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Photo by Andrew Eccles.
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THE CATEGORY IS: Billy Porter to speak at Black Tie

Tony and Grammy Award-winning actor Billy Porter, star of *Kinky Boots* on Broadway and the ground-breaking series *Pose* on television will be one of the special guest speakers being honored this year at DFW's Black Tie Dinner.

Black Tie officials made the announcement Monday, Aug. 19, noting that BTD is "honoring Billy Porter for his positive impact and contributions to the LGBTQ community." This year's event is set for Saturday, Nov. 2, at the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Dallas, centered around the theme "Be."

A singer, actor and activist, Porter won the Tony Award for best actor in a musical and a Grammy Award for best musical theater album with his role as Lola in the smash Broadway hit *Kinky Boots*. He currently stars as ball announcer/community patriarch Pray Tell in the FX Television series *Pose*, a role for



which he has been nominated for a Golden Globe award and an Emmy Award. He is the first openly gay black man nominated for an Emmy as best actor.

Black Tie Co-Chair Nathan Robbins said, "Billy has positively impacted and made powerful contributions to the LGBTQ community for decades. We are excited to honor him at the 38th annual Black Tie Dinner this year."

Don Maison, who led AIDS Services of Dallas for 30 years before retiring at the beginning of this year, has already been announced as Black Tie's 2019 Kuchling Humanitarian Award winner. More speakers and award winners will be named at the annual 30-Day Countdown event on Thursday, Oct. 3 at Park Place Mercedes. That event will be hosted by WFAA Sportscaster and activist Dale Hansen.

Black Tie Co-Chair Jeremy Hawpe noted that tickets to and additional information about the Black Tie Dinner, it's beneficiaries and this year's event are available online at BlackTie.org.

The DFW Black Tie Dinner is the largest event of its kind in the nation and since its inception in 1982 has raised more than \$23 million for LGBTQ and allied organizations in North Texas and the national Human Rights Campaign Foundation.

— Tammye Nash

2020 presidential candidates take part in historic trans rights election forum

The National Center for Transgender Equality Action Fund has announced the "first-ever presidential election forum focused on the rights, experiences and voices of the transgender community." Called Transform the White House, the project is a digital forum that will include filmed interviews with the presidential candidates, "providing a platform for each to discuss how they've evolved on the rights of transgender people, the transgender people in their lives and why they think they're the best candidate to promote and achieve transgender equality from the Oval Office," according to the announcement.

The forum launched Wednesday, Aug. 21 at TransformTheWhiteHouse.org with interview with U.S. Sens. Cory Booker, Kirsten Gillibrand and Bernie Sanders. Interviews with other candidates will be added over the coming months, beginning next week.

Mara Keisling, executive Director of the NCTE Action Fund, said, "This election must be a turning point for trans people and for the future of our nation. Transgender people across the country are moving closer to full equality with every person we meet and every mind we change. Yet we have endured attack after attack from an administration intent on leaving us unprotected and erasing us from public life.

"Our health care, our schools, our jobs, and our safety depend on replacing President

Trump with a leader dedicated to our full inclusion in society," Keisling added. "Transgender people have shown the strength of our resilience across the country; now we must show the power of our voice at the ballot box."

The forum initially includes interviews with Sens. Cory Booker, Kirsten Gillibrand, and Bernie Sanders.

The full interviews can be viewed at TransformTheWhiteHouse.org. Additional interviews will be added over the coming months starting next week.

Noting that he has a transgender relative, Booker said in his interview, "I think that this is a moral moment in America and that the next president has to be someone that understands that there's a restoration of the best of our values. It has to be done from that office by elevating how we are rendering populations in this country invisible."

Gillibrand said, "I think, for someone who's transgender, it takes enormous courage to be the person that you are. I think it takes so much bravery to identify in the way you want to be identified. And I think every time a transgender person self-identifies and introduces himself or herself or themselves to their community, it is an act of courage. It's an act of bravery."

And Sanders spoke on the importance of combating hate and "discrimination in all of its forms. And I know that the trans community has been a victim of that hatred.."

Follow the Action Fund on Twitter and Facebook to stay up-to-date on the latest.

— Tammye Nash

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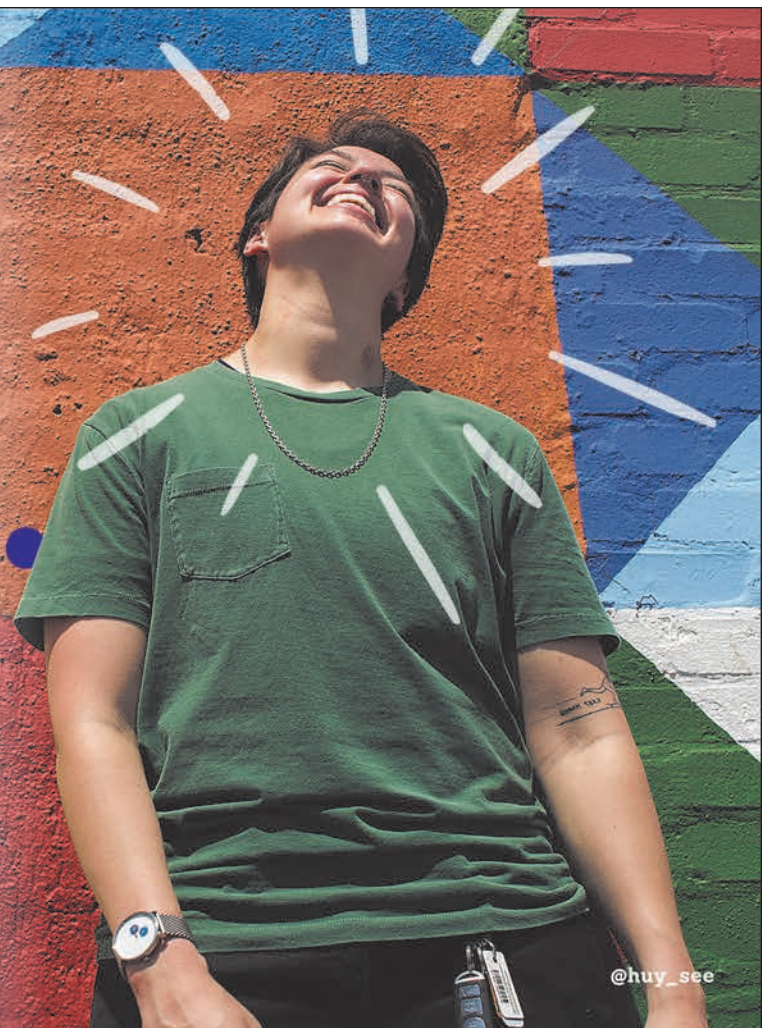
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THE GAY AGENDA



Have an event coming up? Email your information to Managing Editor Tammye Nash at nash@dallasvoice.com or Senior Staff Writer David Taffet at taffet@dallasvoice.com by Wednesday at 5 p.m. for that week's issue.

• **Aug. 23: GALA Karaoke Night**
GALA presents karaoke night from 9 p.m.-1 a.m. at Super Bowl, 2521 K Ave. Plano. For more information visit GalaNorthTexas.org.

• **Aug. 23: UCLSE's Bare Bones Show**
The United Court of the Lone Star Empire hosts its "Bare Bones Show," benefitting the Nutrition Center, from 7-10 p.m. at Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave. For information visit DallasCourt.org.

• **Aug. 24: Rise Against Hunger**
White Rock Community Church holds its third annual Rise Against Hunger event from 1-3 p.m. at 1451 John West Road. During the event, more than 10,000 meals will be packaged to be sent around the world, and volunteers are needed. Volunteers are asked to arrive by 12:30 p.m. For information or to confirm participation contact Kelly Drake via email at Dragointx@gmail.com or by phone at 469-615-8687. For information visit WhiteRockChurch.info.

• **Aug. 24: UCLE's Leather & Lace Show**

The United Court of the Lone Star

Empire hosts its "Leather & Lace Show," benefitting the Greg Dolgener Memorial AIDS Fund, from 6-10 p.m. at Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave. For information visit DallasCourt.org.

• **Aug. 24: Pub Crawl with a Twist**
Putt-Putt Golf Pub Crawl benefits LifeWalk. Four-member teams compete in a 12-hole game from 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at The Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road. Awards party at 6 p.m. at Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St. Register at LifeWalk.org. \$120 per team.

• **Aug. 24: Hero of Hope cocktail party**
Honoring Dallas Red Foundation and Denise Lee from 5-7:30 p.m. at Cathedral of Hope, 5910 Cedar Springs Road. Tickets at CathedralofHope.com.

• **Aug. 24: Rainbow Salsa classes**
Puerto Rican style Salsa basic moves for singles and couples from 10 a.m.-noon at Trinity Metropolitan Community Church, 933 E. Ave. J, Grand Prairie. \$35 for four classes.

• **Aug. 24: Trans/SOFFA support group**
An open group for those who identify as other than their assigned birth gender, significant others, friends, family and allies at 5 p.m. at Heart of the Matter Healing Center, 2060 N. Collins Blvd., Richardson.

• **Aug. 24: Silver Pride Project**
Movie and lunch. Screening The

Birdcage with lunch provided free, from noon-4 p.m. at Grauwylar Library, 2146 Gilford St.

• **Aug. 24: Screams job fair**
Screams, the Halloween theme park in Waxahachie, has seasonal positions including actors, ticket office, food sales and more for Fridays and Saturdays Sept. 27-Oct. 26. Job fair from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at Scarborough Fairgrounds, 2511 FM 66, Waxahachie. ScreamsPark.com/employment.

• **Aug. 25: Prime Timers**
Games hosted in Oak Cliff by Dave at 2 p.m. Call for directions. 214-218-0912. For more information go to PrimeTimersWW.net/DFW.

• **Aug. 25: UCLE's Men Are Cooking**
The men of the United Court of the Lone Star Empire will be cooking from 2-5 p.m. at The Hidden Door, 5025 Bowser St. Proceeds benefit the UCLE general fund. For information visit DallasCourt.org.

• **Aug. 25: UCLE presents Wheel of Drag**

The United Court of the Lone Star Empire hosts the "Wheel of Drag,"



Cathedral of Hope hosts the Hero of Hope cocktail party honoring Denise Lee, pictured, and Dallas Red Foundation on Saturday, Aug. 24. See listings for details.

benefitting the UCLE general fund, from 6-10 p.m. at Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave. For information visit DallasCourt.org.

• **Aug. 26: TAG Just As I Am**
Tyler Area Gays Just As I Am group meets at 7 p.m. for the monthly Eucharist service. For details visit Facebook.com/TylerAreaGays.

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly at 1 p.m. on Sunday on 89.3 KNON-FM with David Taffet, Lerone Landis and the late Patti Fink; Silver Pride Project Coffee and Convo for LGBTQ+ seniors** meets Mondays from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at Oak Lawn Library, 4100 Cedar Springs Road, Tuesdays from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. at Grauwylar Park Branch Library, 2146 Gilford St. Wednesdays for Breakfast Club from 10 a.m.-noon at Reverchon Recreation Center, 3505 Maple Ave and Thursdays for Rainbow Rec from 10 a.m.-noon at Reverchon Recreation Center, 3505 Maple Ave.; **Unwired Group of Crystal Meth Anonymous** meets Sunday at 5:30 p.m., Monday, Wednesday and

Friday at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday at 11:30 a.m. at Resource Center, 2701 Reagan St.; **Core Group Meeting** every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.; Fuse game night every Monday evening except the last of the month at 8 p.m. at the Fuse space in the 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.; **FuseConnect** every Wednesday from 7 p.m. For more information call or e-mail Jalenzski@myresourcecenter.org; LGBT square dancing group **Pegasus Squares** meets the second and fourth Sunday from 2-4 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church, 4105 Junius St. For more info, email pegasussquares@gmail.com; **Dallas Frontrunners** meet for

a walk or run at Oak Lawn Park, near the intersection of Turtle Creek and Hall Street, every Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. and every Saturday at 8:30 a.m.; **Leadership Lambda Toastmasters** practices and develops speaking and leadership skills from 6:30-8 p.m. on Tuesdays at First Unitarian Church, third floor of the Hallman Building, 4012 St. Andrews; **Thrive support group** from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. followed by mixer every Monday at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road; **Lambda AA** meets at 7 a.m., noon, 6 p.m., 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. and has a men's meeting at 10 a.m. on Saturdays and meets at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Sunday at 1575 W. Mockingbird Lane #625.

Call 214-267-0222 for details; **LGBT Sex Addicts Anonymous** meets at 6 p.m. every Friday at 1919 Independence St., Room 19, Plano. 972-316-9188 for details; **Leadership Lambda Toastmasters** gay-identified Toastmasters group meets from 6:30-8 p.m. every Monday at the First Unitarian Church, 4015 Normandy Road (does not meet on Mondays that are holidays); **United Black Illument** hosts discussion on HIV/AIDS in the black community (UBE Connected) at 7 p.m. every fourth Tuesday of the month at 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.; **DVtv in Spayse**, news and entertainment discussion live streaming every Friday, 4-5 p.m., on the Spayse Station YouTube channel.

• **Aug. 27: Silver Pride Project**
Golden Girls Game Night. Dress up as your favorite Golden Girl and come for a night of Golden Girls themed trivia from 6-8p.m. at Grauwylers Library, 2146 Guilford St. Free. Snacks provided.

• **Aug. 27: Family Night at Durkins Pizza**
GALA family night's 10th year of networking, socializing, happy hour, rock n' roll and pizza and 10 percent of proceeds benefits GALA Youth from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Durkins Pizza, 8930 State Hwy 121, McKinney. For more information visit GalaNorthTexas.org.

• **Aug. 27: Grief group**
Grief group for persons who have lost a same-sex spouse meets the second and fourth Tuesdays each month from 6:45-8 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road. For more information visit MyResourceCenter.org.

• **Aug. 28: TAG Board Meeting**
Tyler Area Gays Board of Directors meets at 6 p.m. For details visit Facebook.com/TylerAreaGays.

• **Aug. 28: UCLSE Club Night**
The United Court of the Lone Star Empire holds Club Night from 7:30-10 p.m. at The Hidden Door, 5025 Bowser St. Proceeds benefit the UCLE general fund. For information visit DallasCourt.org.

• **Aug. 28: Raise Hell**
Raise Hell: The Life and Times of Molly Ivins with livestream Q&A from Austin with Richard Linklater, Jim Hightower and more; benefits ACLU from 8:30-10:30 p.m. at Alamo Drafthouse Lake Highlands, 6770 Abrams Road.

• **Aug. 29: Prime Timers**
Dinner at 7 p.m. at Olive Garden, 3351 Canyon Bluff. RSVP. For more information go to PrimeTimersWW.net/DFW.

AGENDA, Page 20

pet of the week / BOSKO



Meet **Bosko**, a 3½-year-old male shepherd mix. He's a big guy with a lot of love to give, and his winning personality adds to his

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Setting off a Sex Bomb

Artists and LGBTQ allies Stevi VonMaydon and Kurtz Frausun are joining forces for a special project exploring femininity

TAMMYE NASH | Managing Editor
nash@dallasvoice.com

What do you get when you take together two cisgender heterosexual creatives, each with their own history of and reasons for being LGBTQ allies. That's an easy one: You get Sex Bomb. But what is Sex Bomb? That answer is a little more complex.

One answer is that Sex Bombs are the hand-made bath bombs created by Stevi VonMaydon, a "unicorn of witches" and a "creative artist with unique styles and focuses," and "the CBD oil girl." That last part is because she incorporates CBD oil into her bath bombs and extolls its healing virtues in workshops she offers at Spayse Studios, where she offices.

But most importantly, Stevi is the mother of a soon-to-be-11-year-old trans boy named Jonas.

Jonas came out to his mother as transgender when he was 7, and Stevi said that at first, she didn't understand why things like what pronouns you used mattered so much. Her "daughter" usually dressed like a boy but didn't seem bound to that kind of gender expression. In fact, Stevi said, "her" favorite Halloween costume had been a Buzz Lightyear outfit, finished off with a tutu.

But then came the day when the truth finally begin to be clear. "'She' told me 'she' had a boy brain," Stevi said. "Then, 'she' got her hair all cut off, and looked in the mirror and said, 'I'm such a handsome boy.' That's when I really began to understand."



Stevi VonMaydon and Kurtz Frausun are combining their artistic talents to set off a 'Sex Bomb.' (Tammye Nash/Dallas Voice)

At first Jonas continued in public school, but when that situation became untenable, Stevi moved him to a private school. That wasn't working out either, so Stevi left her corporate job to be able to homeschool Jonas.

Stevi said that she was already using CBD oil herself, and that Jonas also used it on occasion to combat the anxiety he sometimes faces as he moves through his transition. So when she left her job to focus on Jonas and was looking for a way to make money, it seemed an obvious choice to become "the CBD girl."

"I saw this as a way to help people, especially transgender people find out about CBD and how it can help them, and to educate them on how to use it," she said. "It started out with that idea, and now it has morphed into this whole new world for me."

She at first started selling CBD oil, and then, when a customer suggested it, she decided to incorporate the CBD oils into bath bombs.

"I didn't know anything about it, but I said I'll figure it out," Stevi said. "So I started out in my own kitchen. I have a degree in painting and drawing, so I put that to use to make the bath bombs as creative and artistic as possible. It made a huge mess in the kitchen!"

So one of her first steps was to find space in which to base her new business venture. She found one space and made an appointment to go and check it out. But before she even made it to the appointment, she said, the owner called to let her know he wouldn't rent to her.

"He told me, 'I've done an extensive Google search, and you're not an artist at all. You just sell health products, and I will not have my studio used as a store front.' I wanted to tell him that just because I don't have my art work on line doesn't mean I am not an artist, but I decided I didn't want to rent space from him anyway."

Then her search led her to gay filmmaker and entrepreneur Israel Luna,

who was just moving his Spayse Studios into a new space on Manana Road, and who had a small office to spare. The two hit it off, and Stevi moved her bath-bomb/CBD oil into Spayse Studios and now offers workshops there on CBD use.

Another of the people that Stevi has met on her journey into activism is Jeffrey Payne, owner of Dallas Eagle nightclub and of International Leather Sir/boy — International Community Boot Black, Inc., the nonprofit that each year at the end of summer presents the ILSb/ICBB contests here in Dallas.

Jeffrey, Stevi explained, suffers from rheumatoid arthritis, but has chosen not to take the sometimes-toxic medications used to treat the autoimmune disease. Through Stevi, though, he learned about using CBD oil to treat his RA, and he was so impressed by its effectiveness — and by Stevi herself — that her offered her a free booth at the 2019 ILSb/ICBB event, being held Aug. 29-Sept. 1 at Crowne Plaza Dallas — Market Center.



Stevi VonMaydon bath bombs

sexual himself, Kurtz has long been an ally to the LGBT community and has two LGBT films to his credit: *Candid Love*, about a gay couple in Plano dealing with relationship struggles and the death of a parent; and *Transpose*, a documentary following several people as they transition.

Kurtz also has published several books of photography and has had several exhibits of his photography, much of which focuses on the BDSM/kink world. He said that he has had several exhibitions at JR.'s Bar & Grill, which is "my favorite bar in Dallas." His work as an artist often brings him into contact with the LGBT community, and signs at his studio make it blatantly obvious that "everyone is welcome here."

In his work as in the rest of his life, Kurtz said, "I have no filter, no shame." He focuses, he said, on art for the sake of the art itself, without regard to imagery or symbolism that some might find offensive. But at the same time, he noted, "I know that other people have a different experience, a different point of view. I understand that and respect it."

Still, he said, he won't shy away from controversial subjects or imagery. And Stevi is, she said, "in the same frame of mind. If it's legal, we can work with it."

So the two have set about combining their different artistic talents — from painting to photography to, of course, CBD and bath bombs — into a project focused on how people across the whole broad spectrum of gender express their own femininity. It will be, they promise, thought-provoking at the very least.

The purpose of art, Kurtz said, isn't to stay in a safe zone, but to — as Finley Peter Dunne said of newspapers — "to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable. Every piece of art should be a sledgehammer, something that shakes things up and makes you pay attention."

And that, Stevi said, is the goal of their Sex Bomb project — to make people pay attention. "If we can do that, if we can unite our art with beauty, we can create something really important." ■

Stevi VonMaydon will be selling her CBD-based bath bombs at the International Leather Sir/boy — International Community Boot Black event Aug. 29-Sept. 1 at Crowne Plaza Dallas/Market Center. Stevi and artist/photographer/filmmaker Kurtz Frausun will unveil their joint art project, Sex Bomb, in the weeks following that event. For more information and to follow their progress, visit VoodooUnicorn.com and KurtzFrausun.com.

So Stevi set herself a goal — to make as many of her Sex Bomb bath bombs as possible to sell at ILSb/ICCB and to then donate a portion of the proceeds to an organization focused on helping the transgender community.

It was during her search for an organization to which she could donate that Stevi had another epiphany. She saw posts on social media promoting a fundraiser for another mother with a transgender son who needed money to fund a legal battle against her child's biological father, who doesn't support her son's transition.

"I saw that and I thought it was a great cause," Stevi said. "But then, at the same time, I realized, hey! I need that too! I have my own child to look after, and it's very possible that I could end up in a court battle, too."

"Yes, I have every intention of doing whatever I can to help other people, to help the transgender community and the LGBT community overall," she added. "But I have to be able to help myself and my son, first."

So as she began searching for a what to put her various forms of creative expression to use, Israel put her in touch with Kurtz Frausun, an award-winning experimental filmmaker/photographer/artist who owns Studio Frausun in the Design District. Although he is hetero-

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GILEAD

HRC backs Johnson, Allred



New HRC president stresses importance of lawmakers backing equality

JAMES RUSSELL | Contributing Writer
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The Human Rights Campaign rolled out its first Texas endorsements during a press conference in Dallas on Sunday, Aug. 18, backing incumbent freshmen Congressman Collin Allred of Dallas and state Rep. Julie Johnson of Farmers Branch.

The two Democrats defeated incumbent anti-LGBTQ Republicans last fall

and are top Republican targets in the 2020 elections. Congressional Republicans, who saw significant losses in 2018, are seeking to take back the lower chamber and the GOP wants to maintain its majority in the Texas House.

Morgan Cox of Dallas, the new co-chair of HRC's Board of Directors, also introduced new HRC President Alphonso David.

David, a civil rights lawyer who previously worked for New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo and for Lambda Legal, was in town touring the region and meeting donors. He said Allred and Johnson are the candidates necessary to advance LGBTQ equality.

"Since he was elected and ousted one of the most anti-LGBTQ lawmakers, former House Rules Chairman Pete Ses-

sion, [Allred] has backed and co-sponsored the Equality Act," David said. The bill would advance LGBTQ protections nationwide. It has stalled in the Republican-controlled Senate.

"Johnson is a true changemaker," David said of Johnson, an openly-lesbian freshman legislator. "As a founding member of the LGBTQ Caucus, she led the charge defeating 22 anti-LGBTQ bills. They [Johnson and Allred] prove why elections matter," he said.

Allred said Democrats' ability to defeat incumbents like Sessions was not one solely related to a backlash against President Donald Trump, enthusiasm for presidential candidate former Congressman Beto O'Rourke's campaign against Sen. Ted Cruz or about one candidate. Instead, he said, "It was the product of ordinary people coming together and [who] saw government does not reflect our values and politicians do not repre-

sent the district. That change wouldn't have happened without HRC."

Johnson noted HRC was the first organization to back her 2018 campaign against former Rep. Matt Rinaldi and is the first to back her this cycle.

Johnson touted the victories for LGBTQ rights she has seen in the two decades since she first volunteered with HRC. But, she said, "we have a long way to go," adding that she was asked to provide a marriage certificate before adding her wife, Dr. Susan Moster, to her state health insurance.

"Do you think my straight counterparts have to do that?" she asked.

Johnson said she plans to research changes to pursue in the next legislative session.

Cox said that 2020 can be an even better year for the LGBT community than 2018 was. North Texas has become a battleground for expanding Democratic

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gains in Congress and seizing control of the Texas House.

Democrats are only nine seats away from flipping the state House, and two of the key seats are in Dallas County, which saw a near-blue sweep of its state legislative body in 2018.

The two remaining Republicans representing DFW districts — General Investigating Committee Chairman Morgan Meyer of Highland Park and Urban Affairs Committee Chairwoman Angie Chen Button of Garland — narrowly won re-election and are top Democratic targets for next year.

No challenger has emerged against Johnson, but a handful of Republicans are mulling runs against Allred, including Meyer and Sessions.

The only other out LGBT representative in a swing seat is Erin Zwiener, a Driftwood Democrat and the body's first openly bisexual member. Republicans Carrie Isaac, wife of former Rep. Jason Isaac, who preceded Zwiener, former candidate Austin Talley and former Hays County GOP Chairman Kent Wy-

more have filed to run for that seat. Caucus Chairwoman Mary Gonzalez of Clint, Rep. Celia Israel of Austin and



Human Rights Campaign President Alphonso David, second from left, Texas state Rep. Julie Johnson, third from left, and U.S. Rep. Colin Allred, fourth from left, pose for a photo with supporters during a Human Rights Campaign rally Sunday, Aug. 18, in Dallas. (Brandon Wade/AP Images for Human Rights Campaign)

first term Rep. Jessica Gonzalez, also of Dallas, represent safe Democratic seats. But Jessica Gonzalez may face a pri-

mary challenge from former State Rep. Roberto Alonzo, whom she defeated in the 2018 primary, his spouse and former

City Council candidate Sylvana or his sister, former Councilwoman Monica Alonzo.

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Unnecessarily *controversial*

Bob Satawake was the first same-sex ambassadorial spouse sent to a western hemisphere country

DAVID TAFFET | Senior Staff Writer
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When Bob Satawake met Wally Brewster at JR's Bar & Grill in Oak Lawn, he had no idea that the relationship that began that day would lead him to make history as the first same-sex spouse of a U.S. diplomat stationed in a western hemisphere country.

As a kid growing up in Oklahoma, Satawake was bullied. "That was part of my impression of what the world was going to be like for me," he said. "I was singled out, and I knew it didn't happen to everybody."

He said he knew he wasn't like the other kids in lots of ways. For one thing, he came from a financially stressed home environment. "I used to pray the Lord would take me home," Satawake recalled. "He had other plans for me."

Among those plans was meeting Brewster. He then moved from Dallas, where he had been working as an American Airlines flight attendant, to Chicago, where he began working in real estate and became politically active. That's where he and Brewster met an up-and-coming politician named Barack Obama.

After becoming very active in Obama's re-election campaign, Brewster was nominated as U.S. ambassador to the Dominican Republic. Satawake said the U.S. has sent other gay diplomats to missions around the world, but they've been appointed to serve in countries like Luxembourg, which has had a gay prime minister since 2013.

When the couple moved to Chicago, they bought a house. Moises Alou, an outfielder for the Chicago Cubs, was their next-door neighbor. Alou was from the Dominican Republic, and Satawake

had flown there many times with American. As their friendship developed, Satawake and Brewster visited the Dominican Republic a number of times with Alou and his family.

"Over the course of our relationship with the Alous, we developed an understanding and appreciation for the culture [and] history [of the Dominican Republic] and the importance of its leadership in that region of the world," Satawake said.

At the time of his appointment, Brewster explained to the Obama administration why the Dominican Republic was the appropriate place for him to represent the U.S.

Satawake and Brewster are one of the few same-sex couples that ever had to get married. Only the spouse of an ambassador can get diplomatic credentials. In 2013, the year Brewster was appointed ambassador, marriage was legal in Washington, D.C., but only certain judges were allowed to perform weddings. So they were married by the judge that replaced Ruth Bader Ginsburg on the D.C. circuit court.

Once in the Dominican Republic, the couple met with opposition from a Catholic cardinal there, beginning what Satawake called an "unnecessarily controversial tour of duty. ... It never dawned on us that the leader of the Catholic Church would express such a visceral response," he said.

But the anti-gay rhetoric coming from the cardinal was a diversion from an abuse scandal rocking the Catholic Church in the Dominican Republic. Satawake said the cardinal was protecting people by ginning up controversy over the gay diplomat.

Brewster and Satawake used their positions to promote LGBT equality. While LGBT people are not well accepted socially in the Dominican Republic, and same-sex relations are not recognized there, neither are same-sex relationships criminalized there.

Once the couple began their tour of duty, members of the LGBT community were invited to events at the embassy. At a Pride breakfast held just before the Obergefell v. Hodges Supreme Court rul-



ing legalizing marriage equality in 2015, Randy Berry, the State Department's first special envoy for the human rights of LGBTI persons, was the keynote speaker. Judy and Dennis Shepard were there, and so was Deena Fidas, who headed Human Rights Campaign's Workplace Equality Program, and Minou Mirabel, a deputy in the D.R.'s lower house.

"It raised awareness around equality in the Dominican Republic in a way the general population could relate to," Satawake said. He said the positive press coverage in the country had a positive impact on the way the media referenced LGBT people after that.

Satawake said there was nothing really activist about what he and husband did for LGBT equality; they were simply including the LGBT community as a welcome part of the Dominican population.

When the Centers for Disease Control funded an AIDS clinic in a poorer area in the country, and the LGBT and AIDS communities said they needed some media attention, the couple attended the opening of the clinic. Rather than let the money be spent under the radar as usual, they let the country know the U.S. was actively and openly supporting these initiatives.

When Satawake and Brewster were invited to participate in Santo Domingo

Pride, they organized diplomats from a dozen countries to participate in a ribbon cutting to open the event. Satawake said he learned that when you invite non-LGBT people, you might be surprised how many will come.

That initiative has grown. This year, the diplomatic corps rented a bus to be in the parade. The U.S., however, didn't participate.

Satawake did TV and radio appearances during his tenure in the D.R., which raised the profile of a gay couple as the U.S. representatives in the country.

After returning to the U.S. at the end of the Obama administration, the couple returned to Dallas. And in July this year, Satawake released a book about accompanying his husband, officially titled *The Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary U.S. Ambassador Wally Brewster*, and the story of what led up to Brewster's appointment.

His book, *Breaking Protocol: Forging a Path Beyond Diplomacy*, debuted at No. 1 on Amazon's new release list, as the No. 1 Dominican travel guide and as the No. 1 activist biography. Satawake doesn't think anyone will read his book as a travel guide, although he does point out some places to see and, despite the trouble with the cardinal, talks about how warm the Dominican people are. ■

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Getting the gay \$



Gayborhoods nationwide are donating to gay candidate Buttigieg, but Beto still rules in Oak Lawn and Montrose

LISA KEEN | Keen News Service
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This may not be a surprise, but it is news: Openly-gay presidential candidate Pete Buttigieg has outraised his Democratic competitors in most heavily-LGBT neighborhoods around the country. And he is now the third largest fundraiser among the 22 viable candidates for the Democratic nomination.

But the data, and an examination of who has given money, suggests that the LGBT community is keeping significant support behind other major Democratic presidential candidates and that the community's potential has much room for growth.

According to the Federal Elections Commission's reports through the second quarter (June 30), Buttigieg had raised \$32 million, behind U.S. Sens. Bernie Sanders with \$46 million and Elizabeth Warren with \$35 million.

An analysis of dollars to Democratic candidates in 40 zip codes known to have heavily-LGBT populations indicates that Buttigieg raked in 38 percent of the total dollars. He was followed by U.S. Sen. Kamala Harris with 22 percent, Warren with 18 percent, Sanders with 13 and former Vice President Joe Biden with 9 percent.

Contributions in zip code areas considered heavily lesbian were a little different: 31 percent gave to Warren, 22 percent each to Buttigieg and Sanders, 19 percent to Harris and 5 percent to Biden.

Buttigieg was the top dollar collector in 23 of the 40 heavily gay zip codes.

In heavily LGBT zip codes where an-

other Democratic candidate raised the most money, there was usually a home-state advantage. For instance, Warren, D-Mass., raised the most in Northampton and Wellfleet, Mass.; Harris took two zip codes around Oakland, Calif.; and former U.S. Rep. Beto O'Rourke, D-Texas outraised everybody in Oak Lawn in Dallas and Montrose in Houston.

But there were some surprises.

Warren was the top dollar fundraiser in three New York City zip codes. All three — Park Slope, Prospect Heights and Boerum Hill — have large concentrations of female same-sex households, according to Census records. She also won top dollar in the heavily LGBT neighborhood of Kerrytown near Ann Arbor.

Buttigieg collected the most small-dollar donations from The Castro area of San Francisco. Of the roughly half-million dollars raised there, 42 percent went to Buttigieg, 29 percent to California's Harris and 16 percent to Warren.

Provincetown gave only \$95,000 to Democratic candidates, but 86 percent of the small dollars went to Buttigieg and 9 percent to Massachusetts' Warren.

As a state, LGBT zip codes in Florida were more loyal to Buttigieg, giving 51 percent of their small dollar donations to him. Illinois had the second strongest preference for Buttigieg, giving him 50 percent.

Ah, the caveats!

But these numbers do not mean that the LGBT vote is reliably behind Buttigieg.

First, the dollar counts are just that: dollars, not votes. Second, not all LGBT people live in zip codes with heavily LGBT populations. Third, some people who gave money to a Democratic candidate gave money to two or more candidates.

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- Only five had given the maximum (\$2,800) to any one candidate for the primary. Former Assistant Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Roberta Achtenberg has given \$2,800 to Harris and four others — celebrity comedian Ellen DeGeneres, film producer David Geffen, former president of the U.S. Export-Import Bank Fred Hochberg and current Fort Lauderdale Mayor Dean Trantalis have all given

\$2,800 to Buttigieg.

- Six have given to Buttigieg and at least one other of the top-tier candidates.

The next round of campaign funding reports is due into the FEC on Sept. 30. Meanwhile the latest national polling shows Buttigieg may have slipped in the standings.

In mid-June, a Fox News poll of more than 400 Democratic primary voters found the South Bend mayor at 8 percent. In mid-July, the Fox poll found him

at 5. And in mid-August, he's tied with Sen. Cory Booker and businessman Andrew Yang at 3 percent. (Margin of error is 4.5 percent.)

An averaging of all national polls calculated by RealClearPolitics.com shows Buttigieg still hanging on to fifth place with 5.2 percent of the vote, behind Biden with 30.5, Warren with 17.3, Sanders with 16, and Harris with 8 percent. ■

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Also, the data on contributions by zip code represents only "small-dollar donations." It originated with a Democratic political action committee that runs a fundraising website called ActBlue, which provides a way for people who want to support Democratic candidates and organizations to give small-dollar amounts (less than \$200) quickly and easily.

In the first six months of 2019, the PAC raised \$345 million that way.

Several major media organizations, such as the New York Times and the Los Angeles Times, have processed the ActBlue raw data from the FEC in ways that illustrate how well each Democrat is doing in getting individual donors and how well each is raising money in each zip code.

The New York Times, for instance, discovered that Buttigieg has the third largest number of individual donors through ActBlue (390,000). That puts him behind Sanders (746,000) and Warren (421,000) but ahead of Harris (277,000) and Biden (256,000).

When looking at FEC reports, which count both small-dollar contributions and contributions of \$200 and above, Buttigieg has raised \$32 million, putting him in third place behind Sanders (\$46 million) and Warren (\$36 million).

Finally, a search through FEC records for the names of individual LGBT leaders, well-known activists and celebrities found that only 19 out of 100 had made a reportable contribution to any Democratic presidential candidate so far. Given that the FEC records the names of only those donors who give \$200 or more, the other 81 might have given contributions of less than \$200. Barring that, the numbers suggest that LGBT leaders, generally speaking, are not yet ready to go "all in" behind one Democratic candidate just yet.

Of the 19 who have given to a Dem-



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Boycotts & Protests:

Activists protested against Pegasus nightclub and its gay Republican owner during San Antonio Pride. (Photo courtesy Jennifer Falcon)

What the employees of Pegasus Nightclub can teach us about power

BRANDI AMARA SKYY

If there is one thing we are seeing more of — besides hate and racism — under the Trump regime, it's the call for boycotts of companies and people that support him and his ideology: The NFL. Chick-fil-A. Equinox.

But those companies may play only small, insignificant roles in our lives. How does the dynamic change when the boycott being called for lands close to home?

When it is, in fact, our home?

Such is the case for the San Antonio gay bar Pegasus.

When word got out that Mauro E. Garza, a gay Latino man who is owner of the Pegasus, was running for Congress as a Republican, a San Antonio activist group called Protest the Peg launched a call for a boycott. On Aug. 11, the group shared a press release via Twitter and a bulk email sent to more 40 LGBTQ media and freelance writers, calling for a nationwide boycott of the bar "in an effort to defund [Garza's] contributions to LGBTQIA+ politicians/platforms." The press release specifically called out Miss Gay USofA and *RuPaul's Drag Race* alum Kennedy Davenport for performing at the San Antonio nightclub.

After reading Davenport's Facebook updates and the stories being written about something that was happening in my own backyard, I decided to do a bit of research of my own.

Here's what I've learned.

This is *not* the first time that Garza has run for office. In fact, the first time he dipped a toe into politics pool was in 2010 when he ran as a Democrat for justice of the peace in Bexar County's Precinct 3. He lost by 122 votes to William Peche in the primaries. A year before that, the local chapter of HRC awarded Garza their Community Service Award after he donated more than \$100,000 to local charities. (The Pegasus website still



Brandi Amara Skyy
TrendingTEA

boasts charitable contributions to eight different local LGBTQ nonprofits).

Garza didn't become a Republican until 2015 when he made the decision to change parties due "to the fact that I was becoming a father ...[and] the trajectory of our nation was not one that I wanted for my son," he said to me via text.

Three years later Garza threw his hat back into the political ring, running for Congress as a Republican.

Now flash forward to August 2019: Garza has decided to run for Congress again, only this time he is met with a whirlwind of anger and protests. But before he announced his intent to run, he made a public Facebook post on June 10, 2019, saying that he had "transferred all responsibilities and financials of The Pegasus Nightclub to Mike Rodriguez and Gabriel M. Dominguez."

I spoke with Mike Rodriguez, who reiterated that Garza has little or nothing to do with the club anymore and is more a "silent" figure in its ownership. Rodriguez did say that Garza never once asked for or expected the club to hang up his campaign posters or wear t-shirts in support of his Congressional run, telling Rodriguez, "Alcohol and politics don't mix."

But I left that conversation with more questions than answers.

I get that in the grander scheme of things Garza's "side" or his "why" doesn't really matter to the majority of the community, because the fact remains he is running on a platform that has real and dire consequences for LGBTQ and



other marginalized folk. As a society, we have responded to the overt bigotry and rise in hate crimes and rhetoric by becoming more woke to systems, people and structures that are funding and furthering Trump's regime.

And that means we are paying more attention to the things we have control over, like where we spend our money. This a powerful and radical act.

But on the downside, it also means that some of us have begun to police others in the community, demanding that they align their pocket book priorities with our own. And when they don't bend and boycott the targets we think they should, we call them out as being unsupportive of, ambivalent toward and uneducated about our struggle.

When the flyer came out promoting Kennedy Davenport's July 24 appearance at the Pegasus, all hell broke loose on the internet. People slipped into her DMs, took screenshots of conversations with her and posted all of that all over social media — without her consent. Even Protest the Peg jumped on the bandwagon, singularly calling her out in their press release for "her defiant refusal to support the boycott," adding that while they understood the need for full-time performers to make money, there

are "different platforms that reach large audiences."

But the one thing none of the above did was actually talk to Davenport and listen to her side of the story. She reiterated that fact when I spoke to her.

"Nobody reached out to me to ask me about it," Davenport told me. "I had no idea there was a protest even happening when I accepted the booking. Had I known about it before they released the flyer, I might have opted out of the booking. But the flyer was released, and it no longer was about me. It became about my fans."

As a matter of fact, none of these outlets have asked to hear from the people who work at the Pegasus to find out their side of the story. They are part of our community, too — part of the very thing Protest the Peg is boycotting to protect.

Layla LaRue, who is also a cast member of Dallas' Rose Room, has worked at the Pegasus for the past seven years. She said that her coworkers, the managers and the regulars there are "like family to me. Having the opportunity to see them every week has built friendships and family-type bonds that no political views can change."

The simple truth is that at some point in all our calls for boycotts, we have to



Inside Pegasus nightclub (Photo via Facebook)

ask for, listen to, truly hear and then bring into our movement the people and their voices who work at Pegasus. We also need to acknowledge the fact that the establishments people work at don't necessarily represent who they are. How many of us are actually working at a place that we can honestly say mirrors our values and beliefs 100 percent? I'm venturing to guess less than 10 — maybe even less than 5 — percent of us can say that.

And even if we are among that privileged few, our jobs are never really fully representational of who we are. There will always be at least a 1 percent difference.

And that's exactly what Mauro Garza is to me, LaRue and other members of San Antonio's LGBTQ community — that 1 percent of the job that doesn't reflect our values and who we are as a community.

LaRue reiterated, "I want people to know that the employees and managers are not Trump supporters. While we are disappointed that the property owner is running for office as a Republican ... everyone should understand that his political views have nothing to do with the views of those who are employed there."

The truth is that by calling for a blanket boycott of the Pegasus, we are also calling for a boycott our own people.

BUT ...

I also understand that by going to the Pegasus and ordering a drink (or five), it is quite possible, likely even, that the money we spend there will go to the campaign of bigot who is consciously benefiting from the flamboyant-ness that he wants to "reform" — even if he did shift "responsibilities" to others.

So, I see and understand both sides.

But I also know that there are multiple ways to fight the system, to fight the power, all of which are valid, while only a few — or even only one — are right for each of us individually.

Davenport mentioned making change from within, which is exactly what she

did when she chose to honor her commitment and her fans by keeping her booking at the Pegasus. In doing so, she met Zachary Leard, whose mother recently had a stroke and lost the majority of her memory.

Leard is a huge fan of Davenports, and he asked if she would make a video for his mom. She did.

"When I showed it to her this morning she CRIED! She was so happy!" Leard said in a Facebook post. "The little things like this warms my heart!"

That is activism.

An all-out-call-to-arms boycott by Protest the Peg is activism, too.

But at the end of the day if the boycott and protest of the Pegasus is really about our community, then we have to find a way that is inclusive of the voices of those in our community who work at that establishment and those who wish to dismantle it.

And while all the liquor sales of club Pegasus may go to support Garza and his Republican bid for Congress, you know what doesn't? Your tips. Your tips go to the bartenders, the DJs and the drag queens working at the Pegasus. That money goes directly into their pockets and the pockets of our community.

So, instead of a blanket boycott, why not flood the club with our gay dollars, but give them all to the employees? Why not come together as a community for one night, pack the club to full capacity, but not spend a dime on liquor and instead give our hard-earned money to the people in our community who are working hard for it, for you.

For us.

That is a radical act of protest and defiance that is both non-participatory in Mauro Garza's campaign of hate but still supportive of our people in our community — the same community that, in the end, *all* our activism — regardless of the form it takes — is fighting to protect, honor and serve. ■

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AGENDA, From Page 7

• **Aug. 31: Donna Dumaë's Country Jamboree**

Donna Dumaë, Empress XXIII of the United Court of the Lone Star Empire, presents "A Country Jamboree: The 22nd Annual Friends Helping Friends" event benefitting AIDS Services of Dallas, at the Dallas Eagle, 5740 Maple Ave. Line-up is at 6 p.m. and the show begins at 7 p.m. For information visit DallasCourt.org.

• **Aug. 31: Rainbow Salsa classes**

Puerto Rican style Salsa basic moves for singles and couples from 10 a.m.-noon at Trinity Metropolitan Community Church, 933 E. Ave. J, Grand Prairie. \$35 for four classes.

• **Aug. 31: Forth Worth "Fifth"**

Fort Worth social group meets the fifth Saturday of each month for food and fun. Check the group's Facebook page

WE NEED YOUR INPUT ON THE CITY'S BUDGET. WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

DISTRICT BUDGET TOWN HALL MEETING SCHEDULE

5:30 pm - 7:00 pm	Councilmembers Adam Bazaldua, Paula Blackmon, David Blewett, B. Adam McGough, & Chad West	* Dallas City Hall (Briefing Room - 6ES) (Virtual) 1500 Marilla Street Dallas, 75201
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Councilmember Casey Thomas, II	Thurgood Marshall Recreation Center 5150 Mark Trail Way Dallas, 75232
Tuesday, August 27		
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Councilmember Adam Bazaldua	* Fair Park, Hall of State (Virtual/In-Person) 3939 Grand Avenue Dallas, 75210
6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	Councilmembers Paula Blackmon & David Blewett	Lakewood Branch Library 6121 Worth Street Dallas, 75214
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Councilmembers Lee M. Kleinman & Cara Mendelsohn	Fretz Park Branch Library (Black Box Theater) 6990 Beltline Road Dallas, 75254
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Councilmember Jaime Resendez	* Prairie Creek Branch Library (Virtual/In-Person) 9606 Lake June Road Dallas, 75217
Wednesday, August 28		
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Councilmembers Casey Thomas, II & Chad West	Hampton - Illinois Library (Black Box Theatre) 2951 S. Hampton Road Dallas, 75224
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Councilmember Carolyn King Arnold	* Dallas City Hall (Briefing Room - 6ES) (Virtual) 1500 Marilla Street Dallas, 75201
Thursday, August 29		
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Councilmember Jaime Resendez	Eastfield College (Pleasant Grove Campus) 802 S. Buckner Blvd. Room 108/109 Dallas, 75217
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm	Councilmember Casey Thomas, II	Park in the Woods Recreation Center 6801 Mountain Creek Parkway Dallas, 75249
7:30 pm - 8:30 pm	Councilmember Omar Narvaez	Jaycee Zaragoza Recreation Center 3114 Clymer Street Dallas, TX 75212
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm	Councilmember Cara Mendelsohn	Renner Frankford Library 6400 Frankford Road Dallas, TX 75252

You have two options to provide feedback on the City's FY 2019-20 budget as recommended by the City Manager:

Attend any Budget Town Meetings in your Council District

Participate in a Virtual Budget Town Meeting via your home computer, mobile device or telephone (*Flash player required*)

To view a video of the proposed budget (English or Spanish) prior to a meeting and/or to register for a virtual meeting via the web, visit

DallasCityHall.com or DallasCityNews.net

To participate via phone:
English 1-888-400-1932

Spanish Translation 1-888-400-9342

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■ **commUNITYvoices**

The Log Cabin is on fire

I am hard pressed to understand the Log Cabin Republicans' endorsement of Trump for President in 2020. Of course, to be honest, I am hard pressed to understand the Log Cabin Republicans at all. That any group of LGBTQ people who supports a party with platforms as blatantly homophobic and transphobic as the Republican Party is mind-boggling.

Based on conversations I have had with Log Cabin Republicans — and, granted, it's been awhile since I have spoken with any of them — they live in a bubble of cognitive dissonance, where they boast they can “change the party from within.”

That might be believable if they were actually welcomed into the party. But they are consistently and vehemently excluded from exhibiting at GOP conventions, and their suggestions to soften party anti-LGBTQ rhetoric are ignored.

I have tried to get into the mind of a gay Republican, but I am afraid it will take someone with professional credentials to fathom that degree of disconnect from reality. At best, they are pushing for a lost cause, and at worst, they are delusional.

Then again, perhaps they believe if they can pass as Republicans, they will have more opportunity in business and more chance for financial success? That is the cynical view, I know. But it's the only one I'm left with.

Now, following the organization's endorsement of Trump, a lot of the leadership in that organization has come to the same conclusion I have, and they are bailing out of the sinking LCR ship. Robert Turner, former head of the DC Log Cabin Republican chapter, has left along, with Jordan Evans, an openly-transgender official in the Republican Party.

Meanwhile the executive director of



Hardy Haberman
Flagging Left

the group defends Trump, calls his broad pattern of anti-LGBTQ policies mere “hiccups.” This is a group with big problems, and one wonders at the sanity of anyone who would remain a member.

Perhaps the LCRs have been acquired

ican politics is not divided into two camps: Conservative and Liberal. We are instead a country with no hard-left wing, just hard-right, center-right and center-left wings. The GOP has chosen the hard-right, which leaves the LCR out in the rain.

To my friends who might identify with the Log Cabin Republicans: I encourage you to wake up and smell the futility. You have a much better chance of getting equality with the Democrats, and even though you won't believe it, the Democrats are not the radical party you should fear. The party you should fear includes those who wear MAGA hats and chant “Send them back” at rallies.

The party you should fear embraces racism and homophobia as basic tenants in their platform, even if they disguise it in more gentle terms. I encourage you to let the Log Cabin Republicans and the entire Republican Party crash and burn under its own hatred. You are welcome to join the rest of America in working to rebuild our country from the rubble being left by Trump and the GOP.

Hardy Haberman is a longtime local LGBT activist and a board member of the Woodhull Freedom Alliance. His blog is at Dungeon-Diary.blogspot.com



by the party, like the brief-but-vocal GO-Proud group. That alleged grass-roots organization embraced homophobic personalities like Ann Coulter and flirted with the mainstream GOP without success. Most of the board resigned, and it folded several years ago under the weight of its own irony.

I suspect the LCR will end much the same way. Their members will tire of throwing good money after bad and realize that the GOP is hopelessly in the claws of Trump and his band of neo-fascists.

Perhaps they will realize that Amer-

Take a step to battle hate



Everyone must fight hate, because hate affects everyone

When hate hits so close to home, it takes an even deeper toll. ADL's Center on Extremism has confirmed that what happened in El Paso on Aug. 3 was the second-deadliest act of violence by a right-wing extremist on U.S. soil. The most deadly act of right-wing violence: the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing of the Murrah Federal Building.

Reports indicate the alleged El Paso shooter had been radicalized through a notoriously hate-filled website and influenced by other white nationalists, including the Australian extremist who murdered 51 people at two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand, earlier this year. According to law enforcement, the alleged shooter was motivated to kill Mexicans and drove more than nine hours across the state to El Paso, a major border city that is recognized as a visible symbol of the U.S. immigration system.

This is an unprecedented time in our history. From Charlottesville to Pittsburgh to Christchurch to Poway to El Paso — every marginalized community is currently under attack. The commonal-



Cheryl Drazin
Contributing Columnist

ity in these tragedies is that white supremacist ideology is inherently indiscriminate in its discrimination.

At times like this in our country, one wonders what, if anything, can be done to alter this trajectory. We know that thoughts and prayers are insufficient. We need strategy; we need policy, and we need each other.

Hate is toxic. This powerful force for evil is in our midst and must be dealt with on multiple fronts by policy makers, industry leaders and individuals. ADL will continue to push for legislative tools like the Domestic Terrorism Prevention Act that would allocate more resources and bring the same intensity to the fight against white supremacist terror that has been deployed against radical Islamic terror.

ADL will also continue our work with

tech companies who must do more to actively prevent their platforms from spreading hate.

ADL will continue to lead by example and call out hate whenever and wherever it happens.

ADL will laud others who do the same. For more than a hundred years, the ADL has been fighting hate. We have been tracking extremists for decades. We understand that any successful response to hate must be multi-disciplinary. It must involve all of us.

For more than a century, ADL's mission has remained the same: to stop the defamation of the Jewish people and secure justice and fair treatment to all. From our inception we have realized that responding to hate requires a collective. It our responsibility to stand together. When hate affects one of us, hate affects all of us.

The increase in hate locally requires a local response. In 2018, North Texas saw an increase in anti-Semitic harassment and vandalism over the record-breaking national increases in 2017.

On Sunday, Sept. 15, ADL will provide our community with the opportunity to affirmatively stand up to hate. Next month, thousands of North Texas resi-

dents will tighten their laces and take a step in the right direction to fight hate when ADL Texoma hosts the city's inaugural Walk Against Hate.

The Walk Against Hate takes place at Victory Plaza. The inclusive and collaborative event will unite complete strangers in taking a stand and showing our collective support for our shared values of freedom, equality, and justice. Communities of faith, educational institutions, non-profits, corporations and individuals will lock arms and stand together as a demonstration that together we can fight hate for good.

The proverbial question seems to be, "What can be done?"

While the issues are complex, the answer can be distilled to individual action: Find a way to stand up to hate.

Let the Walk Against Hate be your initial step in that direction. To sign up as a participant, volunteer, or sponsor, visit <https://support.adl.org/event/adl-walk-against-hate/e229234>.

Admittedly, the work is difficult, but the time is now, and the fight against hate is one we cannot lose. ■

Cheryl Drazin is Regional Director of ADL Texoma.

Applause



From the national tour of 'Frozen.'



Colby Calhoun, a mixed-race non-gender-conforming theater artist, created a show reflecting such diversity for the recent Festival of Independent Theatres.

Casting a wide net

How local theater companies are adjusting to the demands of responsible casting and representation onstage

MARK LOWRY | Special Contributor
marklowry@theaterjones.com

Ask any North Texas actor or other creative of a marginalized population — whether defined by race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity/expression, physical ability, body type or age — the number of times they’ve looked at casting or job postings from professional and community theaters and seen some variation on a familiar phrase: “Looking for all ethnicities, ages and types.” They would certainly answer “countless.”

And then they would explain how too often that is mere boilerplate — lip-service to an ideal, but not the reality. They know the theaters that truly mean it

as opposed to the ones only doing it for legal optics.

“We talk to each other,” says Denise Lee, a popular performer in Dallas-Fort Worth who, for three years, has led a series called Community Conversations that addresses topics such as race, ethnicity and white privilege. Earlier this year, at an invitation-only conversation with artistic directors, directors and others in leadership positions in the DFW theater scene, Lee, who is African-American, made it clear that “we know which theaters not to even bother auditioning for.”

It’s a multi-layered conversation, not only here but in theaters across the country, not to mention in Hollywood and on Broadway, that reaches beyond

■ **CASTING** Page 36



INCLUSION CALENDAR

Here are nine productions in the coming season in which casting and representation will be important to watch:

Bridges: *Multiracial Connections*, pictured. Members of Flexible Grey Theatre Company interviewed multiracial LGBT people and present a reading-style performance taken from the interviews. Performed at the Latino Cultural Center's MPR Gallery. Through Sunday.

***Dracula*.** Dallas playwright Michael Federico adapted Bram Stoker's novel and Christie Vela directs in a commissioned work from Theatre 3. This female-forward version features Allison Pistorius as the title vampire, and queer Latina actress Gloria Benavides as Van Helsing. Oct. 3–27.

***Cooties*.** Flexible Grey presents Alean-drew Recore's "sitcom-romcom variety show" featuring a variety of queer, transgender and non-binary performers, including something that rarely happens — a transgender performing in a cisgender role. Produced in association with Uptown Players, and in repertory with Uptown's production of the one-man play *Bright Colors and Bold Patterns*, starring Paul J. Williams. Both are performed in Bryant Hall on the Kalita Humphreys Theater campus. Oct. 19–27.

***The Thanksgiving Play*.** Undermain Theatre presents Native American playwright Larissa Fasthorse's satire about a troupe of terminally "woke" teaching artists that scrambles to create a pageant that somehow manages to celebrate both Turkey Day and Native American Heritage Month. Nov. 6–Dec. 1.

***Loving and Loving*.** Bishop Arts Theatre Center does Beto O'Byrne and Meropi Peponides' play that explores the landmark case *Loving vs. Loving*, about interracial marriage in the U.S. Feb. 6–23, 2020.

***Funny, You Don't Act Like A Negro*.** Theatre 3 commissioned this play by Denise Lee, with direction by Christie Vela. It explores "the prejudgments we make on our neighbors, the biases we inadvertently pass on to our children and how the simple act of talking to one another is being subverted by social media." Feb. 20–March 15.

***I Am My Own Wife*.** WaterTower Theatre has been a big topic of discussion in recent years, after short-lived artistic director Joanie Schultz — who was committed to diversity on all levels and programmed seasons filled with works by playwrights who were not white men and had all women directors — resigned. In the coming season, under new AD Shane Peterman, WaterTower will do only the second local production of Dallas native Doug Wright's one-person, Pulitzer Prize-winning play about Charlotte von Mahlsdorf, a 65-year old German transgender woman who survived both the Nazi onslaught and the repressive East German Communist regime. The performer plays more than 30 characters. It has traditionally been cast with a cisgender white man (Jefferson Mays won a Tony for his performance), but considering that there are multiple characters and the lead character is trans, the options for casting are endless. WaterTower's official casting notice reads "seeking one extremely versatile actor." April 16–May 3.

***My Red Hand, My Black Hand*.** Cara Mia Theatre Company and Soul Rep Theatre Company collaborate on Dael Orlander-smith's play that intertwines African American and Native American histories at the Latino Cultural Center. May 15–31.

***Southern Comfort*.** Imprint Theatreworks presents Julianne Wick Davis and Dan Collins' musical (based on the 2001 documentary) about a group of transgender friends in rural Georgia. Imprint's announcement for this show, presented in Pride Month, states that "We are committed to casting this show responsibly and will be working with local organizations to seek out opportunities for awareness and proper representation, as well as access for transgender youth." June 5–20.

***Head Over Heels*.** As one of the largest LGBT theaters in the company, Uptown Players is an important barometer of LGBT theater and casting. This musical, conceived by Jeff Whitty and James Magruder and using music of The Go-Go's, has a "trans-positive" 17th century storyline, and we'll be looking for transgender and non-binary performers to be included. At the Kalita. July 10–26.

— M.L.

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ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor

jones@dallasvoice.com

Our curated rundown of the top cultural events to get on your calendar right now

Theater, opera, dance, spoken word, comedy, art, music, film: North Texas has it all. You could spend your entire year just trying to figure out *what* to see on local stages, screens and museums. So don't bother — we've done it for you. In addition to our annual as-comprehensive-as-space-allows lineup of arts company seasons (see Page 29), we've culled down some of the most promising to this handy one-sheet of 14 events, broken down by time of year, to help you plan out the highlights for 2019 and 2020. Of course, everyone's tastes vary (and new shows are announced all the time), so be sure to look through all the seasons to see what works best for you.

SUMMER/AUTUMN 2019

To All the Women We've Loved Before at the Meyerson Symphony Center, Sept. 29. The Turtle Creek Chorale kicks off its 40th season with its first concert in years at the Meyerson, a tribute to the women who have influenced gay men. Presented by TCC.

A love offering at the Trinity River Arts Center, Oct. 3–27. Gay Dallas playwright Jonathan Norton has been a creative machine in recent months; he just completed his world premiere *Penny Candy* for Dallas Theater Center at the end of this past season, and he kicks off Kitchen Dog's upcoming season with this new play about the trials of working with patients suffering from dementia. Presented by WaterTower Theatre.

Ballet British Columbia at Moody Performance Hall, Nov. 8–9, pictured. One of the most exciting contemporary dance troupes in North America right now, this Canadian company is among the most sought-after in the world... and Dallas gets them for two days. Presented by TITAS.

Swimming While Drowning at the Latino Cultural Center, Nov. 19–Dec. 15. The multicultural theater company Cara Mia is exploring queer-themed issues of late, notably this area premiere, a coming-of-age drama about homeless teens at a gay shelter. Presented by Cara Mia Theatre Co.

Dear Evan Hansen at Fair Park Music Hall, Nov. 26–Dec. 8. The Tony-, Grammy- and Oscar-winning composing teams of Pasek and Paul hit the pulse of musical theater with this unlikely smash, about bullying, teen suicide and the power of a lie. Presented by Dallas Summer Musicals.

Lizzie at Bath House Cultural Center, Oct. 25–Nov. 9. Imprint Theatreworks closes out its 2019 season with this rock musical about (alleged) axe murderer Lizzie Borden, who has been rumored to have been lesbian. Presented by Imprint Theatreworks.

WINTER/SPRING 2020

The Band's Visit at the Winspear Opera House, Feb. 4–16. Composer David Yazbek finally won a Tony Award (much deserved) for his Levantine score for this small-bore but heartfelt musical about the unlikely friendships between members of an Egyptian band stranded in Israel. The B'way production won 10 Tony Awards. In a first for North Texas, the production is being co-presented by AT&T Performing Arts Center and the Dallas Summer Musicals.

Funny, You Don't Act Like a Negro at Theatre 3, Feb. 20–March 15. Uber-talented actress-singer M. Denise Lee adds playwright to her resume with this world premiere solo show, in which she explores the biases encountered by women of color in the performing arts. Presented by Theatre 3.

Come From Away at Fair Park Music Hall, March 10–22. In the week following the horrific attacks of 9/11, a small Canadian town found itself the host to 38 airplanes and their grounded travelers, and what happened transformed all their lives. Based on an incredible true story. Presented by Dallas Summer Musicals, it will also come to Bass Performance Hall in the summer, presented by Performing Arts Fort Worth.

Placido Domingo at the Winspear Opera House, March 11. The acclaimed Spanish tenor — the last



surviving of the famed original Three Tenors triumvirate — made his American debut in Dallas in 1961. Now, he returns — finally — for a much-anticipated concert, conducted by maestro Emmanuel Villaume. Presented by Dallas Opera.

I Am My Own Wife at Addison Theatre Centre, April 16–May 3. Dallas native Doug Wright won a Pulitzer and Tony for this solo show, based on the true story of a transgender German woman who survived the Holocaust. Presented by WaterTower Theatre.

SUMMER 2020

Six Degrees of Separation at the Kalita Humphreys Theater, May 29–June 7. Last season, Uptown Players finally brought all of *Angels in America* back to Oak Lawn; now they do it again, with the return, 25 years after it caused a stir (resulting in censorship), of the seminal American play about a gay hustler who passes himself off as a celebrity. Presented by Uptown Players.

The Supreme Leader at the Wylie Theatre, June 3–July 12. Before he became the bowl-cut dictator of North Korea, Kim Jong-Un was just another Asian kid at a Swiss boarding school. A surprising, coming-of-age satire about a tyrant in the making. Presented by the Dallas Theater Center.

A Very Sordid Wedding at the Kalita Humphreys Theater, Aug. 21–30. Del Shores has often partnered with Uptown Players, and this show — a stage version of his film-festival hit — the third incarnation of his *Sordid* trilogy — makes its world premiere as a season add-on. Presented by Uptown Players. ■

'Tis the season

Plays, musicals, opera, concerts, dance — your complete rundown of performing arts companies' seasons



The national tour of the small-bore musical 'The Band's Visit,' winner of 10 Tony Awards, arrives in North Texas in an historic co-production with Dallas Summer Musicals and AT&T Performing Arts Center.

JOHN CARDER MCCLANAHAN
Contributing Writer
john.mcclanahan91@gmail.com

PLAYS AND MUSICALS Dallas Summer Musicals

Right before the film version finally lands in cinemas, you can remind yourself of the magic of Andrew Lloyd Webber and T.S. Eliot's *Cats* (Nov. 5–17). That's followed by *Dear Evan Hansen* (Nov. 26–Dec. 8), from the composing team of Pasek and Paul (*La La Land*, *The Greatest Showman*). Swinging into the new year, the **Blue Man Group** performs (Jan. 15–19, 2020) as the first add-on, followed by *The Band's Visit* (Feb. 4–16) in an historic co-production with AT&T Performing Arts Center. *Come from Away* (March 10–22), about humanity in the immediate aftermath of 9/11, then takes the spotlight, followed by *Rent: The 20th Anniversary Tour* (April 14–19), a special add-on to celebrate the queer musical's milestone. For the spring, Webber and Rice's early masterpiece *Jesus Christ Superstar* (April 28–May 10) celebrates its 50th anniversary. Then cool down with the stage adaptation of Disney's *Frozen* (June 17–July 12). To close the season, grab a shaker of salt for *Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville* (July 28–Aug. 9). All performances (except *The Band's*

Visit) take place at Fair Park Music Hall. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

Performing Arts Fort Worth (Broadway at the Bass)

PAFW will first present a new production of *The Phantom of the Opera* (Sept. 24–Oct. 5), followed by *Miss Saigon* (Dec. 3–8) from the creators of *Les Miserables*. Betty Buckley won't be in it, but you can still see the national tour of the revered revival of *Hello, Dolly!* (Jan. 14–19, 2020). The following month, Nickelodeon's *The Spongebob Musical* (Feb. 20–23) lands everyone's favorite sea-dwelling invertebrate character on the big stage. The super megahit *Hamilton* (June 9–28) returns to North Texas. And *Come from Away* (July 7–12), *Escape from Margaritaville* (Aug. 11–16) and *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Aug. 25–30) role over to Cowtown to close the season. BassHall.com.

AT&T Performing Arts Center

The Broadway Series returns with two winter performances: The return of the chamber musical *Once* (Nov. 22–24) and *Once on This Island* (Dec. 17–22), about an islander's tropical journey. The musical adaptation of Alice Walker's thought-provoking 1982 novel *The*

■ SEASON Page 30

LIVE NATION

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All performances in the Winspear Opera House

■ SEASON From Page 28

Color Purple (Jan. 7–12) takes over, with *The Band's Visit* (Feb. 18–23) following with its Tony- and Grammy-winning score by David Yazbek. Love meets the sculptural rhythms of George Gershwin in *An American in Paris* (May 20–24), followed by *Bandstand* (May 26–31), a nod to America's big band golden age, and *The Spongebob Musical* (July 14–19). All performances at the Winspear Opera House. ATTPAC.org.

Dallas Theater Center

The Tony Award-winning regional theater starts off its season with *In the Heights* (Sept. 21–Oct. 20), Lin-Manuel Miranda's story of New York's Washington Heights neighborhood at the Wyly Theatre. Then the Kalita welcomes *Ann* (Oct. 15–Nov. 10), a tribute to former Texas governor Ann Richards. DTC closes the year with Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* (Nov. 22–Dec. 29), the company's annual holiday add-on at the Wyly. The American classic *Little Women* (Feb. 7–March 1, 2020) runs at the Kalita. Next is *American Mariachi* (March 14–April 5), about an all-female mariachi group, at the Wyly. Family and education collide in *Pipeline* (April 3–May 10) at the Wyly's Studio Theatre, followed by *The Supreme Leader* (June 3–July 12), a satire about dictator Kim Jong-Un's time at Swiss boarding school. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Uptown Players

Before the queer troupe begins its 19th season, Uptown Players has three more shows left at the Kalita, including the last chance to see *The Cake* (Aug. 23–25, reviewed this week). Then for Gay History Month, UP is producing two add-on shows: *Bright Colors and Bold Patterns* (Oct. 18–28), a hilarious solo show featuring out comedian Paul J. Williams; and *Cooties* (Oct. 19–27) a fast-paced romcom presented by Flexible Grey Theatre Company. The new season officially gets underway with *Nun-crackers A-Men!* (Dec. 6–15), Dan Goggin's Christmas follow-up to his smash comedy franchise. To begin the new year, the company hosts its annual fundraiser *Broadway Our Way* (Jan. 16–19, 2020), which features an array of Big Apple hits. *Fun Home* (April 10–26), written by Tony-winning lesbian playwright Lisa Kron, follows with the first locally-produced version of the hit play, with the legendary drama *Six Degrees of Separation* (May 29–June 7) a month



Dallas' Doug Wright won a Tony and a Pulitzer for his play 'I Am My Own Wife,' to be presented by WaterTower Theatre in April.

later. Tune in for *Head Over Heels* (July 10–July 26), the last mainstage production of the season, and the world premiere of Del Shores' *A Very Sordid Wedding* (Aug. 21–30), an add-on season closer. UptownPlayers.org.

WaterTower Theatre

The Addison company ends its 2019 season with the divine musical comedy *Sister Act* (Oct. 24–Nov. 10). *Cirque Holidays* (Dec. 5–22), a showcase of the diversity of holidays from around the world, opens next, followed in 2020 by *Harvey* (Feb. 6–23), a Pulitzer Prize-winning story about a guy and his best friend, an invisible man-sized rabbit. WTT then stages Dallas native Doug Wright's empowering *I Am My Own Wife* (April 16–May 3), which follows a German transwoman as she survives through Nazi and East German Communist regimes. Finally, classic tale *The Bridges of Madison County* (June 11–28) ends the season. All performances at the Addison Theatre Centre. WaterTowerTheatre.org.

Theatre 3

Theatre 3 begins its 58th (!!) season with two Halloween-themed shows: Bram Stoker's *Dracula* (Oct. 3–27) and *The Bippy Bobby Boo Show* (Oct. 25–Nov. 2), a co-production with the Danielle Georgiou Dance Group. Playwright Michael Frayn's nonpareil farce *Noises Off* (Nov. 29–Dec. 22) hits the



Cara Mia tells a timely tale of a same-sex romance between two homeless youth in 'Swimming While Drowning.'

stage, followed by Denise Lee's socially stimulating story *Funny, You Don't Act Like A Negro* (Feb. 20–March 15, 2020). Come April, *The Elephant Man* (April 9–May 3) stomps into town, followed by *The Immigrant* (June 4–28), a tale about a Russian-Jewish man settling in small town Texas, ends the season. Theatre-3Dallas.com.

Stage West

After announcing a slew of regional premieres, this Fort Worth-based company starts its season with *The Lifespan of a Fact* (Nov. 7–Dec. 8), a true-ish story about a magazine fact-checker, then *Ada and the Engine* (Jan. 9–Feb. 9, 2020), stage adaption of the book about two innovative minds who form a

partnership. Catch the regional premiere of *The Children* (March 12–April 12), which reflects the concept of generational responsibility. *Church & State* (May 7–June 7), a story of a Republican U.S. senator who faces a life-altering crisis after he makes an off-the-cuff remark during his campaign for re-election, takes over. In *Into the Breaches!* (July 2–Aug. 2), set during WWII, a theater company's women stage an all-female production of Shakespeare's *Henry V*, and prize-winning drama *Between Riverside and Crazy* (Aug. 27–Sept. 27) closes the season. StageWest.org.

Kitchen Dog Theater

Kitchen Dog starts its season with the world premiere of *a love offering* (Oct. 3–27), a new piece by gay Dallas playwright Jonathan Norton. Then comes *Queen of Basel* (Nov. 21–Dec. 15), a play about a real estate heiress who reigns supreme over Art Basel, followed by *Alabaster* (Feb. 13 – March 8), from playwright Audrey Cefaly, who's also known for her award-winning LGBTQ drama *The Gulf*. Then the world premiere of *A History of the Life and Voyages of Christopher Columbus By Washington Irving* (June 4–28), a

story about a man blackmailed by the Vatican into doing a literary assignment on a notorious sea-faring pillager, wraps up the season. All performances at The Trinity River Arts Center. KitchenDog-Theater.org.

Lyric Stage

For its 27th season, Lyric Stage celebrates the power and presence of women, starting with *Evita* (Sept. 20–22), a deep look into the life of the former first Lady of Argentina. That's followed by *Mirette* (Nov. 15–17), a charming tale of a girl who helps a tightrope walker regain his confidence. Beginning 2020 will be *Abyssinia* (Feb. 14–16), about a young songbird who's lost her will to sing. Lyric finishes the year with Rodgers+Hammerstein's *Cinderella* (June 12–14). LyricStage.org.

Cara Mia Theatre Co.

The bilingual, multi-cultural company is currently running its **Latinidades: A Festival of Solo Shows Series**, and this is your last chance to catch *Your Healing is Killing Me* (Aug. 23–25), the second show of the series, in which queer Chicano culture addresses the U.S. health

■ SEASON Next Page

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care system; and *Ursula* (Aug. 29–Sep. 8), an emotive reflection of children separated from their families at the U.S.-Mexico border. More queerness follows with *Swimming While Drowning* (Nov. 19–Dec. 15), a riveting story about two homeless teens who find solace in a queer youth shelter. Next is *The House on Mango Street* (Feb. 21–March 3, 2020), a girl’s coming-of-age story set in a barrio. And finally, a compelling look into ethnic identity in Dael Orlander-smith’s *My Red Hand, My Black Hand* (May 15–31), part of Cara Mia and Soul Rep Theatre’s Café Negro Series. All performances at the Latino Cultural Center. CaraMiaTheatre.org.

Imprint Theatreworks

Next month, Imprint presents the **First Impressions Main Stage Showcase** (Sept. 13–19 at Arts Mission Oak Cliff), where local playwrights can show their works. Imprint closes its second season, which was dedicated to women and their destinies, with *Lizzie* (Oct. 25–Nov. 9) at the Bath House Cultural Center, a rock musical about the infamous axe murderer. The company opens its

new season with *Puffs* (Jan. 9–25, 2020), a Harry Potter-like play about magic school. The **3rd Annual First Impressions Festival for Local Playwrights** (Feb. 25–29) comes the following month. Soon after, *Here: A Devised Work* (April 23–May 5), the collaborative piece here arrives, followed by *Southern Comfort* (June 5–20), a musical based on the 2001 Sundance Film Festival documentary of the same name, which follows the last year of Robert Eads, a transgender man diagnosed with ovarian cancer. And wait for *Rapture, Blister, Burn* (Oct. 7–22), a musical chairs game of gender politics. Finally, *American Psycho* (Oct. 29–Nov. 14), the stage adaption for the 1999 thriller about yuppie serial killer Patrick Bateman, ends the season. ImprintTheatreworks.org.

**OPERA AND MUSIC
Dallas Opera**

The Dallas Opera launches its 2019–20 season with Mozart’s *The Magic Flute* (Oct. 18–Nov. 3), followed by *The Golden Cockerel* (Oct. 25–Nov. 2). The company will then present a concert version of Verdi’s *Don Carlo* (March 20–



Dallas Opera music director Emmanuel Villaume will conduct three operas this season.

28) along with a double bill, *Pulcinella*, in collaboration with Dallas Black Dance Theatre, and Jean Cocteau’s one-person performance *La Voix Humaine* (April 3–8). And to end the season, Rossini’s *The Barber of Seville* strikes (April 24–May 10). DallasOpera.org.

Fort Worth Opera

North Texas’ oldest opera company returns to Bass Hall with its spring festival (April 17–May 3) starting with Puccini’s *La Boheme* (April 17–19), a beautifully tragic love affair set in 19th century Paris. The masked avenger *Zor-*

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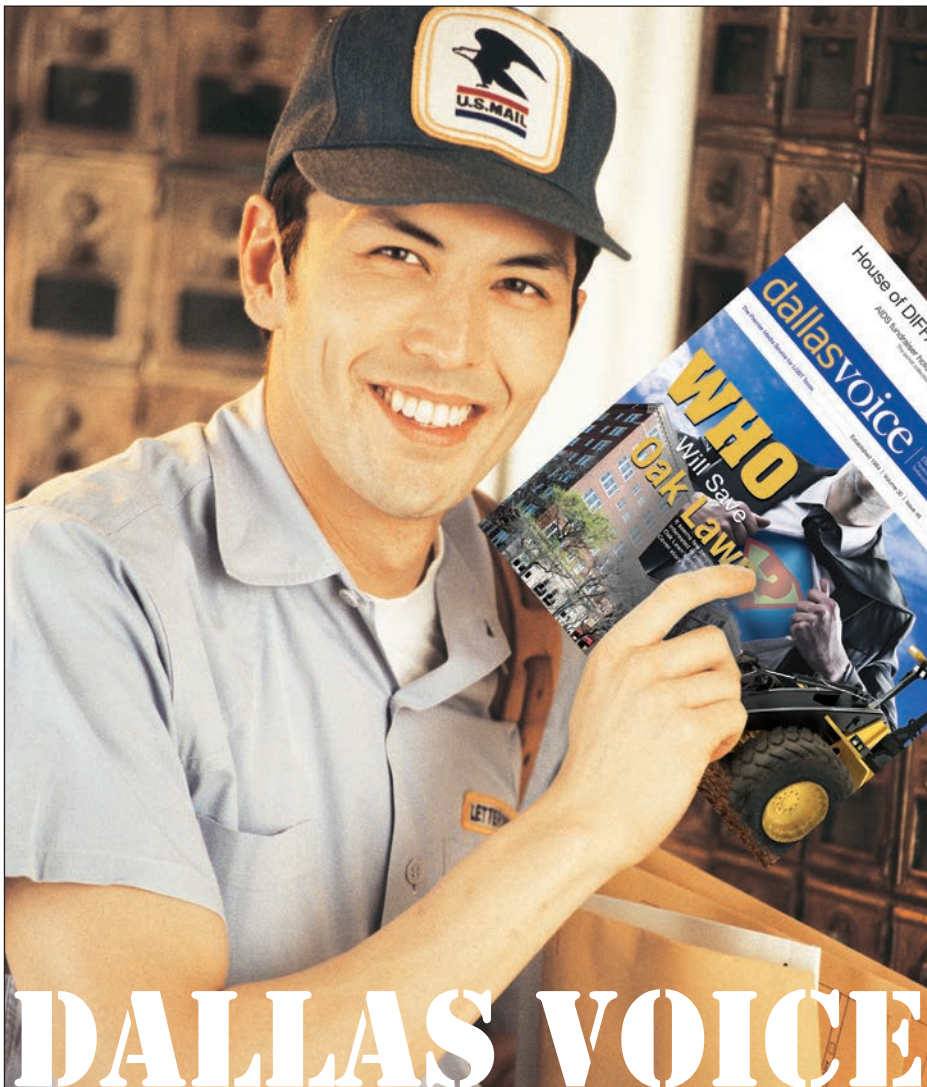
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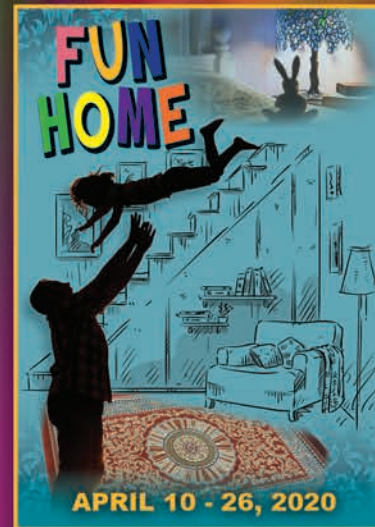
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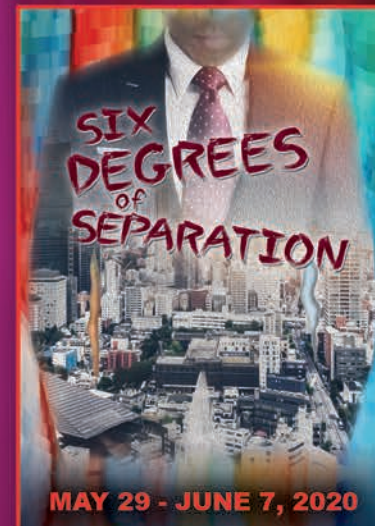
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Texas Ballet Theatre kicks off its season in September with 'Sleepy Beauty.'

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ro slashes and dashes in swashbuckling fashion (April 17–May 3), with Johann Strauss II's operetta *Die Fledermaus* (May 1–3) finishing the festival. FWOpera.org.

Turtle Creek Chorale

TCC welcomes its 40th anniversary season, starting with *To All the Women We've Loved Before* (Sept. 29), dedicated to the women in our lives, on the Meyer Symphony Center stage. Then TCC's signature holiday tradition *40 Years of Fa La La* (Dec. 13–15), featuring classic and new holiday pieces, moves over to the Moody Performance Hall. For spring, *Unbreakable* (March 27–29), a new choral musical from out Tony Award-winning composer Andrew Lippa, highlights hidden moments of LGBTQ history. Following is *CLASSIC: The Songs That Made the TCC* (June 28), a throwback to the chorale's 40 years of music and memories, then to close out the year, TCC presents *On This Shining Night* (Dec. 20). TurtleCreekChorale.com.

BALLET AND DANCE

Texas Ballet Theater

As usual, many shows will perform both at Fort Worth's Bass Performance Hall and Dallas' Winspear Opera House. The season begins with Vsevolozhsky's *The Sleeping Beauty* (Sept. 6–8 at the Winspear and Oct. 18–20 at the Bass), and come the winter season, audiences will have multiple chances to see *The Nutcracker* (Nov. 29–Dec. 29) at both the Bass and Winspear, along with the uproarious *Nutty Nutcracker* (Dec. 20 at the Bass). Then a double program featuring ballets *Fire-*

bird and *Crash* (Feb. 14–16 at the Bass), followed by a program of three short ballets (March 27–29 at the Bass). The season concludes with *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Winspear May 8–10, Bass May 15–17) TexasBalletTheater.org.

TITAS

TITAS opens its Dance Unbound season with *Ronald K. Brown/Evidence* (Sept. 20); then *Bodytraffic* (Oct. 25–26); the *Ballet British Columbia* (Nov. 8–9); *MOMIX* (Dec. 13); *Delfos Danza Contempor* (Jan. 31, 2020); *Malandain Ballet Biarri* (Feb. 7–8); *BeijingDance/LDTX* (Feb. 28–29); *Alvin Ailey* (March 13–14); *Changmu Dance Company* (April 11); and finally *Rubberband* (May 1–2). The *Command Performance Gala* (June 6) is a fundraising add-on. All performances at Moody Performance Hall, except Brown, Momix, Delfos, Ailey, Changmu and the gala, which take place at the Winspear. ATTPAC.org.

Bruce Wood Dance

The company returns to Moody Performance Hall with Texas dancemaker Bruce Wood's acclaimed repertoire and new performance *Harvest*, which features his renowned *Follow Me*. BruceWoodDance.org.

This list does not detail every DFW-based arts calendar. For more season information visit the following arts organizations' websites: Undermain.org. JubileeTheatre.org. TheatreArlington.org. CasaManana.org. WingSpanTheatre.com. CircleTheatre.org. MBSProductions.net. DBDT.com. DMA.org. KimbellArt.org. TheModern.org. TicketDFW.com. TheWomensChorusOfDallas.com. EisemannCenter.com. ATTPAC.org. BassHall.com.



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Facebook flame-wars and sometimes necessary public (read: social media) shaming.

All of the artists interviewed for this story agree that, in North Texas, there have been improvements in the past five years or so, but more change is needed, even in a post-*Hamilton*/post-*Pose* world... or, to scale it on a local level, even after the Dallas Theater Center — our biggest theater and largest employer of theater artists — won the 2017 Regional Theater Tony Award, in part, because of artistic director Kevin Moriarty's growing commitment to equity, diversion and inclusion on stage and within the institution.

After last weekend's performance Public Works Dallas production of Shakespeare's *As You Like It*, in which five professional actors shared the stage with about 200 community members representing what our community truly looks like, local Latina director Christina Vela posted on Facebook: "...there was a moment when I was watching Chris Ramirez as Orlando and Tiffany DeSena as Rosalind ... wherein I felt like a kid again, giddy and proud and hopeful, and it mattered so much to me to see two professional actors who look like me leading this incredible ensemble in a professional Shakespeare production at a major LORT theater. If I, a crusty old broad who's been doing this for a 'few' years, felt that way, imagine what it's like for all the little brown boys and girls on stage working with them every night?"

In 2008, Dallas-based actor Monalisa Amidar, who identifies as Filipino-Texan, founded Diwa Theater Company with the intent of showcasing North Texas' Asian-Pacific Islander (API) theater community. The group produced one show at WaterTower Theatre's Out of the Loop Fringe Festival, but for a number of reasons (one being the amount of work involved with running and growing a theater company) Diwa folded. Amidar has remained a part of the theater scene as an actor and director. In August 2018, she started a Facebook group, DFW Asian Pacific American Creatives, consisting of Asian- and American-born API artists. The group now has about 170 members. It's one of the reasons that Imprint Theatreworks' current production of Leah Nanako Winkler's *Kentucky* was able to cast seven roles in this story about a Japanese-American family living in the bluegrass state with API actors.



Monalisa Amidar and J.R. Bradford in the diversely cast production of Imprint's 'Kentucky.' (Photo courtesy Kris Ikejiri)

In a July column on TheaterJones.com, Imprint's artist director Ashley H. White wrote about responsible casting, and of the *Kentucky* auditions: "DFW's large community of API artists responded to the call. Turnout for our auditions was overwhelming, introducing us to countless new faces and a whole catalog of artists wanting to share in telling this story."

That's a theme that emerges over and over again when talking to artists from marginalized communities. There are plenty of stories to tell, but that doesn't mean that those stories should be the only reason to cast artists of color — any given theater's token one-per-season play written by a person of color and/or queer person shouldn't be the only time the theater actively searches for artists from those groups.

"I don't want to be considered only for API-specific roles. I've been fortunate to have worked with innovative and progressive theatre companies who've cast me and made nontraditional casting decisions," Amidar says. "I believe in color-conscious casting where an artist's ethnicity is seen as an asset that enriches not only the role but the overall creative process."

It also doesn't mean that API roles can be cast with non-API actors. "Yellowface" has been an all too common occurrence in theater, certainly going back to the age of operetta and such musicals as Rodgers+Hammerstein's problematic *Flower Drum Song*. Notably, when *Miss Saigon* debuted in London, actor Jonathan Pryce was controversially cast in the role of the Engineer, a half-Vietnamese character. Those kinds of casting

mistakes are being taken seriously. In 2016, after an outcry when Dallas Summer Musicals cast a white man as the King in *The King and I*, leadership recast the role with an API actor. Protests don't always work, though. A few years ago, Lyric Stage was the topic of controversy when it cast a white man in the lead role of Quanah Parker in a musical about the Comanche chief. In 2018, a similar outcry occurred when a large-budget, professional theater in St. Louis cast white actors as Asian characters in a revival of *Jerome Robbins' Broadway*.

The importance of responsible casting is echoed by Seth Johnson and Olivia Grace Murphy, who co-founded Flexible Grey Theatre Company in 2018 to address the needs of marginalized artists and writers. They also host a monthly podcast, in conjunction with TheaterJones, called TeaTalks, in which they have conversations on these issues (topics have included nonbinary and API artists and women directors). In its shows, the group has drawn from the local community of queer, trans and nonbinary artists and/or artists of color.

That topic becomes thorny when talking about roles for cisgender lesbians and gay men, because "gayness" is not necessarily something that can be identified just by visual appearance, as opposed to people of color or, in some cases, transgender and non-binary people.

Many artists — even persons of color and LGBT directors and actors — will argue that in these cases, it comes down to acting. There's a long history of

straight women playing lesbians and straight men playing gay men — it has even won Oscars for Charlize Theron and Tom Hanks, for instance.

Johnson sees it from another standpoint.

"It goes back to the authenticity of the story you're trying to tell," he says. "If you're trying to tell a gay story that is specially written that way, and you have that community auditioning for you, I don't understand why you wouldn't pick somebody who's not engrained in that culture. I think casting consciously with sexual orientation in mind is important, because our stories are unique, and you might be a wonderful ally and understand the community, but you're never going to experience what we've gone through."

"I just did *Newsies* [at Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma] and [Joseph] Pulitzer was played by a black man," notes Lee. "Some people thought that was too much, because he was a real man; but in my opinion, this wasn't a story about him, and it wasn't about his life. We have to look at the context of the show." Explaining further, Lee says, "Billie Holiday can't be played by a white woman, that changes her whole experience. ... Anne Frank could not be black, in my opinion. Just like Dr. King can't be white [in works about their stories]."

"Actors think 'I should be able to act anything,'" adds Murphy, "but they forget the idea that acting is storytelling, and not everyone is equipped to tell every story."

Colby Calhoun, a mixed-race dancer and actor who identifies as queer and gender-nonconforming and uses they/ them or she/her pronouns, says that

this issue of responsible casting has to go to the top of an organization.

"I think it starts with leadership," Calhoun says. "Putting people behind the table that represent people like me or people similar to me, it makes us more comfortable when auditioning. If there's a person of color on the artistic team, that gives me hope that I'm getting seen."

"Casting the best person for the job is one thing," Calhoun adds, "but when you really say 'We need these people behind the table,' then you find the best of those people, you find the new people. That's how you change the voice, how you keep things moving, how you change the face of representation."

Calhoun, who has been a member of Danielle Georgiou Dance Group for four years, created a new work, *1st Annual Gay Show*, that was performed at the most recent Festival of Independent Theatres. The piece was devised specifically for queer artists of color, and the cast featured Calhoun and four queer, transgender or non-binary Latinx, black and API performers. "I wanted a place to tell stories for people of color that were defiant in a way, because often when talking about queer representation for people of color or queer people of color, it feels like tokenization."

Within North Texas theater, there are a number of culturally specific groups: Jubilee Theatre, Soul Rep Theatre and African American Repertory Theater (all highlighting the black experience); Teatro Dallas, Cara Mía Theatre Company and Teatro Flor Candela (Latinx theaters); Uptown Players and Flexible Grey (LGBT); Echo Theatre, which only produces work by women playwrights (and is expanding that to female-identifying writers); and One Thirty Productions, which caters to a demographic we too often forget about: the elderly and people of retirement age. There are also a number of programs, such as *Starcatchers in Plano* (affiliated with North Texas Performing Arts) and the sensory-friendly performances at Dallas Children's Theater, that program for differently-abled and neurodivergent artists and audiences.

Of the non-culturally specific organizations that have full repertory seasons and are clamoring to find their way into the community engagement conversation, there have been notable examples of truly diverse casting, such as Dallas Theater Center's color-conscious pro-

duction of *Les Miserables* and its revival of *Inherit the Wind* that was cast without regard to color or gender. Works on transgender themes and using transgender or non-binary performers have been produced by Uptown Players (*Harbor*), Stage West (*Hir*), Second Thought Theatre (*A Kid Like Jake* and *Straight White Men*), Bishop Arts Theatre Center (*In the Tall Grass*) and Circle Theatre (*Men on Boats*), to name a few.

In 2020, Imprint Theatreworks will produce a musical called *Southern Comfort*, which is about five transgender people in a small town. "We are, once

again, committed to casting this show responsibly. Do I know five transgender artists off the top of my head? I do not, but I look forward to meeting, seeing and creating with them," White wrote in the aforementioned column.

To Amidar, it's vital that North Texas theaters find ways to find artists from marginalized communities, beyond simply posting online casting notices in the usual places, such as audition sites and digital callboards.

"Extend your outreach beyond the DFW theatre community," she says.

"Include outreach to cultural groups,

ethnic-specific organizations, bulletins, newsletters and places of worship and gathering (community centers, restaurants, AAPI-owned businesses, etc.).

Speaking as a member of the API community, she adds: "There is a wealth of talent, heart and potential within the API artistic community... Nothing makes me happier than seeing fellow API artists thrive. To non-API colleagues — if in doubt, reach out, consult and ask questions. Best of all, let's collaborate!" ■

Mark Lowry is the executive editor of the non-profit Metropolitan Arts Media, which runs the website TheaterJones.com.

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Friday 08.23

Singer-songwriter Steve Dorff to perform in Addison

WaterTower Theatre hosts IGNITE! a one-night only party featuring Emmy -and Grammy-nominated singer-songwriter Steve Dorff, who's penned many songs for seemingly countless mainstream artists. The night will feature other musical performances by local musicians, singing works by famous artists such as Barbra Streisand, Whitney Houston, Dolly Parton and The Carpenters.

DEETS: Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. at 8 p.m. \$150. WaterTowerTheatre.org.



Friday 08.23 – Monday 09.02

LEGO my ego, Perot!

From world-renowned contemporary artist Nathan Sawaya, The Art of the Brick lands at the Perot Museum. Sawaya made this stunning traveling exhibit exclusively out of LEGOS, with both original pieces and re-imagined works from famous artists, such as Vincent Van Gogh's *Starry Night* and Johannes Vermeer's *Girl With a Pearl Earring*, displayed. But hurry. This colorfully creative exhibit will only be up through the first Monday of September.

DEETS: Perot Museum of Nature and Science, 2201 N. Field St. PerotMuseum.org.



Friday 08.23 – Saturday 09.21

Pocket Sandwich Theatre serves up a 'Tuna' melt

From the creative wackiness of Joe Sears and Jaston Williams came the play that started it all: *Greater Tuna*, a hilarious play about the third smallest town in Texas. Two performers portray the citizens of Tuna in this satire on rural life — more than over 20 characters including men, women, children and even animals. It's all twangy good fun.

DEETS: Pocket Sandwich Theatre, 5400 E. Mockingbird Lane. PocketSandwichTheatre.com.

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ARTSWEEK

THEATER

A 3D Adventure. A new play by Matt Lyle. Circle Theatre, 230 W. 4th St., Fort Worth. Through Sept. 14. CircleTheatre.com.

Bridges: Multicultural Connections.

Presented by Flexible Grey Theatre Co. Latino Cultural Center, 2600 Live Oak St. Through Saturday.

Broadway or Bust. A new musical by Paul Kalburgi. *Final weekend.* Bath House Cultural Center, 521 E. Lawther Drive. PegasusTheatre.org.

The Cake. A comedy about family, a lesbian relationship and finding commonality in the era of Trump. *Reviewed this week. Final weekend.* Kalita Humphreys Theater, 3636 Turtle Creek Blvd. UptownPlayers.org.

Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The musical version of the Roald Dahl book, based on the 1972 musical film. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Through Sunday. ATPAC.org.

Fiddler on the Roof. The classic musical. Bass Performance Hall, 535 Commerce St., Fort Worth. Through Sunday. Presented by Performing Arts Fort Worth. BassHall.com.

Latinadades: A Festival of Solo Shows. Presented by Cara Mia, including a show about a queer Latina (which runs through Sunday). Latino Cultural Center, 2600 Live Oak St. CaraMiaTheatre.org.



Stanley Kubrick's acclaimed adaptation of 'Lolita' plays as part of the Big Movie New Classics Series at the Magnolia.

FINE ART

Dior: From Paris to the World. Retrospective of 70 years of the famed French design house. Dallas Museum of Art 1717 Harwood St. Through Oct. 27 (extended). DMA.org.

Caravaggio: Martha and Mary Magdalene. A stunning work from 1598, on loan to the DMA through the summer. Dallas Museum of Art 1717 Harwood St. Free. Through Sept. 22. DMA.org.

SATURDAY 08.24

COMMUNITY

FrontRunners. Gay jogging/walking group meets weekly at 8:30 a.m. in Oak Lawn Park at Hall Street and Turtle Creek Boulevard for a run along the Katy Trail.

MONDAY 08.26

CABARET

Mama's Party. Weekly cabaret night with special guest performances. Uptown Theatre, 120 E. Main St., Grand Prairie. 7:35 p.m. \$10

TUESDAY 08.27

FILM

Lolita. Stanley Kubrick's film adaptation of the controversial novel about a relationship between an older man and a young girl. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie New Classic Series, which now includes a matinee. Landmark's Magnolia Theatre in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Screens at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

THURSDAY 08.29

CABARET

Glitterbomb Denton. Weekly queer variety show with a new lineup every Thursday, now at a new locale and new time. Andy's Bar, 122 N. Locust St., Denton. 8 p.m.

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Ask Howard

How to do the wrong thing right

Summer has turned raggedy. Everything about late August projects an aura of ... *spent*. The air throbs with waves of ripples. Dehydrated crepe myrtles, cottonwoods, pin oaks and pecans rustle constipated, cobwebbed and crinkly: Photosynthesis along Turtle Creek's lovely lariat of emerald elephant ears limply sag, too exhausted even to consider verdant *movement* — a city too stickily frigid indoors to fornicate and too nefariously-scorching outside to play clothed games. Like the proverbial three-legged dog, the wonder isn't that August ranks, far and away, as the number one personal-mobility/globe-trotting month of the year; no, the miracle is that it manages motor function at all.

Such a paradox August is: Torpid, fetid, yet refreshingly awash in historical gold. August's first and last days bookend fun facts and trivia so astoundingly significant as to leave all the other 11 months eating dust. Breathlessly, at its front end, August the First proudly stakes claim to Joseph Priestley's 1774 discovery of such a wondrous mundanity that, despite being the first person to figure out human beings breathe a highly volatile, poisonous and odorless gas called oxygen, it was Edison (not Priestley) who nonetheless won triumphal glory via the history books with his flashy, twin August inventions of supernaturally-prescient legs: The phonograph and the kinoscope (precursor to the movie projector). Lamentably, the first day of August equally lays claim to the recorded start of the deadliest, most witlessly cruel manmade disaster in human history: General Mao's Chinese Cultural Revolution. In a similar vein of annihilatory cheer, on Aug. 1, 1944, Anne Frank made her final diary entry; closer to home (and on a genuinely upbeat note), at 10 a.m. on 8/1/61, Six Flags Over Texas swung open her thrilling, fun-for-the-whole-family gates — the very first in the amusement park's cross-country chain!

Not to be outdone, day 31 from August's backside boasts an even richer goldmine of historical milestones. 'Twas on this final day of August 1803 that Lewis and Clark left home in Pittsburgh to begin their epic, landmark expedition West into the dark frontier. Incredibly, just shy of a century's shipload of wondrous inventions later (1897) Edison received his patent for the movie projector which — probably inevitably — ultimately metastasized one exact century further forward (1997) into the untimely death in a Parisian tunnel of the first celebrity in history to be, literally, driven to death at the hands of paparazzi cameras. Cinderella-like, nevertheless, on this same date in 1957, a perfunctory release of the title track to a summer-bubblegum throwaway movie became the quickest, original-film song in Hollywood history to hit No. 1 on the Billboard charts — staying there for five weeks, and another solid six months in the Top 40.

"Tammy" not only became the top-selling single of the year, but subsequently inspired a whole generation of white-trash parents to believe that naming their own daughters after an imaginary swamp-girl innocent — portrayed by America's sweetheart, little Debbie Reynolds — would likewise snare bachelor millionaires for their own feckless little guttersnipe cinder-hella Tammy-Jos, Tammy-Sues and Tammy-Jeans: "*The ole hooty-owl hooty-hoos to the dove/Tammy . . . Taaammy . . . Taaammeeee's in llllllllluuuuuuuu.*"

All of August's in-between dates, too, are every bit as paradoxically-larded full of historical gigantism as its two overstuffed bookends, not the least of which being the very name of the month, itself. Bestowed in the year 8 B.C. by Augustus Caesar (Rome's first emperor) upon flat-out hijacking the year's most-fruitful month, Sextilis, and renaming it in honor of himself; then, for good measure, stole an extra day from failed usurper Julius Caesar's month, tipping August up to 31 days by demoting April down to 30 (itself having already previously robbed poor, barren February — twice!). Apparently, Augustus' derring-do set a sorcery-like precedent for his namesake month so consistently being chockful of truly unfathomable, global game-changers: Everything from the Aug. 12, 1908 rollout of the world's first mass-produced, affordable automobile (Ford's instant-hit classic, The Model T, or Tin Lizzie as she was affectionately called, custom-painted in any color his customers so desired, so long as it was black). In sheer worldwide reach, August's embracing scope is indefatigably untouchable: Aug. 22 (1913) hosted the founding of The International Red Cross, on Aug. 4 (1914) World War I began; on Aug. 14 (1945) World War II ended; and on Aug. 25, 1919, the first recorded international air service began (from London to Paris). No less monumental, August equally played host to the time-capsule preservation of Pompeii's congealed burial beneath the A.D. 79 eruption of Mt. Vesuvius, along with Martin Luther King Jr.'s iconic 1963 "I Have A Dream" speech, and the ignominious 1974 resignation of Richard Milhous Nixon: Repercussions from all these solemn totems remain forever unfolding.

So, what a more perfect month than this one (simultaneously totemic *and* lethargic!) to engage in a bit of reverse-chic, poolside frolicsome fun... if "fun" is what one calls exposing to sunlight my darkest of locked away vampiric questions, so noxiously mold-ering and overheatedly scalding that, same as spent uranium fuel rods, it's impossible to dispose of them as normal refuse. These sordid questions require eternally vigilant submersion in "heavy water" just to stay cooled-down enough not to flash-trigger some catastrophic, feasibly irreversible meltdown of the entire LGBT community. My own personal friends frequently call me up and disgustedly groan, "Howard, just when I think you've finally hit bedrock bottom, I read your next column to discover an even deeper thunder-box sinkhole maw has opened before me! Are there no limits

to how Hades-digging low you'll go?" And, granted, it may indeed *appear* during these deepest Dallas dog-fart days of summer that I've no standards, whatsoever, in so far as which topics I deem beach-blanket reading; or, whether there are actually any "off-limits" summer reading topics, at all... considering everyone's already both secretly pissing in the pool *and* wanking-off in the pina colodas anyhow. Hence, for those of you not surreptitiously engaged in Summer Bible School pastimes, I'm inclined to say let's drop the kids off at the pool and get right to it.

WARNING! *If you are offended by indecent, puerilely-mortifying material do not read further. BEWARE! The following is of an extraordinarily scatological, sexually-graphic nature, and is intended for an over-21 adult fetish audience, exclusively. STOP! If you are uncomfortable with, or are in any way excited by, extreme "taboo" bedroom scenarios. DO NOT READ FURTHER! This is your politically-correct FINAL WARNING. There. Squalid, then, here we delve! (You had your chance.) Oh, and FYI, in order not to incriminate any singular individual, the following are "composite" questions; meaning, they're culled together from some of the most popularly unhygienic imagery questions I've ever incidentally laser-branded my diminutive hippocampus with: Needless to say, the following were quite naturally never considered publishable, nor even toyingly floated for publication.*

Dear Howard: More often than not, my 17-year-old son, Will, forgets to erase his online Recent History Searches which, in the name of paternal Pasteurization, I quietly correct the next morning, before my 13-year-old stealthily arises (in every way possible) to peek at whatever forbidden gardens his horndawg big brother forgot to lockdown upon crusting the comforter. I try never reprimanding Will just for what every 17-year-old boy is involuntarily obsessed with; I mean, he watches exactly the types of videos I would have been secretly streaming had the internet only existed back when I was his age... with one glaring (psychiatrist-bound!) exception: Will seems over-obscenely fixated with an obscure, niche-fetish category, "Taboo Scat." To give you, among many, just one disturbingly recent title example: "Son Devours Dad's Mexican Dinner for Breakfast, Licks Dispenser Clean." Yep, my eldest gets off on watching college-age boys, mouths open gaping wide, jonesing for their squatting dad's diarrhea dumps. Like, who even *invents* this twisted shit (pun intended)? Which man was first with this lightbulb-moment, "Oh, wait, son, you know, I just thought of the perfect way you and me both could make a whole shitload of dough during your Saturday night webcam show!" Worse, what does it say about how Will views me? Howard, who does my son brand as the actual perv here in our family — himself, or me, his good Christian father? — **Extremely Concerned Parent**

Of course, my sweet readers, the reasons are monstrously myriad as to why this, among similar DOA queries, never see a publication date: Just toss a brick shithouse



dart blindfolded at any individual Frankenstein component, and it'll reek "unprintable" no matter which ring of fire within Dante's *Inferno* of fleshly pleasure rot it sticks. Take your pick: homosexual incest, intergenerational sodomy, defiling minors, indecent exposure, public sanitation hazard, kidnapping, coercion, endangering public health and safety, sociopathic pedophilia, nutritionally negative force-feeding, borderline psychosis, sex trafficking, and so forth, and so on, sully and descending perversely. But, kids, just between you, me and the devil's dick, I'm fairly certain our skeleton key to unlocking this unsavory delight lies in vigilante dad's very own two self-anointed paternal superlatives: "Good Christian." (Do I hear, "BINGO?") All the very best roads to Hell are paved in them, explicitly: "*Whip-poorwill, whip-poorwill, you and I know/Daddy ... Daddy ... can't let him go.*"

Dear Howard: What are the black-and-white differences between child endangerment, child molestation, child abuse and outright pedophilia? I only see a lot of courtroom gray area and nothing officially exonerating: What *are* the basic rights of those fearing life-destroying accusations of this sort — thanks to spoiled little 'tween boys just because they didn't receive the latest, greatest Xbox or iPhone? — **Tom E.**

First of all, I'm sorry, but I can't find in my resume where it states I offer expert pro bono legal defense against jailbait twunks' felonious indictments. Secondly, dear readers, notice how Tommy Gun nixed a crucial clarifier to his wolf-crying, "What are the basic rights of those fearing life-destroying accusations of this sort?" Pointedly, he excluded the one word that could easily exonerate him blameless as Caesar's wife: He omitted the simple word "false" — five salvational letters: "What are the basic rights of those fearing life-destroying *false* accusations of this sort?" Hence, it has been Howard's wan experience that whenever one accommodates room for even a tiny little leak to stain an otherwise perfectly watertight credulity of victimization, then it's no longer just an odd question for your local gay advice columnist, but rather an interesting matter altogether for the FBI: "*The breeze from The Bureau keeps murmuring low: Tommy ... Tommy ... you love him so.*"

— Howard Lewis Russell

Have a question on life, love, sex or etiquette, no matter how strange? Send it to AskHoward@dallasvoice.com and he may answer.

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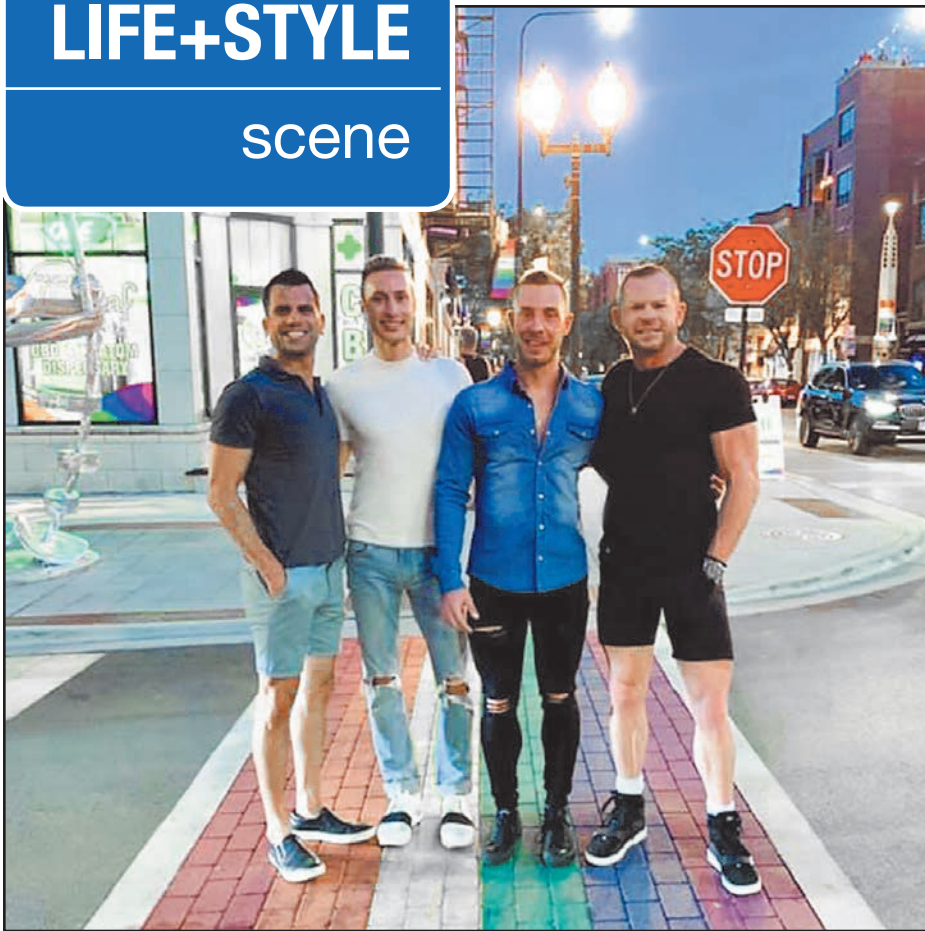
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- **1851 Club:** Featured performers for Friday night's show are **Kristie Davenport, Addison Foster** and **Jaden Davenport**. Saturday night's featured performers are **Rochelle Roulette, Sapphire Davenport** and **Chanel St. John**.
- **515 Bar:** **Karaoke** from 9 p.m.-midnight on Wednesday.
- **Alexandre's:** **Broadway on a Tuesday — Act II: The Party Continues**, beginning at 8 p.m.
- **Cedar Springs Tap House:** **Hangover Brunch** every Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m., with specials on mimosa carafes, bloody marys and more.
- **Club Reflection:** **Tucker** hosts **Karaoke** every Sunday, from 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Open to 18 and older. Come sing and be you.
- **Dallas Eagle:** **The United Court of the Lone Star Empire** presents its **"Bare Bones Show"** from 7-1 p.m. Friday, and the **Leather and Lace Show** from 6-10 p.m. Saturday. **Dallas Diablos Boot Camp** starts at 9 p.m. Saturday, and the **Diablos Cook-Out** is Sunday from 5-9 p.m.
- **Havana:** **Show Time** each Wednesday at 11 p.m.
- **Hidden Door:** **The United Court of the Lone Star Empire** hosts a **Cookout** from 2-5 p.m. Wednesday night is **Club Night**, and this week's club is the **United Court of the Lone Star Empire**. The fun starts at 7 p.m.
- **JR.'s Bar & Grill:** **Cassie's Freak Show** is Monday night at 11 p.m. **Double Trouble**, featuring **Bleach, Raquel, Barbie** and **Mulan** starts at 11 p.m. on Tuesday, and **Bleach** and **Raquel** return on Thursday, along with **Chanel, Rocky** and **Lana** for **Dream Girls** at 11 p.m.
- **Liquid Zoo Bar & Grill:** **This Free Life** presents **Kiki Dance Drag** Saturday from 9 p.m.-2 a.m., with performances starting at 10:30 p.m. and featuring **Bea Dazzle, Bleach, Fuschia Doll, Iman Roids, Kathy O'Connor, Serene Storm, Sleyla Edwards** and **Tylee AF**.
- **Marty's Live:** **Tipsy Tuesday Game Night** begins at 10 p.m., with drink specials, pool, poker, spades and darts.
- **Pekers:** **Totally Twisted Karaoke** each Friday and Saturday beginning at 9:45 p.m. with **Sound Choice** and **Chartbuster** tracks. **The Progressive Cash Jackpot** has returned for Saturdays. Sign up by 10:30 p.m. to be eligible to win.
- **Round-Up Saloon:** Every Monday offers **Dance Lessons** at 8:30 p.m., **Karaoke** in The Parlor at 9 p.m., and **Boys, Boots and Boxer Briefs** with **Sassy O'Hara**, sponsored by **Kruto Vodka** and offering a \$100 cash prize.
- **Sue Ellen's:** **Queer Off** starts at 10:30 p.m. Wednesday, and **Karaoke with Chris** starts at 9:30 p.m. Thursday. Saturday features **DJ Sno White** in the evening, with **The Bad Habits** performing from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Sunday's lineup features **Marisela** followed by **The Gawd Almightyies**.
- **The Rose Room:** Cast shows all weekend long, beginning Friday with **Cassie, Layla, Chanel LaMasters, Kenya Black, Krystal, Ruby Diamond** and **Starr**. Saturday's show features **Cassie, Kelexis, Sasha, Kenya Black, Layla, Krystal** and **Fantasha**, and Sunday winds up the weekend with **Cassie, Kelexis, Sasha, Kenya Black, Layla** and **Krystal**.
- **TMC: The Mining Company:** **Trashy Tuesdays** with **DJ Mateo** and no cover.
- **Urban Cowboy:** **The Real Talk Brunch: A PrEP Awareness Event**, hosted by **ASP Cares Pharmacy** and **Urban Cowboy Saloon**, begins at noon on Saturday. And from noon to 3 p.m. on Sunday, **Sister Raquel, Sister Onyx, Sister Daphne** and **Sapphire D. Davenport** host **Gospel Drag Brunch**. Seating is limited; get your tickets ASAP!
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** **Jada Pinkett Fox** hosts the **Variety Show** beginning at 11 p.m. on Thursday.

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Solution on Page 40

Across

- 1 Reproduced nonheterosexually?
- 5 Lube brand
- 9 Where bulging pecs are
- 14 Nathan of *The Good Wife*
- 15 Part of a fruity drink
- 16 "Couldn't get out of it"
- 17 Silica stone
- 18 Cumming on the stage
- 19 Cary of *Robin Hood: Men in Tights*
- 20 Start of a quote from Toni Morrison
- 22 Penetrates
- 23 WWII zone
- 24 *Xtra's* prov.
- 25 Tammy Baldwin's party symbol
- 27 Glenn Burke stat
- 28 Nero's land
- 30 *The Bridge* poet Crane
- 32 Norse war god
- 33 Hrs. in P-town
- 35 Deer in Maria's song
- 36 Where boxers are visible
- 37 More of the quote
- 41 Bosom buddy
- 42 Meadow murmur
- 43 He cared for Samuel
- 44 Skirt edges
- 45 Some guys do it nocturnally

- 47 Brand for cutting leaves of grass
- 51 WWII battle site, for short
- 52 Cross-dresser's padding site
- 53 Personal-ad info
- 55 Title for Oedipus
- 56 Anti-homophobic, e.g.
- 58 End of the quote
- 61 *Dirty Dancing* director Ardolina
- 62 Very, to Verlaine
- 63 "Believe ___ not!"
- 64 Woody secretion
- 65 "Java" trumpeter Al
- 66 Kunis of *Black Swan*
- 67 Paid for a hand
- 68 Problem for skin
- 69 Perfect serves from Mauresmo

Down

- 1 State of secrecy
- 2 *Tru* story subject
- 3 Bewitch
- 4 Cut
- 5 Warren of Billy Bean's sport
- 6 *Frasier's* ex
- 7 ___ instant
- 8 Outback bounder
- 9 Game with many openings

- 10 "Hold your horses!"
- 11 Royal lover of Piers Gaveston
- 12 Sculptor Emma
- 13 Solo sex, with "off"
- 21 Proposal in a bar
- 26 Adam's partner in gay Eden?
- 29 Makes a hole bigger
- 31 Statesman Stevenson
- 32 Do-___ situation
- 34 Where Caesar went to the bank?
- 37 1939 Cukor movie
- 38 David Sedaris' type of writer
- 39 TV wife of two gay Dicks
- 40 Influential member of a tribe
- 41 Idle fancy
- 46 San Francisco's Eagle, e.g.
- 48 Like many a Paul Cadmus painting
- 49 Give a loafer a new bottom
- 50 Actors with small parts
- 52 Coffee bar offering
- 54 Beau chaser
- 57 "I cannot tell ___"
- 59 Mabiis of *The L Word*
- 60 Bean town?



Mike contemplates billiards at Liquid Zoo



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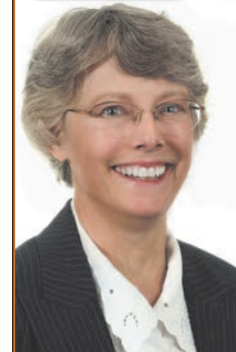
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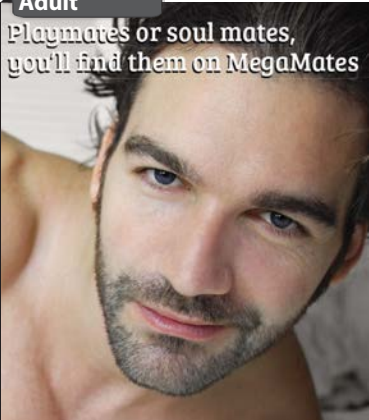
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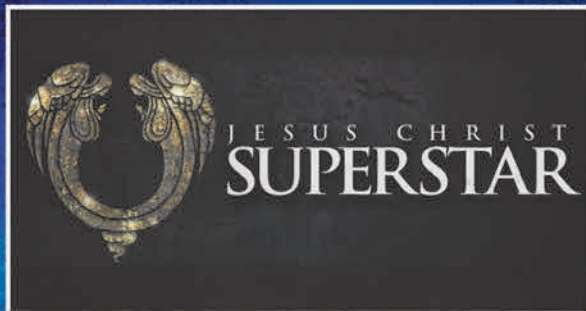


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