Paula Abdul Will Be Live at the White Party in Palm Springs! page 28





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Human Rights Campaign Celebrates the Historic Confirmation of Ketanji Brown Jackson

The Human Rights Campaign (HRC), the nation's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBTQ+) civil rights organization, released the following statement after the final Senate floor vote (53-47) to confirm Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson as an associate justice to the Supreme Court of the United States. She will be the first Black woman, and former public defender, to sit on the nation's highest court.

Human Rights Campaign Interim President Joni Madison issued the following statement.

Today is joyful-welcome to the Court, Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson. Today, a brilliant, empathetic, imminently qualified woman of integrity was confirmed to a seat on the Supreme Court of the United States. After 115 prior justices have been appointed, a Black woman finally has the opportunity to serve-and it's about time.

This moment is powerful, meaningful, and long overdue. There is no question that soon-to-be Justice Jackson will be a fierce defender, champion and ally to marginalized communities, including the LGBTQ+ community, who are at-risk of having their rights watered down or stripped from them by the Court's conservative majority. We have a long road ahead of us, and a lot of work to do, but today's victory reminds us all why the fight is worth it."

Last month, HRC issued a report that details Jackson's record as a judge and past statements on a range of civil rights and constitutional issues, and how those would likely inform her work as a Supreme Court Justice. While Judge Jackson's docket has not touched directly upon issues of LGBTQ+ rights, in other public remarks, she has highlighted the historical connections between LGBTQ+ rights and civil rights for other marginalized groups and rightly framed the Obergefell decision on marriage equality alongside Supreme Court precedents about constitutional protections involving privacy and interracial marriage. For the reasons outlined, HRC proudly supports Jackson's nomination to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Jackson graduated from Harvard University and later attended Harvard Law School, where she was a supervising editor of every community.

the Harvard Law Review. She clerked for three federal judges (including Justice Breyer), worked in private practice, and served both on the United States Sentencing Commission and as a federal public defender in Washington, D.C. In 2013, the United States Senate confirmed her to serve as a judge on the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia until she was again confirmed and elevated to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in 2021. Now, she is the first Black woman to be nominated to the U.S. Supreme Court, adding significant racial, gender and professional diversity to our nation's highest court.

The decisions made by the Supreme Court have established important legal precedents that impact the daily lives of all Americans. Over the past three decades, the LGBTQ+ community has benefited from several groundbreaking decisions from the Court, including Romer v. Evans, Lawrence v. Texas, U.S. v. Windsor, Obergefell v. Hodges and Bostock v. Clayton County. During that same period, the Court also handed down a number of rulings that are deeply problematic for civil rights and the public interest, for example, curtailing reproductive freedom and voting rights, in Burwell v. Hobby Lobby and Shelby County v. Holder, respectively. Notably, many of these rulings - both positive and negative - were decided by razor-thin margins, highlighting the importance and magnitude of the responsibility handed to each individual justice.

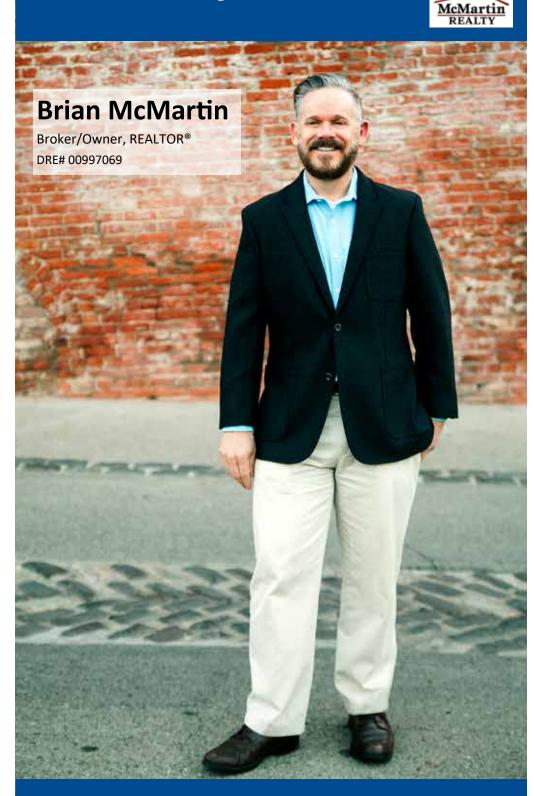
The Human Rights Campaign is America's largest civil rights organization working to achieve lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender equality. HRC envisions a world where LGBTQ+ people are embraced as full members of society at home, at work and in



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Unexpected Art in Midtown Brings Beauty to Public Spaces

For many years now, dating back to the first effort in 2016, the Midtown Association has remained committed to beautifying often ignored and/or underutilized public spaces by showcasing art in unexpected places. With creativity at the forefront, the Midtown Association continues to tap into the talents of different local artists for each unique project which has resulted in an eclectic and exciting mix of artwork in public spots and spaces throughout Midtown.

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Staff

ART DIRECTOR/PRODUCTION Ron Tackitt

> GRAPHIC DESIGN Ron Tackitt

EDITOR editor@outwordmagazine.com

> ARTS EDITOR Chris Narloch

> > SALES Fred Palmer

CONTRIBUTING

WRITERS Chris Allan Faith Colburn Diana Kienle Chris Narloch Lauren Pulido Ron Tackitt

PHOTOGRAPHY Chris Allan Ron Tackitt

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Nat. Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce Nat. Gay & Lesbian Journalist Association Sacramento Rainbow Chamber of Commerce



"From dumpsters and trash cans to utility boxes and electrical pedestals, we're extremely proud of our ongoing efforts to beautify Midtown through our creative 'Art in Unexpected Places' initiative," said Emily Baime Michaels, Executive Director of the Midtown Association. "The amazing artistry, each special and unique in its own way, not only helps to prevent unwelcome graffiti but serves to capture a new perspective of Midtown and feature a diverse range of artists while instilling a sense of pride in a surprising and fun way."

While not comprehensive, a sampling of the "Art in Unexpected" projects throughout Midtown over the years includes the following:

• Dumpster Wraps in 2016 & 2017 – as an initial "Art in Unexpected Places" effort, the Midtown Association worked with talented local artists to create eye-catching wraps on dumpsters and trashcans in alleyways, such as City of Trees or bicycle-friendly designs created by Andy Duong for a dumpster adjacent to 16 Powerhouse near Fremont Park (1515 Q Street):

• Utility Boxes Wraps at Winn Park in June 2021 – the Midtown Association worked with well-known local digital visual artist Brandon Gastinell to wrap two approximately 6' tall utility boxes at Winn Park (28th & P Streets) with vibrant and thought-provoking original

Home of the

10 Minute

Registration

Renewal

designs;

• Electrical Pedestal Wraps in November 2021 – the Midtown Association tapped into the talents of local artist and photographer Melissa Uroff to create digital art to wrap eight electrical pedestals in Fremont Park that utilized a combination of photography and paint to feature local female leaders whose children play at the park;

'Love is in Our Roots' Sidewalk Utility Box Wraps in February 2022 – Midtown Association's own Communications Manager Jodie Miller created whimsical "Love is in our roots" rainbow vegetable designs to wrap sidewalk utility boxes on 21st Street at the intersections of J, K, and L Streets. The art wraps showcase Midtown's commitment to celebrating acceptance and inclusion as well as providing ongoing access to fresh foods and locally grown products.

Looking to the future, additional "Art in Unexpected Places" efforts will continue to pop-up in Midtown, including a mural project that will be unveiled later this year.

In addition to offering numerous public transportation options, Midtown Sacramento is walkable and bike/scooter/car-share friendly. For additional transportation information, please visit www.easeintomidtown.com. For more information about Midtown Sacramento in general, special activities, and the Midtown



Association, please visit www.exploremidtown. orgor follow on social media – Facebook at www.facebook.com/exploremidtown/ and @ ExploreMidtown on Instagram and Twitter.

For more information visit www.exploremidtown.org.

Quote Worth Repeating

ACLU of Arizona Reacts to Gov. Ducey Signing Anti-Trans Bill, SB 1165, Into Law

"First and foremost — to trans kids in Arizona: know that you are loved and you are not alone. Governor Ducey's decision to sign this harmful and discriminatory piece of legislation into law is nothing more than a political ploy to score points with extremist lawmakers and hateful groups peddling falsehoods and manufactured outrage."

— K.M Bell, ACLU of Arizona campaign strategist



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Sacramento Self-Help Housing Launches Educational Effort and Raises Awareness for its Free Renters Helpline

In recognition of National Fair Housing Month in April, Sacramento Self-Help Housing is launching a"Know Your Fair Housing Rights" educational effort and raising awareness about the free Renters Helpline available to vulnerable renters in the Sacramento area. According to the National Alliance to End Homelessness, an estimated 3.7 million Americans report a form of housing insecurity. Additionally, about 7.7 million adults are behind on rent payments, and historical data points to low-income and vulnerable renters being disproportionally at risk of eviction and falling into homelessness.

The free Renters Helpline is a valuable resource for tenants as it offers an education in tenant/landlord issues and dispute resolution services. In the Sacramento area, the Renters Helpline has received nearly 1,500 calls thus far in 2022 from households in need of resources and guidance. The free Renters Helpline is staffed with experts available to help with potential renter regarding landlord/tenant disputes and help to refer fair housing issues to the appropriate agency.

The Renters Helpline is one of a variety of programs offered by Sacramento Self-Help Housing, a non-profit 501(c)3 agency celebrating 20+ years of service that is dedicated to assisting those who are unhoused or at risk of becoming so to find

The Renters Helpline is one of a variety of programs offered by Sacramento Self-Help Housing,

discrimination, tenant/landlord disputes, education on new laws about rent increase and "just cause" evictions, and temporary moratoriums due to COVID-19. Currently, the most frequent questions to the helpline are focused on the following topics: discrimination based on race/color, discrimination based on religion, discrimination based on disability, rent increases, termination of tenancy, or evictions.

Originally launched in 2016, the helpline is made possible through a collaboration with Project Sentinel, and Legal Services of Northern California (LSNC). The free service is available for residents in unincorporated Sacramento County, and the cities of Sacramento, Rancho Cordova, Elk Grove, Citrus Heights, and Folsom. Experienced Tenant Advisors deal directly with concerns and retain stable and affordable housing. All fundraising efforts support Sacramento Self-Help Housing and its efforts to identify positive solutions and workable alternatives for local community members dealing with homelessness or trying to break free from a cycle of unstable living situations. Sacramento Self-Help Housing is a leader in the "housing first" model of homelessness response by providing shared housing and other supportive services.

The Renters Helpline is available at 916-389-7877 Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information about the Renters Helpline, please visit www. rentershelpline.org; for general information about the organization or other programs offered by Sacramento Self-Help Housing, please call 916-341-0593 or visit www.sacselfhelp.org.



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San Francisco Pride Announces Return To In-Person Celebration For The 52nd Annual San Francisco LGBTO+ Pride Parade And Celebration

The Board of Directors of San Francisco Pride are pleased to announce the return to an in-person celebration for the 52nd annual San Francisco Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Pride Celebration and Parade (Pride 52) taking place on Saturday and Sunday, June 25-26, 2022. With the theme of "Love Will Keep Us Together," this year's festivities will include a two-day Celebration and Rally scheduled from noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday, June 25, and from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday, June 26 at Civic Center Plaza and the surrounding neighborhood.



The legendary Parade will take place Sunday, June 26 beginning at 10:30 a.m. in the heart of downtown San Francisco. Additional SF Pride events will take place throughout the month of June and the remainder of 2022. Information regarding parade registration, as well as sponsor, exhibitor, advertising, membership, and donor opportunities, may be found at sfpride. org.

"San Francisco Pride's return to an in-person celebration this June will be a historic moment in our fight for inclusion, acceptance, and equality for all LGBTQ+ people," says Suzanne Ford, San Francisco Pride Interim Executive Director. "Pride gives us the opportunity to come together in solidarity to celebrate the progress that has been made, but also allows us to respond with love, activism, and radical inclusion against discriminatory laws that are being enacted across the country at an alarming rate."

Featuring over 200 parade contingents and exhibitors, and more than 20 community-run stages and venues, the San Francisco Pride Celebration and Parade remains the largest gathering of the LGBTQ+ community and allies in the nation. The 2022 Community stages will include Urban Global Village Stage, produced by Christiana Remmington; API LGBT Stage, produced by Nicki Calma and SF Community Health Center; Homo Hip-Hip, produced by Ronnie and Erika Jones; Latin Stage, produced by Jamie Awad; Sober Drag Show, produced by Castro Country Club; Soul of Pride, produced by Lisa Williams; Trans Stage, produced by Maniac Films; and Women's Stage, produced by Christie James and Jolene Linsangan.

San Francisco Pride remains committed to its mission of bringing connection and visibility to the LGBTQ+ communities. As a world leader in the global Pride movement and a part of the fabric of Pride events around the world, SF Pride works to educate, commemorate, and continue the struggle for true liberation, both through its events and by raising much-needed funds for nonprofits across the Bay Area. Financial support through membership and donations ensure that SF Pride will be able to thrive into the future. To donate, visit the website at sfpride. org/donate.

"Pride is a vibrant celebration of the history and victories of the LGBTQ+ community. The staff and board of San Francisco Pride have worked diligently to ensure we can return to a safe and inclusive in-person celebration this year," said Senator Scott Wiener. "Being together once again will also provide a space for our community to rally against the challenges we continue to face as we work toward equality for all."

"We are looking forward to celebrating with the entire city in June. We are welcoming thousands of LGBTQ+ family members from across our diverse communities to dance, sing and love each other like never before," said Carolyn Wysinger, President of San Francisco Pride's Board of Directors. "We have waited a long time and now it is finally here!"

A full lineup of events and activities for Pride 52, as well as 2022 Community Grand Marshals and Awardees, will be announced in the near future. A brand new SF Pride app will be available in May, The Official Guide to SF Pride, granting attendees access to stage lineups, an event map, vendor and artist information, and more. Visit sfpride. org/app to sign up and receive a notification when the app is live.

Safety and wellbeing remain a focus for #SFPride52, and to ensure the two-day celebration is safe and welcoming for all our communities, SF Pride will be operating in line with city and state guidelines.

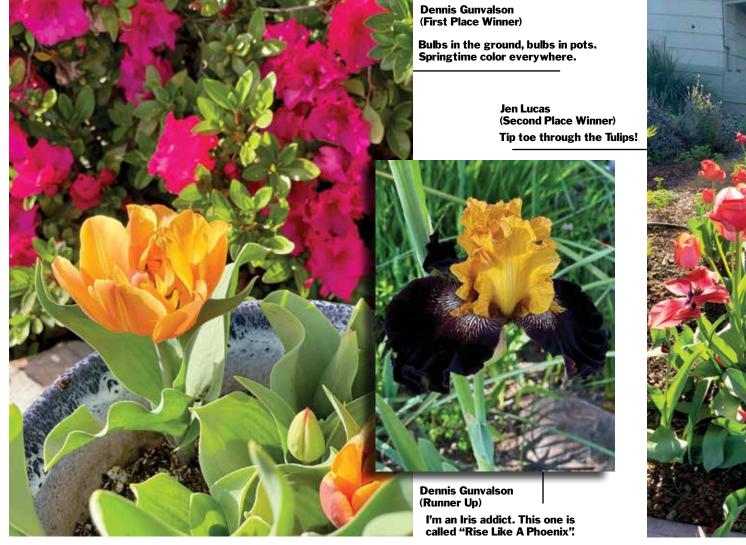
Sponsors for Pride 52 include Alaska Airlines, Bank of the West, Nordstrom, US Bank, and Safeway. Media sponsors include ABC7 Bay Area and San Francisco Bay Times. Corporate partnerships allow SF Pride to build the event's extensive infrastructure, and help to bring funds to nonprofits that directly serve LGBTQ communities, via the Community Affiliates Program. Those interested in getting involved can find more information at sfpride.org/partners.

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Meet the Living Legend Behind Muganzo Entertainment & Anticipated Documentary "The Big Hysto"

Some people have an innate ability to own any room they step foot in. The energy is genuinely felt and longed for while in their presence and after they leave. Melissa Muganzo Murphy, first of her name, the founder, and CEO of Muganzo Entertainment, personifies that energy.

Since childhood, Muganzo Murphy has gravitated to the entertainment industry and excelled at dance, singing, and performing. It only makes sense that she would evolve to create Sacramento's first, Black and queer entertainment production company.

A Florida native and now California resident who ventured from southern to northern California to pursue higher education, Muganzo Murphy made it her mission to pour into the community by assisting college students with needed resources and guidance to grow into fruitful careers.

Her declared living legend status derives from years of humanitarian work. She has proven to live up to the name–understanding that the famous partial phrase "legends never die" also goes hand in hand with legends being very much alive and among us every day and that she is one of them.

Muganzo Murphy, a Black queer woman and fibroids survivor, has recently started the rollout for her long-awaited documentary "The Big Hysto." Highlighting the reproductive health crisis and racial disparities plaguing Black women of all economic backgrounds and honoring "the resilience and the stories of womb holders that have suffered in silence and have been ignored by the medical industry." An important topic that has roots deeply connected to the past yet is ever-so-present.

In a world where Black queer birthing people have less representation, Muganzo Murphy's goal is to show that these womb health issues affect all Black people.

The documentary takes a deep dive into the experiences of Black birthing people and how they overcame their struggles with fibroids, ovarian cysts, endometriosis, and PCOS (Polycystic Ovary Syndrome). All these disorders disproportionately affect the Black community.

Muganzo Murphy's enthusiasm and insight offer a much-needed discussion examining Black women and access to health equity. She suffered from fibroids with symptoms including weight gain, painful periods, and cystic acne, which she wasn't aware were all signs of something awry. She can attest that she would have known sooner if she had more awareness and proper medical care. Melissa Muganzo Murphy

Unfortunately, it's not a one-off incident she experienced due to medical malpractice, but it is common among Black birthing people. When these reproductive issues go untreated, they often lead to final decisions like hysterectomy to end the symptoms.

Hysterectomies are overprescribed and overperformed.

For those like Muganzo Murphy, who was sure about having the hysterectomy procedure performed but denied because doctors chose to decide for her, this documentary brings awareness to the importance of advocacy for the marginalized.

While this documentary is revolutionary, it is only the beginning of a career Muganzo Murphy has dedicated almost half her life to. Born to act, she always strives to be the best and is open to various acting roles and upcoming projects.

To help aid in funding for "The Big Hysto," please find Muganzo Entertainment's Go Fund Me fundraiser supporting final expenses for the cost of the documentary.

If you are interested in sponsoring the film, connect with Muganzo Entertainment via social media: @muganzoentertainment website:

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By sponsoring this film, you are helping bring awareness to the medical transgressions Black and Brown people experience and encouraging their liberation.

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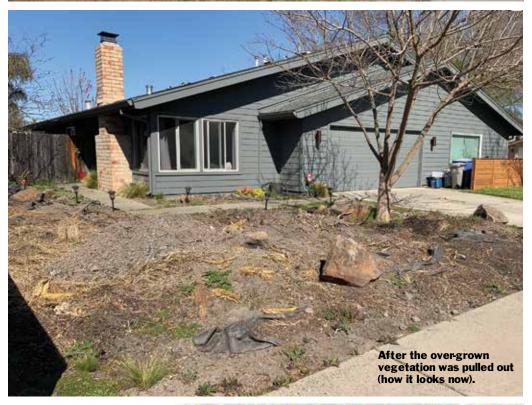
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From Yard to Zen... Yardzen Helps You Realize Your Yard's Full Potential

by staff writer We have a large yard that serves many purposes, including vegetable gardening, barbequing, enjoying meals al fresco, relaxing on the patio, and de-compressing in our small hot tub. Over the last decade, we have made many modifications and re-modifications to our outdoor spaces: we ripped out grass in a portion of our front yard and replaced it with low-water plants, then pulled out said plants after they became over-grown. We added, then removed, edged-in bark from the perimeter of the back yard (we believed for awhile that our big dog was eating it), placed and extracted various trees, and planted and replanted and rotated beds of sunflowers, herbs, berries, and more, all while becoming further immersed in the yearround tending of our expanding raised-bed vegetable garden.

We have known for some time that we would like to have a planned design to guide our endeavors to realize our goal to have outdoor spaces that are beautiful, private, water-wise, pollinator-friendly, relaxing, and productive, but were unsure of where to turn, and imagined the expense would be prohibitive. Enter Yardzen.

Yardzen is an online-based landscape design service founded in 2018 by a Northern California couple who were shocked by the cost of the landscaping plans they needed in the wake of the Tubbs Fire. The company seeks to reinvent, simplify, and make affordable quality and customized outdoor design, accessed through technology, in harmony with your local climate and region, and aligned with their values of sustainability. By all accounts they are succeeding. Reviews and write ups from across the internet and beyond sing the praises of the simplicity of their process and the beauty of their designs, and Outword's experience thus far has us enthusiastically harmonizing along. Via their website, Yardzen will guide you through the process of submitting pictures and videos of your property and your inspirations, assist you to define your goals, style and budget, and provide beautiful digital renderings of their initial design for your review and feedback. All of this leads to a finalized plan with detailed CAD drawings for you or your contractor to follow. Yardzen also helps you connect with vetted local professional to make your visualized yard-scape a reality.

Yardzen offers multiple packages and price points, from their simple Botanical Design service, where a landscape designer selects plants for your space, to Front, Back or Full yard plans which include hardscapes, to packages that promise a full transformation of your outdoor spaces that includes design for the home's exterior. We chose the "Full Yard" package.

Getting started definitely took some time and effort to take and submit cell phone photos from multiple angles, as well as short videos we made and narrated while walking through the yard. That initial effort has already proven to be well-worth it. We were frankly stunned and thrilled by the first, copious 3D (and even some satellite-based) renderings of our outdoor spaces, as they are gorgeous and hit upon all of our wishes. The design only needed a few tweaks, and our suggested changes were easily submitted via their simple and friendly online "feedback studio." We can't wait for the final designs, to get started on the first phase - our front yard, and to begin implementing elements in the back and side yards over time, in accordance with our new plan. We look forward to realizing our (and Yardzen's) vision in the coming months and years for the outdoor space of our dreams, without wasting any more time or effort on the missteps and false starts we made before having a clear path and design. Whether you wish to make changes to the plants in your outdoor spaces, improve your curb-appeal, create an entertainment-ready back yard, or to completely transform the look of your home, Yardzen is a great place to begin. For more informantion visit:

www.yardzen.com/



(10) Outword Magazine

from Yardzen for the front and back vards (how good it could look).

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out⊎ord

Out & About *With Matthew Burlingame* Welcome to *Outword's* Annual Homes & Garden issue! Does that mean the calla lilies are in bloom again? Actually everything is in bloom again and allergy season (isn't that all year in Sacramento?) is upon us. But it's a small price to pay for making the Sacramento Valley our home.

Home is indeed where the heart is which is why the news that the heart of Lavender Heights was up for sale had us all shook. Owner Terry Sidie has put FACES Nightclub up for sale. Anyone have a spare \$2.75 million? For many of us FACES Nightclub houses many of our earliest memories as gaybies seeking a safe space to find ourselves and connect with the community. Hopefully the space remains a queer-friendly business.

Speaking of Terry Sidie aka "Emperor I of the Americas King Father I", CGNIE's XLVIII Imperial Reign formally invites the Sacramento community to the XLVIII Gala and Coronation taking place April 21 - 24 at various locations. Congratulations to the decade monarchs including Tony Southworth, Michael "Misha Rockafeller" Kennedy & Key Pears Royal Gotti. Event details can be found at CGNIE.org

One of the biggest annual events for the Sacramento Rainbow Chamber is coming up April 28. The Boas & Bow Ties Rainbow Masquerade Gala will be held at the Sacramento Hilton Arden West, 2200 Harvard St. from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. The diamond studded event aims to celebrate the chamber's successes and highlight the important contributions their members provide throughout the year for the LGBTQ+ business community and Sacramento Region. Rainbowchamber.com

Come experience the best One-Eyed Willie ever! Friday, April 22 at 7 p.m. one of the best '80s nostalgia pics ever is showing at the Crest Theatre,1013 K St.! 1985's The Goonies featuring Thanos, Samwise, the mom from The Real O'Neals, and the other Corey (if you don't get these references you should skip this film). A group of young misfits called The Goonies discover an ancient map and set out on an adventure to find a legendary pirate's long-lost treasure and with the help of Cyndi Lauper remind us that all of us who are Goonies are good enough. Crestsacramento.com

Kennedy Gallery blooms to life with its 16th Annual Spring Flower Art Show. This innovative and inspiring collection of seasonal art will be on display Apr. 7 - May 8 at Kennedy Gallery, 1931 L St. The gallery features work from over 18 resident artists inside three floors of open studios in the



Terry Sidie has put FACES Nightclub up for sale

heart of Midtown's entertainment district. KennedyGallery.net

Support the Queer and Trans Youth Marketplace hosted by The Sacramento LGBT Community Center as inspiring diverse youth share their wide variety of artistic mediums with the community to create a region where LGBTQ+ people thrive. After a long wait The Lambda Founders and Community Rooms are being turned into a marketplace where community youth can sell their artwork, baked goods, and crafts! Saccenter.org

Raise your glass of local craft beer to toast the start of Sacramento Beer Week on Saturday, April 23 from 1-4 p.m. at River Walk Park. The Sac Mac + Beer Fest 2022 presents over 40 local breweries and the return of its Sac Mac + Beer competition. Join your beer-loving friends to get your first taste of beers made exclusively for Sacramento Beer Week while also voting for the best Mac 'n' Cheese pairing created by Sacramento chefs and local brewers.

Don't forget that April is both STD Awareness Month and National Minority Health Month. Don't let embarrassment or culture keep you from taking care of your sexual health. Get tested regularly.

Events? Announcements? Birthdays? Anniversaries? Send them to me at matthew.burlingame@gmail.com.



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The Habitat ReStore – a DIY and Spring Cleaners Paradise!

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ff of Richards Boulevard, just 5 minutes from downtown Sacramento, sits the Habitat for Humanity ReStore – a discount home improvement store open to the public where you can find great deals on new and used windows, doors, building supplies, home furnishings, appliances, and everything in between. The best part (aside from sometimes being able to score a brand new \$1,000 luxury light fixture with tags on it for \$150)? Every purchase helps build and repair homes for low-income families, seniors, veterans, and individuals in need of safe, decent and affordable housing in our region.



Here is how the Habitat ReStore works. Companies or individuals can donate to the ReStore - the donor gets a tax write-off, usable stuff is kept out of the landfill, and customers get items for 50-90% off retail value. The ReStore is a great asset to businesses, contractors, demolition crews, retailers and anyone challenged with removal or disposal of building materials, appliances, furniture, or household goods. The ReStore can be a perfect solution for an organization's mis-orders, scratch and dents, overstocks, discontinued items, storeroom clean out, or even desks or office furniture that need to be cleared out to make room for the new stuff. Are you a company that has materials to donate? Contact Matthew Romsa at MRomsa@habitatgreatersac.org.

Looking to do some spring cleaning and finally clean out the old couch and hutch that you moved into the garage? The ReStore can help with that too. You can schedule an individual drop-off donation or schedule a pick-up with the ReStore's third party partner "ReSupply". For a small fee that is less than the dump, ReSupply will pick up your donation, take to the ReStore what the ReStore will take, and donate and/or ethically dispose of the rest. You can visit www.habitatgreatersac.org/restoredonate to schedule a free drop-off at Habitat or small fee pick-up through ReSupply.

With Earth Day in April, something else to be aware of is that last year alone, the Habitat Sacramento ReStore diverted over 1 million pounds of usable materials out of landfills. Sales from the ReStore also generated over \$980,000 to support building and repairing homes for those in need of safe, decent and affordable housing in our region.

Speaking of sales, let's talk shopping and DIY possibilities. While inventory changes daily, typical things you might find in the Habitat ReStore include windows, paint, light fixtures, doors, plants, furniture, tile, bathtubs, desks, toilets, and a whole lot more on the over 35,000 sq. foot salesfloor. Some of the product you will find is new, some is gently used. Want to get a better idea of what you'll find at the ReStore? The ReStore posts "ReStore Fresh Finds" several times a week on their Instagram @SacReStore and Facebook page (Facebook.com/ SacHabitatRestore). Pro tip, sign-up for ReStore Rewards at the cash register - it only asks for your name and contact info – and you'll get 5% off every purchase.

This year in April the Sacramento ReStore is celebrating its 20-year anniversary so expect some great sales and promotions as part of the celebration. The ReStore is located at 819 North 10th Street Sacramento, CA 95811 and is open for shoppers Wednesday-Saturday from 10am-4pm. You can learn more about the store that builds homes at www.HabitatGreaterSac.org/ SacReStore



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Beverage and More

071

The Rainbow Chamber of Commerce's Drag Queen Bingo hosted by the unflappable DoMe Moore has revved back up and is in full swing. Mango's is packed and people are enjoying being out and about. Be sure to join them next month for the fun and mayhem that benefits a local charity or organization, as well as the Rainbow Scholarship program. Good times. *photos by Ron Tackitt*

> AG QUEEN BINGOI

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Beverage and More

Beyond Honey Bees – Understanding the Importance of California's Native **Bees and How you Can Help** by Jeanne Wirka

n ees are in the news like never before. Recent coverage of everything from colony collapse disorder to the impact of climate change on pollinators has our human communities abuzz with concern. Yet like most issues in conservation, understanding what is happening requires a deeper understanding of the players involved and the context in which they operate.

Most people know what a honey bee is when they see it – a small, goldish-brown fuzzy flier that collects pollen and nectar and returns to a hive to make one of our favorite agricultural products - honey. Most of us can recall a time when we got to see honeymaking in action whether on a Tik-Tok video or in the classroom. Garbed in protective gear, bee keepers demonstrate how colonies of honey bees build elaborate banks of hexagonal cells out of wax (honeycomb) in which they deposit nectar that is magically transformed into that most sweet elixir.

Food

Honey bees are so important to modern agriculture, that farmers and orchardists spend millions of dollars every year to hire beekeepers to place assemblages of hives in their fields and orchards. Nearly one-third of the crops we eat, some \$10 billion worth of foods, are dependent on bees, either directly or indirectly. Almonds, apples, apricots, avocados and melons are just a few of the high-value crops we enjoy thanks to bees.

Few of us realize, however, that there is a dark side to honey bees. Originally introduced to North America in 1622 by European settlers, honey bees made their first appearance in California in 1853. A growing body of research is documenting how honey bees, like many species introduced from elsewhere, compete for resources-and for media attention--with the native pollinators that evolved with our local ecosystems.

In a recent article in Scientific American, honey bee researcher Alison McAfee observes that while there is widespread concern for bees and their pollination services, most people have little understanding of the diversity of pollinating insects and why we should care about all of them. Indeed, McAfee writes that the very thing that makes honey bees valuable for agriculture-that they are generalist pollinators attracted to a large number of plant species-means that they monopolize floral resources to the detriment of native bees and other pollinating insects.

In ecology, we call that exploitative competition. One of the consequences of this type of competition is that whenever one species comes to dominate an ecosystem, that system becomes inherently unstable. Recent panic over honeybee colonies collapsing illustrates this.

If the honey bees go, who is left?

There are some 1600 species of native bees in California and unfortunately, many populations are in decline due to habitat loss and competition from honey bees. Unlike honey bees, which are social and live in large colonies, most of our native bees live



Sky lupine (Lupinus nanus) is pollinated by heavy-bodied insects like bumble bees. Once pollinated, the top white banner petal turns to magenta. Photo by Ron Berchin

solitary lives, in wood, in tree cavities or hollow stems, or in underground tunnels. Without help from worker bees or a queen, native bee females must do all of the work themselves from building nests to laying eggs and collecting food for their young (as is true for many insect species, males typically live only to mate).

Though you may not know it, you have undoubtedly encountered some of these hard-workers in your garden or local park. Native bees come in a huge range of sizes and colors and have names as delightfully descriptive as they are. On the larger end of the spectrum, look for the ubiquitous large black shiny Carpenter Bee (named for its habit of nesting in decaying wood) or the Yellow-Faced or Four Stripe Bumble Bee, each named for its unique yellow patterns. Two of my favorites are the bright greencolored Metallic Hairy Belly Bee (which transports pollen under its abdomen) and the Ultra Green Sweat Bee, so bright it looks like a tiny jewel.

There are many ways we can help our local native pollinators and many resources available to guide us. The options are as varied as the bees themselves. We can plant native flowers to attract certain target species, leave sections of our yards and gardens undisturbed for ground-nesting bumble bees or even install a bee "condo" consisting of tiny tube apartments for mason bees and other cavity-nesters.

The Xerces Society for Pollinator Conservation (www.xerces.org) is just one of many places you can visit on-line to download lists of plants for native bees and learn about how you can get involved in protecting them.

Jeanne Wirka is an ecologist with the Center for Land-Based Learning in Woodland, CA.

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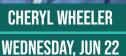
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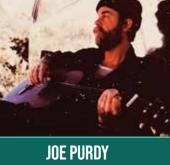






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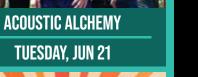
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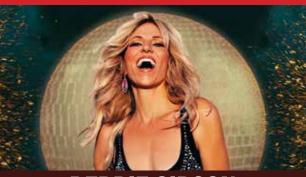
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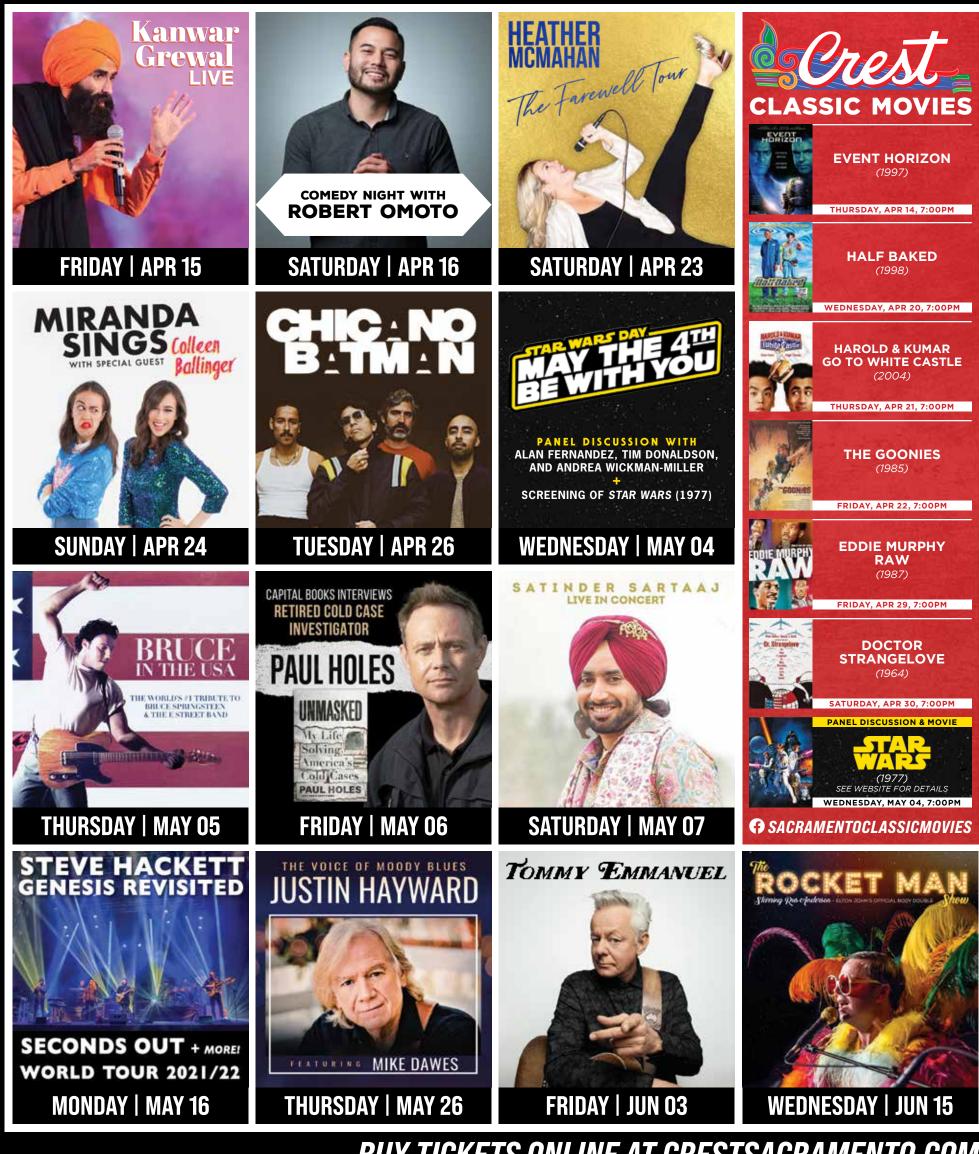


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Gay Artist Jumper Maybach Creates Line Of Contemporary Rugs To Showcase Artwork

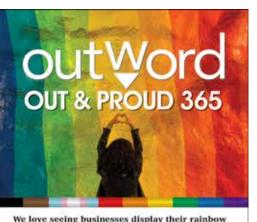
umper Maybach, an LGBTQ artist from Houston, Texas has partnered with Proform to launch an exclusive line of area rugs inspired by some of his most popular artworks. Maybach's abstract masterpieces have been on exhibition around the world hanging in galleries and museums from Paris to Miami to Dubai. His use of color and design brings a modern flair to the walls of any home or business and are now available as area rugs perfect to brighten up any space.



"Proform is proud to announce our licensing agreement with Jumper Maybach to bring their passion for art to the commercial and residential flooring markets," stated Proform President Mitchell Saltzman. "Proform by Creative Flooring Concepts specializes in commercial flooring for the hospitality, country club, office building, coop/condo, healthcare, education, and retail markets. We look forward to working with our dealer partners to bring these unique and exciting artistic expressions to the worldwide market for area rugs."

More than beautiful area rugs, these exquisite works serve a bigger purpose. Promoting diversity, equality, and inclusion – causes Jumper Maybach is truly passionate about and has been as a socially driven organization since its inception.

"What better way to stand up and walk



We love seeing businesses display their rainbow products & flags to celebrate during Pride Month.

Please support Outword as we celebrate Pride every day, all year long. Reach our market of thousands of LGBTQ+ community members, donate to our causes, sponsor our events and continue to fly that flag proud 365 days a year! the path of ending the bullying, hate and intolerance within society than to have people standing literally with my art woven into a rug under their feet," mentions Jumper Maybach. "There is no better way to join the movement of change than that!"

The rugs, available through JumperMaybach.com and sold through Proform to commercial outlets, come in a variety of sizes and designs which mimic Maybach's artwork. Some highlights include Birds of Peace, Venetian Rain, Dark Matrix, and Quantum Dream. Each rug is produced on demand and ships to consumers within eight weeks. Additionally, the floor coverings are with Jumper Maybach's signature clock logo to ensure authenticity and prevent counterfeiting.

For more information on the Artist and his full line of products, please visit JumperMaybach.com.

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The Candy Store is One Sweet Art Exhibit

by Chris Narloch

S acramento's Crocker Art Museum has hit another home run with its current exhibition. "The Candy Store: Funk, Nut, And Other Art with A Kick" is a must-see show for anyone who loves painting, ceramics, photography, and sculpture created by men and women who possess a sense of style -- and a sense of humor.



The exhibition is a wonderfully whimsical survey of art associated with a candy store turned art gallery that opened 60 years ago in Folsom, CA. The brainchild of the late Folsom resident Adeliza McHugh, who died in 2003 at age 91, The Candy Store Gallery featured many local artists who went on to become nationally and internationally famous.

Robert Arneson, Clayton Bailey, Roy De Forest, David Gilhooly, Irving Marcus, Gladys Nilsson, Jim Nutt, Jack Ogden, and Peter VandenBerge were some of the artists whose work was displayed inside McHugh's Folsom space over the course of its thirty years in business.

The Crocker show gathers what appears to be the cream of the crop from three decades of The Candy Store, and I had a smile on my face the entire time I perused the delightful display of what McHugh described as art with a "kick."

From the trio of beautiful busts in the middle of the Crocker's large, third floor gallery space -- and a large dog's head made of wood on one wall -- to Arneson's amazing and amusing clay creations, this exhibition proves that McHugh was ahead of her time as both a gallerist and an art dealer.

You have until May 1st to see this sensational show, and I hope to make a return trip before then too. For details, go to www.crockerart.org/exhibitions/the-candy-store

Don't Miss the Sac Women's Chorus Spring Concert



Tickets are still available for "Always A Place for you," the next concert by the talented members of The Sacramento Women's Chorus, who will fill St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Sacramento with beautiful music this April 30th at 7:00 p.m. Directed by Robin Richie and Assistant Director Merri Sue Brown, the concert will also feature the accompaniment of Vutu Nguyen. You can learn more and purchase tickets at: www.sacramentowomenschorus.org

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To The Walls! – Gardening Vertically

Turning plants into living pieces of wall art is a sure way to make a statement. It says that you and your green girls are hip, edgy and oh so sophisticated! Hang one or go a little crazy and make an entire gallery wall of green.



Can any plant types be mounted up on a wall? Yes, but some more successfully than others. Luckily, there is an entire collection of plants that lend themselves exceptionally well to living life out on a ledge, nestled in a tree, or attached to your patio wall.

The best plants for this are epiphytic, which means that in their natural habitat they live on another plant - but not in a creepy parasitic way, rather in a lofty symbiotic way. Picture a lush green fern, growing high off the ground, in the crook of a tree in the jungle. Chances are that fern is an epiphyte, using its roots more as an anchor to hang on to the tree than for water intake. Some excellent examples of epiphytic plants that you can use in your décor are epiphyllums, staghorn ferns, hoya, squirrel foot ferns, orchids, airplants and bromeliads.

Not sure you want to hang these plants on a wall. That's ok because they will do well in containers as well. However, now that you know that they naturally grow up in a tree, it's wise to amend their potting soil to keep it secretgarden-online.com. outwordmagazine.com

loose and airy. Adding in orchid bark is an excellent way to mimic its natural environment and keep the roots happy. Also consider that most of these plants naturally grow up protected by the tree canopy, so dappled shade is important. Give these plants a spot with some morning light, but protection from the hot afternoon sun.

Want to learn more? Join us April 23/24 for Spring Epi Fest, a two-day celebration of epiphytes. Wander the garden with a selfguided tour of our established epiphyte collection. (Pick up a free map at the entrance.) Attend the free Plant Mounting Demonstration on Sunday at noon. Drop your jaw over our incredible Epiphyllum collection which should be in full bloom. (We're talking about six inch blossoms in reds, pinks, yellows and oranges.) Got kids? We have a scavenger hunt just for them too.

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Wicked-Good Theatre in Sacramento

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bv Chris Narloch

Beverage

There are currently two must-see productions gracing Sacramento stages. Another first-rate tour of "Wicked" is bringing the house down (literally and figuratively) at the SAFE Credit Union Performing Arts Center, and the riveting racial drama "Pass Over" is playing at Capital Stage.

Wicked

I have been in love with this magnificent modern musical ever since I saw its pre-Broadway try-out in San Francisco circa 2003. I knew nothing about the show except that it was a prequel to "The Wizard of Oz," my favorite movie of all time.

In fact, I loved the show so much, that I flew to NYC to see it after it opened there, again starring Idina Menzel and Kristin Chenoweth. I have revisited "Wicked" at least four times now, and it never gets old. Much of the score is excellent, and Gregory Maguire's popular novel was very cleverly adapted for the theatre.

So how is the cast that is performing in Sacramento through April 24th? In short, it's one of the best I have seen since witnessing the perfection of Kristin and Idina. Jennafer Newberry (as Glinda, the good witch) reminded me of Chenoweth -- high praise indeed -- and Lissa deGuzman has the powerful pipes and the acting chops required for Elphaba (the wicked witch).

Broadway regular John Bolton is a delight as the Wizard, Jordan Litz is vivid (and very easy on the eyes) as Fiyero, Lisa Howard is properly haughty as Madame Morrible, and Kimberly Immanuel more than pulls off Nessarose's character arc.

If you've been thinking about revisiting "Wicked," this production is a winner, and if you've never seen the show, what are you waiting for? To purchase tickets -- if there are any left -- go to: www.broadwaysacramento.com



The three-man cast of "Pass Over" at Capital Stage

Jordan Litz plays Fiyero in the current national tour of "Wicked,"

Pass Over

Sacramento's Capital Stage is known for presenting edgy, ambitious productions, but their current theatrical offering may be the wildest one yet. A modern, urban twist on "Waiting for Godot," Samuel Beckett's landmark work about two men in existential crisis, "Pass Over" features a pair of Black characters who are also stuck -- but for very different reasons than the men in Beckett's play.

In "Pass Over," the reasons that Moses and Kitch are unable to move on and up in their lives have everything to do with their race, their social standing, and their surroundings. The two men spend their days on a street corner, dreaming of better lives while bantering and casually hurling profanity at each other.

Moses and Kitch exchange the F-word and the N-word as if they were terms of endearment and with a frequency that this reviewer found initially shocking and then extremely thought-provoking. (I would not, however, recommend "Pass Over" for pre-teens or adults who are uptight about profanity.)

Written by Antoinette Nwandu and powerfully directed by Anthony D'Juan, "Pass Over" stars Dane Troy and Kriston Woodreaux in the lead roles, with Ian C. Hopps as the white intruder who disturbs and then destroys their bond. All three actors are superb.

Incredibly timely, "Pass Over" is a scorching play that demands to be seen, which you can do in person or virtually on demand. It performs through April 17 so get your tickets before the end of the run, at https://capstage.org



"Conversations with People Who Hate Me: 12 Things I Learned From Talking to Internet Strangers" by Dylan Marron

reviewed by Terri Schlichenmeyer

Food

Sometimes, it just makes you feel gruff. Seriously, the internet should be the G.O.A.T. invention. It should be a place to connect with friends and share laughs, a safe place to go when you want to be yourself. It should be a place to tell your story, free of danger and full of truth. Nobody should butt heads online, or be victim of a bullygoat. Instead, as in "Conversations with People Who Hate Me" by Dylan Marron, we gotta deal with the trolls.

The fact that Marron had a "HATE FOLDER" in his email should speak volumes.

As a gay man and a writer-performer, he expected a certain amount of negativity online; that's the nature of the internet. But as a creative employee of Seriously.TV, the emailed hate, death threats, and homophobia just got to be too much.

Before his job at Seriously.TV, he'd

acted, reported, waited tables, and cultivated a "prompt" that served him well. "What am I going to do about it?" is what he asked himself every time he was faced with something that bothered him and this time, the answer was a series of conversations with haters who'd commented.

He began to mine the HATE FOLDER for people to talk with.

The first was a guy Marron calls "Josh," a decent guy who was a lot like Marron. Their conversation, done remotely, was a hit with fans and it gained Marron a lot of "points." In a small way, it gained him a friend, since he and Josh came to an understanding. Marron was happy with that, and with subsequent "Conversations..."

But after he quit his job at Seriously.TV to go it alone, he found himself at an impasse.

The old way of doing his conversations needed to expand to include a wider angle and different guests. Marron imagined himself bringing together hater and target on bigger subjects. He'd learn more about people – and in the process, he'd learn more about himself.

The lesson was underscored a few Sundays ago: something huge happens, something loud, and everybody's got an opinion. "Conversations with People Who Hate Me" helps show that we can talk civilly about issues without insults. But will haters – the people who presumably need this book – be willing to read it?

Surprisingly, on one side of this book, author Dylan Marron shows that that's entirely possible: once he approached his

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interviewees, many people who hid behind the 'net rued their actions and words. Granted, the haters he hosted were highly, carefully curated, but Marron's approach shows hope.

The other side of the book is the one that teaches tolerance and a sort of Zen approach when you're the target of a troll. Haters gonna hate, as they say... but with enormous grace and thoughtfulness, Marron offers better ways to perceive it.

Readers looking for another way to invite open dialogue, and those who are aghast at spewing commenters on social media will love this book. If you want to do better, "Conversations with People Who Hate Me" could help make happy bridges.

Beverage

'Ode to

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An Encyclopedia Of Modern Architecture

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Beverage

Explore the A to Z of modern space. From Gio Ponti's colored geometries to Zaha Hadid's free-flowing futurism, this comprehensive overview features almost 300 profiles of architects, styles, movements, and trends that have shaped structures from the 19th to the 21st century. "Modern Architecture A–Z" is available at www.taschen.com



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





Food

Sandra, Channing & Michelle at the Movies Plus, Kubrick's "Dr. Strangelove" at the Crest by Chris Narloch

utword searches far and wide to find exciting cinema for our loyal readers. Here are the fine films we found this month, which include a high-concept rom-com starring two of Hollywood's biggest stars, a trippy new movie from the duo who previously brought us "Swiss Army Man," and a rare big-screen presentation, for one night only, of a classic comedy from Stanley Kubrick.



Everything Everywhere All at Once

I have probably viewed a couple thousand movies or more in my 58 years on Earth, and rarely do I feel like I am watching something I haven't seen before, but this film blew my mind. I had no idea what to expect after the trailers first appeared, and I was still scratching my head through much of the film.

The brainchild of a pair of directors known as Daniels (Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert), "Everything Everywhere All at Once" stars the great Michelle Yeoh as a stressed-to-the-max laundromat owner who is dealing with an estranged daughter, a potential divorce from her husband, and an audit by a tough IRS inspector (a totally bonkers Jamie Lee Curtis).

Yeoh's character escapes her painful reality by disappearing into parallel universes where she exists as different versions of herself, and, well, you just need to see the film for yourself. A darkly comic sci-fi satire, the movie is an incredibly wild ride that may make you feel like you just dropped acid -- and I mean that as a compliment. See it on the biggest movie screen you can find.



Dr. Strangelove

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 30, if you want to see one of the finest comedies ever made, back on the big screen. In 1964, Stanley Kubrick released this classic Cold War satire, and the rest is cinematic history.

With tensions rising between Russia and the U.S., 2022 is the perfect time to revisit Kubrick's very funny film, which stars the late, great Peter Sellers in three hilarious roles, alongside George C. Scott, Slim Pickens, and James Earl Jones.

"Dr. Strangelove" is infinitely superior in every way to "Don't Look Up," the recent, inexplicably Oscar-nominated doomsday dud. No one who sees the film will ever forget Kubrick's famous final scene, one of the wildest endings to a movie ever.

Visit https://crestsacramento.com/events

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The Lost City

Sandra Bullock and Channing Tatum are so perfectly matched and appealing as costars that I could see them making a series of comedies together, the way Hollywood A-list actors used to do, back in the day. Bullock plays an educated woman embarrassed by her success as a romance novelist, and Tatum is her books' hunky cover model.

Beverage

and More

Bullock's character can't stand him, so of course they get stranded together in the jungle, fight like cats and dogs, and then fall in love. A funny Daniel Radcliffe and an even funnier Brad Pitt also show up to support the leads, and the preposterous plot goes down easy thanks to all that star power. "The Lost City" is currently playing only in theaters.



You Won't Be Alone

You will have to venture out to Sacramento's Tower Theatre or the Varsity Theatre in Davis to watch this new highbrow horror flick about a witch who inhabits the bodies of different victims so that she can experience life as a human. Set in 19th Century Macedonia, "You Won't Be Alone" stars Noomi Rapace and others as the witch.

I was unable to see this one before our deadline, but it has been described as "spellbinding," "erotic," and "unsettling" by other critics. If you like your scary movies on the artsy side, this may be the film for you.



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Sol Blume Returns To Discovery Park



¬ ummer Walker is just one of the popular performers scheduled to appear when Sol Blume returns to Sacramento's U Discovery Park on April 30th for a two-day music festival that just keeps getting bigger and better every year. In addition to Ms. Walker, Jorja Smith, Jhene Aiko, D Smoke, PartyNextDoor, Tinashe, and Thundercat are also on the lineup. Sol Blume emphasizes diversity and good vibes, bringing some of today's most acclaimed R&B, soul, and hip-hop music acts to town. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit https://solblume.com

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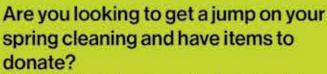
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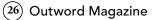
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Trom her powerful performance in "House of Gucci" and a touching appearance with Liza Minnelli on this year's Oscars show to a swingin' jazz medley on the recent Grammys telecast, the one and only Lady Gaga keeps giving her "Little Monsters" reasons to love her. Lady G has announced dates for her summer tour in support of the "Chromatica" CD, and the closest concert to Sacramento will be in San Francisco, this September. Tickets are already on sale for that show and others, and you can find more details on the artist's website: www.ladygaga.com

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For 26 years, we have been Sacramento's resource for LGBTQ+ information, politics, entertainment and we have helped connect and maintain our community.

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

Once again we are asking that you, our readers and advertisers help us with a contribution that will be used to help keep the presses rolling. This money will assist with publishing costs, both in print and online, and help pay our staff, distribution costs and a few of our writers, among other things.

We have established OutwordRainbowFund.com for our readers and/or local businesses, should you wish to support us. If you consider us a valuable and vital resource for our LGBTQ+ community, please send some financial Love. As a Supporter, at any level, we will give you a listing in our full page ad with the Supporter level you are in, in upcoming issues (see next page for the list of those that have already contributed). If you have any questions, or comments, please feel free to drop us an email: sales@outwordmagazine.com Thank you, in advance, for your consideration.

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The White Party Global's recent announcement of Israeli pop artist, Netta, as a special guest for the White Party Palm Springs' Sunday event was accompanied by this publicity photo of these two hard-bodied hunks. Paula Abdul will headline the weekend's star-studded festivities, taking place April 29 to May 1st. For more information, visit https://whitepartyglobal.com

LA Pride Announces New Location for Official Pride Parade

hristopher Street West – the 501(c)3 nonprofit that produces LA Pride – announced its annual Pride parade will return on June 12 after a two year hiatus. The second largest Pride parade in the nation will now be centered in Hollywood, a historic shift away from West Hollywood in the 50+ years since the parade became a regular occurrence.

Because of the onset of COVID-19 in 2020, LA Pride did not have the opportunity to celebrate the parade's 50th anniversary. This year as the parade moves forward in its new route and location, it will be broadcast live by our longtime media partner KABC-TV/ABC7.

"LA Pride is thrilled to come together this year to commemorate the historic anniversary at the parade's first and original location," said Gerald Garth, vice president of programs and initiatives. "As a mission-driven and community-centered non-profit organization, CSW recognizes that LGBTQ+ experiences of Los Angeles are broader than just one neighborhood. Considering feedback gathered since the pandemic began, we are committed to creating experiences and access to our entire community, including many of those who have been most underserved and underrepresented.

For more information visit www.lapride.org.



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3 PRIDE-THEMED

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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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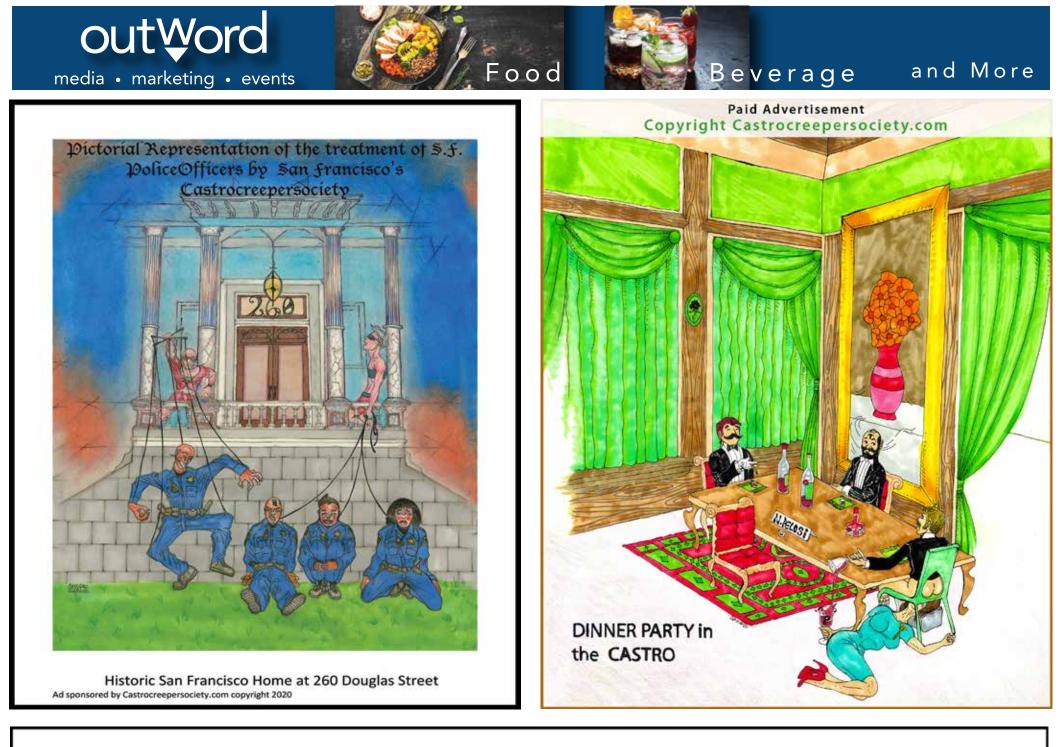
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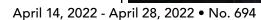
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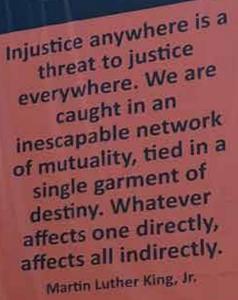
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