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Seventh Annual
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Wedding Expo

Sacramento, CA
Sunday, March 10, 2019

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“RuPaul’s Drag Race” Ru-Veals Guest Judges For The Highly Anticipated Season 11

Emmy® Award-winning host RuPaul will be joined by a star-studded line-up of celebrities to help show regulars Michelle Visage, Carson Kressley and Ross Mathews as they decide who will stay, lip-sync for their life or “sashay away” in the new season of “RuPaul’s Drag Race” premiering Thursday, February 28 at 9:00PM ET/PT on VH1.

This season’s guest judges include Miley Cyrus, Troye Sivan, Lena Waithe, Joel McHale, Cara Delevingne, Bobby Moynihan, Kandi Burruss, Tiffany Pollard, Gina Rodriguez, Sydelle Noel, Wanda Sykes, Elvira, Guillermo Diaz, Adam Rippon, Mirai Nagasu, Travis Wall, Amber Valetta, Tony Hale, Clea Duvall, Fortune Feimster, Cheyenne Jackson, Katherine Langford and Natasha Lyonne. Additionally, Rachel Maddow will treat the queens to a special guest appearance.

The 15 competing queens will give their all to impress the judges as they vie for the ultimate title of “America’s Next Drag Superstar” and a grand prize of \$100,000. The previously announced queens include: A’keria C. Davenport (Dallas, TX), Ariel Versace (Cherry Hill, NJ), Brooke Lynn Hytes (Nashville, TN), Honey Davenport (New York, NY), Kahanna Montrese (Las Vegas, NV), Mercedes Iman Diamond (Minneapolis, MN), Nina West (Columbus, OH), Plastique Tiara (Dallas, TX), Ra’jah D. O’Hara (Dallas, TX), Scarlet Envy (New York, NY), Shuga Cain (New York, NY), Silky Nutmeg Ganache (Chicago, IL), Soju (Los Angeles, CA), Vanessa Vanjie Mateo (Los Angeles, CA) and Yvie Oddly (Denver, CO).

The series recently made history as the first to win Emmys® for both Outstanding Reality-



“RuPaul’s Drag Race” Season 11 Ru-vealed.

Competition Program and Outstanding Host for a Reality or Reality-Competition Program categories in the same year. It also scored VH1’s first Producers Guild Award for Producer of Game and Competition Reality Show.

Fans can catch up on past seasons during Logo’s “Drag to Ru-Member MaRUthon” kicking off with the very first episode of season one on Friday, February 22 at 8PM ET/PT. The marathon

will cycle through all 10 seasons and end with the season 11 premiere on Thursday, February 28 at 9:00PM ET/PT on VH1.

For more information on “RuPaul’s Drag Race” and up-to-date news, go to RuPaulsDragRace.com and follow @RuPaulsDragRace on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook for all the latest tea. Use #DragRace to join the conversation.

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Is Your Business Equipped To Retain The Talent Flocking To Sacramento?

Krystal Peak
Community Engagement Specialist
Sacramento LGBT Community Center

Sacramento is no longer on the cusp. We are witnessing the buzz of a full-fledged awakening. As if the satin cloak of Tule Fog had been shielding the city protectively until the timing was just right.

Each day, new cranes tower higher and higher downtown as scaffolding and fencing multiply across the city. Residents, business owners and legislators discuss the impact of anticipated developments along the waterfront, mixed-use concepts, new restaurants and even the latest bid for a professional soccer team calling Sacramento home.

All the while, Millennials and Gen-Xers continue to flock to the region seeking employment, attainable housing and the promise that Sacramento will live up to all the expectations being set. Sacramento saw more than 16,000 new Millennial-aged residents in 2016, netting the region at least 6,500 young members of the workforce.

For the most part, there are enough jobs here to meet the demand of new residents. What remains to be seen is how quickly local businesses can adapt to the high expectations that younger workers have for their places of employment. This workforce is searching for more than a job and a paycheck, they are seeking companies that reflect their values, that provide access to mentoring and quick advancement, and maintain a diverse and affirming workplace.

It is no longer enough to host annual harassment seminars and post anti-discrimination policies in the break room, your company needs to be actively anti-racist, visibly promoting leaders from all races and backgrounds and providing ways for their

employees to get involved with non-profits and outreach efforts in the communities they are from. Diversity and inclusion are components of a comprehensive strategy woven into every aspect of the talent life cycle to enhance employee engagement. In short, the era of diversity as a "check the box" initiative managed by HR is over.

For the past two years, the Sacramento LGBT Community Center has reviews, consulted and trained a wide range of businesses (from school districts and medical facilities to law enforcement and legislators) in order to create the affirming and inclusive region we all strive to live in. But instilling policies, programs, and practices that improve the cultural competency and diversity (when done properly), does more that help recruit new talent.

Nearly 67% percent of job seekers said that a diverse workforce is an important factor to them when considering companies and job offers. Prioritizing diversity and sharing these efforts with your employees may also be key retention strategies since 57% of employees want their company to do more to increase diversity.

Research shows that more inclusive companies have a 2.3x higher cash flow per employee over a 3-year period. And even research from McKinsey shows that the most ethnically diverse companies are 35% more likely to outperform the least ethnically diverse companies.

But how do you create a diverse AND inclusive workplace culture? Cultures are complex and fluid. First remember that none of this will transform after one learning lunch or team building activity, but after thoughtful work, overtime, your company could benefit from the richness of an inclusive and diverse workplace culture.

If you need help assessing or getting started The Sacramento LGBT Community Center's Training Institute can assist in training sessions for LGBTQ-inclusion as well as culture and diversity education.

7 tips for developing your firm's cultural competency and inclusion practices:

Conduct executive interviews with a cultural expert to evaluate your team.

Identify the gaps and create a strategy for developing cultural competence.

Develop and implement training and coaching with a true cross-cultural expert.

Encourage sensitivity to issues like time, local customs, religious matters, and etiquette.

Practice effective cross-cultural team-building.

Solicit feedback from your team as they put training to use in the workplace.

Conduct a review and reassessment of your team's performance and modify your training and coaching as needed.



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The Sacramento LGBT Wedding Expo Returns for its Seventh Year!

Come to the one-stop shop for all your wedding and reception planning needs! The seventh Annual LGBT Wedding Expo will feature more than 60 vendors showcasing catering, locations and venues, photographers, makeup artists, DJs, rental décor, limo companies and more. Also, if you are looking to plan your blissful, wedded future with your partner, there will be insurance companies on site, as well as realtors and mortgage representatives to help you plan your long-term goals. If you are in the market for a new car to drive away in with a "Just Married" sign, Lasher Subaru of Elk Grove will be there to help you navigate the car buying process and show you all the benefits and safety of full-time all-wheel drive.

There will be various vendors at the Expo offering small bites and others offering tastes of bubbly and wine. Some vendors will have giveaways for fun prizes or services that will make your special day all that much more special. Be sure to visit the booths for the Puerto Vallarta Tourism Board or Goldrush Getaways, they can help you plan your next vacation, honeymoon or destination wedding.

Extreme Productions Entertainment, LLC will provide the beats throughout the day, and if you like what you hear, stop in over at the DJ booth and be sure to pick up a business card. Arthur Murray Carmichael Dance Centers will have dance performances so you can see how they can help you polish your moves to really impress your bride, or groom, to be. Plus, the Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus will also be performing and will really help keep the mood at the expo light, fun and totally gay!

The Sacramento LGBT Wedding Expo is simply unlike any other wedding expo. We want you to have fun while you plan your special occasion and the LGBT Wedding

Expo offers a safe, informative environment, along with LGBT/LGBT-friendly vendors dedicated to making your wedding day unforgettable.

This free event is for everyone so, whether you're planning your big day, a party for any occasion,



planning for your future or you just want to come check it out and sample the goods, don't miss this one-day event at the Sacramento Hyatt Regency on Sunday, March 10. When you arrive, be sure to register at the registration desk because we will have some amazing raffle prizes to give away throughout the day!

Come support the businesses that support our community and have a great time while doing so. See you at the LGBT Wedding Expo! www.saclgbtweddingexpo.com

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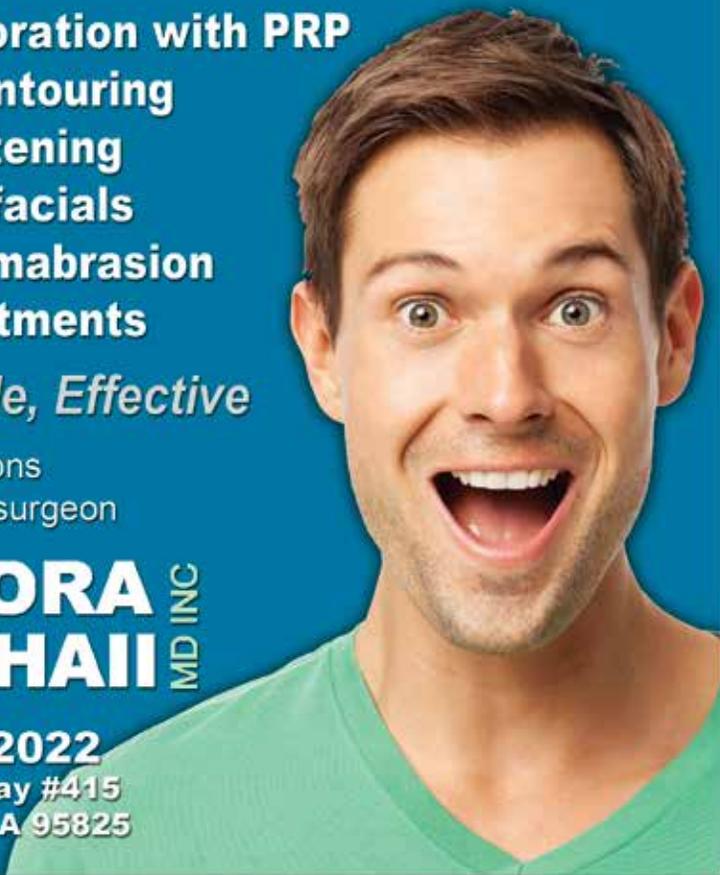
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First Love, Then Marriage... 77% of LGBTQ Millennials Ready for “Baby Carriage”

by Rich Vaughn

As young gay men struggling to figure out our identities in the 1980s and 1990s, my spouse, Tommy Woelfel, and I never dreamed that the conventional nuclear family model—two parents, two kids—could be a reality for us. Yet, by the time the U.S. Supreme Court legalized same-sex marriage nationwide in 2015, journalists had been covering the LGBTQ “baby boom” for decades. Today, Tommy and I are legally married and dads to 11-year-old twin boys, conceived via egg donation, IVF and surrogacy. (See my article, “Who’s Your Daddy? How Gay Dads Decide Whose Sperm to Use,” at IFLG.net for more of our family’s story.)



Rich Vaughn

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Even so, the so-called “gayby boom” may just be getting started: The Family Equality Council reports, in its just-released Family Building Study, that some 77 percent of today’s LGBTQ millennials (ages 18 to 35) either are already parents or are considering becoming parents—a 44 percent jump compared to LGBTQ people of the previous generation. To top that, the study found, almost as many LGBTQ millennials today are planning for future families (48 percent) as heterosexual millennials (55 percent). That translates to some 3.8 million LGBTQ millennials in the U.S. today who are planning to start, or add to existing, families!

However, nearly four years after the Supreme Court’s historic Obergefell v. Hodges decision, laws governing LGBTQ rights still vary widely from state to state. LGBTQ intended parents—and their attorneys—must be vigilant about researching reproductive and parentage laws, both where the family will ultimately reside and, if using a surrogate, where the surrogate lives and will give birth.

Fortunately for we Californians, our state is blessed with some of the most progressive, family-affirming laws governing assisted reproduction and same-sex or single parenting in the entire world.

In California, for example, compensated surrogacy, in which the surrogate is compensated for time, discomfort and inconvenience as well as for any direct, pregnancy-related expenses, is legal, and surrogacy, egg and sperm donor

agreements are fully enforceable under the law. In a dwindling number of other states, such as New York, however, surrogacy bans, or bans on surrogacy agreements, remain in place. Other states, such as Utah, maintain tight restrictions. For example, for surrogacy to be legal in Utah, intended parents must be married to one another, and at least one parent must be biologically related to the child. In some jurisdictions, the surrogate—even if she is biologically unrelated to the baby—is automatically deemed the legal mother, and intended parents must go court after the birth to establish parentage.

The good news for LGBTQ couples and would-be parents is that the options for, access to and affordability of assisted reproductive technology are improving all the time, even as courts and lawmakers race to catch up. Forearmed with careful research, planning and expert legal advice, LGBTQ people who decide to join “gayby boom” will find it easier than ever before.

Attorney Rich Vaughn is founder and principal of International Fertility Law Group, one of the world’s largest and best-known law firms focused exclusively on assisted reproductive technology, a highly regarded speaker and writer, and an activist for reproductive freedom and LGBTQ equality. He and husband Tommy Woelfel reside in Southern California with their twin sons conceived via assisted reproduction. For more articles about assisted reproduction and LGBTQ parenting, visit IFLG.net.

Shopping For Wedding Vendors Can Challenge LGBT Couples

by Joan Cusick

The U.S. Supreme Court's decision last June in the "gay wedding cake" case did not change the rights of LGBT couples across California who are shopping for wedding vendors, according to the ACLU of Northern California.

"California law clearly prohibits businesses that are open to the general public from discriminating based on sexual orientation," said ACLU Senior Staff Attorney Elizabeth Gill. "What that means is that a same-sex couple can't be turned away from wedding services just because of who they love."

In California, the Unruh Civil Rights Act provides protection from discrimination by all business establishments, which may include governmental and public entities. It was unchanged by the U.S. Supreme Court ruling in *Masterpiece Cakeshop v. Colorado Civil Rights Commission*. In a 7-2 vote, the Supreme Court held for the religious baker who refused to sell a cake to Charlie Craig and Dave Mullins for a celebration of their out-of-state wedding. Now-retired Justice Anthony Kennedy of Sacramento wrote the majority opinion, claiming the Colorado Civil Rights Commission did not give baker Jack Phillips "neutral and respectful consideration of his claims" for religious exemption.

While the law remains clear in California, couples like Misty Lampshire and Jackie Anderson (pictured on the Outword cover) occasionally receive mixed messages

"While friends and family members can be helpful recommending weddings vendors and venues, it is important to research the recommended business," Lampshire added. "Many friends and family members are not aware of the daily challenges of being gay and make recommendations without taking into consideration the experience or inclusivity of the business serving LGBTQ people."

Checking vendors with the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce, as Lampshire did, or visiting the Sacramento LGBT Wedding Expo are two ways to research inclusive wedding vendors. (The seventh annual LGBT Wedding Expo, presented by Outword, will be held from 12-4 p.m. on Sunday, March 10, at the Hyatt Regency.)

Krystal Peak, Community Engagement & Marketing Specialist for the Sacramento LGBT Community Center, added a few more vendor-shopping suggestions:

- Browse the vendor's photo galleries and social media sites: Are they showing work from past LGBTQ weddings?
- Evaluate their language: Are they speaking directly to brides who are marrying



Planning a wedding is extremely stressful, right? Not exactly, if you have the right group of friends and talented people to help you along the way. One of those important components is the right photographer. Peter and I were lucky to have a great photographer that advertises with "Outword" and will also be one of the vendors at the Sac LGBT Wedding Expo - Joan Cusick. Photo by Joan Cusick at Peter and Fred's wedding.

from some wedding vendors.

"Weddings are joyful events celebrating love and unity, and are shared publicly with friends and family," Lampshire said. "The key word here is 'joyful.' Encountering discrimination or anything less than acceptance, love and validation while planning is unacceptable."

Lampshire, who is planning to enter the seminary, is a member of what she calls a "non-reconciled church," meaning some members accept gay marriage and others do not. So she and her fiancée chose to get married on April 24 at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in El Dorado Hills, which is an open and affirming congregation.

grooms, or is their language gender-neutral?

- Research on LGBTQ-friendly blogs and wedding websites, such as EquallyWed.com, GayWeddingsMag.com, LGBTWeddings.com and RainbowWeddingNetwork.com. The Knot also has a special section for gay and lesbian weddings.

"Choosing affirming wedding vendors is an act of affirmation and voting with your dollars," Peak said. "Selecting an LGBTQ-friendly wedding vendor should be on the top of everyone's list, no matter your gender or sexual orientation. Once you find an amazing LGBTQ-affirming vendor, the gay phone tree is a mighty tool to have in your corner."

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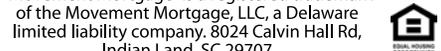
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The Best of Lisbon, Portugal

by Kristy Harris

My husband and I were lucky enough to spend New Year's Eve in Lisbon, Portugal, and I am still rubbing my eyes like it was a dream! I've come up with a list of the must-do activities and recommended restaurants in Lisbon. After reading this top 10 list, it is my hope you are inspired to travel to Lisbon, or travel anywhere you have never been!

1. Eat at Ponto Final. Take the ferry from Lisbon across to Almada to Ponto Final. If it's cold outside, wear extra layers and eat outside on the pier. You'll enjoy phenomenal views of Lisbon across the Tagus (Tejo) River!
2. Visit the Santuário Nacional de Cristo Rei. After Ponto Final, you can walk to a lift that takes you up to a two-mile path up to Cristo Rei (Christ the King). The Santuário Nacional de Cristo Rei was completed in 1959 after 10 years of construction. The statue was built by the support/approval of Portuguese bishops at the Portuguese Episcopate conference in 1940 as a symbol

- cafeteria with food stalls everywhere. You can find everything from sushi to hamburgers, octopus, several different takes on bacalhau, piri-piri chicken, gelato, chocolates, and the ubiquitous pastry of Lisbon, the Pastel de Nata at Manteigaria.
7. Go to Sintra to see the castles. Take the train from Rossio Square to Sintra (runs every 20 minutes). If you are paying for one-way tickets, make sure you buy two zones or you won't be able to exit the station.
8. Enjoy Portuguese Wines. If you are in Portugal, you might as well drink like a local. There are so many wines to choose



The 25 de abril suspension bridge which connects the city of Lisbon, capital of Portugal, to the municipality of Almada on the left (south) bank of the Tagus river. Photo by Kristy Harris.

of peace to both plea and thank God for the absence of Portugal's involvement in World War II.

3. See a Fado show with dinner. Fado is a style of Portuguese music that is both beautiful and haunting. It is associated with the word "saudade" or longing. We found a restaurant (Pastel do Fado) with FREE Fado every night beginning at 7 p.m. The food was fabulous and the Fado singer (or Fadista) was even better!

4. Ride Tram 28 and get a scenic view of the city. Make sure you get on at Martim Moniz (or Campo Ourique) so you'll have a better chance of getting a seat. You'll enjoy a memorable ride through Graca, Alfama, Baixa and Estrela screeching and rattling up and down the narrow streets.

5. The Santa Justa Lift is a top tourist attraction, but also a transportation device that takes you from the lower streets of Baixa, up to a platform connecting to Carmo Square. Here's a tip: get a Viva Viagem card and use it to ride the lift, metro (subway), buses, trams, and funiculars. You can pay €15 for 24 hours, or choose the re-load option.

6. Go to Time Out Market Lisboa for a meal. Time Out Market is like a giant

from, they are very affordable, and nearly everything is good.

9. Eat bacalhau. Bacalhau is the Portuguese word for cod, and if you come to Lisbon, bacalhau is EVERYWHERE on restaurant menus. The bacalhau in question is salt cod, which has been preserved by drying/curing with salt. My favorite way to enjoy bacalhau is in a pastel de bacalhau from Casa Portuguesa do Pastel de Bacalhau! It's basically a cod fish fritter filled with Serra da Estrela cheese.

10. Stop for a shot of ginjinha. Ginjinha is a Portuguese liqueur made by infusing ginja berries (sour cherry) in Aguardiente (an alcoholic beverage that contains between 29% and 60% alcohol by volume). There are several places to try ginjinha. The liqueur is sweet and powerful, and sipping it slowly while we talked about our trip was a perfect way to cherish our last moments in Lisbon.

Thank you, Lisbon, for being so lovely and delicious in every way possible. Now I know what it is like to experience saudade...but this time to long for a place. I miss Portugal already, but each day that goes by brings me closer to our next visit, and next time we will visit Porto for more adventures!



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Out & About With Matt by Matthew Burlingame

I know there was great concern that I may not have any events to report due to the current "National Emergency," but surprisingly nothing has been cancelled! At least LGBTQ rights are safe and sound, right?

Well, some people out there may not want to bake our cakes, but on March 10 from noon-4 p.m. you can practically plan your entire wedding! The Seventh Annual LGBT Wedding Expo will be held at the Hyatt Regency Sacramento, 1209 L St. and will host vendors specializing in everything from wedding photography to honeymoon packages.

March 10 is also National Women and Girls HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, a day to support HIV education and prevention, as well as encouraging HIV testing, of women and girls. The latest numbers show women accounted for 19% of new

HIV diagnoses. Of those, 59% were African-American, 19% were Hispanic/Latina and 17% were White. African-Americans and Hispanics represent 30% of people in the U.S. but they account for approximately 78% of women living with HIV.

Is abstract art your thing? If so, then the Abstract Festival running March 5-April 8 at Kennedy Gallery, 20th & L Sts.

should be top of your "must attend" list. Featuring the works of owner Michael Misha Kennedy and more than 20 resident artists, the gallery boasts three floors of open studios and has extended hours until 10 p.m. on Second Saturdays.

On a less serious note, come let off some steam from your busy work week on March 8 at Outword's Monthly Happy Hour & Liquid Therapy at Badlands Sacramento, 2003 K St. Drink specials, giveaways, and socializing. A perfect way to start the weekend!

March's Drag Queen Bingo will benefit the West Sacramento Historical Society which was established in 1993 to preserve the history of West Sacramento and to provide an opportunity for individuals and groups to learn about and experience the rich culture of the city's past. Enjoy some bawdy banter and Bingo on March 7 from 7-9 p.m. at Mango's Sacramento, 1930 K St. rainbowchamber.com

Spring is just around the bend and what better way to get prepared than the Home and Garden Show at Cal Expo on March 1-3. Meet and learn from top local experts in a casual, comfortable, no-pressure environment. If you're serious about your spring home renovations: remodeling, landscaping, or refinancing this event offers a convenient home shopping marketplace. calexpo.com

The 2019 Sacramento Jewish Film Festival will present Family in Transition as part of their Love Is Love theme on March 7 at the Crest

Theatre, 1013 K St. In the small, traditional town of Nahariya in Israel, a family is forever changed by the father's revelation that he is in truth a transgender woman. When he (she) decides to go through the full surgery, her loyal wife remains by her side. Just as it seems that life has finally returned to normal, it's the wife's turn to shake everything up. The film is in Hebrew with English subtitles. crestsacramento.com

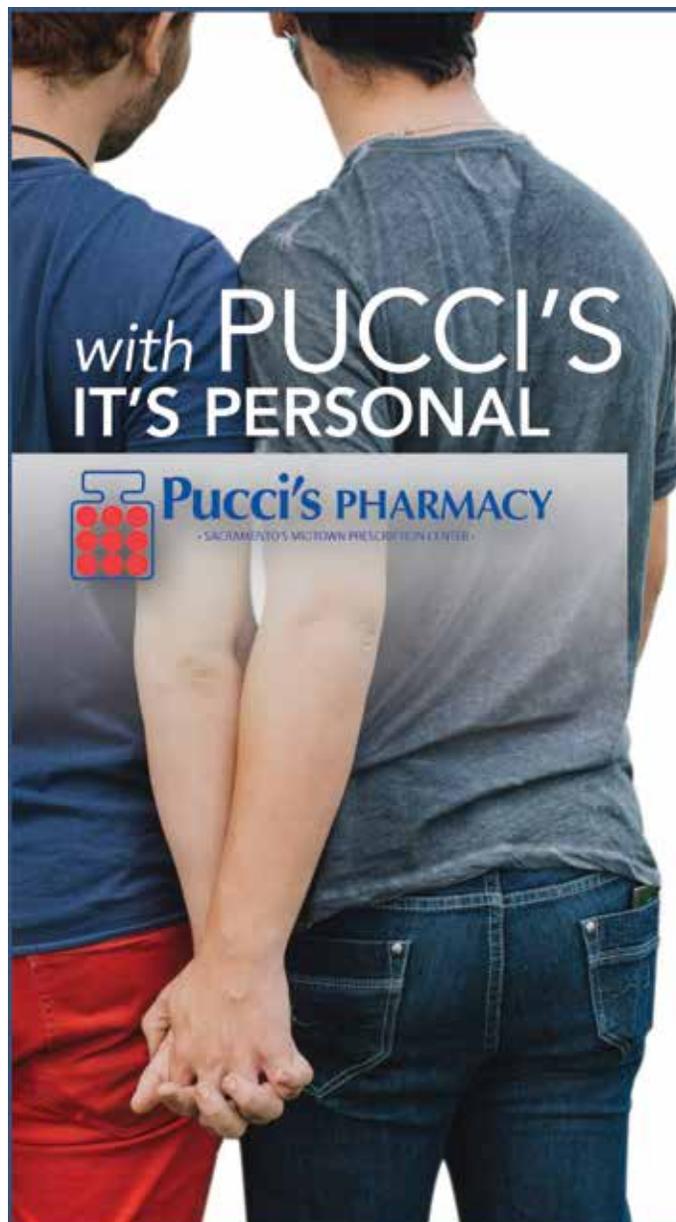
Finally, you better have your tickets for "Falsettos"

The Abstract Festival will be running March 5 - April 8 at Kennedy Gallery. "Citrus" shown.

running March 12-17! 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. Broadwaysacramento.com

Happy birthday to Joseph Ramos, Kathleen LaVillie, Quarmaine Bogan, Tom Lane, Kaye Crawford, Mark Hinte, Jeffrey White, Michael Pollock, John Houser, Curtis Hagen, Myk Ciapusci, Troy Meaney, Jose Rodriguez and other early March babies. Heartfelt condolences to Cynthia Hawes on the passing of her beloved mother.

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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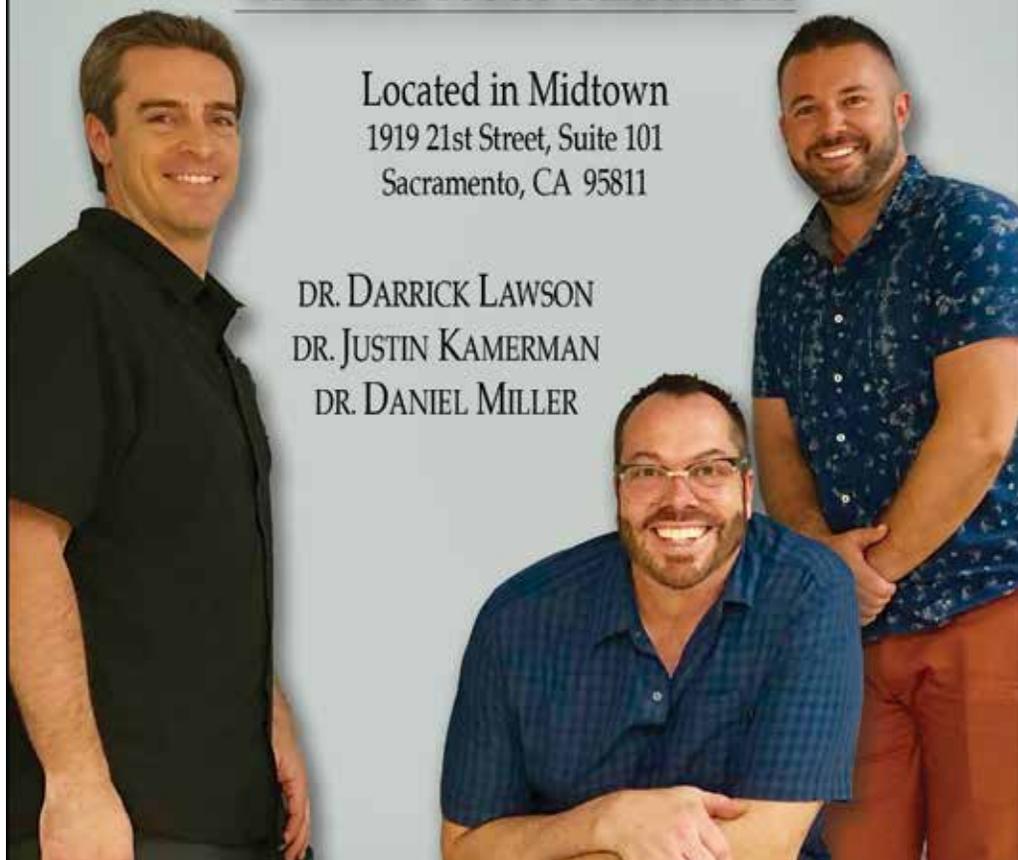
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Don't Miss Meow Meow at the Crest

by Chris Narloch

I am not much of a cat lover, but how can you not love a singer with the stage name Meow Meow? The purr-fectly divine performer will team up with the equally great Thomas Lauderdale of Pink Martini for a unique concert at the Crest this March.



Meow Meow and Thomas Lauderdale will perform together at the Crest Theatre.

I first saw Meow Meow in Berkeley a few years back and immediately fell in love with her bewitching persona. (Born Melissa Madden Gray, Meow Meow is an Australian-born actress, dancer, and cabaret singer who tours internationally.)

Thomas Lauderdale is the founder and bandleader of the beloved Portland-based musical group Pink Martini, and his decades-long friendship, artistic collaboration and songwriting partnership with Meow Meow has produced a joint album that will be released just three days after the pair's Crest show.

The CD, "Hotel Amour," will feature special guests Rufus Wainwright, Barry Humphries (of Dame Edna fame) and The von Trapps, plus a special live recording with

legendary pianist and composer Michel Legrand.

Of the album, Meow Meow says, "The sound will be both familiar and exotic to both my fans and those of Pink Martini - a true collaboration between two passionate artists with converging and diverging inspirations, but above all an obsession with the joy of sharing special music."

"I think it really is a collection of songs - both originals and covers - that range from little historical gems we have polished to others that we have written our hearts and souls into," says Meow Meow.

You can check out Thomas Lauderdale and Meow Meow at the Crest Theatre on Tuesday, March 19. For more information, visit www.crestsacramento.com.

Queer Comedy Returns to Sac Comedy Spot

Make it a night of queer comedy courtesy of midtown's Sacramento Comedy Spot, when Melissa McGillicuddy presents an "LGBTQ Stand-up Showcase."

In addition to Ms. McGillicuddy, you will laugh your head off with Chey Bell, Sergio Novoa, Mike Whitaker, and Shahera Hyatt. The "LGBTQ Stand-up Showcase" is scheduled for Friday, March 1 at 9 p.m. and is recommended for audiences 17+. Advance tickets are only \$12!

Keep the laughs going during this raucous evening of comedy with Marcus Mangham's 10:30 p.m. show "Diversity," which is

included for free with your LGBTQ ticket, immediately following the LGBTQ show.

Sacramento Comedy Spot is Sacramento's first comedy club to feature improv, stand-up, and sketch comedy shows, with performances six nights a week. Sac Comedy Spot is also Northern California's largest comedy school.

For more information, please visit <https://www.saccomedyspot.com>.

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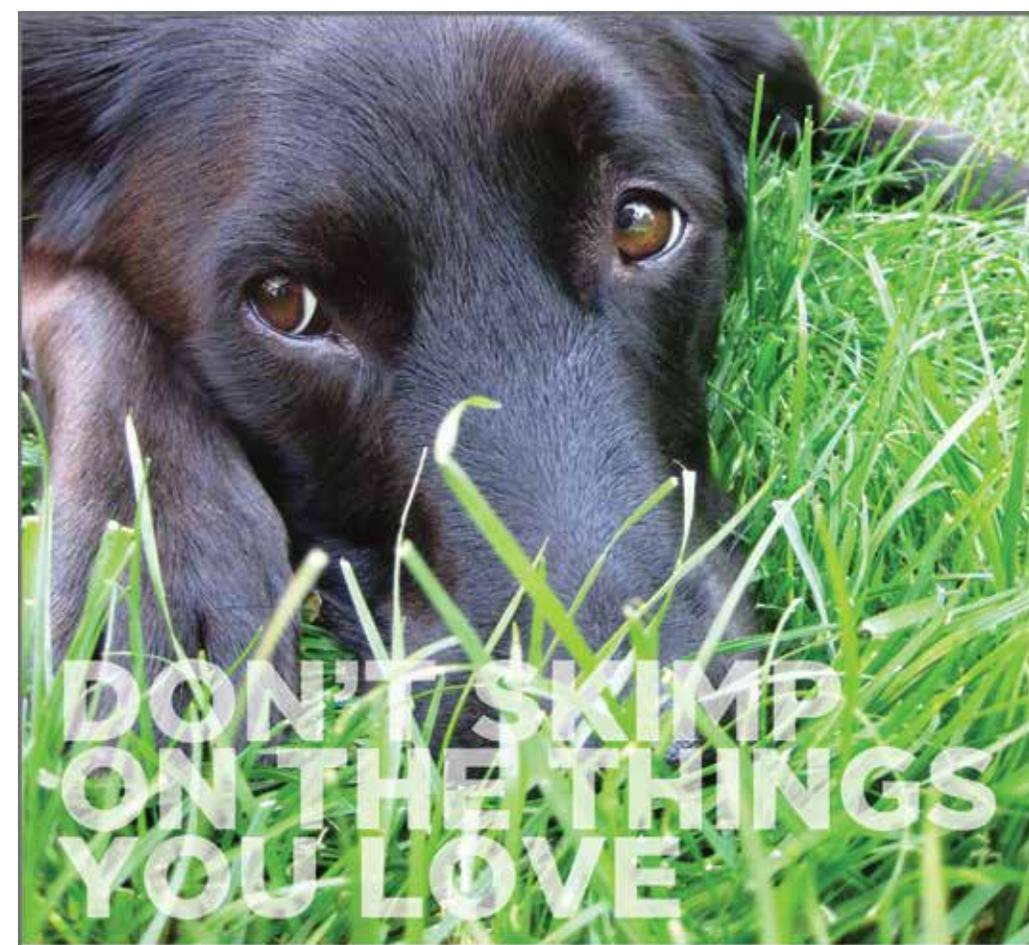
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Willie Nelson, photo courtesy of David McClister

Willie Nelson "On The Road Again"

Country Music Legend Willie Nelson Is Coming To Northern California.

With a career spanning six decades and more than 200 albums, Nelson is making his way to Santa Rosa's Luther Burbank Center for the Arts to promote his latest album, "Last Man Standing." Released last April, the album consists of entirely new songs to celebrate his 85th birthday. Additionally, this past September, Nelson released "My Way," a collection of newly recorded standards and classics originally made famous by his friend Frank Sinatra.

Besides delivering more than a dozen new album releases in recent years, he's also published "It's A Long Story: My Life," the complete story of his life that landed him on the New York Times' bestsellers list, received his 5th degree black belt in Gong Kwon Yu, and launched his cannabis companies Willie's Reserve and Willie's Remedy. In November 2015, the Library of Congress honored him with their Gershwin Prize for Popular Song for his

contributions to popular music. He is the first country artist to receive the distinguished award.

Missing an opportunity to see Willie Nelson would be "Crazy." The concert is Tuesday, May 7, at 8 p.m. Tickets go on sale March 1 and range in price from \$103 - \$173. Every pair of tickets includes a CD of Nelson's forthcoming album. For more information, visit www.lutherburbankcenter.org or call (707) 546-3600.

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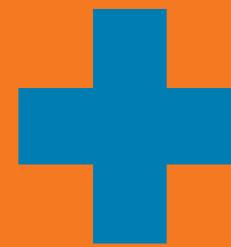
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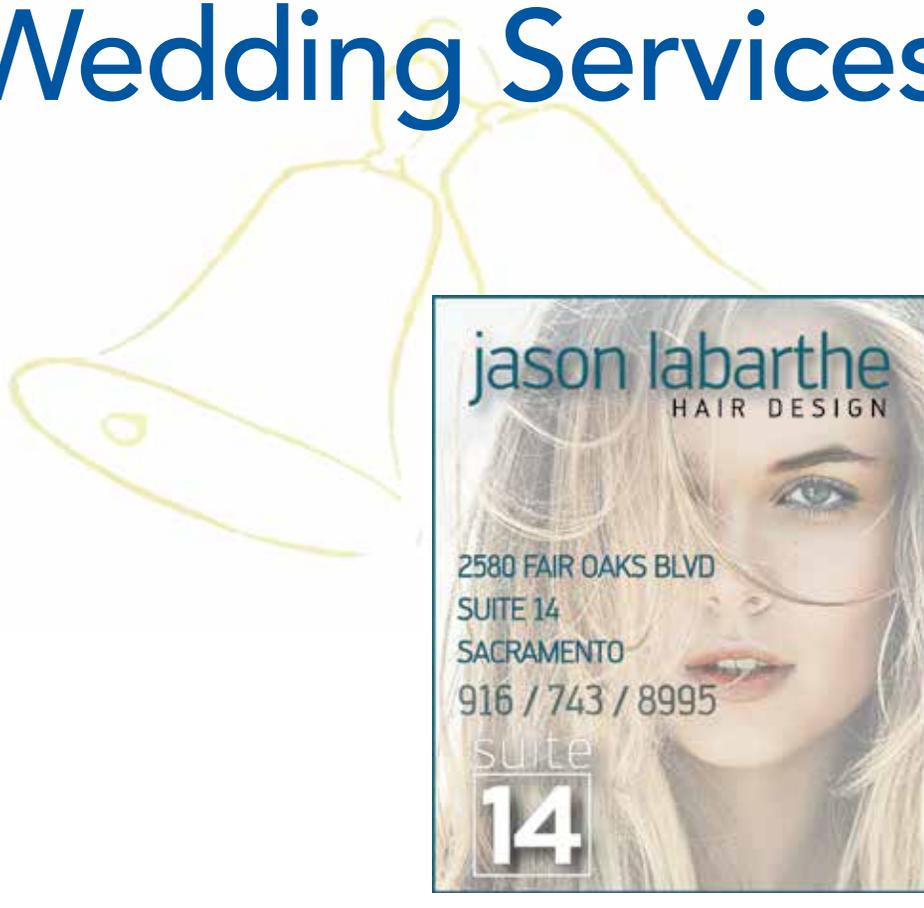
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Don't Miss "Falsettos" & "Flora the Red Menace"

by Chris Narloch

Two rarely performed musical gems will grace area stages this March when "Falsettos" and "Flora the Red Menace" perform in Sacramento and Davis, respectively.



Edén Espinosa, Max von Essen, and Nick Adams costar in "Falsettos."

Falsettos

It has been many years since Sacramento saw a top-notch production of "Falsettos," William Finn and James Lapine's groundbreaking, Tony Award-winning musical, which dealt with AIDS several years before "Rent" premiered.

"Falsettos," about two gay couples - one male and one female - and their loved ones, returned to Broadway recently, in an all new

production from Lincoln Center Theater that received five 2017 Tony Awards, including Best Revival of a Musical.

The first national tour of that acclaimed 2017 production will play Sacramento in March, and the show is a beautiful reminder that love comes in a rainbow of colors.

"Falsettos" is a hilarious and poignant look at the infinite possibilities that make up a

modern family, and this tour boasts a not-to-be-missed cast of first-rate Broadway performers, including Max von Essen ("Anastasia"), Nick Adams ("Priscilla Queen of the Desert"), and Edén Espinosa ("Wicked").

See "Falsettos" at the Community Center Theater, courtesy of Broadway Sacramento, March 12-17. Visit www.broadwaysacramento.com.

Flora the Red Menace

This rarely performed 1965 musical was the first collaboration between the famed Broadway duo of John Kander and Fred Ebb, who later penned "Cabaret" and "Chicago."

A surprisingly comic musical, "Flora the Red Menace" follows a young Depression-era fashion illustrator who falls for a man

who tries to convert her to communism. It opens February 28 and runs through March 9 in the Wyatt Pavilion Theatre, courtesy of the UC Davis Department of Theatre and Dance.

The Davis production is co-directed by Mindy Cooper, professor of theatre, and

Granada Artist-in-Residence Judy Blazer, an acclaimed veteran of Broadway and regional theatre.

Graduate student Diego Martinez-Campos collaborates with Cooper on the choreography, and Graham Sobelman provides music direction.

For more information, visit <https://arts.ucdavis.edu>.



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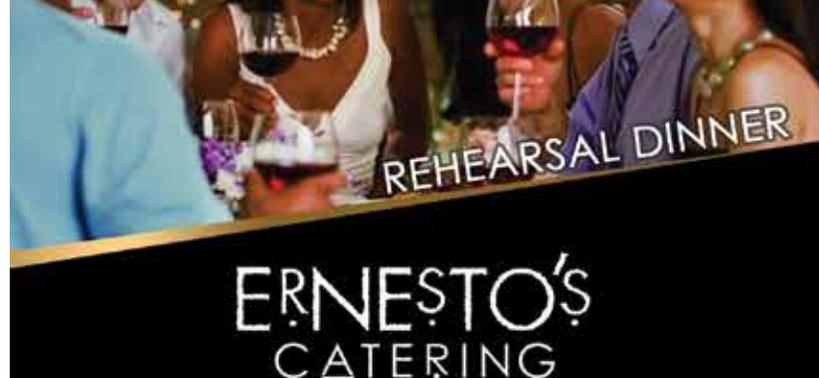
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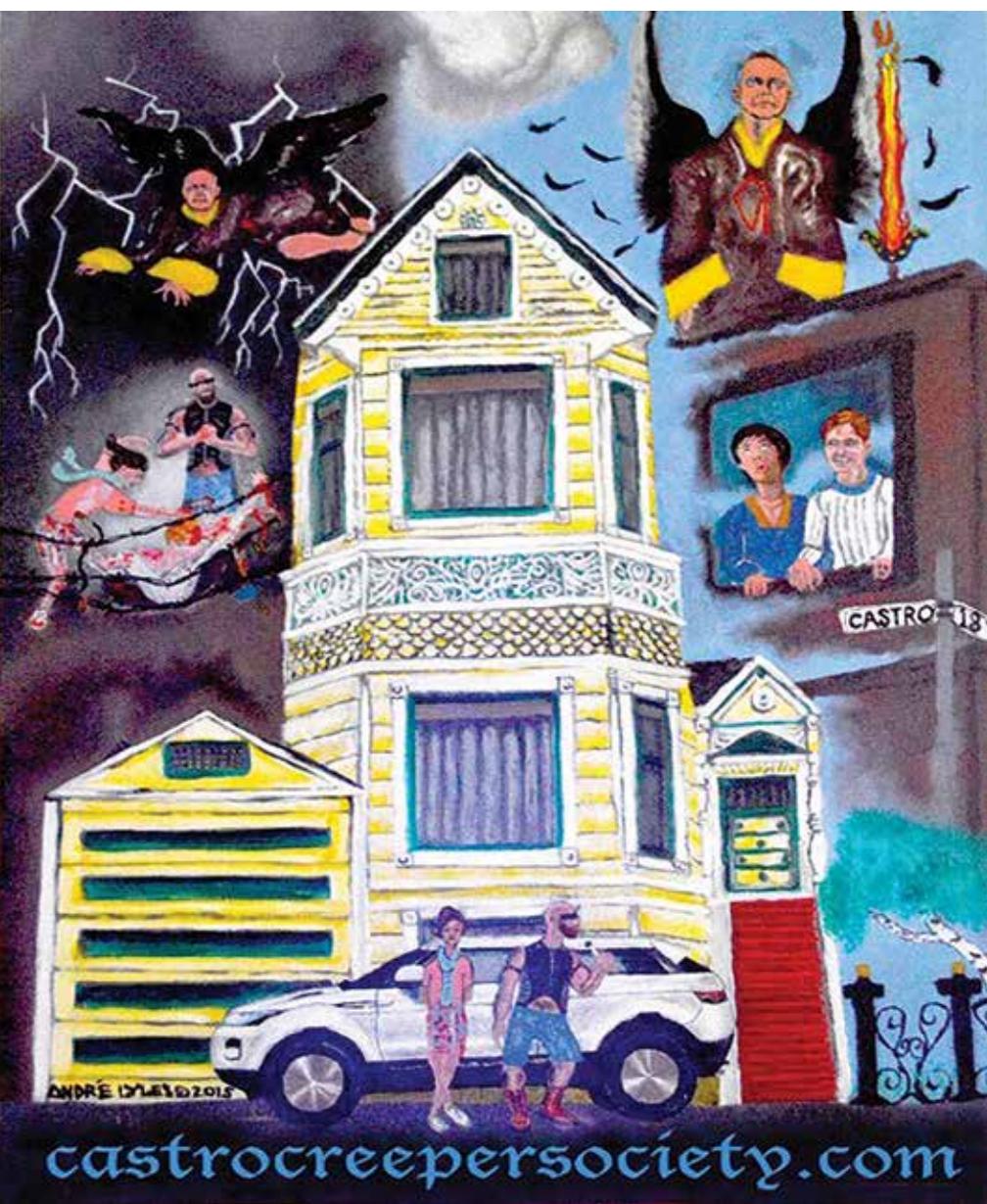
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“At Home with Amy Sedaris” Returns For A 2nd Season

Best-selling author and humorist David Sedaris isn't the only hilarious member of the cracked Sedaris clan. David's sister Amy is as talented as her brother and just as funny, and you can catch the second season of her Emmy-nominated variety sketch series, “At Home with Amy Sedaris,” which returned to truTV earlier this month.

Created by Amy Sedaris and Paul Dinello, the 10-episode second season will again feature Sedaris' signature brand of silliness as she showcases her decorating, cooking, and crafting skills.

Each week of “At Home with Amy Sedaris” revolves around a conventional homemaking theme, with subversive twists taking segments in delightfully wacky directions. New topics explored during the second

season include how to entertain teenagers, game nights, caring for the ill, and makeovers.

This season, Sedaris also welcomes an impressive list of guest stars, including Rose Byrne, Matthew Broderick, Justin Theroux, Susan Sarandon, Juliette Lewis, Ellie Kemper, Fred Armisen, Michael Shannon, Ana Gasteyer, and more.

Martha Stewart, eat your heart out.



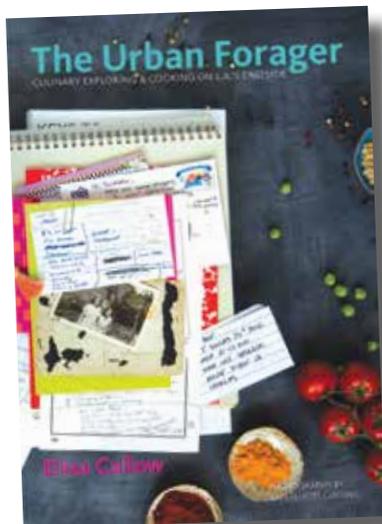
Ami Sedaris returns for second season of “At Home With Amy Sedaris” on truTV. Photo by Phillip Caruso.

Take a Culinary Journey through East Los Angeles

When you hear someone say “Los Angeles,” you may think Hollywood, Beverly Hills, or Santa Monica. That's on the west side of the city. However, there's also the east side's neighborhoods with an unending number of flavors, culture, and food possibilities.

Elisa Callow captures the rich flavors of her community, family and friends in “The Urban Forager: Culinary Exploring & Cooking on L.A.'s Eastside.” Food makers representing the eastside's diverse traditions share beloved personal recipes, ingredients, innovations, and neighborhood resources. Part cookbook, part guide to foraging the best L.A. has to offer, “The Urban Forager” is a compelling bridge to the unfamiliar, inspiring readers to enrich their culinary repertoire by foraging in own their communities.

For more information about the author and to pre-order your own copy of the book (available in March), visit www.theurbanforager.co.



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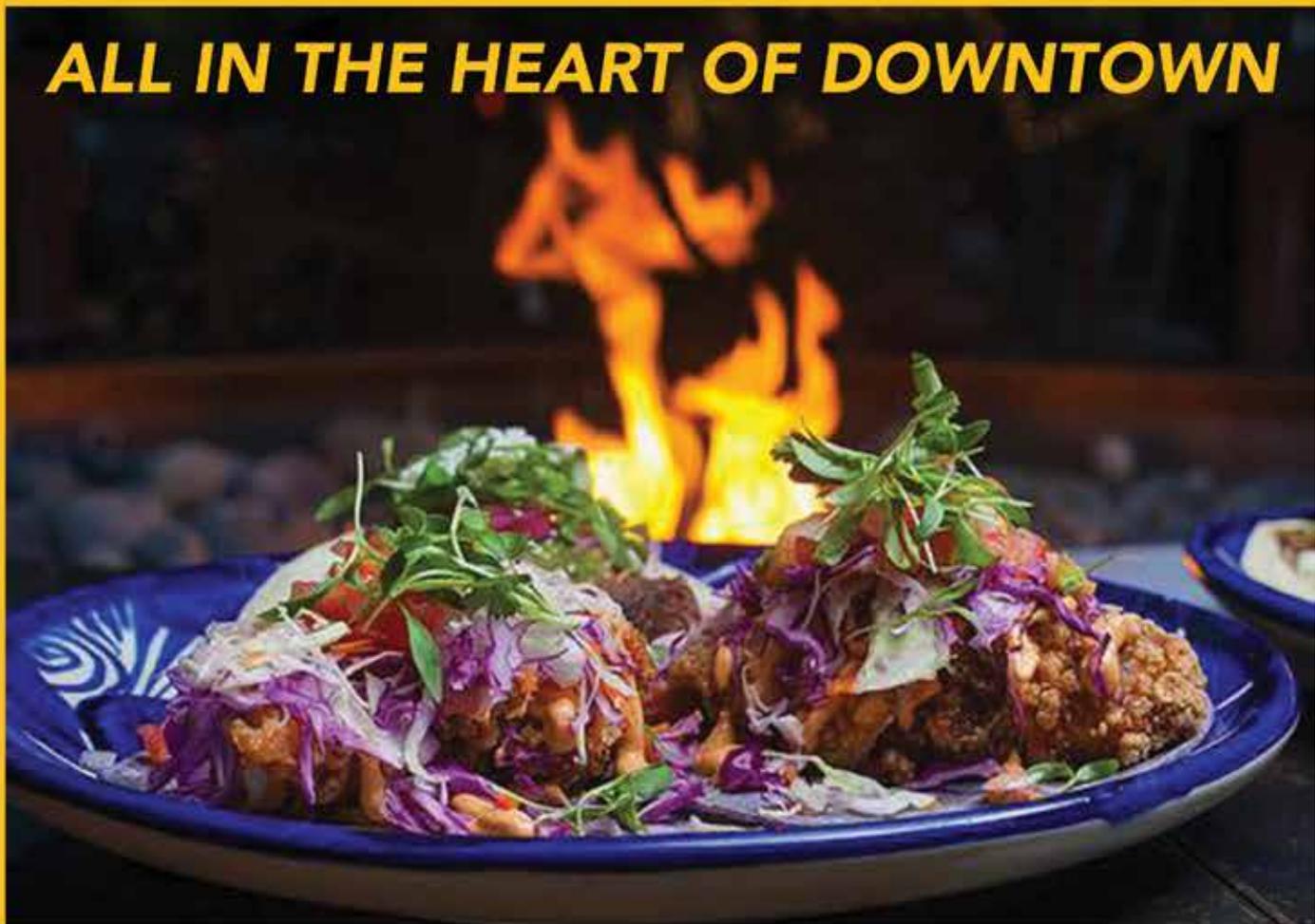
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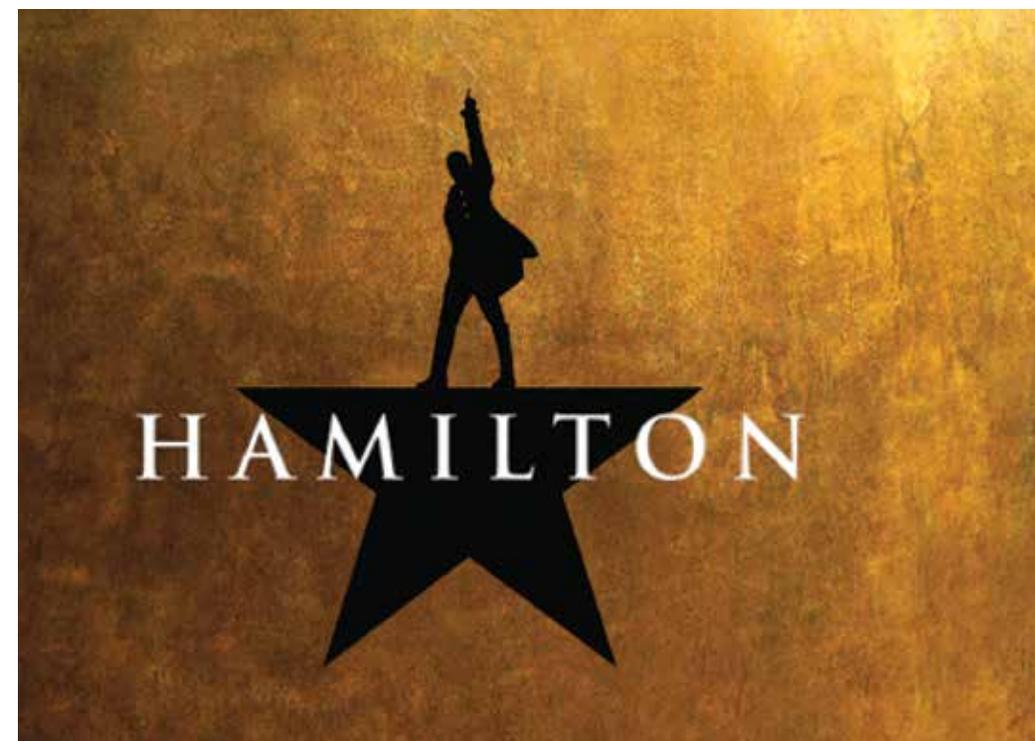
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“Hamilton” & “Hello, Dolly!” Return To S.F.

by Chris Narloch

Now is the time to plan a theatrical road trip to the Bay Area, my friends. There is currently an embarrassment of riches across multiple stages in San Francisco and Berkeley, including Mary Zimmerman’s phenomenal, Tony Award-winning production of “Metamorphoses” at Berkeley Rep.

Additionally, Lauren Yee’s “The Great Leap,” starring Tony winner BD Wong, will open in March at A.C.T.’s Geary Theater, and while I’m at it, I thought I would let you know that two “little” shows you might have heard of are back in the Bay Area – “Hamilton” and “Hello, Dolly!”



Hamilton

I like to tell people my “Hamilton” story, just to see their eyes bug out when they hear how I missed the chance to see that show’s legendary, original Broadway cast – including Lin-Manuel Miranda, Daveed Diggs, and Leslie Odom Jr. – just before the musical transferred from The Public Theatre to Broadway’s Richard Rodgers Theatre and became an official “phenom.”

My Broadway publicist friend had an extra ticket for a brand new off-Broadway show during one of my annual visits to New York City to see theater, but when he described it as “a rap musical about Alexander Hamilton,” my eyes rolled back in my head and I politely declined. I still kick myself about that to this day.

The good news is Northern California has another chance to see the blockbuster hit “Hamilton” now that its third U.S. tour has opened at San Francisco’s Orpheum Theatre,

with most of the dynamite cast intact from a recent limited engagement in Puerto Rico.

Julius Thomas III will take over for Lin-Manuel Miranda as Alexander Hamilton on the tour, and the musical will perform in San Francisco through at least September 8 which is great news for folks in Sacramento, who won’t get a local tour of the show until 2020 or 2021.

In case you have been living in a cave and don’t already know, “Hamilton” is the story of America’s Founding Father Alexander Hamilton, an immigrant from the West Indies who became George Washington’s right-hand man during the Revolutionary War and was the new nation’s first Treasury Secretary.

Featuring a score that blends hip-hop, jazz, blues, rap, R&B, and Broadway, “Hamilton” is the story of America then, as told by America now.

Hello, Dolly!

Tony Award-winning Broadway legend Betty Buckley takes over for Bette Midler in the San Francisco production of “Hello, Dolly!” – the universally acclaimed smash that NPR calls “the best show of the year!”

Winner of four Tony Awards including Best Musical Revival, director Jerry Zaks’ gorgeous new production broke box office records week after week and received thunderous raves on Broadway.

This “Hello, Dolly!” pays tribute to the original work of legendary director/choreographer Gower Champion – hailed both then and now as one of the greatest productions in musical theater history.

See “Hello, Dolly!” through March 17 at San Francisco’s SHN Golden Gate Theatre.

To purchase tickets for, and get more information about, “Hamilton” and “Hello, Dolly!” go to www.shnsf.com.



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Out & About

The Sacramento Black Chamber, Hispanic and Rainbow Chambers held its first of a series of events in 2019 on Tuesday Feb. 19. The event was also co hosted by the California State Railroad Museum, and the City of Sacramento. Guests also attended the first of a series of Laboratory Workshops. The topic of this workshop was "Wheels in Motion" and our speakers included the Director of the museum who discussed the history of transportation and where it is headed in our region. For more information, upcoming events or how to become a member of the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber please go to sacramentorainbowchamber.com

*Photos by Rick Bonilla
EyeMazing Events*



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 March 19th • RCC mixer Granite Bay Golf Club
 Mar 27-31 • Cirque du Soleil "Crystal" @ Golden 1 Center
 March 28th • RCC & SMUD "Meet the Buyers"

APRIL

April 16th • RCC Mixer at Sac State Pride week
 April 30th • SGME Mixer

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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
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