



**Brad Leslie, *Green Space***  
oil on canvas, 10" x 10"  
See more artworks on pages 13-18

August 2022 | PFLAG Council of Northern Illinois Newsletter

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# Monthly Open Doors

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# PFLAG is an action verb: our call to advocacy!

Our role in PFLAG is a dynamic one. We are called to Support, to Educate and to Advocate in a world that requires us with regularity to develop new approaches to face new challenges. PFLAG's mission mandates that we be watchful of the larger world beyond our core focus and cast our sights well into the future before us. It demands that we stay alert, informed, and involved, to know the influences and factors that jeopardize, or could likely jeopardize, the LGBTQ+ community whose well-being is at the heart of that mission. We are called to know well the organizations and leadership bodies that make a difference in our world and understand how we can most effectively educate them to value that community and act to fully affirm it. That is certainly top of mind during this election year and amidst the consideration of legislative actions across our country that could stifle opportunities for LGBTQ+ people and place precious rights in peril.

PFLAG's website guidance on our Advocacy mission opens with the words "No voice is more powerful or persuasive than that of a PFLAG member or supporter." We know this to be true, for it is a voice that is loud and proud, confident, and determined, resonant with the depth of experience and carrying a message of love and respect that can accomplish great things.

We must protect this voice and our reputation as we advocate for the LGBTQ+ community, especially now. And thus, it is important for us to understand how to be effective activists for change in our communities, our school systems, our states, our country while respecting our core mission and PFLAG's 501c3 non-profit status.

I had the opportunity to speak with Patrick Cochran, PFLAG's Advocacy and Policy Engagement Senior Coordinator, about this very issue. He provided some helpful practical guidance:

- Advocate for things that represent our organizations core values, for respect and protections we know are due the LGBTQ+ community.
- Be informed as to the position of candidates for political or board offices, locally, state-wide and nationally. Thank and acknowledge those that advance our values, though we cannot endorse them. Make our focus the issues, not the candidate, and we must be careful not to make comparison to the opposing candidate's position.
- Stay informed of the efforts and actions of PFLAG's national team and respect the depth of their research and consideration ... and align with them. We can safely advocate for those things that PFLAG has endorsed.



## *Continued*

Patrick cites several resources on the [pflag.org](http://pflag.org) website that provide more specific guidance on this issue:

- Under the Advocacy tab – Tools and Resources/Introduction to Advocacy:
  - 501C3 guidelines
  - Advocacy during election season
- Under PFLAG Academy On-line offerings:
  - PFLAG Votes 2022 – Midterms Matter
  - Advocacy in an election year for PFLAG leaders: Your voice can change the world

Patrick was quick to offer that, in spite of their major involvement with both national state legislative efforts, PFLAG's greatest strength is in its potential for local impact, given its broad distribution of chapters across the country.

I asked, in his estimation, how we as PFLAG members can be the most effective advocates. Through what single effort are we likely to have the greatest impact? Without hesitation, Patrick quickly responded that this was at school board and county board meetings. Interactions with school board members and county commissioners in and out of such forums, make a huge and measurable impact. This is where we currently have one of the greatest opportunities to have our presence felt and our message heard.

Regardless of where we choose to have an impact, we are the most effective advocates and educators when we educate ourselves. Toward that end, stay involved and stay informed. Just this week, for example ...

Policy Matters, issued 7/22 by Diego Sanchez, PFLAG's Director of Advocacy, Policy and Partnerships helped us to understand and actively promote, with our Senators, the Respect for Marriage Act and the LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act.

Leadership Matters, issued 7/26 by Jamie Curtis, PFLAG's Director of Chapter Engagement, further developed these thoughts and the helped us appreciate the importance of the midterms and of voting, exploring, through an on-line offering, why "voting rights are key to LGBTQ+ equality".

Regular issue of such publications keeps each of us as PFLAG leaders, members and supporters fully prepared to be effective educators and advocates.

Finally, never underestimate the advocate we become, and the impact we make, with the cast of a well-informed vote!

In my mind, PFLAG is an action verb. Am I wrong?

*Don Donahue*

President,  
PFLAG Council of Northern Illinois



**SAVE THE DATE:**

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 8<sup>TH</sup>**

**ONE-DAY CONFERENCE**

**organized by the**

**PFLAG Council of Northern Illinois**

**in collaboration with FashionBar LLC**

**at WATER TOWER PLACE, CHICAGO**

**Join us for a day of learning and  
making connections (details TBA)**

**Volunteers interested in helping to  
organize the event, please contact**

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



# From PFLAG National

## TAKE ACTION

[Tell your Senators TODAY to vote YES on the Respect for Marriage Act.](#) The House passed the [Respect for Marriage Act](#) on July 19th on a bipartisan basis and now it's up to the Senate to act. The Respect for Marriage Act will repeal DOMA and codify into law the right to same-sex and interracial marriage, rights which could become under threat following the Supreme Court's reversal of *Roe v. Wade*.

And while you're on the phone, [tell your Senators to pass the LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act and to defend reproductive rights.](#) The [LGBTQI+ Data Inclusion Act](#) requires federal agencies that use surveys to collect voluntary, self-disclosed information including sexual orientation and gender identity. This is crucial to properly determine the LGBTQI+ community's needs and how the Federal government could address those needs.

## FEDERAL

[“Trans Bill of Rights” introduced in House by Rep. Pramila Jayapal.](#) The bill to amend the Civil Rights Act of 1964 would explicitly protect gender identity and sex characteristics, expand access to gender-affirming healthcare, and ban so-called conversion therapy. PFLAG National is one of 30 national organizations endorsing this bill.

[Suicide prevention hotline is now 988.](#) People experiencing mental health emergencies can now call or text 988 to reach the 988 Suicide and Crisis Helpline, effective July 9<sup>th</sup>. The hope is that the three-digit number will be easier to remember and dial in a crisis situation than the previous ten-digit number.

## COURT

After the *Dobbs* decision, the Supreme Court decision overturning *Roe v. Wade*, [Justice Clarence Thomas wrote in a concurring opinion that the court should reconsider \*Obergefell v. Hodges\* and \*Lawrence v. Texas\*,](#) the cases that established the rights of same-sex couples to marry and that ruled anti-sodomy laws unconstitutional, respectively.

[Federal judge rules transgender people can change gender markers without surgery.](#) The ruling resulted from a Lambda Legal suit that claimed the law requiring surgery to change gender markers was discriminatory.

## STATE

[Anti-LGBTQ+ laws go into effect in several states.](#)

Laws in Alabama, Florida, Indiana, South Dakota, Tennessee, and Utah went into effect on July 1<sup>st</sup>. They include anti-transgender bathroom and sports laws, curriculum censorship laws, and laws preventing workplace training that includes gender identity or discussions of racism.

[Some states seek to codify same-sex marriage in wake of \*Roe v. Wade\* decision.](#) Many state lawmakers are proposing legislation intended to codify same-sex marriage. While marriage remains the law of the land, this would protect same-sex marriage if the Supreme Court overturns *Obergefell v. Hodges* in the future.

## GLOBAL

**Mexico** - [Mass wedding in Mexico City unites hundreds of LGBTQ+ couples.](#)

**Poland** - [Appeals court strikes down “LGBT-free zones”.](#)

**Turkey** - [Turkish LGBTQ+ community faces violence and detainment at Pride.](#)

**Russia** - [Government expands anti-LGBTQ+ “propaganda” law.](#) Activists warn that the bill will fuel discrimination against and harm to the LGBTQ+ community.

[U.N. adopts four resolutions against LGBTQ+ discrimination and violence.](#)

## MEDIA

[Librarians across the country are quitting over anti-LGBTQ+ book bans.](#) The current prevalence of politically motivated book bans focused on LGBTQ+ books has resulted in nationwide threats against librarians. Many librarians have quit after being harassed online, or have been fired for refusing to remove books. PFLAG National is actively fighting book bans through the [#ReadWithLove](#) program.

**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 McHenry

by Cate Becker, photos by Julie Schoen

PFLAG McHenry participated in the Crystal Lake Independence Day Parade on July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

At our July meeting PFLAG McHenry was inspired by a Bat Mitzvah speech of a transgender woman “to find the courage to walk down the road that will lead us to ourselves”.

Thoughtful discussion followed.

We also read out loud Don Donahue’s article encouraging us carry June’s Spirit of Pride through the rest of the year. [[See page 2 of the July issue of Open Doors.](#)]

The group shared stories of Pride Parades and celebrations and how these events motivate us and urge us to action.

We welcomed three new participants; a husband and wife who shared the story of their child’s recent coming out and a Crystal Lake Central H.S. Administrator who is in a graduate program in mental health counseling.

Also glad to see a Mom return for her second meeting.

We adjourned to refreshments and networking.



**“find the courage to walk down the road that will lead us to ourselves”**



## News from PFLAG DuPage

by Bonnie Clemens

### Focusing on Each Other

We dedicated our July 17th chapter meeting to focusing on each other. As usual, our chapter president Kelly Hemmer began the meeting with a slide show of news, upcoming events, and reading recommendations. This month Kelly highlighted the PNIC newsletter Open Doors. We want to make sure that all of our newer members are aware of this wonderful publication! After the slide deck, the rest of the meeting was spent sharing with each other. While we take time to do some of this at each meeting, we had so much more to talk about given the activities of Pride

month. The extra time also allowed us to expand more deeply on personal stories and what is going on in our lives. It is so heartwarming and cathartic to share stories with our PFLAG friends!

One exciting bit of news is that our very own Kristin Shulman was a speaker at the July Outwards Journey Story Telling event! We are looking forward to hearing all about it next month!

### July Out and About Activities

We had another fun filled month in July. Members of PFLAG DuPage participated in the Wheaton Fourth of July Parade and in the Morton Arboretum's Family Pride Night.

### Wheaton Fourth of July Parade



## News from PTI Chicago

by Francey Oscherwitz (she/her)

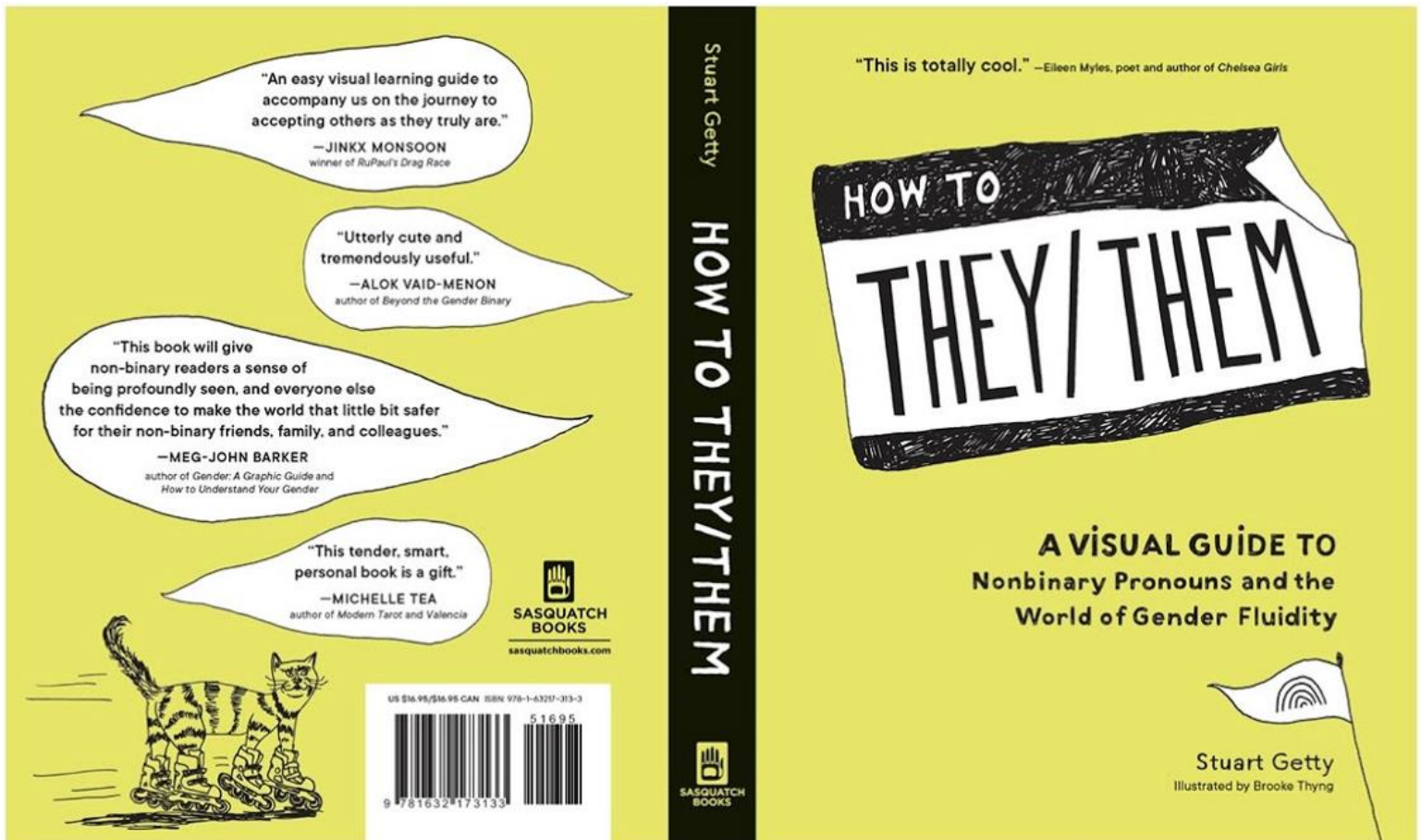
Our July Zoom meeting began with joyful recaps of Chicago Pride Parade participants, who were delighted to have finally met their online friends in person—often for the first time—after months of intimate cyber-sharing. We then introduced our August Book Club selection, *How to They/Them*, written by Stuart Getty, a genderqueer author and filmmaker, with illustrations by Brooke Thyng. This little hardcover is a smart, sweet, entertaining guide to the concept of the singular they, as well as a surprising history of non-binary gender identities.

As we made the circuit of introductions, we warmly welcomed four new families, with children ranging in age from 5 to 30 with nearly 20 participants. We jumpstarted our group conversation by viewing a 16 minute “Ted Talk” by Adam Grant, who challenges the audience to periodically ask ourselves whether the “truths” we live by enable or inhibit our ability to “evolve” and open ourselves to new possibilities.

[https://www.ted.com/talks/adam\\_grant\\_what\\_frogs\\_in\\_hot\\_water\\_can\\_teach\\_us\\_about\\_thinking\\_again?language=en](https://www.ted.com/talks/adam_grant_what_frogs_in_hot_water_can_teach_us_about_thinking_again?language=en)

PTI members reacted to the video by sharing the difficulty of comprehending their children’s first declarations and the need to urgently shift paradigms and evolve in order to support our brave kids. Parents of gender diverse children must examine our gendered expectations—what it means to have “a daughter” or “a son”—rooted in family narratives from our own childhoods.

Please join our next meeting! PTI Chicago gathers via Zoom on the second Thursday of each month, so our next meeting is Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022 from 7 pm to 9 pm. (We hope to begin a hybrid of Zoom and face-to-face in the fall.) Participants will receive an email with the link and password to enter the meeting. Parents, 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)





## News from PFLAG Deerfield

by Jodi

Deerfield held another hybrid meeting in July. We welcomed new members and friends, as well as long-time members Zooming in from across the country. Our meeting was one of coming out stories. Sue Ginsburg shared her niece's speech on the morning of her Bat Mitzvah. The speech referenced Moses feeling so heavily burdened by God's request that he be the only one to lead the Jews out of Egypt, and questioning "Why me"? Sue's niece discussed this in the context of how she has felt as she comes out as a trans female. This piece of writing was so thoughtful and sensitive; and this young girl's perspective was remarkable. How generous of her to allow Sue to share it. Sue was hoping it would give an insight into some of the many of thoughts our children may have had as they came out to their parents, whether gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, etc. We, in PFLAG, always talk from the parents' perspective. This gave a glimpse into our children's perspectives.

Our speaker was Trinity Springer. Trinity is a dynamic college junior at Valparaiso University in Indiana.

Trinity shared her coming out journey; described student and sorority life; and offered her perspective on the changing demographics of young people and her generation. Trinity attends college on a liberal campus in a conservative town and state. The student body divides itself into various "like minded groups". She is often afraid to go into town. But her sorority and the college are committed to diversity and inclusivity; and Trinity is supported by family, friends, and allies. Trinity said being out can be "so scary and you can feel so alone", but at some point, "It's enough" and you find your way. Trinity encouraged parents to ask your kids questions and to keep learning. If you make a mistake on the pronouns and/or name, apologize, and correct yourself. It's important.

It was a meeting of coming together and coming out. And it moved me to tears.

## News from PFLAG Hinsdale

by Suellen Cook

The PFLAG Hinsdale chapter met on the lawn of the Unitarian Church of Hinsdale for our July meeting. There was no speaker this month due to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. A new family was welcomed, appetizers were shared, and the beautiful summer day was celebrated with meaningful conversation and colorful cupcakes!

We filled out Commit to Equality postcards to be shared with our State Senators by Equality Illinois. We also planned several fall and winter activities such as completing postcards for Vote.org, decorating a holiday tree at Brookfield Zoo, and creating vibrant PFLAG ornaments for that holiday tree. The chapter agreed it would be helpful to engage with a local organization that is supportive of the LGBTQIA+ community and agreed we'd reach out to Equality Downers Grove (EQDG) to get the process started.

Our August 7<sup>th</sup> meeting will be hybrid at 2 p.m. The speaker will be Reyna Ortiz, the author of the book [\*T Stands for Truth: In Search of the Queen?\*](#) The book is available via Amazon.

## LINKS:

### ARTICLE, RESOURCE, PODCAST

- An NPR story [\*Encore: After nearly 50 years, PFLAG says it still has a long way to go.\*](#)
- [LGBTQ+ CENTER LAKE COUNTY](#) Events, support groups for youth and adults
- Podcast: [\*Traveling Parties: A Queer Chicago Culture of Partying as Resistance\*](#)



## News from PFLAG Ottawa

by Ken Brown, photos by Denise Poloyac

*[Editor: This article was supposed to appear in the July issue of Open Doors, but for technical reasons did not. Enjoy this report from the Pride Month!]*

The big news from PFLAG Ottawa for the month of June is that we participated in the first annual Ottawa Family PRIDE Festival. The Festival was a stupendous success!! It is estimated that about 4,000 people (and many dogs in the Pet Parade) enjoyed the festivities in Washington Square Park and the Jordan Block in downtown Ottawa. The information booths, the food trucks, and the Drag

Queen, PRIDE Choir, and other musical performances were overwhelmed with visitors.

It was a spectacular day of celebration, and it is difficult to put into words how wonderful it was to have the support of the Ottawa community and folks from far and wide. The best I can do is share a few pictures [on this page and next] taken at the Festival by **Denise Poloyac**, a volunteer with Equality Illinois. Thanks to everyone who joined in the fun and supported the event, especially **Dylan Conmy** of Prairie Fox Books!





Send your photos of LGBTQ+ events and creative projects for publication in Open Doors to [opendoors@pflagillinois.org](mailto:opendoors@pflagillinois.org)



by **Toni Weaver, PFLAG McHenry**

As a new school year approaches, we, as members of PFLAG, can be proactive in putting solid, valuable educational materials into the hands of our local school professionals without having to reinvent the wheel. Welcoming Schools, a foundation of HRC (the Human Rights Campaign) has done the work for us.

I was completely unaware of Welcoming Schools until I visited their resource table at one of our PFLAG National conventions. To say that I was impressed by the quality of their resources and the completeness of them would be an understatement.

Please take a moment to visit their website [www.welcomingschools.org](http://www.welcomingschools.org) to examine what they have to offer. You'll be blown away! Here's a bit of their history (which involves PFLAG by the way):

## Welcoming Schools History

In 2004, Greater Boston PFLAG, led by Pam Garramone, called together a group of community members, including an elementary school principal, a social worker, educators, LGBTQ+ parents, safe schools trainers and a social-emotional program consultant, to examine how LGBTQ+ topics affected elementary students.

Simultaneously, in 2005, the Human Rights Campaign, at the time focused primarily on political lobbying, realized that the organization also needed a public education and outreach component to increase understanding of LGBTQ+ people and the importance of LGBTQ+ inclusive policies and practices; this became the HRC Foundation.

Ellen Kahn, while working to build the HRC Foundation's Children, Youth, and Families program, was eager to develop a program to help elementary schools support children with LGBTQ+ parents. Ellen organized a meeting of experts from across the country, including Kathy Pillsbury, who was part of the Boston group leading Welcoming Schools. It quickly became clear that Welcoming Schools would be a perfect addition to the program. In 2006, the volunteers who developed Welcoming Schools transferred ownership from Greater Boston PFLAG and GLSEN Boston to the HRC Foundation.

In 2008, the Welcoming Schools training program was piloted in 12 schools. Every school in the pilot program reported a positive impact on elementary students resulting

from classroom discussions about gender stereotypes and expressions, and the inclusion of conversations and books about LGBTQ+ families. Almost 60% of the educators indicated that their school's climate had improved.

After the pilot, Welcoming Schools grew to include six regional consultants providing professional development training to schools and districts across the U.S. A Seal of Excellence program was started to honor those schools that implemented policies and procedures to create welcoming schools.

In 2010, Welcoming Schools launched a website with free lesson plans, books and resources. The website has given Welcoming Schools the capacity to reach hundreds of thousands of educators and an estimated 8 million students not only in the United States, but in countries around the world.

In 2011, Welcoming Schools produced a short film "What Do You Know? 6 to 12-Year-Olds Talk About LGBTQ+ Topics." 10 years later, this film is still relevant and has had over a quarter of a million views. In 2015, Welcoming Schools produced a second film, "What Can We Do? Bias, Bullying, & Bystanders" to help educators use approaches from the Welcoming Schools program to reduce bias-based bullying behaviors and to build school communities where students and educators increase their capacity to show ally behaviors.

As of 2021, Welcoming Schools has over 150 facilitators who have trained educators in 43 states, DC, Canada, Mexico and Taiwan, reaching over 10.5 million students. The Welcoming Schools program has also formed strategic partnerships with national and state organizations, as well as large districts across the country.

Over the course of the last 15 years, Welcoming Schools has become the most comprehensive, bias-based bullying prevention program in the nation to provide LGBTQ+ and gender inclusive professional development training, lesson plans, booklists and resources specifically designed for Pre K - 12 educators and youth-serving professionals.

The Welcoming Schools program uses an intersectional, anti-racist lens dedicated to actionable policies and practices. We uplift school communities with critical tools to embrace family diversity, create LGBTQ+ and gender inclusive schools, prevent bias-based bullying, and support transgender and non-binary students.



# Art by Brad Leslie

**Brad Leslie**, a Chicago-based Fine Artist whose works have recently been exhibited at Center on Halsted, has answered interview questions for Open Doors and shared his art works with our readers (on the cover and following pages).

Anyone interested in Brad's work may contact him directly at [brad@bradleyleslie.com](mailto:brad@bradleyleslie.com), or through the Ramey Fine Art gallery that represents him at [RameyFineArt@rameyart.com](mailto:RameyFineArt@rameyart.com)

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

Instagram: [Bradleyleslieart](https://www.instagram.com/Bradleyleslieart)

FB: [Brad Leslie](https://www.facebook.com/BradLeslie), [Brad Leslie Art](https://www.facebook.com/BradLeslieArt)



## *Interview with the Artist*

**Open Doors:** When did you first start painting and when did you decide to be an artist?

**Brad Leslie:** I remember doing my first painting in second grade as an assignment to create a self-portrait. As a kid, I was pretty introverted, so I always kept myself busy with various art projects.

**OD:** What stimulates your creativity the most and what suppresses it?

**BL:** What stimulates my creativity the most is seeing a painting that I wish I had made, and what suppresses it the most is the drudgery of repetition. That explains why I've always wanted to experiment with different subject matter and take on new challenges.

**OD:** Over the years, you have created works in different artistic styles and genres. Do you revisit your old themes and styles in new works?

**BL:** Although I am restless as an artist and don't like to repeat myself, I have found that I do return to subject matter that evokes the past, or a certain retro feel. I also have found myself returning to non-subjective abstraction and realism. Abstraction allows me a freedom of expression that I find liberating after the intense focus that working in a more realistic style requires.

*Continued →*



↖ *Upper left:* **Indian Shot No. 2**  
oil on canvas, 28" x 22"

← *Lower left:* **Platycodon**  
oil on canvas, 30" x 24"

↑ *Right:* **Octopus Car Wash**  
oil on canvas, 48" x 30"



↑ **War and Peace**, oil on canvas, 48” x 36”

→ **June**, oil on canvas, 36” x 36”

**“I’ve always wanted to experiment with different subject matter and take on new challenges.”**

**OD:** Are new professional opportunities opening up for LGBTQ+ artists? What can allies do to support creative LGBTQ+ people?

**BL:** I think that, as there is a growing interest in hearing the stories of folks in the LGBTQ+ community, the opportunity to tell those stories will grow. Allies can help cultivate those opportunities through showing a continued interest in giving voice to the LGBTQ+ community.

**OD:** Is there a special place in Chicago where you feel most “at home”, besides your actual home?

**BL:** Before the pandemic, my home away from home was Lawrence House and its beautiful lobby/lounge and the Heritage Coffee shop at that location. Also, like many Chicagoans, I’m very partial to the lakefront.

*Continued* →





**Carnival I, 12" x 12"**



**Carnival II, 12" x 12"**



← **To the Moon and Beyond**  
oil on canvas, 40" x 30"

**“Abstraction allows me a freedom of expression that I find liberating after the intense focus that working in a more realistic style requires.”**





← **Vacancy**  
oil on canvas, 36" x 48"

↓ **Hollywood Premiere Hotel**  
oil on canvas, 48" x 36"

**OD:** What, in your opinion, may strengthen human rights in the long term?

**BL:** Education fosters empathy and is crucial in strengthening human rights. I believe that the arts can provide unique opportunities to generate empathy and awareness through storytelling.

**OD:** Are you optimistic about the future?

**BL:** Yes, I'm optimistic about the future, especially when I see younger generations embracing diversity so wholeheartedly.

**OD:** What new projects are on your calendar?

**BL:** I'm currently working on several commissions and plan to complete more work for the gallery that represents me, Ramey Fine Art ([www.rameyart.com](http://www.rameyart.com)).





← **Rancho Super Car Wash**  
oil on canvas, 48” x 48”

↓ **Blue Marlin Motel**  
oil on canvas, 48” x 36”

“the arts can provide unique opportunities to generate empathy and awareness through storytelling”



## Study Comparing Transgender Youth Life Experiences and Access to Care in the United States and the Netherlands

**Participants Needed:** Transgender and Gender Nonbinary Youth and their Parents/Caregivers

### What are the goals of this study?

Children's National Hospital (Washington DC) and VU University Medical Center (Amsterdam, the Netherlands) are studying transgender youth life and care experiences in the United States as compared to the Netherlands (a country in Europe). The aim of this research is to understand which gender-related policies and practices most influence the wellbeing of transgender youth in each country. The study is funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Evidence for Action Program. The United States part of the study is led by Principal Investigator, John Strang, PsyD, Research Director for the Gender Development Program.

### Who can be part of this research study?

Transgender and gender nonbinary youth age 11-16 who live in the United States. (The young people participating from the Netherlands are being recruited with a separate announcement in Dutch).



### What will participants be asked to do?

The study is conducted entirely online and will include three short study sessions over one year. The total participation time across the three sessions is about three hours. The young people will complete questionnaires about their experiences. Parents/caregivers will also complete questionnaires about their child's experiences.

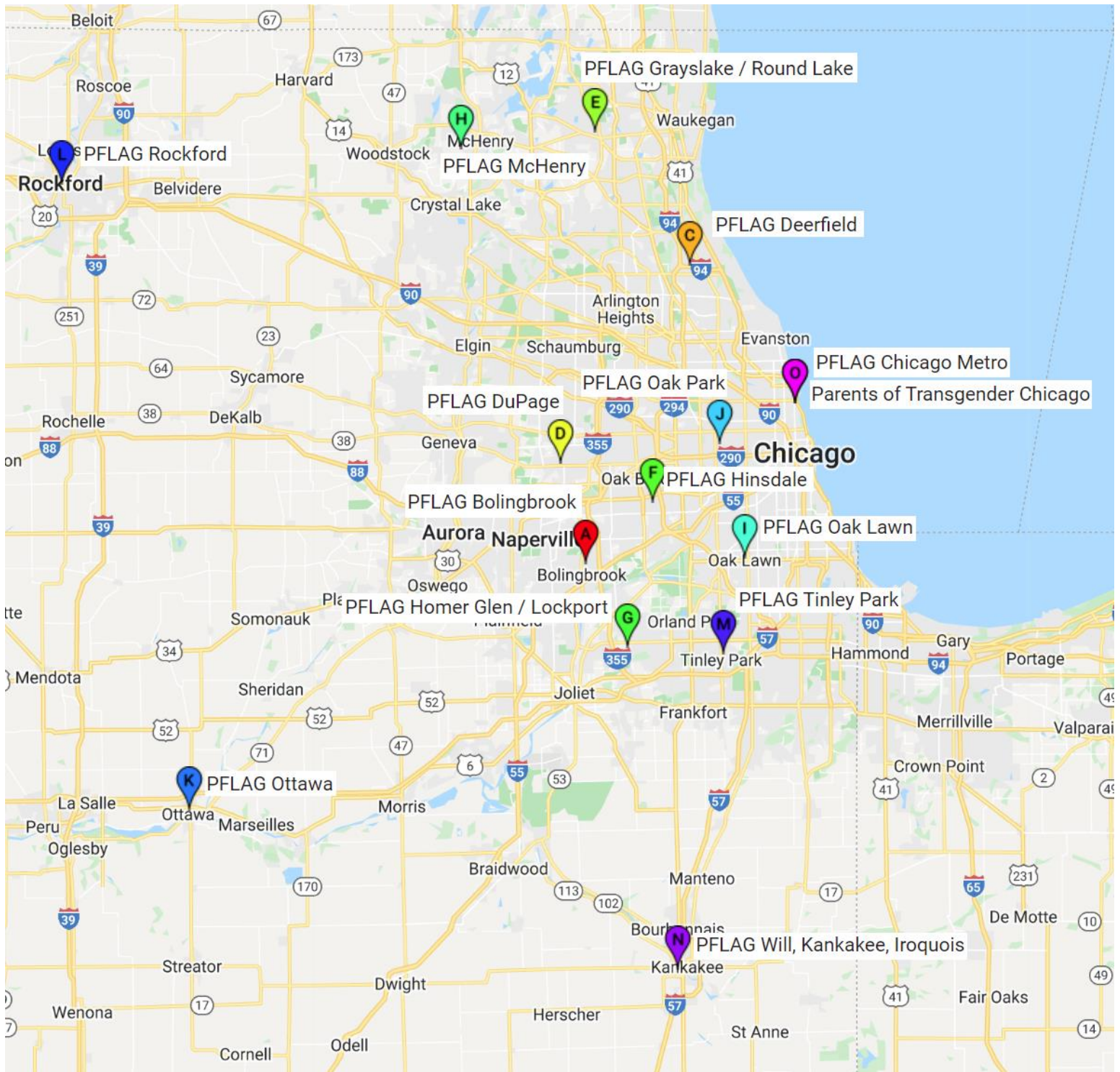
### What are the benefits of taking part in this research study?

Families will receive a total of \$200 for their time. The results of this study may provide information about: (1) which policies and practices in the Netherlands and the United States are most helpful for transgender youth, as well as (2) policies and practices that may be improved.

### I'm interested! How do I participate?

If you have questions or would like to join the research study, please contact:  
Abby Fischbach  
Clinical Research Coordinator  
Phone: 301-765-5573  
Email: [afischbach@childrensnational.org](mailto:afischbach@childrensnational.org)  
IRB Protocol #9948

# PFLAG Northern Illinois Chapters



**Click/tap anywhere on the map to open it online and find meeting dates/times/locations. Some chapters are meeting online on Zoom, and some are returning to in-person meetings. Contact the chapter for details before your very first meeting and watch for chapter announcements if you are a member.**

