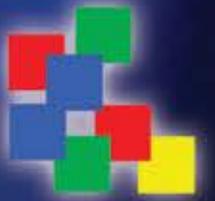


# outward



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## “Tina – The Tina Turner Musical” Arrives in Sacramento

page 19

Stonewall Monument’s  
Transgender History  
Scrubbed by Trump  
page 4

A4TE Condemns  
Robert F. Kennedy  
page 5

Celebrating Black  
History Month:  
Honoring Legacy...  
page 9

Bonta’s Been  
Busy  
page 12

Oscars 2025:  
Pro-Trans &  
Anti-Trump  
page 17

Out & About  
page 21

Kennedy Center  
Has Canceled the  
Gay Men’s Chorus  
page 28

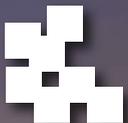
Will “Warriors”  
Be the Next  
Broadway  
Blockbuster?  
page 30

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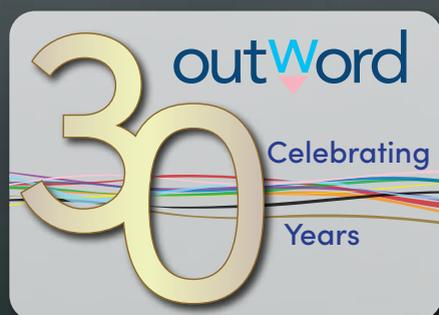
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# The New Right-Wing Bureaucracy Has Progressive Nonprofits In Their Crosshairs

by Truthout.org

With H.R. 9495 (the “nonprofit killer” bill) still in the pipeline, any organization could have its tax-exempt status revoked without due process, decided by a political appointee. Elsewhere, as agencies clamber to comply with new executive orders, the availability of federal funds for a wide range of nonprofits (from media to social services) is in question.

With the newly-minted “Department of Government Efficiency” taking the reins, the Bureau of Fiscal Service could face disruption, leaving long-lasting effects on the sector if organizations are forced to close or temporarily suspend operation due to lack of on-time payment.

At the same time, the need for nonprofit and independent journalism is growing. For-profit media is increasingly under corporate control, with news writers across the country juggling editorial independence with advertising and the interests of billionaire ownership. Organizations with the independence and ethics of Truthout are few and far between, and our number is shrinking still. [truthout.org/](http://truthout.org/)

The next four years will be a frightening time for independent journalism. As Truthout Editor-in-Chief Negin Owliaei put it recently, “We see the Trump era as a large-scale attack on the idea of a public commons.”

Right-wing think tanks are proposing targeted policy attacks on progressive nonprofits. With H.R. 9495 (the “nonprofit killer” bill) in the pipeline, any organization could be deemed “terrorist-supporting” and have its tax-exempt status revoked without due process. Trump himself has spoken against journalists who oppose him politically. And now, we see threats to federal aid and the Bureau of Fiscal Service – complex systems of payments, grants and loans that, if disrupted, could have long-lasting effects on nonprofit media.

At the same time, the need for independent journalism is growing. For-profit media is increasingly under corporate control, with news writers across the country juggling editorial independence with advertising. Organizations with the independence and progressive values of Truthout are few and far between, and our number is shrinking still.

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# Stonewall Monument's Transgender History Scrubbed by Trump Administration

by Zane McNeill, TRUTHOUT

The National Park Service recently erased references to queer and transgender people from the Stonewall National Monument website, sparking outrage among transgender activists.

The monument commemorates the historic New York City gay bar where LGBTQ activists – including transgender trailblazers Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera – waged an uprising that was a turning point for the modern LGBTQ rights movement. “The National Park Service has REMOVED mentions of transgender people being involved with Stonewall. Not only did the[y] remove the [word] ‘Transgender’ but changed ‘LGBTQ+’ to ‘LGBQ+’.” The federal government is attempting to erase us and take away our history,” transgender legislative researcher and activist Allison Chapman said on Bluesky. “This pride, we riot.” The Park service also later removed the word “queer” and the “Q+” from the web page.

The New York Times reported that the Park Service’s public affairs department said the website changes were made to comply with Donald Trump’s anti-trans executive order, aimed at “restoring biological truth to the federal government.” The department also referenced a second order issued last month by the acting Secretary of the Interior.

The erasure of trans history aligns with Trump’s anti-trans executive order, which requires the federal government to recognize only male and female as legal genders. Following this directive, agencies like the State Department, Centers for Disease Control, and Department of Veterans Affairs have reduced “LGBTQ+” to “LGB,” eliminated references to transgender, queer, and intersex people, and removed related web pages and datasets. In fact, according to the Center for American Progress, the Trump administration has taken down over 350 government web pages containing LGBTQ policies, information and resources.

“The Stonewall Inn and The Stonewall Inn Gives Back Initiative are outraged and appalled by the recent removal of the word ‘transgender’ from the Stonewall National Monument page on the National Park Service website,” the Stonewall Inn said in a statement. “This blatant act of erasure not only distorts the truth of our history, but it also dishonors the immense contributions of transgender individuals – especially transgender women of color – who were at the forefront of the Stonewall Riots and the broader fight for LGBTQ+ rights.”

Trans activists say that by stripping references to transgender and queer people from the Stonewall National Monument website, the Park Service is erasing a crucial part of the history it is meant to preserve.

“Trans women were some of the most influential activists behind the Stonewall movement and what followed. 3 articles of clothing laws were why raids happened,” transgender journalist and activist Erin Reed said on Bluesky.

The 1969 uprising at the Stonewall Inn was, in part, a response to police enforcement

of gendered dress codes. Although no law explicitly required Americans to wear at least three articles of clothing matching their assigned sex, queer historian Hugh Ryan notes that police frequently used various statutes – informally known in queer circles as the “three-article rule” – to criminalize and arrest people who defied gender norms. Transgender and gender-nonconforming people were frequent targets of these raids.

On June 28, 1969 some of the most relentlessly policed – transgender women, drag queens, and homeless LGBTQ youth – fought back, sparking a movement that became a defining moment in the fight for LGBTQ rights.

“Trans people threw the first brick at

“Let us be clear: Stonewall is transgender history,” the Stonewall Inn said in a response

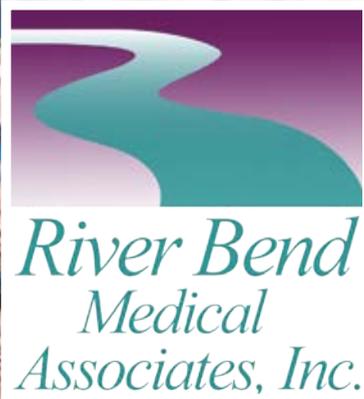
Stonewall,” LGBTQ program director for Media Matters, Ari Drennen, said on X. “Now, the Trump administration is trying to write us out of that history. We will not let them.”

Transgender activists emphasized how the Trump administration even went so far as to remove mentions of Sylvia Rivera’s advocacy for trans rights from the Stonewall National Monument website. The page now reads: “At a young age Sylvia began fighting for gay and rights.” Rivera was a drag queen, gay liberationist, and transgender rights activist who resisted arrest that night and later organized LGBTQ protests in response to the raid.

“Let us be clear: Stonewall is transgender history,” the Stonewall Inn said. “Marsha P. Johnson, Sylvia Rivera, and countless other trans and gender-nonconforming individuals fought bravely, and often at great personal risk, to push back against oppressive systems. Their courage, sacrifice, and leadership were central to the resistance we now celebrate as the foundation of the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement.”

In response to this anti-trans revisionism, over 1,000 protesters in New York City said “hell no!” to the erasure of transgender contributions to history. The protesters gathered on Friday at Christopher Park, which is across the street from the Stonewall Inn, and yelled “Stand up fight back!” and “No LGB without the T!”

Zane McNeill is a trending news writer at Truthout. They have a Master’s Degree in Political Science from Central European University and are currently enrolled in law school at the University of Denver Sturm College of Law. They can be found on Twitter: @zane\_crittheory.



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# RFK Jr. Will Bring Anti-LGBTQ+ Resume to His New Position resources: AP NEWS, HRC.org

**R**obert F. Kennedy Jr. has been confirmed as the 26th Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under President Donald Trump. The Senate confirmed his nomination on February 13, 2025, with a narrow 52-48 vote

Kennedy, known for his controversial views on vaccines, faced significant opposition during his confirmation process. In December 2024, over 75 Nobel Laureates urged the Senate to reject his nomination, expressing concerns that his appointment could jeopardize public health. Additionally, more than 17,000 doctors signed an open letter opposing his confirmation, citing his history of promoting vaccine misinformation.

Despite the controversy, Kennedy was sworn in on February 13, 2025, by Associate Justice Neil Gorsuch in the Oval Office. Immediately following his swearing-in, President Trump signed Executive Order 14211, establishing the "Make America Healthy Again" (MAHA) Commission, which Kennedy will chair. The commission aims to investigate the causes of chronic childhood diseases and assess the impact of various prescription medications, including antidepressants and stimulants.

Kennedy's confirmation has sparked debate, particularly due to his past statements on vaccines and pharmaceuticals. During his confirmation hearings, he claimed that antidepressants are as addictive as heroin, a statement that experts have refuted, emphasizing that antidepressants do not lead

to addiction.

**Kennedy Jr.'s Controversial Record also includes:**

Misinformation on AIDS, Anti-LGBTQ+ Claims, and Opposition to Trans Youth



Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

Healthcare

**AIDS Denialism:** Kennedy has repeatedly denied that HIV causes AIDS, falsely claiming that "phony, crooked studies" misled the public and that AIDS is "not a viral disease" but an "environmental" condition. These claims contradict decades of scientific research that have led to life-saving treatments for HIV/AIDS.

**Anti-LGBTQ+ Misinformation:** Kennedy has promoted the debunked notion that chemicals in the environment are responsible for youth identifying as LGBTQ+, stating that these substances are "inducing profound sexual changes" in children. His claims are based on questionable research conducted solely on frogs.

**Opposition to Trans Youth Healthcare:** During his failed presidential campaign, Kennedy opposed healthcare for transgender youth, asserting that care "should be deferred till adulthood." He also echoed common misinformation about gender-affirming care while ignoring the overwhelming support for such care from major medical associations.

As he assumes leadership of HHS, Kennedy's policies and initiatives are expected to influence various aspects of public health, including vaccination programs and pharmaceutical regulations. His tenure will likely be closely monitored by both supporters and critics.

## A4TE Condemns Robert F. Kennedy Jr. Confirmation as HHS Secretary

**T**he Senate confirmed Robert F. Kennedy Jr. (RFK Jr.) as United States Secretary of Health and Human Services (HHS). In response, Sinead Murano-Kinney, Health Policy Analyst at Advocates for Trans Equality, issued the following statement:

"By measures of expertise and character, Robert F. Kennedy Jr. is unfit and unqualified for this position. We look to the Secretary of HHS to protect the health and well-being of all. RFK Jr. has consistently proven he is incapable of grasping, let alone upholding, the principles of equity and scientific integrity. His disregard for scientific evidence and embrace of misinformation endanger vulnerable populations, including trans people, intersex people, people living with HIV, and low-income families relying on Medicaid.

"His rejection of scientific consensus threatens access to critical healthcare, from vaccines to transgender healthcare. Despite claims he would 'follow the science,' RFK Jr. has previously promoted conspiracy theories such as 5G misinformation, making xenophobic claims that COVID-19 was engineered to target certain populations, he's compared vaccination mandates to the Third Reich and the Holocaust, and demonstrates a fundamental misunderstanding of public health programs.

"His appointment is particularly alarming for trans and intersex Americans, as he is now responsible for enforcing some of

President Trump's most harmful executive orders targeting our communities. RFK Jr. has falsely described essential transition-related care as 'castration drugs,' ignoring decades of research confirming the safety and necessity of transition-related treatment in reducing suicidality and improving mental health. He has also made unsubstantiated claims that the existence of trans people is the result of chemical exposure from our drinking water, based entirely off a single study conducted on frogs.

"RFK Jr. has demonstrated that he will not be guided by scientific integrity or values of equity. Instead, he will be nothing more than a conspiratorial figurehead, a yes-man, enabling the worst impulses of a President with a clear agenda to remove trans people from participating in public life. His leadership signals a dangerous era where disinformation dictates policy, harming those most in need of care.

"We applaud the Senators who rejected this appointment and reaffirmed their commitment to equitable healthcare. We look forward to continuing our work with them to protect the health and dignity of trans people nationwide."

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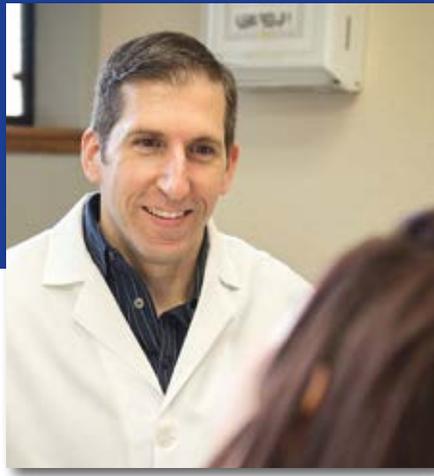
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## Self Identify As Of 2024

resources: Gallup.com, NPR

As of 2024, approximately 7.6% of U.S. adults identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, or another non-heterosexual orientation. This reflects a steady increase from previous years, with 7.1% in 2021 and 5.6% in 2020.

The rise in LGBTQ+ identification is particularly notable among younger generations. In 2024, about 22.3% of Generation Z adults (born 1997-2012) identified as LGBTQ+, compared to 9.8% of Millennials (born 1981-1996), 4.5% of Generation X (born 1965-1980), 2.3% of Baby Boomers (born 1946-1964), and 1.1% of the Silent Generation (born before 1946).

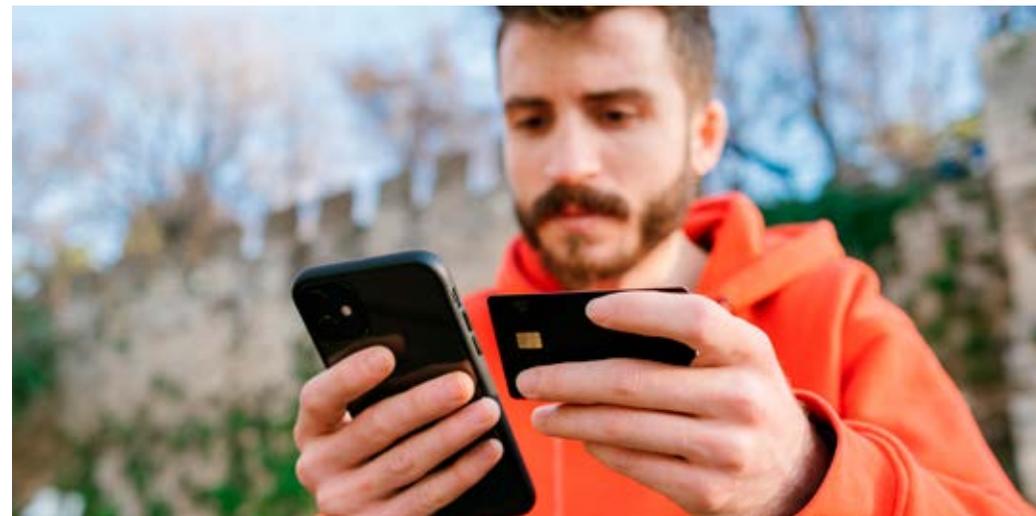
Among LGBTQ+ adults, bisexuality is the most common identification. In 2024, 57.3% of LGBTQ+ individuals identified as bisexual, 18.1% as gay, 15.1% as lesbian, 11.8% as transgender, and 4.2% as another LGBTQ+ identity, such as pansexual.

These trends suggest a growing acceptance and willingness among younger individuals to openly identify as LGBTQ+.

## LGBTQ+ Community Wields Significant Economic Influence

resources: Merrill Lynch, HRC

As of 2024, the LGBTQ+ community in the United States wields significant economic influence, with an estimated annual purchasing power of \$1.4 trillion.



This substantial figure underscores the community's importance in the consumer market. Notably, the representation of LGBTQ+ individuals is particularly pronounced among younger generations. Approximately 30% of Generation Z adults identify as LGBTQ+, reflecting a trend toward greater openness and self-identification.

This demographic shift suggests that the economic influence of the LGBTQ+ community is poised to grow even further in the coming years.

Globally, the LGBTQ+ market is projected to reach a remarkable \$3.7 trillion in 2024, highlighting the community's expansive economic footprint.

### Insights In Marketing

This global perspective emphasizes the importance for businesses to recognize and authentically engage with LGBTQ+ consumers.

The LGBTQ+ community's substantial and growing purchasing power, both in the U.S. and worldwide, presents a compelling opportunity for businesses to foster inclusive practices and marketing strategies that resonate with this influential demographic.



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# February 2025: Commitment of U.S. companies to DEI

resources: Reuters, Seramount, WSJ

As of February 2025, the commitment of U.S. companies to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives varies. A recent survey indicates that 80% of companies are maintaining their DEI efforts, with an additional 10% intensifying these initiatives. This leaves approximately 10% scaling back, primarily those that did not view DEI as a business imperative.

However, political and legal challenges have influenced some companies to reassess their DEI strategies. Notably, large corporations such as Alphabet and McDonald's have scaled back DEI efforts.

Conversely, companies like Apple and Costco continue to support DEI, citing business benefits such as innovation and employee motivation.

In the venture capital sector, firms like Ulu Ventures have demonstrated a strong commitment to DEI by raising significant funds to support diverse tech founders, even amid a broader corporate pullback on DEI programs.

Overall, while a majority of U.S. companies continue to support DEI initiatives, a notable minority are reducing their efforts due to external pressures.

As of February 2025, several U.S. companies continue to uphold their commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) initiatives, despite political and legal challenges. Here are twenty such companies:

**Barclays:** The CEO has reaffirmed the bank's unwavering commitment to diversity and inclusion, aiming to foster a meritocratic environment that nurtures diverse talent.

FinBiz News

**The Gap:** Hosting major fashion events, such as a recent collaboration with Harlem's Fashion Row, The Gap showcases collections by Black designers, emphasizing its support for underrepresented communities.

**Ulu Ventures:** This venture firm has raised significant funds to support diverse tech founders, maintaining its DEI focus amidst industry-wide pullbacks.

WSJ

**Costco:** Despite political scrutiny, Costco's shareholders have largely rejected anti-DEI proposals, indicating continued support for diversity initiatives.

Business Insider

**Delta Air Lines:** The airline emphasizes that DEI efforts are vital for its talent and business, reaffirming its commitment even as other companies scale back.

**Procter & Gamble:** The company defends its diversity policies amid political challenges, maintaining its DEI programs.

**Kroger:** Similarly, Kroger continues to support its DEI initiatives, standing firm against external pressures.

**Pinterest:** The platform has stood by its DEI outlook, implementing features like diverse skin tone searches to promote inclusivity.

**JPMorgan Chase:** Despite industry trends, JPMorgan Chase continues to support its DEI initiatives, recognizing their importance for innovation and customer satisfaction.

**Goldman Sachs:** The firm maintains its diversity policies, including services that connect clients with diverse board candidates, even after adjusting certain requirements.

**Apple:** Despite facing shareholder resolutions challenging DEI efforts, Apple continues to support diversity and inclusion within its corporate structure.

**Coca-Cola:** The company remains committed to its DEI programs, addressing challenges and maintaining initiatives aimed at fostering an inclusive workplace.

**IBM:** IBM continues to uphold its diversity and inclusion policies, despite facing external challenges and shareholder resolutions.

**Berkshire Hathaway:** The conglomerate maintains its DEI efforts, addressing shareholder concerns and promoting an inclusive corporate culture.

**Mastercard:** Facing shareholder resolutions, Mastercard continues to support its DEI initiatives, emphasizing the importance of diversity in its operations.

**PepsiCo:** Despite external pressures, PepsiCo maintains its commitment to diversity and inclusion, recognizing the value of DEI in its corporate strategy.

**American Express:** The company continues to uphold its DEI programs, promoting diversity and inclusion within its workforce.

**Disney:** While rebranding its DEI programs, Disney maintains its commitment to fostering an inclusive environment, adapting to external pressures while upholding core values.

These companies exemplify a steadfast dedication to DEI principles, recognizing the importance of fostering diverse and inclusive environments despite facing various challenges. *Should any of their status change because of the current political climate.*



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# Where's MY Country? A Look at the 50/50/1 Rally by *Tranh Pham (They/Them)*

America finds itself in yet another unprecedented moment in history. This time, our democracy teeters on the edge of a national crisis. On January 20, 2025, Donald J. Trump was inaugurated for a second term. The same president who mishandled the COVID-19 outbreak is once again shaping the course of our country. Barely two weeks into his presidency, the nation is already unraveling.

You don't have to be a constitutional scholar to see the chaos. Political turmoil at this scale hasn't been seen since Watergate. This time, however, the stakes are even higher. Billionaire Elon Musk poured over \$200 million into Trump's campaign and now holds an unofficial seat in government, heading the newly created Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). Federal agencies have been gutted, mass layoffs have hit government workers, and critical programs—especially those supporting working-class families, small businesses, students, and public safety—are being slashed. DEI initiatives, including LGBTQ+ protections, are vanishing as Project 2025 is fast-tracked into reality.

In search of community amid the chaos, I

found information about the 50/50/1 Protest: 50 protests in 50 states on a single day. Living in Sacramento, the site of California's state capitol, I knew I had to show up.

On Wednesday, February 5, at 11:30 AM, I arrived at the California State Capitol unsure of what to expect. I didn't know anyone attending, and I wasn't certain of my safety. But I knew that silence was not an option. As I walked toward the capitol, I spotted others heading in the same direction. One man, who had driven 45 minutes and skipped a snow day, walked beside me. By noon, over 1,000 people filled the capitol steps—families, students, workers, activists, nonprofit leaders, and even state employees. Protest signs filled the air as voices united in outrage and determination. I spoke with several protesters

about why they were there:

Beatrix (she/her/they): "I'm here to represent Trans Rights and have a voice for democracy. This country belongs to the people, not just those in power."

Nicole (she/her): "There aren't enough signs to express my outrage. I've never felt this helpless before, but I refuse to give up. Women are under attack, and I want to fight for their future, just as my mother fought for mine." A protester nearby chimed in, "And I fought for! I can't believe I have to do this again!"

Rhonda (she/her) of [sacpoderosa.org](http://sacpoderosa.org): "We're here as Chicanas to fight against discrimination and the destruction of our communities. This is about social justice and equity."

Margarita (she/her), local activist, emphasized the bigger picture: "We must push back, but not just to maintain the status quo. What are we envisioning? What kind of democracy do we want? Because even before this, many communities—people of color, LGBTQ folks, undocumented individuals—weren't fully protected." She concluded, "Let's be honest

about what we're organizing for and fight for real systemic change."

History is rhyming. The rights, laws, and protections that past generations fought for are being stripped away. We cannot afford to sit idly by. Margarita's words remind us that resistance alone is not enough—we must envision and build something better. Learning our full history, including Black History, Ethnic Studies, and the untold struggles of marginalized communities, is crucial to understanding what's at stake.

This moment calls for more than just protest—it demands action. Now is the time to vote harder, practice civic engagement, and use our collective voice. Democracy depends on participation.

Upcoming actions:

- Feb. 17 (Presidents' Day): Join the next protest and participate in a nationwide consumer blackout.
- Feb. 28: More details to be announced at [www.fiftyfifty.one](http://www.fiftyfifty.one).

We still have the right to assemble, to speak, to resist—but for how long? The time to act is now. This is what democracy looks like.







See Our Living LGBTQ+ Timeline on ISSUU  
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# Celebrating Black History Month: Honoring Legacy, Advancing Inclusion

by Samuel N. Jones, Chair

At the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber, we recognize that our strength comes from the rich diversity and intersectionality of our community. Every voice, experience, and perspective within our Chamber strengthens our mission to foster economic opportunities, advocate for equality, and build a thriving, inclusive business network.



As we celebrate Black History Month, we honor the legacy, achievements, and contributions of Black entrepreneurs, professionals, and leaders—both within our Chamber and beyond. Supporting Black-owned businesses and amplifying Black voices isn't just a one-month initiative; it's an ongoing commitment to equity, economic empowerment, and meaningful change.

At a time when DEI efforts are being challenged nationwide, we reaffirm our unwavering commitment to inclusive business practices. No matter the shifting political landscape, the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber remains a steadfast advocate for equity, representation, and economic prosperity for LGBTQ+ and allied business owners. Now, more than ever, we must hold firm to our values and actively support businesses that prioritize diversity and inclusion.

YOU can be part of this important work—attend our events, introduce new members, sponsor initiatives, or volunteer with us. Every effort, big or small, strengthens our Chamber and ensures we remain a powerful force for inclusive economic growth.

Be a part of the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber and together, we will continue to create opportunities, drive meaningful change, and keep inclusivity at the heart of everything we do.

Cheers to a promising new year.

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# Senator Wiener Responds: “We Will Protect These Kids and Their Families and Teachers.”

Senator Scott Wiener issued a strong response to President Trump’s recent executive orders, which target transgender youth, their families, and teachers.

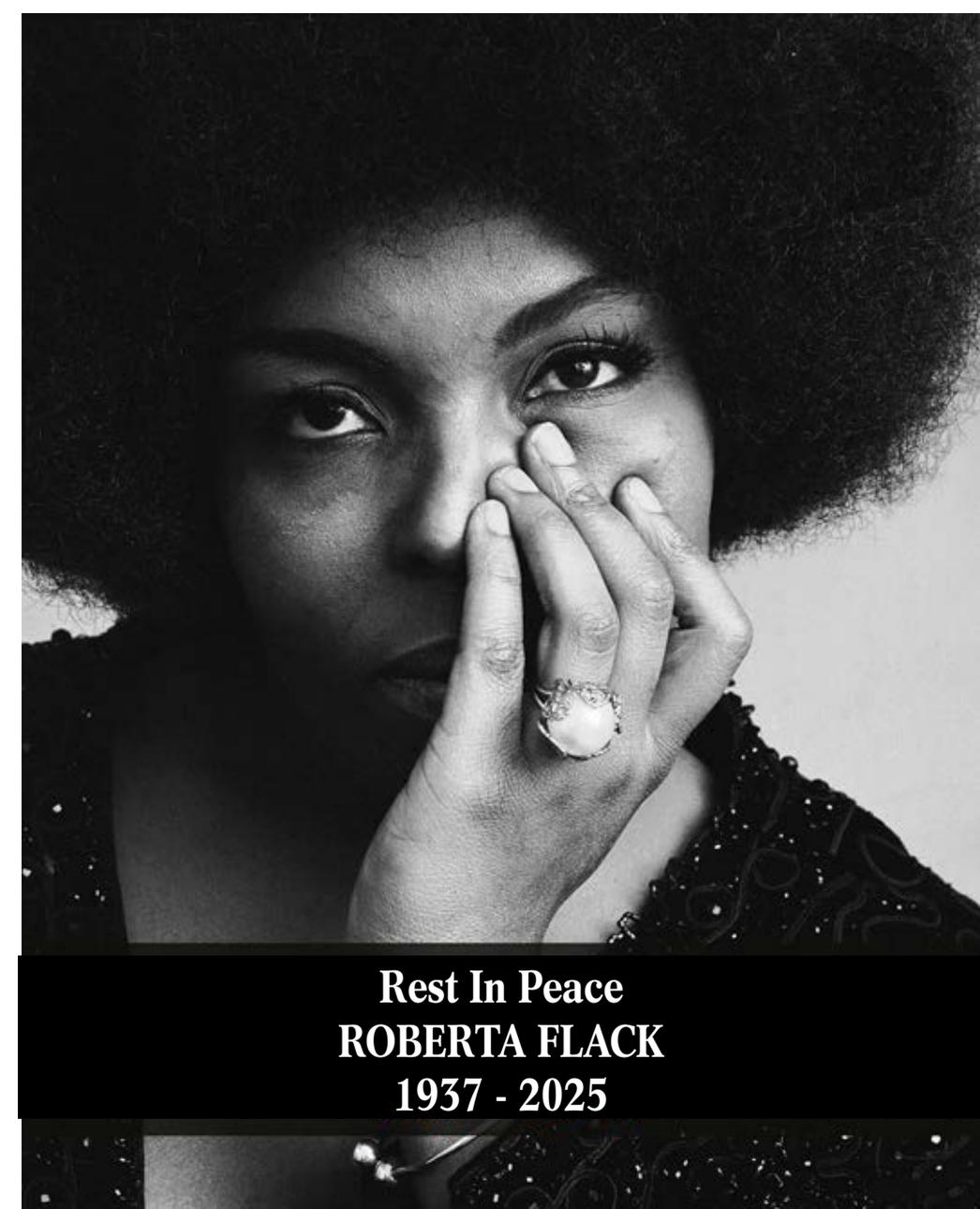
The orders direct the U.S. Department of Justice to criminally prosecute educators who affirm transgender and nonbinary students’ identities, such as by using their correct pronouns or allowing them to use facilities that match their gender identity.

condemned Trump’s actions, calling them cruel, illegal, and an attempt to scapegoat transgender youth to distract from his administration’s failures in addressing economic and immigration issues. He emphasized that California will

“No matter how many cruel, illegal attacks Trump launches to demonize, target, and threaten trans young people and their families and teachers, California will have their backs,”  
*- Senator Wiener*

They also attempt to restrict transgender youth’s access to necessary and potentially life-saving healthcare, even with parental support. Additionally, the orders seek to undermine California’s status as a sanctuary state for transgender youth, challenging protections established under SB 107, a law authored by Wiener in 2022. In his statement, Wiener strongly

continue to stand with transgender and nonbinary young people, their families, and their teachers, ensuring their rights and well-being are protected. He vowed to resist these federal measures using all available resources and reaffirmed the state’s commitment to safeguarding the dignity and safety of transgender individuals.



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# Bonta's Been Busy

source: California Attorney General Rob Bonta's press releases

## Attorney General Bonta Provides Guidance for Businesses on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility Initiatives in the Workplace

California Attorney General Rob Bonta, along with 15 other attorneys general, issued guidance to help businesses, nonprofits, and organizations understand the legality and importance of diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility (DEIA) initiatives in the workplace.

This response follows concerns raised by President Trump's executive order, which aims to challenge private-sector DEIA policies. The guidance asserts that DEIA initiatives remain legal and cannot be prohibited through executive order, emphasizing their benefits for businesses, employees, and economic growth.

Bonta highlights that civil rights laws such as the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Americans with Disabilities Act have strengthened the country by fostering fairness and inclusivity. He urges California businesses to ignore political scare tactics, reaffirming that diverse and inclusive workplaces drive innovation and economic success. The guidance clarifies that DEIA policies differ from unlawful hiring preferences, instead ensuring fair recruitment, hiring, and retention processes that support all employees and promote a sense of belonging.

The document stresses that courts have long upheld DEIA policies as lawful and necessary for compliance with anti-discrimination laws. Employers are legally required to evaluate their policies to prevent discrimination. Research supports that properly implemented DEIA initiatives help identify, report, and address workplace discrimination effectively.

Furthermore, the guidance underscores the business benefits of DEIA, citing studies showing that companies prioritizing diversity outperform

their peers financially, experience lower turnover, and attract top talent. It outlines best practices for recruitment and hiring, such as expanding applicant outreach, using panel interviews to reduce bias, and setting standardized evaluation criteria. Employers are also encouraged to ensure accessibility in hiring and provide reasonable accommodations.

For retention and professional development, the guidance recommends equal access to training and mentorship programs, the establishment of Employee Resource Groups, and workplace training on unconscious bias, inclusive leadership, and disability awareness. These efforts create supportive environments where employees feel valued and heard.

The guidance reaffirms that businesses committed to DEIA initiatives are not only legally compliant but also more successful and inclusive. Bonta's coalition, including attorneys general from multiple states, stands in support of businesses seeking to maintain fair and thriving workplaces.



## Attorney General Bonta Secures Preliminary Injunction Blocking DOGE's Access to Private Data

California Attorney General Rob Bonta announced that the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York has issued a preliminary injunction blocking the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE) from accessing Americans' private data maintained by the U.S. Treasury Department. This decision follows a lawsuit filed by Bonta and 19 other attorneys general challenging DOGE's attempt to access sensitive financial information, including bank accounts and Social Security numbers.

Bonta praised the ruling, emphasizing that it protects Californians and Americans from the Trump Administration's overreach. The injunction extends a temporary restraining order granted shortly after the lawsuit was filed, preventing DOGE from infiltrating Treasury Department payment systems pending further court proceedings.

The lawsuit was prompted by reports that Elon Musk and his associates at DOGE had gained unprecedented access to the U.S. Treasury's payment infrastructure, managed by the Bureau of the Fiscal Service (BFS). This system handles trillions of dollars in government payments, supporting essential services such as Social Security, Medicare,

veterans' benefits, federal employee salaries, and tax refunds. The attorneys general argue that DOGE's access poses a significant risk to these vital financial transactions.

The complaint asserts that the Trump Administration has no legal or constitutional authority to grant DOGE access to the BFS payment systems. The attorneys general contend that this move represents a dangerous politicization of federal financial infrastructure, endangering millions of Americans who rely on government benefits. The preliminary injunction ensures that DOGE remains barred from accessing Treasury systems while the case proceeds.

## Attorney General Bonta Sues Trump Administration, Challenging Elon Musk's Unconstitutional Exercise of Power

Bonta, alongside 13 other attorneys general, has filed a lawsuit against the Trump administration, challenging Elon Musk's alleged unconstitutional exercise of power. The lawsuit argues that Musk, an unelected and unconfirmed government figure, is unlawfully wielding authority as head of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), a position not created by Congress nor confirmed by the Senate. The coalition contends that Musk's actions violate the U.S. Constitution's Appointments Clause and seeks to halt his continued exercise of power immediately.

Bonta criticizes Musk's role, asserting that the President has unilaterally granted him authority without proper legal procedures. He describes Musk's influence over federal agencies as reckless and chaotic, undermining public trust and causing harm to vital government functions. Bonta likens Musk's approach to a "bull in a china shop," accusing him of disrupting crucial systems that affect the daily lives of Americans.

The lawsuit details Musk's alleged overreach, including interference in federal agencies, unauthorized access to sensitive data,

and significant disruptions to state and local governments. The attorneys general argue that Musk's actions have jeopardized billions of dollars in federal funding for essential services like law enforcement, healthcare, and education, directly harming states such as California.

By filing this lawsuit, Bonta and his fellow attorneys general aim to restore constitutional order and prevent further unauthorized government interference.

The coalition includes attorneys general from New Mexico, Arizona, Michigan, Connecticut, Hawaii, Maryland, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, and Washington.

## Attorney General Bonta: California Remains Unwavering in Our Commitment to Protecting Gender-Affirming Care

Bonta, along with 17 other attorneys general, has filed an amicus brief supporting plaintiffs in PFLAG v. Trump, challenging the Trump Administration's Executive Orders 14168 and 14187. These orders attempt to strip federal funding from institutions providing gender-affirming care for transgender youth under 19 and label gender identity as a "false" concept. The attorneys general argue that these actions are discriminatory and urge the court to grant a preliminary injunction to block their enforcement.

Bonta emphasizes that healthcare decisions, including gender-affirming care, should be made by patients, families, and doctors without political interference. He reaffirms California's commitment to protecting transgender rights and condemns the administration's efforts as unlawful and harmful. The amicus brief highlights that several states, including California, have enacted laws prohibiting discrimination based on gender identity, such as the Unruh Civil Rights Act and other civil rights protections.

The attorneys general cite extensive medical evidence supporting gender-affirming care as essential for transgender individuals' well-being. Research from the University of Washington shows that transgender youth receiving this care experience significantly lower rates of depression (60% lower odds) and

suicidal thoughts (73% lower odds). Denying access to gender-affirming care, they argue, has devastating physical and mental health consequences.

The brief also describes the chaos and fear caused by the executive orders, with providers halting care and transgender youth experiencing increased distress. The Trevor Project reported a 700% spike in crisis service access since the election and a 46% increase in demand after Inauguration Day.

Despite California maintaining access to gender-affirming care, Bonta and his coalition stress the broader national impact. They reaffirm that federal courts have blocked funding cuts to gender-affirming care providers and that no federal law criminalizes such care. The brief is co-led by attorneys general from California, Massachusetts, and Maryland, along with officials from 15 other states.

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# Exploring Legacy: Must-See Black History Month Art And Culture In Sacramento

by Ozola Cody

Founded by visual artist and community leader Shonna McDaniels, the Sojourner Truth African Heritage Museum is a cultural jewel housed in Sacramento's Florin Square, a historic hub and marketplace designed around Pan-Africanism.

Guided by the Ghanaian principle of "Sankofa" – meaning to "go back and fetch it" – the museum encourages visitors to delve into the past to better understand the present.

"We have to go back and fetch what was lost. It's important for everyone to know about the contributions that Africans have made to the world. Most people do not know the truth," McDaniels said.

McDaniels' journey to become an art activist began in childhood. "My parents believed having a strong sense of identity was essential. Our home was filled with Black art," said McDaniels, who grew up in Sacramento. "I attended Shule Jumamosa [an African-centred school] in Oak Park in 1971, where we learned Swahili, celebrated Kwanzaa and practiced African dance."

## A Journey Through History

Walking into the museum feels like stepping into a living timeline. It features installations that spark conversation. One standout is the "Golden Milk Project," designed by McDaniels herself. This installation confronts the historical practice of enslaved African women being forced to breastfeed the children of their enslavers.

"There's a strong connection formed when a mother breastfeeds her baby – recognizing the mother's face, feeling nurtured and taking in all the benefits of the milk," McDaniels said.

"But these women's own children were neglected, as they were denied the same nurturing from their mothers."

This installation is one of many exhibits at the museum that offers a powerful and unique portrayal of the Black experience – and youth docents are often onsite to provide their insights into the space.

Youth docent and Sacramento City College student Myana Myrica often begins her tours by encouraging visitors to breathe in preparation for the heavy emotions the museum may evoke. "Breathing and being in the space with each other allows us to feel connected and know we're not alone," she said.

The museum's visual journey begins in ancient Africa, with statues depicting ancestors, animals and deities, symbolizing humanity's origins. Some art installations also challenge current narratives of the transatlantic slave trade, such as Lee McCormick's mixed-media piece portraying the harrowing journey of enslaved Africans, a haunting reminder that Africans in the Americas were stolen and did not immigrate here merely as workers.

## Why It Matters

Despite the cultural and historical

significance of the SOJO Museum – the only of its kind in Sacramento that focuses on Black history and art – increased patronization could help its longevity, according to McDaniels.

"We need everyone involved to ensure the museum is being supported. Currently, we do not have it," McDaniels said. "We're the only museum of this nature training children as docents. Now, our efforts are being duplicated around the world."

"As we enter a time when accessing information about diverse people or thoughts is being challenged, exposure to art and literature becomes even more critical," artist Daphne Burgess, whose work "Snappin' Beans" is displayed at the museum, said. "Spaces like the Sojourner Truth African Heritage Museum is essential, and Black History Month is the perfect time to support them."

Sojourner Truth African Heritage Museum is open to the public Thursday through Saturday from 12:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## Art Beyond The Museum

For those seeking even more artistic engagement this Black History Month, Sacramento offers

two other significant events:

"Fences" by August Wilson will be playing at Celebration Arts from Feb. 14 to March 2. This powerful play explores the complex dynamics of race, family and dreams deferred. Known for its gripping storytelling, Fences is a must-see for those who appreciate theatre's role in social commentary.

"Urban Abstractions: A Solo Exhibition" by Gerald "GOS" Simpson is showing now through March 3 at Arthouse on R Gallery & Studios. Simpson's work blends vibrant colors and abstract forms to explore urban life.

Arthouse on R Gallery & Studios is open Monday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

*This story was funded by the City of Sacramento's Arts and Creative Economy Journalism Grant to Solving Sacramento. Following our journalism code of ethics and protocols, the city had no editorial influence over this story and no city official reviewed this story before it was published. Our partners include California Groundbreakers, Capital Public Radio, Outword, Russian America Media, Sacramento Business Journal, Sacramento News & Review, Sacramento Observer and Univision 19. Sign up for our "Sac Art Pulse" [newsletter here](#).*



Youth docent and Sacramento City College student Myana Myrica in the Sojourner Truth African Heritage Museum. (Photo by Diane Mitchell)



Art used for the promotion of "Fences" now playing at Celebration Arts. (Photo by Diane Mitchell)



**S**acramento, February 22, 2025: A participant with a rainbow Mexican flag marches down H Street past City Hall. The march was the culmination of the Pro-Immigrant Rally that was organized by Nor-Cal Resist. It drew hundreds of people to César Chávez park, with a full program that included speakers, Native American drummers, Aztec Dancers and the Estrella de Oro band.

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# Oscars 2025: Pro-Trans & Anti-Trump

by Chris Narloch

With 13 Oscar nominations, the most ever for a non-English language film, the trans-friendly Netflix movie “Emilia Perez” sent this year’s Oscar race into high gear.

“Emilia Perez” was expected to do well, but the two nominations “The Apprentice” received came as a surprise to many Oscar watchers, who were happy to see Sebastian Stan and Jeremy Strong get recognized for their stellar work playing Donald Trump and Roy Cohn in a controversial biopic that bravely (and accurately) depicted both men as rotten to the core.

I also applaud the Academy voters for their fearlessness in showing love to a movie that embraces the trans experience, despite the controversies surrounding “Emilia Perez” and its lead actress (which you can read about online). Whatever you think of Karla Sofia Gascon, the actress deserved the nomination she received for her superb performance as a drug kingpin turned trans woman in that film.



The Apprentice

Gascon will likely not win the Best Actress Oscar this year, however, because comeback queen Demi Moore is heavily favored to bring home the gold for her gutsy turn as a washed-up actress in “The Substance.” I will be more than okay with that, and I would also not mind if Mikey Madison snuck in and won that category for her wild and wonderful work in “Anora.”

Depending on when you read this, the Oscars may have already been handed out, but I am hoping that Timothee Chalamet swoops in and steals the Best Actor Oscar from the favored-to-win Adrien Brody, who already has an Oscar on his shelf. I didn’t much care for “The Brutalist” (Brody’s film), but I was blown away by Chalamet’s commitment in transforming himself into Bob Dylan for the terrific biopic, “A Complete Unknown.”

The supporting acting Oscars are a lock this year, so expect Kieran Culkin and Zoe Saldana to beat out the competition for their stellar work in “A Real Pain” and “Emilia Perez,” respectively.

As for Best Picture, that category holds the most suspense at this year’s Oscars, and half of the ten nominees have a shot at winning. I’m pulling for “Wicked” because it was my favorite film from 2024, but I know that it probably won’t win. That leaves “Emilia Perez” and “Conclave” to battle it out, with “Anora,” “A Complete Unknown,” and “The Brutalist” as potential spoilers.



Emilia Perez

The real winners are moviegoers because there were so many terrific films released last year. Tune in to the 97th Oscars telecast on Sunday, March 2, at 4:00 PT on ABC. Conan O’Brien hosts this year, and it was recently announced that Cynthia Erivo and Ariana Grande will perform live.

For a complete list of this year’s nominees, go to: [www.oscars.org](http://www.oscars.org)

# 60 Years of the Mustang

To celebrate the Ford Mustang’s 60th Anniversary, Sacramento’s CA Auto Museum has created “Wild Horses: 60 Years of Mustang,” an exhibit to honor one of the most iconic of all American automobiles.

Special Mustangs currently on display include the original ‘65 Fastback, models that highlight the evolution of Mustang’s performance lines, from the ‘60s and ‘70s Mach 1 and Boss models to the modern GT, Shelby Cobra, and Dark Horse models, as well as Mustangs that held cultural significance, such as the models made for the CHP and Indy pace cars.

The exhibit features a comprehensive history of the Mustang from when it first hit the roads in 1964 to the current era of Mustangs today, and it includes important names in Mustang history like Saleen, Shelby, and Iacocca. In addition, there are interactive experiences and digital displays showcasing the iconic image of the Ford Mustang in American media over the decades.

“Wild Horses: 60 Years of Mustang” will be on exhibit for most or all of 2025 at the CA Automobile Museum, on Front Street in Sacramento. For more information, go to: [www.calautomuseum.org](http://www.calautomuseum.org)



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# The Return of Bridget Jones Plus, Three New Horror Films

by Chris Narloch

I wasn't in the mood for another Marvel movie at the moment, so I don't have a review of "Captain America: Brave New World" for you, but I found three new scary shows and a funny rom com that you can enjoy – after you get caught up on new episodes of "The White Lotus" and "The Traitors."



## Heart Eyes

Mason Gooding, the handsome son of Cuba Gooding Jr., is emerging as a popular "scream king," after starring in two "Scream" films in recent years. Gooding Jr. is a sexy guy, and he has a laidback quality that I appreciate. Here he costars in yet another slasher flick, with the very pretty Olivia Holt, as the intended target of the Heart Eyes Killer, who stalks and murders romantic couples every Valentine's Day. While not a classic, the movie gets the job done thanks to a surprisingly entertaining script that is a mash-up of rom-com and horror movie. The identity of the killers is disappointing and partly predictable, but overall, I enjoyed "Heart Eyes," which is currently in wide theatrical release.



## The Monkey

Horrormeister Osgood Perkins, the director of last year's "Longlegs," returns with another over-hyped hit that gives Megyn a run for her money. This time the killer toy is a wind-up monkey in need of some dental work who beats on a drum, and then people die. Whereas Megyn personally kicked butt in her movie, the monkey just sends out bad vibes that cause people to expire in horrible ways. Several of those kill scenes are gruesome good fun, including death by bees and a wild, Benihana-like decapitation that had this critic laughing his head off. Unfortunately, "The Monkey" is not as creepy as "Longlegs," which benefitted from Nicolas Cage's batshit-crazy portrayal of the Devil. Osgood's new movie has a so-so Theo James in a dual role as the brothers who discover the monkey. Balancing horror and comedy is tricky, and I don't think Perkins got the recipe quite right in this movie, which is currently in wide theatrical release.



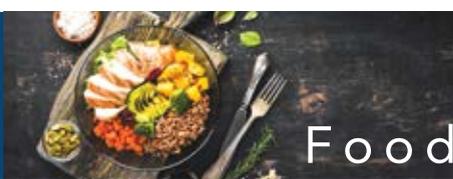
## Companion

With AI on the horizon and robots ready to take over our lives, this genre-bending combination of horror, sci-fi and dark comedy is perfectly timed. Jack Quaid (the son of Dennis Quaid and Meg Ryan) costars with Sophie Thatcher as a jerky guy and his female robot companion, who is programmed to love him unconditionally and take care of all his needs. If you've ever seen an episode of "Westworld," you know that scenario is unlikely to go off without a hitch, and true to form Quaid's fem-bot wants revenge after his character tries to shut her down. Thatcher is perfect as the title character, who is equal parts scary and sympathetic, and the movie kept me guessing until the end. "Companion" was still in wide theatrical release as we went to press.



## Bridget Jones: Mad About the Boy

The 55-year-old and still-adorable Renee Zellweger returns for what sounds like the last time in this fourth installment of the popular franchise about a British woman and her struggles with aging, her weight, work, and men (not necessarily in that order). If this is indeed the final movie, "Mad About the Boy" is a good way to go out since – despite a few inane scenes – the film has a lot going for it: Zellweger, of course, plus a hilarious performance from Hugh Grant, two adorable child actors, and two potential love interests for Bridget. Will she choose the beautiful boytoy played by Leo Woodall or the older guy who teaches at her child's school (handsome Chiwetel Ejiofor)? You'll just have to stream the movie on Peacock and see for yourself.



# “Tina – The Tina Turner Musical” Arrives in Sacramento

Black History Month is technically over on March 1st, but here at Outword, we celebrate Black History (and Queer History and Women’s History) all year long.



The late, great Tina Turner made music history, and she is often regarded as the Queen of Rock ‘n’ Roll, a distinction that is celebrated in a spectacular new Broadway musical about her life, appropriately titled “Tina.”

An uplifting comeback story like no other, “Tina – The Tina Turner Musical” traces the inspiring musical journey of a woman who broke barriers and survived domestic abuse and discrimination to become a legendary live performer and recording artist.

Set to the pulse-pounding soundtrack of her biggest hits, this electrifying musical was written by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Katori Hall, and it performs this March 4–8 at Sacramento’s SAFE Credit Union Performing Arts Center.

For more information, please visit: [www.broadwaysacramento.com](http://www.broadwaysacramento.com)

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# Activating Taste Buds (ATB) submitted by Fred Palmer

Palm Springs is such a favorite place to visit and also has tons of amazing food options, but a trip to Palm Springs is never complete without a visit to Sherman's Deli & Bakery. Sherman's features huge New York style deli sandwich platters like hot pastrami, rare roast beef piled high and called the Beef Eaters Delight ( \$20.95), but my favorite go-to is either the 1/2 pound Patty Melt on rye bread with grilled onions ( \$21.95) or the Nosh Platter with Nova lox, sliced cucumber, tomato, and toasted Bagels! (\$21.95) So, on your next trip to Palm Springs be sure to check out this local favorite. 401 Tahquitz Canyon Palm Springs, CA 92262 • <https://shermansdeli.com>



Patty Melt on Rye



Nosh Platter



## OUTWORD DINE WITH PRIDE



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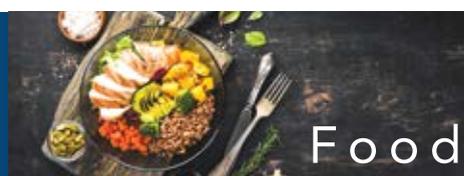
PHOTO & REVIEW OF MENU ITEMS  
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LISTING IN OUR BUSINESS DIRECTORY  
SOCIAL POST WITH RESTAURANT INFORMATION  
SEE EXAMPLE IN CURRENT ISSUE

### Why Advertise with us?

For 30 years, Outword Magazine has been a trusted voice in the LGBTQ+ community, fostering a loyal and engaged readership. Available in both print and online, it celebrates diversity and inclusion through its content and active involvement in local events and initiatives. Widely distributed, the magazine ensures visibility and accessibility across the region and beyond, serving as a go-to resource for community events, advocacy, and local businesses. A recent survey of readers highlights their active lifestyle, revealing they dine out an average of 12 times a month.

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# Out & About

with Matthew Burlingame

The winter chill may still be lingering, but don't let the cold keep you from experiencing the exciting events happening around town this month. From lively festivals to thought-provoking talks, there's something for everyone to enjoy! As we navigate the final stretch of winter, it's also a perfect time to recognize Women's Health Month. It is crucial for us to prioritize well-being, advocate for access to care and support the incredible women in our LGBTQ community.

## Feb 28

The Business & Community Excellence Awards Expo returns Friday, Feb. 28, 2025, at Hilton Arden West, 2200 Harvard St. The free expo runs from 10-11:30 a.m., followed by the awards luncheon from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Celebrate leaders advancing LGBTQ+ inclusion, diversity, and equity while networking with changemakers and industry professionals. Sponsorships and tickets available!

## Mar 2

Harris Center is on fire with hot shows this month! Step into the minds of history's most notorious killers with Dr. Scott Bonn on Sunday, March 2, at 7:30 p.m. at the Harris Center, 10 College Pkwy. in Folsom. This chilling 90-minute event delves into the psychology of serial killers like Ted Bundy and Jeffrey Dahmer, revealing their dark motivations and deadly secrets. Harriscenter.net

## Mar 6

Join the fun at Rainbow Chamber Drag Queen Bingo, on Thursday, March 6 from 7-9 p.m. 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. Don't miss this exciting and charitable event! Proceeds will go to Women's Empowerment. Rainbowchamber.com

## March 7

"Pretty Woman: The Musical" brings Hollywood romance to the stage March 7-9 at the Harris Center for the Arts, 10 College Pkwy. in Folsom. Featuring Roy Orbison's "Oh, Pretty Woman," the show boasts a Tony-winning creative team, Grammy-winning score, and a dazzling love story. Don't miss this unforgettable theatrical experience! Harriscenter.net

## March 8

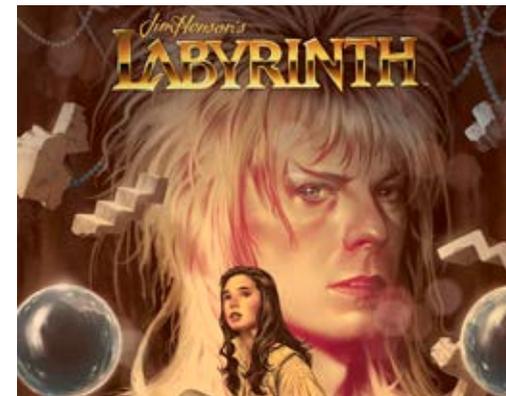
Raise a glass to 15 years of Capitol Beer Fest on Saturday, March 8, 2025, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Capitol Mall in Sacramento. Enjoy four hours of top-tier craft beer, delicious food trucks, and live music at this beloved event. Don't miss out on one of the region's premier beer festivals! Capitolbeerfest.com



"Pretty Woman: The Musical" will be at the Harris Center for the Arts. Jack Rasmussen and Eva Gary Photo by Matthew Murphy.

## March 14

McGillicuddy Productions presents an LGBTQ+ stand-up comedy show on Friday, March 14, at 9 p.m. at the Sacramento Comedy Spot, 1930 J St. Hosted by Maryam Moosavi, the lineup features Thelonious Johnson, Melissa McGillicuddy, and Emma Haney. Don't miss a night of laughter with top comics from Sacramento and the Bay Area! Saccomedyspot.com



## Mar 25

Jim Henson's Labyrinth: In Concert comes to the Crest Theatre in Sacramento on Tuesday, March 25, at 7 p.m. Fans of all ages can watch the iconic 1986 film while a live band performs the movie's soundtrack in sync with David Bowie's original vocals. Get your tickets early so you don't miss this unique event at the Crest Theatre, 1013 K St. Crestsacramento.com

## Apr 12

Grab your leash and join Doggy Dash on Saturday, April 12, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at William Land Park, 3800 W. Land Park Dr. Walk, stay, and play while supporting the Sacramento SPCA's lifesaving work for over 40,000 animals each year. Sign up solo or with a team—help reach the \$222,500 goal! SSPCA.org



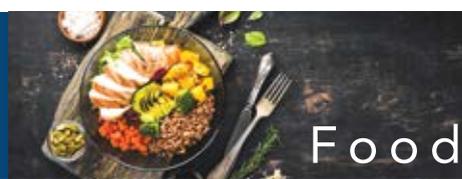
Do you have events, birthdays, or announcements to share? Feel free to send them to matthewburlingame@gmail.com.

## Mar 9

Legendary hitmaker John Oates brings his timeless sound to the Crest Theatre, 1013 K St. in Sacramento, on Sunday, March 9, at 7 p.m. (doors at 6 p.m.). As one half of Hall & Oates and a Rock and Roll Hall of Famer, Oates delivers an electrifying night of classic hits, soulful storytelling, and musical magic!

Can't get enough Drag Queen Bingo? Sacramento's original DQB returns for a dazzling, and special Sunday Funday on March 9. from 2-5 p.m. at Mango's, 1930 K St. Doors open at 1 p.m. Enjoy brunch, laughter, and fierce entertainment hosted by fabulous drag queens—all for a great cause! Proceeds benefit the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce and Rainbow Chamber Foundation. Rainbowchamber.com





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## Shake Up Your Weekends with 52 Cocktails: A Chic Recipe Deck to Savor the Perfect Sip

Looking for the perfect way to unwind after a long week? 52 Cocktails to Welcome the Weekend is here to transform your happy hour with a chic and versatile deck of recipe cards that celebrates the art of mixology. Whether you're savoring a classic Hot Buttered Rum or discovering the vibrant Clementine Wallbanger, these beautifully crafted cards provide step-by-step instructions to help you mix exceptional cocktails for any occasion.

Housed in an elegantly designed box with intricate details and gold foil accents, this cocktail deck is as stunning as it is practical. Each card features detailed recipes, recommended glassware, and garnish suggestions, making it an essential tool for both budding and seasoned cocktail enthusiasts. With a diverse selection of drinks and thoughtful design, this set is the ultimate companion for anyone who loves to mix, sip, and share.

### What's Inside 52 Cocktails to Welcome the Weekend:

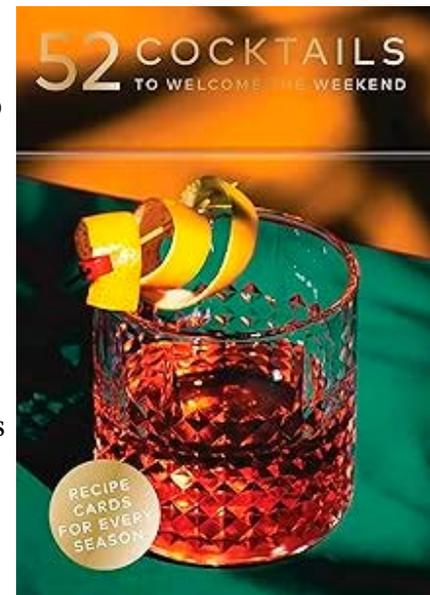
**Expert Mixology Tips** – Master insider tricks like salting a rim to perfection or finding creative ways to use that leftover bottle of Galliano.

**Seasonal Selections** – From cozy winter warmers to refreshing summer coolers, discover cocktails tailored for every time of year.

**A Gift to Impress** – Whether paired with a stylish martini shaker or wrapped as a standalone surprise, this elegant deck makes a memorable present for birthdays, holidays, or any toast-worthy occasion.

**Stunning Display** – Designed to stand out on any bar cart or kitchen counter, the artful packaging adds a touch of sophistication to your entertaining space.

Whether you're hosting a cozy night in or shaking things up with friends, this recipe deck has everything you need to celebrate the weekend—one sip at a time.



# Upcoming events. 2025

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Next Theme Issue: *Traveling*

Artwork deadline: **March 3**

Street date: **March 13**



Fred Palmer - Office: 916-329-9280 - Fred@OutwordMagazine.com

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FEB

28

### BUSINESS & COMMUNITY EXCELLENCE AWARDS & EXPO

The Sacramento Rainbow Chamber Annual awards luncheon & FREE Expo . 10am - 1pm. For more information visit [www.RainbowChamber.com](http://www.RainbowChamber.com)

MAR

01

### PRIMETIMERS

Gay Men's Potluck @The Center. 1:30 - 3:30. For more information on PrimeTimers and the upcoming events, you can visit [chapters.theprimetimersww.com/sacramento/](http://chapters.theprimetimersww.com/sacramento/)

MAR

04

### BROADWAY SACRAMENTO - TINA

TINA – THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL the triumphant story of the Queen of Rock and Roll set to the pulse-pounding soundtrack of her most beloved hits! Ticket and more info on this show can be found at [BroadwaySacramento.com](http://BroadwaySacramento.com)



MAR

07

### HARRIS CENTER - PRETTY WOMAN

PRETTY WOMAN: THE MUSICAL, based on one of Hollywood's most beloved romantic stories of all time, springs to life with a powerhouse creative team led by two-time Tony Award-winning director and choreographer Jerry Mitchell (Hairspray, Kinky Boots, Legally Blonde) More information can be found at [HarrisCenter.net](http://HarrisCenter.net)

# PRIDE

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June 14-15

## Elk Grove

June 21

## San Francisco

June 28-29



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THE DEPOT  
2001 K St., Sac, 916-441-6823 TheDepot.net

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CrockerArt.org

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BroadwaySacramento.com

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HarrisCenter.net

MONDAVI CENTER  
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mondaviarts.org

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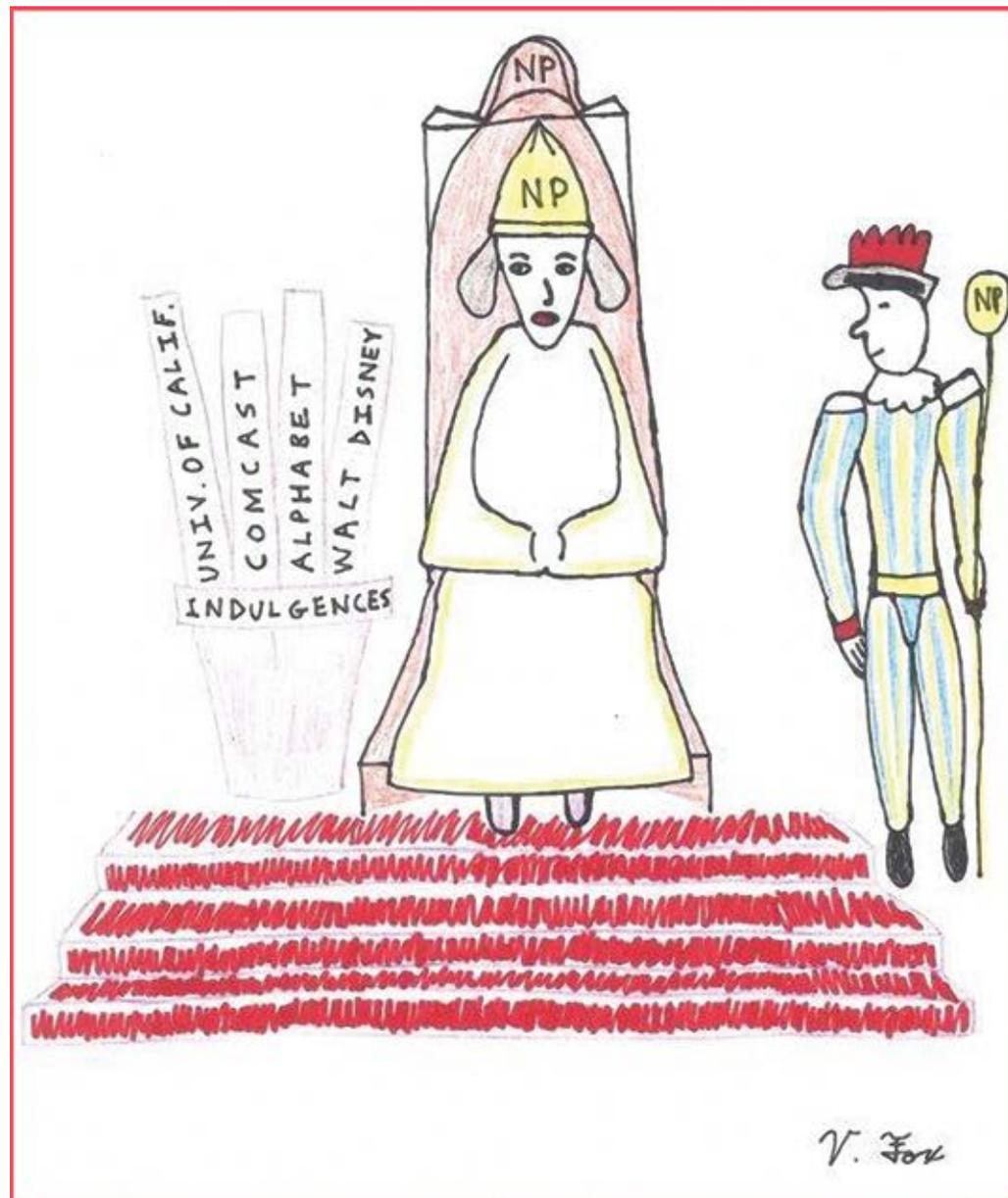
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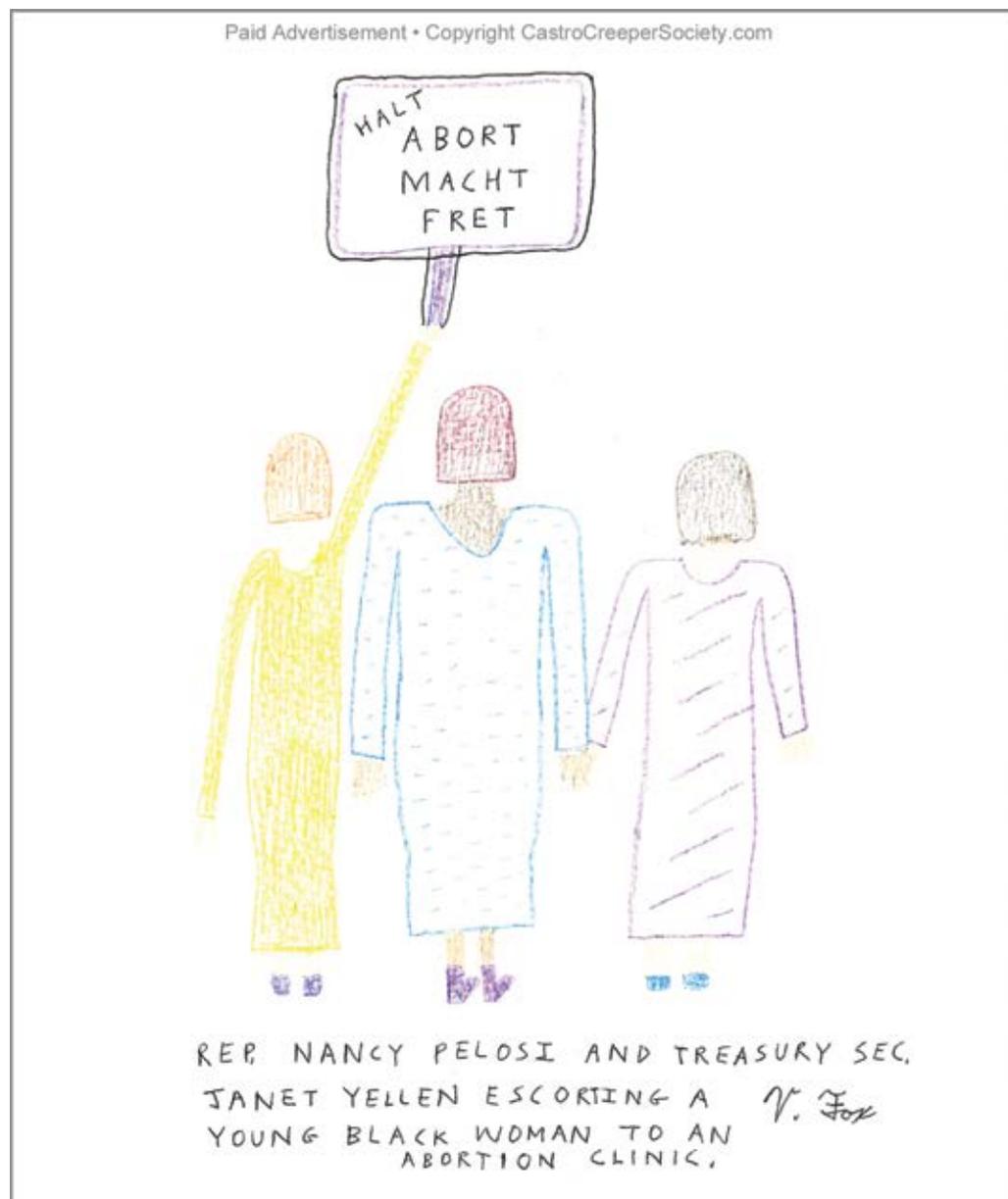
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All details can be found on our website, Facebook, or Meetup.com

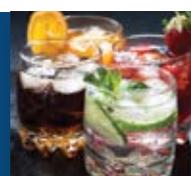
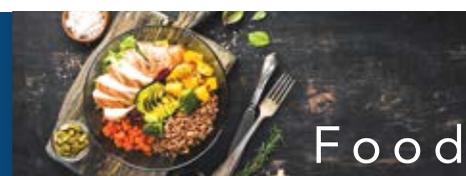
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# Question On The Street- From Happy Hour 2/14 photos by Julie Ebe

## Question: Cats or Dogs?



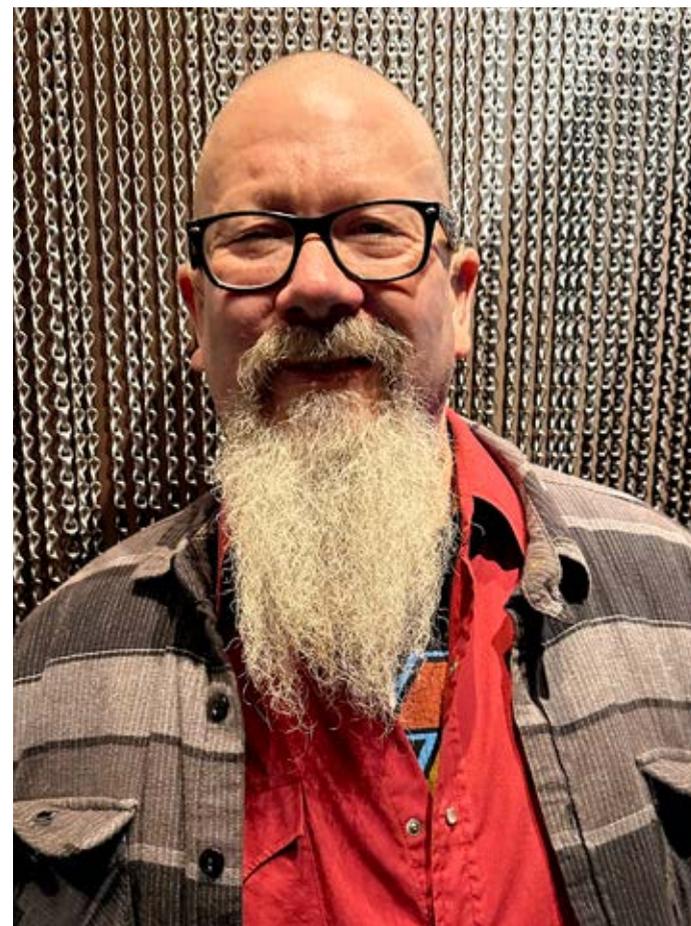
**Dogs- Because dogs give a shit about you. Cats could care less.**  
-Jody P.



**Cats- Because who needs an alarm when a cat just jumps in your face.**  
-Gregory S.



**Cats- No one expects anything from them. And I don't expect anything from them. That's why I am going to comeback as a cat!** -Sara H.



**Dogs- Because cats love you and leave you.**  
-Joe G.



**Dogs- Cats are just crazy!**  
-Hans H.



**Dogs- Because of the unconditional love**  
-Mario G.



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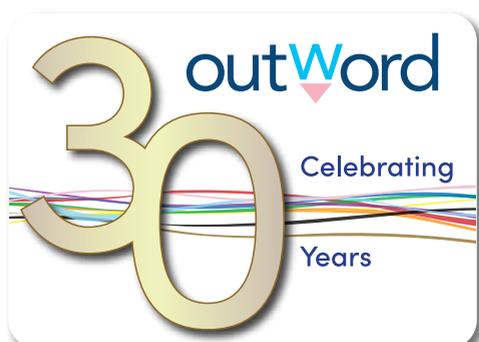
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# Mememes from Facebook



BTC

Imagine your reaction if you were told a decade ago that in 2025 **Mitch McConnell** would be the only **Senate Republican** willing to stand up to a **Putinist takeover** of the **US intelligence agencies**



Aaron Rupar



Middle Age Riot   
@middleageriot

SHOWN: That face you make when you spend the better part of five decades destroying government institutions and creating a corrupt power base only to have a spray-tanned moron swoop in and steal it.



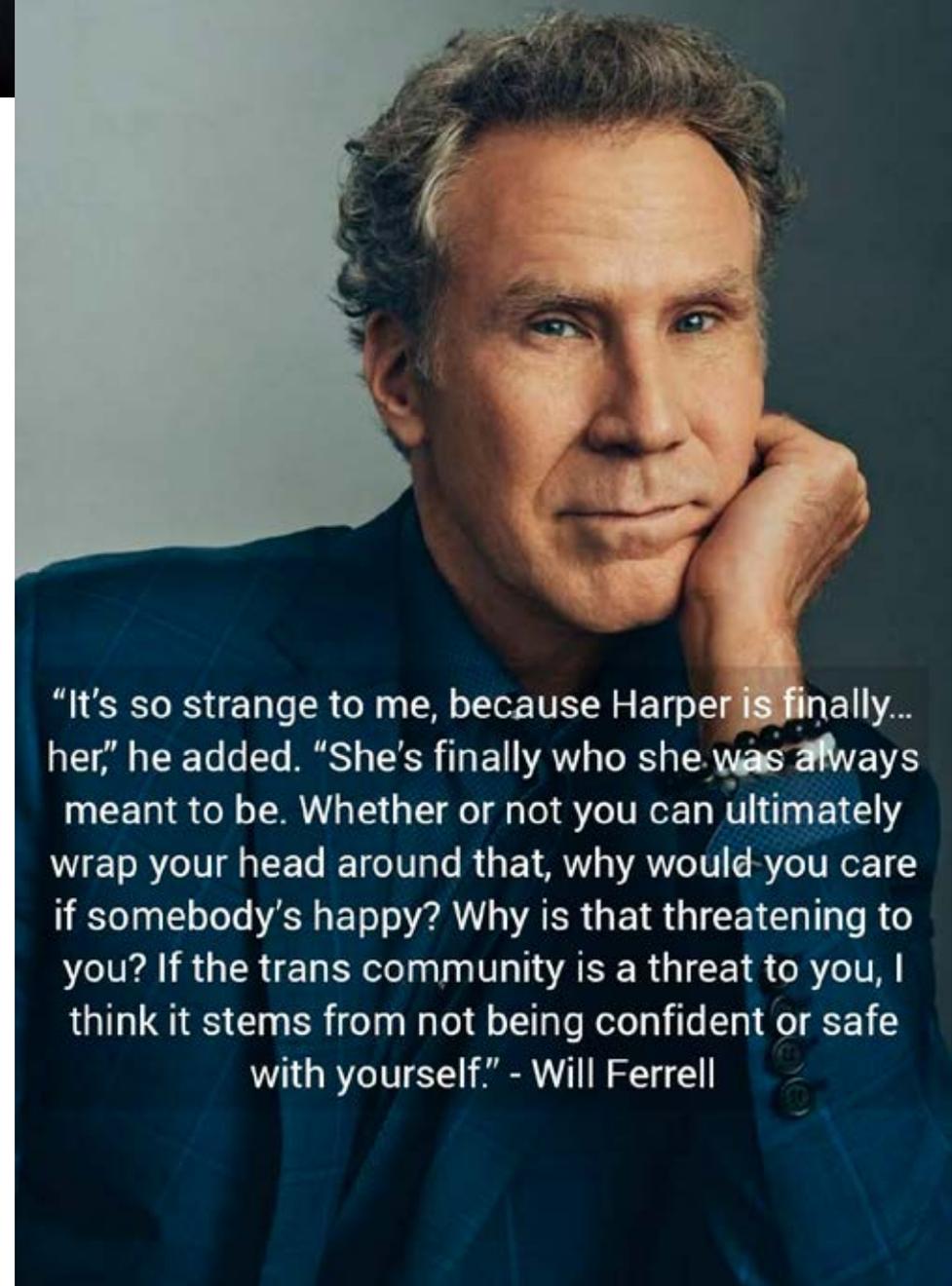
what's trending

"And make no mistake, empathy is not weak or woke. By the way, **woke just means you give a damn about other people.**"

-JANE FONDA  
Via Netflix

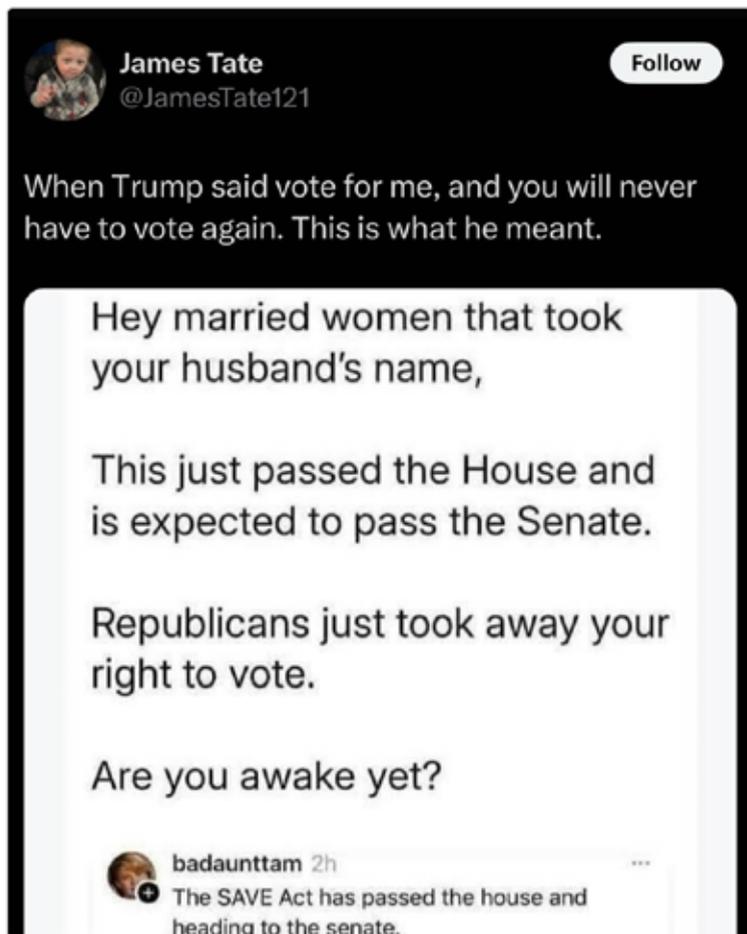


THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER



"It's so strange to me, because Harper is finally... her," he added. "She's finally who she was always meant to be. Whether or not you can ultimately wrap your head around that, why would you care if somebody's happy? Why is that threatening to you? If the trans community is a threat to you, I think it stems from not being confident or safe with yourself." - Will Ferrell

# Mememes from Facebook



## LGBTQ+ MENTAL HEALTH RESOURCES

Trans Lifeline - 877-565-8860, [translifeline.org](http://translifeline.org)

The Trevor Project - call 1-866-488-7386 or text "START" to 678-678, [thetrevorproject.org](http://thetrevorproject.org)

LGBT National Help Center - 888-843-4564, [lgbthotline.com](http://lgbthotline.com)

The 988 Lifeline - Call 988 and press 3 for an LGBTQI-trained crisis counselor, text PRIDE to 988, or chat online at [988lifeline.org](http://988lifeline.org)

Crisis Text Line - text "HOME" to 741-741, [crisistextline.org](http://crisistextline.org)

Call BlackLine - 1-800-604-5841, [callblackline.com](http://callblackline.com)

DeQH Helpline - 908-367-3374, [deqh.org](http://deqh.org)

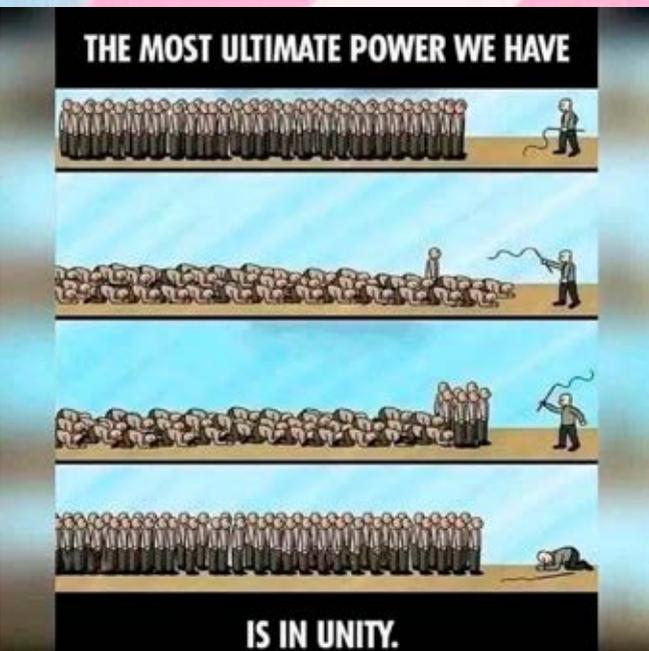
LGBTQ+ Center Directory - [lgbtqcenters.org/LGBTCenters](http://lgbtqcenters.org/LGBTCenters)

**OUT**

@ninawest



DEAR TRANS KIDS,  
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WITH YOU IN IT  
AND YOU ARE WORTH FIGHTING FOR.

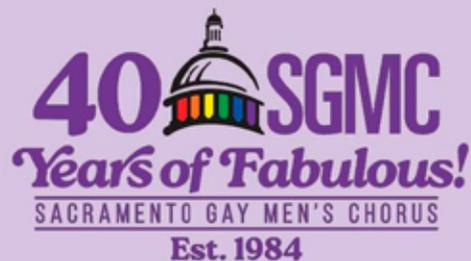
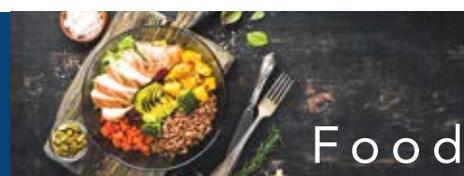


### WHAT IS SAID:

"I don't want gay or trans kids in schools because it might turn my kid gay or trans"

### WHAT IS MEANT:

"I don't want LGBTQ+ kids to feel safe, because if my own child realizes they are part of that community I'll have to face the reality that the love I have for my own child is conditional"



To Our Siblings at the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, DC:

We are heartbroken and outraged to hear about the cancellation of your concert at the Kennedy Center. Music is a powerful force for unity, healing, and change, reminding us all of our humanity. Our community is unfairly tasked with facing these blatant attacks on our freedom, and your voices are an essential part of that mission. The Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus stands in solidarity with you, steadfast that our collective message of love and inclusion cannot be silenced.

Your resilience and commitment to the community inspire us all. Our identities, our truth, and our Queer Joy ring out in song stronger than ever. Please know that we are with you, lifting you up in support and shining with you to drive out this darkness.

With pride and unshakable connection,  
The Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus

# The Kennedy Center Has Canceled the Gay Men's Chorus World Pride Concert

In February 2025, the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts faced significant upheaval following President Donald Trump's self-appointment as chairman and the subsequent dismissal of key board members. This abrupt leadership change led to the cancellation of several WorldPride performances, notably those featuring LGBTQ+ artists.

One prominent cancellation was that of the Gay Men's Chorus of Washington, D.C., who were set to perform "A Peacock Among Pigeons" with the National Symphony Orchestra as part of the Kennedy Center's Pride celebration. The chorus expressed deep disappointment, emphasizing their belief in music's power to educate and uplift, and lamented the lost opportunity to foster love, understanding, and community. Despite the setback, they announced plans to perform the piece during WorldPride 2025's Choral Festival at an alternative venue.

The Portland Gay Men's Chorus also voiced concerns over the Kennedy Center's decision, highlighting a growing trend toward silencing the queer community. Executive Director Mark McCrary noted that such cancellations have prompted LGBTQ+ choruses nationwide to reassess the safety and inclusivity of their performance spaces.

In addition to these cancellations, several artists withdrew from their scheduled performances at the Kennedy Center in protest. Actress Issa Rae canceled her event, citing an infringement on the institution's values. Similarly, the band Low Cut Connie withdrew, criticizing the new leadership's direction. These actions reflect a broader resistance within the arts community against the perceived politicization of the historically nonpartisan cultural institution.

The upheaval at the Kennedy Center has ignited a national conversation about artistic freedom, inclusivity, and the role of politics in cultural institutions. As WorldPride 2025 approaches, many artists and organizations are seeking alternative venues to ensure that celebrations of LGBTQ+ culture and diversity continue unabated.



Jennifer Lopez and Troye Sivan set to headline  
World Pride 2025 at RFK

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# outWord



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**Pet Photo Contest Winners**  
page 17

**Midtown Halloween Festival & Pooch Parade**  
page 8

**Pets Are the Best Activists**  
page 11

**Sacramento, A Great City for Dog Parks**  
page 14

**Apples, Wine, Food And Dogs Oh My**  
page 12

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page 19

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March 14, 2025  
5:30 - 7 pm

# Liquid Therapy

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## Will “Warriors” Be Lin-Manuel Miranda’s Next Broadway Blockbuster?

by Chris Narloch

Apparently, Lin-Manuel Miranda’s older brother turned him on to the 1979 cult classic Paramount movie “The Warriors” when he was just a small-fry in the ‘80s, and it made a lasting impression on him.



A publicity photo for the 1979 film “The Warriors”

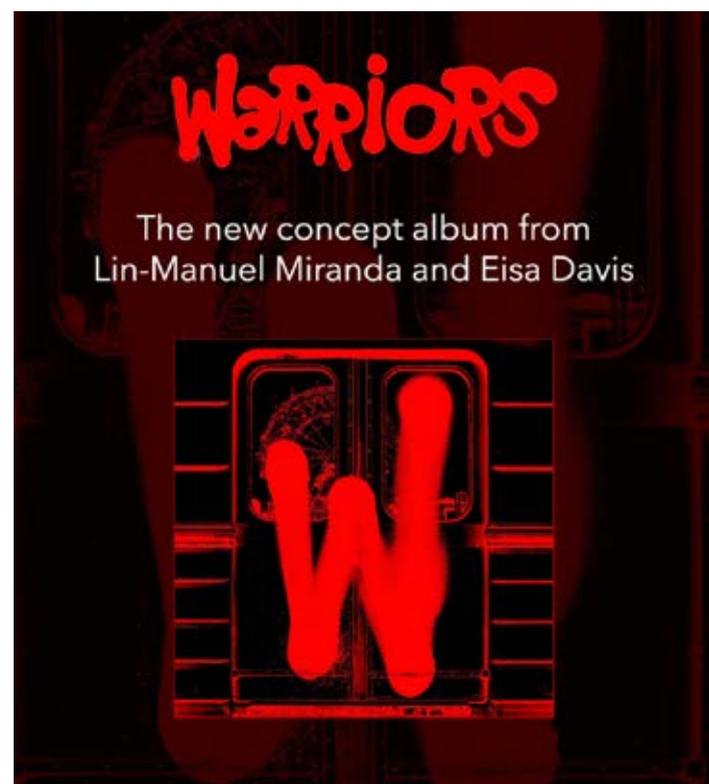
If you’ve never seen that violent, compelling movie, you should check it out before its musical adaptation arrives on the stage, possibly later this decade. It was reported recently that Mr. Miranda plans to make “Warriors” his next Broadway blockbuster, and he has already released an essential concept album for the project that is receiving rave reviews.

The story follows a turf battle between New York City street gangs that rages from Coney Island to the Bronx, after the Warriors are mistakenly fingered for the killing of a gang leader. Before long, they have every other gang out to get revenge on them, and they must somehow get across the city and back to their own turf.

The recent “Warriors” CD is a fascinating collaboration between Lin-Manuel and playwright, singer-songwriter, and actress Eisa Davis that was executive-produced by Nas. Miranda has said that starting the project as an album allowed him to collaborate with some of his “dream collaborators.”

Among the artists contributing their talents to the new album are Lauryn Hill, Marc Anthony, Busta Rhymes, Ghostface Killah, RZA, and Shenseea. It also features Broadway actors Miranda worked with as part of the original cast of “Hamilton,” including Phillipa Soo and Jasmine Cephas Jones.

The 1979 movie is available from Paramount and MGM+, and you can listen to the new “Warriors” cd on Spotify, Apple Music, Amazon Music, and YouTube.



Sacramento



Wisdom Project = LGBT Elders  
Awareness & Empowerment Projects of Servant Hearts

# CELEBRATE & HONOR

## OUR LGBTQ+ ELDERS

### 2025 ~ 9th ANNUAL

### Senior PRIDE LGBTQ +

## Resource Fair

Live Music ~ Speakers ~ Refreshments

May 16th 2025

11am-12pm ~ EVC Resident Preview

12pm-2pm ~ Open to the Public

**Eskaton Villages Carmichael**

3939 Walnut Ave ~ Carmichael



To Sponsor or Exhibit

218-760-2415

[www.servant-hearts.org](http://www.servant-hearts.org)

[servant\\_hearts@hotmail.com](mailto:servant_hearts@hotmail.com)

