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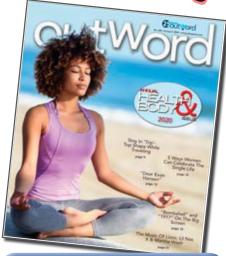




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## **COVID-19 Vaccine Must be Equitable and Accessible for All**

he Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, along with 80 civil rights groups, has called on Congress and the Biden-Harris transition team to provide an equitable framework to help guide the ongoing development and distribution of a vaccine and therapeutics for COVID-19.

"As companies and health care entities prepare for the widespread distribution of a COVID-19 vaccine, the health and well-being of frontline workers, Black, Latino, Native American, Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander communities, older adults, immigrants, people with limited English proficiency, and people with disabilities - the communities most affected by the virus - must be prioritized," the groups wrote.

"As we grapple with what the distribution of a COVID-19 vaccine might look like, it is imperative that private and public agencies develop culturally and linguistically competent strategies to build trust and increase acceptance and demand for vaccinations, including but not limited to, targeting investments in community-based organizations, not only as partners in public education but also to ensure regular, transparent responses to concerns around the distribution and safety of the vaccine," they added.

The letter, highlights the following

recommendations:

Equity must be paramount in the distribution of the COVID-19 vaccine.

The process of developing, testing, and approving COVID-19 vaccines must be transparent.

Clinical trials must include representation from diverse communities in order to ensure vaccine efficacy and trust in the process.

Communities must be engaged in the COVID-19 vaccine distribution process to provide education and address vaccine hesitancy in communities of color.

Robust data collection around vaccine development and distribution must be an instrumental part of our nation's COVID-19 response.

Once a COVID-19 vaccine has been approved by the FDA, it must be free and accessible for all people.

Strenuous efforts must be employed before any discussion of a vaccine mandate.

The Leadership Conference/The Education Fund, For more information, go to www. https://civilrights.org

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## Remembering Our Love For Humankind.

Lanz Nalagan, Annual & Corporate Giving Director at Sacramento LGBT Community Center

he word philanthropy comes from the ancient Greek meaning "Love of humankind." And it doesn't just help the recipients, it offers immense satisfaction to givers as well. In fact, neuroscientists confirm that when you give a donation it activates the same part of your brain that your favorite foods or activities do.



This year has been and continues to be a struggle- for our local business community, for our most marginalized, and for nonprofits who are trying to maintain their services, shift their programs, and increase their work to meet the heightened demand of those they serve. The time to hunker down, wear a mask, shelter-in-place, and support your community is NOW. Without a devotion to philanthropy, our days will continue to be more dangerous, less happy, and darker.

It's important to note that philanthropists are just as diverse as our beautiful LGBTQ+community. We give to pursue different visions and support in ways that we are able Together, we can create a plethora of solutions to problems rather than just one. Here are some ways to take care of your community during the holidays and as we close one of the most challenging years to date

#### **Support Your Nonprofits**

This pandemic is an unexpected event with serious consequences. Even if we are optimistic about curbing the public-health threat over time, particularly given our underlying economic fragility, the pandemic stands to produce sudden suffering at unprecedented scale. Find a nonprofit that your passionate about at https://impactfoundry.org/my-account/memberdirectory/ and consider donating today.

#### **Support Your Local Businesses**

Local business is essential for our economy. They provide employment and create entrepreneurship opportunities and support the local economies, communities, and neighborhoods. They are what make our towns special and unique. Buy gift cards or credit for later. Share local restaurant delivery menus on your social media pages. Check to see which of your services/providers are now being provided online.

Find an LGBTQA business at https://business.rainbowchamber.com/list/

#### **Commit To Social Justice And Equity**

It's a fact. Marginalized groups suffer more during the COVID-19 crisis. LGBTQ+ people smoke at rates 50% higher than the general population, which could be detrimental if a respiratory illness like COVID-19 is contracted. Higher rates of HIV and cancer in the LGBTQ+ community means that a greater number of people may have compromised immune systems, which leaves them more vulnerable to COVID-19 infections. Health care discrimination in America, including denial of care, unwelcoming attitudes and lack of understanding from staff and providers means LGBTQ+ people may be more reluctant to seek medical care. Support LGBTQ+ lives, especially Black and Trans

https://sacramentopride.org/take-action-now/.
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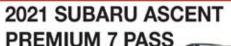
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## ndomitab By Bonnie Osborn Op

aurie McBride was born in Hollywood in 1949, a devotee of Pixar and all things Disney to Ithe end, a daughter of the Indomitable City, a "California girl" in the smartest, scrappiest, bravest sense of the word, whose life and many contributions to justice and equality graced the whole of our state and far beyond.

If you're like most people, you don't know half of what Laurie accomplished in her 71 years on Earth, and that was no accident. She never acted for her own aggrandizement but always in the interest of the movement. She was entrepreneurial and practical, a brilliant but humble servant leader who found her role and her voice when the onset of the HIV/AIDS pandemic struck her San Francisco sanctuary, and who built atop the structure of that radical healthcare movement the bedrock for the modern LGBTQ rights movement on which today's young progressive activists stand. "She was dogged," says Los Angeles County Supervisor and former state Senator Sheila

Sadly, at a time when all of us so need her, Laurie won't be here to support and guide our next generation of leaders and warriors. She died December 4, 2020, following a lengthy illness, slowly recovering from a stroke in October but cherishing every day with her beloved Donna in their dream home in the big trees. Even though she's no longer here with us, to write the introductions so we look good at the podium, or to tell us straight from the shoulder who is the best messenger to wrangle that tough moderate vote-to show us not merely how to defend our equal rights, but how to actually get things done-she still has a lot to teach us.

#### California Girl

The only child of an only child, Laurie came from a small biological family, but she would find a huge, adoring extended family in the LGBTQ civil rights movement.

She lost her father in a car accident when she was 6. She grew up watching the news with her Democrat mom, who never remarried, as the civil rights and protest movements of the era played out in the headlines. She had a passion for justice and equality from childhood, once boarding a city bus and telling the driver she wanted to go march with Dr. Martin Luther King, Donna says.

When Laurie was 11, her mom's job with the California Hotel/Motel Association took the family to Sacramento, where they settled in Land Park. After college, she found her

way to the "sanctuary" of San Francisco, as did so many LGBTQ people in that time. As she explained in a World AIDS Day speech in 2017, it was a heady time for gay and lesbian activism.

"Our community had begun to recognize itself in the '60s.... The first center came in San Francisco in 1966, and then in Los Angeles 1969, which opened just before the Stonewall

Riots in NYC. But the real explosion of organizing came in the '70s... Where once there had only been the Court, the bars and the sports leagues, now religious, social, and professional groups were springing up...

"Most politicians didn't want our money or our endorsements, but we were beginning to gain some traction in politics," she recalled.

In 1975, California passed a law decriminalizing gay sex, signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown. In 1977, Castro neighborhood business owner Harvey Milk was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, the first openly gay person elected to public office in California.





But the initial gains triggered a conservative backlash. In 1977, the California legislature passed a law defining marriage as between one man and one woman. Just 11 months after taking office, in November 1978, Harvey Milk was assassinated, along with San Francisco Mayor George Moscone.

#### The Firing

Laurie was working in the glaucoma clinic at the UCSF Med Center in 1978, when one of her physician bosses spotted her in the quad, tabling in opposition to Proposition 6, the vile Briggs Ballot Initiative that would have mandated the firing of every gay or lesbian teacher, or any teacher who supported LGBTQ rights, in California public schools. "Where I come from, we have a way of dealing with people like you," her boss told her. He was from Lynchburg, Virginia.

Within 30 days she was fired on trumped-up charges. The experience was devastating. "So I swore that I would be part of making that impossible to happen again and to protect people like me," she told an interviewer for Kraven Magazine years later. "And I got politically involved."

She and her then-partner bought a small print shop in the Castro. The original Cole Valley Graphics shared a noisy wall with Maude's, the first lesbian bar west of the Mississippi. Later, they moved to the Print Center in the old MJB Coffee plant and renamed the business Archetype.

Laurie's role as a business owner led to other arenas. She served as co-chair of the

local Small Business Commission during Diane Feinstein's mayorship. She joined the Golden Gate Business Association, the pioneering LGBTQ chamber of commerce established in 1974, and became its first lesbian president.

Then the unimaginable happened. GGBA members, including bathhouse owners, board members, former presidents of the organization, were getting sick.

In her role representing hundreds of San Francisco business owners, Laurie was thrust into the middle of the crisis, serving as chair of the Community Partnership on AIDS and later as co-chair of the AIDS lobby organization Mobilization Against AIDS (MOB). She led the Northern California campaigns to defeat a series of anti-LGBTQ ballot measures, including Proposition 64, which would have mandated the rounding up and incarceration of people diagnosed with HIV, in 1986, and Proposition 69, which would have mandated reporting of the names of HIV+ people, in 1988.

Paul Boneberg, who served as MOB executive director, remembered Laurie in a recent Facebook post: "She was working on AIDS before I was, before the organized political responses such as Mobilization or ACT-UP, and before the AIDS infrastructure existed. Her community was under attack, her friends were dying, and she did what she always did, jumped in and provided leadership. She created the organizations that were needed as she went."

Donna Yutzy had also landed in San Francisco in the early 1970s. She was serving as president of the prominent lesbian organization Bay Area Career Women in 1985 when she first laid eyes on Laurie, at a fundraiser for the GGBA Foundation. Both were in other relationships at the time–their "training wheel relationships," Donna says–and they kept their relationship secret for several months. They celebrated 35 years together in 2020.

In 1990, Laurie learned about a job opening in Sacramento to succeed Rand Martin as executive director of the statewide umbrella organization Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality, or AIDS LIFE Lobby. She went for it.

"She walked in, and I thought, now who in the heck is this lesbian?" recalls John Duran, a young attorney and AIDS activist who would later become mayor of West Hollywood. "Because she not only has three-ring binders for all of us, they are color-coded with tabs.... She knocked everybody's socks off."

Laurie got the job, sold the print business, and she and Donna moved into her childhood home in Land Park, where they would live together for the next 25 years.

#### The LIFE Lobby Years

In her new job as LIFE ED, Laurie inherited her first employee, Alan LoFaso, the organization's only other professional staff member. "It was a very steep learning curve for her," LoFaso recalled recently. "There were a lot of doubters who didn't see what they should have seen."

LIFE was founded in direct response to the deluge of anti-LGBTQ legislation and public policies triggered by the AIDS crisis, as a way to unite and give some funding clout to the broad spectrum of HIV/AIDS, LGBTQ and civil rights organizations then fighting on separate fronts.

Some people were surprised at the time that she was chosen over a more "establishment" candidate.

"Not always a favorite of Democratic establishment figures, the Republicans trusted her," LoFaso wrote in a Facebook tribute. "As a small business owner, she was practical and entrepreneurial. Her most effective quality was seeing past individual differences and connecting on a human level. It was this fundamentally political skill that made the difference. I know it was why she was chosen, and she fulfilled every expectation and more so."

At its apex LIFE encompassed 102 organizations, its representatives meeting quarterly in different parts of the state.

"We had five chapters of ACT UP, seven chapters of Log Cabin Republicans, every AIDS foundation in the state, nursing, teaching associations, the ACLU, alcohol and drug recovery programs...," says Duran, who served as LIFE's Southern California co-chair from 1987 to 1992.

"We would meet on weekends somewhere in the state, and the meetings would take three days. It took that long to hash out, there were so many different opinions. We'd always adjourn in the names of those we had lost since the last quarter."

It was around that time that LIFE Lobby

expanded its focus from HIV/AIDS to broader issues of LGBTQ civil rights.

As Kuehl, who served as Speaker Pro Tempore of the California Assembly and state Senator during Laurie's Capitol years, recalls, the dearth of state and federal government response to the AIDS crisis had left the LGBTQ community to fend for itself.

"The federal government, very like today, was no help at all...," Kuehl says. "Laurie rightly understood that even though we had a few good strategic allies in Sacramento, there really needed to be what we now call LGBTQ voices, speaking up with experience, advocating for appropriate funding and solutions, and really beginning to have more of a presence in lobbying... Although we had straight friends who were powerful, there is nothing like an authentic voice at the table, and that's what LIFE became."

A big part of Laurie's job as leader of LIFE Lobby was wrangling consensus and funding from the diverse interests around the table. Her first big battle was AB101. The original gay and lesbian non-discrimination bill, AB 1, sponsored by Assemblymember Art Agnos of San Francisco, was vetoed in 1984 by Governor George Deukmejian. As Deukmejian prepared to leave office, termed out, Laurie wrote the bill that would become AB 101.

"Laurie came in and renamed the bill AB101, to prohibit discrimination in employment and housing," Duran says. "But the [legislative] Democrats balked at housing; they did not want it in the bill. It was so insane, but homophobia, AIDS phobia was so high, the Democrats refused to move the bill unless we took housing out.

"Laurie looked at the map, and we had the votes in the Bay area and in

greater L.A., but in the Central Valley there were a lot of conservative and moderate Democrats." The two took their show on the road.

"Laurie and I spent weeks on the road, going into parts of California that I have never seen since. We went into small towns; we went into gay bars. The Padre Hotel on Friday nights in Bakersfield. Laurie would send me in, in a tight shirt, to pull gay boys over to talk to us. It worked."

AB 101 squeaked through the legislature by a single vote, but Republican Governor Pete Wilson, who, like Democratic candidate Feinstein, had promised during the campaign to sign the bill, instead vetoed it. "This was after we had watered it down, took out housing, weakened it just to get something through the legislature," Duran recalls. The betrayal triggered outrage and what would come to be known as the Veto Riots.

"It wasn't so much that Pete Wilson betrayed us and vetoed the employment discrimination bill," Duran says. "We had been burying our dead, fighting for our lives, we had been out in the streets. And we had asked for this one modicum of decency, please let us keep our jobs, and we couldn't even get that from our government.

"The kindling got torched. In LA, there were 10,000 people marching nightly for three weeks. It finally stopped when the LAPD charged us, clubbed us all and hauled us off to jail....

"Laurie was involved in all of this," Duran says. "She in essence was laying the foundation for marriage, laying the foundation for the modern LGBT rights movement."

If John Duran was Laurie's "Southern California boyfriend," Sam Catalano, then the LIFE representative for the Inland Empire organization PACE (Political Action Coalition for Election] would become her "Northern California boyfriend" and her best friend.

"I would stay over at her house when the LIFE meetings were held in Sacramento," he remembers. "She took pity on me. We had lots in common. As the years went by, we just grew closer and closer. She got me my job in the legislature.

"I was her most dedicated servant because I worshiped the ground she walked on. I knew of her sacrifices, her struggles, her hurts-all of which made me love her even more."

LIFE Lobby would prevail in other battles and shaped LGBTQ politics in California and nationwide. Under Laurie's leadership, its diverse member organizations reluctantly gave up their mailing lists, and LIFE Lobby used the zip code data to undertake its own reapportionment project, to show the Democrats what LGBTQ-friendly voting districts could look like.

The Democrats shelved it. "In 1992 the Democrats told us they would represent us; they were not willing to clear a way to make room at the table," Duran says. "We did it with Sheila first in 1994," the year Kuehl was elected to the California Assembly.

Over time, as the dynamics of the HIV/AIDS pandemic and the political landscape shifted, LIFE's funding, always heavily dependent on a handful of wealthy supporters, began to dwindle. Toward the end, Catalano recalls, Laurie was paying staff out of her own pocket.

"Some thought the guys hadn't treated Laurie very well," Kuehl recalls. "The lesbians did talk about that.... For a while it felt as though Laurie had been abandoned. It was Sacramento that said, 'No, you are not abandoned."



#### Sacramento Stonewall is Born

In 1998 Laurie went to work for then-Assembly Speaker Antonio Villaraigosa, then on to serve as chief of staff to state Senator Kevin Shelley from 2000 to 2002 and as Assistant Secretary of State when Shelley was elected Secretary of State in 2003.

During Laurie's eight years in the California Capitol, Kuehl was joined by a number of LGBTQ legislators, including Assemblymember Jackie Goldberg, who passed a sweeping domestic partnership bill in 2003. The California legislature became the first U.S. state legislative body to pass a same-sex marriage bill, which was co-authored by then-Senator Sheila Kuehl in 2002, only to be vetoed by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger in 2005. During her eight years at the Capitol, Laurie was instrumental in passing laws on gun control and reproductive choice as well as LGBT rights.

In 2002, Catalano, local Doctor of Chiropractic Darrick Lawson, and Dan Roth, legislative assistant to Assemblymember Carole Migden, founded the Stonewall Democratic Club of Greater Sacramento. Laurie became the local club's representative to the National Stonewall Democrats and served as chair of National Stonewall from 2004 to 2014.

Roth, Sac Stonewall's first president, found Laurie to be an "omnipresent mentor-always available with sage advice, wise warnings, encouraging young people to take up a leadership role....

"But what I will always remember is that Laurie never missed an opportunity to have fun, be campy, and to let our queerness shine.... Because of Laurie's insistence, Stonewall events were a celebration of queer identity in all of its colors. Laurie challenged us to make change but to do so in a positive, memorable, and humorous way."

"I learned from Laurie early on that you had to find the best people to make it happen," says Lawson, who succeeded Roth as Stonewall's second president.

"Laurie wrote every introduction I ever did for every elected official..." Lawson says. "She held my hand and wrote the words and made the organization look good. So often,



## Indomitable Spirit: Laurie Mc Bride

#### ...Continued from previous page

she was the person behind the scenes, making sure we knew what we were talking about and helping us achieve the goal. She is the most impactful person in my life that no one's ever known. It's amazing what she did that she took no glory for. It was never, ever about her getting recognition for it."

"Laurie, when I say she was dogged.... I think it was the thing that carried us through," says Kuehl. "She made everybody put one foot in front of the other and keep going and going and going. For our message to get to the legislators, we had to have a fairly unified front about what we wanted, and it really worked."

"She was California's goddess, and my dear friend," Duran says.

Although Laurie officially "retired" from her work in the legislature in 2005, she continued to be a force in local, state and national politics for many years. She served as co-chair of the California Democratic Party's LGBT Caucus beginning in 2007. She mentored and inspired a generation of young activists.

In March 2018, Laurie and Donna moved to their dream home. "We had always wanted to live in the woods," Donna says. "We spent so many wonderful holidays in the Sierra.... It was something we wanted to do, and we knew if we didn't do it soon, Laurie wouldn't get to do it."

The peace and quiet of their tree-lined street was perfect therapy for Laurie's failing health. Two online businesses that Laurie had launched in her spare time were thriving, and Donna was able to retire from the job that had kept her on the road 290 days a year.

#### It Takes A Village

You might think the story of Laurie's activism and community organizing ends





there, but you'd be wrong. On November 8, 2018, the Camp Fire broke out in California's Sierra Mountains. Donna, Laurie and thousands of their neighbors fled the fire that would destroy nearly 14,000 homes and take at least 85 lives. After sheltering 18 days with Laurie's cousin in Chico, they were allowed to return to their home, still intact, by way of narrow mountain roads.

With the main road still blocked and the fire still burning, most of the returned neighbors planned to drive down the mountain once a week to stock up on supplies. Then the snow started, and suddenly some 5,000 people were stranded. "The panic on [online neighborhood application] Next Door was unbelievable," Donna says. "It was raining, snowing, people were running out of food." The Red Cross and local law enforcement, overwhelmed with 50,000+ people still displaced from the fire, were non-responsive.

Laurie and Donna, with their next-door neighbor, gathered up the excess food in their own pantries and set up a pop-up food bank, tabling in the parking lot of the local closed pizza café until someone found the key to the local guild hall. They rented a U-Haul, which their 100 or their former Land Park neighbors loaded with 3,000 pounds of food, raised in 24 hours, then guided it over the steep mountain roads, Donna says. Seventy-five people were waiting for them at the guild hall, some of whom had not eaten for two days.

The remarkable effort brought together people of all stripes. Naturally, many of those who showed up to volunteer were local lesbians, who quickly became Laurie's and Donna's new friends. They worked sorting food and handing out pallets of water alongside members of the California State Militia in full fatigues.

The weak local response in the wake of the fire made the residents of the unincorporated community realize they needed to organize. Laurie and Donna launched the Upper Ridge Community Council to hold government agencies accountable, with Laurie serving on the executive committee. They refurbished an old golf course to create a community and recovery center and opened a disc golf course to help fund it.

"When you switch your focus to the village, it changes everything," Donna says. "We all share the same things in our little village. We don't know the politics of the others on the board. We are all trying to help the recovery. We still have friends living in RVs. There is so much more that is important."

Life changed drastically on October 12, when Laurie suffered a stroke. She endured partial paralysis and had started dialysis treatment for kidney disease. Back home in recovery, she took joy in the trees, the pets and the deer and other critters that visited daily, telling Donna, "I love every single thing about being here."

Despite the momentous progress toward LGBTQ equality, the work is not done, Laurie said in an interview for Kraven Magazine

"Today, can you see a gay pride resolution being passed by Auburn City Council? No. See there's a place to start. You may not be successful the first go-round, but every time you have the conversation, every single time you have the conversation, you change more hearts and more minds, and you push that envelope each time....

"The Life Lobby was a coalition of groups with ACT UP on the left and Log Cabin Republicans on the right, and I came away from that experience believing that you



needed everybody. You needed the voices of the 'I want it now' and then those who said, 'I'm grateful for the crumb,' the incrementalists. Change doesn't happen overnight; you have to bring people along. We've gone a long, long way to that, to doing that in this state."

"She was very loving and dedicated and generous," says Laurie's best friend, Sam Catalano. "She was a great political strategist. She knew how to stand up to Republican bullies and homophobes.... She was a major leader in getting the legislature to kill all anti-gay bills and then get pro-LGBT bills through the legislature.

"She was a fighter, a great writer, never gave up."

Donate to the Laurie McBride Scholarship: https://www.sacstonewallfoundation.org/donate/

Bonnie Osborn is a Sacramento writer and communications professional.



# Thank Goodness It's Sacramento!



Dear Friends,

This has been a year of challenge and change, and I have had the great honor to serve as the first openly-LGBT Sacramento City Councilmember through many difficult and rewarding times over these past eight years. And we have accomplished great things together, things like:

We've gathered in joy to celebrate our right to marry who we love that was finally recognized by the US Supreme Court. We've gathered in sheer grief at the massacre at the Pulse Night Club in the belief that love conquers hate.

We've built our community through a permanent home for the LGBTQ Center. We've broken ground, finally, on an LGBT-inclusive senior affordable housing project in Midtown.

We've paved the way, literally, with rainbow crosswalks at 20&K and installed sign toppers to mark the official recognition of Lavender Heights. We've raised the LGBT Pride Flag and Transgender Pride Flag over City Hall.

We've passed local laws to ensure that the City of Sacramento gets perfect marks on the Human Right's Campaign's Municipal Equality Index, including by providing full transgender health benefits to city employees. We've appointed qualified LGBTQ-people to numerous boards and commissions where they represent all of us admirably and move the city forward.

We've opened our first shelter for homeless LGBTQ youth. We've invested grants into services for our community and its small businesses. We've inspired each other to never give up despite the adversity that confronts us and to believe in ourselves when doubt creeps in.

This has been a painful and difficult year for so many of our friends and family who are struggling with the COVD-19 pandemic, the economic fallout, a fight for racial justice here and across the country, and a challenging national election that made us anxious and angry because our lives were on the line.

We've come far, but there is still, yet, far to go. Our best days are still ahead if we continue to work together, love one another, and remember that we are in it together. Our Sacramento LGBTQ community is stronger than ever.

My love for our community has grown deeper and wider as we continue to challenge each other to be better tomorrow than we were today.

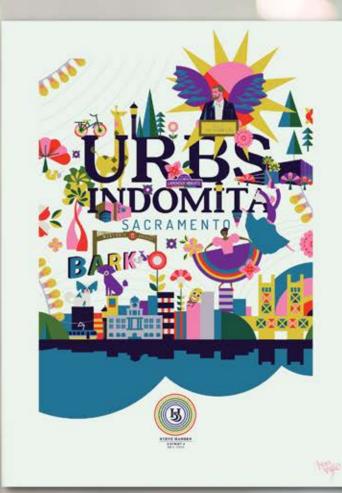
Thank you for the love and support you've shown me and my family. I look forward to continuing to fight for us in ways that honor the sacrifice of our elders to whom we owe a great debt.

Your Friend Always,

Steve Hansen

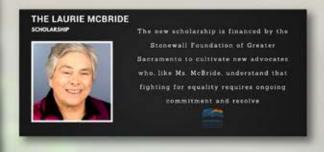
Councilmember District 4 | 2012-2020





Working with an amazing local artist, Amber Witzke, I've commissioned this beautiful commemorative print to spark joy, celebrate our love of this city, and remind us that our work has made lives better.

Prints are available
(https://amberwitzke.com/product/steve-hansens-art-print/) with
100% of the proceeds going to the
Laurie McBride Scholarship at
Sacramento State through the
Stonewall Foundation of Greater
Sacramento.





One Lucky Outword subsciber will be chosen at random each week and will WIN a Holiday Mystery Prize!

You could win a gift card, products or services from one of our advertisers, or even cash!

Enter to win by **CLICKING HERE** to sign up for **Outword**'s email list!

## The Holiday Giveaway begins next week... Don't miss out!



#### Statement on President-Elect Joe Biden's Historic Nomination of Pete Buttigieg as Transportation Secretary, First Openly LGBTQ+ Cabinet Secretary

President-elect Joe Biden is expected to nominate Pete Buttigieg, former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, and Democratic candidate for president, to serve as the next Secretary of Transportation, Axios reported. The selection makes Buttigieg the first openly LGBTQ+ person to be nominated to a permanent Cabinet-level position. If confirmed next year, Buttigieg will be the first openly LGBTQ Cabinet secretary ever approved by the U.S. Senate.



Former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, Pete Buttigieg.

Equality California, the nation's largest statewide LGBTQ+ civil rights organization and one of the first LGBTQ+ organizations to support Buttigieg's presidential campaigns, released the following statement from Executive Director Rick Chavez Zbur:

"With President-Elect Joe Biden's historic announcement today, I am filled with hope and pride. When confirmed, Pete Buttigieg will not only be the first openly LGBTQ+ Cabinet secretary, but the highest ranking openly LGBTQ+ federal official in American history. I want LGBTQ+ young people across the country to see Secretary Buttigieg and know that the sky is the limit.

"In 1957, Frank Kameny was fired from his job as an astronomer in the U.S. Army Map Service because he was gay. He was one of thousands of LGBTQ+ people who have been barred from serving in government positions throughout our nation's history –

not because they weren't up for the job, but because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. Today, as they build the most diverse Cabinet ever, President-Elect Biden and Vice President-Elect Harris are shutting the door forever on that painful legacy and sending a clear message to LGBTQ+ people everywhere that we deserve a seat at every table and belong in every hall of power.

"Today, more than ever, we are proud to be on Team Pete."

Equality California and the organization's Nevada-based affiliate Silver State Equality endorsed Buttigieg in the Democratic presidential primary. When Buttigieg withdrew from the race and endorsed President-Elect Biden, Equality California and Silver State Equality became the first two LGBTQ+ civil rights organizations to endorse the president-elect.





### **Holiday Wrap-Up: Recycle Your Tree**

ive your Christmas tree the proper send-off. Rather than toss it in the trash, recycle it. You'll be doing our local landfills a big favor.

Bring your Christmas tree to any of the locations listed below at the scheduled days and times. Your tree will be mulched for free

Please remove all tinsel, lights, tree stands and nails. Flocked trees will be accepted at all locations. There is a limit of five trees per vehicle-except at the locations noted below where loads exceeding 5 trees will be accepted.

Christmas trees may be recycled for free at the following locations:

#### **SMUD Corporation Yard**

6100 Folsom Boulevard Saturday, January 9 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

#### **North Area Recovery Station**

4450 Roseville Road Saturday, January 9 and Sunday, January

8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (Accepts loads exceeding 5 trees)

#### Kiefer Landfill

12701 Kiefer Boulevard Saturday, January 9 and Sunday, January

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

#### (Accepts loads exceeding 5 trees) **Sacramento Recycling and Transfer**

8491 Fruitridge Road Saturday, January 9 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Also accepting trees December 26 -January 9, Monday through Saturday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

#### Folsom - Dan Russell Rodeo Arena

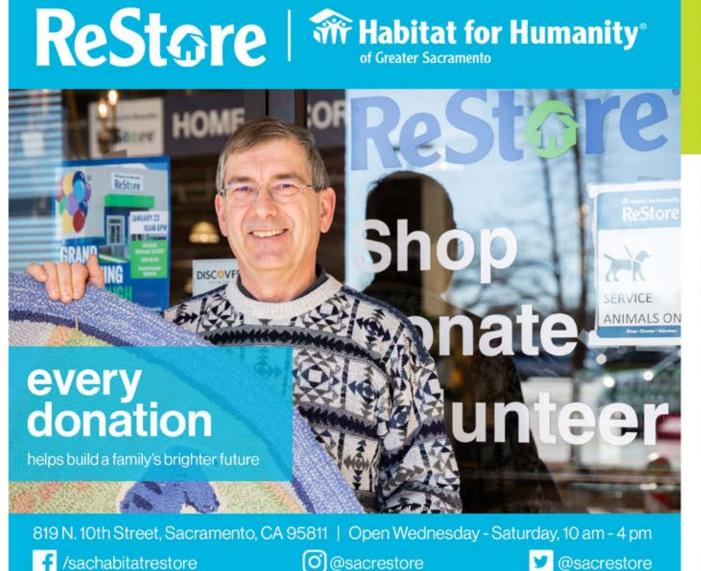
Rodeo Park, end of Stafford Street Saturday, January 9 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Accepts loads exceeding 5 trees)

#### **Elder Creek Transfer and Recovery**

8642 Elder Creek Road Saturday, January 9 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. (Accepts loads exceeding 5 trees) Please observe COVID-19 health and safety protocols including social distancing and wearing a face covering at participating locations.

News media, please note: For more about recycling Christmas trees visit SacGreenTeam.com.





#### Decluttering after the holdiays? Donate to the ReStore!

The Habitat ReStore can give your items new life and keep them out of landfills. We will gladly accept your gently used and functional home furninshings and decor, appliances, and more!

Donations accepted by appointment only. Schedule a donation before the 2020 tax deadline - appointments available exclusively for Outword readers!

#### Appointments available: 12/26, 12/29, & 12/31 | 10 am - 1:30 pm Scan the QR code here or visit

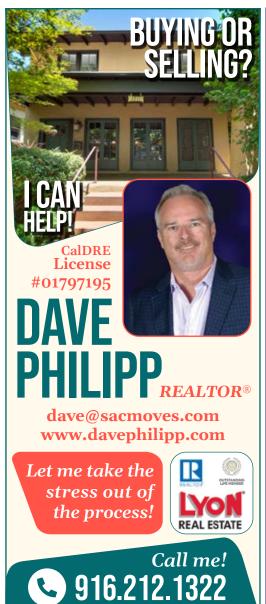
habitatgreatersac.org/restoredonate to make an appointment!

Use exclusive code OUTWORD2020 for scheduling!





@sacrestore







2020 is the year of the LGBTQ+ holiday movie, and we can't get enough of them. The latest one is "Dashing In December" starring Andie MacDowell, and you can see it on the Paramount Network. After Wyatt comes home for the holidays to try to convince his mother to sell the family's Colorado ranch, he finds romance with a new ranch hand who dreams of saving the property and its magical Winter Wonderland attraction.



The Sacramento Women's Chorus (SWC) recently presented their first virtual holiday concert, which is available to watch on YouTube and includes solos, group numbers, and a very tasty musical trio. The terrific, 25-minute show is short and sweet and includes superb songs such as Idina Menzel's "At This Table," John Bucchino's "Grateful" and other inspirational lyrics. You can make a year-end donation to the chorus at www.sacramentowomenschorus.org, and the holiday concert is

www.sacramentowomenschorus.org, and the holiday concert is available to watch for free at

www.youtube.com/watch?v=yTpQxLI2RA0&feature=youtu.be



Donate new, unwrapped gifts for families experiencing domestic & sexual violence.

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- & Clothing
- Games
- Socks

#### For complete wish list & donation information:

#### weaveinc.org/winterwonderland





#### ssemblymember Evan Low, Chair of the CA Legislative LGBTQ Caucus, issues statement on ▶ President-elect Joe Biden's nomination of Pete **Buttigieg for Secretary of Transportation**

"We are overjoyed with President-elect Joe Biden's historic decision to select Pete Buttigieg as the next Secretary of Transportation, which upon Senate confirmation would make him the first LGBTQ+ person to ever serve in a presidential cabinet. The meteoric rise of 'Mayor Pete,' an openly gay small-town mayor who suddenly became a genuine contender for the Democratic nomination for President, has been a source of immense pride for the LGBTQ+ community - not only because representation matters but also because Pete and his husband, Chasten, have shown so much grace and integrity under the national spotlight. We know Pete is ready to solve the immense challenges that await him as the next transportation secretary, from modernizing our nation's infrastructure and funding our public transit systems to tackling climate change in a way that sets us on a path to saving the planet."



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# Holiday Drink Recipes! Cinnamon Spritzer Ingredients 1.50 oz Cinnamon Infused Tahoe Blue Vodka 0.50 oz Vanilla Simple Syrup 2 dashes Chocolate Bitters Sparkling Water Can substitute vanilla soda to simplify (Dry makes good one) Directions 1. Shake all ingredients over ice and pour into glass 2. Top with sparkling water (substitute vanilla soda to simplify - Dry makes good one)



#### **Modern Royale**

Ingredients

1 oz Tahoe Blue Vodka

1 oz elderflower liqueur, preferably St. Germain

50% 25% 25%

0.25 oz fresh grapefruit juice

0.25 oz fresh lemon juice

0.25 oz fresh lime juice

Brut champagne or sparkling wine

Directions
1. Shake ingredients over ice and strain into glass

2. Top with Brut Champagne (or sparkling wine)





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## Please Support the Outword Rainbow Fund

For 25 years, we have helped connect and maintain our community.

We have been Sacramento's source for LGBTQ+ information, politics, entertainment and so much more. Since the recent economic downturn, and closure of businesses that helped distribute our publication, we have had to go to an online-only format.

Many of our advertisers have cut their advertising budgets, or have completely stopped advertising in our magazine altogether.

We have never asked for help before, however, in order to keep publishing online and to keep paying our staff of three and a few of our writers, we have established this site for our readers or local businesses should they wish to support us. If you consider us as a valuable and vital resource for the LGBTQ+ community, thank you in advance for your support.

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\$20	
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Nature Supporter
Serenity Supporter
Spirit Supporter

We've designated supporter levels according to the colors in the LGBTQ+ rainbow flag.

As a supporter at any level we will give you a line listing on the color of the flag in the next issue. We are not a non-profit, so you are actually buying an ad and letting people know you support us.

## OutwordRainbowFund.com

# Thank You Outword Supporters!

Current as of December 16, 2020

Once again we would like to thank those that have become sponsors of Outword Magazine! Your contribution will help us keep the lights on and the closet doors wide open. Here are a list of our Sponsors at the level they participated, so far. We will continue to run this page, with any updates, for the next several issues.

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## **Lady Bunny Or Pink Martini?**

he upside of COVID -- if there is one -- is the wealth of streamed entertainment that has been made available to folks stuck at home. This holiday season, the number of events has only multiplied to the point where it's hard to know what to choose and what to refuse.

That's where Outword comes in handy, and we've found a pair of not-to-be-missed performances handpicked for those of you who have been both naughty and nice this year.

#### **Lady Bunny: What Child Is This?**

It doesn't get much naughtier than Lady Bunny, the delightfully decadent drag diva who has higher hair than Dolly Parton. If you don't believe me, check out her hilarious video parody of "WAP" on YouTube, entitled "DAP."

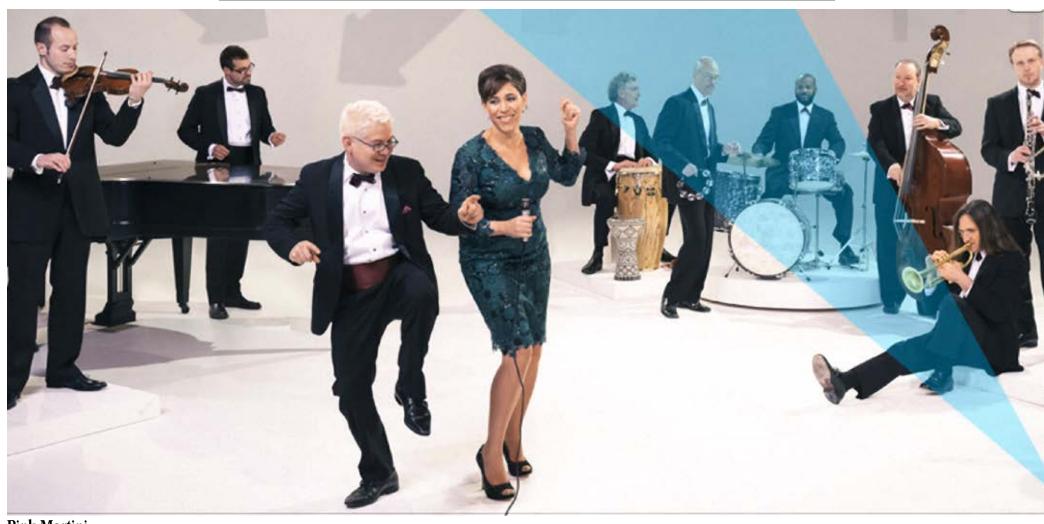
You'll have to watch the video to find out what the "D" stands for, and then you can watch "What Child Is This?" Lady Bunny didn't waste the last nine months in quarantine -- she conceived her long overdue Christmas special.

"What Child Is This?" features over 45-minutes of raunchy, politically incorrect holiday parodies that put the "X" in Xmas. Bunny and her co-writer Beryl Mendelbaum have re-worked all the holiday favorites into depraved silliness.

Song selections include "Rudolpho The Uncut Reindeer" and a timely remake of Mariah Carey's "All I Want for Christmas (Is a Vaccine)." A joyous version of "Twas The Night Before Christmas" envisions Santa in the White House as its current occupants prepare for the arrival of the new administration.

In addition to stockings full of laughter and dirty ditties, Bunny will don several glitzy, festive costumes along with her patented giant coiffures. Taped in New York City at the legendary Stonewall Inn, Lady Bunny's brand-new holiday show is now available for streaming for \$9.99 through Monday, January 4, at www.vossevents.com/ladybunny-in-what-child-is-this





#### Pink Martini

After you enjoy Lady Bunny's naughty Christmas special, you can ring in the New Year with a classy concert by Pink Martini, everyone's favorite "little orchestra."

Entitled "Good Riddance 2020!" the performance was filmed in band leader Thomas Lauderdale's home and features lead singer China Forbes and special guests Storm Large, Ari Shapiro, Edna Vazquez, Jimmie Herrod, Sofia von Trapp, and Cantor Ida Rae Cahana.

Pink Martini's "Good Riddance 2020!" airs at 6:00 p.m. on December 31st and will remain available to view for 48 hours after completion of the broadcast. Tickets start at \$15 and can be purchased via www.mondaviarts.org/events/upcoming-events

Now you have something fun to do on New Year's Eve. You're welcome and happy holidays!



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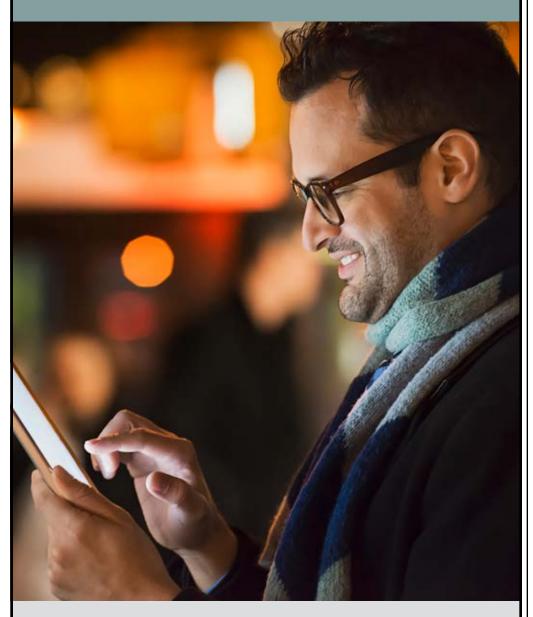






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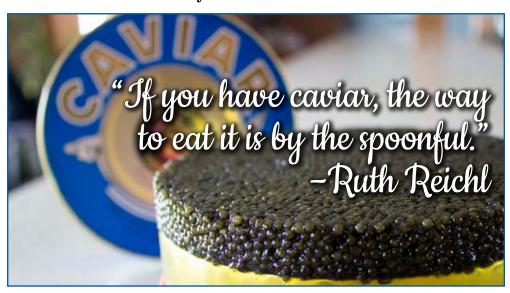
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## California Caviar Company—1st Sustainable Caviar Company in the World

Thile the sturgeon has been around for 200 million years, it wasn't until the past decade that the market for caviar began to get interesting. In September of 2007, California Caviar Company launched the first sustainable caviar company in the world and the industry has not been the same since.



From its inception, California Caviar has been true to its core mission: sustainability, innovation and education. Linking old world traditions with the new world of sustainable aquaculture and culinary innovation, CCC has become a global leader in the production of sustainably farmed, premium caviar, sought after by Michelin Star chefs, discriminating connoisseurs, and those just discovering the joy of caviar.

Deborah Keane—the "Caviar Queen"—a renowned tastemaker and caviar master has built a complete, vertically integrated spawning-to-serving enterprise. Keane's passion for promoting the health and nutritional benefits of caviar is second to none.

In a rough and tumble business, the Boston-bred Keane has defied the odds and has broken the ceiling by becoming the first female owned and operated caviar company in the world and the first female fish farm owner in state of California.

A pioneer of the sustainable caviar movement, Keane founded California Caviar Company to address the lack of reliable supply in the marketplace. CCC was born out of necessity due to the domestic caviar crisis in early 2000s, an error that was marked by the depletion of wild stocks and an increase in illegally sourced product. By 2004, consumers and chefs had lost confidence in the caviar industry because of the decline in quality, safety (use of Borax and garage processing) and transparency in the industry. For over a decade, California Caviar has been true to its core mission. In 2007, CCC launch the first caviar company to only sell sustainably farmed caviar years before the worldwide ban on wild sturgeon in 2011. Our CCC initials and linked logo

not only represent our name but also stand for Company Connecting Change, linking the old world traditions and mystique with the new world of innovation and sustainable aquaculture.

Another signature 'first' for the brand is the Bump Bar in Sausalito, California, an intimate caviar bar with chef-curated menus and a Champagne-centric wine list.

For more information and to purchase California Caviar go to: https://californiacaviar.com. You can follow their social media channels here– Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/CaliforniaCaviar/Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/californiacaviar/







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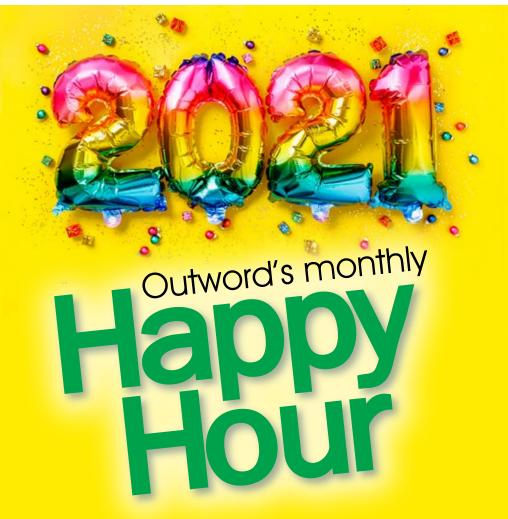












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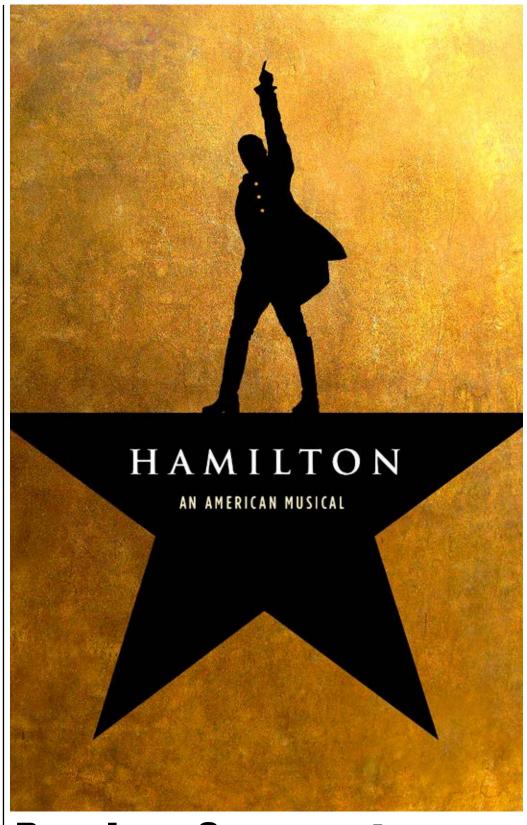
> Look for the event on our Facebook page f @OutwordMagazine for details to RSVP & join us!

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## **Broadway Sacramento Returns With "Hamilton"**

roadway Sacramento isn't letting COVID keep it from planning a 2021 season of live theater, and the news gets even better with the announcement that Lin-Manuel Miranda's Pulitzer Prize-winning musical phenomenon "Hamilton" will open and anchor the new season.

If all goes according to plan, Broadway Sacramento will welcome theatregoers back next Sept. 15 for "Hamilton," the first show of the 2021 Broadway On Tour season, in its beautiful, newly renovated home, the SAFE Credit Union Performing Arts Center.

From Lin-Manuel Miranda's Tony Award-winning Best Musical, and a new production based on the iconic Oscar-winning film "An Officer and a Gentleman," to a musical reimagining of the beloved Roald Dahl tale "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory," each of the season's three productions promises to transport you from your day-to-day to a world of song, dance, joy, and inspiration.

If you are a current Broadway On Tour subscriber, you probably already received your renewal packet in the mail. For more information on next year's season, please

visit www.broadwaysacramento.com

## George Clooney & Gerard Butler Save The World By Chris Narlo To will be a strange Christmas season for me this year since I am used to going to the movies several times over the holidays. Unfortunately,

By Chris Narloch

Greenland

it doesn't look like that will be possible in and around Sacramento this year, unless you want to bundle up and brave the drive-in in Rancho

Physical distancing at the drive-in is the only way to enjoy movies on the big screen at the moment, and I recently saw George Clooney's new Netflix film there before it was made available for home viewing.

Clooney and Gerard Butler both have new doomsday movies out this month, but the two films are as different as night and day -- Butler's "Greenland" is an entertaining popcorn thriller, while Clooney's "The Midnight Sky" is a sober apocalyptic drama.

Read on for my thoughts on those two big releases, plus a review of a beautiful Black love story starring Tessa Thompson that is easily one of the best films of this year.

#### Greenland

Gerard Butler has never been a favorite of mine, but he's just right (and actually quite moving) in this story of family survival disguised as a killer comet movie. That's right. Butler the action hero has to save the day once again, but it's more interesting since the actor is 51 now and looks a little older and slower than he did in

Blessedly, the screenwriter of "Greenland" spares us the scientific speeches that we usually get in movies like this, in favor of a three-person story of family survival set against the backdrop of Earth's potential destruction by a wayward comet.

Butler is dad, Morena Baccarin is mom, and an excellent crier named Roger Dale Floyd plays their young son. In addition to the convincing family dynamic, "Greenland" is also very effective (and slightly scary) in its depiction of how society can break down during a global crisis, a fact that makes the film surprisingly relevant to the crazy times we are living in.

"Greenland" is currently available to watch On Demand via Amazon Prime Video (and elsewhere) for \$19.99.



#### The Midnight Sky

If you prefer your sci-fi movies somber and slow-paced -- I don't -- then this new end-of-the-world film directed by and starring George Clooney was made for you. Sadly, I was bored out of my mind by "The Midnight Sky," which takes place in the Arctic and concerns a lone scientist (Clooney) who attempts to communicate with a crew of

The job of Clooney's character is to alert the returning spacecraft that a global catastrophe has rendered most of Earth uninhabitable, and, well, the rest of the movie is just as depressing and dull as that description sounds.

I admire Clooney's conviction and bravery in making the movie, much of which is set in freezing cold conditions that must have been a nightmare to film in. The problem with "The Midnight Sky" is that the end result is almost as grueling to watch as it was

"The Midnight Sky" will begin streaming on Netflix on Wednesday, December 23.

#### **Sylvie's Love**

With several new blockbuster films being made available for home viewing this Christmas -- Pixar's "Soul" and the sequel to "Wonder Woman" will both start streaming on Dec. 25 -- I hope this wonderful little movie doesn't get lost in the shuffle.

The lovely and talented Tessa Thompson plays a young woman who falls in love with a male coworker (played by the very handsome Nnamdi Asomugha) at her family's record store and gets pregnant by him while she is engaged to another man.

"Sylvie's Love" follows the pair's star-crossed love affair through the '60s while they reconnect, part, and reconnect again. Everything about the movie works, from the gorgeous period costumes, soundtrack and production design to the superb script, direction and performances.

If there was a finer cinematic love story in 2020 than "Sylvie's Love," I didn't see it. "Sylvie's Love" will begin streaming on Amazon Prime Video on Wednesday, December 23.



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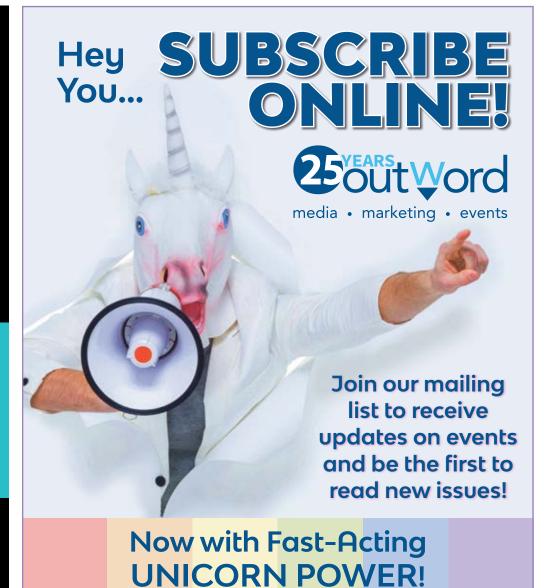
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## **Beat Box: Winter's Hottest Tracks**

By Jimmy Newsum

Baby, it's cold outside. Well, maybe not so much in California but still, it is time to pack away those summer jams and start chilling to some new beats. These songs are season-appropriate in the best way, from lovesick ballads to all night party jams. Here are the sounds you should be adding to your personal playlists right now.

#### "Cry"-Faultlines

John Flanagan and Ashley Morgan are a folk duo, but their latest single leans more country than twang. Written by Flanagan and Jeston Cade, the song shines the spotlight on Ashley Morgan who flexes some serious vocal chops. Some will miss the harmonies that make this duo so special, but give the song a chance. The raw quality of Morgan singing alone without back-up makes perfect sense for a brooding song that reflects on memories of a relationship long gone.



#### "Stronger"-Colton Ford

Everyone's favorite silver daddy reflects on some of the struggles that have kept him out of the limelight these past few years. "Stronger" is a big, beautiful ballad that starts off simply with a vocal and an acoustic guitar before whisking listeners on a powerfully sweeping musical journey. Its inspirational lyrics reveal Ford's own life mantra of staying the course, believing that victory is inevitable. Two remixes accompany the original. Spin Sista's "Future Haus" mix of "Stronger" is epic and anthemic while Spin's "Haus of Love" mix offers a chill kind of vibe that is absolutely delish.

#### "Missing"-John Chandler

Each single on John Chandler's new Running, Missing, Changing, Growing EP tells a story all its own with sad but hopeful lyrics, set to real piano, guitars, and minimal drums. "Missing" chronicles the artist's road to self-discovery where he questions if he is in a healthy relationship, working the right job and living in the ideal city. Produced by Joe Crow and co-written with American Idol finalist Brandon Rogers, the emotionally charged track sets Chandler on a journey where he makes some major life changes and writes as incredible song.

#### "Give a F-ck"-John Duff

Essentially a proclamation of Duff's own self-worth, "Give a F-ck," is an unabashedly



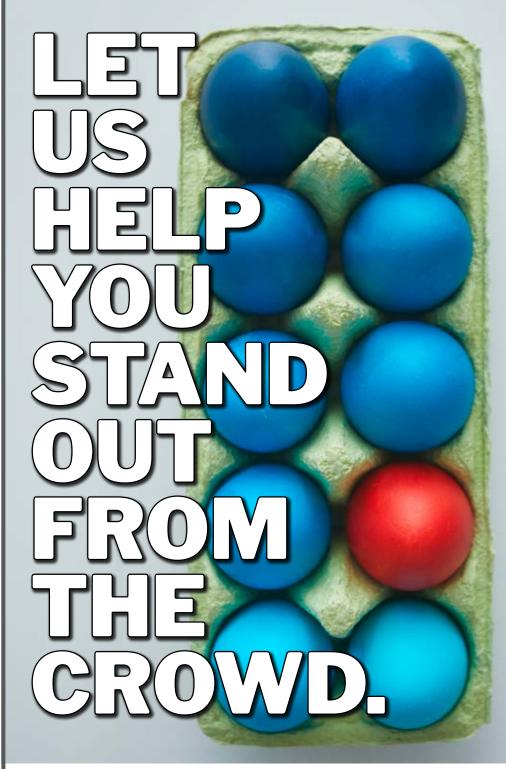
theatrical-R&B-patter-song about unrequited love. There is no hidden message. It's opening lyric refers to Duff's desire for connection and disdain of masturbation. The piano intro is followed by lush accompaniment, dramatic turnarounds, and clever word play, before escalating into its soaring octave-jumping climax. It's the artist's most Mariah Carey, Babyface inspired piece yet. Written by Duff, produced by Alex Delicata (Rihanna) and mastered by Grammy-nominated-engineer Mike Bozzi (Snoop Dogg).



#### "Radio"-Kory Burns

This seductive new R&B track celebrates being single and doing what, when and who you want. Produced by Sean McMillion (Nicki Minaj) and Carlos Battey (Grammy winner for his dance remix of Madonna and David Guetta's "Revolver"), the upbeat single is reminiscent of 90's smooth crooners who were always inviting that special someone home to put nothing on... but the radio. It is fun, flirty, and feel good; exactly what the world needs right now.

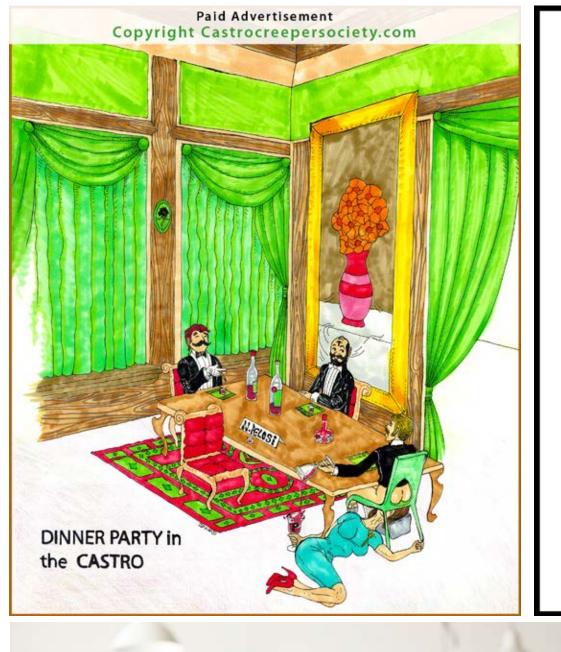


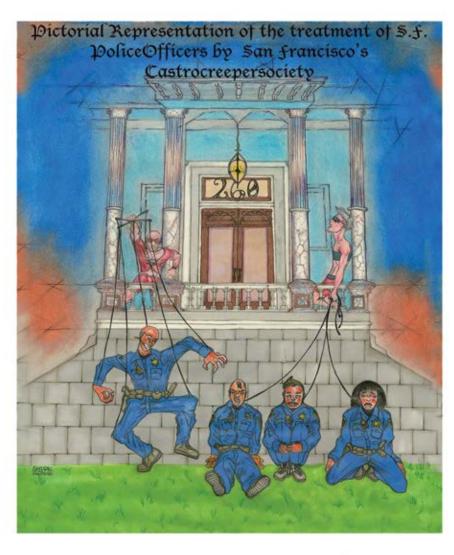


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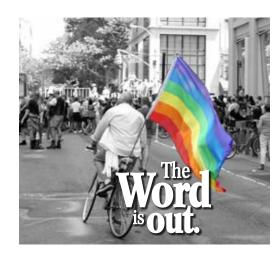
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  - Flu shots provide important protection from the flu and are especially important during the current COVID-19 pandemic.
- 2. Take steps to protect yourself from COVID-19 and the flu.
  - · Wash your hands often.
  - · Cover your mouth and nose with a mask or cloth face covering in public.
  - · Keep 6 feet of distance between yourself and people who don't live in your household.
  - If you feel unwell, stay home, seperate yourself from others, and contact your doctor.

#### COVID-19

Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure and can range from mild to severe.

#### **FLU**

Typical fly symptoms come on suddenly and include a fever, sore throat, cough and/or body aches.

#### SYMPTOMS

Fever, chills, body aches

Cough

Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Chest discomfort

Fatigue

Headache

Loss of taste or smell

Sore throat

Congestion or runny nose

Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea

COVID-19	FLU
X	X
X	X
X	Less common
X	X
X	X
X	X
X	
X	X
X	X
X	Less common

