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Welcome to marriage equality, Illinois!

Our fight has been long and arduous, and our resolve unshakeable, and we, as a community, have achieved Marriage Equality in the state of Illinois. Whereas our battles as a community are far from over, this victory for justice and fairness is ours to celebrate!

All over this great state, questions are being popped, rings are slipping onto fingers and our LGBT brothers and sisters are beginning to forge new traditions, build stronger families and shout their love from the rooftops, from Chicago to Springfield to East St. Louis and beyond. It’s time to add your voice to that chorus of shouts.

At Windy City Media group for almost 30 years now, we have always put forth the idea that we, as a community should support those businesses that support us. With the advent of the signing of SB-10, the bill legalizing Marriage Equality, we have seen a groundswell of business owners who are proud to stand with us. These businesses look forward to giving their all in the effort to make your “big day” all it can be ... and all you deserve it to be.

So please consider the businesses in this guide—photographers, caterers, venues, officiants, florists, orchestras, clothiers, and so many more—as you put together the details of your own wedding. It’s time to party!

—Kirk Williamson, editor

Photo by Rick Aguilar Studios
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Gray and Ewert make history as first IL same-sex marriage

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By court order, longtime Chicago lesbian activist Vernita Gray married Pat Ewert, her partner of five years, Nov. 27 on the city’s North Side, making them the first same-sex couple to be legally married within Illinois in the state’s history.

Judge Patricia Logue, former head of Lambda Legal Midwest and a longtime lesbian activist herself, performed the ceremony in front of several dozen family and friends.

In her remarks, Logue called the event “a very personal yet historic occasion—an event long-awaited and hard-won, (and) one that crystalizes the impact of equality and inequality in all our lives. And once, again, as so often happens in our nation’s long civil rights journey. As so often happens, we are assisted by a federal court decree in favor of justice and humanity for a minority group.”

Logue expressed Gray and Ewert’s appreciation to the many people who made the day possible, especially Cook County Clerk David Orr, who refused to have his office defend itself against lawsuits filed against it from Illinoisans demanding marriage equality. “We never met a finer opponent,” joked Logue.

Jazz singer Lucy Smith performed a song for the couple. Their friend Paul Fairchild read words of support while Jim Bennett was flower girl. Mary Morten coordinated the celebration.

Toasting the couple after the ceremony, Morten said, “It is really hard being first ... but we owe you a huge debt of gratitude for stepping out, for all of us.”

“What a perfect way to be with both of you today, and I look forward to celebrating here over and over again,” added Bennett.

Two days earlier, a federal court ordered Orr’s office to immediately issue a marriage license to the couple, and they did so. Lambda Legal and the ACLU of Illinois filed the case Nov. 22, seeking immediate action due to Gray’s failing health. Judge Thomas Durkin issued the decision.

Other marriages in Illinois are not scheduled to start until June 1, 2014, based on passage of the marriage equality law Nov. 5 in Illinois and its subsequent signing by Gov. Pat Quinn Nov. 20.

“Vernita is terminally ill and she wishes to marry the woman she loves before she dies—
and now she won’t have to wait another
day,” said Camilla Taylor, Marriage Project
Director for Lambda Legal, in a press re-
lease. “These two women, who have loved
and cared for each other in good times and
bad, through sickness and through health,
will get to know what it means to be mar-
rried.”

Gray was first diagnosed with cancer in
1996 and the cancer now threatens her life:
“I have two cancers, bone and brain, and I
just had chemo today—I am so happy to
get this news. I’m excited to be able to mar-
ry and take care of Pat, my partner and my
family, should I pass.”

See more photos and video at www.
windycitymediagroup.com/lgbt/Gray-
and-Ewert-make-history-as-first-Illinois-
same-sex-marriage/45349.html.

Content originally appeared in the Dec.
4, 2013, issue of Windy City Times.

Facing page: Judge Patricia Logue pre-
sides over the historic marriage of Ewert
(left) and Gray.
Above: Ewert and Gray proudly display
their marriage license.

Photos by Hal Baim

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The first thing most newly engaged couples ask is “Where do I start?” My advice is to first decide on two key elements: the number of guests you want to invite (actually make a list), and what you would like to spend on the wedding. Both are vital to have decided on before you start any of the planning.

From here you might want to consider hiring a wedding consultant to design and plan. Even if you cannot afford to engage a planner for the entire experience, I actually offer hourly consultations to guide the couple while they do all the legwork with creative ideas, etiquette information as well as vendor referrals. Either will save you time, and will help prevent you from making some expensive mistakes.

The first and most important step is selecting the reception and ceremony sites, if they are not the same. You would need to check availability on the date you selected, make sure they can comfortably accommodate your guest count, and find out the minimum in food and beverage (which is usually exclusive of tax and tip, so don’t forget to add that in) that they require to hold the wedding there.

Other larger venues will charge a rental fee, and then you need to hire a caterer to prepare, cook and serve the food. In addition, with this type of venue you will need to rent every fork, glass, table and chair as well a myriad of other items. This will probably be the biggest part of your budget. If the ceremony is not in the space, you will need to search for the perfect place to exchange your vows. This can be a garden, church, chapel or synagogue, or any other place you feel is the perfect place to make this commitment. When searching, find out the rental cost, the number of hours you can use the site, as well as restrictions.

From here you would then move into the other “fixed costs,” which would include officiant, entertainment/music, photographer and videographer/filmmaker. My advice for this is to make sure the things you are viewing are the work of who is actually going to be there that day. Bands switch out singers, and make sure the photos and video are taken by the person who will actually be at your wedding.

The remaining things to think about add to the variable costs, and a multitude of choices and designs come in. Save-the-dates, invitations, your menu, flowers, linen, lighting, upgraded chairs and dinnerware are just a few of the many things that are truly design elements and set your wedding apart from others. But this also is where costs can go out of control, so if you do not have an unlimited budget, this is where a consultant can guide you in choosing the things that are the most meaningful to you, and that will make the biggest impact.

Frank J. Andonoplas has designed social and corporate events all over the country since 1992. Frank is an active member of the Association of Bridal Consultants, and in 1995 was appointed State Coordinator. He has also earned the designation of Professional Bridal Consultant in 1993. In 1996, the designation of Accredited Bridal Consultant, and Master Bridal Consultant in 1999, then making Frank the 19th in the world to earn that distinction. He is also a member of the International Special Events Society, and served on their Board of Directors. See http://frankeventdesign.com or email: frank@frankeventdesign.com.
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We asked readers to send in photos of their weddings/civil unions to share with the community. What we received was a collection of beautiful stories of love and commitment. All photo courtesy of subjects except where otherwise indicated.

Diane Martino and Tina Kachold joined together in a civil-union ceremony in June 2011, followed by a celebration with friends and family the following month. The couple plan to “upgrade” to marriage in June.

Craig Harzinski and Ken Mertes travelled north to Victoria, British Columbia, July 12, 2005, to tie the knot. They also celebrated with a kiss at the recent signing of SB-10, legalizing same-sex marriage in Illinois.

Partners Drew Bauhs and Olin Eargle seal the deal at their civil union ceremony.
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Partners **Blake Ryan Howard** (with glasses) and **Keeton Chamberlain** met at their local neighborhood bar and have been inseparable ever since. After celebrating their civil union, Dec. 11, 2013, at Armand’s Pizzeria, they spent their honeymoon in Asheville, NC. At the Illinois marriage bill-signing ceremony, their image was part of the big Powerpoint presentation.

Partners **Cally Raduenzel** (left) and **Polly Jones** wed at Herring Cove, Provincetown, Mass. on August 17, 2013.

Partners **Brian Fallon** and **Fred Mahaffey** exchanged vows in a commitment ceremony on Sept. 6, 2003 (left). 10 years later to the date, they had their civil union at the same church (right).
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BY MATT SIMONETTE

Chicago may supposedly have the best gay neighborhood in the world, but that won’t stop most LGBT Chicagoans from wanting to head out of town to celebrate once they’ve tied the knot.

When planning your honeymoon, it’s always a good idea to research how LGBT-friendly your destination is. Your considerations should go beyond whether or not your marriage is recognized; also think about whether there are laws in place protecting LGBT folks from discrimination, or local histories of violence against them. Go someplace you’ll feel comfortable travelling as a couple, without stares from local residents or confusion from the hotel clerk when you ask for one bed. Sadly, that can apply in certain regions of the U.S. just as much as it does foreign countries.

The good news is that you’ll have no trouble finding a destination ready to cater to your whims—even Disney World has hosted commitment ceremonies since 2007. All that matters is how much time you’ve got, what you want to do, and how much you want to spend.

**San Francisco, California**

[www.sanfrancisco.travel/lgbt](http://www.sanfrancisco.travel/lgbt)

Mere mortals might not be able to afford to live there anymore, but San Francisco still is a mecca of sorts for LGBT visitors. The Castro is still a central neighborhood for the gay community, but other areas such as the Mission, Haight-Ashbury and SoMa contain much to do and see as well.

**What’s gay:** Even the library is gay here—the San Francisco Public Library is home to the James C. Hormel Gay and Lesbian Center. The Gay and Lesbian Film Festival takes place at the historic Castro Theater in June. Leather aficionados won’t want to miss the Folsom Street Fair in August.

**Las Vegas, Nevada**


Sure, this ranks up there with Niagara Falls as a cliché American honeymoon spot, but many gays and lesbians are into roulette and blackjack just as much as their straight brethren. Besides, this is where many of our community’s reigning divas—think Cher or Bette Midler—go to enjoy the twilights of their careers.

**What’s gay:** Many hotels, among them the Luxor, the Encore and Mandalay Bay, have programming and packages for LGBT visitors. “The Loop”—or “Paradise Fruit Loop,” to locals—is the hub of gay life. Just remember that this is a car-centric town, so many of the gay bars are located in strip malls.
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- ARISTOTLE

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Maui, Hawaii
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Hawaii was one of the first states to ignite the gay marriage debate back in the mid-1990s, but it was only late in 2013 that marriage equality became the law of the land. Nevertheless, the 50th state has long played host to LGBT travelers. Maui, the second largest island, is fairly quiet—don’t go there expecting much of a nightlife—but it does offer great beaches, whale watching, and Mt. Haleakala, Hawaii’s highest peak.

What’s gay: Little Beach, located in Makena State Park (and clothing optional) is where gay locals and travelers often hang out.

Puerto Vallarta, Mexico

It seems like much of gay Chicago empties out in January and heads down to Puerto Vallarta on Mexico’s west coast. Besides a low-key, if sometimes crowded, beach scene, it’s known for sunsets, whale watching, and numerous gay and gay-friendly bars and restaurants. Interestingly, Puerto Vallarta got one of its first jolts of notoriety when Richard Burton and Elizabeth Taylor caroused there while filming the movie version of Tennessee Williams’ play Night of the Iguana.

What’s gay: Diana’s Gay Cruise is just one of the myriad boat tours geared towards lesbian and gay travelers.

Paris, France

Okay, this is just as much a honeymoon cliché for Europe as Vegas is for the states, but there’s no denying that a few days in Paris can turn the most jaded travelers into heartfelt romantics. Whether you are on a budget or can afford to go on the 1-percenter’s plan, you’ll surely find more unforgettable culture, cuisine, shopping and people-watching than in any other city in the world. Just remember to avoid the month of August, when the city empties out for vacation … many of the city’s attractions will be closed.

What’s gay: Le Marais, in the 4th arrondissement, is the main gay ‘hood, featuring numerous bars and gay-friendly restaurants.

Barcelona, Spain
www.gaybarcelona4u.com
www.gaybarcelona.com

The Mediterranean climate of Barcelona, Spain’s second largest city, makes for pleasant weather for most of the year. Famous in large part for Antonio Gaudi’s architecture—particularly his still-unfinished La Sagrada Familia cathedral—the city is also somewhat infamous for its nightlife.
The Ethical Humanist Society is delighted that Illinois has become the 16th state in the union to embrace marriage equality! Our secular officiants will be happy to help LGBT couples tie the knot, either in the beautiful auditorium of our meetinghouse in Skokie, or elsewhere.
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Buenos Aires, Argentina
www.welcomeargentina.com/ciudadbuenosaires/outing.html

Argentina is one of the more progressive South American nations when it comes to LGBT rights; gay marriage has been legal there since 2010. Buenos Aires combines the flavors of South America with the some of the most cosmopolitan cities in Europe; a friend once said it had become “more like Madrid than Madrid is.” There isn’t a particular standout gay neighborhood, but gays and lesbians are well integrated into the fabric of the city.

What’s gay: There’s no better time to Tango than when in Buenos Aires. Since 2005 same-sex couples have been gathering for Tango Queer, a weekly party for gay couples.
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Guests at the January 10, 2014, wedding reception for Ron Dorfman (left) and Ken Ilio were amused to hear the story of how the couple, having met at the AIDS Foundation of Chicago’s “Not Just Song & Dance” gala in 1994, ended up living the rest of their lives together.

They were seated at the same table, danced a few times, found each other interesting, and after dinner Dorfman drove Ilio to his home in East Lakeview. Neither had anything to write with, so Dorfman said he would contact their table host on Monday to get Ilio’s phone number and make a date.

“That was a Saturday night,” Dorfman told the 90 guests assembled at Phil Stefani’s, 437 N. Rush. “Early Sunday afternoon, my phone rang.” Ilio, a speed reader, had only a first name and a numberless street address to go on, but went methodically through the White Pages until he found a Ron on Sheridan Road. “Fortunately,” Dorfman said, “I was in the Ds and not the Ws.” The pair have rarely been apart since.

Dorfman, 73, and Ilio, 57, were married Dec. 13, in the chapel at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, where Dorfman was being prepared for major heart surgery.

The ceremony was officiated by hospital chaplain Barbara Zeman, a priest who initially was reluctant to unite “a lapsed Jew with a lapsed Catholic,” but was quickly won over.

The wedding took place four days after U.S. District Judge Sharon Johnson Coleman issued her first ruling in a class action brought by Lambda Legal and the ACLU with pro-bono counsel from Kirkland & Ellis and Miller Shakman & Beem. In that ruling, Judge Coleman ordered Cook County Clerk David Orr to issue marriage licenses immediately to Dorfman and Ilio and another couple (Elvie Jordan and Challis Gibbs) facing a life-threatening illness before the scheduled June 1 start date of legal same-sex marriage in Illinois.

That was what Orr wanted to do in the first place, so there were no disgruntled parties in the case, and an underlying class action continues that may strike down the June 1 date for all same-sex couples in Illinois regardless of health issues.

The couple had registered as domestic partners in Cook County shortly after County Clerk Orr instituted that program in 2003, but never bothered to file for Illinois civil union status. “It would have made no material or meaningful difference to us,” Dorfman said, “because we’ve really been ‘married’ for 20 years. But with legal marriage, I know that Ken will have the spousal benefits of federal law for Social Security, inheritance, taxes, and all the other rights that surviving partners have to support their households. It’s a great comfort.”
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Couple Michelle Thomas and Jan Ferguson from their civil (and spiritual) union, Sept. 8, 2012. They plan to convert their union to a “real” marriage at City Hall June 1.

A Family Affair: Kate Lindberg-Vazquez (left) with Myrna Vazquez (right) and their adopted son Matheos.
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INTERVIEW BY KIRK WILLIAMSON

When Johnny Corcoran, owner of Blue Island gay bar Club Krave, popped the question to partner Jason Howell (aka Lindsey Devereaux) on stage during a drag show, the planning stages of their super-hero wedding were almost immediately set into motion. Jason took some time to speak with us about that fateful night and about all the work that’s gone into the wedding so far ... and how much is yet to come.

How did the proposal go down? Was it expected?

Jason Howell: We were to be celebrating Club Krave’s 6-year anniversary with a drag show on the night it happened.

I (Lindsey) had the entire show planned out which included our song, “Nothing’s Gonna Stop Us Now” by Starship, which we were going to be performing together. What I didn’t know was that Johnny switched out this song with an edited version that had a “record scratch” in the middle of the song. We get on stage, start performing the song together, and all of a sudden, it stops. Thinking that the DJ screwed
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something up, I just froze. At that point Johnny asked me to marry him; I said yes. As far as it being expected, no. Apparently Johnny told ALL of my friends to be there that night and what his intentions were. They are usually at the bar anyway, so I didn’t really think anything of it. I had no clue!

How quickly did you begin to plan all the details?
**JH:** Actually that night! We both know who our close friends are, and in fact most of them were there so we started asking them to stand up in our wedding immediately. And I, being the way I am with organizing and planning things, started the process the very next day and have been doing something wedding-related every day, just to be ahead of the game. At this point we have a lot done!!!

What has always been your dream wedding?
**JH:** This is a VERY tricky question [laughs].

There is a huge difference between a “dream wedding” and the reality of things. Obviously, when it comes to planning a wedding, how much things will cost is a huge factor. So with that reality, what makes it a dream wedding for us is having our family and friends be part of it, standing up for us and supporting us; having it at a location where we feel accepted and can be ourselves; and over all just celebrating it with people we love and who love us. Oh, and looking sexy as hell in our tuxes!

Any other comments on the upcoming wedding?
**JH:** It takes a lot of time, money, and effort, but it should also be a fun time working together. It’s coming along great and we couldn’t be happier to be taking the next step in our relationship!

**DETAILS, DETAILS ...**
Just a short list (or not so short, as the case may be) of the wedding planning steps Johnny and Jason have already taken

- Started working on a budget
- Signed up with www.theknot.com
- Picked wedding party
- Booked ceremony/reception location
- Picked food/drink package
- Spoke to a minister
- Booked DJ
- Compiled guest list (mostly done sorting seating arrangement)
- Started planning songs and “line-up”
- Booked photographer
- Picked and got fitted for tuxes
- Gathered all guests’ addresses for invites
- Found a bakery for cake and got pricing
- Bought champagne glasses, cake cutter, guest book, etc.
- Created and sent out “Save the Date” invites
- Started wording invitations
- Picked out and designed party favors
- Created wedding website
- Started planning honeymoon
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www.dignity-chicago.org/content/families
When will marriages begin?
Marriages can begin June 1, 2014, which is a Sunday. Cook County Clerk David Orr has said that his offices will be open that day for couples wishing to obtain their license then. Note, however, that there is a 24-hour waiting period between obtaining the license and having a marriage performed.

What if I can’t wait until June?
If you or your partner has extenuating health circumstances that necessitate a marriage more quickly, you may do so at the Cook County Clerk's Office with an authorization form signed by your physician. The authorization form is at http://bit.ly/1baUH2X. As of publication time, this early option is only available in Cook County, so residents of other counties must travel to Cook County to obtain their license and have their marriage performed.

Who can get married?
A couple is eligible to marry if they are 1) age 18 or over; 2) not already legally married to someone else or each other; 3) not closely related; and 4) legally competent to enter into a civil contract.

How do I obtain a marriage license?
Both parties must go to a county clerk’s office to obtain a marriage license. Cost varies by county, but usually falls between $15-40. The license is valid for 60 days, and only within the county through which the license is obtained. There is a one-day waiting period before the license is effective.

Will civil unions still exist when same-sex marriages begin in Illinois?
Yes. Couples will still be able to obtain a civil union should they wish for that instead of a marriage.

If I am already in a civil union in Illinois, how do I “upgrade”?
Couples in civil unions can either marry through regular channels—obtaining a marriage license and having a marriage ceremony performed—or, during the first year after marriages begin, they can simply apply for a marriage certificate from their county clerk’s office that will mark the date of their civil union as the date of their marriage. There is no fee for the marriage license for couples already in a civil union. Civil unions entered into outside of Illinois can also be upgraded in the same manner.

Can out-of-state couples marry in Illinois?
Couples may marry in Illinois as long as their state does not declare same-sex marriages to be “void.” Not all states that prohibit same-sex marriages declare them as “void.” Clerks may ask out of state couples to sign an affidavit before
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marrying that their state does not declare same-sex marriages to be void.

**Will out-of-state marriages be recognized in Illinois?**
Yes. Illinois law recognizes marriages already legally performed in other states.

**Will other states recognize Illinois marriages?**
As long as the state recognizes same-sex marriages, yes.

**What happens if we must divorce?**
You will follow the same procedures set up for opposite-sex couples. Note, though, that some procedures concerning child support and custody may differ, depending on your circumstances.
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- Martin & Peter

From their posting at www.tripadvisor.com, August 9, 2013
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On June 1, 2014, Illinois LGBT couples will be able to apply for a marriage license, get married the following day, and enjoy all the benefits and legal obligations that married spouses have enjoyed for years.

LGBT couples in which someone has a terminable illness, however, can get married now with a supporting letter from their physician.

Although madly in love today, divorce lawyers know that love does not conquer all and that love can sour and turn to conflict. In the world of heterosexual marriage there is an established history of divorce terms, experience with breakup rights and duties that are different from the rules that LGBT couples have lived by.

Divorce clients know the trials and tribulations of a best friend’s divorce, the property settlement they got, what their lawyer could or could not do for them and their responsibilities for payment of maintenance and child support. Unfortunately, these rules are new to LGBT couples planning marriage. They are important and everyone who plans to “tie the knot” should be aware of them.

Whatever you thought was your sole property before marriage changes. When married, spouses have rights as to the marital property of the couple. Marital property is any property acquired by the parties during their marriage except for property which is specifically excluded as non-marital property. The burden is on the party claiming non-marital property to prove it.

If you get married and split from your spouse, you may have to pay for maintenance. The amount and duration of maintenance is determined based upon relevant factors including age, income and property of each party; education; length of the marriage; whether the recipient’s ability to earn income has been impaired due to absence from the workforce to attend to domestic duties; and lifestyle of the parties.

If you divorce, you may have to pay attorney’s fees for yourself and you may have to pay the legal fees of your spouse. The law says that attorney’s fees are the primary responsibility of the party incurring fees. However, if your spouse does not have any money, you may be required to pay his/her fees. Contribution of attorneys’ fees from one party to the other is available where the payment of attorneys’ fees would undermine a partner’s economic stability.

Illinois is an equitable distribution state which means property is not necessarily divided 50/50—there is no guarantee that either spouse will get half. The court considers relevant factors in determining how assets are to be divided, such as length of the marriage; age, health and employability of the spouses; contribution, both financial and non-financial, to the acquisition of property; the parties’ respective abilities to generate capital assets in the future and other factors.

And if you die, your spouse has legal rights to certain retirement accounts you have regardless of who you named as the beneficiary.

Instead of letting a judge decide these issues in case you divorce, you should have a Premarital Agreement to establish your own financial agreements. Premarital Agreements clarify the rights and expectations in the marriage and can reduce the expenses and stress in a divorce by eliminating the issues to be determined.

Premarital Agreements must be in writing and signed by both parties. They must be entered into freely and voluntarily and they require fair and reasonable financial disclosures. They also require each spouse to have their own attorney represent them and must be signed well before the marriage so no claim can be made that the Agreement was forced onto one of the spouses.

I have always advocated for all parties in an LGBT couple to create their own property agreements and decide what issues should be covered. Before marriage is the time for that.

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**PROFILE**

**Former Marketing Executive brings a ‘fragrant design’ to LGBTQ couples**

**BY GRETCHEN BLICKENSDERFER**

Nadine Horwitz was a marketing executive who was looking to create her own destiny. In exploring her options, she discovered the floral design industry. “I began to learn more about it,” said Horwitz. “But at the same time, I brought my strengths of project management and attention to detail.”

In May of 2006, she founded Fragrant Design. “I was working for myself versus working for someone else,” Horwitz remembered. “I wanted to follow the dream of building something of my own rather than someone else’s rules.”

Fragrant Design is an event florist. While principally working for brides- and bridegrooms-to-be, the organization has also added its floral touch to corporate functions, galas and fashion shows. Their designs, said Horwitz, “transcend the ordinary.”

“90% of our business is weddings,” she said. “But we also worked with the Chicago Blackhawks on their ring ceremonies in 2010 and 2013.”

Fragrant Design has serviced LGBTQ weddings and, with the passage of marriage equality in Illinois, Horwitz is ready to do more. “It’s definitely an area we are super excited about,” said Horwitz. “We want to share in the celebration with these couples.”

Horwitz said that LGBTQ couples deserve to revel in their love in just the same way as anyone else. “It’s taken so long to be legal in this state,” she added. “We are thrilled that people can celebrate with friends and family and have a fantastic party.”

LGBTQ customers who visit Fragrant Designs for an initial and complimentary consultation will meet a team who want to make their day beautiful and memorable, added Horwitz. “They can expect a fun group of people who will listen to their desires without being judgmental.”

According to Horwitz, Fragrant Designs strives to think outside of the norm. “We try to take elements outside of the floral world and bring those inspirations to our designs,” she said. “For example, if a client has been inspired by something like The Great Gatsby, then we put those ideas into our final product.”

Horwitz has a message to LGBTQ couple looking to marry in June. “You are welcome here,” she said. “And your dreams will be executed in just the way you envisioned them.”

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**see also VENUES**

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more on page 54
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more on page 56
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773-784-5488
TreeHouseAnimals.org
On Tuesday, October 22, 2013, Windy City Times staff and volunteers, including over 15 photographers, joined thousands more as they marched on the state capitol for marriage equality. This push was seen by many as expanding awareness of the importance of passing the bill, which inevitably was signed into law by Gov. Pat Quinn Nov. 20.

See www.windycitymediagroup.com for hundreds more photos from the march and for continuing coverage of Illinois’ journey toward same-sex marriages starting this June.
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