



# PFLAG Colorado Springs

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

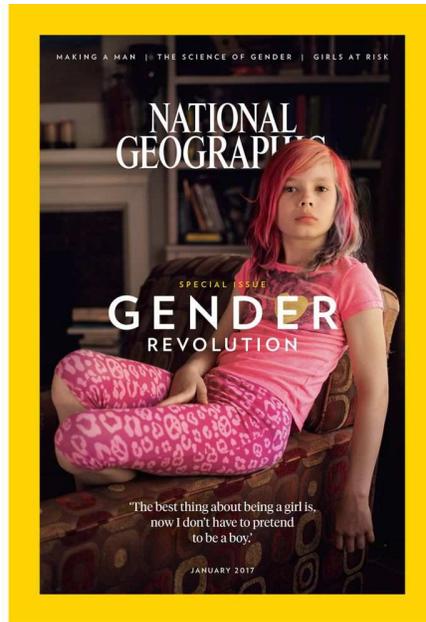
June 2017

## June PFLAG Meeting Features a Film: *Gender Revolution - A Journey With Katie Couric*

The January 2017 National Geographic single-topic "gender issue" featured a photo of a sultry nine year old child on the cover with the headline: "The Gender Revolution". The child was quoted as saying: "The best thing about being a girl is, now I don't have to pretend to be a boy". With this extensive offering of articles on gender, the National Geographic and reporter Katie Couric embarked on an exploration of the rapidly evolving complexities of gender identity.

The Couric project included a film, *Gender Revolution - A Journey with Katie Couric*, produced by Katie Couric, National Geographic and World of Wonder Productions, released in March and aired nationwide February 6 on the *National Geographic* channel.

Now, in a generous educational outreach, the National Geographic has offered to provide the film to nonprofit organizations like PFLAG at no cost until the end of June. Portions of the



95 minute film will be shown at the June 20 PFLAG meeting, with some time left for discussion.

\* \* \* \* \*  
**JUNE PFLAG MEETING**  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
**Tuesday**  
**June 20, 2017**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
**Film: and Discussion:**  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
***Gender Revolution - A Journey With Katie Couric***  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
**We'll be serving popcorn and soft drinks to go with the movie.**  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
**The Dwelling Place**  
**508 North Tejon Street**  
 \* \* \* \* \*  
**Social time begins at 6:30**  
**Everyone is welcome.**  
 \* \* \* \* \*

## June Explodes with Pride Events Statewide

On June 3, Bill Oliver and Cindy, Steve and Noah Waldmann from Colorado Springs PFLAG will travel to Salida, Colorado, to participate in the Arkansas Valley Pride Celebration. To join them, call Bill Oliver at 719-548-1280. Salida parents are preparing to start a PFLAG chapter in Salida.

The weekend of June 17-18 brings Denver PrideFest, a huge celebration that draws 375,000 guests annually, making it the third largest pride festival and seventh largest in the United States. Our chapter is welcome to march with the Denver PFLAG contingent in the Sunday parade. For lineup information, call Denver PFLAG at (303) 573-5861.

Immediately after the parade, join the rally sponsored by One Colorado:

### Pride Rally for LGBTQ Resistance

Hosted by One Colorado

Sunday, June 18— 11:30 a.m. — immediately after the parade

West Steps of the State Capitol

Join the Colorado LGBT Legislative Caucus, state leaders, activists and groups from throughout the Denver community to speak out for LGBTQ civil rights.

For more information on One Colorado and the rally, go to: <http://bit.ly/2qywQu6>

## Our Local PrideFest is July 8-9 Please Volunteer!

The 27th Annual Colorado Springs PrideFest celebration is July 8-9, 2017 at America the Beautiful Park. All supporters of PFLAG are encouraged to help with the booth in the park and to march with us in the parade.

Volunteers are needed to help with the booth in the park from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. both days. We usually have two volunteers in the booth at a time, and the day is broken up into two-hour shifts. Please help so that we can spread out the work. Call Karen at 634-4433 to get on the roster.

Bring your family and friends and march with the PFLAG group in the Sunday parade. More details will come in the July PFLAG newsletter.



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)

## Ben and Jerry's is Lobbying for Marriage Equality in Australia



May 24th— Ben & Jerry's announced today that it was barring customers at its 26 stores in Australia from ordering two scoops of the same flavor. It's doing so to highlight the lack of marriage equality for LGBTI people in Australia.

'Imagine heading down to your local Scoop Shop to order your favor-

ite two scoops of Cookie Dough in a waffle cone. But you find out you are not allowed – Ben & Jerry's has banned two scoops of the same flavor. You'd be furious!' said the company in a statement.

'But this doesn't even begin to compare to how furious you would be if you were told you were not allowed to marry the person you love.

'So we are banning two scoops of the same flavor and encouraging our fans to contact their MPs to tell them that the time has come – make same sex marriage legal! Love comes in all flavours!' See:

<http://benjerrys.co/2qYiki7>

## PFLAG Outreach

On Friday, June 16 at 4:00 p.m., Colorado Springs PFLAG volunteers Bill Oliver and Jackie Thompson will provide a public community presentation on PFLAG at the Penrose Main Library.

They will discuss who we are and the resources we provide to the Pikes Peak region. They will also answer questions and provide PFLAG literature, including information for transgender and questioning individuals and their families.

Please plan to come to hear the talk and participate in discussion.

## 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)

## Conversations With a Gender Therapist

Dara Hoffmann-Fox is a Colorado Springs licensed professional counselor who is recognized for her work with transgender and non-binary issues. Dara maintains a Facebook page called "Conversations with a Gender Therapist" in which readers are invited to submit questions.

Dara has been describing her own experiences in exploring her non-binary nature and has initiated a series of conversations on YouTube under the title "Gender Therapist Q&A" The May 18th video explored the question "How do you respond to people who say there are only two genders?" This video can be found on YouTube at:

<http://bit.ly/2rCDZxl>

In June, 2016, Dara self-published a book titled *You and Your Gender Identity: A Guide to Discovery*, available on Amazon.com. The book was quickly picked up by Skyhorse Publishing in New York and will be published through the industry this coming fall.

## Amazon Smile Program

Colorado Springs PFLAG participates in the Amazon Smile program. When you make purchases on Amazon, enter the site through our portal:

<http://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-1281187> and 0.5% of your purchase will be sent to our chapter. Pick up a flyer on this program at PFLAG meetings.



## Invitation to the “Resist Forward Summit”—June 10



The June 10 Resist Forward Summit, an opportunity to be proactive in fighting the current political and social atmosphere of fear and racism threatening to roll back decades of human and civil rights progress in our city, our nation and the world.

The Resist Forward Summit will be held on Saturday, June 10, 2017 from 9 a.m.—4 p.m. at Shorter Community AME Church, 3100 Richard Allen Court in Denver, Colorado. Timothy Tyler is the chairperson.



On Tuesday, July 20 we will celebrate the 9th Annual Off the Street Community Breakfast to support Urban Peak. Urban Peak is a highly successful program that empowers young people to move off the street and into a better life. Many of our local homeless youth are LGBTIQ individuals.

Meet the leaders of Urban Peak and hear youth tell their stories. This is a real downtown street breakfast, and it is huge. The breakfast is free. Donations to Urban Peak are requested.

Location: under the bridge at 218 West Colorado Avenue. Registration and networking 7-7:30 a.m. Breakfast and program 7:30—8:30 a.m. Reservations are necessary. To reserve your place at a PFLAG table, please call Karen Stith at 634-4433.

PFLAG meetings are a safe space.

Who you meet, and what you hear

Must remain strictly confidential.

The purpose of the Resist Forward Summit is to create a leadership table for networking; to provide education about issues that concern advocates for social justice; to empower and recruit new social justice activists; and to provide tools and resources for social justice advocacy.

Hosting organizations and supporters include:

Shorter Community AME Church  
Indivisible Denver  
Campbell AME Church  
Together Colorado  
Progress Now  
America Votes  
One Colorado  
Colorado Latino Forum  
PFLAG Denver

Registration link:

<http://bit.ly/2rBMSHE>

## Last Chance to Sign Up for Citizens Project Breakfast

Call Lori Vollmar at 520-9198 by June 4th if you would like to join the PFLAG group at the June 8th Citizens Project Breakfast.

Learn more about Citizen's Project, a fearless bold advocate and an engaging voice that empowers and challenges our entire community to embrace equality, diversity and separation of church and state.

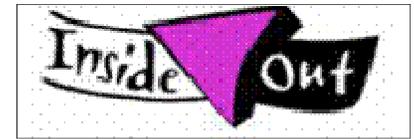
Meet the leaders of Citizens Project and learn about their current outreach efforts in our challenging political climate.

This event will be held at The Antlers Hotel, 4 South Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs from 7:30 - 8:30 a.m. Check in between 7 and 7:30.

Breakfast and the program are free. Donations to Citizens Project are encouraged.

## Support PFLAG— Get a King Soopers Gift Card at PFLAG meetings.

The free card is already loaded with \$1.50 for groceries. You add money to the card using your credit card, and use the gift card to pay for purchases. King Soopers will donate 5% of your grocery, gas and pharmacy purchases to our local chapter of PFLAG. Now, that's an easy, effective fundraiser!



## Inside Out is Moving!

Inside Out will move on Saturday, June 3 to a larger space at 223 North Wahsatch Street. The board is grateful to its team of incredible volunteers who have rearranged the space by moving walls, doors and windows, and painting it throughout. The first meeting of youth in the new location will be held on June 5th. Way to go, Mary Malia and Inside/Out!

## Colorado Springs Feminists Help

The Colorado Springs Feminists and COCO Crafted have teamed up for a Painting + Poetry Community Art Nigh Fundraiser at COCO Crafted on Friday, June 2. Participants signed up by May 28th, and two scholarships for youth were provided so they could attend the \$35 event.

This casual community event connects members of our communities through an evening of art! Local slam poets will perform, and we will create space for our own words and memories by participating in a craft where we will design individual keepsake boxes.

**PrideFest**— Be sure to stop by the Inside/Out booth at PrideFest July 8-9.

## Let's Donate—Through P.O. Box

It's a really good time to send a tax-deductible donation to Inside/Out Youth Services to support the move. Always use Post Office Box 606, Colorado Springs CO 80901 Mail addressed to the Tejon or Wahsatch addresses will be returned to you by the Post Office.

Inside/Out provides social activities and support for LGBTIQ youth. Director Mary Malia can be contacted at 328 -1056. Website: [www.insideoutys.org](http://www.insideoutys.org)

## Thank you

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



**BULLETIN BOARD**

**June 1— “Real Boy”** —Film at the Tim Gill Center, 315 East Costilla, 7:00 p.m. Free. Rocky Mountain PBS and its partners at the Independent Film Society of Colorado are hosting a screening of the Independent Lens documentary “Real Boy”. “Real Boy” offers audiences a glimpse into the life a young musician as he and his family navigate his gender transition. Bennett’s journey to self-acceptance includes experiences that many in the LGBTQ community can relate to: dangerous coping mechanisms of self-harm and substance abuse, alienation and rejection within his family, and the transformative power of finding a “chosen family” or peer support network.

**June 3 — PrideFest in Salida.** Details, p. 1. To join the Colorado Springs group, call Bill Oliver at 719-548-9280.

**June 3— Denver Women’s Chorus Concert** — “I Want to be a Cowgirl’s Sweetheart”. Central Presbyterian Church, 1660 Sherman Street in Denver, 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Website: [www.denverwomenschorus.org](http://www.denverwomenschorus.org)

**June 8 — Citizens Project 25th Anniversary Breakfast**  
The Antlers Hotel 7:30—8:30 a.m. Details, p. 3.

**June 10 — Resist Forward Summit** — AME Church, 3100 Richard Allen Court, Denver. 9 a.m.—4 p.m. Details, p. 3.

**June 15-17 — The BIG Gay SING!** During Pride Weekend, the Denver Gay Men’s Chorus will present its 35th Anniversary Celebration concert, “The BIG Gay SING!” Performances are at 7:30 p.m. on June 15 and 16 and at 2:00 p.m. on June 17 at Central Presbyterian Church in Denver. For more information, go to [www.dgmc.org](http://www.dgmc.org).

**June 16— PFLAG Program at Penrose Main Library** 4:00 p.m. Details on page 2.

**June 17-18 — Denver Pride** — The Pride Parade is the morning of Sunday, June 18th. It’s a special time to be together. March with PFLAG. For more information, call Denver PFLAG at (303) 573-5861 or e-mail [pflagden@tde.com](mailto:pflagden@tde.com).

**The Stats on State Sponsored Homophobia**

The 12th edition of *State Sponsored Homophobia* was released on May 17 by The International lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and intersex association (ILGA). It provides a world survey of laws that specifically affect LGBTQ people and a global map to view. Although many gains have been made, today 72 countries criminalize consensual, private same-sex sexual activity between adults. Other key findings:

- 23 countries have legalized same-sex marriage
- 43 countries ban hate crimes
- 124 states — 122 countries, plus Taiwan and Kosovo — have no legal penalties for same-sex sexual activity between consenting adults, but
- 72 countries criminalize same-sex relations; in 45 of those states, laws banning such activity apply equally to men and women
- 72 states have some type of law or constitutional protection in place that prohibits discrimination against LGBTQ people.

**Colorado Health Network Has New Home**



Colorado Health Network, formerly the Colorado AIDS Project, held a Grand Opening event at its new and forever location on May 18. After nearly 30 years of renting space, the organization last year succeeded in raising the necessary

funds to purchase and renovate its own building, located at 6260 East Colfax Avenue. Its Southern office is located in Colorado Springs. In the photo, CHN Director Darrell Vigil and CHN Board President Bill Mead cut the ribbon.

**July 8-9 — Colorado Springs PrideFest** — PFLAG has signed up for its booth. Save the date. Plan to participate! See p. 1 for ways to get involved.

**July 20— Urban Peak Off the Street Community Breakfast**— 7-8:30 a.m. Details on page 3.

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

You can join at any time of the year. The current membership year extends from October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017.

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: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

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

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