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PAGE 24



# WINDY CITY TIMES

THE VOICE OF CHICAGO'S GAY, LESBIAN,  
BI AND TRANS COMMUNITY SINCE 1985

SEPT. 26, 2012  
VOL 27, NO. 49

[www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com)



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# LGBT Legacy Project to debut on Halsted

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

The rainbow pylons along Halsted Street will soon feature plaques commemorating notable LGBT people from around the world and throughout history. The Legacy Walk plaques will be unveiled at a dedication ceremony on Oct. 11—the 25th anniversary commemoration of National Coming Out Day.

According to the organization's website, the mission of the Legacy Project (the non-profit corporation overseeing the creation of the Legacy Walk) is "to inform, inspire, enlighten, and foster an appreciation for the

crucial role LGBT people have played in the advancement of world history and culture."

The Legacy Project designed the bronze plaques in cooperation with the Northalsted Business Alliance, and Impact Architectural Signs is producing them. They will be cast from solid bronze with a laser-etched photo relief and hand-applied painted background for texture and finish. Each will be sealed in a durable acrylic polymer clear coat for lasting protection outdoors and resistance to routine vandalism such as stickers and tagging. All plaques will include a portrait and brief biography of each inductee. A separate engraved solid

bronze dedication plaque mounted below each plaque will identify the donor(s) who sponsored each inductee.

"As a Chicagoan, it was a pleasure to work on this project. It's a great blend of history, education, and architecture. We're grateful that we were selected to work on this historic project," said Shabbir Moosaboy, co-owner of Impact Architectural Signs.

Victor Salvo, founder and executive director of the Legacy Project said, "What struck me was that Shabbir, even though he isn't from our community, loved the

**Turn to page 10**



Bishop Gene Robinson.

## Bishop Gene Robinson on the sanctity of same-sex unions

BY SALLY PARSONS

In God Believes in Love: Straight Talk about Gay Marriage, Episcopalian Bishop Gene Robinson addresses 10 questions frequently asked by those struggling to understand if same-sex marriage is just and right. Robinson was the first openly gay person elected to the episcopate (in 2003). He has been in a committed relationship with a man for 23 years (to whom he has been legally married for two years).

**Windy City Times: Which of the 10 questions your book addresses did you find the most challenging?**

Gene Robinson: The most persistent question, and perhaps the first and most basic one, is, "Does the prospect of same-gender marriage change the definition of marriage?" ... It only changes the list of those who can avail themselves of that institution.

In many ways, conservative religious people should be for it [same-gender marriage], rather than against it. We've been accused for years of being promiscuous and shallow relationships, so here we have the opportunity for deep, long-lasting, life-long commitments, and why would religious people oppose that?

**WCT: Which of the 10 questions did you find the most difficult to write about?**

GR: The one that has had the least airtime, and the one I loved writing—but was also somewhat new territory—was the question, "What would Jesus do?" That's the typical evangelical question, and while Jesus says nothing about same-gender relationships, as far as we know, there is much in the scriptural account of Jesus' life that would certainly point us in the direction of Jesus being supportive of LGBT people and their relationships.

**WCT: If Jesus were alive today, whom do you think he'd see as his family, given that he had reached out and gathered intentional family around him?**

GR: He was quite clear that biological families are not what's important. Indeed, he himself seemed to gather around him a family of choice. ... And, of course, marriage is exactly that. We choose the person to love and commit ourselves to. And so, in one sense, every family is a family of choice. The question is, Is that only limited to a partner of the opposite sex? Of course, I argue, no, that's not the case.

**WCT: What was your primary intent for writing this book?**

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# HISTORY COMES TO HALSTED



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this week in

# WINDY CITY TIMES

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Photos on cover (left, from top): Photo of Ezra Miller from EPK.tv; photo of Ald. Proco "Joe" Moreno by Kate Sosin; photo of Barbara Walters at "Celebrating Our Heroes" by Chuck Colbert; photo of Kevin McClatchy courtesy of the McClatchy Company

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**L-U-V: MADONNA!**

Read a review of Madonna's recent show at the United Center (left). Also, check out the latest Bent Nights column, which reviews Riot Fest.

Photo by Jerry Nunn



See pics from  
"Masquerade the  
Night Away," which  
benefited AIDS  
Foundation of  
Chicago.

Photo by Melissa  
Wasserman

Read about an  
event featuring  
La Dulce Palabra  
spoken-word  
ensemble.

Photo by Mel Ferrand

**LEGAL EAGLES**

This month's "Ask Lambda Legal" column deals with police harassment.

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# One year of DADT repeal marked in NYC

BY CHUCK COLBERT

A sold-out gala tribute honoring veterans, service members, and activists in the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT)-repeal effort took place Sept. 18, as 1,100 attendees boarded the Intrepid Sea, Air, and Space Museum, located in New York City.

The Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, OutServe and the Interbank Roundtable Committee sponsored the event, "Celebrating Our Heroes."

Journalist/talk-show host Barbara Walters emceed the gathering, which featured the former Joint Chiefs of Staff chairman, Adm. Mike Mullen.

Advocates and activists in the nearly two-decade-long effort to lift the ban on openly military gay service uniformly praise Mullen for his role in ending the discriminatory policy, pointing to his testimony before the Senate Armed Service Committee on Feb. 2, 2010, as a turning point in DADT repeal's forward momentum.

"Mr. Chairman, speaking for myself and myself only, it is my personal belief that allowing gays and lesbians to serve openly would be the right thing to do," he testified.

"For me, personally, it comes down to integrity—theirs as individuals, and ours as an institution," Mullen explained.

Aboard the Intrepid, Mullen told the gathering, "It's actually pretty easy to stand up for what you believe in."

"It's pretty easy to stand up and represent the values you have held close for your entire life and be fortunate enough to be in a leadership position where that value actually crosses over in a time and a place and in a way where you as a leader can really make a difference," he said.

Mullen's wife, Deborah, was also in attendance.

In her remarks, Walters, co-host and executive producer of the ABC's daytime show *The View*, called Mullen a personal "hero."

"You have fought for something that is right—the end of the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy," Walters said, looking out over the crowd that included any number of attendees dressed in military uniforms.

"So tonight is about history. Tonight is also honoring each and every one of you who has served our nation. Tonight for the first time in American history, you have the chance to stand before this leader, an admiral, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the man who helped you on this journey and we all simply say, 'Thank you, sir,'" said Walters.

"Celebrating Our Heroes" was also a wildly successful fundraiser, bringing in \$700,000, with proceeds to benefit wounded war veterans.

The celebration drew representatives from corporate America, Broadway, television, the media and politics. Attendees included lesbian



**Military members stationed at Great Lakes:** (From left) HM3 Jesus Arteaga, HM3 Brian Ruiz and HM2 Lemikas Lavender. Photo by Chuck Colbert

New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, gay MSNBC anchor Thomas Roberts, Randy Jones of the pop disco group The Village People and Elizabeth Birch, former president of the Human Rights Campaign, among others.

"We are pausing to mark and celebrate a moment in history," said Birch. "The fact that we got Admiral Mullen to come represents the strongest symbol that we are bringing together established society and our community in a way that we couldn't have imagined 30 years ago."

"The most powerful industrial military complex in the history of the world has said yes," added Birch. "That makes everything else inevitable. Everything else is inevitable."

Birch provided *pro bono* legal counsel as DADT repeal efforts progressed under President Barack Obama.

Also on hand for the celebration was San Francisco-based Zoe Dunning, a U.S. Naval Academy graduate and gay-rights activist.

"We're celebrating [the] one year post-repeal of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' and have a year's evidence to show no ill impact on the military as we predicted," she said, pausing along the red carpet to comment on the significance of the moment.

Dunning was referring to a recently released document by the Palm Center, a 50-page report entitled "One Year Out: An Assessment of DADT Repeal's Impact on Military Readiness" that showed no negative impact on combat readiness, unit cohesion, recruitment and retention, assaults and harassment. While repeal's effect on morale showed no net negative impact, morale rose for some, and fell for others, with no

net overall change.

"I've worked for 18 years for repeal of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell,'" said Dunning. "It's amazing to see the successful end of this policy."

A retired out Navy commander, Dunning is the only openly gay person allowed to remain on active duty in the military prior to the end of DADT.

Asked what the repeal means for active-duty service members, she said, "Many friends who serve now won't have to worry anymore that this might be their last day in the military, that they might be discharged."

Also aboard the Intrepid for the celebration was Aaron Belkin, Ph.D., an associate professor in political science at San Francisco State University and co-author of *One Year Out*.

"It feels like 233 years too late to the march for equality," he said, referring to the historical arm of the U.S. military's discrimination against out LGB service members. "But we made it as a

## Obama's statement on anniversary of DADT repeal

President Obama released a statement regarding the one-year anniversary of the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell (DADT):

It reads, "A year ago today, we upheld the fundamental American values of fairness and equality by finally and formally repealing 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell.' Gay and lesbian Americans now no longer need to hide who they love in order to serve the country they love."

"It is a testament to the professionalism of our men and women in uniform that this change was implemented in an orderly manner, preserving unit cohesion, recruitment, retention and military effectiveness. As Commander in Chief, I've seen that our national security has been strengthened because we are no longer denied the skills and talents of those patriotic Americans who happen to be gay or lesbian."

The ability of service members to be open and honest about their families and the people they love honors the integrity of the individuals who serve, strengthens the institutions they serve, and is one of the many reasons why our military remains the finest in the world."

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NATIONAL NEWS



—George Clooney's (left) auction date for GLSEN



—Berkeley, Calif., recognizes bisexuals

—Gay man slashed at NYC McDonald's

community. Mazel tov."

Three enlisted Navy men from Naval Station Great Lakes, located in Illinois, make the trek to New York City for the celebration, too. They were Petty Officer Second Class Lemikas Lavender, Petty Officer Third Class Brian Ruiz and Petty Officer Third Class Jesus Arteaga—all hospital corpsman who attend meetings at Gay Lesbian and Supporting Sailors (GLASS), an officially sanctioned military group at their command.

"It's an honor be here, kind of emotional to see how the military has evolved to become more accepting" said Arteaga, who hales from Chicago's Old Irving Park neighborhood. "When I came out, no one had a problem with it."

"The support is amazing," said Ruiz of Elgin, Ill. "It's everywhere."

Open military service for Lavender is a "teaching moment," he said, pointing to scenes like the Navy Ball and command Christmas party for examples.

"Now I can bring a man and the reaction is, 'Tell us about you two,'" said Lavender.

Lavender, who attended his first Chicago Gay Pride, recalled the same kind of friendly interest from his boss who "came to me and on the Monday after, and asked, 'So how was Gay Pride? Glad you had a good time.'"

A native of Syracuse, N.Y., Lavender is serving his third tour of duty at Great Lakes. Asked what keeps him there, he said, without skipping a beat, "Chicago."

"I'm from New York and will defend it until the day I die," Lavender explained. "But Chicago—the people are 100 percent genuine. It's a clean city with always something to do."

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Barbara Walters at the ceremony. Photo by Chuck Colbert

## Photojournalist Bettye Lane dies

Photojournalist Bettye Lane, renowned for capturing the feminist movement during the 1970s and 1980s, has died of cancer at age 82, according to the New York Times.

Covering the 1970 Women's Strike for Equality (which the National Organization for Women called to demand equal treatment at work) spurred Lane's interest in feminism. She subsequently went to various rallies, getting to know figures such as Gloria Steinem and Florynce Kennedy. At the 1976 Democratic National Convention, she caught U.S. Rep. Bella Abzug meeting actresses Shirley MacLaine and Elizabeth Taylor.

Lane also caught moments in demonstrations for gay and civil rights as well as rallies against the Vietnam War. Her work covering the 1969 Stonewall Riots appear in the 2010 documentary *Stonewall Uprising*, about the seminal gay-rights event.

# High court's first signals hint Prop 8 may be dead next week

BY LISA KEEN  
KEEN NEWS SERVICE

The U.S. Supreme Court, on Sept. 25, included no same-sex marriage cases in its first announcement of what lower-court decisions it will review during the 2012-13 session. Legal activists will almost certainly begin speculating if the high court is preparing to refuse to hear an appeal to preserve California's same-sex marriage ban, Proposition 8. That action could come as soon as Monday, Oct. 1, or be pending for weeks.

The Sept. 25 list included only those cases that the nine justices have agreed to review. It takes four justices to vote for review in order to accept an appeal.

Its next list, slated for release Oct. 1, is expected to list hundreds of cases that the justices won't review.

Hollingsworth v. Perry (formerly known as Brown v. Perry and Schwarzenegger v. Perry) is among the cases the Supreme Court was scheduled to discuss in their private conference meeting Sept. 24, as were two cases challenging the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), and an appeal from the anti-gay National Organization for Marriage.

The two DOMA cases are Windsor v. U.S., an ACLU challenge to DOMA as it regards estate tax, in the federal district court in Manhattan; and Brewer v. Diaz, a Lambda Legal case regarding benefits to state employees, from the Ninth Circuit.

The NOM v. McKee appeal, from the National Organization for Marriage (NOM), seeks to overturn a First Circuit decision upholding the constitutionality of Maine state campaign reporting law requirements on political action commit-

tees. NOM has fought the requirements that it identify its donors to campaigns to block equal-marriage rights for same-sex couples.

While there is no guarantee the justices have moved any of these four cases to the list of cases to be denied, the absence of the cases from the first grant review list seems to diminish their chances of being taken up. And that's not necessarily bad news.

If the court does deny review to the Prop 8 case, same-sex couples in California will, within days, be able once again to obtain marriage licenses from the state. That will make California the eighth state, plus the District of Columbia, to provide marriage equality for same-sex couples.

The two cases challenging DOMA —Windsor and Brewer—were long-shots at gaining high court review, primarily because two cases from Massachusetts have much more developed facts for the court to consider in regards to DOMA. Neither of those more developed cases—one from Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD's OPM v. Gill) and one from the Massachusetts Attorney General's office (HHS v. Commonwealth)—has yet been scheduled for a specific conference date before the justices.

In addition to the two Massachusetts DOMA cases, two others have sought Supreme Court review against DOMA: OPM v. Golinski (a Lambda case on benefits) and Pedersen v. OPM (a GLAD sister case to Gill).

If the high court does deny cert to the Proposition 8 case, Hollingsworth v. Perry, not everyone will be surprised. The high-profile attorneys Ted Olson and David Boies, who led the legal team that won the decision striking Prop 8, filed a brief with the Supreme Court Aug. 24 urging

the court not to accept the case for review. Olson and Boies argued that the Ninth Circuit decision upholding a district judge's ruling that Proposition 8 is unconstitutional did "not conflict with any decision of this Court or any other court of appeals."

"While there are circumstances that might make review of this obviously important issue attractive at this time—particularly the possibility of resolving this case in conjunction with the challenges to DOMA—those considerations," said Olson and Boies, "must be weighed against the substantial and irreparable harm the period of additional review would impose on Plaintiffs and those situated similarly to them."

Olson and Boies also argued that there are serious questions about whether the party appealing the Ninth Circuit decision has legal standing to bring its appeal. The City of San Francisco, which also opposed Proposition 8 in court, made similar arguments to the high court.

Many speculate that Olson and Boies, who made clear throughout the litigation that they hoped to eliminate bans on same-sex marriage nationally, lost enthusiasm for a Supreme Court ruling in the case after the Ninth Circuit issued its very narrow ruling to declare Prop 8 unconstitutional. The Ninth Circuit ruled that an initiative cannot take away from one group of citizens a right that exists for all. That, it said, violated the 14th Amendment's guarantee of equal protection, as well as Supreme Court precedent in the landmark Romer v. Evans decision, striking down Colorado's anti-gay initiative in 1996.

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## Cardinal George calls gay relationships 'friendships'

BY KATE SOSIN

In the latest anti-gay action by Chicago's Cardinal Francis George, the archbishop referred to gay relationships as "friendships" at a Sunday mass at which 400 married couples renewed their vows, according to a CBS Chicago report.

"There must surely be ways in our civil society, where we can honor friendships, where we can respect other people, without destroying the nature of marriage," George said, according to CBS, adding that society will be "worse" if same-sex marriage becomes legal.

George's comments are the latest in a string of anti-gay statements from the Cardinal. Last year, he repeatedly compared Chicago's Pride Parade to a Ku Klux Klan gathering. George later apologized.

## TPAN marking 25 years of service Oct. 4

HIV/AIDS agency Test Positive Aware Network (TPAN) will hold "The 25th Hour: Celebrating A Quarter-Century of Service" Thursday, Oct. 4, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St.

Jamar Rogers, who was NBC's The Voice last season, will provide the evening's live entertainment. Hearty Boys, Big Jones, Tavernita and Pastoral/Bar Pastoral will be just a few of the establishment providing tastings.

Tickets are \$75-\$150 each; see [www.tpan.com/25hour](http://www.tpan.com/25hour).



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BY

**MARK ZUBRO**

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# Historic supreme court session underway

BY LISA KEEN  
KEEN NEWS SERVICE

Perhaps the most historic U.S. Supreme Court session ever for the LGBT community gets underway officially Oct. 1, with a record nine gay-related cases seeking review, all involving same-sex marriage.

Two of the nine cases include high-profile landmark decisions in federal appeals courts—one declaring California's ban on same-sex marriage unconstitutional, and the other holding the core section of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) to be unconstitutional as well. Whether the court refuses to hear the appeals or takes them, the result will set up another landmark in the LGBT-rights struggle.

Seven of the nine cases revolve around challenges to DOMA, one concerns Proposition 8 and the ninth is the anti-gay National Organization for Marriage's (NOM's) attempt to circumvent campaign-reporting laws when it spends money to push anti-gay initiatives.

## The DOMA seven

Of the seven petitions seeking appeal on DOMA-related challenges, four come from the New England states, two from western states and one from New York.

**The Massachusetts Cases**—Three of the four petitions in New England arrive from Massachusetts and the First Circuit, and involve two cases that have been winding their way through the courts since March 2009. Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD) filed one of the lawsuits, while the Massachusetts Attorney General's office filed the other. Both sought to strike down the core provision of DOMA—Section 3—that bars the federal government to recognize same-sex spouses for any federal purpose.

GLAD argued the law violates the equal protection rights of citizens with same-sex spouses; the commonwealth argued that it violates state sovereignty. There is both a petition, by the Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group (BLAG) and the solicitor general, and a cross-petition (from the Commonwealth) on this latter case. The fourth petition involves another GLAD case, Office of Personnel Management v. Pedersen.

OPM v. Gill and Health and Human Services v. Commonwealth are the preeminent legal challenges to DOMA. Both were carefully thought-out strategies, filed in federal court in Massachusetts, and consolidated on appeal to the First Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals.

Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD), the legal team that won the landmark 2003 decision for same-sex marriage in Massachusetts, filed Gill. GLAD argued below that DOMA violates the equal protection clause of the federal constitution. Commonwealth, brought by the Massachusetts attorney general's office, says DOMA

violates the spending clause or Tenth Amendment rights of states.

On May 31, the First Circuit, using a "closer than usual" rational basis review in these cases, ruled Section 3 of DOMA violates the equal protection guarantee. And while it rejected the Commonwealth's argument regarding the Tenth Amendment and spending clause, the state has asked that the Supreme Court review that aspect of the decision if it takes the cases for review.

Section 3 of DOMA prohibits the federal government from recognizing the marriages of same-sex couples. Although this began as two cases before the First Circuit, it now constitutes three petitions before the Supreme Court: BLAG's appeal of the Gill ruling, and the appeals of HHS and the Massachusetts Attorney General in the Commonwealth decision.

**Golinski v. OPM**—Another important DOMA challenge pending before the Supreme Court for this session is Golinski v. OPM, which Lambda Legal brought. It tests DOMA's ability to deny a gay federal employee the same benefits enjoyed by straight federal employees.

The federal employee in this case is attorney Karen Golinski, who is employed as an attorney by the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals and who sought health-insurance coverage for her same-sex spouse. U.S. District Court Judge Jeffrey White, an appointee of President George W. Bush, said the legislative history of DOMA is "replete with expressed animus toward gay men and lesbians," but he said he was "persuaded that something short of animus may have motivated DOMA's passage." White's February 2012 ruling said Congress failed to justify its disparate treatment of gays and lesbians, whether one used rational or heightened judicial review. The Ninth Circuit declined to hear BLAG's appeal, so BLAG took its appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

**Windsor v. U.S.**—The Windsor case, filed by the ACLU, challenges Section 3 of DOMA, but, unlike the previous three cases, Windsor has not gone through a federal appeals court, only the district court.

Judge Barbara Jones of the U.S. District Court for Southern New York ruled June 6 that DOMA violates the U.S. constitution's guarantee of equal protection when it requires a same-sex spouse to pay a federal estate tax from which heterosexual spouses are exempt. Because of DOMA, plaintiff Edith Windsor was forced to pay more than \$363,000 in estate taxes when her same-sex spouse, Thea Spyer, died in 2009 and left Windsor her estate. Jones used the lowest standard of judicial review—rational basis—in finding DOMA unconstitutional.

Solicitor General Donald Verrilli submitted a brief to the Supreme Court urging it to take the case in part because different lower courts were using different standards of review on the issue.

"This court has previously granted certiorari before judgment when necessary to provide expeditious resolution of exceptionally important legal questions," said Verrilli. But ultimately, Verrilli urged the court to consider the petition to review Windsor only if it first decides that none of the Massachusetts cases nor Golinski should be reviewed.

**Brewer v. Diaz**—This was originally known as Brewer v. Collins and pits a group of gay Arizona state employees against a new state law barring them from signing up their domestic partners and children for family health insurance coverage. A federal judge ruled the state law violated the U.S. Constitution's guarantee of equal protection. The Ninth Circuit upheld that ruling last year, another victory for Lambda Legal. The state, and Republican Governor Jan Brewer, is petitioning the high court to overturn the ruling.

**Pedersen v. OPM**—This is GLAD's second DOMA challenge, essentially a twin to the Gill case in Massachusetts. This one was filed in federal court in Connecticut, with plaintiffs from several Second Circuit states.

The Supreme Court typically grants review when an appeals court declares a federal law unconstitutional. It also frequently grants review when various appeals courts are in conflict over a law's constitutionality.

The circuit courts have declared DOMA unconstitutional, but there has been no conflict. Both the First Circuit and the Ninth Circuit have said so. A federal district court in the Second Circuit has declared it unconstitutional, but the Second Circuit itself has not yet weighed in.

But the fact that the U.S. House Bipartisan Legal Advisory Group (BLAG) has been aggressively defending DOMA (in 14 separate courts, at latest count) will no doubt weigh heavily on the Supreme Court's willingness to take up the issue sooner rather than later. A ruling from the high court upholding the law may be the only way to slow the dramatically increasing support for same-sex marriage—in the courts and in public opinion.

## The NOM's second try

NOM v. McKee appeals a decision rendered by Walter F. McKee, a member of the Maine Commission on Governmental Ethics and Election Practices. The Commission ruled that political action committees operating in the state had to comply with state election campaign requirements to identify their donors. That includes in campaigns taking sides on statewide ballot initiatives, of which many in recent years have concerned same-sex marriage.

NOM's challenge of those laws has failed before the U.S. Supreme Court once already. This is—as the First Circuit put it—"the second chapter of a lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of Maine laws imposing registration and disclosure

requirements on entities that finance election-related advocacy." The First Circuit upheld the state laws. NOM, again, appealed to the high court.

## The Prop 8 climax

Hollingsworth v. Perry (formerly known as Brown v. Perry and Schwarzenegger v. Perry) is one of the most anticipated LGBT cases to reach the U.S. Supreme Court, for the LGBT community and for many others. It is a case that has been drenched with drama since the beginning, when the newcomer organization American Foundation for Equal Rights—against the advice of long-time gay legal activists—hired two of the country's most prominent attorneys to challenge a voter-passed initiative in California to ban same-sex marriage.

As Ted Olson and David Boies staged their three-week long landmark trial in defense of equal rights for same-sex couples, gay legal activists marshaled behind them. And when, in August 2010, they won a comprehensive victory from U.S. District Court Judge Vaughn Walker (a Republican appointee who, after retirement, acknowledged having a same-sex partner), the momentum throughout the country seemed to begin shifting towards equality.

Then, in another victory, the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals ruled in February 2012 that Proposition 8 was "remarkably similar" to Colorado's anti-gay Amendment 2, which the Supreme Court had declared unconstitutional. Based on that, said the Ninth Circuit, Proposition 8 must also be declared unconstitutional—a violation of the equal protection guarantees of the U.S. Constitution.

The Ninth Circuit also quoted from the U.S. Supreme Court's 2003 decision striking down sodomy laws, Lawrence v. Texas, and its 1967 decision, Loving v. Virginia, striking down bans on interracial marriage.

It was no surprise then, that supporters of Prop 8, filed an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. Olson and Boies have opposed the petition, noting that the Ninth Circuit decision did "not conflict with any decision of this Court or any other court of appeals." That's the legal reason. In their brief, they also made clear that they were also motivated by a basic responsibility to their clients—two same-sex couples who want to marry in California.

"While there are circumstances that might make review of this obviously important issue attractive at this time—particularly the possibility of resolving this case in conjunction with the challenges to DOMA—those considerations," said Olson and Boies, "must be weighed against the substantial and irreparable harm the period of additional review would impose on Plaintiffs and those situated similarly to them."

The Supreme Court will release its next list of cases Monday, Oct. 1, at the start of its 2012-13 session.

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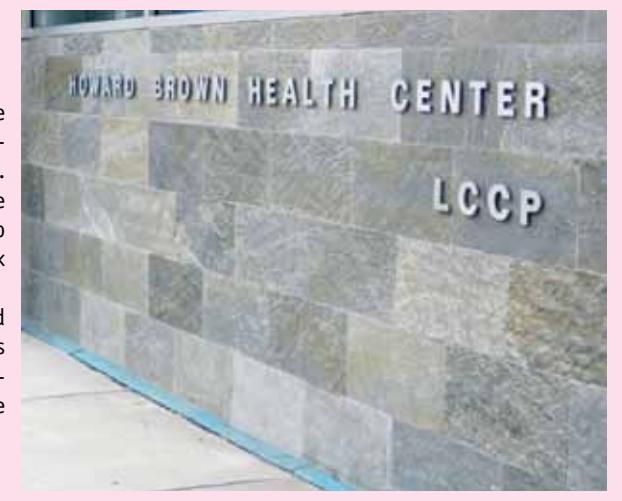
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## WCT returns to HBHC locations

Windy City Times will once again be distributed at the Howard Brown Health Center, 4025 N. Sheridan Rd., as well as all three of its Brown Elephant resale shop locations in Chicago and Oak Park.

In October 2011, HBHC stopped delivery of the paper due to its coverage of the ongoing controversies and funding losses at the agency.

Photo by Andrew Davis



# LGBT senior housing awarded CHA contract

BY KATE SOSIN

The Chicago Housing Authority (CHA) has approved a major contract for upcoming LGBT-friendly senior housing in Lakeview.

CHA's board of commissioners voted in favor of the Housing Assistance Payment contract at its public meeting downtown Sept. 18.

All but one of the commissioners, Myra King, voted in favor of the contract, which passed without discussion or argument.

"This is a really big deal," said 44th Ward Alderman Tom Tunney, who added that the new development is historic.

The award goes to Heartland Housing and Center on Halsted, which are collaborating to bring 79 LGBT-affirming units to 3600 N. Halsted St. The project has been years in the making and is expected to open in late spring 2014.

According to Tunney, the contract approval required some last-minute maneuvers because commissioners worried that the LGBT-affirming housing would be seen as discriminatory in favor of LGBT people. The housing is not LGBT-specific, which would be illegal. Rather, it is intended to provide housing able to serve LGBT seniors well, also known as "affinity" housing.

The CHA contract—capped at \$970,800 a year and \$29,124,000 over 30 years—was awarded under the Housing Choice Voucher Program, which assists Chicagoans in renting privately owned housing. The contract means that those on CHA waitlists can opt to live at 3600 N. Halsted St. if they are 55 and older and qualify for the voucher program. Half the building will also be filled through community referrals.

Hume An, director of real estate development at Heartland Housing, said the award is signifi-

cant and will allow the project to house people of all incomes.

"It's a project we've been working on for a long time and having these subsidies will help us to house people in extreme poverty," An said.

Michael Goldberg, executive director of Heartland Housing, Inc., echoed those sentiments.

"It ensures the maximum number of units in this building are going to be affordable for a wide range of people," he said. "This is really a critical step for us."

Construction on the \$21-million project is slated to begin this winter. The property houses the former historic 23rd District Town Hall police station.

The six-floor building will contain studio and one-bedroom apartments, with retail space, common areas and an outdoor patio. Seniors living in the building will be connected to services through Center on Halsted, located next door.

The project is intended to curb feelings of isolation and lack of culturally competent care among many of the city's LGBT seniors.

The housing has been a dream of Tunney's for at least seven years, he said. The alderman had pitched a similar project to federal funders years ago.

He noted that the CHA vote was not just significant for LGBT people or seniors but for supporters of affordable housing.

Also approved at the meeting was a contract for a 51-unit housing development for people at risk of homelessness or with mental illness in Lakeview. The building is an initiative by Thresholds, an organization that serves people with mental illness. That development is planned for 3208 N. Sheffield Ave., formerly the site of single-room occupancy hotel, The Diplomat.

## Stephens case in pre-trial phase

BY KATE SOSIN

The case against a man accused of murdering his boyfriend in a Lakeview domestic fight is slowly moving along.

Herbert Van Stephens, is facing two counts of murder for the slaying of John Atkinson, 25 in March.

According to police, the men were mutual combatants in a domestic fight on the 600 block of West Stratford Place. Both men suffered multiple stab wounds and were transported to Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center. Atkinson died as a result of the injuries. Van Stephens was admitted in critical condition.

According to a Cook County State's Attorney spokesperson, the case remains in the pre-trial status phase.

Van Stephens pleaded not guilty in April.

## Chicago House receives national transgender grant

HIV/AIDS agency Chicago House has been chosen as one of eight national grant sites to study the link between HIV and retention in care of transgender women of color.

The study, to be housed in Chicago House's all-new TransLife Center (TLC), will allow \$300,000 per year for the next five years from the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) as a Special Program of National Significance. The TLC programming will serve as a collaborative comprehensive and multi-strategy approach to identifying HIV-positive transgender women of color who are out of care while engaging them successfully in HIV primary care.

Five project partners—AIDS Foundation of Chicago, Center on Halsted, Lurie Children's Hos-

pital, Heartland Health Outreach and South Side Help Center—will help Chicago House with the study.

## LGBT Narcotics Anon. meetings at Haymarket

Narcotics Anonymous meetings for LGBT individuals will take place Mondays 8-9 p.m. at Haymarket Center, 20 N. Sangamon St.

For more info, call Anthony Oltean at 312-208-4021.

### PASSAGES

#### Daniel Bolander Jr.

Daniel Bolander Jr., a native of Milwaukee, passed away after a valiant battle with cancer. He was 49.

A bartender at Bucks Saloon, he will be remembered as a great friend, bowler and Green Bay Packers fan.

Friends are gathering in remembrance Saturday, Sept. 29, 3 p.m.-8 p.m., at Bucks Saloon, 3439 N. Halsted St. (773-525-1125).



Daniel Bolander Jr.



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# Veracity of Chick-fil-A deal called into question

BY KATE SOSIN

A Chicago alderman announced he will allow a Chick-fil-A in his ward after the company change course on LGBT issues, but evasion on the issue from the restaurant and continued anti-gay fundraising has called in the question the sincerity of that deal.

In a statement released Sept. 18, Ald. Proco "Joe" Moreno said he will not block the chain from opening as he had planned because he negotiated the adoption of a non-discrimination statement from the company and convinced them to cease funding vehemently anti-gay organizations nationally.

See first day coverage at [www.windyctymedigroup.com/lgbt/Chick-fil-A-claims-to-cease-anti-gay-donations-clarifies-policies/39564.html](http://www.windyctymedigroup.com/lgbt/Chick-fil-A-claims-to-cease-anti-gay-donations-clarifies-policies/39564.html).

However, former Arkansas governor and current media personality Mike Huckabee wrote on his blog that the restaurant's chief operating officer, Dan Cathy, personally told him the story was false.

The controversy began this summer after Cathy told Christian-news organization the Baptist Press that he was "guilty as charged" of opposing same-sex marriage.

Cathy's comments came after years of reports that the restaurant's WinShape Foundation gives millions to anti-gay groups.

Moreno subsequently announced he would block Chick-fil-A from opening in Logan Square. Mayor Rahm Emanuel backed Moreno, setting off a firestorm from critics who alleged Moreno was retaliating in violation of Chick-fil-A's right to

free speech.

On Sept. 18, Moreno and LGBT organization The Civil Rights Agenda (TCRA) announced victory on the Chick-fil-A issue. The story has made national headlines since.

"This is a win for the LGBT community," said Moreno in a statement. "This is a win for everyone who works for the cause of equal rights, and a win for Chick-fil-A. This is a win for all."

"I think it's really an important step forward for the company," said Anthony Martinez, executive director of TCRA. "I think also it's a positive step for the LGBT community. The fact that they're no longer donating to anti-gay organizations really, from what they've had in the past, I think shows they are trying to make a significant step forward in terms of serving all of their customers equally, not using their profits to work against the fight for civil rights for the LGBT community."

Still, many questioned claims that Chick-fil-A had adopted a new policy and gave up anti-gay donations, noting that the language of the company memo is the same used in a Chick-fil-A Facebook post when the controversy first broke in July.

In a follow-up interview, Martinez agreed that the policy was not new.

"With regard to policy, there really isn't that much of a change," he said.

The change, he said, was in the fact that Chick-fil-A sent the anti-discrimination statement to franchisees for the first time. Still, Martinez said he and Moreno had hoped the chain would adopt anti-discrimination language in its corporate policies.



Ald. Proco "Joe" Moreno. Photo by Kate Sosin

Matt Bailey, a spokesperson for Moreno's office, said that effort was complicated by the fact that Chick-fil-A handbooks differ between franchises.

Bailey said, however, that Chick-fil-A had promised to stop giving to anti-gay organizations. He said his office was most concerned with six or seven specific organizations known to be intensely anti-gay, which the company vowed to cut off financially.

"They showed [Moreno] and confirmed they wouldn't ... but they also asked us not to show the details of that, and we agreed," Bailey said.

Bailey called the agreement "a start" and said his office would be watching to make sure the new Chick-fil-A did not discriminate once it opened.

Still, a day later The Advocate reported that WinShape held a fundraiser for traditionally anti-gay group the Marriage and Family Foundation, avoiding donating to the group by instructing donors to send money directly to the foundation itself.

According to TCRA, a letter signed by Chick-fil-A's senior director of real estate to Moreno had stated, "The WinShape Foundation is now taking a much closer look at the organizations it considers helping, and in that process will remain true to its stated philosophy of not supporting organizations with political agendas."

In addition, the company released the anti-discrimination memo.

Martinez said the goal was to ensure employees feel comfortable at work and that they are able to report discrimination without fear of retribution.

"Of course, here in Illinois we're very lucky to have very stringent anti-discrimination laws specific to sexual orientation and gender identity as it relates to employment," he said. "However, that's not the case necessarily for everyone across the country. We do feel the company needs to adopt an anti-discrimination policy."

Moreno said the agreement was also the first time the company has written an internal memo to franchisees and stakeholders stating that the company will "treat every person with honor, dignity and respect-regardless of their beliefs, race, creed, sexual orientation and gender," and that their "intent is not to engage in political or

social debates." The statement is listed in an official company document titled "Chick-fil-A: Who We Are."

"My sole interest in this fight was to make substantive progress on the vital civil-rights issue of our day," said Moreno, in a statement. "With this action, I believe that real progress has been made to address the very legitimate concerns of the LGBT community regarding Chick-fil-A."

But just days after the story broke, many called into question what progress had been made, if any.

Equality Illinois, which has been known to stand at odds with TCRA, put out a press release condemning Chick-fil-A's perceived continuation of anti-gay policies and calling the latest flap a missed opportunity for the company.

"Chick-Fil-A's charitable giving to programs that supposedly 'strengthen families and enrich marriages' do not include in their vision same-sex couples and the families they are building," said Bernard Cherkasov, CEO of Equality Illinois. "And we're dismayed that in order to 'strengthen families and enrich marriages,' Chick-Fil-A chooses to fund organizations that marginalize LGBT families, oppose marriages of gay and lesbian couples and disrespect LGBT people."

TCRA also responded to the news with disappointment in a press release. But Martinez argued that it is too soon to tell if Chick-fil-A has changed course.

"The agreement was that Chick-fil-A and the Winshape Foundation would no longer give to these groups directly, so we are going to have to take some time to look into this action and whether there is a violation to that agreement, but at this time it does not look as if they have," said Martinez in the statement. "In the past, the Marriage and Family Foundation's practices have definitely been against the marriage equality movement, so the concern going forward would be what they are using that money for. Supporting family and marriage is definitely a good thing, but if they are working against marriage equality, obviously that is something that needs to be addressed."

However, conservative politician Huckabee said he knew first-hand from Cathy that the story is untrue.

Huckabee released the following statement and attributed it to Cathy:

"There continues to be erroneous implications in the media that Chick-fil-A changed our practices and priorities in order to obtain permission for a new restaurant in Chicago. That is incorrect. Chick-fil-A made no such concessions, and we remain true to who we are and who we have been."

Some have suggested that Moreno announced the shaky compromise in order to justify allowing Chick-fil-A into his ward, a move some argued he was legally required to do anyway.

However, the alderman appeared not to budge on the claim, releasing a statement that challenges Cathy to confirm the agreement between Chick-fil-A and Moreno.

"It's pretty simple, Mr. Cathy," wrote Moreno in the statement. "Do you acknowledge and support the policies that your executives outlined to me in writing or do you not? Yes or no?"

Matt Bailey, Moreno's spokesperson, had declined to release documentation of the deal, at the request of Chick-fil-A, he said. But given Cathy's denial, Bailey agreed to release the letter to Windy City Times.

The document, dating back to January, does not specifically discuss anti-gay groups or anti-gay donations. However, in a letter signed by John Featherston Jr., Chick-fil-A's senior director of real estate, the company vows to take "a much closer look at the organizations it considers helping."

The letter appears to be written before Cathy's controversial comments and before Moreno took a stand against the restaurant, leaving questions about more recent agreements between

Turn to page 9

## CHICK-FIL-A from page 8

Moreno and the company.

Rick Garcia, policy advisor for TCRA and a veteran LGBT activist, said he has spent more time on the phone trying to convince reporters of the veracity of the story than he has talking about the issue itself.

The sticking point, he said, is in Moreno's agreement with Chick-fil-A not to release the purported written statement from the company, affirming it had ceased anti-gay donations.

Garcia said he took exception to that agreement.

"Chick-fil-A wants to have their chicken and it, too," he said, arguing that Chick-fil-A had attempted to manipulate support from Moreno without alienating many of its anti-gay customers.

Garcia stood by Moreno and by TCRA's version of events, stating that Chick-fil-A deceived the alderman.

"Everything that the alderman has said, he got from senior executives at Chick-fil-A," he said. "I really don't think he was massaging or distorting what happened."

Asked if TCRA or Moreno had received approval to release statements on behalf of Chick-fil-A, Garcia said that Chick-fil-A had asked that neither announce the agreement publicly.

Bailey said that Moreno's office did not seek consent before announcing the deal.

"We didn't get consent. We didn't ask them," he said. "We had to explain [to Chicagoans], obviously, why we changed [on blocking the chain]."

Bailey said that Chick-fil-A's opening in the ward is still dependent on its stance on LGBT issues, including corporate donation practices. He said the alderman is waiting on a response from Cathy before deciding how to proceed.

If the company fails to stop its anti-gay donations, he said, "then, they're not coming."

## Moreno's office releases Chick-fil-A letter to WCT

BY KATE SOSIN

Ald. Proco "Joe" Moreno's office had released a letter in which Chick-fil-A representatives discuss company charitable giving.

The move comes after a week of debate over whether the company vowed to discontinue its anti-gay donations and adopt anti-discrimination practices in order to be allowed to open a second restaurant in Chicago.

The letter appears to be written before Cathy's controversial comments and before Moreno took a stand against the restaurant, leaving questions about more recent agreements between Moreno and the company.

Bailey said the agreement between Chick-fil-A and Moreno's office remains dependent upon the restaurant's stance on LGBT issues and giving.

The letter is published as follows:

*Chick-fil-A, Inc.  
5200 Buffington Road  
Atlanta, Georgia 30349-2998*

*January 31, 2012*

*Via Federal Express  
Honorable Proco Joe Moreno  
Alderman, 1st Ward  
City of Chicago  
2058 North Western Avenue  
Chicago, IL 60647*

*Re: Chick-fil-A, Inc.*

*Dear Alderman Moreno:  
We were pleased to have the opportunity to speak with you recently concerning certain*

questions you had about our Company. We trust that certain misconceptions concerning Company policies were resolved and also hope that we were able to convey a better understanding of the Company and its philosophy. As we discussed, I write you to memorialize several points covered in our discussion.

As our Company's President, Dan Cathy, has stated publicly, Chick-fil-A, Inc., is not "anti anybody." In its 65-year history, both the Company and its individual restaurants, which are independently operated franchised businesses, have always endeavored to serve and value all people equally. On both a corporate and an individual level, we believe that everyone is entitled to be treated with honor, dignity and respect, a philosophy which is practiced and expected on a daily basis throughout the Company and chain. This philosophy is also one of the guiding principles of The WinShape Foundation, a charitable organization established nearly 30 ago by Chick-fil-A's founder, Truett Cathy, and his wife Jeannette.

Another principle that has always guided both the Company and The WinShape Foundation is the avoidance of promoting political agendas or causes. As you know, we have been taken to task in the recent past for charitable donations made by The WinShape Foundation to several organizations that have taken a public stand on certain political issues. As we advised you last week, any donations were made to the organizations in question for purposes apart from any political position they or other affiliates may advocate.

In the current world of social media, establishing facts can be challenging. For example, some of the activities characterized as charitable gifts by Chick-fil-A were purchases

of goods. Some of the expenditures noted by critics imply current actions, but actually occurred as long as nine years ago. Additionally, one organization claimed sponsorship by our company that did not exist. These factors have served to cloud the long time commitment of Chick-fil-A and the Cathy family's WinShape Foundation to foster care for disadvantaged young people and to education.

In order to avoid such occurrences in the future, The WinShape Foundation is now taking a much closer look at the organizations it considers helping, and in that process will remain true to its stated philosophy of not supporting organizations with political agenda. To provide you with a better understanding of The WinShape Foundation, I have enclosed a listing of some of the Foundation's programs, as well as a statement issued by Dan Cathy on January 30, 2012 which summarizes our core beliefs and corporate philosophy. I sincerely hope that you find this information helpful, and also want to assure you that the proposed Chick-fil-A restaurant on Elston Avenue in Chicago will be operated at all times in a manner consistent with the principles described above ... and with one of the highest-ranking service standards in all of foodservice.

If you have any questions regarding these matters, please do not hesitate to contact me, as I would be happy to discuss them with you further. Finally, please also accept our thanks for your kind consideration of this correspondence.

*Sincerely,  
CHICK-FIL-A, INC  
Signed John E. Featherston, Jr.  
Senior Director, Real Estate*

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# Gerber/Hart president: Construction 'molasses-slow'

BY KATE SOSIN

Construction on the new home of Chicago's LGBT library is taking far longer than expected, according to the organization's president, Brad Tucker.

Gerber/Hart Library and Archives has been closed for months, after the library moved from its Edgewater home to a vacant building in Rogers Park.

Tucker previously told Windy City Times that he hoped the new space would open at the start of October; however, after several delays, he cannot give a specific date for the reopening.

"It's molasses-slow," he said. "They're doing the best they can."

Gerber/Hart's new space at 6500 N. Clark St. still needs heating and air-conditioning installed, said Tucker. And electrical wiring to the building remains unfinished.

Tucker called the process "frustrating and difficult."

The library is not paying rent on the new space during construction, but is paying to keep its archives in storage in an Edgewater facility. A better timeline for the library's reopening will be available after a meeting with the library's landlord and construction team in the coming week, said Tucker.

Gerber/Hart was the subject of a Windy City Times investigation earlier this year, after the library announced it was moving amid allegations that it had become shut off from Chicago's LGBT community and had failed to follow its bylaws. Tucker replaced longtime President Karen Sendziak in the midst of controversy. Sendziak remains on the board.

Tucker said the organization is continuing efforts to develop the board but said it is unlikely to add new members until the library is functional again.

"We just want to make sure we're doing it right this time," said Tucker.

Gerber/Hart has also provided access to information about the library to "Friends of Gerber/Hart Library and Archives," a group of former volunteers and members that has called for more transparent leadership in the organization. Tucker said the library provided the group with "quite a bit of information that they asked for."

Gail Morse, the group's attorney, said that the library did not give the group everything it had asked for, nor did it provide copies of the materials as requested. Morse said the group asked for books and records that the library was required by law to make available, but declined to say what specific materials had been requested.

Tucker said that library leadership has yet to meet with Friends of Gerber/Hart because the group failed to respond to a request for a meeting. Morse said the library offered one date, which the group could not make. She said they asked for a meeting on another day but never heard back.

## Club investigation continues amid rumors

BY KATE SOSIN

The investigation around a suspected arson at a popular Oak Park gay bar continues months after a fire ravaged the business, setting off rumors about the source of the fire and the future of the bar.

A fire gutted the Velvet Rope Ultra Lounge in June, sparking fears that the business was targeted in an anti-gay hate crime.

Officials previously said the fire was suspicious in nature, and Oak Park Police Commander Phyllis Howard said that graffiti on the building suggested a possible hate crime. Police later refused to confirm Howard's initial statement.

Months later, Oak Park police have declined to comment on the ongoing investigation, stating that further information is still unavailable.

The gutted business has become a source of gossip in recent weeks as owner Frank Elliot attempts to open a new business in Lakeview.

Rumors have suggested that Elliot sold Velvet Rope, a story Elliot said is untrue.

Others have speculated that Elliot was being blocked from opening Bonsai Bar and Lounge at 3503 N. Halsted St. in Chicago. Elliot said that he has been jumping through hoops with city inspectors but that he was unaware of an intentional holdup. He said he hopes to open the Lakeview small-plate restaurant and bar in two or three weeks.

Tressa Feher—chief of staff for 46th Ward Ald. James Cappleman, whose ward encompasses Elliot's new business—said that her office had no information that suggested Elliot was being purposefully prevented from opening. She said the business was missing some permits when construction began, stalling completion.

## LGBT needs assessment to be presented Oct. 2

The LGBT Community Fund, an initiative of The Chicago Community Trust, will hold a bilingual discussion forum and presentation of the Chicago LGBT Community Needs Assessment at the National Museum of Mexican Art, 1852 W. 19th St., at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 2.

The event is the second in a series of several data presentations throughout various Chicago-area neighborhoods, and the first to be conducted bilingually (English/Spanish). Needs assessment data was initially released to the public in a press briefing at Howard Brown Health Center June 27.

The evening will include remarks from representatives of The Chicago Community Trust and Southwest Youth Collaborative, followed by a presentation of the data and a question-and-answer period with Mary Morten of Morten Group and Dr. Keisha Farmer-Smith, principal investigator. Prue Beidler, co-chair of The LGBT Community Fund, will moderate.

To RSVP, email [Jessica@MortenGroup.com](mailto:Jessica@MortenGroup.com).

## Northstar under fire for alleged mass email

BY KATE SOSIN

According to a CBS report, Northstar Healthcare, a Lakeview-based HIV treatment and research center, is under fire for allegedly sending a mass email containing patient contact information.

Northstar did not respond to a request to comment on whether it had sent a mass email to patients over the summer with email addresses and names visible to all recipients.

The alleged blunder could constitute a violation of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act, a federal law that protects patient confidentiality.

Last winter, a Howard Brown Health Center employee was fired for forwarding two complimentary emails, sent from patients enrolled in an AIDS study she coordinated, to her mother.

The allegation is the second to hit Northstar in recent years. A 2009 audit of the facility found that Northstar had submitted false information to drug companies sponsoring trials at Northstar. The findings resulted in a Food and Drug Administration investigation and the firing of a staff member who allegedly falsified the information and embezzled money off the trial. Dr. Daniel Berger, who founded Northstar in 1991, was allowed to continue care.

## LEGACY from cover

Legacy Project and instinctively understood why it was important. He was willing to go the extra mile to help us develop a project that was years away from realization. That he stayed with us and offered whatever advice and help he could—including having a terrific mock-up made for us to use to market plaque sponsorships, without having a contract up front—is a testament to his ability to see beyond the paperwork and appreciate the uniqueness of the project and the larger opportunity it represents for everyone involved. His graphic assistant, Jesus Perez, couldn't have been more helpful."

K&K Ironworks—which produces and installs steel fabricators and erectors that run the gamut from high rises to handrails (they did "The Bean" at Millennium Park)—is providing the curved mechanical housing (which will read "The Legacy Walk") for the plaques that will be affixed to the pylons.

Bob Sullivan, president of K&K Ironworks, said, "I'm very glad to be involved with this groundbreaking and fantastic project. Before I met Victor, I didn't know anything about LGBT people or their history. As Victor and I collaborated on the project, I was able to learn so much from him. It's been a pleasure to work with such a hardworking guy."

"It took us a long time to find the right company to manufacture the mechanical housings, but it was worth the wait. Project Manager Lou Cerny translated the architect's drawings into the shop drawings that the units are being built from, and will be coordinating the entire installation. Lou is a great guy, and a consummate professional," said Salvo. "I didn't know what to expect from dealing with union steelworkers—I was a little intimidated, to be perfectly honest—but I was warmly and enthusiastically welcomed. They loved the project from day one and wanted to be involved. I couldn't be happier with their attention to detail and follow-through."

Architect Robert V. Sierzega of Robert V. Sierzega and Associates, Ltd.—a licensed architectural firm with 24 years of varied experience—produced the drawings, which were adapted from the plans Salvo first created from sketches dating back to 1999. Sierzega coordinated Salvo's design with the structural engineer, Moshe Calamaro; the engineer, Terry



Mock-up of pylon. Image courtesy of Victor Salvo



Installation of the mechanical housing for a bronze plaque on Halsted Street in Boystown. Photo by Victor Salvo

Malloy, PE; and also produced the city of Chicago permit drawings.

"I think it's exciting that the LGBT community is recognizing LGBT people from all walks of life for their contributions to the greater society. We didn't all magically appear only after Stonewall," said Sierzega.

"I've known Rob for almost 30 years. We worked together when he first got his architect's license," said Salvo. "Because of my background, I did the engineering and original detailing of the mechanical housings but we needed an architect to take the lead in formalizing everything, adding the mechanical specs, and securing the sign-offs from the electrical and structural engineers that the city required. I went to Rob and explained our needs, and he stepped up to the plate and not only did his own work *pro bono*—he also got the engineers to donate their time as well."

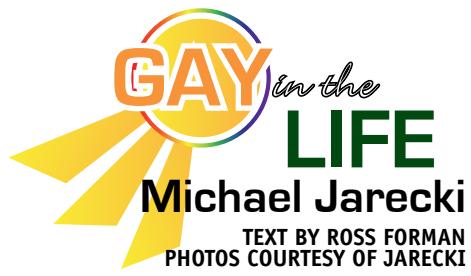
Salvo also worked with the 44th Ward office over the last two years to get the Legacy Walk off the ground. The office helped guide the project as it moved through various city departments, including arranging the permits and getting the cooperation of city officials.

"I'm honored to have helped navigate this process through the city and look forward to the dedication on Oct. 11," said 44th Ward Ald. Tom Tunney. "We've been working with various city departments for over a year to put a user agreement in place and obtain appropriate permits. All the departments have been extremely helpful as we have moved through the permit process and passage of the agreement by the City Council."

"This is one of the most unique historical installations in the city and for the LGBT community globally. Victor Salvo and the Legacy Project board should be proud of the work they have done to make this project a reality."

Salvo will be testifying before the City of Chicago Transportation Committee Sept. 26, and the city council's final sign-off will take place Oct. 3. No public funds are being used to finance any part of the Legacy Walk.

See [www.legacyprojectchicago.org/Dedication\\_Tickets.html](http://www.legacyprojectchicago.org/Dedication_Tickets.html) to purchase tickets. For more information on the companies involved, visit [www.impactsigns.com/bronze-plaque](http://www.impactsigns.com/bronze-plaque), [www.kkironworks.com](http://www.kkironworks.com) and [www.sierzega.net/003aboutus.html](http://www.sierzega.net/003aboutus.html).



**Age**  
33  
**Neighborhood**  
Lakeview  
**Job title**  
Attorney  
**Hobbies**  
Running, reading, cooking and traveling  
**Relationship status**  
Has a boyfriend, Chirag  
**Education**  
Fenwick High School (Class of 1997), Loyola University Chicago (2001) and the University of Illinois College of Law (2004)  
**Favorite Chicago restaurant**  
Tac Quik (Thai)  
**On the road**  
He goes on one new international vacation annually; this year, though, it's Hawaii in October.  
**Little-known fact**  
Fluent in Spanish

Sept. 26, 2012  
Michael Jarecki is running the Chicago Marathon for the third consecutive year Sunday, Oct. 7, and as he runs downtown, at about mile three, it certainly will have personal significance.

That's when he'll run past his office, along Jackson Boulevard.

Jarecki runs his own legal firm, concentrating on immigration law. He started the firm in 2006, two years after graduating from law school.

"I absolutely love my job," Jarecki said. "It's extremely challenging and, at times, disappointing, but the ability to help a client succeed and build a life in the United States, or stay in the U.S., or [other things], those are very important, rewarding aspects of my job, of my [specialty]."



Jarecki will be wearing red on race day, running on behalf of the Team to End AIDS (T2), the official endurance-training program of the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC). He has raised about \$1,000 this summer for AFC, and is shooting for a personal-best marathon time of about three hours and 50 minutes.

"I think back to my first year running [with T2] for one of my fondest running memories," Jarecki said. "Our first [training] run was three miles. We increased the mileage every week and ultimately ended with a 23-mile training run. That really was a sense of accomplishment."

Jarecki will be cruising through Chicago on race day sans music, which he usually prefers; he might add some upbeat Top 40 tunes for the final five miles, he admitted. Running is just, for Jarecki, a personal moment of clarity: "Just me and my thoughts."

Jarecki briefly ran cross-country while in high school and got hooked into marathons when friends were boasting of their accomplishments. He now often runs by himself, even when traveling for work.

"I never, ever thought I'd run a marathon," he said, smiling.

He now is a three-time marathoner.



**Friday, Sept. 28**  
**Susan Hahn**  
**7:30pm**  
**The Six Granddaughters of Cecil Slaughter**  
**7:30 p.m.**

**Tuesday, Oct. 2**  
**Naomi Wolf**  
**Vagina: A New Biography**  
**7:30 p.m.**

**Wed., Oct. 3**  
**Gene Robinson**  
**God Believes in Love: Straight Talk About Gay Marriage**  
**St. Paul's United Church of Christ**  
**2335 N. Orchard St.**  
**7:30 p.m.**



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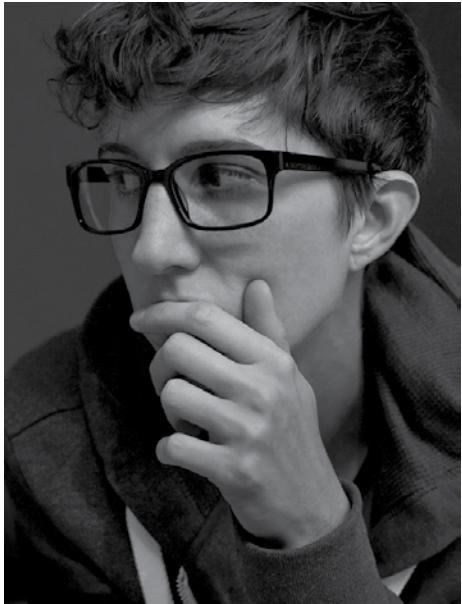


Photo courtesy of Karol

To nominate a person for T in the life, email: Kate Sosin  
sosin@windycitytimes.com

## Andy Karol

### Pronouns

Her, their, they; enjoys being "Sir'd"

### Identifies as

Genderqueer, queer, fluid, gender aficionado

### Neighborhood

Avondale

### Life's work

"My life's work is to touch people through art, be it through photography or writing. In doing so, I hope to be an instigator for change in positive ways."

### Website

[www.andykaryl.com](http://www.andykaryl.com)

### What is the best thing about being gender-variant?

"The best thing about being gender-variant or fluid is that I feel more normal than those who play their roles to fulfill others' expectations. Okay, if this is not normal, then I choose being weird. I enjoy being able to fully align my values, expectations of myself, career choices, and more with the true person I am, whether the thoughts or actions I have are more masculine-, or feminine-, centered. This opens up much more of the world to me! Most of all, I love making people question their own gender and how they perceive gender. I'm like a walking, talking gender informational booth. Call me 'Sir,' and take a number."

### Whom do you admire most?

"I admire young kids the most. They teach us all we need to know, and they are never afraid to ask questions and accept ideas that seem inconceivable to most adults."

### What issues outside of the queer community do you care about?

"I am an advocate for women's issues. I feel that in understanding and accepting gender fluidity/variance, we have a greater chance for equality between the sexes as well."

### When did you start questioning gender?

"I think I started questioning gender when I was just a little kid and was told the roles that were 'appropriate' for me. I admit it: I was brainwashed by society and put on the costume for most of my life, but the last few years I have become more of the person I was meant to be, and I am proud of this person!"

### How do you explain the way you feel about gender to others?

"I was asked by a friend, 'Do you ever not think about gender?' No, I really don't. It is my work and my life. Sure, I photograph people who are more gender-variant as a career choice, but then I do my own field research daily just by leaving my house. Try to forget about it, but it's always there, helping to construct the way people treat you or how you go about your activities. Heck, I went on a camping trip the other week to get away and not think about all of life's normal stuff, and lo and behold, I walk into the bathroom at the campground and freak out a lady who tells me 'Only girls allowed in here.' I mean, really, try to get away from it, but it's always going to find you."

# VIEWPOINTS



**NICK  
PATRICCA**

## The art of citizenship 2012, or night sweats of a classical humanist

"Citizens actively participating in their governance." This idea has been the core principle of citizenship in a democracy since Pericles first articulated it in fifth-century Athens B.C.E.

There are two necessary conditions for this kind of citizenship. First, citizens must be able to acquire the information essential to make informed judgments. Second, they must have the means to implement those judgments in the body politic. This classical idea of democracy understands citizenship as the responsibility to preserve the best in the community's tradition and as the duty to work for the community's best possible future.

In the United States today, both the Tea Party and Occupy movements, their differences aside, are efforts to achieve this type of classical active citizenship at a time when big money and big media have so profoundly corrupted our political process that the exercise of true citizenship seems compromised beyond redemption.

Both of these movements raise this essential question: Does voting or any action of the individual citizen really matter in a democracy dominated by: massive financial institutions, often more powerful than the governments that seek to regulate them; bulky, frequently dysfunctional government; and global conglomerates, whether of business or terrorism, that act with impunity beyond the reach of any civil institution?

Each of us has his/her own preferred list of complaints about the current political processes, ranging from the profound to the petty. Here are two concerns that keep me awake at nights worrying about the health of our republic.

**Money 2012:** It is estimated that the cost of TV advertising for each presidential campaign (includes PACs [political action committees] and Super PACs) in 2012 will be 1 billion dollars. In the 2010 congressional elections, according to the Boston Review, the average U.S. Senate campaign cost about \$9.2 million and the average U.S. House campaign was around \$1.4 million. Does the cost of running for public office discourage good candidates from participating in our electoral system?

**Media 2012:** Negative ads have become the norm of our national elections, not the exception—and they work. A CNN report dated Jan. 2, 2012, demonstrates the effectiveness of negative ads in derailing candidates and their campaigns. Sadly, it seems that both the Romney and Obama campaigns have decided to employ negative ads as their primary type of ad rather than ads that present policy. Naively, I had hoped that the vice-presidential candidacy of Paul Ryan would force a discussion of policy issues concerning budget and deficits. It has not. Thus far, the Ryan candidacy has only intensified misleading and abusive rhetoric and the use of negative ads.

In a society that requires obscene amounts of money to run for public office, and in a society in which attack ads destroy candidates regardless of their worth or the worth of their ideas, it is small wonder that 40 percent of our voting age population fails to vote in presidential elec-

tions. Many thoughtful, good citizens make the decision to not vote because they understand the forces that render active citizenship almost impossible.

Is it inevitable that our democracy must degenerate into oligarchy (the rule of the few)? And that oligarchy must degenerate into plutocracy (the rule of the rich)?

Neither the Tea Party nor Occupy has been able to create the new models of citizenship that meet the new challenges in our 2012 politics. Both movements seem locked into the rhetoric of failed paradigms of our economy, of our society, of government, of individual liberty, and of community. And, sadly, both movements—which should be allies in this struggle to recover authentic citizenship—are pitted against each other by the very forces they would oppose.

How can we engage the forces defining our politics? What are the ideas and means through which we can re-create the art of citizenship in our present-day society and contribute to the making of our best future?

In the hope of promoting a productive, civil conversation in our contemporary political context, I would like to recommend several books which, in my judgment, present non-partisan ideas for creative, active citizenship.

In Gardens of Democracy (2011) and The True Patriot (2007) Eric Liu and Nick Hanauer, two successful Silicon Valley entrepreneurs, argue that we must abandon the mechanistic models of society and of the individual that dominate our culture. The political divisions of Right, Left, and Center that resulted from the French Revolution in particular and the Enlightenment in general are no longer valid in our post-modern world. Rather, today, the divisions are among competing fundamentalisms, all of which must be shunned in favor of a genuine thinking that re-imagines the idea of citizenship as an organic process within a living organism.

They propose a new paradigm based on the idea of community as an organism and of citizenship as participation in the processes of this organism. We are organisms that require a healthy, dynamic matrix of fellow organisms in order to grow and prosper.

In A Capitalism For The People: Recapturing the Lost Genius of American Prosperity (2012), Luigi Zingales, professor of business in the graduate program at the University of Chicago, argues that capitalism as currently practiced in

the United States no longer creates productive wealth: It doesn't create jobs and it doesn't create a vital middle class. Zingales maintains that neither political party has understood the realities of today's markets and that both are debating very old and irrelevant understandings of economics and the wealth of nations.

My final recommendation is Bill Bradley's We Can All Do Better (2012). Bradley, former U.S. senator from New Jersey, shows, in his personal actions in the body politic and in his ideas, how it is possible to act responsibly in our contemporary political situation, free of ideology and self-righteous rage, open to listening to the other and dedicated to the good of the entire community.

It is my hope that we can create an environment for a mature, active citizenship that frees itself from the blaring, clarion calls of fundamentalisms, secular or religious, that dominate the current presidential campaigns.

It is said that a people get the government they deserve. We deserve better. We can create a garden for our democracy to continue to grow and flourish. We only need to exercise the political will and courage to make it so. Then, perhaps, the nightmarish night sweats of this classical humanist shall transform themselves into sweet, ever so sweet, dreams.

**Nick Patricca is professor emeritus at Loyola University Chicago, president of Chicago Network and playwright emeritus at Victory Gardens Theater.**

**The Lake Shore campus of Loyola University Chicago is hosting "Money, Media and Your Vote" Friday, Oct. 12, 4-6 p.m.**

**The moderator will be Beth Konrad, senior professional in residence at the university's School of Communication. Panelists will include Newton N. Minow, senior counsel at the law firm of Sidley Austin LLP; Susan S. Sher, executive vice president for corporate strategy and public affairs at the University of Chicago Medical Center; and Patricia Widdner, who worked at the Chicago Tribune as a reporter and editor for 36 years before retiring last year.**

**Chicago Network, Gannon Center for Women and Leadership, and Loyola Homecoming Weekend are sponsoring the event. For further information, contact Nick Patricca at 773-338-9416 or nicholas.patricca@gmail.com; also, visit www.chicagonetworkjp.org.**

## Letters to the editor:

### More than the North Side

Dear Editor,

As a native West Sider, I am deeply saddened by the murder of Donta Gooden. Even though I didn't know her personally, it is an assault on our community of color. It is okay that there are social services addressing the issue of transgender self-determination matters on the West Side. However, what few there are is not enough.

Last year there was a lot of hoopla as a result of the incident on North Halsted Street, which resulted in "Take Back Boystown." I think on one level it's important to challenge racism and classism in Lakeview. But it's equally important to fight heterosexism, homophobia and transphobia within the West and South sides. We should seriously talk about creating free places for people to be themselves, socially and politically—places only for the young as well as the middle-aged and seniors in those parts of Chicago.

This kind of violence will continue until people organize and challenge this problem. We can't depend on officials to do it for us.

Darrell Gordon  
Chicago

Send letters and viewpoints to Andrew@WindyCityMediaGroup.com. Items may be edited for length or clarity.

# WINDY CITY TIMES

**VOL. 27, No. 49, Sept. 26, 2012**  
*The combined forces of Windy City Times, founded Sept. 1985, and Outlines newspaper, founded May 1987.*

**PUBLISHER & EXECUTIVE EDITOR**  
Tracy Baim

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**MANAGING EDITOR** Andrew Davis  
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**SENIOR WRITERS** Kate Sosin, Bob Roehr, Rex Wockner, Marie J. Kuda, David Byrne, Tony Pegrin, Lisa Keen, Yasmin Nair, Erica Demarest  
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**DISTRIBUTION:** Ashina, Allan, Dan, John, Renee, Sue and Victor  
**WEB HOSTING:** LoveYourWebsite.com (lead programmer: Martie Marro)

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(773) 871-7610 FAX (773) 871-7609  
e-mail: editor@windycitymediagroup.com or Andrew@windycitymediagroup.com

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"Windy City Media Group generated enormous interest among their readers in this year's LGBT Consumer Index Survey. Out of approximately 100 print and online media partners who participated in the survey, Windy City was the best performing regional media in the U.S. Only survey partners with a nationwide footprint were able to generate a greater number of responses." —David Marshall, Research Director, Community Marketing, Inc.

 Community Marketing, Inc.

# GOINGS-ON

WINDY CITY TIMES' ENTERTAINMENT SECTION

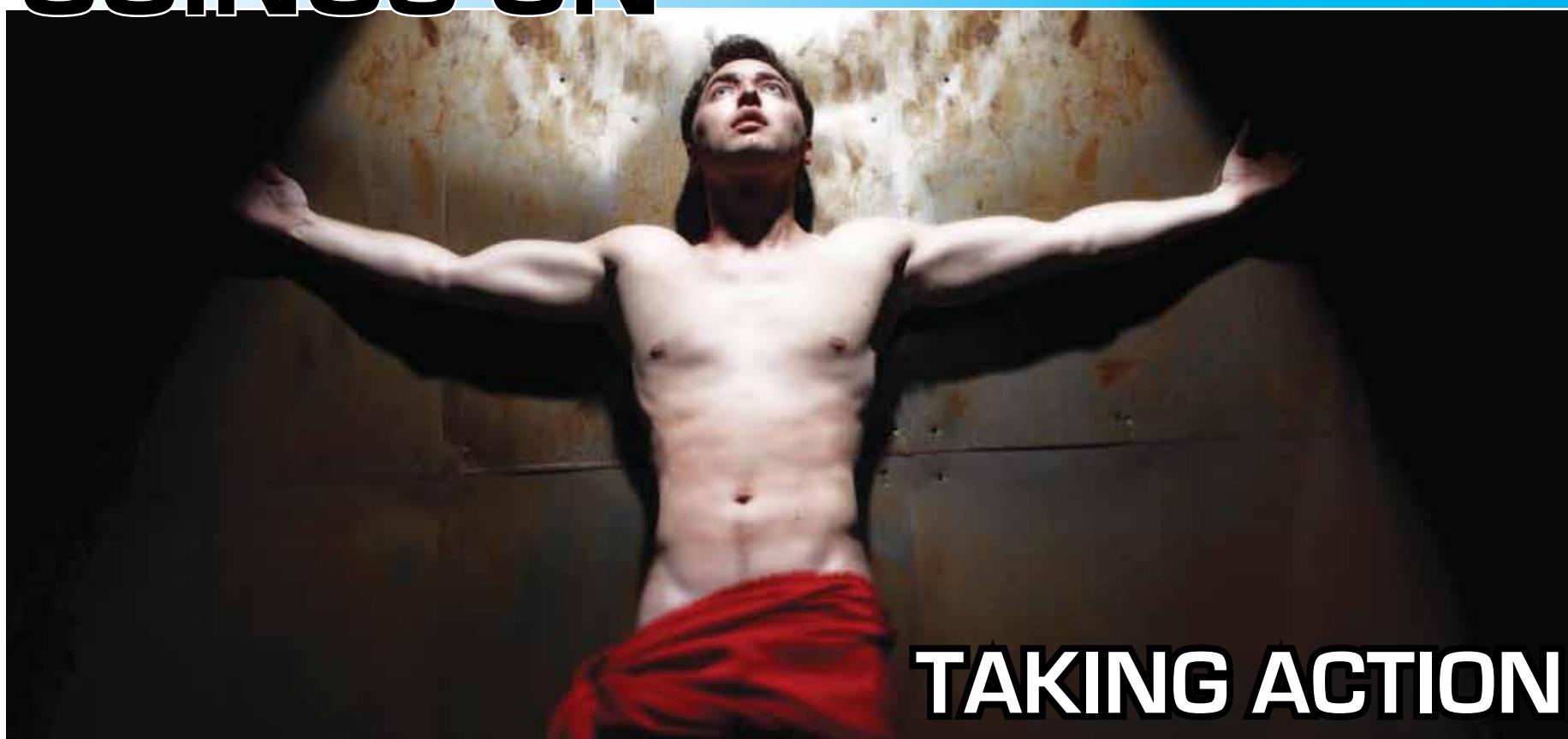


Photo by  
Mikki  
Willis

## TAKING ACTION

The controversial production *Corpus Christi* (above) is coming to Chicago. Read more below.

### DISH

**Pizza de resistance.**  
Page 30.

PR photo of pizza at  
Gino's East Sports Bar



### THEATER

**Comic timing.**  
Page 14.

Photo from *I Love Lucy Live on Stage* by Ed Krieger



### AUTOS

**Fast and fun.**  
Page 28.

Photo of 2013 Chevrolet Camaro ZL1 from Gaywheels.com



### SCOTTISH PLAY SCOTT

## Exploring faith and redemption

BY SCOTT C. MORGAN

There's a strong possibility that there will be anti-gay protestors picketing Chicago's Center on Halsted the weekend of Sept. 29-30. That's because a celebrated tour of Terrence McNally's 1998 drama *Corpus Christi*—a.k.a. "the gay Jesus play"—is coming to town.

Now, the fact that McNally's *Corpus Christi* is being staged in Chicago isn't new. Both the former Bailiwick Repertory and Ludicrous Theatre Company have previously staged the controversial drama that re-imagines the life of Jesus Christ as a gay man born in Texas circa 1950 with a following of out disciples.

Yet what makes this current revival stand out is the fact that it is part of an international tour by California-based 108 Productions that has been ongoing on-and-off-again for the past six years. The tour is also paired with an in-development film documentary called *Corpus Christi: Playing with Redemption* that looks at how McNally's drama questioning Christian anti-gay hatred affects the cast, audiences and protestors in the many places it has played.

Out actor James Brandon not only portrays the Jesus character (renamed Joshua in the play) in this tour of *Corpus Christi*; he's also a co-director and producer of the film documentary. Brandon and his fellow company members had little idea of the journey the play would take them when they became part of a production that was staged at the Metropolitan Community Church of the Valley (MCC) in North Hollywood, Calif.

"We started it in 2006 as just a quick little revival. Our director, Nic Arnzen, was asked by

the reverend to do a production because he wanted to bring theater back to the church," Brandon said. "We thought it would be maybe three months out of our lives. But it certainly became a lot more."

This production of *Corpus Christi* was met with such a warm audience and critical response that it transferred to Los Angeles' Zephyr Theatre for an extended run, before going on tour to big cities like Dallas and San Francisco and to smaller, more conservative communities.

Some of the notable international touring locales include: the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2007, the International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival in 2008 and at the 2010 MCC General Conference in Acapulco, Mexico. It was at the Dublin engagement that McNally's partner and husband, Thomas Kirdahy, saw the production.

Kirdahy helped bring the tour to New York for a 10th anniversary engagement off-Broadway at the Rattlestick Theatre. That's when McNally personally saw this version, which is notable for its inclusion of women in the cast rather than the original production which called only for 13 young men.

"[McNally], from the very beginning, has always supported us," Brandon said. "In the movie, he says, 'It's the first time I've seen my play,' because when it was first staged in 1998, there was too much conflict happening and he couldn't enjoy it."

Indeed, the original Manhattan Theatre Club off-Broadway staging of *Corpus Christi* prompted death threats and intense security measures for audiences hoping to see the play. Yet the message of the play questioning anti-gay animus



Corpus Christi.  
Photo by  
Dustin Franz

proved to unfortunately very timely, since *Corpus Christi* coincidentally debuted in the same month that gay college student Matthew Shepard was brutally attacked and killed.

The idea of 108 Productions creating a film documentary around the play wasn't originally planned, but just grew out of the actors deciding to bring along video cameras on their journeys.

"There was no real motive behind it other than we wanted to document it for ourselves," Brandon said. "We were experiencing changes of our own within our family of actors—all of us being touched in different ways through this play."

Brandon and his fellow cast mates also decided it was important to document the reactions *Corpus Christi* had on the various communities they played as well.

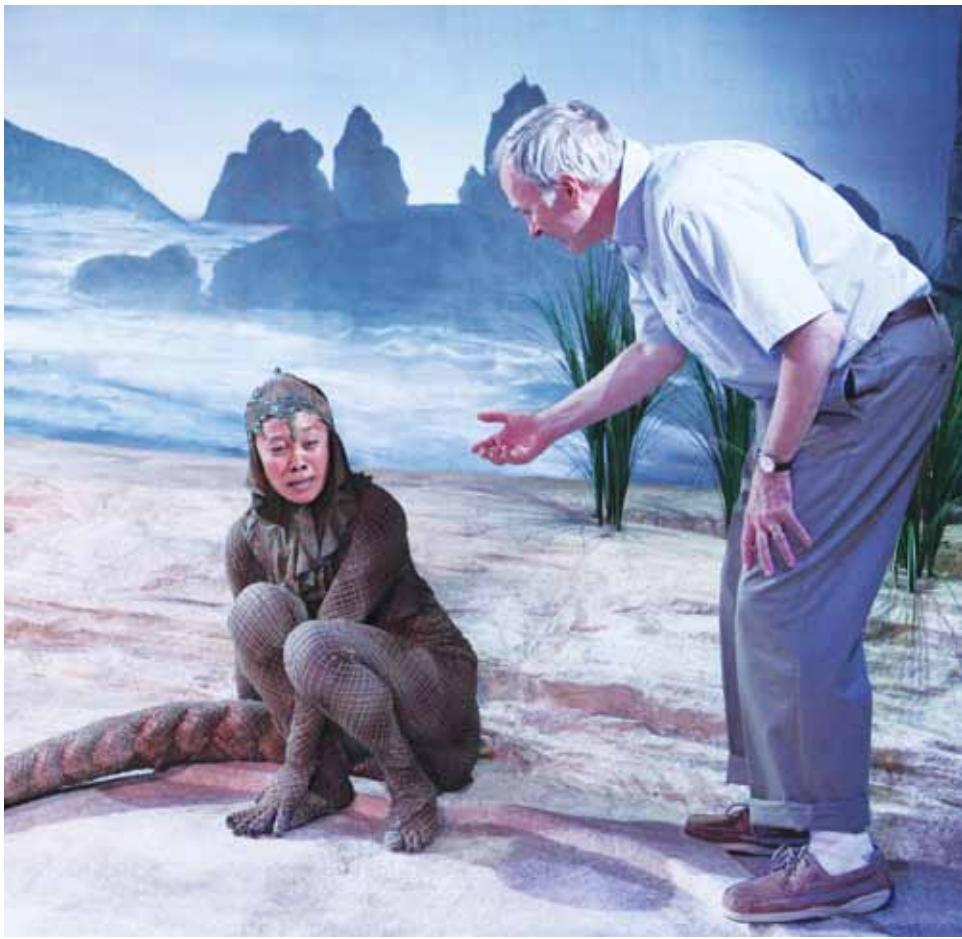
"We just started interviewing people along the way," Brandon said. "We tell our story through the lens of this play, how the audience responds and we've also had varied encounters with protestors along the way and we speak to them to find out where they're coming from, too."

*Corpus Christi: Playing with Redemption* isn't technically finished, nor has it been officially

submitted for film festivals or distributors. But Brandon and his peers still want people to see it, especially in context with the play itself.

"The time is too important right now we believe to wait for distribution because it's too important to get the message out there," Brandon said. "LGBT people can no longer tolerate religion-based bias. That dialogue is happening very strongly in cultural and political discussions right now, so it's important that we're out there now and not waiting."

*Corpus Christi* and sneak previews of its film documentary, *Corpus Christi: Playing with Redemption*, are both presented at the Center on Halsted's Hoover-Leppen Theater, 3656 N. Halsted St. Performances of the play are at 8 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, and at 2 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 30. The film is screened at 2 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, and at noon Sunday, Sept. 30. The event is co-produced by Michael Leppen and the Center on Halsted, with sponsorship by the Windy City Times. Tickets for the play alone are \$20 and \$10 for the film alone. Tickets to both the play and film are \$25. Visit [www.corpuschristi-themovie.com](http://www.corpuschristi-themovie.com) for tickets and more information.



**Seascape.** Photo courtesy of Leigh Allen

## THEATER REVIEW

### Seascape

**Playwright:** Edward Albee

**At:** Remy Bumppo Theatre Company at the Greenhouse, 2559 N. Lincoln Ave.

**Tickets:** 773-404-7336;

[www.remybumppo.org](http://www.remybumppo.org); \$42.50-\$52.50

**Runs through:** Oct. 14

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

By 1975, Edward Albee had reached a stage in his career where he could write whatever he pleased, so he wrote a symposium on evolution offering a kind of ambiguous comfort to an uneasy society. To liven the dialogue, he attached two of his talking heads to a duo of amphibious pilgrims exploring—likewise uneasily—the prospect of a home on dry land. Since U.S. audiences incline more toward physical action than verbal wordplay, the clever costumes and body language of its reptilian Adam and Eve dominate most productions of this enigmatic and undeniably “talky” play.

This approach is not that of Remy Bumppo, though, nor of production director (and recently inaugurated company artistic director) Nick Sandys. Yes, the saurian couple who interrupt Charlie and Nancy’s seaside retirement are an adorable pair of creatures from the Blue Lagoon—so much that front-row spectators must be warned not to pull Leslie and Sarah’s tails—both of whose portrayers have researched their range of movement with care and diligence. This is the story of the *human* race, however. If we don’t fully absorb our elderly hosts’ dissertations on the oceans spawning life as we know it, then we dilute the pathos when these surrogate parents find themselves giving reassurance to an infant species embarking on its journey into an uncertain future.

Fortuitously, Sandys has assembled a cast well-schooled at making the most of every word uttered, even as the show’s technical team provides plenty of opportunity for stage business alleviating Albee’s tendency to overwrite. Angela Weber Miller’s scenic design resembles a diorama in a museum, reinforcing our impression that we are witnessing a significant historical milestone, while the inventory of beach paraphernalia (the playbill credits Janice O’Neill as “Picnic Consultant”) allows us to share in the alien visitors’ childlike wonder—or skepticism—

of modern lifestyles.

None of this would matter without the superlative skills of Annabel Armour and Patrick Clear, whose extensive experience working together translates to a cozy-bickery marital affection we recognize instantly. They are capably supported by Sean Parris and Emjoy Gavino, playing the ancestral spouses whose loyalty to one another (after 7,000 eggs) remains undiminished by the terrors they encounter in this brave new world—among them, an awareness of mortality. When Sarah finally grasps the concept of death, Leslie’s fury at Charlie for introducing this sinister topic is echoed within each of us, sparked by the emotions it took us centuries to develop.

## CRITICS' PICKS

**33 Variations,** TimeLine at Stage 773, through Oct. 21. Beethoven, a musical researcher and a concert pianist join forces for a theatrical look at two people at their creative peaks who are dying. They have relationship issues, too, and the pianist plays Beethoven’s variations live. JA

**Marvin’s Room,** Circle Theatre, through Sept. 30. The comic timing might not be as fine-tuned as it should be, but this laugh-filled drama involving family, disease and the ever-present threat of death is a lasting tribute to the late gay playwright Scott McPherson. SCM

**Wrens,** Rivendell Theatre Ensemble, through Oct. 13. Author Anne McGrath was there and witnessed it firsthand, making for bunker-drama suspense and sorority in a Scottish barracks, when her squad of servicewomen are confronted with an injured comrade-in-arms needing their support during the final days of World War II. MSB

**Xanadu,** Drury Lane Theatre, Oakbrook Terrace, through Oct. 28. Thank out playwright Douglas Carter Beane for creating a comically campy new script for this hit 2007 Broadway jukebox musical that lovingly savages the bizarre original 1980 film involving muses and a roller disco. SCM

—By Abarbanel, Barnidge and Morgan

## THEATER REVIEW

### I Love Lucy Live on Stage

**Adapted for the stage by Kim Flagg and Rick Sparks with original episodes penned by Jess Oppenheimer, Madelyn Pugh and Bob Carroll Jr.**

**At:** Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place, 175 E. Chestnut St.

**Tickets:** (800) 775-2000 or [www.broadwayinchicago.com](http://www.broadwayinchicago.com); \$23-\$65

**Runs through:** Nov. 11

BY SCOTT C. MORGAN

There’s a massive audience to be tapped for the Chicago premiere of *I Love Lucy Live on Stage*, now at the Broadway Playhouse at Water Tower Place through Nov. 11.

The beloved TV sitcom *I Love Lucy* only ran from 1951 to 1957, but it’s safe to say that the show never went away, thanks to its constant reruns in syndication. So generations have fallen in love with Lucille Ball and her (then-) husband Desi Arnaz as the wacky show-biz couple Lucy and Ricky Ricardo.

*I Love Lucy Live on Stage* played a smash sold-out run in Los Angeles last year, and the show is already doing such brisk business in Chicago that my advice for die-hard fans is to get your tickets now—there’s almost no chance for an extension. As for regular theatergoers who might be on the fence about going, let’s just say that *I Love Lucy Live on Stage* is enjoyable mostly as a heaping dose of 1950s U.S. pop-culture nostalgia.

Director Rick Sparks teamed with Kim Flagg to wisely frame the show as a two-episode filming day at the Desilu Playhouse in California circa 1956, complete with an emcee who explains the backstage business (a very engaging and funny ad-libber in Ed Kross), and a great singing and dancing ensemble of “Crystaltone Singers” to perform period ad jingles and act as guest sitcom artists. This makes the show more of an all-around entertainment occasion with great music and dancing, rather than just re-creating



**I Love Lucy Live on Stage.** Photo by Ed Krieger

TV episodes you could readily watch at home on DVD.

Now be warned that the show is not entirely historically accurate. Some cameramen disappear to double up as the Ricky Ricardo Orchestra by the second episode, and the commercials might not always match ones tied to the original broadcasts of *I Love Lucy*. (Phillip Morris was a major sponsor of the program, but we don’t get to see Lucy or Ricky light up on stage.)

Yet, most fans probably won’t care since the cast of *I Love Lucy on Stage* does such a dependable job. Sirena Irwin has Lucy’s liquid-limber moves and tantrum whine down pat, as does Bill Mendieta with Ricky’s thick Cuban accent. Curtis Pettyjohn and Ashley Braxton are also great as the neighbors Fred and Ethel Mertz.

Yet there’s a slight stilted nature to the episode scenes, since the actors know they can’t stray too far from the originals. Even the addition of a flubbed line feels planned instead of spontaneous.

But in terms of lovingly jogging the nostalgic memories of audiences of a certain age, *I Love Lucy Live on Stage* certainly succeeds with a slickly produced and enjoyably performed show.

## THEATER REVIEW

### The Woman in White

**Playwright:** adapted by Robert Kauzlaric from the novel by Wilkie Collins

**At:** Lifeline Theatre, 6912 N. Glenwood Ave.

**Tickets:** 773-761-4477; [www.lifelinetheatre.com](http://www.lifelinetheatre.com); \$40

**Runs through:** Oct. 28

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

When the first thing we see onstage is a beautiful and distraught young woman on the run, either we are in the realm of pulp noir, or Victorian neo-gothic—in this case, early Victorian, circa 1859, its structure relying heavily on epistolary narrative, serialized episodes and long introspective soliloquies. Playgoers with well-developed cognitive stamina will embrace these elements, but those with short attention spans are probably better off sticking with Downton Abbey.

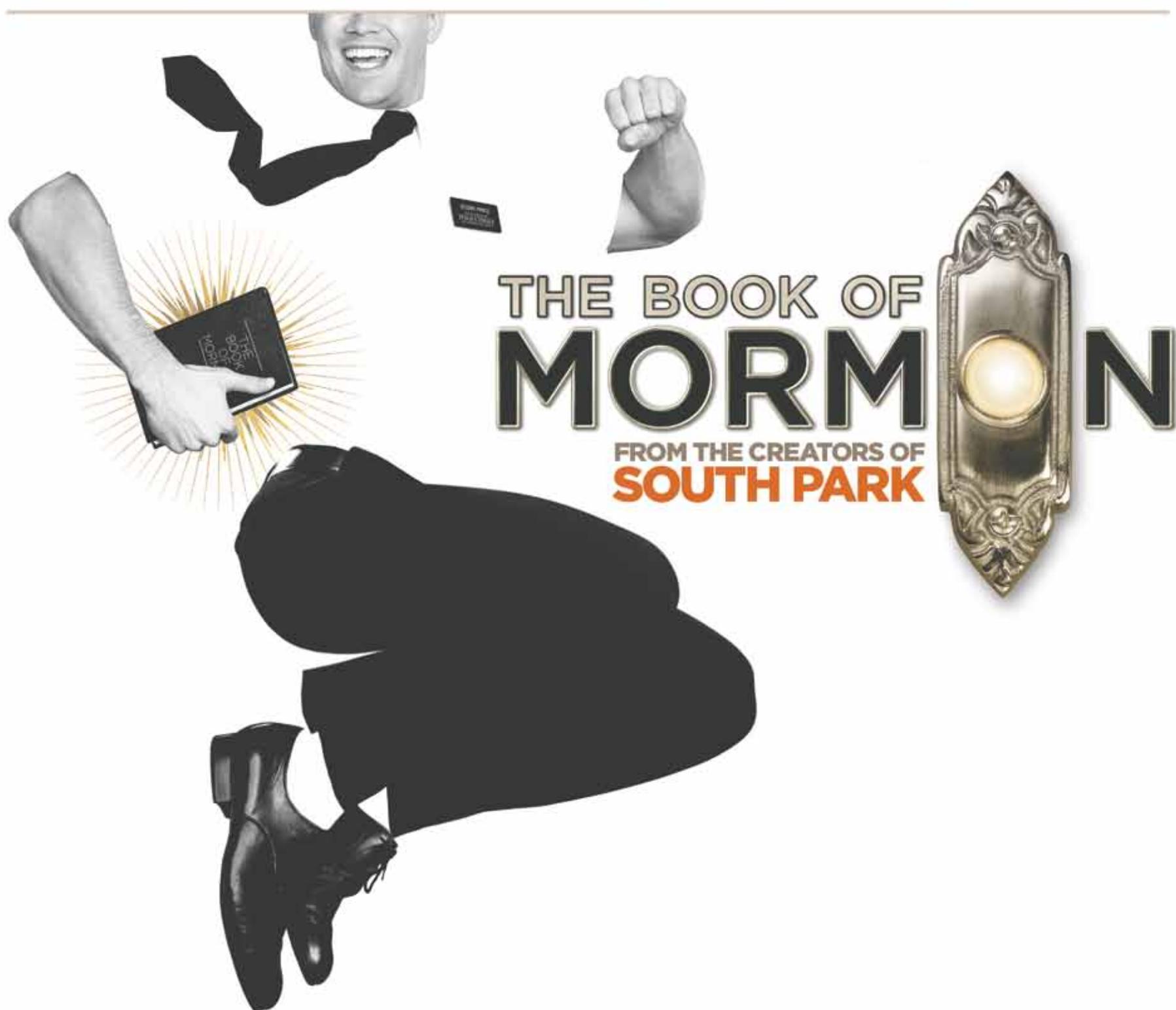
Lifeline Theatre’s stock-in-trade is the re-configuration of literary epics to the restrictions of modern artistic practice, likewise enlightened sensibilities and the company’s elevator shaft-shaped stage. To this end, Robert Kauzlaric’s adaptation retains the motifs of Wilkie Collins’ seminal novel—geographical and meteorological phenomena reflecting its heroes’ dispositions, strict adherence to the minutiae of English legal and social codes, and a sybaritic villain with a penchant for small domesticated animals (the prototype for Sydney Greenstreet et al.). A

major revision lies in the decision to have the rescue operation implemented in significant degree by a character not romantically tied to the lady-in-distress—specifically, the victim’s half-sister, the resourceful and courageous Marian, whose gender introduces a sexual element to the evil Count Fosco’s professed admiration for his adversary.

Thus, while Nicholas Bailey and Maggie Scrantom make a suitably attractive pair of sweethearts, the heavy-lifting duties rest on the spun-steel shoulders of Lucy Carapetyan as the forthright Marian, whose defiance of Christopher M. Walsh’s oily Fosco generates a David-against-Goliath frisson to induce shivers of excitement. Author Kauzlaric, stepping into the role of the ruthless Sir Percival Glyde at the last minute, delivers another of his reliable reptilian turns, while Anita Deely, Loretta Rezos, Don Bender and Greg Wenz portray an array of sharply-defined auxiliary personnel. Alan Donahue’s scenic design suggests locales ranging from shadowy urban alleys to lonely country estates, as does Victoria DeIorio’s plucked-strings score of incidental music, providing an evocative environment for labyrinthine secrets leading to desperate deeds that Elise Kauzlaric’s direction keeps briskly forthcoming.

Indeed, so briskly did the deft ensemble pace themselves on opening night (with the exception of Fosco’s too-leisurely final confession) that often continuity was sacrificed to efficiency—but the story’s individual components should soon find their correct place in the dramatic scheme to emerge a suspense-filled thriller to satisfy all-ages fans of the genre.

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Jitney. Photo by Michael Brosilow

**THEATER REVIEW****Jitney**

Playwright: August Wilson

At: Court Theatre, 5535 S. Ellis Ave.

Tickets: 1-773-753-4472;

[www.CourtTheatre.org.](http://www.CourtTheatre.org;); \$45-\$65

Runs through: Oct. 14

BY JONATHAN ABARBANEL

Under the astute, compassionate direction of Ron OJ Parsons, some of the best actors in town are offering a nightly master class in ensemble acting. I rarely say "Don't miss," but without

hesitation I suggest you make *Jitney* the next show you see.

Most of the cast are veterans of MPAACT, Congo Square, Pegasus Players, Writers' Theatre, Steppenwolf, Victory Gardens, Chicago Shakespeare and other local companies. Performers such as Allen Gilmore and Alfred Wilson have moved me to laughter (Gilmore in Italian comedy) and tears (Wilson in a profound performance in *Master Harold and the Boys*), while I've watched younger actors such as Anthony Fleming III and Andre Teamor grow from strength to strength. And A. C. Smith and Cedric Young have been pillars of Chicago theater for several decades now. All that being true, I've never seen them do finer

**SPOTLIGHT**

A music academic faces a Faustian bargain in David Greig's *The Strange Undoing of Prudencia Hart*, a comic drama with mythological elements set in a Scottish pub. It's a visiting production from the National Theatre of Scotland, which will also be back later this autumn with a revival of the wildly acclaimed *Black Watch*. *The Strange Undoing of Prudencia Hart* runs Wed., Sept. 26-Sunday, Oct. 28 in the theater Upstairs at Chicago Shakespeare Theater, 800 E. Grand Ave. Tickets are \$45-\$60; call 312-595-5600 or visit [www.chicagoshakes.com](http://www.chicagoshakes.com). Photo by Drew Farrell

work than in *Jitney*.

Of course, August Wilson gives character actors a helluva lot to work with, and almost every role in *Jitney* is a character role. In typical Wilson fashion, *Jitney* meanders along for several hours, fairly short on plot but filled with the details of multiple personalities. There are a handful of "big" speeches, but mostly the characters reveal themselves through seemingly endless small talk, petty disputes and small kindnesses, all of which add up in grand fashion to a portrait of a community and a circle of relationships, some for better and some for worse. At the heart of *Jitney* are a bitter father-son relationship and a young couple's awkward efforts to build a life together, told against the backdrop of the Pittsburgh Hill District ghetto in 1977, a time when it was being boarded up and torn down. Typical of most Wilson plays, *Jitney* is shot through with comedy but also with the threat of Black-on-Black violence. However, this time the hair

trigger never is pulled and the work ends on a solemn but hopeful note.

Whether playing the humorous moments or the tense ones, this company captures the truth of each character and lives believably in every action of the play. Just consider Wilson as genteel alcoholic Fielding, or Gilmore as busybody Turnbo, or Brian Weddington in slick Superfly mode or handsome Kamal Angelo Bolden as a Vietnam vet who's the newest member of the circle of *jitney* cab drivers. Caren Blackmore is pitch-perfect as his girlfriend, Rena, bringing charm to the play's only female role. A.C. Smith, as the *jitney* boss, and Anthony Fleming III, as his estranged son, power the play forward as damaged men with compassion for all, except each other.

Jack Magaw's detailed double-storefront set gives *Jitney* a perfect home, while Melissa Torchia's costumes provide effective mostly subtle character contrasts.

tion of Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* are taking place at the O'Malley Theatre in Roosevelt University's Auditorium Building, 430 S. Michigan Ave.

*The Tempest* will run Sept. 28-30; *Rosencrantz* will be performed Oct. 19-21.

For tickets, call 312-341-3831.

**Barker's 'The Life of Death' from WildClaw**

WildClaw Theatre will present the world-premiere stage adaptation of Clive Barker's *The Life of Death*. There are previews Oct. 3-4, and the opening is Oct. 5 at 7:30 p.m. at the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events Storefront Theatre, 66 E. Randolph St.

The production is described as a "terrifying journey of life, death and transformation" as a serial killer terrorizes London and a woman becomes fascinated with death.

Barker is the openly gay writer and film director behind such works as the *Hellraiser* series.

Tickets \$15-\$25, with student discounts available. For more info, visit [www.wildclawtheatre.com](http://www.wildclawtheatre.com).

**Profiles' 'After'**

Profiles Theatre is running the Midwest premiere of *After*, by Chad Beckim; it's the second show of the company's 2012-2013 season.

*After*, directed by guest artist Matt Hawkins, runs through Oct. 14.

Tickets are \$35 for Thursdays, and \$40 for Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays; call 773-549-1815 or visit [www.Profilestheatre.org](http://www.Profilestheatre.org).

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**THE WOMAN IN WHITE**Thursday - Sunday  
through Oct. 28, 2012Call 773-761-4477 or visit [www.lifelinetheatre.com](http://www.lifelinetheatre.com)**Sweet Honey in the Rock at Harris Oct. 4**

The Grammy Award-winning African-American female *a cappella* ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock will perform at the Harris Theater for Music and Dance, 205 E. Randolph St., on Thursday, Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m.

The group will perform with Sphinx Virtuosi, an African-American and Latino youth orchestra ensemble.

Tickets are \$10-\$35; visit [www.harristheaterchicago.org](http://www.harristheaterchicago.org) or call 312-334-7777.

**Gender-bending items at Roosevelt Univ.**

An all-male adaptation of William Shakespeare's *The Tempest* and an all-female produc-

**ROBINSON from cover**

GR: On the one hand, I'm hoping the book will move this group of people who I would describe as the "moveable middle," who feel somewhat kindly toward LGBT people but they certainly can't go all the way to marriage. And so, hopefully, this sort of gets them over the hump to become advocates.

In large measure, the book was meant to give a script, if you will, to those who want to become a larger advocate for gay marriage, but don't quite know what the words are to describe why they are supportive.

**WCT: What would you want your grandchildren to understand and practice in relating to LGBT folks?**

GR: My hope for my own grandchildren and for others growing up is that this will cease to be the divisive issue that it has been, and, indeed, the LGBT community will be valued and appreciated and celebrated for the particular gifts that we bring to the culture and to our religious institutions....

**WCT: What has been the hardest struggle for you in the Church since you became bishop?**

GR: I think the thing that has been the hard-

retire as bishop next year. What do you plan to do?

GR: I'm going to be spending half my time in Washington, D.C., as a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress. It's John Podesta's think tank. ... To my knowledge, this is the first liberal think tank that has wanted to bring a religious perspective to the issues that face us as a nation. I will be writing on the moral imperatives around immigration reform, health care reform, poverty and, of course, LGBT issues.

**WCT: And the other half [of your time]?**

GR: One of my hopes is that I will get to have more contact with the conservative organizations and groups and make the case for LGBT equality, both in the culture and in religious institutions.

**God Believes in Love**, by Gene Robinson, retails for \$24.

**Bishop Robinson will discuss his book at St. Paul's United Church of Christ, 2335 N. Orchard St., on Wed., Oct. 3, at 7:30 p.m. (Women & Children First is co-hosting the event.)**

**He will also present "Justice and Compassion in an Age of Demonization" Thursday, Oct. 4, at Elmhurst College.**

**"Justice"** will begin at 7:30 p.m. in Hamerschmidt Memorial Chapel, 190 Prospect Ave., Elmhurst.

**John Barrowman in area Oct. 30-31**

Openly gay actor John Barrowman—best known for his role as Captain Jack Harkness on the science-fiction series Doctor Who and Torchwood—will be in the Chicagoland area Oct. 30-31 to promote the book Hollow Earth, a fantasy/science-fiction novel for young adults he co-wrote with sister Carole, Playbill reported.

Aladdin Books, the children's division of Simon & Schuster, will release the novel Oct. 30.

The Barrowmans will be at the Skokie Public Library, 5215 Oakton St., Skokie, Tuesday, Oct. 30, at 7 p.m.; and Anderson's Bookshop, 123 W. Jefferson Ave., Naperville, Wed., Oct. 31, at 7 p.m. (They will also be in Milwaukee and St. Paul, Minn.)

The siblings also authored Torchwood: Exodus Code.

**John Barrowman. Photo courtesy of Kaleidoscope Trust**



G O D

B E L I E V E S  
I N L O V E

STRAIGHT TALK  
ABOUT GAY MARRIAGE  
  
GENE  
ROBINSON  
Bishop of New Hampshire

est is to hold onto the notion that how I go about being a bishop, and how I go about living my life, will be the greatest example of why the Church needs to change its attitudes about LGBT people. ... At the end of the day, it's whether or not I was a good bishop that will convince people of the rightness of this.

**WCT: And what has been the greatest reward for you?**

GR: I've met a lot of wonderful people. ... It's just been an astounding privilege and honor to represent our community to the rest of the world—and particularly to the religious world.

**WCT: What do you see as the lasting impact on the Episcopal Church of your tenure as bishop?**

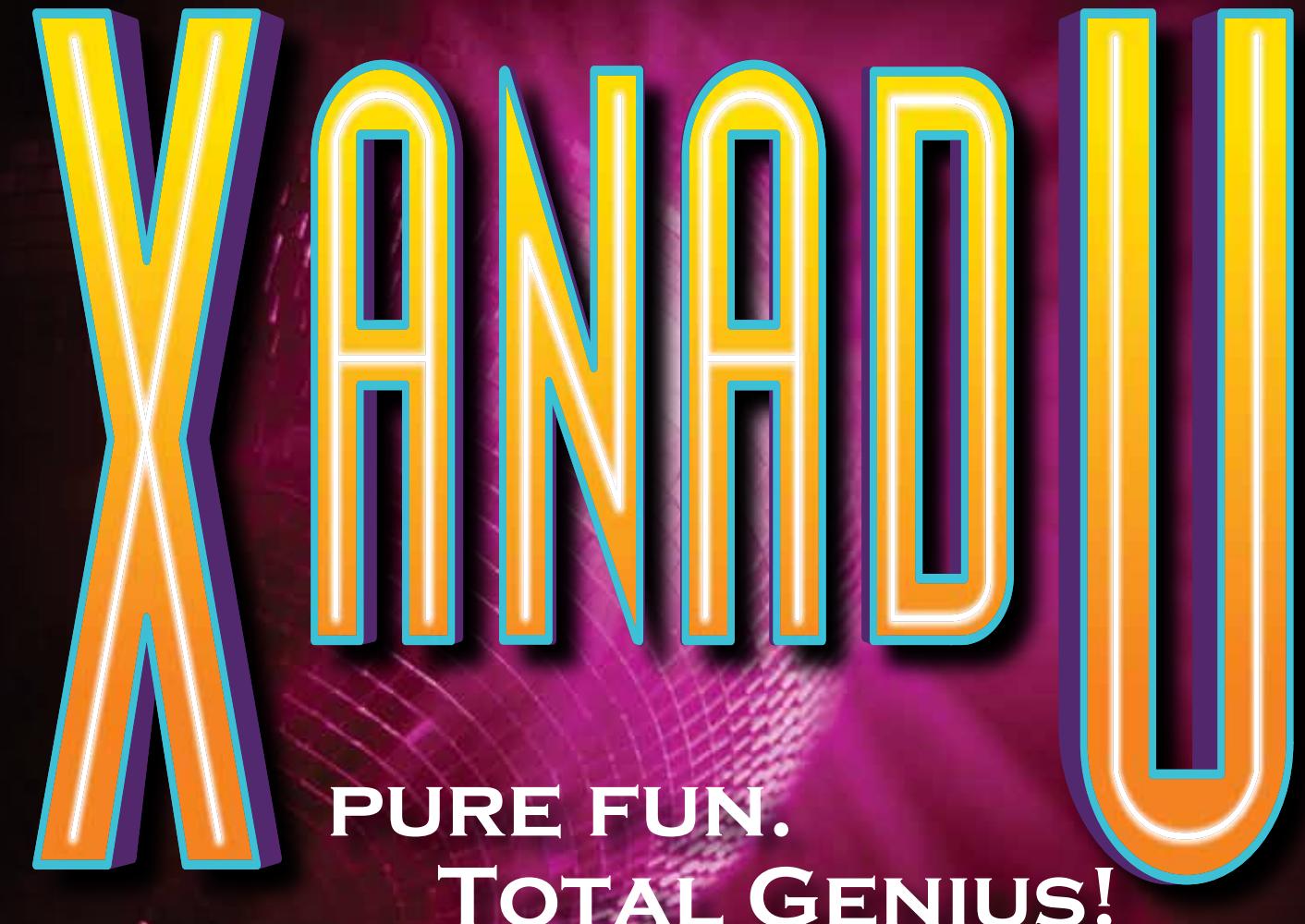
GR: I'd like to think that my own election and subsequent service to the Church has helped change people's minds about this group—that we have, since the beginning of time, discriminated against and now are beginning to re-think that.

One of the things that I'm proudest of—and certainly I think the other mainline denominations: Lutherans, Methodists, Presbyterians—has been watching the Episcopal Church very closely to see if we would come apart over this, be fatally wounded by addressing this issue. And now I think it's pretty clear that it is not the end of Episcopalians. And other denominations are beginning to follow suit. I think there is the sense in which our progress on this issue has a kind of forward momentum that seems almost unstoppable. That's a huge difference from nine or 10 years ago.

**WCT: You have announced you're going to**

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# New Audre Lorde film looks at her time in Berlin

BY STEVEN CHAITMAN

A new documentary about influential Black lesbian writer and poet Audre Lorde comes to Chicago next week all the way from Berlin, Germany. "Audre Lorde: The Berlin Years—1984 to 1992" tells of Lorde's frequent stays in Berlin in the final years of her life and how she helped catalyze the beginning of the Afro-German women's movement.

The film, which is touring the country as the Audre Lorde Legacy Cultural Festival, will screen twice in the Chicago area, first at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) Oct. 2 and then as part of a bigger event at Northwestern University Oct. 3-4.

"The Berlin Years" shows both the public and private side of Lorde, a self-described "Black, lesbian, feminist, mother, poet" in the years before she lost her battle with cancer in 1992. It features never-before-seen videos, images and audio recordings of Lorde collected by the filmmaker Dagmar Schultz a now-retired professor, publisher and author from Berlin.

Schultz met Lorde at the United Nations' Second World Conference On Women in Copenhagen in 1980 and invited her to be a guest professor at the Free University of Berlin. Lorde came to Germany four years later, where she made connections with German feminists and women of color and encouraged them to make their voices heard.

"I think for Audre, the time in Berlin—and not just Berlin, Germany, but also the UK and Netherlands—she was discovering a Black diaspora she wasn't familiar with," Schultz said. "She knew there were Black people and they had different backgrounds and different countries, and for her that was really a journey of discovery, which I think I can say broadened her vision in many ways."

As Lorde began to speak at the university, Schultz said it became clear to her that this was a very important time in her and others' lives, so she began to record Lorde and take numerous photos.

"At the time, I was not doing this and I was not talking with Audre about this becoming a film, I was just kind of collecting," Schultz said. "And then after her death, Gloria Joseph, her partner, came to Berlin [in 1995] and by then I thought, Wow, I really need to do something with this. It can't just sit in my drawers."

Lorde had to postpone the project, however, after the suicide of Ghanaian-German poet and historian May Ayim, one of the founders of the Black German movement. Schultz then turned her attention to producing a film about Ayim, which will also screen at the Northwestern stop of the festival. It took another several years for Schultz to find the right editor to help her complete "The Berlin Years."

Compared to previous films about Lorde, Schultz said the film shows her not just on but off the stage, particularly the more private moments of her time spent in Berlin. It showcases Lorde's lighter side, not just her persona as a "serious political advocate."

"Sometimes people say 'Oh, she's put on a pedestal; she's made into an untouchable person,' but I think this film humanizes her," Schultz said. "The film has a lot of laughter in it, even though it was the last eight years of her life and she was dealing with cancer all along."

Elizabeth Loentz, associate professor and head of Germanic studies at UIC, said she is excited to see this part of Lorde's life that in the U.S. isn't as well known as her activism, but she advocated to bring the film to UIC to provide students the opportunity to see a prime example of someone who applied their activism in the U.S. on an international level.



**Audre Lorde: The Berlin Years.** Image courtesy of Dr. Anna M. Parkinson

"[The chance to show the film] shows really well how an American woman, writer and activist who lived in Germany then, brought her insights from the American context and was able to help them apply the knowledge she gained and the experiences that she had to their context in Germany," Loentz said.

Testament to Lorde's influence on so many movements on an international scale is that the UIC screening is co-sponsored by the Germanic studies, gender and women's studies, history and African-American studies at the school as well as the African-American Cultural Center. Loentz said the film is an opportunity really to look at these transnational connections to the women's, LGBTQ and civil-rights movements.

According to Schultz, not being any one thing or a part of any one group but all of them together was extremely important to Lorde, and Loentz said this comes off in the frankness, honesty and intimacy in her writings.

"She didn't want to see any aspect of her identity as the one, so she really looked at how all of those looked together," she said. "I think in doing so she was really a great influence on intersectionality theory and the idea that these aspects of identity are really interconnected."

Schultz said one of Lorde's biggest messages was that all people, disregarding social status or ethnic background, have some kind of power, and it's very important to identify it and use it lest it be used against you.

"Everything she's saying in the film is still very relevant today," Schultz said. "It's unfortunate, in part, but still, it means we can still learn a lot from her life experiences."

The UIC screening of "The Berlin Years" takes place Oct. 2 at the African-American Culture Center, 830 S. Halsted St., at 2 p.m. A discussion with Schultz and Afro-German writer Ika Hügel-Marshall will follow.

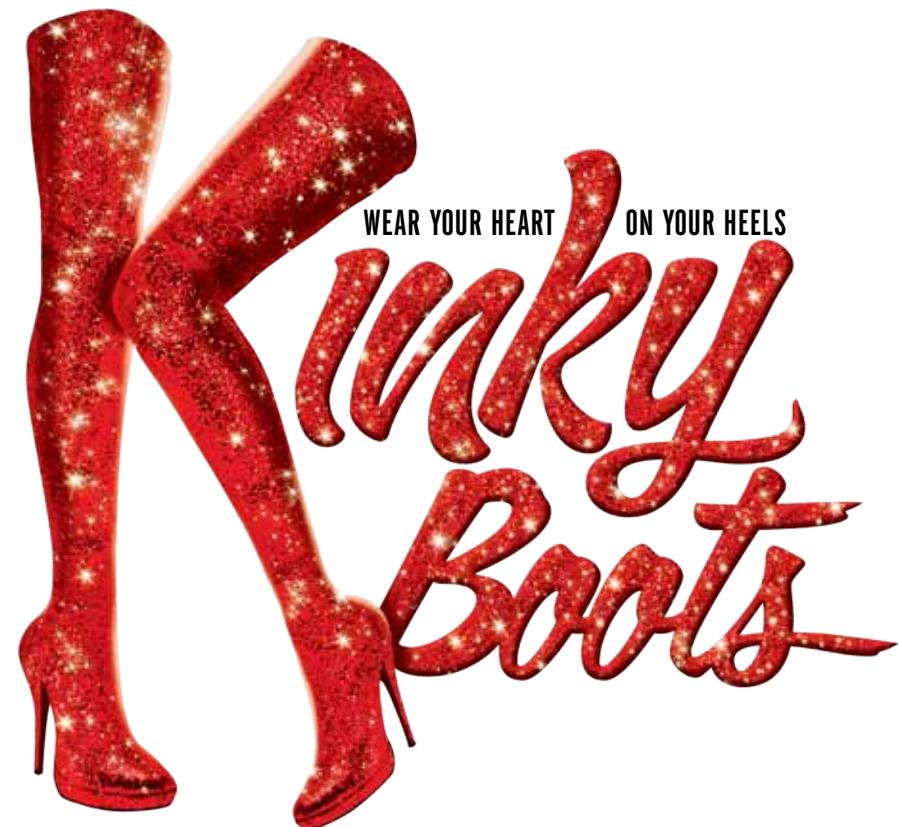
The Northwestern screening takes place Oct. 3 at Evanston's Mary and Leigh Block Museum of Art, 40 Arts Circle Dr., at 6 p.m. following a screening of *Hope in My Heart: The May Ayim Story*. Starting at 4 p.m., however, Hügel-Marshall will also read from her book, *Invisible Woman: Growing Up Black in Germany*. The second day of the festival includes screenings of the 1995 documentary *Litany for Survival: The Life and Work of Audre Lorde* and *The Edge of Each Other's Battles: The Vision of Audre Lorde* back-to-back at the Block Museum of Art starting at 6 p.m.

All events are free and open to the public. For more information on the film and festival, visit [www.audrelorde-theberlinyears.com](http://www.audrelorde-theberlinyears.com).

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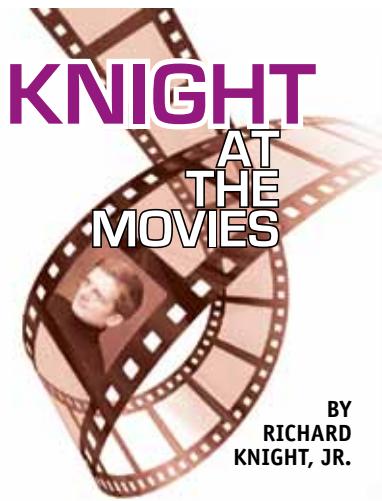
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# KNIGHT AT THE MOVIES

BY  
RICHARD  
KNIGHT, JR.

## The Perks of Being a Wallflower; Diana Vreeland; Lou Harrison; notes

Stephen Chbosky's 1999 novel *The Perks of a Wallflower* has become something of a talisman for a generation of teenage social outsiders and misfits in much the same way that *Catcher in the Rye* and films like *Rebel without a Cause* and *The Breakfast Club* have spoken to previous generations experiencing the same sense of youthful dissatisfaction with the mainstream. Now Chbosky has adapted his book for the screen and makes his debut as the director of the film version. The movie, like the novel, is a beautifully observed study of awkward adolescence on the cusp of discovery—a gentle, winning coming of age tale.

The shyly charming Logan Lerman essays the role of Charlie, the bookish, friendless freshman who dreams of being a writer and finds plenty of potential material as he enters his first year of high school in the early 1990s. Determined

to make even one friend on his first day he settles—glumly and with perfect insight about how embarrassing it is—with his English teacher (Paul Rudd, exuding his usual charm). But Charlie is quietly determined, in spite of the usual rejections and serial taunts of the school jocks, to somehow fit in. A chance encounter with two seniors at a football game—Patrick (gay actor Ezra Miller) and his sister, Sam (a shimmering Emma Watson)—changes everything for Charlie when they take him in as one of their own.

Charlie is dazzled by the bravado and glamour of these two high school sophisticates who don't give a fig about being popular, dress codes or doing anything to fit in. Patrick, a prankster, is openly gay and carrying on a secret affair with someone on the football team while Sam has a boyfriend who, in Charlie's eyes, doesn't deserve her for a second. He finds himself surrounded by a supportive group and he quickly falls secretly for Sam.

A lot of familiar teenage angst is expended as the year plays out in a series of adventures both funny and tragic while this fearless trio finds the boundaries of their friendships tested. Sections of *Ordinary People* and *Fame* included this same bittersweet insight into the difficult high school years. And like the latter, *Perks* includes a large nod to the supreme pleasures of outsiders enjoying the communal spirit—exemplified by the ritual power of dressing up in drag and participating in a screening of the camp classic *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Patrick, Sam and, eventually, Charlie parrot the "Don't Dream It, Be It" message that Tim Curry's drag-queen mad scientist character Frank-N-Furter espouses. Charlie ultimately finds himself part of the floor show, his inhibitions tossed aside.

The characters in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower* are so filled with yearning it practically blows up the screen; rarely has a movie captured both the exuberant euphoria and simultaneous sadness of this seminal rite of passage. Chbosky's deep understanding of the material and

his sure handling of his young, talented cast help navigate this tricky emotional terrain—not always quite successfully—but often enough to forgive the film's intermittent continuity gaps and a few plot missteps. The movie's a rousing experience that more than lives up to its ironic title.

**Briefly noted:** Two documentaries opening this weekend both offer cogent portraits of artistic dynamos hard at work and will certainly be of interest to queer film fans. In **Diana Vreeland: The Eye Has to Travel**, we see the fashion doyenne as she is dictating her memoirs and ruminating on her fabulous, one-of-a-kind life. Vreeland's influence on the U.S. fashion industry (solidified through her editorial stints at Harper's Bazaar and *Vogue*) cannot be overstated, and this outspoken woman—who lived for style yet never let it overwhelm her—is certainly a fascinating topic.

Although the movie, co-directed by her granddaughter-in-law Lisa, never quite pierces the often outrageous exterior of its subject, that's to be expected. Vreeland herself, as the movie points out, was the queen of reinvention who never lost the chance to embroider when the rather unfabulous truth threatened to bore. And the archival footage of Vreeland at work and sitting bemused for interviews with Diane Sawyer, Dick Cavett and Jane Pauley is as vivid as the fire-engine red decor of her Manhattan apartment. A host of lively talking heads (including relatives and former work associates) round out this warm portrait of the world's first true fashion maven and female icon. The film opens Sept. 28 at the Music Box Theatre, 3730 N. Southport Ave. [www.musicboxtheatre.com](http://www.musicboxtheatre.com)

Likewise, **Lou Harrison: A World of Music** offers a loving portrait of a man whose talents poured forth at an enviable rate. But Harrison, an unsung giant of 20th-century modern music, is hardly known outside musical circles today—and small ones at that—while his percussive, sometimes dissonant yet always entralling music suffers the same fate. This all makes Eva Solte's entertaining documentary of the late, openly queer composer, with his delicate demeanor, so welcome.

Harrison, an associate and early champion of avant-garde composer John Cage, and contemporary of Charles Ives and Virgil Thompson, narrates his own story and he is often seen alongside his partner of many years. The film includes

excerpts from many of Harrison's gorgeous scores and tributes from many of his colleagues. The film plays Sept. 29 and Oct. 1 at the Gene Siskel Film Center, 164 N. State St. Soltes will be present at both screenings. [www.siskelfilmcenter.com](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.com)

### Film notes:

—Director Aurora Guerrero's acclaimed lesbian romantic drama **Mosquita y Mari**, a hit at last year's Sundance, is having its Midwest premiere tonight, Wed., Sept. 26, at the Logan Square Theater, 2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., at 8pm. The screening will begin with a documentary titled **Gay Latino L.A.: Coming of Age**. The Queer Film Society is hosting the event and I'll be conducting the audience talkback following the screening. A post-film cocktail reception follows at 9:30 p.m. [www.mexicanfilmfestival.org](http://www.mexicanfilmfestival.org)

—Out playwright Terrence McNally's **Corpus Christi**, in which McNally dramatizes the story of Christ through a queer lens reset in the '50s in Corpus Christi, Texas, has, not surprisingly, been a source of controversy since its premiere. Six years ago, producer/actor James Brandon (who plays the lead) and director Nic Arnzen, a former Chicagoan, worked together on a production of the play on the West Coast that was critically lauded. A subsequent tour ensued with the controversy following in its footsteps.

Arnzen, along with Brandon, documented the experience in a feature-length film called **Corpus Christi: Playing with Redemption**, which tracks the divisive reactions—both pro and con—to the touring production. Now both documentary and play are being presented in Chicago by 108 Productions in a two-day event the Center on Halsted, Michael Leppen and Windy City Times are co-sponsoring. On Saturday, Sept. 29, the film will screen at 2 p.m., followed by a town-hall discussion with cast, crew members and local civic leaders; a performance of the play will take place at 8 p.m. Both programs and the discussion forum will be repeated Sunday, Sept. 30, at 12 p.m. (film/discussion) and play performance (2 p.m.). It all takes place at the Center on Halsted, 3656 N. Halsted St., in the Hoover-Leppen Theater. [www.corpuschristi-themovie.com](http://www.corpuschristi-themovie.com)

Check out my archived reviews at [www.windycitymediagroup.com](http://www.windycitymediagroup.com) or [www.knightatthemovies.com](http://www.knightatthemovies.com). Readers can leave feedback at the latter website.

## Ezra Miller talks about 'The Perks of Being a Wallflower'

BY RICHARD KNIGHT, JR.

Ezra Miller won critical kudos for his breakout performance playing Tilda Swinton's psychopathic son in Lynne Ramsay's *We Need to Talk About Kevin* last year. He follows that with his beautifully nuanced work as Patrick—the stylish, gay high school senior who, along with his equally dazzling sister Sam (played by the luminous Emma Watson), acts as a creative and social mentor for the shy freshman Charlie (Logan Lerman)—in writer-director Stephen Chbosky's debut film *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*.

The movie, based on Chbosky's 1999 acclaimed novel, is a coming-of-age story in which Patrick and Sam act as emotional cheerleaders as Charlie slowly comes out of his shell. The book made a huge impact on the 19-year-old Miller, who came out recently as queer and whose enthusiasm for the project was evident in an exclusive interview with Windy City Times.

**Windy City Times:** I want to start with a quote from one of your interviews: "Getting socially outcast can be the best and most informative thing that can ever happen to you because you have to learn who you are to separate from the pack."

**Ezra Miller:** [Laughs] Yeah, I agree with myself!

**WCT:** So it sounds like your high school experience was closer to Charlie's than it was to Patrick's—true?

**EM:** I was loud like Patrick but I was confused like Charlie and I was stoned [laughs] like Bob [another character in the film]. That's as best as I can sum it up. Hopefully, I had dance moves like Sam.

**WCT:** Who didn't hope that? She's the coolest. So, was there someone in your arena that was like Patrick and Sam for you to look up to?

Turn to page 25

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— MARIE CLAIRE

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EM: Yes. The weird sort of frame tale of all this for me is that my Patrick and Sam were Esther and Maggie. [There were] Esther—my first girlfriend, the girl who took my virginity and all this crazy stuff—and Maggie, my best friend through those high school years. And the two of them are actually the people who told me I had to read *Perks of Being a Wallflower*. They were simultaneously the seniors who took me under their wing. So a shout-out to them—they're the beast's toenails, as far as I'm concerned.

**WCT: How surreal it must have been—because I understand that this book was a talisman for you, as many of these kinds of books are growing up—to then actually find yourself playing this role. Did you feel this huge weight? Was it really cool?**

EM: Yes, for me I had the added convenience of having conceptualized this character for four years with no knowledge that it was some sort of actor's preparation just because I loved this story and admired this character and sort of loved the symbol of Patrick. And so when it came time to try and portray this person I already had a lot of accumulated information, which is always what I want for playing a character.

I want to feel like there's far more in my mind about who this person is than I'll ever have to refer to so a lot of it can become atmospheric backlog in the character's head. So, yeah, I would just say it was helpful [*laughs*] in a funny way. And also, of course, there is the weight of how much this book meant to me and to so many people; certainly, if this moviemaking process had been in the hands of someone besides Stephen Chbosky, the author of the book, I think it could have been a terrible time and a terrible mistake. But because we were all under the counsel of Steve there was a comfort that we were following through on this guy's heart vision—which is kinda like x-ray vision.

**WCT: Sure, sure.**

EM: To understand myself as a marionette for Stephen's *Perks of a Wallflower* vision, to reach a new form sort of provided the comfort of not feeling like I had to all alone capture this character who I'd admired so much in literature. From the second I met Steve, I think a lot of those nervous jitters subsided.

**WCT: I love that the characters find validation and inspiration from things like "Rocky Horror" and I'm of the age where I actually did that back in the late '70s.**

EM: You did the floor show?

**WCT: I wasn't in the floor show but I saw the movie dozens of times, and my best friend helped create The Anticipation Players here in Chicago. Did you experience any of that "Don't dream it, be it" message of the movie in your own life?**

EM: I was privileged and fortunate to have radical older siblings and my sister Caitlin—when she was supposed to be babysitting my sister, Saiya, and I—showed us *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* on VHS. And I remember when she turned it off, she turned on us with this menace and did the hardcore shakedown like of, "If you tell mom and dad that I let you watch this ridiculously inappropriate musical movie all hell will break loose from my corner."

Seeing that movie at age 8 or however old I was completely blew my mind in a bunch of ways. Obviously, there's the mystery and appeal of the raw, sassy, sweet sap of sexuality that runs through that movie like a river and then also, I just remember being incredibly fascinated and obsessed with Tim Curry and Frank N. Furter and that performance. Just the range of physical capability—what he was doing with his body—I remember being blown asunder by watching that. Yes, later I went to a couple of shows during my high school times, and when I found out I got the part I started going every week to absorb the feeling. The whole cast and crew actually went out to see the floor show that they put on in Pittsburgh and we had a really amazing time.

**WCT: It's a delightful irony that you got to**

**step into that drag. There are two very interesting powerful documentaries that have been making the circuit that speak to the importance of queer history: Vito, the profile of queer activist Vito Russo, and How to Survive a Plague, about the history of ACT UP. How important is it as a young, queer person to think about our history—to take a moment and honor that?**

EM: I think it's so essential—as we gird our loins and ready our arms for the next round of trying to push mass consciousness and social awareness forward—that we always look to the people who have fought to allow even the ground we stand on now, taking our time to get ready for that push. And certainly, I had an incredible experience this year trying desperately to help organize activism and actions in New York City during that very exciting time [of Occupy Wall Street] and I remember ACT UP coming through one day and putting the entire coalition to shame with their fierceness and their diehard commitment and their bravery.

You had people who were incredibly sick who were standing on the front lines getting tackled and kicked by cops and marching on. I think it's crucial that we look to especially that particular time of crisis and how the creative vehicles that we were able to board in order to fight and sur-

vive in that time of crisis. It's definitely something to refer to frequently.

**WCT: Are there queer mentors, creative mentors—such as Tilda Swinton—that you've looked to as you've come out as queer? You're obviously going to be a spokesperson for a while, which is an unfortunate thing to throw on you, but being so talented and articulate that's going to be part of your deal. [Laughs]**

EM: I would definitely not want to speak for anyone but I've got a loud mouth and I'm down to yell at people, you know what I mean? [Laughs]

**WCT: You have a lot of great mentors who made you who you are and I'm assume we're going to hear more from you in this arena...**

EM: Yes—I feel incredibly lucky to have had those mentors and to have had people who have empowered me and who have let me know that I'm seen and that I'm recognized and that what I'm doing is valid. I think it's that sort of support system—my family, these amazing collaborators who stand generously in my corner as I struggle to figure all of this out—[who will] hopefully make [it] possible to continue to work in this industry and to continue to try and be my whole, unadulterated self when involved with this sort of work.



Ezra Miller in *The Perks of Being a Wallflower*.  
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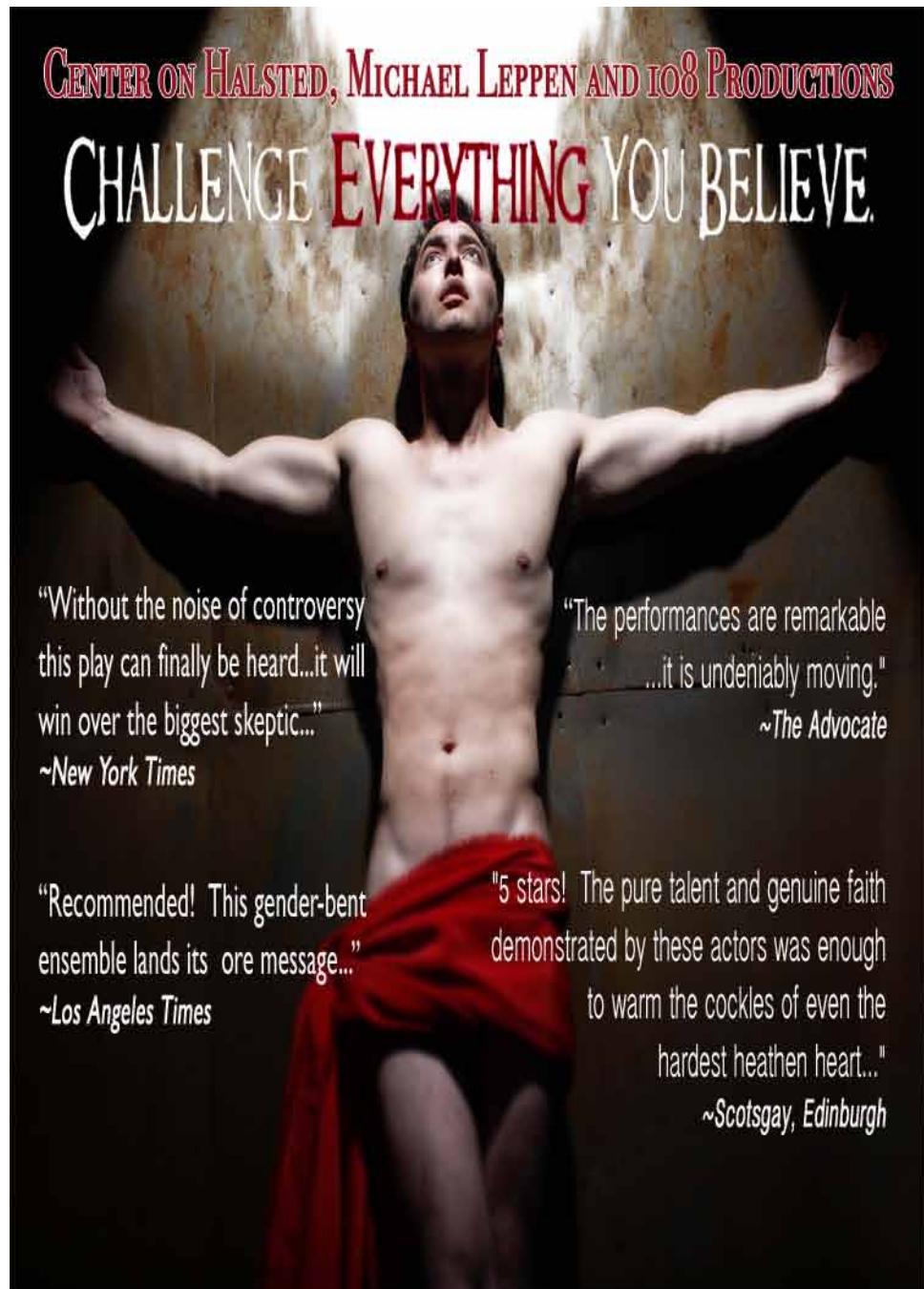
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## MUSIC

# Jamar Rogers: Adding his soul to HIV cause

BY JOE FRANCO

Jamar Rogers is best known for his position as a finalist on the popular NBC television show *The Voice*. On the show, Rogers was open and honest about his HIV-positive status and made no apologies for doing so.

"Originally, when I was auditioning for the show, being open about my status was the furthest thing from my mind," Rogers told Windy City Times. But after working with God's Love We Deliver—a charity in New York's City's West Village that delivers food to more than 4,000 people living with HIV and AIDS—Rogers knew he was not just another voice. "When you see real people infected and you work with them—I just knew that I had to stand for something," he said.

With that, Rogers has joined the ranks of Magic Johnson and Greg Louganis as an outspoken face and role model of a person living with HIV. "I remember hearing a story of young man who found out he was infected with HIV and he took his own life by jumping from the George Washington Bridge," Rogers said. "It's easy to say 'Use a condom' but we need to go beyond preventative measures.

"We need to show people that just because you are HIV-positive does not mean that you have to die. We need to show them that they are worthy of love, that they are attractive and beautiful and that nothing—nothing should keep you from your dream. That's why I was an advocate on *The Voice* and that's why I'm still an advocate."

Rogers is not one for great accolades or ego. His fan base is affectionately known as his "fam." Rogers said, "I don't want to be put on some pedestal. I want to be seen as your brother rather than your idol. We're on equal footing. I've only been clean from meth of seven years. Exactly who do I think that I am that I can think that I am greater than any of my fans?"

While many pop stars speak about service, love and peace, Rogers has real experience. He added, "I cannot stress enough that you must serve your fellow man. You need to lose your self-absorption and live for others sometimes."

That spirit of service is bringing Rogers to Chicago for the Chicago AIDS Walk Sept. 30. Rogers is involved in numerous HIV and AIDS causes, but the AIDS Walk is one that is particularly moving for Rogers. "The AIDS Walk is visible," he said. "People, even those not participating, see it. I'm going to be performing in front of thousands of walkers and runners at Soldier Field. I can't think of better visibility than that."

Rogers is expected to perform for a full half-hour and will be singing two cover pieces followed by several of his own original songs. "I want Chicago to know, even if I'm singing some covers, I can still perform my ass off," he said. "You can quote me on that."

Currently, Rogers has a single available on



Jamar Rogers. Publicity photo

iTunes called "Where Would I Be without You." Rogers said it's "a song, dedicated to my fam." He also has a free Amazon download currently available called "Far Away Off." Rogers explained, "I didn't want to have my fam paying for every single that I dropped. I wanted even those who don't have any money at all to be able to hear my music and own it for themselves." Rogers anticipates an album release sometime

**Turn to page 31**

## Lady Gaga adds second show

Lady Gaga's "Born This Way Ball" world tour has added a second show (Feb. 14) in Chicago, since the Feb. 13 event has sold out.

In this tour, Gaga performs her latest album, *Born This Way*, as well as music from both *The Fame* and *The Fame Monster*. The *Born This Way Ball* began April 27 in Seoul, South Korea.

Tickets for the second show at United Center go on-sale Friday, Sept. 28, at 10 a.m. at [www.LiveNation.com](http://www.LiveNation.com).

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## VEHICLE REVIEW

# 2013 Chevrolet Camaro ZL1: Addictive and outrageously fun

BY NICK KURCZEWSKI, GAYWHEELS.COM

I knew it. I just knew someone, somewhere, would complain about the cabin plastics in a review of the 2013 Chevrolet Camaro ZL1. [The guilty party shall remain nameless, for now.] Let me put this to rest: if you're worried about the grain of the plastic on the door panels, the center console—or anywhere else for that matter—then you've completely missed the point of this car. With its 580-horsepower supercharged 6.2-liter V-8, this is officially the most powerful production Camaro to ever hit the streets. Coupled to that snarling and snorting engine is a six-speed manual transmission, or optional (\$1,135) six-speed automatic.

There is nothing subtle about the Camaro, much less the ZL1. Even the base models have that sinister front end, kicked up rear fenders, and lowered greenhouse that makes almost every other car look painfully lame by comparison. The shallow glass also makes parallel parking an absolute nightmare but, hey, if you can afford the ZL1's base price of \$55,250 (including destination), you can afford to park in a lot. Other than

the mega engine, the ZL1 package adds a raised aluminum hood, a unique front fascia with curb-scraping front splitter, magnetic ride control suspension, high performance Brembo brakes, 20-inch alloy wheels (20×10 front/20×11 rear), a heads-up instrument display, and a rear-view camera.

The ZL1 is basically loaded with everything you can throw onto a muscle car. Added to my test car was an eye-watering Rally Yellow paint-job with black racing stripes, carbon-fiber hood inserts, and micro-fiber suede on the dashboard. Maybe it's the latter option that allowed me to overlook the G.I. Joe quality of some plastics in the Camaro's cabin. My guess, however, is that all it took was the first jab of the gas pedal and the instant roar of the V-8 as the car lunged forward, pushing me hard into the driver's seat. This car makes you want to drive fast. All. The. Time.

What's even better is that the ZL1 isn't a one-trick pony, only capable of going fast in a straight line. Unlike its closest competitor, the even-more-powerful Ford Shelby Mustang GT500, the Camaro has an independent rear suspension.



The Ford might dust the ZL1 in a drag race but, if corners are involved, I'd take the Camaro every time. On bumpy New York City streets or on the Turnpike headed to the Jersey shore, the ZL1's suspension impressed me for being firm and sporty, but not overly punishing. The handling is heavy, as are the throws of the six-speed manual and the calf-strengthening clutch pedal.

But the hairy-knuckled driving manners are consistent and, once you're used to them, it's hard to imagine driving a car that doesn't seem to be itching for a brawl. So long as no one in your posse plays center for the Knicks, there's room in the back for two adults—though visibility back there is on par with peeking out of a tank turret. The trunk is shallow but still capable of holding 11.3 cubic feet of cargo, which helps to make the ZL1 more than just a weekend plaything. Fuel mileage is pretty god-awful, as you'd expect. The ZL1's 19-gallon fuel tank runs dry fast when you're dealing with an EPA certified 14/19 mpg in city and highway driving. Did I forget to mention a \$1,300 gas-guzzler tax also comes standard?

But like those cabin plastics, complaining about miles per gallon isn't the point of the Camaro ZL1—or any muscle car, for that matter.

You're paying for the performance, the engine and transmission, look-at-me styling and the history attached to the nameplate. The ZL1 is addictive and outrageously fun. Case closed.

## Auto news

**—Legal wins:** Porsche SE won a dismissal of the first two investor suits in Germany over charges the company lied about its failed Volkswagen AG (VOW) takeover plan four years ago, according to Business Week. The Braunschweig Regional Court said two press releases from Porsche didn't constitute "vicious behavior" that would have misled investors.

**—Avis denied:** In California, Lynn Evenchik sued an Avis car-rental place in San Diego because she did not receive a discount, even though Avis gave price discounts to members of the International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association and the National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. She argued, among other things, that California's Unruh Civil Rights Act prohibits a business from discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation. The U.S. District Court, Southern District of California, rejected Avis' motion to dismiss.

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## SAVOR Gino's East Sports Bar

BY ANDREW DAVIS

"Shall I break the egg for you, sir?"

There are certain places where you may expect a server to ask a patron a question. However, a sports bar isn't one of them—but Gino's East Sports Bar (521 S. Dearborn St.; [www.ginoseast-sportsbar.com](http://www.ginoseast-sportsbar.com)) is no ordinary establishment.

Noah Himmel (who is also responsible for the revamped Eduardo's Enoteca in the Gold Coast area) is the chef behind what's called an "upscale sports bar." However, this is one of the least pretentious "upscale" eateries I've been to, I have to say.

There are multiple large TV screens, of course, that show different games—which, I imagine, is heaven during this season of baseball and football (with basketball on the horizon). In addition, there are doors/windows that open out to the sidewalk—a blessing on warm, sunny days, especially in the South Loop neighborhood.

In addition, the staff is extremely friendly, with our server (J.J., who looked all of 14) being pretty attentive, overall.

As for the food, there are several reasons I'll be returning. The spinach sticks were the perfect appetizer (and even convinced me I was consuming something that was somewhat healthful). My dining companion and I both enjoyed the spinach and bacon salad, which included tomato, onion, mozzarella and bacon with sweet balsamic dressing.

However, my friend really raved over the veggie burger, which she said is the best she's ever had in her life—and she's a picky eater. The burger included field greens, tomato and truffle aioli on a brioche bun. It had just enough kick for her; she plans on returning to Gino's East also—just for that sandwich. (If you want meat, however, Gino's can certainly accommodate you as well, with everything from the junkyard chili dog to a grilled chicken pesto sandwich.)



Burger and fries (pictured), pizza (center), and avocado salad at Gino's East Sports Bar. PR photos

Now, as for that egg: It was part of one of Gino's gourmet deep-dish pizzas, topped with venison sausage, apples, cremini, white cheddar and that egg. (By the way, be prepared for a wait: J.J. warned me that it would take about 45 minutes for that pizza, although I got it in slightly less time.) The pizza was absolutely delicious, with the apple providing a textural surprise. The egg is in the middle so that when it's cut, the runny goodness infuses most of the pie. (Other pizza variations include jalapeno blue, spinach margherita, Chicago Fire—with spicy sausage—and BBQ brisket-za).

By the way, there are indulgent desserts as well. If you have room, try the cinnamon-sugar beignet balls. (There are also spiked shakes and a triple chocolate cake that may have you in the gym an extra half-hour the next day.)

Gino's is a young establishment, and is working out a few kinks. (When I ordered a vodka lemonade, J.J. brought me a glass of lemonade with a full smaller glass of vodka on the side. Had I consumed all that alcohol, I wouldn't have been able to distinguish spinach from spaghetti.) However, I will certainly return to this unpretentious upscale establishment—with my friend in tow, no doubt.



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## Dining news COMPILED BY ANDREW DAVIS

—Chicago Gourmet will take place Sept. 28-30 in Millennium Park. The schedule includes live cooking demonstrations (such as Rick Bayless hosting "Fresh Ingredients: From Rooftop to Tabletop"), tasting tours and dozens of exhibitors (including plenty of businesses specializing in wine and spirits). Tickets start at \$89 plus tax (for Sept. 28's Hamburger Hop); see [www.eventbrite.com/event/1366301645](http://www.eventbrite.com/event/1366301645).

—Bar Umbrago, 6 W. Hubbard St., is offering Chef Michael Poncino's fall menu. Highlights include sausage tortellini, goat-cheese gnocchi, butternut squash ravioli, hamachi crudo (pictured), and braised lamb with root vegetables. See [www.barumbrago.com](http://www.barumbrago.com) or call 312-494-1200.



—The Chicago Culinary Museum inducted Graham Elliot (seen on Fox's MasterChef) and Jacquy Pfeiffer (co-founder of the city's French Pastry School of Kennedy-King College at City Colleges of Chicago) into its hall of fame Sept. 19. Elliot has opened the restaurants Graham Elliot and Grahamwich (a sandwich shop) in Chicago. Pfeiffer is the first pastry chef to be inducted into the hall.

—French-themed Bistronomic, 840 N. Wabash Ave., will feature a three-course Thanksgiving Day prix fixe menu Thursday, Nov. 22, 12-9 p.m. Bistronomic's menu options include traditional Thanksgiving items, vegetarian varieties and Parisian specialties for \$46. Items will include radicchio and endive salad; roasted farm turkey; wild mushroom ravioli; and apple tarte tatin, among other items. See [www.bistronomic.net](http://www.bistronomic.net).

—Upscale barbecue spot Chicago q, 1160 N. Dearborn St., is offering \$100 gift certificates for those who book for holiday parties before Sept. 30. Lunch parties booked before Sept. 30 will receive a \$150 gift certificate. Dinner packages start at \$35/guest and lunch at \$25/guest. Call 312-642-1160.

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Notice is hereby given, pursuant to "An Act in relation to the use of an Assumed Business Name in the conduct or transaction of Business in the State," as amended, that a certification was filed by the undersigned with the County Clerk of Cook County. File No. D12131649 on September 5, 2012, Under the Assumed Name of "Soul Balm Subtle Body Therapies" with the business located

at 7515 N. Winchester Ave., #2W, Chicago, IL 60626. The true name(s) and residence address of the owner(s) are: Beverly L. Spangler, 7515 N. Winchester Ave., #2W, Chicago, IL 60626. (9/26/12-3)

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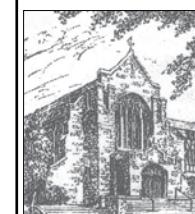
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**MOM: A Tribute to Mothers of LGBTs**  
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early next year. "I don't have an exact date but I decided to do this independently so I could control my music and my message," said Rogers.

Rogers also has a weekly blog about his past experience on The Voice along with commentary on the current contestants and their own experience on the show. "The blog is on Insider.com and really tries to tie my own personal experience on that show into what the current contestants are thinking, doing and how they are performing," Rogers said.

He is also involved in a second writing project—that of his own story. The book, yet untitled, will be an autobiography or memoir on Rogers' life from his beginnings as the son of a single mother in New Orleans through his addiction to meth, his contraction of HIV and his recovery/rise.

Next for Rogers are numerous speaking engagements, including a speech at New York University Oct. 1. Although he cannot say how or in what capacity, Rogers plans to be back on television this fall. "I just want my fam to know that they need to look for me on TV again," he said. "I can't say where or when yet since I'm under a nondisclosure agreement, but I'll be there."

Jamar Rogers will be at the AIDS Run & Walk Chicago Sunday, Sept. 30, at Soldier Field; see <http://afc.aidschicago.org/netcommunity/page.aspx?pid=1518>.

He will also be at HIV/AIDS agency Test Positive Aware Network's (TPAN's) "The 25th Hour: Celebrating A Quarter-Century of Service" Thursday, Oct. 4, 5:30-8:30 p.m., at the Chicago Cultural Center, 78 E. Washington St.; see [www.tpan.com/25hour](http://www.tpan.com/25hour).



Jamar Rogers. Publicity photo

# calendar Q

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## Wed., Sept. 26

**Beloved (Les Bien-Aimes)** Catherine Congregation Or Chadash, Days of Awe/High Holidays 2012 Yom Kippur Day: Shachrit, 10 am; Yizkor, 11:30 am (approx.); Musaf, noon (approx.); Study Session, 3 pm Minchah, 4:45 pm; Neilah, 6:30 pm. 12pm, 773-271-2148, Jewish Reconstructionist Congregation, 303 Dodge St., Evanston, [www.orchadash.org](http://www.orchadash.org)

**HIV Support Groups** Living with HIV? Join one of our 10-week groups to share experiences, learn from one another and find support in a safe, confidential setting. Wednesdays and Thursdays; noon, Saturdays. Free; 6pm, Center on Halsted, 3656 N Halsted St., [www.CenterOnHalsted.org](http://www.CenterOnHalsted.org)

**Mosquita y Mari** Midwest premiere screening of the acclaimed lesbian-themed romantic drama. Hosted by The Queer Film Society. Festival favorite and multi-award winner. 8pm screening, After, cocktail reception; Logan Theater, 2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., <http://gopride.com/z7hi>

**The Acro-Cats Caterwaul into Chicago** The Amazing Acro-Cats will perform their remarkable feats of agility (remarkable because they're ... you know ... house cats). 7pm-8pm, 773-456-8808, Stage 773, 1225 W. Belmont Ave., [www.stage773.com](http://www.stage773.com); Tickets: <http://boxoffice.printixusa.com/stage773/eventcalendar>

**Hydrag Revue** Join Hydrate Nightclub for the world famous HYDRAG REVUE hosted by Tajma Hall, featuring the all star cast of Dida Ritz, Sorraya Dash, Mercede Andrews, Kelly Lauren, Erica Andrews and special guests each week! 10pm, Hydrate, 3458 N. Halsted St.

## POLITICAL PARTY

### Thursday, Sept. 27

First Lady Michelle Obama will be at a private LGBT fundraiser in Chicago.

Official headshot



## WANDA LUST Saturday, Sept. 29

**Wanda Sykes** will provide some biting comedy at the Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St., and will be at the AIDS Run & Walk the following day.

*Photo by Craig Blankenhorn*

### Thursday, Sept. 27

**Chicago Foundation for Women hosts**

**Anita Hill** An author and professor of social policy, law, and women's studies at Brandeis University, Anita Hill is known for her groundbreaking work raising awareness nationwide on the issue of sexual harassment. 11:30am, Chicago Hilton and Towers, 720 S Michigan Ave., <https://cfw.org/27-annual-luncheon-registration>

**LGBT event for First Lady Michelle Obama in Chicago** Obama LGBT Leadership Council Co Chairs Laura Ricketts, Bob Satawake and Wally Brewster bring the LGBT community and straight allies together for an evening with First Lady Michelle Obama. The event will sell out so get tickets now. Proceeds go to re-elect President Barack Obama. \$1,000 per person for reception. 6pm, Private home. <http://gopride.com/z7h2>

**Healthcare Reform Town Hall Meeting** Join Rep. Greg Harris, Rep. Kelly Cassidy and

Sen. Heather Steans for a Healthcare Reform Town Hall Meeting; 7pm-9pm, 773-348-3434, Swedish Covenant Hospital, 5145 N. California Ave., [www.gregharris.org](http://www.gregharris.org)

**The Chicago Premiere of Hoodoo Love** Directed by Nelsan Ellis, who plays gay character Lafayette in HBO's series True Blood. Set in the 1930s, moving tale of Toulo escaping from the Mississippi cotton fields to pursue her dream of singing the blues in Memphis. When she meets a rambling blues man her dreams are realized in a way she never could have imagined. Vivid language that captures the blues. Through Oct. 21; 7:30pm, 773-935-6875, Athenaeum Theatre, 2936 N Southport Ave, Chicago, Tickets: [www.athenaeumtheatre.org](http://www.athenaeumtheatre.org)

**Kota Yamazaki/Fluid hug-hug** Japanese choreographer collaborates with African and American dancers for new work Thursday-Saturday, through Sept. 29. \$26-30. 8pm-10pm, 312-369-8330, The Columbia College Dance Center, 1306 S. Michigan Ave., [www.colum.edu/dancecenter](http://www.colum.edu/dancecenter)

**Elinor Lipman** Elinor Lipman, author *Tweet Land of Liberty: Irreverent Rhymes from the Political Circus*; 7:30pm, Women & Children First Books, 5233 N. Clark St., [www.womenandchildrenfirst.com](http://www.womenandchildrenfirst.com)

### Friday, Sept. 28

**Miss Richfield 1981 in "We'll All Be in Dead by Christmas 2012"** Two nights only the Return of... Miss Richfield 1981 in her new show "2012: We'll All Be Dead By Christmas 2012" 7pm-10pm, Hydrate, 3458 N. Halsted St., [www.hydratechicago.com/home/](http://www.hydratechicago.com/home/); Tickets: [www.brownpaper-tickets.com/event/268564](http://www.brownpaper-tickets.com/event/268564)

**Stardust: Films of the Hidden Universe** Admission \$10. 7:30pm-8:30pm, 773-293-1947, Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum, 1300 S Lake Shore Dr., [www.chicagofilmakers.org/cf/genre](http://www.chicagofilmakers.org/cf/genre)

**Xanadu** Based on the Universal Pictures cult classic movie, XANADU follows the journey of a magical and beautiful Greek muse who descends from Mt. Olympus to California in 1980 to inspire a struggling artist to achieve the greatest artistic creation of all time: the first roller disco. Through Oct. 28; 8:30pm, Drury Lane Oakbrook, 100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace, Tickets: [www.drurylaneoakbrook.com/index.php](http://www.drurylaneoakbrook.com/index.php)

**Dance Off with Your Pants Off: Oktoberfest edition** Scarlet's famous monthly gathering of fundies and undies, featuring DJ DOLO and no cover. 10pm, Scarlet Bar, 3320 N Halsted St., [www.facebook.com/scarletbarchicago](http://www.facebook.com/scarletbarchicago)

**Tamale Presents Brass Chuckles Comedy Showcase** Brass Chuckles is a comedy

show that invites fascinating people to come out to play hosted by comedian and Femme(ce) Tamale Sepp. Explores comedy through stand-up, sketch, improv, performance art, live readings of personal narrative work and other creative methods. \$10. 10pm, Playground Theatre, 3341 N Lincoln Ave., [www.brasschucklescomedy.com](http://www.brasschucklescomedy.com)

### Saturday, Sept. 29

**Out of the Darkness** Chicagoland Community Walk American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's largest community walk. 5 mile walk with proceeds benefiting the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP). 9am-12pm, Independence Grove, 16400 W. Buckley Rd., Libertyville, <http://www.afsp.org/illocal>

**Women's Night Out** Dance for All Women Lovely and huge dance hall, dance music and snacks (healthy and otherwise). Sponsored by the Oak Park Area Lesbian and Gay Association. \$10. All proceeds will go to the Chicago Women's Health Center; 12:15pm, Antronios Bar & Grill, 6319 W. Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn; <http://opalga.org>

**Corpus Christi: Playing with Redemption, film and play** This version of Corpus Christi, Terrence McNally's controversial play, which depicts Jesus as a gay man in 1950s Texas, has drawn an angry response from some Catholics, as has Playing with Redemption. Sneak Preview Film Screening 2 pm; play performance 8 pm. \$10 film, \$20 play, \$25 for both; 2pm, Center on Halsted, 3656 N Halsted St., [www.108productions.org](http://www.108productions.org); Tickets: [www.corpuschristi-themovie.com/reservations-chicago.html](http://www.corpuschristi-themovie.com/reservations-chicago.html)

**Screening of the documentary Bullied**

Also a talk back with Jamie Nabozny. Bullied: A Student, a School and a Case That made History is a documentary film from Teaching Tolerance that chronicles the case of Jamie Nabozny, a student in Ashland, WI, and his ordeal at the hands of anti-gay bullies. 2:30pm-4:30pm, Waubonsee Community College, Aurora Campus Events Room, 18 S. River St., Aurora, [www.illinoissafeschools.org](http://www.illinoissafeschools.org)

**Dating for Queer Nerds** Too school for cool?

Mingle with other LGBT lovers of learning during a back-to-class themed singles bash. Registration required online. 4pm-7pm, 855-637-3568, Burke's Public House 5401 N. Broadway, [www.nerdsatheart.com](http://www.nerdsatheart.com)

**Wanda Sykes Live Among Entertainment** Weekly's 25 Funniest People in America and honored by GLAAD for promoting a good image of equal rights for gays and lesbians. \$39.50, \$49.50 and \$65.50.

7pm-9pm, 312-462-6300, Chicago Theatre, 175 N State St., [www.thechicagetheatre.com](http://www.thechicagetheatre.com); Tickets: [www.livenation.com](http://www.livenation.com)

**Michael Feinstein with Jeff Lindberg's Chicago Jazz Orchestra**

Singer, pianist and music revivalist Michael Feinstein will join Jeff Lindberg's Chicago Jazz Orchestra to honor the Great American Songbook. \$92-\$32; 7:30pm, 800-982-2787, Auditorium Theatre of Roosevelt University, 50 E Congress Pkwy, [www.auditoriumtheatre.org](http://www.auditoriumtheatre.org)

### Sunday, Sept. 30

**Urban Village Church: Andersonville service** Andersonville is a neighborhood full of passion, art, diversity, and eclectic energy, all which makes Urban Village Church thrilled to be joining the community! 10:30am-11:45am, 1602 W. Ainslie (at Ashland), [www.newchicagochurch.com](http://www.newchicagochurch.com)

**AIDS Run & Walk** Chicago The Midwest's largest outdoor AIDS fundraising event is taking place on Sunday, Sept. 30 this year. Wanda Sykes and Michael Feinstein will be at the start line, kicking off the race. \$30 walker fee; \$40 runner fee; \$50 race day registration fee; 8:30am, 312-334-0946, Soldier Field (southeast corner), [www.aidsrunwalk.org](http://www.aidsrunwalk.org)

**7th Annual Chicago Force Golf Outing** Supports Chicago Force women's tackle



## FRAN OF ACTION

### Tuesday, Oct. 2

**Author/raconteuse Fran Lebowitz** will be at the Harris Theater, 205 E. Randolph St.

*Photo from the Harris Theater*

football team. Discounted rate of \$110 for early registration. After Aug. 30, \$125 per person. Eighteen holes of golf with cart, gift bag, buffet lunch, post-golf appetizers. 12pm-4pm, 312-405-4130, White Pines Golf Club, 500 W. Jefferson, Benenville, [www.chicagoforcefootball.com](http://www.chicagoforcefootball.com)

**Gay and Straight Together Ministry** Equality Illinois will present a workshop on marriage equality. 2pm, 773-283-2326, United in Faith Lutheran Church, 6525 W. Irving Park Rd., [www.unitedinfaith.org](http://www.unitedinfaith.org)

**Concert to benefit Voices United for Separation of Church and State** Singer-songwriter Catie Curtis is the producer of all 50+ house concerts/local events. Susan Werner, Trina Hamlin, Ingrid Graudins, Liam Davis & Steve Dawson. A long weekend with 50 simultaneous house concerts and local events in all 50 states to benefit separation of church and state. \$30; 7pm, Evanston SPACE, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston, [www.evanstonspace.com/](http://www.evanstonspace.com/); Tickets: <http://gopride.com/z7h2>

### Monday, Oct. 1

**i2i new API Coming Out Group** Open to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and queer APIs. Adoptees, hapas, and multiracial folks welcome too. First Monday of every month. Free. Snacks. More info: [chicagoi2i@yahoo.com](mailto:chicagoi2i@yahoo.com); 6pm-7:30pm, Asian Human Services, 7th flr conference room, 4753 N. Broadway; email [chicagoi2i@yahoo.com](mailto:chicagoi2i@yahoo.com)

**Cyon Flare presents United House: A Night of Unity in House Music** The event returns to Boystown at a new location where everyone is family—Black, white, Latin, Asian, LGBTQI and straight. Presented by Cyon Flare; 10pm, Circuit Night Club, 3641 N Halsted St., [www.facebook.com/cyons.unitedhouse](http://www.facebook.com/cyons.unitedhouse)

### Tuesday, Oct. 2

**Fran Lebowitz "A State of the Union Conversation"** Moderated by Steppenwolf Theatre Company Artistic Director Martha Lavey. Conversation followed by interaction with audience. Lebowitz, considered by many as the heir to Dorothy Parker, is famous for her contributions to Andy Warhol's Interview magazine, and she recently was the subject of Martin Scorsese's HBO documentary "Public Speaking." 7:30pm, Harris Theater for Music and Dance, 205 E Randolph St., [www.harristheaterchicago.org](http://www.harristheaterchicago.org)

### Wednesday, Oct. 3

**Gay Liberation Network meeting** Chicago's multi-issue, LGBT direct action group; 7pm-9pm, 773-209-1187, Berger Park Cultural Center, 6205 N. Sheridan Rd., [www.gayliberation.net](http://www.gayliberation.net)

Get  
**calendar Q**  
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ChicagoPride.com

# BILLY MASTERS

"Ewww, Eww, To get f\*cked? Gay guys are the horniest people in the world. They're disgusting. Dude, most of them probably have AIDS." —Paris Hilton's response to a gay friend who was explaining how guys hook up via Grindr. Friends of Hilton's say that she was drunk at the time and that the comments are taken out of context. Regardless, for someone who hooked up with someone else's husband and was videotaped having unprotected sex with him, she's really not one to talk.

Jesse Tyler Ferguson of Modern Family proposed to his longtime boyfriend, lawyer Justin Mikita. Needless to say, Justin accepted. The duo coupled their good news with the formation of a new foundation. "Tie the Knot" will raise money to help fight for LGBT rights through the sale of bowties—presumably the snazzy choice of modern bridegrooms. You can check out the merchandise and sign up for updates at TieTheKnot.org.

Rupert Everett caused quite a stir with some comments about same-sex marriage and, in particular, gay people having children. He said that his mother likes his current boyfriend but "still wishes I had a wife and kids. She thinks children need a father and a mother and I agree with her. I can't think of anything worse than being brought up by two gay dads. Some people might not agree with that. Fine! That's just my opinion. I'm not speaking on behalf of the gay community."

The most surprising thing about this is that Rupert has a boyfriend! And who thought he'd be bringing suitors around to meet his mum? As to his thoughts on gay parents, obviously I agree that he's entitled to his own opinion. Certainly, not all gay people would make good parents. Many straight people I know make terrible parents. Rupert expressed a similar opinion on a morning chat show in the UK: "I'm not against anybody doing anything. But I am not big into marriage, straight or gay, to be honest. I am very out of kilter with the rest of the world, I realize." Ob-La-Di, Ob-La-Da.

Let's turn our attention to Nick Gruber, Calvin Klein's former boyfriend and gay-for-pay porn star. When we last left Nick, he was out of rehab, photographed kissing some woman on the beach in Santa Monica, kissing the nephew of a mobster in Los Angeles and promising to write his memoirs. Oh, he also claims that the designer hired a private investigator to follow him. I suppose anything is possible.

So what else could there be to report? Nick's latest plan is to shoot a reality show! The New York Post quotes him as saying, "The show is basically about me being in a relationship with Calvin. It's also me trying to figure out who I am as a process of coming from his lifestyle from New York to LA, at the same time being the straight boy and still liking men and women."

That's almost a cornucopia of things to decipher. First off, if you're going to do a reality show about your relationship with someone, don't you still have to be in the relationship? Since Gruber is no longer dating the 70-year-old designer, I'm guessing that part of the story will be brief—or perhaps re-enacted with loo-kalikes or maybe claymation ... like Davey and Goliath. Then there's "being the straight boy and still liking men and women." Nick claims that his new boyfriend, the comparatively youthful 48-year-old John Luciano, allows him to sleep with women. Well, ain't that modern! When the Post asked him if he really considers himself "straight," Nick said (with absolutely no sense of irony), "I don't believe in labels." Not even ones that say CK, apparently!

Those of you thinking about holiday travel might want to consider a quickie jaunt to New York. Why? Because Cheyenne Jackson will be

appearing in the new play *The Performers* on Broadway. The comedy also stars Henry Winkler as an aging adult-film star who befriends the hottest new star on the block. (Guess who?) Yes, I've told you about this play before, but they've suddenly released the promotional stills of Jackson looking like he's auditioning for a role on *Spartacus*—and I mean that in the best possible way. As far as I'm concerned, seeing Cheyenne in gladiator gear is worth the price of a Broadway ticket. Although I do worry that the photo (which may be "manipulated" a touch) does set a standard that even a jacked Jackson may be unable to fulfill in the flesh. I guess that means I'll simply have to go and see for myself. Sigh ... the things I do for you!

This leads perfectly into our "Ask Billy" question. Cary in Houston asks, "Why don't you ever write about the hot guys on 'Spartacus'?" Gabler



Out actor Rupert Everett apparently has some daddy issues, Billy says.

*was recently nude and I nearly flipped. WOW—what a body. What a dick!"*

I have to confess that I never really got into *Spartacus* or any of those pseudo-Biblical series. You made me do some research and I have to confess that Craig Parker, who plays Glaber, is pretty damn hot. And, yes, he was nude earlier this season and sported a semi-fluffed penis that was certainly not to be missed. Just in case someone didn't get a good enough look, Craig was nice enough to take a very impressive, clear full-length nude of himself in a bathroom mirror—as so many gay men do these days (oh, have I mentioned that Craig's openly gay?). Like Craig, I'm a BIG giver, so you can find the footage and this photo on [BillyMasters.com](http://BillyMasters.com). Leave a tip after you wipe up.

When Rupert doesn't want to be anybody's daddy, it's definitely time to end yet another column. Although we ran long, I must take a moment to remind you that the latest breaking gossip (and photos) can be found on [www.BillyMasters.com](http://www.BillyMasters.com), the site that has something for everyone (especially if you love hot, famous, naked men). If you feel the burning need to share something with me, then send it along to [Billy@BillyMasters.com](mailto:Billy@BillyMasters.com) and I promise to get back to you before Cheyenne gets cast on "*Spartacus*". Until next time, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.

# Former baseball exec McClatchy comes out

BY ROSS FORMAN

Add Kevin McClatchy to the list of sports personalities who have come out of the closet—but after leaving the game.

McClatchy was the CEO of the Pittsburgh Pirates for 11 years before retiring in 2007, and in an interview with the New York Times he revealed he is gay. The McClatchy news first appeared on the Times' website Sept. 22 and in print the following day.

"I've got a birthday coming up where I'm turning [50 years] old," McClatchy told New York Times' writer Frank Bruni. "I've spent 30 years—or whatever the number is specifically—not talking about my personal life, lying about my personal life."

McClatchy told the Times that, in coming out, he hopes to help inspire a player to come out while active.

He follows baseball player Billy Bean, football player Esera Tuaolo and basketball player John Amaechi, who each came out after retiring from their sports.

"Tens of thousands of people have played either professional minor league baseball or major league baseball. Not one has come out and said that they're gay while they're playing," McClatchy told the Times. "You're not going to solve any problem until you start a dialogue. And there's no dialogue right now."

McClatchy is in a committed relationship, according to the Times.

In May, he was named the chairman of the board for The McClatchy Company, a Sacramento-based publishing group with 30 daily newspapers in 15 states under its banner. McClatchy spent almost a decade working in the newspa-

per business, including sales positions with The Newspaper Network, The Sacramento Bee and The Miami Herald, according to the company website. He is the first McClatchy family member to serve as chairman of the board since 1995.

Brian Kupersmit, the president of the predominantly gay Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association (CMSA), praised McClatchy for coming out.

"We [at CMSA] applaud Kevin McClatchy for joining the ranks of athletes and sporting executives who have decided to be open and honest about their sexual orientation," Kupersmit said in a statement. "Coming on the heels of the one-year anniversary of the end of 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell,' this is another reminder that gays and lesbians can and do serve effectively, even in seemingly conservative institutions and organizations. We hope his example empowers other closeted people from the world of sports to stop hiding and to be themselves."

McClatchy also follows the coming-out of Rick Welts, now the president and CEO of the NBA's Golden State Warriors. Welts came out May 15, 2011, also in an interview with the New York Times. He was the president and CEO of the Phoenix Suns at the time. Welts was profiled in an exclusive interview with Windy City Times earlier this year; see [www.windyctymediagroup.com/lgbt/Gay-NBA-exec-Rick-Welts-On-coming-out-resulting-support-/37078.html](http://www.windyctymediagroup.com/lgbt/Gay-NBA-exec-Rick-Welts-On-coming-out-resulting-support-/37078.html).

Cyd Zeigler, the co-founder of Outsports.com, said McClatchy's coming-out is confirmation what his popular gay sports website already knew: "Gay people are in every corner of sports."

"What makes this special is the power owners have to shape the landscape of sports," Zeigler said. "More owners, gay and straight, should be talking about this issue and publicly embracing



**Kevin McClatchy.** Photo courtesy of the McClatchy Company

gay athletes, coaches and front-office executives."

Cameron Turner, 40, of Chicago, plays five sports in CMSA, and captains the only top-tiered A-Division softball team in CMSA. He said anytime someone associated with one of the big-four male professional sports (baseball, basketball, football and hockey) comes out, "it's a step in the right direction."

## Chicago team are softball champs; squads fall in flag football

BY ROSS FORMAN

The Chicago Double Headers defeated the Chicago Shady Ladies 16-6 to win the championship in the 5th-annual Felicia Melton-Smyth Memorial Softball Tournament (C-Division), played Sept. 21-23 in Madison, Wis.

The Double Headers finished the tournament with a 6-1 record and were led by infielder Denis Lemus, outfielder and hitting sensation Chris Grashoff, and pitcher Brad Trowbridge.

"Five of six teams [in our division] could have won the championship; there really were some top-notch players," in the division, Trowbridge said. "We had to beat some really good teams to win it all, and we did. It was great."

The tournament is a benefit for the Madison AIDS Network and, with its championship, the Double Headers also received \$100 for a charity of its choosing—and the team opted for A New Direction (AND), which supports domestic violence victims in Beverly and Morgan Park. Trowbridge, an attorney who also plays and mostly coaches softball in the Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association (CMSA), is on the AND board of directors.

Two D-Division teams from Chicago—the Cell Block Purple Orphans and Kit Kat Divas—also participated.

Meanwhile, in flag-football action over the weekend, the Chicago Blaze suffered a 33-14 loss to the Philadelphia Revolution on Sunday, Sept. 23, in a semifinal game (B Division) of the Gay Bowl XII, played in Denver.

The Revolution then lost to the Michigan Panthers.

Meanwhile, in the top-tiered A-Division,

That said, Turner added, "I see this still as little more than a baby step. We still await the day when an active athlete can feel like he can come out and not have it negatively impact his career nor be a major distraction to his team. Perhaps, even if ever so slightly, McClatchy's coming-out brings us closer to that day."

Jeff Book, 30, who lives in suburban Elk Grove Village, plays tennis, softball and flag football in CMSA, and is a diehard Chicago White Sox fan. He said the McClatchy news "is a great step forward for gays in sports." He added, though, that it, "reinforces the need for tolerance since Kevin stated that he constantly heard homophobic remarks. The more players and executives who support gay rights, [that] will hopefully pave the way for a player to come out during [his] playing career."

McClatchy's coming-out came days after action was taken against a current baseball player involved in a much-publicized anti-gay situation.

Yunel Escobar, 29, who was born in Cuba, has played in the majors since 2007, and is now a member of the Toronto Blue Jays, wrote "You are a faggot" in Spanish on his eye-black stickers during a game against the Boston Red Sox on Sept. 15. In Spanish, it said, "Tu ere maricon."

The Blue Jays suspended Escobar for three games and his salary—about \$100,000—for those three games will be donated to the You Can Play project and GLAAD, according to multiple media reports.

Escobar, at a press conference and through a translator, said, "I don't have anything against homosexuals. I have friends who are gay. In reality, I'd like to ask for [forgiveness from] anyone offended by this. Honestly, I'm going to be going forward with the three-game suspension that's coming forward. The salary for those three days will be donated to You Can Play."



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### UPDATES TO KEEP YOUR ESTATE PLAN PROBLEM FREE

Some common problems that I see with estate plans are:

**Old Powers of Attorney.** Powers of attorney are wonderful documents in theory. Working with them can sometimes be a chore, though, especially when trying to convince others (like banks) to accept them on their face. An "old" power of attorney is more difficult to deal with than a fresh one because a question arises as to whether it is still good or whether it has been replaced. I suggest that you "refresh" your powers of attorney every two to three years by restating them.

**Outdated Beneficiary Designations.** Always verify who the named beneficiaries are for each asset that does not pass through a will. Individuals will often name someone other than their LGBT partners as beneficiaries on employee benefits such as life insurance or 401(k) plans. It is extremely common for clients simply to forget that a previous unmarried partner or parent is still named on an IRA or life insurance policy. For individuals who wish to leave a portion of their estates to a charity, designation of a charity as a direct beneficiary of some or all or a tax-deferred account is often preferable to making a bequest in the will that will be funded with post-tax dollars.

**Not Safekeeping Documents.** You need not always give copies of your trusts, powers of attorney, etc. to other people (agents and fiduciaries) who may need to implement them. However, you should communicate to the interested people their role, what kind of documents exist, and where they can find them if the need arises. If these people cannot reach the documents when needed, implementation will not be smooth. Many times clients do not know where their documents are. Keep copies in each person's car and suitcase when you travel.

**Power of Attorney for Health Care.** The agent and successor agent(s) under your health care power of attorney should be made aware of its existence and the location where it can be found in the event the agent needs a copy of it for purposes of implementation. The health care power of attorney is only effective if the agent is aware of it and can obtain a copy when it needs to be used. Further, it is your agent's or your responsibility to communicate the health care agency to your health care providers.

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the Chicago Freeze had to settle for seventh place after a 24-20 win over the Boston Hancocks.

The San Diego Bolts defeated the New York Warriors for the Gay Bowl championship trophy.

In the inaugural women's division at the Gay Bowl, the Chicago BruiseHers Blue had to settle for fourth-place after losing to Denver 52-0.

Denver 303 defeated Brooklyn Mavericks for the women's championship. The Mavericks eliminated the Chicago BruiseHers Black team 25-0.

## First annual Illinois MG Walk Sept. 29

The Myasthenia Gravis Foundation of America will hold its first annual MG Walk in Illinois Saturday, Sept. 29, at Riverwalk Park in Naperville.

Myasthenia gravis is an autoimmune disease characterized by fluctuating weakness of the voluntary muscle groups.

Check-in/registration is at 9 a.m.; the walk starts at 10 a.m. Participants can choose the one- or three-mile route. See [www.MGWALK.org/IllinoisWalk](http://www.MGWALK.org/IllinoisWalk) for more info.

## CRU event Sept. 30

The Chicago Rowing Union (CRU) will hold a meet-and-greet Sunday, Sept. 30, at Sidecar Bar, 6920 N. Glenwood Ave., 3-6 p.m.

According to its website, CRU is one of only three LGBT rowing organizations in the world. Members regularly practice at the Dammrich Rowing Center in Skokie.

For more info, email [Jill.Manrique@gmail.com](mailto:Jill.Manrique@gmail.com).

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Ray is a legal authority on all of his practice areas, which include probate, trusts, guardianship, estate planning, and elder law, including the litigation of those areas. He is a longtime advocate for and member of the LGBT community, and is involved in several charitable groups, community associations, and professional organizations. Ray is a member of Clark Hill PLC, a full-service law firm consisting of a diverse team of attorneys and professionals committed to our clients and our communities.

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**Thursday, October 4, 7:30 p.m.**  
Hammerschmidt Memorial Chapel; admission \$10



The Science of Sexual Orientation  
**Simon LeVay**

The neuroscientist Simon LeVay trained at Cambridge University and served on the faculty at Harvard Medical School and the Salk Institute for Biological Studies. In 1991, he reported on a difference in the brain structures of gay and straight men. He provides an update on the brain science and considers whether the science of sexuality is relevant to the societal status of sexual minorities.

The William R. Johnson Intercultural Lecture  
**Tuesday, October 9, 4:00 p.m.**  
Frick Center, Founders Lounge; admission \$10

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