

PRIDE

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What is STRIBILD?

STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. It combines 4 medicines into 1 pill to be taken once a day with food. STRIBILD is a complete single-tablet regimen and should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines.

STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS. To control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses you must keep taking STRIBILD. Ask your healthcare provider if you have questions about how to reduce the risk of passing HIV-1 to others. Always practice safer sex and use condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with body fluids. Never reuse or share needles or other items that have body fluids on them.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

What is the most important information I should know about STRIBILD?

STRIBILD can cause serious side effects:

- **Build-up of an acid in your blood (lactic acidosis),** which is a serious medical emergency. Symptoms of lactic acidosis include feeling very weak or tired, unusual (not normal) muscle pain, trouble breathing, stomach pain with nausea or vomiting, feeling cold especially in your arms and legs, feeling dizzy or lightheaded, and/or a fast or irregular heartbeat.
- **Serious liver problems.** The liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and fatty (steatosis). Symptoms of liver problems include your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice), dark “tea-colored” urine, light-colored bowel movements (stools), loss of appetite for several days or longer, nausea, and/or stomach pain.
- **You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or serious liver problems** if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking STRIBILD for a long time. In some cases, these serious conditions have led to death. Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any symptoms of these conditions.

- **Worsening of hepatitis B (HBV) infection.** If you also have HBV and stop taking STRIBILD, your hepatitis may suddenly get worse. Do not stop taking STRIBILD without first talking to your healthcare provider, as they will need to monitor your health. STRIBILD is not approved for the treatment of HBV.

Who should not take STRIBILD?

Do not take STRIBILD if you:

- **Take a medicine that contains:** alfuzosin, dihydroergotamine, ergotamine, methylergonovine, cisapride, lovastatin, simvastatin, pimozide, sildenafil when used for lung problems (Revatio®), triazolam, oral midazolam, rifampin or the herb St. John’s wort.
- **For a list of brand names for these medicines,** please see the Brief Summary on the following pages.
- **Take any other medicines to treat HIV-1 infection,** or the medicine adefovir (Hepsera®).

What are the other possible side effects of STRIBILD?

Serious side effects of STRIBILD may also include:

- **New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do regular blood and urine tests to check your kidneys before and during treatment with STRIBILD. If you develop kidney problems, your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking STRIBILD.
- **Bone problems,** including bone pain or bones getting soft or thin, which may lead to fractures. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your bones.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people taking HIV-1 medicines.
- **Changes in your immune system.** Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any new symptoms after you start taking STRIBILD.

The most common side effects of STRIBILD include nausea and diarrhea. Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effects that bother you or don’t go away.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

- **All your health problems.** Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you have or had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis virus infection.
- **All the medicines you take,** including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. STRIBILD may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how STRIBILD works. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist. Do not start any new medicines while taking STRIBILD without first talking with your healthcare provider.
- **If you take hormone-based birth control** (pills, patches, rings, shots, etc).
- **If you take antacids.** Take antacids at least 2 hours before or after you take STRIBILD.
- **If you are pregnant** or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if STRIBILD can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking STRIBILD.
- **If you are breastfeeding** (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed. HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in breast milk. Also, some medicines in STRIBILD can pass into breast milk, and it is not known if this can harm the baby.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see Brief Summary of full Prescribing Information with **important warnings** on the following pages.



STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used as a complete single-tablet regimen to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before. STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.

I started my personal revolution

Talk to your healthcare provider about starting treatment.

STRIBILD is a complete HIV-1 treatment in **1 pill**, once a day.

Ask if it's right for you.

STRIBILD® 
elvitegravir 150mg/ cobicistat 150mg/ emtricitabine
200mg/ tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300mg tablets

Patient Information

STRIBILD® (STRY-bild)

(elvitegravir 150 mg/cobicistat 150 mg/emtricitabine 200 mg/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg) tablets

Brief summary of full Prescribing Information. For more information, please see the full Prescribing Information, including Patient Information.

What is STRIBILD?

- **STRIBILD is a prescription medicine used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV-1 medicines before.** STRIBILD is a complete regimen and should not be used with other HIV-1 medicines.
- **STRIBILD does not cure HIV-1 or AIDS.** You must stay on continuous HIV-1 therapy to control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.
- **Ask your healthcare provider about how to prevent passing HIV-1 to others.** Do not share or reuse needles, injection equipment, or personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them. Do not have sex without protection. Always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

What is the most important information I should know about STRIBILD?

STRIBILD can cause serious side effects, including:

1. **Build-up of lactic acid in your blood (lactic acidosis).** Lactic acidosis can happen in some people who take STRIBILD or similar (nucleoside analogs) medicines. Lactic acidosis is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death. Lactic acidosis can be hard to identify early, because the symptoms could seem like symptoms of other health problems. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms which could be signs of lactic acidosis:**

- feel very weak or tired
- have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
- have trouble breathing
- have stomach pain with nausea or vomiting
- feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
- feel dizzy or lightheaded
- have a fast or irregular heartbeat

2. **Severe liver problems.** Severe liver problems can happen in people who take STRIBILD. In some cases, these liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and you may develop fat in your liver (steatosis). **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms of liver problems:**

- your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice)
- dark “tea-colored” urine
- light-colored bowel movements (stools)
- loss of appetite for several days or longer
- nausea
- stomach pain

You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or severe liver problems if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking STRIBILD for a long time.

3. **Worsening of Hepatitis B infection.** If you have hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and take STRIBILD, your HBV may get worse (flare-up) if you stop taking STRIBILD. A “flare-up” is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before.
- Do not run out of STRIBILD. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your STRIBILD is all gone

- Do not stop taking STRIBILD without first talking to your healthcare provider
- If you stop taking STRIBILD, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do blood tests regularly for several months to check your HBV infection. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking STRIBILD

Who should not take STRIBILD?

Do not take STRIBILD if you also take a medicine that contains:

- adefovir (Hepsera®)
- alfuzosin hydrochloride (Uroxatral®)
- cisapride (Propulsid®, Propulsid Quicksolv®)
- ergot-containing medicines, including: dihydroergotamine mesylate (D.H.E. 45®, Migranal®), ergotamine tartrate (Cafergot®, Migergot®, Ergostat®, Medihaler Ergotamine®, Wigraine®, Wigrettes®), and methylergonovine maleate (Ergotrate®, Methergine®)
- lovastatin (Advicor®, Altoprev®, Mevacor®)
- oral midazolam
- pimozide (Orap®)
- rifampin (Rifadin®, Rifamate®, Rifater®, Rimactane®)
- sildenafil (Revatio®), when used for treating lung problems
- simvastatin (Simcor®, Vytorin®, Zocor®)
- triazolam (Halcion®)
- the herb St. John's wort

Do not take STRIBILD if you also take any other HIV-1 medicines, including:

- Other medicines that contain tenofovir (Atripla®, Complera®, Viread®, Truvada®)
- Other medicines that contain emtricitabine, lamivudine, or ritonavir (Atripla®, Combivir®, Complera®, Emtriva®, Epivir® or Epivir-HBV®, Epzicom®, Kaletra®, Norvir®, Trizivir®, Truvada®)

STRIBILD is not for use in people who are less than 18 years old.

What are the possible side effects of STRIBILD?

STRIBILD may cause the following serious side effects:

- **See “What is the most important information I should know about STRIBILD?”**
- **New or worse kidney problems, including kidney failure.** Your healthcare provider should do blood and urine tests to check your kidneys before you start and while you are taking STRIBILD. Your healthcare provider may tell you to stop taking STRIBILD if you develop new or worse kidney problems.
- **Bone problems** can happen in some people who take STRIBILD. Bone problems include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your healthcare provider may need to do tests to check your bones.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people who take HIV-1 medicine. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck (“buffalo hump”), breast, and around the middle of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The exact cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known.
- **Changes in your immune system** (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome) can happen when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you start having any new symptoms after starting your HIV-1 medicine.

The most common side effects of STRIBILD include:

- Nausea
- Diarrhea

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

- These are not all the possible side effects of STRIBILD. For more information, ask your healthcare provider.
- Call your healthcare provider for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking STRIBILD?

Tell your healthcare provider about all your medical conditions, including:

- If you have or had any kidney, bone, or liver problems, including hepatitis B infection
- If you are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if STRIBILD can harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking STRIBILD.
 - There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral medicines during pregnancy. The purpose of this registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk with your healthcare provider about how you can take part in this registry.
- If you are breastfeeding (nursing) or plan to breastfeed. Do not breastfeed if you take STRIBILD.
 - You should not breastfeed if you have HIV-1 because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby.
 - Two of the medicines in STRIBILD can pass to your baby in your breast milk. It is not known if the other medicines in STRIBILD can pass into your breast milk.
 - Talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements:

- STRIBILD may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how STRIBILD works.
- Be sure to tell your healthcare provider if you take any of the following medicines:
 - Hormone-based birth control (pills, patches, rings, shots, etc)
 - Antacid medicines that contain aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate. Take antacids at least 2 hours before or after you take STRIBILD
 - Medicines to treat depression, organ transplant rejection, or high blood pressure
 - amiodarone (Cordarone®, Pacerone®)
 - atorvastatin (Lipitor®, Caduet®)
 - bepridil hydrochloride (Vasacor®, Bepadin®)
 - bosentan (Tracleer®)
 - buspirone
 - carbamazepine (Carbatrol®, Epitol®, Equetro®, Tegretol®)
 - clarithromycin (Biaxin®, Prevpac®)
 - clonazepam (Klonopin®)
 - clorazepate (Gen-xene®, Tranxene®)
 - colchicine (Colcrys®)
 - medicines that contain dexamethasone
 - diazepam (Valium®)

- digoxin (Lanoxin®)
- disopyramide (Norpace®)
- estazolam
- ethosuximide (Zarontin®)
- flecainide (Tambocor®)
- flurazepam
- fluticasone (Flovent®, Flonase®, Flovent® Diskus®, Flovent® HFA, Veramyst®)
- itraconazole (Sporanox®)
- ketoconazole (Nizoral®)
- lidocaine (Xylocaine®)
- mexiletine
- oxcarbazepine (Trileptal®)
- perphenazine
- phenobarbital (Luminal®)
- phenytoin (Dilantin®, Phenytek®)
- propafenone (Rythmol®)
- quinidine (Neudexta®)
- rifabutin (Mycobutin®)
- rifapentine (Priftin®)
- risperidone (Risperdal®, Risperdal Consta®)
- salmeterol (Serevent®) or salmeterol when taken in combination with fluticasone (Advair Diskus®, Advair HFA®)
- sildenafil (Viagra®), tadalafil (Cialis®) or vardenafil (Levitra®, Staxyn®), for the treatment of erectile dysfunction (ED). If you get dizzy or faint (low blood pressure), have vision changes or have an erection that last longer than 4 hours, call your healthcare provider or get medical help right away.
- tadalafil (Adcirca®), for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension
- telithromycin (Ketek®)
- thioridazine
- voriconazole (Vfend®)
- warfarin (Coumadin®, Jantoven®)
- zolpidem (Ambien®, Edlular®, Intermezzo®, Zolpimist®)

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of all your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine. Do not start any new medicines while you are taking STRIBILD without first talking with your healthcare provider.

Keep STRIBILD and all medicines out of reach of children.

This Brief Summary summarizes the most important information about STRIBILD. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can also ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about STRIBILD that is written for health professionals, or call 1-800-445-3235 or go to www.STRIBILD.com.

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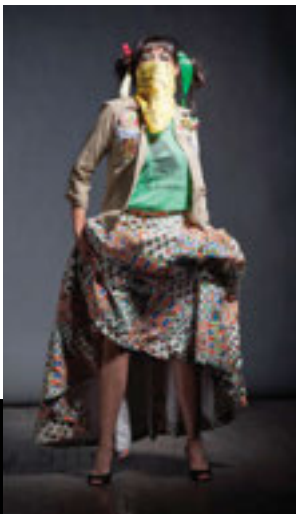
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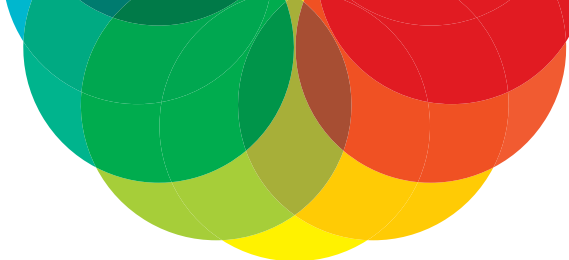


99.9% accurate in people not infected with HIV
91.7% accurate in people infected with HIV

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A positive result with this test does not mean that you are definitely infected with HIV, but rather that additional testing should be done in a medical setting. • A negative result with this test does not mean that you are definitely not infected with HIV, particularly when exposure may have been within the previous 3 months. • If your test is negative and you engage in activities that put you at risk for HIV on a regular basis, you should test regularly. • This product should not be used to make decisions on behavior that may put you at increased risk for HIV.

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THE TOP PRIDE ANTHEMS OF ALL TIME

As selected by
superstar DJs
Steven Redant
& Danny Verde,
better known as
Bent Collective

A single moment can
change everything.



A simple ceremony. An approved adoption. A plan for retirement.

These personal victories have a huge impact on our collective community. Each step toward equality, every milestone reached, is a big leap forward for all of us. However, we know there is still work to do. That's why Wells Fargo teams up with HRC, GLSEN, NGLCC and other organizations to provide resources and financial guidance to LGBT communities. And as the first to offer financial advisors with the Accredited Domestic Partnership AdvisorSM designation, we are well versed on current laws to help you develop a solid plan for the future. Together, we move forward. Step by step, with individuals, in communities — we can make what once seemed impossible a reality. wellsfargo.com/lgbt



Together we'll go far



TIVICAY is a prescription HIV medicine that is used with other antiretroviral medicines to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1 (HIV-1) in adults and children 12 years of age and older and weighing at least 88 pounds. It is not known if TIVICAY is safe and effective in children younger than 12 years or who weigh less than 88 pounds.

In SINGLE, a clinical study with 833 patients who had never taken HIV treatment before:

- **More patients got to undetectable (less than 50 copies of HIV-1 RNA in a milliliter of your blood) with TIVICAY 50 mg once daily and abacavir sulfate + lamivudine than with Atripla®.** In the study, 88% of patients who took TIVICAY with abacavir sulfate + lamivudine were undetectable vs 81% of patients taking Atripla at 48 weeks.

Patients who took TIVICAY with abacavir sulfate + lamivudine had an average CD4 cell count (CD4 cells are T-cells that help fight infections) increase of 267 cells/mm³ (the number of CD4 cells per cubic millimeter of blood) vs 208 cells/mm³ in patients who took Atripla at 48 weeks.

- **Fewer patients stopped taking TIVICAY due to side effects.** In the study, 2% of patients taking TIVICAY with abacavir sulfate + lamivudine stopped taking medication due to side effects vs 10% of patients taking Atripla. The most common mild side effect for patients on TIVICAY was trouble sleeping—affecting 7% of patients on TIVICAY and 3% of patients on Atripla. The most common medium to severe side effects for patients on TIVICAY were trouble sleeping—affecting 3% of patients on TIVICAY and 2% of patients on Atripla; and headache—affecting 2% of patients on TIVICAY and 2% of patients on Atripla.

In SPRING-2, a clinical study with 822* patients who had never taken HIV treatment before:

- **It was shown that TIVICAY[†] worked as well as raltegravir[†] in getting patients to undetectable (less than 50 copies of HIV-1 RNA in a milliliter of your blood).** 88% of patients who took TIVICAY[†] were undetectable vs 86% of patients taking raltegravir[†] at 48 weeks.

About half of the patients who took TIVICAY[†] or raltegravir[†] had a CD4 cell count increase of at least 230 cells/mm³ (the number of CD4 cells per cubic millimeter of blood) at 48 weeks. The other half had increases of 230 cells/mm³ or less.

- **Few patients stopped taking medication due to side effects.** 2% of patients taking TIVICAY[†] stopped taking medication due to side effects vs 2% of patients taking raltegravir[†]. The most common mild side effect for patients on TIVICAY was trouble sleeping—affecting 1% of patients on TIVICAY and less than 1% of patients on raltegravir. The most common medium to severe side effect for patients on TIVICAY was nausea—affecting 1% of patients on TIVICAY and 1% of patients on raltegravir.

*808 patients were included in the study results.

[†]Taken with either abacavir sulfate/lamivudine or emtricitabine/tenofovir.

Your results could vary.

Ask your healthcare provider if TIVICAY is right for you.

What is TIVICAY?

TIVICAY is a prescription HIV medicine that is used with other antiretroviral medicines to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1 (HIV-1) in adults and children 12 years of age and older and weighing at least 88 pounds. HIV-1 is the virus that causes Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). It is not known if TIVICAY is safe and effective in children younger than 12 years or who weigh less than 88 pounds.

TIVICAY does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS. You must stay on continuous HIV-1 therapy to control the HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Who should not take TIVICAY?

- **Do not take TIVICAY if you take dofetilide because of a life-threatening interaction.**

What are the most serious side effects of TIVICAY?

- **Allergic reactions. Stop taking TIVICAY and get medical help right away if you have:**
 - **A rash with any of these symptoms:** fever; general ill feeling; extreme tiredness; muscle or joint aches; blisters or sores in your mouth; blisters or peeling of your skin; redness or swelling in your eyes; swelling of your mouth, face, lips or tongue; problems breathing.
 - **Any of the following signs or symptoms of liver problems:** yellowing of your skin or whites of your eyes; dark or tea-colored urine; pale-colored stools (bowel movements); nausea or vomiting; loss of appetite; pain, aching, or tenderness on your right side below the ribs.

- **Changes in liver tests.** People with a history of hepatitis B or C virus may have an increased risk of developing new or worsening changes in certain liver tests during treatment with TIVICAY. Your healthcare provider may do tests to check your liver function before and during treatment with TIVICAY.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people who take HIV-1 medicines, including increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck (“buffalo hump”), breast, and around the middle of your body. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The exact cause and long-term health effects of these problems are not known.
- **Changes in your immune system** can happen when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you start having new symptoms after starting your HIV-1 medicine.

What are the other possible side effects of TIVICAY?

- The most common side effects of TIVICAY include trouble sleeping and headache.

Tell your healthcare provider about any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of TIVICAY.

Important Safety Information continued on next page.

Let's be **HONEST** about **HIV** treatment.



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code or visit
tivica.com to
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Our medication will not make you **younger**,
sexier, or **smarter**.

It will not improve your jump shot or
help make your dance moves "dancier."

However...

Taken in combination with other HIV medications, TIVICAY
can lower your viral load and increase your CD4 count.

 **Tivica**[®]
(dolutegravir)
50 mg tablets
true to you

What should I tell my healthcare provider before I take TIVICAY?

Before taking TIVICAY, tell your healthcare provider if you:

- have ever had an allergic reaction to TIVICAY
- have or had liver problems, including hepatitis B or C
- have any other medical condition
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if TIVICAY will harm your unborn baby
- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. **Do not breastfeed** if you take TIVICAY. You should not breastfeed if you have HIV-1 because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby. It is not known if TIVICAY passes into your breast milk. Talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

Tell your healthcare provider about all prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements you take.

TIVICAY and other medicines may affect each other, causing side effects. TIVICAY may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how TIVICAY works.

Especially tell your healthcare provider if you take:

- other HIV-1 medicines including: efavirenz (SUSTIVA[®]), etravirine (INTELENCE[®]), fosamprenavir (LEXIVA[®])/ritonavir (NORVIR[®]), nevirapine (VIRAMUNE[®]), or tipranavir (APTIVUS[®])/ritonavir (NORVIR[®]).

- antacids or laxatives that contain aluminum, magnesium or calcium, sucralfate (CARAFATE[®]), iron or calcium supplements, or buffered medicines. TIVICAY should be taken at least 2 hours before or 6 hours after you take these medicines.
- anti-seizure medicines: oxcarbazepine (TRILEPTAL[®]), phenytoin (DILANTIN[®], DILANTIN[®]-125, PHENYTEK[®]), phenobarbital (LUMINAL[®]), carbamazepine (CARBATROL[®], EQUETRO[®], TEGRETOL[®], TEGRETOL[®]-XR, TERIL[®], EPITOL[®])
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- a medicine that contains metformin
- rifampin (RIFATER[®], RIFAMATE[®], RIMACTANE[®], RIFADIN[®])

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please see Patient Information for TIVICAY on the next pages and discuss it with your healthcare provider.

PATIENT INFORMATION

TIVICAY® (TIV-eh-kay) (dolutegravir) Tablets

Read this Patient Information before you start taking TIVICAY and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment.

What is TIVICAY?

TIVICAY is a prescription HIV medicine that is used with other antiretroviral medicines to treat Human Immunodeficiency Virus-1 (HIV-1) infections in adults and children 12 years of age and older and weighing at least 88 pounds. HIV-1 is the virus that causes Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS). It is not known if TIVICAY is safe and effective in children under 12 years of age or who weigh less than 88 pounds.

When used with other HIV-1 medicines to treat HIV-1 infection, TIVICAY may help:

- Reduce the amount of HIV-1 in your blood. This is called “viral load.”
- Increase the number of white blood cells called CD4+ (T) cells in your blood, which help fight off other infections.
- Reduce the amount of HIV-1 and increase the CD4+ (T) cells in your blood which may help improve your immune system. This may reduce your risk of death or getting infections that can happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

TIVICAY does not cure HIV-1 infection or AIDS. You must stay on continuous HIV-1 therapy to control HIV-1 infection and decrease HIV-related illnesses.

Avoid doing things that can spread HIV-1 infection to others.

- Do not share or re-use needles or other injection equipment.
- Do not share personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them, like toothbrushes and razor blades.
- Do not have any kind of sex without protection. Always practice safe sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with any body fluids such as semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

Ask your healthcare provider if you have any questions about how to prevent passing HIV to other people.

Who should not take TIVICAY?

Do not take TIVICAY if you take dofetilide. Taking TIVICAY and dofetilide can cause side effects that may be life-threatening.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking TIVICAY?

Before you take TIVICAY, tell your healthcare provider if you:

- have ever had an allergic reaction to TIVICAY
- have or had liver problems, including hepatitis B or C infection
- have any other medical condition
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if TIVICAY will harm your unborn baby. Tell your healthcare provider if you become pregnant while taking TIVICAY.

Pregnancy Registry. There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral medicines during pregnancy. The purpose of the registry is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk to your healthcare provider about how you can take part in this registry.

- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. **Do not breastfeed if you take TIVICAY.**

- You should not breastfeed if you have HIV-1 because of the risk of passing HIV-1 to your baby.
- It is not known if TIVICAY passes into your breast milk.
- Talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

Tell your healthcare provider about the medicines you take, including prescription and over-the-counter medicines, vitamins, or herbal supplements. TIVICAY and other medicines may affect each other causing side effects. TIVICAY may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines

may affect how TIVICAY works.

Especially tell your healthcare provider if you take:

- other HIV-1 medicines including: efavirenz (SUSTIVA®), etravirine (INTELENCE®), fosamprenavir (LEXIVA®)/ritonavir (NORVIR®), nevirapine (VIRAMUNE®), or tipranavir (APTIVUS®)/ritonavir (NORVIR®).
- antacids or laxatives that contain aluminum, magnesium or calcium, sucralfate (CARAFATE®), iron or calcium supplements, or buffered medicines. TIVICAY should be taken at least 2 hours before or 6 hours after you take these medicines.
- anti-seizure medicines:
 - oxcarbazepine (TRILEPTAL®)
 - phenytoin (DILANTIN®, DILANTIN®-125, PHENYTEK®)
 - phenobarbital (LUMINAL®)
 - carbamazepine (CARBATROL®, EQUETRO®, TEGRETOL®, TEGRETOL®-XR, TERIL®, EPITOL®)
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- a medicine that contains metformin
- rifampin (RIFATER®, RIFAMATE®, RIMACTANE®, RIFADIN®)

Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you are not sure if your medicine is one that is listed above.

Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of them to show your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

How should I take TIVICAY?

- Take TIVICAY exactly as your healthcare provider tells you.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking TIVICAY without talking with your healthcare provider.
- Stay under the care of a healthcare provider while taking TIVICAY.
- You can take TIVICAY with or without food.
- If you miss a dose of TIVICAY, take it as soon as you remember. If it is within 4 hours of your next dose, skip the missed dose and take the next dose at your regular time. Do not take 2 doses at the same time. If you are not sure about your dosing, call your healthcare provider.
- If you take too much TIVICAY, call your healthcare provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.
- Do not run out of TIVICAY. The virus in your blood may become resistant to other HIV-1 medicines if TIVICAY is stopped for even a short time. When your supply starts to run low, get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy.

What are the possible side effects of TIVICAY?

TIVICAY may cause serious side effects, including:

- **Allergic reactions.** Call your healthcare provider right away if you develop a rash with TIVICAY. **Stop taking TIVICAY and get medical help right away if you:**
 - **develop a rash with any of the following signs or symptoms**
 - fever
 - generally ill feeling
 - extreme tiredness
 - muscle or joint aches
 - blisters or sores in mouth
 - blisters or peeling of the skin
 - redness or swelling of the eyes
 - swelling of the mouth, face, lips, or tongue
 - problems breathing
 - **develop any of the following signs or symptoms of liver problems:**
 - yellowing of the skin or whites of the eyes
 - dark or tea-colored urine
 - pale-colored stools or bowel movements
 - nausea or vomiting
 - loss of appetite
 - pain, aching, or tenderness on the right side below the ribs
- **Changes in liver tests.** People with a history of hepatitis B or C virus may have an increased risk of developing new or worsening changes in certain liver tests during treatment with TIVICAY. Your healthcare provider may do

PATIENT INFORMATION

tests to check your liver function before and during treatment with TIVICAY.

- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people who take HIV-1 medicines. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the middle of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The exact cause and long-term health effects of these problems are not known.
- **Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome)** can happen when you start taking HIV-1 medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you start having new symptoms after starting your HIV-1 medicine.

The most common side effects of TIVICAY include:

- trouble sleeping • headache

Tell your healthcare provider about any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of TIVICAY. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store TIVICAY?

- Store TIVICAY at room temperature between 68°F to 77°F (20°C to 25°C).

Keep TIVICAY and all medicines out of the reach of children.

General information about TIVICAY

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information leaflet. Do not use TIVICAY for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give TIVICAY to other people, even if

they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

You can ask your pharmacist or healthcare provider for information about TIVICAY that is written for health professionals.

For more information call 1-877-844-8872 or go to www.TIVICAY.com.

What are the ingredients in TIVICAY?

Active ingredient: dolutegravir sodium

Inactive ingredients: d-mannitol, microcrystalline cellulose, povidone K29/32, sodium starch glycolate, and sodium stearyl fumarate. The tablet film-coating contains the inactive ingredients iron oxide yellow, macrogol/PEG, polyvinyl alcohol-part hydrolyzed, talc, and titanium dioxide.

This Patient Information has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Manufactured for:

by:



ViiV Healthcare
Research Triangle Park, NC 27709
August 2013

TVC:1PIL

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GlaxoSmithKline

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“All who desire a family deserve the opportunity to have one.”

- David B. Smotrich, M.D. Founder & Medical Director.

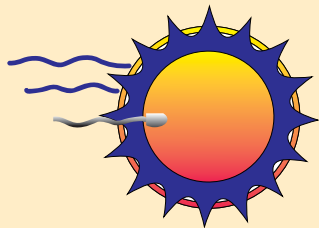
As one of the largest third party reproductive centers in United States, La Jolla IVF welcomes patients regardless of nationality, sexual orientation or marital status. Any individual or couple desiring fertility treatments to start or complete their family is encouraged to pursue their dreams of achieving parenthood.

La Jolla IVF offers State-of-the-Art Treatment Plans tailored to your needs to achieve optimal outcomes.

- In Vitro Fertilization (IVF)
- Intracytoplasmic Sperm Injection (ICSI)
- Blastocyst Transfer
- Preimplantation Genetic Diagnosis (PGD)
- Gestational Surrogacy
- Egg Donation
- Sex Selection
- Embryo/ Egg Freezing
- Assisted Hatching
- Intrauterine Insemination (IUI)

When you need a partner to help you build that family, we're here to offer a professional caring hand.

* Photos are of actual patients of Dr. Smotrich.



LA JOLLA IVF



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THE PRIDE LIST

10 of our favorite pop culture diversions for summer 2014

BY E.J. GRAFF



1. DIVA TOURS

The summer concert scene always has something for everyone, but this year's line-up is especially heavy on the ladies. For current pop lovers, Gaga and Katy Perry are representing. Cher, Dolly Parton, and Diana Ross have got you covered if your tastes lean more classic diva. And for urban music lovers, Rihanna and Beyoncé are breaking out the hits. Our pick for the hippest show of the season, though, has got to be the handful of dates on the Robyn and Röyksopp bill—guaranteed to bring a wave of Scandinavian cool to even the hottest summer night.

2. THE HARVEY MILK STAMP

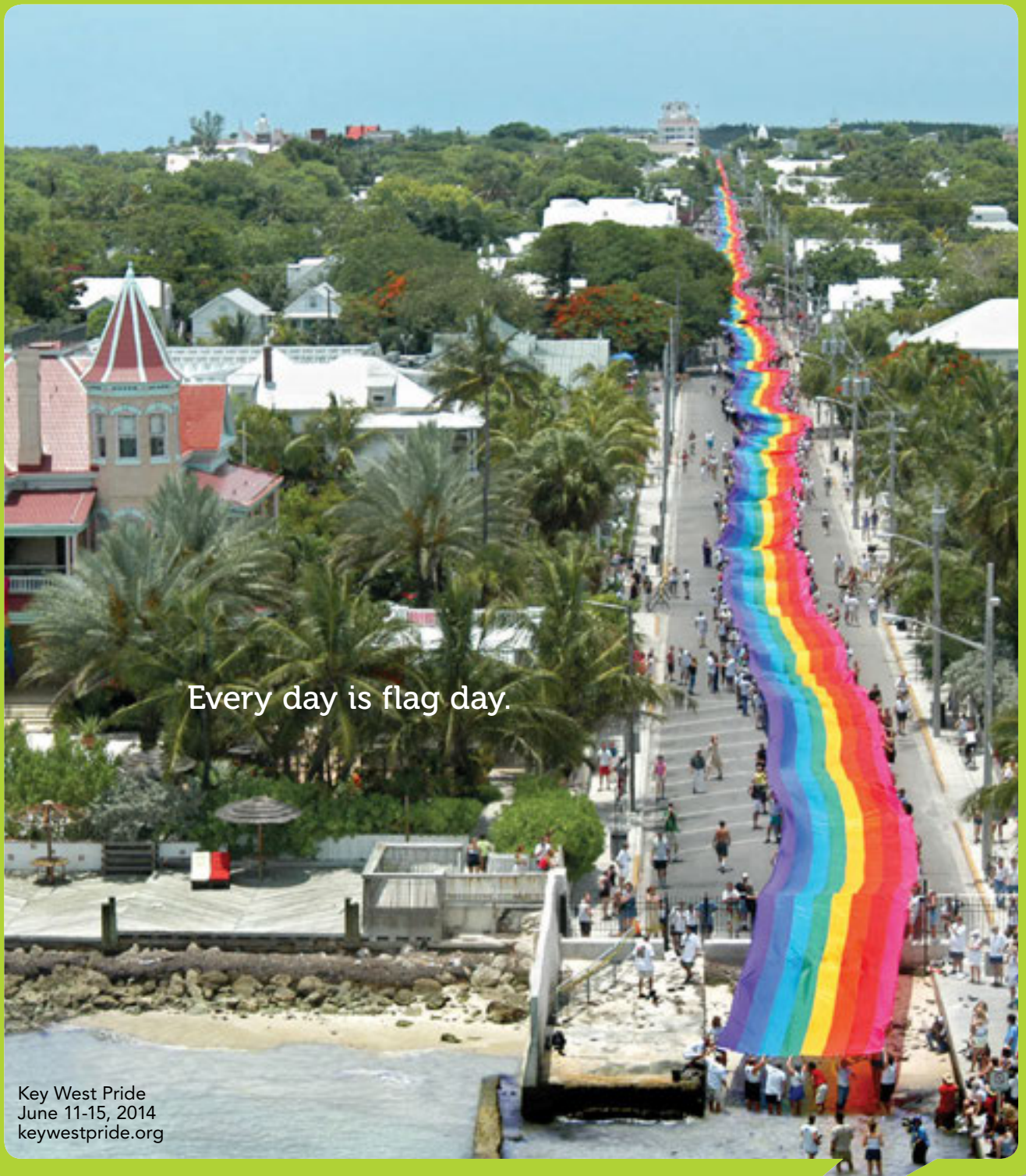
It might be time to write a friend a letter or pay a few bills the old-fashioned way, just so you have an excuse to drop by the post office and pick up a few sheets of the U.S. Postal Service's new Harvey Milk Forever stamp. Introduced at the end of May in an official White House ceremony, the stamp is a tribute to the visionary leader who became one of the first openly gay elected officials in the U.S. when he won a seat on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1977.

3. HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH ON BROADWAY

It could be the amazing songs like "Origin of Love" and "Wicked Little Town," the incredible staging, or just the jaw-dropping performance of Neil Patrick Harris himself (reinvented in ways many never saw possible), but no matter how you dice it, Hedwig is a hot ticket. And with a whopping 10 Tony noms under its belt, it's one show every theater lover visiting NYC this summer needs to see.

4. SPACE STATION 76

The buzziest film from this year's SXSW is a sometimes screwball, sometimes dark drama sci-fi satire (think *Galaxy Quest* mashed with *The Ice Storm*) starring Liv Tyler as a new space station recruit, Patrick Wilson as the ship's closeted commander, Matt Bomber as an unhappy mechanic, and Marisa Coughlan as his wife—who has also fallen in love with a robot. The film has a prime showing on the final night of this year's Outfest in L.A., with many additional screenings throughout the summer. Check out spacestation76.com for a complete rundown.



Every day is flag day.

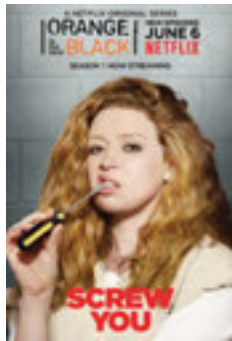
Key West Pride
June 11-15, 2014
keywestpride.org

The Florida Keys
Key West
Close To Perfect - Far From Normal

With our live-and-let-live philosophy and official One Human Family point of view, Key West takes The Florida Keys' come-as-you-are attitude to a whole new place. And with annual events like Key West Pride, you can celebrate your true colors 365 days a year.

fla-keys.com/gaykeywest
305.294.4603





5. **RAINBOW CLOTHING**

Pride is the one time a year when everyone from rockers to goths to fashionistas shed their black clothing for a burst of color. One easy way to show your spirit? Knockaround's new monochrome sunglasses. With glossy translucent frames, reflective lenses—and a super-affordable price of just \$14 a pair, you can afford to stock up on every color. Available at knockaround.com.

6. **GAY GAMES**

If the drama of the Olympics left you cold to mass sporting events, let this year's Gay Games (August 9–16) turn things around. Set in Cleveland, this year's competition allows amateur participants to register and take part in everything from bowling and diving to powerlifting and cycling. More spectator than athlete? Then you may want to go just to check out the entertainment—which includes everyone from Scissor Sister's Ana Matronic to JD Samson to the Pointer Sisters. For a full event schedule and info on participating in the Gay Games, go to gg9cle.com.

7. **ORANGE IS THE NEW BLACK, SEASON 2**

The hit Netflix series returns in June for a second dose of life in a women's federal prison. Expect plenty of drama—and laughs—from bisexual lead Piper Chapman, her ex-girlfriend Laura, and fellow prisoner Sophia (played by trans actress Laverne Cox, in a historic television first). Dole out the season over the course of a few weeks, or settle in for the weekend for your own Big House binge.

8. **CONCHITA WURST**

Europe's *Eurovision Song Contest* is already the gayest music competition show around—after all, this is where Abba got their start! But this year's winner, drag performer Conchita Wurst, brings Pride to a whole new level. Reviled in Russia and parts of eastern Europe where her performance was considered “explicit,” Conchita's song “Rise Like a Phoenix” was the runaway smash hit of the competition. Expect remixes of the track, and Conchita herself, to be a staple of many of this summer's biggest Pride festivities...and soak in the campiness of the whole brilliant performance.

9. **SIA'S 1,000 FORMS OF FEAR**

After cranking out a string of recent hits for others—Rihanna's “Diamonds,” Flo Rida's “Wild Ones,” and “Titanium” with David Guetta, Sia is back with an album of her own (her 6th overall). First, single “Chandelier” is already a monster hit thanks to a manic video starring 11-year-old dance prodigy Maddie Zeigler, which went viral and racked up several million views after just a few days of release. The new album mixes more of Sia's signature vocals, giddy dance beats, and some heart-breaking ballads. Perfect fodder for your next road trip—or a chill night at home with a few friends and some drinks.

10. **MY BUDDY. WORLD WAR II LAID BARE**

Perhaps the ultimate coffee-table book for any gay household, *My Buddy* captures images of close male relationships during the second World War. The 500 collected images of sailors and soldiers show the other side of war—the tight relationships that formed, the soldiers at rest, and the exuberance of youth when men barely out of their teens were sent out on their own to fight for their country in a pre-digital age. (The amount of intimate bonding and naked horseplay is remarkable, especially considering the timeframe!) Available August 1 at amazon.com and anywhere else books are sold.

**WE'RE SO EXCITED,
WE CAN'T THINK STRAIGHT.**

GAY GAMES, AUGUST 9-16



www.gg9cle.com

ClevelandSM

TIME OUT

From football to basketball to soccer, athletes are coming out of the closet. That's great news for building public acceptance, but even more important for the next generation of sports superstars.

BY CYD ZEIGLER & JIM BUZINSKI,
CO-FOUNDERS OF *OUTSPORTS.COM*

IN FEBRUARY, Derek Schell received a T-shirt as a gift. That itself is nothing special, but the context was historic. Schell, an openly gay college basketball player, was gifted a No. 98 T-shirt of the Brooklyn Nets' newest signing, Jason Collins. For the first time in history, a gay college athlete could wear the T-shirt of an openly gay pro athlete in his sport.

"I wear his jersey because I am so proud of Jason for being a voice of hope in the game I love," said Schell, a senior at Hillsdale College. "I can wear this with his name and number and know that I, too, am a gay athlete, and it is more than OK for people to know. He puts on that jersey because he loves basketball and he loves himself for who he is."

Jason Collins came out as gay in April 2013 and was signed by the Nets in February of this year, making him the first openly gay player in one of the four biggest pro sports in the country. In the year since Collins' announcement, LGBT athletes have been front and center in sports, dominating the media discourse

and spurring more and more athletes to come forward and come out. The change has happened in the pros, colleges, and high school. One coming out often leads others to do the same.

THE WARM-UP In addition to Collins, there were numerous other athletes who came out in the past year, including NFL prospect Michael Sam, WNBA star Brittney Griner, U.S. World Cup soccer player Abby Wambach, and Olympic diver Tom Daley. This is in addition to lesser-known athletes and coaches from every sport you can imagine: swimming, diving, rowing, basketball, figure skating, snowboarding, speed skating, mountain climbing, tennis, soccer, volleyball, mixed martial arts, lacrosse, rugby, golf, track and field, basketball, pro wrestling, football, baseball, and more.

Many of the biggest stories have been well-documented:

The lead-up to the Sochi Winter Olympics was all about the anti-gay laws passed by Russia. There were calls for a





Tweets of Support

boycott, gay vodka lovers spurned Russian brands, and athletes went on record to oppose the laws. Yet in the end, only two athletes—both lesbians—came out as a result of the laws, and they made up half of all the out athletes in Sochi. For all the build-up, nothing happened in terms of protests. The Games came and went and the laws are still on the books.

The Olympics were overshadowed in the U.S. by the announcement February 9 by Michael Sam, a linebacker for the University of Missouri and co-defensive player of the year in the Southeastern Conference. Sam came out ahead of this year's NFL draft with somewhat debatable results. Once considered definite top 100 early draft pick, he was eventually selected by the St. Louis Rams in the seventh round as the 249th pick overall. By being picked later than anticipated, Sam's potential earnings fell considerably...and as a late-round draft pick, there's no guarantee of him making the team once training camp starts.

THE TURNING POINT Still, no matter how his story eventually plays out, he's already made his mark. His post-pick kiss with boyfriend Vito Cammisano, broadcast live on ESPN, blew up social media and was the talk of the sports world for days. Sales for a Sam jersey exploded online in record numbers, showing the potential money sports as a whole could make from the "pink dollar," which up to this point has been relatively untapped. And perhaps most importantly, Sam also helped spur a conversation in the NFL with the people who make the decisions—the owners, G.Ms, and coaches.

While the league had been taking steps towards creating a positive environment for gay players, Sam's announcement put a name and face to the issue. Jason Licht, the general manager of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers said he appreciated Sam's timing on coming out, done three months ahead of

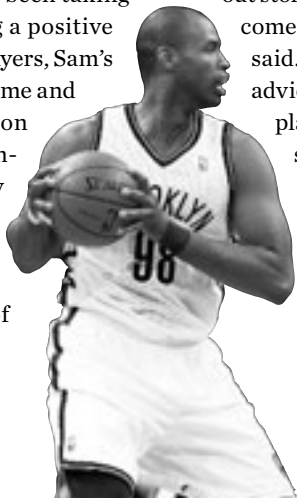
the draft. "I really appreciate that about him," Licht told Outsports. "He had to get it out at some point, he did it at the right time. Now he can focus on getting better."

NEXT SEASON At the NFL owners' meeting in March, team owners and executives heard a presentation from Wade Davis, himself a former NFL player who is gay. It got many of the coaches thinking about a subject they'd barely considered before. "It is a brotherhood, it is a family," Denver Broncos coach John Fox said about a football team. "You need diversification in everything, even sexual orientation. It has to be in the conversation now."

Collins and Sam were by far the most noteworthy coming out stories in sports, simply because of the visibility of the leagues they are in. But they are still only two male team athletes in the Big Four U.S. sports. If you include Major League Soccer, this includes openly gay player Robbie Rogers. We still have no one openly gay in the NHL or Major League Baseball. The ground has been laid for openly gay players, now all we need is for more to stand up and be counted.

That said, the real action with gay athletes, however is occurring in the high school and college ranks. For many young gay athletes, coming out in their sport is becoming less fraught with anxiety. As one college swimmer wrote on Outsports after coming out: "My happiness is one thing I never considered while entertaining the thought of coming out. I only focused on the things out of my control. How would others see me? How would they treat me?"

After the swimmer told his coming out story, "a lot of people were able to come out to their parents too," he said. "Many more have asked for advice." And as a college football player added: "I made the decision that if I could help anyone else be more accepting of who they are, I would." No matter how you look at it, that's a definite game changer.



- @michaelirvin88** Congrats to my friend @MikeSamFootball on being drafted by the #Rams. Always respected Coach Fisher. But this make me #LOVE Him. Thxs COACH
- @TheRock** Being real & authentic is very powerful. Well done Jason Collins for having the courage to take a monumental step forward. #LiveReal
- @kobe Bryant** Proud of @jasoncollins34. Don't suffocate who u r because of the ignorance of others #courage #support #mambaarmystandup #BYOU
- @MalcSmitty** There is no room for bigotry in American sports. It takes courage to change the culture.
- @billclinton** I'm proud to call Jason Collins a friend.
- @ActuallyNPH** Bravo, @JasonCollins34! Thanks for stepping up. For standing tall. And at 7 feet, that's saying a lot.
- @brendon310** Gay is OK & it always hasnt been to some, but it helps to see @MikeSamFootball represent the community so well #nfl #lgbt
- @FLOTUS** So proud of you, Jason Collins! This is a huge step forward for our country. We've got your back! -mo
- @ChrisWarcraft** Best of luck to @MikeSamFootball moving forward. All you have to do is be yourself. Enjoy the league! #istand withsam
- @HowardStern** Big support to @jasoncollins34. That's not an easy thing you did
- @jesst Tyler** I know nothing about basketball but i know that I am very excited for @jasoncollins34! The Nets sure are lucky to have him.
- @robbierogers** Very happy for Michael Sam. His courage will inspire millions to live their truth.
- @Martina** Well done Jason Collins- you are a brave man. And a big man at that:) 1981 was the year for me- 2013 is the year for you:)
- @michaelstrahan** So proud of @jasoncollins34 for having the courage to stand up and out for who he is. I support, respect and salute you!!
- @SHAQ** Character is found in those who lead. I am so proud of my friend, Jason Collins, for showing all of us what leadership looks like.
- @SteveNash** The time has come. Maximum respect. RT @Baron_Davis: I am so proud of my bro @jasoncollins34 for being real. ...
- @TheEllenShow** @NBA center @JasonCollins34 is the 1st out player on a US major league team. I'm overwhelmed by your bravery, Jason, & sending so much love
- @jasoncollins34** I'm getting ready for my game against the @MiamiHEAT, but I wanted to say congrats to @MikeSamFootball & @STLouisRams. Great pick. Good luck
- @lenadunham** I'm gonna be the first openly straight woman to french kiss the first openly gay NBA player.
- @MichaelSamNFL** Congratulations to my friend @jasoncollins34 - excited to see you do work out there #courage #groundbreaking

ABOUT PREZISTA®

PREZISTA® (darunavir) is a prescription medicine. It is one treatment option in the class of HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) medicines known as protease inhibitors.

PREZISTA® is always taken with and at the same time as ritonavir (Norvir®), in combination with other HIV medicines for the treatment of HIV infection in adults. PREZISTA® should also be taken with food.

PREZISTA® does not cure HIV infection or AIDS and you may continue to experience illnesses associated with HIV-1 infection, including opportunistic infections. You should remain under the care of a doctor when using PREZISTA®.

Please read Important Safety Information below, and talk to your healthcare provider to learn if PREZISTA® is right for you.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

What is the most important information I should know about PREZISTA®?

- **PREZISTA® can interact with other medicines and cause serious side effects. See “Who should not take PREZISTA®?”**
- **PREZISTA® may cause liver problems.** Some people taking PREZISTA®, together with Norvir® (ritonavir), have developed liver problems which may be life-threatening. Your healthcare provider should do blood tests before and during your combination treatment with PREZISTA®. If you have chronic hepatitis B or C infection, your healthcare provider should check your blood tests more often because you have an increased chance of developing liver problems
- Tell your healthcare provider if you have any of these signs and symptoms of liver problems: dark (tea-colored) urine, yellowing of your skin or whites of your eyes, pale-colored stools (bowel movements), nausea, vomiting, pain or tenderness on your right side below your ribs, or loss of appetite
- **PREZISTA® may cause severe or life-threatening skin reactions or rash.** Sometimes these skin reactions and skin rashes can become severe and require treatment in a hospital. You should call your healthcare provider immediately if you develop a rash. However, **stop** taking PREZISTA® and ritonavir combination treatment and call your healthcare provider immediately if you develop any skin changes with these symptoms: fever, tiredness, muscle or joint pain, blisters or skin lesions, mouth sores or ulcers, red or inflamed eyes, like “pink eye.” Rash occurred more often in patients taking PREZISTA® and raltegravir together than with either drug separately, but was generally mild

Who should not take PREZISTA®?

- **Do not take PREZISTA® if you are taking the following medicines:** alfuzosin (Uroxatral®), dihydroergotamine (D.H.E. 45®, Embolex®, Migranal®), ergotamine (Cafergot®, Ergomar®), methylergonovine, cisapride (Propulsid®), pimozide (Orap®), oral midazolam (Versed®), triazolam (Halcion®), the herbal supplement St. John’s wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), lovastatin (Mevacor®, Altoprev®, Advicor®), salmeterol (Advair®, Serevent®), simvastatin (Zocor®, Simcor®, Vytorin®), rifampin (Rifadin®, Rifater®, Rifamate®, Rimactane®), sildenafil (Revatio®) when used to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension, indinavir (Crivivan®), lopinavir/ritonavir (Kaletra®), saquinavir (Invirase®), boceprevir (Victrelis®), or telaprevir (Incivek®)

- Before taking PREZISTA®, tell your healthcare provider if you are taking sildenafil (Viagra®, Revatio®), vardenafil (Levitra®, Staxyn®), tadalafil (Cialis®, Addcirca®), atorvastatin (Lipitor®), rosuvastatin (Crestor®), pravastatin (Pravachol®), or colchicine (Colcrys®, Col-Probenecid®). Tell your healthcare provider if you are taking estrogen-based contraceptives (birth control). PREZISTA® might reduce the effectiveness of estrogen-based contraceptives. You must take additional precautions for birth control, such as condoms

Serious problems can happen if you or your child takes any of these medicines with PREZISTA®.

This is not a complete list of medicines. Be sure to tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you are taking or plan to take, including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Do not start any new medicines while you are taking PREZISTA® without first talking to your healthcare provider.

What should I tell my doctor before I take PREZISTA®?

- **Before taking PREZISTA®, tell your healthcare provider if you** have any medical conditions, including liver problems (including hepatitis B or C), allergy to sulfa medicines, diabetes, or hemophilia
- Tell your healthcare provider if you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant, or are breastfeeding
 - The effects of PREZISTA® on pregnant women or their unborn babies are not known. You and your healthcare provider will need to decide if taking PREZISTA® is right for you
 - **Do not breastfeed.** It is not known if PREZISTA® can be passed to your baby in your breast milk and whether it could harm your baby. Also, mothers with HIV should not breastfeed because HIV can be passed to your baby in the breast milk

What are the possible side effects of PREZISTA®?

- High blood sugar, diabetes or worsening of diabetes, and increased bleeding in people with hemophilia have been reported in patients taking protease inhibitor medicines, including PREZISTA®
- Changes in body fat have been seen in some patients taking HIV medicines, including PREZISTA®. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time
- Changes in your immune system can happen when you start taking HIV medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden
- The most common side effects related to taking PREZISTA® include diarrhea, nausea, rash, headache, stomach pain, and vomiting. This is not a complete list of all possible side effects. If you experience these or other side effects, talk to your healthcare provider. Do not stop taking PREZISTA® or any other medicines without first talking to your healthcare provider

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

Please refer to the ritonavir (Norvir®) Product Information (PI and PPI) for additional information on precautionary measures.

Please see accompanying full Product Information for more details.

Once-Daily Discover the [^]PREZISTA[®] EXPERIENCE

Once-Daily PREZISTA[®] (darunavir) taken with ritonavir and in combination with other HIV medications can help lower your viral load and keep your HIV under control.

THE PREZISTA[®] Experience isn't just an HIV treatment. It's an HIV treatment experience as unique as you. Ask your healthcare professional if it's right for you.

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*Please read the Important Safety Information
and Patient Information on adjacent pages.*

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04/14 012641-140327

IMPORTANT PATIENT INFORMATION

PREZISTA (pre-ZIS-ta)
(darunavir)
Oral Suspension

PREZISTA (pre-ZIS-ta)
(darunavir)
Tablets

Read this Patient Information before you start taking PREZISTA and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking to your healthcare provider about your medical condition or your treatment.

Also read the Patient Information leaflet for NORVIR® (ritonavir).

What is the most important information I should know about PREZISTA?

- **PREZISTA can interact with other medicines and cause serious side effects.** It is important to know the medicines that should not be taken with PREZISTA. See the section “Who should not take PREZISTA?”
- **PREZISTA may cause liver problems.** Some people taking PREZISTA in combination with NORVIR® (ritonavir) have developed liver problems which may be life-threatening. Your healthcare provider should do blood tests before and during your combination treatment with PREZISTA. If you have chronic hepatitis B or C infection, your healthcare provider should check your blood tests more often because you have an increased chance of developing liver problems.
- Tell your healthcare provider if you have any of the below signs and symptoms of liver problems.
 - Dark (tea colored) urine
 - yellowing of your skin or whites of your eyes
 - pale colored stools (bowel movements)
 - nausea
 - vomiting
 - pain or tenderness on your right side below your ribs
 - loss of appetite

PREZISTA may cause severe or life-threatening skin reactions or rash. Sometimes these skin reactions and skin rashes can become severe and require treatment in a hospital. You should call your healthcare provider immediately if you develop a rash. However, **stop** taking PREZISTA and ritonavir combination treatment and call your healthcare provider immediately if you develop any skin changes with symptoms below:

- fever
- tiredness
- muscle or joint pain
- blisters or skin lesions
- mouth sores or ulcers
- red or inflamed eyes, like “pink eye” (conjunctivitis)

Rash occurred more often in people taking PREZISTA and raltegravir together than with either drug separately, but was generally mild.

See “What are the possible side effects of PREZISTA?” for more information about side effects.

What is PREZISTA?

PREZISTA is a prescription anti-HIV medicine used with ritonavir and other anti-HIV medicines to treat adults with human immunodeficiency virus (HIV-1) infection. PREZISTA is a type of anti-HIV medicine called a protease inhibitor. HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome).

When used with other HIV medicines, PREZISTA may help to reduce the amount of HIV in your blood (called “viral load”). PREZISTA may also help to increase the number of white blood cells called CD4 (T) cell which help fight off other infections. Reducing the amount of HIV and increasing the CD4 (T) cell count may improve your immune system. This may reduce your risk of death or infections that can happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

PREZISTA does not cure HIV infection or AIDS and you may continue to experience illnesses associated with HIV-1 infection, including opportunistic infections. You should remain under the care of a doctor when using PREZISTA.

Avoid doing things that can spread HIV-1 infection.

- **Do not share needles or other injection equipment.**
- **Do not share personal items that can have blood or body fluids on them, like toothbrushes and razor blades.**

- **Do not have any kind of sex without protection.** Always practice safe sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.

Ask your healthcare provider if you have any questions on how to prevent passing HIV to other people.

Who should not take PREZISTA?

Do not take PREZISTA with any of the following medicines:

- alfuzosin (Uroxatral®)
- dihydroergotamine (D.H.E. 45®, Embolex®, Migranal®), ergonovine, ergotamine (Cafergot®, Ergomar®) methylergonovine
- cisapride
- pimozide (Orap®)
- oral midazolam, triazolam (Halcion®)
- the herbal supplement St. John’s Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- the cholesterol lowering medicines lovastatin (Mevacor®, Altoprev®, Advicor®) or simvastatin (Zocor®, Simcor®, Vytorin®)
- rifampin (Rifadin®, Rifater®, Rifamate®, Rimactane®)
- sildenafil (Revatio®) only when used for the treatment of pulmonary arterial hypertension.

Serious problems can happen if you take any of these medicines with PREZISTA.

What should I tell my doctor before I take PREZISTA? PREZISTA may not be right for you. Before taking PREZISTA, tell your healthcare provider if you:

- have liver problems, including hepatitis B or hepatitis C
- are allergic to sulfa medicines
- have high blood sugar (diabetes)
- have hemophilia
- are pregnant or planning to become pregnant. It is not known if PREZISTA will harm your unborn baby.

Pregnancy Registry: You and your healthcare provider will need to decide if taking PREZISTA is right for you. If you take PREZISTA while you are pregnant, talk to your healthcare provider about how you can be included in the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry. The purpose of the registry is follow the health of you and your baby.

- are breastfeeding or plan to breastfeed. **Do not breastfeed.** We do not know if PREZISTA can be passed to your baby in your breast milk and whether it could harm your baby. Also, mothers with HIV-1 should not breastfeed because HIV-1 can be passed to the baby in the breast milk.

Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Using PREZISTA and certain other medicines may affect each other causing serious side effects. PREZISTA may affect the way other medicines work and other medicines may affect how PREZISTA works.

Especially tell your healthcare provider if you take:

- other medicine to treat HIV
- estrogen-based contraceptives (birth control). PREZISTA might reduce the effectiveness of estrogen-based contraceptives. You must take additional precautions for birth control such as a condom.
- medicine for your heart such as bepridil, lidocaine (Xylocaine Viscous®), quinidine (Nuedexta®), amiodarone (Pacerone®, Cardarone®), digoxin (Lanoxin®), flecainide (Tambocor®), propafenone (Rythmol®)
- warfarin (Coumadin®, Jantoven®)
- medicine for seizures such as carbamazepine (Carbatrol®, Equetro®, Tegretol®, Epitol®), phenobarbital, phenytoin (Dilantin®, Phenytek®)
- medicine for depression such as trazadone and desipramine (Norpramin®)
- clarithromycin (Prevpac®, Biaxin®)
- medicine for fungal infections such as ketoconazole (Nizoral®), itraconazole (Sporanox®, Onmel®), voriconazole (Vfend®)
- colchicine (Colcrys®, Col-Probenecid®)
- rifabutin (Mycobutin®)
- medicine used to treat blood pressure, a heart attack, heart failure, or to lower pressure in the eye such as metoprolol (Lopressor®, Toprol-XL®), timolol (Cosopt®, Betimol®, Timoptic®, Isatolol®, Combigan®)
- midazolam administered by injection
- medicine for heart disease such as felodipine (Plendil®), nifedipine (Procardia®, Adalat CC®, Afeditab CR®), nicardipine (Cardene®)
- steroids such as dexamethasone, fluticasone (Advair Diskus®, Veramyst®, Flovent®, Flonase®)
- bosentan (Tracleer®)
- medicine to treat chronic hepatitis C such as boceprevir (Victrelis™), telaprevir (Incivek™)

IMPORTANT PATIENT INFORMATION

- medicine for cholesterol such as pravastatin (Pravachol®), atorvastatin (Lipitor®), rosuvastatin (Crestor®)
- medicine to prevent organ transplant failure such as cyclosporine (Gengraf®, Sandimmune®, Neoral®), tacrolimus (Prograf®), sirolimus (Rapamune®)
- salmeterol (Advair®, Serevent®)
- medicine for narcotic withdrawal such as methadone (Methadose®, Dolophine Hydrochloride), buprenorphine (Butrans®, Buprenex®, Subutex®), buprenorphine/naloxone (Suboxone®)
- medicine to treat schizophrenia such as risperidone (Risperdal®), thioridazine
- medicine to treat erectile dysfunction or pulmonary hypertension such as sildenafil (Viagra®, Revatio®), vardenafil (Levitra®, Staxyn®), tadalafil (Cialis®, Adcirca®)
- medicine to treat anxiety, depression or panic disorder such as sertraline (Zoloft®), paroxetine (Paxil®, Pexeva®)
- medicine to treat malaria such as artemether/lumefantrine (Coartem®)

This is **not** a complete list of medicines that you should tell your healthcare provider that you are taking. Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you are not sure if your medicine is one that is listed above. Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of them to show your doctor or pharmacist when you get a new medicine. Do not start any new medicines while you are taking PREZISTA without first talking with your healthcare provider.

How should I take PREZISTA?

- Take PREZISTA every day exactly as prescribed by your healthcare provider.
- You must take ritonavir (NORVIR®) at the same time as PREZISTA.
- Do not change your dose of PREZISTA or stop treatment without talking to your healthcare provider first.
- Take PREZISTA and ritonavir (NORVIR®) with food.
- Swallow PREZISTA tablets whole with a drink. If you have difficulty swallowing PREZISTA tablets, PREZISTA oral suspension is also available. Your health care provider will help decide whether PREZISTA tablets or oral suspension is right for you.
- PREZISTA oral suspension should be given with the supplied oral dosing syringe. Shake the suspension well before each use. See the Instructions for Use that come with PREZISTA oral suspension for information about the right way to prepare and take a dose.
- If your prescribed dose of PREZISTA oral suspension is more than 6 mL, you will need to divide the dose. Follow the instructions given to you by your healthcare provider or pharmacist about how to divide the dose. Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you are not sure.
- If you take too much PREZISTA, call your healthcare provider or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.

What should I do if I miss a dose?

People who take PREZISTA one time a day:

- If you miss a dose of PREZISTA by less than 12 hours, take your missed dose of PREZISTA right away. Then take your next dose of PREZISTA at your regularly scheduled time.
- If you miss a dose of PREZISTA by more than 12 hours, wait and then take the next dose of PREZISTA at your regularly scheduled time.

People who take PREZISTA two times a day

- If you miss a dose of PREZISTA by less than 6 hours, take your missed dose of PREZISTA right away. Then take your next dose of PREZISTA at your regularly scheduled time.
- If you miss a dose of PREZISTA by more than 6 hours, wait and then take the next dose of PREZISTA at your regularly scheduled time.

If a dose of PREZISTA is skipped, do not double the next dose. Do not take more or less than your prescribed dose of PREZISTA at any one time.

What are the possible side effects of PREZISTA?

PREZISTA can cause side effects including:

- See **"What is the most important information I should know about PREZISTA?"**
- **Diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia).** Some people who take protease inhibitors including PREZISTA can get high blood sugar, develop diabetes, or your diabetes can get worse. Tell your healthcare provider if you notice an increase in thirst or urinate often while taking PREZISTA.
- **Changes in body fat.** These changes can happen in people who take antiretroviral therapy. The changes may include an increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the back, chest, and stomach area. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The exact cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known.

- **Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome)** can happen when you start taking HIV medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Call your healthcare provider right away if you start having new symptoms after starting your HIV medicine.

- **Increased bleeding for hemophiliacs.** Some people with hemophilia have increased bleeding with protease inhibitors including PREZISTA.

The most common side effects of PREZISTA include:

- diarrhea
- headache
- nausea
- abdominal pain
- rash
- vomiting

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all of the possible side effects of PREZISTA. For more information, ask your health care provider.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to the FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088.

How should I store PREZISTA?

- Store PREZISTA oral suspension and tablets at room temperature [77°F (25°C)].
- Do not refrigerate or freeze PREZISTA oral suspension.
- Keep PREZISTA away from high heat.
- PREZISTA oral suspension should be stored in the original container.

Keep PREZISTA and all medicines out of the reach of children.

General information about PREZISTA

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information leaflet. Do not use PREZISTA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give PREZISTA to other people even if they have the same condition you have. It may harm them.

This leaflet summarizes the most important information about PREZISTA. If you would like more information, talk to your healthcare provider. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about PREZISTA that is written for health professionals.

For more information, call 1-800-526-7736.

What are the ingredients in PREZISTA?

Active ingredient: darunavir

Inactive ingredients:

PREZISTA Oral Suspension: hydroxypropyl cellulose, microcrystalline cellulose, sodium carboxymethylcellulose, methylparaben sodium, citric acid monohydrate, sucralose, masking flavor, strawberry cream flavor, hydrochloric acid (for pH adjustment), purified water.

PREZISTA 75 mg and 150 mg Tablets: colloidal silicon dioxide, crospovidone, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose. The film coating contains: OPADRY® White (polyethylene glycol 3350, polyvinyl alcohol-partially hydrolyzed, talc, titanium dioxide).

PREZISTA 400 mg and 600 mg Tablets: colloidal silicon dioxide, crospovidone, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose. The film coating contains: OPADRY® Orange (FD&C Yellow No. 6, polyethylene glycol 3350, polyvinyl alcohol-partially hydrolyzed, talc, titanium dioxide).

PREZISTA 800 mg Tablets: colloidal silicon dioxide, crospovidone, magnesium stearate, microcrystalline cellulose, hypromellose. The film coating contains: OPADRY® Dark Red (iron oxide red, polyethylene glycol 3350, polyvinyl alcohol-partially hydrolyzed, talc, titanium dioxide).

This Patient Information has been approved by the U.S Food and Drug Administration.

Product of Ireland

Manufactured by:

PREZISTA Oral Suspension
Janssen Pharmaceutica, N.V.
Beerse, Belgium

PREZISTA Tablets
Janssen Ortho LLC,
Gurabo, PR 00778

Manufactured for:

Janssen Therapeutics, Division of Janssen Products, LP,
Titusville NJ 08560

Revised: December 2013

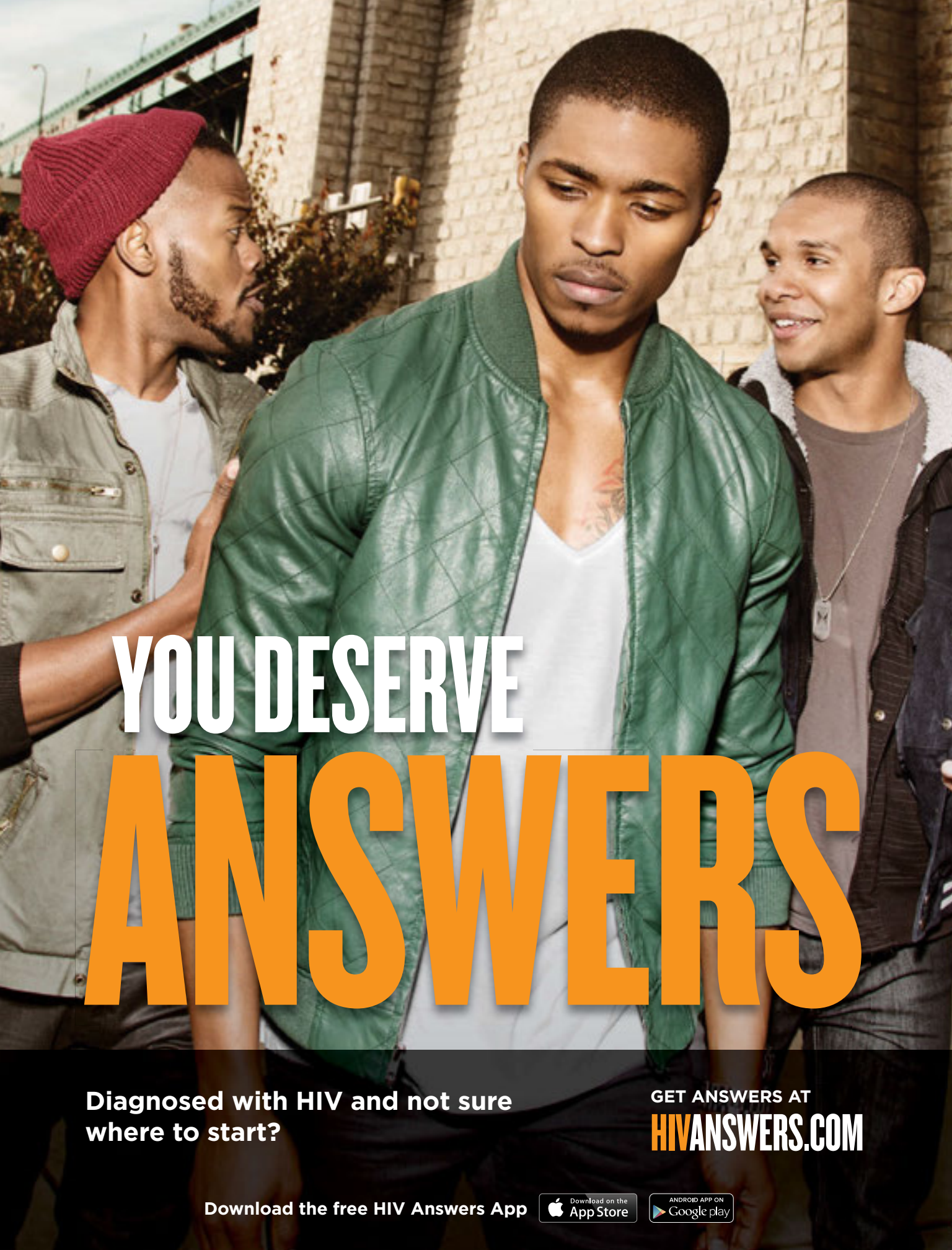
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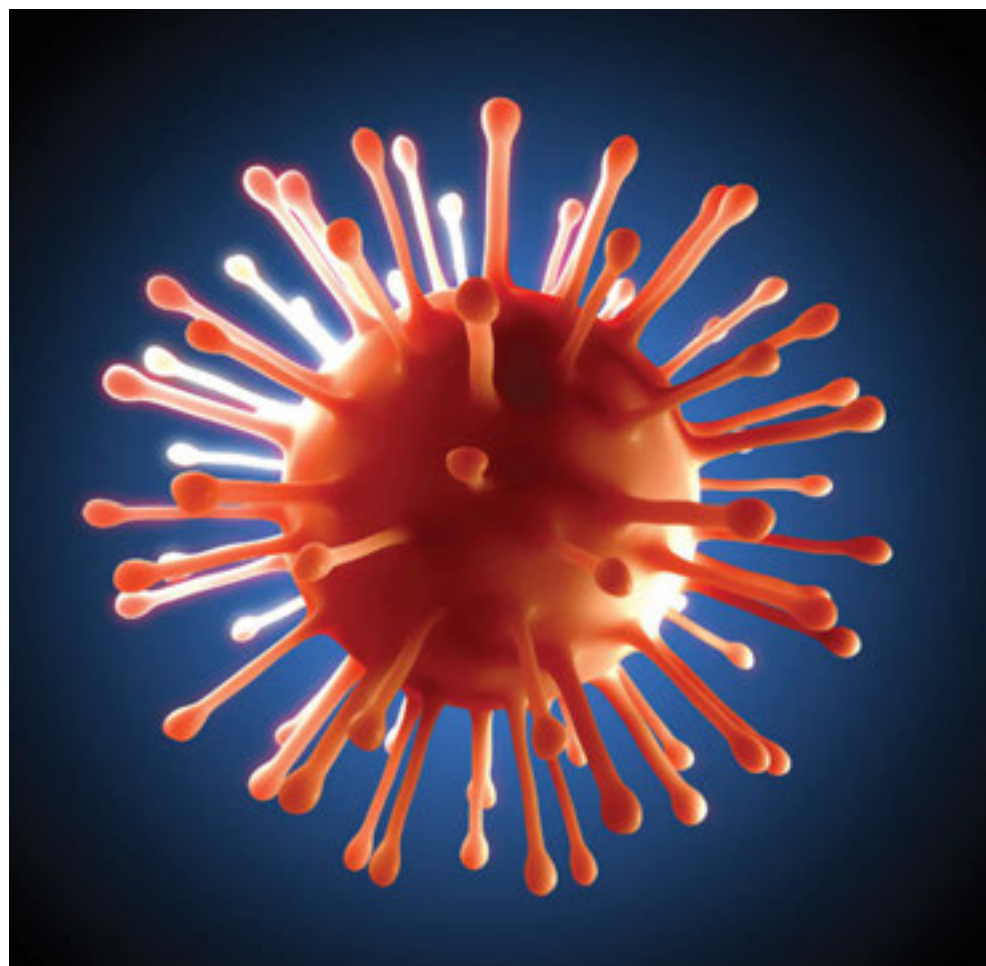
A wrap-up of the latest and most encouraging news about the virus inside us.

NEW ADVANCEMENTS, wider acceptance, and a deepening understanding of the human immunodeficiency virus are mounting every year, but one of the biggest victories for HIV-positive people is the implementation of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), which was signed into existence in 2010 and enacted this year. The biggest benefit of the ACA in terms of HIV/AIDS will be easier access to private health insurance for people living with the condition—insurers cannot deny coverage to anyone, regardless of a pre-existing condition. They also can't charge higher rates, and there is no longer a lifetime limit to the amount of money that can be spent for essential health benefits.

The ACA will also broaden the

requirements for eligibility for Medicaid depending on your income, plus you no longer need to be very sick or wait for an AIDS diagnosis to get coverage. Besides the landmark support that the ACA brings to the poz community, it will also ensure better information and services, improve access to quality care similar to a standard employer plan, and emphasize preventive and coordinated care. The law also increases investments in critical areas like public health surveillance, community programs, as well as HIV testing. The ACA will also boost funding to underserved communities and provide loans and scholarships to health care providers interested in challenging HIV.

But, all of this good news comes with some significant caveats as millions of new people enter the health insurance



market, creating strain and disruption of care for HIV patients new and old. “People with HIV are less than one percent of the U.S. population, so many plans may have limited exposure to HIV, or limited incentive to learn how to provide quality HIV care,” says Jeffrey S. Crowley, program director of the National HIV/AIDS Initiative at Georgetown Law’s O’Neill Institute for National and Global Health Law. And because Medicaid has been expanded (but only in states that accepted) to include people with HIV, the quality of the specialized care that HIV patients need will be tested.

“There is a reason why the AIDS community developed a system of care separate from the mainstream,” says Kathie M. Hiers, CEO of AIDS Alabama. “We did so because mainstream pro-

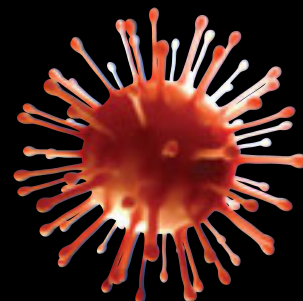
viders would not serve our population.” Crowley wants to ensure culturally capable services are available to particular populations, such as young gay men, immigrants, and ethnic groups. “But,” he says, “the federal government continues to invest significant resources in community-based services both through HIV prevention at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and through care funded by the Ryan White program.”

The Ryan White HIV/AIDS program, which is designed specifically to help fill gaps in insurance coverage for people with HIV and provides care and support services for more than half a million people each year, plays a critical role in managing the complex needs of longer-lived HIV patients. There are fears that as more people move to Medicaid under the

ACA, the Ryan White doctors will be providing the same services for less money. “Only the Federally Qualified Health Centers [FQHCs] will get enhanced rates from Medicaid,” says Hiers, “and these FQHCs may not have adequate expertise to treat HIV, especially in the South and rural America. I believe that any free-standing medical and research centers are going to struggle to keep their doors open.” And, because most Southern and conservative states chose not to expand Medicaid under the ACA, they’ll lose billions of federal dollars that could’ve been used to provide health care. “The South already gets a lower percentage of federal HIV dollars per person,” she says. “Now with the lack of Medicaid expansion, the poor are going to get poorer and Ryan White dollars will be stretched even fur-

500,000

ESTIMATED INCREASE
IN THE NUMBER OF
PEOPLE WHO WILL GET
TESTED FOR HIV BECAUSE
OF THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT



HIV HOME-TESTING: HELP OR HINDRANCE?

 In 2012, the Food and Drug Administration approved the OraQuick In-Home HIV Test, a speedy HIV test kit that you can use at home and does not require shipping off to a lab for results. The kit provides results in 20 to 40 minutes and is the first FDA-approved in-home HIV test. “This test is targeted to people who would not otherwise be tested,” says Elliot Cowan, Ph.D., from the FDA’s Division of Emerging and Transfusion Transmitted Diseases. “There’s a large group of people who are infected and don’t know it. And even if they are engaged in behaviors that would put them at risk of getting HIV, they may be reluctant to visit their doctor or a health care facility to be tested.” In approving OraQuick, the FDA hopes that the availability

of a rapid in-home test will contribute to public health by helping more infected individuals to become aware of their HIV status and thereby reducing HIV transmission. But there are drawbacks to having such a fast and easy test. What happens when people test positive at home, but never seek out health care? Many may opt to deal with the infection on their own—or, more likely, just ignore the fact that they are HIV positive. “I feel like the linkage-to-care part is a major drawback with at-home self-testing,” says Christopher Hurt, M.D., clinical assistant professor at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill’s Institute for Global Health and Infectious Diseases. “The available kits have basic information that includes

an 800-number for customer service...but it’s basically the same as hopping on Google or looking at the CDC’s website to identify HIV care providers in the area. In the end, it still all rests on the kit user to take the initiative and navigate what can be a confusing and convoluted pathway to get into care.”

Support System The maker of OraQuick, OraSure Technologies, is hindered in its ability to track linkage to care for those who test positive because the FDA provides them with pre-approved scripts to follow when someone calls their 800-number seeking support. And, for obvious privacy and stigma concerns, OraQuick is not allowed to follow up with those who test positive, nor are they supposed

ther, especially to cover meds under the AIDS Drug Assistance Program.”

LOOKING TO THE FUTURE If the Ryan White clinics close, many HIV-positive people will be hard-pressed to find access to adequate medical care and services. We know that HIV treatment not only improves health outcomes but also prevents transmissions, so it’s critical to keep people connected to their care.

There is no doubt that as the ACA opens up Medicaid for more HIV-positive people, there will be major hiccups along the way, with less experienced doctors failing to attend to the vagaries of a complicated viral infection. While funding for other health care services may flounder as Medicaid ramps up to be the insurer of choice for many under-

served communities, the main benefit of the ACA is that more people will gain access to stable insurance.

“While Ryan White is critically important even with the ACA...unlike insurance, there is no legal guarantee of coverage for a defined set of services when they are medically necessary,” says Crowley. Also, Ryan White, by law, is prohibited from paying for inpatient hospital care, but “now, people with HIV who gain insurance coverage under the ACA will have the security of knowing they can access inpatient care if needed,” he says. Crowley believes in the potential to have a better health care system and one that works for people with HIV. “Again, however,” he says, “I can’t imagine a positive future without ensuring that we sustain a strong and robust Ryan White program.”

240,000 APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF AMERICANS WHO ARE UNAWARE OF THEIR HIV STATUS

to ask callers any questions or take your phone number or name down. As it stands, what happens after someone takes an in-home test is a black hole—there is presently no way of knowing, now it is possible to create the immediate support that’s necessary. The American Psychological Association recently advised, since there is no legal or ethical way to monitor or to get people who test positive to seek counseling, that “there is a need to examine carefully the HIV test counseling issues associated with the emergence of in-home HIV testing, and to develop guidelines and strategies for ensuring HIV test counseling is accessible to users of in-home HIV testing.”

Until we have a concrete and actionable set of standards for

health care providers to follow, if you elect to use an in-home test, promise yourself that you will seek counseling if you test positive. The CDC states that “knowledge of HIV status is empowering.... When people learn they are infected, research shows that they take steps to protect their own health and prevent HIV transmission to others.”

Get Tested HIV testing is the first step to ending the HIV epidemic—if you’ve tested positive with OraQuick, please schedule an appointment with a doctor for a follow-up test, or call the OraQuick Support Center at 866-436-6527, 24/7, to speak with a counselor or find a local health care professional. “Knowing your status is important,” says Hurt, “regardless of the testing method.”

EXISTING WITH HIV

 HIV remains a serious public health problem in 2014: There are more than one million infected people in the U.S. and around 50,000 become infected each year. Shockingly, only 33% of HIV positive people are on antiretroviral therapy—of those getting treatment, 76% have suppressed viral loads. “Someone infected with HIV today can expect to live basically just as long as someone who doesn’t have HIV, provided he gets connected to care and starts on HIV medications,” says Christopher Hurt, M.D. The drugs in our arsenal are now more powerful yet safer than ever: “We have lots of options for treatment,” says Hurt. “The official guidelines suggest that everyone with HIV should start on medications, regardless of whether their immune systems have been weakened by the virus.”

Though stigma and ignorance still swirls around the feared virus—especially in the South and in rural America—knowledge and acceptance of HIV status is on the rise, along with the lifespans of the positive. A study published in *PLOS One* in December showed that the average lifespan for a gay man with HIV is now 77—exactly the same age as the average life expectancy of a healthy 20-year-old American man. Doctors now routinely see patients in their 60s, 70s, and 80s and the HIV Medicine Association just released new guidelines for treating these older patients. Recommendations include checking family medical history and more emphasis on blood sugar levels, blood pressure, and regular cholesterol tests.

Today, seroconverting is not a death sentence or a quick trip to a life hiding in your house, afraid of stigma and ridicule. Those elements are still out there, but they are slowly eroding. Aaron Laxton, 34, a case manager in St. Louis, Missouri, who tested positive in 2011, works in a conservative company, but they all know his status. “I think that as a person living with HIV, visibility is the key to raising awareness. So for me, the best way I can help other people is by showing them that you can be healthy and you can do anything. When you walk into my office I have a big AIDS ribbon displayed proudly on the wall.” And Mark S. King, 53, a Poz Pride activist in Atlanta, Georgia, who seroconverted in 1985, has had an undetectable viral level for years. “When I tested positive in 1985, I had nothing to lose; I figured I was dead,” he says. “All the evidence said that I was going to die and it was going to happen at any time.” Now, King says, “I feel great.”



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MICHAEL GALVIN, LEFT,
AND ISAAC BARNETT,
BOTH TRANSGENDER TEENS

35

TRANS- FORMATIONS

Too often, the T—for Transgender—in our movement for LGBT equality is denied the recognition it deserves. Here's a quick overview of trans challenges, victories, and organizing targets as they stand in 2014—along with what you can do to further the fight.

THOSE IN THE transgender column of our rainbow movement face truly life-shaking challenges. But here's the extremely encouraging news: Over the past couple of years, trans people have been steadily winning important state-by-state and agency-by-agency victories. As was true with lesbians and gay men back in the 1990s, what's most important is changing the cultural climate—helping our colleagues, families, and friends see that gender variation is just as normal and unthreatening as variation in sexual orientation. The more we stand up with our trans friends, the more quickly they'll be freed from the hatred, violence, and poverty too many of them face today.

BY E.J. GRAFF

WORKING

ISSUE. Everyone needs a paycheck. Transpeople are comparatively—and sometimes desperately—poor because once they decide to transition, they are fired, no longer promoted, or just can't get hired. But there's been enormous progress.

WINS: EEOC and federal courts. Mia Macy, a police detective, had been publicly identified as a man when she applied and was hired for a position at the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) in 2011. When she informed the ATF that she'd show up as a woman, her supervisor canceled her hire. Macy challenged that refusal in an administrative proceeding—and last year, she won her case.

THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF HER VICTORY: the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) ruled that transgender discrimination is banned because it is discrimination based on sex—both how you present your gender and which sex you are—and therefore illegal under the Civil Rights Act of 1964's Title VII. While courts don't have to follow the EEOC's guidance, they tend to. And independently, federal courts have been agreeing with the EEOC. "Every recent federal court to address federal Title VII employment law has said that this includes transgender people," explains Jennifer Levi, who pioneered and runs the GLAD (Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders) Transgender Rights project. That's a big switch from previous years. "There's more progress to make," she says, "but things are moving in only one direction."

WINS: Many state legislatures. Today 17 states—California, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont, Washington—and the District of Columbia include "gender identity and presentation" in their antidiscrimination laws. While what they cover varies, all protect employment.

NEXT UP: U.S. federal government. What's the big absence on this list? The U.S. government—either through the passage of the long-awaited Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), which passed the Senate but not the Republican-led House; or, at the very least, an executive order banning federal contractors from discriminating on either sexual orientation or gender identity and presentation. But even here transgender leaders are optimistic, in part because the rainbow community is no longer skirmishing over whether to push for an all-inclusive ENDA. Several strategies are underway to pass ENDA before year's end.

NEXT UP: U.S. military. Transgender people are still barred from open service in the U.S.'s largest employer. Don't Ask Don't Tell did not ban transgender people—which

means its repeal didn't let them in. The problem comes from Department of Defense internal regulations about medical readiness and good discipline, explains Allyson Robinson, West Point graduate, army veteran, and founder and principal at Warrior Poet Strategies. In countries like the U.K., Australia, Canada, and Israel, transgender people serve openly, Robinson told me—yet during the week she and I spoke, she said three members of the U.S. military had been kicked out for being trans. An estimated 15,000 transgender service members are still suffering from abrupt, devastating career losses, dishonorable discharges, and the disappearance of veterans' benefits despite their service.

The Palm Center, based at University of California-Santa Barbara, recently released the Transgender Military Service Commission's report on the situation, concluding that there's no reason for the exclusion to continue—and pointing out that rejecting the ban would be in the military's best interests. The work to undo those regulations involves going behind the scenes. To that end, Robinson is working closely with the trans chapter of the group most focused on ending the exclusion: SPART*A (Service Members, Partners, Allies for Respect and Tolerance for All).



PEEING + PLAYING.

ISSUE. Everyone needs to go to the bathroom and, occasionally, find a locker room in which to change clothes. But too often, trans adults and children are harassed for these ordinary bodily needs.

WINS: State agencies and human rights commissions. Here too, there have been significant wins recently, explains GLAD's Levi. Increasingly, she says, state human rights commissions, courts, and other agencies are ruling that those 17 nondiscrimination laws also mean transgender people must be allowed into whichever bathrooms, locker rooms, gym changing rooms, or youth sports

teams that are appropriate to their gender identity. Levi cites a Colorado human rights commission decision, guidance for Massachusetts Department of Education, a Connecticut state policy, and a Maine court decision that said a fifth-grade transgender girl must be allowed in the girls' bathrooms as examples of the progress being made in the field.

WIN: California schoolchildren. California recently passed a

groundbreaking law protecting transgender students. Opponents tried to put that law on the ballot for repeal—but failed to get enough signatures. Go Golden State!

NEXT UP: Everywhere. Keep your eye out for local and state efforts to allow trans adults and children to go to the bathroom and change clothes in safety.



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HEALTH CARE.

ISSUE. Is gender dysphoria a medical condition? The American Medical Association says it is, but insurance companies treat gender transition as if it were as optional as a facelift. Refusal to cover gender identity–related treatment means no coverage for:

- Diagnostic visits, counseling, hormone therapy, lab tests, and (if necessary) surgery
- Treatments for gendered body parts: mammograms, prostate or ovarian surgery (as if a trans man can't have uterine cancer)
- Anything related to a transgender body, such as, anemia—because it involves transgender blood

Getting any of these procedures without insurance is expensive, resulting in delayed healthcare and even medical bankruptcy. The good news, says Mara Keisling, founding executive director of National Center for Transgender Equality, is that exclusion is diminishing.

WIN: HRC's Corporate Equality Index now asks for trans-inclusive insurance policies. When the Human Rights Campaign declared that to get a perfect score companies must offer all the healthcare that the medical community says a trans person might need, it led reputation-sensitive Fortune 500 companies to change their insurance policies "in droves," says Keisling.

WIN: Insurance and transgender nondiscrimination laws. Six insurance commissions—in California, Colorado, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Oregon, and Vermont—issued regulations saying that insurance companies must cover services for both transgender and cisgender people.

NEXT UP: Your employer's or state's policies. Check your employers' insurance plan and state's regulations to see whether transpeople are covered fully.

NEXT UP: Denee Mallon's Medicare challenge. Medicare still doesn't cover transgender-related

care. Backed by the National Center for Lesbian Rights, the American Civil Liberties Union, and Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, veteran Denee Mallon is challenging that exclusion.

NEXT UP: Michelle Kosilek and the Massachusetts Department of Corrections. This extremely controversial case features Michelle Kosilek, who is as unsympathetic as it gets—because she's in prison for murdering her wife. Massachusetts' Department of Corrections is appealing a First Circuit of Appeals three-judge panel's decision saying that, under the 8th Amendment's ban on cruel and unusual punishment, Kosilek must receive the lifesaving medical care—sex reassignment surgery—that the prison system doctors say she requires. "Reporters always say, Should a public entity be paying for this?" says NCTE's Keisling. "That's insulting, and it misses the point. The question is not who should pay for it, but whether it's medical care."

TRANSGENDER MILESTONES FROM THE LAST YEAR

- San Francisco becomes first U.S. city to cover the cost of sex reassignment surgeries for uninsured residents
- > The Department of Defense recognizes U.S. vet Autumn Sandeen's transgender status
- MMA fighter Fallon Fox becomes the first openly transgender athlete in the history of the sport
- > Retired Navy SEAL Kristen Beck (formerly Chris Beck) comes out as transgender
- California approves the School Success and Opportunity Act, America's first-ever law protecting transgender student rights
- > The UN holds first-ever meeting on rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals
- Nikki Sinclair becomes first openly transgender Parliamentarian in the U.K.



IDENTIFICATION.

ISSUE. Unless you're transgender, you probably haven't noticed how ubiquitous the M/F boxes on your various ID cards are. Whether you're voting, driving, or getting Medicare, who cares whether you're male or female? That gender marker can endanger trans people when their legal gender and physical presentation don't yet match. Worse, in order to update legal gender on documents like drivers' licenses or birth certificates, far too many state and federal agencies have long required sex reassignment surgery—which isn't always medically advised.

The trans movement—and NCTE in particular—has been working behind the scenes, one agency at a time, either to get gender markers removed from more pieces of ID, or to persuade agencies to update it as directed by a medical provider.

WIN: U.S. passports. The State Department recognized that U.S. citizens are in danger while traveling if they're, say, legally male but visibly female (or vice versa). Passports' gender markers can now be updated if a physician certifies that gender transition is underway or complete.

WIN: Drivers' licenses in 13 jurisdictions. Keisling said that 13 state agencies now change gender markers according to NCTE's model policy.

NEXT UP: Your state agencies.

Check on whether your state lists gender in order to vote and what your Department of Motor Vehicles requires to update legal gender.

NEXT UP: Birth certificates, Department of Defense discharge papers, and Medicare cards.

• In *Prinzivalli v. the City of New York*, Transgender Legal Defense is suing NYC, where updating birth certificates still requires surgery.

• Medicare has to update its cards in keeping with an unrelated Congressional mandate. NCTE is working to eliminate the gender marker entirely.

• Veterans' discharge papers. Discharge papers have to be shown for everything from mortgages to educational benefits—but Department of Defense policy refuses to update names or gender. Says Keisling, "That puts transgender vets at risk of discrimination."

CULTURAL CLIMATE CHANGE

Over the past several decades, lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals have come out and let family, friends, coworkers, and neighbors know that we are not fearful monsters, but ordinary people. The trans movement is just beginning that transformative effort. Public people like Chaz Bono, Carmen Carrera, Laverne Cox, and Janet Mock help by putting a nonthreatening face on gender transition. Allies can help move this sea change along by, say, insisting that our news outlets use a transgender person's chosen pronouns (i.e., "he," "she," or "they"), or gently reminding coworkers that "tranny" isn't a respectful term. Within five years, who knows how sunny the LGBT coalition may be?

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THE PRIDE INSIDER

An inside look at where to go,
what to see, and what to do in
5 hot U.S. gay destinations.

BY CAT PERRY
AND
JAAMIL KOSOKO

THE SUMMER is the time when queers, queens, and everyone in between hops in the car or jumps a flight for a little adventure in a far-away land. Whether you live for flashy clubs or super-dive bars, underground outsider-art venues or family-friendly escapes, there is much fun to be had—especially when visiting your destination city's local gayborhood.

But where to go? PRIDE caught up with five fiercely energetic and diverse advocates in the LGBT community to pinpoint their must-do eats, hangouts, and cultural hot spots in five U.S. meccas. It's our LGBT Insider's Guide to Houston, Brooklyn, Chicago, Cleveland, and Atlanta—hip, surprising havens you must check out.



HOUSTON

There's a lot more to the largest city in Texas—and fourth largest city in America—that you might not expect



Drink

notsoH

Yes, it's Houston spelled backward, and so much more. This "amazing weird bar also does art events" and welcomes everyone from friendly hipsters and cowboys to nerdy poets and performance artists," says Chenoweth. Considered a true dive bar by the locals, notsoH is one of the Fourth Ward's hottest spots.

314 Main St
notsoh.com

Eat

Hugo's

Executive Chef Hugo Ortega co-owns one of Houston's sexiest restaurants (and is quite sexy himself), offering an eclectic variety of "glorious Tex-Mex" cuisine. With reasonable prices, friendly staff, and stylish decor, this bistro offers fine dining without breaking the bank.

1600 Westheimer St
hugorestaurant.net

Art

Art Palace

Considered by the art community as a cultural hub for finding the hottest talent that Texas has to offer, Art Palace is "a really special, beautiful spot," says Chenoweth. It's been operating in downtown Houston since 2010. Known for offering professional development to local artists newly emerging on the national scene, art collectors, major art publications, and art lovers frequent this gallery to see the latest works from Houston's avant-garde.

3913 Main St
artpalacegallery.com

Relax

Discovery Green

With more than "500 events a year, almost all of them free," this urban park located in the heart of Houston's downtown district offers everything from public yoga to indie film screenings. Only three years old, this outdoor space already has a special place in the hearts of many Houstonians.

1500 McKinney Street,
discoverygreen.com

PRIDE PICKS



Warren's Inn
307 Travis St
warreninn.biz

Neon Boots
Dancehall & Saloon
11410 Hempstead Highway
neonbootclub.com

F Bar Houston
202 Tuam St
fbarhouston.com

Brazos Bookstore
2421 Bissonnet Street
brazosbookstore.com

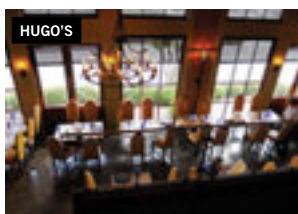
The Art Car Museum
140 Heights Blvd
artcarmuseum.com

OKRA
Charity Saloon
924 Congress St
friedokra.org



THE INSIDER

Ellen Chenoweth is a freelance cultural worker based in Houston. Prior to starting Solid Seam Consulting as an umbrella for her varied projects and interests, she was the Managing Director of the Dance Exchange in Washington, D.C. Chenoweth has an MA in Dance from Texas Woman's University and a BA from Rice University.



PHOTOS: YVONNE FEECE



Pierogi Gallery
177 North 9th St
pierogi2000.com

Grace Exhibition Space
840 Broadway, Fl. 2,
grace-exhibition-space.com



Artists & Fleas
70 North 7th Street
artistsandfleas.com

The Elm
160 North 12th St
theelmnyc.com

Buttermilk Channel
524 Court St
buttermilkchannelnyc.com

Output Club
74 Wythe Ave
outputclub.com

Littlefield
622 Degraw St
littlefieldnyc.com

Verboten
54 North 11th St
verbotennewyork.com



THE INSIDER

Cat Perry is a writer, straight whiskey drinker, and mixed media artist. Hot drag kings and queens, art collectives, dancing till dawn, and pool with friends—all the finer things this girl needs to solidify why it's Brooklyn or bust. Photo: Alaric Campbell

Art

Black & White

You can't bike a New York minute on your fixie in Brooklyn—from Fort Greene to Greenpoint—without rolling up to a best-kept-secret art venue. Take Black & White in Williamsburg, with its large-scale outdoor and indoor project and gallery spaces where you'll see everything from large-scale ethereal sculptures to racy Polaroids to quirky and disturbing wall ceramics.

483 Driggs Ave
blackandwhiteartgallery.com

Drink

Metropolitan

This super-divey mainstay has an especially great outdoor scene, with its back patio and Sunday barbecues; in chiller months the two electric fireplaces add class to your a**. Metro also has themed nights, a pool table, skee ball, and a (never-naughty) photo booth.

559 Lorimer St,
metropolitanbarny.com

Relax

Jacob Riis Beach

OK, yes! This is actually at the very bottom of Queens, but both gays and hipsters love splashing down here on the Western edge of Jamaica Bay waterfront when the city heat threatens to melt us whole during sweltering summer months. On the Eastern corner of Riis, you can't miss the rainbow flags and scantily clad men and women staking out an LGBT-friendly outpost. Take the New York Beach Ferry from Pier 11 at Wall St in Manhattan or, of course, bike there. Destination: scene on the sea.

www.nyharborparks.org/visit/jari.html

Eat

Runner & Stone Bakery & Restaurant

Communal tables and soaring ceilings usher a warming social atmosphere as patrons enjoy sinfully perfect breads and pastries. At the dexterous hands of the executive chef, Chris Pizzulli, of Blue Ribbon origins, dinner at R&S spotlights seasonal meats and veggies, delicate house-made pasta, and a full bar, all emphasizing local ingredients.

285 Third Ave
runnerandstone.com



GRIMALDI'S

BROOKLYN

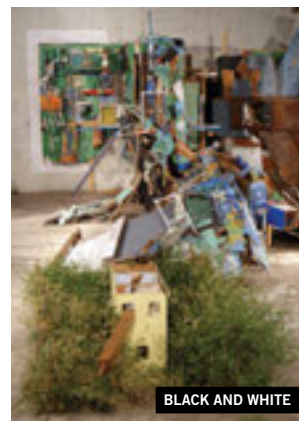
It's NYC's most populous borough, and also its funkiest—with artists, music, and fun around every corner.



VERBOTEN



THE ELM



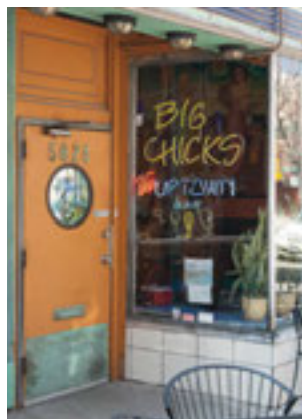
BLACK AND WHITE



METROPOLITAN

CHICAGO

Famous for its brief 100 days of summer, Chicago's locals make every moment count. Here's how they do it.



PHOTOS: JIMMY NICOL

Art

River North Gallery District

Holding the single largest concentration of art galleries in the U.S. outside of Manhattan, this waterfront cultural destination offers art goers the perfect pastime for "wandering from opening to opening eating nosh" with friends. If you're a true art lover, North Side Chicago is a prime destination.

River North, Five Points, Globeville & Elryia/Swansea
rivernorthart.com

Drink

Big Chicks

Leave your credits cards at home because this "trendy, alternative" gay bar takes only cash. Celebrated for its monthly curated local photography series, the Big Chicks art collection was started 30 years ago and centers around images of the female form. This uptown, queer-friendly pub also offers a nice seasonal selection of cocktails and bottled ales.

5024 N. Sheridan Rd
bigchicks.com

Eat

Melrose

After a hard night of dancing the night away at one of the surrounding nightclubs, this "super trendy 24-hour restaurant" is where you land to sober up and have a homemade bowl of soup," says Federico. If you want a friendly smile while you dine, Melrose is the place to go in Chitown.

3233 N Broadway St
(773) 327-2060

Relax

Millennium Park

Home to Anish Kapoor's Cloud Gate aka the "Bean," this outdoor marvel is the gem of the city. Whether you're hoping to meet some nice Midwestern guys, catch a fun street shows, or just chill with friends, hanging in Millennium Park is one of the city's most popular summertime activities. Located in the heart of the metro, this hip downtown attraction has an outdoor theater, free adult workshops, and more.

55 North Michigan Ave
cityofchicago.org



Sidetrack
3349 N. Halsted
sidetrackchicago.com

Berlin
954 W Belmont Ave
berlinchicago.com

The Violet Hour
1520 N Damen
theviolethour.com

Senza
2873 N Broadway St
senzachicago.com

Carriage House
1700 W Division Street
carriagehousechicago.com

Taverna 750
750 W Cornelia Ave
taverna750.com

Mana
1742 West Division St
manafoodbar.com



THE INSIDER

Federico Hews is a queer traveler who has celebrated Pride in London, Brighton, Amsterdam, San Francisco, Chicago, Los Angeles, D.C., and New York. When he's planted in one location, he thrives on the local theater, dance, art, and activism scenes.

CLEVELAND

Founded in 1796, Cleveland's a manufacturing center by day, and then parties all night long.

DRINK

Mahall's 20 Lanes

Stop tripping—bowl, baby! Mahall's Lanes is a restored mid-century bowling alley that just so happens to shake up delicious cocktails along with your furiously fast (bowling) balls.

*13224 Madison Ave - Lakewood
mahalls20lanes.com*

Bounce 2814

"Head to Bounce Cafe Bar Nightclub on a Saturday," where you won't even have to settle for finger food when you're starting to get hangry, because the cafe serves everything from small plates to entrees. "In Bounce's theatre-in-the-round catch a sizzling show of drag kings and queens and strippers of any and every gender orientation performing together for large ecstatic crowds."

*Detroit Ave
bouncecleveland.com*

Eat

L'Albatross Brassiere

*11401 Bellflower Rd
albatrossbrasserie.com*
One of Cleveland's major strengths is its foodie culture. "Very few cities in the U.S. can compete—and not just because of local Iron Chef Micheal Symon's three restaurants. If you want a chic meal check out L'Albatross Brasserie; it's in an old carriage house right off of Case Western University's campus." Champagne and oysters, anyone?

Art

Spaces Gallery

After perusing Cleveland Museum of Art, don't miss Spaces Gallery, which features high-voltage films, collage, and interactive art. Spaces screams Brooklyn edge in the heart of Cleveland.

*2220 Superior Viaduct
spacesgallery.org*

Breakneck Gallery

"Fine art for real people."

*17020 Madison Ave - Lakewood
breakneckgallery.com*

Relax

The Movement Factory

"I try to keep in shape by heading to Alyssa Lee Wilmot's Movement Factory to take a Pilates Reformer class, or take a modern dance class with one of the resident artists."

*13000 Athens Ave - Lakewood
themovementfactory.com*

FlexSpas

Gay men can head straight to FlexSpas Eucalyptus Room, "where you can veg out in the largest (and cleanest!) gay bathhouse in the country." Full gym, Jacuzzi, rooftop, heated indoor and outdoor pools, hotel, and more? Sounds *mahhh*-velous.

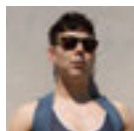
*2600 Hamilton Ave
flexspas.com*

Only in Cleveland

Beachland Ballroom & Tavern

Cleveland is known for its rock history, from the Pretenders to Nine Inch Nails. After checking out the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, music lovers should get thine selves to see a show at the Beachland Ballroom. No matter what night you visit, it will be definite night to remember.

*15711 Waterloo Rd
beachlandballroom.com*



THE INSIDER

*Native Clevelander
George Alley is perhaps best known as a recording artist/songwriter and choreographer who has presented work globally. For more info on his music or performances go to georgealley.com. Photo: Scott McLaughlin*

ATLANTA

The cultural and economic center of the South, ATL has a queer scene all its own.

Drink

Frog's Cantina

Serving up Tex-Mex Southwestern fare, Frog's Cantina "is the type of place where everyone knows your name," says Renee. "The drinks are strong and the company around the bar is always great." Located right on the edge of Piedmont Park, this is a central spot for great food and cocktails.

*931 Monroe Dr NE
frogsdmidtown.com*

Eat

Henry's

Gay, straight, or canine (this is a very dog-friendly venue on the patio) come as you are! "Besides the menu being fantastic, Henry's has an awesome patio that has plenty of sunshine and is perfect for Midtown cruising and watching fabulous eye candy go by."

*132 10th St NE
henrysatl.com*

Art

Eyedrum

Follow your "play-dar" to Eyedrum for an always-surprising emerging art, music, and new media gallery. Whether you're an artist or don't have a single piebald-painted bone in your body, Eyedrum has something for absolutely everyone—shows, talks, classes/exchanges, movie screenings, and more.

*115 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive
SW eyedrum.org*

Relax

Piedmont Park

"It doesn't matter if you're going there to exercise or just relax in the sun, Piedmont Park is awesome," says Renee. It's also the site where the largest southern LGBT Pride festival hosts entertainment, exhibits, and a marketplace (and where Black Gay Pride goes down with a bang every year). So "it's a fun and interactive cruising zone" year-round. Plus it's also great for families—and the pool is one of the best in the city.

*400 Park Drive
piedmontpark.org*

Only in ATL

The Clermont Lounge

"Deemed the place 'Where strippers go to die,' you can find a city staple, Blondie," who can crush beer cans without her, um, hands. "The bartenders are great, the drinks are cheap, and the strippers are truly unique...and super-friendly."

*789 Ponce De Leon Ave NE
clermontlounge.net*



THE INSIDER

Marla Renee is an intimacy coach by day, educating and empowering people of all ages to have a healthy sexuality via her company, Velvet Lips LLC. But at night, she cuts loose with a cabaret act all her own. Whether hosting drag shows or just titilating a crowd, this social butterfly definitely knows the ins and outs of her city. Photo: Sarah Coughtry



PRIDE magazine is looking for cultural Insiders for cities across the country. If you have an eye for the avant-garde and your finger on your neighborhoods' cultural, artistic, and foodie pulse, we would love to hear from you. Send us a brief bio and some information on where you live and why you are the perfect Insider to - Insider@aproudmagazine.com

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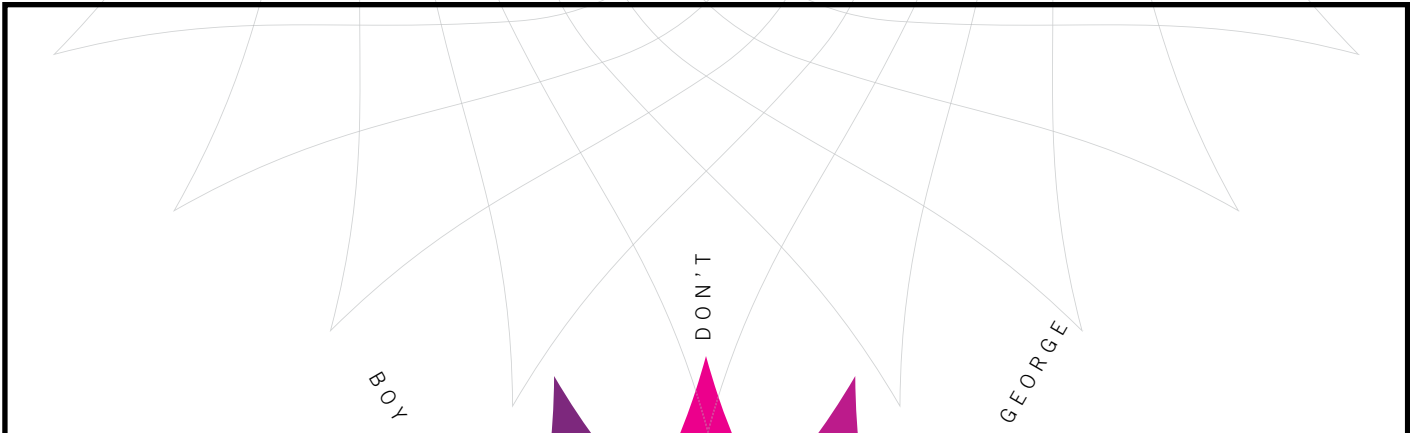
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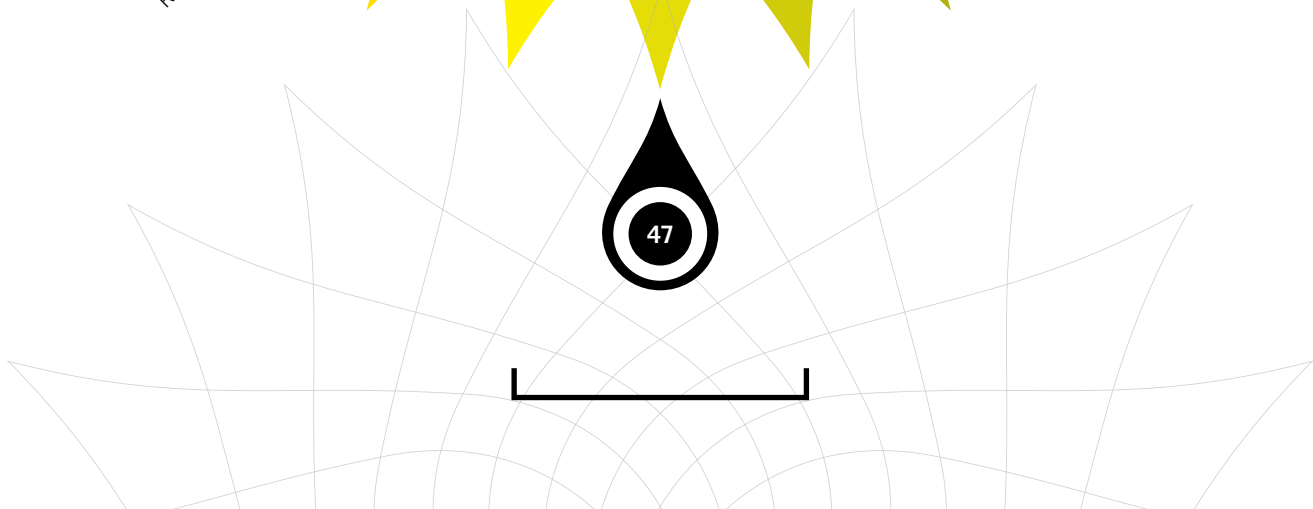


Change

Despite the world's evils, some
things are getting better



47





THE CHAMELEON

Ten questions with
legendary musician,
DJ, and style icon
Boy George
By Brian Good



It's been 33 years since Boy George and his band, Culture Club, smashed the charts with hits like "Do You Really Want to Hurt Me?" and "Karma Chameleon." The Boy has been a fixture on the scene ever since, performing, remixing, DJing, and yes, drawing his share of controversy along the way. Pride caught up with the star on the eve of the release of his first proper studio album— "This Is What I Do"—in almost two decades along with its accompanying U.S. tour. And, even if you're a longtime fan, the man we met may surprise you.

PRIDE: The new album is amazing. You've been working consistently ever since the days of Culture Club, but this is your first all-new album in a long time. Why was now the time to put it out into the world?

BG: I changed management two or three years ago and started to work with a whole new team of people. I wanted to

work with people who could see me as I am now, rather than what I was. So, I sat down with my new team and said, "Forget everything you think you know about me. Forget it all. I know that you think you know who I am, but you don't."

That was really the starting point. But in terms of why I made the record, it really just felt like it was time. I felt really

focused and I had an idea about what kind of record I wanted to make. And I think I pulled it off. I'm really happy with it. Over the years, when I've made records, I've always been like, "I wish I'd done this, or I wish I'd put that one on there." But with this one, I really feel like, "Yeah, I love it!" I'm happy with it. Goodbye. Go out into the world and do your thing.



You've said in the past that the seventies were a major influence for you, and with all the different pieces and layers on this album, you can definitely see that. Was that a deliberate intention?

BG: The seventies was really the most nutty decade for music. Especially in the UK. When I was growing up, we had one TV show, *Top of the Pops*, which was on Thursday nights—and we lived for that show. There was no music on TV, and on that show you would have things like Cliff Richard doing the sort of songs that your mum would like and then you had the Sex Pistols and Bowie and ABBA. There were so many conflicting styles of music happening at the same time. Punk rock and disco were literally going on at the same time. You were kind of dipping in and out of all of those things. In a way, I think growing up in the seventies just made me very eclectic and random.

Even as a DJ today, I play by my own rules. I'm not a jukebox DJ. I don't do what people think I'm going to do. A couple of weeks ago, I did a gig and I got a great compliment from somebody. They said, "Thank you for taking the entire format and turning it on its head." That's what I live for, that kind of compliment. I guess one thing you can say about me is that I'm not predictable.

From DJing to performing, you've been a staple in the club world for more than three decades. How has the scene changed over that time?

BG: There have always been certain kinds of gay clubs that play out and out pop music. In the seventies they'd play Bonnie Tyler and Gloria Gaynor. Today it's Britney, Beyoncé, and Kylie. That's one side of gay culture. But to be honest with you, when I was a teenager—when I first went to gay clubs—I really didn't fit in. I was a punk. I was wearing makeup, but everybody else was dressed like lumberjacks. They were dressed like the Village People. They were dressing to what their idea of a macho man was. And then suddenly, we were coming along, these freaks. We never fit in.

I've always gone to different types of clubs—punk clubs, gay clubs, disco clubs, illegal raves, all of that. You still have gay clubs that play pop music today, but there are all these different scenes. There are so many different places and things you can do now, you know. And it's all so much more mixed. You can go to a straight club and see a drag queen on the door doing the guest list or hosting an event. All the rules that used to exist don't necessarily exist anymore.

Androgyny was such a specific part of your look when you were starting out. If you were a new artist starting out today, do you think it would fly?

BG: I don't really know. People were really great to me at the time. Obviously, before

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I got famous was another story. It was like, "Freak!" Then you get famous and it's like, "Boy George!" So that kind of gives you an excuse to be a weirdo. I've always said that the pop realm is a kind of fantasy where you can be anything you want. But real world is another story.

When you're young, you have all this exuberance and tenacity. You feel unstoppable. When I think about how I used to walk about in the streets in the seventies, when I had to leave my house to go to a club—I think about that now and wonder, "Would I do that now?" When I was 19, I was like, "I can do what I want. How dare you tell me what I want to do." You have this kind of blind belief in your-

self. It's a wonderful thing when you're at that age. When you get older, you kind of lose it a bit and you say "Do I really want to be hassled by people?" Obviously as I've gotten older, I've got much more comfortable with who I am. I still love to dress up, but I don't do it all the time. I'm a bit like a lady going to church on a Sunday. I save it for the right situation.

Speaking of getting older, you look great. Is this a big change in your life, focusing on health and diet and things like that?

BG: Over the years, I've done all the fads. I've exercised and I've done aerobics and I've done this and I've done that. I've always tried to be healthy. Two years ago, I went to see this incredible nutritionist and discovered that food is actually the answer. You get thin in the kitchen and fit in the gym. What you eat is so, so important. Luckily I've always loved healthy food. I've never been a McDonald's freak. I never really drank soda. I had a lot of the tools already for getting myself in shape, but it's really all about food. It's about what you put in your body.

I eat three meals a day. I leave five-hour gaps between each meal—although this evening I've waited a lot longer because I've been on the phone, so I'm looking forward to my evening meal! Respecting food is essential. I think you have to fall in love with food, and I definitely love food. I joke to my friends that I live between meals. Actually it's the opposite, I eat probably more than I've ever eaten now. That's the weird thing—but all the kind of stuff that we get told, it's all true. If you eat donuts, you're not going to get thin. It's not going to happen. It's as simple as that.

You've had some well-documented rocky points over the years. Do you think you had to go through the debauchorous part of your life then to get to where you are now?

BG: I don't know about that. I think it's kind of a journey. What did John Lennon say? "Life is what happens when

you're busy making other plans." I think being famous, getting famous so young... When you're 52, as I am now, the things that make you happy are very different from the things that make you happy when you're 25. Likewise, when I was 39, the things that made me happy then were entirely different from the things that make me happy now. The best thing to say about my journey is that I do often wonder to myself whether I could have become who I am had I not gone through all the things that I've been through. I don't know the answer to that, I really don't know. All I can really say is that that's what happened and I'm lucky to be here. I'm grateful for the experiences that I've had. I'm grateful that they've changed me in a profound way.

I can't go through an interview with Boy George without bringing up fashion. Over the years, you must have tried every trend possible. Where does your inspiration come from?

BG: You just try stuff. The thing about clothing is there'll be certain days where you put certain things on and you say, "Oh my God, I look hideous." And then on the right day, you put it on and you look great. A lot of it is psychological; a lot of it is about context and timing. I've always been really interested in quirky style. I like people who kind of do their own thing. Some days, I'll be walking down the street and just see the most random person in the most random outfit, and I'll be like, "I love that." It's all about how you put things together. I love fashion, but I also have a kind of healthy disregard for it. I'm much more interested in what people think and how they feel—that's more interesting to me. Clothes are fun. Dressing up is fun. And if you've got a nice outfit on, it can really change the way that you feel about yourself. I think that's good and healthy. For me, it's mostly about just doing my own thing, following what I'm feeling at the time, and not really paying much attention to what's fashionable. If anything, when I'm told something isn't fashionable, that's when I will wear it.

We're gearing up for summer, and that means Pride festivals across the U.S. As a gay man, what makes you proud? What does "pride" mean to you? Or for the community?

BG: The most random things make me proud. I saw pictures online recently of some young gay people in Russia who were protesting, and they had obviously been beaten up—and I have to say, I felt incredible pride for them. I felt like, "I wish I could do something about what's happening to you, but I absolutely respect you for going out there, knowing you're going to get beaten up." Their actions make me really proud.

Similarly, I was looking at some photos around the time of the Sochi Olympics, and there was this fantastic drag queen with a big banner that said, "Putin Can't Cope with My Fabulousness!" That made me proud. I love a fierce queer.

There are so many things that on a daily, weekly basis make me proud. When I see people being strong in places where they're threatened and where they don't have the kind of freedom that you and I have, to me that is so inspiring. I'm always proud of anyone that stands up for themselves, especially with humor. I think one of the things that gay people are so brilliant about is self-deprecation. We can laugh at ourselves better than anyone on earth. I love that about my gay brothers and sisters. Combine that with anyone that's brave and stands up for what they feel and that's always inspiring.

How excited are you to be on the road in the upcoming U.S. trip? It's been a long time since you toured here, right?

BG: Yes, it's been a long time and you know what, I really enjoy it now. My relationship with live performing is so different. I feel much more comfortable. It's such a different kind of experience for me now. It's really nice to go out and play shows that are very intimate. It feels like playing to a lot of people who have really supported me, really been there for me, and are really, really...there's so much love!



Boy George takes the stage to rave reviews as part of his sold-out U.S. tour

It's really quite overwhelming to do it, actually. I'm sure these dates in the U.S. are going to be like that. It's been such a long time. I think people just want to see a show! I think people are just very excited it's going to happen.

After the album and the tour, any hint to your fans as to what's next for you?

BG: I have a track I've done with Roger Sanchez, which I think is going to be appearing at some point soon. And I've got a couple of exciting things coming up that I can't tell you about! This feels like a very fertile musical moment for me. It feels like there's going to be some really exciting things happening. I feel like it's because all that pressure is removed. I'm not pleasing anyone but myself—and the people that love what I do. I think that just allows it to breathe a bit more and become something a bit more special.

The very next thing that's going to happen—this is a secret—but the next thing that's going to happen is I'm going to be recording with Culture Club this summer. It's pretty exciting. We did some writing about two months ago, which was just so much fun to do. After everything we've been through, we're really just excited about making a record where we don't fight!

10 YEARS of MARRIAGE, 10 MILESTONES to CELEBRATE: How We Got Here

By Evan Wolfson, founder and
president of Freedom to Marry
(freedomtomarry.org)

Photography: [Gregg Delman](#)

The Freedom to Marry movement is on the ascendant, and we have much to celebrate. We've gained ground at a pace that is nearly unparalleled, winning state and legal victories in nearly every corner of the country and built a majority for marriage nationwide and in every region, at record levels. We've won a powerful victory in the U.S. Supreme Court that prefigures the national resolution that has always been our goal. Forty percent of Americans now live in freedom-to-marry states, up from zero a decade ago. We have the momentum and we have the winning strategy—the same strategy that has guided

the movement to this moment and that, if we keep at it, will bring victory nationwide through a successful return to the Supreme Court, possibly as soon as next year.

In other words, there is plenty to celebrate, but also lots more to do. On this 10th anniversary of the freedom to marry in America, let's take a moment to savor and remember how far we've come. And with full victory within our reach (provided we keep reaching), let's re-engage to finish the job and fulfill our goal of winning marriage nationwide!



1 1970s: First-Ever Wave of Marriage Litigation Begins in America

From the dawn of the modern LGBT movement, in the immediate aftermath of Stonewall in 1969, same-sex couples were seeking the freedom to marry, with early challenges coming from couples in Minnesota, Washington, and Kentucky. In 1972, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a Minnesota Supreme Court ruling that the Constitution does not protect “a fundamental right” for same-sex couples to get married. A year later, Maryland became the first state to pass a statute explicitly banning marriage between same-sex couples; California’s explicit ban was signed into law in 1977 by, ironically, Governor Jerry Brown, who decades later championed and helped deliver the freedom to marry in the Golden State.

While those first marriage cases were all rubber-stamped away, a second wave of litigation in the 1990s, most notably the historic Hawaii case, launched our Freedom to Marry movement. Why? Because of what came in between: HIV/AIDS shattered the silence. The epidemic forced society to see gay people as human beings who love, grieve, and fight back; and led gay people to better understand how the denial of marriage harmed our ability to care for our loved ones—and non-gay people’s ability to see us as whole. Instead of fighting to be let alone, we began fighting to be *let in*.

7 2012: First Sitting President & Major Political Party Endorses the Freedom to Marry

In May 2012, President Obama became the first sitting president to support the freedom to marry, joining the majority of Americans in their journey toward fairness. As important as the moral leadership he showed was, his heartfelt explanation of how he had evolved thanks to conversations with people in his life, reflection on basic values, and a willingness to open his heart and change his mind. President Obama’s message incorporated the changed emphasis our movement had embraced in making the case for the freedom to marry: love, commitment, and family, rather than legalities or economic protections. The president spoke of conversations with his daughters about their classmates being raised by gay parents, and talked about the values he sought to teach them. President Obama’s announcement gave permission to millions of Americans to think anew and move toward support, and sealed the deal on Freedom to Marry’s call for a platform plank. On September 4, 2012, the Democratic Party became the first major political party in U.S. history to endorse the freedom to marry.

2 1983: A Vision That Would Make a Difference

In 1983, while still at Harvard Law School, I wrote my thesis on why gay people should have the freedom to marry. At the time, same-sex couples had no legal relationship recognition anywhere in the world—let alone marriage. I believed then, as ever since, that marriage matters; by claiming the vocabulary of marriage, we could transform non-gay people’s understanding of who gay people are and why exclusion is wrong. In 1989, Andrew Sullivan published “Here Comes the Groom,” a cover story in the *New Republic*, making a conservative case for marriage, launching his own journey as the leading public intellectual championing the cause. The arguments we put forward, and couples proclaiming their love, set the stage for the transformation.

3 1993: The Ongoing Global Freedom to Marry Movement is Born in Hawaii

When couples in Hawaii went to court in 1990, represented by a non-gay lawyer, Dan Foley, they birthed a movement that has enabled gay couples to share in the freedom to marry in 18 countries on 5 continents so far. The Hawaii Supreme Court was the first court in history to rule marriage discrimination as unconstitutional. The trial in 1996 resulted in the first-ever ruling that gay couples should have the freedom to marry, though that right were later snatched away by a political attack in 1998.

By the end of the '90s, Vermont became the first state to introduce civil unions—a legal step toward, but not equal to, marriage—and two-thirds of Americans had come to support our cause. These lessons learned catalyzed the Freedom to Marry movement.



4 2003–04: Massachusetts Becomes the First-Ever Freedom to Marry State

GLAD's victory in *Goodridge v. Department of Public Health* made Massachusetts the first state in the nation, and the sixth jurisdiction in the world, where loving and committed gay couples could share in the freedom to marry. Our movement then worked to defend that breakthrough, and in June 2007, MassEquality, headed by Freedom to Marry's national campaign director Marc Solomon, defeated a proposed discriminatory, anti-gay, anti-marriage constitutional amendment and secured marriage in our first state. Same-sex couples first began marrying on May 17, 2004, the 50th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education*—what I called at the time, “civil rights karma.”

EDIE WINDSOR
TOUCHED HEARTS
AND
EXPOSED INJUSTICE,
A PERFECT
EXAMPLE OF
THE POWER
OF INDIVIDUAL STORIES
IN CREATING
CHANGE
ON EARTH.

8 2012: Election Day Brings Unprecedented Wins at the Ballot Box

On November 6, 2012, following 30 ballot losses in previous years, our movement won 4 out of 4 marriage ballot-measures in Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, and Washington—vindicating our hard work to learn how to build campaigns and persuade a majority to vote against discrimination targeting a small minority. The victories were the result of millions of conversations and many months of work by local campaigns and volunteers, supported by Freedom to Marry and other partners. Freedom to Marry was the lead out-of-state funder in the Minnesota, Maine, and Washington campaigns, helping to raise and channel more than \$7 million alongside strategic assistance and coordination.

5 2008–2010: After Setback of Proposition 8 in California, the Freedom to Marry Movement Rebounds

Following the win in Massachusetts, opponents of the freedom to marry stampeded through a wave of discriminatory state constitutional amendments even as we steadily kept making the case and growing toward majority support. One of these attacks was Proposition 8, which stripped gay and lesbian couples in California of the freedom to marry won just months earlier in the state supreme court. Prop 8 was a painful blow, eased only slightly by a freedom-to-marry victory in Connecticut, but the shock of the loss galvanized energy and engagement on the part of both gay and non-gay people.

Through all the inevitable ups and downs in any civil rights struggle and the effort to transform understanding, our movement largely stuck with the Freedom to Marry strategy of setting the stage for a win in the Supreme Court by building a critical mass of states and public support. GLAD, Freedom to Marry, and movement colleagues moved forward on work to overturn DOMA, and, despite Prop 8, 2009 became the winningest year to date. We won the freedom to marry in another four states (including Lambda Legal's stunning victory in Iowa) and the nation's capital, and built a majority for marriage nationwide (up from 27% at the time of the Hawaii trial).

9 2013: Supreme Court Strikes Down Core of So-Called Defense of Marriage Act

In June 2013, the U.S. Supreme Court struck down the core of the so-called Defense of Marriage Act, ending the exclusion of legally married same-sex couples from more than 1,000 federal protections. The Court, in this *United States v. Windsor* case, held that DOMA “violates basic due process and equal protection” and that the “desire to harm a politically unpopular group cannot justify disparate treatment of that group.” The powerful ruling has proven a mighty tool in the freedom to marry litigation, and Obama moved swiftly to assure federal respect for married couples, even in states still discriminating. And with her compelling personal story tracing much of the history of our movement and its progress over decades, Edie Windsor touched hearts and exposed injustice, a perfect example of the power of individual stories in creating change. The same day, the Supreme Court also let stand a lower court ruling restoring the freedom to marry in California, four and a half years after the cruel blow of Prop 8.

6 2011: Triumph in New York: Political Center of Gravity Shifts with Republican Support

Winning the freedom to marry in New York truly was a transformative moment for committed couples and for our country, a triumph for love and equality under the law. For the first time, a Republican-led chamber, the New York State Senate, joined the Democrat-led Assembly in passing bipartisan marriage legislation supported by a large number of America's most prominent businesses, corporate leaders, labor unions, and professional athletes, including New Yorkers United for Marriage, Gill Action, and Governor Cuomo.

The win in New York more than doubled the number of Americans living in a freedom to marry state—and conclusively showed that despite the temporary setback of Proposition 8 and court losses, we would get the country to the right side of history. Our victory also signaled growing right-of-center support, prefigured by Dick Cheney's famous quote, “*Freedom means freedom for everyone.*” Prominent conservatives such as Bob Barr (the author of the so-called Defense of Marriage Act) and Ted Olson began speaking out, and respected Republicans from Paul Singer to Ken Mehlman to Margaret Hoover began enlisting support. Today, 40% of all Republicans support the freedom to marry, alongside a substantial majority of Independents and a supermajority of Democrats.

10 2014: Momentum is Surging on a Dynamic Landscape, the Strategy Keeps Working, and America is Ready for the Freedom to Marry

Already, 2014 has been a huge year for the freedom to marry. As of May, advocates had won 16 out of 16 federal and state court decisions across the country; and there were more than 70 lawsuits underway seeking the freedom to marry or respect for same-sex couples' marriages in more than 30 states. Polls show support at an all-time high of 59% among the American public. With the added constitutional clarity brought by the Supreme Court in *United States v. Windsor* and the presence of loving, married same-sex couples in every party of the country, the momentum we've created underscores that America—all of America—is ready for the freedom to marry.

This year Freedom to Marry celebrated its 10th anniversary as the campaign to win marriage equality nationwide. As our movement presses forward on the winning strategy with the goal in sight, Freedom to Marry is determined to keep doing the work and to finish the job so that we don't have a 15th.

CELEBRATING a DECADE of MARRIAGE EQUALITY

18 couples who were among
the first to marry in their
home state look back on their
historic unions

By Tony Adams

On May 17, 2004, the first same-sex marriage to be legally recognized in America was performed. Since Massachusetts passed that ground-breaking legislation, 17 more states have followed suit (with five more states in limbo while currently fighting the battle in court). All together, that means millions live in a state where everyone—straight, lesbian, or gay—is free to marry the person they love.

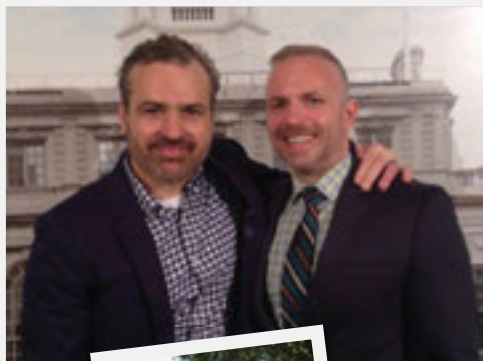
I know exactly how that feels. As a Catholic priest, I have been honored to officiate at many same-sex weddings over the past decade. And whenever I reach that glorious final proclamation,

“By the power vested in me by the state,” I always choke up. I was also lucky enough to get to marry my husband Christopher Adams six years ago, on December 22, 2008, the 25th anniversary of our life together. Chris burst threw the door at the start of the ceremony and presented me with an armload of long, white calla lilies. It may have been happiest moment of my life.

Luckily, I’m not alone in that feeling. Like Chris and me, tens of thousands of LGBT couples across the U.S. have also joined together over the past decade, each creating their own joyful union. Here are some of their reflections on the joyful day...

- Radio personality and *Huffington Post* editor Michelangelo Signorile married David Gerstner after hearing horror stories from many of his listeners about what can befall couples in crisis who do not have legal protections. They chose to avoid the anxiety of a big wedding. Signorile says, “We went to City Hall in Manhattan. It was a kick going back to the place where I remember protesting at the marriage bureau with ACT UP! over 20 years ago, and now being allowed in. We had a strong bond, and a piece of paper wasn’t going to change it in any way. But we are still getting used to the ‘husband’ word.”

MICHELANGELO + DAVID



- Illinois couple Delena Wilkerson and Sally Olson can’t remember whose idea it was to get married. Olson says, “I kind of think we both came to the idea around the same time.” They got married on the roof of their Los Angeles hotel with a justice of the peace. Despite the fact that they are both Type-A personalities, planning a quick, out-of-state marriage was a challenge. They were still throwing together the details on the morning of the wedding. Wilkerson remembers with a laugh, “I got one of the staff to go find a camera, and we ended up lifting flowers from the front of the hotel.”

DELENA + SALLY



- William Fregosi and Fritz Bell remember the ecstatic happiness they felt during their Quaker ceremony in West Epping, New Hampshire. There was a traditional service where everyone present could join in if they felt so moved. “We had several Quaker Elders, a gay Catholic priest, a gay U.U. minister, and a female cantor who sang two blessings in Hebrew,” remembers Fregosi. “All those present signed the wedding certificate and, therefore, became legally responsible as witnesses of the wedding.” Their advice for engaged couples? “We have always taken each other as we are.”

WILLIAM + FRITZ



ROSE + JEN



- I was dazzled by the huge smiles on the faces of Rose and Jen Nagle-Yndigoyen when I married them in Central Park in 2011. They were legalizing an earlier commitment ceremony. They wore new white dresses and opted for a blessing that reflected their religious beliefs. Rose says, “I think getting married made us more ‘official’ and respected as a couple. Even with friends our own age, I saw that change, which I didn’t expect.” Her favorite memory of the wedding? “Just being in the middle of New York City and kissing my wife and being really, really legally married!”

JOHN + MICHAEL



- In 2005, D.C. couple John Becker, and Michael Knaapen began what they call their “show-mance”—they met doing community theater. Although both were prepared for their ceremony, they still found it surprisingly moving. “I’ve been singing for weddings since I was a teenager,” says Becker, “so I’ve observed the process more than a hundred times. But when it’s your life that you’re committing and your love that you’re pledging, it really hits you.” Knaapen adds, “At one point, the judge very diplomatically gave us a moment to regain our composure because we were both sobbing.”

MAURICE + MICHAEL



- Maurice and Michael Owen-Michaane always knew they wanted marriage and a family, but they made a promise to each other to wait until it became legal in New York. As their wedding officiant, I was tasked with fusing their Jewish and Christian traditions. A fifteen-person band fronted by Peppermint, a brilliant female impersonator, did the rest. Maurice says, “Once we were married, we knew it was time to further expand our family and have children. Now, we are blessed with a beautiful baby boy, Caleb, who has made the foundation of our marriage and family stronger than ever.”

- San Francisco pioneering activists Jack Fritscher and Mark Hemry met under the marquee of the Castro Theater during the 1979 riots following the assassination of Harvey Milk. Together for 35 years, they climbed on the marriage-go-round, and began getting hitched starting with the first San Francisco citywide domestic partnerships (1993 and 1998), a civil union in Vermont (2000), a California domestic partnership (2003), and finally marriage in Vancouver, Canada (2003). Fritscher's advice for couples considering marriage: "If you are a serious person, all you need is love."

JACK + MARK



- When Lee Raines and Andrew De Los Reyes first saw each other across a crowded room in 1999, they knew it would be the start of something big. They became a couple a few weeks later and married in Connecticut in 2010. Like most couples who've been together a long time, they definitely have advice for couples considering a similar step: "Learn to negotiate. Be grateful for the support of family and friends. And don't read any wedding magazines!" De Los Reyes adds, "The rock is also essential! Don't forget a nice rock."

LEE + ANDREW



- Sarah Toce and Stephanie Brusig got their marriage license in Connecticut in 2009, had a commitment ceremony in 2010, and when marriage became legal in Washington in 2012, they figured the third time would be the charm. They stood in line after midnight when the law went into effect. After three tries, Toce says, "I think the biggest struggle has been trying to figure out whether we want to change our last names or not. I use the word 'wife' more than ever before. In the past, I would say 'my wife' and people would say, 'Oh, your girlfriend,' and I'd have to correct them. Now, it's like, 'No, my wife.'"

SARAH + STEPHANIE



JEFF + BILL



- Jeff Mitchell and Bill Schmitt of Chicago, Illinois, found themselves with choices about where to get married. Schmitt explains, "We had already been married once during Mayor Gavin Newsome's brief 'Winter of Love' in San Francisco in March 2004. Then, last November when they passed marriage equality in Illinois, to begin in June 2014, we assumed that we would have a city hall wedding this spring. But when Hawaii passed equality a few weeks later, we learned that the weddings would commence during our already planned trip to Kauai. Who could resist a destination wedding?"

JOSEPH + JAY



- Joseph DiDonato and Jay Clarken got married for practical reasons. Together for 30 years, they were registered as domestic partners in New Jersey, allowing Clarken to be on DiDonato's employer-sponsored health insurance. Once marriage equality was approved in New Jersey DiDonato's employer stipulated that all such arrangements would end unless partnerships were converted to marriages. While that may not be the most romantic motivation, the men knew what they had to do. They say, "We kept the ceremony a secret and only publicized it later that night on Facebook and in an e-mail blast."

ERIC + ANDREW



- In 2005, musicians Eric and Andrew Ellingsen had a blessing ceremony with 250 people at their church in Bloomington, Minnesota, where they walked down the aisle with the help of a 40-person choir and a brass quintet. This was followed in 2009 by a small legal ceremony in Decorah, Iowa. Both services were based on the Lutheran marriage liturgy with family traditions interwoven. Their most cherished memory? "At our legal wedding, we were surprised that we felt like we were part of a bigger movement, pioneers of our own generation, and grateful for the work of those who came before us."

• Danny Snow, who married Rey Dipasquale on August 9, 2013, in New York, says that his partner of 24 years had the idea. Snow says that marriage seemed the most practical thing to do. Dipasquale says that marriage seemed the most radical thing to do. Was their wedding traditional? Snow says, "I'm a southern boy. We didn't have a shotgun at our wedding, so, no, it was not traditional." Although Dipasquale says he was not surprised by how he felt during the ceremony, Snow says, "I was surprised by the feeling [of dread] that my maid of honor might not be able to work an iPhone camera."

DANNY + REY



STEVE + PAUL

Steve Murray-Smith and Paul Murray of Key West, Florida, got married in Provincetown in 2004 when marriage equality in Massachusetts was brand new. Steve had a business trip there (He works in LGBT tourism) and their decision was rather spontaneous, although they had already been a couple for nine years. "It felt good to become legally married, even though we know Florida as well as many states would not recognize the marriage," says Steve. "If we could do it over again, we would invite our parents, siblings, and their families. We would make more of a celebration."

• Californians Robert McCann and Jim Walker got married in Palo Alto in 2008. The decision was mutual, but McCann remembers, "Jim did take me aside one day leading up to the wedding and got quite emotional, asking if I was sure I wanted to take this step. I assured him that I did." The promises they made to each other in the ceremony were the vows from *West Side Story* that Tony and Maria exchange in the bridal shop. McCann says, "My favorite memory and moment is when Jim broke down crying during the ceremony, and a wedding guest shouted out 'Well, I guess we know who the wife is!'"

ROBERT + JIM

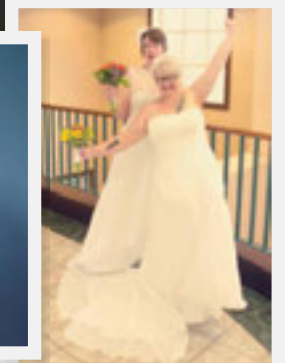


LAURA + VELMA

Although they originally set out to get married to give their family a firmer legal standing in the eyes of the state (a concern especially for their son, who was 8 at the time) Laura and Velma Garcia's marriage ended up taking on a much greater significance. "We adhered to the lesbian feminist manifesto that marriage is a tool of the patriarchy," Laura jokes. "We prided ourselves on being above thinking marriage would convey some deep meaning to our relationship that it didn't already have. But it did feel really meaningful to stand up and formalize our commitment. It made us happy."

• New Jersey's Tim McSweeney and Mark Kane got married in Provincetown once that state changed its rules to allow non-residents to marry. The ceremony took place in the backyard of the minister who officiated. "In honor of my Hebrew heritage, he managed to work the word 'Shalom' into the ceremony a few times. We've been giggling about that for years," Kane says. His biggest surprise from the wedding? "I certainly didn't expect to cry. I never thought that marriage would be an option in my lifetime, and it was completely overwhelming to standing there with the man I love, marrying him."

TIM + MARK



SHERRY + KERRY

Like many couples who select traditional elements but add their own quirky spin to their ceremony, Sherry Huggler and Kerry O'Donnell of Maryland couldn't wait to make their marriage unique. Their choice of music included Chopin, Debussy and Puccini, but their recessional was the Baltimore Ravens Fight Song. "The only real traditional thing in our ceremony was the lighting of a unity candle and the exchanging of rings," says Huggler with a laugh. "Our wedding dresses were also traditional, but we wore sneakers underneath."





FOR

WHETHER IN THE STREETS,
THE WORLD OF POLITICS,
ONLINE,
OR IN THE COURT OF PUBLIC OPINION,
THESE ADVOCATES ARE LEADING THE CHARGE
IN THE BATTLE
FOR EQUALITY FOR ALL

CHANGE

PHOTOGRAPHY BY MARIUS BUGGE

A month before Brian Sims was to be sworn into office as Pennsylvania's first openly-gay legislator, he, along with the State Capitol in Harrisburg, was hit with shocking news that came as a liability for some and an opportunity for others. As the civil rights lawyer and former board member for Equality PA readied himself for a new career as a state legislator, he got news that a future Republican colleague, Mike Fleck of Huntingdon County (a rural enclave in the center of the state) had come out of the closet.

Even before Sims' term began, he'd made waves in the legislature when he barely defeated 27-year incumbent Babette Josephs for the Center City, Philadelphia, 182nd District legislative seat, eking the win out by about 200 votes in 2012.

Their battle had been hard fought, with accusations stemming from both candidates' campaigns, ranging from Josephs accusing Sims of being in favor of anti-abortion legislation (because he said he'd be willing to talk to Republicans on certain issues) to Sims saying that Josephs was impeding progress in the capital, where she spoke out against Republicans often, but hadn't had a primarily-sponsored bill passed in years.

Now, the 2013 Pennsylvania legislative session was about to begin with two out members of the LGBT community, not just one. Fleck, a conservative, told the *Daily News* of Huntingdon County that he'd "sought out treatment from a Christian counselor," regarding his sexuality, but "that didn't work out." He also told the paper that he believed, at the time, that his marriage would help his same-sex attraction go away, but since then, he'd split with his wife.

Sims got right to work in his new appointment, completely unaware of the

counseling treatment Fleck had received. One of Sims' first acts was to pursue a ban on reparative therapy, which is still legal in the state.

"Homosexuality is not a medical disorder," Sims said. "It's not a psychological disorder. We've been told for years and years that there are people who say they are curing a person's homosexuality through treatment. They're really brainwashing people and causing immense psychological and mental damage."

Though members of different parties, Sims and Fleck would soon come

together to work on numerous pieces of LGBT-centric legislation in a state where marriage equality is still a pipe dream and it's still OK to deny business to someone for being a member of the LGBT com-

plight of any legislator in a state where the two largest Democratic areas bookend an otherwise conservative landscape where, as then-candidate Barack Obama once clumsily put it, residents "cling to their guns and their Bibles."

But to hear Sims speak of it, that's less of a snag and more of an opportunity. The legislator has remained hopelessly optimistic and confident during his first term in office—at least publicly.

"When I decided to run, I talked about the fact that I wanted to change the tone of the narrative in state government," he says today. "We need a lot more collaboration, and I've seen that from the new blood here. It doesn't matter how old people are; there are new legislators here in their 60s who feel the same way I do. The 25-year narrative of yelling at each

other and fighting is going to change."

Sims has begun endorsing some young, progressive Democratic challengers in Philadelphia, angering colleagues

who've been in office for longer than he. So much so, Josephs actually challenged him for her old seat—but was later kicked off the ballot for forged signatures.

In the meantime, the young legislator has gone out of his way to directly campaign and fundraise with Republican Mike Fleck, who, since his coming out, has been hit by Republican challengers to his seat, ready to directly combat him on every social issue possible.

"Having Mike Fleck in the state

House allows us to approach similar issues in different ways. I'm not hav-

ing the same conversations with my colleagues that he's having with his, and vice versa," he says. "The reason the rainbow flag is the symbol of the LGBT community is that we come from all colors and stripes. Mike and I prove that different people can work together, both personally and politically."

THE

POLITICIAN

BRIAN SIMS

munity. Some of those bills included an LGBT nondiscrimination bill, marriage equality legislation, and that ban on reparative therapy.

It wouldn't be long before Sims hit snags. The Republican majority in Pennsylvania's State Capitol passed bill after bill restricting a woman's right to an abortion and put the brakes on all LGBT-centric ideas in a part of the United States where those ideas have become commonplace. None of the aforementioned bills have

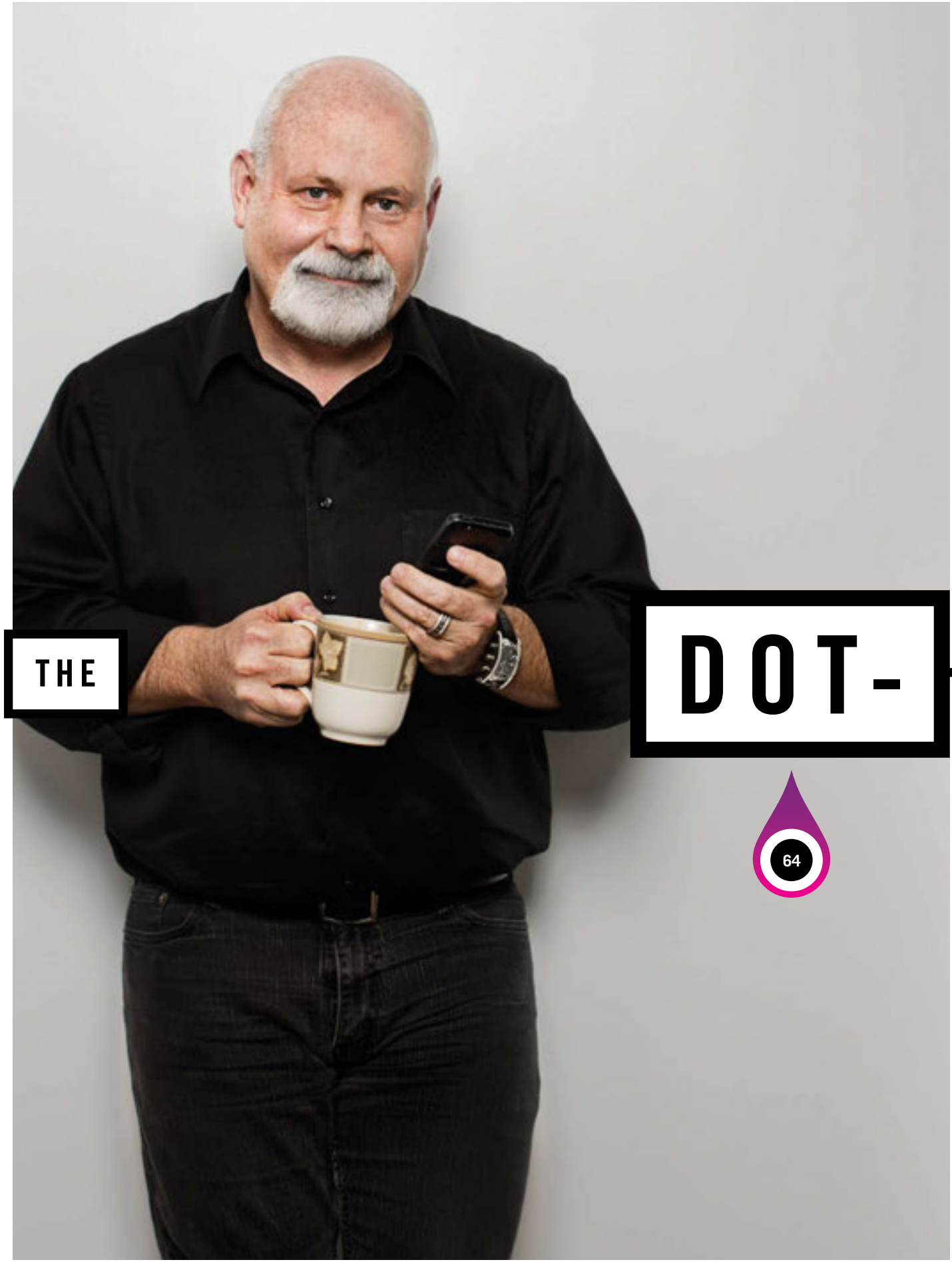
been passed, even though, with Sims' help, they've come closer than ever. Despite Sims' election, Pennsylvania remains the only state in the Northeast where it's still legal to discriminate based on someone's orientation or identity, and, as in Arizona, legislators have proposed bills solidifying that discrimination under the guise of "freedom of religion." Such is the

MEMBER OF THE PENNSYLVANIA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AGE: 35

HOME: PHILADELPHIA, PA





THE

DOT-

64

For almost 20 years the founder and CEO of Manhattan-based SPI Marketing, Scott Seitz, has run an agency that directly markets major national brands to the LGBT community. Four years ago, Seitz formed Dot Gay LLC and embarked on a new mission—to win ownership of the proposed top level Internet domain “.gay” (or, *dot-gay* for clarity’s sake.) In Seitz’s vision, the domain could be used by businesses, social advocacy groups, travel destinations, or just about anybody that seeks an LGBT audience for their product or cause. Think *NewYorkCity.gay* or *Books.gay* or *CivilRights.gay*. But to earn the approval of ICANN, the Internet Corporation for Assigned

Names and Numbers, Seitz is battling a group of behemoth companies, all of whom want control of dot-gay and access to a worldwide LGBT audience.

Sitting at a rear table in Chelsea’s Il Bastardo, Seitz pushes aside his Caesar salad and explains the playing field in this David vs. Goliath fight. “We’re up against three Goliaths, maybe four,” he says. “There are two types of applications that ICANN created. In the community application, you have to prove you ARE a community and there’s a system in place to do that, and points are given for your application. You have to make your commitments, your plans must be clear, and they become part of your contract. You have be ready to honor them and live by them.” But that’s the simple

part of the problem he faces, according to Seitz. “In the business application we’re dealing with the Goliaths, venture capital people, where there are a multitude of applications,” he says.

Where Seitz’s bid stands out, he believes, is that Dot Gay LLC will uniquely benefit the LGBT community as he has vowed to return 67% of profits to LGBT causes and organizations. His company’s mission statement promises to “create an environment on the Internet that addresses important and primary needs of the gay community: safety, visibility, and support.” That assurance has won Seitz endorsements from more than 200 LGBT-related organizations and companies around the world, including the Human Rights Campaign; InterPride (the global governing body of LGBT Pride groups and this

SCOTT SEITZ

COMER

CEO AND FOUNDER, SPI MARKETING

AGE: 56

HOME: NEW YORK, NY

→ magazine); and IGLTA, the International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association.

All that support from the LGBT community, however, is contrasted with Seitz’s corporate competition, which he characterizes as “the New York Stock Exchange meets the United Nations, with the Kardashians thrown in.” The venture capitalists, Seitz warns, will “go out and apply for as many names as they can get their hands on and then be ‘kind’ enough to sell them to you at a later date”—basic domain name hoarding. Seitz wants to keep that from happening. He also promises the LGBT community, should he prevail with ICANN, that his company’s advisory board will closely screen

requests for abusive domain names such as *Kill.gay* or *Sinners.gay*. Seitz’s years-long struggle to win dot-gay has not been cheap. The ICANN application alone was \$185,000. Add to that years of travel to Internet conferences around the world, the cost of the small but passionate staff at Dot Gay LLC, and four years of relentless marketing of his plan to organizations in dozens of countries and it’s easy to see his level of commitment to the cause. But aside from the enormous financial costs, the lumbering bureaucracy of ICANN alone would surely have caused many to give up long ago. Two years ago, Seitz summed up his ideals to the gay news outlet *Edge.net*:

“The gay community has been mostly a self-funded community. We alone reach into our pockets to support our needs, organizations, and businesses.”

So far the only pockets reached into have been those of Seitz himself. Should he succeed in his quest to win dot-gay, his pockets will surely refill (and then some) with one-third of revenues to be retained by his company. But if the bulk of the potential millions in dot-gay domain fees return to the community as promised, the benefit to the LGBT movement around the world will be even more significant. Right now, though, all of that depends on ICANN...and the continued doggedness of Scott Seitz.



VICTORY: ORANGE PULLS ADS FROM UGANDAN TABLOID' screams a boldface headline on *AllOut.org*, the pioneering Internet Web platform that's led a fast-growing and successful online effort to fight global homophobia via multiple campaigns—more every month. Below the bold block-print headlines is a cover page of the *Red Pepper* tabloid newspaper in Uganda, carrying a headline: 'Inside the Bahati Homosexuality Law.' Recently, All Out mobilized 85,000 of its nearly 2 million members to petition Orange, a global telecom giant, to immediately pull its advertising on the website of *Red Pepper*, the tabloid that is leading a gay witch-hunt. (The paper is widely reviled for listing names of suspected gays who were then hunted down by mobs.) After steady pressure by All Out and other groups, Orange promised to not only pull its ads, but protect its LGBTQ employees in Uganda. That corporate response is also part of All Out's e-campaign goal: to push the private sector and big business to become more socially responsible.

It's a real movement-building tool," says All Out cofounder Andre Banks, who, with Jeremy Heimans, built the new online advocacy tool for the global LGBT cause after studying different technology models. All Out, he explains, takes the best elements of proven social movement platforms—like *MoveOn.org*, *GetUp.org*, *Avaaz.org*, and *SumOfUs.org*. Beyond petitions, All Out has partnered with local LGBT groups and ally human rights organizations to use the power of technology to "tell the story," as Banks puts it—"to help people make a connection and then take an action or make a donation." All Out also provides funding to local groups and partner campaigns.

The Orange victory follows earlier petitions against corporate sponsors of the Olympics, who were targeted by All Out to withdraw their support of the Olympics after Russia's voted a harsh anti-"gay propaganda" bill into law. All Out began its Russia campaign work in May 2011. Almost three years later, more than 400,000 people had signed petitions to end Russia's anti-gay laws.

During that period, All Out's small team of technologists posted and reposted thousands of news items, photographs of actions, testimonies, and visual responses by activists around the world to the crackdown on gays in Russia.

"What's a real success, and one of the things I'm most surprised by...is that All Out has been able to push forward an issue that was reaching hundreds of thousands, and now can

To achieve it, they opted to become a project of the Purpose Foundation, a "profit for purpose" B-corporation and open-source technology project focused on social activism. Banks is also senior advisor at Purpose, where he incubated All Out while leading strategy development for campaigns to fight cancer (Livestrong) and nuclear weapons (Global Zero).

"There are a number of different ways to measure impact," say Banks about All Out's success to date. "I think on a campaign like Russia we are always thinking about the long term. How many people

are we able to get engaged and then keep engaged? When you have flash point like the Olympics—a crisis moment—it's when we hear about the issue, [then] you want to have a mechanism to capture their attention, to sustain and educate and keep them involved."

Looking ahead, Banks is eyeing a campaign to target American religious fundamentalist groups who exported the gay hate behind

Ugandans new bill. "We need to remove their support," says Banks of right-wing churches; "I'm talking about the hotels where these groups stay, the media that carry their messages. We need to hold them accountable." In other words, money talks, and as All Out has shown, businesses are listening—or will, if enough voices speak out.

"We're looking at membership growth and engagement," says Banks. "We have to have new voices in this movement who are showing up." That spells a less centralized model for All Out, where, Banks explains, "Activists can launch their own campaigns, with their own language and own priorities, and using their own expertise and constituencies. How do we make sure people get petitions outside of what is put out by our own campaign? We're going to figure that out!"

MOBILIZER

ANDRE BANKS

reach millions," says Banks with evident pride. "We have always seen All Out as one piece of the puzzle of the [LGBT] movement. The way we do that is via our relationships with grassroots partners and with our direct partners. Most of our campaigns come from them."

The key, he insists, are the members. "All of the action is that of the 2 million people—that is our real value add," explains Banks, saying, "We are focused on finding people who share our values but have not had an entry point into our movement." He claims 50% of members are new to this type of LGBT advocacy.

Banks and Heimans built their model for All Out with a scale in mind—of millions, not just tens of thousands—of exponential voices and dollars fighting back against the global tides of hate.

CO-FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ALL OUT

AGE: 36

HOME: NEW YORK, NY

A close-up portrait of Nadya Tolokonnikova, a woman with long, dark brown hair and light brown eyes, looking directly at the camera with a neutral expression. She is wearing a white, ribbed V-neck top. The background is a plain, light gray.

NADYA

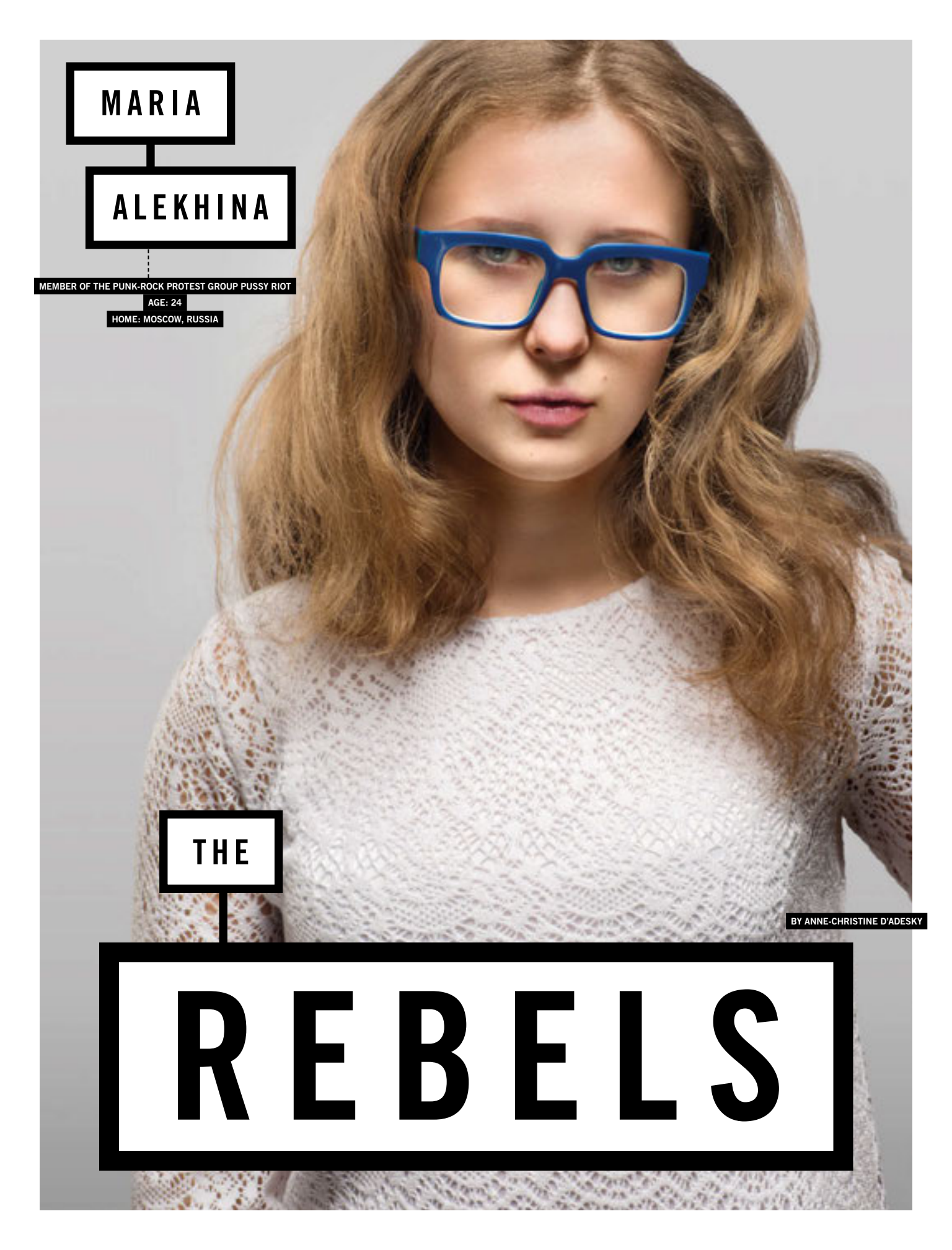
TOLOKONNIKOVA

MEMBER OF THE PUNK-ROCK PROTEST GROUP PUSSY RIOT

AGE: 25

HOME: MOSCOW, RUSSIA

68

A portrait of a young woman with long, wavy, light brown hair and blue-rimmed glasses. She is wearing a white, textured, lace-like top. The background is a plain, light gray.

MARIA

ALEKHINA

MEMBER OF THE PUNK-ROCK PROTEST GROUP PUSSY RIOT

AGE: 24

HOME: MOSCOW, RUSSIA

THE

BY ANNE-CHRISTINE D'ADESKY

REBELS

**"TIME TO LEARN TO OCCUPY SQUARES,
POWER TO THE MASSES, FUCK THE LEADERS.
DIRECT ACTION IS THE FUTURE OF HUMANKIND.
LGBT, FEMINISTS, STAND UP TO THE FATHERLAND!"**

It was a tweet sure to make Vladimir Putin take notice...not to mention other U.S. leaders, including religious evangelicals backing the current anti-gay crackdown in Russia. On April 4, a smiling Hillary Clinton tweeted a snapshot taken with two of the most famous members of the punk art protest group Pussy Riot, Maria Alekhina and Nadezhda [Nadya] Tolokonnikova, while at the 5th annual Women in the World Summit in New York. "Great to meet the strong & brave young women from #PussyRiot, who refuse to let their voices be silenced in #Russia," tweeted Clinton, a shout-out that quickly garnered 9,000 retweets on Twitter and more than 10,000 "Favorites."

The tweet also served to further elevate the power of the punk-art rockstars of Russia's political opposition, and of Russia's feminist and LGBT movements. Following last year's passage of a law outlawing adoption by LGBT individuals in Russia and the tide of anti-gay violence that has ensued, members of Pussy Riot have used their media spotlight to push for LGBT rights, as straight allies. They've hobnobbed with Madonna and been praised by a growing list of peace activists, from Yoko Ono to Aung San Suu Kyi. Today, they are considered Russia's most famous political dissident glitterati

after Nobel Prize winner Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn.

The road has hardly been easy. In 2011, their brazen mix of Riot Grrl-style punk lyrics and performance art led to their arrest and imprisonment for almost two years for the crimes of "hooliganism" and "inciting religious hatred" following their performance of an anti-Putin ditty called "A Punk Prayer," at Moscow's Cathedral—the symbolic heart of the Orthodox

PUSSY RIOT

Russian church. (A third group member, Yekaterina Samutsevich, was also jailed and released in 2012.) Few Russians saw the live performance, but millions of Internet viewers watched the edited video Pussy Riot posted afterward. From the start, the ever-rotating members of Pussy Riot have used the power of performance art, video, and social media to get their message out.

"We understood what Jesus Christ would have done in such a situation," Nadya told the audience at the New York panel, reflecting back to her jailing. "He would have gone to the cathedral and he would have threw out all these traitors." Her remarks were a deliberate rebuff to critics who label Pussy Riot as anti-God. It was also an invitation to the body of Russia's main Protestant Church to join

the revolution and embrace gay rights as human rights.

While Pussy Riot's colorful trademark ski-mask-style balaclavas, rainbow leggings, and house dresses reflect their punk attitude against authority, their political daring and Nadya's prison hunger strike have demonstrated the seriousness and bravery that marks their activism, feminist work, and fight against the red tide of homophobia that's so rampant in Russia right now. And their equality efforts don't stop there. Post prison, having endured harsh 14-hour days sewing uniforms in freezing cells, Nadya and Maria formed a new advocacy organization, Zona Prava, to advocate for prison reform.

Prior to the Sochi Olympics, Pussy Riot joined protests against the anti-gay adoption law. At Sochi, the shocking image of protesters being horsewhipped by Cossack security agents exposed the extreme violence facing LGBT activists and allies.

Pussy Riot members were doused with pepper spray, beaten with billy clubs, then detained for several hours by the Cossack guard after attempting a new song, "Putin teaches us to love our motherland."

Having survived the Gulag, arrests, a public trial, beatings, hunger strikes, and a public tirade of hate, Maria and Nadya remain powerful voices of hope for other activists and leaders facing arrests and prison now.

"A different Russia already exists," Nadya said to the assembled in New York, a message she continues to deliver as the events in Ukraine unravel and Obama has joined G-6 leaders to impose sanctions on Putin and his cronies. She pointed to the large anti-Putin rallies held in Moscow as evidence of the growing power of the movement to reclaim freedom and civil liberties. While the immediate picture is grim, Pussy Riot is helping to assure that LGBTQ rights are part of the evolving Russia.

be you. be proud.



be glad.

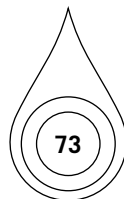


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LIVING

IN





While the battle for equality seems to be paying off in the U.S. and Europe, the same can't be said for LGBT rights across the rest of the globe. From Russia to Africa to the Middle East, the situation for many gays and lesbians abroad is dire: Hide your identity and struggle to survive within your community (risking your life in the process), or leave everything behind for a life of uncertainty in a foreign land. That's the decision LGBT advocates **Masha Gessen**, **Michael Ighodaro**, and **Hossein Alizada** were all forced to make in recent years. Here are their stories.

By Anne-christine d'Adesky

LEAVING RUSSIA

MASHA GESSEN



On a warm late-March evening in San Francisco, journalist and LGBT activist Masha Gessen arrives for a reading of her newest political biography, *Words Can Break Cement: The Passion of Pussy Riot*. It's a quickly penned, inspiring, and often darkly funny story of the anarcho-punk girls of Pussy Riot (see pg. 68 for more on the group). Gessen, a longtime openly lesbian Russian journalist and rights activist, began planning the book during the public trial of the band's members. "It was a mockery," said Gessen. "It was like something out of a Kafka novel," she says. "You couldn't make these things up."

The same climate of surreality surrounds the rash of anti-gay laws and actions taken to shut down homosexuality in Russia—a backlash that propelled Gessen to leave her homeland and start a new chapter of self-imposed exile in NYC. "It's definitely a step backward," she states of the situation facing gays in Russia. "We—the LGBTQ movement—got sort of lulled into thinking we had rights. We weren't paying enough attention." As she views it, the opening of Russia to the West in the '90s, marked by the social and economic reforms of glasnost and pere-

stroika, set the stage for further reforms. Russia repealed its sodomy law in 1993, a big step for LGBT rights. After that, she feels, "we all sort of relaxed."

A TIME OF CHANGE? Many presumed Russia "would acquire all the normal things that normal societies had, like a gay rights movement and a feminist movement and minority movements," explained Gessen. Instead, she believes it skipped over some important stages. "To have a gay rights movement, you have to have a gay community. For that, you have to have some concept of gay identity, and for that, some kind of sexual revolution." Russia, she feels, hasn't had these. Instead, it's had a handful of gay leaders who were exposed to modern gay movements of the West, while a silenced majority has remained in the closet and become vulnerable to state-sanctioned repression.

"Russia has joined the list of countries where people who are gay cannot live," states Gessen. "This is only going to grow in the next few years."

Today, Gessen is using her new book and tour to denounce the man and regime

SPEAKING OUT FOR NIGERIANS

MICHAEL IGHODARO

"I am Nigerian by birth, just as I am gay by birth. I was born gay. And I am now American, grateful to find safety and support here, but far from the home where I belong, because my own government says who I am and who I love is a crime." With these words, uttered at a March 7, 2014, protest rally before the Nigerian Consulate in New York City, Michael Ighodaro stepped up his already visible advocacy as a courageous African LGBT leader. He's also one of the new faces of African exiles in the U.S.; Ighodaro was granted political asylum in 2012 after a violent attack and death threats back home.

The protest was organized to mobilize U.S. and African diaspora opposition to Nigeria's harsh new anti-gay law, signed by President Goodluck Jonathan on January 14, 2014. It criminalizes

she feels is responsible for the current anti-gay backlash: Vladimir Putin. Her scathing 2006 biography of Putin, *The Man Without A Face*, became a global bestseller. “Putin has made it his mission to promote a very traditional view of the family. It’s not just that there’s no place for gays—it’s a rejection of the West,” explains Gessen. “He views himself as the savior of tradition in Russia.” It’s no small irony that Putin, Russia’s most eligible bachelor and a divorcee, is backing a 50s version of the nuclear family.

“Russia is an absolutely dangerous place for someone to be gay now,” says Gessen, who admits she ignored early signs of a gay crackdown in 2006 and 2007 when several regional anti-“gay propaganda” laws were passed. It took the first of a series of what she calls “Oh F**k! moments” for her to realize the threats were serious—and getting personal. “A friend said, ‘I’m worried about you guys because they are going after the parents,’” she recalled. “I thought, Oh F**k! This applies to me!”

IN THE CROSSHAIRS The threat hit home in March 2013, when Gessen read an

interview by an anti-gay Russian politician in a British tabloid. “He said, ‘Well, the Americans want to adopt gay orphans and raise them in perverted families like Masha Gessen’s.’ That’s the moment when I got really terrified,” she recalls. “Suddenly I realized that I was a target. We needed to leave because they might try to arrest us and remove the kids.”

Compared to many Russian asylum seekers, Gessen considers herself lucky. Born in Moscow, her family moved to Massachusetts when she was young, and she has a U.S. passport. She can work and live here. Raised in an intellectual and secular Jewish family, she also grew up reading the Russian classics as well as samizdat dissident literature her parents passed along. Her father, a computer scientist, and her late mother, a literary critic—encouraged her critical spirit of inquiry. Gessen came out to herself at 15, then to her parents at 20. She began organizing around LGBT issues early on, and was a reporter for *The Advocate*. When Russia opened up, she returned home, and later gained a national reputation as a war correspondent in Chechnya. By then, she had also published a few books.

Gessen views her arrival in New York as a “soft landing.” But she stresses firmly, it’s still exile. “I am a partner and mother of new immigrants, and they are going through it. Russia was home, and knowing we can’t go there, at least not in the foreseeable future, well, that’s really hard. We had to leave our lives there.” To secure her future, she and her partner recently got married, and the children are settling in to life in America. But Russia remains a daily, even hourly, preoccupation.

“I’m going to do what I can to speak out and try to help refugees,” states Gessen, looking ahead at what’s top on her agenda. On a personal level, now that she’s gotten hitched, she’s ready to tackle the apartment. “When the kitchen is installed, I’ll be happy,” she laughs. “That sounds pretty good.”

“SUDDENLY I REALIZED THAT I WAS A TARGET. WE NEEDED TO LEAVE BECAUSE THEY MIGHT TRY TO ARREST US.”

same-sex relationships and gay marriage as crimes punishable by up to 14 years in prison. Nine LGBT and HIV activists were arrested that day for civil disobedience. Since then, Ighodaro has continued to speak out. He is currently a social worker with Housing Works in New York City, and also an organizer with the Nigerian Solidarity Alliance, a coalition of Nigerian groups focused on doing advocacy work on behalf of LGBTQ and HIV-positive Nigerians.

The trouble at home “I get tens of e-mails every day on my Facebook,” says Ighodaro. “People are terrified. They are asking me for help. I tell them, if you can get a visa, get out, but if you can’t, then you need to get a safe space, because every gay person cannot leave Nigeria.”

The NYC rally drew organizers from amfAR, Housing Works, ACT UP, GMHC, and Immigration Equality—all U.S.-based international groups who are responding to help the LGBT community in Nigeria—and the nascent asylum community. The anti-gay law has had a chilling effect on HIV clinics and providers in Nigeria, too—and its negative impact on the AIDS epidemic worries international health providers.

“It’s almost like a death sentence,” Ighodaro adds, describing the present hostile social climate in Nigeria. “The situation has deteriorated so much that it’s difficult to even be gay. Ten years ago, it was a lot easier. We could walk by and people knew we were gay and they let us alone. But you can’t be two men in a room

and be effeminate or you will be assumed to be gay—no matter how you put it. People are going to attack you.”

Looking back For Ighodaro, the personal journey from Abjua to exile in New York began in pain and remains difficult, but there are new beginnings, too. He was born in Benin-City into a traditional and polygamous family; his father had four wives and very conservative views. His mother was a Christian leader in her church—one who took her young son to see a witch doctor to cure him of being gay. “I kind of always knew I was gay,” says Ighodaro. “My friends knew when I was very young because I was more effeminate, and I enjoyed playing with girls more than boys... I enjoyed clothes... everybody knew.”

Unable to remain at home, he moved to the capital at age 17 and admits that “For a decade, it was fun... I felt I had the world to myself.” He stayed with a friend and hung out with other LGBT people, becoming a mentor to younger gay teens. “We were stigmatized,” he says. But they found support from the International Center for the Advocacy of Rights of Health.

In 2012, he was visiting Washington, D.C., for an AIDS conference—an exciting adventure. There, a visitor to his booth befriended him, asking about life in Nigeria. “He asked for a T-shirt; I gave him a T-shirt,” says Ighodaro. The man also took his picture later at a conference cocktail party. Days later, during a visit to a friend in Mississippi, Ighodaro was informed that he’d been outed in a *Washington Post* article about ‘Gay Africans Enjoying D.C.’ that was

being talked about in Nigeria and discussed on Al-Jazeera. “He showed it to me, and I said: ‘Oh my God, was someone following me? I just came to the conference to talk about my work and people living with HIV!’” Ighodaro got scared. “I had to go back to my job. My friends said, ‘You need to be careful.’”

A turning point Flying home, Ighodaro learned his apartment had been raided and local street boys were searching for him. He didn’t dare report the crime or threat to the police, fearing he’d be arrested instead. He called his boss from the airport, then went to lay low with friends. But one night he was spotted and attacked, and his hand was broken. With the help of friends—human rights activists—he flew out of the country a few days later.

Ighodaro says he later contacted the *Washington*

Post reporter and the newspaper to complain that he’d never authorized an interview or pictures, and that the reporter had never identified himself. To let them know that the article had incited violence and resulted in his exile. To this day, he says he’s never gotten a reply from the reporter or the *Post*, and he’s still angry. “It wasn’t right,” he says.

But that’s also the past, and Ighodaro wants to focus on the future. In the U.S., he’s free to live openly as a gay man, and now, he says, “Life is good.” He lives in the Bronx and is host to a constant stream of Nigerian friends and visitors. He’s found a job and supportive activist community at Housing Works and a *raison-d’être*: helping others, including those left behind at home. “I try to give them hope,” he states.

“It’s different. There is a culture shock,” admits

DEFENDING LIFE IN IRAN

Hossein Alizada was only five years old when the feared Shah of Iran, the country’s ruler for four decades, was driven from power. Iran’s Islamic Revolution began in January 1979, and today, the nation continues to be ruled by a succession of radical mullahs, or religious Islamic leaders. They uphold a strict interpretation of Sharia law and set loose a public “morality police”—to harass and arrest anyone viewed as flouting the ever-nuanced moral code for public dress and behavior, including women and sexual minorities. Today LGBT citizens face a death sentence for the crime of sodomy, or public flogging with 100 lashes for “lesser crimes” such as hugging, kissing, or “effeminate” behavior.

DEADLY RISK Compared to the Arab Spring of protests for reform in some Islamic countries, the election of Hassan Rouhani as Iran’s new president last June failed to improve the legal picture, though some minor progress is still noted on the social front. “The law continues to be oppressive and extremely homophobic,” says Alizada, who is openly gay and directs the Middle East and Africa program for IGLHRC—the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission. Alizada opted for a life of

HOSSEIN ALIZADA



U.S. GROUPS STRIKE BACK AT HOME

As anti-gay laws and state-sanctioned witch hunts increase across Africa and Eastern Europe, U.S. human rights activists have looked homeward to address one source of the gay hate: right wing American evangelists. Today, All Out and the Human Rights Campaign are just two of the many organizations that are shifting their advocacy to target fundamentalist pastors and congregations who are actively sponsoring and funding anti-gay efforts abroad.

For several years, watchdog groups such as the Southern Poverty Law Center have tracked the activities of known homophobes such as Scott Lively, President of Abiding Truth Ministries. A U.S.-based attorney and author, Lively retains a top spot on the Spec's list. In March 2009, he and two other evangelists, Don Schmierer and Caleb Lee Brundidge, visited Kampala, Uganda, to give a series of talks on the evils of the gay agenda. Lively also helped draft the initial Ugandan "Kill the Gays" legislation, and later traveled to Latvia and Russia to share blueprints for similar anti-gay legislation with Eastern Orthodox religious leaders.

U.S. activists are encouraged, however, by the watershed federal suit that was filed on March 14, 2012, against Lively by the Center for Constitutional Rights (CCR) on behalf of Sexual Minorities Uganda (SMUG), a non-profit LGBTQ advocacy coalition. SMUG accuses Lively of engaging in crimes against humanity. What experts consider historic here is CCR's use of the Alien Tort Statute, typically an instrument of international law used successfully by CCR to go after foreign dictators in cases of war and torture. To date, Lively's legal team has failed several attempts to have the case dismissed. According to CCR staff attorney Pam Spees, who is leading the charge for SMUG, "This is not just based on his speech. It's based on his conduct. Belief is one thing, but actively trying to harm and deprive other people of their rights is the definition of persecution." U.S. advocates are now considering other possible legal avenues to target the American architects of hate abroad.

Ighodaro about his new life. But many changes are welcome. In Nigeria, corruption remains a major problem, he says. Political violence is also rising, linked to Boko Haram, an anti-Western terrorist group; and the Islamist group Hezbollah, among extremist forces. "People are being killed every day in Nigeria," states Ighodaro. But in America, he feels, "You have no reason not to be successful if you know what you want to achieve. For me as an advocate, there is freedom to grow."

Looking to Nigeria, he says, "I want to do anything I can to change the situation for the better." And on a personal level, like many gay Americans now, he hopes to settle down. "One of my dreams is to be married and have kids," he admits, adding, "and also—that being gay would not be an issue."

FLYING HOME, IGHODARO LEARNED HIS APARTMENT HAD BEEN RAIDED AND LOCAL STREET BOYS WERE SEARCHING FOR HIM.

political exile in 2007, after coming to the U.S. to study. By then, reports of hangings and floggings of suspected homosexuals and other "deviants" were on the rise—as were pleas for asylum from the underground Iranian LGBT community.

LEGAL HATE "In May 2013, Iran ratified a new version of the penal code that imposes the death penalty [for sex] between two men," says Alizada, adding, "They also changed the understanding of the law for relationships between two women." While the death penalty remains on the books, Alizada notes a glimmer of progress. "It also showed that the understanding of Sharia can change, which is very important," he explained. "It showed that the legal system is not the result of a discourse within the society... The State imposes its understanding of ideology on the government." One of IGLHRC's projects is to develop a repository of legal analysis and resources for lawyers defending LGBT rights "so there are loopholes within the law to more effectively defend cases," he states.

"The biggest impact IGLHRC and I can have is to coordinate the effort to put pressure on Iran to work through the UN and international bodies," he says. Recently, the UN Special Rapporteur to

Iran included concluding observations that Iran gets rid of all the regulations to criminalize safe sex. "That's an extremely important accomplishment," Alizada states.

Compared to many in Iran, Alizada has used his time in the U.S. to become a strong advocate for others back home, and to educate U.S. and global LGBT leaders and activists about Islam and Iranian society. "There is forward motion," he states. "I remember in 2000, the word didn't exist to describe homosexuality—people used 'pedophile' and 'homosexual' indiscriminately." He and other Iranian activists worked to educate major broadcasters and media outlets "so they could understand how to talk about LGBT issues" within the context of a religious theocracy. "The government is pushing the ideology of moral cleansing of the society."

THE BROADER PICTURE As he often points out, the repression in Iran goes beyond outlawing gay sex. "The government is pushing the ideology of moral cleansing of the society. Anything outside of heterosexual marriage is illegal and punishable. You cannot talk about LGBT rights without talking about the rights of a woman in any sexuality," he

explains, noting women's rights have fallen steadily with the strengthening of Sharia in Iran. It's important for activists to consider the larger context. "Heterosexuals do not have the right to choose their spouses," he explains, "so how can you ask for gay rights?"

He's also keen to point out that it's not just behavior that's outlawed, but any discussion of homosexuality. "It could be sociology professors talking about sexuality in a neutral and positive way. That could be a crime."

LIFE ON THE RUN Under the law, however, transgender Iranians inhabit a legal grey zone—or can apply to become legal. There is no legal status for a transgender, but Iran does allow sexual reassignment surgery. An individual can undergo that process and receive new documents stating their new gender. "The problem with that is they have to go through with the surgery," says Alizada—emphasizing the implicit coercion that still imposes a strict binary gender, male or female, on its citizens. Nor does a quasi-legal status confer acceptance. "Often they find that when the sex assignment is completed, employers are not willing to hire them," he says of transgender Iranians. "So you have a legal right but no legal protection once it's completed. Many face a great deal of harassment, including rape."

For Alizada and Iranian gays who have escaped the threat of death at home, life in exile offers a mix of positive and negative. The downside is the loss of and distance from parents, family, friends—and one's cultural identity. "You are not allowed to come back," says Alizada. "That in itself sometimes bothers you...when you feel the place you grew up is forbidden land to you. I often think of a verse in the Koran that says that exile is worse than death. I didn't allow that to happen to me, but it bothers you at some point—you can't share the memory and culture and local dynamics [of your homeland]." But for him and others, exile also reflects an

act of pure survival. "I want people to understand. You find the entire network of family and society turns against you," he explains. "Every day you have to live in fear that somebody will find out about you and your sexual orientation... That constant fear paralyzes you. That is why many people choose to leave the country they live in. I'm not sure that is a choice."

FINDING HOPE On the upside, exile "gives you perspective," he feels. "When you're inside the country you have to deal with immediate threats, struggle, and oppression. Being here provides the safety that you don't have any immediate threat to your life, and it allows you to think about regional threats." As an activist, he adds, "It basically provides you with opportunities to learn and be more effective. It has helped me to basically come up with ideas that have benefited LGBT people

"HETEROSEXUALS DO NOT HAVE THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE THEIR SPOUSES, SO HOW CAN YOU ASK FOR GAY RIGHTS?"

inside Iran."

That bigger picture goes beyond Iran, too. He's seeing thousands of people in Syria, Iran, Egypt, and Sudan on the run, seeking exile. "On a weekly basis I'm getting calls from desperate individuals... women and transgender," he reports. "If you are a woman you can't even get a passport without a male or guardian—they are in a miserable situation and there are next to zero resources to help them." It can cost a person thousands of dollars to leave a country and seek asylum, and even then, they still need additional resources. "They are often victims of abuse," he states. "They need psychological support, skills to survive, extensive social services... I have dealt with hundreds of people who are literally struggling to survive—it's a really painful process."

All that pain and suffering can lead to activist burnout. How does Alizada keep going? What inspires him?

"There is hope for a better future," he says. "Sometimes you see individuals whose lives have been improved, or lawyers who have managed to help people. There are cultural signs, with the raising of awareness in society... That is real hope. The society works in mysterious ways; it's not a linear struggle. I feel that I can be part of a broader movement, and together, we can create a new discourse and understanding."

WANT TO HELP?

For information on how you can make a difference in the lives of our LGBT sisters and brothers overseas, go to:

amnestyusa.org

globalequality.org

freedomhouse.org

democracycouncil.org/lgbt



THE SAFE PASSAGE FUND

SUPPORTING URGENT ACCESS TO ASYLUM FOR LGBTQ & ALLIES

The Safe Passage Fund is a new “rapid response” fund created to provide emergency travel funds and support to LGBTQ individuals and allies who face immediate threats of arrest, attacks, violence and severe persecution in countries where harsh laws have fostered a climate of extreme homophobia. Today, Uganda and Nigeria are among African countries where harsh anti-gay laws have spurred hundreds of LGBTQ individuals, gender rights and HIV/AIDS activists to go into hiding and seek refuge in other countries. So do Russia, Iran, Ivory Coast – all high on the list of countries where state-sanctioned homophobia is on the rise.

The Safe Passage Fund is designed to provide travel money to LGBTQ individuals and organizations supporting sexual minorities who are in danger and require immediate assistance to travel to safety or safer settings, including humanitarian asylum seekers.

The Safe Passage Fund has been created by gender rights activists as an Emergency Solidarity Fund and in collaboration with PRIDE magazine and the Urgent Action Fund.

All monies raised are tax-deductible and will be collected and administered the Urgent Action Fund, a US 501C3, and then transferred to a sister organization in Nairobi, Urgent Action Fund – Kenya. UAF-Kenya will vet requests on the basis of criteria established by UAF -Kenya and LGBTQ human rights groups in Africa and elsewhere to assure the requests are legitimate, to verify the urgency of the request, and to assure transparency and accountability. A 5% administration fee will be held by UAF as the fiscal agent for the Fund. Donations will be used only for emergency support to help those needing safe passage out of situations of extreme homophobia, not for general administration or other issues.

HOW TO DONATE

YOU CAN MAKE A TAX-EXEMPT DONATION TO HELP LGBTQ INDIVIDUALS IN IMMEDIATE NEED OF FUNDS TO ACCESS SAFER REFUGE OR TRANSIT TO SAFETY AT THE FUNDS WEB PAGE:

donatenow.networkforgood.org/safepassagefund

For additional information about the fund, or for individuals seeking assistance from the fund, please contact: weactx@gmail.com or Caitlin Stanton at the Urgent Action Fund. Email: Caitlin@urgentactionfund.org.

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AFRICA

UNDERGROUND



As anti-gay laws and witch hunts spread across Uganda and elsewhere, a global LGBT underground railroad emerges to provide safe passage.

[Anne-christine d'Adesky reports.](#)

GROUND ZERO OF THE GLOBAL GAY RIGHTS FIGHT IS NOT LONDON OR MONTREAL OR PARIS OR KAMPALA OR BAGHDAD or any of the sprawling urban capitals of Africa, the Middle East, Europe, or Asia. It's not New York or Washington, D.C., either; although all of these cities gleam as points of both hope—and fear—for a fast-growing number of LGBT citizens. Rather, the new front line of the battle is the African bush, the rural hinterlands from Uganda and Nigeria to Ivory Coast where homosexuality and support of gay rights has become a capital crime. There is a desperate fight for survival happening as anti-gay laws and hate speech stoke mob- and media-backed violence and LGBT witch hunts. Across the continent, African evangelical pastors outdo one another to preach a fiery gospel of homophobia, some supported by extreme U.S. Christian right groups and evangelists such as Scott Lively, who turned to Africa as they began to lose the gay marriage battle at home.

The new ground zero is hardly a place someone would willingly choose to spend a night alone, unless inside a protected game park, where lions and rhinos and hippos aren't likely to threaten your sleep. It's the forested, remote, less-populated border areas where warring militias hide out. Unmarked places without easy access to paved roads that are less patrolled by the police or border authorities, but serve criminals looking to rob, hijack, or kidnap citizens or tourists. After dark the African bush is dangerous and hides everything.

It's there that an increasing number of Ugandans, Nigerians, and other Africans are making a desperate dash for the border, sleeping in temporary camps, fleeing persecution as sexual outlaws under the extreme anti-gay laws. They may stay hidden in the bush a night or two, or for days, some without adequate food or water or protection from animals, waiting for their "conductor" to arrive and transport them to a safe

house or across the border. Those with visas to other countries may avoid the bush, but for many forced to flee in a second's notice, asylum is a last resort. Some Ugandans with HIV face the additional challenge of accessing a steady supply of life-saving drugs as AIDS clinics and programs have shut down, accused of helping gays. Doctors, nurses, even volunteers to AIDS programs, are branded criminals and threatened with arrest under the new law.

DANGEROUS GROUNDS

Welcome to Africa's fast-growing, very underground railroad, a rapid rescue and transit network of do-good individuals, legal and human rights agencies, progressive churches, and community allies. Funded by small-scale donors across East Africa, and LGBTQ advocates in Europe, Canada, and the U.S., the railroad represents an emergency humanitarian response to help LGBT individuals escape immediate danger and a heavy prison sentence.

The growth of the underground railroad is fueled by the exponential power of the Internet and Twitter and social networking petitions by rights groups such as All Out. While the recent kidnapping of more than 200 Nigerian girls by Boko Haram terrorists spawned an overnight global hashtag chain of solidarity and celebrity tweets (*#bringbackourgirls*), rights advocates have tried to highlight egregious attacks and arrests of LGBT individuals in Nigeria and elsewhere.

To date, the global spotlight has focused on the crisis in big cities like Kampala or Moscow. But rural Africa is the big, shadowy front, where there are even fewer LGBT resources. As PRIDE 14 went to press, middlemen conductors were sounding the alarm about nine female Ugandan students outed at a rural university, their names broadcast on a local FM radio, one of many local stations providing a home for the voices of African homophobes. The radio messages reportedly called for the arrest, beatings,

and sterilization of the young women—a fresh gender dimension to the attacks on LGBT citizens. Lesbians are already targets of corrective rape, especially in South Africa.

Luckily, the students were already in a local safe house, but remain terrified and in danger. Money was urgently sought to get them out. The girls had no time to prepare for the prospect of a new future outside Uganda, away from their families. They faced looming arrests and life sentences in an overcrowded, dangerous jail where rape and beatings of suspected LGBT were not uncommon even before the anti-gay bill.

A TIME OF CHANGE

The popular radio calls urging African citizens to root out and denounce suspected gays are a fresh reminder of how the radio was used to sow social and ethnic divisions that led to Rwanda's historic genocide in 1994. In Nigeria, the war against homosexuality is presented as a battle against a foreign—read Western—concept, just as the Islamic Boko Haram group rejects girls education as an unwelcome Western import. It's critical to see how homophobia is serving a larger national and political agenda for fundamentalist groups, be they Islamic or Christian.

As PRIDE went to press, the e-mail pleas and Facebook messages I received from members of the underground railroad had increased, offering fresh details of a building crisis. In early May, a Ugandan LGBT reportedly lost hope after several days of hiding with others in a bush camp without enough food or water and committed suicide, just before a conductor arrived to transport the group to safety over the border. Today, many LGBT applicants languish for months in developing countries, lacking visas or police affidavits that support asylum claims.

In a seemingly incredible doubling down of state-sanctioned hate, Uganda's President Yoweri Museveni is poised to sign a pending bill into law that would make the “willful” transmission of HIV

a crime. If he does, Rwanda will be the only East African country that has not passed an HIV criminalization bill. Embassies across Africa are already overwhelmed with LGBT and HIV asylum applicants, while AIDS groups have decried the projected negative impact of the bill on the health and lives of Ugandans.

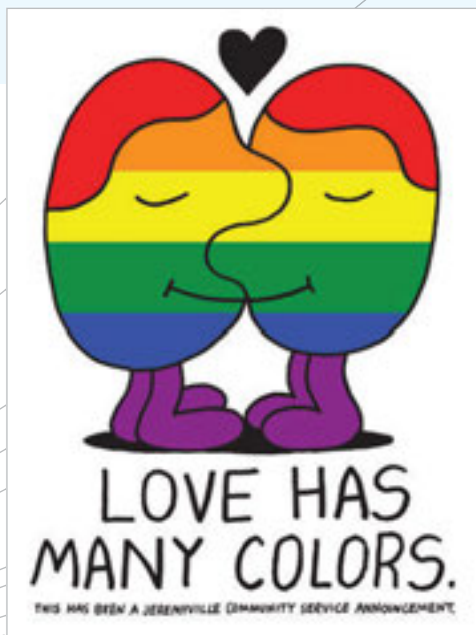
Despite these urgencies, helping out isn't simple, or as fast as what is needed, especially for those on the ground in Nigeria or Uganda or the Ivory Coast who face clear and present dangers. Under Uganda's anti-gay law, anyone viewed as promoting homosexuality becomes a criminal, and families are urged to out suspected LGBT members. Those participating in the underground railroad face prison if caught, and must exercise extreme caution. That in turns breeds fear, mistrust, and paranoia, even among activists. Instead of a unified response, many points of light are offering hope in Uganda, but often invisibly to each other.

The need for confidentiality makes it harder for donors and agencies who seek to quickly vet petitions for help. Anyone who's spent five minutes working in the global development field will also warn you: Watch out for corruption and fraud. If being a gay hate victim can get you out of Africa, some may take advantage. Others will set up sham Internet appeals aimed at naïve, big-hearted global citizens. These realities were forefront in our minds when we moved to establish the Safe Passage Fund to provide a rapid, verified channel for supporting African LGBT in immediate danger and the brave souls in the underground railroad racing to help them.

In this issue, we've highlighted individuals and groups who are leading the effort to counter homophobia abroad, and take on the homophobes at home, too. There's also fresh hope offered by South Africa's new national campaign against homophobia—a historic first for the continent. What remains is our urgent need to help and act. Jump onboard! —ACD



THE
"LIKING"
OF
PROTEST
ART



Inside our increasing desire to comment, share, and put a filter on the messages that surround our daily lives

By Shira Levine



FROM WITHIN THE imaginary township of Jeremyville—that's where New York-based, Australia-born artist Jeremy Andrew creates and shares his socially-minded artwork.

"Jeremyville is like any other place trying to find answers and improve itself from within," says Andrew. "There are shades of darkness and light."

It's also where his long-running series dubbed "Community Service Announcements" (CSAs) was born.

This idea for CSAs came to Andrew rather serendipitously one day while he was chatting with a friend who kept texting other people during their conversation. The unsettling effect the meet up had on Andrew resulted in his first art piece: STOP TEXTING AND START CONNECTING, which he signed off with: "This has been a Jeremyville Community Service Announcement." He posted the image to his Facebook page and went to bed, thinking that was the end of it. He was wrong. By morning, he had a massive collection of likes—and comments. The simple message triggered incredible reaction. So, he drew another: LOG ON TO LIFE.

PASS IT ON "They seemed to touch people," says Andrew. "So I began drawing four messages a day, posting one a day and watching the project spread."

Friends and followers began sharing the relatable, feel-good images on their own pages. They were designed inclusively, to speak to the mindful Everyone. His CSAs "Love Has Many Colors" and "Love Difference" embrace equality, tolerance, and acceptance for all.

Currently, the Jeremyville Facebook page has nearly 43K likes, more than 6,000 followers on Twitter, and more than 12,000 followers on Instagram.

This reflects the reality of the digital age: We're voracious, if not ravenous consumers, not just of entertainment, but information—and art—of all types. It can be a YouTube feature-length film, a clip

on Vine, an image you paste to your wall, even a message you send to the world as a Tweet—the ability to express oneself artistically to the world, and the power to impact change with the messages we send out, has never been greater, blurring its way into every corner of our lives. And we're all on equal playing fields, able to be a creator, a participant, and an appreciator of such images and art.

ART HISTORY From the '60s through the '90s, it was music and street theater, punk and fashion, graffiti and street art that got people marching and chanting, firing the desire for change. Across America in most major cities, whenever protest art and messaging wasn't right there smacking reality in your face, you were then passing by it on public transportation or reading about in commentary about counter culture.

"Protest art in the gay community started for me in the '80s with AIDS," says Pamela Willoughby, a New York consultant and former Manhattan gallerist, who sold Keith Haring, Andy Warhol, and Julian Schnabel's work, among others. "That was a time of incredible graffiti. It's how [Jean-Michel] Basquiat got his start, Keith Haring, all those kids in the Bronx who drew and everyone rebelling against everything that was wrong with everything. Confrontation was their art."

"It was vandalism getting those stories, those messages out for people to think about," says Willoughby. "Now, it's high-priced art or iconography that is so well-branded you don't need words. Find me someone who doesn't know what the red equal sign stands for."

When Human Rights Campaign launched their "Paint the town red," initiative, those two red bars representing marriage equality did indeed become

ubiquitous. They appeared in social media newsfeeds and replaced the personal vanity profile pictures of millions of users—regardless of their sexuality.

"Social media and the Internet have been critical in accelerating issues for the LGBT community—mobilizing and defending, especially in places where governments are cracking down on human rights," says Minky Worden of sister organization Human Rights Watch. "Young people especially are searching for affirmation and sense of community in environments where their government tells them they are second-class. It's quite heroic and courageous of these art and film festivals [creating] a positive message, a sense of community, and a creative outlet for people to gather and give stories a chance to be heard when they can't always be heard in their home countries."

We've fully downloaded into the Digital Age so our capacity for searching, curating, and absorbing everything is interminable. Websites, blogs, memes, and our countless social media accounts have become our weapons—and our allies in creating change. Kicking off with Friendster and MySpace—the first significant way artists expressed the personality around their work—these outlets grew exponentially with Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Vimeo, Instagram, Tumblr,

WE'RE ALL ON EQUAL PLAYING FIELDS, ABLE TO BE A CREATOR, A PARTICIPANT, AND AN APPRECIATOR OF SUCH IMAGES AND ART

Pinterest, and all the other portals that house viral infotainment and distraction.

THE MOVEMENT While we're still protesting and fighting much the same fight we have been for the last 30 years, the way in which we show and share our discontent, and the gathering of support we create as newly minted social activists has evolved into something else...a new and different form of activism and protest available for any and all communities to partake in.

Punk and counter culture paved the way for Western social activism. Originally it was 'zines. Everyone had one. In New York, the *East Village Eye* and *SoHo News* were how you really got your news about your community rather than America's traditional idea of community. Those movements made household names and protest artists out of everyone from Haring to Warhol. Flash-forward

> (Below and next page) Images from Brooklyn artist YK Hong's Prop[agenda] art series



30 years and the Internet has given everyone their own printing press. The 'zine is almost no more. Now its Ai Wei Wei, Banksy, Shepard Fairey—prolific contemporary social activists whose reach continues to grow beyond imagination, spreading their messages and art because, again, it's accessible, inclusive, and relatable enough to make fans and followers out of “ordinary people.”

“As humans, we're limited by our words, but art allows us to take our message to another level,” says El Paso protest artist, Cemelli De Aztlan. “Individuals need to feel connected to the message. Art allows people to form a personal connection on a deeper level.”

Art shared only through social media alone isn't always enough. When it's used to link to something bigger—an online gallery, a film, an image from a public installation, an official long-researched report for young people and journalists to engage and share in—the result is distribution channels that unleash the messaging of the protest pieces in individual and unique ways even their creators might never have imagined.

Shepard Fairey's work was virtually canonized by the Internet. Social media support garnered from his Barack Obama “Hope” and “Progress” posters, his commentary on the Arab Spring with the



> Cemelli De Aztlan's El Paso tipi art was a reaction to the Occupy Wall Street movement

Protestor, the American economy, and the Occupy Wall Street movement made him the 21st century's Pablo Picasso, Diego Rivera, and Frida Kahlo rolled into one.

“For me activism starts with changing or altering one person's mind,” says Andrew. “Sometimes that first person is me. Then another person might look at what I've done, and I rethink something. Then another person weighs in, and then another, and slowly the work changes—and the viewers change—and it all happens through the power and true connection of social media.”

“It's a lot like coming out in some ways,” says El Paso artist Viva Flores, whose protest art unfolds via poetry and traditional art and collaboration with other artists. “Creating this work can have a very revolutionary feel. And many of us that now practice visual protest art as adults still hold the difficult and painful memories of fear and isolation that comes with the ‘otherness’ of not identifying with mainstream sexual culture.”

During the Occupy movement, De Aztlan's El Paso community joined communities across the United States setting up tents in protest of Wall Street and Corporate America.

“Being Native American and Mexican, I saw the movement as an opportunity to deconstruct the systems of power that led us to this mess,” says De Aztlan. “I asked my elders to lend me the Medicine Tipi so that I can share it with those camping out in downtown El Paso. The presence of the Tipi touched the community deeply. It changed the setting of downtown dramatically. People felt as if it had become

a serene, spiritual place because of the presence of the Tipi. It was magical. Each night I would project movies and documentaries onto the Tipi, so people of all walks of life could gather and learn about the history of racial discrimination that this country is rooted in.”

CLICK AND SHARE As the space transformed into an area of reflection and peace, word of the Tipi's success spread and the imagery went viral.

New York-based, Korean-born artist, YK Hong hopes the same will be true of her pieces. Through images, Hong plays with the juxtaposition of technology and tradition. There's an overt rawness of textures and textiles that provide the backbone for revolutionary inspired imagery and how they interact with individual and daily struggles. Her Prop[agenda] series features a wood and stenciled images including a block which has been labeled “Stand here” with an X beneath it. To the right are nine missiles pointing at the target, each with the word “Smile” emblazoned across their side.

“When viewing any art, there's the online form and the in-person form,” says Hong. “I see both as mutually beneficial [to getting a message out]. Each is a tool to advocate for the other. My work explores exactly this transition. I use propaganda imagery to talk about conspicuous consumption and advertising.” It's all about de-digitizing, deconstructing, and then bringing everything back together again with a message, she says.

It's the same goal Andrew has with many of his CSAs. Take “Find True Love with Your Eyes Closed.” It's a relatively simple image of a dog hugging a cat, but both animals are embracing with their eyes shut. For Andrew, it represents a great challenge of society.

“Let's connect with and fall in love with the essence of the person, not their outer skin, or appearance, or age, or whatever preconception this society has taught us to believe in,” says Andrew. “Believe what you feel, not what you see. That's what I want people to get from the work.”



THE FIRST TIME I felt another man's breath on my skin, our noses nearly touching and our lips close enough to kiss, he was screaming in my face. His breath smelled like an unholy combination of chewing tobacco and curdled milk. We were in an outdoor staging area crowded with 125 other recruits for the U.S. Army's infantry basic training program in Fort Benning, Georgia. This was decidedly not how I imagined the first real physical closeness I'd share with another man would be.

"You eyeballin' me, fucker?" he said.

His eyes were boring directly into mine as I tried desperately not to react to their steely darkness. I thought, I must've missed this part in the brochure.

The ease with which I went from being a merit roll student in my high school, to standing in line for Infantry basic training not even four months after graduating with one of the top GPAs in the class, was almost shocking. Great things were expected from me, the 4.0 honor roll student who would most certainly be going on to some big-time university to become a broadcaster after anchoring the high school newscasts for years. Alas, in a 98% black school, where athletics were placed in higher priority than academics, the guidance counselors didn't quite know what to do with the fat kid who hadn't played a sport in his life. My parents didn't have the money for college, and I just kind of slipped through the cracks. All of the above are how I found myself dialing the number to the Army recruiting office in hopes of doing something, and perhaps getting to go to college on the Army's dime.

At that point in my life, I was spending most of my days doing absolutely nothing besides eating, living at home with my grandmother, and working part-time waiting tables at Denny's. I dreaded the particular hell that was Tuesday Family Free Nights. An assortment of baby mamas would come in large groups and shovel free kids' meals down their demon

spawn's throats, running me ragged and leaving me a one or two dollar tip for the privilege. Surely there had to be more to life than this, but if there was, I certainly didn't know. Maybe it was time to find out.

Over the phone, the Army people said that it was okay that I didn't have a car. They eagerly sent a recruiter over to drive me to the station and talk a little about the Army. I closed the phone book and sat at the kitchen table. I was alone, as usual, in the kitchen of the modest two-story house I'd spent the majority of my teen years in. I was nervous about what I was about to do but strangely excited. I didn't know what I was getting into but I knew I needed a change. I knew I needed to leave home and go to college, but I didn't know how to get there. Perhaps this was my

time to shine, to be all I could be.

There was a knock on the door and I opened it to see an Adonis. At that point something very powerful came over me. The feeling was new, different, exhilarating, and thrilling. This gorgeous man towered over me, offered a sweet smile, and stuck out his hand.

"You're Mr. Smith?" he asked.

"Uh...yeah," I said, almost forgetting to breathe.

"I'm Corporal Kevin Garvin. I'm gonna take you to the recruiting station so we can have a little conversation."

I had never seen someone so beautiful before, and I was smitten. Tall and lean, he was like a real-life Ken doll. He had blonde hair, piercing blue eyes, and perfectly tanned skin. I couldn't remember ever meeting someone so good looking.

Though I was only vaguely aware of some hidden sexual tendencies just beneath the surface of my outward teenage awkwardness, I knew that I just wanted to be with him. His hair was golden and his skin glowed. His camouflage uniform fit just right on his lean, muscular frame. I nodded and followed him into his car, a bright blue Camaro. We didn't say much during the ride to the recruiting station, but I couldn't talk if I'd wanted to. I was nervous, excited and happy. I felt like I could melt just by being in close proximity to this man. I was vaguely aware of sounds coming out of his mouth as he drove, but I couldn't place them. I was lost in him.

The arch of his eyebrow, the curve of his lips, and the way his smile seemed to start in his eyes and spread across his entire face, were all things that I noticed and wanted to have forever.

I spent many lonely teenage nights watching Dawson's Creek and Buffy. These shows exposed me to the fantasy teen life of friends and romance that took place outside of my reality of awkwardness and isolation. I now knew what those characters were feeling when they had a crush on someone. I felt okay now that I was feeling this normal emotion, and not bad anymore because I thought

WELCOME to the JUNGLE

In his new book, *Closets, Combat + Coming Out* journalist, activist and Iraq War vet Rob Smith details in this excerpt what it was really like as a gay man to come of age under Don't Ask, Don't Tell.



their lives were so much better and more exciting than mine. They kissed people, had friends, drama and intrigue, and I had, well, I had lots of books and horror movies that I used to keep me company. I imagined leaving all this behind with Corporal Kevin Garvin, going to a place far away where we could live and be together.

We could laugh, roll around in the grass, and he would give me my first kiss. A real kiss would make my knees weak and give me a feeling in the pit of my stomach. It was what the movies and TV shows all said was supposed to happen when you liked somebody. He was so different than anyone I'd interacted with before. The west side of Akron, Ohio was my entire world, and that world was nearly exclusively filled with faces that were black like mine. Corporal Garvin was something fresh and new. He represented the fact that just maybe there was a different world out there beyond what I'd seen. That thought filled me with equal parts fear and excitement.

For the next few weeks, Corporal Garvin was mine, giving me more attention than anyone had in ages. We went for lunches and talked about the different military jobs I was qualified for. He seemed very excited about one job in particular.

"The infantry," he said over burgers at a local fast food joint one sunny afternoon, "is where the real men go. That's where they do the real shooting, and camping, and all that shit you see on the commercials."

I leaned forward, enthralled by Corporal Garvin, or the prospect of this infantry thing or some combination of the two. His blue eyes brightened and his eyebrows rose slightly, as if he knew he was pulling me in, as if he knew exactly how I felt about him. I caught his eye for one brief electric second and looked away, feeling as if I may explode from the direct contact. I looked down at my burger and thought to myself. Infantry. That's what I'll do...

At this point in time I would've done

anything he wanted me to do. My mother eyed the paperwork that was necessary for her to sign so that her seventeen year-old son could give the next four years of his life to the U.S. Army. She studied the paperwork intently. A Newport cigarette, burning its way into oblivion, perched between her fingers. Her smooth, deep brown colored skin was that of a woman much younger than her 43 years but the eyes were those of a woman who'd seen it all and learned painful lessons from it. She would have to go back down to North Carolina with her new husband shortly, but I needed her to sign the paperwork for me. I didn't need any convincing or advice. My mind was already made. I wasn't just gonna be a soldier, but an infantry soldier.

MY MOTHER WAS a strong determined woman. She had been largely absent from my life since she'd gotten the courage to leave her abusive husband, my stepfather, five years ago. My biological father reentered my life at this point. Our interactions were strained and awkward, as if his absence from my life between the ages of three and thirteen robbed us of any opportunity of a real relationship. My teenage years were spent largely alone. My mother's participation in my life extended little beyond the moments in the morning when she prepared for work and I prepared for school. In the evening when I'd return from school she'd rush across town to spend the evenings with her new boyfriend.

Corporal Garvin said that the infantry was the best of the best. They only took the strongest and smartest men, and that they did all kinds of fun stuff like camping, marches, and running. It sounded great, just like summer camp. I had never been to camp. It was exciting. I would go to Colorado for my station assignment after the six months of basic training. I knew I was going to see this place eventually, but little did I know what I'd be willing to go through in order to get there. My mother looked at me exasperatedly.

"Robert, I don't know why you don't

just go to the Air Force. You remember Sharon? Her son went to the Air Force and he says it's real nice, better than the Army."

At this, she cut her eyes brutally at Corporal Garvin. I rolled my eyes. I didn't want to hear this. Her input wasn't needed, only her signature. I'd made this decision and it was final.

Corporal Garvin had been spending a lot of time with me during the past two weeks. It was the most time that anyone had spent with me in a long time, least of all my mother. She had rekindled an old flame down in North Carolina and left to move there and marry him right before the start of my senior year of high school. I lived with paternal grandparents, who'd had enough of me by graduation. Not long after, I moved back in with my maternal grandmother in the small house in which we now sat. Her scowls and gruff nature toward me were all the indication I needed of her disapproval.

My mother's words irritated me. Who did she think she was to try to give me guidance now?

I knew I wanted to do this because Corporal Garvin knew I could. I didn't want to let him down.

"Mom, this is my decision. I'm seventeen. I'm not in school. I can't just live here and work at Denny's forever. I gotta get out of here. You did. Why can't I?"

I looked over at Corporal Garvin where my glance was met with warm approval. I silently melted.

"If I do this for a few years, they'll pay for my college. It's not like you went."

My mother jerked back as if she'd been slapped, and looked at Corporal Garvin.

"I want to do this, so can you just sign?" I said, and smiled at her. "Please, mom?"

She looked to me and back to him and sighed long and deeply as she took the pen and signed the dramatic swoops of her signature on the seemingly endless paperwork. Just like that, I was in the Army, and two weeks later I would leave for basic training in Fort Benning, Georgia.

Closets, Combat + Coming Out is available in paperback or as an e-book at amazon.com. For more on the author, check out robsmithonline.com.



The Ali Forney Center and the National Coalition for the Homeless are launching the NATIONAL CAMPAIGN FOR YOUTH SHELTER, calling for a national commitment to provide shelter for every homeless youth in the USA.

It is estimated that there are as many as 500,000 unaccompanied youths in the USA who experience homelessness every year. Currently there are only 4,000 youth shelter beds in our country.

40% of all homeless youth in the USA are LGBT. The primary cause of their homelessness is family rejection due to homophobia.

www.aliforneycenter.org



Ponos

Stolz

Büszkeség

Fierté

Υπερηφάνεια

Kebanggaan

Kiburi

Ylpeys

Mândria

Pýcha

Kebanggaan

驕傲

Гордость

دیاری

Pasidizivimas

Khav txiv

Stolthed

Orgullo

فخر

התנשאות

Гордость

Pride

*prīd/
noun*

a feeling or deep pleasure or satisfaction
derived from one's own achievements,
the achievements of those with whom one
is closely associated, or from qualities or
possessions that are widely admired.

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Reflections of Pride

Stonewall 45

JUST 45 YEARS AGO, outside of a small bar in New York City called the Stonewall Inn, an event occurred that would go on to shape the modern Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender movement in the United States and around the world. Those early activists were largely minorities, from diverse backgrounds, and included every segment of our LGBT community—all banding together to challenge injustice and demand equal human rights.

Stonewall started as a small “local” demonstration but has taken on global significance. Today, Pride events inspired by the events at Stonewall reach millions of people every year. From cities and countries with full marriage equality to hostile regions where LGBT people struggle daily with the threat of death or imprisonment, the voice of Stonewall echoes. Despite obstacles, Pride events bring together our LGBT brothers, sisters, and allies, encouraging all who gather to march, dance, rally, picnic, or otherwise celebrate our pride.

And the celebrations continue to grow. This June, the world will come to Canada for the largest WorldPride to date. The staff and volunteers at Pride Toronto have done a fantastic job hosting the first WorldPride in North America and we are honored and proud to celebrate with them!

Pride is truly the face of our movement, and our fight for equality is not just measured in victories in the courthouse or the legislature, but by changing people’s hearts and minds. Through these events, we remember the struggles fought by those before us as we move forward to a world where there is full cultural, social, and legal equality for all.

Always Be Proud,

Gary Van Horn & Sue Doster

CO-PRESIDENTS
INTERPRIDE INC.

What's your favorite memory of Pride?

Here's what a few of our readers, followers, and fans have to say. As you celebrate Pride 2014, keep the conversation alive and share your favorite memories of this year's festivities with us—and the world—using #pridemems.

My mother, grandma, and attend Pride and then get cocktails afterward. It's fun and we're closer than ever now! > **Patty, 23**

Marching down the street as a volunteer holding my boyfriend's hand—and having people cheer. It's a magical moment I always look forward to. > **Tony, 31**

It brings the city together. Black, white, gay, straight. We may not hang out any other time of the year, but for one day... > **Gabrielle, 40**

Vodka flasks LOL > **Sherrie, 28**

Loud music, confetti, hot sun, and shirtless men. What's not to love? > **Trevor, 19**

I share my time with a lot of activist groups. For me, Pride helps to re-focus my efforts. It recharges my batteries for the fight. > **Lisa, 31**

I like all the costumes. And the feathers and bright clothes. > **Evan, 11**

Every year, Pride helps me to think how far we've come. I wasn't out until my 50s, but Pride reminds me of 20 remarkable years that followed. > **Gary, 71**

I walk the parade route every year with the local gay soccer team, so for me Pride just means good time spent with great friends > **Joey, 24**

Watching my son and daughter dive for buttons and stickers and knowing they feel normal—and love their moms. It's a sweet feeling. > **Tara, 36**

I didn't grow up with religion, but I found my current church thanks to my local Pride. So to me, it's what brought me faith. > **Shiree, 47**

I met my husband dancing on a bar float. Pride is our anniversary. We got married the following year. > **Connor, 33**

My best friend and I attend a local parade every year. We're both straight, but we like to support our gay and lesbian friends. > **Tracy, 42**

I hate to say it's the food, but our Pride has a crazy number of local food trucks that participate. I'm a foodie, so it's a perfect day. > **Andy, 27**

The performers! Locals, drag queens, celebrities—everybody puts on a great show that's so much fun to be part of. > **Chris, 37**

The beautiful noise. Roaring bikes. Blaring music. Cheering crowds. It's aural sex for me. > **Roslyn, 29**

I'm an artist, and the colors get me every year. I take tons of pictures and hang them up all over as inspiration for my work. > **Miguel, 28**

I can't say everything, but I almost got arrested, I was naked, and my girlfriend talked the cop out of giving me a ticket. I'd do it again! > **Yakeiva, 24**

My husband and I live in a small town so we have to drive a couple hours to get to the nearest Pride. It reminds us we're not alone out here. > **Steven, 49**

Everything! I love it all. > **Ollie, 17**

CALENDAR

UNITED STATES

Alaska

ANCHORAGE

ALASKA PRIDE FEST
June 14
identityinc.org

Alabama

BIRMINGHAM

CENTRAL ALABAMA PRIDE
June 1–8
centralalabamapride.org

MOBILE

MOBILE PRIDE
April 2015
mobilealabamapride.com

Arizona

BISBEE

BISBEE PRIDE
June 13–15
bisbeepride.com

PHOENIX

PHOENIX PRIDE
April 2015
phoenixpride.org

TUCSON

TUCSON PRIDE IN THE DESERT
October 11–18
tucsonpride.org

California

GUERNEVILLE

SONOMA COUNTY PRIDE
May 30–June 1
sonomacountypride.org

LONG BEACH

LONG BEACH PRIDE
May 2015
longbeachpride.com

LOS ANGELES

L.A. PRIDE
June 6–8
lapride.org

LOS ANGELES

L.A. BLACK PRIDE
July 3–6
myblackpridelocal.com

LOS ANGELES

LOS ANGELES LEATHER COALITION
March 2015
lalc.info

PALM SPRINGS

PRIDE & PROMOTE
July 3–6
myblackpridelocal.com

PALM SPRINGS

PALM SPRINGS PRIDE
November 7–9
pspride.org

PASADENA

SAN GABRIEL VALLEY PRIDE
September 27
sgvpride.org

SAN FRANCISCO

SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE
June 28–29
sfpride.org

VENTURA

VENTURA COUNTY PRIDE
August 22–24
vcpride.org

Connecticut

NEW LONDON

OUTCUT
August 2
outcut.org

Delaware

DOVER

DELAWARE PRIDE
August 2
delawarepride.org

District of Columbia

WASHINGTON, D.C.

CAPITAL PRIDE ALLIANCE
May 31–June 8
capitalpride.org

Florida

FORT LAUDERDALE

PRIDE SOUTH FLORIDA
March 2015
pridesouthflorida.org

GAINESVILLE

GAINESVILLE PRIDE
October 25
gainesvillepride.org

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

(CHARLOTTE, LEE & COLLIER COUNTIES)
CHARLOTTE COUNTY PRIDE
May 2015
charlottecountypridefl.org

ST. PETERSBURG

ST. PETE PRIDE
June 27–29
stpetepride.com

TALLAHASSEE

TALLAHASSEE PRIDEFEST 2015
April 2015
tallahasseepride.com

Georgia

ATLANTA

ATLANTA PRIDE
October 11–12
atlantapride.org

AUGUSTA

AUGUSTA PRIDE
June 27–29
prideaugusta.org

SAVANNAH
SAVANNAH PRIDE
September 13
savpride.com

VALDOSTA
SOUTH GEORGIA PRIDE
September 20
southgapride.com

Idaho

POCATELLO
POCATELLO PRIDE CELEBRATION
June 28
pocatellopride.org

Illinois

CHICAGO
PRIDEChicago
June 1–June 30
chicagopridecalendar.org

Indiana

FORT WAYNE
FORT WAYNE PRIDE
July 25–26
fwpride.org

INDIANAPOLIS
INDY PRIDE
June 1-9
indyprideinc.org

SPENCER
SPENCER PRIDE
June 7
spencerpride.org

Kentucky

LOUISVILLE
KENTUCKIANA PRIDE FESTIVAL
June 21–22
kypride.com

Louisiana

NEW ORLEANS
REFLECTION OF PRIDE
STONEWALL 45
June 9–14
neworleanspride.org

NEW ORLEANS
NEW ORLEANS PRIDE
June 20–22
prideneworleans.com

Maryland

ANNAPOLIS
CHESAPEAKE PRIDE FESTIVAL
August 2
chesapeakepridefestival.org

FREDERICK
FREDERICK PRIDE
June 28
thefrederickcenter.org

Massachusetts

BOSTON
BOSTON PRIDE
June 6–14
bostonpride.org

SALEM
NORTH SHORE PRIDE
June 21
northshorepride.org

Michigan

DETROIT
MOTOR CITY PRIDE
June 7–8
motorcitypride.org

Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS/ST PAUL
TWIN CITIES PRIDE FESTIVAL
& ASHLEY RUKES GLBT PRIDE
PARADE
June 28–29
tcpride.org

ST. CLOUD
ST. CLOUD PRIDE WEEKEND
September 19–21
stcloudpride.org

Missouri

JOPLIN
JOPLIN PRIDE
June 7
joplinpride.com

ST. LOUIS
PRIDE ST. LOUIS
June 28–29
pridestl.org

Nevada

LAS VEGAS
LAS VEGAS PRIDE
September 5–6
lasvegaspride.org

RENO
NORTHERN NEVADA PRIDE
July 26
buildourcenter.org

RENO
RENO GAY PRIDE
August 15–16
renogaypride.org

New Jersey

ASBURY PARK
JERSEY PRIDE
June 1
jerseypride.org

MAPLEWOOD
NORTH JERSEY PRIDE FESTIVAL
June 8
northjerseypride.org

New Mexico

LAS CRUCES
SOUTHERN NEW MEXICO PRIDE
FESTIVAL
June 5–8
southernnmpride.org

TAOS
TAOS PRIDE
August 14–16
taospride.org

New York

ASTORIA
QUEENS PRIDE WINTER PRIDE
January 2015
queenspride.org

BRONX
2014 BRONX LGBTQ PRIDE &
HEALTH FAIR
July 20
bronxlgbtcenter.org

BROOKLYN
BROOKLYN PRIDE
June 9–14
brooklynpride.org

JACKSON HEIGHTS
QUEENS PRIDE
June 1
queenspride.org

NEW YORK CITY
NYC PRIDE
June 27–29
nycpride.org

STATEN ISLAND
STATEN ISLAND PRIDE
June 12
silgbtcenter.org/parade

ROCHESTER
ROC PRIDE
June 18–20
gayalliance.org

North Carolina

ASHEVILLE
BLUE RIDGE PRIDE
October 4
blueridgepride.com

CHARLOTTE
CHARLOTTE PRIDE
August 16–17
charlottepride.org

SALISBURY
SALISBURY PRIDE
June 21
salisburypride.com

Ohio

CINCINNATI
CINCINNATI PRIDE
May 30–31
cincinnatipride.org

COLUMBUS
STONEWALL COLUMBUS
June 20–22
stonewallcolumbus.org

Oklahoma

ENID
ENID PRIDE
September 22
enidlgbtcoalition.org

OKLAHOMA CITY
OKC PRIDE
June 20–22
okcpride.org

TULSA
TUSLA PRIDE/OKLAHOMANS FOR
EQUALITY
June 6–8
okeq.org/tulsapride

Oregon

EUGENE
EUGENE PRIDE
August 9
eugenepride.org

Pennsylvania

ALLENTOWN
PRIDE OF THE GREATER LEHIGH
VALLEY
August 17
prideglv.org

ERIE
ERIE PRIDE PARADE/RALLY
August 23
nwpapride.org

NEW HOPE
NEW HOPE CELEBRATES
May 2015
newhopecelebrates.com

PHILADELPHIA
PHILLY PRIDE PRESENTS
June 8
phillypride.org

PITTSBURGH
PITTSBURGH PRIDE
June 6–15
pittsburghpride.org

Rhode Island

PROVIDENCE
RHODE ISLAND PRIDE
June 20–22
prideri.com

South Carolina

SPARTANBURG
UPSTATE PRIDE SC
September 13
upstatepridesc.org

South Dakota

SIOUX FALLS
SIOUX FALLS PRIDE
June 21
centersforequalitysd.org

Texas

AUSTIN
AUSTIN PRIDE
September 14–20
austinparade.org

DALLAS
ALAN ROSS TEXAS FREEDOM
September 21
dallasprideparade.com

EL PASO
PRIDEFEST CELEBRATION
June 4–8
epscp.org

HOUSTON
PRIDE HOUSTON
June 20–29
pridehouston.org

Virginia

ROANOKE
ROANOKE PRIDE
September 6–7
roanokepride.org

Washington

OLYMPIA
CAPITAL CITY PRIDE 2014
June 20–22
capitalcitypride.net

SPOKANE
OUTSPOKANE
June 24
outsokane.org

Around the World

AUSTRALIA

VICTORIA
PRIDE MARCH VICTORIA
February 2015
pridemarch.com.au

AUSTRIA

VIENNA
VIENNA PRIDE
June 11–15
viennapride.at/wordpress

BELGIUM

BRUSSELS
THE BELGIAN PRIDE
May 2015
thepride.be

CANADA

Alberta

CALGARY
PRIDE CALGARY
August 22–September 1
pridecalgary.ca

EDMONTON
EDMONTON PRIDE
June 6–15
edmontonpride.ca

British Columbia

KELOWNA
OKANAGAN PRIDE
August 9–16
okanaganpride.com

PRINCE GEORGE
PRIDE PRINCE GEORGE
July 2–4
prideprincegeorge.wildapricot.org

VANCOUVER
VANCOUVER PRIDE
July 27–August 3
vancouverpride.ca

Manitoba

WINNIPEG
PRIDE WINNIPEG FESTIVAL
May 23–June 1
pridewinnipeg.com

Newfoundland

St. John's
ST. JOHN'S PRIDE
July 19
stjohnsride.ca

Nova Scotia

HALIFAX
HALIFAX PRIDE
July 17–27
halifaxpride.ca

Ontario

BARRIE
SIMCOE PRIDE
August 1–9
simcoepride.com

BRACEBRIDGE
MUSKOKA PRIDE
July 27
muskokapride.com

**CAMBRIDGE, KITCHENER
& WATERLOO**
TRI-PRIDE
May 30–June 7
2014festival.tri-pride.ca

KINGSTON
KINGSTON PRIDE
May 30–June 15
kingstonpride.ca

LONDON
PRIDE LONDON
July 19–27
pridelondon.ca

OSHAWA
PRIDE DURHAM
June 2–8
pridedurham.com

THUNDER BAY
THUNDER BAY PRIDE
June 14
thunderpride.ca

TORONTO
WORLD PRIDE 2014
June 20–29
pridetoronto.com

Quebec

MONTREAL
FIESTE MONTREAL PRIDE
August 11–17
fiestemontrealpride.com

Saskatchewan

REGINA
QUEENS PRIDE PARADE & MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL
June 1
queenspride.org

REGINA
QUEEN CITY PRIDE
June 9–15
queencitypride.ca

SASKATOON
SASKATOON PRIDE
June 15–22
saskatoonpride.ca

FRANCE

PARIS
PARIS PRIDE
June 28
gaypride.fr

**PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE
D'AZUR**
MARSEILLE PRIDE
July 5
lgbt-paca.org

GERMANY

BERLIN
BERLINER CSD E.V. / BERLIN PRIDE
May 30–June 22
csd-berlin.de

BRAUNSCHWEIG
BRAUNSCHWEIG PRIDE
July 12–26
sommerloch-bs.de

HAMBURG
HAMBURG PRIDE
July 28–August 3
hamburg-pride.de

MONTPELLIER
MONTPELLIER PRIDE
July 12
[facebook.com/
GayPrideDeMontpellier](http://facebook.com/GayPrideDeMontpellier)

RHEIN-NECKAR
RHEIN-NECKAR PRIDE
August 9
csd-rhein-neckar.de

GREECE

ATHENS
ATHENS PRIDE
June 14
athenspride.eu

THESSALONIKI
THESSALONIKI PRIDE
June 20–21
thessalonikipride.gr

HUNGARY

BUDAPEST
BUDAPEST PRIDE FESTIVAL
June 28–July 6
budapestpride.hu

ICELAND

REYKJAVIK
REYKJAVIK PRIDE
August 5–10
reykjavikpride.com

INDIA

MUMBAI
KASHISH MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL QUEER FILM FESTIVAL
May 21–25
mumbaiqueerfest.com

IRELAND

DUBLIN
DUBLIN PRIDE
June 14–29
dublinpride.ie

ITALY

MILAN
MILAN PRIDE
June 24–28
arcigaymilano.org

NAPLES
NAPLES PRIDE
May 31–June 29
arcigaynapoli.org

ROME
ROMA PRIDE
June 7
romapride.it/2014

NETHERLANDS

AMSTERDAM
AMSTERDAM PRIDE
July 26–August 3
amsterdamgaypride.org

NORWAY

OSLO
EUROPRIDE 2014 / OSLO PRIDE
June 20–29
europride2014.com

PORTUGAL

AZORES
PRIDE AZORES
August 25–31
prideazores.com

PUERTO RICO

SAN JUAN
“UNA LUCHA, MUCHAS HISTORIAS”
May 29–June 1
puertoricoprider.org

SPAIN

BARCELONA
BARCELONA PRIDE
June 19–29
pridebarcelona.org

SWEDEN

STOCKHOLM
STOCKHOLM PRIDE
July 28–August 2
stockholmpride.org

SWITZERLAND

ZURICH
ZURICH PRIDE
June 8–15
zurichpridefestival.ch

UNITED KINGDOM

MANCHESTER
MANCHESTER PRIDE
August 22–25
manchesterpride.com

ZIMBABWE

HARARE
ZIM PRIDE WEEK BY GALZ
October 1
galz.co.zw

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Share Your Story



1. **PositivelyTogether.tumblr.com**
2. Hit the **Share Your Stories** button
3. Submit your photos & story



The Top Pride Anthems of All Time

As selected by superstar DJs Steven Redant & Danny Verde, better known as the guys behind Bent Collective



PRIDE IS ABOUT social and political change and solidifying one's identity—but it's also about fun. Partying in the sun with your friends and having a good time, and, obviously music—the driving force that pulls everybody together on a Pride weekend and ensures we all have a blast. But what songs rank at the top of the list when it comes to the best Pride anthems of all time? For one take on that highly debatable question, we turned to the guys in Bent Collective—Steven Redant & Danny Verde—two of the hottest DJs and remixer on the scene today.

On his own, Verde has worked with everyone from Cher and Mariah Carey

from the White Party to Pride events in Mexico City, Paris, Berlin, and Miami. (This summer, the duo will also be headlining NYC Pride and performing solo shows in Rome, Istanbul, Madrid, and San Francisco.)

Clearly Bent Collective knows a thing or two about making the masses dance. So we had to ask, What are these music titans' favorite Pride anthems? Here, their list. Redant says, "It's more of a personal guide through our gay minds than it is a 'Best of' list." Adds Verde: "Gay Pride is the season to fall in love—or at least work your way to happiness. These song titles and the lyrics explain our road."

> Beyoncé: "Single Ladies (Put a Ring On It)"

*Don't treat me to these things of the world
I'm not that kind of girl
Your love is what I prefer, what I deserve
Is a man that makes me then takes me
And delivers me to a destiny, to infinity and beyond
Pull me into your arms
Say I'm the one you want
If you don't, you'll be alone
And like a ghost I'll be gone*

> Spice Girls: "Spice Up Your Life"

*Slam it to the left
If you're having a good time
Shake it to the right
If you know that you feel fine*

> Pet Shop Boys: "Go West"

*There where the air is free
We'll be what we want to be
Now if we make a stand
We'll find our promised land*

> Bros: "When Will I Be Famous?"

*You won't suffer in silence
You're a talent, you know that I've noticed
You'd like to be a legend
Big star over night
Tell me, when?
I can't answer your question
I can't wait, it's driving me insane*

*And you're impossible in patience
Tearing at my brain*

> The Ark: "It Takes A Fool To Remain Sane"

*As it drenched my fears
of becoming like the others
who become unhappy mothers
and fathers of unhappy kids,
And why is this?
'Cause they've forgotten how to play,
or maybe they're afraid to feel
ashamed,
to seem strange,
to seem insane,
to gain weight,
to seem gay*

> Elton John & RuPaul: "Don't Go Breaking My Heart"

*And nobody told us
'Cause nobody showed us
And now it's up to us, babe
Whoa, I think we can make it*

> Lily Allen: "Fuck You (Very Much)"

*You say, you think we need to go to war
Well you're already in one,
'Cause its people like you
That need to get slew
No one wants your opinion
Fuck you
Fuck you very, very much
'Cause we hate what you do
And we hate your whole crew
So please don't stay in touch*

> Wham!: "Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go"

*Wake me up before you go-go
'Cause I'm not plannin' on going solo
Wake me up before you go-go
Take me dancing tonight*

> Pharrell Williams: "Happy"

*Because I'm happy
Clap along if you feel like a room
without a roof
Because I'm happy
Clap along if you feel like happiness
is the truth
Because I'm happy
Clap along if you know what
happiness is to you
Because I'm happy
Clap along if you feel like that's what
you wanna do*

> Deee-lite: "Groove is in the Heart"

*You're going to dance,
You're going to dance,
You're going to dance,
And have some fun*

A man with a beard and blue eyes is lying on his side on a large, white bed. He is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. His hands are clasped behind his head. The background is a blurred view of a hotel room with a window and some furniture.

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