



# PFLAG Colorado Springs

Parents, Families, Friends, and Allies United  
With LGBT People to Move Equality Forward

July 2018

## Youth Documentary Academy Films at PFLAG— July 17th

Two riveting short films made by local high school students at the Youth Documentary Academy will be shown at the July 17th PFLAG meeting.

"Breaking Silence" by Dee Contreras and "Rock Bottom" by Rebecca St. John were produced under the guidance of San Francisco filmmaker and Colorado Springs native Tom Shepard and his talented group of mentors. These are intensely personal films made by novice filmmakers about coming out and domestic abuse.

Colorado Springs is home to an extraordinary summer program for young filmmakers. Founded in 2013, the Youth Documentary Academy (YDA) trains young people to direct and produce their own documentary films. For seven weeks, students learn all aspects of documentary filmmaking from professional filmmakers, faculty and guest artists. Each student completes a film and receives help in marketing the film to community organizations, film festivals, competitions and the media.

YDA was incubated at the Bemis School of Art and now is located at Pikes Peak Community College



YDA Filmmaker at work

(PPCC). Students from the ages of 14 to 18 are encouraged to apply.

This summer marks YDA's fifth anniversary. To celebrate the body of work already produced, YDA is focusing on teaching the filmmakers to produce trailers and learn more about marketing their work to media companies and film festivals. They are also partnering with community organizations like PFLAG to showcase films that touch on the following cutting-edge social issues: (1) Race, Racial Profiling and Stereotyping; (2) Teen Suicide Prevention; (3) First Generation Immigration and (4) Gender and Sexuality - Asserting Identity and Combating Bullying.

*(Continued on page 3)*

**JULY PFLAG MEETING**

**Tuesday  
July 17, 2018  
7:00 p.m.**

**"Breaking Silence"  
and  
"Rock Bottom"**

**Two short films made by  
High School Students at the  
Youth Documentary Film  
Academy**

**Youth representatives from  
YDA will discuss the 2018  
program and the impact of  
these films.**

**The Dwelling Place  
508 North Tejon Street**

**Social time at 6:30 p.m.  
Coffee, cookies  
Everyone is welcome**

## Especially This Year— Be Sure to Participate in PrideFest!



Moms Marching in Pride Parade—1990's Cartoon

### Pride Parade

We must stand up for our LGBT community in this politically difficult time. Step out of your comfort zone this year. Show up. Stand on the sidewalk and cheer, or, best of all, march with us in the Pride Parade!

We have the signs and the banner. We need you to join us.

The parade will start promptly at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, July 15th. Participants line up on Tejon Street between Colorado Avenue and Cimarron Street. Plan to arrive between 10 and 10:30 so that you have time to locate the PFLAG group and pick up a sign before the parade begins.

The parade route is one mile long, running north on Tejon to Colorado Avenue, then west on Colorado Avenue over the bridge to Cimino Drive and the park.

*(Continued on page 2)*



This newsletter is published by the Colorado Springs Chapter of PFLAG.

**PFLAG Vision Statement.** PFLAG envisions a world where diversity is celebrated and all people are respected, valued and affirmed inclusive of their sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression.

**PFLAG Mission Statement:** By meeting people where they are and collaborating with others, PFLAG realizes its vision through:

Support for families, allies and people who are LGBTQ

Education for ourselves and others about the unique issues and challenges facing people who are LGBTQ

Advocacy in our communities to change attitudes and create policies and laws that achieve full equality for people who are LGBTQ.

\*\*\*\*\*

To join the local chapter and receive the newsletter regularly, complete and mail the membership form on page four. To receive complimentary copies of the newsletter, please contact us.

E-mail address: [info@cspflag.org](mailto:info@cspflag.org)

Support Line: (719) 425-9567

P.O. Box 49131  
Colorado Springs, CO 80949

PFLAG Colorado Springs website:  
[www.cspflag.org](http://www.cspflag.org)

PFLAG National Office website:  
[www.pflag.org](http://www.pflag.org)

Newsletter Editor: Karen Flitton Stith  
E-mail: [karenfstith@gmail.com](mailto:karenfstith@gmail.com)

To receive your newsletter by e-mail, send a request to [info@cspflag.org](mailto:info@cspflag.org)

### Participate in PrideFest

*(Continued from page 1)*

The Out Loud Colorado Springs Mens Chorus is tentatively scheduled to perform on the main stage at the park between 12:00 and 1 p.m. on Sunday, right after the parade.

PrideFest is the 38th annual Colorado Springs LGBT Pride Festival, to be held July 14 and 15 at America the Beautiful Park. Adult admission is \$5 for a weekend pass. One sealed water bottle can be brought into the park, but no other outside beverages are permitted. Participants are welcome to bring picnic lunches, and leashed, friendly pets. Saturday is Family Day, with activities for children.

PFLAG congratulates Nic Grzecka of Club Q and his many supporters for picking up responsibility for managing the PrideFest celebration every year since the Pride Center closed in January of 2015. It's a huge, year round job, and attendance continues to grow.

#### PFLAG Information Booth

PFLAG will have an information booth staffed by PFLAG volunteers at the park from 10 am - 6 pm on Saturday and 10 am - 5 pm on Sunday. We need volunteers to spend time at the booth. Call Karen Stith at 634-4433 if you will help. More PrideFest information is at: <https://www.cospridefest.com>

### Trans Youth Education and Support (TYES)

TYES is a PFLAG affiliate that offers education and support to families with gender variant children. TYES information is available at PFLAG meetings.

TYES families in the Pikes Peak region keep in touch by phone and through a private Facebook page. To contact the Colorado Springs TYES volunteers, call PFLAG at (719) 425-9567 or send an e-mail to [info@cspflag.org](mailto:info@cspflag.org).

The TYES program originated and is headquartered in Boulder, Colorado.

More information is available at the national TYES website [www.TYES-Colorado.org](http://www.TYES-Colorado.org)

### Indy Inclusion Awards July 10th—A White Party At Briarhurst Manor Estate



Beautiful people celebrating—2017

The fifth annual Indy Inclusion Awards event on July 10 will celebrate individuals and organizations who devote their days, nights, hopes, dreams and resources to advancing LGBTQ causes and creating a more inclusive and diverse Pikes Peak region.

The celebration will be held at the Briarhurst, 404 Manitou Avenue in Manitou Springs. Tickets are available online at the CSIndy website for \$25 per person, or at the door for \$35. (Go to: <https://bit.ly/2KLxWQc>)

The awards are sponsored by the Colorado Springs Independent newspaper. To celebrate the fifth anniversary, the awards committee is awarding five past winners with Indy Inclusion Legacy Awards. Winners will be announced at the celebration.

There will be complimentary hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine, and champagne upon entrance, along with entertainment by DJ Karson Lee to get everyone dancing.

Dress code is all white cocktail attire.

*Did you know?* ...the White Party is the name of a number of circuit parties held annually, catering to the LGBT communities. The first White Party took place as AIDS began decimating the gay population. Its name comes from the requirement that party-goers dress in all or almost all white.

The all-white clothing theme was chosen by co-founder of the original White Party, Frank Wager, because, as he said, "White stands for purity. White is elegant, non-political, non-combative and makes people look just plain beautiful."



## Don't Miss Breakfast Under the Bridge-Thursday, July 19

Seats are available at the PFLAG table at Urban Peak's "Off the Street" signature fundraising event. Supporters gather for breakfast under the Colorado Avenue Bridge near 218 West Colorado Avenue. Urban Peak's amazing friends at Picnic Basket Catering, who have pledged to once again this year provide all of the morning's food free of charge so that funds raised by this event can go directly to the youth program.

Formerly homeless youth will share their stories about how courage and healthy relationships have a powerful difference in their lives. Networking and Registration is from 7:00 - 7:30 p.m. Breakfast and Program 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. The breakfast is complimentary but a meaningful donation will be requested.

Reserve your place by calling PFLAG table captain Elaine Myers at 598-7265. Can't attend the breakfast? Please consider making a donation to support Urban Peak. More information about this vital organization is at [www.urbanpeak.org/colorado-springs](http://www.urbanpeak.org/colorado-springs)

## Aspen Leaf Hires Urban Peak Youth

Aspen Leaf Outdoor Power Equipment recently hired several youth in Urban Peak's program and provided full time employment. Initially these youth just learn the basics - weed whacking, mowing lawns and edging. However, Aspen Leaf has offered room for growth and the opportunity to learn more about irrigation systems and the skills needed to use some of the heavier machinery.

Aspen Leaf understands that jobs play an important role in helping youth create self-determined, fulfilled lives. The company also understands that the youth they work with face many challenges and that job experience brings more than a paycheck - it creates meaning and the opportunity to move forward.

PFLAG joins Urban Peak in thanking Aspen Leaf for being the spark that ignites the potential in these youth.

## A Cartoon from StoryCorps for Pride Month



In celebration of the month in which Pride festivals are held all over the United States, StoryCorps has sent out a link to a cartoon illustrating one of its coming-out stories.

### The Saint of Dry Creek

Patrick Haggerty grew up in the 1950s as the son of a dairy farmer in rural Dry Creek, Washington. As a teenager, he began to realize he was gay—something he thought he was doing a good job of hiding from others. One day, after Patrick performed at a high school assembly, his father Charles offered his son some advice that showed Patrick he knew his son better than Patrick had realized.



Click this link to play the video:

<https://bit.ly/1R7yKbu>

StoryCorps is an American non-profit organization whose mission is to record, preserve, and share the stories of Americans from all backgrounds and beliefs. Story Corps crews travel all over the county, recording conversations on a wide range of topics. With the participants' permission, some of the conversations are broadcast on the National Public Radio (NPR). All of the recordings are permanently housed in the Library of Congress.

When the Story Corps bus came to Colorado Springs a couple of years ago, Bill Oliver and Doug Kirkpatrick from PFLAG were chosen to make a recording. Doug, the chapter president at the time, a practicing Mormon and father of a gay son, interviewed Bill about his coming-out experience. This interview will be shared at a future PFLAG chapter meeting.

## YDA Films at PFLAG

*(Continued from page 1)*

The students in the 2018 summer program will produce a public television series (to be presented by Rocky Mountain PBS) to amplify the stories of present and past filmmakers. The series will premiere in 2019 via RMPBS and other public broadcasters all over the United States.

In the past, YDA Films have been shown on PBS, at the All-American High School Film Festival in New York, and at the Rocky Mountain Women's Film Festival. The YDA-produced film about suicide, "Under the Wire" was the basis for a PBS special program which recently won an Emmy.

After YDA volunteers reached out to PFLAG last month, Bill Oliver met with several young people to discuss collaboration between PFLAG and YDA. PFLAG is pleased to offer support to filmmakers, and will provide a schedule of upcoming film showings when available.

From the YDA website:

*"What kinds of stories are ideal to explore in the Youth Documentary Academy?"*

*"The answer is: personal, family or social-issue stories that tell us something we don't know, especially something about diverse communities."*

*"It might be a story about coming from a first generation immigrant family or about growing up as an LGBT person or coming from foster care or from a less traditional family. It could be a story about living with a disability or living with a family member who has a disability. Or maybe it's a story about growing up with few financial resources or feeling discriminated against because of your religion or the color of your skin."*

More information about YDA is at:

[www.youthdocumentary.org](http://www.youthdocumentary.org)

**PFLAG meetings are always a safe space.**

Who you meet, and what you hear ... **Must** remain strictly confidential.

- Thank you.



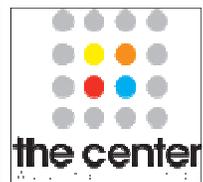
**BULLETIN BOARD**

**July 10 — Indy Inclusion Awards** — Briarhurst Manor, 6-9 p.m., More information on p. 2.

**July 14-15 — PrideFest 2018** — America the Beautiful Park. Colorado Springs. More information on page 1.

**July 19 — “Off the Street” Breakfast** — Under the Bridge. Major fundraiser for Urban Peak, a program serving homeless youth. More information on page 3.

**July 27 — “Here and Queer” - Inside Out Youth Services Satellite Summer Program** —Room B-6 in Library 21C, 1175 Chapel Hills Drive, 3-5 p.m. Monthly outreach LGBTIQ+ youth program, safe space, new friends, discussion and support, crafts, games. Free, open to the public. Next meeting August 24. For information call 328-1056.



The GLBT Center in Denver offers an extensive set of resources on its website, including health and wellness and support for GLBT elders and youth: <https://glbtcolorado.org> Take a look.

Thank You

To the Saponas Foundation, First Congregational United Church of Christ and the Ruskey/Bianchi Family for their significant, ongoing support of Colorado Springs PFLAG.

Amazon Smile Program

Colorado Springs PFLAG participates in the Amazon Smile program. When making purchases on Amazon, please enter the site through our portal: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-1281187>

When you do this, Amazon will send 0.5% of the value of your purchase to our chapter. You can pick up a flyer on this program at PFLAG meetings.

**Gender and Name Change Assistance**

The Colorado Name Change Project provides help for those who choose to change their gender and name. Information and forms are available online at: [www.namechangeproject.org](http://www.namechangeproject.org)

All the forms are not yet complete on the website, but are promised soon. A Gender and Name Change Workshop is scheduled for Saturday, July 28 from 3:00—4:30 p.m. at the Gender Identity Center of Colorado, Inc., 120 Bryant Street, Denver. Go to the Center website for more information: <https://giccolorado.org>

Peak Area Gender Expressions (PAGE) is the transgender support group in Colorado Springs. This message was posted on its Facebook page a few months ago:

*“I just wanted to let everyone know of a better way of getting your name change done. The basic process is to get finger printed, request a name change, publish your request in the paper, and then get your final decree.*

*“Denver’s “Colorado Name Change Project” had an additional step and that was to request a waiver of the publication requirement. Such a waiver is automatically granted in cases of abuse. But it turns out if you ask for it, given my circumstances at least, the magistrate will sign off and issue the final decree without having to pay the newspaper.*

*“I used the somewhat buggy Automated Name Change Petition Generator to generate the documents.”*

*— feeling fantastic.”*

**Support Colorado Springs PFLAG—Become a Member**

You can join at any time of the year. The current membership year extends from October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2018.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ New member \_\_\_\_ Renewing member

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_ Regular Membership \$ 30
- \_\_\_\_ Supporting Member—Silver 40
- \_\_\_\_ Supporting Member—Gold 60
- \_\_\_\_ Supporting Member—Platinum 100

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Each year our chapter must contribute \$15.00 for each paid membership to the PFLAG national office to support its mission.

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Check here if you wish to receive the newsletter by e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Colorado Springs PFLAG and mail to P.O. Box 49131, Colorado Springs, CO 80949. Membership fees and additional donations are tax deductible. All information will remain confidential. PFLAG is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization.