

Photos from the Buffalo Grove Pride Drive 2021 (pp 14-15)  
and Grayslake / Round Lake Pride Parade 2021 (pp 6-7)

BG Pride Drive  
photo by Annette Leibovitz



July 2021 | PFLAG Council of Northern Illinois Newsletter

[opendoors@pflagillinois.org](mailto:opendoors@pflagillinois.org)

# Monthly Open Doors

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# AFFIRMATION

Greetings PFLAG community! I hope you, like me, were invigorated by Pride Month this year. Much like last year, I did not march in a parade, nor stand shoulder to shoulder in an exuberant crowd, but what I did see was a much broader celebration of the LGBTQ+ community than I remember. It seemed to me that the embrace of corporate America, of retailers, of communities as a whole was more natural, more spontaneous as if to say “of course we’re celebrating Pride, it’s June, right?” Last month we took note of successes and new liberties, greater respect and affirmation won for the LGBTQ+ community over time. We also paused with somber reflection to revisit the Pulse nightclub and Upstairs Lounge tragedies, and Stonewall, to honor those who sacrificed their lives and, in so doing, strengthened our resolve.

As the month closed, I asked myself "So is Pride Month a culmination of the year, the climax of the years activities on which we look back, or does it celebrate the birth of a new one? Or is it really both? In either case it seems, as PFLAGers, like we’ve been gifted a wave of affirmation, at very least a wind beneath our wings, a very clear "go ye forth" message to advance our mission to Support, to Educate and to Advocate. After a year when most of us have not been able to enjoy community around a table or in a familiar gathering space or share that welcome hug, we

have a real chance to make a difference – and need to help each other as we do.

Though it’s been just a little over a year, the world has moved forward and changed us in many ways and the full effects of isolation have not yet been measured. A new generation emerges with a history many of us never knew. We must be attentive and may need to respond in new ways, extending support to those in critical need, educating all who will stop to listen, stepping up in awkward or unfamiliar space to advocate for the LGBTQ+ community -- changing lives as we do.

We may feel that the world leaves us a bit behind when the Pride flags come down and Pride promotions run their course. Let our actions and our blatant commitment to support, educate and advocate remind everyone we are still here – still swelling with pride! As the world opens back up and people begin to hug those they love, let's figure out how we can widen that embrace.

With sincere thanks for all you do on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community and their friends, families and allies,

*Don Donahue*

President,  
PFLAG Council of Northern Illinois



# From PFLAG National

## FEDERAL

**[Congress votes to make Pulse nightclub a national memorial.](#)** Three days before the fifth anniversary of the [attack on Pulse nightclub in Orlando](#), Florida, the U.S. Senate unanimously passed legislation designating the site of the LGBTQ+ club a national memorial.

**[Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona says transgender girls have a "right to compete."](#)**

Secretary Cardona suggested that the Biden Administration will step in to protect those students' civil rights, as multiple states enact legislation banning transgender student athletes from competing in girls' and women's sports.

**[Department of Education declares that transgender students are protected under Title IX.](#)**

Secretary of Education Miguel A. Cardona said in an interview, "Students cannot be discriminated against because of their sexual orientation or their gender identity." The Education department used the Supreme Court's ruling last year in [Bostock v Clayton County](#) as the basis for its Title IX decision.

**[VA to offer gender-affirming surgery to veterans for the first time.](#)**

VA Secretary Dennis McDonough said the VA rule change allows "transgender vets to go through the full gender confirmation process with VA by their side." The National Center for Transgender Equality (NCTE) estimates there are more than 134,000 transgender veterans.

## STATES

**Wisconsin - [Milwaukee opens new LGBT center.](#)** The center will offer counseling, adult and youth programming, alcohol and other drugs programming and services, and a name-change clinic.

## COURT

**[SCOTUS rules that a Catholic social services agency in Philadelphia can refuse to place foster children with same-sex couples.](#)** The unanimous ruling was decided on very narrow grounds, holding that Philadelphia's treatment of Catholic Social Services (CSS) violated the agency's constitutional rights because the City's foster care contract had a mechanism for allowing individualized exceptions to its non-discrimination policy that it did not grant to CSS. The court did not recognize a general constitutional right to discriminate based on religious beliefs. Governments may continue to enforce non-discrimination requirements so long as they do so consistently and uniformly. You can read PFLAG National Executive Director Brian Bond's [statement on the ruling here.](#)

**[DOJ joins lawsuit against Arkansas and West Virginia over anti-trans legislation.](#)** The DOJ said the athlete bans in both states and Arkansas' healthcare ban, which passed in this year's legislative session, violate the Equal Protection Clause of the 14th Amendment and Title IX, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in any education program or activity receiving federal funds.

**["Sesame Street" features a family with two dads married to each other for the first time.](#)** The show aired an episode the week of June 14th called "Family Day" that features a married gay couple of two dads with their daughter. A dad named Frank, played by Alex Weisman, and a dad named Dave, played by Chris Costa, along with their daughter Mia, played by Olivia Perez, join a party for Big Bird in the episode.

**These articles are excerpted from *Policy Matters*, an email publication of PFLAG National. Become a PFLAG member to receive the full newsletter: <https://pflagil.org/membership-and-donation/>**



## ***News from PFLAG Hinsdale***

**by Marcia Prichason**

PFLAG Hinsdale met virtually on Sunday, June 5th and welcomed our speaker, Ghirlandi Guidetti, a staff lawyer with the Illinois Chapter of the ACLU. Mr. Guidetti presented a history of Supreme Court decisions which have had a direct impact on LGBTQA+ rights. He also reviewed the 70-plus Executive Orders signed by the previous administration that are harmful to LGBTQ+ individuals and related that the Biden-Harris administration has already signed new Executive Orders to reverse many of those and has directed federal agencies to review their rules – many of which were changed during the Trump-Pence years to promote discriminatory practices – to now include inclusive language and practices.

While these measures are positive steps in reversing the past four years (and, additionally, a lengthy history in this country) of discriminatory practices, the ACLU continues to be concerned with not only defending 1st Amendment rights (as it has for the last almost 100 years), but with also acting proactively regarding LGBTQ+ rights.

Mr. Guidetti related the importance of stronger language being used in federal legislation. For example, Title IX's language uses the term "sex" which was determined by the Supreme Court to include sexual orientation and gender identity. However, he stressed that to overcome anti-LGBTQ+ legislation at the state level, both laws that have been enacted or are in the process of being enacted, they must be challenged on a Constitutional basis and overturned or prevented and that new pro-LGBTQ+ federal legislation must be created to include specific, inclusive language. He posited that the "Equality Act" would eliminate any ambiguity regarding equality in this country and would protect women and minorities in addition to LGBTQ+ individuals.

While the "Equality" Act may not pass in the

immediate future (given the current make-up of the Senate), Mr. Guidetti expressed optimism in the future for LGBTQ+ rights. His presentation and his optimistic outlook gave hope for the future of equal protection under the law in this country.

**Hinsdale PFLAG is planning to meet in person next month on Sunday, July 11th** (a one-time change from its usual 1st Sunday of the Month) from 2-4PM at Wilder Park in Elmhurst. We will gather on the east side of the Wilder Mansion (north of the Wilder Park Conservatory). Bring your lawn chairs, a snack, and a beverage and enjoy the fresh air and good conversation amongst allies!

## ***News from PFLAG Deerfield***

**by Sue Ginsburg**

It was a wonderful celebration this year, even if we couldn't be together for cake and coffee. This was the 22nd year that Cynthia Drey awarded scholarships to deserving LGBTQ students, in loving memory of her son, Jean-Paul Ohadi. For the past 22 years, Cynthia has fully funded this part of the Foundation she started to honor her son. This year we met four amazing students from the Chicago area and were honored that their moms joined us as well. We congratulate Arin Cuilla, Elian Casey, George Whitney and Brian Behrens. Hopefully, next year, we can all meet in person and share some cake and conversation. **We want to thank Cynthia Drey again for her unwavering support of PFLAG Deerfield and her commitment to the LGBTQ students in our area, offering them financial assistance for their continued education.** We have been honored to assist her in this goal for the past 22 years!

After the festivities, our entire group stayed together for support and conversation. We are so fortunate to have some incredible "old timers" who can share their lived experiences with those who have just been introduced to PFLAG. We welcome all; we are still meeting on Zoom and it seems to be working well for us.



## **News from PFLAG Ottawa**

by Ken Brown

Greetings from PFLAG Ottawa. In May, we continued meeting on Zoom. We had two special guest speakers, Mike and Joe. As “seniors,” and as a same-sex couple, Mike and Joe shared their personal journey with us. They were one of the first same-sex couples to be married in LaSalle County. They told us about how they met in the 1970’s at a florist shop owned by Joe in Oak Park. After Joe hired Mike to work at the store, they continued to work together until retirement. After retiring, they moved from the suburbs to Marseilles in LaSalle County. They spoke about their coming out experiences, their journey through and their loss of friends at the height of the HIV/AIDS crisis, and the changes for LGBTQ folks they have experienced through the years. Our group enjoyed learning about Joe and Mike’s challenges and joys as they grew together through the years. We are grateful that they were willing to share with us.

**In June, we have decided to meet in person! We conducted a survey of our participants, and we found out that almost all are vaccinated and would feel comfortable meeting outdoors.**

We plan to gather on the lawn outside of Open Table Church (where our meeting space is inside in normal times). The plan is to socialize and have some fun playing trivia games and the like. We will consider meeting inside in the fall, once the church begins to open up a bit.

As always, we at PFLAG Ottawa hope you all are staying safe and healthy, and that you are appreciating life as we hopefully move closer to the end of this pandemic.

## **News from PFLAG**

### **Grayslake / Round Lake**

by Nicole Farley, she/her/hers

*most often writing from the lands once stewarded by the Kiiikaapoi (KEE-kah-poy), Peoria (pea-OR-ee-ah), Bodéwadmi (BO-dee-WAD-me), Myaamia (me-YAH-me-ah), and Očhéthi Šakówiŋ (oh-CHEY-tee shah-KOH-ween) Peoples*

The PFLAG Grayslake / Round Lake chapter is still feeling the glow of the first ever Pride parade for the area, which we held on Sunday, June 20, 2021. The Board, with the help of thirty tremendous volunteers, sent off forty decorated vehicles to bring Pride through the streets of Grayslake, Hainesville, Round Lake, and Round Lake Park.

There is truly no way this parade could have gone beyond our big dreams and plans into an actual community-creating and -embracing event without the help of our volunteers and participants, including many homes and businesses around the route that got into the spirit of decorating, as well as 129 Center Cut in Grayslake who hosted an informal after-party arranged by one of our chapter members. After a brief rest, we’ll begin again to plan for Sunday, June 12, 2022, the official date of the SECOND Pride parade. Our dreams and plans will be even bigger, with hopes for a “traditional” parade, with all the bells and whistles.

For a little while longer, we will revel in the remaining days of Pride month with the assurance that together we let people know they are welcome as their full selves in the communities we serve.

**“PFLAG Grayslake / Round Lake chapter is still feeling the glow of the first ever Pride parade for the area”**

**see photos on the following pages**





# PFLAG Grayslake / Round Lake Pride Drive 2021

Photos from: Focus on Grayslake by Zshots Photography

Find more on Facebook: [Focus on Grayslake](#)









## News from PFLAG Oak Park

by Nancy Johnson

We got some very good news this week! The Oak Park Farmers Market is allowing bake sales by non-profits in Oak Park for the remainder of the Market season. AND we get to have a bake sale on September 4th this summer. It feels like the "good old days" are back for us.

On June 19 we helped Oak Park Lesbian and Gay Association + (OPALGA+) with donut making at the Farmers Market. There were four of us helping with the cleanup. I was operating the dishwasher to clean the trays and bins in preparing and selling the donuts. Tim and Mary Anne were also helping with the tray and bin cleanup. Phil was a cashier outside. (See photos on the next page.) They will give us part of the profits from the donut sales.

We are still ZOOMing at our June meeting.

**We hope to go live soon!**

Our special guest speaker at our June 27<sup>th</sup> meeting was Kim Oclon!

Kim Oclon's debut young adult novel, *MAN UP*, was released in April 2020. It centers around a talented baseball player, his (secret) boyfriend, and the

acceptance and support everyone searches for and needs. Join Kim as she discusses starting a GSA at the high school where she worked, what inspired her to write *MAN UP*, and learn about the novels featuring LGBTQ characters she read while writing. Kim will also share some recently published titles, from pictured books to novels, featuring a diverse cast of characters.

### Book Recommendations by Kim:

- *Openly Straight* by Bill Konigsberg
- *More Happy Than Not* by Adam Silvera
- *Two Boys Kissing* by David Levithan
- *Pulp* by Robin Talley
- *All Out: The No-Longer-Secret Stories of Queer Teens Throughout the Ages* by Sandra Mitchell

### Picture Books:

- *Prince & Knight* by Daniel Haack
- *My Maddy* by Gayle E. Pitman
- *We Belong Together* (a book about adoption) by Todd Parr
- *Julian is a Mermaid* by Jessica Love
- *Pink is for Boys* by Robb Pearlman







PFLAG Oak Park helped Oak Park Lesbian and Gay Association + (OPALGA+) with donut making at the Farmers Market







*PFLAG Oak Park bake sale at the Farmers Market*

## ***News from PFLAG DuPage***

**by Margaret Donahue**

PFLAG DuPage meets the third Sunday of the month no matter what! That means we always have a small group at least for Father's Day. With the world opening, many folks are catching up on family connections on these summer weekends. Still we had nine zoom boxes open and of the 13 participants 3 people were new to our group.

One of the highlights of this month was when Kristin Shulman was able to represent our group at the DuPage County Board meeting to receive the Pride Proclamation for the month of June. Also, during this

month our group was invited to observe a meeting of Naper Pride as they distributed Pride Packs containing a Progressive version of the Pride Flag and nice gift discounts to supportive area businesses. **Naper Pride will sponsor a Pride Fest September 11 and 12 at Naper Settlement.** Please check PFLAG DuPage of Wheaton on Facebook for the event flyer.

When June is over, our advocacy and visibility needs to continue. Please consider renewing or joining PFLAG as an official member. Membership is never required for attendance, but if you would like to try it out there are some scholarship memberships through the council.





## **News from PTI Chicago**

by Christine Peters, she/her

### **EVERY MONTH IS PRIDE MONTH**

PTI Chicago welcomed 20 participants during our Pride Month meeting on Thursday, 6/10/2021, with some of us wearing favorite rainbow swag and LGBTQ+ message t-shirts. Parents and guardians of children from 11 to 35 years of age shared their stories, information, and support within our group.

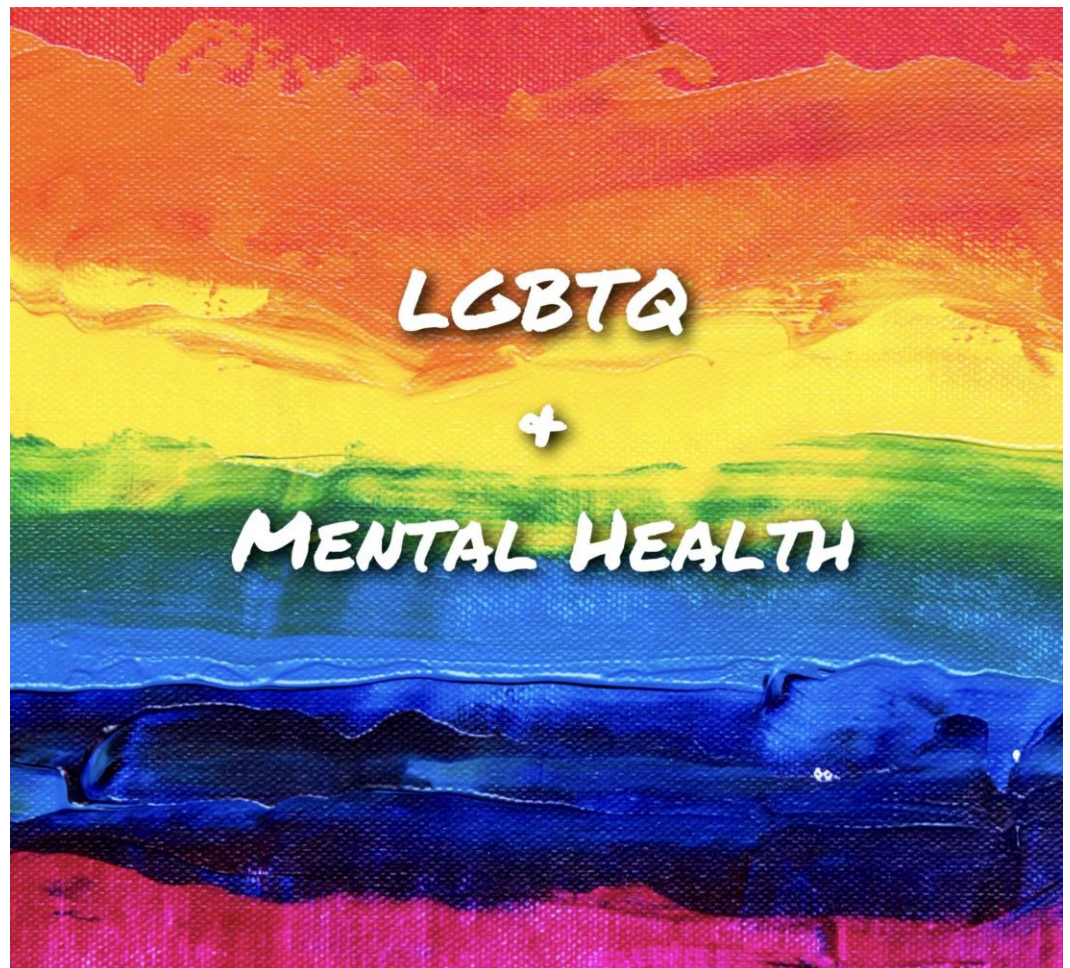
One area of concern parents have been struggling with is youth who, in addition to navigating their gender journeys, are also experiencing mental health crises, including depression, anxiety, self-harm, eating disorders, insomnia, and suicidal ideation, any of which have led to hospitalizations and outpatient programs. There are overlapping issues that impact trans, non-binary, and gender queer individuals, such as dysphoria, physical health conditions, and neurodiversity. Parents are asking for help accessing services and making decisions for and with adolescents and young adults who are withdrawn or reject offered assistance.

This site has much to offer:

<https://www.nami.org/Your-Journey/Identity-and-Cultural-Dimensions/LGBTQ>

**PTI Chicago hopes to have a specialist in mental health as our guest in July** to offer guidance to those in similar situations. Our August plan is to have the full time for sharing, and then we'll hold another book discussion in September. Please join us!

**We will continue to meet via Zoom on Thursday, July 8, 2021 from 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.** Members will receive an e-mail the weekend before the meeting with the Zoom link and password to enter the meeting. Parent/s, guardians, or family members of transgender, non-binary or gender non-conforming individuals who would like to join us for the first time should e-mail PTI Chicago President Bill Guilfoile at [bill.guilfoile@gmail.com](mailto:bill.guilfoile@gmail.com)



**There are overlapping issues that impact trans, non-binary, and gender queer individuals, such as dysphoria, physical health conditions, and neurodiversity**



## ***News from PFLAG McHenry***

**by Toni Weaver**

Pride month saw PFLAG McHenry welcoming Jeannie Gainsburg, author of *The Savvy Ally*, as the featured speaker. Her book is incredibly helpful as is the website [www.savvyallyaction.com](http://www.savvyallyaction.com). This is one not to miss!

Raina Hodgson and I presented to the LGBTQ+ Employee Resource Group at ABBVIE. I focused on the history of PFLAG, and Raina spoke about PTI and parenting both a gay son and a transgender son.

Drawing upon the expertise of the mental health professionals in our chapter (Carol Fetzner, Karen Graham, Bree Sorensen, and Kai Korpak), we spoke with the staff of Turning Point, an organization that works with victims of domestic violence and intimate partner abuse. They prepared a number of questions which gave a focus to our presentation. How heartening to see service organizations trying their best to address the specific needs of the LGBTQ+ community!

Happy Pride!

## ***A Brief History of PFLAG McHenry***

**by Toni Weaver**

On June 5, 2001 Linda P. Nottoli, a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church in Woodstock, filed a letter of commitment with PFLAG National in order to establish an official PFLAG chapter: PFLAG – McHenry County Chapter. Other than Linda being listed as president, no other officers were named, and the paperwork listed five people as initial members. The Reverend Dan Larsen who was not listed as a member was said to have been instrumental in proposing that church members form this chapter of PFLAG in order to address a need he saw in the church.

By 2002, Linda was no longer involved, and one of the other founding members, Joan Coleman, took over leadership. She grew the chapter and kept it a strong and

vibrant presence in the church and in the community. Several years later Joan turned over the reins of leadership to Toni Weaver who joined the chapter in the Fall of 2002.

PFLAG – McHenry County Chapter continued to meet at the Woodstock UUC until the congregation moved into new quarters in McHenry, the site of the former Haystacks Manor Restaurant. For a period of time the chapter remained in Woodstock, meeting at the Unity Church. The church welcomed PFLAG with open arms. However, the building was not conducive for multiple simultaneous meetings, so the decision was made to move from Woodstock to McHenry to once again join with the Unitarian Universalist Congregation which had taken on a new name: Tree of Life UUC. While not under the official auspices of T.O.L., PFLAG shares a close affinity with the church, an open and welcoming congregation to members of the LGBTQ+ community.

In 2006 Chicago hosted the Gay Games, an every-four-year Olympic-style event bringing together participants from all over the world. The Rowing Club of Crystal Lake invited the Gay Games organizers to consider holding the rowing events on Crystal Lake. They accepted the offer, one which stirred up controversy in the communities involved. A total of four meetings were held to consider the proposal, two in Crystal Lake and two in Lakewood, the two communities that govern the lake. There was no shortage of acrimonious debate, yet in the end, the city councils of both Crystal Lake and Lakewood approved the request, and the rowing events were held! The morning of the competition saw rainbow flags flying from almost every pier surrounding the lake. The protestors were few in number, cordoned off from the participants and spectators. The following year, PFLAG McHenry County marched for the first time in Crystal Lake's Independence Day Parade and continued every year since until the Covid pandemic struck.

In 2012, a small group of parents who have transgender, gender nonconforming, or non-binary children met together at the Weaver home with Arlene Collins, matriarch of Chicago Parents of Transgender Individuals (PTI) discussing with the group ways to organize their own PTI, and thus PTI McHenry was born. They continue to meet separately from PFLAG McHenry while sharing the vision of a world where all our children, where all people regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation, or gender identity are treated with respect, dignity, and equality. Parents who have transgender children currently represent the fastest growing demographic in PFLAG.

The ultimate goal is to work ourselves out of a job because our children will have been accepted and loved for who they are.





## News from PTI McHenry

by Andrew Zanevsky

Our role as advocates for the rights of LGBTQ+ people extends beyond our immediate PFLAG chapter. Outside of chapter meetings, we all have opportunities to speak to our social circle, colleagues, or the media about LGBTQ+ rights, support, and allyship. I had two such opportunities in June.

The first was an interview to the *Archevell Foundation*, a non-profit created by The Duke and Duchess of Sussex to uplift and unite communities. See Story #4, COMPASSION STARTS AT HOME here: <https://archewell.com/story/celebrating-pride/>

The second was a panel discussion organized by the Bank of America during the Pride Month. As one of the panelists, I shared my family story and answered questions by the online audience from across the country.

Speak up, share, educate, be an ally!

All parents and other family members of transgender, non-binary, and gender diverse individuals are welcome to join our Zoom meetings on the **4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every month, at 7-9 pm**. The next meeting date is July 28<sup>th</sup>. If you are *not* on the PTI McHenry mailing list, please email [opendoors@pflagillinois.org](mailto:opendoors@pflagillinois.org) to receive a meeting link and password several days before each meeting.

[McHenry Township Clerk's first openly transgender elected official shares coming out story, at Fox 32 Chicago:](#)



## A Capitol Fourth 2021

Sunday, July 4, 7:00 and 8:30 pm



Vanessa Williams hosts America's Independence Day celebration featuring performances by top stars across many genres, capped off with a spectacular fireworks display over Washington, DC. Performers include Gladys Knight, Jimmy Buffett, Train, Pentatonix, Jennifer Nettles, and Laura Osnes. Renée Fleming sings our national anthem, accompanied by the National Symphony Orchestra.

<https://video.wttw.com/video/2021-capitol-fourth-preview/>

## All Out Photo Award



1,800 photos were submitted by more than 380 photographers from over 60 countries – photos from around the world that capture both the beauty, resilience and vibrancy, but also the pain, resistance and isolation of so many different LGBTQ+ communities.

[Click here to see the winners](#) of the All Out Photo Award 2021.



# Buffalo Grove Pride Drive 2021

Photos by Annette Leibovitz  
on the cover, this page, and the next one

The 2nd Buffalo Grove Pride Drive was a rainbow blast and boy was the weather perfect! Sunny skies were the perfect backdrop for all of the magical balloons, characters and families – thousands visited the 105 stops on the route to enjoy music, Drag Entertainment, face painting, art and so much more on June 6th from 12-3 all over Buffalo Grove and in a few stops in Lincolnshire. BG Pride and the Pinta Pride Project look forward to bringing you a traditional pride parade again on June 5, 2022.

*Carolyn Pinta, she/her/hers*

The Pinta Pride Project Inc. [www.pintaprideproject.com](http://www.pintaprideproject.com) [Facebook: BG Pride](#) [Instagram: bg\\_pride](#)









Gender Spectrum is building on last year's success! With more than 850 people registered for the first ever online event, 2021 is sure to bring even more knowledge, networking and nourishment! We hope you can join this Symposium!

[MEET THE PRESENTERS](#)

[WORKSHOP SCHEDULE](#)

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Join us for the 2nd annual virtual  
**Professionals' Symposium**  
July 15-16

## ***MIT Open Course Ware***

Check out some great **FREE** LGBTQ+ resources on MIT OpenCourseWare (OCW)!

[New Culture of Gender: Queer France:](#)



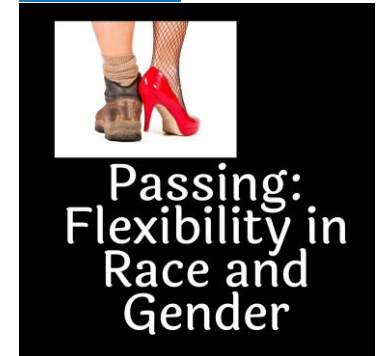
[Queer Cinema & Visual Culture:](#)



[Gender, Sexuality, & Society:](#)



[Passing: Flexibility in Race and Gender:](#)





# THEATER

**PrideArts 2021-22 Season to explore**

**“The Search for Identity Among Queer Communities”**

Season will open in August with American premiere of a musical from Australia



An Australian musical, a comedy-drama from the writer whose play was adapted as the hit movie JUDY, an Uptown holiday celebration, a new Ruth Bader Ginsberg bio, and a fifth play to be announced, will comprise PrideArts’ first season under newly appointed Artistic Director Jay España. Carrying the theme “The Search for Identity Among Queer Communities,” the season will explore the various ways in which queer people define themselves, through the work of writers hailing from England, Australia, and the US. All performances will be held in the **Broadway of the Pride Arts Center at 4139 N. Broadway.**

The season opener will be the American premiere of THE THINGS I NEVER COULD TELL STEVEN by Australian writer Jye Bryant. Bryant’s four-character musical introduces us to the mother, father, wife, and ex-boyfriend of a man named Steven. Each of them has a different idea of what they want from Steven and who they think he is. Bryant’s original score of 19 songs is performed revue-style, and includes numbers that are witty, sometimes earthy and edgy, and frequently touching. España will direct the cast of four. Robert Ollis, whose 2019 music direction of the company’s A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE earned him his eighth Jeff Award nomination, will be Music Director. THE THINGS I NEVER COULD TELL STEVEN will play from August 19 – September 19.





The Jed Foundation

## GET HELP NOW

Text "START" to 741-741  
or call 1-800-273-TALK (8255)

### Proud and Thriving

Supporting the Mental  
Health of LGBTQ+ High  
School, College, and  
University Students



### **JED's Mental Health Resource Center for Young Adult Emotional Health and Well-being**

<https://www.jedfoundation.org/mental-health-resource-center/>

The Jed Foundation's Mental Health Resource Center provides essential information about common emotional health issues and shows teens and young adults how they can support one another, overcome challenges and make a successful transition to adulthood.

Young adulthood can be a time of significant change and intense challenges. We see the effects every day: a death from binge drinking, an overdose, a suicide. These tragedies are complex and their warning signs often subtle. With the right support and safety nets, the high school and college years can be safer and more manageable.





# PFLAG Northern Illinois Chapters

**PFLAG McHenry** Meetings held 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday – 7 pm  
Tree of Life Unitarian Church  
5603 W Bull Valley Rd  
McHenry 60050  
pflagmchenry@pflagillinois.org

**Parents of Transgender (McHenry)** Meetings are held the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday – 7 p.m.  
Tree of Life Unitarian Church  
5603 W Bull Valley Rd, McHenry 60050  
pflagptimchenry@pflagillinois.org

**PFLAG Grayslake/Round Lake** Meetings held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday – 6:30 p.m.  
Star Homes  
783 Barron Blvd.  
Grayslake, IL 60030  
pflaggrayslake@pflagillinois.org

**PFLAG Rockford** Meetings are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday – 6 p.m.  
Rockford Public Library's Montague Branch  
1238 S Winnebago St  
Rockford, IL 61102  
pflagrockford@pflagillinois.org

**PFLAG Deerfield** Meetings held 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday – 7:15 pm  
Congregation BJBE  
1201 Lake Cook Rd, Deerfield 60015  
pflagdeerfield@pflagillinois.org

**PFLAG DuPage** Meetings held 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – 2 pm  
St Paul Lutheran Church  
515 S Wheaton Ave, Wheaton 60187  
pflagdupage@pflagillinois.org

**PFLAG Aurora/Fox Valley** Meetings held 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – 2 pm  
New England Congregational Church  
406 W Galena Blvd, Aurora 60506  
pflagaurorafoxvalley@pflagillinois.com

**PFLAG Bolingbrook** Meetings held 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – 2 pm  
305 E. Boughton Road, Bolingbrook, IL 60440  
pflagbolingbrook@pflagillinois.org

**PFLAG Homer Glen / Lockport** Meetings held Last Tuesday, 6:30–8 pm  
Cross of Glory  
14719 W. 163<sup>rd</sup>, Homer Glen, IL  
pflaghgl@pflagillinois.org

**PFLAG Hinsdale** Meetings held 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday – 2 pm  
Unitarian Church Hinsdale  
11 W Maple, Hinsdale 60521  
pflaghinsdale@pflagillinois.org

**PFLAG Tinley Park** Meetings held 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday – 2-4 pm  
Zion Lutheran Church  
17100 69<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Tinley Park, IL 60477  
pflagtinleypark@pflagillinois.org

**PFLAG Ottawa** Meetings held 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday - 2:30 pm  
Open Table United Church of Christ  
910 Columbus St., Ottawa, IL 61350  
pflagottawa@pflagillinois.org

**PFLAG Will, Kankakee, Iroquois**  
Contact Rev. Barbara Lohrbach  
revlohnbach@gmail.com  
plagkankakee@pflagillinois.org

**Parents of Transgender (North Shore)** Meetings are held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – 6 p.m.  
Winnetka Presbyterian Church  
1255 Willow Rd, Winnetka, IL  
pflagptnorthshore@pflagillinois.org

**Parents of Transgender (Chicago)** Meetings are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday – 7 pm  
Center on Halsted  
3656 N Halsted, Chicago 60613  
pflagptchicago@pflagillinois.org

**PFLAG Metro Chicago** Meetings held 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – 2 pm  
Center on Halsted (Senior Room)  
3656 N Halsted, Chicago 60613  
pflagchicagometro@pflagillinois.org

**PFLAG Oak Park** Meetings held 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday – 3 pm  
First United Church  
848 Lake St, Oak Park 60304  
pflagoakpark@pflagillinois.org

**PFLAG Oak Lawn** Meetings held 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday – 2 p.m.  
Pilgrim Faith UCC  
9411 S 51<sup>st</sup> Ave  
Oak Lawn, IL 60453  
pflagoaklawn@pflagillinois.org

**meetings suspended**

**meeting in-person outside**

- online meetings

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