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Models: Angel Martinez and Domino Maruska-King
Photo by Tammye Nash
Concept by Chad Mantooth
Design by Kevin Thomas

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2018 Top Stories: About the cover

The cover of the Dec. 28 issue of Dallas Voice continues our series honoring DFW's transgender and drag communities in the lead up to our Stonewall 50th anniversary issue next June. It was transgender women and men and drag queens that were the ones who sparked the Stonewall Riots and birthed this movement, and they are the ones who have often stood at the forefront of the fight for equality, not to mention the fight against HIV/AIDS.

This week's cover features trans man Angel Martinez as "the old year," 2018, and Domino "Minno" Maruska-King as "baby new year" 2019.

Martinez is a 43-year-old Marine veteran, bartender, actor, athlete and two-time world boxing champion who moved to Dallas from San Diego in 2001. He has been bartending in the LGBT community for 17 years and, he says, is still learning the ways of the job.

He is also a vocal advocate for the LGBT community in general and for the transgender community in particular, and a fledgling screenwriter working on a full-length film while still striving as a CrossFit competitor.

Martinez began his transition at what he calls "the ripe old age of 41," and is "still learning to walk in the ways of a man."

Minno, born in January 2018 to mommies Sirena and Natasha, had a bumpy start and needed to spend a little time in the NICU, but she has grown into a rambunctious little babe that loves adventure. She loves water and music and has spent her first year loving bath/swim time and dancing to her tunes ("They Might Be Giants" kids songs). Minno is the proud owner of six new teeth and truly enjoys drooling all over everyone and everything. Having already conquered the crawling thing, Minno is learning that she can walk on her own. For now though, her mommies don't mind holding her hands while she walks the world.



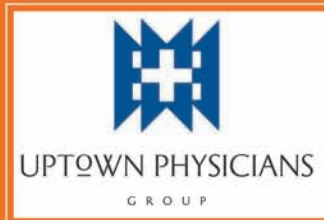
Photo by Tammye Nash



David M. Lee, M.D. • Marc A. Tribble, M.D. • Donald A. Graneto, M.D. • Eric Klappholz, NP • Peter Triporo, NP
Jason Vercher, PA-C • Vanessa Bludau, NP • William Hays, MD, ATC, LAT • Hollie Williams, NP

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Dr. Marc Tribble and Dr. Donald Graneto named to D Magazine's Best Doctors in Dallas for 2017 in Infectious Disease and Family Medicine respectively.



Peter Triporo, NP named Top 10 in 2018 America's Top Nurse Practitioner Awards presented by Point of Care Network.



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THE GAY AGENDA



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

DECEMBER

• Through Jan 11: Branch Out Dallas

The City of Dallas will provide residents a tree at no cost. Register online at GreenDallas.net or for assistance go to any Dallas Public Library.

• Dec. 31: Celebration honors Carol and Angela

Celebration Community Church honors retiring pastor the Rev. Carol West and her wife Angela from 7 p.m.-midnight at Celebration Community Church, 908 Pennsylvania Ave., Fort Worth.

JANUARY

• Jan. 1: New Year's Day

• Jan. 8: Grief support group

LGBT grief support group for people who have lost a same-sex partner from 7-8:30 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• Jan. 12: LGBT Family Building Conference

Comprehensive LGBT family building conference includes two fertility physicians who are part of the LGBT community, donor egg agency, surrogacy agency, donor sperm bank, attorney specializing in surrogacy and adoption, third party reproduction psychologist, parents who have built their families through donor egg and surrogacy and adoption, as well as gestational carriers and egg donors from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at LGBT Babies, 6750 N. MacArthur Blvd., Suite 209, Irving. Register at TheDonorSolution.lpages.co.

• Jan. 18: Little Black Dress

Little Black Dress FashionCITED preview party benefits Legal Hospice of Texas from 6:30-8:30 p.m. at Goodson Acura, 4801 Lemmon Ave.

• Jan. 19: Dallas Women's March

From 10 a.m.-1 p.m. Meeting location to be announced.

• Jan. 19: Halftime Gaybingo

Gaybingo from 5-9 p.m. at the Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Tickets at rcdallas.org.

• Jan. 19: Scarborough Faire auditions

Come be a part of a theater experience like no other. Auditions for volunteer lane performers (actors and musicians) for Scarborough Renaissance Festival's performing company — Scarborough Academy of Performing Arts (SAPA) — will be held 9 a.m.-noon and 1:30-4:30 p.m. Auditions are by appointment at SAPA@SRFestival.com.

• Jan. 22: Grief support group

LGBT grief support group for people who have lost a same-sex partner from 7-8:30 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• Jan. 27: HRC Pin Down Equality Bowling Fundraiser

Federal Club presents Pin Down Equality Bowling Tournament and Fundraiser with bowling, pizza and soft drinks, a silent auction and more from 1-3 p.m. at AMF Richardson Lanes, 2101 N. Central Expressway, Richardson.

• Jan. 29: Eat for Change

Support AIDS Walk South Dallas from 5-9 p.m. at Chipotle, 4330 Lemmon Ave.

FEBRUARY

• Feb. 1-2 Out for Health

Out for Health is a medical conference organized by students from Texas Health Science Centers across the state to address the needs of the LGBT population. Offers continuing education credits. Students \$15, General \$50, Healthcare professionals \$120. UNT Health Science Center, Medical Education Training Building, 1000 Montgomery St., Fort Worth. Register at UNTHSC.edu/OutForHealth.

• Feb. 9: Love Equality

The Equality Texas Dallas Steering committee presents Love Equality, a nice of dancing with drinks and light food, benefitting Equality Texas, will be held from 8-11 p.m. at 7 for Parties, 150 Turtle Creek Blvd. Ste. 107. Advance tickets are \$50 until Dec. 31, and \$75 from Jan. 1-Feb. 1, online at Secure.EveryAction.com/HZCrJuU7wUaaHFlftkj1Sg2. Tickets at the door \$100.

• Feb. 12: Grief support group

LGBT grief support group for people who have lost a same-sex partner from 7-8:30 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• Feb. 13: Pride Night-Falsettos

Pride Night at the national tour of Falsettos in collaboration with the Turtle Creek Chorale at 7:30 p.m. at Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Discounted tickets \$30-60 at ATTPAC.org.

• Feb. 16: And the winner Is ... Gaybingo

Gaybingo from 5-9 p.m. at the Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Tickets at rcdallas.org.

• Feb. 17: Teddy Bear Auction

Dallas Bears hosts auction in memory of Spanke Studer that benefits AIDS Services of Dallas. Preview and cocktails at 6 p.m. Auction at 7 p.m. at Round-Up Saloon, 3912 Cedar Springs Road.

• Feb. 26: Grief support group

LGBT grief support group for people who have lost a same-sex partner from 7-8:30 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

MARCH

LGBT grief support group for people

who have lost a same-sex partner from 7-8:30 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• March 15-17: Blinded: Turtles Rock Out

The Turtle Creek Chorale sings classic rock — Aerosmith, Bon Jovi, Meatloaf, Queen — on Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. at City Performance Hall, 2520 Flora St.

• March 16: House of DIFFA: Futuro

A fashion experience that provides an exciting mix of philanthropy, theatrics and DIFFA's legendary runway production at 6 p.m. at the Omni Hotel Dallas, 555 S. Lamar St. Tickets at DIFFADallas.org.

• March 16: Gaysby Gaybingo

Gaybingo from 5-9 p.m. at the Rose Room, 3911 Cedar Springs Road. Tickets at rcdallas.org.

• March 23: AIDS Walk South Dallas

Walkers gather at 8 a.m. at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center, 2922 MLK Jr. Blvd. \$25 individual walker. \$30 Walker with pet. Vendor space \$50.

• March 26: Grief support group

• **Weekly: Lambda Weekly at 1 p.m. on Sunday on 89.3 KNON-FM with David Taffet, Lerone Landis and the late Patti Fink; Core Group Meeting** every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m.; **Fuse game night** every Monday evening except the last of the month at 8 p.m. at the Fuse space in the 3918 Harry Hines Blvd.; **FuseConnect** every Wednesday from 7 p.m. For more information call or e-mail Jalenzski at 214-760-9718 ext. 3 or Jalenzski@myresourcecenter.org; LGBT square dancing group **Pegasus Squares** meets every Sunday from 2:30-4:30 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church, 4105 Junius St. For more info, email pegassussquares@gmail.com; **Dallas Frontrunners** meet for

a walk or run on the Katy Trail at Oak Lawn Park, Turtle Creek and Hall Street, every Wednesday at 7:15 p.m. and every Saturday at 9 a.m.; **Leadership Lambda Toastmasters** practices and develops speaking and leadership skills from 6:30-8 p.m. on Tuesdays at First Unitarian Church, third floor of the Hallman Building, 4012 St. Andrews; **Gray Pride** support group from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. followed by mixer every Monday at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road; **Lambda AA** meets at 7 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. and has a men's meeting at 10 a.m. on Saturdays and meets at 10:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Sunday at 1575 W. Mockingbird Lane #625. Call 214-267-0222 for details; **LGBT Sex Addicts**

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

LGBT grief support group for people who have lost a same-sex partner from 7-8:30 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• **March 30: Toast to Life:** Bootlegger's Ball Steve Kemble hosts with the Singapore Slingers and DJ Blake Ward at the Empire Room, 1225 N. Riverfront Blvd. Tickets at MyResource Center.org/ToastToLife.

• **March 30: Casino Night**
Tyler Area Gays presents Wild, Wild West at Holiday Inn, 5701 S. Broadway, Tyler. Need 3 people to sponsor tables at \$250 each. Contact TAG at info@TylerAreaGays.com.

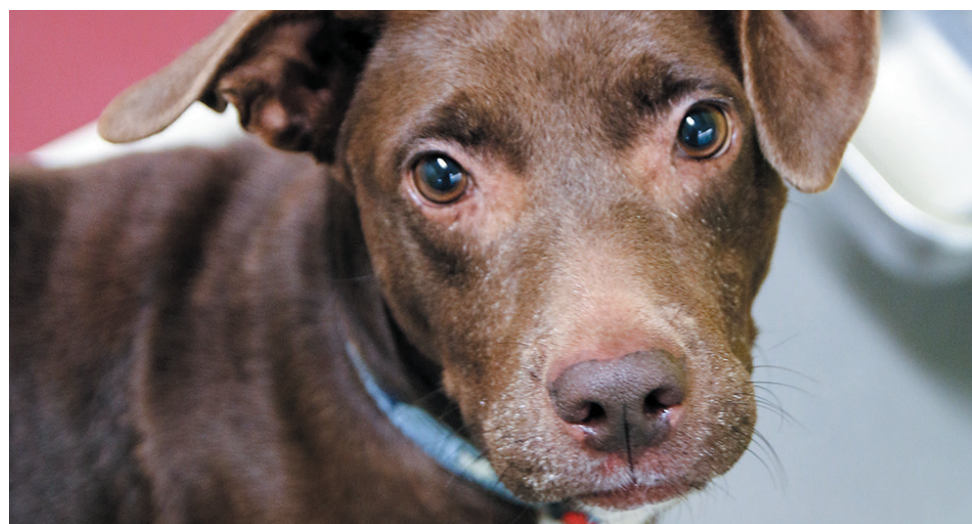
APRIL

• **April 9: Grief support group**
LGBT grief support group for people who have lost a same-sex partner from 7-8:30 p.m. at Resource Center, 5750 Cedar Springs Road.

• **April 19: First Passover seder**

• **April 20: Beth El Binah community seder**
Congregation Beth El Binah Passover seder at 6:30 p.m. at Deli News, 17062 Preston Road. \$60.


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2018 Top Stories:

Elections — The Rainbow Wave

Pundits had been predicting that a “Blue Wave” would wash over the 2018 midterm elections, as more and more people became disillusioned by — or more disillusioned by — the Trump administration. And the Blue Wave did happen, with Democrats picking up 40 seats in the House of Representatives and making significant gains in state and local elections across the country.

But even more significant for the LGBT community, which has suffered significant setbacks under Trump and his right-wing faction, was the Rainbow Wave that flooded the midterms. In Texas, we saw a record number of openly-LGBT candidates, including the first openly-lesbian candidate nominated by a major party in a statewide race — Lupe Valdez, the democratic nominee for governor.

Even though Valdez and most of the other LGBT candidates came up short, we do now have five openly-LGBT officeholders in the Texas House, including North Texans Julie Johnson and Jessica Gonzalez. And that’s a huge victory for equality.

“We had a fantastic year,” said LGBTQ Victory Fund CEO Annise Parker. “There really was a rainbow wave that was part of a blue wave.”

She said we’ve doubled the number of LGBT governors and doubled the number of LGBT senators.

“The sheer number of folks who ran — 600!” she said.

And win or lose, Parker said every one of those races was important because it raised awareness and changed minds.

Parker was excited about the diversity of candidates. She spent Election Day in Kansas where three LGBT candidates won their races including the first Native American elected to Congress.

The number of trans candidates, she said, was impressive, declaring, “That explodes myths.”

So many LGBT candidates were elected that only four states — Alaska, Louisiana, Mississippi and Tennessee — haven’t elected any LGBT state legislators. Before this year’s election, that number was seven. One of those — Kansas — not only elected two but is also sending a lesbian to Congress.



State Reps.-elect Jessica Gonzalez, left, and Julie Johnson.

And while lots of LGBT candidates won their races, others came extremely close. Parker called the loss by Gina Ortiz Jones against U.S. Rep. Will Hurd in West Texas a heartbreaker. Jones lost by just a few hundred votes.

“When you lose by a razor-thin margin, it scares the incumbent,” Parker said. That gets people in the district thinking the race is winnable, and they’ll work even harder the next time. “I expect Gina to come back in two years and kick butt,” she said.

Parker said one thing Victory Institute teaches candidates is that they’re not the LGBT candidate. They’re candidates for public office running on local issues.

She said the number of LGBT candidates that ran this year makes it routine, “which is what we want.” Someone’s sexual orientation should just become a resume thing. She pointed to Colorado Gov.-elect Jared Polis’ campaign literature, which pictured him with his husband and their kids.

But she said one reason so many LGBT

people are running is that so many LGBT people are winning.

In Texas, we’ll have five LGBT women in the state House of Representatives. And 10 Democrats, including five in Dallas County, defeated Republican anti-LGBT incumbents who mostly received zero ratings with Equality Texas.

In Congress, two pro-LGBT Texas Democrats took seats from anti-equality Republicans, including Pete Sessions in Dallas County. Colin Allred, who will replace him, is an ally to the LGBT community.

Thanks to the Democrats winning control of the U.S. House, U.S. Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson of Dallas — a champion of LGBT equality — replaces San Antonio Rep. Lamar Smith as chair of the Science, Space and Technology Committee. Johnson believes in science. Smith doesn’t.

The number of LGBT senators doubles in the new congress as Kyrsten Sinema, D-Ariz., joins Tammy Baldwin, D-Wisc., in the upper chamber. Four new members

of the House of Representative are Angie Craig, D-Minn., Sharice Davids, D-Kans., Katie Hill, D-Calif. And Chris Pappas, D-N.H.

Among those who came close and may run again is Lorie Burch, who ran for a congressional seat in very red Collin County. She lost by just a few points in a race that Democrats hadn’t seriously contested in at least several decades. Her sexual orientation wasn’t an issue in the race.

As that district continues to grow with companies moving to the area from blue states, Burch’s chances in two or four years will get even better.

That area’s state Senate seat largely overlaps the congressional seat, and Texas marriage equality plaintiff Mark Phariss won his primary to challenge Angela Paxton, wife of Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton, in the general election. Phariss lost by just 2 percent but raised more money than any Democrat ever has in a predominantly Collin County race. And he won in the Dallas and Plano portions of the district.

In Dallas County, Democrats picked up five seats in the Texas Legislature. Lesbians Julie Johnson and Jessica Gonzalez won two of those seats, doubling the LGBT caucus in Austin. They’ll join incumbents Mary Gonzalez and Celia Israel and a fifth newly-elected LGBT representative, Erin Zwiener, who was elected in a district southwest of Austin.

Finn Jones, a trans man, challenged Republican incumbent Tony Tinderholt in a conservative Tarrant County district. His gender identity wasn’t part of the race, and Jones received more than 40 percent of the vote. Democrats hadn’t made a serious challenge for that seat in years.

And LGBT candidates didn’t just run in the more liberal big cities. Scott Prescher won a city council race in the Fort Worth suburb of Watauga. Justin Moseley ran for Justice of the Peace in Angelina County, although he didn’t win. And Eric Holguin ran for a U.S. congressional seat in Victoria.

And for the first time, an openly-gay man and a lesbian ran for statewide offices in Texas as the nominees for a major party. Houston Civil Court Judge Steven Kirkland ran for the Texas Supreme Court and former Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez was the Democratic nominee for governor.

— David Taffet

2018 Top Stories:

An historical marker for the gayborhood

“Despite Dallas’s reputation as one of the state’s more conservative cities, its LGBTQ (lesbian, gay bisexual, transgender queer) community was among the first in Texas to organize politically and socially,” begins the text on a new historical marker that stands at the corner of Throckmorton Street and Cedar Springs Road.

In October, the marker was placed outside JR’s Bar & Grill, marking The Crossroads as an historical site. This is the first marker honoring the LGBT community in Texas.

The Dallas Way spearheaded the effort to get the marker approved and in place, and hundreds of people attended the dedication ceremony on Oct. 10.

The Dallas Way President Evilu Pridgeon called The Crossroads the heart and soul of the Dallas LGBT community and said approval of the project was a team effort.

Bars, restaurants and stores began moving to Cedar Springs in 1975, taking over a strip of dilapidated early 20th century buildings and renovating them and the residential blocks around them.

The Crossroads became an area of political organizing and, in the 1980s, an area of AIDS activism. And that tradition continues today.

Longtime activist Betty Neal told the crowd, “At this intersection, I see my life.”

First term Dallas City Councilman Omar Narvaez spoke at the marker’s dedication



and said that his political career began there at the Crossroads after he joined Stonewall Democrats and signed up hundreds of voters while sitting at a table outside Crossroads Market, which stood directly across the street from where the marker is today.

— David Taffet

Notable deaths in 2018

- **Mathilde Krim**, 91, founded amfAR to promote HIV research, died on Jan. 15.
- **George Schill**, 83, owner of An Occasional Piece on Cedar Springs, died on March 2.
- **Tony Bobrow**, longtime owner of the Hidden Door whose trust has donated \$350,000 to local LGBT non-profits since his death, died on March 16.
- **Donna Red Wing**, 67, a legendary activist for LGBT rights, died of cancer on April 16.
- **Campbell Read**, 87, longtime activist and SMU professor who founded the school's first LGBT organization, died on April 25.
- **John Loza**, 54, former Dallas mayor pro tem and community activist, died on June 19.
- **Michael Milliken**, 71, Stonewall Democrats of Dallas co-founder and Oak Lawn Committee member who raised the money to build the Legacy of Love Monument, died on Sept. 23.
- **Paul Rodgers**, 70, former Equality Texas board member and Lesbian and Gay Political Caucus president, died on Oct. 19.
- **Jan Mock**, 58, former Black Tie Dinner and Resource Center board member, died on Oct. 26.

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2018 Top Stories:

Pride on the move

After staging the 35th annual Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade down Cedar Springs Road on Sept. 16, drawing what were described as the largest-ever crowds for both the Miller Lite Music Festival at Reverchon Park on Sept. 15 and the parade the next day, officials with the Dallas Tavern Guild announced that Dallas' Pride celebration would be moving to Fair Park in June, beginning in 2019.

The first three Dallas Pride parades, in 1972, 1973 and 1980, were held in June, with the first two being in downtown Dallas and the third on Cedar Springs. But in 1984, the Dallas Tavern Guild — an organization of Dallas LGBT bar and club owners — took over management of the parade, and moved Dallas' celebration to September in recognition of Judge Jerry Buchmeyer's 1982 ruling overturning the Texas sodomy law.

The parade and the accompanying Festival in the Park have been held in September ever since. A few years ago, the festival after the parade was moved from then-Lee Park to Reverchon Park, and in 2017, the festival was morphed into a music festival and held the Saturday before the parade on Sunday.

This year, however, tavern guild members voted quietly at their June meeting to move the Pride festival and parade back to June and to take them out of the gayborhood to Fair Park.

The vote, they said was prompted by a number of factors, including the fact that they were quickly running out of room to grow the festival at Reverchon Park, that upcoming construction projects at the park and on Cedar Springs Road could interfere with the Pride events, that city restrictions on how long the roads could be shut down for the parade were limiting its size, and the costs associated with the permits, security and other city requirements have been increasing exponentially.

At the same time, the tavern guild's long-time executive director, Michael Doughman, announced he would be retiring — and moving to Puerto Vallarta — immediately after the parade in September, and



Jaron Turnbow was hired as his replacement.

The tavern guild then moved its November meeting — usually held during the day — to an evening time slot at The Rose Room to give community members a chance to voice their concerns and opinions, and to allow the tavern guild and Pride steering committee members the chance to explain

their reasoning for the move. Although the tavern guild had already voted to move the festival's date and location by the November meeting, it wasn't until mid-December that Turnbow announced that the parade, also, would be held in Fair Park in June in 2019. He did say, however, that while the parade will be held in June from now on, the tavern guild and the Pride steering

committee may reconsider the parade's location after next year.

As the year draws to a close, the decision to move Pride continues to be a topic of heated debate, with most of those speaking up either fervently in favor of the move or angrily opposed, leaving very few standing in the middle ground.

— Tammye Nash

LGBT liaisons around DFW

- **Amber Roman**, Dallas Police Department, becomes the department's third liaison to the LGBT community while former liaison Laura Martin remains in charge of hate crime statistics as well as protecting visiting dignitaries.
- **Sara Straten**, Fort Worth Police Department, returned this year to the position she inaugurated after the raid on the Rainbow Lounge in 2009.
- **Jerry Sanderford**, Irving Police Department, became the first LGBT liaison officer in a suburban city when he was appointed last spring.
- **Mahoganie Gaston**, Dallas ISD, is working to open a gay-straight alliance in every DISD secondary school.
- **Isaac Vasquez**, LGBTQ liaison for city of Irving staff, assists the city in achieving its commitment to providing an open and welcoming working environment for every city employee.

2018 Top Stories:

Transgender community in the crosshairs

By the end of the year, 2017 had become the deadliest year on record for the transgender community, with at least 29 transgender people known to have died violent deaths.

So far in 2018, at least 26 transgender people have been killed, including Dallas resident Karla Pavon, choked to death in her North Dallas apartment on May 9. Jimmy Eugene Johnson was arrested within days of her death and accused of her murder.

Just three days later, the body of 39-year-old trans woman Nicole Hall was found in White Rock Creek, although it took police several days to positively identify her. Her

death is suspected to be a suicide. Then in August we learned that an Ellis County grand jury had no-billed Robert Wayne Mosher, who killed his transgender daughter, Gwen River Song, in 2017 in Waxahachie. Mosher claimed he was acting in self defense after River Song attacked him with a knife.

A month later, trans woman Nikki Enriquez was identified as one of three women murdered in Laredo by spree killer Juan David Ortiz, a Texas Border Patrol agent.

Although he did not identify as transgender, murder victim Traylon Brown, found dead in his car in far South Dallas in October, was known to occasionally dress in women's clothing and from initial reports, may have been dressed that way when he

was killed.

Other trans people killed this year are Christa Leigh Steele-Knudsen, Vicki Gutierrez, Celine Walker, Tonya Harvey, Zakaria Fry, Phylicia Mitchell, Amia Tyrae Berryman, Sasha Wall, Nino Fortson, Gigi Pierce, Roxana Hernandez, Antash'a English, Diamond Stephens, Cathalina Christina James, Keisha Wells, Sasha Garden, Vontashia Bell, Dejanay Stanton, Shantee Tucker, Londonn Moore, Ciara Minaj Carter Frazier, Regina Denise Brown, Tydi Dansbury and Keanna Mattel. They ranged in age from 18 to 45.

But the transgender community has been attacked in 2018 in more ways than one. Trans people, in fact, seem to be a favorite target of the Trump administration.



Karla Pavon

The year started with a bit of good news when Pentagon officials confirmed that the first openly-transgender person to enlist in the U.S. military had signed a contract of service. But the Trump administration —

2018 Top Stories:

The ups and downs of SCOTUS

While most people thought the *Obergefell* marriage equality ruling settled many things involving LGBT

rights, cases aimed at chipping away at that ruling began making their way up to the Supreme Court almost before the ink dried on the signatures on *Obergefell*. This year saw one of the most well-known of those cases have its ultimate day in court.

That ruling, known as *Masterpiece Cake* ruling, was based on the question of whether a baker could refuse to make a cake for a same-sex wedding. And the outcome was decidedly undecided.

A majority of the justices on the Supreme Court weren't happy with the way the Colorado Human Right Commission handled the case initially. They felt the bakery owner's religious rights weren't respected.

So the court found in his favor.

But the court *didn't* rule that a baker — or photographer or florist — could be forced to sell goods and services to everyone or

could opt out for religious reasons. And the ruling *didn't* make any judgment about state laws that forbid discrimination based on sexual orientation.

All *Masterpiece Cake* really decided was that Colorado mistreated the owner of Masterpiece Cakeshop. His business wouldn't be penalized for refusing service to the couple based on their sexual orientation.

That ruling was one of the last ones written by Justice Anthony Kennedy, a Ronald-Reagan appointee who had ruled for marriage equality and LGBT rights in four earlier decisions, surprising everyone. Kennedy retired at the end of the term, setting the stage for Donald Trump to appoint a second justice to the Supreme Court (He appointed Neil Gorsuch in 2017).

The first of Kennedy's pro-LGBT rulings was in *Romer v. Evans* in 1996, which struck down a Colorado law invalidating local nondiscrimination ordinances and preventing LGBT people from being recognized as a protected class. Then in 2003, Kennedy wrote the decision in *Lawrence v. Texas*, which struck down sodomy laws used to criminalize LGBT people.

In 2013, he wrote the opinion in *U.S. v.*



Brett Kavanaugh

Windsor, which struck down parts of the Defense of Marriage Act, and followed that up two years later by writing the opinion *Obergefell v. Hodges* that established marriage equality across the country.

Because of Kennedy's previously-solid support for LGBT rights, his *Masterpiece Cake* decision was a surprise to many and

a disappointing end to his career. And the LGBT community worried about who would replace him on the court.

As it turned out, Trump's nominee to replace Kennedy was Brett Kavanaugh, a judge in the D.C. circuit who's had dozens of serious complaints filed against him, primarily from women alleging sexual mis-

which had tried unsuccessfully in 2017 to rescind President Barack Obama's orders to allow openly-trans people to enlist — retaliated quickly.

Trump issued new orders in late March that would essentially disqualify transgender people from serving openly. The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals rejected this new ban in mid-July, and in mid-August, a federal judge in Maryland ordered the Trump administration to turn over to plaintiffs in a lawsuit challenging the attempted ban information the administration had based its reasoning for banning trans people from military service.

The Trump administration tried again in late November, asking the U.S. Supreme Court to vacate a national injunction blocking the ban on trans people in the military and to rule immediately on all the cases challenging the ban, even though none of the cases have actually made it through the trial and appeals process yet.

As the year comes to a close, the Supreme Court has not responded to the administration's request to fast-track the cases, but it seems unlikely that the administration is going to drop its efforts now to keep transgender people out of the military.

— Tammye Nash

conduct dating back as far as his school years. One accuser, Dr. Christine Blasey Ford, testified to Congress that Kavanaugh had sexually assaulted her when they were in college.

Sen. Amy Klobuchar questioned Kavanaugh about his drinking. When she asked him if he ever blacked out from drinking, he answered, "It's — you're asking about, you know, blackout. I don't know. Have you?"

She had to direct him to answer the question.

Despite his hostility to senators during the hearing, Kavanaugh's nomination passed the committee by one vote. On the Senate floor, he was approved by the slimmest vote ever for a Supreme Court nominee, and progressives feared the worst for upcoming cases.

But in one of his first rulings as a Supreme Court justice, Kavanaugh surprised everyone — and angered the conservatives who had so staunchly supported and defended him — when he voted, along with Chief Justice John Roberts, not to accept for review two cases on whether states can block Planned Parenthood and other abortion providers from their Medicaid programs.

— David Taffet

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2018 Top Stories:

A month-by-month timeline

January: Nigel Garrett, 21, of Frisco is sentenced to 15 years in federal prison for assaulting a gay man he and three other men, ages 18-21, targeted using Grindr ... Donald Trump ends 2017 by firing the remaining 10 members of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS ... Auntjuan Wiley is announced as the new president and CEO of Community Unity Respect Education Inc. (C.U.R.E.) when Roseann Rosetti resigns and becomes president emeritus of the organization she cofounded ... Celebration Community Church in Fort Worth celebrates its 25th anniversary ... Former Dallas County Sheriff Lupe Valdez and Dallas Eagle owner Jeffrey Payne launch their campaigns for governor ... Dallas County GOP files suit to have 128 candidates thrown off the Dallas County Democratic Primary ballot. The suit is later thrown out by the judge ... Dallas entertainer Kennedy Davenport appears on RuPaul's Drag Race: All Stars 3, eventually making it to the top three.

February: Jessica Gonzalez launches her campaign for the Texas House District 104 seat challenging incumbent Roberto Alonzo ... Equality Texas' Dallas steering committee hosts the Love Equality fundraiser, the first of what they hope will be an annual event ... Popular local entertainer Chanel Champagne is critically injured in a car accident outside Denton. The DFW community steps up to raise funds to help pay her medical bills ... The Human Rights Campaign honors Dr. Ximena Lopez, the pediatric endocrinologist who founded the clinic for trans youth at Children's Health hospital in Dallas ... AIDS Interfaith Network changes its name to Access and Information Network, but continued to use the acronym AIN ... Cathedral of Hope breaks ground on a new entryway onto the church's campus ... Lambda Legal files suit against the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops on behalf of Fort Worth couple Bryn Esplin and Fatma Marouf, after the couple were denied the opportunity to adopt through a Catholic agency ... John Wright Martin, formerly of Dallas, faces four felony charges in connection with funds embezzled from his former employers, Randy and Kristy Pitchford of Frisco ... LGBT advocates and Pentagon officials confirm on Feb. 26 that the first openly-transgender person to enlist in the military has signed a contract to serve. The enlistment came after a judge in 2017 stopped Trump's efforts to rescind an Obama administration policy allowing transgender people to enlist effective Jan. 1, 2018.

March: Dallas entertainer and Rose Room cast member Asia O'Hara is announced as one of the contestants on RuPaul's Drag Race Season 10. Asia makes it to the top four at the end of the season ... Resource Center's Toast to Life fundraiser marks its 20th year ... Lupe Valdez ends the Democratic Primary in a runoff with Andrew White of Houston, son of former Texas Gov. Mark White. Numerous other LGBT candidates around the state make it into runoffs or win their primaries outright. Jessica Gonzales defeats Robert Alonzo to win a state House seat ... Texas Pride Impact Fund begins accepting applications for grants ...

SMU honors Resource Center with a Luminary Award ... Sophia Conde, an openly-lesbian teen from Frisco, helps organize the successful March for Our Lives student march against gun violence ... St. Stephen United Methodist Church and Oak Lawn United Methodist Church both vote to begin performing same-sex weddings ... Parkland Memorial Hospital earns a perfect score on HRC's Hospital Equality Index.

April: Grindr changes its policies to stop sharing information on users' HIV status with third parties ... Noor Salman, wife of the man who killed 49 people and left more than 50 others injured in the Pulse Nightclub shooting, is found not guilty of aiding in a terrorist act and lying to the FBI ... TGRA stages its 35th annual Texas Tradition Rodeo at the Resistol Arena, home to the Mesquite Pro Rodeo ... Dallas Police Department announces that Officer Amber Roman had been named the department's new LGBT liaison ... A site visit by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services finds 32 "areas of concern" regarding distribution of Ryan White CARE Act funds in Dallas County ... The Texas State Republican Party once again, to the surprise of no one, refuses to allow Log Cabin Republicans to participate in the state convention ... New Orleans gay bar Oz is damaged in a fire that appears to have been caused by a malfunctioning sound system ... Police investigate the death of Joe DeLane, who died of a head injury in a Fort Worth hospital on April 12 after an altercation April 9 with a bartender at 515 Bar. The Tarrant County Medical Examiner eventually rules DeLane's death to be a homicide.

May: Harvey Meissner, president and general manager of Hidden Door Inc., announces donations totaling more than \$250,000 to Resource Center, Legacy Counseling Center and AIN, from the estates of the late Jim Roberts and Tony Bobrow, the first and second owners of the Hidden Door ... MCC of Greater Dallas pastor the Rev. Colleen Darraugh announces the church is ceasing operations after about 15 years in existence ... Mansfield ISD teacher Stacy Bailey files a federal discrimination lawsuit against the school district after they first suspended her and later reassigned her to a high school rather than an elementary school because some parents complained that she talked about her wife in front of students ... Prism Health wins an American Marketing Association award for its ad campaign unveiling its name change from AIDS Arms ... Dallas Red Foundation honors Dr. Mark Parker and Eric Johnson with the 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award ... AIDS Outreach Center names the Rev. Carol West as its 2018 Individual Service Award recipient. Samaritan House receives the Community Service Award ... Michael Doughman announces he is retiring as executive director of the Dallas Tavern Guild and moving to Puerto Vallarta ... Dallas Silver Pride moves its Senior Pride Prom to the J. Erik Jonsson Library downtown, and invites Tyler teen lesbian couple Merary Melchoir and Sydney Aparicio to attend after they are denied tickets to their own



high school prom ... Lupe Valdez becomes the first openly-LGBT person to win a major party's nomination for a statewide office (governor) by defeating Andrew White in a runoff, and Lorie Burch wins a runoff to claim the Democratic nomination for U.S. House District 3 ... Irving Police Department names Sgt. Jerry Sanderford as its first LGBT liaison officer.

June: Allen High School transgender senior Jay Alfie wins his months-long battle to be identified as male and called by his chosen name, instead of being dead-named, during his graduation ceremony ... ABC quickly cancels the rebooted hit sitcom Roseanne after its star, Roseanne Barr, posts racist tweets. Barr's agent also drops her within hours of the tweets ... About 1,500 men attend Texas Bear Round-Up 23, which features BearDance, Lady Bunny, a barbecue and more ... CrossFit fires its chief knowledge officer, Russell Berger, within hours of Berger posting homophobic tweets online ... The Bermuda Supreme Court issues a ruling re-instating marriage equality after lawmakers had rescinded it within a year of its initial passage ... Dallas Independent School District adds immigration status to the list of protected classes in its anti-bullying policy ... The city of Dallas presents AIN CEO Steven Pace with a Lifetime Achievement Award ... Lost Souls Rugby from Dallas becomes the first team to win its division a second time in the Mark Bingham Cup world championship tournament ... Texas Sen. Ted Cruz refuses to allow a group protesting gun violence into his district office in Dallas. The protestors then stage a die-in outside the office building on Hall Street in Oak Lawn ... Resource Center adds Patrick Hanley to its advocacy staff ... Dallas Southern Pride celebrates Juneteenth with a concert and a festival featuring R&B star Tank and Grammy nominee and rap legend Trina ... Fort Worth's HELP Center, which offers PrEP regardless of insurance status, opens a second office in Arlington ... Atheists protest outside First Baptist Church of Dallas over the Rev. Robert Jeffress' planned sermon, "America is a Christian Nation" ... The Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund stages its 13th annual MetroBall fundraiser featuring Asia O'Hara, Exposé and Shannon ... Former Dallas Mayor Pro Tem John Loza dies suddenly at his home ... The Rev. Eric Folkerth is transferred to a Grand Prairie church after 17 years as the popular pastor of Northaven United Methodist Church ... Following the third murder of a trans woman since February in Jacksonville, Fla., advocates there warn of a possible serial killer targeting that community ... Despite some last-minute changes, QueerBomb 2018 hosts a successful event at the Main Street Garden Park in downtown Dallas ... Former Dallasite Jesus Chairez reports on Mexico City's huge LGBT Pride celebration.

July: Fort Worth Police Officer Sara Straten, who was the department's first LGBT liaison officer following the raid on the Rainbow Lounge in 2009, announces her return to that position ... The Rev. Carol West announces her retirement after 20 years as pastor of Celebration Community Church in Fort Worth, effective at the end of the year, and the church begins the search for a new pastor ... A three-judge panel of the 5th Circuit Court of Appeals overturns damages a jury had awarded to two Dallas lesbians who sued an apartment complex management company after faulty repairs allowed a rapist to break in and rape the two women. It's later learned that the

three judges who overturned the jury's ruling had accepted campaign donations from the Texas Apartment Association PAC earlier in 2018 ... A federal judge in Philadelphia rules that foster care agencies that contract with the city must comply with the city's nondiscrimination ordinance ... The Episcopal Church votes to allow individual churches to decide whether they will conduct same-sex weddings ... Kay Wilkinson is announced as the Black Tie Dinner's 2018 Kuchling Award winner ... Yevin Rushing pleads guilty to the 2017 murder of Lee Covington and is later sentenced to life in prison ... The murder trial of Christian Colbert, accused of killing his Oak Cliff landlord, is delayed yet again.

August: Beth Ford becomes the first out lesbian in corporate history named as CEO of a Fortune 500 company when she is made president and CEO of Land O'Lakes ... U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions announces the creation of a "religious liberty task force" ostensibly to find ways to allow anti-LGBT bigots to discriminate ... Dallas Mayor Pro Tem Dwaine Carraway pleads guilty to charges of conspiracy and tax evasion ... Rachel Tivens resigns as CEO of Lambda Legal after only two years on the job ... Married Dallas couple Cannon and Rafiq Salleh-Flowers finally have their 22-year relationship recognized as legally valid by the federal government ... The Rev. Neil Cazares-Thomas of Cathedral of Hope and Dallas Bears President Wayne Davis are voted grand marshals of the 2018 Pride parade ... Arlington Convention and Visitors Bureau announces its co-sponsorship of Gay Day at Six Flags ... Trans woman Christine Hallquist wins the Democratic nomination for governor of Vermont ... Cathedral of Hope creates a nonprofit wing called Dallas Hope Charities and launches plans for a shelter for homeless LGBT young adults ... Mansfield ISD art teacher Stacy Bailey starts the new school year as a high school teacher but continues her battle to return to the elementary school classroom ... Alyssa Edwards' docu-series Dancing Queen premieres on Netflix ... A GoFundMe account is started to help the family of a middle school transgender girl move out of the small Oklahoma town where she had been bullied ... Cathedral of Hope presents the Hero of Hope Award to sportscaster and ally Dale Hansen ... A Collin County judge issues warrants for John Wright Martin when he fails to appear in court for his trial for embezzling funds from his former employers, Randy and Kristy Pitchford of Frisco ... A three-judge panel of the 7th Circuit Court of Appeals rules that the federal Fair Housing Act protects LGBT people against discrimination.

September: The Texas Instruments Foundation donates \$25,000 to the Turtle Creek Chorale ... Ada Vox performs in the Rose Room for Greg Dollgener Memorial AIDS Fund's Night of Stars event ... The largest crowd ever attends the Miller Lite Music Festival in Reverchon Park, and the 35th annual Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade the next day on Cedar Springs Road ... Former Oklahoma state Sen. Ralph Shortey, a "family values" Republican, is sentenced to 15 years in federal prison for soliciting sex online with a 17-year-old boy ... The Dallas Observer names Omar Narvaez "best Dallas City Council member" ... Dallas Southern Pride celebrates Black Gay Pride with a full weekend of events, including the Ball/House Pageant Communities Conference on Health Disparities and Leadership.

TIMELINE, Next Page



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TIMELINE, From Previous Page

October: The Trump administration announces plans to deny visas to same-sex partners of United Nations diplomats ... Texas Gov. Greg Abbott announces that the anti-trans “bathroom bill” is not part of his agenda for 2019 ... Barack Obama endorses Julie Johnson for the Texas Legislature ... Feedspot.com names Lambda Weekly one of the top 20 LGBT podcasts ... The 37th annual Tarrant County Pride celebration includes the annual parade, picnic and more ... The fifth annual Texas Latino Pride, Texas’ largest Latinx Pride festival, is held in Reverchon Park ... The country marks the 20th anniversary of the murder of Matthew Shepard ... The first Texas Historical Marker honoring the LGBT community is

unveiled at the corner of Cedar Springs Road and Throckmorton Street ... Black Tie Dinner announces its 2018 lineup, including Erich Bergen, Dana Goldberg, Jessi Cruickshank and Kay Wilkinson ... Three people are injured in a shooting outside a San Antonio gay bar ... Irving increases its score on the HRC Municipal Equality Index from 6 in 2017 to 32 in 2018 ... The International Gay Rodeo Association holds its 2018 Finals Rodeo at the Resistol Arena, home of the Mesquite Pro Rodeo ... Reports that Dallas restaurateur Mark Karns donated the legal limit to the Trump campaign in 2017 spark calls for a boycott against his restaurants, including Taqueria La Ventana on Cedar Springs ... Beto O’Rourke, Kim Petras and Matt

Bomer are added to the Black Tie Dinner lineup ... Police identify a man shot to death in his car in far South Dallas as Traylon Brown, a gay man who sometimes dressed in women’s clothing ... Alyssa Edwards and TAZO Tea announce Camp TAZO, a three-day “sleepover” camp with Alyssa ... The first day of early voting sets records in Texas ... Organizers hold the first statewide lesbian conference in Texas in 13 years — Lez Talk: A Women’s Empowerment Conference — at Resource Center in Dallas ... Memorial triangles and a panel of the AIDS Quilt are moved from the former Resource Center location on Reagan Street to the center’s new facilities on Cedar Springs Road.

November: Dallas Police LGBT Liaison Officer Amber Roman is named Community Outreach Officer of the Year ... The 37th annual Black Tie Din-

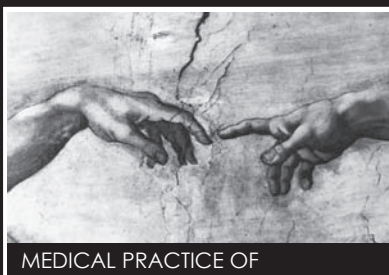
ner takes place at the Sheraton Dallas Hotel, featuring a surprise appearance by Alyssa Edwards and more ... Dallas trans woman Valerie Jackson files suit against Dallas County, former Sheriff Lupe Valdez and current Sheriff Marian Brown over the way she was treated by staff at the Dallas County Jail in 2016 ... LifeWalk brings in more than \$400,000 ... The 2018 midterm elections bring a Rainbow Wave to Texas and the country ... Lynda Carter, the original Wonder Woman, brings her Red Rock N’ Blues show to Dallas ... Groups at SMU hold two events focused on transgender issues in the week leading up to Transgender Day of Remembrance ... John Wright Martin, wanted on warrants out of Collin County for failure to appear for trial, is arrested in Austin and held in Travis County on new charges out of Austin ... Lambda Legal names Avery Belyeu as direction of the South Central Regional Office ... Former Dallas Cowboys player Jeff Rohrer announces his plans to marry his boyfriend, Joshua Ross ... Gay man Scott Prescher is sworn in as a member of the Watauga City Council ... Memorial services around North Texas honor the memories of the at least 22 transgender people who have died violent deaths in 2018 ... Texans commemorate the 25th anniversary of the murder of Nicholas West in Tyler ... The LGBT Victory Fund announced that of the 432 LGBT candidates on ballots across the country on Nov. 6, 244 won their races ... Lambda Legal files suit against the U.S. Social Security Administration on behalf of a 65-year-old gay man seeking spousal survivor’s benefits after his partner of 43 years — and husband of seven months — died ... Dallas Independent School District appoints an LGBT liaison officer, Mahoganie Gaston, who is dedicated to making sure each high school in the district has a gay-straight alliance ... Irving resident John Contreras is arrested and jailed for the murder of Tristan Banks, his former roommate ... Abounding Prosperity announces new grants, new programs and new staff member Kenneth Johnson ... North Texas agencies mark World AIDS Day 2018.

December: Don Maison announces he is retiring as president and CEO of AIDS Services of Dallas, effective Feb. 1, after 29 years at the helm of the agency providing housing for people affected by HIV/AIDS. Current COO Traswell Livingston III will be interim CEO ... Dallas Voice names Lupe Valdez as LGBT Texan of the Year, sharing the honor with other LGBT candidates for public office in 2018 ... Black Tie Dinner distributes a total of \$1.18 million to 19 beneficiaries at the 2018 Wrap Party and announces Nathan Robbins and Jeremy Hawpe as 2019 co-chairs, with Brad Pritchett as co-chair-elect ... Hidden Door Inc. President and General Manager Harvey Meissner announces a \$100,000 donation from the Anthony Bobrow Trust to Dallas Hope Charities ... The Rev. Neil Cazares-Thomas receives the Dallas Peace and Justice Center’s Justice Seeker of the Year Award ... Julian Castro sets up a presidential exploratory committee ... The Coalition for Aging LGBT releases a report grading 17 senior living facilities on how well they serve LGBT clients ... Equality Texas announces that longtime CEO Chuck Smith has stepped down from his position, and that Samantha Smoot has been tapped as interim CEO ... Dallas Tavern Guild Executive Director Jaron Turnbow announces that the 2019 Miller Lite Music Festival will be held June 1, 2019 at Fair Park, and the 2019 Alan Ross Texas Freedom Parade will be held Sunday, June 2, also at Fair Park. However, Turnbow says, the location of the parade may be revisited for 2020 and beyond ... Attorney Chad West launches his campaign for the Dallas City Council.



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What was ... and what will be

“That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been ...” (Ecclesiastes 3:15).

The beginning of a new year is that time when many of us look back at the year just ended and make note of all that happened in our lives and in our world. We do that here at Dallas Voice with our Year In Review issue, which you now hold in your hand. It’s that time of year when we take account of our lives, marking our mistakes as well as our successes.

It’s also that time of year when we turn our faces to the future, making resolutions to do better in the months to come — whether that means something as personal as going to the gym more often and sticking to our diets, or something on a bigger scale that affects not just us personally, but the world around us.

If you listen to King Solomon, who wrote Ecclesiastes and the scripture quoted above, what we have to look forward to is, well, more of the same. But man, I sure hope Solomon was wrong! I don’t think we can take much more of what we’ve been dealing with for the last couple of years.

I admit, 2018 was — as far as I am concerned — better than 2017 and the end of 2016. From November 2016 through 2017, I really felt like I was losing faith in people, losing hope for our future.

Every time you turned around, there was yet another incident of racism, of bigotry, of hatred. Donald Trump was surrounding himself with a cadre of white supremacists, flat-out Nazis, religious extremists and, to be blunt about it, full-on stupidity in some cases. And people were applauding him for it, cheering him on!

It broke my heart.

But then, as 2017 faded into 2018, I started to see what seemed like a very faint light at the end of a very dark tunnel. Yes, the bigots running Congress for the last couple of years continued to ignore Trump’s blatant lies and misdeeds, and they continued to rubber-stamp his bigotry and disastrously bad policy decisions. They still do.



Tammye Nash
From Where I Stand

But the resistance was growing, becoming louder and stronger. Candidates promising to combat regressive tide of Trumpism began flooding in, running in the primaries and then moving on to the

general election in November with purpose and determination. The “Blue Wave” was

to mend. I can feel my faith and my hope being reborn.

Remember that scripture from Ecclesiastes with which I started this column? There’s more to it. In its entirety, it says: ““That which hath been is now; and that which is to be hath already been; and God requireth that which is past.”

What does that mean — “God requireth that which is past”? Depends on who you ask. Some “modern” translations of the Bible suggest it means that “God does everything over and over again” (Contemporary English Version). I don’t think that makes any sense at all. I consulted with my on-site

Jewish scholar (that’s David Taffet, by the way) and he agrees. Such a translation implies that God keeps making — or at least allowing the same mistakes over and over again. And that’s not reasonable to me.

The English Standard Version Bible translates that phrase as “God seeks what has been driven away.” The Berean Study Bible interprets it as “God will call to account what has passed,” while the New International Version phrases it as “God will call the past to account.”

David and I both agree, those interpretations are much better. And according to those interpretations, those who have committed such horrible wrongs over

these last couple of years will, indeed, some day be held accountable for what they have done.

The Christian Standard Bible takes its translation of the phrase a small step further. It says: “However, God seeks justice for the persecuted.”

David says that is stretching the translation a bit. But personally, I like that version best, and I take it as a call to action. God seeks justice for the persecuted, and I believe that we should all strive to do the Lord’s work, and seek that justice, too, as diligently as we possibly can.

That’s my resolution for 2018.

And the congregation said amen. ■

Tammye Nash is managing editor of Dallas Voice and a recovering Southern Baptist.



washing over and diluting the red tide.

But there was more. It wasn’t just a “Blue Wave.” It was a “Rainbow Wave.” Some of the best and brightest of the candidates were members of our LGBT community. Members of what my friend Israel Luna calls the Rainbow Family were stepping up and speaking out. And come November, they were making history not just in Congress but in the halls of power at all levels of government, all across the country.

Yes, terrible things happened in our country and around the world in 2018. But we didn’t let those terrible things go unchallenged. In 2018, we began to find our balance again; we started speaking up and then started putting our words into action.

And I can feel my broken heart starting



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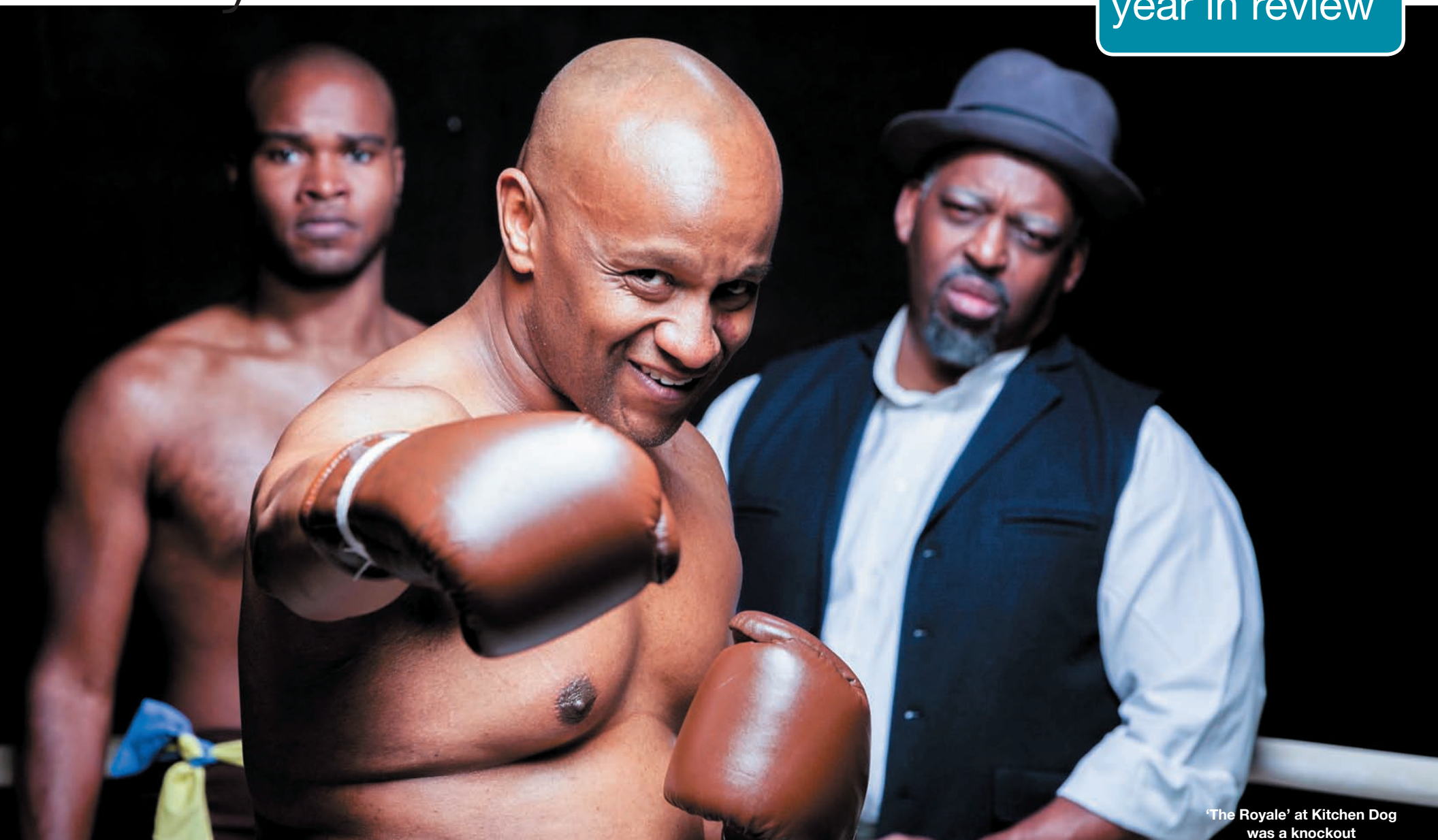
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year in review



'The Royale' at Kitchen Dog was a knockout

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

From local productions to tours, musicals to plays, sweeping ensembles and one-man shows, there was a lot for everyone on Dallas stages in 2018. Here's what stuck out most.

10. *Bright Star* (tour through ATTPAC). There were actually a number of entertaining national tours this year, including *Waitress* and *On Your Feet*, but none surprised me more than *Bright Star*, a folksy mix of bluegrass, Broadway and gospel that tells a fable about the intersection of lives with great beauty.

9. *Six Characters in Search of a Play* (independent). Technically, *Six Characters* was also a touring production, but because the writer and star, Del Shores, is a native Texan who frequently performs here — and whose other

plays, like *Sordid Lives* and *Southern Baptist Sissies*, are locally staged — it felt more home grown. Shores tells how six actual people from his life affected his development, if only by adding anecdotes for him to recount, all by spilling Texas tea with twangy hilarity.

8. *Clear to Partly Crazy* (independent). OK, one more deviation ... and for the same reason as Shores. Jaston Williams — he of the *Greater Tuna* series of plays — returned for yet another of his one-man shows, this one a premiere focusing on a few moments in his rural Texas upbringing with a difficult mother and equally difficult environment (climatological and neighborly). Williams writes with such literary precision that even if the stage were entirely dark, the words alone would conjure every image you would need to place yourself right there.

7. *Glengarry Glen Ross* (Imprint Theatreworks). David Mamet's best play also became the launching pad for a new theater company, Imprint, which delivered an im-

2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

STAGE

pressive debut season. The stark set pits several cutthroat real estate salesmen against each other as they try to figure out who robbed the office they share. The withering dialogue and inventive plotting show you how the #MeToo Movement was presaged decades ago — men are pigs.

6. *Hand to God* (WaterTower Theatre). A church in South Texas attempts to do outreach to the year in its parsonage with activities include puppetry, but when one devout kid's hand puppet seems to become possessed by Satan, all hell brakes loose. This "exorcise" in satire, staged in a setting that resembles a church basement, is profane but also humane, especially with great performances by the entire cast.

5. *Pompeii!!* (Kitchen Dog Theater). Those clever sots at Kitchen Dog (Max Hartman, Cameron Cobb, Michael Federico) sure know how to come up with an entertaining take on a pitch-black story of the destruction of an ancient city in the idiom of an outdated music hall cabaret. It's an unlike tale of hubris that takes on a weightiness in

INDEX TO THE YEAR IN ENTERTAINMENT: Stage • Page 20 Actor of the Year • Page 21 Screen • Page 22 Culture/Sports • Page 24
NEXT WEEK AND BEYOND: Music Tube Books Auto Dining

context of the slo-mo self-destruction of our own society, told through music and a circus-like amalgam of scenarios. It was a blast.

4. *Angels in America, Part Two: Perestroika* (Uptown Players). The second half of Tony Kushner's epic two-part drama *Angels in America*, called *Perestroika*, is less frequently performed than its first, *Millennium Approaches*, and it's clear why: It can be almost unwieldy (nearly four hours from start to finish) and Kushner has perpetually tweaked it for decades. But Uptown Players' production, following its 2016 production of *Part One*, proved it's in some ways a better play, with more classic structure, closure and quality performances by the tight cast than we have reason to expect from such an explosive, dour story as the AIDS crisis in microcosm.

3. *Bread* (WaterTower Theatre). On the day of the 2017 inauguration, a family is South Dallas is met by the return of one member, the prospect of a lucrative but risky real estate scheme and the changing face of race relations under a new admin-

istration. Regina Taylor's world premiere play subtly captured the black experience with insight and power, in a compelling production that felt as relevant as *August: Osage County* or *A Raisin in the Sun*.

2. *Frankenstein* (Dallas Theater Center). Nick Dear's modern take on the Frankenstein story takes the familiar tale of the over-reaching doctor and makes it basically a superhero origin story concentrating on the birth of his creature. Joel Ferrell's amazingly fierce production, with Kim Fischer as the tortured meta-human, was a heart-wrenching and unsettling vision of human frailty, at first scary but ultimately prescient.

1. *The Royale* (Kitchen Dog Theater). In this fictionalized telling of the tragic heavyweight boxing champ Jack Johnson — a black man at the turn of the last century who, in the near-decades following the end of slavery, upended the apple cart of white superiority — a man who deserves all the acclaim he gets unravels when the nature of society finally overwhelms him. This exciting and powerful play was itself a knockout. ■

ACTOR OF THE YEAR

Ah, yes, the tragedy of the struggling actor — toiling through auditions, sacrificing nights and weekends, often for small remuneration, all in service of Art. I'd call it a thankless job, except each year, I do my best to thank all of the actors who made theatergoing in the previous calendar year something memorable.

Memorable, for instance, like the entire casts of *Pompeii*, the rollicking meta-musical, and *Angels in America, Part II: Perestroika*, the follow-up to Uptown Players' 2016 production of *Millennium Approaches*. The entire casts of a few other shows also impressed me, but why not just name everyone in the three-hander of **Drew Wall**, **Jenny Ledel** and **Chris Ramirez** in Second Thought's *Empathitrix*, or the solo performance by **Terry Martin** in the gay play fest one-act *The Absolute Brightness of Leonard Pelkey* and **Del Shores** in *Six Characters in Search of a Play*.

Some folks stood out by reminding us that almost any role can be made exceptional with the right actor in place, as **Ana Haegdorn** did in DTC's *Steel Magnolias* in the goosy role of Anelle; then again, **Sally Nystuen-Vahle** proved perfectly cast as the ornery Ouiser in the same production. The stage musical version of Uptown's *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* had its problems, but among the highlights were the charismatic performances by **Blake McIver** and **Jack Donahue**. Indeed, surpassing the scope of a play is one of the charms of acting. **Emily Scott Banks** elevated a cumbersome staging of *The Cherry Orchard* by exuding dignity and humanity, and **Alex Organ** and **Christie Vela** gave strong performances in *Enemies/People*.

Enemies was written by **Blake Hackler**, who had an acting triumph in 2018 as well, in DTC's amazing rendition of Nick Dear's *Frankenstein*, holding his own again the work of co-star **Kim Fischer**. **Shannon**



McGann gave a complex, tender and human performance in WaterTower's raunchy *Hand to God*; **Mark Oristano** had his best role in years as Shelley Levene in the debut production of Imprint Theatreworks, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, while **Kate Paulsen** and **Gloria Benavides** did excellent work in *A Doll's House*.

There was nary a false note acting-wise in both *Bread* and *The Royale*, though it bares singling out **Elliot Marvin Sims** and **Stormy Demerson** in the former, and **Jamal Gibran Sterling**, **Lee George** and **Jaquai Wade Pearson** in the latter. And **Janelle Lutz** once again powerfully conjured Judy Garland in *A Very Judy Christmas*.

Ultimately, however, it was **Garret Storms** who stood out especially for me in 2018. He's been a creative and fascinating stage presence for several years, but his work in *Hand to God* and especially *Angels in America: Perestroika* was singular and powerful, and proved his talent at both comedy and drama. That kind of versatility warrants a tip of the hat... and the title of Dallas Voice's 2018 Actor of the Year.

— Arnold Wayne Jones

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'A Star is Born'

Take 2

A look back at the best films, screen performances and more at the cinema in 2018

ARNOLD WAYNE JONES | Executive Editor
jones@dallasvoice.com

2018 is the year America went black, and hopefully will never go back.

I actually wrote those same words about

two years ago, after the “Oscars so white” movement, with the hope it was more than just a cry in the wilderness.

It seems like it wasn’t. Hollywood — the indies *and* the major studios — has made a concerted effort not just at expressing diversity, but integrating it into the fabric

of their films. Some of the best-reviewed and/or most popular movies of 2018 have been by, and about, blacks, Latinos, Asians, gays, women, the disabled and other minorities: *Black Panther*. *BlacKkKlansman*. *Green Book*. *Creed 2*. *If Beale Street Could Talk*. *Widows*. *Sorry to Bother You*. *The Hate U Give*. *Crazy Rich Asians*. *Boy Erased*. *Bohemian Rhapsody*. *Love, Simon*. *1985*. *Don’t Worry, He Won’t Get Far on Foot*. *The Happy Prince*. *A Fantastic Woman*. *Roma*. Even a surprising number of documentaries tackled gay issues (*The World According to Andre*, *McQueen*, *Scotty and the Secret History of Hollywood*, *Meow Wolf: Origin Story*, *TransAmerica*, even *This One’s for the Ladies*. See the sidebar on Page 24 for the best gay movies of the year.)

2018 YEAR IN REVIEW SCREEN

Of course, none of this matters if it’s mere tokenism — a quick bone thrown to appease that happened to also be meaty... *this* time. But it feels indicative of a sea-

change, where socially aware filmmakers generate works that are genuinely wonderful. (Not all were — several films with strong gay themes, for example, were financial busts and critical non-starters, like *Lizzie*, *The Miseducation of Cameron Post* and *Disobedience*.)

Curating a year-end list of the best (and the worst, too; read to the end!) is more than just a reiteration of “what I liked a lot.” A great best-of roundup looks beyond the award winners, the favorites, the box-office results to films that felt transformative, unique, standout exponents of



THE 30 MOST MEMORABLE PERFORMANCES OF THE YEAR

Rami Malek, *Bohemian Rhapsody*
 Bradley Cooper, Lady Gaga and Sam Elliott, *A Star Is Born*
 John David Washington, *BlacKkKlansman*
 Rupert Everett, *The Happy Prince*, pictured
 Christian Bale, *Vice*
 Toni Collette and Alex Wolff, *Hereditary*
 Charlize Theron, *Tully*
 Glenn Close and Jonathan Pryce, *The Wife*
 Melissa McCarthy and Richard E. Grant, *Can You Ever Forgive Me?*
 Michael B. Jordan, *Black Panther* and *Creed II*, pictured
 Timothy Chalamet, *Beautiful Boy*

Awkwafina, *Crazy Rich Asians*
 Margot Robbie, *Mary Queen of Scots*
 Regina King, *If Beale Street Could Talk*
 Cynthia Erivo, *Bad Times at the El Royale*
 Charlie Plummer, *Lean on Pete*
 Kodi Smit-McPhee, *Alpha*
 Ethan Hawke, *First Reformed*
 Joaquin Phoenix and Jonah Hill, *Don't Worry, He Won't Get Far on Foot*
 Emma Thompson, *The Children Act*
 Lucas Hedges, *Boy Erased*
 Emily Blunt and Dick Van Dyke, *Mary Poppins Returns*
 Annette Bening, *The Seagull*

— A.W.J.

the craft. With that in mind, here are 10 outstanding films I saw in 2018 (plus 10 of the next-best, as well as the 30 best performances of the year).

10. *Never Look Away*. Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck's three-hour-plus historical drama — inspired by the life of Gerhard Richter — tracks a young artist from his childhood under Nazi rule to his efforts at self-realization in the West after the erection of the Berlin Wall, and the conflicts between creativity and culture, censorship and semiotics. If it sounds heady, well, it can be ... but also beautifully constructed and rich with ideas.

9. *Hereditary*. Ari Aster's slow-burn horror looks at first glance like a mere genre film, but his methodical, creepy touches, as well as standout performances by Toni Collette and Alex Wolff as her son, elevated it to thriller royalty.

8. *The Happy Prince*. Rupert Everett's somber chronicle of the waning days of Oscar Wilde — post-prison sentence for "gross indecency," struggling in increasingly dire circumstances to must the energy for life he once relished with abandon — aches with the heartbreak of injustice, and slyly comments on the state of affairs today, but never forgets the wit that has made Wilde endure across the centuries.

7. *A Star Is Born*. Bradley Cooper's bona fides as an actor don't require justification, but it turns out making movies with directors like Clint Eastwood and David O. Russell must have rubbed off. His feature directorial debut, which he also co-wrote, co-produced and stars in, has a smartness and an urgency lurking behind the familiar tropes of the star-on-the-wane/new-comer-on-the-rise dynamic. He extracts as well career performances from Lady Gaga, Sam Elliott and himself, in this visceral musical remake.

6. *Bohemian Rhapsody*. Rami Malek's performance as singer Freddie Mercury — with all its charisma, arrogance, sexuality

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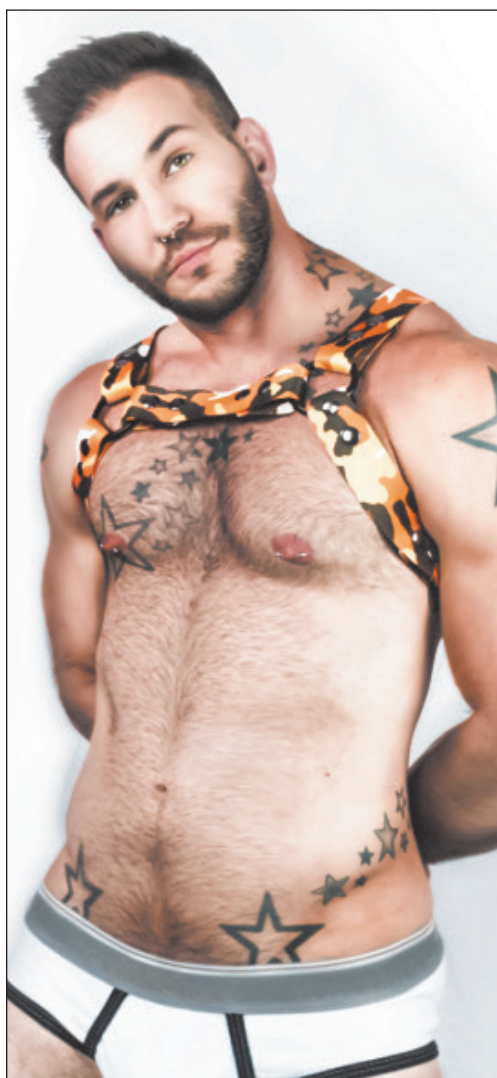
The people, events and moments that defined the year



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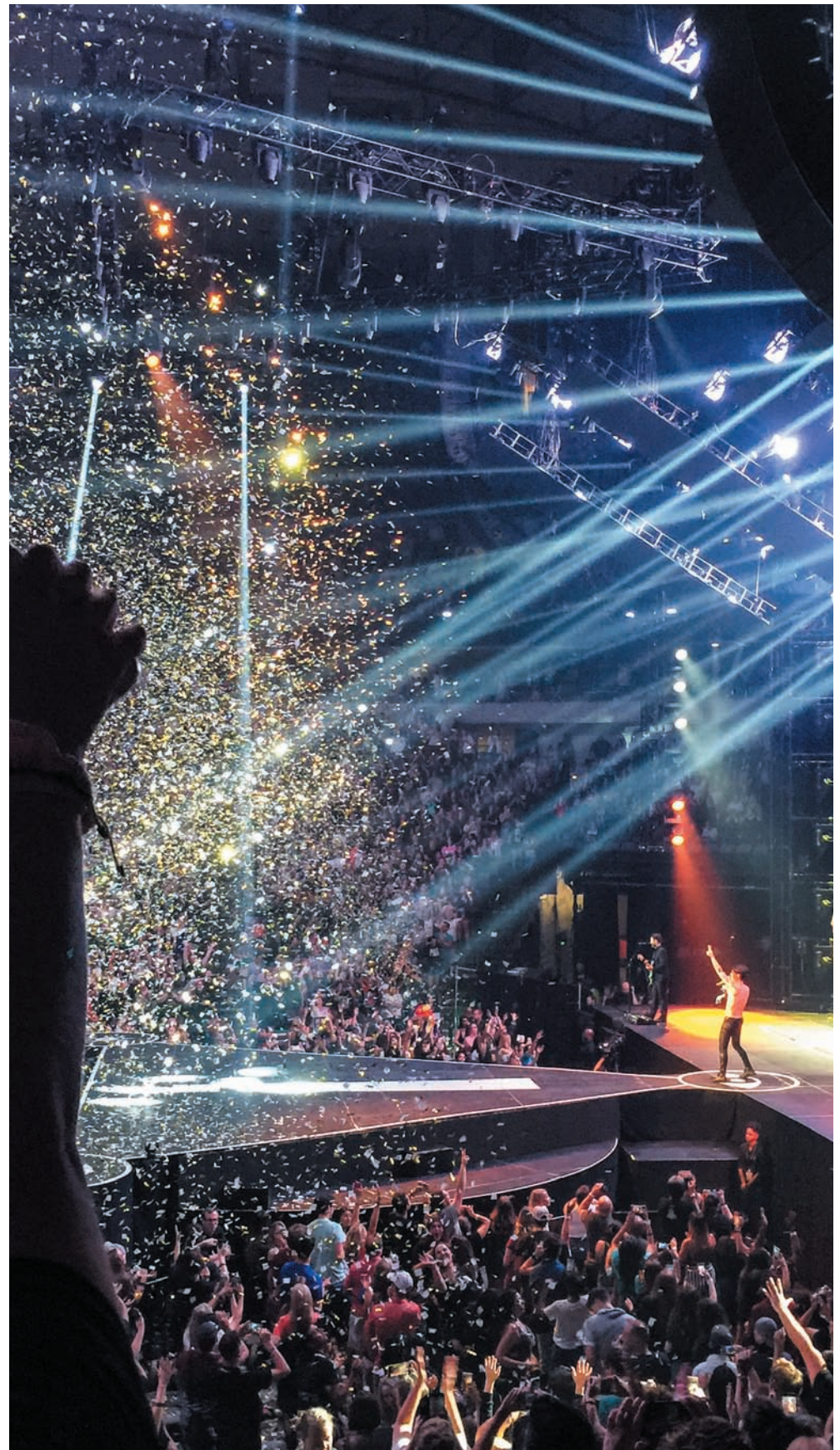
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Panic! At the Disco was one of the iconic, gay-inclusive concerts in North Texas in 2018.
(Arnold Wayne Jones/Dallas Voice)

A year the life — of a person, of a city, of a community — is more than just the headlines and the holidays. What people talk about, or don't talk about but collectively experience or are affected by, is sometimes in the margins, or more like the background noise of our daily lives. That's the cultural Zeitgeist, and in 2018, those landmarks in the North Texas gay community ranged from big changes to how we celebrate to how we are seen at large. Here are 10 major moments.

Dallas Pride changes, perhaps forever. The Dallas Tavern Guild appoints a new executive director, and the nature of Pride — its timing (September!), its locale, perhaps its meaning — begins to transform. We still aren't sure what the end product will look like.

The Dallas Museum of Art's queer summer block party is a first... and a huge hit. Late Nights at the DMA are a long-standing tradition at the gay-welcoming arts org, but the convergence of its big blockbuster June event with National Gay Pride Month led, in 2018, to its first-ever gay-themed night. It was such a hit, an encore is planned for 2019 (and hopefully forever after).

Asia O'Hara completes the trifecta... sort of. Dallas' fashion-forward drag queen was already the titleholder of the two biggest drag pageants — Miss Gay USofA and Miss Gay America — when she landed on *RuPaul's Drag Race*... and made it all the way to the finale. (And shout-outs to Texas girls Shangela and Kennedy Davenport, who made it to the finale of *RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars* Season 3.)

Straight musicians play Dallas in vocal support of gay rights. Kristin Chenoweth, Brandon Urie of Panic! At the Disco (pictured), Shirley Manson of Garbage and Dan Reynolds of Imagine Dragons all booked Dallas concerts in 2018, in which they proudly supported their gay fans (including Urie wrapping himself in a rainbow flag and Chenoweth acknowledging her gay icon status at the otherwise staid Dallas Symphony Orchestra gala). That's a transformative evolution in vocal allies.

First bikes, then scooters, populate local sidewalks. A smartphone, a credit card and a desire to get somewhere quickly and cheaply led to the explosion of rent-by-the-hour bicycles... which were quickly replaced by scooters, and have transformed the sidewalks of North Texas.

Dancing Queen becomes probably Netflix's first-ever series about a drag queen:

Dallas' Alyssa Edwards. Justin Johnson gets a reality show, and his life — and that of Dallas' gay scene — was front-and-center.

Sunken Garden rises. Dallas Opera's 3D staging of Van Der Aa's modernist myth of a contemporary opera extends the horizon of what traditional audiences expect from the classical performing art form.

The Crow Collection of Asian Art rebrands. After 20 years, the Crow Collection of Asian Art — a boutique,

specialized gallery of stunning galleries in Dallas' acclaimed Arts District — decided to rename itself the Crow Museum of Asian Art, to better reflect its mission and breadth.

Adam Rippon and Gus Kenworthy make gay Olympians de rigueur. Both out athletes were hits in Winter Games in Korea, and Rippon (who won bronze) went further to wind his way into American hearts by winning *Dancing with the Stars*.

DFW Pride Happy Hour changes

hands. For 21 years, DFW Happy Hour — which for many years was known as High Tech Happy Hour — was sponsored by the gay employee group of Texas Instruments, the TI Pride Network. That sponsorship has now ended, and the North Texas GLBT Chamber of Commerce will take over in 2019.

Kathy's back! After being banished by tongue-clucking scolds in 2017, queer-median Kathy Griffin roars back with a successful new tour — a victory for politically incorrect defiance of the current administration.

2018 YEAR IN REVIEW

CULTURE



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and sadness — is certainly the major selling point of this biopic of arena-rockers Queen, but it's the sum total of direction, costumes, editing and storytelling that forbids you to look away.

5. *BlacKkKlansman*. Spike Lee has had a hit-and-miss career for about two decades now, but his strengths converged serendipitously for this period piece, a comedy-drama about a young black cop in Colorado (John David Washington) recruited to the detectives squad, who becomes embroiled in a sting against white supremacists ... only they don't know the man on the phone is black. Satiric but also shocking (it's based on a true story), this shows Lee at his best as an activist and artist.

4. *Isle of Dogs*. Wes Anderson's catalogue of distinctive chamber comedies are already a genre unto themselves, but he achieved a high-point in design and style with this stop-motion parable, about an island where all the canines of Japan have been banished, and the love that finally brings them justice. Droll and colorful, it's a valentine to our four-legged friends (say the title real fast).

3. *Black Panther*. The year's biggest commercial success was also one of its cultural crowning achievements. Director Ryan Coogler has taken what could have been a run-of-the-mill superhero movie — just another comet in the Marvel Cinematic Universe — and turned it into a metaphor for the Civil Rights Movement, buoyed by a compelling performance from Michael B. Jordan.

2. *If Beale Street Could Talk*. Barry Jenkins follows up *Moonlight* — his Oscar-winning love story on a black youth in three stages of his development in a Miami slum — with this adaptation of James Baldwin's love story about injustice. It's measured, evocative and well-acted by Stephan James, KiKi Layne and Regina King.

1. *Roma*. Alfonso Cuarón has made movies of staggering technical legerdemain (*Gravity*, *Children of Men*, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*) as well as tender, personal films (*A Little Princess*, *Y Tu Mama Tambien*). But *Roma* is somehow the combination of the two. Shot in crystal-clear black-and-white, Cuarón — who serves as his own cinematographer

— keeps the camera moving slowly but almost constantly, absorbing the life of a middle-class family and their housekeepers, living in a once-pretty neighborhood of Mexico City in 1970. Over the course of one volatile year, we take in the horrors of violence, the unfairness of the class struggle, the power of parenthood and the inescapability of fate. Its images are unshakeable.

Nos. 11-20

11. *Tully*. 12. *Bad Times at the El Royale*. 13. *A Quiet Place*. 14. *Green Book*. 15. *Creed II*. 16. *Can You Ever Forgive Me?* 17. *Mission: Impossible — Fallout*. 18. *Lean on Pete*. 19. *The Favourite*. 20. *How to Talk to Girls at Parties*.

Bottom 10

The truth is, I try to avoid terrible movies — ones with questionable pedigrees, low production values, shameful releases (more than 700 films were released theatrically in North America in 2018, with fewer than 500 earning half a million dollars or more.) No one could see all of them, but you want to check out as much as possi-

ble. So the worst films are often the ones that began with promise, that lured me into the theater in the first place ... then turned on me and my aesthetics. There are shitty films none of us should see; then there are movies that waste our time with their inferior concept and execution. That's what these 10 movies are.

10. *Ready Player One* (Spielberg's personality-free attempt as neo-sci-fi was a loud misfire). 9. *Stan & Ollie* (tiresome drama about comedy team Laurel & Hardy). 8. *Disobedience* (glacially-paced drama about religious fundamentalism in the face of homosexuality). 7. *Solo* (insultingly misguided prequel to *Star Wars* — by far the weakest entry in the universe). 6. *Venom* (blah, flavorless Marvel anti-hero squanders its cast). 5. *Smallfoot* (disrespectfully boondoggle of an animated film about the yeti). 4. *7 Days in Entebbe* (ponderous and unilluminating retelling of terrorist act of the 1970s). 3. *Book Club* (laughless comedy about menopausal women trying to spice up their sex lives). 2. *Kin* (groan-inducing sci-fi with pretensions to family drama). 1. *Most Likely to Murder* (embarrassingly insipid comedy riffing off *Rear Window*). ■

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BEST GAY MOVIES

Just as a movie doesn't have to be gay to be good, not all good movies, even those with gay content, are "good gay movies." A film might have a major gay character — say, *Night School* — but not treat that fact with the kind of sophistication or understanding to make it memorable as a gay film. Nor does a film need to wave a rainbow flag to pop with its LGBT content.

So this list is not just of good films with gays in them, but films where the gay content is so well-integrated, so thoughtful, that it becomes essential viewing for the queer community.

1985. Texas filmmaker Yen Tan's black-and-white drama — a huge hit at SXSW — about a man (Cory Michael Smith) who visits his family in Fort Worth during Christmastime, tells its story of coming out, and coming to terms, with painfully acute sensitivity while hardly ever addressing sex or AIDS. It's a powerhouse of quiet observation.

The Happy Prince, pictured. Rupert Everett's biopic about the waning days of Oscar Wilde's life puts the defining aspect of his personal life — imprisonment for practicing "the love that dare not speak its name" — in the context of today's homophobia, and the tragedy or prejudice.

The Favourite. It seems unlikely Queen Anne and the Lady of Marlborough were, in reality, lovers, but the way sex is wielded in this delicious dark comedy of manners makes it seem plausible, romantic, comforting and manipulative. So, entirely realistic.

Bohemian Rhapsody. The gay aspects of Freddie Mercury's life emerge about halfway

through this Queen movie, but from there on becomes seamlessly integrated into his persona, and his relationships with his bandmates, fans, lovers, family and the public.

A Fantastic Woman.

This Oscar winner for best foreign language film took the issue of trans relationships and turned it into a heartbreaker still filled with resolve.

Tom of Finland. A 2017 foreign film not released locally until early 2018, this story of the pioneering fetish artist — who almost single-handedly created the image of the leatherman in gay culture — is frank, illuminating and a cracking history of gay life through the middle of the century.

Mary Queen of Scots.

This historical drama portrays one of the Scottish regent's confidants as a prissy gay man, unfairly accused of adultery, but for whom the queen insists be true to his identity. Indeed, the integration of homosexuality is treated as such a yawn, you can't help but feel the Middle Ages were more enlightened in some ways than today.

Boy Erased. Unlike another gay-

conversion movie this year, *Boy Erased* avoids, as much as possible, the clichés of religious hypocrisy and melodrama, with a lovely, real performance by Lucas Hedges.

The Cakemaker. A gay German baker conducts an affair with a married but closeted Israeli businessman, and when the man is killed, finds himself compelled to seek out the family he could not know. Tender, unexpected,

lovely.

The documentaries: *McQueen*, *The Gospel According to Andre*, *TransMilitary*. Each of these nonfiction films did an excellent job — focusing on a designer, a stylemaker and bold soldiers — of showing complex real people in their full paradoxes and glories.

— Arnold Wayne Jones



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**Wednesday 12.26 —
Sunday 01.06**

'A Bronx Tale' debuts in North Texas at Winspear

Chazz Palminteri's one-man memoir show, *A Bronx Tale*, became a full-length Hollywood film, and now, a splashy Broadway musical. The national tour of this surprise hit, set in a Bronx neighborhood in the 1960s, features songs from Alan Menken and Glenn Slater and a tremendous sense of nostalgia but also hope.

DEETS: Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. ATTPAC.org.

**Saturday 12.29 —
Sunday 01.20**

Pegasus is back in black (and white) with 'Clowning Around with Murder!'

It's 1935, and detective Harry Hunsacker is back on the case, this time investigating a murder at clown college. This world premiere from Dallas' Pegasus Theatre, known for its remarkable In Living Black and White style, is once again directed by Michael Serrecchia... and once again,

there's a special New Year's Eve performance with champagne and cake after the show... and that will be in full color.

DEETS: Eisemann Center for Performing Arts, 2351 Performance Drive, Richardson.. PegasusTheatre.org.



**Friday 12.28 —
Tuesday 01.01**

Lone Star Circus returns with 'Forever'

The modern circus — more feats of skill and daring than parades of animals — isn't just from French-speaking Canada but closer to home as well. Once again, the home-grown Lone Star Circus returns for a theatrical presentation of juggling, acrobatics, clowns ... and, well, yes, four-legged performers (of the more domestic size). It's a welcome New Year's tradition, this year called *Forever*.

DEETS: Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. \$22-\$48. LoneStarCircus.org. DTC.org.

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calendar highlights

Note: During holidays, some scheduled events may not take place or hours may change. Check with the websites of the particular event.

ARTSWEEK

THEATER

The Beulaville Baptist Book Club Presents:
A Bur-Less-Q Nutcracker. Strippers get unwittingly enlisted to perform to Tchaikovsky. Studio Theatre at Addison Theatre Centre, 15650 Addison Road. Through Dec. 30. BurlesqueNutcracker.com.

A Bronx Tale. Chazz Palminteri's one-man show about his life as a child, adapted to a full-scale musical with music by Alan Menken. Winspear Opera House, 2403 Flora St. Dec. 26–Jan. 6. ATPAC.org.

A Christmas Carol. Dallas Theater Center's annual holiday tradition, this year with Alex Organ as Scrooge. Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Dec. 30. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

Clowning Around with Murder! Another world premiere In Living Black and White production from Pegasus Theatre, featuring bumbling detective Harry Hunsacker. Eisemann Center for Performing Arts, 2351 Performance Drive, Richardson. Dec. 29–Jan. 20. PegasusTheatre.org.

Fetch Clay, Make Man. A world premiere play by Dallas Theater Center playwright-in-residence Will Power about the intersection of the lives of Mohammad Ali and Stepin Fetchit. Studio Theatre of the Wyly Theatre, 2400 Flora St. Through Jan. 13. DallasTheaterCenter.org.

The Phantom of the Opera. The mega hit musical by Andrew Lloyd Webber. Music Hall at Fair Park, 909 First Ave. Through Jan. 6. DallasSummerMusicals.org.

Solstice: A New Holiday Adventure. Characters from last year's holiday hit return for a new play from Jonathan Norton about the magic of winter. Theatre 3, 2900 Routh St. in the Quadrangle. Through Dec. 30. Theatre3Dallas.com.

CIRCUS

Lone Star Circus: Forever. Rosewood Center for Family Arts, 5938 Skillman St. Dec. 28–Jan. 1. LoneStarCircus.org.

FINE ART

An Enduring Legacy: The Eugene and Margaret McDermott Collection of Impressionist and Modern Art. The recent death of Dallas arts patron Margaret McDermott, at age 106, led to a bequest of 32 works from her private collection, housed in her own home until recently, and now on display with three previously-donated works to the DMA. Dallas Museum of Art 1717 Harwood St. Through Feb. 17, 2019. DMA.org.

The Nature of Arp. Exploration of the work of the influential 20th century artist. Nasher Sculpture Center, 2001 Flora St. Through Jan. 6, 2019. NasherSculptureCenter.org.

Dali: Poetics of the Small, 1929–1936. Before he was an acclaimed surrealist of monumental work, Salvador Dali was a craftsman of small, classic (and modernist) paintings. Meadows Museum of Art on the SMU campus, 5900 Bishop Blvd.

EXHIBITIONS

The Artistry of the Nativity. Hundreds of crèche displays, exhibited for the holidays. The DeGolyer House inside the Dallas Arboretum, 8525 Garland Road. Daily 10 a.m.–4 p.m.

Through Dec. 31. DallasArboretum.org.

The 12 Days of Christmas. Outdoor nighttime light show for the holidays. Dallas Arboretum, 8525 Garland Road. Daily 6–9 p.m. Through Dec. 31. DallasArboretum.org.

Ultimate Dinosaurs. Exhibit analyzing the history of the creatures that would come to occupy Jurassic Park. Perot Museum of Nature and Science, 2001 N. Field St. Through Jan. 6, 2019. PerotMuseum.org.

Slavery at Jefferson's Monticello. Archeological exhibition that details life for possessed peoples who worked the plantation of the third president of the United States. African American Museum at Fair Park. Through Jan. 21 (extended).

FRIDAY 12.28

COMMUNITY

Panoptikon. The weekly retro disco dance party, presented by Lord Byron. Red Light, 2911 Main St. Doors 9 p.m.

BROADCAST

RuPaul's Drag Race: All Stars. The fourth installment of returning queens competing for the crown. VH1 at 7 p.m.

MONDAY 12.31 — NEW YEAR'S EVE

TUESDAY 01.01 — NEW YEAR'S DAY

FILM

The Lady Vanishes. One of Hitchcock's early thrillers. Screens as part of the Tuesday Big Movie New Classic Series, which now includes a matinee. Landmark's Magnolia Theatre in the West Village, 3699 McKinney Ave. Screens at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. St., Denton. 8 p.m.

this week's solution

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Girl on girls

Jenny Block on why celebrating love isn't a waste of time

My dad always tells me that when someone puts me (or something I do) down, it's because she or he is jealous. I always felt a little weird about that. But it seems to ring true every time, despite the air of superiority it implies. The girls who made fun of all my Girl Scout badges were really just jealous their moms didn't teach them to knit scarves and sew stuffed bunnies and cook falafel. The girls at my high school who made fun of my asymmetrical haircut (hey, it was the '80s) were really jealous that they were too scared to cut off their long-permed hair

that made sure they looked just everyone else. And this past summer, someone wrote a piece about how awful he thought big weddings were and it was clear how jealous he was of anyone who had or has them. I've been thinking about this article ever since I read that. For one, it was written by someone I would consider a friend (a distant one now, but still). And it came out months after my own wedding. The piece made me sad — for him. He compared planning a wedding to “preparing for the worst birthday you have ever



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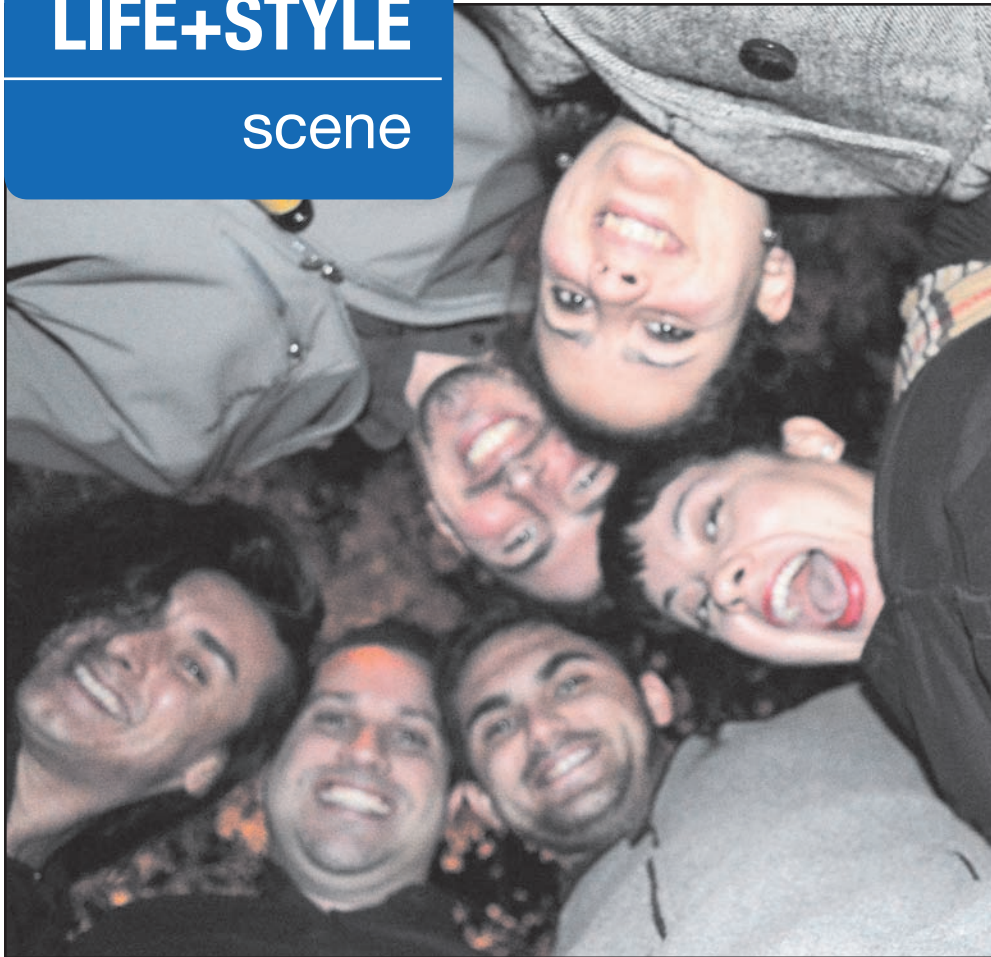
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had.” Nothing could be further from the truth ... for us at least. It was the opposite. It was more like planning for something so dreamy that I never even imagined it could come true. It wasn't always easy. My wife Robin and I disagreed on things. We both got our feelings hurt more than once. But we learned about how incredible working together and compromise can be. We discovered each other in those months, learned about the things that really meant something to one another. We also discovered ourselves in those months, about the things we held dearest and about how little something like napkin colors really mean when you have found the person with whom you want to walk through life. He described a wedding itself as a “day where you expect to be the center of attention for everyone, yet you never, ever want to ask for it.” That broke my heart for him. Not only did we both want to be the center of attention, we found it easy to ask and we hardly needed to. It was what all of our family and friends wanted for us, to celebrate us and honor us and make a big, silly fuss over us from our bachelorette parties to our big day. It makes me think his friends wouldn't want that for him. Why else wouldn't you want to ask unless you thought the answer would be “no” at worst and a begrudging “fine” at best? He went on to argue that you “spend the entire day pretending not to be a manic asshole while everyone eats, drinks and pretends to be thrilled that you did what most people do — sometimes more than once.” Neither of us were manic, neither of were assholes and every single person at our wedding was thrilled not simply that we were getting married but that we had found one another in this sometimes truly bizarre and painful world. Sure, maybe we did “spend gobs of money,” but it certainly wasn't in order to make “sure everyone is impressed,” as he argued. We spent it so that our friends and family would have the best night ever. Eating fantabulous food and drinking signature cocktails and dancing to great music and making ridiculous GIFs and being together — really together. You know what? Our friends and family can't stop telling us what an incredible night it was, describing it as, well, the best night ever and the most fun they have ever had at a wedding in fact. And that makes us very, very happy that we chose what we chose and spent what we spent and did exactly what we wanted. In doing that, our love and our joy was as contagious as it gets. I'm sad he imagines that at your wedding you “waste your time having five-minute conversations with people who are practically strangers until it's time to eat cake and clean up the

mess.” Our wedding was filled with people who loved us. And neither of us considered one second wasted. We were thrilled with every moment we got with friends and family. And we definitely didn't have to clean up any mess. “You don't know why you are doing it, it's just expected,” he argues. So sad and so wrong again. We knew exactly why we were doing it, because we wanted to celebrate our love which the law finally recognized. We wanted to honor what we had and not hide it away or run away or get it done like something to check off our to-do list. We *deserved* our wedding. We marched for it and voted for it and lobbied for it. And shame on us if we didn't do it up precisely how we wanted to. And then, there it was, the green-eyed monster rearing its ugly head. “After painfully ruling out option after option, we both realized that neither of us wanted a wedding at all.” It's always painful to rule out something one actually wants. It's breaks my heart to think of him “ruling out” the thing he obviously and desperately wanted. I find myself thinking about it every now and again ever since I read it. And I finally realized why. Having a wedding is not about having money or spending money. Whether you have a BBQ in the yard or a black tie affair for 150, the point is that you honor the fact that you are choosing marriage. It's something to honor, especially gay and lesbian marriage. It's hard won and we are still fighting. We have got to let our little light shine. His article is riddled with shame and jealousy: Shame about wanting a celebration and attention for their joy. And jealousy for anyone who feels confident enough to have the wedding that they desire. (Insert sad emoji here.) We have weddings because we need them. We need to believe in happy and love and forever. We need these perfect moments, these snapshots in time, to show us all what love can look like. Those magical nights when the band plays and the pretty girls swing around the dance floor, there is a forever where time doesn't matter but joy does, where strangers are friends and families go from half to whole, and everyone says yes. Because sometimes — no, most of the time — we need some yes in a world that all too often feels like a barrage of nos. We need weddings because there is true love and it isn't very easy to find and it can be even harder to hold on to. And as the sun set on that warm Texas night when we were wed, we all believed in love again, not just for now, but maybe even for forever. You can reach Jenny at GirlOnGirls@gmail.com.



The Woolworth Squad gathers 'round at The Grapevine

Making the **SCENE** the week of **Dec. 28–Jan 4:**

- **1851 Club:** **All Star Drag Show** on Friday and Saturday. **New Years Eve Party** on Monday.
- **515 Bar:** **Karaoke** at 9 p.m. on Wednesday.
- **Alexandre's:** **K-Marie** on Friday. **Mi Diva Loca** on Saturday. **Wayne Smith** on Sunday. **K-Marie** on Tuesday. **Vero Voz** on Wednesday.
- **Cedar Springs Tap House:** **RuPaul's Drag Race Watch Party** at 7 p.m. on Friday. **Hangover Brunch** at 10 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday. **Drag on Tap** at 9 p.m. on Monday.
- **Club Changes:** **New Years Eve Party** on Monday.
- **Club Reflection:** **Karaoke** at 9:30 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Dallas Eagle:** **United Court** presents **Party Like It's 1999** at 7 p.m. on Saturday. **Match Game** from 5-8 p.m. on Sunday.
- **Deja Vu:** Celebrate the **Last Sunday of 2018**. Reservations accepted.
- **Hidden Door:** **New Years Eve Party** on Monday.
- **JR.'s Bar & Grill:** **New Years Eve Celebration** with **Money Drop**, **Top 10 Countdown** and **Champagne Toast** at midnight at 9 p.m. on Monday.
- **Kaliente:** **New Years Eve Party**.
- **Liquid Zoo:** **New Years Eve Party** on Monday.
- **Marty's Live:** **New Years Eve Party**.
- **Pekers:** **Ring in the New Year** with a show hosted by **Linze Serell** with **Onyx Alexander**, **Sable Alexander**, **Korina Duvalle**, **Gabrielle Lucci**, **Diamond**, **Carmella DuBuque**, **Angela Karmichael** and **Melodee Karmichael** at 10 p.m. on Monday.
- **Round-Up Saloon:** **New Year's Eve at the Round-Up Saloon** from 8 p.m.-2 a.m. on Monday. \$25. Tickets at Eventbrite.com. **Hors d'oeuvres**, **Champagne Toast** and **Cash Balloon Drop** at midnight followed by **Breakfast Buffet** until close.
- **S4:** **New Years Eve Party** with **Money Drop**, **Top 10 Countdown** and **Champagne Toast** at midnight at 9 p.m. on Monday.
- **Sue Ellen's:** **Vivienne Vermuth's New Year's Noir** on Saturday. **The Southpaw Preachers** followed by the **Mescaline Americans** on Sunday. **New Years Eve Party** with **Money Drop**, **Top 10 Countdown** and **Champagne Toast** at midnight at 9 p.m. on Monday.
- **The Rose Room:** **Tamisha Iman** on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.
- **TMC: The Mining Company:** **2019 New Years Eve Party** with random **Cash Drop**, **Top 10 Countdown** with **DJ Mateo** and **Champagne Toast** at midnight on Monday.
- **Urban Cowboy:** **Imperial Court Show** at 6 p.m. on Saturday. **Hungover Christmas Drag Brunch** at noon on Sunday. **New Year's Eve Second Chance Prom: Denim & Diamonds** from 7 p.m.-2 a.m. \$25. tickets at Eventbrite.com.
- **Woody's Sports & Video Bar:** **Dallas at N.Y. Giants** from noon-3 p.m. on Sunday. **New Year's Eve Celebration** from 9 p.m. on Monday.
- **Zippers:** **New Years Eve Party**.

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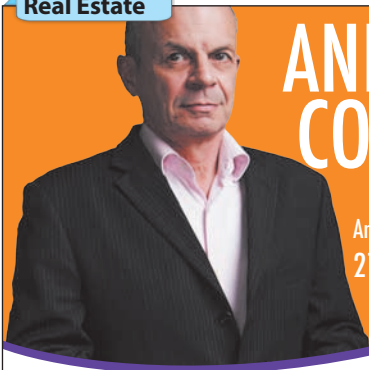
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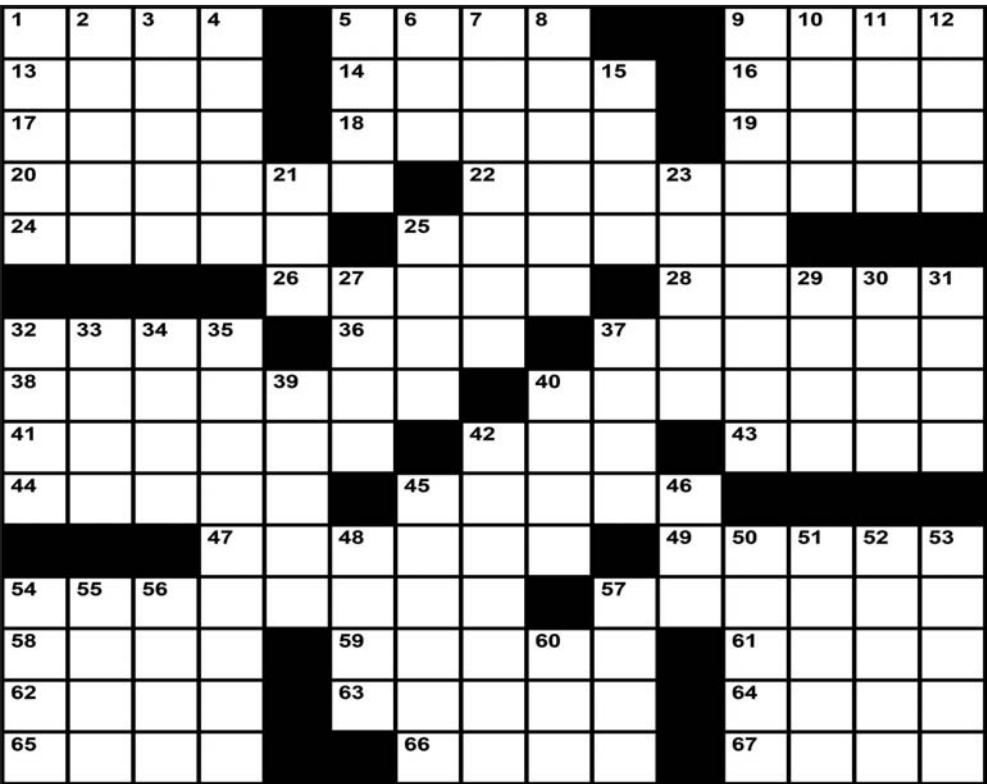
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LGBTQ-J

Solution on Page 23

- Across**
- 1 Prepares to shoot off
5 *Project Runway* judge Michael
9 Broadway scenery chewers
13 Ballet move
14 Cuddly creatures of Endor
16 Click it to go to AfterEllen.com
17 Fairy tale bad guy
18 "Fiddle-___!" (Scarlett's saying)
19 Pronoun for King James
20 New Queer Cinema pioneer Todd
22 *The Fall of America* author Allen
24 Antigay crusader Bryant
25 Take care of
26 Visitors at lesbianation.com
28 Gay cultural values, e.g.
32 Peril for Patty Sheehan
36 Hems and haws
37 Oral zinger
38 Billy of *American Horror Story*
40 I Love Dick creator Jill
41 It may cream your face when you bite it
42 *Argo* employer
43 Miss, to Mauresmo
44 ___ Ste. Marie, Mich.
45 Network of *Wedding Wars*
- 47 Makes up
49 Ass-kissers' responses
54 LGBTQ rights activist Jazz
57 Like the people in this puzzle whose clues are starred
58 Glenn, in *Fatal Attraction*
59 1971 Jane Fonda movie
61 Bishop's *Creep* ___
Thy Narrow Bed
62 Title for Edna or Judi
63 Evita's married name
64 At no time, in verse
65 Mireille of *World War Z*
66 *Out in Left Field* host Goldberg
67 Verdon, who played Lola
- Down**
- 1 Hawaiian howdy
2 Shakespearean king's daughter
3 Bloody queen
4 Ready for bed
5 Early sneaker brand
6 Be in the hole
7 *South Pacific* composer
8 Furry balls
9 Spank a passive one?
10 Pain held in by Schumacher?
11 Othello, for example
12 Like a tight opening
15 Tickle pink

- 21 La mer, to Debussy
23 Like Shirley MacLaine's magnolias
25 HI, once
27 He may have crystal balls
29 Poem of 22-Across
30 Anal alternative
31 Lid problem
32 Links athletic supporters
33 Affluent, to Lorca
34 Sometime defender of gay rts.
35 Units in Alexander's army
37 Thoroughfare with yellow bricks
39 Untouchable target
40 Homophobia and such
42 Pause in Dickinson's "I'm nobody! Who are you?"
45 Avoided going straight
46 Look in a gay bar
48 Peeling fruits for soldiers, e.g.
50 Georgetown Hoyas' coach Patrick
51 Muscle Mary's pride
52 Makeup maker Lauder
53 Like a clipped sheep
54 Green stones material
55 Zip
56 DeGeneres' *Finding* ___
57 Malone of *Life as a House*
60 Amount of bricks



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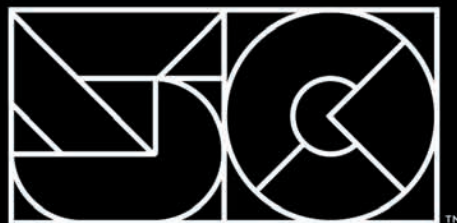
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