



PFLAG Colorado Springs

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

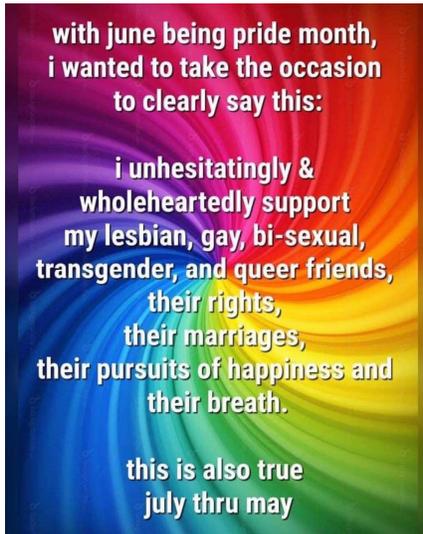
June 2022

Pride Celebrations Roll in June and July

June is the kickoff month for Pride celebrations around the world each year, and some events continue into July. Denver has a huge Pride event June 25-26. Colorado Springs PFLAGgers are welcome to march with Denver PFLAG in the parade on June 26. Check out the wonderful Denver Pride website at <https://bit.ly/3PWia3U>.

The Pikes Peak Pride Festival and Parade in Colorado Springs will take place the weekend of July 23-24. After scaling down during two years of the Covid pandemic, this festival is back under new management as a large in-person event.

Because of ongoing construction at America the Beautiful Park, the Festival will take place this year on the grounds of the Pioneers Museum at 215 South Tejon Street. PFLAG will have an information table at the Festival all day both days, and volunteers are needed to staff it.



Everyone is welcome to march with PFLAG in our Pride Parade on Sunday, July 24. Watch for more details about the Colorado Springs Festival in our July newsletter.

PFLAG Volunteers Reach Out to Community at Youth Documentary Academy Film Premiere



Elaine Myers and Kathy Gutnayer with a new PFLAG banner at YDA premiere.

The Youth Documentary Academy (YDA) presented films from its 2020-2021 classes at the Celeste Theatre at Colorado College on June 2. Colorado Springs PFLAG was among the community support organizations invited to participate.

The film work of YDA high schoolers who make films in this summer program have frequently touched on LGBTQ+ issues.

PFLAG members Cheryl Prichard, Elaine Myers, Danette Tritch, Kathy Gutnayer, Karen Stith and Bill Oliver spoke with filmgoers and handed out PFLAG literature.

PFLAGgers will also be participating in the "PRIDE Inside and Out" event sponsored by Inside Out Youth Services at the Hillside Community Center on June 4, a virtual Veterans Administration gathering on June 22 and the Pride Festival on July 23-24. Volunteers are needed to help with this outreach. Call Elaine at 719-359-1462 if you would like to help.

June PFLAG Meeting

Tuesday June 21
7:00 p.m.

The Dwelling Place
508 North Tejon Street

Ice Cream Social
Conversation and Support

This is an in-person meeting

For the first time since the Covid pandemic began, we look forward to getting together in person for our monthly chapter meeting at our traditional meeting place.

Please keep an eye on future PFLAG newsletters to find out which meetings will be on Zoom (virtual) and which will be at the Dwelling Place.

Remember to Plug the Meter!

When attending a PFLAG meeting, remember that parking meters downtown are now active until 10 p.m. There is free parking in the lot nearby on the Southeast corner of Tejon and St. Vrain Streets.

Pride Festival July 23-24

Please mark your calendars for this weekend, so that you can plan to be in town. Help at the PFLAG booth, march in the parade. Let's celebrate our community!

Watch for the PFLAG Billboard!

A PFLAG billboard will be going up later in June on the Colorado Avenue Bridge (westbound lanes) in celebration of the Pride season. Watch for it, let us know what you think by posting on the Colorado Springs PFLAG Facebook page: <https://bit.ly/3PYFL42>



Join PFLAG at the Off The Street Breakfast July 14!

Sign up now to sit at the PFLAG table at this wonderful annual fundraiser for The PLACE, a highly successful youth shelter program. We have supported The PLACE for many years by coming to this breakfast under the Colorado Avenue Bridge.

The breakfast is free. A meaningful contribution is requested. Participants meet youth from The PLACE and hear their stories. The goal this year is 1,000 participants, exceeding the 800 pre-Covid peak. Check in at 6:45 for coffee and a good breakfast. The program runs from 7:30 and you are off to work on time. Call Elaine Myers, 719-359-1462 to reserve your seat.

Colorado Springs PFLAG

This newsletter is published by the Colorado Springs chapter of 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 receive this newsletter regularly, sign up at www.cspflag.org.

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Facebook:
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PFLAG National Office website:
www.pflag.org

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The Launchpad—Supportive Housing for Youth

The PLACE, is a vibrant organization that helps local youth experiencing homelessness get off the street and into a better life. They receive counseling, medical support, shelter and food, and encouragement to stabilize their lives.

The Executive Director, Shawna Kempainen, recently announced that \$1.2



million of federal low-income housing tax credits from the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority will enable the 50-unit Launchpad Apartment project to move forward. Cohen-Esrey Development Group, based in Kansas with an office in Denver, has a contract to purchase 1.32 acres of land on the west side near 19th and Uintah Streets. It is the company's first youth-specific project that will be built specifically to serve at-risk young adults. Construction will begin later this year.

The PLACE will manage the new complex and provide supportive services for residents including assistance with education and employment, mental health treatment and wellness classes that support good health and housing stability. For more information about The PLACE see: <https://theplacecos.org>

Film Group To Show "Big Eden" and YDA Films July 7th

Mark your calendar and plan to join PFLAG at the screening of *Big Eden* and two Youth Documentary Academy films on Thursday, July 7th at the Ivywild School complex.



The Independent Film Society of Colorado (IFSOC) will feature these LGBTQ+ films at its monthly screening, and has asked PFLAG and Inside Out Youth Services to participate

in the program and provide volunteers to share literature about their programs and also talk with filmgoers about LGBTQ+ issues.

Ralph Giordano, director of IFSOC, has chosen *Speaking Out* by Ellia Bono and *Reframing* by Delaney Mauve, both of which were shown at the YDA premiere of 2020-2021 films at Colorado College on June 2.

Big Eden (released in 2000) is a romantic comedy-drama film starring Arye Gross as Henry Hart, a successful gay artist from New York City who returns to his rural hometown in Montana to care for his ailing grandfather.

The film won awards from several gay and lesbian film festivals, and was nominated for best limited release film at the GLAAD Media Awards in 2002.

IFSOC works to cultivate a thriving film community by producing and sponsoring events such as the Indie Spirit Film Festival, film seminars and film series to support Independent Film in the Pikes Peak region. To learn more, go to its Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/IFSOC>

Stand With Trans

Stand With Trans is a national support group of parents supporting the transgender community. See <https://standwithtrans.org>

TransParenting Support Group

TransParenting, a program of Inside Out Youth Services, is a monthly support group for parents/caregivers of transgender and gender nonbinary children, 3rd Thursday of every month, 6:00—7:30 p.m. MST by Zoom.

For more information and to get the Zoom meeting link, email transparenting@insideoutys.org or call Inside Out at (719) 328-1056.

Facebook Pages

For useful local information and support, Facebook users can keep an eye on these Facebook pages:

LGBTQIA+ Family Connections
Queer Friends Colorado Springs
Inside Out Youth Services



BULLETIN BOARD

June 2—Youth Documentary Academy—Annual Premiere of New Films — Celeste Theatre at Colorado College 2:00 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. See details, page 1.

June 4 — Youth Pride and Queer Prom — Joseph Shelton and Inside Out Youth Services have planned a big pride event for youth. It will conclude with a Queer Prom for youth ages 13-24. See details, page 1.

June 10-11 — Denver Gay Men's Chorus—New Musical "Unbreakable". At the King Center, 855 Lawrence Way #145, Denver. Performances on Friday at 7:30, Saturday at 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Details, this page.

June 25-26—Denver PrideFest Celebration and Parade— Civic Center Park. See details, p. 1.

July 7— Film: "Big Eden" and YDA Films—Ivywild School Doors open 6:30—films start at 7 p.m. . Presented by Independent Film Society of Colorado. See article p. 2.

July 14 — Off the Street Breakfast —Annual fundraiser for The PLACE. This is an in-person outdoor event under the Colorado Avenue Bridge. See article p. 2.

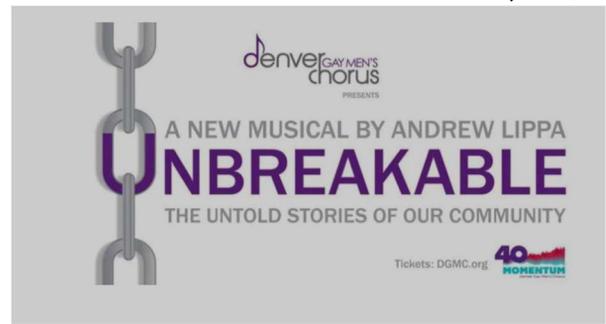
July 23-24 — Pikes Peak Pride Festival and Parade—See article p. 1. You can help bring this in-person Pride celebration back this year by making a donation to the organizers. More information is at: <https://www.pikespeakpride.org/>

July 30—Queer Friends to Host 21+ Pride Prom — The Queer Friends Colorado Springs Facebook group will host a queer prom for those 21 and older in a safe and sober space. The prom starts at 8:00 p.m. at Ivywild School, 1604 South Cascade Avenue. It will feature a live DJ, dance floor, drag performances and a professional photographer. Link to tickets on Eventbrite: <https://bit.ly/3zbMTUz>

PFLAG Meetings

PFLAG meetings, both in-person and virtual, must always be treated as a safe space.

Who you meet and what you hear must remain strictly confidential.



Denver Gay Men's Chorus Celebrates 40th Anniversary with a Musical—"Unbreakable"

The Denver Gay Men's Chorus will celebrate its 40th Anniversary on June 10-11 with three performances of Broadway composer Andrew Lipka's new musical called "Unbreakable—The Untold Stories of Our Community" at the King Center in Denver.

Did you know?

** In 1920, the leadership at Harvard University set out to systematically expose and expel any known (or discovered) homosexual students, faculty or staff.

** In 1953, President Eisenhower signed Executive Order 10450, effectively banning all known or suspected homosexuals from serving in any employment capacity in the U.S. government.

These stories and more are featured in this musical which traces the history of a community built with strength, diversity, compassion, and kindness. The event includes special guest artists from the Denver theatrical community, a resounding chamber orchestra, costumes and dancers. Purchase tickets at www.dgmc.org

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.

Support Colorado Springs PFLAG—Become a Member

You can join at any time of the year. The current membership year extends from October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022.

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 _____

Monthly newsletters are sent out by email.

Each year our chapter contributes \$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 additional donations are tax deductible. Or pay by credit card online at website: www.cspflag.org PFLAG is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.