

# outword



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# Happy 29th Anniversary to Outword

by Fred Palmer, Publisher

After reflecting on the last 29 years of printed issues of *Outword* to write this, I had moments of extreme happiness and some of sadness too. *Outword* prints every two weeks for 29 years, so I had a lot of past issues to page through as I laughed and cried at many of the articles we printed. The headlines over the years sparked memories of celebrations as well as fears as we advanced in our march forward toward equality. I especially love looking at all the supportive businesses that advertise asking for our hard earned dollar, many that are still current advertisers.

The first issue of *Outword* 29 years ago celebrated Rainbow Festival, included a story of a new movie with two gay leads called "Jeffrey," we also featured a transgender activist and staff member of *Outword* in that very first issue. After all these years reporting the news, it certainly seems like we are still fighting for the same damn rights 29 years later. As always, our community continues to be attacked as conservative folks seem to think that Drag is the new target as well as Transgender health needs. Marriage is also on the ballot again here in California as Prop 3 affirming gay marriage in the CA Constitution is on our November ballot because language voters passed in 2008 as part of Prop 8 remains on the books. Please educate yourself, your neighbors and friends on Prop 3 so that it can be successful just in case we need that statewide protection.

LGBTQ images and news are in the media every almost every single day with positive stories, characters and images in TV shows and commercials. That movie "Jeffrey" we featured

back in 1995 really was groundbreaking at the time. The Paris Olympics just broke a record by having 193 openly LGBTQ+ athletes competing, according to Outsports, a website compiling a database of openly queer Olympians. (And the opening ceremony was epic, and so French!) It really does seem that we are re-fighting for our rights in the current political situation, not to mention fighting for democracy, but recently we have been given new hope, with the Harris/Walz ticket. Our democracy is fragile and every vote will count this coming November. This election cycle is certainly not the one you want to sit out.

I ask you now, as I always have, to donate your time and hard earned money to the organization of your choice, but please do something. It is far too easy to sit at your desk or on your phone on social media complaining and sharing stories but we all need to be a part of the solution and not the problem.

Over several decades in business we have seen many struggles for our community and our industry. When we first started *Outword* there were many more LGBT newspapers in the country and most of them survived on local advertisers and local professionals like dentists, real estate agents, lawyers, insurance agents and we still do. Many of the LGBTQ

newspapers as well as other weekly alternative free-press have shut down due to a variety of factors in recent years.

I know I sound like a broken record but please support the businesses that support us and spend your money with the organizations that ask for our money and not just the ones that have a shiny rainbow during June on their webpage.

29 years ago I had no idea what I was about to embark upon. I was eager to make a difference and continue to be an activist. My mission was then and still is today to inform, entertain and inspire all of us. Over the years I have learned a lot, mostly from the people around me in the community.

We have had many staff persons that assisted along the way writing for us, delivering, selling ads and other duties. We enjoy many community folks that love writing about news, politics, entertainment, cooking and all the fun things that *Outword* brings to our readers.

If you enjoy *Outword* please not only support our advertisers, our only source of revenue, but also consider being a part of our Reader Support Rainbow Fund. If you are able to, please make a contribution to help allow us to bring you *Outword Magazine* for more years to come. Visit: <https://outwordrainbowfund.com>

Enjoy this issue and please send us a line via email or the old fashioned way, via the U.S. mail, that's the one that also carries your mail-in ballot.



# The List

Rainbow Festival  
Raúl Gonzo  
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Rosa Madera  
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## Who Is Tim Walz?

Tim Walz, born Timothy James Walz on April 6, 1964, is an American politician and educator who has served as the 41st governor of Minnesota since January 7, 2019. A member of the Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party (DFL), Walz has a diverse background that spans military service, teaching, and political leadership, which has shaped his approach to governance and policy.



### Early Life and Education

Tim Walz was born in West Point, Nebraska, and grew up in a rural part of the state. His father was a public school administrator and his mother a community activist, which influenced his early views on the importance of education and public service. Walz attended Butte High School and later earned a bachelor's degree in social science education from Chadron State College in Nebraska. His passion for education and his commitment to serving others were evident early on, as he pursued a career in teaching after graduation.

particularly known for his advocacy on behalf of veterans, leveraging his military background to push for better healthcare and services for those who served.

### Governorship

In 2018, Walz decided to run for governor of Minnesota. He won the Minnesota Democratic Party's (DFL) nomination and went on to defeat the Republican candidate, Jeff Johnson, in the general election. As governor, Walz has focused on a broad range of issues, including education, healthcare, infrastructure, and the environment. His governing style was usually data-driven and he showed a willingness to listen to diverse viewpoints.

Walz's tenure as governor has been marked by several significant challenges. Notably, his administration had to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, during which Walz implemented public health measures such as mask mandates and business restrictions to curb the spread of the virus. His handling of the pandemic was both praised and criticized, reflecting the contentious nature of public health decisions during the crisis.

Walz also faced national attention during the aftermath of the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis in 2020. The resulting protests and civil unrest tested his leadership, as he had to balance public demands for justice and police reform with concerns about public safety and order. Walz called in the Minnesota National Guard to restore order, a decision that highlighted the complexities of managing such a volatile situation.

### Personal Life and Legacy

Tim Walz is married to Gwen Walz, and they have two children. The Walz family is known for their active involvement in the community, with Gwen Walz playing a significant role in education and public service initiatives as First Lady of Minnesota.

His background in education and the military, along with his moderate political stance, will help him navigate the diverse and often polarized challenges that lay ahead of him should he become the Vice President of the United States.

### Military Service

In addition to his career as an educator, Walz served in the military. He enlisted in the Army National Guard in 1981 and served for 24 years, rising to the rank of command sergeant major. Walz's military background is a significant aspect of his public persona, emphasizing his leadership experience and commitment to national service.

### Teaching Career

After college, Walz began teaching high school geography and social studies in Nebraska and later in Mankato, Minnesota. His experiences in the classroom, particularly in a rural setting, shaped his views on education policy and the challenges faced by students and educators in less affluent areas.

### Political Career

Tim Walz's entry into politics was motivated by his desire to address the issues he encountered as a teacher and community leader. He first ran for public office in 2006, winning a seat in the U.S. House of Representatives representing Minnesota's 1st congressional district. His victory was significant, as he unseated a six-term Republican incumbent.

During his time in Congress, Walz built a reputation as a moderate Democrat willing to work across party lines. He served on committees such as Agriculture, Armed Services, and Veterans' Affairs, reflecting his interests in rural development, military issues, and support for veterans. He was

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# Who Is JD Vance?

J.D. Vance, born James David Vance on August 2, 1984, is an American author, venture capitalist, and politician. He gained national prominence with the publication of his 2016 memoir, "Hillbilly Elogy: A Memoir of a Family and Culture in Crisis," which explores his upbringing in a working-class family in Middletown, Ohio, and the broader struggles of white working-class Americans. The book was both a critical and commercial success, bringing attention to the socioeconomic challenges faced by many in Appalachia and Rust Belt communities.

Vance's book tried to provide a first-hand account of the cultural and economic decline in these regions, often overlooked by mainstream discourse. His personal narrative, detailing his escape from poverty and eventual success—graduating from Ohio State University and then Yale Law School—resonated with many readers and sparked discussions about class, culture, and the American Dream. "Hillbilly Elogy" was later adapted into a film by Netflix, directed by Ron Howard, further cementing Vance's status as a public figure.

Vance served in the U.S. Marine Corps as a combat correspondent for nearly four years, including a six month tour in Iraq. After he attended law school, Vance worked as a venture capitalist, where he focused on technology and biotechnology startups.

Politically, J.D. Vance has been associated with conservative views, and he became increasingly involved in politics following the success of his memoir. Initially critical of

Donald Trump during the 2016 presidential campaign, Vance has since become a supporter of Trump and aligned himself with the populist wing of the Republican Party. In 2022, Vance ran for and won a seat in the U.S. Senate, representing Ohio. His campaign was marked by his embrace of Trump's policies and rhetoric.

As a Senator, Vance has continued to focus on economic issues that resonate with his base. His transformation from a critic of Trump to a staunch supporter reflects the broader shifts within the Republican Party and highlights his strategic adaptability within American politics.

Now that he has been chosen by the Trump campaign as their pick for Vice President, more and more information about Vance has become highlighted. One thing is for certain, there are differences between Vance and Democratic VP running mate, Tim Walz.



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# Trump Lies About Harris's Crowd Sizes Is Prep Work for Election Denial

by Chris Walker, TRUTHOUT

United States Senator Bernie Sanders (I-Vermont) released a statement on Tuesday decrying former President Donald Trump's claims that Vice President Kamala Harris's presidential campaign crowd sizes were "fake," noting that Trump was doing so as part of an effort to undermine the legitimacy of Harris's popularity, a sign that he would try to create doubts over the outcome of the 2024 presidential election, should he lose to her this fall.

Trump tried to stir uncertainty over Harris's crowd size at a rally in Detroit, Michigan, in a Truth Social post over the weekend.

"Has anyone noticed that Kamala CHEATED at the airport? There was nobody at the plane, and she 'A.I.'d it, and showed a massive 'crowd' of so-called followers, BUT THEY DIDN'T EXIST!" Trump said, adding for emphasis that, in his mind at least, "She's a CHEATER."

The claims by Trump are completely fabricated – other video images from that day show the image in question was actual, and the crowd size of thousands greeting Harris at the airport was real.

Trump also claimed that a maintenance worker had acted as a whistleblower and said the image was fake, but no such worker actually exists.

Responding to these claims, Sanders said Trump was not acting "stupid," but that his false statement had a purpose: to cast suspicion in the minds of his own supporters now, so they will be more likely to back up his falsehoods regarding supposed election irregularities following Election Day in November if he loses.

"When [Trump] claims that 'nobody' showed up at a 10,000-person Harris rally in Michigan that was live-streamed and widely covered by the media, that it was all AI, and that Democrats cheat all of the time, there is a method to his madness," Sanders said in a written statement.

"Clearly, and dangerously, what Trump is doing is laying the groundwork for rejecting the election results if he loses."

Sanders went on to say that:

If you can convince your supporters that thousands of people who attended a televised rally do not exist, it will not be hard to convince them that the election returns in Pennsylvania, Michigan and elsewhere are 'fake' and 'fraudulent.'

"This is what destroying faith in institutions is about," Sanders added. "This is what undermining democracy is about. This is what fascism is about."

In addition to trying to cast doubts about the sizes of crowds at Harris rallies in Detroit and elsewhere – and making bombastic claims that his own crowd sizes are larger than they actually are, but that the mainstream media supposedly won't cover them – Trump and his presidential campaign have also claimed, without proof, that polling data showing Harris ahead of him, both nationally and in key swing states, are also fraudulent, with a

spokesperson for the campaign stating that the polls are understating his support among voters "with the clear intent and purpose of depressing support" overall for Trump.

The attempts to undermine the legitimacy of the polling data isn't really meant to complain about them per se, but rather "is simply meant to suggest that no measure of reality can be trusted unless it favors Trump," The Washington Post's Philip Bump said in a column this week.

"The point isn't to increase Trump's credibility. It's to erode everyone else's. That way, when they accurately report the results in November, Trump can remind his supporters to reject them if necessary," Bump added.

Trump gave similar signals in the run-up to the 2020 presidential election that he would not accept the election results unless they showed he had won the White House for a second time. According to The Guardian's Sam Levine, however, this year is different, for two key reasons. First, over the past several years, a number of Trump loyalists who harbor the same election denialist viewpoints have been appointed to local election boards across the country, making it more likely that errant and easily debunkable fraud claims will be taken seriously when they should not be; and second, the Republican National Committee's legal arm, led by former Trump lawyer Christina Bobb, is poised to support Trump in his false election fraud claims more so than it did in 2020, with a virtual army of 100,000 poll watchers supporting their aims.

"While the law controls what Congress must do once it receives certificates from electors, it doesn't have much to say about what must happen in the lead-up to the Electoral College vote," Levine reported. "That could leave a lot of wriggle room for Trump and allies to try to slow down certification and go to court to try to force states to miss their certification deadline." on, you're not just preserving a source of news, you're helping to safeguard what's left of our democracy.

Chris Walker is a news writer at Truthout, and is based out of Madison, Wisconsin. Focusing on both national and local topics since the early 2000s, he has produced thousands of articles analyzing the issues of the day and their impact on the American people. He can be found on most social media platforms under the handle @thatchriswalker.



**Pete Buttigieg** @PeteButtigieg

Tim Walz is an exceptionally effective governor - and also great to work with. I'm excited for what his Midwestern voice, military experience, and common-sense values will bring to our winning ticket, and for everything the Harris-Walz administration will deliver for Americans.



**Bernie Sanders** @BernieSanders

.@Tim\_Walz is a great asset to @KamalaHarris' winning campaign & administration.

He is a former public school teacher, football coach, and strong union supporter.

As governor, he delivered for working families in MN. As VP, he will deliver for the working families of the US.

**Equality California and Silver State Equality on Selection of Tim Walz as Kamala Harris' Vice-Presidential Running Mate**

“We are thrilled that Kamala Harris has chosen a staunch LGBTQ+ ally to be her running mate in what is certainly the most consequential election of our lifetimes. Vice President Harris’ own record on LGBTQ+ issues – including being one of the first statewide elected officials to perform same-sex marriages – is exemplary, and the selection of Tim Walz to be her Vice President sends a message that her administration would continue the gains we have made under President Biden’s leadership, and undoubtedly be one of the most pro-LGBTQ+ administrations in history.”

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# Little Activisms

## Fight Disinformation, Part I – Know Your Sources

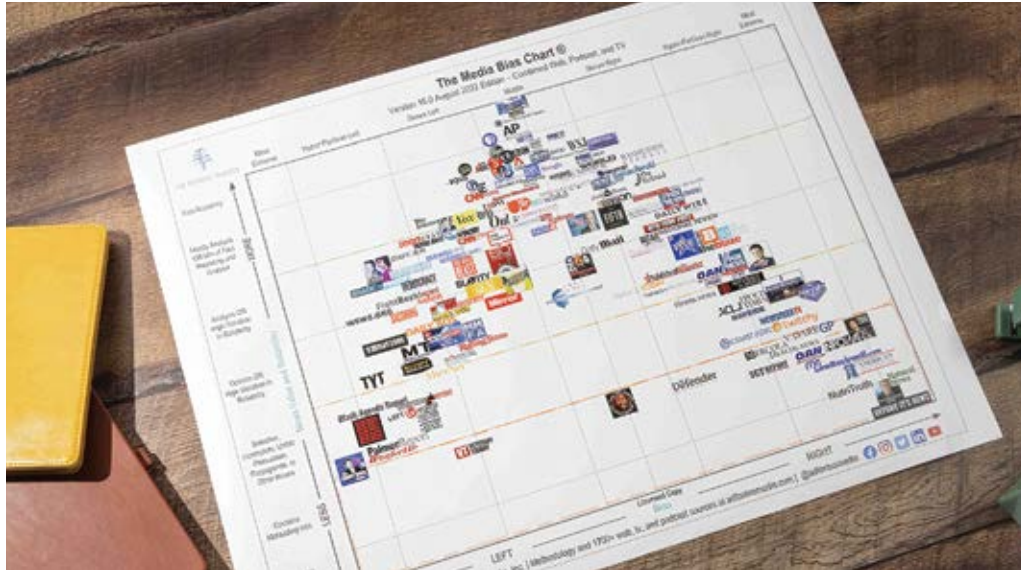
by Judy Saint

America used to watch Walter Cronkite, David Brinkley, and others who wrote their own news before news shows were rated for audience share. News shows are now rated, which affects ad revenue. Naturally, networks want more revenue, so they now control their newscasters' stories, sometimes down to the words they say.

"opinions". However, people often do not know the difference between news and opinion. In the movie Bombshell they said Fox News is "fair and balanced" because the noon news is "fair", and the evening opinion shows

a bias... And that's OK. But it's not OK for news organizations to hide those biases." She said the threat grows as social media algorithms feed users consistent content. Offering you more of your own bias takes you down a rabbit hole.

You need to be your own Walter Cronkite now. In fact, Brett Neely with Columbia Journalism Review (CJR) says we are now just "products". "I think that one of the ways that journalists can reach people is to help them understand the ways in which they are the products, that their beliefs and emotions are being manipulated and monetized."



Back to the chart. Moving below opinions, we find sources that give us incomplete and misleading information. We find fearmongering, click-bait, and outright lies. This is where many of us lost our relatives who won't even listen to us anymore.

Our Little Activism today is to understand we are pawns to news media, and to build tools to empower our news choices.

We need to combat mislabeled news and rumors. We need truth if we are to save our democracy. The media will not save us. The courts will not save us. Legislators will not save us.

First up, learn to use Snopes, trusted debunkers of mistruth since 1994. If you click a claim on their website, it will give you the background, then it gives you a rating of True, False, or specifically which parts are not totally accurate, with verified details. Snopes is widely respected. <https://www.snopes.com>

That's where you come in. As I'll discuss next time, now that you know where to fact-check and how to evaluate your sources, it's up to you to save our democracy. Only we can counter the false and incendiary rhetoric that will just get worse as the election nears.

Next up, here is an interactive chart so you can learn about each source:

means you will see more of what that political audience generally wants to see. Feel free to move left and right on the chart to see what everyone is saying.

are a "balance" to left wing talking points. Yet many people think evening opinion shows are "fair", which they are not. They can include divisive opinions and rhetorical questions.

The good news is it works. I have proof. Check next issue's column, "Fight Disinformation, Part II - Flood With Truth".

<https://adfontesmedia.com/interactive-media-bias-chart>

Moving down is the danger. Going from fact reporting at the top to opinions in the middle is fine if you realize you are entering

In fact, according to Julie Mastrine of CJR, "Unbiased news doesn't exist. Everyone has

*Little Activisms encourages readers to consider small changes we can make to help social causes, and to feel good about taking small risks. Judy Saint is President of the Greater Sacramento Chapter of Freedom From Religion Foundation and author of The Pleasant Atheist Adult Coloring Book available on Amazon. She and her wife live in Roseville, CA.*



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# Freedom for All Coloradans Celebrates the Defeat of Anti-Trans Initiatives Failing to Reach November Ballot

Freedom for All Coloradans, a coalition comprising over 100 advocacy groups, religious and business leaders, and philanthropies, is celebrating the defeat of 30 proposed ballot measures that posed significant threats to transgender Coloradans. These measures failed to secure enough signatures to qualify for the 2024 Colorado General Election ballot in November. Among the rejected proposals were measures that would have forced school officials to disclose any student questioning their gender identity (#142) and barred transgender youth from participating in sports (#160).

“These initiatives were out of touch with the core values of Coloradans,” said Mardi Moore (she/her), Executive Director of Rocky Mountain Equality. “Pushed by right-wing extremists, these measures would have jeopardized our collective freedoms. The fact that they failed to garner enough support to make it onto the ballot is a clear indication that they do not resonate with everyday Coloradans.”

“We are fully aware that extremists will not cease their attacks on the transgender community,” said Nadine Bridges (she/her), Executive Director of One Colorado. “While today’s victory is significant, our work is far from over. We remain steadfast in our commitment to upholding Colorado values, ensuring our communities are protected and able to thrive. The Freedom for All Coloradans coalition is united and prepared to defend against any future threats.”

Freedom for All Coloradans is led by LGBTQ+ leaders and allies in Colorado, including One Colorado, Rocky Mountain Equality, the Rose Community Foundation, and a broad coalition of organizations, faith leaders, businesses, and elected officials throughout the state. The coalition remains vigilant and committed to combating any future efforts to undermine LGBTQ+ equality in Colorado.

*This resource is supported in whole or in part by funding provided by the State of California, administered by the [California State Library](#) in partnership with the [California Department of Social Services](#) and the [California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs](#) as part of the [Stop the Hate](#) program. To report a hate incident or hate crime and get support, go to [CA vs Hate](#).*



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# Hope on the Ballot: Harris Chooses Pro-Equality Leader Governor Tim Walz for VP Slot

by The Human Rights Campaign

Vice President Kamala Harris selected Minnesota Governor Tim Walz as her running mate, making clear that a Harris Administration would build on the Biden-Harris legacy of being the most pro-equality in American history.

“There’s no doubt – Kamala Harris has electrified the nation and breathed new hope into the race,” said Kelley Robinson, Human Rights Campaign President. “Her pick of Governor Walz sends a message that a Harris-Walz Administration will be committed to advancing equality and justice for all. That is the choice we are faced with in America. A Trump-Vance Administration that would demonize LGBTQ+ people, terrorize our families, send our rights and freedoms back to The Land Before Time and install Project 2025. Or a Harris-Walz Administration that will fight for our freedoms, defend our families, and make America a place where people don’t just get by – but can get ahead.”



Harris and Walz

Governor Walz is a career-long champion for LGBTQ+ people. In 1999, as a history teacher and football coach, Walz sponsored the school’s first gay straight alliance student group. He opposed efforts to ban same-sex marriage in the Minnesota constitution.

While serving in Congress, he co-sponsored legislation to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), voted to repeal the discriminatory “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” law, voted for the Matthew Shepard/James Byrd

Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act and introduced legislation to protect LGBTQ+ service members from discrimination in benefits. As Governor, Tim Walz signed an Executive Order banning the dangerous practice of “conversion therapy” in Minnesota.

Vice President Harris has also been a career-long champion for LGBTQ+ people. After winning her race for San Francisco District Attorney in 2004, VP Harris established a hate crimes unit to investigate and prosecute anti-LGBTQ+ violence. In

2006, she organized a conference in California that brought together over 100 officials from across the U.S. to discuss strategies to end the use of the so-called gay and transgender panic defense. In 2014, California became the first state to ban the practice in law. In 2010, VP Harris won her bid for California Attorney General, campaigning on a refusal to defend the infamous Proposition 8, a ballot measure that banned same-sex marriage in the state. She made good on that campaign promise, declining to defend the ban during her tenure as AG and officiating some of the first same-sex marriages in the nation.

As U.S. Senator, Vice President Harris cosponsored the Equality Act, defended access to healthcare under the Affordable Care Act and frequently spoke out against violence against trans women of color. And as Vice President, Harris has helped lead the most pro-equality administration in history. Since the 2021 inauguration, the administration has taken extraordinary steps to advance equality. In 2022, President Biden signed the Respect for Marriage Act into law, a landmark piece of legislation that guaranteed federal protections for same-sex and interracial marriages. They have issued new administrative rules protecting LGBTQ+ youth from discrimination and harassment in schools, ensuring LGBTQ+ youth are protected in the foster care system and

protecting LGBTQ+ patients from discrimination in health care. They have also filled the administration with members of the LGBTQ+ community, appointing a record 200+ LGBTQ+ people across each level of government and nominating a record number of LGBTQ+ judges.

In May, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) launched its We Show Up: Equality Wins public education campaign to mobilize 75 million Equality Voters nationally. The campaign includes a \$15 million strategic investment in key battleground states, including Pennsylvania, Arizona, Michigan, Wisconsin, Georgia and Nevada. HRC has had year-round, on-the-ground staff in these states since 2017, and will bring on dozens of additional staffers in these states to organize for November. HRC will also have a strong ground game in California, Texas, New York and Delaware to support historic LGBTQ+ congressional candidates whose elections are poised to help make the difference in putting a pro-equality majority back in the U.S. House of Representatives.

*The Human Rights Campaign is America’s largest civil rights organization working to achieve equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer people. HRC envisions a world where LGBTQ+ people are embraced as full members of society at home, at work and in every community.*

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**“Free to Be: Understanding Kids & Gender Identity” by Jack Turban, MD** *reviewed by Terri Schlichenmeyer*

Your child has recently told you a secret that they can't hold tight anymore. You've suspected what they're about to say for a long time. When they were small, they weren't like other children. They may have even told you what they were thinking, even before they knew it themselves. But now you know, for sure... and so, going forward, you're the loving parent of a child who's trans, and it's a learning curve.

These two books might help... Surely, you must think that there has to be some science behind gender and identity, right? In “Free to Be: Understanding Kids & Gender Identity” by Jack Turban, MD (Atria, \$29.99), you'll follow the lives and struggles of three trans and gender diverse kids, Kyle, Sam, and Meredith, as Turban explains what science knows about genetics and sexuality.

To gain a basic understanding of the subject, says Turban, we need to look back in history to see how gender identity was perceived in the past and the attitudes that our ancestors held. He then touches upon language and “misnaming,” how social constructs attempt to set a child's gender identity before it's fully known, and why mothers often catch “blame” for something that's never anyone's “fault.” Further information on biology, puberty blockers, gender reassignment surgery for young trans people, and the “politics” of gender diversity round out this book nicely.

For the parent who wants a deeper dive into what makes their child tick and what

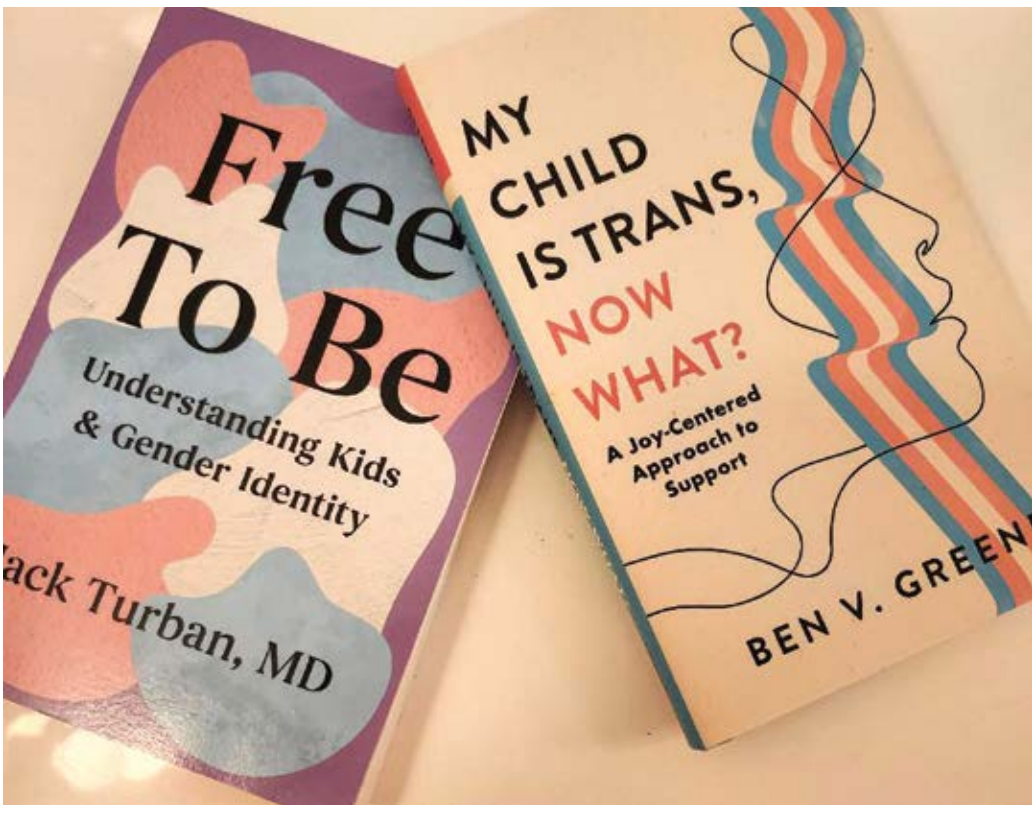
they can do to make that kid's life easier, this compassionate book is the one to read.

If you're just finding out that your child is trans, then “My Child is Trans, Now What?” by Ben V. Greene (Rowman & Littlefield, \$26.95) is a book to reach for now.

Beginning with the things you'll want to know and understand immediately, this book is assuring and soothing – look, and you'll see the word “joy” in its subtitle. Greene calls trans kids “VIPs,” and he means it, which sets a relaxing tone for what's to come here.

In sharing his own experiences, Greene stresses that every trans experience is different, and he touches often upon his coming out. This launches discussions on things like bathrooms, therapy (if you or your VIP want it), finding support, the politics of being trans, the stressors of medical treatment, and what it might be like to have even brief regrets. Greene finishes his book with advice on getting an education and living as a trans person.

“My Child is Trans, Now What?” is truly more of a book for parents and loved ones



of trans teens or young adults. What's in here goes well beyond childhood, so be aware before you reach for it on the shelf.

And if these books aren't enough, or don't quite fit what you need, be sure to ask your favorite bookseller or librarian for more. In recent years, more and more authors have been willing to share their own journeys, making the transition one that doesn't have to be so secret anymore.

*This resource is supported in whole or in part by funding provided by the State of California, administered by the [California State Library](#) in partnership with the [California Department of Social Services](#) and the [California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs](#) as part of the [Stop the Hate](#) program. To report a hate incident or hate crime and get support, go to [CA vs Hate](#).*

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**CROCKER**  
art museum

Image credits: [left] Marie K. Watt (Seneca, born 1967), *Transit*, edition 7/25, 2004. Lithograph and chine collé, 22 1/4 x 30 1/8 in. Published by Tamarind Institute, Albuquerque, NM. Collection of Jordan D. Schnitzer. [right] Marie K. Watt (Seneca, born 1967), *Threshold*, 2006. Reclaimed wool blankets, satin binding, and thread, 123 x 119 in. Collection of the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation.



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**MICHAEL FEINSTEIN**

BECAUSE OF YOU: MY TRIBUTE TO TONY BENNETT FEATURING THE CARNEGIE HALL ENSEMBLE

SEPTEMBER 15, 2024

Award winning and Grammy nominated recording artist **Michael Feinstein** has partnered with Carnegie Hall to entertain and educate through his latest live touring show, paying tribute to American Songbook master Tony Bennett and created specifically for this musical partnership. Feinstein's close friendship with Tony Bennett will add a profound layer to this tribute.



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# Channing Tatum Plays A Bad Guy Plus, 3 Tower Movies Reviewed

by Chris Narloch

If you've had your fill of big-budget summer blockbusters, check out one of the smaller indie flicks below.



## Blink Twice

This ambitious but ultimately failed first film was cowritten and directed by actress (and now director) Zoe Kravitz, who gets points for tackling a gutsy feminist premise involving a group of rich men who view women as possessions – or really prey.

Channing Tatum plays the ringleader, a charming tech billionaire who turns out to be anything but charming after he invites a total stranger (Naomi Ackie) and her female friend (Alia Shawkat) to his private island. Unfortunately, Kravitz's intriguing tale devolves into a bloodbath and not a believable one. Currently in wide theatrical release.



## Between the Temples

What took so long for Hollywood to bring Carol Kane and Jason Schwartzman together as a comedic couple? The equally quirky pair are hilarious together in this bittersweet dramedy, which gives audiences a great deal to laugh about (and a great deal to think about).

Playing a former music teacher (Kane) and her now-adult student (Schwartzman), who reconnect by chance, these hilarious actors were born to make moviegoers laugh, but they can also move us with their dramatic chops. The two characters bond over their shared Jewish identity and the loss of their spouses.



## Sing Sing

The great gay actor Colman Domingo (who was deservedly honored with an Oscar nomination earlier this year for his performance in "Rustin") turns in another great performance in this true story about a group of incarcerated men at New York's Sing Sing Correctional Facility who participate in a theater program called Rehabilitation Through the Arts.

Domingo plays Divine G, a driving force within the group who is haunted by his criminal past but finds purpose and hope in the dramatic arts. The film features formerly incarcerated alumni from the program – some playing themselves – and director Greg Kwedar gives the movie a lyrical realism that is often hypnotic.



## Didi

This coming-of-age dramedy is receiving widespread praise and with good reason. Writer/director Sean Wang gets almost everything right in this semi-autobiographical film about a 13-year-old Taiwanese boy living in a Bay Area suburb circa 2008.

Fighting with his sister and mother and trying desperately to fit in with other kids his age, Chris Wang (perfectly played by Isaac Wang) is a typical awkward teen, and the movie reminded me how very intense and overwhelming those years can be. Costar Joan Chen ("The Last Emperor") is also exceptional as the hero's mom.

Note: "Didi," "Sing Sing" and "Between the Temples" were all still playing at Sacramento's Tower Theatre as we went to press.

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## SIN Sacramento

by Arturo Jackson III, MSW

**S**IN (Strength in Numbers) Sacramento is the newest HIV program of the Sacramento LGBT Center. SIN Sacramento was started approximately 14 years ago as a community, gay male driven HIV/AIDS (POZ) social support group led by Andrew Henkin, former case manager (RIP) at Harm Reduction Services and myself. Andrew and I had a idea to share a meal with other POZ men and women, to sit at a table and break bread together and share our thoughts on life with HIV/AIDS.

SIN Sacramento will meet IN-PERSON on the second Monday of each month from 6 pm to 7:30 pm at the Sacramento LGBT Center located at 1015 20th Street, Sacramento, CA 95811. The SIN Sacramento IN-PERSON POZ support group is open to anyone living with HIV/AIDS.

SIN Sacramento also hosts, funds willing, complimentary lunch dates with other POZ survivors at local eateries. It is estimated 5,000+ men and women live with HIV/AIDS in the Sacramento region. We are survivors of the worst, deadliest AIDS epidemic that killed hundreds of thousands of gay men with most suffering through horrific AIDS-related deadly disease manifestations in the human body.

In the past, Sacramento had agencies such as the Sacramento AIDS Foundation with

end AIDS by 2030. Forty plus years into the AIDS epidemic and stigma remains a serious barrier to HIV testing and support for POZ U.S. citizens.

Black/African American people and Hispanic/Latino people are particularly affected by HIV, making up more than half (70%) of estimated new HIV infections in 2022. Latino or Hispanic people represent less than 20% of the United States population but account for nearly a third of new HIV diagnoses in 2022, according to the CDC.

According to the Centers for Disease Control there were 31,800 estimated new HIV infections in the U.S. in 2022. 67% (21,400) were among gay/bisexual men who reported male-to-male sexual contact. 22% (7,000) were reported among people reporting heterosexual sexual contact and 7%

STRENGTH  
N  
NUMBERS

hundreds of volunteers committed to volunteering to assist the sick and dying. Breaking Barriers was another agency serving local POZ persons. CARES, the bastion of POZ medical care in the Lavender Heights midtown neighborhood is now a general community clinic with a HIV Department known as One Community Health.

Person living with HIV/AIDS in the Sacramento region have access to excellent medical care and medications yet social support is lacking and most are isolated. Forty plus years into the AIDS epidemic and stigma is alive and well and faced daily by POZ survivors striving to stay well and live productive lives til our last breath.

Recent studies indicate people of color continue to test HIV+ at high numbers. Today testing HIV+ is no longer a death sentence but POZ persons must be in managed healthcare, see a doctor and gain access to available, effective medications that can stop the HIV virus in its track.

Today there is still no AIDS cure. If you test HIV+ it is a lifetime condition in a community and World united in a fight to

(2,300) among people who inject drugs.

SIN Sacramento can use your support. Living with HIV/AIDS today can be difficult as persons debate when to retire, go out on disability and for some adjust to the medications. Today there is over 40 different HIV/AIDS medications. POZ persons can live relatively normal, disease-free lives to old age without the risk of exposing anyone else. That is quite different than the "mind fu\*k" most of us long-time survivors heard, "get your affairs in order" and early death prognosis 30+ years ago. Most are surprised when I share with others that there were no AIDS medications in the first 10 years of the epidemic. In the early years, for most, POZ was a death sentence. Thankfully, times are changed if you have access to managed healthcare.

SIN Sacramento needs your support. Plan to attend our weekly ZOOM meeting and the next SIN Sacramento IN-PERSON POZ Support Group to be held September 9th, 6 pm - 7:30 pm at the Sacramento LGBT Center. Call the Sacramento LGBT Center, 916-442-0185 to sign up to join SIN Sacramento. See you there!

# Michael Feinstein Sings Tony Bennett Plus, Cynthia Erivo Joins SF Symphony

by Chris Narloch

Two vocal powerhouses will grace Northern California stages this September, and there were still tickets available for both shows as I wrote this article. Read on for details.



photo by Stephen Sorokoff

## Michael Feinstein

This Grammy-nominated recording artist brings “Because of You: My Tribute to Tony Bennett featuring the Carnegie Hall Ensemble” to Harris Center in Folsom, for one not-to-be-missed night on Sunday, Sept. 15 at 7:30 p.m.

Award-winning singer Michael Feinstein has partnered with Carnegie Hall to entertain and educate through his latest live touring show. Following the show’s spectacular March 27, 2024, sold-out debut at Carnegie Hall, Feinstein will serve as ambassador for the legendary New York City venue, which has been home to some of the most iconic performers in music history.

Feinstein continues to spread the cultural significance of the Hall, its musical influence, and its big band era history. Performing with the specialized Carnegie Hall Ensemble, Feinstein is visiting venues around North America with this initial salute to the late, great Tony Bennett, a master of the American Songbook. Please visit: [www.harriscenter.net/events](http://www.harriscenter.net/events)



## Cynthia Erivo

When I saw this sensational singer (and actress) in “The Color Purple” on Broadway in 2016, I knew she was destined for greatness, and the thunderous applause Erivo received that night was proof that everyone else in the audience realized it too.

The Broadway and movie star Cynthia Erivo will light up the stage in San Francisco this Sept. 14 when she joins forces with SF Symphony for a program showcasing her incredible vocal talent.

Then you can see her again, on the big screen, when she costars with Ariana Grande in the hotly anticipated film adaptation of “Wicked,” out this November 22nd. For more information, go to: [www.sfsymphony.org](http://www.sfsymphony.org)

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October 26, 9am - 3pm

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If you have any questions, please email [bookden@saclibfriends.org](mailto:bookden@saclibfriends.org). You can also call the Book Den, 916-731-8493 between 9am and 12pm. Please be patient - we are an all-volunteer organization and not in the office past noon most days...



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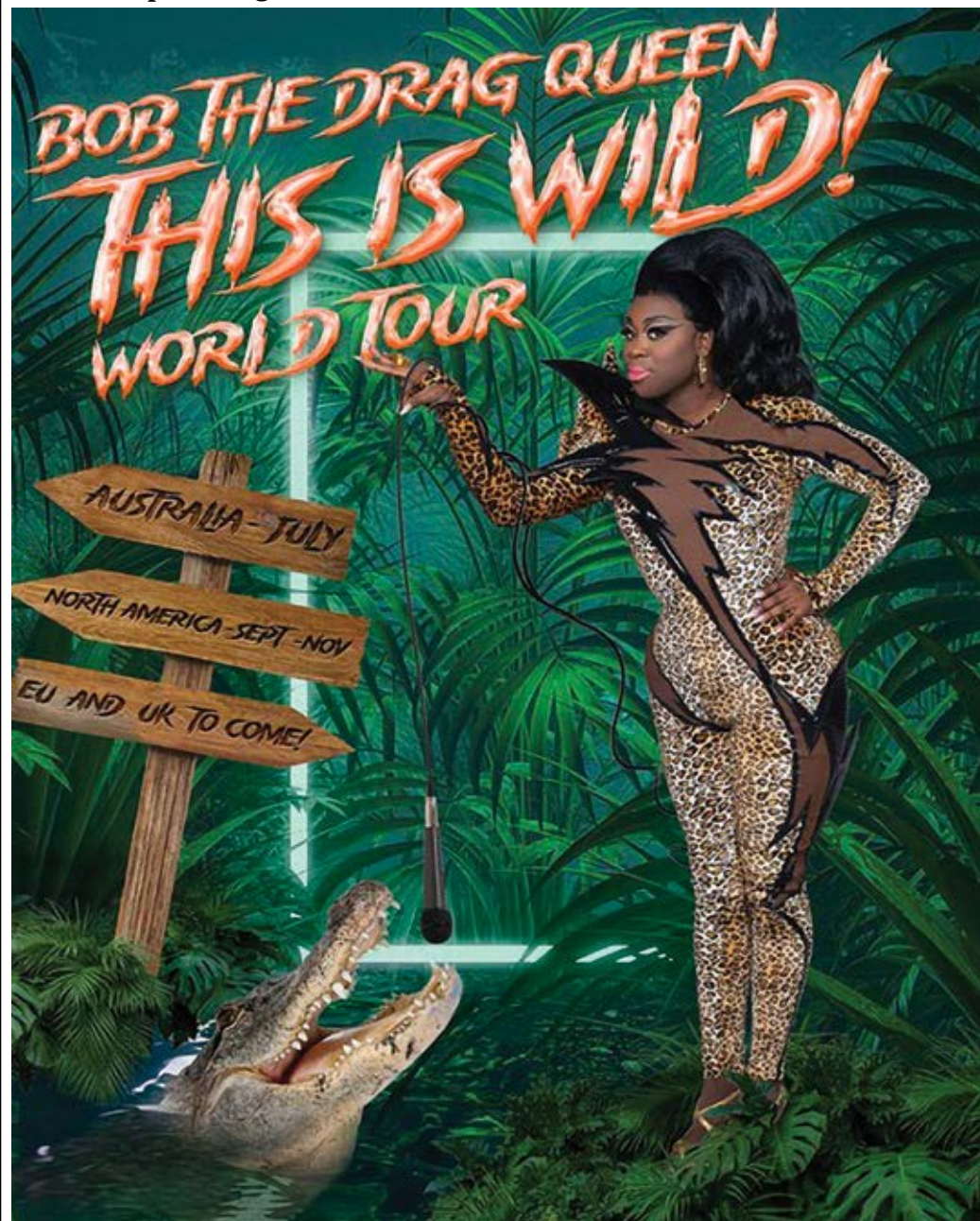
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## Queer-Friendly Events at the Crest

You can't go wrong with drag queens or porn, unless of course you're a right-wing Republican who wants to ban just about everything. Here's hoping Kamala can stop those narrow-minded nincompoops in their authoritarian tracks so that open-minded Americans can continue to enjoy adult entertainment like the two upcoming local events described below.



### Bob The Drag Queen

Fresh from emceeing Madonna's "The Celebration Tour," comedian Bob The Drag Queen is set to dazzle audiences with his first headline comedy world tour, "This Is Wild!"

This tour marks a significant milestone for Bob, the winner of season 8 of "RuPaul's Drag Race," who has since evolved into a Peabody Award, GLAAD Media Award, and Television Academy Honors-winning artist for his contributions to HBO's "We're Here."

Aimed at adults, this 18+ event will showcase Bob's unparalleled ability to blend stand-up comedy, crowd work, and music, all while entertaining his audience with the charisma and flair he is renowned for. You can catch Bob this Sept. 18 at 8 p.m. at Sacramento's historic Crest Theatre.

### 2024 HUMP! Film Festival: Part Two

The creators of this sex-positive, 18-and-over film festival are making HUMP! history in 2024 with another all-new lineup, featuring 25 brand-new, adult short films, and there's something for everyone in the second half of this year's offerings.

You'll experience smokin' hot paranormal encounters, a mind-bending space carnival, spine-tingling ASMR, all the thermal eye candy you can eat, and so much more. It's double the sex, double the kink, and double the fun this Sept. 7 at 7:30 p.m. at the Crest.

Ticket information for both these shows can be found at: <https://crestsaacramento.com/events>



## Coming Soon...



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# Red Museum Hosts Capital Dance Project

Capital Dance Project (CDP) is celebrating its 10th anniversary with a spectacular outdoor festival on September 6th and 7th at the Red Museum in midtown Sacramento.



This year's Behind the Barre promises to be an extraordinary showcase of Sacramento's vibrant arts scene. The event features over 30 local artists, including dancers, choreographers, and musicians, all set against the stunning industrial backdrop of the Red Museum.

Attendees will enjoy world premiere dance works, a local Maker's Mart, food trucks, libations and more. The event will be a celebration of local creativity, highlighting the talent that makes Sacramento unique.

A dancer-run company with a mission to uplift the Sacramento community through innovative, collaborative, and inclusive performing arts experiences, CDP has been bringing new works to Sacramento stages since 2015.

To purchase tickets for this September's Behind the Barre, go to: [www.capitaldanceproject.org](http://www.capitaldanceproject.org)

# CruiseFest Is Back!

California Automobile Museum and Epic Chevrolet are hosting Sacramento's largest annual car cruise event, this Sept. 14, on Fulton Avenue, from the intersection of El Camino to Marconi, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m.



This is the 13th annual CruiseFest, Sacramento's largest cruise event, with hundreds of cars of all makes and models, an array of our region's favorite food trucks, a live DJ, and a beer garden.

Come see what makes CruiseFest the premier, family-friendly car event in Sacramento, a one-of-a-kind experience that you can only have this September, on Fulton Ave.

CruiseFest is free for spectators. Ticket prices to register your car in the cruise can be found here: [www.calautomuseum.org/cruise](http://www.calautomuseum.org/cruise)



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*Because of the continuing trauma being caused by COVID, many of our advertisers are doing everything they can to stay afloat - that includes Outword Magazine. At the onset of the pandemic we changed our distribution model to an online-only affair. That helped us weather the storm, but we have since returned to both online as well traditional, printed copies. Thankfully, the response we have received after returning to print has been fantastic!*

*However, we are continuing to ask that you, our readers and advertisers help us with a contribution that will be used to keep the presses rolling. This money will assist with publishing costs, both in print and online, and help pay our production staff, staff writers and distribution costs among other things.*

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# Out & About

with Matthew Burlingame

Just over two months until Halloween, or Samhain for the pagan folk. It's never too early to plan those costumes and enjoy the candy displays that are popping up in superstores around the area. But for those of you not quite ready for the Autumn fun, here's some exciting events to close out the summer months.

Join the fun at Rainbow Chamber Drag Queen Bingo on Thursday, Sept. 5 at Mangos, 1930 K St. All seating is first come, first served, with the game starting at 7 p.m. A \$20 cash donation to play. Proceeds go to Sacramento SPCA. Don't miss this exciting and charitable event! Rainbowchamber.com

Feel the vibrant spirit of the '60s at the Fallon House Theatre, 11175 Washington St. in Columbia, from Sept. 5 - 29, with the rock musical "Hair." Created by Gerome Ragni, James Rado, and Galt Macdermot, this American tribal love rock musical captivates with iconic songs like "Aquarius" and "Let The Sunshine In," celebrating the counterculture in all its glory. Sierrarep.org

Catch Jay Leno live on Sept. 7 at the Harris Center, 10 College Pkwy, in Folsom. A celebrated stand-up comedian, best-selling author, pioneering car builder and philanthropist. Don't miss this chance to see "the hardest working man in show business!" Harriscenter.net

Celebration Arts will present "Mud, River, Stone," a play about a successful Black couple's adventure in Africa that turns perilous when they're taken hostage in an abandoned hotel. The show runs through Sept. 1 at Celebration Arts, 2727 B St. Performances are at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and 2 p.m. on Sundays. Celebrationarts.com

The Folsom Concert Association presents "Bachelors of Broadway: Gentlemen of the Theatre" on Sunday, Sept. 8, at 2 p.m. This performance features a trio of New York City's top theatrical talent, delivering a fresh take on beloved stage and screen melodies through contemporary three-part vocal harmony. The concert promises thrilling voices and new arrangements at Harris Center, 10 College Parkway, Folsom. Harriscenter.net

Capital Stage kicks off its 20th Anniversary Season with the Sacramento premiere of "Fairview," the 2019 Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Jackie Sibblies Drury. Directed by



The Farm 2 Scholar Dinner 2024 is set for Sept. 12, from 6-9 p.m. at American River College's Culinary Arts Campus, 4700 College Oak Dr. This exclusive event offers a farm-style dinner featuring a multi-course meal, signature cocktails, wine pairings, and live music. Proceeds benefit the Rainbow Chamber Foundation Scholarship Fund. Limited tickets are available. Rainbowchamber.com

Anthony D'Juan, the play runs from Aug. 28 to Sept. 29, 2024. The story follows Beverly as she attempts to host her mother's birthday party amidst family chaos. Performances are at Capital Stage, 2215 J St. Capstage.org

its fun and campy titles, takes place in August and celebrates the community's spirit. Founded in 1973, CGNIE is a volunteer-based charitable organization dedicated to giving back to the local community. CGNIE.org

September is packed with events in Folsom! Don't miss the Twilight Concerts on Sept. 5 and 20, and the Light Up the Dark concert by Powerhouse Ministries on Sept. 7. Folsom Rotary Concerts are set for Sept. 12, 19, and 26, with Ladies Passport Night on Sept. 19. The Ariel Jean Band performs Sept. 20, and Pawtownerfest wraps up the month on Sept. 29. For info on each event visit: Historicfolsom.org

NorCal AIDS Cycle will distribute proceeds to 2024 beneficiaries at the Back Patio of the Bear & Crown British Pub, 1024 2nd St. in Old Sacramento on Monday, Aug. 26 at 6 p.m.

Register to vote online. Your registration must be postmarked or submitted electronically no later than Oct. 21. sos.ca.gov

Join CGNIE-The United Courts of Sacramento, Redding, Chico, and Stockton for the August Nights Pageant at Faces NightClub, 2000 K St. The event, known for

Happy birthday to Jimmy Short on Sept. 9! Do you have events, birthdays, or announcements to share? Feel free to send them to matthew.burlingame@gmail.com



Catch the classic movie "The Goonies" (1985) on Saturday, Sept. 7, at 4 p.m. at the Crest Sacramento, 1013 K St. Join a group of young misfits on their thrilling adventure as they discover an ancient map and hunt for legendary pirate treasure. A perfect nostalgia trip for all ages. Crestsacramento.com

★ **Sacramento's Original Drag Queen Bingo** ★

**DRAG QUEEN BINGO**

IT'S ON!

**\$20 CASH Donation**

Hosted By: *Da'Ne Moore*

**September 5, 2024**

**7:00 - 9:00 PM**

**1930 K STREET**

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**8 games... 8 Chances to Win**

This month's beneficiary:

**SACRAMENTO SPCA**

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\* New California law for 2022, requires all insurance to cover the cost of at-home STD testing.



## Let's Go Bowling by Cameron Yee

There are currently three gay bowling leagues in Sacramento. River City Bowlers, Go-Bo Bowlers and OutLoud Sports Bowlers. River City and Go-Bo meet at Country Club Lanes (Watt Avenue and El Camino) on Sunday evenings. Both leagues are starting on Sunday, Sept 8. OutLoud Sports meets at Bowlero (Madison Avenue near Hwy 80) on Thursday evenings.



Each league is similar but different. All league welcome bowlers of any ability. The leagues use a handicap system to even the playing field. River City and OutLoud Sports have 4 person teams. Go-Bo has 3 person teams. The leagues have sessions ranging from 8 to 12 weeks. Weekly fees are \$20 (although OutLoud has their members pay \$80 at the start for the first 4 weeks and then again for the second 4 weeks).

River City Bowlers started in the 1970's and has been going strong since. For the past 30 years or so, they were meeting at Land Park bowl (on Freeport Blvd). Unfortunately this past February there was a fire at the bowling alley and the company that owns it decided they were not going to repair and reopen the bowling alley. The league belongs to the International Gay Bowling Organization and the U.S. Bowling Congress. Both organizations have tournaments and awards that the league members are eligible to participate in.

Go-Bo started 10 years ago. OutLoud Sports organizes a Kickball and Dodge Ball league and last year also started a bowling league.

If you are interested in joining as a team or even an individual, each league has a Facebook page: River City Bowlers, GO-BO League and OutLoud Sports: Sacramento



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**ANY identification and ANY experience...**

**ALL Are Welcome! Come out and Join!**

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**League Starts Sunday, September 8**

Sign up at 5:30 PM Meeting

League starts right after meeting

**NEW LOCATION!!**

**Country Club Lanes**

2600 Watt Avenue Sacramento, CA



RIVER CITY BOWLERS

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/142533421214/>







## Activating Taste Buds (ATB)

Looking for a great breakfast spot, with very generous proportions and reasonable pricing? You could go to Black Bear Diner, but Hot Off the Griddle fits that bill as well, and they are a local business that is right across the American River in South Natomas. If you have never been, be sure to map it out, because it is tucked away in the back of a mini mall at the corner of Truxel and W. El Camino. The service was great and the prices are reasonable, especially for the amount of food served up. If you would like to share some food pics with *Outword* readers, just email them, with short descriptions, to: [graphics@outwordmagazine.com](mailto:graphics@outwordmagazine.com)



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# UPCOMING EVENTS

Contact Julie Ebe to get your events on the Calendar: [Julie@Outwordmagazine.com](mailto:Julie@Outwordmagazine.com)

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Celebrating 29 Years

## August

- 8/20 Rainbow Chamber's Monthly Networking Mixer - Sacramento Children's Museum ✨
- 8/20-9/1 Broadway Sacramento - Jersey Boys
- 8/31 Annual Picnic at McKinley Park with PrimeTimers - 12 noon

## September

- 9/4 Mexican Happy Hour with PrimeTimers - 3:00PM
- 9/5 Drag Queen Bingo @ Mango's
- 9/7 Thanksgiving in September with PrimeTimers 5:00PM
- 9/13 Outword Monthly Happy Hour @ Badlands 5:30PM ✨
- 9/15 Harris Center - Michael Feinstein - Because of You: Tribute to Tony Bennett
- 9/17 Sacramento Rainbow Chamber's Monthly Networking Mixer - Scott's Seafood on the River
- 9/17-22 Broadway Sacramento - *Company*



## Pet Photo Contest!

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Send us a high resolution picture of your pet and two sentences expressing why you love them.

### YOU COULD WIN \$100 CASH!

Send your entry to us by  
OCTOBER 14, @ 5PM.

Please email them to [editor@outwordmagazine.com](mailto:editor@outwordmagazine.com)  
The Photo(s) must be originals and you must have the rights to use. NO AI. Include your first and last name along with your pets name. NO MORE than 2 photos per person. Please dont post on social media, we want the glamour shots of your pets to be seen in the pages of Outword first.

### Back Issues at Your Fingertips!

... and the most current issue too!

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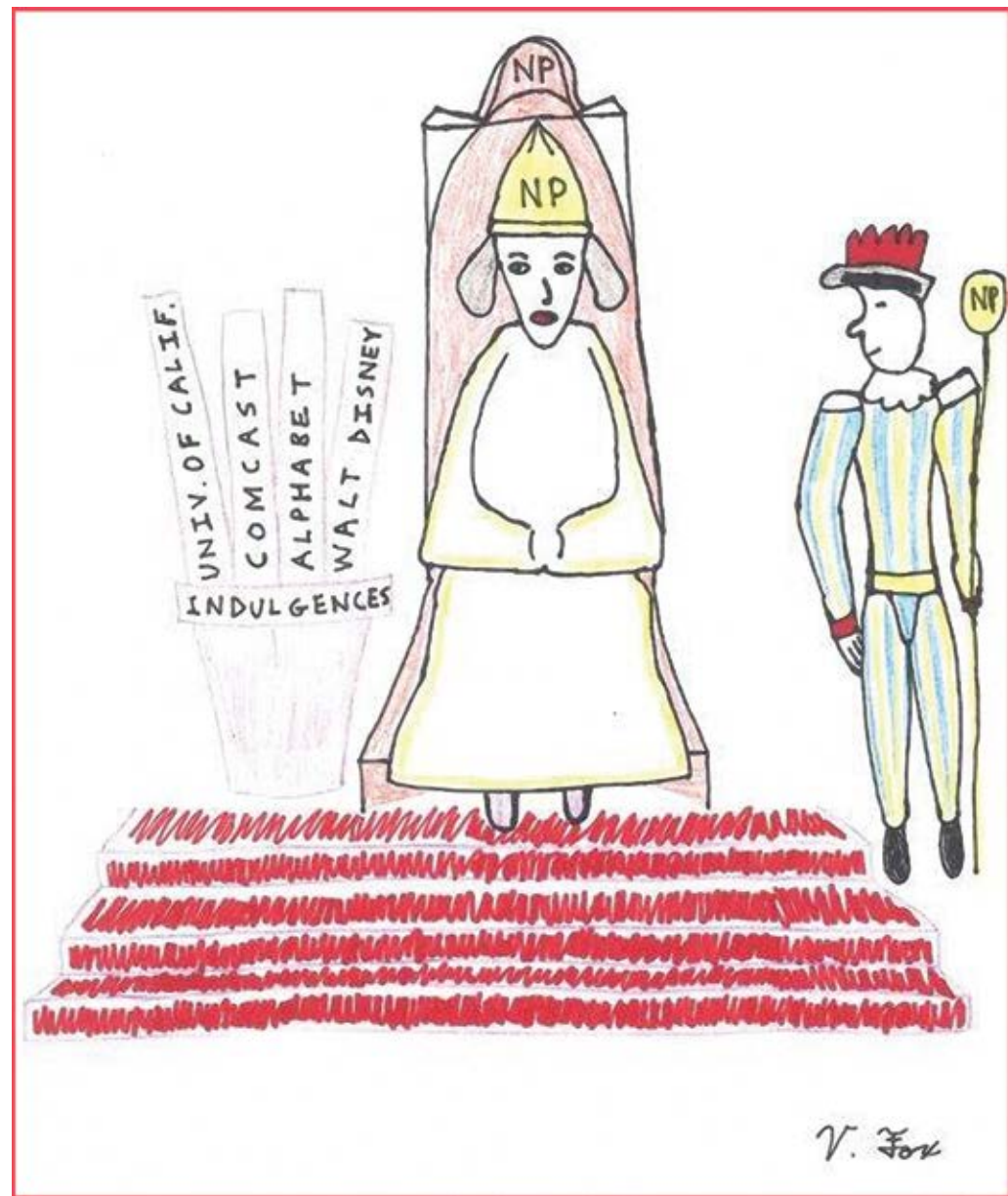
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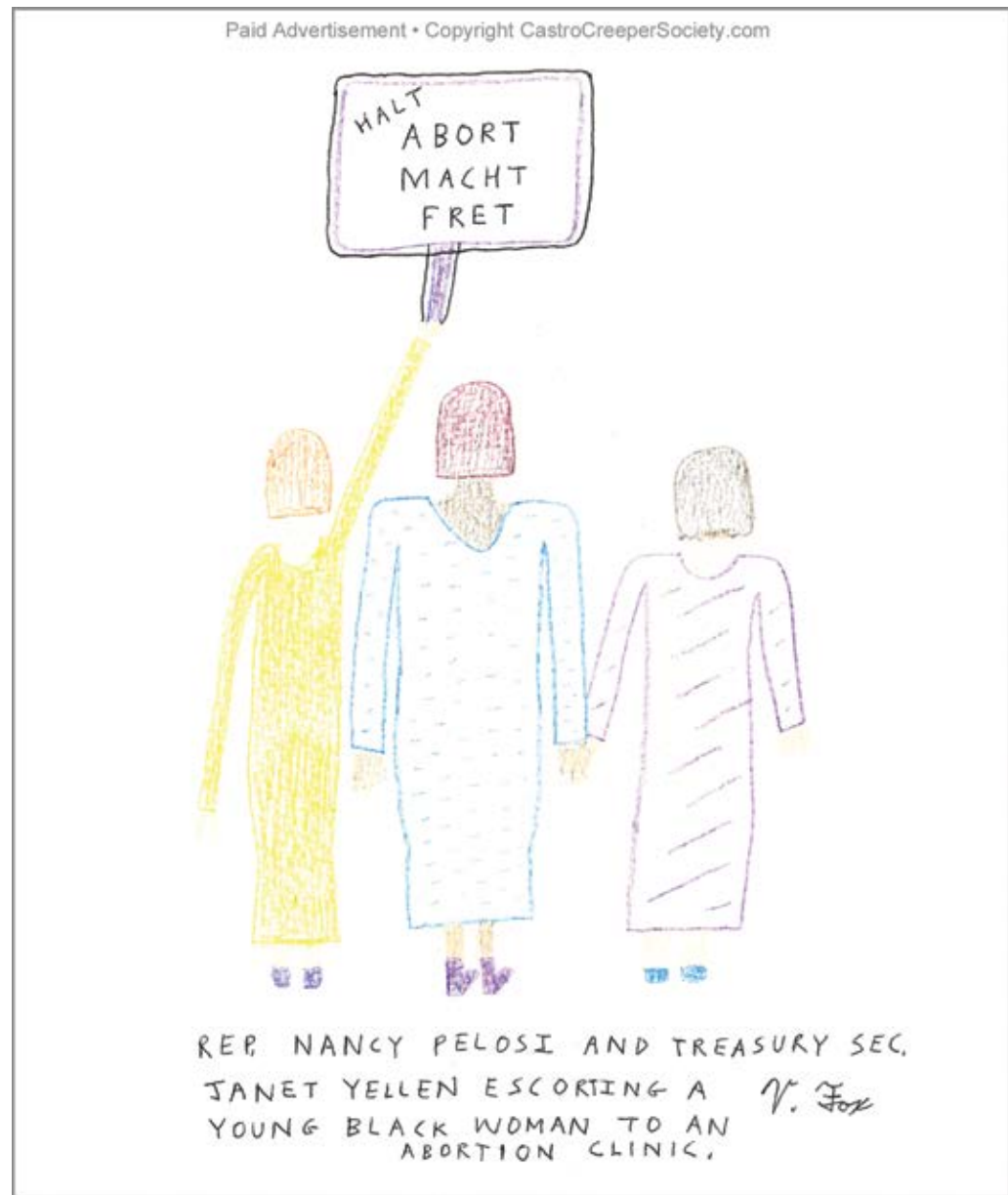
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**A** celebration of life is planned for Linda Birner, founder and publisher of "Mom, Guess What? Newspaper," on Thursday, September 19, 2024 at 2:00 PM at the Dante Event Center at 2330 Fair Oaks Blvd, Sacramento, CA 95825. Light refreshments and a no-host bar provided. Everyone is invited to wear something red in Linda's honor.

Donations in memory of Linda Birner are welcome to the local Sacramento LGBT Community Center. Contact

<https://saccenter.org>

Got questions: Email  
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