



DUSTIN LANCE BLACK  
HOLDS COURT AT  
ELMHURST COLLEGE

PAGE 10

# WINDY CITY TIMES

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

MAY 14, 2014

VOL 29, NO. 33

www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com



LURIE SERIES  
CONTINUES  
WITH A LOOK AT  
FAMILIES

PAGE 6



CHICAGO SKY  
COACH POKEY  
CHATMAN  
ON THE NEW  
SEASON

PAGE 30



'GOD LOVES  
UGANDA'  
DIRECTOR TALKS  
ABOUT RISKS  
IN MAKING THE  
MOVIE

PAGE 22

# NFL makes history in drafting Sam

BY ROSS FORMAN

Michael Sam cleared a huge hurdle May 10 *en route* to playing football on Sundays.

With the 249th overall pick, the St. Louis Rams used a seventh-round slot in the 2014 NFL Draft to grab Michael Sam from the University of Missouri, the 2013 SEC Co-Defensive Player of the Year and the first openly gay player ever drafted.

History was made on ESPN—and sealed with a kiss.

Sam broke down in tears upon receiving the phone call from St. Louis head coach Jeff Fisher. Sam was consoled by his boyfriend, Vito Cammisano, and the two kissed repeatedly. (Cammisano swam competitively for the University of Missouri.)

"I had no idea they were this interested in me," Sam told reporters local reporters after the selection. "I knew I was gonna get picked somewhere, and every team that passed me, I was thinking, 'I'm gonna sack their QB.'"

Fisher—who played for the Chicago Bears (1981-1985) and coached fellow gay player Wade Davis during preseason games with the Tennessee Titans—told the NFL Network, "We were very fortunate to have the supplemental choices. You use those for players you want to give an opportunity to, that you think that you want to draft. I haven't said a whole lot to anybody over the last week or so, but after doing the studies, this is a good football player."

The Rams open the preseason schedule on Friday, Aug. 8, against the New Orleans Saints, and kickoff the regular season on Sunday, Sept. 7, against the Minnesota Vikings.

The Rams do not play Chicago during the 2014 regular season.

"Let me tell you something. If we were playing the Vikings right now, I'd probably have three sacks," Sam told reporters. "The 2013 Co-Defensive Player of the Year is ready to (expletive) show the world that he is ready to work."

Among those responding to St. Louis' selection—and the nationally televised kiss—was President Obama. However, there were also some anti-gay tweets from within the NFL that were immediately addressed.

"The President congratulates Michael Sam, the Rams and the NFL for taking an important step forward in our Nation's journey," Obama said in a White House statement. "From the playing field to the corporate boardroom, LGBT Americans prove everyday that you should be judged by what you do and not who you are."

On the other end of the spectrum, former Super Bowl champion Derrick Ward, who played in the NFL during 2004-2011, tweeted, "I'm sorry but that Michael Sam is no bueno for doing that [kiss] on national tv."



Michael Sam and boyfriend Vito Cammisano share a kiss after finding out that the St. Louis Rams drafted Sam on May 10. Photo from Cammisano's Twitter account

Turn to page 24

## How a loving lesbian couple made 'Logan Square Honey'

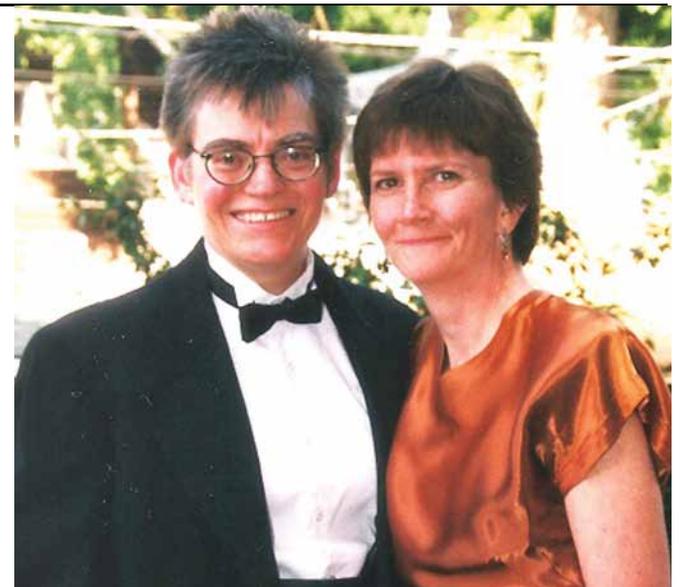
BY JONATHAN JONES

Before Logan Square became trendy and hipsters clad in skinny jeans walked down the tree-lined boulevards, Mary Morse and Joanne Bristol fell in love and made a home there with a hive of honeybees on the balcony overlooking their backyard.

Morse is now deceased. Bristol, only 59 years old, suffers from a rare, devastating neurological disease called progressive supranuclear palsy. The disease makes it difficult for Bristol to speak, let alone walk, and when describing her condition, she said with great effort that she feels locked inside herself.

This brief account unlocks the story of the life Bristol and Morse made together. It honors the love between them.

In the context of gay and lesbian history, it's useful to mention why both women moved to Chicago independent of each other in the mid 1970s. In some sense, they came here to be free. In college Bristol read the seminal book *Lesbian Women*, which exhorts all women who love other women to move to big cities. With this in mind, she secured an internship at Michael Reese Hospital



Turn to page 8 Joanne Bristol (right) and Mary Morse. Photo from Bristol

# What do you want to be when you grow up?

The answer may have changed since you were five.



Let us help you discover a career that recaptures that excitement.



JODY MICHAEL ASSOCIATES

CAREER COACHING • EXECUTIVE COACHING

773.275.5566 [www.jodymichael.com](http://www.jodymichael.com)



this week in  
**WINDY CITY TIMES**

**NEWS**

Interview with judge Mary Yu Lurie, part three: Families  
Lesbian couple's link with honey  
Obit: Paul Lutter  
LGBT issues untouched at event  
Dustin Lance Black at Elmhurst  
LGBT homeless youth summit  
Gay in the Life: Taylor  
VIEWS: Rubinstein; letter

4  
6  
8  
8  
9  
10  
11  
13  
14

**ENTERTAINMENT/EVENTS**

Scottish Play Scott  
Theater reviews  
KATM: Uganda; Big Joy  
'Uganda' director Williams  
Joan Rivers; Michael Sam  
Dish: Coccoello  
Billy Masters  
Chicago Sky preview

15  
20  
22  
22  
24  
26  
29  
30

**OUTLINES**

Classifieds  
Calendar

26  
28

Images on cover (left, from top): Photo of Dustin Lance Black by Carrie Maxwell; photo of the Caballero family by Gretchen Rachel Blickensderfer; photo of Pokey Chatman by Ross Forman; photo of Roger Ross Williams by Marc Yankus



**DOWNLOAD THIS!**

Go to [www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com) to download complete issues of Windy City Times and Nightspots. Then click on any ad and be taken directly to the advertiser's Web site!

online exclusives at  
[www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com](http://www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com)



**JUNO WHAT I MEAN?**

Windy City Times reviews the theatrical production Juno.  
*Photo by Lara Goetsch*



Legendary singer Smokey Robinson was among the luminaries present at Motown the Musical's opening night.  
*Photo by Jerry Nunn*



The "Out at CHM" series concluded with Juana Maria Rodriguez and LaMonda Horton-Stallings talking "Lesbianography."  
*Photo by Gretchen Rachel Blickensderfer*

**ACTION JACKSON**

Bent Nights reviews concerts by Wanda Jackson and The Peekaboos.

**FIVE ALIVE**

A crab-and-calamari pizza and one of the late Cory Monteith's last films are among Five Worth Finding.

**THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT**

Find out the latest about Morrissey, Teri Polo and Sir Ian McKellen.

plus  
**DAILY BREAKING NEWS**

**'GAYMES' PEOPLE PAY**



About Face Theatre's Wonka Ball—which had the theme "The Gayme Show"—took place at Macy's on State Street.  
*Photo by Jerry Nunn*

**nightspots**  
THE OFFICIAL GUIDE TO INTERNATIONAL MR. LEATHER 2014  
Find Nightspots on [facebook](https://www.facebook.com/nightspots)

**Windy City Queercast**  
queer and now  
SEATLING WITH SARAH TOCE  
Show #572  
[www.WindyCityQueercast.com](http://www.WindyCityQueercast.com)

**IGNITING OUR 30TH YEAR OF SERVICE**

AIDS FOUNDATION OF CHICAGO



**IGNITE:**

LIGHT OUR FIGHT. IGNITE OUR FUTURE.

**COCKTAIL PARTY & LIVE SAVE-THE-DATE EVENT**

OPEN BAR

DELECTABLE WORLD FARE

DANCING

Guests will also delight in live glass artistry and roof-top views of the sunset over the skyline.

FRIDAY, MAY 16 | 6 – 9PM

IGNITE GLASS STUDIOS  
401 North Armour Street | Chicago, Illinois 60642

COCKTAIL OR BUSINESS ATTIRE

Tickets \$185

Tickets & details on our Luxury Vacation Raffle available at [AIDSChicago.org/ignite](http://AIDSChicago.org/ignite)

GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY

BELLITHO, Inc. CHICAGO GILEAD KEHOE DESIGNS macy's

McDonald's ORBITZ Paterno Group PEPSICO Walgreens

Aetna Health Systems | American Airlines | Food for Thought Catering | Public Communications Inc.

BAR SPONSORS Lady Gregory's MillerCoors Stolichnino Wild Bird Winebow

MEDIA PARTNERS

A&U Magazine | BestGayChicago.com | BOI Magazine | ChicagoPride.com  
GRAB Magazine | Windy City Media Group



# Judge Mary Yu helms a history of firsts in Washington's court

BY SARAH TOCE

Washington state Gov. Jay Inslee announced his selection for the Washington state Supreme Court seat being vacated by Justice Jim Johnson on April 30. While there are almost two dozen justices being considered, one stands head-and-shoulders above the rest: Judge Mary Yu, a name as unforgettable as her actions throughout the marriage-equality movement.

A trial judge on the King County Superior Court for 14 years, Yu consistently cultivates and retains her connection to the community she serves. She received the 2014 Washington State Association for Justice "Judge of the Year" award on May 2 in Seattle.

"The state Supreme Court is the highest court in our state. There is no more important judicial appointment that the Governor makes than this," said Judge Anne Levinson (ret.). "The Court rules on a wide range of critically important issues that affect every person, business and government jurisdiction across the state. The cases that come before the State Supreme Court could involve a state voter initiative, whether the State is meeting its paramount duty to fund public education, whether criminal conviction should be upheld or whether a law is discriminatory. For state issues, they are the final decision-makers on whether a law is constitutional. This the court that in 2006 decided 5-4 against marriage equality."

So, who is Yu, and what makes her the right selection for the Washington State Supreme Court?

"Judge Yu not only has a stellar record as a trial court judge, but has also devoted her time off the bench to improving access to justice for all communities and mentoring the next generation of attorneys," Levinson added. "When we were poised to have same-sex weddings begin in our state, she was the first judge I called and without hesitation she volunteered to start officiating at midnight that Sunday and went until 7 a.m. that morning so that couples would not have to wait a day longer to get married."

"Some of the first couples to get married in the months that followed were couples for whom she had presided over their adoptions in past years. It meant everything to them that she would officiate."

**Windy City Times: How do you feel right now?**

Judge Mary Yu: First of all, I'm excited. But, you know, the process is really like a marathon, in the sense that you need to be interviewed by all the bar associations and various committees and all the people who want to weigh in and give the governor some input on one's competency. So I have to admit—at this point I'm done with all the bar associations, I'm really pleased that I've gotten the highest ratings from all of the minority bars, and those are the bars that are important to me.

**WCT: Professionally, what excites you about the possibility of doing this—filling that seat?**

MY: What really excites me and the reason why I'm doing this is I really think having 14 years in the trial court will really make a contribution—a positive contribution to the court in some way. When you really stop and think about it, they make decisions that really affect individual lives. I mean you can look at the Andersen decision that Franklin decided that we didn't have the right to marry.

They also make decisions on parenting issues all the time—and for our community, the way we construct our families, it's really important to have those protections under the law. So at the end of the day, I think bringing my expe-



Judge Mary Yu. Photo by Steph Brusig

rience as a trial court judge and bringing my experience in terms of my background and who I am, I hope is going to enrich the discussion.

**WCT: Regarding families, you've presided over many adoptions, same-sex weddings and such. Is that a fun thing for you to do? Is it something you look forward to within your position?**

MY: It is. It's a fun thing to do in the sense that we're celebrating families. But it's a two-edged sword in the sense that we still now have the right to marry, and yet they're still having to come in and do an extra little step. And it's not because Washington requires it—it's because there's no uniformity across the country, so if they go to Disneyland they want to make sure that their rights are going to be protected as two equal parents when they travel outside the state.

So at one level you feel bad that people have to go through the extra process. On the other hand, it's a great opportunity to celebrate our families and lives and relationships and to affirm people in the choices that they've made. So it's great. I love it. I love it.

**WCT: Washington state marriage equality. You were there at 12:01 a.m. and spent seven hours on your own dime to facilitate same-sex marriages the moment it became legal to wed. What was that night like for you?**

MY: You know, it's so funny, because the excitement started to build as we knew when it was going to be actually legal to be able to do this. And then we got the idea and we talked with Anne [Levinson] when she suggested that maybe we wanted to go ahead and start to marry people right away. And I have to admit, I thought, "Why should people have to wait?" And my bailiff at the time just said the same thing, "You know what, let's do it. Let's do it at 12:01 a.m. Whoever wants to come, we'll get rolling. We'll do it."

During the day I remember thinking, "Well, I should probably take a nap." But my bailiff and others, including Anne, kept saying the media's calling and the media's calling and all of a sudden we're thinking, "This is a huge event."

**WCT: It was a huge story around the world that day.**

MY: We had so many media requests to be present, and it ended up being an interna-

tional story in the sense that it was the top Google news story, it was in the Philippines, in Ireland, in Italy, Australia. And then I really began to recognize the significance of it that night, when we stood there with, frankly, two women, and I had done the adoption about two or three months ago, so they had the baby. And it just happened to be them—they were two teachers from Mt. Vernon, small little town, they were the ones at 12:01 a.m. And as soon as I pronounced them married, all these cameras started to click and we realized that there were all these people all around us. I mean, it was just remarkable.

We made ourselves available every half hour, so we went then from 12 to seven in the morning. And I think it was the most remarkable, lovely, wonderful, fun, happy evening I've ever had.

**WCT: And you did that voluntarily. You weren't paid for it.**

MY: Right. It was so joyous. As we said we were going to be [available], everybody else started to get excited about it. So we had a lot of staff volunteer because people wanted to welcome people.

**WCT: Let's go back to your upbringing in Chicago.**

MY: Sure, sure. I grew up on the South Side of Chicago in a little neighborhood called Bridgeport. I grew up there—gee, I went to grammar school, high school, and then I went to college in a little place right outside of Chicago called—at the time it was called Rosary, it's now Dominican University.

And, I loved it. I worked for the archbishop there for 10 years, running the peace and justice office for the church. And that was really just a social policy outreach office for the Catholic Church. And at that time, it was the heyday of social justice and progressive thinking within the Church...things are a little different now.

**WCT: What year was that?**

MY: That would've been in 1975 ... actually 1979-89 was the time that I was working in the office, but that whole era is there era of when I was involved.



Conchita Wurst. Facebook photo

## Bearded drag queen wins Eurovision contest

One of the many eye-catching acts that this year's Eurovision Song Contest (this time in Copenhagen, Denmark) was winner Conchita Wurst—the bearded drag-queen alter ego of 25-year-old Austrian Thomas Neuwirth, according to Yahoo! News.

Performing in a skintight dress with long hair and a full beard, Wurst scored 290 points to become Austria's first Eurovision winner since 1966, CNN noted.

"For me, my dream came true," Wurst told reporters after the contest. "But for society it showed me that people want to move on, to look to the future. We said something, we made a statement."

Wurst got audiences' attention by challenging stereotypes of masculine and feminine beauty with the song "Rise like a Phoenix." Russian legislator Vitaly Milonov accused the Austrian performer of "blatant propaganda of

I came from a family of undocumented people. My father was here from China, my mother from Mexico, and they really were very simple, working people and had very little. When I look at how far we have come as people of color, when I look at how far we have come, frankly, as lesbians—even in terms of being able to say that "L" word, right? There's an amount of pride now in who we are and in our community that wasn't there 25 years ago.

I stop and I think and I still have to pinch myself that Referendum 74 [marriage equality in Washington State] passed. I almost couldn't believe that the Supreme Court made the right decision [in Windsor] and that one by one every state is really coming to the same point again of really recognizing you oughta be able to marry the person that you love.

**WCT: What do you do for fun when you're not changing people's lives?**

MY: I'm very boring. I think I'm boring in some ways. I mean, I love to read, I love good food...I'm a runner, I like to run. I like dancing, I suppose. But, I have to admit, work has been almost everything—I do a lot of volunteer work. I serve on the board of Fair Start. I just finished a term—that's a really important organization for me. I sit on mock trials. I try to stay as involved as I can in terms of being engaged with the local community. And that's really how I spend my time when I'm off the bench.

**WCT: How do you de-stress? Do you ever have to shake off the day somehow?**

MY: You know, running does it. Having a good meal with good friends. Sitting home, having a nice glass of wine. I mean, that's a nice way to decompress after a tough day.

**WCT: Are you pinching yourself?**

MY: I'm so lucky to be in this position. There's no guarantee the governor's going to make this choice at all. He really has, I think, a pool of really, very good people. But I sure would love—because I know I'm qualified, I would sure love to be the first out lesbian up there on that court. First woman of color. First Asian in this area...

**WCT: A lot of firsts.**

homosexuality and spiritual decay."

Although Wurst identifies strictly as a drag queen, there had previously been trans performers in the contest, including Israel's 1998 winner Dana International, who had male-to-female gender-reassignment surgery several years before competing.

## Gay couples line up in Arkansas

An Arkansas clerk has issued the state's first gay marriage license, breaking a barrier that voters put in place with a constitutional amendment a decade ago, according to USA Today.

Carroll County Deputy Clerk Jane Osborn issued a license May 10 to Kristin Seaton and Jennifer Rambo of Fort Smith.

Pulaski County Circuit Judge Chris Piazza ruled May 9 that Arkansas' 2004 voter-approved amendment to the state constitution violates the rights of gay couples, the Associated Press noted. He did not put his ruling on hold, as some judges in other states have done.

Attorney General Dustin McDaniel said he would appeal the ruling and asked it be suspended during that process.

## Asian-American items sought

The Queer Asian-American Archive project based at the University of Illinois at Chicago is seeking materials for a new collection aimed at preserving local Asian American LGBTQ history.

To donate materials, call 312-413-7696, or email fugikawa@uic.edu or lthomson@uic.edu.



# TAKE A RIDE

Experience PrideFest in Denver, June 21–22. Connect with friends new and old, enjoy live music and the parade. Rent a B-cycle or pedicab and explore The Mile High City's many unique neighborhoods featuring chef-owned restaurants, boutique shopping, and outdoor adventures. And don't miss this summer's world-class exhibitions like *Chihuly* at Denver Botanic Gardens and *Maya: Hidden Worlds Revealed* at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. Plan your Pride getaway today at [VISITDENVER.COM/LGBT](http://VISITDENVER.COM/LGBT)



# SHOW YOUR PRIDE



**PRIDE**  
DENVER  
fest  
June 21 & 22, 2014

# Inside Lurie's Gender & Sex Development Program

BY GRETCHEN RACHEL BLICKENSERFER

## Part three: The families

Now in its second year of full-time operation, Lurie Children's Hospital's Gender & Sex Development Program currently serves 80 transgender, gender questioning, gender queer and disorders of sex development (DSD) children and their families.

Dr. Rob Garofalo, MD, MPG, is the co-director and founder of the program that is in an ongoing evolution and is on the cutting edge of affirmative care for gender non-conforming and DSD children in the Midwest along with research programs that will eventually help Garofalo and his team solve some of the enigmas that surround a relatively unexplored area of pediatric medicine—one which has the parents who discover and enter their children into the program either through referrals or their own research seeking answers to a great many questions.

"A number of families with younger children are really just coming to establish a connection with a medical home," Garofalo said. "So that they can get some answers and some support and access our mental health services. There aren't many medical interventions [administration of puberty blockers and/or cross sex hormones] that are done with a five or six year-old. That changes when you have kids that are beginning to go through puberty and that's when these families face some challenging decisions about what they are going to do."

Three families volunteered to talk candidly with Windy City Times about their lives with a gender non-conforming child, their search for answers and their experience with the Gender & Sex Development Program. Although there are a number of trans male kids in the program, the families who agreed to be interviewed have children who are either already presenting as female or leaning towards female while leaving the question of their gender identity open.

### Veronica, George and Nicole Caballero

Veronica and George Caballero are from Aurora, Illinois. Veronica is a nail technician and George is a forklift operator. They have a teenage boy and three daughters. Nicole is their 14-year-old. She is a participant in the Gender Development clinic. Flanked by her parents and younger sister, Nicole talked candidly about her own journey of discovery. Nicole presented herself as intelligent, remarkably candid and quite pragmatic about her experiences. Despite currently being in the midst of the often dehumanizing environment that is an American middle school, an inner peace seemed to radiate from the young girl—as if she had found a point in life, where nothing could possibly phase her.

Nicole said she had always thought that she might be transgender. "I felt that I could relate to other transgender people," she said with a smile. "So I opened up to my family about what the process was and had deep conversations with them about what I felt since I was born."

A great many of Nicole's early memories centered around envy of a girl's way of life. "My older sister was my best friend when we were younger," she said. "We used to play together all the time and imitate characters we saw on TV, like Hannah Montana or Zoey 101. Because I envied a girl's life, I always felt like I could be myself when I played. So that's about when I knew that I would much rather have been a girl and sometimes I prayed I would wake up in a girl's body."

When she was older, Nicole discovered the term transgender for the first time. She had watched a documentary in May 2013 called "I AM JAZZ: A family in transition"—that follows

the life of an 11-year-old transgender girl and her family. "I was really inspired by it because she was so young," Nicole remembered. "Everything was just so accepted by her family and they were making plans for her. And here I was growing up as a male. So I was like, 'before I get any older, I need to tell my parents about this.'"

Veronica recalled that—at first—Nicole came out to her as gay. "I was like 'you're too young, how do you know? Let's talk about this,'" Veronica said. "So we went to counseling. But then I found some pictures on her iPad where she was wearing my extensions and girl's clothes. But I respected that. Then—one day—she sends me a video and she says 'Mom, you have to see this because this is exactly how I feel.' It was the video of Jazz."

George said he already had a fairly good idea about Nicole before she told him. "I was comfortable with it because I have family members that are LGBT," he said. "So I was OK with it. I loved her more and I had so much more respect for her because she came out at such a young age. I just thought it was pretty brave."

Meanwhile, Nicole was already online and had researched Garofalo and his team for her-

self. "I was really inspired by it because she was so young," Nicole remembered. "Everything was just so accepted by her family and they were making plans for her. And here I was growing up as a male. So I was like, 'before I get any older, I need to tell my parents about this.'"

George described the conversation between himself, Veronica and Nicole when they returned from their first visit as "intense."

The family has since been on 20 or so appointments. "I feel like they have helped me with my decisions," Nicole said. "Usually when you make a decision, you think about what's going to happen and how it's going to benefit you. I mean, I already knew the basics but the doctors are so detailed with everything, it helped me with my own education. Now I make smarter and, I guess, more reasonable decisions. Like with Estrogen, I knew what it did but I didn't know how it was going to feel to be on it."

Nicole came out during her second year of junior high. "I lost respect from all of the guys," she said. "I could sense like, deep down in their souls, they would accept my sexuality but they were scared. I mean it's junior high

fer Leininger to visit Nicole's school. "There's still some boys who are afraid to talk to her," Veronica said. "I don't think they understand what transgender is. I think Nicole's the only young transgender girl in this town so I would love for Jennifer to come and educate them."

Nicole said she's thought a little about dating, but that her ideas of a teenage relationship have evolved over the years. "I've seen a lot of my friends dating and stuff," she said. "and sometimes I feel lonely, but—when I started this process—I was like, 'hey' it's my time now. I think I deserve somebody! I do believe that miracles can happen and if I do happen to meet somebody it will be a good thing."

Years from now, Nicole said she will be reaching for the stars. Now that she is able to be herself, she feels like she can accomplish anything. "I want to be on TV," she said. "I feel like, if I was famous there will be a fan base who will look up to me. I would love the feeling of setting an example for them."

For the moment, she is setting her sights on arts magnet schools in Chicago.

### Christie, Rob and Elexa

Over three hours away in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Christie and Rob have a 6-year-old daughter named Elexa. They adopted her when she was two weeks old. Christie talked to Windy City Times by phone. She said that she and her husband first noticed something different about Elexa when she was between 16 and 18 months old. "We were paying attention to



The Caballero family. Photo by Gretchen Rachel Blickensderfer

self. "She kept sending me links," Veronica said. "She knew exactly what she wanted."

The onset of puberty had already started to affect Nicole when she began medical intervention with the Gender Development Clinic. "It made me insecure about things, because my voice had changed and that's key to communication," Nicole said. "I was thankful that I could get around and be identified as a female but—at the time—I felt like I wasn't going to sound like a female. I wanted to be singer when I was younger so when puberty hit my voice, I thought it wasn't going to happen for me anymore."

Nicole's first visit to the Gender Development Clinic was with her mother, since George had to work that day. "It was a little overwhelming at first," Veronica laughed. "We met Dr. Garofalo and the whole team and they were throwing all these words out that I really didn't know but Nicole knew because of all the research she'd done. I remember they mentioned Spironolactone and I was like 'Spy-what?' and Nicole just said, 'It's a testosterone blocker, mom.'"

Veronica said that the team did exactly what she had hoped for. "My intentions were for Ni-

and people aren't really that mature. So when one of them talks to me, I think he feels like everyone's going to think he's gay because he talked to me."

On the other hand, Nicole said the girls in the school have been extremely respectful. It was those friends who helped get her through the seventh grade. Teachers and staff have similarly been supportive. "They've shown a lot of respect for me," Nicole said. "Like, a lot of teachers warned me about boys who were saying something about me. They were really protective. The principal even went to talk to each of the classes."

"On the very last day of seventh grade there was a talent show," Veronica recalled. "Nicole sang and went all out with the whole female look. She turned so many heads and everybody got up and cheered for her. She took it upon herself to talk to the principal and then the principal calls me and said 'we're going to give Nicole her own bathroom and you have more allies than you think.' They really watch out for her."

That said, Veronica would still like Gender & Sex Development Program Director Jenni-

choices she was making," Christie said. "Loving pink, loving purple. Quickly that went into all things sparkly and dress up clothes. Things like that. We just allowed her to be herself."

In summer 2013, Elexa started to articulate to Christie and Rob that she wanted to marry a man. "She wanted to be the bride. She wanted to be a girl," Christie said. "So it was really just allowing her to explore and that usually meant wearing skirts and playing with girls more than boys."

The family connected with Lurie through a combination of their own research and their local therapist. "We have a great therapist here who has been guiding us along," Christie said, "But she's not specialized in gender issues so we decided that we really needed to talk to some experts in that field. So I connected with Jennifer at Lurie and we made our first appointment. We traveled through the polar vortex to make it. We were pretty determined."

The couple began to officially transition Elexa following the two hour meeting with a pediatrician and a psychologist in mid-January of this year. "They let us know that we were on the right path," Christie said. "I mean it was all about how Elexa's behavior was and letting her

lead us. It was pretty liberating I'd say."

She added that the greatest asset the program has been able to provide the family has been support even from afar. "Our first appointment had originally been scheduled for later in 2014, but by December last year, Elexa was coming home from school in a rage," Christie said. "We came to find out that she was physically getting bullied. She loves school but there were some kids who were just not understanding of her. So we realized we had to do something fast. The people at Lurie were really accommodating with us. Jennifer offered to come in and do some education with the school."

Both Christie and Rob were pleasantly surprised at the reaction of the local community. "My husband and I were both raised in traditional conservative families," Christie said. "Our Christian faith is very important to us. The town is pretty progressive and I surround myself with open-minded people. But everyone we have encountered just knew Elexa as always loving girl things."

Christie and Rob eventually moved Elexa to a private school where she is thriving after only a few weeks.

#### Donna, David and Ryan

Donna and her husband David live in the suburb of Lisle, Illinois. Donna asked Windy City Times to identify her family with aliases. When it concerns their seven-year-old child Ryan—the couple try to avoid specific pronouns.

Ryan was a natal male. Donna and her husband noticed something was unique about Ryan long before he/she did. "As young as two or three, in any role play that Ryan would do with his/her brother, at first he/she was always the bad guy and then Ryan was always a girl," Donna recalled. "Even the toys that are traditionally associated with girls or boys—which is ridiculous by the way—sort of clued us in. I have a bunch of old Barbie dolls from when I was a girl that we kept in the closet in case our nieces would come over. As soon as those came out, Ryan was all over them and I couldn't put them away. Our older son never cared to play with anything like that."

Donna and David originally thought that Ryan was just confused. "We didn't understand anything about what it means to be transgender," Donna said, "Not having anyone in our family who was even homosexual, I always assumed that—if you were a transgender person—you just liked to dress up, not that it was a core identity."

By the time Ryan was five, he wanted to be Daphne from Scooby Doo for Halloween. "We thought, 'you can't be Daphne, you're going to get made fun of,'" Donna said. "Looking back, I feel terrible for that because we've learned so much since then, but poor Ryan had to be Fred that year."

As Ryan got older, her/his feelings became more pronounced and Donna and David hit the books. As market researchers, they were information seekers by nature of their profession. "I realized that there are children who are transgender," Donna said, "And I thought maybe Ryan was a girl, so I asked her/him one day if he wanted to be a girl or if he was a girl. She/he said 'I am a girl!' I asked Ryan if he ever felt like a boy and she/he told me 'I didn't feel like I was anything.'"

In summer 2013, David read an article about the Gender & Sex Development Program. "We were thrilled to have something like that in our area," Donna said. "So we immediately called and made an appointment."

An initial consultation demonstrated to Donna and David that medically there was nothing to be done for a child as young as Ryan. "They said that there's really no test but that it's their goal some day to find a way to better guide parents as to what to do when your child presents with this," Donna said. "So—in one way—it was great to have them as a resource and in another, we still left feeling like nobody could tell us what to do and that we would have to figure this out for ourselves."

The program staff advised Donna and David

to connect with families going through the same situation. "We joined a group in Arlington Heights called Pinwheels," Donna said. The group is designed for non-conforming children and their parents and describes itself as "a network of families embracing their children's gender non-conformity in a kind and loving manner." The meetings take place in a local church. There is a group of parents who talk together along with babysitters who watch the kids while they play.

"It's been nice because it is hard for us to get from here to Lurie in a timely fashion, Donna said. "To hear about other people's experiences has been our best support. It's great because we can tell Ryan 'there are other kids like you out there.' My husband and I both feel like it is important for Ryan to know that he/she is not alone and not the only one."

Ryan is in first grade at a public school. Donna said that he/she is the first gender non-conforming child in the district whose parents have come forward to address the school as to what the family is dealing with. "They've been very open and understanding," Donna said. "And they're learning right along with us. Jennifer came in and did a gender training that they really appreciated. They've worked hard to make sure all the kids are accepting of ev-

erybody. Ryan uses the nurse's bathroom. But just recently, she/he said that she/he wanted to use the girl's bathroom so I had to explain that it was a much longer conversation with the school and maybe we can figure it out for next year."

The Catholic church that the family attends has been similarly supportive. "It really hasn't been an issue," Donna said. "But we are wrestling with it now. The church isn't changing as quickly as we would like even with the new Pope, but it's hard to try and decide if we want to be trailblazers or if we want to raise our kids in a place where they will always be accepted and comfortable."

Donna said that meeting with other parents at Pinwheels has been extremely beneficial while they wrestle with each of the decisions that present themselves as Ryan grows up. "There are parents whose kids are older and they've had more experience," Donna said. "So it's been helpful to know that there are other people out there who get it and can support you. We can now do that for other people too. There's a couple of newer families who are where we were a year and a half ago and—for us to feel like we can help them—is just as good."

## Dignity/Chicago to honor Salvo, Legacy on May 18

Dignity/Chicago, the inclusive faith and advocacy organization for LGBT Catholics and their allies, will host a special anniversary Mass on Sunday, May 18, to celebrate 42 years of ministry.

Dignity has also named an annual award in memory of James Bussen, a former DignityUSA president and Chicago LGBT-rights advocate who passed away last June. The Mass and award presentation will be held at 5 p.m. at Broadway United Methodist Church, 3338 N. Broadway.

Dignity spokesperson Chris Pett said in a statement that "the first recipient of this award will be Victor Salvo and The Legacy Project." The project is responsible for The Legacy Walk, a rotating outdoor LGBT history exhibit in the Boystown neighborhood.

See <http://www.dignity-chicago.org>.



**FUELING THE Frontlines**  
A Global Campaign for LGBTQI Rights



**2014 FUELING THE FRONTLINE AWARDS**  
May 16, 2014  
Mayne Stage | 1328 W. Morse Avenue | Chicago, IL  
6:30 PM Sponsor Reception - 7:15 PM All Ticket Holder Reception

**Celebrating the life and legacy of  
Vernita Gray  
and honoring  
Tracy Baim and Julio Rodriguez  
for a lifetime of activism**

**With special musical guest Toshi Reagon**

**Sponsorship opportunities and tickets available at  
<http://bit.ly/FF2014Chicago>**

**Special thanks to Visionary Sponsors Fred Eychaner,  
Michael A. Leppen, and Dr. Nan Schaffer and Karen Dixon**

**WINDY CITY  
MEDIA  
GROUP**

## HONEY from cover

because, in her words, Chicago seemed like a big enough place. Her partner, Morse, moved to Logan Square in her mid-20s to be a community organizer and stayed, living on the same street for 30 years and settling down in a Victorian worker's cottage that she restored herself. Before arriving in Chicago, Morse was a bit of a wanderer, from working on a Navajo reservation to being among the first U.S. residents to visit the People's Republic of China when it reopened to the world. In other words, after all of her travels, this place became Morse's home.

This sense of home only deepened when Morse met Bristol through a gay and lesbian country dance troop called Steppin' Out. Although they each had had other girlfriends in the past, it became clear soon after their first date for Valentine's Day 1993, that Morse and Bristol would become life partners. On that first date, Bristol offered to go to Morse's house in Logan Square to give her a massage. Friends of the couple, Elizabeth Monk and Jayne Doyle, recounted, "Morse reported that Bristol left an overnight bag on the porch in case she needed it, which she did!"

Bristol laughed when friends characterize the relationship as a massage that lasted for years. Within weeks of the Valentine's Day massage, Bristol and her Siberian husky moved into Morse's worker's cottage. Bristol recalled that her relationship with Morse fit like a slipper after standing in heels for too long.

And she remembered the butterflies in her stomach when they started their life together—and the assurance she felt in Morse's arms. It was the kind of relationship where she pinched herself to make sure the whole thing was happening. She loved Morse's no-nonsense and easygoing attitude, how she didn't give a damn what others thought. In return, Morse doted on Bristol, who seemed to shine in Morse's presence. A good friend, Kathy Munzer, told *Windy City Times*, "Their love for each other was palpable."

One might say that Bristol and Morse were complements. Both came from rural towns where neither quite fit in. Both were reared in staunchly Methodist families and shared a love for traditional Protestant hymns like "Hymn of Promise" and "It Is Well with My Soul." As feminists, they exhibited the tendency to be strong-willed, but each in a different way. With an activist streak, Morse had a love for politics, and her sister, Penny, recalled that she was "passionate." With Bristol's sense of determination, even in her present illness, her brother, Harry, described her as "tenacious." Being complements, they were also different. On a purely visible level, Morse's short, spiky hair and bottle-cap glasses acted as a kind of foil to Bristol's bright brown eyes, sweet smile and ladylike prettiness. And whereas Morse was energetic and funny and loved to play the accordion at parties, Bristol listens in a way that is quietly beautiful.

As dance partners, Morse was usually the lead, Bristol the follower. They became expert



Mary Morse. Photo from Joanne Bristol

ballroom dancers and liked to dress in fancy clothes. Morse often wore men's vintage outfits, sometimes a tux or silk smoking jacket. Bristol dressed in long, flowing skirts and gowns. Morse's sister, Penny, remembers that at a family wedding, the disc jockey appeared uncomfortable with two women together on the dance floor. He kept playing the music faster and faster. But Bristol and Morse stepped in time, each smiling into the other's eyes, and danced as fast as they could until the music was done.

Regarding honey, Morse was the original beekeeper in the couple. Bees fascinated her, and she loved their hard-working, communal attributes. As a joke, she sometimes opened the door to company in her white beekeeper's suit. Around the time she met Bristol, she tried her hand at urban beekeeping with a movable frame hive in a white wooden box on the back porch. Initially, she kept her beekeeping under wraps for fear that people in the neighborhood would object to the practice. But as the years passed, neighbors commented on how abundantly the flowering trees blossomed. And the couple's backyard became covered in azaleas, peonies, lilacs, daffodils, daisies, white roses, purple phlox and trumpet vine climbing up the siding of the house. When honey harvest time came in August, Morse extracted the golden stuff into glass jars and slapped on a label reading "Homemade Logan Square Honey."

On the art of beekeeping, Bristol went along for the ride, both figuratively and literally. One weekend during the hot summer, Morse and

Bristol were transporting a hive in the trunk of their car from the Chicago suburbs when the bees got loose. One landed on Bristol's face, then Morse's. Soon enough, the whole swarm was covering the windows. The couple stopped at the home of their friends to borrow sheets to cover their faces and drove home. According to Bristol, no one was ever stung. She said, "If you are gentle, bees are gentle."

To friends, particularly those in the gay and lesbian community, Morse and Bristol were known for fantastic parties, and for opening their home to those who were not celebrating the Holidays with family. They decorated extensively for Christmas—always with a big, brightly lit tree standing in the bay windows of the front room—and asked partygoers to bring funny, unwanted gifts to exchange. Together, Morse and Bristol, like so many same-sex couples, redefined traditional notions of family.

Then five years into the couple's relationship, Morse was diagnosed with Stage IV colon cancer, which has a five-year survival rate of 6 percent. She went through several rounds of chemotherapy and sought alternative remedies. By all accounts, she had a good outlook toward the illness. The cancer went into remission but kept resurfacing, usually in the winter when snowflakes started falling. Bristol recalled how she cringed when she felt the cold weather coming.

During this time, Morse heard that a church in the neighborhood called Grace United Methodist was getting a reconciling, LGBTQ-friendly pastor. She started to attend and invited the pastor, Carlos, to her house where they had long conversations, and she asked pointed questions, like how to reconcile mainstream Christianity's masculine God with feminism. During their conversations, Bristol busied herself in the kitchen, skeptical of the politics of the church she was reared in. Further, all of these conversations on life and death were too difficult. So, Morse told the pastor to speak louder, proclaiming from the front room, "I know that she is listening."

Bristol just wasn't ready to say goodbye. And neither was Morse, who kept going. Even when the latter was unable to work, she would stop by the church with her tools to fix the stained glass in the door of the sanctuary or refinish the wood of the fellowship hall. And the cancer did not diminish Morse's sense of humor. Jim Nerison and Doug Mann, friends of the couple, remembered one Sunday when Morse went up

to the altar to take communion; she returned with a big handful of bread, declaring, "Well, here's my breakfast."

Every August, Morse continued to harvest honey. And the couple went birding and camping, taking friends on Bristol's birthday in January to a cabin in Wisconsin. Friends said that even when Morse was ill, she led everyone on a hike through the snow and ice. While others slipped, she remained sure-footed. Friend Jean Maloney recalled that all of Morse's doctors were amazed at how long she lived.

Eventually, though, Morse could not hold on and passed away in May 2006. Before she left, she and Bristol went to the Methodist church to have a ceremony. They sat on the altar and the pastor covered them in a blanket—something with a vaguely Native American print. It was on the surface pitched as a ritual of healing but all present knew that the deeper purpose was to declare that Morse and Bristol were married, despite ecclesiastical doctrine or the multifarious prohibitions on such marriages promulgated by the state and federal governments. Morse also asked the pastor to watch over Bristol after she was gone. Then lore has it that Morse, on the day she passed, got up from where she laid and walked through the front door of the house into the spring morning.

As Morse requested, the pastor, Carlos, watched over Bristol. When Bristol began falling four years ago with no reasonable explanation, the pastor helped her to stand back up. When she was diagnosed in the fall of 2010 with progressive supranuclear palsy and afterward when her mobility decreased to the point that she now has to be carried, the pastor answered Morse's call to be there.

Bristol said she feels Morse all the time—more and more every day. She recalled a story from the first weeks after Morse was gone, when she and friends were sitting on the front porch of the worker's cottage in the neighborhood where Morse lived for 30 years. The wind blew through the leaves of the catalpa trees across the street and someone, although no one remembered who, said it was Morse dancing.

There is no doubt in Bristol's mind that they will see each other again. She said the first thing they will do is dance together. In the meantime, the little bluets—wildflowers that Morse planted in the front yard—are coming up after what seemed like an endless winter. And the bees return.

## Attorney/activist Paul Lutter dies

BY MATT SIMONETTE

Attorney and activist Paul Lutter, 68, passed away May 4 following complications from surgery.

Lutter had been an attorney with the firm Bryan Cave LLC since 2004. Prior to working at Bryan Cave, Lutter was a partner with the law firm Ross and Hardies from 1971-2003.

Lutter served on the boards of many Chicago area non-profits, among them ACLU Illinois, Howard Brown Health Center, Dance for Life, Design Industries Foundation Fighting AIDS in Chicago, and Roger Baldwin Foundation. He was also on the professional advisory committee of the Chicago Community Trust.

Colleen K. Connell, executive director of ACLU Illinois, who began her tenure while Lutter was serving on ACLU Illinois' board of directors, said he was "a great civil libertarian who gave to many charities—he came on-board here while we were greatly enlarging the scope of our advocacy of LGBT rights."

She added that Lutter was "prescient in his realization that legal advocacy also included winning over people's hearts and minds."

In a May 12 statement, Lutter's colleagues at Bryan Cave spoke of his friendship and camaraderie.

"Paul's clients ranged from high net worth



Paul Lutter.

individuals and CEOs to those of more modest means. It didn't matter to him; he treated everyone the same," said Monica Carroll, a longtime colleague and friend who worked with Paul at both Bryan Cave and Ross & Hardies. "Working with individuals, rather than corporations as many of us do, takes a special type of person. Paul had deep loyalty to his clients and they loved him for his candor, his wit and his expertise."

"Paul was a beloved man," added Scott Hodes, a longtime colleague and current senior counsel at Bryan Cave. "He was very smart, incredibly kind and one of the most generous people I've ever met. I will miss our talks about art, business and life."

Details for a memorial service will be announced at a later date. Per Lutter's wishes, donations can be made to Paws Chicago (<http://www.pawschicago.org>) or The Anti-Cruelty Society (<http://www.anticruelty.org>).

## Ehrlich Dental

General & Cosmetic Dentistry

"I have never felt more at ease in a dentist's office."

- Licensed Sedation Dentistry
- Check Out Our Reviews Online

3118 N. Sheffield Ave.  
Chicago, IL  
(773) 935-0300

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

*Serving Lakeview & Beyond!*



Joshua H. Ehrlich, DMD

# Anti-gay laws not mentioned at event with Brunei official

BY GRETCHEN RACHEL BLICKENSDEFER

The Chicago Council on Global Affairs hosted a luncheon at the Fairmont Chicago May 8 during which ambassadors for some of the countries that are part of the Association of Southeast Nations (ASEAN) spoke on the wealth of business and trade opportunities between the United States and an organization of nations that possess—as moderator and Underwriters Laboratories Vice President for Global Government Affairs Ann Weeks noted—a combined GDP of \$2.2 trillion, accounting for 7 percent of global trade and making it the largest destination for U.S. investment. One of the ASEAN panelists was the ambassador of Brunei to the United States, Dato Yusoff Abd Hamid.

“Many of you don’t know where Brunei is,” Yusoff joked. “Brunei is a small country; we don’t have a lot of trade. We only sell oil and gas and yet we are a member of the TPP [Trans Pacific Partnership]. We are looking at free trade and free movement of capital but the only way to do it is to have to have rules and regulations which are accepted by everybody. That is why we sit down and negotiate what can be accepted and what is not accepted and we hope that—by having this agreement—trade will increase.”

However, what is unacceptable to the United Nations; celebrities like Jay Leno and Ellen DeGeneres; business leaders like Virgin Group founder Richard Branson; and organizations ranging from ICM to the Feminist Majority

Foundation is the country’s enactment last month of sharia law that would punish same-sex acts with the death penalty. By 2015, LG-BTQ people in the tiny East Asian country could suffer death by stoning if caught engaging in those acts.

In a May 7 press release, Equality Illinois CEO Bernard Cherkasov asked participants at the luncheon to challenge the ambassador on his country’s anti-gay laws.

“This is a conference about bringing more business to Brunei and other participating countries,” Cherkasov told Windy City Times. “I think to not ask about the danger to those employees who have been brought to Brunei and will be subjected to the death penalty just because they identify as LGBT is a real travesty. This is a country that’s moving in the wrong direction in regard to the most basic fundamental human rights and we have to ask them difficult questions.”

“The general premise is that when people travel to a certain country they are subject to the laws of that country,” Cherkasov added. “We should not tolerate putting individuals in harm’s way in Brunei. We would not tolerate this if it meant sending employees to a country where for their religious beliefs they would be stoned to death.”

During the luncheon, Yusoff was polled on his understanding of the opportunities for trade and business growth that have come out of the TPP and what he sees as obstacles that need to be resolved or evaluated from Brunei’s point of view.



ASEAN ambassadors serve as panelists during Chicago Council on Global Affairs luncheon. Brunei’s ambassador is second from the right. Photo by Gretchen Rachel Blickensdefer

“I think if everybody is open and starts thinking about the benefit to everybody rather than only one national interest, that way perhaps we can move,” Yusoff said.

In answering Weeks’ question about the pitfalls of U.S. companies doing business in the region, Ambassador of Thailand to the United States Vijavat Isarabhakdi said that he thought U.S. companies have done very well in ASEAN countries, “especially if they go in having studied the culture and the ways of doing business. ASEAN is a great place to do business. It’s a grouping of free market economies, very pro-business. They have the same values as the Americans in democracy and human rights.”

Cherkasov said that U.S. pressure against Brunei’s laws must be unified and absolute.

“I think that pressure should come—not just from the government of the United States—it must come from NGOs [non-governmental organizations] like the Council on Global Affairs every opportunity they have,” he said. “And it must come from the business world. Businesses should not work with countries when sending employees there would subject them to the death penalty.”

While the Chicago Council on Global Affairs welcomed the Windy City Times to attend the luncheon, questions from the media to the panelists were not permitted, and no comment was received from the council regarding either Equality Illinois’ statements or Brunei’s new laws by the time of publication.

## CIVIL UNIONS & WEDDINGS AT THE KEITH HOUSE



HISTORIC EVENT SPACE

The Keith House is among Chicago’s oldest grand houses, in the heart of the renowned Prairie Avenue Historic District, 10 minutes from downtown Chicago. It resides next to the beautiful Chicago Women’s Park and Gardens, which is perfect for pictures.

We can accommodate up to 90 people for cocktail style reception and 60 for a sit-down in a single room. Also available for corporate events, retreats and meetings.

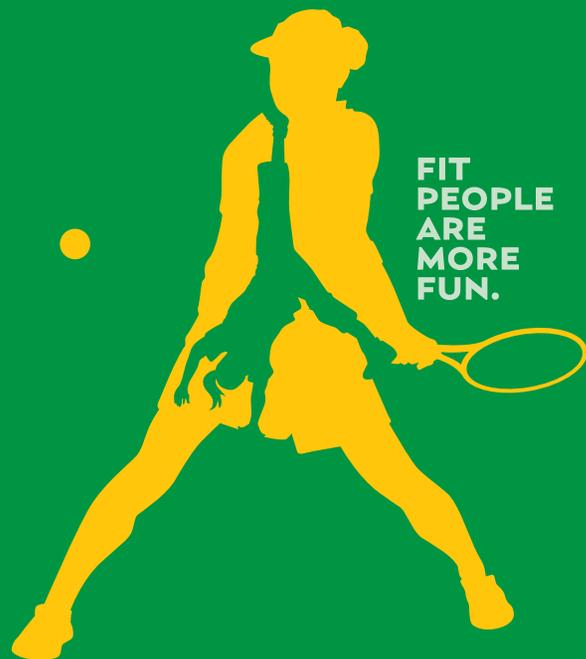


WWW.KEITHHOUSECHICAGO.COM

1900 S. Prairie Avenue  
Chicago IL 60616-1321

Phone: 312.907.7909  
events@keithhousechicago.com

midtown.com/tnt



LEARN TO PLAY  
**TENNIS IN NO TIME®**  
6 LESSONS \$115 STARTS MAY 31

MIDTOWN  
ATHLETIC CLUB

2020 W. Fullerton Ave.  
773.235.2300

# Oscar winner Dustin Lance Black talks Prop 8, Harvey Milk at Elmhurst

BY CARRIE MAXWELL

Harvey Milk, Proposition 8 and me was the theme of openly gay screenwriter, producer, and social activist Dustin Lance Black's lecture May 8 at Elmhurst College.

Winner of the Academy Award and two Writers Guild of America Awards for Best Original Screenplay for the Harvey Milk biopic *Milk*, Black is also a founding board member of the American Foundation for Equal Rights (AFER) which led the fight to overturn Proposition 8.

In 2012 Black penned the play *8*, based on the closing arguments of the federal Proposition 8 trial *Perry v. Schwarzenegger*. The star-studded Los Angeles production was broadcast live online and the play has since been staged in eight countries and all 50 states with more productions in the pipeline.

A graduate of UCLA's School of Film and Television, Black was a writer and co-producer of the HBO polygamist drama *Big Love*, and wrote the screenplays for *Pedro*, about openly gay HIV-positive *Real World* cast member Pedro Zamora; and *J. Edgar*, about J. Edgar Hoover, the first director of the FBI.

Along with his work for AFER, Black also served on the board of the Trevor Project for three years and was one of the organizers of the Oct. 2009 LGBT March on Washington. He has also been featured in *Out Magazine's* 40 Under 40 series and has been listed among the most powerful LGBT people in the U.S.

During the Elmhurst talk, Black focused on the themes of fear, hope, courage, the power of stories and being a troublemaker.

Black explained that he learned about fear when he was first dropped off at kindergarten. He had a panic attack and was immediately sent to the principal's office where he spent the first two years of his school life. His job was to follow the principal around while she disciplined students with a paddle that had holes drilled into it. Black said he learned from her that what made a great leader was to rule the campus with absolute fear and he knew he didn't have it in him to be like his principal.

Fear was an overriding force in Black's early life and "to make matters worse for me was that I grew up in a devout Mormon home in San Antonio, Texas," said Black. While attending Sunday services Black learned about the 'sin' of homosexuality. He later learned how strongly the church felt about the issue when he was caught saying one of the LGBT slurs he heard at home while hanging around with the women's relief society at the church (he was a Military brat). A priesthood holder took Black aside and told him that if he was gay he would be damned to hell. He was six years old.

A few months before that incident Black had already come to the conclusion that he was gay. Black's defense mechanism was to hide who he was and that meant that he didn't have any friends except for one boy named Troy.

When Troy came out to him as Jewish one summer, Black (who had never heard of a Jewish person) told Troy that he could change that and because of his internal fear Black lost his only friend. Black noted the irony of him saying to Troy what everyone else was saying to him about being gay.



Dustin Lance Black at Elmhurst. Photo by Carrie Maxwell

Black's story changed dramatically when his mom fell in love and married Black's stepfather (a Catholic military man) who was being shipped to Monterey, California. It was then that his mom took charge and decided that the only way to cure Black's shyness was to enroll him in drama club at his new high school.

From there, Black went on to a professional theater in Monterey and then to San Francisco. While in San Francisco, Black heard a 10-year-old tape recording of Harvey Milk giving a speech in San Antonio about the importance of electing LGBT people to political offices so LGBT kids know there is hope for a better world.

"Listening to Harvey Milk's recording gave me my life because for the very first time I heard a leader leading with hope not fear and that vision of hope included me. I didn't know it was possible to be out of the closet or to lead with anything other than fear. It gave me to hope to start living my life although it didn't give me the courage to come out to my family just yet. That would come later," said Black.

While in college Black spent time in West Hollywood making friends and soaking up the LGBT culture. When Black was heading home for Christmas his senior year (his parents lived in Washington, D.C., by then) he realized he wouldn't have anything to say to his family about his life including his older brother (who was the polar opposite of him in every way) so he hid out in his room. He wondered if his family would love him for who he was.

On Christmas day his mom (who had polio as a kid, was paralyzed and used crutches) came to his room and wanted to talk about "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and her opposition to gay and lesbian soldiers even if they stayed closeted. Black said he started crying because of his mom's anti-LGBT views and in that moment she knew he was gay and wanted to fix him. That never happened because Black returned to college and finished out the year.

When his family arrived for graduation they ended up sharing a meal with his gay and lesbian friends who had no idea about his mom's anti-LGBT views. Black's friends started telling his mom about their lives including their families negative reaction to them being gay and their sex lives. After dinner Black's mom told him that she liked his friends and said that his graduate student boyfriend needed to treat him better and then embraced him for a long time.

"I knew for the very first time in my life that my mother loved me for me. How did that happen? She heard the stories of actual gay and lesbian people not politics. Those stories were able to dismiss the myths, lies and stereotypes she had heard her whole life," said Black.

Black said he was billed as a troublemaker when he was chosen by his classmates to contest the grades they received (mostly average and below-average marks) by a professor in one of their film school classes during the end of their senior year at UCLA. The professor threat-

ened to expel Black and he ended up at an expulsion hearing. When the deans questioned the professor she didn't say anything other than "you are all a pack of hungry jackals" (Hungry Jackal Productions became the name of his production company) and stormed off so he won and wasn't expelled. Black said the dean started laughing and put his arm around him and told him he liked him because he was a troublemaker. Black said his whole adult life has been about being a troublemaker and he isn't finished causing trouble on behalf of LGBT equality.

The mission of Black's life is to tell personal stories and be a troublemaker while doing it, he explained.

He told the story of his deeply closeted brother (who later died of cancer before he could enjoy full equality since he lived in Virginia) coming out to him after he wrapped production on *Milk*. Black realized that he had to do more to effect change other than just make movies or TV shows so he could help people like his brother who never got to live in a world where they are truly equal.

After people criticized his Oscar speech he met with civil rights leader Julian Bond to get some advice. Bond encouraged him to keep agitating. He did some research and connected with Chad Griffin, Rob and Michelle Reiner and others and they created AFER to take on Proposition 8. Under the leadership of attorney's Ted Olson and David Boies they won and are currently in court to overturn the ban on marriage equality in Virginia.

"Having passion for something is what makes you a leader. Passion will bring you to the fields where you can be a leader like Harvey Milk," said Black. "Where does that come from? Mine comes from all the ways I am different ... and they are the most damn valuable things that God ever gave me and I'm thankful to him for all of them."

Black asked the crowd to investigate the ways they are different and "look at the places they might hold shame as gold mines where they can find their passion." He called on everyone to use their passion to build bridges so two Americas can become one with full LGBT equality.

A Q&A session followed Black's lecture. Then Black signed copies of his book *Milk: The Shooting Script*.

See [www.dustinlanceblack.com](http://www.dustinlanceblack.com) for more information.

CHICAGO GAY MEN'S CHORUS presents

## Bouncing Off The Walls

BROADWAY OUR WAY

**SATURDAY, MAY 17 @ 8 pm**  
North Shore Center for Performing Arts, Skokie

**SATURDAY, MAY 31 @ 8 pm**  
Harris Theater for Music and Dance, Chicago

**SUNDAY, JUNE 1 @ 7 pm**  
Wentz Concert Hall, Naperville

Celebrating the most recent Broadway hits  
CGMC reimagines selections from  
*The Book of Mormon, Newsies, Kinky Boots & more*

FOR TICKETS: 773-296-0541  
[www.cgmc.org](http://www.cgmc.org) • [info@cgmc.org](mailto:info@cgmc.org)

30 COLORFUL YEARS  
CHICAGO GAY MEN'S CHORUS  
1984-2014

THE HARRIS THEATER  
at Millennium Park

## CBGMC holding retreat May 16-18

The Chicago Black Gay Men's Caucus (CBGMC) will hold a retreat May 16-18.

The Conversations Retreat will include discussions about sexuality and healthy living as a Black gay/bi male in today's society. These all-expense-paid weekend experiences bring together men from across the Chicagoland area to build new relationships. Topics include healthy living; sexual health; communicating with partners (relationships); positive self-image/identity; and community.

Participants must be at least 18 years old. Space is limited, so advance registration is required. Contact Jason at 312-629-2988, ext. 12, or email [jasong@chiblackgaycaucus.org](mailto:jasong@chiblackgaycaucus.org) for details and to register.

## HBHC annual meeting May 29

The Howard Brown Health Center (HBHC) will hold its annual meeting Thursday, May 29, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at The Brown Elephant, 3020 N. Lincoln Ave.

This free event will highlight accomplishments and provide a view of the center's future.

RSVP by May 26 at [http://howardbrown.org/hb\\_services.asp?id=2813](http://howardbrown.org/hb_services.asp?id=2813).

# Summit panel talks government efforts on youth homelessness

BY MATT SIMONETTE

According to state Rep. Greg Harris, Illinoisans concerned about LGBT youth homelessness need to go to Springfield and lobby with the same intensity they were willing to channel for marriage equality.

Harris, speaking as part of a panel at the LGBT Homeless Youth Summit May 3, said his colleagues have had their awareness raised about the issue from individuals who could speak from experience about its complexities.

"Most of them didn't understand that there were 24,000 homeless youth in the state of Illinois ... a third of the youth are from Cook County, a third are from central Illinois, and a third are from downstate," Harris said.

Local and national studies have shown that LGBTQs make up 40 percent of the youth homeless population.

The panel, "Changing Course in Serving Homeless LGBTQ Youth: Funding, Infrastructure, and Cultural Competency," also included John Pfeiffer of the Chicago Department of Family Support Services; James Cunningham of Housing & Urban Development; and Juliana Harms of Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

It was moderated by Nicole Sutton, former Project Director of REAL: Hawaii Youth Movement Exposing the Tobacco Industry.

Pfeiffer, who said his agency touched about 300,000 people a year, added that "Chicago is unique in that we have a task force, involving key stakeholders" which meets quarterly.

"We recognize that [homelessness] is a vulnerability of some of the youth we serve," noted Harms. "We look at youth who might come to us as part of an investigation."

A lot of the youth in DCFS care noted problems with the system over the course of the summit, and expressed interest in an LGBTQ youth advisory panel being formed. Harms said that is under discussion. Some studies show that LGBTQ youth in the DCFS have a 78-percent chance of becoming homeless at some point in their young adult lives.

Cunningham said that HUD does not really set policy but, rather, "We have [communities] tell us what their needs are ... we fund them based on their priority needs."

He further explained the importance of agencies and organizations establishing a continuum of care so that clients experience few or no moments where vital services are interrupted. That often means collecting data on persons who are ages 18-25, since those persons won't automatically have resources made available to them when they reach age 18. It also means extrapolating techniques utilized for serving other homeless populations—Cunningham gave Houston as an example, saying that it was a city that was exemplary in providing for homeless veterans "but they're not doing a very good job on LGBTQ."

"The goal is preparing them for adult living," added Harms.

Harris elaborated on how the state's budget woes stand to hurt funding for initiatives assisting homeless youth.

"The challenge before us that at the end of this year, which is the middle of our next fiscal year, the state's temporary income tax

surcharge expires," Harris said. "If that is allowed to happen, it will fall on every program, whether it's homelessness, HIV, substance abuse ... all of that is going to be devastated. So the first thing to do is to be sure that my colleagues step up to the plate."

He added that many of his fellow lawmakers were interested in making sure that the state is indeed invested in prevention services that have been overlooked while the state contended with its budget crises.

"The reason people are willing to do that ... is because of the face-to-face lobbying effort that a lot of folks in this room, who come down to Springfield [or] our district offices and explain what the problem is for homeless youth. ... We are beginning to realize that we have a responsibility to address this problem."



From left: Nicole Sutton, John Pfeiffer, state Rep. Greg Harris, James Cunningham and Juliana Harms at the LGBT homeless youth summit. Photo by Hal Baim

It's so nice to have you  
back where you belong

This isn't the 'Lou you thought you knew. We've got a lot of Pride here. Say "Hello" to awesome nightlife down in The Grove and incredible culture up in the newly remodeled Art Museum. Come see why *The Advocate* put us in the Top 15 "gayest" cities in America.

Check out our impressive packages at [explorestlouis.com/LGBT](http://explorestlouis.com/LGBT)



/windycitymediagroup

# Forty to None director talks about bringing resources together

BY MATT SIMONETTE

Key components of ending homelessness among LGBT youth are streamlining information and resources amongst organizations facing the issue, and listening to the perspectives of homeless youths themselves.

Those were among the observations shared by Jama Shelton, director of the Forty to None Project, launched by the NYC-based True Colors Fund. Shelton spoke May 3 on the second day of the LGBTQ Homeless Youth Summit, hosted by Windy City Times.

Shelton said that she was once homeless herself, and that she found it just as important to being 'out' about having that experience as well as being out about being a lesbian.

Forty to None came about after donors did a nationwide survey to find out what was needed in order to combat youth homelessness. The name is a reference to the statistic that 40 per-

cent of homeless youths are LGBTQ. "We want to take that number from '40' to 'none,'" Shelton explained.

Forty to None acts as an information clearinghouse, so organizations from different regions can learn what other resources are utilized in other parts of the country. Every two years, Forty to None surveys service providers to ascertain where their strengths and weaknesses may lie. In the alternating years, youths themselves are surveyed in order to determine the scope of their needs.

The information from the surveys is aggregated for a clearer picture of LGBTQ youth homelessness. "The gist of it is we are working on systemic change efforts, mostly at the national level," Shelton said, adding that Forty to None has an intergenerational advisory board to maintain a clear perspective on youth's needs.

The project also is launching an "inclusion



Jama Shelton talks at the summit. Photo by Hal Baim

assessment tool," wherein organizations can ascertain what additional resources might improve their effectiveness. Shelton added that among the goals of Forty to None, is helping organizations develop community partnerships

so that not just gay businesses and organizations are providing safe spaces for LGBT youth. She said that a Tennessee tattoo parlor, for example, was among the first to agree to provide resources in that area. Other examples she gave were libraries and 24-hour diners.

Shelton's organization is also trying to develop "family intervention" initiatives, a concept taken from Canada and Australia. That would allow youths to work towards uniting with families of their choice, not necessarily their birth families.

"Basically, the sky's the limit," Shelton said of resources organizations should be considering. She advised the audience to, among other tactics, continue their work, join her network and "honor the voices of young people."

## Astraea benefit in Chicago May 16

Gray, Baim and Rodriguez to be honored

The Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice will honor the legacy of Vernita Gray at an event in Chicago Friday, May 16 at the Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse Ave. In addition to Gray, LGBT-rights activist Julio Rodriguez and Windy City Times Publisher Tracy Baim will also be honored.

Musician Toshi Reagon will perform.

The Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice and its supporters mourn the loss of Gray, a longtime LGBTQI activist and supporter of the LGBTQ community. Gray and her wife, Pat Ewert, were the first same-sex couple to legally marry in Illinois following a legal battle to expedite their marriage due to Gray's declining health.

The reception will be at 7:15 p.m., with the program at 7:45 p.m.

More details are at <http://www.astraeafoundation.org/news/315/60/2014-Fueling-the-Frontlines-Awards/d,home-news>.

## Bar association to honor Jennifer Pritzker

The National LGBT Bar Association announced that retired Army Lt. Col. Jennifer Pritzker will receive the Frank Kameny Award during the organization's 2014 Lavender Law Conference, to be held Aug. 21-23 in New York City.

Pritzker is the chair and founder of the Pritzker Military Museum & Library; president and Founder of the Tawani Foundation; and president and CEO of Tawani Enterprises, Inc. Tawani's projects include total restoration of the historic Monroe Building and the Emil Bach House in Chicago and investment in Squadron Capital LLC.

Pritzker has also been a prominent supporter of LGBT military personnel.

REGISTER BY 31 May to guarantee your place!

SERIOUS ACTION  
ON THE FIELD



(AND OFF.)

Go All Out. **GG9** GAY GAMES™  
2014 CLEVELAND+AKRON

9-16 AUGUST 2014

REGISTER NOW AT [www.2014GayGames.com](http://www.2014GayGames.com)

FORESTCITY

**GAY** *in the*  
**LIFE**  
**Jason Taylor**  
BY ROSS FORMAN

**Age**  
39

**Neighborhood**  
Pullman

**Nicknames**  
JT and Jay

**Relationship status**  
Single

**Job title**  
Sales representative, CCH Printing

**Favorite TV show**  
RuPaul's Drag Race

**Favorite pizza toppings**  
Sausage and green pepper

**Four things you would bring with to a deserted island**  
"Mom, best friend, beer and pizza"

**Favorite actor**  
Rosalind Russell

**Endurance-sports**  
Ran the Chicago Marathon in 2007 and 2008, and the Honolulu Marathon in 2008

**Overcoming obstacles**  
"The death of my mom in November 2013"

**Little-known fact**  
"I was in a magazine ad for Atripla."

Jason Taylor came across the printing industry after graduating from high school and has stayed in the field, doing "a little of everything," he said.

In total, he's worked in the printing world for 22 years, and counting.

He praises different types of people he gets to meet through work as the best part of his job.

What about the worst part?

"I haven't thought about it," he said.

Another passion of Taylor's is acting. He has acted in four shows so far and produced five. In mid-March, Taylor accepted the role of "Mac Sam" in Beverly Theatre Guild's production of "Miss Firecracker Contest," running May 16-18.

"I joined Beverly Theatre Guild in 2008, and served on the Board of Directors for Beverly Theatre Guild from 2009-2013," Taylor said. "I returned to the stage after more than a 10-year hiatus in BTG's production of 'Little Shop of Horrors' and 'Arsenic and Old Lace' in 2010."

He was the light designer for "Deathtrap" closing out the 2009-2010 season.



"I have assisted in light design and programmed the light board and even ran it," Taylor said. "I have had my hand in BTG's productions of Moon over Buffalo, Dancing at Lughnasa, Full Monty, Twentieth Century, Broadway Our Way, Little Shop of Horrors, Arsenic and Old Lace, and Deathtrap."

In October 2010, Taylor jumped into producing, for 'The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee.'

Taylor also played the role of Butch in a 2011 production of "Leading Ladies" and co-produced "Wait Until Dark" in late 2011 and also for the early 2012 production of "Playing Doctor," among other production credits.

Taylor is a member of the Junior Board for the AIDS Foundation of Chicago (AFC). Plus, he is an AFC Community Advisory Board (CAB) member.



**Pridefest 2014 Milwaukee**

HENRY MAIER FESTIVAL PARK

JUNE 6TH 7TH 8TH 2014

Sign up to Volunteer!

Reserved seating available!

**Friday JUNE 6TH**  
5:30PM-MIDNIGHT  
BRUCE VILANCH  
CHAD MICHAELS  
CAZWELL  
BJ DANIELS REPQUE

**Saturday JUNE 7TH**  
12PM-MIDNIGHT  
MACY GRAY  
BIG FREEDIA  
MARY LAMBERT  
STEVE GRAND

**Sunday JUNE 8TH**  
12PM-MIDNIGHT  
LISA LAMPANELLI  
SANDRA BERNHARD

Beverly McClellan, The Nearly Deads, Shane Ashton, Ronnie Nyles and Tallulah Who, Dear Ruthie, Ian & the Dream, Milltown Kings, Debby Holiday, Dangerous Muse, The Upside, Jordin Baas, Trannika Rex

Sponsored by:

Milwaukee Lite, PROXIMATOMI, SKYY VODKA, HARLEY-DAVIDSON, SHEPPARD MEDIA GROUP, SHEPPARD, QUEST, NI, BESTID CLINIC, WILSONIAN, THE PABST THEATER • MAJIC

www.PRIDEFEST.COM

CHICAGO WINTER = DEPRESSING  
CHICAGO SUMMER = EXCITING!

Are you "summer body" ready?

Mention WINDY CITY TIMES and get **\$500 off** liposuction through August.

Discover what others know ...

DAVID SHIFRIN MD  
PLASTIC SURGEON

Award-Winning Plastic Surgery  
**DR. DAVID SHIFRIN**  
Board-Certified Plastic Surgeon

CHICAGO • 312.590.3572  
680 N. Lake Shore Dr.  
www.davidshifrinmd.com

Member AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLASTIC SURGEONS

## VIEWPOINT

WINDY CITY  
TIMES

VOL. 29, No. 33, May 14, 2014

*The combined forces of Windy City Times,  
founded Sept. 1985, and Outlines newspaper,  
founded May 1987.*

PUBLISHER &amp; EXECUTIVE EDITOR

Tracy Baim

ASSISTANT PUBLISHER Terri Klinsky  
 MANAGING EDITOR Andrew Davis  
 BUSINESS MANAGER Ripley Caine  
 DIRECTOR OF NEW MEDIA Jean Albright  
 ART DIRECTOR Kirk Williamson  
 SENIOR REPORTER Matt Simonette  
 SENIOR ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES Terri Klinsky,  
 Kirk Williamson, Amy Matheny, Chris Cheuvront,  
 Gretchen Blickensderfer  
 PROMOTIONAL SUPPORT Scott Duff  
 NATIONAL SALES Rivendell Media, 212-242-6863  
 SENIOR WRITERS Bob Roehr, David Byrne, Tony  
 Peregrin, Lisa Keen, Yasmin Nair  
 THEATER EDITOR Scott C. Morgan  
 CINEMA WRITER Richard Knight Jr.  
 BOOKS WRITER Yasmin Nair  
 SPORTS WRITER Ross Forman  
 ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT WRITERS  
 Mary Shen Barnidge, Steve Warren, Lawrence  
 Ferber, Mel Ferrand, Jerry Nunn, Jonathan  
 Abarbanel  
 COLUMNISTS/WRITERS: Yvonne Zipter, Jorjet  
 Harper, Meghan Streit, Charlise Dewey, Carrie  
 Maxwell, Billy Masters, Sarah Toce, Dana Rudolph,  
 Sally Parsons, Melissa Wasserman, Joe Franco, Nick  
 Patricca, Liz Baudler, Rex Wockner, Marie J. Kuda,  
 Kate Sosin  
 SENIOR PHOTOGRAPHERS Mel Ferrand, Hal Baim,  
 Emmanuel Garcia, Tim Carroll, Ed Negron, Susan  
 Mattes

## CIRCULATION

CIRCULATION DIRECTOR Jean Albright  
 DISTRIBUTION: Ashina, Allan, Dan, John, Renee,  
 Sue and Victor  
 WEB HOSTING: LoveYourWebsite.com (lead  
 programmer: Martie Marro)

Copyright 2014 Lambda Publications Inc./Windy City Media  
 Group; All rights reserved. Reprint by permission only. Back  
 issues (if available) for \$5 per issue (postage included).  
 Return postage must accompany all manuscripts, drawings,  
 and photographs submitted if they are to be returned, and  
 no responsibility may be assumed for unsolicited materials.  
 All rights to letters, art and photographs sent to *Windy  
 City Times* will be treated as unconditionally assigned  
 for publication purposes and as such, subject to editing  
 and comment. The opinions expressed by the columnists,  
 cartoonists, letter writers, and commentators are their own  
 and do not necessarily reflect the position of *Windy City  
 Times*. Publication of the name, photograph, or likeness of  
 a person or organization in articles or advertising in *Windy  
 City Times* is not to be construed as any indication of the  
 sexual orientation of such person or organization. While  
 we encourage readers to support the advertisers who make  
 this newspaper possible, *Windy City Times* cannot accept  
 responsibility for advertising claims.  
 (773) 871-7610 FAX (773) 871-7609  
 e-mail: editor@windycitymediagroup.com or  
 Andrew@windycitymediagroup.com

www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com  
 podcast: WindyCityQueercast.com

WINDY CITY MEDIA GROUP,  
 5315 N. Clark St. #192, Chicago, Illinois 60640  
 U.S.A.  
 (MAILING ADDRESS ONLY)

Windy City Times Deadline every Wednesday.  
 Nightspots Deadline Wednesday prior to street date.  
 OUT! Resource Guide ONLINE  
 www.WindyCityMediaGroup.com  
 www.WindyCityQueercast.com

"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.



**BETSY  
RUBINSTEIN**

## LBQ women invited to join town hall

We know that lesbian, bisexual and queer women (LBQ) experience significant health disparities compared to the general population—and they require dedicated attention to properly address. For example, lesbian and bisexual women have higher rates of breast cancer compared to their heterosexual counterparts, and they are less likely to receive routine health care, including breast and cervical cancer screening.

Studies clearly indicate that LBQ women are also disproportionately impacted by other

health issues, such as depression and anxiety, substance use, smoking and obesity. We know that these issues are compounded by social and economic inequities, which create barriers for this population to access health care. For example, LBQ women have historically had lower rates of health-insurance coverage due to health-insurance policies (prior to the implementation of the Affordable Care Act) being tied to heterosexual marriage. LBQ women have also experienced higher rates of real or perceived discrimination by healthcare providers, which keep these women from getting the care they need. Ultimately, barriers such as these only contribute to the worsening of LBQ women's health outcomes.

In recent years, we have made progress to close the disparity gap between LBQ women and the general population, as well as address these barriers to care. However, these health issues in our community persist, and there is still important work to be done to meet these needs.

During May and June, Howard Brown Health Center (HBHC) will host five community town-hall meetings focused on the health needs and lives of Chicago's diverse LGBTQ community. On

Monday, May 19, 6-7:30 p.m., we invite LBQ women to gather at the Brown Elephant Resale Store, 3651 N. Halsted St., to participate in the second of these five sessions. This meeting will provide an opportunity for LBQ women to discuss these issues, as well as their other health needs, barriers and areas of resiliency.

We want to hear from you so that we can better serve you.

HBHC is hosting these meetings as a part of our community needs assessment, which is conducted every five years to get a better understanding of the LGBTQ community's unique health needs and concerns. Feedback gathered from this Community Town Hall meeting will be used for planning and quality improvement purposes, and will be compiled and shared widely with the larger community to garner public support for LGBTQ health initiatives.

We are eager to hear your stories, and we encourage you to join us in person or via twitter using hashtag #HBHCTownHalls! HBHC leadership and staff look forward to having these important discussions with the community.

**Betsy Rubinstein, MA, LSW, is manager of the Lesbian Community Care Project.**

## LETTERS

### Keeping a resource

Letter to the editor:

How long will the lights still shine at 909 W. Belmont Ave.?

In early 2004, I climbed the stairway at The New Town Alano Club (NTAC) beaten, broken, alone and afraid. I was met with an outstretched hand and these simple truths: "You never have to use again;" "You are not alone;" and "We will love you until you learn to love yourself." From that day forward, each time I walk through the door of 909 W. Belmont Ave. I see, on the faces of the many newcomers, that same desperate plea for help.

The New Town Alano Club was opened in 1980 by a group of recovering alcoholics/addicts as this nation's "first" ALANO Club with a specific outreach to the LGBT community. In providing a safe place for recovery, many of us who desperately longed for help and acceptance, and countless thousands since, have found a new way to live free from active addiction within her rooms.

During the early 1980s—when many in our community, impacted by the AIDS epidemic, felt hopeless and helpless—NTAC broke new ground once again by starting a peer-led 12-step recovery (AA) meeting (another historic first) where those of us with HIV could share openly about our HIV status and how it affects our recovery. Now, despite the tireless efforts of a completely volunteer board of directors and the ongoing financial support of recovering alcoholics and addicts, the immediate and long-term futures of NTAC is uncertain.

NTAC currently provides the meeting space (rooms) in which 50-plus 12-step recovery meetings are held weekly, with more than 250 weekly attendees seeking and finding recovery. Over the years, NTAC has sought new ways to be an active and ever-present resource in and for Chicago's LGBTQ community. The LGBTQ community of today has seen significant movements toward change over the past several decades in gay civil rights and equality; gay marriage; and the fall of DOMA and of "Don't ask, Don't Tell," to name a few—none of which could have occurred without a community coming together and saying, "It's time to take a stand" and "We are here in loving support of one another. This proves that we are a force of

change, a voice to be heard, and people fully committed to restoring dignity and vitality within our community, our city and our families. As a community, we enjoy many freedoms and resources today that were earned by and through the selfless sacrifices of many who were once called "the least" in/and of society.

It is virtually impossible to walk through the streets of our community and not see how devastating the effects and affects of addiction are. NTAC's centralized location provides easy access to these resources and support seven days a week from the early mornings into the late nights. Now, greatly impacted by the current tough economic times we are all struggling through, NTAC has had to make some strong financial decisions, reducing its meeting space substantially, while trying to remain ever vigilant in its mission to carry the message to the "still-suffering addict/alcoholic."

NTAC is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that has always diligently and passionately worked toward the restoration of hope, health and dignity of all those who entered her door regardless of what they have or who they

are (never charging a fee for these services) and is completely dependent on and fully supported by the tax-deductible contributions of its members and our community.

So, my hope and prayer is that by sharing a little of my story, and some of NTAC's history and mission, that your readers would see how crucial this resource was in our history and vitally important it is to our community's future. This recovering addict/alcoholic knows first-hand of the miracles that happen in these rooms, and would encourage all to be a part of the next miracle.

Visit NTAC at 909 W. Belmont Ave.; check out its website at [www.newtownalanoclub.com](http://www.newtownalanoclub.com); or call 773-529-0321 to find more information on NTAC's mission and resources and ask "How can we help carry the message of recovery?" Once again, we must take a bold stand in pride and refuse to let ANYTHING or ANYONE take the dignity or life of another family member on our watch.

John  
Chicago

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

# GOINGS-ON



WINDY CITY TIMES' ENTERTAINMENT SECTION



Photo by Ross Forman

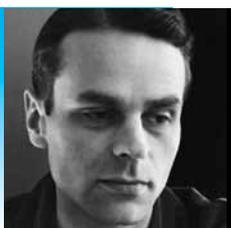
## LOOKING TO THE SKY

From left: Sylvia Fowles, Courtney Vandersloot and Elena Delle Donne return to lead the Chicago Sky. See page 30.

### MOVIES

'Joy' to the word.  
Page 22

Still from *Big Joy: The Adventures of James Broughton*



### DISH

Sweet treat.  
Page 26

Press photo of item at Cocollo



### THEATER

Shady behavior.  
Page 20

Photo from *The Next Thing* by Johnny Knight



### SCOTTISH PLAY SCOTT

# Sinozich says goodbye to Chicago Gay Men's Chorus

BY SCOTT C. MORGAN

Much of Patrick Sinozich's musical life has been tied to the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus (CGMC). Since 1997, Sinozich has been CGMC's artistic director, following a stint from 1988 to 1992 as a rehearsal accompanist. (Sinozich also briefly served as an interim director of the Windy City Gay Chorus, too.)

In nearly two decades leading CGMC, Sinozich said he oversaw upwards of 50 complete productions. The latest is the showtune-packed *Bouncing Off the Walls: Broadway Our Way* with upcoming performances in Skokie, Chicago and Naperville. (The show debuted May 3 in Rockford.)

But earlier this season, Sinozich announced his plans to step down from CGMC by December 2014. So if you've loved CGMC's past campy choral extravaganzas focused on Broadway music, this is your last chance to see one helmed by Sinozich.

"The decision kind of has to do with wanting to do some other projects, some other things that I've had at the back of my mind," said Sinozich about leaving CGMC, adding that he's keeping his other jobs as a music director at a church in Lincoln Park and as an accompanist for the Chicago Symphony Chorus. "I need to create some time and some space in my life so that I can explore."

Sinozich said he hopes to do some more composing away from his many musical arrangements he provided for CGMC, and to perform

more as a pianist if possible. But Sinozich added he isn't completely cutting ties with CGMC, since the organization has started a kind of alumni association to keep former members in the loop.

For instance, some veterans of CGMC might be curious to know why the chorus' latest Broadway revue isn't tied to the Chicago video bar *Sidetrack*, like in previous editions.

"The big thing is that we're not re-creating the numbers a la *Sidetrack*," said Sinozich, highlighting the fact that the show is only focused on new musicals like *Kinky Boots* or *Newsies* and acclaimed revivals like *Pippin* that have played on Broadway within the past 10 years. "We wanted instead to present the numbers in a way that they struck us, so some have a similar approach to Broadway, while others are redefined by the way they're being staged and choreographed. The subtitle of the show is *Broadway Our Way*."

Although Sinozich isn't on the search committee to find his replacement, he is taking an active part in rewriting the CGMC artistic director job description to better reflect all the duties it has come to entail under his leadership.

"What I'm kind of hoping is that they find someone to be the new artistic director who can take them to the next level dramatically, because I think there's a lot of things that could be done with the chorus to address political issues within the content of the show," Sinozich said. "Showtunes, pop music and lighter music—that's going to continue because that's



Patrick Sinozich. Photo by Kate Sosin

what people like, but at the same time, there are other choruses out there doing innovative programming. There's a show on Harvey Milk that somebody commissioned and that is making the circuit now, so something like that which could also be interesting to the chorus members and the public."

When asked about one of his most memorable moments leading CGMC, Sinozich cited a 2006 Sondheim-themed concert with the Chicago Children's Choir at Millennium Park's Pritzker Pavilion, which was disrupted near the end by anti-gay protesters.

"One of the songs that we had in our repertoire that we hadn't sung was a rewrite of 'I'm Still Here,' which was 'We're Still Here,' and the words were basically no matter what you do to us, we're still here no matter how much you protest," Sinozich said. "So instead of yelling back at them, we sang to them and the audience was thrilled. It was one of those perfect moments when music can strike a tone that is non-confrontational but does say a message at the same time."

**Remaining performances of Chicago Gay Men Chorus' concerts of *Bouncing Off the***

**Walls: Broadway Our Way** are at 8 p.m. Saturday, May 17, at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts, 9501 Skokie Blvd., Skokie; 8 p.m. Saturday, May 31, at Millennium Park's Harris Theater for Music and Dance, 205 E. Randolph St.; and at 8 p.m. Sunday, June 1, at North Central College's Wentz Concert Hall, 717 E. Chicago Ave., Naperville. Tickets are \$20-\$50; visit [www.cgmc.org](http://www.cgmc.org) or call 773-296-0541 for more information.

**Editor's note:** Scott C. Morgan is a member of the Windy City Gay Chorus and has also previously performed in Chicago Gay Men's Chorus concerts in 2004, 2007 and 2008.

### Tony! Tony! Tony!

The 2014 Tony Award nominations were announced April 29, and there are some LGBTQ nominees of note.

Out playwrights Harvey Fierstein and Terrence McNally are both nominated in the category of Best Play. Fierstein is behind the drama *Casa Valentina*, which is based on an actual resort where heterosexual men would go to safely express their need to wear women's clothing in the 1950s and '60s. With *Mothers and Sons*, McNally has written a sequel to the short play and television drama *Andre's Mother* to examine many of the major shifts in LGBTQ rights in America.

Now that he's finished with *How I Met Your Mother*, out star Neil Patrick Harris has returned to Broadway with an eight-time Tony Award-nominated revival of *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*—and has been nominated for Best Actor in a Musical.

The late Tennessee Williams' *The Glass Menagerie* has scored seven nominations, including ones for Best Revival of a Play and a Best Actress nod for out actress Cherry Jones.

The Tony Awards celebrating the best of Broadway theater in New York will be broadcast on CBS at 7 p.m. Sunday, June 8. For more information and a complete list of nominees, visit [www.tonyawards.com](http://www.tonyawards.com).



Manny Buckley and Steve Lenz in *Hit the Wall*. Photo by Ryan Bourque

## THEATER REVIEW

### Motown the Musical

Playwright: **Berry Gordy**

At: **Oriental Theatre, 24 W. Randolph St.**

Tickets: **800-775-2000** or

**www.BroadwayInChicago.com**; \$30-\$138

Runs through: **Aug. 9**

BY JERRY NUNN

Berry Gordy has brought his true story to life in the spectacular *Motown the Musical*. In the two-hour-and-45-minute production the good, bad and ugly parts of the music industry are depicted.

The show begins with a bang as the audience jumps through times ranging between 1959 and 1983—and this soul train does not stop.

So much music is represented through out the production that it's easy to miss some of the tunes. (*Motown the Musical* is heavy on music, not on plot.) At the beginning one almost wonders when the story will start. There are over 50 hit songs to work through and, toward the end, so many artists are impersonated it almost becomes a drag show. I noticed "Do You Love Me?" screamed "work" way before drag queens ever did. The young people can really learn their history from this nostalgic time warp, and I hope they do.

Comparing "My Guy" to "My Girl" had hilarious results and the Queen of Motown—Mary Wells, as done by Trisha Jeffrey—holds a note

so long that it's an early show-stopper.

The Jackson 5, led by Reed L. Shannon as Michael Jackson, and many of Diana Ross' moments, as played by local performer Alison Semmes, brought emotional clapping and invoked love from the audience.

It's funny that a joke was made about Smokey Robinson, played by Nicholas Christopher, late in the show after the real Robinson did the same thing earlier in the evening for the red carpet. The experience of watching this biography surrounded by the real-life stars was unforgettable on opening night.

Racism is at first lightly touched upon; then things get serious thanks to the production's Marvin Gaye, who has a different take on the music biz. I wonder what he would think of the industry now.

If singing neighbors bug you then don't go to this show, as the tunes are so memorable that people tend to burst out in song and just can't seem to help themselves. Oh, and bring your hand sanitizer, germaphobes, as Ross encourages the audience to reach out and touch the hands of possible strangers. We can make the world a better place by not catching the flu!

There are many roots in Chicago for *Motown the Musical*, from the actual storyline to cast members, so it's nice to kick off a national tour that will sure to please fans of this genre of music and create new ones along the way.

Fans of *Dreamgirls* and *Rock of Ages* should run out to see what these shows are based on. "I Hear a Symphony"—and its name is *Motown*.

## THEATER REVIEW

### The Next Thing

Playwright: **music and lyrics**

by **John Steinhagen**, book by **Ronan Marra**

At: **Signal Ensemble Theatre, 1802 W. Berenice Ave.**

Tickets: **773-698-7389**;

**www.signalensemble.com**; \$20

Runs through: **June 7**

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

"Musical comedy" calls to mind the extravaganzas defining the genre to this day in New York City's Broadway district, but the second half of the last century introduced a new kind of musical theater—smaller, simpler and more intimate, relying less on spectacle than on character dynamics revealed through songs. Jon Steinhagen and Ronan Marra have written the one of the latter, albeit with abundant opportunities for chorus lines and video projections—just in case.

To begin with, it's set in Hollywood, where the two stars of the costume-drama film *Kissing Tuscany* spend their every off-camera moment squabbling. Rapper wannabe Conor Williams affects a streetwise swagger, while London-schooled Kate Cunningham, hired to lend highbrow cred to the star vehicle, longs to go home. When the movie proves successful, producer Laura Golden persuades the reluctant duo to work together again. The action-flick *Zombie Chronicles* earns an oscar for Kate's mentor—Herb Corningfield, cast as the villain—and a song-and-dance trifle called *The*

Next Thing also boosts its leading players' careers, but when director Sam Donovan quits to pursue artistic ambitions, their next movie flops at the box office. Then Sam offers Conor and Kate roles in his low-budget indie romcom, *Afterglow*, and—you guessed it—everybody ends up wiser and happier.

So do we, thanks to Steinhagen and Marra's slick execution of an undeniably retro boy-meets-girl plot, seamlessly integrating catchy melodies and smartcracking repartee—the sly tacit in "Shakespeare, Shaw and (pause) Pinter," for example, or the unexpected turn of phrase giving the show its title. What ultimately wins us over, however, is not the Cole Porter-esque rhymes of "The Best Ideas (Happen When You're Drunk)" nor the obligatory show-biz snark ("You could eat a can of Kodak and puke a better film"), but our emotional investment in lovers who require all of act one to discover they are good for one another and all of act two to work up the nerve to do something about it.

Fortunately, Courtney Jones and Christopher Selefski are instantly charming, with a cuddliness increased by their unconventional Stiller-and-Meara physical pairing. Joseph Stearns as would-be auteur Sam, Eleanor Katz as big-wheel Laura and Vincent Loneragan as naughty geezer Herb provide muscular support—but watch for Elizabeth Bagby's scene-stealing trio of female armpieces sporting three dialects—French, British and Fry. This marshmallow-fluffy Signal Ensemble romp, tucked snugly into a corner of the North Center district and running a brisk two hours-plus, could become the perfect date-night play for our belated spring.

## THEATER REVIEW

### Henry V

Playwright: **William Shakespeare**

At: **Chicago Shakespeare Theatre**

at **Navy Pier, 800 E. Grand Ave.**

Tickets: **312-525-5600**;

**www.chicagoshakes.com**; \$48-\$88

Runs through: **June 15**

BY MARY SHEN BARNIDGE

For a play recounting yet another chapter in a long war, featuring one of the bloodiest military campaigns in European history, the text of *Henry V* exhibits curiously little violence. Instead of the family intrigues we associate with chronicle plays, Shakespeare proposes a treatise on how to fight a war—and, by extension, how to govern a country—in as humane a manner as circumstances render possible. Director Christopher Luscombe, perhaps to ensure that we fully absorb the lesson therein, presents it with the frame-by-frame simplicity of a graphic novel.

An expository chorus and a swarm of English and French graybeards—the latter speaking with foreign accents and the former sporting unembellished American speech—quickly apprise us of the land dispute precipitating the armed conflict, after which we proceed to the trenches. Henry, we learn, tolerates neither traitors among his high-ranking advisors, nor looters among his troops, but is not above infiltrating his camps, incognito, to assess for himself the morale of his soldiers regarding their mission. Nor is he afraid to express regret for the expedience demanding his order to slaughter the French POWs. This same humility enables him to transcend language boundaries in securing the necessary affections of a French princess, marriage to whom will forge a peace treaty between the nations.

Harry Judge makes a Tom Sawyer-ish Henry, whose manners at court hints at the too-careful precision of a boy addressing grown-ups for the first time, as his later exhortations to his armies will reflect the scrappiness of a schoolboy rallying his sandlot teammates. This homespun Yankee bearing contrasts sharply with that of his immediate



Harry Judge in *Henry V*. Photo by Bill Burlingham

rival—the effete Dauphin (dressed, like all the Gallic personnel, in fancy-shmanzy gold-brocade civvies, while Henry's followers are never seen out of uniform). The good guys also include officers from the four corners of the British commonwealth, who set aside their regional rivalries—but not their disparate dialects—to fight side by side.

The spectacular scenic effects that CST audiences have come to expect include the literal collapse of an entire castle wall, which then converts to a bridge for the siege of Harfleur, as well as a battle of Agincourt featuring archers armed with 13th-century high-tech longbows and stirring speeches referenced in GI action movies to this day. ("Be copy now to men of grosser blood, and teach them how to war!") Ooh-rah!

You may encounter productions boasting more topical commentary or interpretive nuance than this one, but you'll never find one more readily accessible.

## CULTURE CLUB

IN NEW ORLEANS, EVERYONE HAS A STORY

TENNESSEE WILLIAMS'

Vieux Carré

DIRECTED BY  
**CODY ESTLE**

MAY 6 - JUNE 28

RavenTheatre.com or 773.338.2177

RAVEN  
THEATRE



Michael Urie in Buyer & Cellar.

**THEATER REVIEW**

**Buyer & Cellar**

Playwright: Jonathan Tolins  
 At: Broadway Place at Water Tower Place, 175 E. Chestnut St.  
 Tickets: 800-775-2000 or [www.BroadwayInChicago.com](http://www.BroadwayInChicago.com); \$30-\$75  
 Runs through: June 15

BY JERRY NUNN

Actor Michael Urie originated the role of Alex More in Buyer & Cellar, which played first at Rattlestick Playwrights Theater and where he won a variety of awards after its debut. The production now arrives in Chicago, playing for about a month and running 100 minutes with no intermission. This gives Urie very little time to rest in a one-man show that is full of frenetic energy.

Playing off the 2010 Viking book My Passion for Design, which Barbra Streisand penned and photographed, playwright Jonathan Tolins creates a fictional tale about a shopkeeper working in a mall beneath Streisand's Malibu, California, home.

Urie begins the show with a disclaimer spoken directly to the audience while winking about what will come. It is a hard row to go with a one-joke story that diehard fans of the legend may have a problem with, wanting to know the real story of what Babs is like when she lets her hair down. This may never happen if she only releases photo books, not biographies, so if one can get past the untrue story then it's a good time at the Playhouse.

There's a lot of tongue-in-cheek humor while jabbing at Streisand's lengthy movie career, including Prince of Tides and Yentl. Nothing is sacred as the writer goes after her nose, nails and wardrobe. So far, Streisand has not attend-

**SPOTLIGHT**



An unmarried English professor (who may or may not be a lesbian) faces a terminal diagnosis of ovarian cancer with both fear and dignity in **Wit**. AstonRep Theatre Company revives this Pulitzer Prize-winning drama by out playwright Margaret Edson, with Alexandra Bennett starring as Vivian Bearing, the professor who must reassess her choices in life as death approaches. **Wit** continues through Saturday, June 7, at the Raven Theatre's West Stage, 6157 N. Clark St. Performances are at 8 p.m. Thursdays through Saturdays and at 3:30 p.m. Sundays. Tickets are \$20, with discounts available for students, seniors and groups; call 773-828-9129 or visit [www.astonrep.com](http://www.astonrep.com). Photo by Emily Schwartz

ed Buyer & Cellar—and such an appearance might be extremely awkward.

Director Stephen Brackett keeps the set sparse and the dialogue tight.

Wearing comfortable clothes and a stellar smile, the Ugly Betty star carries the show on his little shoulders, and it works because he's so engaging. Someone like Neil Patrick Harris could also play Alex, but he's a little tied up with Hedwig these days.

Buyer sells to a niche market, as it contains tons of jokes aimed at gays and people who worship this Funny Lady. Will people buy what this show is selling? I hope so, as Urie switches characters like butta onstage and deserves the critical acclaim that his endeavor received in New York. Let's see the show go on tour to even more places worldwide and arrive right at the diva's doorstep. Wouldn't we all love to at least window-shop at her mall? If so, then buy a ticket to this entertaining show today.

**Pride Films and Plays to start campaign**

Pride Films and Plays (PFP) has launched "Proud of PFP," a social media-driven fundraising and marketing campaign.

Running during Gay Pride Month, June 1-30, with a goal of 300 gifts in 30 days, PFP will encourage donations via the web on Facebook and Twitter. Using the interactive #ProudofPFP, supporters will be urged to post what they are proud of or why they have pride in the work done by PFP.

CHICAGO COMMERCIAL COLLECTIVE presents THE INCONVENIENCE'S production of

"A spectacular piece of young, raw, impassioned Chicago theater"

- Chicago Tribune

"Fierce and funny"

- New York Times



Photo by Ryan Bourique, with Walter Briggs, Manny Buckley and Ryan Murphy

Written by **Ike Zolter** Directed by **Eric Zof**

**HIT the WALL**

LIMITED ENGAGEMENT • NOW PLAYING  
 THE GREENHOUSE THEATER CENTER • 2257 N. Lincoln Ave

Tickets: [GreenhouseTheater.org](http://GreenhouseTheater.org) or 773.404.7336



CHICAGO COMMERCIAL COLLECTIVE PRESENTS THE NEW COLONY'S PRODUCTION OF

**5 Lesbians EATING A Quiche**

Written by ANDREW HOBGOOD and EVAN LINDER  
 Directed by SARAH GITENSTEIN

RESPECT THE EGG.



PHOTOGRAPH © 2011 DINE SHERIDAN, WITH THEA LUX, CATHLIN CHUCKLA, MICHELLE FARMER, MEGAN JOHNS AND WYAN SUORSA

LIMITED ENGAGEMENT STARTING MAY 1  
 CHICAGO COMMERCIAL COLLECTIVE THE NEW COLONY THE CHOPIN THEATRE  
 1543 W. DIVISION STREET

Tickets: [5LesbiansEatingAQuiche.com](http://5LesbiansEatingAQuiche.com) or (773) 404-7336

# KNIGHT AT THE MOVIES

BY  
RICHARD  
KNIGHT JR.

## God Loves Uganda; Big Joy

After making the festival rounds last year and winning kudos from critics and audiences, two tremendous queer-themed documentaries are reaching Chicago audiences this week: **God Loves Uganda** via broadcast on PBS Monday, May 19 (and DVD release the same day), and **Big Joy: The Adventures of James Broughton** via a theatrical run at Facets Cinematheque beginning Friday, May 16.

Thematically, the movies couldn't be more different—a searing indictment of the U.S. fundamentalist movement's role in Uganda's anti-gay policies and a spritely portrait of one of the gay founding fathers of the San Francisco avant garde, respectively. However, both are superb additions to the queer movie canon and not to be missed cinema experiences.

Openly gay African-American documentarian Roger Ross Williams (an Oscar winner for his documentary short *Music By Prudence*) starts his searing film *God Loves Uganda* with a focus on a group of young missionaries trained by the Kansas City, Missouri-based International House of Prayer (known by its acronym IHOP, which has no relation to the restaurant franchise). IHOP is just one of the many large fundamentalist groups in the United States that's found Uganda perfect for its brand of radical conservatism. In a country where 50 percent of the people are under 15, the promise of all that soul-saving must be irresistible.

Williams follows this latest crop of missionaries—white, young, arrogant and sanctimonious—as the group heads to Uganda,

determined and unaware of the consequences of using the Bible to justify homophobia in a foreign culture, and seemingly unconcerned by it. These sections of the film have a WTF, Book of Mormon feel, especially in a sequence that shows the young evangelicals upon arrival in Uganda. Stuck in a van in traffic, they are beset by food-sellers intent on selling their wares—vendors who don't seem to understand the missionaries' equally persistent attempts to convert them. The disconnect between the two cultures is apparent, and is pointed out again and again as Williams explores the intersection of politics and the radical Christian agenda that have converged in Uganda.

The sunny optimism and iron-willed insistence of these young religious terrorists and their leaders are matched by the zealotry of their Ugandan counterparts—several prominent pastors such as Martin Ssempe, the infamous “eat the poo-poo pastor” who whips up his massive congregation using S&M porn as an example of the “gay lifestyle.” These pastors—whose embrace of the anti-gay conservative agenda pushed by U.S. fundamentalists like Scott Lively and Lou Engle—have become powerful and wealthy.

Williams smartly allows everyone—from the soon-to-be-brutally slain Ugandan gay-rights activist David Kato to the egotistical pastors and the missionaries—to speak for himself or herself. Because of that, the interviews (and hidden-camera footage) expose unfettered and jaw-dropping ignorance, greed and an unbridled lust for control—all of which outweigh any good intentions these Bible thumpers might espouse. The film also traces how this systematic approach, with U.S. money funding (and often training) these Ugandan religious powerbrokers, led directly to the country's infamous anti-gay law that was enacted in February.

The outrages pile up but, thankfully, Williams also found a voice to help balance the rabid anti-gay sentiment. That would be the Rev. Kapyka Kaoma, a former resident of Zaire forced to flee Uganda in 2009 for his pro-LGBT views. Kaoma, who is straight and lives in Massachusetts with his family, is a gentle but urgent voice of reason who emerges as a real hero for the LGBT community.

*God Loves Uganda* is a vitally important film that hopefully will also serve as a reminder to the U.S. LGBTQ movement that complacency about our hard-won freedoms is far from being a global thing. Far from it. <http://www.godlovesuganda.com/>

At the other end of the documentary spectrum, subject-wise, is the delightful and light-as-a-feather *Big Joy: The Adventures of James*



Rev. Kapyka Kaoma in *God Loves Uganda*. Photo by Derek Wieseahn

Broughton, from co-directors Stephen Silha and Eric Slade. Broughton, a seminal figure in experimental film and poetry (he is aptly described as a founding father of San Francisco's postwar artistic movement) was also a renowned sexual free spirit.

Broughton's creative life was fueled by his personal one: a life that included affairs with men and women, and included an early relationship with Pauline Kael (which produced a daughter). Kael, who is heard in a taped interview, went on to become this country's most respected film critic and introduced him to Kermit Sheets, with whom Broughton had his first serious male relationship. A marriage to dancer Suzanna Hart (with whom he fathered two children) followed. That relationship ended when Broughton fell in love (and lust) at 61 with Joel Singer, one of his filmmaking students who was 35 years his junior. Broughton and Singer remained together until Broughton's death in 1999 and their love affair is tellingly described by Singer. (Hart's memories, not surprisingly, are not quite so sunny about the end of her marriage.)

Broughton defiantly followed his “follow

your own weird” maxim after escaping from a well-born but restrictive upbringing, and this refusal to set boundaries on himself or others seems to have been the most consistent aspect of his life. Embodying the true hippie spirit (long before such a concept existed) Broughton's pixilated approach to life, based on the evidence, seems to have indeed brought he and others, “big joy” (though there are hints here and there that Broughton's sunny outlook had its darker aspects).

The filmmakers include bits from Broughton's movies (1967's *The Bed* is a lovely highlight); excerpts from vintage interviews, lectures and poetry readings with him; and current interviews with Hart, Singer and several of Broughton's contemporaries, Armistead Maupin among them. The movie is as spritely put together as its subject—another winning aspect of this charming look at the life of a free spirit whose life and work are an important part of queer history. As noted, *Big Joy: The Adventures of James Broughton* is having its Chicago premiere run at Facets Cinematheque, 1517 W. Fullerton Ave., beginning Friday, May 16. <http://bigjoy.org/twirl/>

## ‘God Loves Uganda’ director on the risks in making the film

BY RICHARD KNIGHT JR.

From the moment Oscar-winning documentary filmmaker Roger Ross Williams premiered *God Loves Uganda* it has drawn raves from critics and audiences, cries of outrage from queer activists, and has been a touchstone for human rights advocates worldwide.

The film, which premieres on PBS on Independent Lens on Monday, May 19 (the day it also arrives on DVD), details the horrific rise of homophobia in Uganda—a scourge that the U.S. fundamentalist movement and megachurches have fostered. The systemic vilification of queer people in Uganda led to the brutal slaying of the country's most prominent gay activist, David Kato, and, this past February, the enactment of the country's infamous anti-gay bill.

Williams discussed the film and the risks that he—as an out African-American—took in getting the film made.

**Windy City Times:** First of all, I want to thank you, as a gay man, for making this film. You're my hero for putting a light on this subject.

Roger Ross Williams: Thank you.

**WCT:** Where do we even start? This is like *Book of Mormon* without the jokes. And yet in this bizarre way: This idea that these sunny, happy, shiny white people from the Midwest would descend upon this African country without a clue about the culture and the belief system—these happy, shiny religious terrorists is so outrageous.

**RRW:** Good—that's what I wanted to show. People think that when they read about what's going on in Uganda that these are these evil, scary-looking, hate-filled people doing this but they're actually these happy, sunny kids from Middle America who don't even really know the damage they are causing. I wanted to show that. Now, obviously, there are the evil people like Scott Lively who fits the mold of the evil hatemonger—he looks, acts and speaks the part—but these kids sort of trick you and creep up on you.

**WCT:** Let's talk about the genesis of the film and where the idea for it came from.

**RRW:** I grew up in the church—the Black

Turn to page 23

**THE HOUSE**  
THEATRE OF CHICAGO

"Crowd-pleasing show with strong LGBTQ interest...  
...the dancing beautifully captures the dramatic moment, like the deadly and very homoerotic duel between [Cole] Simon as Dorian and Patrick Andrews as the artist Basil."

**CRITICS' PICK**  
-Windy City Times

BY BEN LABPIRES & TOMMY RAPLEY  
DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY TOMMY RAPLEY  
ADAPTED FROM THE NOVEL "THE PICTURE OF DORIAN GRAY" BY OSCAR WILDE

TICKETS:  
THEHOUSETHEATRE.COM OR 773.769.3832

**DORIAN**

A DANCE-FUELED THRILLER OF VICE AND VIRTUE

**DIRECTOR from page 22**

Baptist church singing in the choir like a lot of gay men and it was a family church but it was not an accepting church and I was always in the closet and I had to escape to New York. So, the idea of using religion to demonize other people had been with me for a very long time.

When it hit home for me and when I knew I had to make this movie was when I went on a research trip to Uganda and the first person I met was the gay activist David Kato. He came to my hotel with four other gay activists. We talked and he said, "There are lots of people making films about us but no one is making a film about the damage that American fundamentalists—the evangelicals—have done in our country and they've kicked everything up to this whole other level and that's the real force behind the antigay bill. And that was all I had to hear.

**WCT: That must have been quite a meeting.**

RRW: Yes. We went to his offices because he wouldn't stand on the street. He said, "I can't. People will throw things at me—anything could happen." I thought he was just being paranoid. I wanted to interview him and these other activists at that point for research because I didn't have a real crew or anything but I ended up using his interview because shortly after that he was brutally murdered.

I wanted to start in Africa with the anti-gay Ugandan pastors first because it's the most dangerous part and also because I knew that if they found out I was gay they wouldn't cooperate and might even kill me. Many of them claim they've never met a gay person and many that they've cured gay people. So I was following some really powerful pastors that were guarded by the military and it was scary and I was always living on the edge because I was always afraid that they were going to find out.

**WCT: I can't even imagine.**

RRW: It was really tense and I was a wreck the whole time. Then something horrible happened—someone sent an email to Jo Anna Watson, an Evangelical missionary living in Kampala, Uganda, led me to IHOP [the International House of Prayer, based in Kansas City, Missouri]. Jo Anna had brought Lou Engle, the senior leader from IHOP to Uganda. Jo Anna wrote about me on her blog and she got this email that read, "He's a homosexual with a gay agenda." So she sent it to all the anti-gay pastors I had been following in Uganda—none of which I knew about.

They then invited me to dinner and I remember there were two giant guard dogs and that someone was filming me. They surrounded me and pulled out this email and said, "We know you're a homosexual," and I just froze. I didn't know what they were going to do. I didn't know if they were going to kill me. They pulled out a second article from an interview with a paper in my hometown in eastern Pennsylvania and the first line of that article said, "Roger Ross Williams is a double minority: he's Black and he's gay," and then it goes on to mention the Oscar. So these pastors said, "You won an Oscar so you're obviously high-profile. So, we're not going to kill you, we're not going to harm you—we're going to cure you." And they started praying over me. So I always say the Oscar saved my life. [Laughs]

**WCT: [Laughing] Oh, my God—proof-positive of the power of the Oscar. It's so insane!**

RRW: Right?! Each pastor thought I was making a film about them because their egos are so huge.

**WCT: There are so many issues that your film raises, so many areas that we could talk about for hours but I want to focus on the anti-gay bill that was enacted in February of this year. I'm sure you're following the impact of that.**

RRW: Absolutely. I'm in touch with the community there. I actually just flew over a Ugandan activist for a summit here at Lin-



**God Loves Uganda director Roger Ross Williams. Photo by Marc Yankus**

coln Center. Lots have happened since the bill was passed. The first trial of a gay couple has just begun. Since President [Yoweri] Museveni signed the bill, the country has hosted this national anti-gay rally with hundreds of thousands of people. Imagine an anti-gay rally so big that it becomes a national holiday and imagine the president of the nation saying, "Today is a day we shall celebrate we have fought the evil of homosexuality." That's what just happened there.

**WCT: Why do you think these religious terrorists targeted Uganda and other countries like it?**

RRW: The fundamentalists really believe that they've lost the cultural war here in America.

With marriage equality passing state by state, that battle is over but they believe they can win the cultural war in the developing world and Africa especially.

**WCT: Let's try to end on a note of hope here: Is there hope?**

RRW: We're all doomed! [Laughs] No, no, but unfortunately that's what people don't realize as we're making all these strides here. I was the grand marshal at San Francisco's gay pride parade last year and it was an incredible day but I reminded the crowd, "When you're done celebrating today, go back to work tomorrow because what you're not seeing is that the rest of the world is becoming more homophobic—Russia, India, Africa and, before you know it, you're going to look up and we're going to be this isolated country so you have to continue to fight for your brothers and sisters around the world or we're going to be in trouble."

Visit <http://www.godlovesuganda.com/>.

**Cliff to honor Kevin Kline**

Celebrating its 50th anniversary of saluting cinematic talents, The Chicago International Film Festival will honor Academy Award-winning actor Kevin Kline with a Career Achievement Award on Saturday, June 28, at the Four Seasons Hotel, 120 E. Delaware Pl., at a special summer gala celebration.

Past honorees include actors Sigourney Weaver, Liv Ullman, Shirley MacLaine, Faye Dunaway, Morgan Freeman, Clint Eastwood, Tom Cruise and Dustin Hoffman, among others.

Among Kline's movies are In & Out, The Ice Storm, Sophie's Choice, The Big Chill and A Fish Called Wanda.

Tickets are \$400 and tables start at \$4,000; call 312-683-0121, ext. 131.

**WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S HENRY V**  
 DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER LUSCOMBE

Henry Judge as Henry V, photo by Bill Burlingame

"Once more unto the breach, dear friends, once more!"

**chicago shakespeare theater**  
 on navy pier theater

**NOW PLAYING**  
 312.595.5600  
 chicagoshakes.com

"Dye's voice is most definitely authentic and his understanding of trauma and loss palpable."  
 - CHICAGO TRIBUNE

ROUTE 66 THEATRE COMPANY PRESENTS  
**CICADA**  
 by Jerre Dye

ROUTE 66 transports you to the rural South for what critics are calling:  
 "poignant, relevant, and stirring."  
 - WINDY CITY TIMES

**HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**  
 - CHICAGO READER

★★★ - TIME OUT CHICAGO

**JEFF RECOMMENDED**  
 "...a magical journey, expertly directed by Erica Weiss."  
 CHICAGO STAGE STANDARD

photo by Joe Mazza

Now playing thru **MAY 25**  
 at Greenhouse Theater Center

for tickets: [cicadatheplay.com](http://cicadatheplay.com)



Joan Rivers. Photo by Vero Image

## Joan Rivers gets animated in new show

BY CHARLSIE DEWEY

There has never been an animated cartoon aimed at female viewers—until now.

Comedy icon and fashion know-it-all Joan Rivers is launching her newest project, an animated series titled Fashionista and Glamour Girl, on Thursday, May 15, at [www.Fashionista-andGlamourGirl.com](http://www.Fashionista-andGlamourGirl.com).

"We took a superhero, made her a woman and a sidekick who is woman, and that is who Fashionista turned into," Rivers said. "Nobody has ever done this before."

Rivers voices character Roxanne Bischoff, a crotchety seamstress for a cosmopolitan Manhattan department store who sneaks into her lair at night and becomes superhero Fashionista. Her goal: to save actors, designers, celebrities and even your aunt Bessie from becoming the next fashion don't.

A shy-by-day stockroom girl, which actress/recording star Christina Milian voices in the pilot episode, joins Rivers' Bischoff in the series as sidekick Glamour Girl, fighting fashion's worst sins.

And it wouldn't be a superhero cartoon without a proper villain.

Melissa Rivers takes on the role as supervillain Bangs, who dedicates her life to foiling designers and couture devotees everywhere.

Bangs' villainous "sidekick" of sorts is the bitter Stole, a pet fox she keeps wrapped around her neck who is her only ally. Seth Rudetsky is the voice of Stole.

Rivers is joined by several other noteworthy actors in the program, including Ugly Betty's Michael Urie, who voices Roxanne's scruffy pet Maltese, Killer. Killer transforms into Splendid, the purebred stylist with big talent and a bigger attitude.

Third Rock from the Sun's French Stewart plays Mr. Worthe, the pompous fussybudget who runs the ladies' couture floor and has no idea that his employee Roxanne is the fashion world's best kept secret, and Curb Your Enthusiasm's Susie Essman plays Diane Von Furstenberger, one of many celebrities in peril who call on Fashionista for help.

A sneak peek of Fashionista and Glamour Girl premiered earlier this month, and Rivers said she's heard nothing but rave reviews.

"The response has been amazing," she said. "I walked into E! [Entertainment Television Network] yesterday and everyone was asking 'oh my god is it on network,' and I said no, its on no network, yet."

Rivers said she hopes to see the show get picked up, and is already at work on the next episode.

"It's going to get wilder ... we will make the characters a little edgier, a little more into the "Fashion Police" mode because we think that is where it should go," she said.

The program is developed and produced independently by Rivers and Melissa Rivers, with show creator and Joan & Melissa: Joan Knows Best? executive producer Danny Salles and Emmy Award-winning production duo Teresa L. Thome and Patrick W. Ziegler (a Chicago resident) of Fubble Entertainment.

Rivers, who already has a full plate, said she enjoys working on Fashionista and Glamour Girl because it's so different from what she is already involved in.

"This is much more collaborative," she explained. "There are many more people and there is a lot of acting involved in this, which is so much fun."

People can also catch Rivers online in In Bed With Joan, in which she interviews the day's top Internet celebs and, of course, on Fashion Police, which is number one on the E! Entertainment Network.

### 'Rainbow Sunday' at Glenview church May 18

Glenview Community Church, 1000 Elm St., Glenview, will celebrate "Rainbow Sunday" on May 18 at 10 a.m.

An outdoor ceremony with prayer will be held at 9:50 a.m., with a rainbow symbol added to the church outdoor signage.

The service will recognize and give thanks for the LGBT community, and emphasize what the church calls "God's gift of diversity."

Call 847-724-2210 or visit [www.gccucc.org](http://www.gccucc.org).

## SAM from cover

Ward added, "Man U got little kids lookin at the draft. I can't believe ESPN even allowed that to happen."

Ward later said he has received death threats against him and his children after the comments.

Meanwhile, Miami Dolphins safety Don Jones also expressed his disapproval with Sam's emotional moment, tweeting "horrible" and "OMG." He has since deleted those comments, and now faces the consequences from his team. The Dolphins ordered Jones to pay an undisclosed fine and barred him from team activities until he finishes "training for his recent comments made on social media."

"We met with Don today about respect, discrimination and judgment," the Dolphins said in a statement on May 11. "These comments are not consistent with the values and standards of our program."

Jones apologized. "I want to apologize to Michael Sam for the inappropriate comments that I made last night on social media," he said in a statement May 11. "I take full responsibility for them and I regret that these tweets took away from his draft moment. I remember last year when I was drafted in the seventh round and all of the emotions and happiness I felt when I received the call that gave me an opportunity to play for an NFL team and I wish him all the best in his NFL career."

Sam's selection—and certainly the kiss, too—sent joy throughout the LGBT community.

"Just a tremendous moment for all LGBT athletes. Young, gay, high school athletes in America can know that they can be who they are and still reach the pinnacle of their sport. I think it's awesome that ESPN showed Michael's raw emotion and the affection between he and his boyfriend. Really a historic moment in our movement," said Anthony Nicodemo, an openly gay basketball coach at Saunders High School in New York.

"Among my teammates in both softball, football and soccer over this weekend, the comment I kept hearing was how wonderful it is that ESPN chose to show two gay people kissing and embracing, just like they would with any other couple," said Shawn Albritton, of Chicago. "For me, it struck a chord that affection that I would share with my boyfriend was the very same as the one Michael Sam shared with his loved one on a very special moment in their lives. I also applaud ESPN for not censoring a kiss between two loved ones."

Tami Engelman of the Chicago Force women's football team said Sam's selection "hopefully speaks to the progress we are making as a community and a country." She added, "It shows the maturity of the views of people across the nation to accept the LGBTQ community as equals. As any athletic male he deserves the same chance to play and the pros as his heterosexual counter parts."

Michael R. Lunde of Chicago traveled to New York earlier this year to cheer on his beloved Seattle Seahawks to victory in the Super Bowl. He still is thrilled for Sam. "Even though he went to [an] NFC West rival [team], I will



Michael Sam on the cover of Sports Illustrated.

watch the production of Michael Sam, who showed great courage coming out of the closet before a team picked him up. I think [his sexual orientation] was still on the minds of a lot of teams since it's the latest in the history of the draft that an SEC Defensive Player of the Year has gone in the draft. Cheers to him and his family as well as his new family. It showed great balls by the organization [and] they got a heck of a football player."

Amini Fonua, an out former college swimmer who competed in the 2012 Summer Olympics, said he was "So happy we finally broke down this wall, and it is only the beginning of the future for GLBT role models in sports."

Andrew Goldstein, an out former college lacrosse player who has continued to play professionally, told the Windy City Times, "Congratulations to Michael Sam and the St. Louis Rams. It's an exciting day for everyone in the sports world and I'm sure very gratifying for so many athletes who came before him who weren't able to receive the same type of support for being themselves. More importantly, now he can just be one of the guys working hard for a spot on the field. Cheers!"

Christina Kahr, a transgender sportswriter based in Chicago, said the Sam selection was "a great day in football history."

"The Rams seem delighted he was on the board, he should be a good fit for their aggressive pass rush, and I expect the Rams have a whole lot of brand-new fans, from Mizzou and across the country," Kahr said.

Bernard Cherkasov, the CEO at Equality Illinois, said Sam's selection "demonstrates the natural evolution of our society towards acceptance and respect." He added that "sports are a great place to show that people should be judged on their merit on what they bring to the game, not on their identity."

Robin Lee, an out sports fan from San Francisco, said the Sam news is "huge" for the gay community. "This is the first time a gay man has been drafted to play in any of the major

Turn to page 30

download this week's

# nightspots

the official guide to

## INTERNATIONAL MR. LEATHER 2014

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



# THIS SUMMER: REDEFINE POSSIBLE

## TICKETS START AS LOW AS \$52

### OPENING NIGHT FRIDAY, MAY 16 @ 7:30PM



### 2014 Sky Home Schedule

#### May 2014

Fri. 16	Indiana	@7:30 pm
Wed. 21	Connecticut	@11:30 am
Sat. 24	Atlanta	@7:00 pm
Mon. 26	Minnesota	@2:30 pm*
Fri. 30	Connecticut	@7:30 pm

#### June 2014

Fri. 6	Los Angeles	@7:30 pm
Tue. 10	Seattle	@7:00 pm
Wed. 18	New York	@11:30 am
Fri. 20	Indiana	@7:30 pm
Sun. 22	Tulsa	@12:00 pm*

#### July 2014

Wed. 9	Washington	@11:30 am
Fri. 11	Phoenix	@7:30 pm
Tue. 22	Indiana	@7:00 pm*
Thu. 31	New York	@7:00 pm

#### August 2014

Sun. 3	Washington	@5:00 pm
Sun. 10	Atlanta	@5:00 pm
Sun. 17	San Antonio	@5:00 pm

\* ESPN2

- All times in CST & schedule is subject to change

Allstate Arena - 6920 Mannheim Road, Rosemont, IL 60018

## CALL 866.SKY.WNBA OR VISIT CHICAGOSKY.NET

# the DISH

WEEKLY DINING GUIDE IN WINDY CITY TIMES



## Cocello

BY MEGHAN STREIT

The latest restaurant from Brendan Sodikoff (the chef and restaurateur behind Bavette's Bar & Boeuf, Au Cheval and Maude's Liquor Bar, to name a few) opened in late April. Sodikoff transformed Dillman's, his short-lived upscale deli, into **Cocello**, a sexy lounge serving thoughtful Northern Italian cuisine.

The River North space is dark and inviting. Seating is a mix of handsome red leather booths, charming wooden bistro sets and several pairs of oversized tufted lounge chairs with low tables. The mismatched furniture creates a charming and cozy atmosphere that makes you want to linger—and indulge in a few cocktails or carafes of wine.

Cocello's menu combines fresh ingredients in all kinds of inventive dishes, with Italian influences woven throughout. The spring vegetable salad is a perfect starter for this time of year. Crisp fava beans and peas are tossed with fluffy whipped ricotta. The bright flavors of the veggies pair nicely with the light and creamy cheese.

Carb lovers will delight in the ample pasta section of the menu. All of the pasta selec-



Images from Cocello. PR photos.

tions are handmade and thoughtfully dressed with lovely combinations of savory sauces, vegetables, seafood and meat. The pasta alle amatriciana is reminiscent of spaghetti and marinara, but far more complex and elegant. The tangy red sauce is made with guanciale, roasted tomato and pecorino, the combination of which creates a rich and smoky flavor. I also enjoyed the risotto, which was cooked to a nice creamy texture. Gorgonzola and bacon conspire to make the risotto a decadent treat that's perfect for sharing. The pastas were

delightful, but they were a tad too salty, an unfortunate theme that continued throughout the meal—and the only thing that made the food at Cocello good instead of great.

The dishes at Cocello aren't necessarily full portions, but they're not small plates either. If you order a traditional Italian lineup of starters followed by a pasta and either a fish or meat course, you might find yourself in need of a doggie bag. The pesce e carne (fish and meat) section of the menu features a nice selection of simple Italian preparations of beef, chicken



and seafood. The herb-stuffed pork belly is one of the most interesting offerings. The tender pork is formed into a spiral shape with lots of fragrant herbs packed in between the layers of meat. I found the pork belly a bit on the fatty side (even for pork belly), but the flavor was superb and overall the dish was enjoyable.

You'll want to add some side dishes to your meat or fish course. My favorite was the potato fonduta, an excellent complement for the pork. The silky mashed potatoes are made fantastically rich with truffle oil. There are also some lighter options like roasted broccoli and peas with toasted garlic. The braised kale and pancetta sounded tempting, but the flavor was overly sweet with an odd aftertaste.

But, my meal ended on a beautiful note with the fresh homemade doughnut holes. They arrive to the table hot and dusted with sugar. I couldn't even wait for my dining companion to return from the bathroom before popping one into my mouth. The doughnuts come with a fruit dipping sauce and a dollop of whipped cream—a deconstructed DIY version of a jelly doughnut.

**Cocello is located at 354 W. Hubbard St.; call 312-888-9195 or visit [www.cocello.com](http://www.cocello.com).**

**Do you need some more Sugar & Spice in your life? Follow me on Twitter @SugarAndSpiceMS for inside scoop and commentary on Chicago's dining scene.**

## CLASSIFIEDS

### CLEANING SERVICES

**CHESTNUT CLEANING SERVICES:** We're a house cleaning service for homes, small businesses and small buildings. We also have fabulous organizational skills (a separate function at a separate cost that utilizes your assistance) for what hasn't been cleaned in many months or years due to long-term illness, depression, physical/mental challenges, for the elderly, if you have downsized and more. Depressed about going home to chaos? We can organize your chaos, straighten out your chaos, help you make sense of your chaos and finally clean what is no longer chaos. Can we help you? Bonded and insured. **Chestnut Cleaning Service: 312-332-5575. [www.ChestnutCleaning.com](http://www.ChestnutCleaning.com)** (11/20/14-52)

**WHIT'S CLEANING SERVICE** - Established 14 year cleaning service. Single individual will come to your home or business. Reliable, consistent, self-motivated and offering flexible scheduling for your cleaning needs. (Chicago service only) Refs. avail. **Please contact Whit @ (773) 567-7106 or [whitenson@gmail.com](mailto:whitenson@gmail.com) for more info.** (5/28/14-4)

### COUNSELING

**LIVING WELL MINISTRIES**

**LOVE FROM THE CENTER OF WHO YOU ARE**

Life Coaching • Ceremonies  
Office & Phone Appointments

**Rev. Jacki Belile, CEC**  
Nurturing Pride & Faith for 20 Years  
**773-655-4357**  
[www.livingwellministries.net](http://www.livingwellministries.net)

**PRE-NUPTIAL COUNSELING FOR LGBT COUPLES.** To celebrate the Marriage Equality Act, Dr Kiya is offering special rates for any LGBT couple who would like pre-nuptial counseling. **Call for a FREE phone consultation: 773-880-5492. [www.drkiya.com](http://www.drkiya.com)** (6/4/14-26)

### DECK CLEANING

**CEDAR PRO,** Deck cleaning, staining, and restoration. Protect your wood, keep it hard. Complete preparation, oil stain, beautiful finish. **Call for a free estimate. 847-414-3422 (6/4/14-13)**

### HELP WANTED

**ORGANIZING JOBS**

WORKING AMERICA

Field Organizer  
\$12.25/Hour

\$15.00/Hour  
After 90 Days

**APPLY NOW 312.620.0669**

**FIGHT TO RAISE THE MIN. WAGE!**

**CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE CSR** needed for moving company based in Skokie. Must be flexible and able to work rotating weekends. Experience a plus - but willing to train right person. **Please submit resume to: [info@joesymovers.com](mailto:info@joesymovers.com) NO PHONE CALLS PLEASE** (5/14/14-2)

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

**MAKE YOUR HOME LOOK FABULOUS!** Winter is a great time to fix up your home. Add crown molding, a fresh coat of paint, or a facelift for your bathroom. "A+" with BBB. Licensed-Bonded-Insured, One year Warranty. Free Estimates! **Andy OnCall 773-244-9961. 847-328-3100 [www.getandy.com](http://www.getandy.com)** (9/10/14-26)  
**GAY OWNED AND OPERATED FOR OVER 35 YEARS** - carpet, tile, wood flooring, window treatments, granite/stone countertops, complete remodeling services, custom backsplash and shower tile designs - free

estimates and design consultation - see our ad in "Connexions" - serving all of Chicago and Suburbs - **HOM, 847-541-4848, [www.hombyrayandson.com](http://www.hombyrayandson.com), [john@hombyrayandson.com](mailto:john@hombyrayandson.com)** (2/11/15-am)

### LEGAL SERVICES

**The Law Office of Alexander Weaver**  
**312-588-5005**  
email: [violaw@rcn.com](mailto:violaw@rcn.com)

**A Full Service Law Firm for the Community since 1988**

410 S. Michigan Ave., Suite 628, Chicago

### WEDDING OFFICIANTS

**Meaningful Moments**  
Commitment for Life. Love and Honor for All.

**Weddings and Ceremonies for Couples**  
Marguerite H. Griffin / Life Cycle Celebrant™  
Meaningful Moments / 773-919-1333  
[www.meaningfulmarguerite.com](http://www.meaningfulmarguerite.com)

### WINDOW TREATMENTS

**WONDERING WHAT TO DO WITH THOSE WINDOWS?:** Call me! I take care of it all from design through installation, customizing to your needs. **JOSEPH RICE Interiors, Inc.** Full Decorating Services with a specialty in window treatments for over 25 years. **773-271-2361. [www.JosephRiceInteriors.com](http://www.JosephRiceInteriors.com)** (6/4/14-13)  
**GAY OWNED AND OPERATED FOR OVER 35 YEARS** - certified Hunter Douglas® priority dealer, custom window treatments, free estimates and design consultation - see our ad in "Connexions" - serving all of Chicago and Suburbs - **HOM, 847-541-4848, [www.hombyrayandson.com](http://www.hombyrayandson.com), [john@hombyrayandson.com](mailto:john@hombyrayandson.com)** (2/11/15-am)

## REAL ESTATE

### RELOCATION / MOVING

**RELOCATION / MOVING?** FREE Relocation Kit + FREE Buyers Representation! On-line: [WWW.GAYREALSTATE.COM](http://WWW.GAYREALSTATE.COM) or Toll Free 1-888-420-MOVE (6683). **No Cost or Obligation to be Represented by the Nation's Top Gay & Lesbian Realtors.** (8/6/14-26)

### CONDO FOR SALE

**MALIBU CONDO, 22ND FLOOR.** 3-bed, 2 bath, rehabbed with new hardwood, new windows, granite kitchen, marble and travertine baths. 3 private balconies. 22nd floor with amazing SW views, overlooking Hollywood Beach. **Broker owned for 17 years. \$369,900. 773-573-4785** (5/14/14-2)

**The Renaissance A Vintage High-rise**



**5510 N. Sheridan Rd., 60640 Unit 12B**



**\$729,000**  
MLS# 08552103  
340° lake views, city & park.  
4BD, 3.1 BA (easy 4th)  
Meticulous renovation. Chefs kitchen, barrel ceilings, Period molding & lighting. En-suite baths, gallery & family room.  
2 units per floor with private entry. Parking

**Gaskin Realtors Inc.**  
817 Main St.  
Evanston, IL 60202  
847-869-1669   
[www.GaskinRealtors.com](http://www.GaskinRealtors.com)

WINDY CITY  
MEDIA  
GROUP

WINDY CITY MEDIA GROUP PRESENTS

WINDY CITY  
MEDIA  
GROUP



TWELFTH ANNUAL

# CHICAGO'S BIGGEST GLBT CONTEST NOW IN ITS 12TH YEAR!

## CREW

4804 N Broadway

**THURSDAY, MAY 15**

**9:30PM START**

Singers sign up at 8:30pm

## PHOENIX

1932 E Higgins Rd, Elk Grove Village

**THURSDAY, MAY 22**

**9PM START**

Singers sign up at 8pm

**\$100 to singer with most  
votes each night!**

**Top Two Finalists advance  
to the Semi-Finals!**

**HOSTED BY SOFIA SAFFIRE**

WILD CARD NIGHT AT

## SPIN

800 W Belmont

**SUNDAY, JUNE 1**

9pm sign / 10pm start

SEMI-FINALS AT

## SIDETRACK

3349 N Halsted

**SATURDAY, JUNE 14**

2pm door / 3pm start

FINALS AT

## MAYNE STAGE

1328 W Morse

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 25**

6pm door / 7pm start

FOR MORE, VISIT [FACEBOOK.COM/WINDYCITYGAYIDOL](http://FACEBOOK.COM/WINDYCITYGAYIDOL)  
OR EMAIL [WCMGPROMOTIONS@GMAIL.COM](mailto:WCMGPROMOTIONS@GMAIL.COM)



\* WINDY CITY MEDIA GROUP INCLUDES WINDY CITY TIMES, NIGHTSPOTS, WINDY CITY QUEERCAST AND WINDYCITYMEDIAGROUP.COM \*

# CALENDAR

Brought to you by the  
combined efforts of

WINDY CITY  
TIMES

nightspots

## Wed., May 14

**Affinity Forty Plus Meeting** Includes but is not limited to individuals who identify as lesbian, bisexual, or transgender women who are at least 40 years of age. Led by Glynis Morris. Activities defined by participants. Meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month. 7:00pm, 1424 E 53rd St, <http://www.affinity95.org>

**RUBY Author Cynthia Bond** An Indie Next and Barnes & Noble Great New Writer selection 7:30pm Women & Children First Bookstore 5233 N Clark St

**Bear Chested Full Moon Party** Hairy chest contest at midnight. 11:00pm - 1:00am Touche 6412 N Clark St <http://www.touchechicago.com>

## Thursday, May 15

**Ballet Chicago spring gala** A portion of the evening's proceeds benefit The Dowd Merit Scholarship Fund and the Dance for Tomorrow outreach program. Open to all members of the Ballet Chicago community over 21. 6 pm cocktails, 7:30pm dinner, drinks & dancing to follow 6:00pm Room 1520 301 N. Justine, Tickets: <http://http://www.balletchicago.org/SpringGalaPayment.asp>

**Reveal 25** Guild Literary Complex 25th anniversary jubilee and benefit. 6:30pm Victory Gardens Theater 2433 N Lincoln Ave <https://www.facebook.com/events/744349228943101/>

**Second Annual Chefs' Playground** America's top chefs put a haute cuisine spin on school lunch to support the Academy for Global Citizenship, an innovative public charter school located in Chicago's southwest side. 7:00pm - 10:00pm Terzo Piano, 159 E Monroe St, <http://agcchicago.org/chefsplayground/> <http://agcchicago.org/chefsplayground/> Tickets: <http://agcchicago.org/chefsplayground/>

**Affinity Trans Focus Group** Monthly on the third Thursday. Info: [affinitytransfocusgroup@affinity95.org](mailto:affinitytransfocusgroup@affinity95.org) 7:00pm - 9:00pm Affinity Community Services 1424 E. 53rd St. Suite 306 <http://affinity95.org>

**Windy City Gay Idol** 12th annual talent search 7:00pm Crew Bar & Grill 4804 N Broadway <http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/pdf/Idol2014-8x10.pdf>

**Kurt Elling guest appearance in Dancing in the Street** The Chicago Children's Choir and the Harris Theater for Music and Dance present a special tribute performance honoring the 50th anniversary

of the Civil Rights Act and South Africa's 20th year free from Apartheid. Chicago-born jazz sensation and Grammy Award winner Elling performs alongside members of the Choir during this one-night-only concert. 7:30pm Harris Theater for Music and Dance 205 E Randolph St, <http://HarrisTheaterChicago.org>

**Angela Koenig** Local author of *Rendezvous in the Himalaya*. Two women meet, one guiding a UN official through the Himalayan highlands for a secret meeting with a Tibetan monk, the other adrift in Nepal, heartbroken over the recent loss of her brother to AIDS; the other 7:30pm Women & Children First Bookstore 5233 N Clark St <http://www.womenandchildrenfirst.com>

## Friday, May 16

**Queer Prom 2014** Dancing, food, information booths about LGBTQ youth & allies to celebrate fearlessly who they are, our communities, and prom. Tickets at door, Students/Youth \$10, Adult Youth Allies \$25 6:00pm - 11:00pm National Museum of Mexican Art 1852 W. 19th St. <https://www.facebook.com/events/205626449647358/>

**Ignite: Celebrating AIDS Foundation of Chicago's 30 Years of Service** Igniting AIDS Foundation of Chicago's 30th year of service. Open bar, delectable world fare, and dancing. Guests will also delight in live glass artistry and roof-top views of sunset over the skyline. Honoring Michael Bauer with the Civic Leadership Award and Robert Mink with the Lori Kaufman Volunteer Award. Music by DJ Moose. Tickets begin at \$185, available at [events.aidschicago.org](http://events.aidschicago.org). 6:00pm - 9:00pm Ignite Glass Studios, 401 N. Armour St. [events.aidschicago.org](http://events.aidschicago.org)

**Astraea Lesbian Foundation for Justice 2014 Fueling the Frontlines Awards** Celebrating the life and legacy of Vernita Gray, as well as honoring longtime Chicago activists Tracy Baim and Julio Rodriguez. Musician Toshi Reagon will be part of the evening. 6:30pm Mayne Stage, 1328 W. Morse Ave., <http://www.astraeafoundation.org/news/315/60/2014-Fueling-the-Frontlines-Awards/d,home-news>

**Team CUR's Party Monster Bus** A Chicago outlaw bus crawl. Proceeds will go toward Keith Stryker's fundraising efforts for AIDS/LifeCycle & Ride For AIDS Chicago. Pre-game at Hydrate until 7:30, then

stops include Downtown Bar & Lounge, EXIT, Mary's Attic, then back to Hydrate. Paypal \$25 to [isaachar@yahoo.com](mailto:isaachar@yahoo.com) to secure your space on the bus; include "Party Monster" in the memo. 6:30pm - 1:30am Hydrate Nightclub 3458 N Halsted St.

**Vieux Carre performance and Out at Raven reception** Tennessee Williams' autobiographical play, one of the few times he wrote openly about himself as a gay man. In it, a young writer in 1938 moves to a ramshackle French Quarter rooming house that's home to an assortment of desperate and eccentric characters. Free wine and cheese reception at 6:30 for LGBT community and friends, prior to the 7:30 performance of *Vieux Carre*. \$36 general, \$31 seniors, \$15 students. 6:30pm Raven Theatre West Theatre, 6157 N Clark St., 773-338-2177 <http://www.raventheatre.com>

**Nocturnal Wonderland** Sponsored by the Chicago Public Schools Gay-Straight Alliance Clubs, is the third annual LGBT prom for students. 7:00pm - 10:00pm Edwin G. Foreman High School, 3235 N. LeClaire Ave., Chicago Tickets: <http://chicagog-saprom.bpt.me>

**Chicago Sky Women's National Basketball Association, Chicago Sky vs. Indiana Fever** 7:30pm Allstate Arena 6920 N Mannheim Rd., Rosemont, [www.wnba.com/sky](http://www.wnba.com/sky) Tickets: [http://www.ticketmaster.com/Chicago-Sky-tickets/artist/1020273?tm\\_link=edp\\_Artist\\_Name](http://www.ticketmaster.com/Chicago-Sky-tickets/artist/1020273?tm_link=edp_Artist_Name)

## Saturday, May 17

**Springfield Pride** More information to come. 12:00am - 10:00pm PrideFest Center, 5th & Capitol, Springfield, Illinois, <http://www.springfieldpride.org>

**LGBT Equality Institute** Equality Illinois, in partnership with Lambda Legal, hosts a day-long conference geared at bringing together our state's LGBT community and allies, progressive advocates, and community groups to discuss issues facing LGBTs in Illinois. \$50 9:00am - 5:00pm Embassy Suites Downtown/Lakefront 511 N. Columbus Dr. Tickets: [https://equalityfederation.salsalabs.com/o/35010/p/salsa/event/common/public?event\\_KEY=3038](https://equalityfederation.salsalabs.com/o/35010/p/salsa/event/common/public?event_KEY=3038)

**Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance** Weekly Saturday meetings. A peer-led support and education group for people with mood disorders and family and friends. Ask receptionist for room number. 11:00am - 12:30pm Center on Halsted 3656 N Halsted 872-216-3272 <http://www.dbsa-glbtc-chicago.com>

**Fierce & Fabulous** Illinois Safe Schools Alliance hosts a spring fund raiser 4:00pm - 7:00pm Sidetrack 3349 N Halsted St Tickets: <https://donatenow.networkforgood.org/1440485/mobile>

**Spring Dance & Auction** \$12 includes appetizers & beverages (beer, wine, soda) 7:00pm - 11:00pm Holy Covenant MCC, 9145 Grant, Brookfield



## ONE FINE GRAY

Friday, May 16

Astraea Lesbian Foundation will honor the late activist Vernita Gray (above), among others, at Mayne Stage.

Photo by Hal Baim

**LPL Spring Game Night** Bring your favorite game, from trivia and Jenga to the traditional staple, the 52-card deck. Free parking at the Grand Plaza. Fellowship, food and beverage \$15, payable at the door. 7:00pm Grand Plaza, 540 N. State St., <http://www.lplchicago.com>

**Chicago Gay Men's Chorus, Bouncing Off The Walls: Broadway Our Way** Celebrating the most recent Broadway hits, CGMC reimagines selections from *The Book of Mormon*, *Newsies*, *Kinky Boots*, and more. 8:00pm North Shore Center for the Performing Arts 9501 Skokie Blvd. Skokie, <http://www.cgmc.org/event/2014/bouncing-walls-broadway-our-way>

**Femelle Beauty Collective Sex Kiki Forum** For all female identifying adults, this includes: transgender, male bodied, and cisgender individuals to appreciate the full spectrum of female energy. 8:00pm - 11:00pm [femellecollective@gmail.com](mailto:femellecollective@gmail.com)

## Sunday, May 18

**Rainbow Sunday** Recognizing and giving thanks for the LGBT community and emphasizing God's gift of diversity. An outdoor ceremony with prayer will be held at 9:50 a. with a rainbow symbol added to the church outdoor signage. 9:45am - 11:00am, 847-724-2210 <http://www.gccucc.org>

**National anthem singing contest** Arrive by 7:30 to sign up, free to enter. Contest starts at 8. There will be two rounds: First round is song of your choice; second round will be the National Anthem. There will be a karaoke machine to pick your

first-round song. Multiple people can advance straight to semi-finals at Sidetrack to sing the National Anthem at a Cubs game at Wrigley Field. For more info, go to [outatwrigley.com](http://outatwrigley.com) 7:30pm - 12:00am Parlour on Clark 6341 N Clark <http://www.outatwrigley.com>

**Angelique Munro's Birthday Show** Diva Angelique's birthday show/70s Disco Night. Showtime is 8 pm sharp. Featuring drag divas Dena Richards, Miss Sassy Trade, Monique Moyet and Bianca Chablis. Hosted by Angelique Munro along with DJ David. 8:00pm - 12:00am @mosphere Bar 5355 N Clark St <http://www.atmospherebar.com>

## Tuesday, May 20

**Homolatte** Hosted by Scott Free, Homolatte is all ages & free admission. Nic Kay, Desiree Galeski 7:30pm Big Chicks 5024 N Sheridan Rd <http://www.homolatte.com>

## Wed., May 21

**Affinity Forty Plus Meeting** Includes but is not limited to individuals who identify as lesbian, bisexual, or transgender women who are at least 40 years of age. Led by Glynis Morris. Activities defined by participants. Meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month. 7pm, 1424 E 53rd St, <http://www.affinity95.org>

**Bear Pride XX Welcome Party** Bear Pride kicks off at The Manhandler and the world-famous "Back 40." 9:30pm - 2:00am Manhandler 1948 N Halsted St <http://www.bearpride.org>

## Thursday, May 22

**Windy City Gay Idol** 12th annual talent search. 8 p.m. sign up 9:00pm Phoenix Bar & Nightclub 1932 E Higgins Rd. Elk Grove Village, IL 60007 <http://www.windycitymediagroup.com/pdf/Idol2014-8x10.pdf>

**Skin Trade 2014: Grabbys Opening Party** Featuring the superstars of porn and DJ Chi Chi LaRue. Stars Trenton Ducati, Levi Karter, Tony Orion, David Christian, Armond Rizzo and Hans Berlin, plus many more. \$5 donation benefitting TPAN. 9:00pm - 4:00am Hydrate Nightclub 3458 N Halsted St., <http://www.hydratechicago.com>

## Friday, May 23

**International Mr. Leather 2014** Leather Market, leather and fetish vendors. Noon - 7pm. \$5 donation, all proceeds go to the Leather Archives and Museum. Doors open at 8 pm for IML Opening Ceremonies. Unveiling of the IML 2014 Flag. Gold for \$180, Silver for \$165 and Bronze for \$150. 12:00pm Marriott Chicago Downtown Magnificent Mile, 540 N. Michigan Ave., <http://www.imrl.com> Tickets: <https://www.boxofficetickets.com/go/event?id=237015>



## Cicada play in final two weeks

These are the last two weeks to catch the Jeff-nominated world premiere, *Cicada*. Written by openly gay playwright Jerre Dye, the play runs through May 25 at the Greenhouse Theater Center.

For tickets and info, visit [cicadatheplay.com](http://cicadatheplay.com). Photo of Amy Matheny (Lily) and Aaron Kirby (Ace) by Joe Mazza of Brave-Lux

## Lambda Award finalists at Sulzer Library on May 14

The Chicago Public Library's LGBT Committee, in cooperation with the Lambda Literary Awards, will present book readings and discussions from seven Chicago-area nominees for the 2014 Lambda award.

The free program takes place on Wed., May 14, at 6:30 p.m. at the Sulzer Regional Library, 4455 N. Lincoln Ave.

The finalists who will be present include Laura Krugoff (*My Brother's Name*), Elizabeth Lindsey Rodgers (*Chord Box*), Mary Anne Mohanraj (*The Stars Change*), Mark Zubro (*Pawn of Satan*), Barrie Jean Borich (*Body Geographic*), L.A. Fields (*My Dear Watson*) and Edmond Manning (*King Mai*).

Visit [chicagopubliclibrary.org](http://chicagopubliclibrary.org) or call 312-744-7616 for more information.



Windy City Gay Chorus and Aria. Photo by Tracy Baim

## WCPA choral groups host concert, awards

"To Russia With Love"—the annual benefit in support of Windy City Gay Chorus and Aria Women's Chorus—was held May 3. The evening included the premiere of their new "You Are Beautiful" music video, to be shared with Russian LGBT youth facing oppression as part of the It Gets Better campaign.

This year's Voices of Change award, which honors those who are a force for transformation in the LGBT community, was accepted by Kevin Boyer on behalf of the March on Springfield for Marriage Equality, which helped to successfully secure marriage equality for all in Illinois.

For more about Windy City Gay Chorus and Aria Women's Chorus, visit [www.windycitysings.org](http://www.windycitysings.org).

# BILLY MASTERS

"Lainie Kazan couldn't be here tonight. On her way to the theater, she passed a Sizzler!"—Frank DeCaro's quip about our dear friend Lainie, who had to cancel her appearance at the annual STAGE gala because she was shooting a film. Sadly, it also robbed us of the opportunity of dousing her with water and re-enacting her Playboy pictorial.

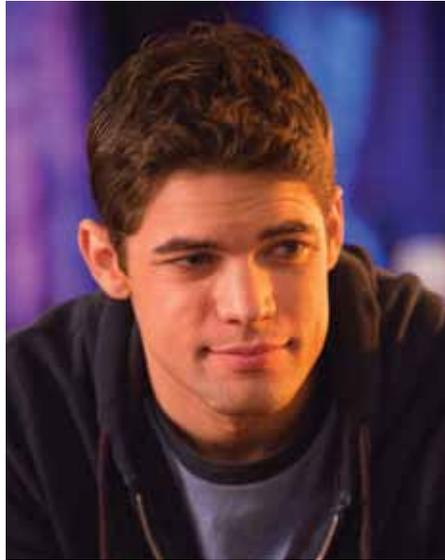
Who are the Billy Masters of tomorrow? Don't worry, I'm not going anywhere. Having scores of you hang on my every word for close to two decades, I often wonder if I've inspired anyone to pick up the gossip gauntlet when I eventually start to act my age. When I was a mere tyke, there were two people who made an impact on me: Rex Reed and Rona Barrett. With those two role models, is it any wonder I turned out to not only be gay but to also be a well-known syndicated columnist? Rona brought the glitz and glamour of Hollywood into the Masters household. And Reed informed and entertained, while showing how to make a hybrid art form out of criticism and humor. If my scribbles have amounted to anything, I owe a large debt of gratitude to these two individuals.

As luck would have it, last weekend I met both of them at the same event! Would that I could have gotten a photo between the two of them, because surely I am the love child of Rona and Rex. Nonetheless, meeting them individually had to suffice—along with thanking them for inspiring me (and getting photos, naturally). This trajectory took place at the annual STAGE benefit. The Southland Theatre Artists Goodwill Event celebrated 30 years of raising money and awareness for AIDS Project Los Angeles with a salute to the movies. This year's gala brought out a glittering array of celebs, such as Betty Buckley, Debby Boone, Patricia Morison, Richard Chamberlain, Mitzi Gaynor, Donna McKechnie, Carole Cook, Helen Reddy and Mary Wilson. Hosting the evening was TMC's Robert Osborne, who also interviewed some luminaries, including Shirley Jones.

I hate to play favorites, but one of the stand-outs of the evening was Jason Gould and his gorgeous rendition of "The Way You Look Tonight." While spending time with him and his luminous aunt Roslyn Kind, Jason confessed that he was under the weather and wasn't sure how he sounded. He had nothing to worry about. The ageless Patricia Morison re-created "I Hate Men" from "Kiss Me, Kate" complete with clanking plates. At 99 years old, she is a marvel. Arguably, the show's highlight was the painstakingly recreated dance number of "Begin the Beguine" performed by David Engel and Jeffrey Scott Parsons.

Not only was it terrific, but they more than held their own while dancing in front of video footage of the original number from Broadway Melody of 1940 with Fred Astaire and Eleanor Powell. The man holding the whole show together was John McDaniel, who not only was the music director but also did the arrangements. I was honored that director David Galigan let it be known that the one person he wanted to meet that evening was Billy Masters. Although I'm certain that we've met before (we have so many mutual friends), it was a pleasure to congratulate him in person. Bravo to everyone involved. Needless to say, quite a few photos and videos can be found on BillyMasters.com.

It's been one of those weeks in Los Angeles when there are more things to go to than evenings in a week. Fresh from his lead role in Broadway's Newsies and his run on Smash was Jeremy Jordan, making his West Coast cabaret debut at the Catalina Bar and Grill (under the expert auspices of Chris Isaacson). Not only does he have a lovely voice, but he presents himself in a natural and likeable manner. As I said to my companion that night, he's turning into the type of performer I hoped Cheyenne



Jeremy Jordan (above) is an impressive performer, Billy says. Photo by Van Redin

Jackson would be. As talented as Cheyenne is, to me he always comes off as somewhat guarded and slick—and I'm not just talking about his jerk-off video. But speaking of videos, some footage of Jordan in action can be found on our website.

Let me interrupt this survey of my week in Tinseltown by asking a question. Did I not adequately report about the video we have of Cheyenne pleasuring himself to completion? I thought I did so *ad nauseum*, but oodles of people say to me that they've never heard about it. Well, you can hear and see every inch of it on BillyMasters.com.

Last week, Nate Berkus married young Jeremiah Brent. Their wedding took place at the New York Public Library—how *Sex and the City* of them. It was the first same-sex ceremony to take place in the landmark building. Because product placement is everything, fabrics from Nate's Calico collection were on the tables as guests ate off his plates (available at Target). Ironically, I had a totally different story about the "couple" to share with you this week. But in light of the happy news, why go there? That said, I'm happy to start a pool if anyone else wants in.

Lance Bass is also poised for a same-sex marriage, but he's going a somewhat different route. His and Michael Turchin's nuptials will be filmed for a TV special. And why not? If numerous Bachelors and Bachelorettes can do it, so can a mega-pop star. Bass said, "We're filming it for an E! wedding special. It will probably air around Valentine's Day, so it has to be before Valentine's Day, I know that."

Could it be that a certain notable actor is worried about becoming known for all the wrong reasons? So say people close to the formerly studious stud who tell me that he's rather concerned that his name could turn up amidst quite a few others. While he's certainly familiar to being part of a lengthy crew (and sporting a notable beard or two), he doesn't necessarily want to be known as part of this particular list. What list, you ask? A list of witnesses in a certain tawdry case that could have tantamount ramifications on his career. Not that he's unfamiliar with getting rammed. He just doesn't want the whole world to know about it.

When I won't name a name or an alias, it's definitely time to end yet another column. Lest I do permanent damage to anyone's reputation, I'd recommend checking out [www.BillyMasters.com](http://www.BillyMasters.com), the site that's really into you. For your more specific needs, drop a note to me at [Billy@BillyMasters.com](mailto:Billy@BillyMasters.com) and I promise to get back to you before Rona, Rex and I appear on a special episode of Maury! Until next time, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.

**Sidetrack with a scruffy edge**

**HOSTS: EDWIN & DON**

**#WOOF**  
Wednesdays  
@Sidetrack

**3 buck Fireball Shots**

**PBR Bucket**  
Four 12 oz cans  
**10 bucks**  
or \$3 each

**SIDETRACK**

3349 N. Halsted  
SidetrackChicago.com

f t  
/SidetrackBar

## Reeling to take place in Sept.; call for entries

Reeling 2014: The 32nd Chicago LGBT International Film Festival is now accepting film and video entries for this year's festival, which will take place Sept. 18-25.

The event will screen approximately 75-100 independent films and videos during that span.

Entries are eligible for audience awards and juried cash awards in the categories of Best Narrative Feature, Best Documentary Feature, Best Narrative Short, Best Documentary Short, and Best Animated or Experimental Film.

To download a PDF of the entry form and guidelines, visit <http://reelingfilmfestival.org> or submit online through FilmFreeway or Withoutabox. The entry form can also be e-mailed or snail-mailed upon request; contact [reeling@chicagofilmmakers.org](mailto:reeling@chicagofilmmakers.org).

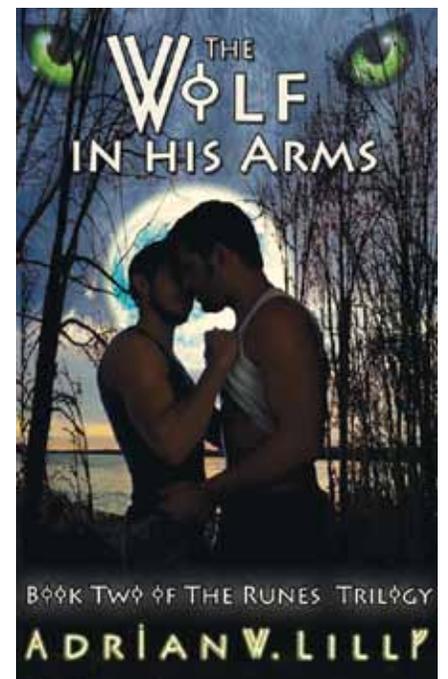
## Midwest is setting in gay werewolf novel

Chicago, Detroit and a small town in Iowa are among locales for *The Wolf in His Arms*: Book Two of *The Runes Trilogy*.

*The Wolf in His Arms* opens 10 months after the end of *The Wolf at His Door*, book one in the trilogy.

*The Wolf in His Arms* is currently the number-one gay/lesbian horror novel on Amazon. It is available as an ebook at Amazon at [www.amazon.com/Wolf-His-Arms-Runes-Trilogy-ebook/dp/B00IL2NLOG](http://www.amazon.com/Wolf-His-Arms-Runes-Trilogy-ebook/dp/B00IL2NLOG).

*The Wolf at His Door* is currently discounted to 99 cents and is available at [www.amazon.com/Wolf-at-His-Door-Runes-Trilogy-ebook/dp/B00DR4H7QG](http://www.amazon.com/Wolf-at-His-Door-Runes-Trilogy-ebook/dp/B00DR4H7QG).



[amazon.com/The-Wolf-Door-Runes-Trilogy-ebook/dp/B00DR4H7QG](http://amazon.com/The-Wolf-Door-Runes-Trilogy-ebook/dp/B00DR4H7QG).

Lilly is also the author of *The Wolf at His Door*, *The Devil You Know* and *Red Haze*.

## 'Aqua Girl' in Miami Beach May 14-18

*Aqua Girl*—advertised as "the largest charity event for the LBT community in the nation"—will take place in Miami Beach, Fla., for the 15th consecutive year.

Attendees will enjoy appetizers from award-winning chef Robyn Almodovar. Also, for the second time, *Aqua Girl* will be holding a VIP cocktail reception in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, to start things.

Visit [www.AquaGirl.org](http://www.AquaGirl.org).

## SAM from page 24

professional sports," she said. "The Rams chose him, knowing who they're getting. That is HUGE. In the past, a player may have come out after leaving the game, or in the case of Jason Collins between seasons and teams. Props to you Michael Sams, now go forth and conquer!"

Chicago's Brian Walker, an out former college football player, said that "judging an athlete by his or her ability is now the law of the land." He added, "Michael Sam being openly and honestly accepted in the NFL has made this possible. Gay and lesbian athletes have been making great strides in the past few years, but now I believe this is the end of the beginning. Now all athletes, no matter what their background, have a playing field."



Screenshot from ESPN

The Rams were scheduled to hold news conferences with all 11 draft picks on May 13 at Rams Park in St. Louis. Sam was slated to participate, with additional time slotted for him due to the projected demand.

Brian Kupersmit, the president of the Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association (CMSA), said Sam's draft "shows that no matter what your sexual orientation is, a good athlete is a good athlete."

Kupersmit added, "There will be a lot of pressure for Michael to be successful, but hopefully he will focus on football and fulfill his potential."

David Munar, president of Howard Brown Health Center in Chicago, added, "So happy for Michael who is breaking new ground as [an] athlete who embraces and celebrates who he is."

# Excitement abounds as Chicago Sky opens 2014 season

BY ROSS FORMAN

The Chicago Sky finally made the WNBA playoffs last season—the first time in team history. But the Sky's quick exit—back-to-back losses to Indiana—is motivating this year's team.

"Making it to the playoffs was awesome, but having our season cut so short was very disappointing. That said, you learn and I'm eager to get back out there and work toward our goal for the [2014] season: get past the first round of the playoffs," said Sylvia Fowles, a three-time WNBA All-Star and the reigning WNBA Defensive Player of the Year.

"Once you're on the big stage, which is the playoffs, you should always be ready to play," she added. "But you live and you learn. I'm not sure we were the best prepared for the playoffs because we [mostly] had never been to the playoffs."

Fowles is, without question, one of the biggest concerns for the team this season.

That's because the Sky announced in mid-April that Fowles had undergone arthroscopic surgery of the hip to repair a torn labrum and impingement. She was expected to be out of action for three to six months following the early March surgery.

"I am doing well. Can you tell?" she asked, smiling, on May 6. "I'm feeling really good, ahead of schedule [for rehabilitation]. I'm looking to be back very soon."

Fowles wouldn't define when "soon" may be.

Fowles, the team's 6'6" center, averaged 16.3 points and a league-best 11.5 rebounds in 32 games last season. Fowles was the WNBA Eastern Conference Player of the Month last July,

August and September.

She will be on the bench at the Allstate Arena in Rosemont on May 16, when the Sky play hosts to Indiana for the season-opener.

But likely back in the team's baby blue uniform sooner than some expected.

"It was frustrating a month ago, but now that I'm able to do a few things, it isn't so bad.

I'm not in bad spirits. I'm just looking forward to getting stronger and getting back on the court," she said.

Sky head coach and general manager Pokey Chatman, speaking at the team's media day on May 6, said Fowles "will be back sooner than later."

Fowles, who was born in Miami and attended Louisiana State University, was a U.S. Olympic gold medal winner at the Summer Olympics in 2008 and 2012. Her WNBA career has spanned 166 regular-season games, and she's averaged 16 points and 9.8 rebounds per game. She started all 32 Sky games in 2013.

"Sylvia is a specimen of an athlete; there's no one like her in this world," said the Sky's Elena Delle Donne, the 2013 WNBA Rookie of the Year. "She's incredible and going to leave a legacy for the rest of her life."

The Sky is coming off a 24-10 season in 2013, led by Delle Donne's 18 points, Fowles' rebounding, and Courtney Vandersloot's 5 assists per game.

"The team is looking pretty good," Fowles said. "I'm actually sad that I'm not getting a chance to be a part of it [when the season opens]; it's kind of hard sitting on the sidelines, just having to talk and not actually going out there and showing them what to do. That's



Chicago Sky players Sylvia Fowles (left) and Elena Delle Donne clown around during a photo shoot. Photo by Ross Forman

been the toughest part.

"We've got a lot of new faces this season, a lot of ladies who want to be here. And the energy level is just ridiculous. Plus, the talent some of these girls have will make a difference."

Chatman said it took her a few months after the team's playoff ouster to truly appreciate what the team achieved in 2013. "It was a breakthrough season, but just a small step, and definitely something we need to build on," she said.

The Sky plays 34 games in 96 days, with its final regular-season game set for Sept. 17 against San Antonio. Chicago opens with six of its first seven games at home and, on June 25, the Sky starts a five-game road trip. In July, the team plays eight road games and only four

at home.

"We want to bring a championship to Chicago," Chatman said.

Markeisha Gatling (North Carolina State University) was Chicago's first pick, and the 10th overall, in the 2014 WNBA Draft, followed by Jennifer Brandon (California) as the 22nd overall pick in the second round. Jamierra Faulkner (Southern Mississippi) was chosen in the third round.

"I think you're going to see us get up and down the floor a lot more; I think they're comfortable with that [style of play]. I think the new additions [to the team] are a lot more athletic at some positions," Chatman said. "I think we have the ability to move players around, players who can play multiple positions. That will really help."

### The Law Offices of Roger V. McCaffrey-Boss & Associates



When experience counts...  
In service to the community  
for over 35 years.

- Bankruptcy
- Wills, Trusts & Probate
- Real Estate Closings
- Premarital Agreements

33 N. Dearborn St., Suite 800, Chicago, IL 60602  
312-263-8800 RVMLAWYER@AOL.COM

We are a debt relief agency.  
We help people file for bankruptcy relief under the bankruptcy code.

### Ray J. Koenig III and Clark Hill PLC



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.

Tel: 312.985.5938 | Fax: 312.985.5985  
rkoenig@clarkhill.com | clarkhill.com

CLARK HILL

ARIZONA ILLINOIS MICHIGAN WASHINGTON DC



We've Got You Covered Since 1967

## ROOFING

- Flat & Shingle Roofs • Tear-Offs

## GUTTERS, SOFFIT & FACIA

## MASONRY

Tuckpointing • Chimneys • Lintel Repairs • Cement Work • Sidewalks etc.

Free Estimates 773-384-6300

www.SecondCityConstruction.com

Remember: "The Bitterness of Poor Quality Remains,  
Long After the Sweetness of Low Price is Forgotten."

We Are Quality Crazy!

# CONNEXIONS

## MAKE IT YOUR BUSINESS

**Call now for a free 30 minute consultation!  
OR Refer 2 friends to receive a free treatment!**

**SPIRIT SEAL ACUPUNCTURE**  
provides Oriental Medical therapies to the Chicago GLBT community.

Specialties include:

- Addiction
- HIV
- Fibromyalgia
- Mental Health (Depression, Grief, Anxiety)

**CALL TODAY FOR AN APPOINTMENT**  
Mathew Kulas,  
Licensed Acupuncturist  
**716.341.9040**  
[www.spiritseal.com](http://www.spiritseal.com)



CALL ME FOR A COMPLIMENTARY CONSULTATION



John Clinton Coleman, Broker  
Multi-million Dollar Producer & Top Producing Broker

773.895.4964  
JohnClintonColeman@gmail.com  
JohnClintonColeman.com

@properties

**JOHN CLINTON COLEMAN**  
YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD REALTOR

**PROVIDING FOR OUR COMMUNITY**



Expert knowledge in the following areas for individuals and groups:

- Term Life Insurance and Permanent Plans
- Medical, Disability, Dental & Accident Plans
- Retirement Planning & Savings
- Long-Term Care
- And much more;

all to protect yourself and the ones you love

Contact us at [www.GayInsurance.com](http://www.GayInsurance.com)

**David Kulawiak** **Paul Dooley**  
david@ocicinc.com paul@ocicinc.com  
773-828-5070 877-GAY-NSUR

OUR COMMUNITY INSURANCE CONSULTANTS



**JOSEPH RICE**  
INTERIORS, INC.  
CHICAGO  
(773) 271-2361  
[www.josephriceinteriors.com](http://www.josephriceinteriors.com)  
Specializing in Drapery Treatments

**iloilo**



**CUSTOM FRAMING**  
Framing Chicago's art since 1991.  
**25% off Custom Framing!**  
1478 W. Berwyn - 773.784.3962



**Bernadette Carter**  
Broker Associate  
773-467-5339  
708-912-2769  
berni.carter@cbexchange.com

**Serving Chicago and Suburbs**  
"Let my 25 years of experience work for you"

PROUD MEMBER OF THE COMMUNITY

**HOM Inspired Interiors**  
Ray & Son

Gay owned and operated for over 35 years  
Serving Chicago and Suburbs

- Carpet, Tile and Wood Flooring
- Hunter Douglas® Blinds Priority Dealer
- Custom Window Treatments
- Granite and Stone Countertops
- Complete Remodeling Services
- Custom Backsplash and Shower Designs
- Free In-Home Estimates
- Free Design Consultations

**847-541-4848**  
[www.hombyrayandson.com](http://www.hombyrayandson.com)

**Mulryan & York**  
Attorneys At Law

4001 N. Wolcott  
Chicago, IL 60613  
(773) 248-8887

It's Your Home.  
Let Us Help You Stay There.



Call today to request your free information kit on home care services.  
(773) 340-3932 | [www.cmsschicago.org](http://www.cmsschicago.org)

**CMSS METHODIST SENIOR HOME CARE**  
A member of CHICAGO AND MICHIGAN METHODIST SENIOR SERVICES

The Most Extensive Senior Services Network on Chicago's North Side

**PARKVIEW PET SUPPLIES**  
EST. 1921

5358 N. Broadway  
Chicago, IL 60640  
**773-561-0001**

*Sensible Food  
Sensible Prices*



**Discounts as big as a house. Or condo. Or apartment.**

Linda Kuczka, Agent  
954 W Webster  
Chicago, IL 60614  
Bus: 773-975-9111  
[www.lindakuczka.com](http://www.lindakuczka.com)

See just how big your savings could be. Your savings could add up to hundreds of dollars when you put all your policies together under our State Farm® roof.

**GET TO A BETTER STATE™**  
CALL AN AGENT OR VISIT US ONLINE TODAY.

**State Farm**

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company,  
State Farm Indemnity Company, Bloomington, IL



**Susan O'Dell, PhD**  
*Down to earth, change oriented therapy*

I see individuals, couples, children & families for crisis and ongoing work.

I also offer wellness support for persons living with chronic illness, including cancer and HIV-AIDS, their partners and families.

773.262.7010  
1435 W. Rosemont Ave, #1W, Chicago, IL, 60660

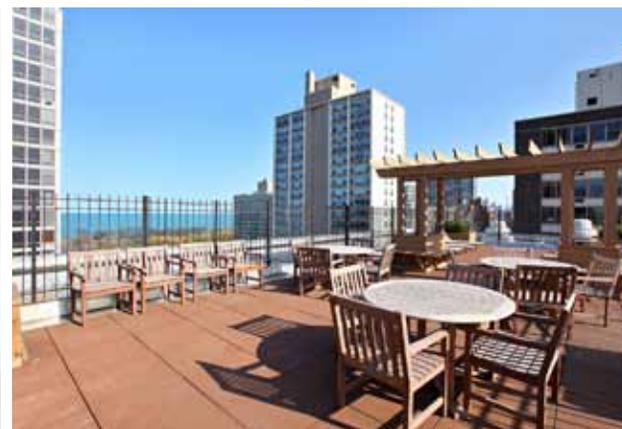
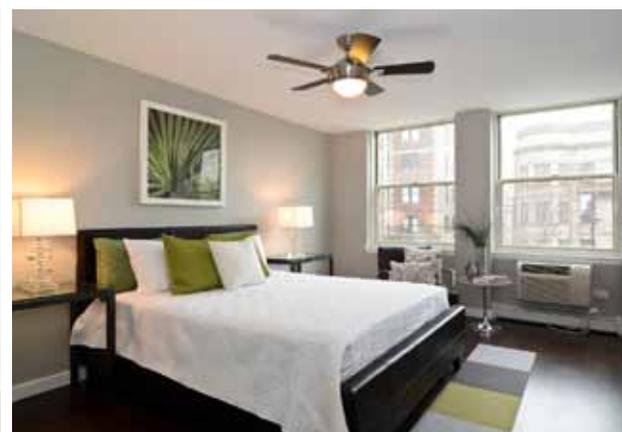
# 3033

NORTH SHERIDAN

# GRAND OPENING

SATURDAY, MAY 17 & SUNDAY, MAY 18 FROM 12-3PM

MODERN URBAN LIVING IN ONE OF CHICAGO'S BEST LOCATIONS



## NEW MODEL UNITS NOW AVAILABLE!

Smart Floor Plans  
Pre-Wired Technology  
Garage Parking Options  
Still Time to Customize  
VA & FHA Approved

**1 BEDROOMS**  
**FROM THE LOW \$200,000'S**

**2 BEDROOMS**  
**FROM THE LOW \$300,000'S**

Hardwood Floors  
Stainless Steel Appliances  
Granite Countertops  
Glass Tile Backsplash  
Porcelain Tile Bathrooms

Learn more at [www.3033Sheridan.com](http://www.3033Sheridan.com)

Contact our dedicated sales team at

**312.733.7201** or [3033Sheridan@ConlonRealEstate.com](mailto:3033Sheridan@ConlonRealEstate.com)

ANOTHER CONLON & CO MERCHANT BANK  
STRUCTURED REAL ESTATE PROJECT

**CONLON**  
A REAL ESTATE COMPANY

CONLON: A REAL ESTATE COMPANY  
2044 W ROSCOE ST, CHICAGO, IL 60618