

MICHIGAN'S LGBT NEWS SOURCE SINCE 1993



Texas Campaign May Influence  
Michigan's Own Civil Rights Battle

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Teen Hunter Keith Leads The  
Way In Trans Advocacy

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AIDS Walk Detroit  
Marks 25 Years

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Carly Rae Jepsen On Being An LGBT Ally &  
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Speaking about and educating people on the disease and prevention is the true cure in my opinion. If we can speak openly and honestly about HIV/AIDS and prevent it before it starts, that is more power than looking for a cure after the fact.



- Kyle "Rise" Irving is one of the many artists who will showcase their work at the upcoming Michigan AIDS Coalition celebration, ArtWorks. The event will be held on Sept. 18

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### SPEAKING OUT

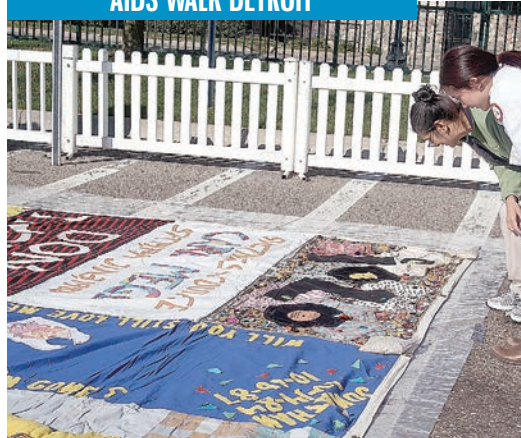


Hunter Keith with his parents Richard and Roz, at their home in Farmington Hills. Hunter spends a lot of his time advocating and educating about trans issues. BTL photo: AJ Trager

## Stand With Trans

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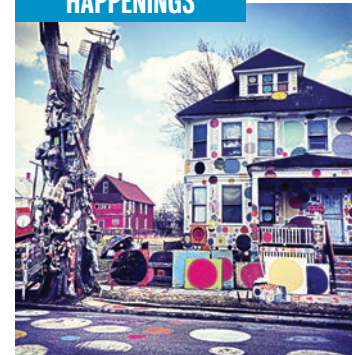
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AIDS Walk Detroit Will Mark 25 Years Sunday

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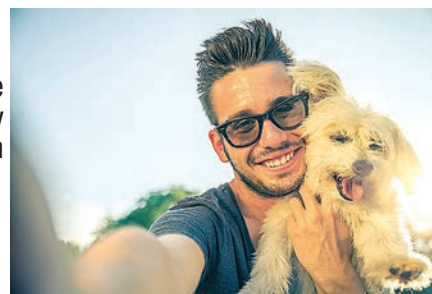
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# BTL



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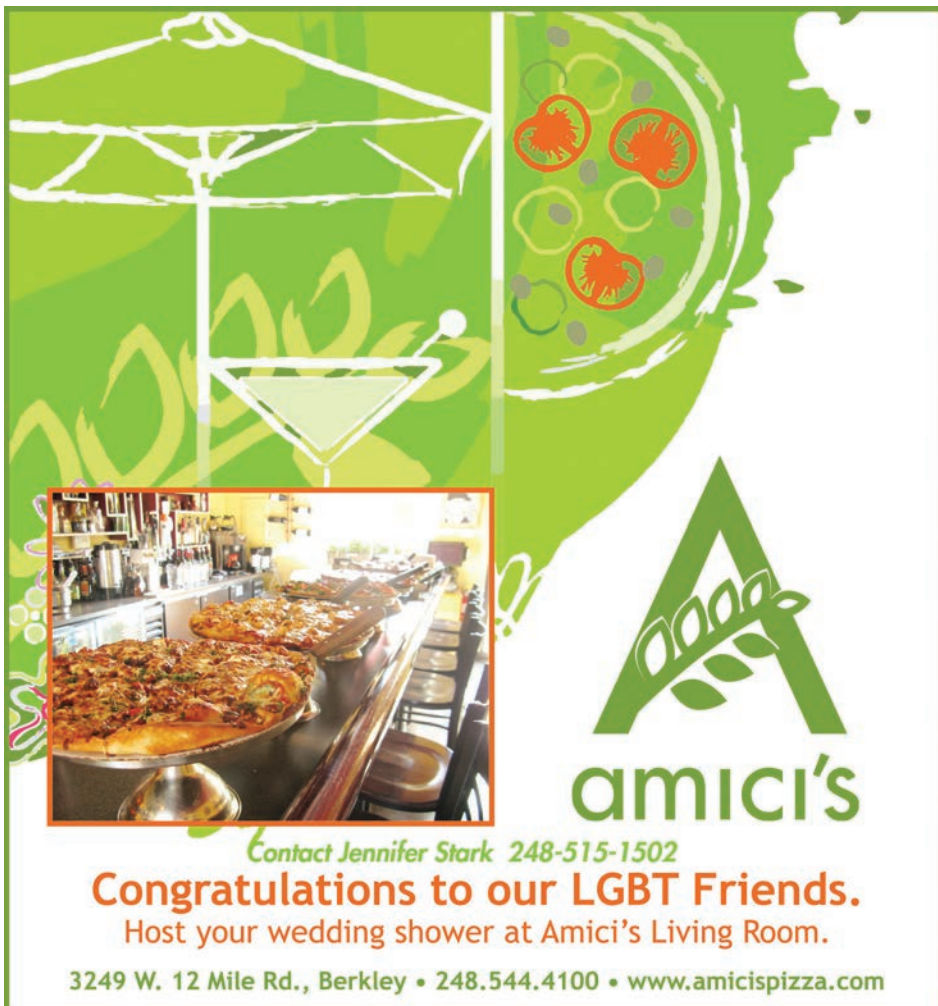
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## NEWS BRIEFS

### Transgender Michigan Holds 2015 Fall Health Fair

BY AJ TRAGER

The 2015 Fall Transgender Health Fair is fast approaching and Transgender Michigan is geared up to connect local services with trans women and men in southeast Michigan.

"Many transgender individuals do not know what agencies offer health care for them. Come and find out all the things that are out there for you," said Transgender Michigan co-chair, Rachel Crandall.

The Transgender Health Fair is the only health fair in Michigan and surrounding states dedicated to trans health care and will be held from 1-4 p.m. Sept. 15 at Affirmations. The fair will include networking opportunities, panel discussions and key workshops for southeast Michigan trans residents such as: how to pick a therapist presented by Rachel Crandall, LMSW and Rosemary Jozwiak, LMSW; hormones presented by Darnell Jones; and speech therapy presented by Corinne Barringer M.A., CCC-SLP.

New and returning exhibitors will include: Rosemary A. Jozwiak, PC and Associates; Southeastern Michigan HIV/AIDS Council; Transcend; FernCare Free Clinic, Inc.; Claddagh Chiropractic Wellness Center; Planned Parenthood Affiliates of Michigan; Integrative Empowerment Group, PLLC; University of Michigan Dental School; Community Health Awareness Group; and Sylvie Lombardo, Ph.D Child and Adolescent Clinical Psychologist.

The statistics for healthcare disparity for the trans community are staggering. A 2010 survey conducted by The National Center for Transgender Equality and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force found most transgender respondents received some kind of transition-related medical care. However, 19 percent said they had been refused care due to their gender status, with higher numbers among people of color. Twenty-eight percent said they had been harassed in a medical setting. And half said they had to teach their medical providers about transgender care.

Through the Transgender Health Fair, TGMI aims to address these issues on the local level. Crandall, through her many years of practice, has been at the center of these issues, hearing first hand recounts of Michigan residents avoiding healthcare due to discriminatory practices by local offices, some even turning away transgender patients.

Access to affordable, affirming healthcare remains to be a struggle. Attendees will have a chance to sit down with expert, local healthcare providers at the free event.

*Affirmations is located at 290 W. Nine Mile Road in Ferndale. Contact Transgender Michigan for more information at 855-345-TGMI. Visit their website at [www.transgendermichigan.org/events/health.html](http://www.transgendermichigan.org/events/health.html).*

### Affirmations Announces First Fall Fling Event To Benefit LGBT Community

Affirmations will host "Fall Fling: A Casual Chic Affair" on Oct. 10. Showcasing Affirmations' work in the local community, the event will be a creative, elegant time to toast to the recent successes and advancements in the LGBT rights movement.

Sponsored in part by MGM Grand Detroit, Fall Fling will serve as an opportunity for the public to experience the vibrant community center located in the heart of Ferndale on Nine Mile. The program for the event will include words from the president of the board of directors, Frank Aiello; Affirmations' Executive Director Darrious Hilmon; an Affirmations center volunteer; and a participant of Affirmations' newly launched youth program, "Cross the Lines Youth Workforce Development."

"I want the public to be able to feel the energy as they walk through the 17,000 square-foot Allan Gilmour and Eric Jirgens Community Center," Hilmon said. "The contagious laughter of the young people, the sincere words of encouragement from the seniors and the constant buzzing of activity remind me how much this center truly matters to people."

The event will feature an art exhibition opening by a renowned local artist, a strolling dinner, open bar, hors d'oeuvres, desserts and a variety of community activities that will give guests an opportunity to experience a real evening in the center. Sponsors for the signature Affirmations event include Whole Foods Market, MGM Grand Detroit and Between The Lines. All money raised will support the implementation of Affirmations' programs and services.

*Tickets are \$75 each and include dinner, open bar, admission to the dessert lounge and other program activities. Tickets can be purchased online at [www.goaffirmations.org](http://www.goaffirmations.org).*

Extended briefs are available online at:

>> [www.PrideSource.com](http://www.PrideSource.com)



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## Faith Leaders To Gather For Detroit Symposium On Religious Liberty

BY BTL STAFF

**DETROIT** – Faith leaders from across many denominations will come together in Detroit on Sept. 10 for a symposium entitled “Liberating Religious Liberty.”

The symposium will address the ways in which the concept of religious liberty is being used to justify discrimination against the LGBT community and the intersection of faith and LGBT equality.

Hosted by The Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry at Pacific School of Religion and the ACLU of Michigan, along with other organizations advocating for equality, the summit will give clergy and faith leaders an opportunity to learn from experts and exchange ideas about ways to engage people of faith in speaking out in favor of LGBT rights. This is a vitally important topic in light of the many so-called Religious Freedom Restoration Act bills being introduced in the state Legislature, which serve as a license to discriminate.

The goal of the symposium is to support and help clergy and people of faith be more aware of RFRA arguments against LGBT equality and how to counteract them.

“Many of us in the faith community are deeply concerned about religious liberty being used as an excuse to discriminate against LGBTQ people,” said Rev. Roland Stringfellow of The Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry and pastor at MCC Detroit. “Every faith teaches love and acceptance, and we want to help our brothers and sisters of all faiths understand that embracing LGBTQ equality goes hand in hand with our religious beliefs.”

While fully respecting the fundamental right to religious freedom, the symposium will focus on bridging the divide that sometimes exists between people of faith and advocates for LGBT equality and will include a full-day of training followed by a public reception and a keynote address featuring Kate Kendell, executive director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights; Rev. Dr. Rebecca Voelkel, executive director for the Center for Sustainable Justice; Rana Elmir of the ACLU of Michigan; Kathleen Campisano of the National LGBTQ Task Force; Sean Lund of the Movement Advancement Project; and Stringfellow.

Registration for the free workshop will begin at 8 a.m. Sept. 10 and is open only to clergy and faith leaders. The evening reception will begin at 5 p.m. and is open to anyone who wishes to join.

Visit [religiouslibertyforall.org](http://religiouslibertyforall.org) for registration.

# Stand With Trans: A Hunter Keith Story

BY AJ TRAGER

**FARMINGTON HILLS** – Hunter Keith is not your average 16-year-old. The 11th grade high school student attends Franklin High School in Livonia and spends a great deal of time educating, advocating and conducting outreach for trans activism in southeastern Michigan – all while wearing T-shirts and ballcaps.

His parents met close to 30 years ago. His mother, Roz, grew up in Michigan and spent some time living in New York until she, with her husband Richard, moved to New Jersey. In 2000, one year after Hunter was born, they moved to Metro Detroit.

Hunter enjoys his small high school of 200 people and has grown up with the same 50-person graduating class for most of his school career. He reports that even though he is openly out with his classmates and the school, he has not received any instances of bullying, harassment or hate speech within the school campus.

“They’re like my family. It’s a really accepting environment,” Hunter said. “It’s cool because you know everyone and then you can also get really close with the teachers because they know everyone, even if they’ve never had them as a student. It’s an atmosphere where if a student is uncomfortable with one teacher, they can come to another teacher that they trust and talk about that and see if something can be changed.”

The school has an inactive Gay Straight Alliance, according to Hunter, who would like to see an organized GSA group with a more direct objective and would even like to serve as the president of the student organization in this upcoming school year.

In middle school, Hunter had begun dressing himself in items from the boys’ clothing department and asked his parents if he could get a shorter haircut. A boy’s haircut.

Roz remembers asking Hunter when they had returned home from shopping one day, “‘This is all very masculine. Is that the look you’re going for?’ I just didn’t get it,” Roz said. “It’s not like it never crossed my mind. I know a lot of trans guys who start out saying to their parents, ‘Oh, I’m a lesbian.’ And I think part of that is confusion and part of it is they feel like that’s an easy way to pave the way. But I never went there.”

For as long as he can remember, Hunter knew he was different. He first heard the term “transgender” in fifth grade when it hit him. “Yeah, that’s what’s wrong. That’s why I feel different,” Hunter said.

Over the next few years he did extensive research and kept it at the back of his mind, until one day when he couldn’t anymore. That is when he came out to a few friends and became more and more sure.

Hunter came out to his closest friends in



Hunter Keith with his parents Richard and Roz, at their home in Farmington Hills. Hunter spends a lot of his time advocating and educating about trans issues. BTL photo: AJ Trager

“I think with kids that – even if they feel like their identity is different early on – once they start going through puberty, it’s like such a big turning point and trigger because now their body is betraying who they feel they really are.”

– Hunter Keith

seventh grade, his parents in eighth grade and then came out publicly on Facebook in ninth grade.

“I found it a bit awkward. It’s an uncomfortable conversation. I knew what I was talking about. I had been researching and researching but my mom hadn’t been – because she wouldn’t have known to. I had to explain what everything was instead of just a short and simple, ‘I’m transgender,’” Hunter said about coming out to his parents.

Roz and her husband never separated the toys into “boys’ toys” and “girls’ toys” and tried very hard to maintain an honest, inclusive and open environment for the family. Hunter and his sister could play with whatever toy caught their fancy for that day, and Hunter said that he had a lot of support growing up.

Before he came out as trans, Hunter was really anxious all the time. Looking back, the best way he could describe it was “angry.”

But after he became comfortable with himself, things got better. He feels he has undergone a complete shift in mental health and is significantly happier.

“I think with kids that – even if they feel like their identity is different early on – once they start going through puberty, it’s like such a big turning point and trigger because now their body is betraying who they feel they really are,” Roz said. “I think it’s great now with all this awareness that kids can be so open and aware and parents more educated. Because if kids are insisting at an early age, at least they can block the puberty and buy some time so they don’t have to suffer the consequences of going through a puberty that they don’t want. That causes a lot of depression and anxiety.”

Hunter and Roz thank social media for opening up the conversation and bringing

See Hunter Keith, page 10





Panels from The Names Quilt will be on display again this year as part of AIDS Walk Detroit's Sept. 13 activities. BTL photo: AJ Trager

## AIDS Walk Detroit Marks 25 Years Sunday

BY AJ TRAGER

**ROYAL OAK** – The 25th Annual AIDS Walk Detroit will be held Sept. 13 at the Royal Oak Farmer's Market located on 11 Mile Road and will include the "Names Project" memorial quilt ceremony, an opening ceremony and presentation and a 5K walk around downtown Royal Oak.

In 1991 a group of Detroit merchants and shop keepers in Royal Oak started AIDS Walk Detroit as a "simple request" to raise money for those living with or affected by HIV/AIDS. Twenty-five years later the event has evolved to be the largest grassroots HIV/AIDS fundraiser in the state of Michigan and has raised \$3.8 million to benefit HIV/AIDS services in the state.

"We do it to help the local community," said Carissa Rys, development coordinator at AIDS Walk Detroit. "There is still a need for support and to increase education and prevention. We're still trying to help the local community and help those that are infected and help those that they know who have been infected."

This year's event has set a goal of raising \$225,000 and mobilizing 3,500 participants. With less than a week to go, the organization has raised \$90,000. AIDS Walk Detroit will host a 5K walk that will take participants through downtown Royal Oak, walking down Woodward and Catalpa and finishing back at the Farmer's Market.

AIDS Walk Detroit will showcase the largest display of panels on the Names Project memorial quilt, showcasing 20 of the thousands of panels that belong to the quilt. Each year the organization shows a different set of panels, and sponsors and volunteers can request specific panels be brought to Detroit.

"It is important as a more solemn part of the day and is a time for people to reflect," Rys added. "It is really impactful whether it is your first or 25th time seeing it."

The evening will be emceed by Dr. Partha Nandi, host of the medical lifestyle show "Ask Dr. Nandi." Nandi practices gastroenterology

in Metro Detroit and is a Clinical Assistant Professor at the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine. On his show, Nandi teaches techniques in nutrition, fitness and disease prevention incorporating practices from both Eastern and Western medicine. He has been featured in Crain's Detroit, TEDX, The Indian Journal, Hour Magazine, CBS Radio and many others.

To sign up for the AIDS Walk Detroit walk visit <http://bit.ly/1NYydHw> and click on "Join a team." This year there is a \$25 registration fee for all walkers; all participants will receive an official AIDS Walk Detroit 25th Anniversary T-shirt. Registration is open the day of beginning at 8:30 a.m. The quilt ceremony will begin at 9:30 a.m. followed by the opening ceremony and the 5K at 10:30 a.m.

AIDS Walk Detroit has 13 partner organizations which include: Affirmations, AIDS Partnership Michigan/HIV/AIDS Resource Center, Beaumont Health, Community Health Awareness Group, Deaf C.A.N., Health Emergency Lifeline Programs, Henry Ford Health System, Higher Ground, Horizons Project, Michigan AIDS Coalition, Ruth Ellis Center, Southeast Michigan HIV/AIDS Council/STAR Foundation, Wayne State University Adult HIV/AIDS Program and Wings: PSON.

The event is sponsored by 16 different local and national organizations. Gold sponsors for the walk include Delta Air Lines and Genisys Credit Union. Silver sponsors include Crown Pharmacy, MedCart Specialty Pharmacy, MotorCity Casino and Hotel, Walgreens and Whole Foods Market. Bronze sponsors include Beaumont Health, SEE Eyewear and Starbucks; Copper sponsors include KPMG, Leon and LuLu and St. John Providence. AMP Radio, HOUR Detroit and Between The Lines are media sponsors.

*For more information, email AIDS Walk Detroit at [info@aidswalkdetroit.org](mailto:info@aidswalkdetroit.org) or call 248-399-9255. Factual errors in last week's issue of BTL were updated in this report. We apologize for any confusion.*



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## Political Hors D'oeuvres Courser, Gamrat Affair Reveals Larger Policy Concern

BY TODD HEYWOOD

Hey! Hey you! Wanna see the pages and pages of documents amassed by the Michigan House Business Office during its investigation into whether or not Reps. Todd Courser, R-Lapeer, and Cindy Gamrat, R-Plainwell, abused public resources to cover up their illicit affair?

Want to hear the hours of audio secretly recorded by a former staffer?

How's it feel to want? That's what Republican Speaker of the House Kevin Cotter wants you to understand. The Michigan Legislature, in its infinite wisdom, exempted itself from the Freedom of Information Act when the law was adopted in 1976. The law was one of many that swept the nation post-Watergate.

And Cotter, whom some of the former Courser-Gamrat staffers have said was aware of what was happening in the family-values lawmakers' offices from the beginning, may have a reason to keep the documents secret. Democrats and others are asking the infamous political scandal question, "What did he know and when did he know it?" That might be a question Cotter would rather avoid discussing. Particularly as the Legislature comes into session again, and a special investigative committee begins the process that might lead to the duo's expulsion.

Wondering what Gov. Rick Snyder thinks about this whole thing? Yeah, it'd be nice to see those emails, but his office is also exempt from FOIA. He has not weighed in on the sex scandal or allegations that the tea party conservatives abused their offices.

FOIA is a transparency tool. It was designed to allow citizens to spread some sunshine on government operations to prevent another Watergate-era abuse of government. It was designed to keep the citizenry fully informed on what is happening in government.

The preamble of the act is pretty clear about its goals:

"It is the public policy of this state that all persons, except those persons incarcerated in state or local correctional facilities, are entitled to full and complete information regarding the affairs of government and the official acts of those who represent them as public officials and public employees, consistent with this act. The people shall be informed so that they may fully participate in the democratic process."

This scandal is exactly when FOIA as a tool is most important. Voters have a right to know if Cotter knew about the affair between the two lawmakers and what he knew about allegations of the misuse of public resources. The public has a right to know what Snyder is doing behind the scenes to prevent the Legislature from being bogged down for weeks in the process of expelling the two.

There have been attempts to amend the law for years. This time around, Rep. Jeremy Moss, D-Southfield, has introduced legislation to amend the law to include the Legislature. That's a good thing.

Right now, Michigan law is allowing the governor and Republican leaders to secretly frame the outcomes and minimize the impact of the scandal – a scandal which might even taint the top GOP leaders in the state. That means citizens don't have the information they want and need to "be informed so that they may fully participate in the democratic process."

# Texas Anti-Trans Campaign Could Set The Stage For Michigan's Own Civil Rights Battle

## Amending Elliott-Larsen

BY TODD HEYWOOD

A new advertisement running on radio stations throughout Houston, Texas – described as "vulgar" and "misleading" – could be a harbinger of what LGBT advocates in Michigan could face as the community gears up to finalize a strategy to amend the state's non-discrimination law, the Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act.

Houston passed a non-discrimination law in May 2014 after hearing testimony from over 200 people. It's a basic non-discrimination law, like ones seen throughout Michigan. But some citizens were deeply displeased with the law and sought a ballot initiative to repeal it. Repeal supporters collected signatures – they said it was enough – but supporters of the ordinance challenged the signatures. That led to a troubling legal battle, which was ultimately resolved by the Texas Supreme Court earlier this year. The court ruled that the problems with the signatures were not enough to exclude the issue from being on the ballot, and ordered it on the November ballot.

Houston is the nation's fourth largest city, Texas' largest and the only one of the top four without legal protections for the LGBT community, The Houston Chronicle reported.

Two weeks ago, empowered by the ruling and geared up for the fight, the anti-ordinance team – Campaign for Houston PAC – put out the radio ad. The one-minute ad features a woman speaking to the audience. In the ad she refers to the ordinance as Mayor Annise Parker's "bathroom ordinance." Parker supported the ordinance and is openly lesbian.

"This ordinance will allow men to freely go into women's bathrooms, locker rooms and showers," the woman says in the ad. "That is filthy; that is disgusting; and that is unsafe."

The implication being, of course, that somehow transgender women are not actually women, but actually men in dresses. And, of course, the ad implies that men are intending to rape women and molest children, particularly in bathrooms.

The sad reality, however, is that it's fear mongering at a base level, and ignores a reality. Transmen and women are significantly more likely to be attacked in a bathroom. In fact, the implication is that "men" will enter the bathroom – the



“It's pretty hard to be afraid of something you know... Ultimately, when people know the trans community, that undermines those blatant lies.”

- Amy Hunter, coordinator ACLU Trans Advocacy Project

folks at Campaign for Houston don't even bother with identifying transwomen (there is no mention of transmen in the advertisement) as women. They are always men.

## Michigan Hysteria

Michigan has seen similar hysteria related to local non-discrimination laws. In Hamtramck, ordinance opponents distributed campaign literature with a cartoon character clearly of a "man in a dress." In Kalamazoo, opponents distributed hanging political literature with images of Dr. Julie Nemecek – a transgender woman who sued Spring Arbor University when that organization fired her for being transgender.

The ordinance lost in Hamtramck, but won in Kalamazoo – a sample that could indicate a ballot battle is not a slam-dunk when put before the voters.

A move by the state Legislature in 2014 to amend the state's Elliott-Larsen Civil Rights Act failed in large part because GOP leadership refused to include gender identity as a protected status. That forced the LGBT community to fight against a partially inclusive bill. A similar rift could happen in Michigan if there is another attempt to legislatively amend the law, or a decision is made to move the issue to the ballot statewide.

That is something Amy Hunter, coordinator of the ACLU's Trans Advocacy Project, is more than a little aware of. The issue, she said, is educating the general public before the anti-trans rhetoric begins.

"The trans community has always been an easy target," she notes. Why is

that? Because most Americans say they don't know a transgender person.

In December 2013, the Public Religion Research Institute polled 4,509 adults and found that 9 percent said they knew someone transgender, while 89 percent said they did not know anyone who was transgender. Interestingly, despite not knowing a transgender person, 71 percent of the respondents said the transgender community faces "a lot of discrimination."

"The most effective way to counter this is to get trans people out there telling their stories," Hunter said. "It allows people to understand what being transgender is about."

That education, she said, will undermine any negative advertising campaigns like Houston's.

"It's pretty hard to be afraid of something you know," she said.

Hunter and the ACLU have launched an initiative to train transgender people to deliver effective messages and tell their stories. Trainings are currently being planned.

As for the specifics of the ad, Hunter declined to discuss its misleading presentation.

"The problem with deconstructing that ad is that it could backfire," she said. She noted that recent studies have found that in counter negative narratives in politics, the opposite happens. The myths are reinforced, not diminished.

"A more reasonable response is to be proactive. We've got to get people to know who we are," she said. "Ultimately, when people know the trans community, that undermines those blatant lies."



# The Importance Of Celebrating Bisexuality

## Emily Dievendorf Comments On The 'B' In 'LGBT'

BY AJ TRAGER

LANSING – Celebrate Bisexuality Day commemorates its 15th anniversary this year on Sept. 23, with the week surrounding the date serving as a bi “awareness week.” Former executive director of Equality Michigan, Emily Dievendorf, is an out bi leader in the LGBT community. She is currently running for Lansing City Council but remains extremely active in the LGBT community, especially surrounding bi awareness and bi inclusion.

Dievendorf regularly meets with other bi leaders in the nation to figure out how to diminish disparities that affect the bi community in disproportionate amounts compared to the lesbian and gay communities such as with HIV/AIDS, domestic partner violence and smoking rates. Research directed specifically for the bi community is imperative for Dievendorf, who wants to see national and local LGBT organizations build stronger ties to the bi community. She hopes that they will include more bi voices and experiences so that the bi community has a stronger seat

at the LGBT table. In order to build and have more quantifiable research, bi people need to be acknowledged as part of LGBT and have active representation. Dievendorf spoke with Between the Lines about how bi people can be more visible at the LGBT table in light of bi awareness week.

### What would you say are the top issues affecting the bi community that may not necessarily affect the “LGs”?

There are issues that affect all of the community but affect us to a greater extent because it's not just that the resources aren't there, but also that the community isn't there. Anything that is impacted by stress is something that is going to impact us more to a certain extent because of the lack of community and alienation, but also there is the fact that we aren't getting help because there is nowhere to go when those issues come up. We are denied our existence or people deny that we exist.

### As far as the LGBT community as a whole, how do you think that community can include more bi voices and give more support to bi individuals?

I think that just as we are trying to make sure there is more representation at the table for other parts of our community that aren't acknowledged or empowered often enough and tend to be more vulnerable, we need to make sure that bi people are asked to be a part of the discussion and are asked to be a part of the specific thing that affects their lives. But also that we are putting aside funds that are targeted directly at the bi population so that we also have a safe space. We need to pay attention to that and know that bisexual members of the LGBT communities are struggling with alienation. And the rest of the community is very much a part of making sure that doesn't happen.



Emily Dievendorf

### How do we start having conversations with members of the LGBT community who don't think bisexuality is real?

I think that that is always a funny and sad conundrum because bi women will often end up dating men more often and that is because we are given very little chance to date lesbian women or to date other bi women. Queer women seem to have this fear of our having been tainted by men or us not being loyal, and of course those are just stereotypes, fears and insecurities. I think it is rooted in the L and G communities fighting very hard for very long to be recognized in their humanity and to be understood. As somebody who does not accept a binary, and this goes for the trans community as well, but those of us who challenge the binary make it that much more

See Bisexuality, page 13

# We didn't compromise. You shouldn't either.



It has go-anywhere capability and 36 mpg.<sup>2</sup> It has the largest passenger volume in its class.<sup>12</sup> It has a remarkable record as the longest-lasting midsize sedan in its class.<sup>9</sup> **The all-new 2015 Legacy** is not just a sedan. It's a Subaru.

EPA estimated city fuel economy for 2015 Legacy 2.5i model. Actual mileage may vary. <sup>1</sup>Based on MS Automobile. <sup>2</sup>36 mpg city/24 mpg highway. <sup>3</sup>2014 model. <sup>4</sup>2014 model. <sup>5</sup>2014 model. <sup>6</sup>2014 model. <sup>7</sup>2014 model. <sup>8</sup>2014 model. <sup>9</sup>2014 model. <sup>10</sup>2014 model. <sup>11</sup>2014 model. <sup>12</sup>2014 model. <sup>13</sup>2014 model. <sup>14</sup>2014 model. <sup>15</sup>2014 model. <sup>16</sup>2014 model. <sup>17</sup>2014 model. <sup>18</sup>2014 model. <sup>19</sup>2014 model. <sup>20</sup>2014 model. <sup>21</sup>2014 model. <sup>22</sup>2014 model. <sup>23</sup>2014 model. <sup>24</sup>2014 model. <sup>25</sup>2014 model. <sup>26</sup>2014 model. <sup>27</sup>2014 model. <sup>28</sup>2014 model. <sup>29</sup>2014 model. <sup>30</sup>2014 model. <sup>31</sup>2014 model. <sup>32</sup>2014 model. <sup>33</sup>2014 model. <sup>34</sup>2014 model. <sup>35</sup>2014 model. <sup>36</sup>2014 model. <sup>37</sup>2014 model. <sup>38</sup>2014 model. 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Runners and walkers take over FCA US vehicle test track for the “Taking Strides for Healthy Minds 5K walk/run” on Saturday, Aug. 29. The event raises money for mental health services at the Ruth Ellis Center. REC provides short and long-term residential safe space and support services for runaway, homeless and at-risk LGBT youth. Right, Erika Hedalen, a manager in human resources at FCA and a member of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance (GALA) at FCA hands out medals to runners and walkers as they finish.

## Ruth Ellis Center 5K Fundraiser Raises Dollars And Awareness

FCA US held its first ever 5k fundraiser, “Taking Strides for Healthy Minds 5k Walk/Run,” Aug. 29 to benefit the Ruth Ellis Center and raised a total of \$5,800 for REC.

Approximately 200 runners and walkers from all over the Detroit area took to the vehicle test track at FCA US headquarters to raise money for the Ruth Ellis Center’s mental health services, operations and Family Preservation and Acceptance program.

FCA US has been a longstanding supporter

of the LGBTQ community. The company was a leader among U.S. employers in providing domestic partner benefits to its employees in 2000 and has achieved a perfect score of 100 percent on the HRC Corporate Equality Index nine times. The company has also supported REC through its employee resource group, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance at FCA US. GALA is one of six employee resource groups at the company that promote diversity and inclusion inside the company and in the community.

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### ► Hunter Keith

Continued from p. 6

awareness of trans identities and trans issues to the lap of thousands of people, as well as providing a space for trans people to interact and find a sense of community.

“Another thing that is cool about social media is a few years ago trans kids would come out not knowing any other trans kids and they would be alone,” Hunter said. “But now I know so many trans people I have met through social media and who have seen something that we’re doing and have come forward to ask for help. So it connects the community.”

“When Hunter came out two and a half years ago, there wasn’t stuff coming across my news feed, there weren’t shows on transgender kids or adults. There might’ve been a random interview by Katie Couric asking someone about what’s in their pants and if they’ve had surgery. But it’s so different now, and that’s the upside to digital media and getting information out there quickly and easily to lots and lots of people,” Roz said.

## Stand With Trans

Stand with Trans is a nonprofit organization that was designed as a way to formalize support and to create programming that would empower trans youth and help them

feel validated so that they could transition and live authentically. The group was started in February 2015 by Roz and members of Ally Moms, a group of mothers of trans children that stretches across the U.S., Canada and Australia that aims to help youth at all stages along their transition. The group began as a reaction to the death of Leelah Alcorn, a 17-year-old trans girl from Ohio who committed suicide after continuous rejection from her parents.

Many of the moms wanted to show trans youth that they weren’t alone, and that even if they weren’t getting the support and understanding at home, there were moms out there that cared.

Stand With Trans has organized a one-day Youth Empowerment Workshop for Oct. 18 at Affirmations that will include multiple sessions on how to create a community and will provide a space for youth to network, make connections and feel good about who they are.

In coming months, Stand With Trans will seek to add structure to Ally Moms and will integrate an application process, background check and training for all members. Roz hopes that by late fall there will be a training webinar available for moms all around the country that will focus on how to be a good listener, how to determine if there’s a crisis situation and how to set good boundaries.



# Moss Renews Call To Subject Legislature To FOIA

BY BTL STAFF

LANSING – Michigan is one of two states where state officials and lawmakers are exempt from Freedom of Information Act requests, but a few state lawmakers are working to change that.

State Rep. Jeremy Moss, D-Southfield, co-sponsored HB 4283 with Reps. Brandon Dillon, Sherry Gay-Dagnogo, Brian Banks, Jeff Irwin, Gretchen Driskell, Bill LaVoy, Phil Phelps and Sam Singh in March, which was referred to the Committee on Government Operations.

Moss is backing efforts to expand Michigan's FOIA to cover the Legislature and governor's office.

The Michigan Freedom of Information Act was passed in 1976 as a way to ensure public access to government records. Earlier this year Gov. Snyder signed into law HB4001, which made public records cheaper and easier to obtain under state FOIA laws. Agencies can now charge no more than 10 cents per page for copies of public records and can face increased fines for delaying responses.

While it is easy to get information about the average citizen, documents related to state officials and lawmakers are prohibited for distribution. House Bill 4283 would end the exemption for the executive and legislative branches.

"People expect and deserve an open, transparent government. When the task of legislating plays out behind closed doors, our constituents begin to distrust us and lose faith in the political process," Moss said. "We are elected to serve the people, and the only way they can know whether we are serving them honestly and fairly is if we do our jobs in the light of day."

Moss' call for expanding FOIA comes as two lawmakers are being investigated on suspicion of misusing taxpayer resources for personal and political reasons. House Republican leadership has hidden the full report of the investigation and denied requests to release the full version. Meanwhile, House Democrats have introduced legislation term after term that would shine more light on state government.

"Michigan is one of only two states that exempt its governor and Legislature from FOIA – even our local elected officials are subject to it," said Moss. "In light of recent events, I believe it's more important than ever to restore our constituents' faith in their elected officials and allow them to hold us to account."

Read the entire bill by going to [www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2015-2016/billintroduced/House/htm/2015-HIB-4283.htm](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2015-2016/billintroduced/House/htm/2015-HIB-4283.htm).

Also see page 8 for Gamrat, Courser update.

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## Remembering 'Honey' Combs

# Parting Glances

OPINION BY CHARLES ALEXANDER

Mart Crowley's "Boys In the Band" opened Off-Broadway 47 years ago. I bought a copy of the play in Chicago in 1968 and read dialogue aloud while driving back to Detroit with my then partner Larry.

(We saw a local production a few years later at the long-vanished Rivera Movie Theater turned legit stage, starring Wayne State University theater major Paul Pentecost.)

Seeing gay life as I sometimes found myself living it proved fascinating: a big city birthday party turned "truth game," with much drinking, lotsa line dancing to the sweet turn-on sounds of Burt Bacharach's "The Look of Love." A play about us.

"Boys" opened – timely – one year before New York City's liberating Stonewall Riots. (The same year Rev. Troy Perry started the first gay lib church in Los Angeles.) Change was in the air.

"After gays saw 'The Boys in the Band,'" writes theater historian Peter Filichia, "they no longer would settle for thinking of themselves as pathetic and wouldn't be perceived as such any longer. Now that the play's characters had brought their feelings out of the closet, this new generation would dare to be different."

Mart Crowley's play was exciting on two counts. It was gay from start to finish, with camp humor putdown. And – score one up for me – I spent a romantic summer week with one of its Off-Broadway production actors: Frederick Combs.

I met "Honey Combs" in Detroit's Woodward Bar in 1966. He was appearing in 18-year-old British playwright Shelagh Delaney's international hit (later movie), "A Taste of Honey," at the Fisher Theater. Combs played Geoffrey, a gay artist. The cast included legendary actor Uta Hagen. It was a big break for the 30-year-old actor.

Freddy was staying at the Wardell Sheraton hotel, later Park Shelton Apartments. (I later lived there for 24 years. The property was once owned by comic Gilda Radner, of "Saturday Night Live" fame.)

Freddy said his two high school drama teachers believed he had talent and much promise and paid for his ticket to New York to study acting. (He also said he had been brought out by an Army sergeant when he was 16.)

I followed Freddy to Chicago New Year's week, but was gently told our final curtain had rung down in Detroit. I never saw him again, but in 1970 had the pleasure of seeing him playing Donald when "Boys In the Band" was released as a movie.

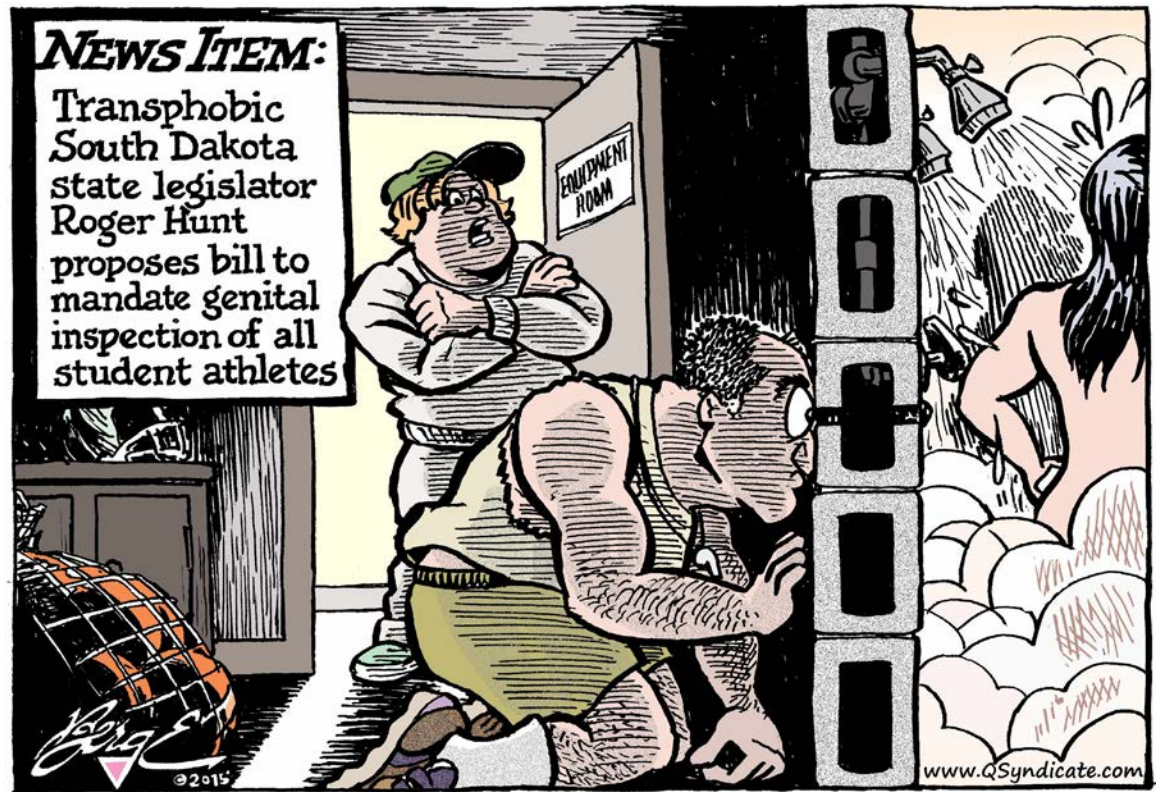
Looking back at Crowley's pre-Stonewall play, given all that's happened – Gay Liberation, the AIDS crisis, Clinton's "don't ask don't tell" policy, Ellen Degeneres, "Angels in America," same-sex marriage – "Boys" remains entertaining, well-crafted, compelling. If gay self-loathing.

Today we either like the play for its moments of authenticity replayed or loathe it for its internalized homophobia; nonetheless, it's courageous, especially compared to earlier, cautious, gay-themed plays like "The Children's Hour" and "Tea and Sympathy."

The boys in "Boys" are who they are in spite of a culture that demonizes them. Sample line: "Oh, Mary! It takes a fairy to make something pretty."

Frederick Combs' career included writing, producing, directing an Off-Broadway mystery play that got panned, prompting him to leave New York for Los Angeles. He appeared in TV soaps and miniseries, and for a time ran his own drama school. He died from AIDS-related causes on Sept. 19, 1992. He was 57.

I watched the DVD movie on Labor Day. And as an old boy in an old band, I'm grateful to be tootin' my horn. On or off key. (By the way, Mart Crowley is 80.)



"THEY HAVEN'T PASSED THE LAW YET, COACH HANTEL!"



## Transmissions

# A Costume Controversy

OPINION BY GWENDOLYN ANN SMITH

Over the course of my lifetime, I've seen Halloween change dramatically. Sure, the shift was slow, but like water carving the Grand Canyon, it was seemingly inevitable.

In my youth, it was a holiday where kids ruled the night. The streets were ours. We'd trot out into the darkness wearing anything from store bought plastic masks and smocks to hastily assembled "hobo" costumes of tattered old clothing and ratted hair. It was a magic time, when we would be allowed more leeway than any other night, and explore our wild characters under the moon and stars.

As you can guess, I have a lot of fondness for that time.

Yet things changed. Fears – largely unfounded – of razor blades and other contaminants in the holiday candy haul led to more chaperoned Halloween events at local schools and community centers, sucking the life out of the night. Today, the ritual of trick or treating seems to be turning

into a memory of my generation.

Something else changed since then, too. While costume parties for adults certainly existed, they were less common than one might imagine. The holiday was relegated to the kids, and the adults were more likely to be lurking behind their home's door with a bucket of Smarties, Starbursts and those awful circus peanuts.

Much like Cinco De Mayo has become "the day we mock Hispanic culture and get drunk" and St. Patrick's Day has become "the day we mock Irish culture and get drunk," Halloween has extended similarly. It's become a time when the adults don the costumes and hit the clubs.

I sound cranky, but I do have a point.

There is a big business in costumes, and the real money is not in kids' costumes, but ones for adults. We'll pay a premium for a cool costume that we will only wear once. You'll find them for sale at your local big box stores as well as a chain store that

croops up each Halloween in otherwise derelict storefronts across the country.

They sell all sorts of Halloween gear that I would have given my eyeteeth for back in the day. Not only super detailed costumes and accessories, but all the making of an ersatz cemetery, dungeon or haunted house. It's amazing to see just how many different spooky things they pack into these hastily assembled storefronts.

Amongst these are celebrity costumes. They'll sell you rubber masks of the president and his would-be replacements. You can find the cast of "Duck Dynasty" shoehorned in.

Yet there's another topical costume of note: that of Caitlyn Jenner.

Now it makes sense, in a way, that they would opt to make a Caitlyn Jenner costume. They are in the business to make money, and what better way than a costume that features a member of the Kardashian

See Transmissions, next page



## ► Transmissions

Continued from p. 12

clan, particularly at a time when she is probably the most marketable.

The news initially broke via the New York Daily News, who called the idea “creepy.” Spirit Halloween PR disagreed, saying that Jenner “has proven to be the most important real-life superhero of the year,” and claimed the costume would be one that “celebrates her.”

Spirit Halloween has both a Caitlyn Jenner wig and corset, similar to the now-famed Vanity Fair cover. It’s nicely done, all things considered.

Others have been less forgiving: another retailer – selling through a number of websites such as wholesalehalloweencostumes.com – released their own. It too features the “Vanity Fair” look, but adds a parade sash emblazoned with “Call Me Caitlyn.” Here’s the big difference between the two: a stocky male with an arm tattoo and 5 o’clock shadow is modeling the latter.

While Spirit’s costume is presented in a much more attractive fashion – and with a feminine-appearing model – both are problematic. The latter even much more so.

I mentioned earlier about how Halloween has increasingly become an adult holiday. With that in mind, the costumes have become far more over the top, reveling in far more adult themes than one might have seen in the past. Zombies are far more rotten and bloody, most gear for women is “sexy,” and some

costumes are meant to be mean-spirited and controversial.

The Caitlyn Jenner costume is not likely to be worn to “celebrate” Jenner, any more than a rubber Donald Trump mask is likely going to be used to support “The Donald.” While Spirit has attempted to show the costume worn in an “appropriate” fashion, it seems obvious to me that their audience is going to be the same sort of schlub shown by that other retailer.

We live in a year when transgender people are gaining a visibility like we haven’t seen before. We’re also living in a time when our deaths are being reported in very high numbers, likely as a backlash to this visibility. Do we need to see this sort of mockery on Halloween?

We’re not talking about a light-hearted jest here – but with people’s real lives.

One might say that Jenner is a public figure, and this is simply what happens. There’s some truth to that. This isn’t about Jenner though, so much as it is about Jenner being transgender. More than that, it’s about Jenner having presented as male in the past, and now being female – and trying to point out what the costume wearer feels about Jenner’s gender.

Halloween when I was a kid was transformative, allowing us to share our desires and interests. With that in mind, I suggest this: A person who opts to mock Caitlyn Jenner with a ill-gendered costume says far more about themselves than they ever say about her.

*Gwen Smith never had a René Richards costume. You can find her on Twitter at @gwenners.*

## ► Bisexuality

Continued from p. 9

complex. We demand more from the average person inside and outside the community and to allow for more gray areas in sexuality and gender. And that makes it more difficult for everybody to a certain extent. But it also frees us.

Just that you feel strongly for one person than you might for another person that you’re dating, that doesn’t change your sexuality, but maybe that is your reaction and born to that person. The beautiful thing about sexuality is that so much of it depends on the human bond and connection, and what we’re all really looking for is somebody that we can love and who can reciprocate with and possibly build a life with – or even appreciate in that moment. All that matters is we find somebody that treats us well and that we care for.

### Why is it important to celebrate bi awareness week?

Because we are real. Because so many people don’t think we are real. I was and still am a leader in the larger LGBT community, and there have been times where I have dated women who identify as lesbians who

are warned away from me and told that I am probably just experimenting or playing with them. And it is infuriating. Because still to this day, no matter how much you attest to who you are and how you feel, people will project their fears onto you and write you off by saying that you aren’t even a thing. We just aren’t to a place yet where we can afford to be quiet about our presence in the room. Because if we are quiet, it will be assumed that we either aren’t there or are pretending to be there in our identity.

### How do you feel about the difference between bisexuality and pansexuality?

I think that there is a lot of the younger generation that doesn’t want to use the term bisexuality because we don’t want to imply that there is a binary. Pansexuality allows us to more verbally, tangibly acknowledge the spectrum. The problem with that is, for a lot of bi advocates, we no longer consider bisexuality a binary. Bisexuality is an umbrella. Pansexuality is something that is more complex. And I would like to think that we will continue to use language that doesn’t diminish the complexity or reality of a situation, and I think that means that eventually we will evolve to being more specific.

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## Creep of the Week

Mat Staver

BY D'ANNE WITKOWSKI

Now that Kentucky clerk Kim Davis served time in jail after being held in contempt of court for refusing to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples, right-wing Christians are in a “we told you so” frenzy. See, these folks have had a persecution fantasy since, well, forever, and have been screaming from the rooftops that once marriage equality became the law of the land, they’d all be rounded up and jailed. And so Kim Davis has become a celebrity symbol of anti-Christian oppression.



Mat Staver

Granted, she’s not being oppressed for being a Christian. She’d been jailed for refusing to follow the law. She might not like the law, but that’s too bad. I’d like to point out that for years clerks who wanted to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples could not do so even though refusing these couples went against their personally held beliefs. Davis used to be able to discriminate against same-sex couples per her religious beliefs. Now she can’t. And she ended up in jail.

**Kim Davis has become a celebrity symbol of anti-Christian oppression. Granted, she’s not being oppressed for being a Christian. She’d been jailed for refusing to follow the law.**

She didn’t have to be in jail, mind you. She had plenty of other options. But she’d refused all manner of compromises and workarounds that had been offered to her and so in jail she sat, collecting martyr points.

Most lawyers wouldn’t want to see their clients behind bars and would work to get them out. Unfortunately for Davis, she’s being represented by the right-wing Liberty Counsel and her lawyer, Mat Staver, seems to be very pleased that she was in jail as it helps to perpetuate his Christian persecution fantasy.

“Kim Davis’ case is exhibit A,” Staver said Sept. 2 during an interview on “Washington Watch.” “And she’s not the only one. We’ve got the baker, the florists, uh, many others, photographers and wedding chapels. We’re gonna have this happen to churches and pastors. This is just the beginning. The question is, are people gonna draw a line and say, ‘Enough is enough.’ This is not the kind of America that we want to live in.”

Okay, so he’s got the butcher, the baker and the candlestick maker as exhibits B, C and D. But there is no truth behind the claim that pastors and churches are going to be forced to marry same-sex couples. Nothing has changed in this department, folks. Churches have always been able to refuse to marry people they don’t want to marry in accordance with their religious beliefs. The Supreme Court said that same-sex couples cannot be denied civil marriages, which is exactly what Kim Davis was doing. Had Davis been a pastor at her church, for example, she’d be within her rights not to marry gay couples. But she’s not a pastor. She’s a civil servant.

Staver, however, sees something much more sinister afoot. “You know, back in the 1930s, it began with the Jews,” he said, “where they were evicted from public employment, then boycotted in their private employment, then stigmatized and that led to the gas chambers. I mean, this is the new persecution of Christians here in this country.”

Uh, no. Nope. All the nopes. Comparing the state of America today, a country where Christians enjoy enormous privilege, to Nazi Germany is not only insulting, it betrays a persecution complex that has gone beyond the pathological.

If I was in jail, I’d want a lawyer that had a really firm grip on not only the law, but also reality. Unfortunately for Kim Davis, she’s not only on the wrong side of the law and the wrong side of history, but she’s stuck with a lawyer who is using her to advance his own delusional agenda. You could say she’s getting what she deserves, but it’s still gross.

# Kentucky Clerk Who Refused To Issue Same-Sex Marriage Licenses Released From Jail

**GRAYSON, Ky. (AP)** – After five days behind bars that helped make her a hero to the religious right, County Clerk Kim Davis was ordered released from jail Tuesday by the federal judge who locked her up for refusing to issue marriage licenses to gay couples.

U.S. District Judge David Bunning lifted the contempt order against Davis, saying he was satisfied that her deputies were fulfilling their obligation to grant licenses to same-sex couples in her absence. But he warned Davis not to interfere.

The move came down just before Davis received jailhouse visits from Republican presidential candidates Mike Huckabee and Ted Cruz.

Dozens of her supporters had gathered on the jailhouse lawn for what they called a rally for religious freedom. Word spread slowly through the crowd, and many said they couldn’t believe the news. They continued chanting, “Let Kim go!” and handed out white crosses.

Davis’ husband, Joe Davis, went into the jail early in the afternoon. Huckabee, a former Baptist minister and Arkansas governor, was also ushered in shortly after the judge’s release order, and was soon followed by Cruz.

Davis was thrown in jail on Thursday for the boldest act of resistance by a public official yet to the U.S. Supreme Court ruling earlier this year that effectively legalized gay marriage across the nation.

The timing of her release order came as something of a surprise. Last week, Bunning said that he might reconsider his decision to jail her in a week.

Citing “God’s authority,” Davis, an Apostolic Christian, stopped issuing marriage licenses in June after the Supreme Court said gay couples have a constitutional right to marry anywhere in the U.S.

Two gay couples and two heterosexual ones sued her. Bunning ordered Davis to issue the licenses,

and the Supreme Court upheld his ruling. But she still refused, and was held in contempt of court and hauled off to jail in handcuffs, igniting protests from members of the religious right.

They have rallied for days outside her office, at the jail, even outside the judge’s home.

Kim Davis



**Kim Davis’ jailing has offered some of the many GOP presidential candidates an opportunity to appeal to the party’s evangelical Christian wing, which opposes same-sex marriage and casts Davis’ imprisonment as an issue of religious freedom.**

Five of Davis’ six deputy clerks – all except her son, Nathan Davis – agreed to issue licenses to gay couples with Davis behind bars. In lifting the contempt order, Bunning asked for updates on the five clerks’ compliance every two weeks.

Davis’ jailing has offered some of the many GOP presidential candidates an opportunity to appeal to the party’s evangelical Christian wing, which opposes same-sex marriage and casts Davis’ imprisonment as an issue of religious freedom.

Some observers viewed the candidates’ visit to the jailhouse with skepticism, dismissing it as mere political posturing for two low-level candidates.

“Politicians have latched onto

the cause of the day for as long as there have been politicians,” said Sam Marcossan, a constitutional law professor at the University of Louisville, who has dismissed claims that religious liberty should exempt Davis from issuing licenses.

“It will do nothing whatsoever for getting Kim Davis out of jail for Mike Huckabee to appear at a rally today. But it will certainly keep the temperature hot, and it brings attention to Mike Huckabee.”

On Monday, Davis’ lawyers took their case to a federal appeals court, asking that Davis be allowed to remove her name and title from marriage certificates issued in Rowan County so that she would not

have to act against her conscience.

Casey County Clerk Casey Davis, who recently finished riding a bike more than 400 miles across the state of Kentucky in solidarity with Kim Davis, said he was relieved she was being released. He is not related to her.

“It’s been a total injustice for her being there to begin with,” he said.

But he said he is still not issuing any marriage licenses, and suspects the conflict could come to his county next. He said only one same-sex couple has inquired about a marriage license in his county and was told there were no licenses being issued, and that’s the last Davis heard from them.

He said he, too, would be willing to go to jail.



# Feds Propose Expansion Of Insurance Rule To Require Trans Related Care

BY TODD HEYWOOD

Federal health officials have taken the first step in creating federal rules which would require all insurance plans to cover medically necessary transition related care for transgender people.

“Hopefully soon, transgender people throughout the country will finally be able to access the health care that is so fundamental to their well-being,” said Mara Keisling, executive director of the National Center for Transgender Equality. “We are hopeful that, as the data suggests, this will help reduce rates of depression, suicidality and substance abuse among transgender people, as well as alleviate stress-related health conditions that all people have when they aren’t getting the care they need and that their doctor orders.”

Under the new rules, which were published Sept. 3 and still require final approval by the agency, any health insurance sold on state or federal exchanges will have to provide medically necessary care for transgender people. That means Medicaid, Medicare, Children’s Health Insurance Program, The Indian Health Service and others will have to lift the broad bans currently in force with those plans.

Michigan Medicaid plans all have bans on transgender transition related care in them. Officials from the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services did not immediately return calls seeking comment on the proposed new rules.

Whether all federal programs will have to follow the new rule is up in the air according to NCTE.

“Some private health insurance plans outside the Marketplaces may not be covered if they are offered by issuers who do not also offer Marketplace plans or receive other federal funds,” NCTE staff wrote in a press release last week. “The rule does not address non-HHS federal health programs such as veterans’ and military health care, but those agencies are responsible for applying Section 1557 to their programs. HHS said it is also considering whether to join other federal agencies in interpreting the ban on sex discrimination to include bias based on sexual orientation, and whether to allow healthcare providers to discriminate against women or LGBT people because of the provider’s religious belief. NCTE will advocate vigorously for protection for all LGBT

The new rule will also require transgender people to be treated without discrimination.

people and against any religious right to discriminate against anyone.”

The new rule will also require transgender people to be treated without discrimination. That means, regardless of what gender is presented in their medical charts, they will be allowed to have gender specific medical tests done such as prostate and breast cancer exams. The new rule would also require that transgender people be allowed to access and use services specific to their gender identity and expression.

“This proposed rule is an important step to strengthen protections for people who have often been subject to discrimination in our health care system,” Health and Human Services Secretary Sylvia M. Burwell said in a press release sent out by the White House. “This is another example of this Administration’s commitment to giving every American access to the health care they deserve.”

## Impact of Rule

The White House press release also highlighted the following things the proposed rule will do in opening up effective health care:

- Women must be treated equally with men in the health care they receive. Other provisions of the ACA bar certain types of sex discrimination in insurance, for example by prohibiting women from being charged more than men for coverage. Under Section 1557, women are protected from discrimination not only in the health coverage they obtain but in the health services they seek from providers.

- Individuals may not be subject to discrimination based on gender identity. For example, some insurance policies have historically contained categorical exclusions on coverage of all care related to gender transition. Those categorical exclusions are prohibited under the proposed rule. Individuals must also be treated consistent with their gender identity, including in access to facilities.

- The rule bolsters language assistance

for people with limited English proficiency, so that individuals are able to communicate more effectively with their healthcare providers to, for example, describe their symptoms and understand the treatment they have been prescribed. The proposed rule provides clear guidance on the requirements of the law with regard to provision of language services, such as oral interpreters and written translations.

- For individuals with disabilities, the rule contains requirements for the provision of auxiliary aids and services, including alternative formats and sign language interpreters, and the accessibility of programs offered through electronic and information technology.

Comments on the proposed rule will be accepted until Nov. 6, 2015 with final rules to follow sometime within the next year.



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Photo: Schoolboy Records/Interscope

# CALL ME GAYBE

## Carly Rae Jepsen On Being An LGBT Ally & How Justin Bieber Changed Her Life

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

**C**arly Rae Jepsen is calling – and no, not maybe. This is a real-life phone date (pegged, of course, to the release of her latest synth-pop concoction, “E•MO•TION”) wherein the 29-year-old is bubbly over, well, just about everything: Her career. The gays. Marriage equality. Being “the little mermaid.” And that time Justin Bieber changed her life.

**Growing up in Mission, British Columbia, in Canada, what was your introduction to the gay community?**

In Canada, I had tons of friends who I grew up with who are gay or lesbian. I had one friend in particular, and I saw just how hard it was for him when his family found out he was gay – they shunned him, actually. He thought he was gonna have to make it on his own and move out – it was heartbreaking

for all of us. We didn’t really understand it, and that’s probably when I began to really get angry about the pain that was caused for what I thought was no reason. Moving to the U.S. and seeing how big of an issue it is made me want to help and bring awareness to the subject.

**As a steadfast ally, that’s exactly what you’ve done. Though the group has since adjusted its policies on both fronts, you famously canceled a Boy Scouts of America gig due to the fact that gay members and leaders could not work and volunteer.**

You know what, I’ve had a couple “I think I’m gonna tell my kids about this” moments. When we got marriage equality and there was a celebration for that in New York City (hosted by Freedom to Marry on July 9), it was an honor to be a part of that.

I can’t explain it. There are some

performances that you do and you’re like, “That was cool, that was fun.” That one was different fun. It was so memorable and an incredible thing to be a part of. The band and I had a moment backstage where we all kind of were like, “Wow, this is really cool. This is a different kind of cool, to be a part of this.”

**As an artist, when did you first feel the support from the gay community?**

We were performing during a lot of different events like the White Party, which is an amazing celebration. That’s probably one of the best times we’ve had. Everyone’s in the best mood ever! But I’ve always felt, when we go to wherever it might be – a festival or something along those lines – it’s just a different kind of energy. Everyone is so joyful and you feel all of that as a performer. There’s just a mutual lovefest going on for me anytime I can get in front of a crowd like that.

**You immediately established yourself as an ally when you ended your “Call Me Maybe” video with a gay twist. The influence of the song’s video on the mainstream cannot be denied. In a 2012 Huffington Post article, you were called “a poster child for the post-gay pop generation.” How aware are you of the influence the video’s nonchalant approach to homosexuality had on mainstream culture?**

It was a very innocent video... because I am nonchalant about it! (Laughs) It wasn’t meant to have a huge impact – it actually shocked me that it did. I think there was so much going on with that video and with that song that my life was sort of being flipped upside down. I moved to LA for the first time and I was meeting all these people, so it was just a nice thing to hear that it was making a positive impact, but there was no intentional motive. It ended up being a beautiful outcome, though.



**Is the gay guy you fell for in the video available?  
Can he call me maybe?**

(Laughs) I'm sorry to inform you that I think he's actually straight, but you can see what you can do, at least. Go for it!

**Have you ever fallen for a gay man?**

Oh, I'm completely in love with one of my best friends, but he's very gay, so yeah. I'm very in love with him, but it's more of a brother / sister love. Whatever man actually does land him will be a very lucky man, indeed. He's everything I'd want and more.

**Have you ever gone on a date with a guy where he's like, "Here's my number, so call me maybe"?**

(Laughs) I haven't. But I actually experienced a pretty comical thing after "Call Me Maybe." When I had written that song I had a boyfriend, and throughout the whole process of promoting it and touring with it, I was a taken lady. It wasn't until I was single I had realized what a flub up I had made... because who's ever gonna ask me for my number now?! It's such an awkward situation. "Soooo. Here's my number." We're gonna have to exchange emails or something.

**Text me maybe?**

Text me maybe – yeah! Eh, I'm kind of screwed.

**How does it feel knowing you'll have to sing that song for the rest of your life?**

When I was very little, actually, my grandmother would say, "Be careful what songs you put out there because you might have to sing them for the rest of your life." I bring that up to her now and again and I'm like, "Did you know? You knew!"

And yeah, it *is* one of those songs where I'll be 89 and I'll still be singing it. The thing with a song like that is, yeah, it has its moments where we're like, "Really? 'Call Me Maybe' again?" – butting our heads against the wall – but you see all the joy that happens when we play it and it's worth it. Plus, I never have to sing it alone.

**For the new album, you were inspired after seeing a Cyndi Lauper concert in Japan. What about seeing her live influenced the direction you took on "E•MO•TION"?**

This last year I had one of those "pinch me moments" when Cyndi Lauper was inaugurated into the Songwriters Hall of Fame and she actually allowed me to be the person to give the inauguration speech *and* sing ("Time After Time"). My parents were in town, and I don't think I'd ever been more nervous about something. To have (Cyndi) kind of beside me, watching me, was like, "Oh god."

I think that there's just a timelessness to her songs. "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" is so epic; it's one of those songs that has stood the test of time. I feel like it's an intimidating endeavor, but I wanted to at least aim at trying to make songs that weren't just for the

moment but that could be lasting. There's something about '80s music that I really hooked into. Old-school Madonna, Prince – it all jives. I didn't necessarily want to make a complete period piece – where I'm taking you back to the '80s – but I wanted to incorporate something '80s into what I naturally do.

**What facets of your own life did you tap into to make this album a more personal experience?**

Well, it depends on the song. I think there are lighter songs, where there's not much of me to read into. "I Really Like You" is one of those; it's just, like, a hook up and it's clearly just that. (Laughs) But I do think there are songs that speak to my more personal side. "Warm Blood" is that for me; it's a very intimate song. The verse came to me in the middle of the night actually, and it's about that longing for intimacy.

**Justin Bieber tweeted "Call Me Maybe" out when the single was released in 2012, you've toured together, and then he recently made a cameo in the video for "I Really Like You." What's your relationship with Justin like?**

I can't describe Justin any other way than by saying he has been a life-changer for me. He obviously was the first person to shed light on my project in Canada, and I don't know how you thank somebody for that. I don't know how you say, "Thank you for making all of my dreams come true."

It's been a really great professional relationship. He also invited me to be a part of his world tour, which was just such an experience for me and the band boys. Before Justin the biggest tour we had done was opening for Hanson in Canada; that was fun in a different way. But getting to play stadiums – there's nothing quite like that feeling. And yeah, forever I am indebted to him. It was very fun to have him be a part of "I Really Like You."

We did a song called "Beautiful" on "Kiss" (in 2012) – that was a very strange day for me too. I remember flying into L.A. and immediately after I arrived I went to the studio to see what he was working on and he showed me "Beautiful" and asked me if I would sing on it with him. So literally a half hour after meeting Justin I was in the studio recording his song. Again, it was one of those moments; I've had a few of them in my life where you're just wondering if you're dreaming or not. It's almost too weird to be true. I'm really happy with how the whole thing came out. It was a nice moment and memory for me.

**Speaking of dreams come true: How much did getting to sing "Part of Your World" for "The Little Mermaid" Diamond Edition DVD change your life?!**

I got a few phone calls – weird phone calls, again! – and that was one of those: "We're

See Carly Rae Jepsen, page 24



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# Artist Kyle Irving Featured At Upcoming MAC Event

## Exclusive Interview

BY AJ TRAGER

**DETROIT** – Kyle “Rise” Irving is one of the many artists who will showcase their work at the upcoming Michigan AIDS Coalition celebration, ArtWorks. ArtWorks, which will be held on Sept. 18 at The Alchemy in Detroit, will raise funds to directly benefit the work of MAC, such as investing in evidence-based, innovative programs through advocacy and education.

Irving serves as a MAC committee member and helped plan the 20th anniversary event. According to his Facebook, Irving is “an urban artist from the Metro Detroit area. Artwork ranges from pop cartoon images, classic comic book heroes/villains, video games, all the

way to the traditional tattoo and Asian themes. All his art has what he has dubbed ‘Hooligan Art.’”

Irving sat down with BTL to discuss the link between AIDS/HIV awareness and art, the history of his nickname and what he feels people are “brushing under the rug” when it comes to AIDS/HIV.

### How did you get your start as an artist? Did you study?

I have been drawing and painting since I was able to (do so). I always did it just for fun. I attended Oakland University where I received my bachelor’s degree in art.

### What types of changes in your art have you experienced as an artist? What mediums do you work with?

While attending Oakland University, I was exposed to many new and different mediums and techniques. Through my years of working and evolving as an artist, I am constantly reminded that practice, learning and refining is a must as an artist. I was told once by another artist, “Learn the rules, so they can be broken with purpose.” It has truly helped to shape my work and ideas. My work is

done in a wide range of mediums, from ink, watercolor and spray paint on paper to wood and canvas. As well as fine art, I have worked to build my own T-shirt and skateboard line.

### How did you get connected with MAC?

I was introduced to the fine members of MAC by another well known Detroit artist, Antonio Agee.

### Why is it important to bring awareness to HIV/AIDS?

After working with MAC and ArtWorks for so many years, I have found a new respect for awareness of issues as opposed to aiming for a “cure.” There are so many issues that people don’t want to think about, brush under the rug so to speak. Speaking about and educating people on the disease and prevention is the true cure in my opinion. If we can speak openly and honestly about HIV/AIDS and prevent it before it starts, that is more power than looking for a cure after the fact.

### Where do you get your influence for the pieces? Why do those influences resonate so strongly for you?

I wish I had a solid, straight forward answer about this. It’s difficult to explain. I see something as I am going on with my day, I hear a song, and the gears start working – more often than not, at the most random times – which has taught me to carry a small sketchbook or notebook to get these ideas out.

### How have you grown as an artist? And how did you become known as ‘Rise’?

My artistic growth has been a long process. I am truly grateful on a daily basis for the love and support my work has been shown over the years, which I try as much as I can to give back through charity and donations. Rise was the name I picked for myself years ago when I first started spray painting. It has since become a personal reminder and symbol to myself to never stop. The art world and life in general can be hard and cruel at times, but with Rise, I know not to stop working and trying.

### What is next for you?

I look forward to continuing to work with MAC and hopefully branch out and work with other Detroit-based groups. As a professional I am always looking for the next project, something that will push me and allow me the opportunity to stretch my artistic wings.

*Shelby Clark Petkus contributed to this report.*



## SAVE THE DATE

### ArtWorks Detroit

ArtWorks Detroit begins at 6 p.m. Sept. 18. Tickets are \$75 and include complimentary valet. The Alchemy, Warehouse C, is located at 2051 Rosa Parks Blvd., Detroit.  
>> [www.michiganaidcoalition.org](http://www.michiganaidcoalition.org)

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Artist Kyle Irving's work will be on display Sept. 18





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# Theatre Nova Announces Second Half Of Its Inaugural 2015 Season

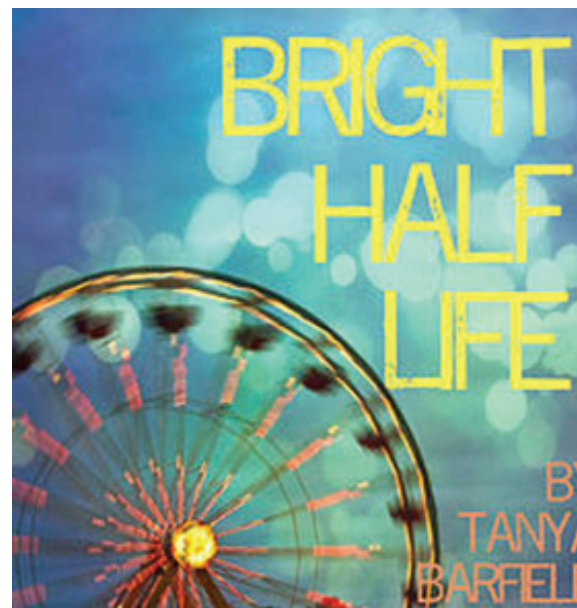
ANN ARBOR – Theatre Nova unveils the two remaining plays of its 2015 season, following a successful Indiegogo funding campaign and well-received productions in the first half of the year. As well, the company reveals a change to its previously announced lineup. Theatre Nova's 2015 season – which runs January through December to coincide with the calendar year (and not the typical theater season September through May) – will continue through December 2015. Nova's second season (2016) will be announced in December.

The fourth play of the 2015 season, which replaced the previously scheduled World Premiere musical "Irrational," was "Jihad Jones and the Kalashnikov Babes" by Yussef El Guindi, a comedy that weighs the lure of success against our ability to look ourselves in the mirror each day. Ashraf, a struggling Arab-American actor in Los Angeles, is offered his big break in a Hollywood action blockbuster: playing an evil Islamist terrorist, the sort of grotesque caricature seen all too often in popular films. El Guindi's script offers fast-paced, razor-edge laughs, in a blistering satire that is both outrageous and thought provoking without being preachy. Artistic Director Carla Milarch directs, with Daniel C. Walker providing production design. Jihad Jones ran July 24-Aug. 16.

Straight from its New York run at Women's Project Theatre, "Bright Half Life" by Pulitzer Prize nominee Tanya Barfield will be the fifth show of 2015. The play follows two women on a dreamlike journey through their life together, encompassing marriage, work, children and skydiving. Time Out New York wrote, "For sheer loveliness, you won't surpass Tanya Barfield's exquisite 'Bright Half Life.'" The team at Theatre Nova was stunned by the script's quick pacing and sly travel through time, where a single scene traverses decades in an instant. Producing Director Daniel C. Walker will direct and provide production design. "Bright Half Life" will run Oct. 1-25.

Theatre Nova will close its 2015 season with its first original show: "An Almost British Christmas," a holiday

romp inspired by the British tradition of pantomime (or "panto") which takes children's stories and injects Vaudeville sensibility to create raucous family entertainment. The story will track two unsophisticated Americans who attempt a British pantomime using American iconography and traditions; the result is an unusually American panto featuring local celebrities, pop culture references and choirs of local schoolchildren – a truly unique way to celebrate the holiday season. Carla Milarch will direct, with Daniel C. Walker providing production design. "An Almost British Christmas" will run Nov. 27-Dec. 20.



Artistic Director Milarch said, "A theater company's work is really one of curation, taking the hundreds of plays available for production and culling them down to just five or six that will excite and stimulate our audience. We produce exclusively new plays, so we focus on finding the most important new plays you need to see and the most important new playwriting voices you need to hear. Our 2015 season features some of the most exciting new scripts in the country, like 'Grounded' and 'Buyer & Cellar,' and new pieces by important playwrights like Pulitzer Prize nominee Tanya Barfield's 'Bright Half Life' and 'Jihad Jones and the Kalashnikov Babes,' which are edgy and daring.

"Finally, our commitment to developing new work brings you world premieres like 'An Almost British Christmas' – exposing you to an entirely

new genre. We believe that one of the reasons people go to the theater is to discover something new and surprising. Every show in our season gives you that opportunity."

Milarch commented on the replacement of "Irrational" with "Jihad Jones": "Opening a theater company is an ambitious project. So is developing and mounting an eight-person musical. In this still critical stage of our development as an organization, we feel it is important that we do not stretch our resources, either financial or human, too thin. Even though we're disappointed, we feel that this move is, strategically, the one that

best ensures a solid foundation on which to build a future full of ambitious commissions and world premieres. We're in this for the long haul."

All performances will be at the Yellow Barn (416 W. Huron, Ann Arbor), which Theatre Nova converts to an 80-seat "thrust stage" theater six times a year. The location offers free parking, as well as quick walking access to downtown; nearby reference points are the Ann Arbor YMCA, the Big City Small World bakery, The Last Word and the Sun Moon Yoga Studio. The entrance for parking is near the intersection of Huron Street and Chapin Street/Third Street.

Theatre Nova has marked all performances as pay-what-you-can, with a suggested donation of \$20 per ticket. The company is also offering annual memberships that include tickets to all six season productions, every show in the Michigan Playwrights' Festival in November and each of its three children's shows.

*Theatre Nova is Michigan's only professional theater exclusively producing new plays. Its mission is to raise awareness of the value and excitement of new plays and rising artists, and provide resources for playwrights to develop their craft by importing, exporting and developing new work. It seeks to create a sustainable theater for generations to come, built on the cornerstones of accessibility, transparency, artist-leadership and equality. It is a nonprofit 501c(3) organization. Visit [theatrenova.org](http://theatrenova.org) for more information.*



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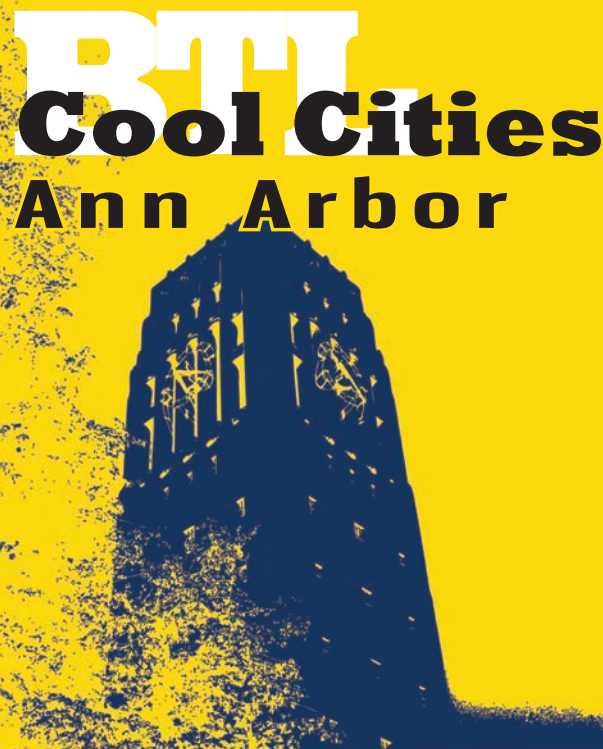
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# Happenings

## Editor's Pick



Reflect on what Tyree Guyton's work has meant to the cultural life of Detroit and beyond with this exhibition opening at UMMA. His life's work, The Heidelberg Project, is celebrating its 30-year anniversary as one of the largest, best-known and longest-running site-specific art installations in the country. Not only will The Art of Tyree Guyton explore the artist's involvement with the project through the decades, but it will also feature a selection of prints and drawings from his more recent studio work, as well as two new works created specifically for this exhibition.

The Heidelberg Project is one of the largest, best-known and longest-running site-specific art installations in the country. Occupying more than two blocks along Heidelberg Street on Detroit's East Side, the project has transformed its neighborhood, covering abandoned houses, the street and the surrounding area with collections of found objects and vividly rendered paintings.

The University of Michigan Museum of Art is located at 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. For more information, call 734-764-0395 or visit [www.umma.umich.edu](http://www.umma.umich.edu).

## OUTINGS

### Thursday, Sep. 10

**Liberating Religious Liberty Symposium** 5 p.m. MMCD and ACLU of Michigan, **Detroit**. [Religiouslibertyforall.org](http://Religiouslibertyforall.org)

**Greening the City: The Politics & Possibilities of Greenspace** 7 p.m. Featuring Will Allen, Alice Waters, Patrick Blanc. Moderated by Stephen Henderson. College for Creative Studies, 460 W. Baltimore St., **Detroit**.

**Loretta Lynn and Martina McBride** 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$45-75. Olympia Entertainment, 2211 Woodward Ave., **Detroit**. 313-471-6611. [Olympiaentertainment.com](http://Olympiaentertainment.com)

**MAC Health** 11 p.m. Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC), 928 McNichols Road W, **Detroit**. 313-863-3934. [Michiganaidcoalition.org](http://Michiganaidcoalition.org)

### Friday, Sep. 11

**My Brightest Diamond** 8 p.m. Not many people can front a rock band, sing Greckis Third Symphony, lead a marching band professional down the streets of the Sundance Film Festival, and perform a Baroque opera of their own composition all in a months time. But Shara Worden can. A one-time touring member of the Decemberists, the Detroit-based artist and Ypsilanti High School graduate has collaborated with David Lang, Sufjan Stevens, Laurie Anderson and yMusic, keeping one foot in the classical world and one in the club. University Musical Society, 210 S. Ashley St., **Ann Arbor**. 734-764-2538. [umstix@umich.edu](mailto:umstix@umich.edu) [Ums.org/performance/my-brightest-diamond/](http://Ums.org/performance/my-brightest-diamond/)

**MAC Health** 11 p.m. Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC), **Detroit**. [Michiganaidcoalition.org](http://Michiganaidcoalition.org)

### Saturday, Sep. 12

**New Center Community Services Annual Walkathon 2015** 9 a.m. Stand up for mental health. Registration is \$20+. New Center, 1340 Atwater St., **Detroit**. 313-961-3715. [syyoung@newcentercmhs.org](mailto:syyoung@newcentercmhs.org) [Newcentercmhs.org](http://Newcentercmhs.org)

**Toastmasters Demo Meeting with GNA Ambassadors Club** 11 a.m. Please join us for our inaugural demonstration meeting! GNA (Gender-identity Network Alliance), 290 West Nine Mile Road,

**Ferndale**. 810-357-4035. [Facebook.com/events/1706827116206807/](https://www.facebook.com/events/1706827116206807/)

**Upper Peninsula Rainbow Pride Fest 2015** 11 a.m. Join us for our second annual Pride Fest. Games, entertainment, food, merchandise, music and more! Upper Peninsula Rainbow Pride, 2145 Sugar Loaf Ave., **Marquette**. [uprainbowpride@gmail.com](mailto:uprainbowpride@gmail.com) [Uprainbowpride.com/index.htm](http://Uprainbowpride.com/index.htm)

**Comedy For A Cause** 8 p.m. Tickets: \$15. Laff Tracks Comedy Club & MCCD, 30850 Beck Road, **Novi**. 248-924-9578. [Lafftracksnovi.com](http://Lafftracksnovi.com)

### Sunday, Sep. 13

**AIDS Walk Detroit** 5k through downtown Royal Oak. AIDS Walk Detroit, 316 E. Eleven Mile Road, **Royal Oak**. 248-399-WALK. [ckeyes@aidswalkdetroit.org](mailto:ckeyes@aidswalkdetroit.org) [Aidswalkdetroit.org](http://Aidswalkdetroit.org)

**Nick Jonas and Bebe Rexha** The Fillmore, **Detroit**.

### Tuesday, Sep. 15

**Karaoke and Half Off Wine** \autBAR,

315 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-994-3677. [Autbar.com](http://Autbar.com)

**MAC Health** 2 p.m. Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC), **Detroit**. [Michiganaidcoalition.org](http://Michiganaidcoalition.org)

### Wednesday, Sep. 16

**ArtWorks: Fashion & Food Trucks** Michigan AIDS Coalition, 1600 Clay St., **Detroit**. [Michiganaidcoalition.org](http://Michiganaidcoalition.org)

**Free Pool and \$1 Off Beer** \autBAR, 315 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-994-3677. [Autbar.com](http://Autbar.com)

**MAC Health** 6 p.m. Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC), 290 W. Nine Mile Road, **Ferndale**. 248-398-7105. [Michiganaidcoalition.org](http://Michiganaidcoalition.org)

### Thursday, Sep. 17

**Design Detroit** Sample 20 restaurant stations. Michigan AIDS Coalition, 1600 Clay St., **Detroit**. [Michiganaidcoalition.org](http://Michiganaidcoalition.org)

**MAC Health** 1 a.m. Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC), **Detroit**. [Michiganaidcoalition.org](http://Michiganaidcoalition.org)

**Trivia with Terry and Thirsty Thursday** Half off beer and well drinks with student ID. \autBAR, 315 Braun Ct., **Ann Arbor**. 734-994-3677. [Autbar.com](http://Autbar.com)

**UMS Student Welcome Party and Open House** 11 a.m. Take advantage of an unforgettable opportunity to visit the inside of Hill Auditorium. Learn about UMS events this season and how you can be involved. Snacks provided, student tickets available for purchase. University Musical Society, 825 N. University Ave., **Ann Arbor**. 734-764-2538. [umstix@umich.edu](mailto:umstix@umich.edu) [Ums.org/performance/ums-student-welcome-party-and-open-house/](http://Ums.org/performance/ums-student-welcome-party-and-open-house/)

**Faith Alliance Meeting** 12 p.m. Welcoming new members who would like to be involved with the intersection of faith, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 2208 Winchell Ave., **Kalamazoo**. [Kglrc.org](http://Kglrc.org)

**MAC Health** 2 p.m. Mondays by appointment only. Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC), **Ferndale**. [Michiganaidcoalition.org](http://Michiganaidcoalition.org)

### ► Carly Rae Jepsen

Continued from page 17

getting different musicians to play the part of the princess of the decade – right now it's gonna be Ariel – and we were wondering if you would sing 'Part of Your World' and there should be a video and you'll play Ariel." I was like, "Ummmm. You're giving me an excuse to dye my hair red, which I've wanted to do for a while!"

### Has fame made you feel like a Disney princess?

I'm definitely not a Disney princess by any means! (Laughs) But it's fun to play the part of it every once in a while.

### If you didn't have feet, would you trade your voice for them?

I think the singing aspect would be too important, so I'd keep my voice. For true love, though – that's a different thing. You trade anything for true love.

### If you had a prince as hot as Eric...

Yeah, now you're talking!

### You also played Cinderella last year during Rodger and Hammerstein's "Cinderella" on Broadway. What would you like your happily ever after to be?

I have always admired people who've been able to make music for life and who have an audience that just follows the ebbs and flows of their career, and also

hopefully helps other people with the music they're making. I know he's not a pop artist, but James Taylor is someone I've always looked up to because he has such a strong core fanbase that will follow him everywhere. He can take two years off and come back with an album and be No. 1 with it. If I could be anything close to that career-wise, where you're able to spend your life making music and have people – whether it's a big group or a small mighty group – come and see my shows, that would be the dream.

*Chris Azzopardi is the editor of Q Syndicate, the international LGBT wire service. Reach him via his website at [www.chris-azzopardi.com](http://www.chris-azzopardi.com) and on Twitter (@chrisazzopardi).*



**Connections** 6 p.m. Open to all LGBTQ and Ally youth from 13-18. Join us to meet other LGBTQ and Ally teens and socialize in a safe space. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., Kalamazoo. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

**En Pointe in Detroit** 6 p.m. Attire: robe noir/black dress. Tickets: \$25. pas de deux bridal, 2100 Woodward Ave., Detroit. 313-833-7900. Dia.org

**The Parent Network** 6 p.m. This group aims to assist parents in understanding their child's identity, while also giving parents the opportunity to socialize with other adults who have LGBT children Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., Kalamazoo. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

**Voices** 6 p.m. Tickets: \$175-275. Ruth Ellis Center, BTL, Lear Corporation, 130 E. Atwater St., Detroit. Rthelliscenter.org

### Friday, Sep. 18

**20th Anniversary ArtWorks Detroit** 150 pieces of donated fine art. Live and silent auction. Michigan AIDS Coalition, 1600 Clay St., Detroit. Michiganaidcoalition.org

**Bistro Fridays** Special menu. \aut\BAR, 315 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor. 734-994-3677. Autbar.com

**LGBT Dinner** 6:30 p.m. Lansing Association for Human Rights, Lansing. Lahronline.org/

**MAC Health** 11 p.m. Michigan AIDS Coalition (MAC), Detroit. Michiganaidcoalition.org

### Saturday, Sep. 19

**turnIt aut** \aut\BAR, 315 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor. 734-994-3677. Autbar.com

**Young Frankenstein** 8 p.m. Tickets: \$22-24. Stagecrafters, 415 S. Lafayette Ave., Royal Oak. 248-541-6430. Stagecrafters.org

### Sunday, Sep. 20

**LGBT Parenting Support Group** 1 a.m. The purpose of the group is for LGBT families to have a monthly opportunity to get together to get to know one another and to discuss topics of interest. Free. Organization Name, 318 W. Nine Mile, Ferndale. 248-955-3219. info@naturessplayhouse.com Naturessplayhouse.com/

**Salsa Night** Salsa lessons. \$1 tacos. \aut\BAR, 315 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor. 734-994-3677. Autbar.com

**Bisexual Peer Group** 4 p.m. Our group

meets monthly on the third Sunday & discussion relates to bisexual identity. Building is handicap accessible using ramp to rear entrance. Bisexual Peer Group, 319 Braun Ct., Ann Arbor. paylor9@icloud.com Facebook.com/groups/110918256984/

**Pride NA** 6:30 p.m. Confidential and anonymous. Open to all individuals impacted by addiction. Kalamazoo Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 629 Pioneer St., Kalamazoo. 269-349-4234. Kglrc.org

**B.F.'s!** 7 p.m. Tickets: \$12 in advance only. Slipstream, 460 Hilton, Ferndale. 248-298-9617. Slipstreamti.com

## MUSIC & MORE

**Blind Pig** "DEATH" 18+. Tickets: \$18-20. Blind Pig, 208 S. First St., Ann Arbor. 9 p.m. Sep. 13. 734-996-8555. Blindpigmusic.com

**The Ark** "Riders in the Sky Salute Roy Rogers" Tickets: \$25. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. Sep. 13. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Ark** "Ellis Paul" Tickets: \$15. The Ark, 316 S. Main St., Ann Arbor. 8 p.m. Sep. 12. 734-761-1800. Theark.org

**The Magic Bag** "Saun & Starr with Third Coast Kings" Tickets: \$15+-. The Magic Bag, 22920 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. 8 p.m. Sep. 16. 248-544-3030. Themagicbag.com

**University Musical Society** "K-12 Kickoff Event" Please join us as we launch the 2015-16 season at a special after-school luncheon for teachers. This event is free and open to any interested educator, but registration is required. University Musical Society, Ann Arbor. 4:30 p.m. Sep. 15. 734-764-2538. Ums.org/performance/1516-k12kickoff/

## THEATER

**Dirty Rotten Scoundrels** Tickets: \$20-22. Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr., Lansing. Sep. 10 - Sep. 20. 517-482-5700. Riverwalktheatre.com

**Inaugural Fall 2015 Kick-Off Event** Free; suggested donation of \$20. MITTEN Lab, Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway St., Detroit. 11 a.m. Sep. 13. 313-237-SING.

**National Theatre Live George Bernard Shaw's Man and Superman** High-Definition Broadcasts from National Theatre, London. University Musical Society, Michigan

Theater, 603 East Liberty St., Ann Arbor. 7:30 p.m. Sep. 16. 734-764-2538. Ums.org/performance/int-live-man-superman/

## Civic/Community Theater

**The Addams Family** Tickets: \$13-25. Ann Arbor Civic Theatre, Lydia Mendelssohn Theatre, 911 N. University, Ann Arbor. Sep. 10 - Sep. 13. 734-971-0605. A2ct.org

## Professional

**5 Lesbians Eating a Quiche** It's 1956 and the Susan B. Anthony Society for the Sisters of Gertrude Stein are having their annual quiche breakfast. Will they be able to keep their cool when communists threaten their idyllic town? Tickets: \$10-20. The Ringwald Theatre, 22742 Woodward Ave., Ferndale. Through Sep. 14. 248-545-5545. theeringwald.com

**ComedySportz** Two teams battle for laughs and points as they make up scenes, games and songs on the spot. A family-friendly show! . ComedySportz Detroit, Michigan Actors Studio, 648 E. Nine Mile Road, Ferndale. Through Oct. 31. 877-636-3320. comedysportzdetroit.com

**Nunset Boulevard** The Little Sisters of Hoboken have been invited to sing at the Hollywood Bowl. They are thrilled at the prospect until they arrive and realize that they are booked into the Hollywood Bowl-A-Rama, a bowling alley with a cabaret lounge. Tickets: Cornwell's Dinner Theatre, 18935 15 1/2 Mile Rd, Marshall. Through Oct. 24. 269-781-4293. turkeyville.com

## ART 'N' AROUND

**Detroit Artists Market (DAM)** "The Change We Want To See: Artists Reflect on Detroit" . Detroit Artists Market, 4719 Woodward Ave., Detroit. Sep. 11 - Oct. 17. 313-832-8540. Detroitartistsmarket.org

**MOCAD** "Interchange Art + Dinner Series" Tickets: \$200+-. Museum of Contemporary Art Detroit, 4454 Woodward Ave., Detroit. June 18 - Sep. 24. 313-832-6622. Mocadoetroit.org

**Riverwalk Theatre** "Mary Jobin, Oil Painted Landscapes" . Riverwalk Theatre, 228 Museum Dr., Lansing. Aug. 1 - Sep. 30. 517-482-5700.

**UMMA** "The Art of Tyree Guyton: A Thirty-Year Journey" . University Of Michigan Museum Of Art, 525 S. State St., Ann Arbor. Aug. 22 - Jan. 3. 734-763-4186. Umma.umich.edu



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## Editor's Pick

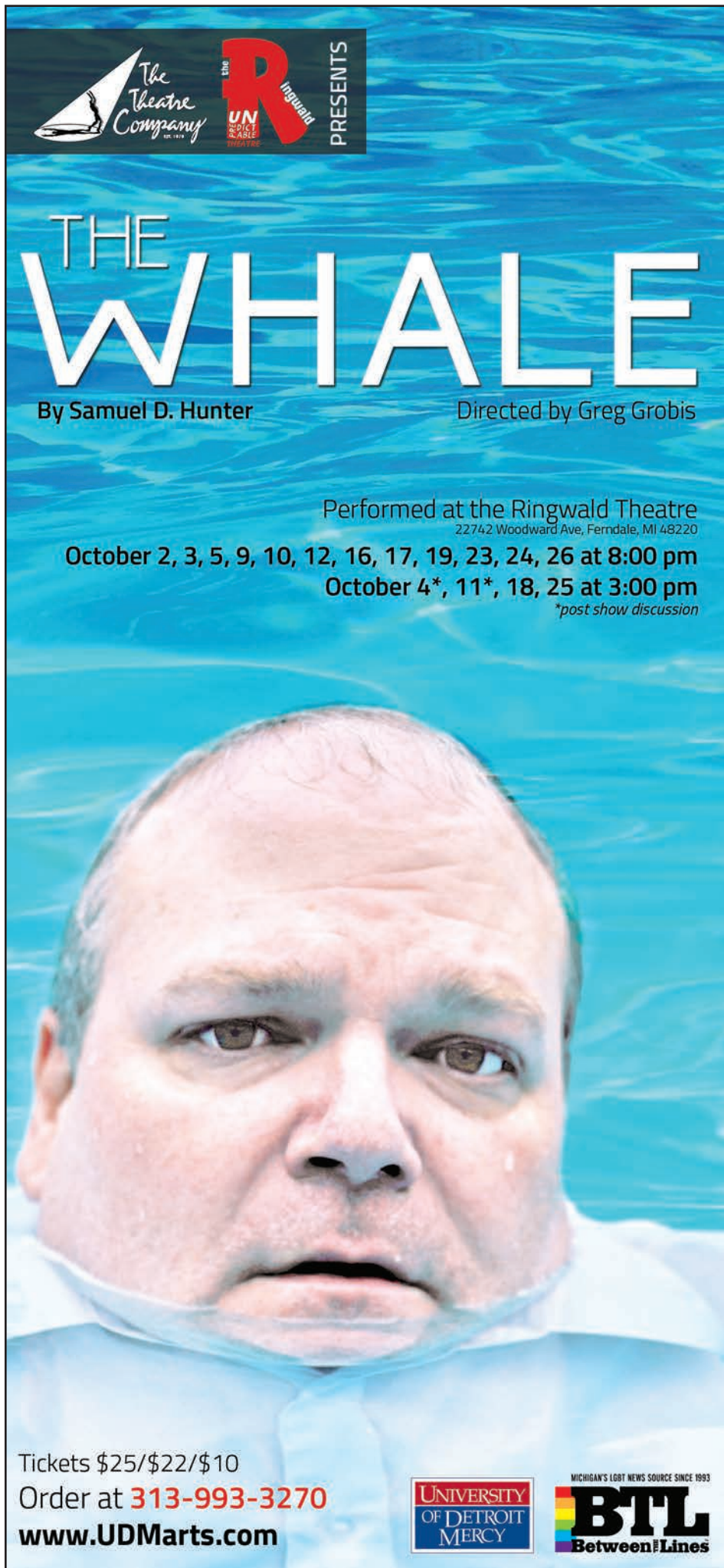
A unique opportunity to view rarely-traveled art is currently at the Flint Institute of Arts. Through Oct. 11, the FIA will host the Detroit Institute of Arts' Nut Gatherers (1882) by French artist William-Aldophe Bouguereau (1825-1905).

This painting, which rarely goes on loan because of its popularity among DIA

visitors (it was once the number 1 selling postcard in the gift shop), will be on view in the Johnson Gallery near other important works of European and American 19th-century art in the FIA collection. The FIA also just wrapped up a special presentation of Edvard Munch's work.

The FIA is located just two blocks off I-475 in the Flint Cultural Center between the University of Michigan-Flint and Mott Community College. Admission to the FIA permanent collection is free; admission to the temporary exhibitions is \$7 for Adults, \$5 for Senior Citizens and Students and FREE to FIA members and children under 12. For more information, call 810-234-1695 or visit [www.flintarts.org](http://www.flintarts.org).





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## Deep Inside Hollywood

BY ROMEO SAN VICENTE

### Dianna Agron's 'Hollow' choices

After co-starring on "Glee," which may have been the single gayest television series in broadcast history, what's an actor to do? If you're Dianna Agron, who played heterosexual cheerleader princess Quinn, you dig into indie lesbian roles. She's already appeared in the sexy, queer film-fest-favorite "Bare," and now she's taken a role in the

is moving in a very interesting direction, as she avoids mega-franchises in favor of the arthouse. She's already gotten the best reviews of her career for this spring's "Clouds of Sils Maria," and now she'll reteam with that film's director, Olivier Assayas, for the upcoming "Personal Shopper." She's also currently making the next, as-yet-untitled Woody Allen movie with co-stars Blake Lively, Jesse Eisenberg, Bruce Willis, Corey Stoll, Parker Posey and Judy Davis. You may have to work a little harder to see these upcoming projects – they're more or less destined for less-than-wide release, but it's going to be worth the effort.



### Tom Ford gathers up his cast

As we mentioned before, all Tom Ford had to do was waltz into the Cannes Film Festival, announce that he had decided to make another movie, and producers would make it rain to the tune of \$20 million, which they did. That means "Nocturnal Animals" is a go, and the cast has expanded from the original announcement of Amy Adams and Jake Gyllenhaal to include Armie Hammer, Michael Shannon, Aaron Taylor Johnson, and now Kim Basinger. Adams will play a woman who receives a book manuscript in the mail, one that instigates her own journey, and Basinger will play Adams' mother, a wealthy Texas socialite. The rest remains shrouded in rightful secrecy, a rare thing in these times of leaked footage, trailers and superhero plot details.

### 'Just Kids' comes to Showtime

When rock legend Patti Smith wrote her memoir, "Just Kids," about the early '70s in New York when she was joined at the hip with gay artist Robert Mapplethorpe, she might not have known it was going to win the National Book Award. She had to know it was going to be special, though. Now, it's going to be a television special, one she'll co-create with writer John Logan ("Penny Dreadful"). The pair is developing the project as a limited series for Showtime with no specified air date as of yet. There's also no cast, but this ought to be a project that sees all of Young Hollywood scrambling to text their agents. And frankly, we're almost as excited about this as we are about Showtime reviving "Twin Peaks." HBO better watch its back.

debut feature from filmmaker Scooter Corkle, "Hollow in The Land." The low-budget drama sees Agron playing a butch young lesbian who works at a pulp mill. Her father has been imprisoned for murder, which is bad enough, but life takes a turn for the worse when her brother goes missing. That's when she turns detective to find him. Shooting gets underway soon, so look for this one sometime in 2016, most likely, wherever you find independent cinema.

### Kristen Stewart's 'Personal' approach

Kristen Stewart is having an interesting post-"Twilight" moment. Sadly, her latest film, the weird stoner action-comedy "American Ultra," was ignored at the box office, but it's not slowing her down at all. Her recent interview that amounted to, "Whatever, dude, I'm dating a woman now," was Millennial for, "I'm coming out." And her acting career

Romeo San Vicente's Time Square experiences resemble those captured in Madonna's "Open Your Heart" video. He can be reached care of this publication or at DeepInsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com.



# Hear Me Out

BY CHRIS AZZOPARDI

## Carly Rae Jepsen, Robyn



### Carly Rae Jepsen, 'E•MO•TION'

Carly Rae Jepsen came out of nowhere, seized radio, dug a hole in your head and planted a little song there named "Call Me Maybe." It grew and grew. It grew so much you are, at this very moment, singing it. And it's just the beginning, now that she's released her third album, which, again, will lodge itself into the depths of your consciousness. "E•MO•TION" stands as the singular best piece of pop music this year so far, and right about now, you're thinking: "But Carly Rae Jepsen?" Yes. I know. Carly Rae Jepsen. Who sings "Call Me Maybe." For real, though: "E•MO•TION" is a nonstop parade of hooks without being the "Call Me Maybe" confection factory it very well could have been. Jepsen and a crew of consummate producers shake up the formula that made her famous, and they do it with surprising stylistic flourishes, an ear for the '80s and a lingering sweet-pop center. Cyndi Lauper, Prince and the Go-Gos are ever present on "E•MO•TION," their panache coloring in songs such as the brilliant sax-tinged "Run Away With Me" and "When I Needed You," with its "hey!" call outs (so awesomely '80s, right?). "I Really Like You" pops with infectious flair,

and Sia gives the heartfelt "Making the Most of the Night" – a volcano of a song, its chorus spilling out everywhere – her magic music-making touch. "E•MO•TION" is this year's pop album to beat. Girls and boys, get to work. *Grade: A-*

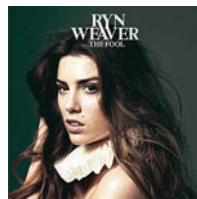


### Robyn & La Bagatelle Magique, 'Love Is Free'

Remember 1997? You were fiercely smackin' that sonic bubblegum Robyn gave you. Years later, in 2005, the Swedish "Show Me Love" singer reemerged as an edgier version of her '90s self. Harder, sadder, dancier. And those jams were consistently on point; Robyn knew the human psyche. She knew heartache. She was... just like us. Now, she's at it again. With keyboardist Markus Jägerstedt and the late producer Christian Falk, Robyn – fronting their new trio, La Bagatelle Magique – releases yet another mini-album (if her post-'90s career is any indication, Robyn doesn't do full albums anymore). The four songs aren't as emotionally fulfilling as, say, "Dancing on My Own" or "Hang with Me"; but, not counting the

awkward framing and wonky vocals on "Tell You (Today)," they certainly hold up on their own. And, you know, it's Robyn, whose presence alone makes even a tiny misstep like "Tell You" tolerable. "Love Is Free" is light on words and heavy on sound; it's untamed and exhilarating, and its house-vibed early-'90s build, inspired. "Set Me Free" works up a sweat, too, as it turns back time another decade. Swathed in '80s synths, it's further proof that – solo or not – nobody gets bodies talkin' quite like Robyn. *Grade: B*

### Also Out



### Ryn Weaver, 'The Fool'

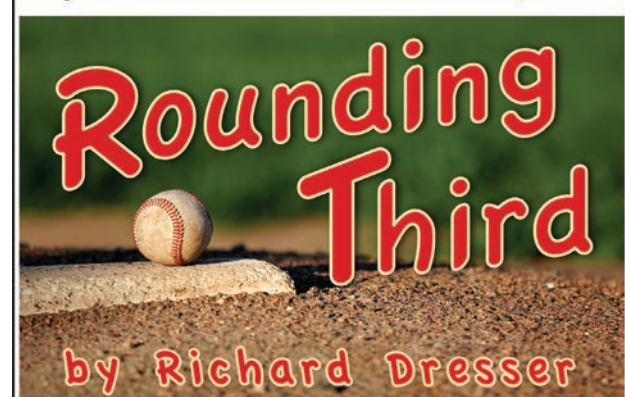
Ryn Weaver went viral with a booming piece of jolty dream-pop called "OctaHate." If you've ever heard of the Internet, you've likely heard the song. Unleashing the 23-year-old onto the world, the song opened the doors to her full-length debut "The Fool," a decidedly less straightforward pop album than her first single suggested. Is it alternative? Is it indie? Is it pop? It's all of these things. And more. There's no box for Weaver to step in; that's by choice. As she pursues a decently potent palette, from the Stevie Nicks-inspired "Here Is Home" to the percolating tribal-teemed "Runaway," her wild ambitions could use some honing. And soon enough, then, every song will live up to the pop promise of "OctaHate."



### Noah Gundersen, 'Carry the Ghost'

Unhurried and melancholic, Noah Gundersen's honeyed voice emerges like an early-winter frost on "Slow Dancer." A bed of electric fuzz and stormy strings cuts through the piano lead-in, and those who have not yet heard of Gundersen will, in that moment, wish they had sooner. And particularly for fans of Ryan Adams, one of Gundersen's obvious influences. Like Adams, the 26-year-old is a rousing emotional current – the moon to your ocean – and his sophomore LP, "Carry the Ghost," brims with reflective doozies that bury themselves as deep as deep goes.

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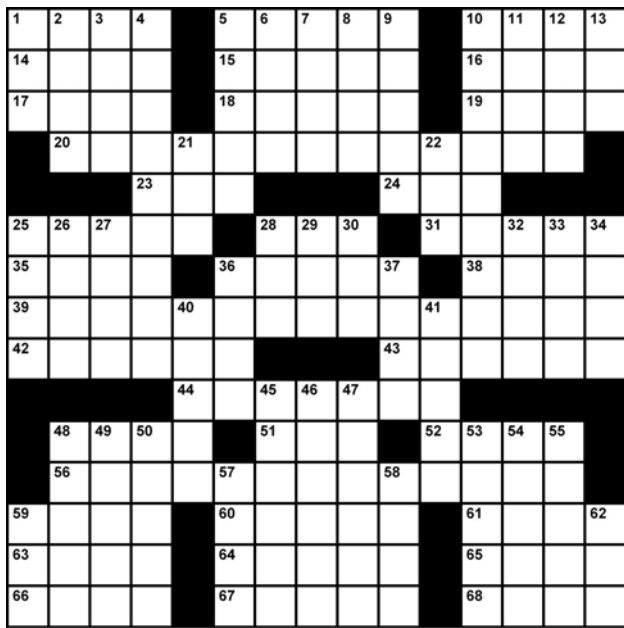
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# Q Puzzle



- 35 Arnaz, whose inlaws had Balls
- 36 Muscular strength
- 38 Young stud?
- 39 Sobriquet for 68-Across
- 42 Inventor Otis
- 43 Examine the testes again, e.g.?
- 44 Take a crack at
- 48 Enjoy a hot tub
- 51 Tooth care org.
- 52 Sex, crudely
- 56 End of the quote
- 59 Emphatic affirmative, to Frida
- 60 Opportunity for Glenn Burke
- 61 "So \_\_\_\_, Farewell"
- 63 Went down
- 64 2014 film about a voter-registration drive
- 65 A girl named Frank
- 66 High place with a flat top
- 67 Kilmer poem
- 68 Diggs
- 12 With mouth wide open
- 13 Kevin Bacon in "Footloose"
- 21 Winery container
- 22 Thousandth of an angry inch?
- 25 "Why, \_\_\_\_ delighted!"
- 26 Title role for Jodie Foster
- 27 Morales of "La Bamba"
- 28 Bellows of "Ally McBeal"
- 29 Collection suffix
- 30 "\_\_\_\_ out!" (Pallone cry)
- 32 Frat toga, e.g.
- 33 Julia Morgan wings
- 34 Keep in
- 36 "Beat it!"
- 37 Sitcom radio station
- 40 Uniform material
- 41 Piss off
- 45 Wine expert, maybe
- 46 Safe to swallow
- 47 Title for Colette
- 48 Word from Bruce Weber, perhaps
- 49 Wet spot on a blanket of sand
- 50 "West Side Story" girl
- 53 Black key for Elton John
- 54 "\_\_\_\_ roll!"
- 55 Dustin Hoffman biopic
- 57 Cartoonist Thomas
- 58 Sappho's H's
- 59 "American Beauty" director Mendes
- 62 Head-scratcher's comment

# Everyone Diggs Him

## Across

- 1 Loads
- 5 Nancy McKeon's " \_\_\_\_ of Life"
- 10 Cold feet
- 14 When quadrupled, a song by Bikini Kill
- 15 Finish off
- 16 Foam at the mouth
- 17 Grace \_\_\_\_
- 18 First name in cosmetics
- 19 "East of Eden" son
- 20 Start of a quote by 68-Across
- 23 Abe Lincoln's boy
- 24 Disencumber
- 25 Not potent
- 28 More of the quote
- 31 Pluck 'em

## Down

- 1 "Atlas Shrugged" author Rand
- 2 Fifth-century pope
- 3 Scout's recitation
- 4 Hissy fits and such
- 5 Did a slow burn
- 6 On an Atlantis cruise
- 7 Publisher and friend of Moss Hart
- 8 Jethro of rock
- 9 Weapon of Caesar's day
- 10 A real pussy?
- 11 Bring home the bacon

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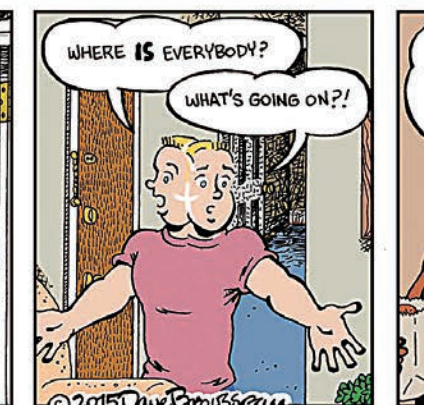
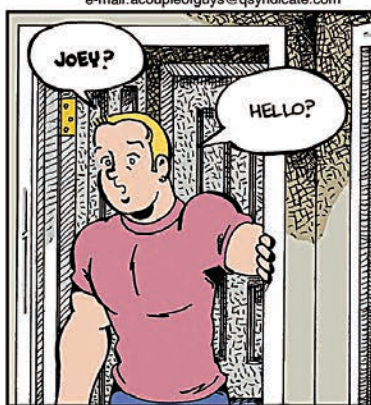
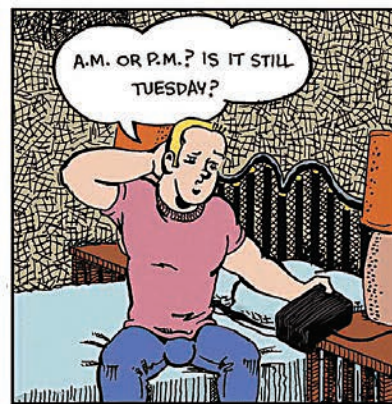
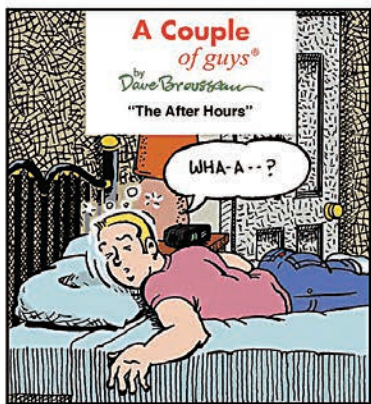
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