a bar or nightclub. It is for this reason, organizations representing crime victims and the LGBTQ community believe that Assemblyman Cooper has struck the right balance to both protect consumer privacy and at the same time ensure that this technology's benefits are preserved to protect the public's safety. Since this technology has prevented and solved numerous cases of violent and sexual assault against women and members of the LGBTQ community, this technology is an important component to assuring the safety of our communities.

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Mix & Mingle and Make Friends Along the Way

The Sacramento Gay Men's Events Group (SGME) was founded as a Meetup group in 2008 by Adam Todd Howard for men identifying as gay, bisexual, or female-to-male (FTM) transgender and living within the greater Sacramento regional area.

The purpose of the group's creation was, and remains, to foster a sense of community by providing an in-person outlet, outside of a gay bar; to meet, develop social circles; and engage with the LGBT business community as well as the LGBT non-profit community. The group started out with less than 50 members, and in the past decade, has grown to more than 1,900 active participants! It has become a lively mixture of guys from business, academia, government... from all trades and professions, and includes singles and couples.

Each quarter, gay men from around Sacramento get together at the informal mixer. Whether you are new to Sacramento or have been here awhile, it's a great way to make new friends and catch up with people you know in a welcoming environment.

They frequently get together for other social events, too. Some are free or low cost and some are not, allowing options for all. Dining out, sporting events, brunches, lunches, art walks, coffee socials, wine tastings, potlucks, movies, pool parties, live theatre and other performing arts, outdoor activities, road trips, and more. Turns out, it's a great option, outside of the bar scene, for those from a variety of age, ethnic, social, and

professional backgrounds to build real community, all in a relaxed casual atmosphere.

Those interested, can join here: <https://www.meetup.com/SacramentoGayMen/>.

A social media extension of the group is Sacramento Gay Men on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/sacramentogaymen/>), which provides a closed-group, online "safe-space" place for these same men to share their thoughts, post articles, pictures, humor, events, ask questions, and find friends... again, all with regionally-local gay guys.

"There's nothing I can do, that I wouldn't rather do with other gay men." -- The late Adam Todd Howard, Founder, Sacramento Gay Men's Events



A Musical Evening with Friends

Show your support of community awareness and empowerment while enjoying an evening of music. The 4th annual "Musical Evening with Friends" is a benefit concert for Wisdom Project = LGBT Elders. The money raised provides programming for LGBT seniors in the Greater Sacramento region.

The concert features British native singer, songwriter Liz Ryder with her husband Adrian Baxmeyer. Their signature blend of Celtic - New Grass Americano music is quickly setting them apart. Joining Liz and Adrian, the twice Sammie nominated Proxy Moon, that includes Patrick Grizzell, Steve Bird, Ann Wherry, and Chris Hall. Their spirited musicianship bring together a rousing blend of folk, jazz, blues and country music with a touch of burlesque.

Rounding out the line-up of artists is the ever popular Cliff Shockney, a musical master at the piano who's performed with the Master Singes and Sacramento Chorale.

"A Musical Evening with Friends" is on Saturday, March 2, from 7 - 9:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church (2100 J Street, Sacramento). The suggested donation is \$20. For tickets, visit www.servant-hearts.org and click on the "Donations" button.



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Welcome Home at "Homemade"

Featuring everything from cookware to barware to bedding, a new pop-up store in Oakland's Jack London Square is poppin'!

Mom of three, cookbook author, restaurant owner and TV personality, Ayesha Curry is now a home goods store owner. Curry, who is also the wife of Golden State Warriors player Stephen Curry, features items that are multi-purpose, multi-functional and affordable. The idea behind the products is to make people want to spend more time at home and with their family.

The pop-up store, "Homemade," is located at 423 Water Street in Oakland is open Wednesday through Friday from 4 - 7 p.m. and weekends from 11 a.m. - 7 p.m. through the end of February.



Ayesha Curry

The Dinah Keeps Heating Up

The largest queer girl party music festival in the world is on fire! Event organizers announced they are adding to its already incredible line-up.



Dorian Electra joins the lineup for the largest girl music festival, The Dinah in Palm Springs.

Trained rapper, producer and multi-instrumentalist Bri Steves will hit the stage. The powerhouse performer's first single, "Jealousy" has more than 1.5 million YouTube views and two million Spotify streams.

Fresh on the heels of their latest single, "Man to Man," rising pop star Dorian Electra is joining the party. The genre-norm bending sensation is known for their futuristic spin on pop and funk and sizzling visuals.

The newest additions join singer/songwriter Daya, musician and producer Leikeli47, hip-hop talent Kodie Shane, and freestyle and recording artist Diiamon'd Royalty.

The five-day event is April 3 - 7 in Palm Springs. The festival features pool parties with world famous DJs and go-go dancers, meet and greets, red carpet events with celebrity guests, and much more.

For more information, visit www.thedinah.com.



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Ms Handsome and the Relaunch

An Outword Interview



Joey Claytor

Being included alongside this strong & influential cast was an amazing experience. Additionally, our products are in 'Strapping Store' on Broadway and have partnered with Sacramento's fashion house, 'Heirs of Threads'. With new productions in the works, we're thrilled for what's to come.

Tell us a little more about your collabo with REVRY!

REVRY is an amazing queer entertainment-streaming platform. Our collabo started when the producer of the Web Series show 30/30 offered us an amazing opportunity to showcase MsHandsome apparel. The exposure of our apparel on a mainstream media platform is pretty exciting! We're honored to coincide with the release of Season 2, this February; at that time everyone will have access to all designs featured via our website www.mshandsome.com.

What's Happening In The Future?

More community visibility through outreach & collaborations, producing events and of course new products! If you're someone who is a supporter or part of the LGBTQ community and looking for a brand that is age appropriate, stylish and expressive to who you are, MsHandsome is for you! Don't miss out on the conversation, follow us on IG: @ms_handsome, FB: @mshandsome and sign up for our newsletter at www.mshandsome.com.

Who is Joey Claytor?

I'm an influential person in Sacramento's LGBTQ community. A promoter and DJ for over 30 years, I've created many experiences in Sac's gay nightlife. I produced ultra formal events, monthly clubs, and yearly parties on a boat. I was ready for a new adventure and support my community in a new space.

What inspired you to create MsHandsome?

I wanted to wear a t-shirt that represented me and my LGBTQ lifestyle. I wanted a bold statement. Completely unapologetic! At the same time, relevant, fun and stylish. The first time I wore my original design, I had the feeling of pride, empowerment and being 100% unapologetically Me for all the world to see. I knew I had to share this feeling somehow, so MsHandsome was born.

What is something you didn't anticipate with building your own brand?

I realized it wasn't completely about selling t-shirts and more about empowerment.

We are giving a visual voice to those who can't yet speak it and confidence to those who can. It was great how people were sharing enriching stories with me. They felt proud, invincible and powerful when wearing our shirts. This determined our brand philosophy: WEAR IT LIKE YOU MEAN IT! Not just for apparel, but wear Everything like you mean it! Your pronoun, your life, the happiness, the sadness, your confidence, and most importantly, You!

How has MsHandsome been involved with the LGBTQ community?

I debuted MsHandsome t-shirt designs at the 'National Butch Voices Conference' in Oakland, CA. The compassionate response and overpowering excitement received from the community was amazing! With this, I knew MsHandsome was a need for our community. I also was in 'Legends of Courage' a film project which was designed to capture the voices of pioneering civil rights advocates who helped build Sacramento's LGBTQ thriving community.

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4th Annual RainbowPAC All-U-Can-Eat Crab Feed 2019



The 4th Annual Sacramento RainbowPAC All-U-Can-Eat Crab Feed, held January 26 at Dante Club, raised more than \$7,000 to help elect candidates who share the organization's values of diversity, inclusion, LGBT equality and support for small business. Nearly 200 guests attended the event, produced by outgoing RainbowPAC Chair Robin Shofner, which included live and silent auctions, a dessert auction, and featured speakers Rosanna Herber, SMUD Board, and 2018 congressional candidate Jessica Morse. DJ Jammin' Jo and Chamber Executive Director Fred Palmer shared emcee duties. The evening ended with music and dancing. Photos courtesy Emmanuel Cobian, Bonnie Osborn.



For more information about RainbowPAC and other upcoming Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce events, visit RainbowChamber.com.



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Out & About With Matt by Matthew Burlingame

Love is in the air, spring is—supposedly—right around the corner and the Chinese New Year of The Pig promises us prosperity. The second half of February is looking mighty prosperous in Sacramento with a multitude of upcoming events.

Join the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce, Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Sacramento Black Chamber of Commerce on February 19 from 5-7 p.m. for “Wheels in Motion” against the historic backdrop of the California State Railroad Museum, 125 I St. The event will also be “a laboratory on the future of area transit.” The event is presented in partnership with City of Sacramento Economic Development.

The LGBT Community Center has put together the first Rainbow Family evening at the Sacramento Children’s Museum, 2701 Prospect Park Dr. in Rancho Cordova on February 23

from 5-7 p.m. The event promises to be a great opportunity for kids to play and parents to socialize. This is a

free event as long as an advance RSVP is made at bit.ly/RainbowFam.

This year’s “A Musical Evening with Friends” benefit concert sponsored by Active-Life Chiropractic and First United

Methodist Church will benefit The Wisdom Project=LGBT Elders of Servant Hearts,

an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. The night boasts performances by Cliff Shockney, a musical master at the piano, the twice Sammie nominated musical group Proxy Moon, and British native singer, songwriter Liz Ryder with her husband Adrian Baxmeyer. For information call (218) 760-2415.

Tell me you already have your tickets for Broadway Sacramento’s “Falsettos”! The correct answer is, “Yes, I’ve had them for months!” I had the privilege of seeing the Sacramento premiere of the musical back when Lambda Players produced the show back in 19*mumble*. William Finn and James Lapine’s groundbreaking, Tony Award-winning musical returned to Broadway in an all new production from Lincoln Center Theater, and was nominated for five 2017 Tony Awards, including Best Revival of a Musical.

“Falsettos” is a hilarious and achingly poignant look at the infinite possibilities that make up a modern family... and a beautiful reminder that love can tell a million stories. Runs March 12-17 with tickets available at Broadwaysacramento.com.

The world loves reality television and the reigning diva of that genre HBIC Tiffany “New York” Pollard will be at Badlands Sacramento, 2003 K St. on February 15 at 10 p.m. Beaux Banks and Uriel Ramirez will be also be there. Expect the bar to be off the hook with an “Amateur Strip & Biggest Bulge” contest.

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Collective (QSAC) at their Milk & Cookies Reading on February 22 at the Lavender Library, 1414 21st St. QSAC is inviting you to join them for two hours of sweet treats and lots of great stories by local authors. For more on how to support local authors go to their website at qsac.rocks.

Wrapping up February, be sure to check out the all-new Drag Brunch at Punch Line Sacramento called “Makup and Mimosas!” It will be hosted by Suzette Veneti and Taryn Thru-u so it should pack a super fun punch!

Happy birthday to Brandon Cook, Ben Perez, Cynthia Hawes, Darryl Strohl-De Herrera, Ronnie Miranda, Paul Curtis, Shelly Bailes, Jean Adams and Tyx Pulskamp.

Got events, birthdays, anniversaries, or did something awesome happen to you recently? Let Matt know at matthew.burlingame@gmail.com. Check out his books at JustKissTheGuy.com.

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OMG! Based on the beloved movie, *Legally Blonde - The Musical* is a journey from the sorority house to the halls of justice. Elle Woods appears to have it all, until her boyfriend dumps her to attend Harvard Law.



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Don't Miss The Oscars on ABC

by Chris Narloch

The Academy Awards will go without a host for the first time in 30 years when those golden statues are handed out on Sunday, February 24, inside the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood. ABC will televise the 91st Oscars live in more than 225 countries and territories worldwide.

It turns out that Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson was the first choice to host this year's ceremony but was unable to accept due to scheduling conflicts, and then Kevin Hart -- well, we all know what happened with him, don't we?

Perhaps the absence of a host will streamline things and make for a more fast-paced ceremony. The Academy has already announced an impressive lineup of presenters, and scheduled performers include Jennifer Hudson, Lady Gaga and Bradley Cooper, and Gillian Welch with David



Will Rami Malek win for Best Actor in "Bohemian Rhapsody"?



Mahershala Ali could win a second Best Supporting Actor Oscar for his performance in "Green Book"

Rawlings.

So far, the Academy has announced the following celebrities will either hand out awards or introduce segments on the show: Charlize Theron, Daniel Craig, Whoopi Goldberg, Chris Evans, Awkwafina, Brie Larson, Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Maya Rudolph, Jennifer Lopez, and Constance Wu.

Additionally, last year's big winners in the acting categories will return to change the lives of four of this year's nominees when Gary Oldman, Frances McDormand, Sam Rockwell, and Allison Janney take the Oscars stage.

Who do I think is going to win this year? My money is on Rami Malek as Best Actor for "Bohemian Rhapsody," Glenn Close as

Best Actress for "The Wife," Regina King as Best Supporting Actress for "If Beale Street Could Talk," and Mahershala Ali as Best Supporting Actor for "Green Book."

The last award of the evening, for the top movie, should prove to be the biggest nail-biter. Alfonso Cuaron is pretty much a shoo-in as Best Director for "Roma," but Best Picture could go to that film or "Green Book," with "Black Panther" or "BlacKkKlansman" as possible long shots.

For a complete list of this year's Oscar nominees, go to <https://www.oscars.org>.

Note: To read reviews of new movies currently in theaters, please visit www.outwordmagazine.com.



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Tiffany Haddish & Katya Smirnoff-Skyy Set For Sac

by Chris Narloch

Two bold and beautiful women – one of whom is actually a man – will perform in Sacramento this month, in separate engagements that are sure to bring a smile to your face and laughs to your belly.

Tiffany Haddish

The breakout star of the 2017 film “Girls Trip,” and several other hit movies, will bring the laughs to Sacramento this February 28 as part of her She Ready Tour, and the Community Center Theater may never be the same.

A brash, no-holds-barred comedienne, Haddish tells it like it is and pulls no punches in her act, which often touches on her turbulent childhood, a rocky rise to fame, and those famous celebrity friends.

What better way to celebrate Black History Month than with the finest African-American stand-up performer around? (Sorry Kevin Hart!) For more information, visit <https://www.tiffanyhaddish.com>



Tiffany Haddish

Katya Smirnoff-Skyy

After her triumphant show in early 2018, the vodka-fueled Countess Katya Smirnoff-Skyy returns to Rancho Cordova for another scintillating show with Symphony d’Oro Rancho Cordova (formerly the Rancho Cordova Civic Light Orchestra).

Symphony d’Oro performed its “Poperetta!” concert to a full house last year, and the show featured the Bay Area’s J. Conrad Frank in drag as the Countess Katya Smirnoff-Skyy, billed as “the world’s greatest mezzo-soprano (understudy).”

Part musical, part operetta, part stand-up comedy and all fun, “Poperetta!” is back this month with all new music, an expanded cast, Jim “Fingers” Jordan on piano, and Rancho Cordova’s own symphony under the direction of Symphony d’Oro conductor Pete Nowlen.

Don’t miss the special Valentine’s celebration of “Poperetta!” in Rancho Cordova on the evening of February 16. For more information, go to www.symphonydoro.org.



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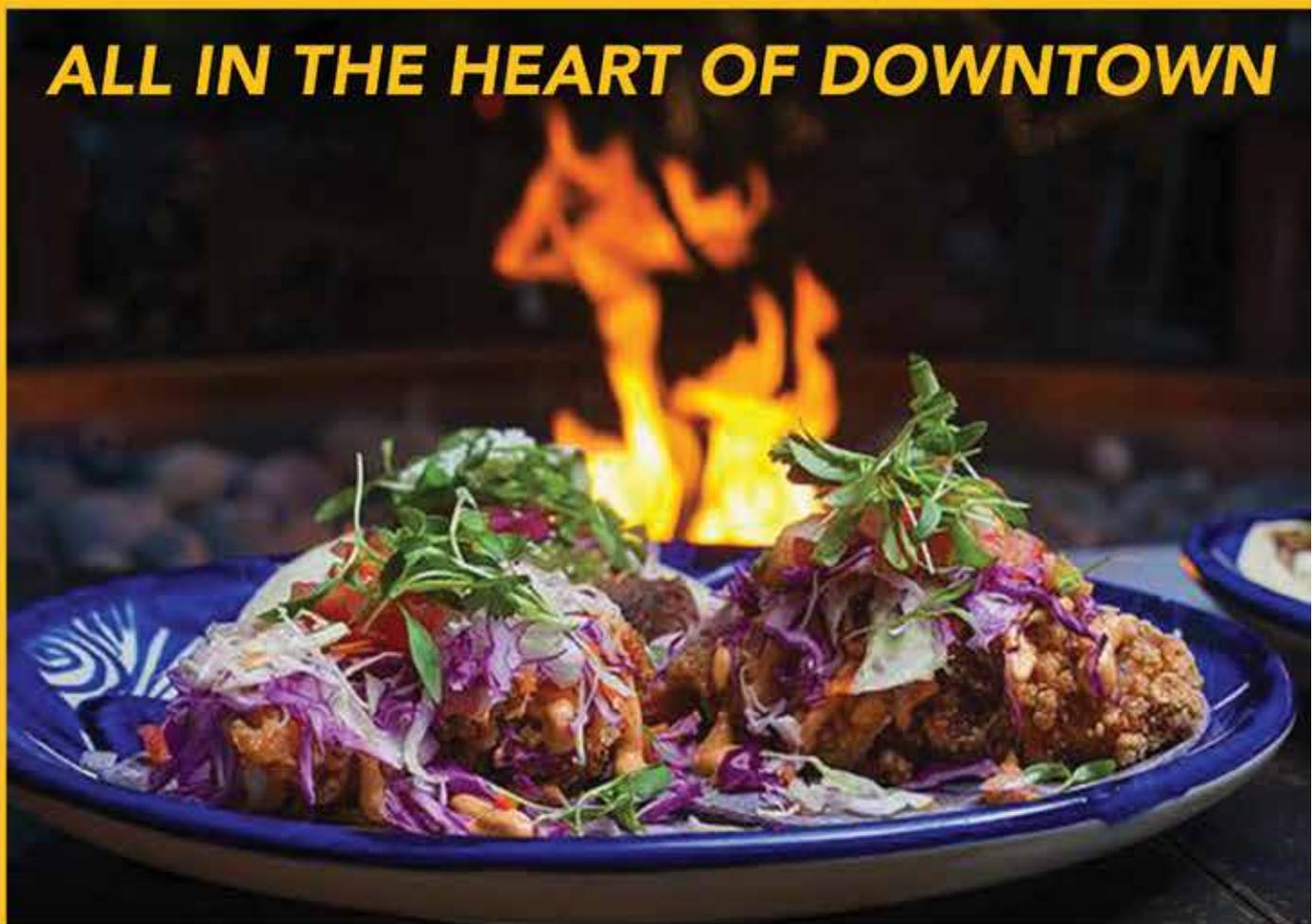
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Sac Speakers Series Hosts Diane Keaton

by Chris Narloch

It's not every day we get an Oscar winner speaking in Sacramento, and not just any Oscar winner but Annie Hall herself -- Diane Keaton -- who will be a guest of the Sacramento Speakers Series on Wednesday evening, February 20, at the Community Center Theater.



Diane Keaton

Keaton won an Oscar for her iconic portrayal of the ditzy and adorable Annie Hall (a character that writer-director Woody Allen based on Keaton herself, who was born Diane Hall) in the 1977 comedy classic of the same name.

The 73-year-old actress, who has been nominated a total of four times in the Best Actress category by the Academy Awards, is famous for her role as Al Pacino's wife, Kay, in all three "Godfather" films, and for other memorable performances in "Looking for Mr. Goodbar," "The First Wives Club," "Reds," "Baby Boom," "Manhattan," "Something's Gotta Give," the "Father of the Bride" series, and too many more movies to mention.

The busy performer is also a modern day Renaissance woman, having carved out successful careers as a director, photographer, best-selling author of two memoirs, fashion and style icon, and a famed flipper of houses, all while continuing to make movies, including last year's "Book Club" and the

upcoming "Poms."

She made her big screen debut with "Lovers and Other Strangers" in 1970 which means that Keaton has been a movie star for almost half a century now. This is a remarkable achievement for any actor but especially for a woman in Hollywood, where actresses are often sent packing once they hit 40 or 50.

If you have seen any of Keaton's hilarious talk show appearances over the last several years - particularly on "The Ellen Show" - then you know she is a fascinating and funny woman who definitely has the gift of gab. That gift, and her thoughts on her extensive careers, should make for a one-of-a-kind evening in Sacramento.

For more information on purchasing a prorated subscription for the remainder of this year's Sacramento Speakers Series, which includes Ms. Keaton's appearance and two others, please visit <http://www.sacramentospeakers.com>.



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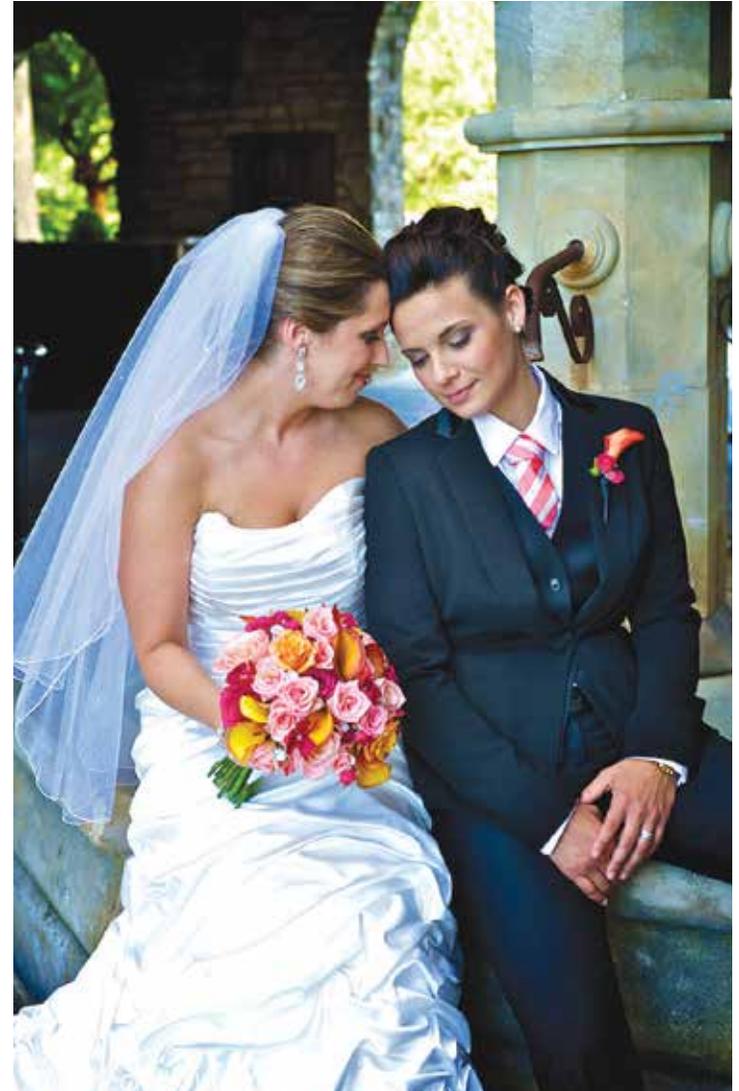
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Announcement: Zachary Whitehouse & Timothy Parmley are engaged to be married in everlasting geekdom. They will be wed March 2019, surrounded by family and friends.

Just Got Engaged?

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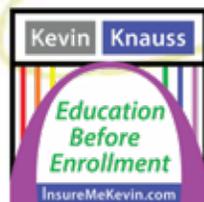
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Wedding Scene, Sipping & Skipping!

Okay, I'll put it in print – the happiest day of my life was when I got married! It was the best celebration of being alive and loving whom I choose. Now it just so happens that she is a great person, loving, kind and caring. So why am I sharing this tidbit of information? Well, the choice for our wedding was a winery! Bet you saw that one coming.

We both enjoy the fruit of the vine and the serene setting of the vineyard. Back in 2008, we chose to make it all official and set out to locate the best place for us and our friends. Living in the Sacramento area, there were many choices and we landed on Wilson Vineyards in Clarksburg. This was a beautiful setting with a great space for the ceremony, pictures and the reception. One stop for us and our guests – wine included! Here is a blurb from their website:

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Now, you may prefer a different setting and there are different wineries ready to work with you for that special event. There is even a website to help you sort through the possible sites that speak to you and your special someone to select the perfect setting for that wonderful day.
<https://wineryweddingguide.com>

Here is an example of the locations you can peruse:
 Sonoma County

Napa Valley Winery Weddings

North Coast Mendocino County Winery Weddings

California Lake County Winery Weddings

San Francisco Bay Area Santa Cruz Mountains

Sierra Foothills Winery Weddings

Have fun exploring the venues and make sure the wine suits the two of you. My only piece of advice for the day is to not let the photographer take you from your guests for too long. Your guests came to celebrate you. Enjoy!

The Ranch at Wilson Vineyards

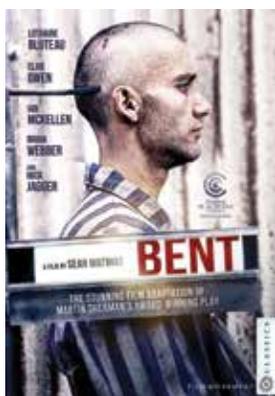


Don't Miss "Bent" On Blu-ray

Set amidst the decadence and terror of pre-war Germany, the movie "Bent" is a harrowing, yet inspirational, tale of struggle against oppression. The film is based on the landmark play of the same name by Martin Sherman.

A chance encounter at a Berlin nightclub exposes Max (Clive Owen) and his partner Rudy (Brian Webber) as homosexuals during the "Night of the Long Knives" purge.

After two years on the run, they are captured and put on a train to Dachau, where Rudy is savagely



beaten to death. Inside the camp, Max finds the will to survive through the help of a fellow prisoner, Horst (Lothaire Bluteau), and the two men develop an unbreakable bond.

Winner of the Prix de la jeunesse (Award of the Youth)

at Cannes Critics' Week in 1997, "Bent," which has been digitally restored, was also nominated "Outstanding Film" at the GLAAD Media Awards, and captured the Best Feature Award at the Torino International Gay & Lesbian Film Festival.

The movie also features Paul Bettany, Rachel Weisz, and Jude Law, and the new Blu-ray release includes cast and crew interviews plus a music video by Mick Jagger.

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Family in Transition at the 20th Sacramento Jewish Film Festival

by Deborah Meltzer, Member, Sacramento Jewish Film Festival Committee

“My main goal in making this film is to explore the life of this unique family, one that can teach us how to accept the differences in one another. They are a family that breaks social conventions, but also one that re-expands the limits of acceptance and love . . .” Director Ofir Trainin

In the small, traditional town of Nahariya in Israel, a family is forever changed by the father’s revelation that he is a woman trapped in a male body. When he (she) eventually makes the decision to undergo full surgery, her wife remains by her side throughout the process. However, just when life has returned to normal, her wife shakes the family up all over again.

The documentary, “A Family in Transition,” presents a welcome sea change in the depiction of transgender issues in film. It forces us to re-examine our knee-jerk

they never do.]

If you think about it, our minds and hearts are always in transition. If we didn’t allow ourselves to be changed every day from something as insignificant as a child smiling from behind her mother’s jeans to making a decision that will forever change the lives of ourselves and our loved ones, we would, literally, no longer be breathing. We are continually either shrinking or “re-expanding the limits of our love and acceptance,” and the story of A Family in Transition powerfully exemplifies this.



The new documentary, “A Family in Transition”

responses, wherever we reside on the gender spectrum, and consider a broader kaleidoscope from which to explore what is most common to our human condition within the multi-faceted realm of acceptance and love.

The film accomplishes this by focusing more on relationship than gender identity, though gender identity is the defining plot point in this true-life story. It is not the father’s transition, it is the couple’s eventual separation that is the most traumatic event in the story, which causes us to ask: did the wife fall out of love because her former husband became her wife? Or did the transition simply reveal what was already broken, the crack in the couple’s relationship that would have ultimately widened into a chasm anyway, leading to the same devastating outcome? It is refreshing to step away from the stereotypical lens for a moment and look at the most pertinent issue – the relationship itself. [In behavior, clichés abound – in the hearts of human beings,

If you come to the 20th Sacramento Jewish Film Festival to see A Family in Transition, consider attending the other two days as well. This year’s lineup is impressive, from the suspense-laden thriller Shelter, about two women - Lebanese and Israeli - whose intimacy is shattered by betrayal and terrorism, to Sammy Davis, Jr.: I’ve Gotta Be Me, about a man who identified himself with TWO persecuted minorities, to the comedy, The 90-Minute War, in which the outcome of a soccer match decides the Israeli-Palestinian conflict once and for all. There are sure to be additional films that will entertain, educate, and even enthrall you.

A Family in Transition will be introduced by David Heitstuman, Executive Director of the Sacramento LGBT Community Center.

Family in Transition - Thursday, March 7, 8:55pm at the Crest Theater.

For tickets, visit www.crestsacramento.com.

If you are interested in helping support the festival, please visit www.jewishsac.org/sjff.

Betty Who & Robyn Bring The Beats

by Chris Narloch

I was horrified to realize that 2018 had ended before I got around to reviewing one of my favorite albums from last year by one of my favorite living artists, the super-talented Swedish singer who cornered the dance music market with her previous solo CDs, 2010's "Body Talk" and 2005's "Robyn."



Robyn

Robyn – Honey

Her previous masterpieces will probably never be topped by anyone currently making dance music, but Robyn's new disc shows that she is still challenging herself and definitely not resting on her laurels.

Artists with one name seem to be hot these days, a trend that began with Cher and continued with Madonna, Sting, Bjork, and Bono. Recent discs by Borns, Kimbra, Milck, and Caer have all staked impressive claims for their status as one-name wonders.

Robyn goes to the top of the current class of one-name wonders, however, and her new CD, "Honey," is further proof of her greatness -- if any more proof was needed.

The singer has yet to attain the commercial success of someone like Britney Spears (at least in the U.S), but her baby-doll voice reminds me a little of Spears, except that Robyn is much more expressive, soulful and adventurous than Brit.

The two standout tracks on "Honey" are (not coincidentally) the first two singles: the initial cut on the album ("Missing U"), and the disc's title track, which are both as good as anything Robyn has recorded.

Those two songs are quintessential Robyn – hypnotic, melodic and passionately performed. Other fine tracks on "Honey" are "Human Being," "Because It's In The Music," and "Ever Again."

The remaining four songs on this too-short album are lesser efforts, but that's only in comparison to Robyn classics such as "Dancing On My Own" and "Call Your Girlfriend" from previous CDs.

If you're new to Robyn, pick up "Robyn" and "Body Talk" and then buy "Honey." If you enjoy great dance music, you won't be disappointed.

Betty Who – Betty

If you're a fan of Robyn and you haven't already heard of Betty Who, check out the new CD by the other current princess of dance-pop when "Betty" drops on Feb. 15.

Betty Who is the stage name of Jessica Anne Newham, a 27-year-old Aussie singer who is a giant in the world of dance pop – literally a giant – at 6' 2". Her talent is as impressive as her stature, and Betty Who has created such addictive past hits as "Human Touch," "Somebody Loves You," and "All Of You."

"Betty" will be the first independent studio album for the singer-songwriter, who will next join Kesha on her queer cruise, later this month, after wrapping up a stint as opening act for Panic! at the Disco on their current tour.

I haven't heard all of "Betty" yet, but if the rest of the disc is half as good as the catchy first single and video, "I Remember," I would say this gifted artist has another big hit on her hands.



I Remember BettyWho

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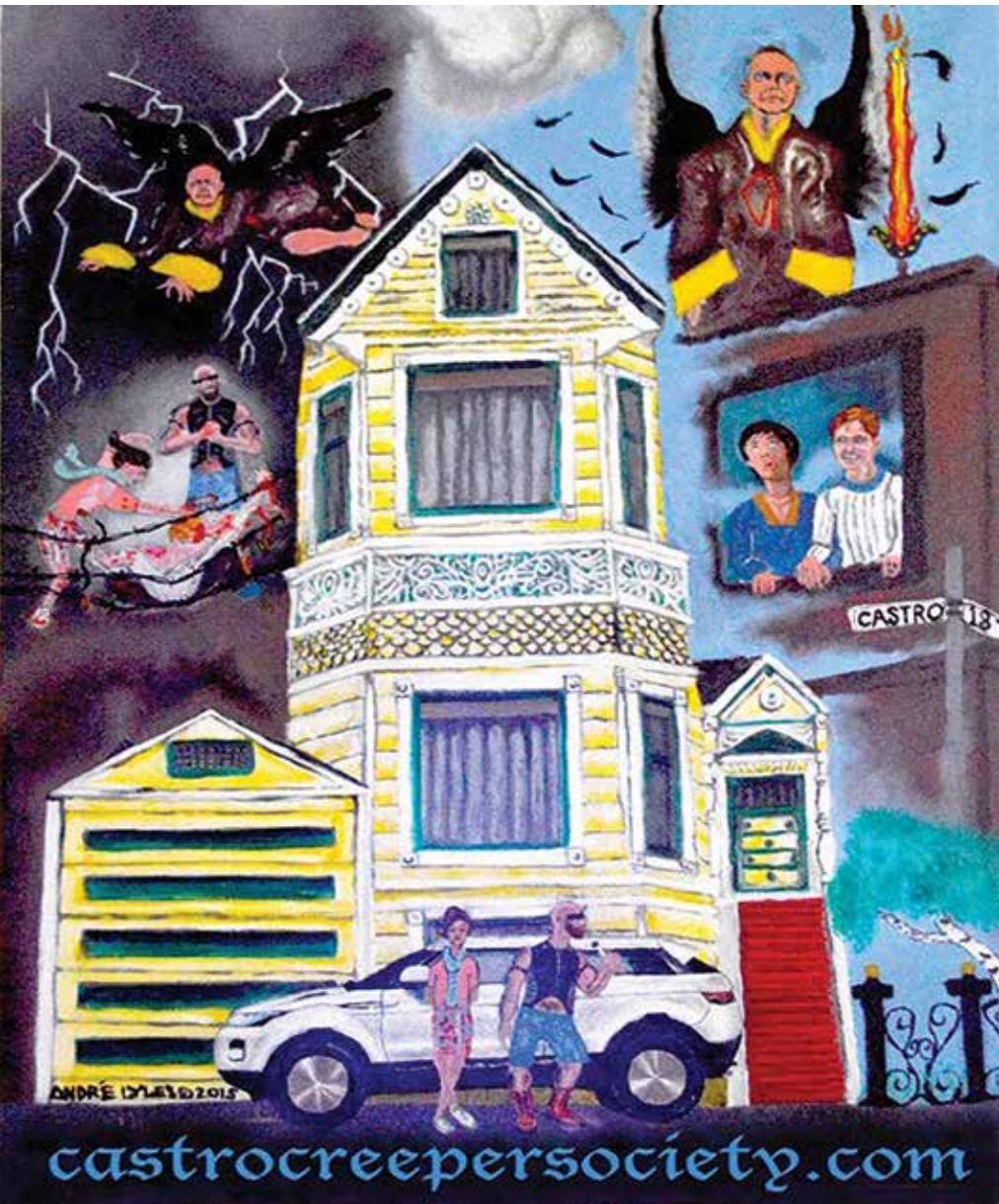
Out & About

Outword's Happy Hour at La Cosecha!
photos by Charles Peer

"Full House" San Francisco's Alamo Square



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SACBEN Spotlight

Caley Coss – Edward Jones Financial Advisor

What I do: work with individuals and business with their long-term goals including but not limited to retirement, education savings, preparing for the unexpected and estate planning.

How I do it: By finding out what's most important to you, using an established process, we build a customized plan tailored specifically to you and your family. When life changes, we work together to update and/or change the plan so that we stay on track throughout your lifetime.

Why I do it: I'm passionate about helping others in the way I know best. I want to be a different kind of advisor. I want to build a confidential, honest and open relationship with each of my clients. My office is a judgment free zone where I want you to be the best version of yourself. Getting you to a place of confidence with your financial plan is what motivates me. Making a difference in the lives of my clients is my way of making the world a better place than I found it.



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Caribbean Concern

The sunny skies and beaches may be enticing, but you may not receive a warm welcome if you plan on traveling to the Bahamas.

An advisory has been issued by the Canadian government to the LGBTQ community to avoid visiting the Caribbean nation. Widespread discrimination and police corruption where officers reportedly blame people for their sexual orientation or gender identity during their time of need are a couple of reasons behind the recent warning.

Although the United States warns Americans to "exercise increased

caution in the Bahamas due to crime," there isn't a specific warning directed toward LGBTQ individuals. However, Americans have suffered recent attacks due to their sexuality.

For more information on current travel advisories, visit <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html>.



Community Calendar **2019**



FEBRUARY

- Feb 19 • Rainbow Chamber Mixer
- Feb 21 • Sac. Gay Men's Events Happy Hour @ Ernesto's
- Feb 24 • Makeup and Mimosas Drag Brunch @ Punch Line

MARCH

- Mar 1,2,3 • Home and Garden Show @ Cal Expo
- Mar 7 • Sacramento's Original Drag Queen Bingo
- March 10** • 7th Annual LGBT Wedding Expo
- Mar 27-31 • Cirque du Soleil "Crystal" @ Golden 1 Center

2019 EVENTS FOR YOUR PLANNING

- May 10 • Outword's Happy Hour - Davis Pride Kickoff
- May 16 • Farm to Scholar Dinner - Rainbow Chamber
- May 19 • Davis Pride
- June 1 • Pride Awards
- June 9 • Sacramento Pride
- June 1-9 • Pride Week

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