

outword



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Kylie.   

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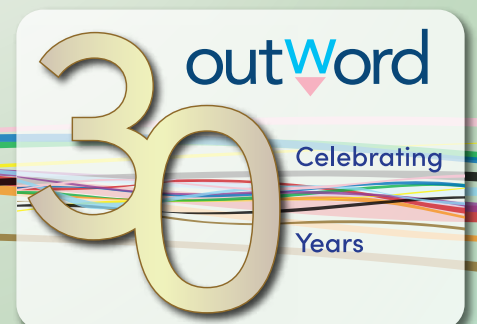
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While we have been offering our publication digitally—always for free—for nearly twenty years of our 30 years in business, taking up floor space with a rack full of papers is now a thing of the past. Hello, *Outword* Digital Media!

We know there are loyal readers wondering where the new paper issue is. For them, we will be distributing postcards around town to remind them when a new issue of *Outword* is available. These postcards will be delivered to most of the same spots where we used to distribute papers—and even a few extra locations. The postcards will frequently change to highlight the latest covers and will feature a convenient QR code linking to our website, the latest issue, and a wealth of back issues—all in beautiful digital form.

At some locations, we will use small plexiglass holders to keep the postcards neat, visible, and easily accessible. Since this is new for us, we're testing different styles of holders to see which works best. Regardless of whether there's a holder, keep an eye out for our *Issue is Out* postcards. Feel free to grab one to take home or simply scan the QR code with your phone or tablet. Whoosh!

If you're an email subscriber, you may have also noticed our new biweekly email newsletter, *Outword Extra*. It highlights the most recent publication along with a few other updates. We're keeping these emails short, sweet, and to the point—perfect for quick browsing with easy access to the stories that interest you. Keep an eye out for *Outword Extra*!

With the launch of *Outword Extra*, we are also offering a limited number of advertising spots. These "leaderboard" ads follow



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We hope you'll look for our postcards—grab one, scan one, or skip the step entirely by subscribing to our email blast, hosted by [Constant Contact](#). All for free. Enjoy this issue, and we'll see you again on April 10 for our glorious Annual Homes & Gardens special issue!

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HIV Is Not a Crime Day resource: Equality Federation

HIV Is Not a Crime Day, founded by Kamaria Laffrey in partnership with the Elizabeth Taylor AIDS Foundation, marks a significant milestone in the fight to decriminalize HIV. A major victory in this effort is the passage of Maryland's HIV modernization bill, the Carlton R. Smith Jr. Act, through the state Senate. While the bill has yet to reach the Maryland's Governor's desk, its advancement represents a crucial step in eliminating outdated laws that disproportionately impact Black, Brown, and LGBTQ+ communities, as well as the 37,000 people living with HIV in Maryland.

This progress extends beyond Maryland, as similar bills emerge nationwide. Equality Federation is leading efforts to create a roadmap for other states to reform HIV-related laws and public health policies. Achieving such victories requires strategic partnerships, resources, and a commitment to

shifting public perceptions and legislative approaches to HIV.

To further this mission, financial investments in public health and HIV decriminalization efforts have been doubled, both through partnerships and internal expansion. Key supporters, including ViiV

Healthcare, Gilead Sciences, MERCK, and the US People Living With HIV Caucus, play a vital role in sustaining this movement.

Change is happening, and continued advocacy will ensure that these wins become the norm, pushing forward a national movement for justice and public health reform.

HIV is Not a Crime Day





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Hungary Joins Global Onslaught Against LGBTIQ People with Shameful Pride Ban

resource: outrightinternational.org

Outright International condemns Hungary's new law banning Pride events, which criminalizes public Pride gatherings by framing them as harmful to children. The law, passed hastily on March 18, is part of Prime Minister Viktor Orbán's broader crackdown on civil society ahead of the 2026 elections. It reinforces harmful stereotypes, marginalizes LGBTIQ communities, and violates fundamental rights to assembly, expression, and non-discrimination.

Hungary has a history of anti-LGBTIQ legislation, including a 2020 ban on legal gender recognition and a 2021 "propaganda law" restricting LGBTIQ-related information. Despite these crackdowns, Pride in Budapest has grown in defiance. Activists vow to continue resisting, urging international support. European institutions have challenged Hungary's anti-LGBTIQ measures. In March 2025, the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) ruled against mandatory

surgeries for gender recognition, affirming fundamental rights. The European Commission is also pursuing legal action over Hungary's "propaganda law," with a ruling expected in June 2025 that could impose penalties if Hungary does not comply. Outright International calls for the law's repeal and urges the EU to hold Hungary accountable for its ongoing human rights violations. It stresses the importance of protecting democracy and equality for LGBTIQ people in Hungary and beyond.

Commonwealth Leaders Jeered For Anti-LGBT+ Persecution

resource and photo courtesy of [Peter Tatchell Foundation](http://PeterTatchellFoundation.org)

At the Great Britain's Commonwealth annual service at Westminster Abbey on March 10, 2025, leaders from 29 nations that criminalize LGBT+ people were met with protests. Demonstrators, including LGBT+ refugees who fled persecution, voiced their outrage at the Commonwealth's failure to uphold its human rights principles. Among them was Ugandan refugee Abbey Kiwanuka, who recounted extreme abuse, including beatings and cigarette burns.



The protest, led by the Peter Tatchell Foundation, featured activists from UK Black Pride, Let Voice Be Heard (Bangladesh), African Equality Foundation, and Out and Proud African LGBTI. They held placards condemning the Commonwealth's 75-year history of anti-LGBT+ persecution and demanded immediate reforms. Edwin Sesange of the African Equality Foundation denounced the Commonwealth for enabling crimes against humanity by ignoring the jailing and killing of LGBT+ individuals. Peter Tatchell criticized the Commonwealth's inaction, highlighting that 29 out of 56 member states criminalize homosexuality, with some imposing life

imprisonment or the death penalty. Protesters called for decriminalization, anti-discrimination protections, enforcement of hate crime laws, and dialogue between Commonwealth governments and LGBT+ organizations. They also urged the suspension of countries that criminalize LGBT+ people. Tatchell condemned Commonwealth leaders and Secretary-General Baroness Scotland for their continued silence, emphasizing the need for urgent reforms to protect LGBT+ citizens. The demonstration spotlighted the Commonwealth's long-standing neglect of LGBT+ rights, reinforcing calls for justice and equality.

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Trump Admin Considers Ending Division Tasked With Funding HIV/AIDS Prevention

by Chris Walker, [TRUTHOUT](#)

The Trump administration is reportedly considering ending a division within the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) that is focused on funding HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment.

Even if Trump simply shifts the responsibilities of that division to another agency within the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), it could result in fewer federal services, placing the burden of HIV/AIDS prevention on states at considerably higher costs, including for taxpayers.

The CDC currently provides states with funding to detect and respond to outbreaks, implement syringe exchange programs, expand HIV testing in emergency rooms, and conduct education programs and other prevention methods.

A federal official with knowledge of the administration's thinking said that the plan is "not 100 percent going to happen," but it's "100 percent being discussed."

Any changes to these programs could be catastrophic, reversing the recent trend of

In an HIV + HEP Policy Institute press release, the organization said that it was willing to hear the administration out on its plans for tackling HIV/AIDS in the U.S. — but that any funding cuts could have dire consequences.

"If the administration has new ideas on how to conduct HIV prevention, including testing, surveillance, education and PrEP outreach, we are more than willing to discuss them.... But we cannot unilaterally cut the funding that Congress has appropriated and that states, local governments, and community-based organizations rely on to carry out their public health responsibilities to address HIV and other infectious diseases," the organization said. "Without those federal resources, the number of new cases and the lifetime costs of treating them will just, sadly, multiply."

"It would be devastating. The work is important because every new HIV transmission results in a person having a lifetime cost related to being HIV positive," said Jesse Milan, president and CEO of AIDS United.

reduced rates of new HIV/AIDS diagnoses.

"It would be devastating. The work is important because every new HIV transmission results in a person having a lifetime cost related to being HIV positive," said Jesse Milan, president and CEO of AIDS United.

In his 2019 State of the Union Address, President Donald Trump surprised many HIV/AIDS organizations and advocates by announcing a goal to effectively eradicate the virus within the U.S. by the year 2030. The results of his plan were undeniably positive: Rates of new HIV infections dropped by 30 percent in young people, and by 10 percent in other groups of people within three years of the announcement.

Since taking his second oath of office, however, many of Trump's executive orders — particularly those targeting LGBTQ people — have detrimentally affected the cause.

"The success of the 'Ending the HIV Epidemic' initiative is in peril," said Colleen Kelley, board chair of the nonprofit group HIV Medicine Association, speaking to Roll Call about the matter. "Not only will we not end the HIV epidemic with the current administration's policies, we could reverse these gains and go back to the dark days of the '80s, when people died from HIV every day."

The news that Trump is considering cutting funding dedicated to treating and preventing HIV/AIDS domestically comes as his administration has slashed funding for foreign programs with the same goal. Cuts to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and other programs have included significant reductions in funding for the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) program, which has been credited with saving 26 million lives and preventing millions of HIV infections around the world.

Although PEPFAR wasn't totally canceled, several of its major contracts were shrunken or cut completely, resulting in 20 million people — including 600,000 children — no longer receiving HIV/AIDS treatments globally. If the funding does not get restored quickly, it could result in a sixfold increase in HIV burden over the remainder of Trump's presidency, experts have warned.

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.



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Out & About

The Rainbow Chamber's Business and Community Excellence Awards & Expo, February 28, 2025

photos by Tia Gemell tia@phototia.com



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Trump Administration Threatens Poppers Ban

The Trump Administration's crackdown on poppers, a longtime staple in queer nightlife, has sparked intense debate over government regulation, LGBTQ+ culture, and personal choice. Poppers, small bottles containing alkyl nitrites, have been popular among gay men for decades due to their ability to induce euphoria and enhance sexual experiences. Historically, they existed in a legal gray area, often sold under the guise of "leather cleaners" or "room deodorizers" to evade scrutiny. However, recent FDA actions suggest a shift toward stricter enforcement, sending shockwaves through the community.



The crackdown gained attention when the FDA raided the offices of Double Scorpio, a well-known poppers brand, leading the company to halt operations. Other manufacturers, like Pac-West Distributing, have similarly disappeared from the market. The FDA's actions have alarmed many in the LGBTQ+ community, who fear increased restrictions and stigmatization.

A major figure in this unfolding controversy is Robert F. Kennedy Jr., who oversees the Department of Health and Human Services. Kennedy has a history of controversial health claims, including the debunked theory that AIDS was caused by poppers rather than HIV. His appointment and statements have drawn criticism from LGBTQ+ advocacy groups, who worry that his influence could lead to further harmful policies targeting queer health.

Poppers have long been a part of queer culture, originally emerging from medical use as amyl nitrites for heart conditions. Over time, they became synonymous with gay nightlife. Despite occasional warnings about health risks, including a 2021 FDA advisory, enforcement remained lax—until now. The abrupt shift under the Trump Administration suggests a more aggressive stance that could force poppers into an underground market.

The poppers ban leaves many questions unanswered. While the FDA remains tight-lipped, speculation grows that further raids and crackdowns are imminent. Some activists see this moment as a rallying cry for defending LGBTQ+ rights and personal freedoms. Others fear that once a ban is in place, reversing it will be difficult. As producers shutter operations and retailers scramble to adapt, the queer community braces for an uncertain future.

IGLTA Opens Registration for 2025 Global Convention in Palm Springs

The International LGBTQ+ Travel Association (IGLTA) has opened registration for its 2025 Global Convention, set for October 21-25 at the Palm Springs Convention Center. The event will bring together up to 2,000 LGBTQ+ and allied tourism professionals from over 40 countries to promote inclusive travel experiences.

Key features of the convention include:

- A two-day Buyer/Supplier Marketplace (Oct 21-22) for business networking. Sessions on LGBTQ+ travel trends, marketing, and industry best practices.
- Immersive experiences showcasing Palm Springs' LGBTQ+ history and culture.
- IGLTA President/CEO John Tanzella emphasized travel's role in breaking barriers, while Scott White, CEO of Visit Greater Palm Springs, highlighted the city's deep-rooted LGBTQ+ inclusivity.

Palm Springs, known for its LGBTQ+ advocacy, made history with the first all-LGBTQ+ city council in the U.S. (2017) and consistently scores 100 on the Human Rights Campaign's Municipal Equality Index.

Early registration discounts are available at igltaconvention.org.



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Disney Shareholders Back Participation in HRC Foundation's Corporate Equality Index 99%-1% - "A Clear Statement of Values from Disney"

In response to today's news that, at its annual shareholders' meeting, Disney shareholders nearly unanimously rejected an attempt backed by a far-right activist group to withdraw from its industry-standard Corporate Equality Index, Eric Bloem, Vice President of Corporate Citizenship at the Human Rights Campaign Foundation, issued the following statement:

"This vote gives us a clear statement of values from Disney's shareholders. They know what we know - that despite all the noise, commitments to inclusion pay figurative dividends and help their literal bottom line. And they're not alone. Shareholders at companies as diverse as Costco, Apple, John Deere, and others in the past months, have resoundingly rejected efforts to roll-back DEI. We know that 93% of LGBTQ+ workers believe that scoring 100 on the Corporate Equality Index communicates support of the LGBTQ+ community - those are current and future employees and customers. Disney shareholders recognize this."

Despite the growing politicization of DEI and workplace inclusion, leading global businesses remain committed to the belief that a welcoming, inclusive environment drives innovation, boosts productivity, and strengthens the bottom line. Recent corporate statements and actions demonstrate that these businesses continue to honor long

would suffer. McKinsey: Companies in the top quartile for gender and ethnic diversity significantly outperform their competitors.

Businesses looking to bolster consumer loyalty as well as expand their consumer base into the future know that inclusion efforts across business operations, from hiring practices to marketing to supply chain decisions, are paramount to their success. The numbers are compelling:

The LGBTQ+ community commands \$1.4 trillion in buying power.

August 2024 data from the HRC Foundation's LGBTQ+ Climate Survey found that 80% of LGBTQ+ consumers are not only opting to boycott companies that are rolling back inclusion initiatives, but more than half will urge others to do so also, taking their concerns to social media or sharing negative company reviews.

Women currently control an estimated two-thirds of global consumer spending and are projected to manage two-thirds of all

consumer wealth within the next decade, with estimates ranging from \$12 trillion to \$40 trillion.

Black consumers will possess a projected \$1.7 trillion in purchasing power by 2030.

One in four Gen Z adults identifies as Hispanic, 14% as Black, 6% as Asian, 5% as another race of multiracial and 30% as LGBTQ+.



standing commitments to fairness and inclusion, because it makes good business sense and meets the expectations of employees, consumers, and shareholders.

Data consistently shows that investments in workplace inclusion initiatives are a business driver, key to employee growth, and attempts to scale back on these commitments lead to backlash:

86% of more than 3,000 global CEOs surveyed in AlixPartners Disruption Index say diversity and inclusion are a competitive advantage...and 75% say they have had a positive impact on their company's financial performance.

Washington Post Poll: 6 in 10 Americans support diversity and inclusion programs.

According to 2024 data from Edelman, 60 percent of people say an inclusive work culture with a well-supported diversity program is critical to attracting and retaining them as an employee, up 9 points from 2022.

For employees at companies walking back their commitments to inclusion, nearly 20% of LGBTQ+ employees said that they would quit working for that company or start looking for a new job and one-third of LGBTQ+ employees said their productivity

The Human Rights Campaign Foundation is the educational arm of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ+) people. Through its programs, the HRC Foundation seeks to make transformational change in the everyday lives of LGBTQ+ people, shedding light on inequity and deepening the public's understanding of LGBTQ+ issues, with a clear focus on advancing transgender and racial justice. Its work has transformed the landscape for more than 15 million workers, 11 million students, 1 million clients in the adoption and foster care system and so much more. The HRC Foundation provides direct consultation and technical assistance to institutions and communities, driving the advancement of inclusive policies and practices; it builds the capacity of future leaders and allies through fellowship and training programs; and, with the firm belief that we are stronger working together, it forges partnerships with advocates in the U.S. and around the globe to increase our impact and shape the future of our work.

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30 outWord Celebrating Years



“Shame-Sex Attraction: Survivors’ Stories of Conversion Therapy” by Lucas F. W. Wilson, foreword by Garrard Conley

reviewed by Terri Schlichenmeyer

You're several weeks in, and it hasn't gotten any easier. You made your New Year's resolutions with forethought, purpose, and determination but after all this time, you still struggle, ugh. You've backslid. You've cheated because change is hard. It's sometimes impossible. And in the new book, “Shame-Sex Attraction” by Lucas F. W. Wilson, it can be exceptionally traumatic.

Progress does not come without problem. While it's true that the LGBTQ community has been adversely affected by the current administration, there are still things to be happy about, when it comes to civil rights and acceptance. Still, says Wilson, one “particularly slow-moving aspect... has been the fight against what is widely known as conversion therapy.”

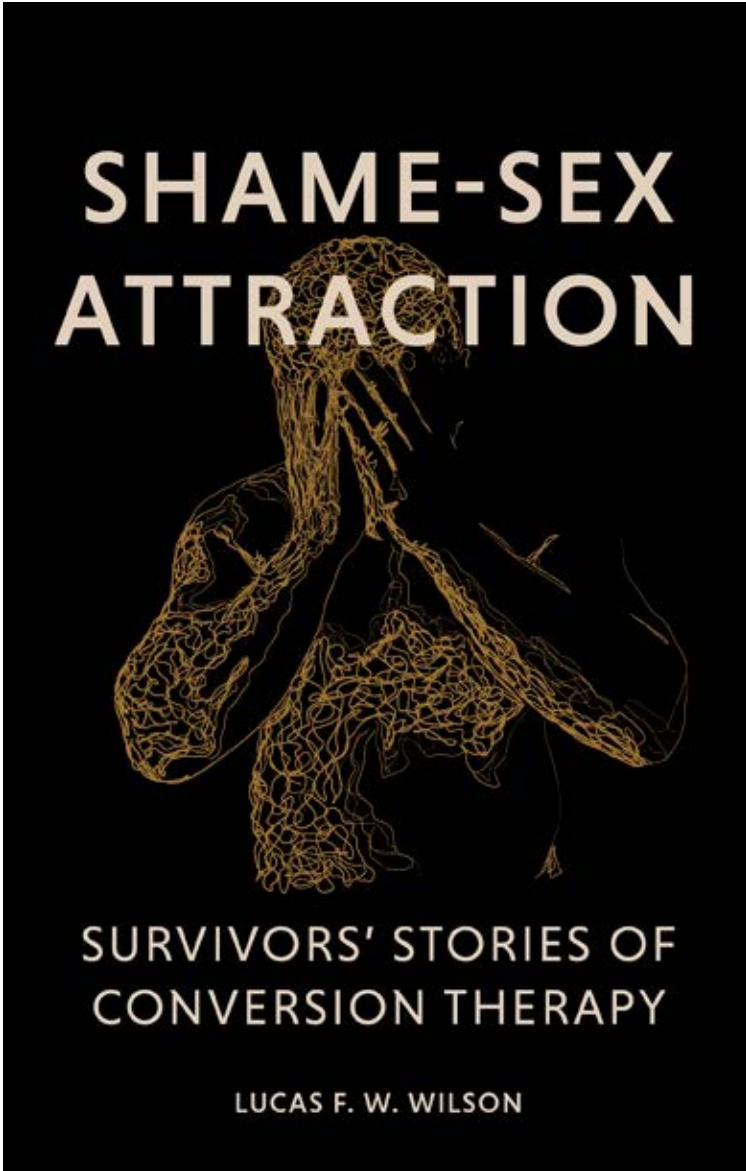
Such practices, he says, “have numerous damaging, death-dealing, and no doubt disastrous consequences.” The stories he's collected in this volume reflect that, but they also mirror confidence and strength in the face of detrimental treatment.

Writer Gregory Elsassser-Chavez was told to breathe in something repellent every time he thought about other men. He says, in the end, he decided not to “pray away the gay.” Instead, he quips, he'd “sniff it away.”

D. Apple became her “own conversation therapist” by exhausting herself with service to others as therapy. Peter Nunn's father took him on a surprise trip, but the surprise was a conversion facility; Nunn's father said if it didn't work, he'd “get rid of” his fifteen-year-old son. Chaim Levin was forced to humiliate himself as part of his therapy.

Lexie Bean struggled to make a therapist understand that they didn't want to be a man because they were “both.” Jordan Sullivan writes of the years it takes “to re-integrate and become whole” after conversion therapy. Chris Csabs writes that he “tried everything to find the root of my problem” but “Nothing so far had worked.”

Says Syre Klenke of a group conversion session, “My heart shattered over and over as people tried to console and encourage each other... I wonder if each of them is okay and still with us today.” Here's a bit of advice for reading “Shame-



Sex Attraction”: dip into the first chapter, maybe the second, then go back and read the foreword and introduction, and resume.

The reason: author Lucas F. W. Wilson's intro is deep and steep, full of footnotes and statistics, and if you're not prepared or you didn't come for the education, it might scare you away. No, the subtitle of this book is likely why you'd pick the book up so because that's what you just really wanted, indulge before backtracking.

You won't be sorry; the first stories are bracing and they'll steel you for the rest, for the emotion and the tears, the horror and the unexpected humor.

Be aware that there are triggers all over inside this book, especially if you've been subjected to anything like conversion therapy yourself. Remember, though, that the survivors are just that: survivors, and their strength is what makes this book worthwhile. Even so, though “Shame-Sex Attraction” is an essential read, that doesn't make it any easier.

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Jonathan Groff Meets “A Nice Indian Boy” Plus, Jonathan Majors’ “Magazine Dreams”

by Chris Narloch

Now that we have all recovered – sort of -- from that shocking, mesmerizing British series “Adolescence,” on Netflix, we can get back to the business of movie watching. Here are my reviews of four new, big screen movies, recently opened or coming soon to Sacramento area theaters.



Snow White

Can we stop with all the hating on Disney’s live-action remake of their classic 1937 animated movie already? Critics have been harsh in their reviews of the new film, which is a pleasant, so-so version of “Snow White” that was not made for heterosexual adult movie critics. It is aimed at young women and especially girls (and gay men like me who love movie musicals), and those three audiences will probably enjoy it.

The movie looks lovely, Gal Gadot oozes menace as the Evil Queen, Rachel Zegler is warm and wonderful -- and she sings beautifully -- as Snow, and I had no problem with the cute CGI dwarfs that have caused such a backlash, although I can understand the anger from the little people acting community. “Snow White” is currently in wide release (including Sacramento’s Esquire IMAX Theatre through at least April 3).



Magazine Dreams

This disturbing drama won’t be for everybody, but fans of Jonathan Majors might enjoy his volcanic performance as a steroid-addled amateur bodybuilder who dreams of being a fitness magazine cover boy, to the point of violent obsession.

Majors doesn’t hold back in creating a character that is simultaneously pitiful and repellent, but the movie bites off more than it can chew, with a script that flirts with mass shooter potential and possible repressed homosexuality, in addition to narcissism and childhood trauma.

An “A” for effort overall but a “C-” or a “D+” for execution. This movie was still playing in a handful of local theaters as we went to press.



Black Bag

If you are a fan of sexy spy stories, this terrific new espionage thriller is a must-see. The movie has a fantastic cast that includes Michael Fassbender, Cate Blanchett, Rege-Jean Page, and Pierce Brosnan, and it was directed by the great Steven Soderberg (“Behind the Candelabra,” “Traffic,” “Erin Brockovich”).

Blanchett, her chiseled cheekbones complemented by a long, brown wig, and Fassbender, handsome as ever, are a married couple of spies who may or may not be working at cross purposes, and both actors are superb. Soderberg’s direction is super-smooth, and the twisty film clocks in at a compact, nearly perfect ninety minutes. Currently in wide release.



A Nice Indian Boy

Hopefully, this charming gay love story will make it to Sacramento when it is scheduled for a wide release this April 4th.

The wonderful Jonathan Groff (“Looking,” “Mindhunter,” “Hamilton”) costars with the talented Indian American actor Karan Soni (the “Deadpool” movies) as a queer couple who meet cute and then face obstacles that include the traditional Indian family of Soni’s character.

The entire cast is excellent, the romance is sweet, Roshan Sethi’s direction is smart, and the script is very funny.



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For 30 years, Outword Magazine – Sacramento’s longest-running LGBTQ+ publication has been a trusted voice, sharing stories, uplifting our community, and keeping you informed.

Now, more than ever, LGBTQ+ media matters, especially given the ruthless attacks our community has already suffered. This is why we’ve launched a subscription and reader support donor service to help keep Outword as a resource that ensures vital information continues to flow.

Please consider making a contribution, in the dollar amount that works for you, using our relaunched Outword Rainbow Fund. Every contribution will make a difference and with a simple, and secure transaction, you can show your support.

We are proud to be one of the LGBTQ+ voices for the Sacramento community over the years, and we are committed to continuing for years to come. Let’s not let our voices be silenced. Help us continue getting the Word Out.

Thank you, from the Outword team.

If you would like more information please email us or give us a call:

fred@outwordmagazine.com . 916-329-9280

www.Outwordmagazine.com



Kylie Set to Perform in SF

Australian dance diva Kylie Minogue recently released her seventeenth studio album, “Tension II,” a sequel to 2023’s “Tension” which is nearing half a billion streams. “Tension” is also the name of Kylie’s current concert tour, which comes to San Francisco’s Chase Center this April 22, with Rita Ora opening the show. Minogue’s latest CD features nine new studio tracks and includes collaborations with Orville Peck, Sia, Tove Lo, and Bebe Rexha. Tickets are now on sale for Kylie’s San Francisco show and can be purchased via



photo by Erik Melvin

[Ticketmaster](#).

Four Divas for the Price of One

Music history will be made as four of the most legendary voices in R&B, soul, and pop come together for an unforgettable tour.



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CHAKA KHAN

PATTI LABELLE

STEPHANIE MILLS

The QUEENS

4 LEGENDS. 1 STAGE.

Gladys Knight, Chaka Khan, Patti LaBelle, and Stephanie Mills – each a powerhouse soul queen in their own right—will share the stage for the “The Queens. 4 Legends, 1 Stage” tour, celebrating decades of iconic music and timeless hits.

Signature songs by this fierce foursome include “Midnight Train to Georgia,” “Lady Marmalade,” “I Feel for You,” and “Home” from “The Wiz.”

Face value tickets start at \$89 for their show at Oakland Arena on Saturday, May 10, 2025, so act fast because lord only knows how much resale seats will cost.

On sale now at [Ticketmaster](#).

Liquida Therapy

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“Mid-Century Modern” Premieres on Hulu

by Chris Narloch

It’s already been dubbed “The Gay Golden Girls” which I think is hilarious, since costar Matt Bomer is only 47, but I guess they needed to cast a hunky youngish actor in the new series, to get gay guys under 50 to watch.

From the commercials, it looks like maybe Bomer is playing the “slutty” one – in other words, Blanche Devereaux, the frisky female played to perfection by actress Rue McClanahan on the real Golden Girls sitcom.

“Mid-Century Modern” follows three best friends - gay gentlemen of a certain age – who, after an unexpected death, decide to spend their golden years living together in Palm Springs, where the wealthiest one lives with his mother.

As a chosen family, they prove that no matter how hard things get, there’s always someone around to remind you it would be better if you got your neck done.

“Mid-Century Modern” stars Nathan Lane as Bunny Schneiderman, Matt Bomer as Jerry Frank, Nathan Lee Graham as Arthur Broussard, and the late, great Linda Lavin as Sybil Schneiderman, Bunny’s mother.

Don’t miss the premiere episode of “Mid-Century Modern” this March 28 on Hulu.



“Mid-Century Modern” stars Matt Bomer, Nathan Lane and Nathan Lee Graham.

Annual Homes and Gardens Special Issue

Artwork Deadline
March 31, 2025

Publish Date
April 10, 2025

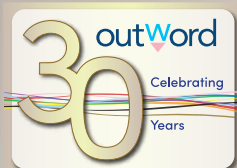
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Everything Beautiful Happens...” at Capital Stage *by Chris Narloch*

Sacramento’s Capital Stage is presenting perhaps its gayest play yet with the world premiere of Ted Malawer’s intriguing and entertaining comic drama “Everything Beautiful Happens at Night,” about a May-December romance between two men that upsets the friendship a middle-aged author of children’s books has with his longstanding female editor.



Malawer also had a hand in the screenplay for the Amazon Prime movie “Red, White & Royal Blue,” and he has an ear for how gay men speak and interact with each other. Richard B. Watson plays the “older man” in the new play, Nacho Tambunting performs the role of the young man he falls for, and Amy Resnick fills out the cast as the very acerbic editor.

All three actors are spot-on under Connor Mickiewicz’s effective and unfussy direction, and I liked the way the play kept me guessing for its duration. The editor’s lengthy and very funny diatribes (for lack of a better word) are especially well-written, and Resnick creates a character that is both sad and hilarious.

Set in 1980s Manhattan, the play successfully covers a lot of ground: Reagan era politics, AIDS stigma, political correctness in the publishing industry, relationships between work wives and work husbands, differing opinions on artistic vision, and the complexities of same-sex and intergenerational romance.

Does the unlikely love affair between Ezra and his beautiful boy toy last, and will Nancy be cast out or forgiven for her sins? Well, you’ll just have to buy a ticket and see for yourself.

“Everything Beautiful Happens at Night” performs through April 20 at Capital Stage on J Street. For tickets, please visit: <https://capstage.org>

“RuPaul’s Drag Race Werq the World”- A Night of Glamour and Queen-Worthy Performances

The nominees are in, and the competition is fierce! This year, “RuPaul’s Drag Race Werq the World” is rolling out the red carpet for a show like no other. Hosted by Jimbo as Joan Rivers, the night will be filled with many sick performances!

Get ready, they are bringing iconic pop divas to life. Derrick Barry will channel Britney Spears, Jaida Essence Hall will embody Beyoncé, Naomi Smalls will serve Mariah Carey, Marina Summers will give you Ariana Grande realness, and Morphine will ignite the stage as Shakira. But the surprises don’t stop there—finalists from RuPaul’s Drag Race Season 17 will make special appearances, keeping the audience on their toes.

Whether you’re a longtime Drag Race fan or just love a night of fabulous entertainment, this is the event to see and be seen at.

So, grab your tickets, bring your best lewk, and prepare for a night of pure drag excellence.

(Line-up subject to change, but trust—no matter who takes the stage, it’s going to be legendary!)



For tickets click here!

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Arkenstone: A Gem on Howell Mountain

words by Diana Kienle, Certified Specialist of Wine
photos by Cathy Schwamberger.

The predominate varietal from this lovely winery is Cabernet Sauvignon. It is a wonderful winery to visit to grasp the svelteness of tannins and complexity of their wine. The winery sits at 1400 feet in elevation; and the views are impressive, matching the quality of the wine.

Just recently we visited Arkenstone and had the pleasure to taste the 2021s. Our experience took place in the impeccably maintained cellar. It is clear that their commitment is to quality in every nook and cranny. This caring shows with rich flavors and rich expression in the wine. This is a family owned winery with the commitment to producing great wine.

The lineup was a worthy one with deep, rich Cabernet Sauvignon. Again, they were all 2021s; and, in order, they were Godwark, Heimark, Amoenus, and the Estate. All the wines were very well rated by Jeb Dunnuck, who respectively gave these wines: 99, 94+, 96-96, and 98+. A worthy lineup to set the standard for complex Cabernet Sauvignon. The final wine in the lineup was the Estate Blanc. This is a luxurious white that is worth the price. It is predominately Sauvignon Blanc with 6% Semillon.

The winemaker at Arkenstone is Sam Kaplan who has been referred to as a "legend" yet his demeanor is quite open and affable. He has made Arkenstone since 2006 and has done a wonderful job of creating a legacy for this family owned winery on Howell Mountain.

Enjoy!



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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

It's officially spring! It's a season of renewal and resilience, which in today's political climate is just what we need. It's more important than ever to stand together and advocate for our communities. Your voice is powerful; use it wisely and loudly! Together, we can and will create positive change. As we celebrate this vibrant season, take time to connect and engage with your community.



March 29

Step back in time with the cast of *The Sandlot* for a special 30th-anniversary screening on March 29, 2025, at the Crest Theater, 1013 K St. Relive the classic baseball film, then enjoy a live Q&A as the actors share behind-the-scenes stories and cherished memories. Crestsacramento.com

April 8

Celebrate Sacramento's vibrant business community at the 53rd Annual Salud! Business Awards on Tuesday, April 8, from 6 to 8 p.m. at Project Sacramento. Honoring leaders like Entrepreneur of the Year Kimberly Garza of ATLAS Lab Inc. and Community Impact Award winner Visit Sacramento, the evening will spotlight remarkable contributions. Tickets are available now. An inspiring celebration of excellence! Sachcc.org

April 3

Join the fun at Rainbow Chamber Drag Queen Bingo on April 3 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. This month benefits The Landing Spot. Don't miss this exciting and charitable event! Rainbowchamber.com

April 4

Folk legends Peter Yarrow and Noel Paul Stookey bring their timeless music to the Harris Center in Folsom on Friday, April 4, at 7:30 p.m. As two-thirds of the iconic group Peter, Paul and Mary, their legacy includes five Grammys, 13 Top 40 hits, and a lifelong commitment to social justice. Harriscenter.net



April 9

The Harris Center presents the legendary Preservation Hall Jazz Band on Wednesday, April 9, at 7:30 p.m. Straight from New Orleans, this iconic ensemble has celebrated the vibrant, soulful sounds of the Crescent City for over 60 years. Known for their joyful blend of global influences, the Preservation Hall Jazz Band embodies the spirit of New Orleans music. Experience this lively performance at the Harris Center, 10 College Pkwy. in Folsom. Harriscenter.net

April 11

Celebration Arts presents *Barefoot in the Park*, running April 11-27 at 2727 B St. in Sacramento. Directed by James Ellison III, Neil Simon's classic comedy follows newlyweds navigating love and laughter in a tiny New York apartment. A heartfelt production from the director of *A Raisin in the Sun*! Celebrationarts.net



May 10

Experience music royalty at The Queens! 4 Legends. 1 Stage. on Saturday, May 10, at Oakland Arena, 7000 Coliseum Way. Iconic voices Chaka Khan, Patti LaBelle, Gladys Knight, and Stephanie Mills unite for an evening of electrifying performances, soulful classics, and timeless hits. Don't miss this celebration of R&B, gospel, pop, and funk. Tickets available now for an unforgettable night of legendary music! Theoaklandarena.com



June 20

Experience the vibrant spirit of love and self-expression at Everybody Say Love! Join the Sacramento Gay Men's Chorus for an empowering musical celebration inspired by iconic drag queens and timeless love anthems. Catch the dynamic performances on Friday, June 20, and Saturday, June 21, at The Sofia, Home of B Street Theatre, 2700 Capitol Ave. Celebrate four decades of resilience, creativity, and unapologetic joy. Tickets sell out early, so grab them now! SacGayMensChorus.com

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



Sometimes

It's Good To Be

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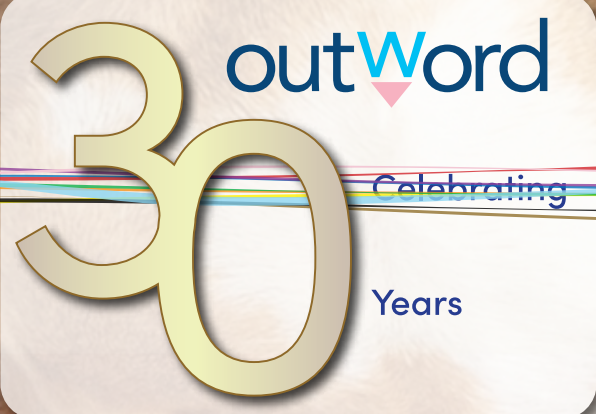
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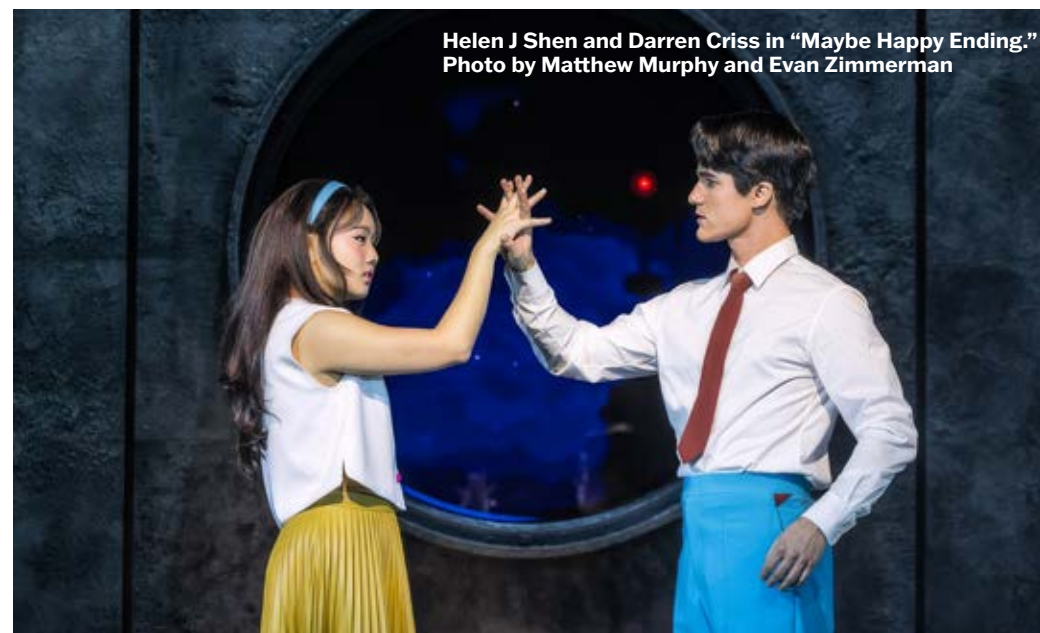
All proceeds go directly to The Sacramento Rainbow Chamber Foundation's Scholarship Fund



Broadway Backwards & Forwards

by Chris Narloch

Theater queens like me can't wait to get our hands on the latest cast recordings and Broadway DVDs, and there are at least two must-have releases just out or coming soon. Read on for details.



Helen J Shen and Darren Criss in "Maybe Happy Ending." Photo by Matthew Murphy and Evan Zimmerman

Maybe Happy Ending

Along with Cole Escola's riotous comedy "Oh, Mary!" and the stage version of "Death Becomes Her," tickets for this new musical are selling like hotcakes in New York City. Darren Criss and Helen J. Shen costar at the Belasco Theatre.

"Maybe Happy Ending" is a musical set in a near-futuristic Seoul where two obsolete HelperBots, Oliver and Claire, form a bond that challenges their understanding of relationships and love, exploring themes of humanity and connection.

If you can't make it to Manhattan to see the show in person, you can still enjoy the terrific cast recording of "Maybe Happy Ending," which was recently released digitally by Ghostlight Records.



Broadway Backwards 2025

Along with Broadway Bares, the Broadway Flea Market, and other BC/EFA events, Broadway Backwards is an annual NYC fundraiser for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, a nonprofit that raises funds for AIDS-related causes across the U.S.

Broadway Backwards also benefits The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community Center, as it flips the script on famous songs from Broadway musicals, with men performing numbers traditionally sung by women, and vice versa.

This year, Adam Lambert tackled "Acid Queen" from "The Who's Tommy," Jordan Fisher sang "Defying Gravity," Titus Burgess performed "Meadowlark" from "The Baker's Wife," and Kelli O'Hara covered "She Loves Me" from the musical of the same name.

Those are just a few of this year's performances, and you can preorder a DVD of Broadway Backwards 2025 at: www.bardoarts.com

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Mememes from Facebook

Secular Talk
@KyleKulinski

Everybody needs to stop calling them billionaires and call them what they are, robber barons. 'billionaire' has a neutral connotation to many, the definition of robber baron is 'a person who has become rich through ruthless and unscrupulous business practices', that's what they are and that's what you should call them.

Get in good trouble,
necessary trouble,
and help redeem the
soul of America.

— JOHN LEWIS

Jasmine Crockett @JasmineForUS
Soooooo we thinking old Pete was drunk or the job or what? It would be funny, if it wasn't scary! Maybe we need some DEI (definitely earned it) hires to get this shit together because the incompetence is OVERWHELMINGLY problematic & if you don't believe me, just pretend it was Biden or better yet Obama that did this... what would you say then?! 🤔

Robert Reich
@rbreich.bsky.social

Tyrants view educated citizens as their greatest enemy.

Slaveholders stopped the enslaved from learning to read. Nazis burned books. Dictators censor media.

That's why Trump is attacking education, science, museums, and the arts – to prevent us from learning.

It's Fascism 101.

JCDecaux

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Pete Buttigieg

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Drinking alcohol while using other drugs isn't safe.

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Former President Barack Obama

BTC

BTC

NO MATTER HOW I'M TREATED BY SOME COLLEAGUES, NOTHING DIMINISHES MY AWE AND GRATITUDE AT GETTING TO REPRESENT DELAWARE IN CONGRESS. IT IS TRULY THE HONOR AND PRIVILEGE OF A LIFETIME. I SIMPLY WANT TO SERVE AND TO TRY TO MAKE THIS WORLD A BETTER PLACE.

Rep. Sarah McBride

Mememes from Facebook

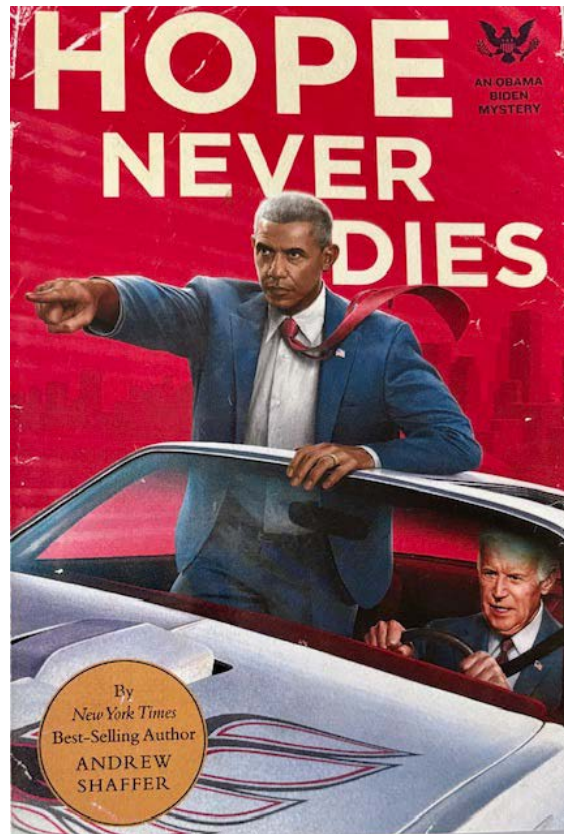
“ With \$3 million, we can feed 10,850 seniors for a year, or send 1 elderly man golfing. ”



Donald J. Trump
@realDonaldTrump

Trump just posted a **CROSSED OUT pink triangle** to his Truth page. The pink triangle symbol comes from Nazi Germany in the 1930s and 1940s. It was used to identify gays in the concentration camps, where thousands were killed. Yet Trump is now **PROUDLY** posting this **NAZI anti-gay hate symbol** on his social media.

THERE ARE NO WORDS. THEY'RE NOT EVEN HIDING IT ANYMORE!



REPUBLICAN AGENDA TO DO LIST

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 - Omit protections in the Violence Against Women Act
 - Blame Single Moms for Poverty, Welfare Fraud, Breeding Criminals and Destroying the Fabric of America

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“ Wiping Jackie Robinson's page off of government websites because of "DEI" is basically screaming what you mean when you say "DEI" ”

@pblest

NOW THIS

RUBIO ERASES LGBTQIA+ PEOPLE AND WOMEN FROM HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT

Dude just eliminated the learning programs for disabled children across America, and 32% of the country is clapping like seals..

@AesPolitics1

Anna Bahr @anna_bahr

In 2016, @BernieSanders biggest crowd was 28,356 at Prospect Park, Brooklyn. He was running for president.

In 2019, his largest crowd was 25,872 in Queensbridge Park, NY. He was running for president.

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Rich Coature

BTC



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From Sacramento SPCA's Facebook Page

It must be your lucky day because we have a 1 year old Golden heading to the adoption floor for tomorrow! Major is MAJORLY cute and a nice boy! No history with dogs or cats but may do well with a slow introduction. Check out their [FB page here.](#)

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BroadwaySacramento.com

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HarrisCenter.net

MONDAVI CENTER
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mondaviarts.org

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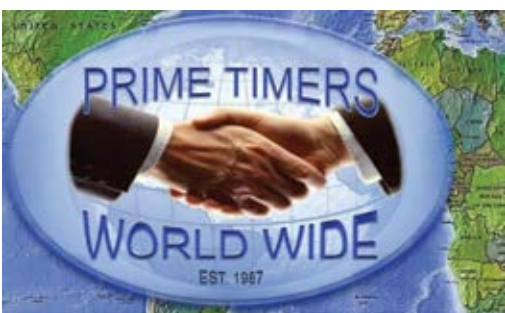
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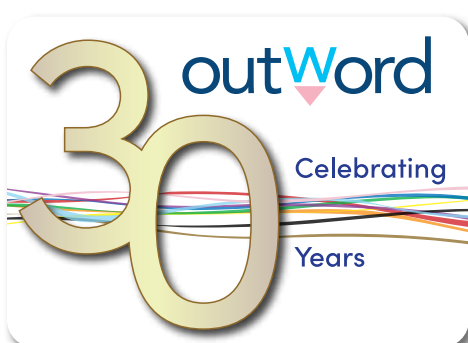
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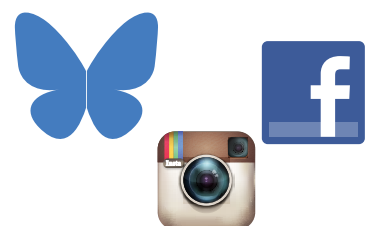
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