



PFLAG Colorado Springs

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

October, 2015

October Movie Night—PFLAG to Show *Straightlaced*

Join us for Movie Night at the PFLAG meeting on October 20. We'll have popcorn and soft drinks while we watch the GroundSpark film, *Straightlaced - How Gender's Got Us All Tied Up*. Since the movie runs about an hour, the business meeting will be short, leaving a little time for discussion of the movie and socializing afterward.

A powerful documentary about the lives of teens and young adults as seen through the gender lens, the film examines the ways in which popular pressures around gender and sexuality confine American teens. Teen stories demonstrate how gender role expectations and homophobia are inter-



woven and illustrate the ways these expectations connect with culture, race and class.

From girls confronting popular messages about culture to boys who are sexually active just to prove they aren't gay, the students in *Straightlaced* illustrate the toll that deeply held stereotypes and rigid gender policing have on our lives.

Ally Up! Breakfast For Inside/Out — November 5th



The annual Ally Up! Breakfast, a major fundraiser for Inside Out Inside/Out Youth Services, will be held on Thursday, November 7 at Hotel Elegante, 2886 South Circle Drive in Colorado Springs.

Join us to meet the new Executive Director, Mary Malia, and celebrate the 25th anniversary of this vital organization. The breakfast is free. The program highlights the stories of the youth and the volunteers who work with them.

Participants will be asked to make a donation to ensure that Inside/Out stays strong in our community.

Call Elaine Myers at 598-7265 to reserve your place at the PFLAG table(s). Let's have a strong PFLAG turnout to show support on this 25th anniversary of Inside/Out. Check-in begins at 7:00 a.m., and the program will be done by 8:30 in time for supporters to head off to work.,

Inside/Out is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) Colorado corporation supporting GLBTIQ teens and young adults in the Pikes Peak Region. Several PFLAG parents, including Therese Van Overbeke, Doug Kirkpatrick and Keith Roberts, work with the youth as volunteer facilitators each week.

PFLAG has supported I/O since its inception. See p. 3 for a list of items that can be brought to PFLAG meetings for the Inside/Out pantry.



OCTOBER PFLAG MEETING

Tuesday
October 20, 2015

7:00 p.m.

Movie Night!

“Straightlaced”

The Dwelling Place
508 North Tejon Street

Everyone is welcome.
Social time begins at 6:30

This movie runs about an hour.
We will have popcorn and soft drinks, and a short discussion of the movie.

Membership Reminder

Remember that PFLAG memberships are up for renewal at this time of year. If you received a little with the September newsletter, please send in the form with your donation, or use the form in this newsletter. We depend on your support to run the chapter.

Members Elect 2016 Board

The following individuals were elected to the Colorado Springs PFLAG board of directors at the September chapter meeting.

Doug Kirkpatrick, Elaine Myers, Bill Oliver, Karen Stith, Keria Shaw, Jerry Albrent, Marilyn Davis, Jackie Thompson and Cindy Lou Waldmann.

The board meets every other month. Visitors are welcome at meetings.



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

Support Line: (719) 425-9567

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www.cspflag.org

PFLAG National Office website:
www.pflag.org

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To receive your newsletter by e-mail, send a request to info@cspflag.org

Resources to Monitor Status of Transgender Rights/Protections in Individual States

PFLAG has received inquiries regarding resources current status of transgender rights across the country and in each individual state. There are some resources that show the status of rights and protections on the basis of gender identity or expression, which are the terms used to include transgender people explicitly.

The Movement Advancement Project (MAP) has a new helpful infographic that provides statistics, information, grades —assigning those grades by analyzing the number and extent of helpful or harmful laws affecting transgender people in each state. The link for MAP is <http://www.lgbtmap.org/>

To provide a snapshot, the tally by MAP shows that, when including only laws or policies that offer gender identity or expression protections:

- ▶ 9 states plus the District of Columbia have a high policy tally;
- ▶ 9 states have a medium policy tally;

- ▶ 9 states have a low policy tally;
- ▶ 23 states have a negative policy tally.

The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) also has a very helpful question and answer webpage, <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/transgender-people-and-law>, which provides an in-depth look at specific rights and protections for transgender people.



The following is a letter to PFLAG from Lauren Cikara, who participated in the Safe@School panel program at our August PFLAG meeting.

On October 15, 2015, millions of people across the country will wear purple to take a stand against bullying -- and in support of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender young people. We are encouraging all Coloradans to wear purple and participate in Spirit Day with One Colorado and GLAAD.

Click on this link to Take the Spirit Pledge today: http://equalityfederation.salsalabs.com/o/35061/p/dia/action3/common/public/?action_KEY=1685

Why are we bringing attention to anti-LGBT bullying? Because here in Colorado, 8 out of 10 LGBT students hear homophobic remarks on a daily basis, 5 out of 10 LGBT students hear negative statements about transgender people, and 7 in 10 LGBT students have experienced verbal harassment just because of who they are.*

Join us in taking a stand against bullying by taking the pledge, wearing purple on October 15th, and us-

(Continued on page 3)

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. They hold monthly family meetings. To contact the Colorado Springs TYES volunteers, call PFLAG at (719) 425-9567 or send an e-mail to info@cspflag.org.

The TYES program originated and is headquartered in Boulder,

More information is available at the national TYES website www.TYES-Colorado.org



Safe at School—Nora Brown An Advocate for Diversity

District 11 School Board member Nora Brown participated in a Safe at School panel at the August PFLAG meeting. Concerned for the safety and well-being of LGBT students in her district and in schools throughout Colorado, in 2014-2015 she spearheaded adoption of anti-discrimination resolutions by both the District 11 School Board and the Colorado Association of School Boards.

Colorado Association of School Boards Resolution:

2.9 Promote social and cultural proficiency

CASB encourages Boards of education to recognize and celebrate the diverse social and cultural backgrounds of all students, parents/guardians and district personnel and to make a conscious effort to build healthy and diverse teaching and learning environments where all people feel welcome and are treated with dignity and respect.

Rationale: Diversity enriches the educational experience and promotes personal growth and a healthy society by challenging stereotypes, encouraging critical thinking and helping students and staff learn to communicate effectively with people of varied backgrounds. Diversity enhances America's economic competitiveness. Sustaining the nation's prosperity in the 21st century requires us to make effective use of the talents and abilities of all our citizens in work settings that bring together individuals from diverse backgrounds and cultures.

Brown commented: "CSSD11 was the first district in the state to articulate transgender and gender identity in our anti-bullying and anti-discrimination policies. As I told you, when researching for our Diversity Resolution, I couldn't find an example in the United States related to education - found my model in Australia!"

Dreaming of Decadence 2015: "Casino Royale - A Night in Monte Carlo"



The big event of the year at Metropolitan Community Church is its annual Dreaming of Decadence celebration, on Saturday, October 17th, starting at 6:00 p.m.

The theme for this year's event is "A Night in Monte Carlo", taken from the James Bond movie *Casino Royale*. The 1967 movie was based on Ian Fleming's first James Bond novel, introducing the post WWII spy and counterspy adventures of Her Majesty's Secret Service, Agent 007.

This will be a night of elegance, intrigue, elegance, Bond characters and spies, and will feature silent and live auctions, food, music and gambling to win prizes. Donations of auction items are welcome.

For more information, see the church's website: <http://ppmcc.org/upcoming-events/dreaming-of-decadence-2015/> or contact Jackie Thompson: jkthompson@gmail.com Tickets are \$25 single and \$40 per couple.

Metropolitan Community Church is a diverse, inclusive congregation. In March of 2015 the congregation welcomed a new pastor, the Reverend Alycia Erickson. Before her call with Pikes Peak MCC she most recently served as the Pastor of Faith Formation at MCC Austin in Texas, a position she held for six years. She was ordained in MCC in 2010.



Youth Services

Teenagers are always hungry! Inside/Out maintains a pantry where young people who drop in after school or come to meetings can pick up some food. You can help by bringing some of these suggested items to PFLAG meetings for delivery to Inside/Out:

tuna/cracker packets;
individual size ravioli, chili, ramen, any kind of comfort food that can be microwaved;
canned meat or tuna;
small containers of peanut butter;
nutrition bars;
trail mix; cookies;
gatorade or bottled water.— Thanks!

Sex Education

Taryn Bailey, the Responsible Sex Education Coordinator for Planned Parenthood in our region, gave an excellent presentation on her work at the September PFLAG meeting. We'll have some definitions to share in upcoming newsletters.

"Same Gender Loving" — Used within some communities of color, most frequently in the African American Community, this term refers to someone who experiences affectional, emotional, sexual and/or spiritual attraction to people of the same gender.

Spirit Day (cont.)

ing your social media accounts to encourage others to do the same.

By participating in Spirit Day, you can make a difference in the lives of LGBT students across Colorado!

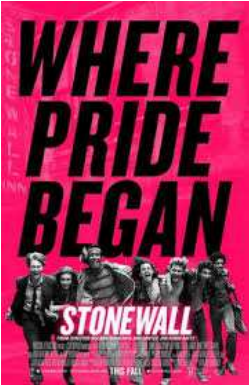
— Lauren Cikara, Safe Schools Manager, One Colorado Education Fund

THANK YOU TO:

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



CC Film Series To Show "Stonewall"



As part of the visiting film series at Colorado College, executive producer Adam Press will present and discuss Stonewall, a new dramatic film directed by Roland Emmerich, (other work: "Independence Day", "the Day After Tomorrow".

"Stonewall" (2015) is a fictional account of one character's experience of the 1969 Stonewall Riots, the violent clash in New York City that launched the modern move-

ment for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender rights. The film is in current theatrical release by Roadside Attractions. The event, which is free and open to the public, will be held in the theater at Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 North Cascade Avenue, on October 21st from 6:30 - 10:00 p.m.

The film is controversial. In a review in iColorado Entertainment news. Meesh Montgomery referred to "the whitewashing of queer history and erasing trans women, drag queens, and lesbians from the uprising". See http://metropolitan.uloop.com/news/view.php/171900/Why-is-the-New-Stonewall-Movie-Controversial. The national GSA (Gay-Straight Alliance) Network has urged its members to boycott the film. See: https://unite.gsanetwork.org/petitions/boycott-2015-stonewall-movie and http://www.metroweekly.com/2015/08/stonewall-movie-accused-of-whitewashing-lgbt-history/

Pikes Peak Equality Coalition/ Citizens Project

Our PFLAG chapter needs one or two individuals who are interested in the work of the Pikes Peak Equality Coalition and Citizens Project and who would be interested in serving as PFLAG liason(s) to these groups. To learn more about this and other volunteer opportunities, contact chapter president Doug Kirkpatrick, 598-6509.

BULLETIN BOARD

October 3—Meeting of Colorado Coalition of PFLAG Chapters— In Denver.

October 15— "Spirit Day" Safe@School Coalition urges you to wear purple and take the pledge. See pp. 2-3

October 16-18— "We Are the Change" - PFLAG National Convention, Nashville, Tennessee. Our chapter will be represented by chapter President Doug Kirkpatrick. Information is at http://community.pflag.org/2015convention

Oct 17—Dreaming of Decadence— Metropolitan Community Church—see article on p. 3.

Oct 21—Stonewall— Where Pride Began—Film showing / discussion at Colorado College 6:30 p.m. See article p. 4.

November 5—Ally Up! Breakfast for Inside/Out— Hotel Elegante. Free event, but a reservation is necessary. See p. 1.

November 11-12-13—Colorado School Counselors Conference, Antlers Hilton Hotel. Volunteers are needed to staff the PFLAG information table in shifts. Call Doug 598-6509.

The Colorado Gay-Straight Alliance Network

Spirit Day (October 15th) is an outreach project of the Colorado GSA Network, a program with a goal of empowering lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning (LGBTQ) and allied students to combat bullying and harassment in their schools. Its staff works out of the Denver-based office of One Colorado and coordinates with One Colorado organizers throughout the state. For more information, see: http://cogsanetwork.org/

Always Remember

That our PFLAG meetings are a safe space. Who you meet, and what you hear —

Keep it confidential.

Support Colorado Springs PFLAG—Become a Member

You can join at any time of the year. The current membership year extends from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016.

Name: _____

___ New member ___ Renewing member

Address: _____

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

City: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

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 contributions are tax deductible. All information will remain confidential. PFLAG is a 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization.