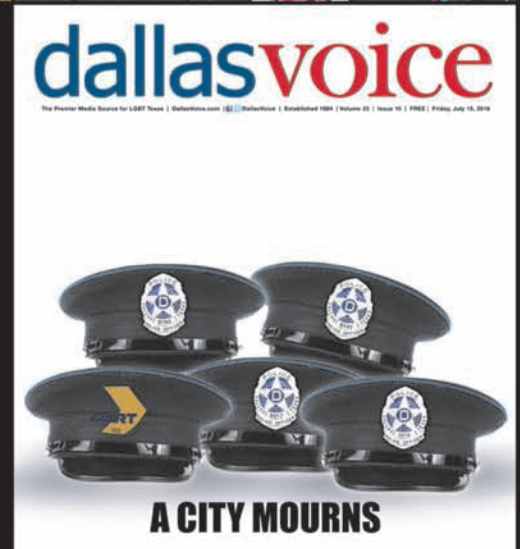
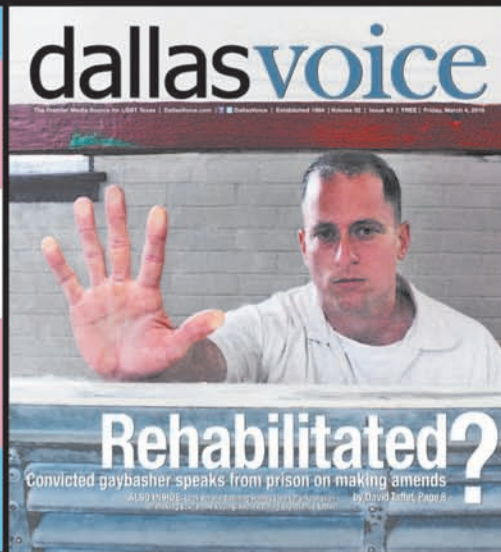


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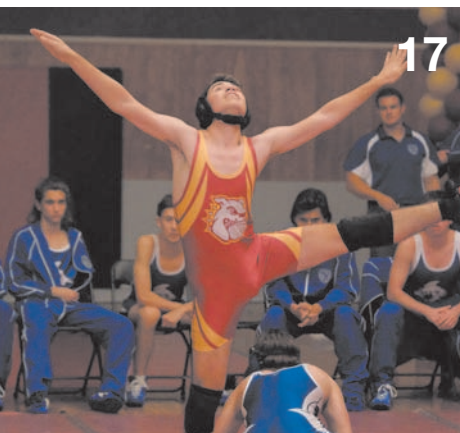




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## THE GAY AGENDA

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

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly** every Sunday at 1 p.m. on 89.3 KNON-FM; **United Black Ellument** hosts discussion on HIV / AIDS in the black community (UBE Connected) at 7 p.m. every fourth Tuesday of the month at 3116 Commerce St., Suite C; **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 Trey more Building, 4038 Lemmon Ave, Suite 101; FuseConnect every Wednesday from 7 p.m. For more information call or e-mail Jalenzski at 214-760-9718 ext 3 or [Jalenzski@myresourcecenter.org](mailto:Jalenzski@myresourcecenter.org).

### DECEMBER

• **Dec. 31: New Year's Eve**

Find your party and party safely.

• **Dec. 31: Once in a Blue Moon dance**

New Year's Eve party for women from 7 p.m.-

midnight at DanceMasters Ballroom located at 10675 East Northwest Highway, Suite 2600B. \$25.

• **Dec. 31: Masques at Midnight**

Formal gala and awards evening hosted by Tarrant County Pride, including presentation of the Spirit of Pride Awards, from 7 p.m.-1 a.m. at DFW Airport Marriott South, 4151 Centreport Drive, Fort Worth. Tickets range from \$125-\$1,600. For information visit [Facebook.com/TCGPWA.org](https://www.facebook.com/TCGPWA.org).

### JANUARY

• **Happy New Year**

• **Jan. 1: Bowl Burning Ceremony**

CSLDallas, a center for spiritual living that teaches "science of the mind" spirituality, will hold a New Year's Day Bowl Burning Ceremony from 11:15 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at CSLDallas, 4801 Spring Valley Road, Ste. 115. A bowl burning ceremony is intended to help participants become clear in their intentions and then release old habits that stand in the way of accomplishing them. For information call 972-866-9988, email [info@csldallas.org](mailto:info@csldallas.org) or visit [CSLDallas.org](https://www.csldallas.org).

### pet of the week / HOSS

**Hoss**, a boxer mix, is about four years old and at 61 pounds, he is a big ol' love-bug of a dog who loves playing ball and can catch it in mid air. He already knows some commands — sit, down, crawl, come, stay and shake — as he's a hard worker, motivated by food, who can surely learn even more. He would do best in a home with no children or children over 14 who can handle a big dog.

Hoss has been neutered and microchipped and has all vaccinations appropriate for his age. He is housed at the SPCA of Texas' Jan Rees-Jones Animal Care Center, 2400 Lone Star Drive in Dallas. For more information on adopting Dragon or one of the SPCA's other lovely dogs or cats, call 214-744-7722 or visiting [SPCA.org](https://www.spcatexas.org).



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• **Jan. 3: Fort Worth Trans/SOFFA meeting**

Group meeting at 7 p.m. at First Jefferson Unitarian Church, 959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth.

• **Jan. 9: Soulcycle**

Charity ride benefiting Black Tie Dinner at 7:30 p.m. at SoulCycle Uptown, 3699 McKinney Ave. \$40 basic 45-minute ride. \$100 VIP front row bike selection.

• **Jan. 9: Denton Trans/SOFFA meeting**

Group meeting at 7 p.m. at Denton Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1111 Cordell St, Denton.

• **Jan. 10: Snap Kitchen opening**

Holiday cocktails and tunes from DJ Brandon Moses with 25 percent of sales going to Resource Center from 6-9 p.m. at Snap Kitch Oak Lawn, 4436 Lemmon Ave.

• **Jan. 10: Dallas Trans/SOFFA meeting**

Group meeting at 7 p.m. at Horizon Unitarian Universalist Church, 1641 W Hebron Pkwy, Carrollton.

• **Jan. 12: Little Black Dress Party**

The FashionCited preview party that benefits Legal Hospice of Texas from 7-9:30 p.m. at Goodson Acura, 4801 Lemmon Ave. Tickets are \$25 at the door, and include food, drinks and music. For information call 214-521-6622 or email kamesha@legalhospice.org.

• **Jan. 16: 12th Annual MLK Symposium**

The Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture holds the 12th Annual MLK Symposium from 7-9 p.m. at Dallas City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St. The theme for this year's event is "MLK's Legacy: Issues of Social Justice in the 21st Century," and it will focus on ensuring equality under the law and civil rights for all citizens. Keynote speakers will be Jelani Cobb and Alicia Garza. To register or for more information call 214-871-2440 or visit DallasInstitute.org.

• **Jan. 17: Stonewall elections**

Stonewall officer elections at 7 p.m. at Sue Ellen's, 3014 Throckmorton St.

• **Jan. 17: Fort Worth Trans/SOFFA meeting**

Group meeting at 7 p.m. at First Jefferson Unitarian Church, 959 Sandy Lane, Fort Worth.

• **Jan 20: Protest at the Inauguration**

Protest on Inauguration Day Against War, Racism and Inequality from 7 a.m.-5 p.m. at Freedom Plaza, 14th St NW & Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, D.C.

• **Jan. 21: Women's March on Austin**

The Women's March on Austin, a sister event to the Women's March on Washington, is taking place in D.C. from noon-6 p.m. at the Texas State Capitol, 1100 Congress Ave., Austin.

• **Jan. 21: Gaybingo**

• **Jan. 23: Denton Trans/SOFFA meeting**

Group meeting at 7 p.m. at Denton Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 1111 Cordell St, Denton.

• **Jan. 24: The Refugee Camp Experience**

The Dallas Holocaust Museum in conjunction with the International Rescue Committee presents a panel on life in modern-day refugee camps with panelists from Rwanda, Sudan and Syria from 6:30-7:30 p.m. at Dallas Holocaust Museum, 211 N. Record St.

• **Jan. 24: Dallas Trans/SOFFA meeting**

Group meeting at 7 p.m. at Horizon Unitarian Universalist Church, 1641 W Hebron Pkwy, Carrollton.

• **Jan. 29: International Holocaust Remembrance Day**

On the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, the Dallas Holocaust Museum has a gathering of hope and remembrance at 2 p.m. at 211 N. Record St.

**FEBRUARY**

• **Feb. 2: George Takei**

Dallas Holocaust Museum and SMU Embrey Human Rights Program present George Takei speaks about his childhood experiences during World War II in a U.S. internment camp at 6:30 p.m. at McFarlin Auditorium, 6405 Boaz Lane.

• **Feb. 18: Gaybingo**

• **Feb. 25: Dash for the Beads**

5K and 10K run, 1K walk and festival at Kidd Springs Park, 711 W. Canty St.

**MARCH**

• **March 4: Toast to Life**

From 7-11 p.m. at Empire Room, 1225 N Riverfront Blvd.

• **March 18: Gaybingo**

• **March 20: Advocacy Day in Austin**

Speak to your legislators. GALA North Texas will sponsor buses to Austin. Texas State Capitol, 1100 Congress Ave., Austin.

• **March 25: AIDS Walk South Dallas**

• **March 31-April 2: Texas Traditions Rodeo**

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# Happy New Year



Tarrant County Pride holds its Masques at Midnight New Year's Eve party and Spirit of Pride Awards presentations Saturday, Dec. 31 at the DFW Airport Marriott South. For information on this and other New Year's events, see this week's Gay Agenda listings.

Traditions Rodeo. Gates open at 11 a.m. at Diamond T Arena, 6900 E. Sherman Drive, Denton.

**APRIL**

• **April 8: No Tie Dinner**

This year's theme is An Artful Life, inspired by the pop artists. From 7-10 p.m. at Frontiers of Flight Museum, 6911 Lemmon Ave.

• **April 15: Gaybingo**

• **April 16: Easter in the Park**

The pooch parade in Oak Lawn's Lee Park is an Easter tradition.

• **April 28: Celebration of Excellence Dinner**

The North Texas GLBT Chamber of

Commerce presents its Business Excellence Awards at its Celebration of Excellence Dinner. Details to follow.

**MAY**

• **May 6: House of DIFFA: Arabesque**

At 6 p.m. at Omni Hotel, 555 S Lamar Street.

• **May 18-21: TBRU: Boot Camp**

TBRU 22 moves to the Hyatt Regency, 300 Reunion Blvd.

• **May 20: Evening of Hope**

AID Outreach Center gala and fashion show at 6 p.m. at the Worthington Renaissance Hotel, 200 Main St., Fort Worth.



# 2016: A year of loss and anger

It has been a year of loss, of anger and of hate, and few of us are sad to see 2016 coming to an end. Join us as we take a look back at the top stories of this long and stressful year, and hopefully we can re-energize ourselves and prepare to fight the battles sure to come.

## The race for president

Without a doubt, the biggest story of the year for our country as a whole was the race for president. While we had the chance to make history by electing not just the first woman president but one of the most-qualified candidates ever to run for the Oval Office. Instead voters chose to send a thin-skinned, narcissistic reality TV star with no experience in public office to the White House, and now the world waits nervously to see what the Twitter-addicted president-elect will say or do next.

The campaigns began in earnest in 2015, and Donald Trump launched his campaign for the Republican nomination with a racist attack calling Mexican immigrants rapists and drug dealers and in which he promised to build a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border to stop people from entering the country illegally. The wall became an ongoing theme for his campaign, a symbol to his followers that he would protect them from the threat of illegal immigration and at the same time a symbol to his opponents of the racism and bigotry they felt stained the candidate and his campaign.

The year began with 17 candidates vying for the Republican nomination. That field dwindled quickly, with experienced and qualified candidates falling beneath the weight of Trump's pop-



ularity with the public. He took the podium at a campaign rally and made fun of a disabled reporter. He incited violence and encouraged his supporters to physically attack anyone who disagreed with him — everyone from protestors or members of what he called “the lying media” who dared show their faces at one of his events

Despite being caught in lie after lie, taking to

Twitter to insult his opponents and proposing outrageous — even illegal — policies such as banning all Muslims from entering or re-entering the country or forcing Muslims to register with the government, the real estate mogul marched steadily onward, clinching the nomination by mid-May.

On the Democratic side of the equation, former first lady/U.S. senator/Secretary of State Hillary Clinton began her campaign looking like a shoe-in for the nomination. Vice President Joe Biden announced he would not run for president, and Clinton's road to the White House seemed assured — until U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders, left-wing independent from Vermont tossed his hat into the Democratic ring.

Although Clinton and Sanders began the year as friendly rivals, the campaign soon turned heated. Die-hard Sanders fans — who came to be known as the Bernie Bros — accused the Democratic establishment of stacking the deck against their candidate. Borrowing a page from the Republican playbook, Sanders supporters began trying to paint Clinton as an untrustworthy character with a shady past who was little more than a Republican wolf in Democratic sheep's clothing. Clinton had clinched the nomination by early June. But Sanders supporters still marched into the Democratic National Convention in July demanding Sanders be named the nominee.

The Republicans held their national convention first, in Cleveland. Trump lined up a roster of D-list celebrities, like actor Scott Baio, and his own relatives to speak at the convention, and the candidate's wife, Melania Trump, delivered a speech that was plagiarized in part from Michelle Obama's 2008 DNC speech. Sen. Ted

Cruz of Texas, a failed Republican presidential hopeful, embarrassed Trump with a speech in which he refused to actually back the nominee. And the convention produced the most anti-LGBT platform in the party's history, even as Trump himself made history when he mentioned the June 12 massacre at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando and then became the first Republican presidential nominee in history to promise to protect the rights of LGBT people.

The DNC a week later in Philadelphia got off to a rocky start, with DNC Chair Debbie Wasserman-Schultz stepping down just before the convention started after Wikileaks released hacked emails from the DNC servers suggesting that the party favored Clinton over Sanders during the primary. And the Bernie Bros continued their calls for Sanders to be given the nomination, even as Sanders himself took the podium to endorse Clinton and urge party unity. As the convention progressed, things began to come together though and the week ended with Clinton's triumphant and historic crowning as the first woman to win a major party's nomination for president.

One of the featured speakers at the DNC was Khizr Kahn, accompanied by his wife, Ghazala, Muslim-American Gold Star parents of U.S. Army Capt. Humayun Khan, who was awarded the Purple Heart after being killed in Iraq protecting his fellow soldiers from a suicide bomber. Mr. Khan denounced Trump for attacking Muslims and other minorities and questioned whether the Republican had ever even read the U.S. Constitution, offering to lend Trump his copy. Trump responded by claiming he has worked very hard to

### JANUARY

- Chief Justice Roy Moore halts same-sex marriages in Alabama, in defiance of the U.S. Supreme Court's Obergefell ruling.
- Kroger announces plan to expand, put Oak Lawn branch library on its roof.
- Round-Up Saloon hosts a self-defense workshop, in response to ongoing attacks in the gayborhood.
- A judge dismisses a lawsuit seeking to oust Dallas DA Susan Hawk.
- NECCO Sweethearts features Dallas' own Jack Evans and George Harris in a video celebrating love.
- Dallas TransCendence, a new support group for transgender people and their families, begins meeting.
- Resource Center's food pantry is forced to move from its Denton Drive location earlier than expected when developers move up plans for new construction at that location.
- The Rev. Robert Jeffress, the vehemently anti-LGBT pastor of First Baptist Church of Dallas, endorses Donald Trump for president.
- The Creating Change Conference, long known as a bastion of inclusivity, becomes the center of controversy in 2016 when some attendees held demonstrations basically threatening both Jewish attendees trying to attend a religious service (supposedly over Israel's stance on Palestine) and some transgender attendees disrupted a panel

discussion with cisgender men who love transgender women.

### FEBRUARY

- The first sexually-transmitted case of Zika virus in the U.S. is reported in a gay male couple in Dallas County.
- Studies show black gay men are three times as likely to be infected with HIV as white gay men.
- Dallas County DA Susan Hawk meets community leaders at Resource Center.
- City officials cancel a contract and refuse to allow the Exxxotica convention to be held at the Kay Bailey Hutchinson Convention Center.
- Oak Lawn United Methodist Church becomes a reconciling.
- Right-wing Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia dies suddenly of a heart attack. Republicans in Congress quickly make it known they won't hold confirmation hearings on any Obama nominee to replace him.
- A federal court dismisses an indictment against former Texas Gov. Rick Perry related to his decision to use his veto power to try and force the openly-lesbian Travis County DA to resign after she is arrested for DUI.

### MARCH

- Christian Colbert, a photographer who previously worked freelance for Dallas Voice, is arrested in Los Angeles and charged with murdering his landlord, Ronald Shumway, in Oak

- Cliff. He later admits he killed Shumway, and is extradited to Texas, where he remains in jail awaiting trial.
- Lambda Legal wins a lawsuit demanding survivor benefits for a Texas lesbian whose wife had died.
- The U.S. Supreme Court sides with an Alabama lesbian seeking a second-parent adoption of her wife's biological children.
- David Chard, openly-gay dean of SMU's School of Education, is named president of Wheelock College.
- Turtle Creek Chorale performs “Tyler's Suite,” composed in memory of gay student Tyler Clementi, who committed suicide in 2010 after being bullied by his college roommate.
- Dallas Voice hosts its second same-sex Wedding Expo.
- Black Tie Dinner hires Zach Hess as development director.
- Caven Enterprises remodels the Rose Room in Station 4.

### APRIL

- Lonzie Herschner, owner of Marty's Live and The Tin Room, announces he is buying Zippers.
- The North Carolina Legislature, their panties in a twist because the city of Charlotte wants to protect all of its citizens from discriminaion, calls a special session specifically to pass a law saying Charlotte can't do that and that transgender people can't use appropriate public restroom facilities.
- Gov. Pat McCrory signs the heinous bill, unleashing a shit

- storm that lasts the rest of the year and costs the state millions in development and revenue.
- Mississippi follows suit, passing a “religious freedom” bill that allows people to discriminate against LGBT people.
- Steven Pomerantz unveils his documentary Taking Back Oak Lawn, about a series of violent attacks on gay men in Oak Lawn at the end of 2015, at the USA Film Festival in Dallas.
- The anti-gay pastor of First Baptist Church of Dallas, the Rev. Robert Jeffress, announces that his church is offering counseling for Dallas police officers, disturbing LGBT rights advocates who worry that First Baptist's anti-gay theology will be included in the counseling.
- The lawsuit filed against Rowan County Clerk Kim Davis, who refused to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples following the U.S. Supreme Court's 2015 marriage equality ruling, is dismissed because Davis' office has been complying with court orders to issue those licenses.
- Fort Worth Independent School District Superintendent Kent Scribner issues guidelines on how district employees should enact a policy adopted by the board of trustees several years before on dealing with transgender students.
- Right-wingers promptly lose their minds.



create jobs and “made a lot of sacrifices.” He then insulted the couple further by suggesting that Mrs. Khan was not allowed to speak because the family’s religion forbid her to. (Mrs. Khan explained she chose not to speak at the convention because she was overcome with emotion for her lost son.)

Over the next three months, Clinton focused on reasoned policy proposals while Trump focused on name-calling and the already-settled issue of the email server Clinton used as Secretary of State. Clinton easily won all three of the debates between the two, coming in prepared and remaining calm as Trump rambled and relied on bully tactics to try and intimidate the Democrat.

Trump stumbled into gaffe after gaffe, many posted publicly on his by-then infamous Twitter account, and got caught in lie after lie. And Clinton appeared to have a practically insurmountable lead over the Republican candidate. But then, just days before the election, FBI Director James Comey announced his agency was re-opening his investigation into Clinton’s private email server, an investigation that had been closed months earlier with no action against the Democratic candidate. It turned out the emails in question were found on a laptop owned and used by Clinton aide Huma Abedin and her estranged husband, disgraced former Congressman Anthony Weiner who had been caught in yet another sexting scandal.

Days later Comey acknowledged that the emails in question had actually already been examined during the earlier investigation and were in no way relevant to Clinton or her candidacy. But by then the damage had been done and Clinton’s lead in the polls had evaporated. On Election Day, Clinton won the popular vote by nearly 3 million votes, but Trump claimed victory in the Electoral College, 306 to 232. And even though CIA officials confirmed that Russian hackers appeared to have tried to influence the outcome of the election in Trump’s favor and many people called for the Electoral College to choose someone other than Trump or to at least postpone its vote until ques-

tions were answered, electors voted Dec. 19 to make Trump president. Seven electors did defy the outcome of the popular vote in their states and refuse to cast their ballots for Trump, but in the end, it made no difference.



The massacre at Pulse

It was Latin Night during LGBT Pride Month at Pulse nightclub in Orlando and the place had been packed. But it was getting close to 2 a.m. on Sunday, June 12, and the crowd had begun to thin out by the time an American Muslim man named Omar Mateen walked in with two handguns and a semi-automatic rifle and opened fire on the some 320 people still there. Some of the bar patrons and employees ran, escaping out a back door or over the fence around the patio; others locked themselves in the office/dressing room area and others hid inside a bathroom.

Orlando police, alerted by patrons who had escaped, responded quickly, and a stand-off ensued. In a call to police, the gunman claimed he had attacked the nightclub in re-

taliation for American military involvement in Iraq and Afghanistan and was acting on behalf of ISIL. But his father later told police the man had seen two men kissing on a Miami street some weeks before and had been enraged at the

sight. A former coworker of the security guard/failed police recruit told investigators the shooter “had a lot of hatred for people. Black people, women, he did not like Jews, he did not like Hispanics, nor did he like gay or lesbian people.”

As the world began waking up to news of the attack, initial reports suggested 12 people were dead. But the death toll rose quickly, and when all was said and done, 49 people were dead plus the gunman, who was killed by police, and more than 50 others were injured.

It is the deadliest mass shooting by a single gunman in U.S. history.

And the country began to mourn. As friends and family members gathered that morning outside of Pulse to learn the fate of their loved ones who had been inside, LGBT people and their al-

lies around the country — the world — began gathering for vigils. In Dallas, more than a 1,000 people gathered at Resource Center’s newly-opened Community Center on Cedar Springs Road at Inwood, then marched to the Legacy of Love Monument on Oak Lawn, in the heart of the gayborhood. The event drew a variety of speakers, including city officials, such as Mayor Mike Rawlings and Police Chief David Brown, and representatives of a Muslim mosque in Irving.

On Monday night, hundreds crowded into the sanctuary of Celebration Community Church in Fort Worth for a candlelight vigil there. Mayor Betsy Price and Police Chief Joel Fitzgerald participated in the service, as did religious leaders from a number of churches and organizations in the city.

Even after the gunshots ended that Sunday morning, echoes of the violence continued to echo through the LGBT and the U.S. as a whole. Later that same day in Los Angeles a man who had numerous guns in his car was arrested, telling police he was on his way to that city’s Pride parade. Here in Dallas, people already worried about ongoing attacks on gay men in Oak Lawn, were even more on edge. Police were called several times to investigate possible threats at locations on Cedar Springs. When Dallas and Fort Worth Pride parades were held some four months later, extra security measures were put in place to protect against a similar attack.

Even some of those seen as enemies of LGBT equality expressed their sorrow over the attack, despite the fact that some of those condolences rang false in the ears of LGBT men and women who have so often. Although the shooter’s motive was never completely clear, the attack became yet another symbol of what many see as the growing wave of anger, bigotry and violence around the world, epitomized in the U.S. by the victorious presidential campaign of Donald Trump.

2016, Next Page

<p><b>MAY</b></p> <p>The Resource Center’s food pantry re-opens in its new location, inside the center’s facilities at 2701 Reagan St. • Rockwall City Council votes down a proposed ordinance that would have banned transgender people from using the appropriate public restroom facilities on city property, but only after a lengthy and heated public hearing. • The Texas Department of State Health Services implements new requirements for those accessing HIV/AIDS services through local agencies that receive federal or state grant money. Advocates say the new requirements create even more roadblocks for people with HIV/AIDS who are seeking healthcare. • Prudential Insurance Company of America and John Hancock Insurance both announce they are offering life insurance policies for people with HIV/AIDS. • LGBT people and their allies hold a Deport Hate picnic and bike ride in Tyler’s Bergfeld Park after a man wearing a “Deport LGBT” t-shirt is seen several times riding his bicycle around the neighborhood. • Eric Fanning is confirmed as the first openly-gay Secretary of the Army. • Resource Center holds grand opening ceremonies for its new Community Center and offices. • The North American Gay Volleyball Association’s national championship tournament is</p>	<p>held in North Texas. • Stonewall Democrats of Dallas celebrates its 20th anniversary.</p> <p><b>JUNE</b></p> <p>Gay deputy Derek Boyd files a lawsuit against the Collin County Sheriff’s Office, claiming he was the target of harassment and retaliation after reporting two nurses who made discriminatory comments about LGBT inmates. • Another gay man is attacked in Oak Lawn, as he is walking home from a bar near Lemmon Street, prompting Resource Center CEO Cece Cox and Communications and Advocacy Manager Rafael McDonnell and other community leaders to meet with Chief David Brown to discuss safety in the gayborhood. • Republicans in the U.S. House of Representatives voted down the National Defense Authorization Act rather than allow it to pass with an amendment that would have protected President Obama’s executive order prohibiting discrimination against LGBT employees by federal contractors. • The Mesquite City Council votes to approve an equal employment opportunity ordinance that includes protections for LGBT people, despite protesters complaining about transgender people being allowed to use the appropriate public restroom facilities. • A gunman armed with semi-automatic assault-type rifles</p>	<p>opens fire inside the crowded Pulse nightclub in Orlando, shortly before 2 a.m. June 12, killing 49 people and injuring more than 50 more in the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history. Hundreds of North Texans attend vigils in Dallas that same evening and in Fort Worth the next day. • LGBT people and their allies celebrate the one-year anniversary of the U.S. Supreme Court’s Obergefell ruling guaranteeing marriage equality. • The Dallas Wings WNBA team begin play in their first season after moving to Dallas from Tulsa, where they were known as The Shock. • Cathedral of Hope is evacuated during morning services on June 19, a week after the shooting at Pulse, after suitcases are found hidden against the outside wall of the building, with a ticking sound coming from inside. The luggage, it turned out, was left there by a homeless person who intended to return for it, and the ticking sound was coming from a laptop with a dying battering inside one of the bags. U.S. Secretary of Defense Ash Carter announces that the military is lifting its ban on open service by transgender people. • Dallas legend Jack Evans dies. • Dallas Elite women’s pro football team goes undefeated in the regular season and wins the American Conference championship before losing the national championship to the D.C. Divas in a</p>
		<p>close game, 41-37. • Dallas Voice Executive Editor Arnold Wayne Jones, who handles the Life+Styles section of the newspaper, won first place in news/feature writing and second place in the journalist of the year competition at Houston Press Club’s Lone Star Awards. Dallas Voice staff writer James Russell won second place in the Internet Opinion category.</p> <p><b>JULY</b></p> <p>Iconic Oak Lawn bar The Brick holds its last “last call,” closing July 24 after 25 years. With the closing of the Brick, owner Howard Okon retires after 35 years of owning LGBT bars in Dallas. • Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton files for an injunction against guidelines issued by the U.S. Department of Education for schools on dealing with transgender students. • Four Dallas Police Department officers and one Dallas Area Rapid Transit police department officer are killed by a gunman who ambushed them following a Black Lives Matter march in downtown Dallas. The shooting comes within days of the killing of Alton Sterling by police in Baton Rouge and Philando Castile by an officer in St. Anthony, Minn. • The National Basketball Association announces it is moving its 2017 All-Star Game out of Charlotte, N.C., because of the state’s hatefully anti-trans</p>





## Dallas police shootings

On July 7, Micah Xavier Johnson ambushed Dallas Police and DART officers working at a Black Lives Matter march in downtown, killing four DPD officers and one DART officer, and injured five other officers and two civilians.

The shooting started during a peaceful protest march through the streets of downtown, organized in response to the killings of two black men by police officers within a week: Alton Sterling was shot to death by a Baton Rouge, La. police officer responding to a call of a man with a gun outside a convenience store, and Philando Castile was shot to death by a police officer in St. Anthony, Minn., during a traffic stop as his girlfriend, who was driving, live-streamed the incident on Facebook. Video of Sterling's death was also posted online.

Tensions were running high between law enforcement and African-American communities

around the country in the wake of the two shootings that happened within days of each other. But in Dallas, the protestors and police officers were working together to keep the event peaceful. About 100 police officers who had been assigned to the march were interacting with the crowd, taking selfies with marchers, when gunfire broke out. Among the officers protecting the crowd were DART police. Video taken during the shooting showed officers running toward the commotion, putting themselves between the marchers running for cover and the apparent location of the gunman.

Former Dallas Voice publisher and owner Robert Moore, who has been making a name for himself as a street photographer since retiring from publishing, lives downtown and was on the street with his camera when the shooting started. A Dallas officer pulled Moore down behind a car for cover from the gunfire, and Moore's photo of the young officer went viral the next day.

After shooting up parts of an El Centro College classroom building, the gunman holed up in an old parking garage buttressed with wide pillars. Because officers could not get a clear shot at him, they sent in a robot with an explosive that killed him.

Among the injured were DART police officers. Unlike the Dallas officers who received full pay, the DART officers were only offered workman's compensation and expected back at work within weeks of the shootings.

Dallas held a memorial service in Thanksgiving Square the morning after the shootings attended by thousands. Mayor Mike Rawlings carefully orchestrated the event. Although Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick attended, he was not allowed to speak to a crowd that would not have tolerated a message that most expected would blame the Black Lives Matter movement for the tragedy. Instead, Patrick stood just behind each of the speakers.

Two days later, President Barack Obama and first lady Michelle Obama traveled to Dallas for a memorial service honoring the officers at the Meyerson Symphony Center. They were joined on stage by former President George W. Bush and former first lady Laura Bush, and Vice President Joe Biden and his wife, Dr. Jill Biden.

Because the event was for the fallen officer's families and for Dallas police officers, Arlington police patrolled the event and controlled access to the building. TV news crews were kept out of the building and only print reporters allowed inside.

"Today our nation grieves," Bush said. "Those of us who call Dallas home lost five members of our family." He called Dallas police an inspiration for the country in a speech that was probably his most eloquent ever.

Chief David Brown serenaded his officers from the stage with Stevie Wonder lyrics, prompting President Obama to remark he was glad he met Michelle first, because she loves Stevie Wonder.

Bush and Michelle Obama ended the ceremony as they joined hands, stood and

swayed, leading a rendition of the hymn "Glory Hallelujah." Everyone in the audience and on stage did the same — including Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson, who joined hands with the person sitting next to her — her political nemesis Sen. Ted Cruz.

Just a couple of months after the shooting, Brown resigned as Dallas police chief because of the stress and grief he felt as a result of the killings and injuries.

## Ups and downs for transgender Americans

After losing the battle over marriage equality to the U.S. Supreme Court's June 2015 Obergefell ruling, opponents of LGBT equality turned their attention to the community's most vulnerable members — transgender men and women.

Efforts by anti-trans Texas lawmakers to restrict transgender rights had failed to pass during the 2015 legislative session, but equality opponents didn't give up. And the same pattern of victory followed by renewed attacks and losses repeated around the country.

In February, the Charlotte, N.C. City Council approved an ordinance protecting LGBT from discrimination. Irate Republican lawmakers retaliated by calling a special session a month later for the specific purpose of enacting House Bill 2, legislation over-riding local anti-discrimination ordinances protecting LGBT people and then going a step further to prohibit transgender men and women from using the appropriate public restroom facilities. Gov. Pat McCrory signed the bill into law within hours.

The law set loose a firestorm of controversy that would eventually cost the state of North Carolina millions in terms of lost employment with companies either moving offices out of the state or changing their plans to relocate to North Carolina and going elsewhere, along with entertainers who cancelled appearances there, and sporting events

HB2. • The U.S. 5th Circuit Court of Appeals declares Texas' voter ID law to be unconstitutional. • North Texas' Coalition for LGBT Aging holds its second annual conference, this one in Fort Worth. • Fort Worth ISD released revised guidelines on dealing with transgender students. Right-wing opponents of the original guidelines claim victory. • The Republican Party concludes its national convention after having adopted the most anti-LGBT platform in the party's history and having nominated Donald Trump, lauded by some as the most pro-gay GOP presidential candidate ever. • Cathedral of Hope inducts Resource Center CEO Cece Cox into the church's Hall of Heroes. • The 13th annual Miss LifeWalk Pageant raises a record \$53,000. • The Democratic National Convention is held in Philadelphia, with Hillary Clinton winning the nomination, but not before angry supporters of candidate Bernie Sanders threaten to disrupt the convention. Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez is a featured speaker on Thursday night at the convention.

### AUGUST

A federal judge blocks Mississippi's HB 1523, a "religious freedom" bill that allowed anti-LGBT discrimination as long as it is based on religious

beliefs. • Six members of the Pulse staff visit Dallas for a special benefit performance. • Club Dallas celebrates its 42nd anniversary. • Oklahoma state Sen. Al McAffrey wins the Democratic primary for Congress, although he eventually loses in the general election to Republican incumbent Steve Russell. • Resource Center names its 5 Factor recipients for 2016: Culinaire, Steve Kemble, Chris Bengston, Adam Medrano and Rodd Gray. • Rachel Tiven is named the new CEO of Lambda Legal. • Isaiah Smith files a lawsuit against Management and Training Corp., alleging that the company, which runs prisons for the government, discriminated against him because he is gay. Smith worked at the prison in Bridgeport operated by MTC. • Tallywackers, the male version of "breastaraunts" like Hooters, closed. • The Texas Bar Association declines to sanction Texas AG Ken Paxton for telling county clerks they could ignore the U.S. Supreme Court's marriage equality ruling. • Allen Almodovar sues the U.S. Navy, saying that officials at the Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base at Carswell in Fort Worth allowed his coworkers to harass and discriminate against him. • Dr. Jaimie Vasquez announces that as of Nov. 22 he is affiliating with MDVIP and

converting to a concierge practice. • In the wake of the Democratic National Convention, LGBT Democrats in East Texas announce they are forming a new chapter of Stonewall Democrats. • The 2016 Summer Olympics were held in Rio de Janeiro in August, with a record number of openly LGBT athletes — at least 41 — competing.

### SEPTEMBER

Dallas Police Chief David O. Brown announces his retirement. • GOP presidential nominee Donald Trump disavows a PAC with an Oak Lawn address that trolled for donations, claiming that anyone who donated would be entered into a drawing two winner dinner with Trump. • Texas AG Ken Paxton sues his own state's Waller County for refusing to allow open carry of handguns — which is allowed by Texas law — in the county's government buildings. • Dallas County DA Susan Hawk resigns, saying she is going to focus on dealing with her mental health issues. • A photo taken by former Dallas Voice owner and publisher Robert Moore as he hid behind a car with a Dallas Police officer during the mass shooting of officers in Downtown Dallas provides inspiration for a musical piece commissioned by Turtle Creek Chorale and performed at the opening concert of TCC's 2016-17 season. • The NCAA decides to pull seven

college sports championship games from the state of North Carolina because of the state's nasty anti-transgender HB2. Two days later, the Atlantic Coast Conference follows suit. • Dallas Voice endorses Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton for president. It is the first time in the newspaper's 33-plus year history that the Voice has officially endorsed any political candidate. • Canadian and United Kingdom embassies in Dallas have floats in the Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade, Dallas' annual LGBT Pride parade, for the first time in the parade's history. • Teen Pride moves from Cathedral of Hope to the grounds of Oak Lawn United Methodist Church. • Tom Lang, husband of former Samaritan House CEO Steve Dutton, is murdered on a Miami street by a homeless man. • Rafael McDonnell urges the Collin County Sheriff's Department to adopt and enforce LGBT-inclusive nondiscrimination policies after a deputy who claimed he was discriminated against was fired earlier in the year. • Former Urban Cowboy bartender Charles Dean Bryant is arrested and charged with the murder of University of North Texas co-ed Jackie Vandagriff.

### OCTOBER

Recording artists Monica and Brandy are headliners at events held as part of the 2016 Dallas



moved from the state and other businesses and government's banning business travel by employees to North Carolina. And that's not even counting the tourism dollars the state lost to HB2.

In May, after Fort Worth ISD Superintendent Kent Scribner released guidelines for district employees on putting into practice previously enacted policies for treatment of transgender students, opponents of transgender equality flooded the administration with complaints, claiming the district was trying to keep secrets from parents and cut off parents' involvement in

students' lives. Advocates on both sides of the issue packed a school board meeting to voice their opinions, with trans rights supporters coordinated by Fairness Fort Worth President David Mack Henderson, while trans-rights enemy Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick traveled to Fort Worth to hold a press conference outside the school board meeting calling for Scribner to resign for overstepping his bounds.

The school board held a series of public hearings and town halls, eventually releasing revised guide-

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Southern Pride weekend. • Black Tie Dinner holds its 35th annual fundraising gala at Sheraton Dallas. Recording artist Deborah Cox and openly-gay singer/dancer Todrick Hall, now playing the lead drag role in Kinky Boots on Broadway, are the entertainment. Dr. Steve Pounders receives the Kuchling Humanitarian Award; actress Debra Messing receives the Media Award; Olympic champion Greg Louganis receives the Birch Equality Award and actress Connie Britton receives the Ally for Equality Award. • Anthony Gurley, a gay man living with his mother in Anna, just north of Dallas, is found dead in a field near the restaurant where he worked on Oct. 4. He had been missing since leaving work early on Sunday, Sept. 18, after saying he wasn't feeling well. Police did not suspect foul play. • Rabbi Steve Fisch resigns suddenly from his position as rabbi of Congregation Beth El Benah after a disagreement with the board.

Nationally-known Rabbi Steve Gutow agrees to step in and lead the congregation's impending High Holy Days celebrations. • Tarrant County Gay Pride Week Association holds its annual Pride parade through Downtown Fort Worth, drawing what is estimated to be one of its largest crowds ever. • AIDS Arms stages its 2016 LifeWalk in Lee Park. • Activist and Fairness Fort Worth President David Mack Henderson announces publicly that he has been diagnosed with end-stage esophageal cancer. • Dallas icon Lory Masters, Realtor and nationally-known LGBT activist and fundraiser, celebrates her 70th birthday with a weekend full of events, starting with a roast Friday night at S4 and winding up with a special service Sunday morning at Cathedral of Hope, during which the church unveils a special sculpture commissioned her in honor. • Dallas and Fort Worth both receive scores of 100 of the Human Rights Campaign's Municipal

Equality Index. • Venterra Realty, headquartered in Houston, announces that it has purchased both the ilume and ilume Park properties in Oak Lawn. • The legendary Cher comes to Dallas for an event raising funds for Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton.

NOVEMBER

Winslow's restaurant on Cedar Springs closes. The Fort Worth location remains open. • Dallas Tavern Guild Executive Director Michael Doughman releases a statement announcing that Assistant Director David Berryman has been fired after admitting that he embezzled funds from the Dallas Pride committee. Berryman promises to repay all the funds, and keeps that promise before the end of the month. No charges are filed. • Red Foundation makes a record-breaking donation of \$57,000 to Legacy Counseling Center. • The LGBT community around the

country, along with people in every minority community and non-minorities with any sense at all go into mourning with Republican Donald Trump unexpectedly and unbelievably wins the presidency. Trump immediately begins naming a bevy of bigots to his cabinet. • Dallas County's openly lesbian Sheriff Lupe Valdez wins re-election with 57 percent of the vote. • Democrats pick up a seat in the Texas House when Victoria Naeve defeats the Republican incumbent in District 107, and openly lesbian state Reps. Celia Israel in Austin and Mary Gonzalez in El Paso win re-election. • LGBT-friendly Dallas County commissioners Theresa Daniel and John Wiley Price are re-elected, and former Dallas County Democratic Party Chair Darlene Ewing wins her race to be judge in the 254th District Court. • Black Tie Dinner distributes \$1.245 million — it's largest total in nine years — to its 16 local

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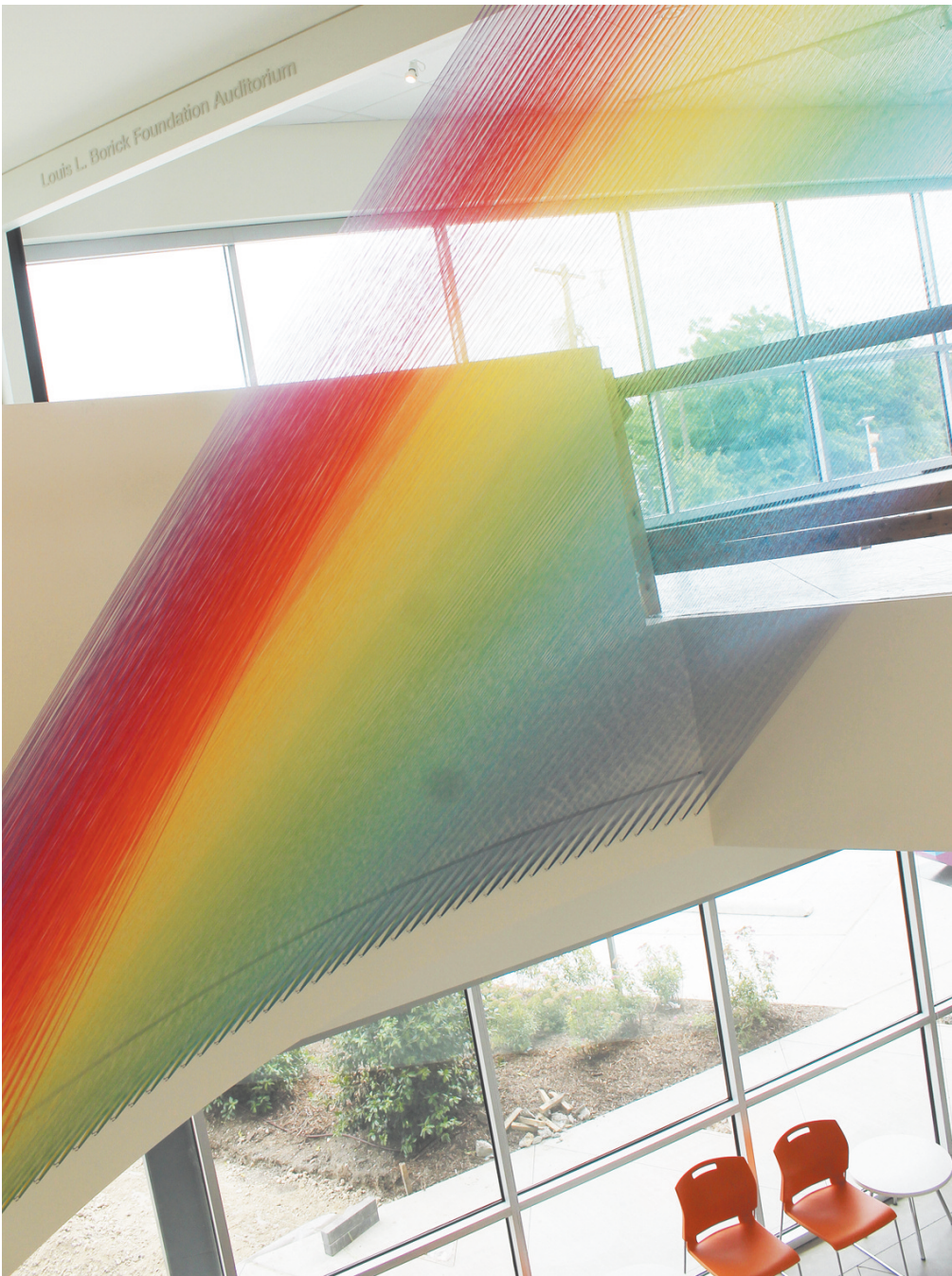
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lines intended to still protect students while reiterating parents’ rights regarding access to information about their children. State Sen. Konni Burton, however, has pre-filed a bill for the 2017 legislative session that LGBT advocates fear could force teacher, counselors and other school employees to out LGBT students to their parents.

But the trans community marked a giant victory when, on June 30, U.S. Defense Secretary an-

nounced that transgender people would be allowed to serve openly in the U.S. military. Carter, saying that the change was the right thing to do, noted that trans servicemembers should be able to start receiving medical care and formally changing their gender identifications in the Pentagon’s personnel system by Oct. 1 of this year. By the summer of 2017, he said, the military will begin allowing openly transgender individuals to enlist as

beneficiaries and the Human Rights Campaign. • LifeWalk officials announce that the 2016 event raised more than \$550,000. • The Baptist General Convention of Texas expels First Baptist Church Austin and Dallas’ Wilshire Baptist Church for accepting LGBT people as full members. • Resource Center celebrates the grand re-opening of its facilities at 2701 Reagan, now known as The Health Campus, and renames the main building there after the agency’s first executive director, activist John Thomas. • Texas lawmakers begin pre-filing bills for the 2017 session, including a number of bills targeting

LGBT rights. Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick announces his intention to make his so-called Women’s Protection Act — a version of North Carolina’s disastrous HB2 — one of his top legislative priorities next year.

DECEMBER

Resource Center CEO Cece Cox is named to D Magazine’s “Dallas 500” list. • The Oak Lawn branch of the Dallas Public Library celebrates its 20th anniversary in its current location on Cedar Springs Road. • Cassie’s Freakmas, a Monday night drag show at J.R.’s Bar & Grill hosted by Dallas Voice columnist and drag queen

### In Memorium

**Karen Estes:**  
After a disastrous fire on Cedar Springs destroyed the AIDS Resource Center, Karen got the center up and running in a matter of hours and later became its co-executive director.

**Bill Eure:**  
Husband of longtime Cathedral of Hope pastor the Rev. Michael Piazza, Bill helped lead the Dallas LGBT church to national prominence.

**Jack Evans:**  
One of the pillars of Dallas’ LGBT community, was finally was able to marry his partner of more than 50 years, George Harris, in 2015. Jack died a day short of their one-year anniversary.

**David Mack Henderson:**  
In the aftermath of the raid on the Rainbow Lounge, “D-Mack” helped form Fairness Fort Worth and helped shape new policies and ordinances all over Tarrant County. This year he lead the fight against anti-trans forces attacking Fort Worth ISD policies.

**Jean Nelson:**  
An icon in the LGBT community, she was the loving and supportive mother of the late activist Bill Nelson.

long as they meet required standards and have been stable in their gender identity for at least 18 months.

But the battle continues. Bills challenging hard-won rights for trans people and others in the LGBT community have already been prefiled for the 2017 Texas legislative session. And Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick has pledged to make passage of his so-called Women’s Protection Act — a Texas version of North Carolina’s HB2 — one of his legislative priorities next year.

As the year drew to a close, it seemed that North Carolina lawmakers had come to their senses. In a deal arranged by Democratic Governor-elect Roy Cooper, Charlotte City Council members agreed to repeal their nondiscrimination ordinance, and Republicans in the legislature agreed to meet in special session to repeal HB2. The city council repealed its ordinance on Monday, Dec. 19, but Republicans in the General Assembly reneged on their part of the bargain, refusing to repeal HB2 when they convened on Wednesday, Dec. 21.

And the battle continues.

Resource Center reaches goals

After a multi-year, \$8.3 million capital campaign, Resource Center opened its new community center on Cedar Springs Road in May, on property adjacent to Cathedral of Hope. Visitors arriving in Dallas through Love Field may see the triangular building from the air as it’s on the final glide path to the airport and those driving to downtown will pass by city’s new landmark if the follow Cedar Springs out of the airport parking lot.

Rather than sell the old buildings, Resource Center decided to convert its 2701 Reagan property into the agency’s Health Campus and con-

tinue operations at the Nelson-Tebedo Clinic on the Strip on Cedar Springs. The agency simultaneously embarked on a total renovation of the old property even before the new one was complete.

The new building opened in May and the old property reopened in November.

Two weeks after the opening of the new location on Cedar Springs Road, the Pulse massacre happened. That evening, more than 1,000 people including religious figures and elected officials gathered at the center for a vigil that accentuated just how much the new building would mean to the community.

The health campus was purchased in 1990 from Cathedral of Hope, after it began construction on its current building.

Today, the two-building Health Campus houses the food pantry, hot meals program, counseling rooms, cyber center and the insurance program.

The Nelson-Tebedo Clinic continues doing testing and remains the only HIV organization doing dental work in Dallas.

The new building is home to new and continuing programs. A counseling center is based in the new property with expanded counseling service with full-time staff. An intern program operated in conjunction with Southern Methodist University School of Education continues. Youth First had dedicated space in the building and groups such as Gray Pride senior programming and GEAR, the transgender services program, operate from the new location.

Resource Center is one of just a couple of community centers in the country with multiple properties and is one of the four or five largest in the U.S.

In recognition for her work, Dallas Voice named CEO Cece Cox our LGBT Texan of the year. ■

beneficiaries and the Human Rights Campaign. • LifeWalk officials announce that the 2016 event raised more than \$550,000. • The Baptist General Convention of Texas expels First Baptist Church Austin and Dallas’ Wilshire Baptist Church for accepting LGBT people as full members. • Resource Center celebrates the grand re-opening of its facilities at 2701 Reagan, now known as The Health Campus, and renames the main building there after the agency’s first executive director, activist John Thomas. • Texas lawmakers begin pre-filing bills for the 2017 session, including a number of bills targeting	LGBT rights. Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick announces his intention to make his so-called Women’s Protection Act — a version of North Carolina’s disastrous HB2 — one of his top legislative priorities next year. <b>DECEMBER</b> Resource Center CEO Cece Cox is named to D Magazine’s “Dallas 500” list. • The Oak Lawn branch of the Dallas Public Library celebrates its 20th anniversary in its current location on Cedar Springs Road. • Cassie’s Freakmas, a Monday night drag show at J.R.’s Bar & Grill hosted by Dallas Voice columnist and drag queen	extraordinaire Cassie Nova, raises more than \$7,000 to help pay for Christmas gifts for students at Sam Houston Elementary, thanks to a \$5,000 donation by Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban. • Fairness Fort Worth President and LGBT rights activist David Mack Henderson dies of cancer. • Turtle Creek Chorale hires Dennis Coleman as development director. • Dallas Voice names Resource Center CEO Cece Cox the LGBT Texan of the Year. • Dallas Tavern Guild Executive Director Michael Doughman announces that beginning in 2017, the city’s annual Pride celebration is being expanded to two days. The	Pride parade will continue to be held on the third Sunday in September, but the Festival in the Park, at Reverchon Park, is being moved to Saturday, the day before the parade. • A state District Court in Louisiana strikes down Gov. John Bel Edwards executive order protecting LGBT people from employment discrimination at state agencies and state contractors, saying that the authority to grant such protections lies only with state lawmakers. • The attorney general of the Cherokee Nation issues an opinion saying that a tribal law banning same-sex marriage violates the Cherokee Constitution.
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# Don't import NC's hate



A Texas version of North Carolina's notorious HB2 could prove to be an even greater economic disaster

**N**orth Carolina dug in its heels and settled in for the long term this week. The legislature's action — refusing to repeal HB2 in the face of a disastrous economic boycott and at the same time reneging on a deal with the city of Charlotte — means the state will remain a pariah for the foreseeable future.

Earlier this week, political leaders in the Tar Heel State struck a deal: The Charlotte City Council would repeal its nondiscrimination ordinance protecting the LGBT community — the ordinance that prompted the anti-LGBT lawmakers to pass HB2 and that began the national discussion on whether transgender people have a right to pee. In exchange, the General Assembly would repeal HB2.

Those negotiating the repeal of both the ordinance and the law — including Democratic Governor-elect Roy Cooper — were calling it a reset. Everything would go back to the way it was before and everybody would be happy (except for the people who were being discriminated against, of course).

But with a reset, companies would again invest in North Carolina. Jobs that have been moved elsewhere would begin to return. Concerts that have been canceled would be rescheduled. Sports events would come back to the state. Travel bans would be canceled.

North Carolina would get back on track.

So the Charlotte City Council repealed its ordi-



**David Taffet**  
Senior Staff Writer

nance on Monday.

But then the state Senate balked; What if they repealed HB2 and Charlotte turned around and re-instated its ordinance?

Hatred of LGBT people is obviously a value that's worth investing quite a bit of money to keep in place. Keeping HB2 in place means businesses will continue to expand elsewhere. Jobs will be moved out of state. Concerts and sports events will be canceled or moved in other states. Travel will be diverted to other places.

Just last week, Dallas benefited from the North Carolina boycott. New York banned state travel to North Carolina because of HB2. That includes its state universities. So when a game against Duke in North Carolina was canceled, the University at Albany scheduled a first-ever game with SMU.

Not only the team, but coaches, athletic staff and development office personnel traveled to Dallas rather than Charlotte. So did alumni from around the state to see the game. All that brought Dallas revenue for hotels, rental cars and restaurants, plus a large catered reception at a venue at Mockingbird Station and drinks at a local bar after the game.

Why does this matter so much to us here in Dallas? Because more than 100 anti-LGBT bills have been filed in the Texas Legislature for the upcoming session. Some of those bills would directly tar-

get transgender people and affect their ability to simply go to the bathroom. And not being able to use a public bathroom affects a person's ability to go to work and earn a living.

Some of those bills would target cities and restrict local control. Dallas, Fort Worth, Austin, San Antonio, Plano and El Paso protect their local LGBT citizens. Houston doesn't. Cities such as Mesquite and Grand Prairie protect their LGBT employees. Houston doesn't. While we're happy with our ordinances, we have no interest in telling Houston what it should do. What works in Dallas might not work in Midland.

The legislature, however, will likely spend quite a bit of the upcoming session dealing with the policy of where trans people can pee statewide. They'll consider whether some cities can do things other cities have decided not to do.

What the legislature won't be spending much time doing is figuring out how to improve Texas public education. They won't be working on funding to fix crumbling bridges. They certainly won't do anything to protect the public from the Zika virus or other public health threats. Those will be left to local governments. (Remember the Ebola crisis? Dallas city and county officials were forced to handle it without any state help).

We might not win the battle by arguing that legislating discrimination is simply wrong. We may, however, win the economic argument.

I'd love to see Albany return to play SMU again next year. That won't happen if Texas passes its own version of HB2 and New York bans travel to Texas.

HB2 has been bad business for North Carolina. For Texas, similar legislation will be an even larger economic disaster. ■



# The year in entertainment

LIFE+STYLE  
year in review

Critical rankings of the best of 2016 in screen, stage, tube/online and books ... plus our local Actor of the Year



ARNOLD WAYNE JONES  
Executive Editor  
jones@dallasvoice.com

2016 YEAR IN REVIEW  
SCREEN

STAYING AFLOAT | A caring drug dealer (Mahershala Ali) takes in a troubled street kid in the groundbreaking drama 'Moonlight,' left; a nurse (Walter Lee) comforts his friend dying of AIDS (Garret Storms) in 'Angels in America,' right.



2016 YEAR IN REVIEW  
STAGE

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2016 is the year of Hollywood finally went black, and should never go back.

Following the "Oscars so white" controversies of the past two seasons, minority issues — especially those about African-Americans — blew up in 2016, and it wasn't mere tokenism. From films like *Moonlight* to *Fences*, *Birth of a Nation*, *Loving*, *Hidden Figures*, *Race*, *Morris from America* and *I Am Not Your Negro* — as well as television shows like *O.J.: Made In America*, *The People vs. O.J. Simpson* and *Atlanta* (see Page 17 for Tube Year in Review) — artists (and let's face it, largely indie artists more than mainstream studios) explored thoughtfully, and with originality, matters of race and gender identity in sprawling yet intimate movies. From the 20-year history of a black man in the inner-city also coping with his sexual orientation to the struggle of intelligent black women to get the recognition they deserve as thinkers to the prosaic dignity of an interracial couple re-writing the United States Constitution by sheer force of their love, films explored the human side of race in this country. (It's ironic, though, that this all happened both as the "Black Lives Matter" movement gained currency in politics, while simultaneously a racist Cheetoh was elevated to the most powerful position in the history of planet Earth.)

It seems inevitable that next month, the Academy will be forced to recognize and reward the quality of these stories with a few more tanned faces on the nominations podium. The discussion needs to be had, and prove that, oddly

enough, all movies matter.

Here, then, is my rundown of the Top 10 (and up to 25) films released during the year.

10. (tie) *A Monster Calls* and *Lion*. Two stories about young boys losing their families and the ways they cope — one retreating into a fantasy world, the other (as an older man) who sets out to find the family he lost — touch you in unfathomable sad yet uplifting ways.

9. *Arrival*. One of the smartest sci-fi films of recent vintage, this intellectuals' version of alien invaders is closer in tone to *Contact* or *2001: A Space Odyssey* than *Independence Day* or *Cowboys and Aliens*. One of the only two recent time-travel-inspired movies (the other being *Doctor Strange*) that actually felt honest and grounded.

8. *The Jungle Book*. Jon Favreau's track record is hit (*Iron Man*) and miss (*Zathura*) when it comes to FX-laden adventures, but this adaptation of the Disney classic — replacing cel animation with an entirely digital world, with only one live actor (wonderful newcomer Neel Sethi) holding it all together — took you deep into the subcontinent, filled with dangers and wonders, and entirely submersed its audience in a fantasy that felt oh-so-real.

7. *Florence Foster Jenkins*. What could have been a bitter and mocking comedy — or perhaps worse, a mawkish melodrama — was transformed into a wondrous but touching metaphor

I saw a lot of good local theater in 2016. But great...?

Well, that's a matter of judgment (which is, of course, what I'm here for), but there were fewer "OMG-yass!" productions than it seems North Texas has produced. Of course, there was also a lot of turnover in the theater world, with the departures of Dallas Summer Musicals' Michael Jenkins, WaterTower's Terry Martin and more. Still, there was much fun to be had, from original local musicals to thought-provoking dramas to comedies that left us rolling. Here are the best we saw.

10. *Death the Musical II* (Pocket Sandwich Theatre). Despite modest production values and a sometimes-awkward staging, this original comedy stuck in my head because of the brilliant songwriting and laconic wit of composer-playwright Scott A. Eckert — already one of North Texas' best musical directors, but also a funny and creative inventor of his own shows.

9. *The Intergalactic Nemesis* (tour). The season's most unexpected theatrical creation was less a play than an immersive sensory experience. A cheesy faux graphic novel about alien invaders comes to life in a series of colorful panels projected overhead, while actors voice all the roles ... and Foley artists recreate the sounds a la an old-fashioned radio play. Funny, engaging, unique ... and best of all, a sequel returns in the spring.

8. *The Great God Pan* (Second Thought The-

atre). A young man reconnects with a childhood playmate, who reminds him that they were both molested ... only the man has no recollection of it. Was he the victim of sexual assault, or has the trauma shrouded his own past from his consciousness? Amy Herzog's psychological drama is starkly rendered by director Carson McCain with a re-invented Bryant Hall space in a heart-breaking look at the power of the mind.

7. *It's Only a Play* (Uptown Players). It's opening night of a new Broadway show, and the cast and crew are gathering in a posh New York apartment to await the reviews. Behind the scenes, bitter rivalries, fragile egos, naïve newcomers and desperate has-beens zing each other with the brio of low-budget torture-porn. Terrence McNally's rewrite of one of his earliest plays was probably the funniest thing on stages last year.

6. *The Lord of the Flies* (WaterTower Theatre). Kelsey Leigh Ervi is still quite young, which makes her skills as a first-time big-budget stage director all the more enviable. She mounted a stellar production of William Golding's allegorical novel (which I have seen done before, with miserable results) and put the young cast to great use in a dramatic, eerie and technically massive production.

5. *The Toxic Avenger* (Uptown Players). This musical, based on a cult B-movie from the 1980s, is almost legendary for its cleverness ... and the fact it has *only* be staged twice ever (in Houston, and Off-Broadway in NYC). Uptown Players



was able to obtain the rights and demonstrate that yes, a camp comedy about chemical waste and romance *can* be terrific. Hearty laughs, catchy songs and an unexpected romantic nature set it apart.

4. *Gloria* (Dallas Theater Center). In three scenes, we see the pitfalls of professional storytelling, from magazines to book publishing to Hollywood, in this dark-hearted and stinging comedy.

3. *The Big Meal* (WaterTower Theatre). Director Emily Scott Banks took a sprawling play that portrays the entire life-cycle of a family over decades and made it fly by, while simultaneously evincing one of the most vigorous crying fits I've admitted to in public. Wrenching, powerful and expertly acted and designed.

2. *Angels in America, Part One: Millennium Approaches* (Uptown Players). It's been nearly 20 years since Tony Kushner's iconic play was

on the stage of the Kalita Humphreys Theater, and UP's version — helmed by director Cheryl Denson, with a cast Broadway would envy — proves how powerful and timeless (yet timely) this sweeping story it. *Angels* is as full of humor as it is sadness (often overlooked), and its scope and the fluidity of the staging made its three-hour run time feel like a blink, gone as fast as the lives AIDS snuffed out. It shook you.

1. *The Thrush and the Woodpecker* (Kitchen Dog Theater). A mother (Kristin McCollum) and her college-aged son (Carson Wright) live banal lives on a remote bluff, until one day they receive a visitor (Diane Casey-Worman) — a figure from their past who has been search for these two for 20 years. Is she a sociopath? A demon? Or just delusional? Steve Yockey's reverie on the nature of justice, and the capacity for human forgiveness (or lack thereof), was 2016's most shocking mystery. ■

## ACTOR OF THE YEAR

While 2016 wasn't a great year for *productions* across the board, it goes without saying that individual artists continued to do exceptional work, especially the actors who repeatedly put themselves out there, and into the hands of producers, costumers, directors and others, and trust them to make each other look good. A great performance can easily rescue a dull night at the theater and make it something special. Thanks for all you do.

Thank you, **Alex Organ**, as a man plagued by the suggestion he might have been molested as a kid in *The Great God Pan*, in which he co-starred with Second Thought stalwart **Drew Wall**. Wall also showed up in DTC's *Gloria*, excellent as a proto-alcoholic office drone being bested by a co-worker — **Satomi Blair**, who gobsmacks audiences with her confidence and charisma. DTC also gave us the great **Sally Nystuen Vahle** as its first female Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*, though **Chamblee Ferguson** in a series of smaller roles stood out as well; and **Eric LaJuan Summers**' performance as James Thunder Early in its summer musical *Dreamgirls* stole the show.

A musical also proved ample ground for demonstrating skill for **John Campione**, **Sara Shelby-Martin**, **Katie Porterfield**, **Walter Lee** and **Clint Gilbert** — the entire cast of *The Toxic Avenger*, who hustled like one-armed jugglers in the year's most energetic abomination. Exaggerated camp is also evident in **Coy Covington**'s latest work in a Charles Busch comedy, Theatre 3's *Psycho Beach Party*, while another cross-dresser, **Brigham Mosley**, told us all about himself in his solo confessional *Scarlett O'Hara and the War on Tara*.

**Jessica Cavanaugh**, **John Davies** and **Jeremy Schwartz** explored both comedy and awkward family dynamics in WaterTower's *Outside Mullingar*. That theater also gave us *The Realistic Joneses*, which treated audiences to perhaps **Diana Sheehan**'s best performance yet. **Cara Statham Serber** got huge laughs (thanks to her always-impeccable timing) in *It's Only a Play* (a show bubbling over with good work). **Kennedy Waterman** continued to prove herself to be one of our best young actresses — heck, best actresses, *period* — in *The Big Meal* at WTT. **Christopher Curtis** in *The End of the*



*Rainbow*, **Karen Parrish** in KDT's *Blackberry Winter* and **David Lugo** as Roy Cohn in *Angels in America* also made lasting impressions.

But a few actors *really* wowed us. Lugo's costar in *Angels*, **Marianne Galloway**, brought Harper Pitt to life with a power few actors possess; and while **Garret Storms** was flat-out fantastic in *Angels*, it's the fact he did just as good work in *The Big Meal* and Second Thought's *Martyr* that made you realize there's almost nothing he can't do well. The one-two punch of **Kristin McCollum** and **Diane Worman** in *The Thrush and the Woodpecker* created one of the most electric confrontations I've seen in local theater. But the year was really defined by **Janelle Lutz**, pictured, channeling Judy Garland with an uncanny brilliance in *The End of the Rainbow*. It wasn't just that she sounded and acted like Judy, but that she — dare we say it? — *improved* on make us unable to look away. That's the kind of magnetism you can't capture in a bottle, and it's what makes Lutz Dallas Voice's 2016 Actor of the Year.

— A.W.J.

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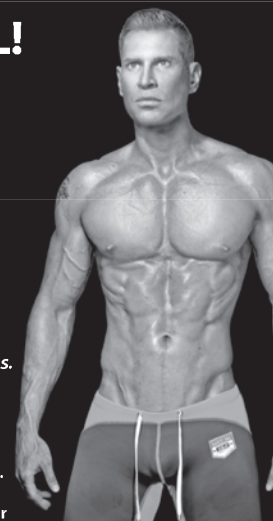


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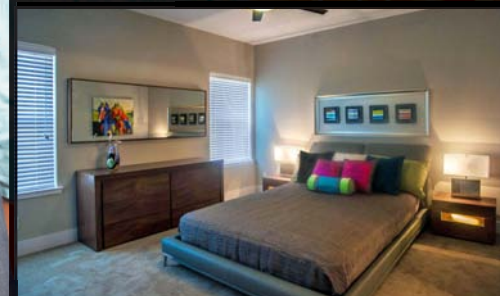
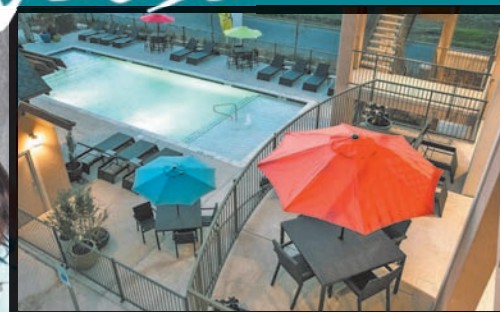
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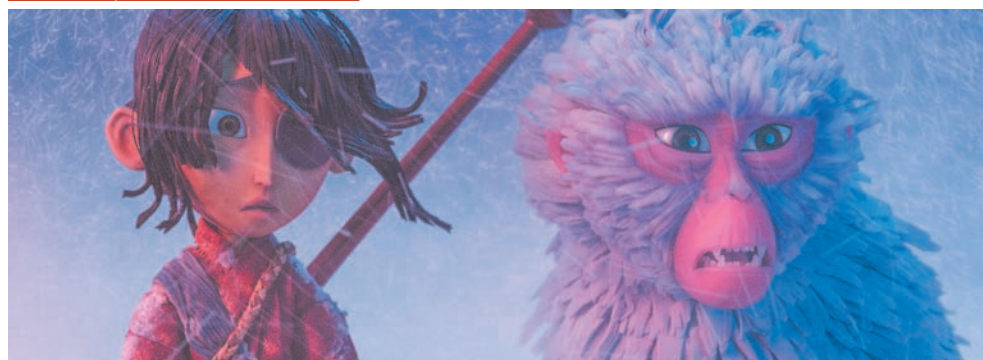
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## L+S year in review



'Kubo and the Two Strings' was the year's best animated film.

### ■ SCREEN, From Page 14

for the ways we allow ourselves to be deluded (by ourselves and others) as a perverse act of love. Meryl is marvelous as always, but Simon Helberg's bright-eyed performance as her gay accompanist and Stephen Frears' masterful direction add depth.

6. *The Lobster*. One of the few films from the first half of the year to linger, this dystopian comedy, about a world where couplehood is so valued that single people are surgically turned into animals if they can't find a mate, feels eerily prophetic in a Drumpfian world. Colin Farrell's flat, egoless performance cinches it.

5. *Hidden Figures*. The stories of three women — all smart mathematicians working at NASA in the 1960s, integral to the space program but treated with the disrespect that Jim Crow imposed — are painstakingly recreated in this soaring mix of *Apollo 13* and *The Help*.

4. *Kubo and the Two Strings*. Set aside that much of this film is stop-motion animation with paper figures, and think instead of the story, about a small boy essentially orphaned by a forgetful mother and missing father, who learns the secret of his heritage *a la* Harry Potter. Beautifully rendered and evocative of the great film of Japanese folk legends *Kwaidan*, *Kubo* was the singular standout of all animated films this year.

3. *Hell or High Water*. Essentially a perfectly-constructed film from start to finish, *Hell or High Water* looks like an old-fashioned shoot-'em-up, a modern-day Western with the cops chasing the bad guys. Only who are the bad guys, really? And how is this West Texan ranger (Jeff Bridges, who deserves another Oscar) such a warmly racist Columbo? Compelling, thrilling and smart.

2. *Nocturnal Animals*. A bored L.A. gallery owner (Amy Adams, proving less can be more) lives a vaguely unsatisfying existence in a sterile and heavily-mortgaged home with her philandering husband. Then, her long-forgotten first husband (Jake Gyllenhaal) sends her a manuscript for a new novel — dedicated to her, for some reason. Its story (about a Texas family terrorized on a dark highway) triggers memories (shown in flashback) and the woman's courtship with the writer. Fashion designer Tom Ford's second feature, following the unforgettable *A Single Man*, is a gorgeous, lurid, hypnotic reverie about the choices we make. A meta-experience that warps the syntax of filmic storytelling.

1. *Moonlight*. An African-American kid named Chiron, born to a crack-addict mom and

surviving (barely) on the streets of Miami, meets a mentor (himself a drug dealer) who nurtures the sensitive boy, but even he can't prevent the horrors of urban life from intruding... unless Chiron can overcome his circumstances (and come to grips with his homosexuality) and transform his life. Think of it as *Brokeback Mountain* — a contemporary riff in the ghetto of the fragility of love and the need to accept oneself before others can love you back. Brilliantly acted (especially by Naomie Harris and Mahershala Ali) and profoundly moving with a script by director Barry Jenkins, *Moonlight* is gripping, beautiful drama at its best.

**Nos. 11–25:** *Doctor Strange*; *La La Land*; *American Pastoral*; *Paterson*; *20th Century Women*; *Absolutely Fabulous*; *The Movie*; *Passengers*; *Tickled*; *Captain Fantastic*; *Edge of Seventeen*; *Danny Says*; *Silence*; *Weiner*; *Wiener-Dog*; *Allied*.

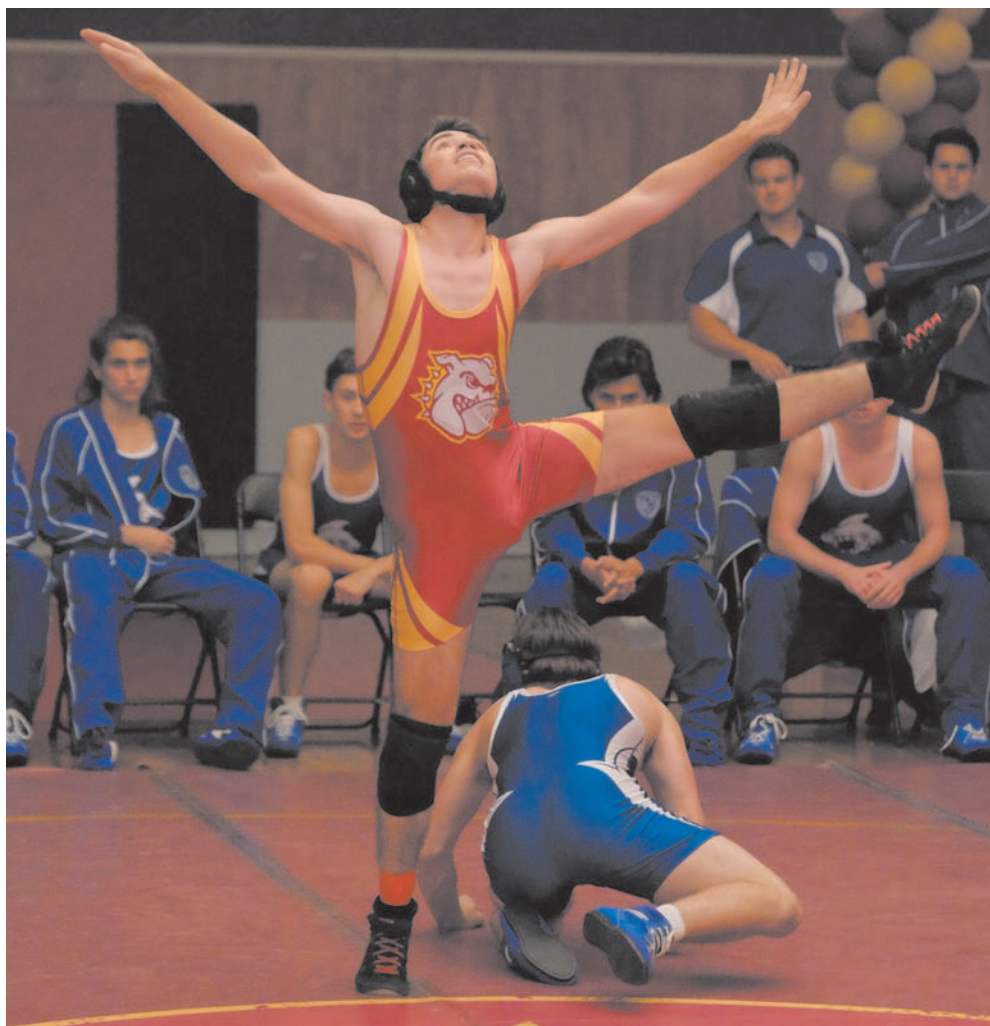
**Memorable performances:** Casey Affleck, Michelle Williams, Lucas Hedges, *Manchester by the Sea*; Meryl Streep, Simon Helberg, Hugh Grant, *Florence Foster Jenkins*; Jeff Bridges, Ben Foster, Gil Birmingham, *Hell or High Water*; Viola Davis, *Fences*; Viggo Mortensen, *Captain Fantastic*; Annette Bening, Lucas Jade Zumann, *20th Century Women*; Hailee Steinfeld, *Edge of Seventeen*; Ewan McGregor, Dakota Fanning, *American Pastoral*; Naomie Harris, Ashton Sanders, Trevante Rhodes, Mahershala Ali, *Moonlight*; Kristen Stewart, *Café Society*; Alden Ehrenreich, *Rules Don't Apply* and *Hail, Caesar!*; Warren Beatty, Lily Collins, *Rules Don't Apply*; Taraji P. Henson, Janelle Monae, Octavia Spencer, *Hidden Figures*; Natalie Portman, *Jackie*; Neel Sethi, *The Jungle Book*; Adam Driver, *Paterson*; Colin Farrell, *The Lobster*; Emma Stone, Ryan Gosling, *La La Land*; Kate Beckinsale, *Love & Friendship*; Amy Adams, *Arrival* and *Nocturnal Animals*; Jake Gyllenhaal, Michael Shannon, Aaron Taylor-Johnson, *Nocturnal Animals*; Ruth Negga, Joel Edgerton, *Loving*; Sunny Pawar, Dev Patel, *Lion*.

**The 5 most disappointing films of the year** (those with promise that failed miserably): *Knight of Cups* (Terrence Malick, who has allowed his moody feelings of mortality to overwhelm him and audiences); *Assassin's Creed* (A-listers in a B-movie with D-execution); *Billy Lynn's Long Halftime Walk* (the great Ang Lee goes wrong with this directionless and emotionally empty story of PTSD); *Suicide Squad* (Gotham shitty). *Finding Dory* (a pale and unsatisfying sequel to a beloved modern classic). ■



# Stream weavers

The best (new) things on television — and the Internet — in 2016



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With so many platforms, doing an exhaustive rundown of what we call Tube — everything from traditional broadcast and basic cable TV, to premium cable, streaming services and Podcasts — would be nearly impossible. So we limit it to *new* shows (or at least basically new to us). So don't get flustered if you don't see *Game of Thrones* or *Last Week Tonight with RuPaul's Drag Race* here — we love them too, and have said so in the past. This is in celebration of the newcomers.

10. *The Radio Adventures of Eleanor Amplified* (Podcast). The old-school adventure serial — about a “girl reporter” (hey! “Woman!”) combatting evil at the upper echelons of business eerily prefigured Drumpf's victory, except Eleanor defeated the meanies in this Podcast created for children (boys and girls), but with enough snark and sass for their parents as well,

DANCE 10, PINS 3 | The gay kid (Noah Galvin) becomes the school jock hero by winning a wrestling match by way of Jerome Robbins choreography in ABC's ‘The Real O'Neals.’

or anyone who enjoys having their auditory imagination teased.

9. *The Night Of* (HBO). A dutiful but flawed Muslim kid enjoys a drug-filled one-night-stand, awakes to the girl brutally murdered, and becomes part of the criminal justice system, for good or bad, in this limited-series procedural — a sort of modern-day anatomy of due process. Riz Ahmed is sympathetic as the kid and Michael Kenneth Williams electric as his prison protector, but it's John Turturro's as a lopey, annoying, eczema-plagued public defender who steals the show.

8. *Take My Wife* (Seeso). Real-life comics and partners Cameron Esposito and Rhea Butcher play fictionalized (I assume) versions of themselves, navigating love and relationships. Wisely observed and wryly executed, it's one of the least abashed portraits of the urban lesbian experience seen on TV... well, streamed.

7. *Making a Murderer* (Netflix). Released very late in 2015, this documentary series is about a

■ TUBE Page 20

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# Season's readings

The best books of 2016 — in fiction, nonfiction and children's lit

**G**ot books? If you were me, the answer would be, "Ohhh, yeah!" Shelves of them, in fact, over the last 52 weeks

Here are some of the better reads in 2016, in no particular order.

## FICTION

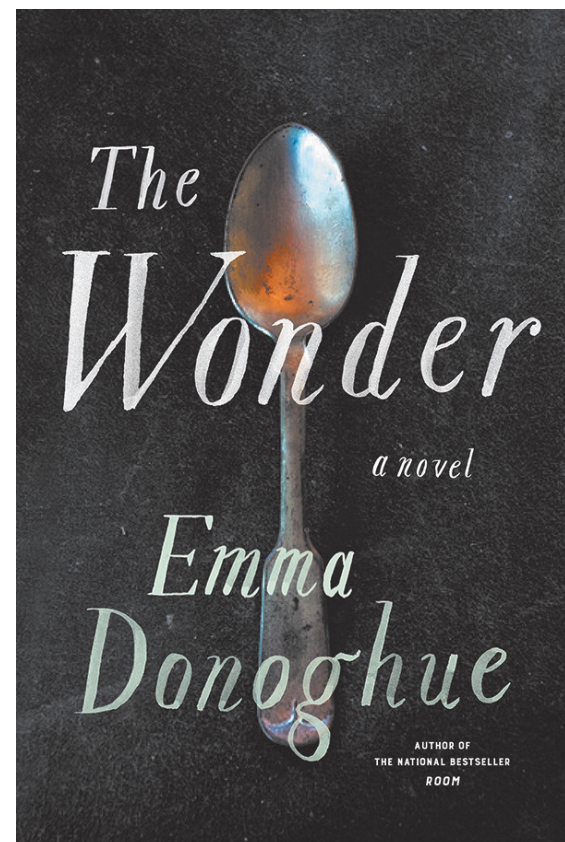
I'm not sure why, but I couldn't stop touching *I Will Send Rain* by Rae Meadows when I first got it. The cover pulled at me, but the story? Oh, my, it's the tale of a family of four during the Dust Bowl years. The mother, Annie Bell, is trying desperately to hold her family together while her daughter dreams a dangerous dream, her son is mute, and her husband slowly goes mad. There's a surprise in here, a fifth main character, and that's the dust. Do. Not. Miss. This. Book.

While I'm not normally a big fan of fictionalized biographies, *Mrs. Houdini* by Victoria Kelly nonetheless captivated me with its magic. It's a tale of love and illusion, believing and trust... and it includes a gauzy ending that might seem implausible but who knows? Hint: If you can bear it, save your gift card. This book comes out in paperback in March.

Generally speaking, I'll read anything by **Emma Donoghue**. She has a way of turning a tiny, true event into a novel that sticks in your head, and *The Wonder* is no exception. It's the story of a very confident, almost haughty nurse who served with Florence Nightingale and seems to think that stint confers some sort of specialness. When she's hired to watch a child who claims not to eat or drink, the nurse thinks the girl is a scammer — but, of course, there's so much more to the story and an ending that's so perfect, it's stunning. Write this title down. It's another book you can't miss.

A vision of the apocalypse is at root in *The Fireman* by Joe Hill. It's a novel about a virus that's infected the world, and if you catch it, you burn. Poof, up in flames, and it's pitting neighbor against neighbor and husband against wife. There's a surprising romance in this book, thrills, a chase, humor and horror, and there are shades of Hill's father in here. Guess who?

For my fifth pick, I debated: *Britt-Marie Was Here* or *And Every Morning the Way Home Gets Longer and Longer*, both by Fredrik Backman. I finally decided on the latter, the story of life and loss, forgetting and trying hard not to. But here's the thing to know: the first go-around won't make much sense. Turn around and read it again — it's really short, so no problem — and bring tissues that time. It's truly a lovely book. (Aside: *Britt-Marie* is a close — very close! — second



pick.)

## NONFICTION

As I was looking over the list of things I read, I was surprised to remember how much I enjoyed *Neither Snow nor Rain* by Devin Leonard. Overall, this book is about the U.S. Postal Service and its history. The thing that makes this book so much fun, though, is that Leonard also includes so many side-stories that it becomes more of a general history that's light and fun. Fans of Bill Bryson, take note and find this book.

Another something that's informative and a little on the light side is *Playing Dead* by Elizabeth Greenwood. I mean, how many times a week does the average person wish they could chuck it all and disappear somewhere? Greenwood looks into that: how it's done, what it's like, and the impact it has on loved ones. You might change your mind. Or you might want to disappear even *more*. Either way, this is a can't-miss.

As a baby boomer, *They Left Us Everything* by Plum Johnson particularly resonated with me, which is why it really has to be on this list. Johnson's parents were both elderly and had lived in their oversized house for decades. When they died relatively close in time, Johnson and her brothers were tasked with cleaning up, but not just the house. They also had memories to examine and scrub. This is a book for daughters,

**2016 YEAR IN REVIEW**  
**BOOKS**





Lesbian novelist Emma Donoghue ('Room') had one of the best fiction books of the year with 'The Wonder;' trans teen Jazz Jennings' memoir is excellent reading for kids as well as adults.

particularly, but also for anyone who's facing the downsizing of a home or end-of-life caretaking.

In a political year, you might guess that an abundance of political books might be published — and you'd be right. My pick for the best in that category is *Nixon's Gamble* by Ray Locker, who takes a brief look at Nixon's early career before digging into the moves that the president made, starting on the day of his inauguration. Even if you think you know what happened nearly half a century ago... you don't. For history lovers of any age or place, this is an eye-opener.

I don't think I would have liked *Another Day in the Death of America* by Gary Younge quite as much if it had been laser-focused. Nope, Younge took one random day in recent years, and he writes about the 10 children who died of gunshot wounds in the U.S. on that day. It's that randomness that's so shocking, especially when you consider the statistic he cites: an average of seven children die by gunshot every day in America — and the circumstances Younge found make this book even more impactful.

#### KID-LIT

Putting *The Bill the Cat Story* by Berkley Breathed on the kids best-of list might be cheating a little, because this book is only partly for children. True, the kiddos will love the illustrations and older children might laugh at the storyline, but this book is every bit as much for adults as it is for the younger set. Grown-ups will love the message inside this book; fans of Breathed's *Bloom County* will appreciate knowing about Binkley's first days with Bill, and the insider peek at Opus' home. I don't say this lightly: it's a book for the whole family.

I'm not sure if I was ready for its light breeziness, but *Being Jazz* by Jazz Jennings was the right book at the right time when I read it last summer. You might have seen Jennings on the

news; as a transgender teen, she's become somewhat of a spokesperson for trans rights and acceptance. Her book is gossipy, bubbly, and truthful — she proactively answers questions that teens want to know, without embarrassment. This is a great read for adults, too.

Another book that caught me by surprise (because I loved it so much) was *Mama Loved to Worry* by Maryann Weidt, illustrated by Rachael Balsaitis. In the same vein as the Pecos Bill, Slue-Foot Sue, and Paul Bunyan stories you loved as a kid, this is a book set on a farm, with a Mama whose tasks grow larger in both action and in fable. The pictures are as much fun as the

story, and you'll love it just as much as does your child ... especially when it's read aloud.

There's a lot of cleverness inside *The Night Parade* by Kathryn Tanquary — enough to keep a lover of darkness up all night. It's the story of a Japanese-American girl who tries to fit in with the "in" crowd by disrespecting her ancestors, and yes, her actions have scary repercussions. Older middle schoolers not prone to nightmares will love this, as will younger young adults who are just stepping into this genre. Hint: Save your gift cards — it comes out January in paperback.

Finally, *This is Where It Ends* by Marieke Nijkamp is a chillingly unexpected tale of a

school shooting and heroism, with realism and timeliness that will shock you. That's not counting the story itself, told in minute-by-minute increments that will make you forget you're not reading a real account of a tragedy. Again, this isn't just a YA book. It's something adults should also want to read.

And now the paperwork: look for these books at your local library or bookstore. If you can't find them, ask your favorite bookseller or librarian, who is surely wearing a Super Hero cape beneath his or her clothing.

Season's readings!

— Terri Schlichenmeyer



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■ **TUBE**, From Page 17

man who spent many years in prison for rape only to be finally and conclusively exonerated ... and arrested a year later for another even more horrific crime. Twenty years in the making, this real-life mystery is life Errol Morris' *Thin Blue Line* blown up to series proportion, with a Kafkaesque, redneck twist and a dash of the McMartin Trial thrown in. Provocative and unnerving.

6. *Full Frontal with Samantha Bee* (TBS). Oh, Jon Stewart, how could you abandon us before an election year? At least your protégé, Samantha Bee, picked up the mantle (far better than

your *Daily Show* replacement Trevor Noah) to join John Oliver and Bill Maher (only on basic cable!) in fighting the good fight of political satire. Who knew women could be funny? .... Oh, right, *everyone*.

5. *The People vs. O.J. Simpson* (FX). The unmissable TV event of the first part of the year was this 10-part miniseries from Ryan Murphy, a detailed history of the racial, social and legal ramifications of what was, for many of us, the Trial of the Century. John Travolta was weird as Robert Shapiro, David Schwimmer surprising as Robert Kardashian, but it was Sarah Paulson's inhabiting (and humanizing) of Marcia Clark that made it so compelling. More than 20 years

after the events it portrayed, we finally have perspective to see where we were... and how far we've come.

4. *Westworld* (HBO). Dreamy and moody, but with an explosive heart, this TV reimagining of Michael Crichton's 1970s film (which itself formed the template for *Jurassic Park*), in which robots are willingly abused by humans at a pricey amusement park until they start to fight back, was the must-watch fall show, and one of two that upended our conceptions about technology (see also *Black Mirror*, below).

3. *Black Mirror* (Netflix). Netflix began streaming all three (very short) seasons of this British anthology series, where modernity and



**MAKING A MURDERER** | The robotics process goes horribly wrong in HBO's 'Westworld.'

technology are as problematic as beneficial: Imagine a world where strangers can Yelp-review *you* (and a low enough score keeps you from getting a mortgage), or where you awake to go on the run from armed hunters while cell-phone obsessed voyeurs film your every move but refuse to help? These are some of the twisted concepts presented here, all with new casts, plots and styles. It's addictingly dark and perversely funny while occasionally terrifying.

3. *Atlanta* (FX). Donald Glover created and stars in this dramedy about an ambitious but aimless black man trying to balance fatherhood, relationships, work, money and the music industry. With deadpan brilliance and a knowing and unexpected frank take on race, it was 2016's sleeper.

1. *The Real O'Neals* (ABC). One of the best network sitcoms since *Modern Family*, this good-natured and smart comedy is about an Irish Catholic family in Chicago violating their church's doctrines against divorce and homosexuality, but doing so with love. Tonally reminiscent of *My Name Is Earl*, it's a great ensemble piece with savvy writing about coming out as a teen.

**Other great new shows in 2016:** *Stranger Things* (Netflix); *Gilmore Girls: A Year in the Life* (Netflix); *This Is Us* (NBC); *Baskets* (FX); *Fleabag* (Amazon Prime); *Sherlock: The Abominable Bride* (PBS); *Speechless* (ABC); *Luke Cage* (Netflix). ■



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Saturday 01.07

### Out illusionist Michael Carbonaro brings his live show to Dallas

On his truTV series *The Carbonaro Effect*, out magician Michael Carbonaro wows watchers with his sleight-of-hand tricks and amusing illusions. If you want to see him live — and he is so adorable, why would you not? — you'll get the chance soon. *Michael Carbonaro ... Live!* comes to the Winspear for one-night-only with his patented combination of humor, charm and how-did-he-do-that? befuddlement. There's even a VIP meet-and-greet if you wanna rub shoulders with Michael personally. Just maybe leave your wallet in the car — you can't be sure of anything with a magician around.

**DEETS:** Winspear Opera House, 2401 Flora St. 7 p.m. ATPAC.org.



Friday 12.30 — Sunday 02.12

### Annual musical comedy revue 'I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change' returns to T3 in a re-imagined production

Theatre 3 announced last month that Jeffrey Schmidt would take over from acting artistic director Bruce Coleman to lead the theater company, and whether it's Schmidt's hand or someone else, they are starting by re-imagining a Dallas tradition. The Joe DiPietro-Jimmy Roberts revue about love and relationships *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* has been a staple for decades, but this year will return with an all-new concept. Leading the way will be Dallas Voice's 2016 Actor of the Year Janelle Lutz, Calvin Scott Roberts, Trey West and Allison Bret, with director B.J. Cleveland.

**DEETS:** Theatre 3's downstairs space, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Theatre3Dallas.com.

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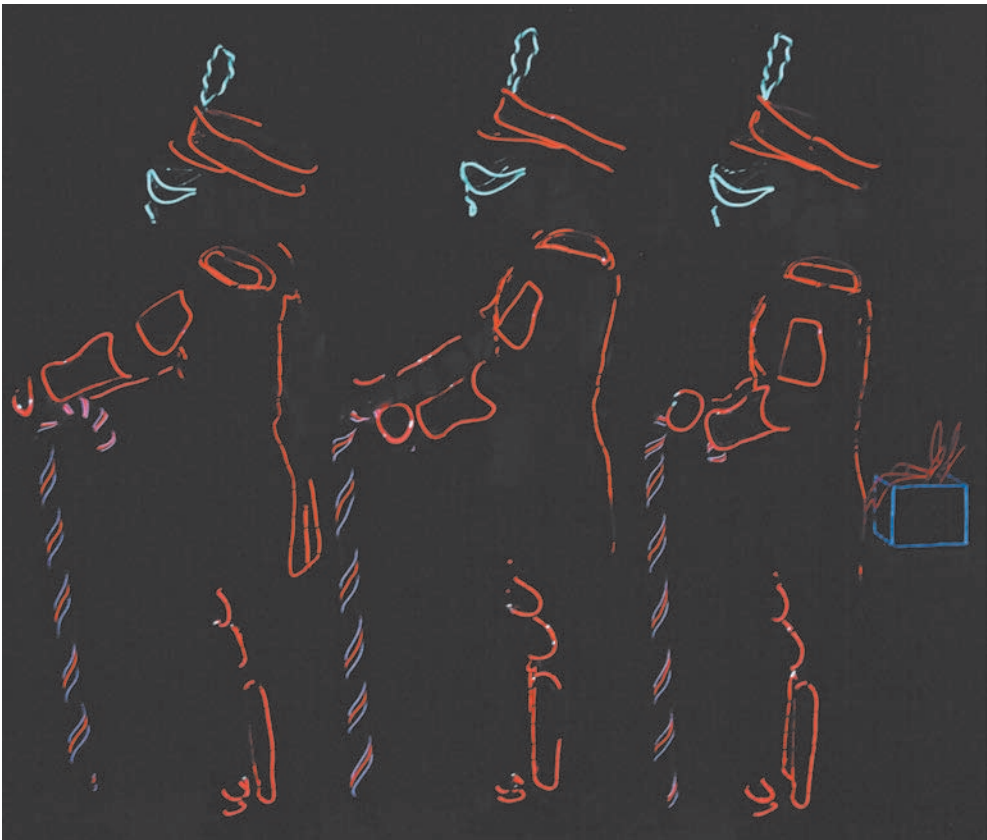
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**JOIN US FOR PRIDE NIGHT ON THURSDAY, FEB 9!**





'America's Got Talent' semifinalists Lightwire present 'A Very Electric Christmas' at the Winspear for one-show-only on New Year's Day afternoon.

ARTSWEEK  
NOTE: DUE TO THE HOLIDAYS, SOME NORMALLY SCHEDULED EVENTS MAY BE CANCELLED OR MODIFIED.

**THEATER**  
*The Book of Mormon.* The musical comedy about Mormon missionaries in Africa concludes its return engagement at the Winspear Opera House, 2401 Flora St. Through Sunday. ATPAC.org.

*Death on Delivery!* An all-new Pegasus Theatre show in the patented process of Living Black and White, set in 1939 in a maternity ward. Directed by Michael Serrecchia. Eisemann Performance Center, 2351 Performance Drive, Richardson. Through Jan. 22. \$22-\$42. PegasusTheatre.com.

*Gloria.* The regional premiere of this Pulitzer finalist about the cutthroat world of magazine publishing. Studio Theatre of the Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Jan. 22. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

*I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change.* Theatre 3's annual musical comedy revue returns, but in a newly re-imagined production. Theatre Too inside Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Dec. 29-Feb. 12. Theatre3Dallas.com.

*The Sleeping Beauty.* An original English panto, a beloved holiday tradition, skewers a familiar fairy tale with cross-dressing and comedy in a family-friendly way. Cox Building Playhouse, 1617 H Ave., Plano. Through Dec. 30. Theatre-Britain.com.

**CIRCUS**  
*Lone Star Circus: La Fete.* Annual holiday spectacular, featuring ringmaster B.J. Cleveland. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 3958 Skillman St. Through Jan. 1. DCT.org.

**FINE ART**  
*Art and Nature in the Middle Ages.* Evolving representations of the natural world in the Romanesque period, from England to Iran. Dallas Museum of Art,

1717 Harwood St. Through March 19. DMA.org.  
**Divine Felines: Cats of Ancient Egypt.** Highlights of works from the Brooklyn Museum that honor the mystical role cats played in the days of the pharaohs. Dallas Museum of Art, 1717 Harwood St. Through Feb. 5. Free. DMA.org.

SATURDAY 12.31 —  
NEW YEAR'S EVE

**SUNDAY 01.01 —  
NEW YEAR'S DAY**  
**PERFORMANCE**  
*Lightwire Theater's A Very Electric Christmas.* The *America's Got Talent* semifinalists, who perform with sets and costumes wired for light, present this dazzling visual performance. Winspear Opera House, 2401 Flora St. 4 p.m. ATPAC.org.

**THURSDAY 01.05**  
**CABARET**  
*Judy Chamberlain Jazz.* The jazz vocalist's weekly cabaret performance in the back room of Zippers Hideaway, 3333 N. Fitzhugh St. 9 p.m.  
*Glitterbomb Denton.* Weekly queer variety show with a new lineup every Thursday. Mable Peabody's Beauty Parlor and Chain Saw Repair, 1125 E. University Drive, Denton. 9:30 p.m.

**BROADCAST**  
*Top Chef Charleston.* Two Dallas chefs — John Tesar and Casey Thompson — are among the returning competitors who this season are pitted against newcomers. Bravo at 8 p.m.

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# Girl on Girls

Jenny Block learns: When it comes to kindness, one size does not fit all

I'm 5-feet tall. My friend Spike is 6-foot-9. That free radio station T-shirt with the "one size fits all" tag is a dress on me and a crop top on him.

Kindness is the same. One size does *not* really fit all, no matter what the tag says.

Both of my parents are alive I am very close to my sister. I've survived two abusive relationships. And a degenerative disability runs in my family. My fiancé Robin lost her mother, to whom she was very close, more than eight years ago. She and her brother lead vastly different lives and don't talk often. And she, like many, did not survive childhood unscathed.

Believing that kindness is a universal constant is the root of many a battered heart, many a shattered feeling within an intimate relationship.

At first blush, it may seem as if it is unfair, or even inauthentic, to ask ourselves to behave in a way that it not instinctual — that is, to be kind in a way that is outside of what we imagine kind to me. But it is imperative we do so. Here's why.

On the surface, it may seem that "kindness is kindness." But the truth is, what might seem kind to one person can actually be hurtful or at the very least dismissive to another, all depending on their life ex-

periences, temperament and, well, baggage. I am a smart-ass. The more comfortable I am with someone, the more likely I am to not give a moment's thought to being a smart-ass. The thing is, what might be a throw-away comment from me could be like a dagger in my partner's heart.

The other day, we were both dashing around to get ready to head out of town — Robin to Alabama to work during a particularly challenging week, and me to Dallas to face a zillion appointments, some of them not so pleasant.

We bumped into one another as we got ready and I made a comment about knocking out a wall to make a bigger bathroom — which, in reality, we have no need for. I thought of it as a joke. What she heard was that the house wasn't enough, she wasn't enough, the work she did wasn't enough.

The remark led us into a full-blown argument that dragged into the night. Cruel words were said. Feelings were shredded. Defenses

rose and self-protection was invoked.

That's just one personal example. It's happened before. It's gone both ways. And it's always the same thing: One of us is cruel without meaning to be, because we aren't thinking about how our comment will fall on the other person's ears.

So I am practicing kindness in a whole new way. I am learning to be kind to *her*. I am learning that though her mother has been dead for nearly a decade, she misses her as if it was yesterday. I am learning that even though I love her and want to be with her, her past partners and relationships still sting and cause her to think I, too, could cause the harm

they inflicted. I am learning that even though I am not a part of her memories, she still needs them. I am learning that things that are important to her are things I have to learn to respect because I love her.

It's hard because I want to act in a way that's natural to me. But I also want to be kind — not just generically kind, but kind to her in the way *she* needs it. She has to recover in her own way, in her own time from her losses and betrayals. My job as her partner in the world is to stand next to her as she does and not think about how I would recover or what I need and instead, learn how I can be a support to her.

She, of course, needs to do the same for me — to remember that I am a mother and that no matter how empathetic one is, one cannot understand what it is to be a parent without actually *being* a parent; to remember that I have survived abuse, that I face illness and that not all of my family relationships are

what I wish they are; to remember that my experiences are different and yet no less valid than her own. In short: To remember that I need her to be kind, too, even when she feels the weight of the world and of her job and of her past.

Being a couple isn't easy. But when it's with the right person, it's always worth it. And to be kind in the way that your partner needs and longs for is the greatest gift you can give. So every day I do my best and every day I hope to get a little better at it and every day I remember that being my best self is always the best thing I can do to create the best relationship where we both feel safe and loved and valued and where kindness always reigns.

Block is the author of the *The Ultimate Guide to Solo Sex*, foreword by Betty Dodson.

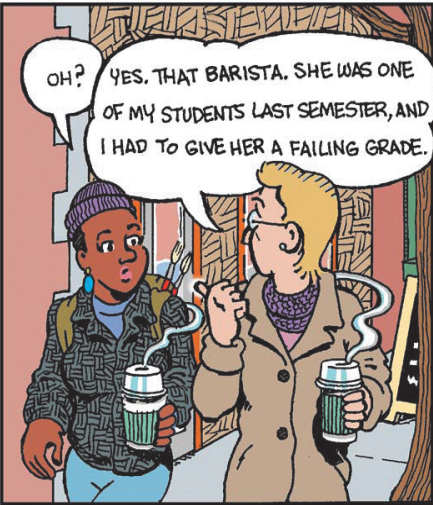
Have a question about sex you want Jenny to address? Email it to [GirlOnGirlsJenny@gmail.com](mailto:GirlOnGirlsJenny@gmail.com).



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## this week's solution

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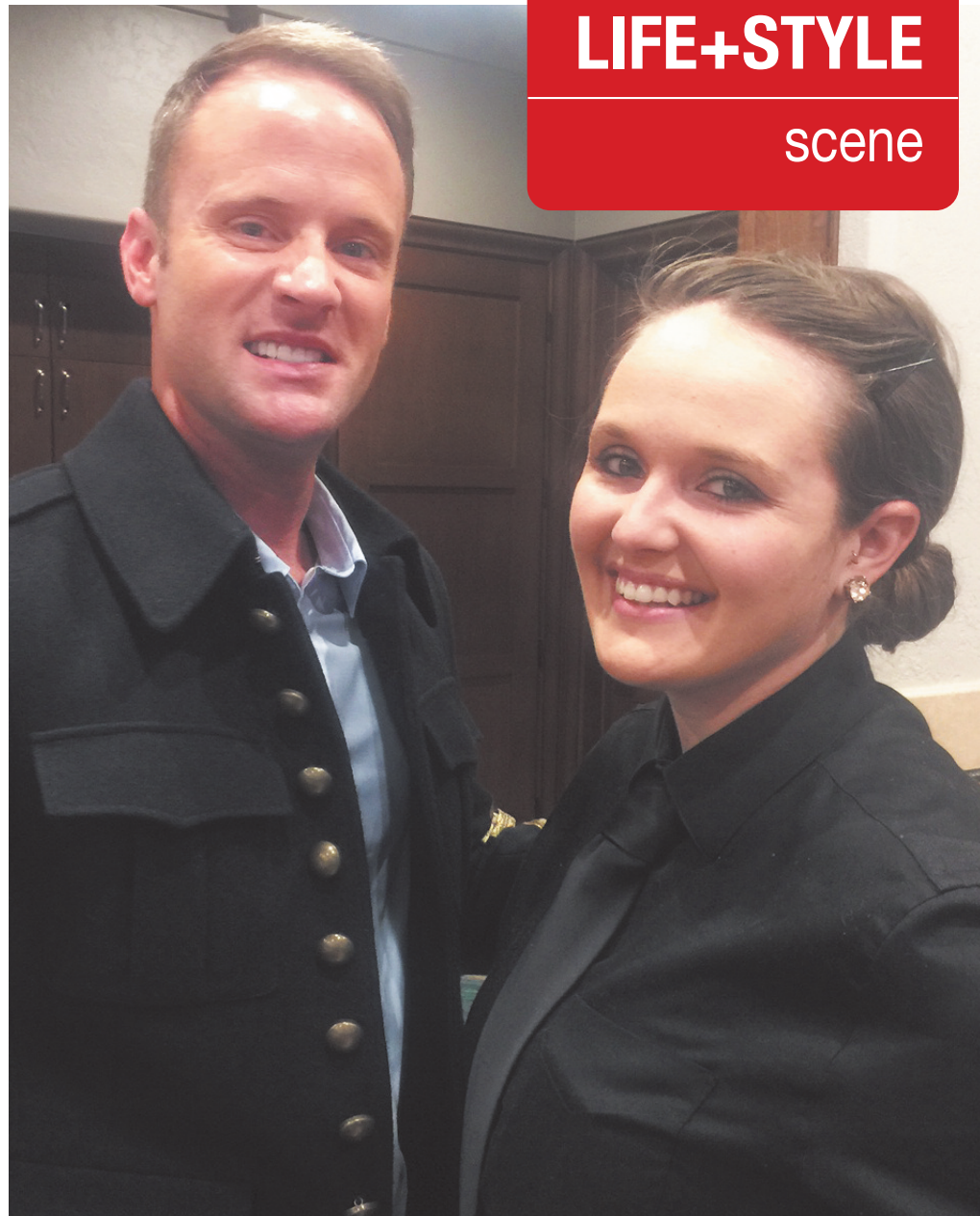




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John and Amanda at Peacock Theatre.

Making the **SCENE** the week of **Dec. 30–Jan. 5:**

- **BJ's NXS!**: Dance floor opens at 8 p.m. on **New Year's Eve** with free champagne toast and two balloon drops at midnight and 1 a.m. Skip the line with a VIP card.
- **Cedar Grove**: **Drag Brunch** MC'd by **Jenni P** at 10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Cedar Springs Tap House**: **Chick Happy Hour** from 6-10 p.m. on Thursday.
- **Club Changes**: **Shamoo** and **Deejay DJ** entertain all night long on **New Year's Eve**.
- **Club Reflection**: **New Year's Eve Party on the Patio** on Saturday.
- **Dallas Eagle**: **New Years Eve Party** with **DJ Benson** on Saturday.
- **Panoptikon**: **New Years Eve** masquerade party with tables available and midnight champagne toast at 8 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Pekers**: Make reservations for **New Year's Eve** with **Sable Alexander** and **Linze Serell**. Showtime at 10 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Rainbow Lounge**: **New Year's Eve Red & White Party** with free champagne and cash balloon drop hosted by **Ivana Tramp** from 9 p.m.-2 a.m. on Saturday.
- **Round-Up Saloon**: **New Blue Year's Eve** on Saturday. \$20 in advance. \$30 at the door. \$300 VIP tables for four available including reserved parking and a waiter. Cash balloon drop, champagne toast, dinner and breakfast buffet.
- **Sue Ellen's**: **T&A Karaoke** on Monday. **Tuesday Tease** on Tuesday. Open Mic with **Kathy & Bella** on Wednesday.
- **The Rose Room**: **New Year's Eve** with **Cassie, Asia, Krystal, Chevelle Brooks, Layla, Kelexis** and **Jenna** on Saturday.
- **Two Corks and a Bottle**: **Show Tune Night** from 7-10 p.m. on Wednesday.
- **Urban Cowboy Saloon**: **Eva Royale, Korina Duvalle, Bleach** and **Bianca Davenport** headline the **New Year's Eve Party** at 8 p.m. on Saturday.
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar**: **New Year's Eve** with free buffet, party hats, noise makers, midnight cash drop and champagne toast on Saturday. No cover. **Dallas at Philadelphia** at noon on Sunday. ■

Scene Photographers: **Kat Haygood**



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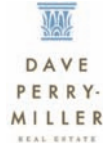


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## clubs

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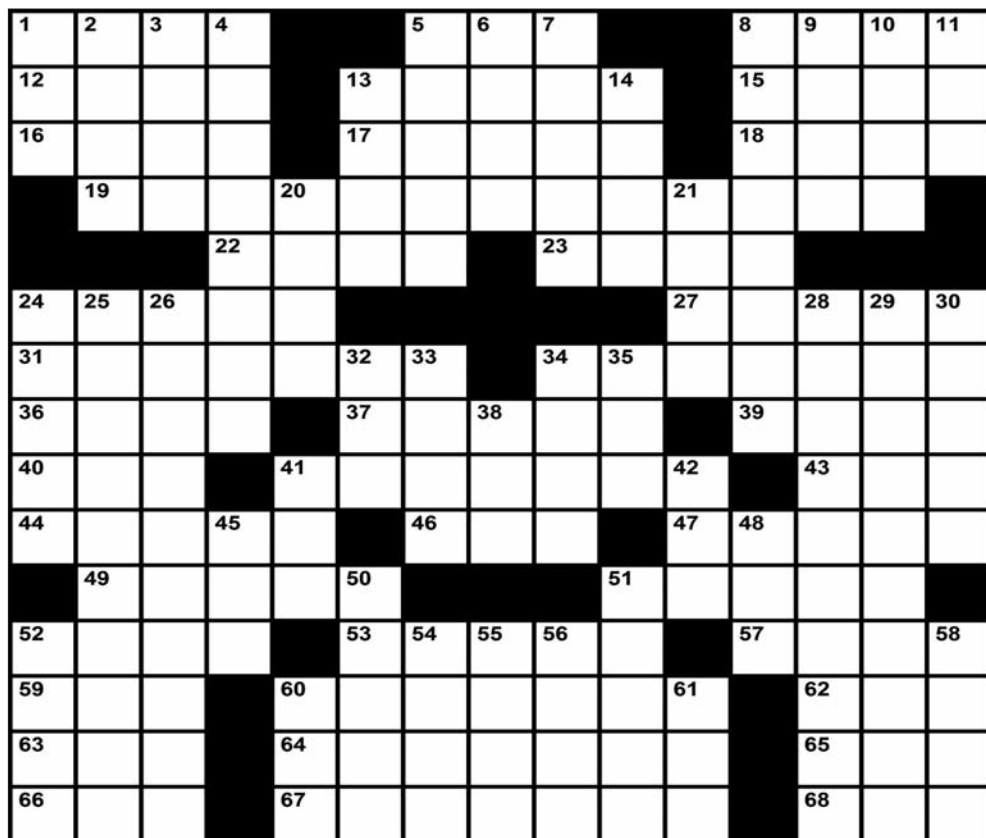
- 1 Alexandre's**  
4026 Cedar Springs Road.  
214-559-0720
- 2 Barbara's Pavillion**  
325 Centre St.  
214-941-2145
- 3 BJ's NXS!**  
3215 N. Fitzhugh Ave.  
214-526-9510  
Bjsnxs.com
- 4 Cedar Springs Tap House**  
4123 Cedar Springs Road.  
214-377-7446  
CedarSpringsTaphouse.com
- 5 The Dallas Eagle**  
5740 Maple Ave.  
214-357-4375  
DallasEagle.com
- 6 Cedar Grove**  
4123 Cedar Springs Road.  
214-522-3474  
CedarGrove-Dallas.com
- 7 The Grapevine Bar**  
3902 Maple Ave.  
214-522-8466  
thegrapevinebar.com
- 8 Havana Lounge**  
4006 Cedar Springs Road.  
214-886-6804
- 9 Hidden Door**  
5025 Bowser Ave.  
214-526-0620  
HiddenDoor-Dallas.com
- 10 JR.'s Bar & Grill**  
3923 Cedar Springs Road.  
214-528-1004  
Caven.com
- 11 Kaliente**  
4350 Maple Ave.  
214-520-6676  
Kaliente.com
- 12 Liquid Zoo**  
2506 Knight St.  
214-221-3004  
LiquidZooSportsbar.com
- 13 Club Los Rieles**  
1707 S. Lamar  
214-7546-1109
- 14 Marty's Live**  
4207 Maple Ave.  
214-559-2151
- 15 Pekers**  
2615 Oak Lawn Ave.  
214-528-3333  
PekersBar.com
- 16 Pub Pegasus**  
3326 N. Fitzhugh Ave.  
214-559-4663
- 17 The Round-Up Saloon**  
3912 Cedar Springs Road.  
214-522-9611  
RoundupSaloon.com
- 18 Station 4 (S4) and  
The Red Room**  
3911 Cedar Springs Road.  
214-559-1004  
Caven.com
- 19 Sue Ellen's**  
3014 Throckmorton St.  
214-559-0707  
Caven.com
- 20 The Tin Room**  
2514 Hudnall St.  
214-526-6365  
TinRoom.net



### FORT WORTH

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>The 515 Bar</b><br/>515 S. Jennings Ave.<br/>Fort Worth, 76104<br/>817-338-0515<br/>515Bar.com</p> <p><b>1851 Club</b><br/>931 W. Division St.<br/>Arlington, 76012<br/>682-323-5315<br/>1851Club.com</p> <p><b>Changes</b><br/>2637 E. Lancaster Ave.<br/>Fort Worth, 76103<br/>817-413-2332</p> | <p><b>Club Reflection</b><br/>604 Jennings Ave.<br/>Fort Worth, 76104<br/>817-870-8867<br/>ClubReflection.com</p> <p><b>Rainbow Lounge</b><br/>651 S. Jennings Ave.<br/>Fort Worth, 76104<br/>817-744-7723</p> <p><b>Urban Cowboy Saloon</b><br/>2620 E. Lancaster Ave.<br/>Fort Worth, 76103<br/>817-744-7832<br/>UrbanCowboySaloon.com</p> |
|---|--|





## Gender Fluidity

Solution on page 23

### Across

- 1 Manger for Mary's boy  
5 One of two ways  
8 *Ed Wood* role  
12 Cole Porter's Indiana hometown  
13 Slice of wry  
15 Go off, on Broadway  
16 Judy Garland, to many  
17 Words before "music," to Britten  
18 In the pink  
19 Beginning of why Stella considers herself to be a woman, on

### OITNB

- 22 Peter and more  
23 *Pretty in Pink* setting  
24 Shoe part  
27 Straight men fear to drop them in the shower  
31 Put down  
34 Event requiring metal balls  
36 Thumbs-down votes  
37 Come slowly closer  
39 "The thing with feathers" in a Dickinson poem  
40 Giant outfielder Mel  
41 More of Stella's reason  
43 Cruising area  
44 Ready to hit the sack  
46 More of Stella's reason  
47 Emulated Miriam Margolyes  
49 Grout may separate them

### Down

- 51 Ejaculate, e.g.  
52 With 57-Across, actress who plays Stella  
53 Military doctor  
57 See 52-Across  
59 Univ. e-mail ending  
60 End of Stella's reason  
62 Third degree, often  
63 Reno action  
64 Some money from Melissa to Tammy Lynn  
65 Warts prefix for Harry Potter?  
66 Wall St. group  
67 Thaw with Nureyev's land  
68 Frat hazing prop

### Down

- 1 Inflation meas.  
2 Perform a decorator's task  
3 Do some pressing work  
4 Places where you never get to second base  
5 Releases from bondage  
6 Campus mil. org.  
7 Coming soon  
8 Huge thing  
9 Digital-rectal, for example  
10 Tomlin of *Grandma*  
11 Didn't fast  
13 ID for Sandra Scoppettone  
14 Cole Porter's "Brush Up \_\_\_\_ Shakespeare"  
20 Prison part  
21 Matching notes for

### Bernstein?

- 24 "Lead \_\_\_\_ into temptation"  
25 Shakespeare's "To thine own self be true" and such  
26 Render unto Caesar, e.g.  
28 Smee's version of "epiphany" in *Hook*  
29 Hand job at times?  
30 Home extension  
32 Gaydar, for example  
33 \_\_\_\_ Mae Brown  
34 Kind of gin  
35 Rooster in drag, seemingly  
38 Hollywood VIP  
41 Inspired writing  
42 Type of sucker  
45 *In the Steps of Mr. Proust* author Stanley  
48 Scar, in *The Lion King*, for example  
50 Word from Tom Bianchi, perhaps  
51 Hound's trail  
52 "Queen of Country" McEntire  
54 Put out  
55 Bas relief of Eleanor's husband  
56 Lay \_\_\_\_ the line  
58 Beat, but barely  
60 "When I was a \_\_\_\_"  
61 Easter egg application



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