Serving New England’s LGBTQ Communities

Get Konnected, Bay Windows Present

Boston’s Most Influential LGBTQ+ People of Color

By Colette A.M Phillips, President & CEO, Colette Phillips Communications Founder, Get Konnected!

Colette Phillips Communications, Inc. and Get Konnected! have partnered with Bay Windows, Tufts Health Plan and Eastern Bank to produce this historic first time GK25 list honoring Boston’s Most Influential LGBTQ+ People of Color.

Massachusetts has the second-largest LGBTQ+ population in the nation, composing roughly 5% of the state’s population and Boston ranks 6th among cities with the highest LGBTQ+ population. While we have made some strides to become a more inclusive city and state, LGBTQ+ persons are still discriminated against. Up until 2016, gay and transgender U.S. military veterans were barred from marching in the South Boston St. Patrick’s Day Parade. In creating the GK25LGBTQ+, we invited members of the public to identify LGBTQ+ individuals of color who are boldly envisioning, creating and transforming the future of Boston while serving as role models for our next generation. Honorees of the Boston 25 Most Influential LGBTQ+ People of Color were selected from a variety of fields ranging from academia, the arts, technology, healthcare, financial services, law enforcement, public service to social justice. We are also proud to honor eight LGBTQ+ pioneers and an ally on whose shoulders we stand.

GK25LGBTQ+ Honorees

Adrian Jacques Ambrose, MD
CHILD AND ADOLESCENT PSYCHIATRIST AT MASS GENERAL HOSPITAL

Dr. Ambrose is a child and adolescent psychiatrist at Massachusetts General Hospital and a Commonwealth Fellow in Minority Health Policy at Harvard Medical School. He has served on the governing council and board of trustees for national organizations, including the American Psychiatric Association (APA) and the American Medical Association (AMA). Dr. Ambrose is passionate about the systemic factors of healthcare delivery and health inequity in pediatric ethnic and sexual minorities. He has published and presented nationally on the intersection of ethnic and sexual minorities, conversion therapy/sexual orientation/gender identity change efforts (SOCE/GICE), pediatric transgender mental health, and Intersex/Differences in Sex Development (DSD) mental healthcare.

Alex Gonzalez
MEDICAL DIRECTOR AT FENWAY HEALTH

Alex Gonzalez, MD, MPH is Medical Director at Fenway Health, where he oversees a staff of more than 50 physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, and other health care providers in the delivery of comprehensive medical care to Fenway’s approximately 35,000 patients, 50 percent of whom are LGBTQ+. Dr. Gonzalez is an Assistant Professor of Medicine at Harvard Medical School, an Attending Physician at BIDMC, and a certified HIV Specialist with the American Academy of HIV Medicine. He was named the Outstanding Massachusetts Community Health Center Physician by the Massachusetts League of Community Health Centers in 2016.

Billy Porter makes Emmys history and the category is 'love'

By LEANNE ITALIE
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP)—And the award for best actor in a drama series goes to... Billy Porter, a black transgender man for FX’s “Pose.”

Porter added: “I have the right, you have the right, we all have the right.”

As the crowd gasped and clapped politely, Porter thanked his mother, Clorinda, saying “there’s no stronger, more resilient woman who has graced this earth. I love you mommy.”

He also thanked his show’s co-creator, Ryan Murphy: “Ryan Murphy, you saw me! You believed in us.”

The LGBTQ advocacy group GLAAD congratulated Porter in a statement “for this well-deserved honor and for always using his work and platform to showcase the power of being authentic.”

“Pose,” set in the 1980s and 1990s, illuminates New York’s African American and Latino LGBTQ ballroom culture and the houses formed among the dancers and models as they compete...
CHARLOTTEVILLE, Va. (AP)—Several University of Virginia students want to overturn a ban that prohibits sexually active gay and bisexual men from donating blood.

The Daily Progress reports Austin Housck and others have banded together to create Hoomoglicon, a social welfare organization with branches at other schools including Virginia Tech and the College of William & Mary. The Food and Drug Administration instituted a lifetime donation ban on gay and bisexual men at the height of the AIDS epidemic in 1983.

The policy was diluted in 2015 and now excludes donations from men who have had sex with men within 12 months. The agency considered ending the ban in 2016 after a mass shooting at a gay club in Florida, but decided there wasn’t enough evidence supporting the change.

Utah city’s gay pride banners spark debate over public signs

ST. GEORGE, Utah (AP)—Municipal officials in Utah say they want to reevaluate an ordinance that allowed banners for a gay pride festival to be hung from city light posts.

The Spectrum reported banners in St. George for the Pride of Southern Utah festival Saturday have caused a discussion of possible limits on signage hung from city-owned property.

The festival that drew hundreds of people to the city in southwest Utah also caused online debates about the banners on St. George Boulevard.

The discussion began after an email from Councilwoman Michele Randall saying she was unhappy with the banners was posted on social media.

Randall’s message says the city council should reconsider allowing “political statements” on municipal property.

Mayor Jon Pike says the policy that likely predates the current council should be reconsidered.


Judge tosses lawsuit challenging Md. conversion therapy ban

By MICHAEL KUNZELMAN
Associated Press

COLLEGE PARK, Md. (AP)—A federal judge has thrown out a psychotherapist’s lawsuit challenging Maryland’s ban on treating minors with conversion therapy, the practice of trying to change a client’s homosexual orientation.

U.S. District Judge Deborah Chasanow’s ruling on Friday rejected Christopher Doyle’s claims that the state law violates his First Amendment rights to free speech and religious freedom.

The judge said prohibiting the practice of conversion therapy on minors doesn’t prevent licensed therapists from expressing their personal views about conversion therapy to minor clients.

Roger Gannam, one of Doyle’s attorneys, said Monday that they will appeal the judge’s decision. Doyle is represented by lawyers from Liberty Counsel, a Christian legal advocacy organization based in Orlando, Florida.

Gov. Larry Hogan, a Republican, signed the measure into law in May 2018. The law, which took effect in October 2018, made Maryland the 11th state to enact legislation against conversion therapy for minors.

In her 25-page ruling, Chasanow said the legislation is supported by research and findings of professional organizations that demonstrate conversion therapy is likely harmful to minors.

“These sources indicate that conducting conversion therapy on minors could potentially harm their emotional and physical well-being and, thus, prohibiting the practice of conversion therapy on minors would abate the harmful outcomes caused by conversion therapy,” she said.

The law only prohibits conversion therapy when it is conducted by licensed practitioners on minors and prohibits only speech “uttered in the process of conducting conversion therapy,” the judge noted.

During a hearing, Doyle’s attorneys argued the law doesn’t distinguish between voluntary and forced change efforts.

“However, children under the age of 16 do not have capacity to consent to psychological treatment,” the judge wrote, saying Doyle hasn’t offered a viable alternative “that would achieve the narrowing effect he desires.”

Gannam said plaintiffs’ attorneys disagree with the judge’s analysis of the case and the standard she applied in evaluating their First Amendment arguments.

“The mistake is treating the speech of professionals like Mr. Doyle differently from other constitutionally protected speech,” he said.

Doyle also argued that the ban violated and his clients’ First Amendment right to receive information. However, Chasanow ruled in August that Doyle couldn’t bring claims on his clients’ behalf.

Doyle’s lawsuit, filed in January, named Hogan and state Attorney General Brian Frosh, a Democrat, as defendants. Raquel Coombs, a spokeswoman for Frosh’s office said, conversion therapy “relies on the false premise that an LGBTQ individual is broken and must be fixed.”

“Advocates of this type of therapy are selling something that doesn’t make people’s lives better, (but) rather, as the court agreed, is actually harmful to minors,” Coombs said in a statement.

Doyle is a mental health therapist at Patrick Henry College in Purcellville, Virginia, and is executive director of the Institute for Healthy Families in the Washington, D.C., area.

Gay pride flag burned at Wichita home

WICHITA, Kan. (AP)—Authorities are investigating the burning of a gay pride rainbow flag that had been hanging on the front porch of a Wichita home.

Wichita police say the flag was burned between 1 a.m. and 6 a.m. Saturday. At the time, a man, woman and 11-year-old girl were inside the home. It is in the city’s Riverside neighborhood, which is located near the Wichita Art Museum and a botanical garden.

Police are investigating the incident as an aggravated and a hate crime. Anyone with information is urged to call police.

Mormon leader reaffirms church’s opposition to gay marriage

By BRADY McCOMBS
Associated Press

PROVO, Utah (AP)—The leader of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints reaffirmed the religion’s opposition to gay marriage Tuesday, while explaining that leaders lifted a short-lived ban on baptisms for children of gay parents because they felt the “heartache” it caused.

Church president Russell M. Nelson’s remarks in a speech to students at the church-owned Brigham Young University were the most detailed explanation to date of the faith’s surprising move in April to repeal 2015 policies that banned the baptisms and labeled people in same-sex marriages as sinners eligible for expiation.

“We knew that this policy created concern and confusion for some and heartache for others,” Nelson said. “That grieved us. Whenever the sons and daughters of God weep, for whatever reasons, we weep.”

Nelson claimed the original policy was motivated by love and a desire to prevent friction between the beliefs of gay parents and their children.

Nelson became president last year but was a member of a top governing body called the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles when the policy took effect.

Nelson, 95, who is considered a prophet by church members, said the church’s longstanding opposition to gay marriage stems from a belief that he and other leaders must follow God’s law dictates that marriage is restricted to unions between a man and a woman.

He contended that leaders can’t change God’s laws but have the authority to adjust church policy.

The comments marked the latest attempt by the Utah-based faith widely known as the Mormon church to carve out a more empathetic stance toward LGBTQ people while adhering to doctrinal rejection of gay marriage amid widespread societal acceptance.

Critics say the balancing act has led to a confusing push-and-pull of policies that leave LGBTQ members and their allies confused and sometimes distraught.

The 2015 policy angered many and led to protests and some defections.

The church considers homosexual relations a sin, forcing gay and lesbian members to avoid intimate relationships to remain fully-fledged members.

Laura Root was a lifelong member of the church until she was kicked out last year for being in a lesbian relationship. She called Nelson’s explanation of the policy and repeal just a few years later illogical.

She believes Nelson that he and leaders love LGBT members but said there is a dissonance.

“It is loving to say, ‘Yeah we love you but we’re not going to give you the freedom to have romantic love in your life!’ ” said Root, a 49-year-old mental health counselor in Boise, Idaho. “It does not feel loving to me. In fact, it feels very cruel.”

Joe Wheat, a 24-year-old from Corona, California, was among the nearly 19,000 BYU students who packed the basketball arena to listen to Nelson. Wheat said he was happy to hear that a policy that upset his LGBT friends was motivated by love.

“I know it’s really easy to hear about these policy changes and assume the worst,” Wheat said. “More than anything, I felt that everything that is done is really motivated out of love. It’s not meant to tear anybody apart. It’s not meant to hurt anybody.”

see NATIONAL, page 11
Emmys
Continued from page 1

for trophies. Porter, who already had Grammy and Tony awards, beat out nominees Jason Bateman, Sterling K. Brown, Bob Odenkirk, Kit Harington and Milo Ventimiglia.

"I gotta breathe" Porter said. "God bless you all. The category is love, ya'll, love."

He urged his fellow actors to work for change.

"We are the people. We as artists are the people who get to change the molecular structure of the hearts and minds of the people who live on this planet," Porter said. "Please don't ever stop doing that. Please don't ever stop telling the truth."

Jasper J. Lawson, PH.D.
LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST

• Multicultural Issues
• HIV Issues
• Couples & Individual Therapy
• Children in Lesbian / Gay Families

1415 Beacon Street, Rm 222, Brookline, MA
(617) 739-0090

HMO Provider Contracts:
• Blue Cross HMO
• Tufts
• Options
• U.S. Behavioral Health
• Harvard Pilgrim
• Merit Behavioral
• U.S. Healthcare
• United Health Care

Sign up for our weekly newsletter at...
BayWindows.com

Kauffman
Law & Mediation

Joyce Kauffman

Providing Skilled and Compassionate Legal Services in All Areas of Family Law

4238 Washington Street,
Suite 313-315,
Roslindale, MA 02131
617.577.1505

Advertising in the Bay Windows Service Guide Gets Results.
PLACE YOUR AD TODAY: 617.464.7280 x202 • sales@baywindows.com
Continued from page 1

GK25 LGBTQ+ Honorees

Beth Chandler
PRESIDENT AND CEO OF YW BOSTON
Beth Chandler, President & CEO of YW Boston, leads the organization as it strives to build more inclusive environments in Boston through a variety of DE&I services, youth programming, events, and advocacy work. As part of this work, YW Boston’s InclusionBoston program employs a change management process to help partner organizations achieve cultural shifts that support inclusive policies and practices. Ms. Chandler serves on the MA Conference United Church of Christ Board of Directors, the Women’s Workforce Advisory Council and the Leadership Circle of Hope Central Church. A former professional basketball player, she holds an undergraduate degree from Harvard and an MBA from Columbia Business School.

Brandon Thomas Crowley
PASTOR
Rev. Brandon Thomas Crowley, PhD, is an African-American scholar in Black ecclesiology, practical theology, and queer theory. Since 2009, he has served as the Senior Pastor of The Historic Myrtle Baptist Church of West Newton. Reverend Crowley earned a PhD in Religion and Society and a Master of Sacred Theology from Boston University, a Master of Divinity from Harvard University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Religion from Morehouse College in Atlanta. Reverend Crowley has written for the African American Lectionary and is presently serving as an adjunct instructor of Theological Meaning Making for Harvard Divinity School’s field education program.

Chastity Bowick
DIRECTOR AT TRANSGENDER EMERGENCY OF MA INC
Chastity Bowick is a New England-based activist, civil rights leader and transgender health advocate. She is currently Director of the Transgender Emergency Fund, the leading crisis agency for transgender communities in Massachusetts, and is a committee member of the Boston Medical Center Transgender Task Force. She was a committee member of the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition from 2014 to 2018. In 2018 she was the recipient of the Advancing Equity Award presented by The Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth. She was also presented with the PEP for Pride Community Service Award in June 2018 by Fenway Health and Lee Entertainment.

Gary K. Daffin
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT MULTICULTURAL AIDS COALITION
Gary K. Daffin has served as Executive Director of the Multicultural AIDS Coalition (MAC) since 2000. MAC provides HIV/STI prevention, screening, health care navigation, case management, and support services to Black and Latinx populations in Greater Boston. Programs at MAC focus on people living with HIV, gay and bisexual men, people who inject drugs, immigrants, transgender individuals, and women and men engaged in transactional sex. He serves as co-chair of the Massachusetts Gay & Lesbian Political Caucus and is the recipient of the Gerry Studds Award from Fenway Health and the William A. Hinton Award from the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

Grace Moreno
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OAT MA LGBT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Grace Moreno is Executive Director of the Massachusetts LGBT Chamber of Commerce, a nonprofit that cultivates inclusive relationships between LGBT- and allied-owned businesses and the corporate sector throughout the Commonwealth. She has more than 20 years of experience leading state and national not-for-profit organizations. She previously served as Vice President for Operations and Finance at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the U.S. Senate, where she managed an annual operating budget of $13 million and led the operational and financial components necessary to build the institute, develop the exhibit, and open it to the public.

Ian Tzeng
MANAGING DIRECTOR AT L.E.K. CONSULTING
Ian Tzeng has more than 20 years of consulting experience that he brings to L.E.K. Consulting, where he serves as Managing Director. He leads L.E.K.’s pharmaceutical contract services practice, including CROs, CDMOs, supply chain and distribution, commercial, medical and market access services. His other areas of experience span rare diseases, biodefense, biopharmaceuticals and generics and consumer-directibel healthcare. He has extensive consulting and board experience with non-profit organizations as well, including LGBT advocacy.

Wills, Trusts, Health Care Proxies, Probate, Prenuptuals
Create Protection for you and your loved ones
One of the only Estate Planning firms focused on the unique needs of LGBT couples, individuals and families

Kraft Law Offices
60 State Street, Suite 700
Boston, MA 02109
(617) 573-0010
rick@kraftlawboston.com
Bringing LGBTQ-Inclusive Books—and Hope—to Rural Schools
by Dana Rudolph | drudolph@mombian.com
contributing writer

LGBTQ students in rural schools are more likely to face bias and discrimination than those in urban and suburban ones, but their schools are also less likely to have LGBTQ-inclusive resources to support them.

That’s why several recent college graduates launched Hope in a Box last year. The nonprofit donates boxes of LGBTQ-inclusive books to rural public middle and high schools, along with coaching and curriculum guides to help educators use them effectively.

Between 2.9 and 3.8 million LGBTQ people live in rural areas across the country, according to recent estimates from the Movement Advancement Project.

LGBTQ students in rural and small-town schools, furthermore, face more hostile school climates than those elsewhere, including biased language, victimization, and anti-LGBTQ school policies and practices, according to GLSEN’s latest (2017) National School Climate Survey. They were also less likely to have LGBTQ-related school resources or supports.

Joe English, founder of Hope in a Box (hopeinabox.org) and a 2017 graduate of Yale University, said in a statement about the project’s launch, “I know that feeling of isolation and invisibility personally, having grown up in a small, rural town. After college, I returned to my high school to share my experience with my teachers and see how we could make the next generation of students feel more supported.” While his teachers saw the need for diverse books and materials to support their LGBTQ students, they felt they didn’t have sufficient familiarity with the subject matter or resources to acquire them.

English and his team thus designed a bibliography of 50 books covering a range of time periods, formats, and identities for students ages 12 to 18. This spring, they partnered with 25 rural public schools to pilot “Starter Boxes” of 20 to 30 books from this list, along with supporting multimedia and curriculum guides.

The pilot schools are diverse, including a traditional Mormon school in Washington state, low-income schools in rural Vermont and New Jersey, and conservative Southern schools in Tennessee and Alabama, among others.

All the educators they’ve worked with say they feel better equipped to reach and support LGBTQ students because of Hope in a Box.

Almost all (90 percent) believed the project noticeably improved LGBTQ students’ emotional well-being within one semester of receiving materials, and 80 percent plan to formally incorporate the materials into their curricula this academic year.

One middle school English teacher who was part of the pilot told them, “Having a character in literature to connect to can make all the difference for some kids who feel alone.” And a librarian who serves grades 7 to 12, said, “I see these books constantly checked in and out silently by my students…. By the nature of where a lot of students are in their journey, there hasn’t been a lot of open discussion yet, but these books signal to my students that they are safe with me.”

GLSEN Founder Kevin Jennings, assistant deputy secretary for the Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools at the U.S. Department of Education under President Obama, was even more blunt, asserting in a statement, “Hope in a Box’s work is literally saving lives. When young LGBTQ people see themselves reflected in school curricula, their sense of self and well-being goes up dramatically, and rates of bullying and harassment drop just as dramatically. By providing these resources to schools with little access to them, Hope in a Box is making a life-saving difference for many young people.”

The value is for all students, LGBTQ and not. Another high school English teacher told Hope in a Box, “Our small rural district isn’t very diverse; it’s been incredibly important for us to find creative ways to help students be open-minded and empathetic. I’m so grateful for the guidance and generosity of the Hope In A Box program because it sends our students such an important message: we recognize LGBTQ students and we

see MOMBIAN, page 6
recrudescence. America has long been enriched by
Union, was unanimously ruled illegal by Britain’s
Johnson to facilitate his crash-out from the European
"Mother of Parliaments" ended its legislative session
Boris Johnson’s cabinet, was hostility toward migrants
supporters, including members of Prime Minister
died recently at age 95 in a hospital in Singapore.
transgender identity on colonialism, when in fact what
Tanzania, and Uganda, blame homosexuality and
they can work to fulfill their dreams.
Many African politicians, including in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda, blame homosexuality and
gender identity on colonialism, when in fact what
the colonial powers introduced was intolerance.
Former Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, who
declared gay people “lower than pigs and dogs,” finally
died recently at age 95 in a hospital in Singapore.
In Britain, one of the sentiments stoked by Brexit
supporters, including members of Prime Minister
Boris Johnson’s cabinet, was hostility toward migrants
from countries Britain spent centuries plundering. The
“Mother of Parliaments” ended its legislative session
in rancor. The so-called prorogation, orchestrated by
Johnson to facilitate his crash-out from the European
Union, was unanimously ruled illegal by Britain’s Supreme Court on September 24.
England is far from alone in its anti-immigrant
crude sensibilities. America has long been enriched by
immigrants whose progeny too often forget their heritage
and withdraw the welcome mat. Acting USIC director
Ken Cuccinelli asserts that “The New Colossus,” the
Emma Lazarus poem engraved on Lady Liberty’s pedestal
in New York Harbor that includes “Give me your tired,
your poor,” was meant to welcome only Europeans.
Trump’s regime continues to betray American principles.
Unnoticed by others’ suffering, Trump supported
Bahamian refugees from Hurricane Dorian were
members of gangs. When he referred to “some very bad
people,” Trump did not appear to include the white thugs
he has encouraged to beat up protesters at his rallies.
We may be able to find a more politically palatable
descriptor of Trump’s racism than racism, but be clear:
the truth will be spoken come what may. Those facing
ICE raids, biased policing, and a spike in hate crimes
cannot be expected to endure it quietly. We must deal
with this in one way or another.
A recent Times headline said: “Salvadorans,
Washington’s Builders, Face Expulsion under Trump.”
As a friend wrote on Facebook, “Most people have no
idea the level of contributions these communities have
made.” Indeed, they embody the American dream, which
remains true regardless of Trump. If we want to
protect our country, perhaps we should deport Stephen
Millet.
Like Brexiteers, America’s white nationalists seek to
erase the history of colonialism and claim exclusive rights
for themselves. Sorry, but the legacy of the past is all
around us, and the asserted racial exclusivity contradicts
America’s founding texts. That contradiction has driven
struggles for justice for 243 years.
Values must be lived. At September 12’s Democratic
presidential debate, Pete Buttigieg spoke of the risk he
took as an elected official by coming out as gay during
Mike Pence’s governance. He did not want to go
through life without knowing what it was like to be in
love. So he trusted the voters, who reciprocated by re-
electing him with 80 percent of the vote. “Part of how
you can win and deserve to win,” he said, “is to know
what’s worth more to you than winning. And I think
that’s what we need in the presidency right now. We have
to know what we are about.”

That is the most mature, powerful truth I have heard
from a candidate this cycle. Some say Buttigieg is finished
and his strong fundraising is just a money pit. Why not
ewait for actual voters to weigh in?

The morning after the debate, Musa called me from
Iceland via WhatsApp. He was giddy with happiness.
He told of the warm welcome he and the others being
resettled had received, their spacious house, his large bed
and wardrobe. And he told of a wondrous thing he had
never previously seen: before the plane landed, the pilot
delivered them to more than 60 schools and 25 shelters,
and distributed them to more than 60 schools and 25 shelters,
with more on the way. Roskin-Frazee is currently
undergraduate at Columbia University, and the project is
also now offering a writing scholarship to LGBTQ teens.
Projects like these, with the energy of young, queer
activists behind them, can make a real difference for
other young people. Visit their websites to find out more
and learn how you can help, no matter your age.

Dana Rudolph is the founder and publisher of
Mombian (mombian.com), a GLAAD Media Award-
winning blog and resource directory for LGBTQ parents.

Mombian

Continued from page 5

appreciate them.

One creative writing teacher added, “This library is
what lets my students feel comfortable writing about
LGBTQ issues and characters in their creative and
personal writing.”

By the end of the 2019 school year, Hope in a Box
aims to support hundreds of rural schools in all 50 states;
nearly 200 schools across 35 states have already joined
a waitlist. The nonprofit’s goal is to help at least half of
these schools incorporate the materials into curricula.
A growing number of states (including California,
Colorado, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey, and
Oregon) are now requiring public school curricula to
include information about the history, writings, and
contributions of LGBTQ people.

Having materials to support that goal accurately and
effectively is vital. In states without such requirements,
too, the need for guidance and resources is perhaps
greater, since there’s less motivation for schools to
incorporate such works in the curriculum. Either way,
Hope in a Box is targeting the schools that have the
greatest need—those in under-resourced rural areas.
A similar initiative, the Make It Safe Project
(makeitsafeproject.org), was founded in 2011 by then-
14-year-old Amelia Roskin-Frazez, an out lesbian
student from California. Make It Safe gives free packages
of LGBTQ-inclusive books to schools, youth homeless
shelters, and other youth-serving institutions, and has
distributed them to more than 60 schools and 25 shelters,
with more on the way. Roskin-Frazez is currently
an undergraduate at Columbia University, and the project is
also now offering a writing scholarship to LGBTQ teens.
Projects like these, with the energy of young, queer
activists behind them, can make a real difference for
other young people. Visit their websites to find out more
and learn how you can help, no matter your age.

Dana Rudolph is the founder and publisher of
Mombian (mombian.com), a GLAAD Media Award-
winning blog and resource directory for LGBTQ parents.
Massachusetts General Hospital is Proud to Support Equality!

As we celebrate the 15th anniversary of marriage equality in the state of Massachusetts, Massachusetts General Hospital is proud to be recognized as a Healthcare Equality Index leader and ally in support of the LGBTQ community.

Massachusetts General Hospital was established to provide care to Boston’s sick, regardless of socioeconomic status – an innovative idea in 1811. In the words of our founder, John Warren, MD, “When in distress, every man becomes our neighbor.” We subsequently became the first teaching hospital for Harvard University’s new medical school and have been redefining excellence in healthcare ever since. We have remained at the forefront of medicine by fostering a culture of collaboration, pushing the boundaries of medical research, educating the brightest medical minds and maintaining an unwavering commitment to the diverse community we were created to serve.

At Massachusetts General Hospital, we believe that because of diversity we excel, through inclusion we respect our community, and with a keen focus on equity we serve, heal, educate and innovate at the highest levels. Our first priority is the well-being of our patients – near and far. As a team we are able to maintain a singular focus on providing the highest quality, most compassionate care to each and every patient.

Massachusetts General Hospital is Proud to Support Equality!

Massachusetts General Hospital is an Equal Opportunity Employer. By embracing diverse skills, perspectives and ideas, we choose to lead. Applications from protected veterans and individuals with disabilities are strongly encouraged.

GK25LGBTQ+ Honorees

Continued from page 4

Irene Monroe
HUFFINGTON POST BLOGGER, PUBLIC SPEAKER, MEDIA COMMENTATOR

Rev. Irene Monroe is described in O, the Oprah Magazine, as “a phenomenal woman who has succeeded against all odds.” An African-American lesbian feminist public theologian, an activist, and a sought-after speaker and preacher, she does the weekly Monday segment ALL REV’D UP on WBUR. She is a Visiting Scholar in the Religion and Conflict Transformation Program at Boston University School of Theology. Her syndicated religion columns appear in Bay Windows, Cambridge Chronicle, Dig Boston, and in several cities across the country and in the U.K. and Canada. As an activist, Ms. Monroe has received numerous awards, including, in 2017, the Cambridge Mayor’s Luminary Award.

Iván Espinoza-Madrigal
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AT LAWYERSFOR CIVIL RIGHTS (LCR)

Iván Espinoza-Madrigal is Executive Director of Lawyers for Civil Rights (LCR), the organization that filed the first lawsuits in the country against the Trump Administration to protect sanctuary cities; to save TPS on behalf of Honduran and Salvadoran immigrants; and to block immigration arrests in courthouses. Under his leadership, LCR has become a hub for litigation, advocacy, and resistance in response to the current climate. The National LGBT Bar Association has recognized him as one of the Best LGBT Lawyers Under 40, and the Boston Business Journal included him in its “Top 40 Under 40” list in 2018.

Janson Wu
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GLAD

Janson Wu has served as GLAD’s executive director since December 2014, following nine years as a staff attorney. He has served on the legal teams for GLAD’s two challenges to the federal Defense of Marriage Act, GLAD’s class action employment lawsuit against Walmart, and the successful asylum case of a gay Ugandan activist. Prior to GLAD, Janson worked as an attorney with the anti-poverty organization Tri-City Community Action Program. He has served on the ABA’s Commission on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and currently serves on the Advisory Board of History UnErased, which works to foster understanding of LGBT⁺-inclusive history.

Javier A. Pagan
POLICE OFFICER AT BOSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Javier A. Pagán, who began his career with the Boston Police Department in 1995, has spent 18 years serving at the GLBTQ Liaison for the Boston Police Department. A native of Sahana, Puerto Rico, he has spent the last 46 years living and working in Boston. Among his many accomplishments are organizing the GLBTQ Public Safety Initiative, a monthly meeting of GLBTQ Advocates and Law Enforcement taking part in a teleconference with the police and military of Bogota, Colombia about transphobic violence. He also assisted in the implementation of the Boston Police Department’s Transgender Policy.
Jerome Smith
CHIEF OF CIVIC ENGAGEMENT
FOR THE CITY OF BOSTON

Jerome Smith serves as Mayor Martin J. Walsh’s Cabinet Chief of Civic Engagement and Neighborhood Services Director. In this role, he advises the Mayor on efforts to preserve and enhance the quality of services delivered to residents, including overseeing Mayor Walsh’s Civic Academies and NEW (Neighborhood Engagement Walks) Boston, managing the Mayor’s 24-hour Constituent Service Hotline and Neighborhood Coordinators, and spearheading Mayor Walsh’s Problem Properties Task Force. He previously served as Chief of Staff to Senate President Therese Murray and neighborhood liaison to the South End, Bay Village and the LGBT community under the office of former Mayor Thomas M. Menino.

Josiane Martinez
FOUNDER AND CEO OF
ARCHIPELAGO STRATEGIES GROUP

Josiane Martinez is one of the region’s leading marketing experts, with a focus on healthcare and marketing to change behaviors. A native of Puerto Rico, she founded Archipelago Strategies Group six years ago with one staff person and a single client and has grown it into a 12-person operation, doing business with major organizations like the Massachusetts Health Connector, MassHealth, the Department of Mental Health, and New England’s largest hospital systems. ASG’s latest campaign with Health Connector generated record results, including a record enrollment in the history of the agency. ASG’s secret sauce is focusing on diversity, which helps clients engage with multicultural communities, LGTBQ residents, and younger audiences.

Kamille Washington
PRESIDENT OF HARVARD GENDER AND SEXUALITY CAUCUS

Kamille Washington is the Administrative Director for FAS International Affairs at Harvard University. In that role, she handles numerous partnerships and negotiations with foreign governments, foundations, and universities to develop new resources and collaborations for members of the FAS community. Kamille is also one half of the Unfriendly Black Hotties, a podcast about the intersection of race, gender, and sexuality in higher education, pop culture, and politics. She is an occasional essayist with special interests in food, traveling while Other, and queer narratives. She is the current president of the Harvard Gender and Sexuality Caucus, Harvard University’s LGBTQIA+ alumni organization.

Kellen Young
NEWS PRODUCER WCVB

Kellen Young came to Boston in the spring of 2014 after being hired as a producer at WCVB Channel 5 in Needham. He quickly fell in love with New England for all the right reasons (the food, charm, and sports) and even some that are not so right... that winter of 2015. Originally from Kentucky, Kellen identified as gay at an early age with the support of family and friends. He says he’s been fortunate to grow up in an environment of love and inclusion. He strives to spread positive energy and celebrate diversity through his daily interactions...and love of Beyoncé.
GK25 LGBTQ+ Honorees

Continued from page 8

Mark Watson
MANAGING DIRECTOR AT BOSTON IMPACT INITIATIVE

Mark Watson serves as Managing Director of the Boston Impact Initiative Fund, which offers blended capital to address the racial wealth gap in Eastern Massachusetts. He is also the founder of Keel Asset Management LLC, a financial advisory firm that provides socially responsible financial planning and investment advisory services to nonprofits, public and corporate pension plans. Mark is an investment committee member of the Fair Food Fund; chair of the Triskelion Foundation's Asset Management Committee; board president of Sustainable Cape, Inc.; and a former board member of the Social Venture Network.

Marty Martinez
CHIEF OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES FOR THE CITY OF BOSTON

Marty Martinez serves as Chief of the Mayor’s Office of Health and Human Services for the City of Boston, the largest agency within city government. Chief Martinez oversees ten departments that include the Boston Public Health Commission, the Office of Recovery Services, and Boston Center-Youth & Families as well as the Department of Youth Engagement and Employment. Martinez currently leads the city's response to the opioid epidemic and the city's overall recovery infrastructure. Martinez also oversees the expansion of youth development programming that encompasses the city's violence prevention and intervention efforts. Before joining the City of Boston, Martinez was CEO of Mass Mentoring Partnership.

Michelle Tat
MANAGER, PRODUCT ANALYTICS AT ATHENAHEALTH

Michelle Tat is an Asian American transwoman who is active in local trans rights organizing in Massachusetts. She is a board member of the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition and has devoted the last several years to fighting for legal protections for transgender folks in public spaces. Aside from trans rights work, she is an active member of the Queer Asian Pacific Islander Alliance and the Boston Chapter of the National Asian Pacific American Women’s Forum. When not doing work for her communities, Michelle is a nerdy consumer of comics, sci-fi media, anime, and spends probably too much time thinking about her cat Baxter.

Pierre R. Berastain
DIRECTOR AT HARVARD UNIVERSITY OFFICE OF SEXUAL ASSAULT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE

Pierre R. Berastain is Director of the Office of Sexual Assault Prevention and Response (OSAPR) at Harvard University. In this role, he leads and provides oversight of advocacy, education, and prevention services as well as supporting the coordination within OSAPR and throughout the university to address the needs of people who have experienced interpersonal harm. He previously served as Assistant Director of Innovation and Engagement at the National Latino Network for Healthy Families and Communities. Mr. Berastain, who holds a Master of Divinity from Harvard Divinity School, came to the U.S. from Peru with his family in 1996, and remained an undocumented immigrant for 14 years until he received DACA in 2012.

Raul Medina
ENTERPRISE SOLUTIONS AND RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT PROFESSIONAL AT GRANITE COMMUNICATIONS

Raul Medina, born and raised in Mexico City, started his career in Mexico with Anixter, a leading global Telecommunication distributor. He moved to New England and consulted with GE Capital before settling in Boston to pursue an MBA with Hult International Business School. In 2015, he joined Granite Telecommunications, the largest North American service provider of voice and data and he is a Relationship Manager. He has been active in civic affairs, having volunteered at the AIDS Action Committee (AAC) and was invited to join their Board of Directors. After AAC merged with Fenway Health Community Center, he continued to serve on the board through July 2019.

Renee Graham
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR AND OP-ED COLUMNIST AT BOSTON GLOBE

Renee Graham is an award-winning opinion columnist and associate editor for the Boston Globe. She writes on a variety of subjects including race and racism, domestic violence, LGBTQ issues, police misconduct, gun reform, and politics. She is also a regular contributor on WBUR-FM’s news affairs program, “Radio Boston.” In 2017, she received The Persistence Award from Progressive Massachusetts for columns promoting racial and social justice. In 2018 the Philippine Medical Association gave her its “Community Heroism” award for “promoting understanding for the homelessness situation in the City of Boston” and “championing the underserved.”

Samuel Chambers
LGBTQ LIAISON FOR THE CITY OF BOSTON

Samuel Chambers is Mayor Marty Walsh’s LGBTQ liaison, where he serves as a resource for those who do not know how to access the City of Boston’s benefits. He is also Public Information Officer for the Mayor’s Civic Engagement Cabinet, where he works to showcase positive initiatives coming from the City of Boston. He holds a Bachelors of Arts in Political Science with a concentration in International Relations from Kent State University. After college, he interned for a variety of government and political organizations including Marty Walsh’s campaign, Congresswoman Doris Matsui’s Office, Charles Group Consulting, and Stephen Lynch for Senate.

Stephen Chan
VICE PRESIDENT OF STRATEGY AND OPERATIONS AT BOSTON FOUNDATION

Stephen Chan, who serves as Vice President of Strategy and Operations of the Boston Foundation, leads the overall development, implementation, and review of the Foundation’s long-term strategic direction as well as the day-to-day operations of the senior management team. He has held a number of strategic management roles at the Foundation since 2004. Mr. Chan also leads a portfolio of external initiatives that help advance the Foundation’s civic leadership role in the community. He is a board member of the ACLU of Massachusetts Foundation Board, Bunker Hill Community College; Boston Chinatown Neighborhood Center; Associated Grant Makers, and Asian American Pacific Islanders in Philanthropy.
Pete Buttigieg Gets Personal During Presidential LGBTQ Forum: "I've Got to Be Who I Am"

By Sharareh Drury
Associated Press

Of the many intriguing things about Pete Buttigieg and his candidacy for president — his Ivy League, Rhodes Scholar pedigree and his war service in Afghanistan — a vital question overlaying the 2020 campaign is whether as a gay man his sexual orientation is a barrier to the nation’s highest office.

The first answer will come in Iowa, a state where the 57-year-old South Bend, Indiana, mayor has campaigned frequently and spent heavily. So far, Democratic voters here seem to say that Buttigieg’s sexual orientation is immaterial.

“There will be a positive contribution to the party world. The party world,” said Paul Tewes, who directed Barack Obama’s 2008 Iowa caucus victory, which propelled him to become the nation’s first African-American president. “It would signal to the rest of the world that this stuff doesn’t matter, that people just want him to be president.”

On Friday at an LGBTQ forum in Cedar Rapids, Buttigieg framed his experience as a gay man as an advantage.

“There’s a culture of belonging that we need to establish in this country,” he said. “One of the reasons I’m so proud to be a member of this community is because I think we have the power to reach into our own experiences, belonging to a part of America that also cuts across all the other different categories. We could help be that glue.”

Buttigieg joined nine other Democratic candidates at the forum to address LGBTQ-related issues and express plans for moving the country toward equality.

Co-hosted by Pulse actor and transgender activist Angelica Ross and GLAAD president Sarah Kate Ellis, Friday’s event was the first presidential candidate forum tackling LGBTQ issues during the 2020 election cycle. The last presidential forum that addressed the LGBTQ community directly took place in 2007, with Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton among the candidates.

All 19 Democratic candidates were invited to Friday’s event, and the ten attendees included Kamala Harris, Cory Booker, Joe Biden, Elizabeth Warren, Marianne Williamson, Tulsi Gabbard, Amy Klobuchar, Julian Castro, Joe Sestak and Buttigieg.

During the forum, Warren earned a standing ovation for reading the names of trans people confirmed killed in 2019. Klobuchar also gained praise from the crowd for emphasizing stricter gun control after meeting and hugging Pulse nightclub survivor Brandon Wolf.

Buttigieg spoke about his own experiences facing discrimination as a gay man, noting the “weight lifted” when the government’s policy barring gay men from serving in the military was reversed. He also described how it felt to host South Bend’s first blood drive and not be able to participate, due to the ban on gay men donating blood.

Buttigieg was one of 10 Democratic candidates to speak at the forum, the first event in this Presidential race to focus solely on the issue. The forum itself is a measure of the acceptance gay rights have achieved in the state party and the nation as a whole.

In June, the Iowa Poll by the Des Moines College’s Sinclair Auditorium on GLAAD’s 2020 presidential forum that addressed the LGBTQ issues during the 2020 election cycle. The last presidential forum that addressed the LGBTQ community directly took place in 2007, with Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton among the candidates.

All 19 Democratic candidates were invited to Friday’s event, and the ten attendees included Kamala Harris, Cory Booker, Joe Biden, Elizabeth Warren, Marianne Williamson, Tulsi Gabbard, Amy Klobuchar, Julian Castro, Joe Sestak and Buttigieg.

During the forum, Warren earned a standing ovation for reading the names of trans people confirmed killed in 2019. Klobuchar also gained praise from the crowd for emphasizing stricter gun control after meeting and hugging Pulse nightclub survivor Brandon Wolf.

Buttigieg spoke about his own experiences facing discrimination as a gay man, noting the “weight lifted” when the government’s policy barring gay men from serving in the military was reversed. He also described how it felt to host South Bend’s first blood drive and not be able to participate, due to the ban on gay men donating blood.

Buttigieg was one of 10 Democratic candidates to speak at the forum, the first event in this Presidential race to focus solely on the issue. The forum itself is a measure of the acceptance gay rights have achieved in the state party and the nation as a whole.

In June, the Iowa Poll by the Des Moines Poll, where 28 percent of likely Democratic caucus participants said being gay would be a disadvantage for a Democratic nominee. Buttigieg’s profile in the state may not be so out-of-the-ordinary among Iowa’s progressive Democratic caucuses, said Joel De Wintherhof, Human Rights Campaign’s senior vp policy and political affairs.

“[That] package of things I don’t think is extraordinary to Iowa Democrats,” said Winterhof, a veteran Iowa Democratic campaign strategist and former senior advisor to Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaigns. “I bet you in terms of the questions he gets asked very few of the questions he is asked are about being gay.”

In fact, the question at the crowded outdoor campaign event in August was the only Buttigieg fielded on his sexuality during the eastern Iowa trip.

Buttigieg’s answer focused on his personal hope of finding a partner after returning from Afghanistan.

“I just had to find the courage that said, either way, I can live with it. But I’ve got to be who I am and trust the voters, based on the job I’ve been doing.” Buttigieg said, noting that he was overwhelmingly re-elected mayor in 2015.

Still, Buttigieg may not be the unanimous choice in Iowa’s Democratic LGBTQ community.

De Moina lawyer and gay-rights activist Sharon Malheiro, who isn’t supporting Buttigieg, says his age and lack of more global experience is a liability in her mind.

“I’m not hearing people say I’m not looking at him because he’s gay,” said Malheiro, who is leaning toward supporting former Vice President Joe Biden or California Sen. Kamala Harris.

At the same time, Buttigieg may have a built-in advantage in Iowa, should he emerge as the consensus choice of Iowa’s LGBTQ voters, estimated at roughly 80,000 and a potentially decisive slice of a caucus electorate that could number roughly 300,000.

“That’s a lot in terms of overall caucus participation,” Winterhof said.

Friday’s Forum was live-streamed from Coe College’s Sinclair Auditorium on GLAAD’s YouTube channel, Twitter, Facebook, NBCNews Now and ABCNews.com.

Get Konnected
Continued from page 1

...we all stand.

Their courage and sacrifice and dedication have contributed to the changing the way the world sees members of their community.

This year marks two significant milestones for the LGBTQ+ community, the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising of 1969 which sparked the Gay Revolution and the 15th anniversary of marriage equality in the state of Massachusetts. There is often a double invisibility for individuals who are at the intersection of being gay and a person of color. It is exactly for that reason that we have chosen to acknowledge and celebrate those whose gender and sexual identity intersect with race. We proudly dedicate this celebration to the memory of Marsha P. Johnson, an African-American Trans woman who was a gay liberation & AIDS activist. With this event, as with all of our events, Get Konnected! Continues to create access for individuals of color, forge positive cross-cultural relationships, and make Boston a more inclusive, welcoming and equitable place.

Founded 11 years ago on the premise of “inclusion,” Get Konnected! is Boston’s premier inclusive business networking event series. The GK25LGBTQ+ list is a unique opportunity to celebrate, document and validate culturally diverse LGBTQ+ individuals who are making positive contributions to Boston and the region. We encourage the media, corporations, and non-profit and public institutions to use this list as a way to engage LGBTQ+ individuals. We invite corporations and institutions to become a Get Konnected! partner and to leverage Bay Windows as a powerful communications channel to reach the LGBTQ+ community. Lastly, we are deeply grateful to all of our Get Konnected corporate and institutional partners without whom none of this would be possible.
Wilnelia Rivera
FOUNDER AND PRINCIPAL OF RIVERA CONSULTING, INC

Political strategist, activist, and urban planner Wilnelia Rivera and her firm, Rivera Consulting, were the lead architects of Boston City Councilor Ayanna Pressley’s successful campaign for Congress in the Seventh District of Massachusetts in 2018. Rivera and her firm managed the nomination phase, hired the full campaign team and developed the organization’s path to victory, leading to the election of the first black woman to Congress in Massachusetts and increasing new voter turnout by almost 50 percent and overall turnout by more than 60 percent. From leading statewide policy campaigns to integrated voter engagement and transformative political candidate campaigns, Rivera works to enable social change for the 21st century.

Transgender prisoner who sued dies days before release

By RYAN TARINELLI
Associated Press

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP)—A transgender prison inmate who sued the state of New York, saying she was raped in a men’s prison, has died of cancer days before she was to be freed on parole.

LeslieAnn Manning, who had been serving a 30-year sentence for shooting at a police car, died Saturday at the Wende Correctional Facility in Alden, near Buffalo, according to the state corrections department.

Manning, 53, had lung cancer, said her attorney, Susan Hazeldean.

The corrections department said she was scheduled to be released Sept. 23 after receiving parole board approval in May.

Manning escaped from state custody in 1998 while undergoing treatment at a hospital in Wassaic, New York, but was recaptured.

According to a 2012 profile in The Citizen, of Auburn, New York, Manning successfully sued the state for the right to undergo hormone therapy, beginning treatment in 2009.

“They try to do everything they can to deny that you’re trying to be female,” Manning told the newspaper about trying to live as a woman in prison. “It’s just continual harassment.”

Hazeldean said the prison should have expedited Manning’s release because of the gravity of her illness.

The corrections department issued a statement Thursday saying it did not have the legal authority to release Manning earlier. Parole eligibility dates are based on a prisoner’s sentence, the agency said.

A longtime friend, Jamie Moorby, said that during a recent visit, Manning was in a wheelchair, on oxygen and could barely be upright for an hour before having to go lie down.

“All she cared about at that stage was getting her freedom before she died,” she said.

Ryan Tarinelli is a corps member for Report for America, a nonprofit organization that supports local news coverage in a partnership with The Associated Press for New York. The AP is solely responsible for all content.
Transgender man can sue Catholic hospital over hysterectomy

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A California appeals court has ruled that a transgender man can sue a Catholic hospital for canceling his hysterectomy.

The Sacramento Bee newspaper reports Wednesday that the decision by the 1st District Court of Appeal overturns a lower court ruling dismissing the discrimination lawsuit.

Evan Minton sued Mercy San Juan Medical Center for canceling his scheduled hysterectomy after he mentioned to a nurse two days before surgery that he’s transgender.

Hospital operator Dignity Health quickly helped transfer the surgery to a non-Catholic facility, but Judge Stuart Pollak said that didn’t negate Minton’s complaint.

Dignity Health says its Catholic facilities “do not provide elective sterilizations.”

California civil rights law says businesses must offer full and equal access to residents.
Gary Bailey  
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL JUSTICE AT SIMMONS COLLEGE  
Gary Bailey is the Assistant Dean for Community Engagement and Social Justice at Simmons University College of Social Science, Policy and Practice. He is a Professor of Practice at Simmons University School of Social Work and has a secondary appointment at the Simmons University School of Nursing and Health Sciences. He has a Faculty Affiliate appointment at Harvard Medical School’s Department of Behavioral Health; and served as a Scholarly Stakeholder, LGBTQ Patient and Family Advisory Council, Brigham and Women’s Hospital. In May 2009 he was selected as a Fulbright Specialist for the United States-Israel Educational Foundation (USIEF).

Jim Canales  
PRESIDENT AND TRUSTEE OF BARR FOUNDATION  
Jim Canales was appointed president and trustee of the Barr Foundation in May 2014. Prior to joining Barr, he spent two decades in a variety of roles at The James Irvine Foundation in California, including president and chief executive officer from 2003 through 2014. He maintains a broad range of volunteer engagements; he currently serves as a trustee of the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, Kaiser Family Foundation, and as a member of the Advisory Board for the Harvard Business School Social Enterprise Initiative. In 2015-2016, he co-chaired the Leadership Council of Boston Creates, the City’s cultural planning process.

Wendell K. Chestnut  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF BANK OF AMERICA  
Wendell K. Chestnut is Senior Vice President Global Banking & Markets: Business Banking Division Bank of America Merrill Lynch. After his project assignment launching the Small Business Banking channel in New England, he has returned to Global Commercial Banking (GCB). He is Past Co-chair of the Gay & Lesbian Student Education Network (GLSEN) Boston; currently, he is Executive Advisor for the Bank of America’s Pride Employee Resource Group and Black Professionals Group. He is also President of Pride In Our Workplace (PIOW). He was the recipient of the inaugural Bank of America Global Diversity & Inclusion Award in 2010.

Thea L. James  
VICE PRESIDENT OF MISSION AND ASSOCIATE CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER AT BOSTON MEDICAL CENTER  
Thea L. James, M.D., is an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at Boston Medical Center/Boston University School of Medicine. She also serves as the Associate Chief Medical Officer, Vice President of Mission, and Director of the Violence Intervention Advocacy Program (VIAP) at Boston Medical Center. Her passion is in Public Health, both domestically and globally. She is a Supervising Medical Officer on the Boston Disaster Medical Assistance Team, under the Department of Health and Human Services, which has responded to several disasters in the United States and across the globe. She has deployed to post 9/11 in NYC, and Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans in 2005.

Oswald Mondejar  
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT OF MISSION AND ADVOCACY AT PARTNERS CONTINUING CARE, INC  
Oswald "Oz" Mondejar is the Senior Vice President of Mission and Advocacy for Partners Continuing Care, Inc. (PCC), the post-acute care services division of Partners HealthCare. He works at the intersection of policy, advocacy and media, defining PCC’s core values and leveraging the organization’s resources to maximize positive social impact. He has received numerous awards, including Hispanic Executives Making an Impact in Boston 20 on the Move, White House Champion of Change Award, Boston’s 100 Most Influential People of Color and most recently was recognized for his work on behalf of Waves Ahead-SAGE Puerto Rico.

Kenneth Reeves  
FORMER MAYOR OF CAMBRIDGE  
Kenneth Reeves served as the mayor of Cambridge from 1992 to 1995 and again from 2006 to 2007. He is the first openly gay African-American man to have served as mayor of any city in the United States. While mayor, he was a member of the Mayors Against Illegal Guns Coalition, an organization formed in 2000 and co-chaired by New York City mayor Michael Bloomberg and Boston Mayor Thomas Menino. He earned his degree in American history and literature from Harvard University in 1973 and graduated from the University of Michigan Law School in 1976.
Where will you live until you can call this ‘Home’ again? Your association policy won’t cover your additional living expenses. Condo owners NEED Personal Condominium Insurance for that. Aside from replacing your personal property, it will help you with rent, while you’re still paying your mortgage. Contact us.

JJBodner
Insurance Agency of Boston

617-437-9400 • www.jjbodner.com • 8 Clarendon St. Boston

PIONEERS

Denise Simmons
FORMER MAYOR OF CAMBRIDGE

Denise Simmons, a lifelong resident of Cambridge, is currently serving her ninth term on the Cambridge City Council, and has served two terms as mayor of Cambridge. In 2008, Denise drew national attention when she became the nation’s first Black, openly lesbian mayor (and the first Black female mayor in Massachusetts). As mayor, she held periodic Town Hall style meetings, such as the LGBT Town Hall and the Senior Citizens Town Hall, which allowed constituency groups to come to City Hall and speak directly to civic leaders, and to foster a greater understanding of how the city could be of greater service to its citizens.

David L. Wilson
MEMBER OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AT GLAD

David L. Wilson serves as President of the Provincetown Theater board of directors and as a member of the GLAD board of directors. After earning a BS and MBA from Northeastern University, he embarked on a 30-year career with Verizon Communications, last serving as Assistant Vice President. He also served on the board of directors of the National Human Rights Campaign, MA LGBTQ Youth Commission, MassEquality and the Greater Boston Business Council. In 2003, he and his now-husband, Dr. Robert Compton, earned the right to marry in Massachusetts as one of seven same-sex plaintiff couples in the Goodridge vs. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts law suit.
Letters Policy

Bay Windows welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be signed and accompanied by a mailing address and phone number. Because of space limitations, letters should not be more than 200 words.

e-mail: letters.baywindows@gmail.com | fax: 617.464.7286
Get home delivery of Bay Windows.

Subscribe now First Class USPS: $110.00 per year, 52 issues
Visit www.baywindows.com/subscribe for more information.
Or mail a check to:
Bay Windows, PO Box E14, Boston, MA 02127
To pay by credit card over the phone, please call Jeff Coakley at 617-464-7280

SERVICE GUIDE

ELECTRICAL

D’S ELECTRIC

PROVIDING QUALITY ELECTRICAL SERVICES to the BOSTON AREA

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL FREE ESTIMATES 24 HOUR SERVICE

Dedicated to Customer Service since 1971

617.542.2000
www.ds-electric.com

Mass License #14580A

GENERAL REMODELING

MASSAGE/BODYWORK

RELAX
Full body massage: 20 years experience. Call Mac 617-442-5514.

CLASSIFIED RATES
Weekly: $8 for the first line, $3 for each additional line.
22 Characters per line.
All ads appear in print and online.
All ads must be prepaid.

Deadline: Mondays at 3pm

PLACE YOUR AD:
classifiedads@baywindows.com
617-464-7280*
*Available Monday – Thursday, 10am – 3pm.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Deadline: Mondays at 3pm
PLACE YOUR AD:
classifiedads@baywindows.com
617-464-7280*
*Available Monday – Thursday, 10am – 3pm.

CONSTRUCTION | GENERAL | REMODELING

Roberts DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION, INC.
781-316-5610
WWW.ROBERTSDESIGNCONSTRUCTION.COM

• Bath / Kitchen Restoration
• Complete Home Improvements
• New Construction and Remodels
• Residential and commercial

Staying connected to your community.
Facebook.com/BayWindows

Find Bay Windows on Facebook
Is America ready for a gay president? Iowa casts first votes

By THOMAS BEAUMONT
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP)—The question posed to Pete Buttigieg—gay, married and running for president—came from a supporter at an Iowa campaign stop: What should be tell friends who say America isn’t ready to elect a gay man as president?

That prompted a woman in the crowd to object with an expletive, igniting cheers from hundreds in the audience.

Of the many intriguing things about Buttigieg and his candidacy for president—his Ivy League, Rhodes Scholar pedigree and his war service in Afghanistan—a vital question overlaying the 2020 campaign is whether as a gay man his sexual orientation is a barrier to the nation’s highest office.

The first answer will come in Iowa, a state where the 37-year-old South Bend, Indiana, mayor has campaigned frequently and spent heavily. So far, Democratic voters here seem to say that Buttigieg’s sexual orientation is immaterial.

“If the world will be watching, the activist world, the party world,” said Paul Tewes, who directed Barack Obama’s 2008 Iowa caucus victory, which propelled him to become the nation’s first African American president. “It would signal to the rest of the world that this stuff doesn’t matter, that people just want him to be president.”

On Friday at an LGBTQ forum in Cedar Rapids, Buttigieg framed his experience as a gay man as an advantage.

“There’s a culture of belonging that we need to establish in this country,” he said. “One of the reasons I’m so proud to be a member of this community is because I think we have the power to reach into our own experiences, belonging to a part of America that also cuts across all the other different categories... We could help be that glue.”

Buttigieg also spoke about his own experiences facing discrimination as a gay man, noting the “weight lifted” when the government’s policy barring gay men from serving in the military was reversed. He also described how it felt to host South Bend’s first blood drive and not be able to participate, due to the ban on gay men donating blood.

Buttigieg was one of 10 Democratic candidates to speak at the forum, the first ever focused solely on the issue in a presidential race. The forum itself is a measure of the acceptance gay rights have achieved in the state party and the nation as a whole.

In June, the Iowa Poll by The Des Moines Register and its partners found that 62 percent of likely Iowa caucus participants said it would make no difference to them for a Trump challenger to be gay. They were more concerned, by 12 percentage points, about a Democratic nominee being over 70 years old.

The age group most likely to disregard the notion of a gay nominee was voters 65 and older, people like John Sauer, a retired school superintendent from the Cedar Rapids area.

“I have no problem with it,” said Sauer, 71, who showed up at a Buttigieg campaign office opening in Cedar Rapids this month. He and his wife, Elizabeth, say Buttigieg tops their lists of candidates.

Sauer’s feelings, which he described as unheard of in his parents’ generation, speak in part to a decade-long maturing of gay rights in Iowa.

In 2009, Iowa became the first state outside of the East Coast to legalize same-sex marriage, a change implemented by a unanimous state Supreme Court case that came six years before the U.S. Supreme Court legalized gay marriage nationally. In 2003, only 23 percent of Iowans overall supported allowing same-sex marriage.

By 2015, not only did 81 percent of likely Democratic caucus participants support gay marriage, so did 26 percent of Republican caucus goers, the Iowa Poll showed.

“But, I do think there are people who might have a problem with it. You can’t get around that,” Sauer said.

That sentiment also registered in the June Iowa Poll, where 28 percent of likely Democratic caucus participants said being gay would be a disadvantage for a Democratic nominee.

Buttigieg’s profile in the state may not be so out-of-the-ordinary among Iowa’s progressive Democratic caucus electorate, said JoDee Winterhof, Human Rights Campaign’s senior vice president for policy and political affairs.

“That package of things I don’t think is extraordinary to Iowa Democrats,” said Winterhof, a veteran Iowa Democratic campaign strategist and former senior adviser to Hillary Clinton’s presidential campaigns. “I bet you in terms of the questions he gets asked very few of the questions he is asked are about being gay.”

In fact, the question at the crowded outdoor campaign event in August was the only Buttigieg fielded on his sexuality during the eastern Iowa trip.

Buttigieg’s answer focused on his personal hope of finding a partner after returning from Afghanistan.

“I just had to find the courage that said, either way, I can live with it. But I’ve got to be who I am and trust the voters, based on the job I’ve been doing,” he said, noting that he was overwhelmingly reelected mayor in 2015.

Still, he is not even the unanimous choice in Iowa’s Democratic LGBTQ community.

Des Moines lawyer and gay-rights activist Sharon Malheiro, who isn’t supporting Buttigieg, says his age and lack of more global experience is a liability in her mind.

“I’m not hearing people say I’m not looking at him because he’s gay,” said Malheiro, who is leaning toward supporting former Vice President Joe Biden or California Sen. Kamala Harris.

At the same time, Buttigieg may have a built-in advantage in Iowa, should he emerge as the consensus choice of Iowa’s LGBTQ voters, estimated at roughly 80,000 and a potentially decisive slice of a caucus electorate that could number roughly 300,000.

“That’s a lot in terms of overall caucus participation,” Winterhof said.

Letters Policy

Bay Windows welcomes letters to the editor. All letters must be signed and accompanied by a mailing address and phone number. Because of space limitations, letters should not be more than 200 words.

Letters to the editor should be submitted to letters@baywindows.com or fax to 617.464.7286.

Bay Windows
The unofficial start of the entertainment season is traditionally the Emmy Awards. This event which honors excellence in television (or, more accurately, any entertainment not in a cinema) is split between two weekends. First, we have the Creative Arts Emmys, or what Kathy Griffin lovingly calls the Schmemmys. These are where the bulk of the technical, reality, and “other media” awards are given out. For the fourth year in a row, RuPaul was the winner for Outstanding Host for a Reality or Competition Program—which meant s/he is now tied for most wins in that category with Jeff Probst. There is a connection between the two, which will be explained in detail next year in my autobiography.

The news for RuPaul keeps getting better. “Drag Race” continues its world domination with UK, Thai, and Chilean versions bowing in the near future. But that’s not all—“Drag Race” will soon be hitting the Vegas Strip. Yes, RuPaul’s Drag Race Live! will take residency at the Flamingo Hotel from January through August 2020. The drag divas will be swapping off dates with Paula Abdul in the venue which has been home to Donny and Marie for over a decade. I have an amusing anecdote tying this all together, but once again, I’m saving that for the book.

All is not rosy in Ru-ville. Two “Drag Race” alums got some bad news last week. We had previously reported that Jinkx Monsoon and Ginger Minj would be headlining a national tour of the musical “Xanadu”. The entire tour was scuttled literally two weeks before opening night in Baltimore. We hear that the high-profile project was not selling well in most cities and, while the producers believed in the venture, they would lose less money by simply calling it off. Putting on a brave face, the tour is officially “on hold”—but don’t expect it to ever happen.

In anticipation of the UK version of “Drag Race”, RuPaul was asked whether “cisgender women” would be allowed to compete. In the live interview, we’re told usually unflappable Ru was...well, flapped, and a producer had to jump in and say that “the show is inclusive because it’s on the BBC”. After the fact, an email was sent to the interviewer saying that RuPaul has learned “never say never”.

What I’ve learned is to always share hot photos of scantily clad men on BillyMasters.com. In this case, they are the Pit Crew from the UK edition of “Drag Race”. They are truly delectable.

In other Schmemmy news, Jane Lynch won Outstanding Guest Actress in a Comedy Series. Since she won for playing a comedienne on “The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel”, it’s no surprise that she dedicated her award to Joan Rivers, Totie Fields and Phyllis Diller—“those gals who blazed a trail”. Brava.

All Emmys Eve was a particularly busy day for Billy Masters. First stop was Royce Hall at UCLA for Seth Rudetsky and James Wesley’s “Concert for America”. Interspersed between the musical performances, we were given information about the recipient of this benefit—the National Immigration Law Center. The work they do is truly inspiring, and the far-reaching effect of the dangerous policies of the current administration will hopefully lead to change in the coming elections. Taken as a whole, the concerts that Seth and James produce prove how one person (or, in this case, two people) can make a difference. In terms of individual performances, my highlights were the always luminous Liz Callaway and the magnificent Melissa Manchester. Check out clips from the concert on ConcertsForAmerica.com and, should you feel moved to make a donation, follow the

"Hello. I’m Frankie Grande, and I’m a proud, sloppy, pig bottom."

— Ariana’s brother comes out of the closet at the LA LGBT Center’s 50th Anniversary “Hearts of Gold” concert. Anyone surprised? Hands? Put those down—I did not say fists!
information on that page.

I left my first event somewhat perfunctorily in order to get to my next event. Alas, the legendary Greek Theatre is roughly 20 miles from UCLA—and on a Saturday night, that could take a good two hours. But to celebrate the LA LGBT Center’s 50th Anniversary, it was worth the effort. This gala was broken up into 10-year chunks. I got there at the tail end of the ’70s, so I missed Sia. But I arrived in time to see Lily Tomlin and Jane Fonda share their long history with our community whilst having enormous difficulty reading the Teleprompter. Turns out, the problem was a lighting issue which continued throughout the evening. But nothing could dampen the comedy stylings of Kathy Griffin, who not only recounted her many appearances at The Center’s Renberg Theatre, but also bid adieu to some less than politically correct terms (one of which was “sloppy pig bottom”—see the opening quote). Highlights from the show were a mesmerizing performance by Melissa Etheridge, a touching Ty Herndon, a terrific Thelma Houston, and of course, my Play Mama, Jenifer Lewis, closing the show as only she could. You can get more information about the work being done at The Center at LALGBTCenter.org.

The next day, it was time for the Emmys themselves. In a word...YAWN! If this is what the new television season is going to look like, I may sit this one out. And, while I enjoy Thomas Lennon, I absolutely loathed his banal commentary. In fact, halfway through the ceremony, I was rooting for him to fall out of his balcony perch and plummet to his death. And if that sounds harsh, clearly you were amongst the multitude not watching.

Congrats to Billy Porter for his historic win—the first time an openly gay black man ever won a leading actor Emmy. And it came the day after his 50th birthday. Happy birthday, from one Billy to another.

Someone missing from the endless Emmy coverage was Mario Lopez, who was supposed to handle red carpet arrivals for “Extra”. Alas, he had to undergo emergency surgery after tearing his right bicep, which if you ask me is akin to Meryl Streep getting laryngitis. Even though he couldn’t work, Mario still showed up to the Emmys in a sling. On those rare occasions that I dream of Mario Lopez, he’s also in a sling—but that’s another story.

Lopez needs to be in top form because he’s heading a reboot of “Saved by the Bell”. While I’m happy for any opportunity to see him shirtless, I really am getting tired of these reboots. I suspect Mark-Paul Gosselaar is tired of them—especially since he didn’t even know about the “Saved by the Bell” reboot till it was announced.

Did you hear about the “Party of Five” reboot? In this version, the parents aren’t dead—they’ve been deported by ICE. I bet no member of the Giudice family will be watching that one.

Lastly, Cyndi Lauper and Jane Lynch are working on a new show for Netflix which is being written by Carol Leifer. Backstage at the Schmemmys, Lynch said the show is “kind of a ‘Golden Girls’ for today.”

When Jane Lynch is the Bea Arthur of today, it’s definitely time to end yet another column. As usual, I must correct the unforgivable omission of Kaye Ballard, Ken Kercheval, and Peter Tork from the “In Memoriam” sequence (my friend blames the whole fiasco on Halsey). Let me quickly remind you to check out www.BillyMasters.com—the site that doesn’t need any help from Thomas Lennon, thank you very much. If you have a question, send it along to Billy@BillyMasters.com and I promise to get back to you before the first new TV show of the season gets cancelled. Until next time, remember, one man’s filth is another man’s bible.
THANK YOU.
WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO EVERYONE, (LISTED HERE OR NOT) WHO MADE THE SEPTEMBER 15, 2018 RIDE A REALITY!

Groups + Individuals
Moving Violations
MT Cycling Team
Dignity Boston
Carol and Paul Rose
First Parish in Brookline
Trinity Church Gay & Lesbian Fellowship
Boston Softball League
The Boston Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence
Imperial Court
Boston Flag Football
GOAL New England
Elaine Ofte
Charlotte Wilson
Team - Sweet Northern Comfort
Gary Pasnick
George Myers
Karen Farrell
Marlyn Dale
Bob & Henri - our web guys
dr. photographers
Jeremy Winnick
Christine Hurley

Bike Shops
Landry's Bicycles
P'town Bike
Quad Cycles
Idle Times Bike Shop
Little Capistrano Bike Shop
Community Bikes
Urban Adventours
Crimson Bikes
Brewster Bikes

Our Hostesses
Constance Waverly
Trampolina

Businesses
Bay State Cruise Lines
Mainstreet
Carpe Diem Coffee
Watertown Sportswear
Brookline Ice
Garage at 180 Clarendon
Greg Allen Events
Road ID
Twisted Pizza and Ice Cream
Republic Services
Arrow Paper
XX11 Optics / Rudy Project
Bob's Red Mill
Cliff Bar / Pro Bar

WE HAVE RAISED OVER $375,000
HARBORTOTHEBAY.ORG TO DONATE!!