



# PFLAG Colorado Springs

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

2019 is Our 25th Anniversary Year!

July 2019

## Inside Out Youth to Share Keystone Experience

At its July 16 meeting, PFLAG will be proud to welcome members of the Youth Advisory Board of Inside Out Youth Services, who will talk about the powerful presentation they made at the Shared Risks and Protective Factors Conference at Keystone, Colorado, on May 30th.

Their presentation was a hit! Five months of planning and a few weeks of rehearsing the presentation really paid off.

The presentation was interactive and engaging, covering Inside Out's mission, vision and impact as well as education on how to work with queer youth, why pronouns matter, and the identity vocabulary of the community.

A volunteer reported that they heard from a number of attendees that "This was the best session of the conference!"

The conference includes adults and young people working with nonprofits and government agencies from across Colorado who are engaged in creating connected communities and safe, healthy and successful youth.



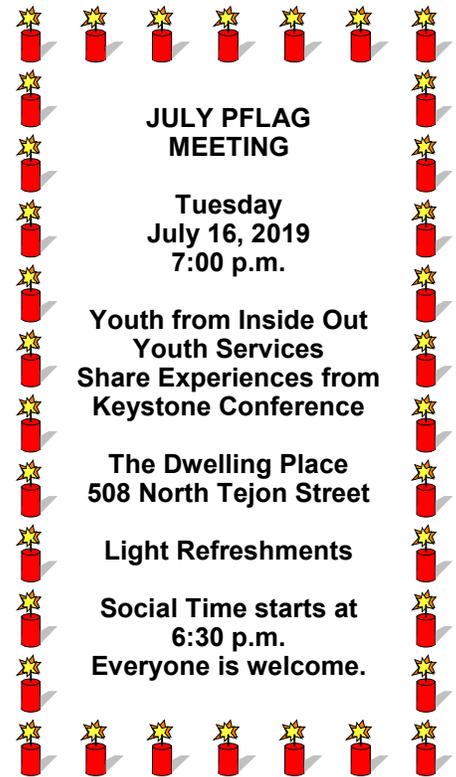
The conference focuses on ways to prevent multiple forms of violence, injury and substance abuse.

Quote from one of the I/O youth:

"From the many practices we had for the Keystone conference, I gained awareness of the hardships faced by my LGBT+ peers. It was strange to me, as someone who has a very accepting family, to see that most people aren't so lucky.

"At the conference itself I was

*(Continued on page 2)*



### JULY PFLAG MEETING

Tuesday  
July 16, 2019  
7:00 p.m.

Youth from Inside Out Youth Services Share Experiences from Keystone Conference

The Dwelling Place  
508 North Tejon Street

Light Refreshments

Social Time starts at  
6:30 p.m.  
Everyone is welcome.

## Pride Weekend is July 13-14 —March With PFLAG!

Colorado Springs PrideFest is coming up on July 13-14 at America the Beautiful Park., 126 Cimino Drive in Colorado Springs.

This year the community is

celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising that gave birth to the modern gay rights movement. The theme of the celebration, which runs from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday and 10a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday is "Rise Up! Remembering 50 Years of Stonewall!"

Please plan to help at the PFLAG booth in the park and MARCH WITH US in the Parade!

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## RMWFF Screens New Film to Celebrate Pride July 9

The Rocky Mountain Women's Film Institute (RMWFI) will join in celebrating Pride this year by offering a Pride Edition Special Screening of a

newly released film called *Changing the Game* on July 9 at 8:30 p.m. This strong film by Michael Barnett profiles youth and transgender athletes.

For young transgender athletes, the sport they love often turns into a minefield of controversy. Either decried as cheaters if they excel, or barred from competing among the gender they identify with, positive outcomes are rare.

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## Breakfast "Under the Bridge" with Urban Peak and PFLAG July 18th

PFLAG strongly supports this important annual fundraising event for Urban Peak, a nonprofit that brings homeless youth, many of them LGBT+, off the streets and into a better life.

The free breakfast is served to a large group of supporters under the Colorado Avenue Bridge. A donation is requested but not required. Reserve your place at a PFLAG table by sending an e-mail to Elaine Myers by July 12— [outdoorelaine@yahoo.com](mailto:outdoorelaine@yahoo.com)

The stories are poignant. Here's what Urban Peak Executive Director Shawna Kempainen says about this year's program:

"You've been with us before, you know the drill, but this year is something very special for two reasons. "

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## PrideFest (cont.)

**PFLAG Booth:** Take a turn working at the PFLAG booth, where we talk to passersby about the supportive role PFLAG plays in the community. Hand out our literature and give a few hugs. It's very rewarding to help with this. To get on the list of helpers, please e-mail Elaine Myers soon at [outdoorelaine@yahoo.com](mailto:outdoorelaine@yahoo.com) or call her at **719-359-1462**

**Pride Parade – 11 a.m.:** The Pride Parade is held on Sunday morning. Line up with PFLAG on Tejon Street between Colorado Avenue and Cimarron Street. We march west over the Colorado Avenue bridge to the park. All you have to do is join us. Participants are asked to enter the lineup area from the south, at Tejon and Cimarron Streets. Walk along Tejon toward Colorado and watch for our group with PFLAG signs and the banner. Try to be there by a little after 10:00 a.m. Lineup begins at 9 a.m. and the parade kicks off at 11 a.m. The parade route is approximately one mile.

**Free Mom Hugs.** Woop! This year some members of a group of LGBT-supportive parents known as “Free Mom Hugs” will be marching with PFLAG in the parade. Welcome, Mom Hugs! We're delighted to have you join us. (see story, this page)

Parking is a challenge. A very limited area at the park is available, and there is a parking fee. If you can, park somewhere downtown or off West Colorado Avenue and walk to the park.

More information about Colorado Springs PrideFest is available online at <https://www.cospridefest.com/>

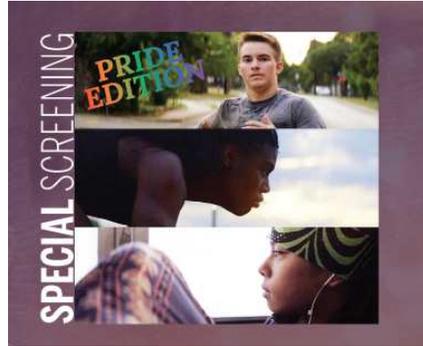
## Drag Story Time at PrideFest



The July Drag Story Time will be presented at Colorado Springs PrideFest, on the main stage at America the Beautiful Park, Sat-

urday, July 13, Time TBD. Drag artist Gemini Skye will be the featured story teller. Drag Story Time is usually presented on the second Saturday of the month at the Zodiac Music Venue & Bar, 230 Pueblo Avenue, Colo. Spgs.

## Film Showing (cont.)



### Changing the Game

But when a sport is a lifeline, what *is* fair? This exceptional film mines that question through intimate portraits of three trans athletes.

The film premiered in April in New York City at the Tribeca Film Festival and is being shown June 29-30 in San Francisco at Frameline. Colorado Springs is next!

These links lead to information about the Tribeca premiere: <https://bit.ly/2J9fhLC> and <https://bit.ly/2ZQ539G>

*Changing the Game* will be preceded by a short film made by a student at the Youth Documentary Academy (YDA).

The Youth Documentary Academy was founded at the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center in the summer of 2013 by Tom Shepard, an independent filmmaker in San Francisco and a 1987 graduate of Palmer High School. Each summer, a small group of students from local high schools make short films on topics they choose.

This event is organized by RMWFI, YDA and Inside Out Youth Services (the Youth Advisory Board will introduce the film). It is sponsored by PFLAG.

The outdoor screening will take place on Tuesday, July 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 p.m. on the Lawn at Lincoln Center, 2727 North Cascade Avenue (east side of the building) outside the RMWFI office (Suite 140).

The screening is free, but space is limited, so registration is required. To register, google “Rocky Mountain Women’s Film Institute Pride Special Screening” or click this link: <https://bit.ly/2XwNuOb>

## PFLAG Outreach

Bill Oliver and Cindy Waldmann represented PFLAG at a Pride event at Fort Carson on June 17. Here's the link to an excellent story in the *Gazette* about this event. <https://bit.ly/2FA0hFA>. Bill commented: “This was the Post's second annual observance of Pride Month. It was part of the Department of Defense's official observance of “LGBT Pride Month - *Pride in All Who Serve*.” Cindy and I were privileged to be present for the first time observing for PFLAG. About 75 attended.”



Bill Oliver and Cindy and Steve Waldmann took our Colorado Springs PFLAG banner to the Arkansas Valley Pride parade on June 1, and Cindy and Steve carried it (photo) in the Denver Pride Parade June 16.

## Free Mom Hugs in Action

PFLAG is looking forward to having four+ local representatives of Free Mom Hugs march with us in the Pride Parade.

Free Mom Hugs “is a movement growing one hug at a time”, according to its website, [www.freemomhugs.org](http://www.freemomhugs.org).

Sara Cunningham founded this organization to spread love for the LGBTQ+ community through hugs and grassroots action. Sara's 2014 book, *How We Sleep at Night* is a real, often raw spiritual and emotional memoir of her personal journey regarding her son's homosexuality. She is an important voice in the current dialogue of our society and especially the ongoing discussions in the religious world.

According to its website, Members of Free Mom Hugs are now going Beyond The Hug. In various communities they are supporting homeless youth with Free Mom Hugs Hoodies. They are helping transgender individuals with legal fees for name changes and emotional/financial support after top surgeries.



**BULLETIN BOARD**

**July 9 — PRIDE Screening of *Changing the Game* -** Free. Film presented by Rocky Mountain Women’s Film Institute, Inside Out, Youth Documentary Academy and PFLAG. 8:30 p.m., 2727 North Cascade Avenue (outdoors) Reservations required. See p. 1.

**July 13-14 — Colorado Springs PrideFest** — See article, details on p. 1.

**July 18 — “Under the Bridge” -** Urban Peak Fundraising Breakfast. 7—8:30 a.m. See article p. 1

**Aug.18 — Pueblo Pride**—10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Mineral Palace Park, 1500-2100 North Santa Fe Avenue. See: <https://www.socoequality.org/events/pride19>

**Sept. 21— Colorado Springs PFLAG 25th Anniversary Dinner and Celebration—** Be sure to save the date and celebrate with PFLAG. Everyone is invited, and we hope to see some of the wonderful people who started the chapter and kept it vibrant for so many years as we celebrate this milestone.

**October 25-27—PFLAG National Convention** — Kansas City, MO. Several members of Colorado Springs PFLAG will attend. If you are interested in joining them, send an e-mail to [info@cspflag.org](mailto:info@cspflag.org). Early registration costs less.

**What the Gay Rights Movement Learned from the Civil Rights Movement**

If you missed seeing the wonderful film “Selma to Stonewall” at the April PFLAG meeting, here’s a link to an excellent TED Talk about the film by filmmaker Yoruba Richen <https://bit.ly/1DoYMhJ>

As a member of both the African American and LGBT communities, Richen is fascinated with the overlaps and tensions between the gay rights and the civil rights movements. She explores how the two struggles intertwine and propel each other forward — and, in an unmissable argument, she dispels a myth about their points of conflict. It’s a powerful reminder that we all have a stake in equality.

**Stonewall Outloud.** This YouTube video combines a StoryCorps’ 1989 audio documentary about the Stonewall Riots with the voices of contemporary queer figures. Stonewall Outloud commemorates the anniversary of the raid that started the modern LGBTQ rights movement.. Posted on YouTube 6/26/19. Link to the video: <https://bit.ly/2LnrC1h>



**Why Did the City Paint Over the Rainbow Crosswalk?**

*Editor’s Comment:*

6/25/19 - Overnight, an artist group went out and created the Pride Crosswalk on Platte Avenue at Platte Place. It was only there for 12 hours before the City of Colorado Springs covered it up.

One hopes that this decision was made by a lower level homophobe in the street department who knows little about the progress this city has made in the past 27 years, since the 1992 passage of Amendment 2 resulted in sweeping negative publicity for the city. Colorado Springs has come a long way since it was nationally regarded as the epicenter of anti-LGBT attitudes.

A better response to the Rainbow Crosswalk would have been to simply acknowledge it as a positive, whimsical, temporary celebration of the upcoming PrideFest weekend July 13-14, at which the LGBT community will honor the struggles, sacrifices and many accomplishments of the Gay Rights Movement in the 50 years since the Stonewall Riots.

Watch the KRDO film of the crosswalk with a joyful dancer on it at <https://bit.ly/2X9Qp00> Thanks, KRDO.

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

You can join at any time of the year. The current membership year extends from October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019.

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.