



PFLAG BOULDER COUNTY

PFLAG Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

April 2009

**PFLAG Program - Reflections on Change:
LGBT Images in the Media**
Thursday, April 16th, 7:30pm

Logan Druckman will lead us in an exploration of the way LGBT persons were portrayed and featured in movies, television shows, and advertising in the twentieth century.

How did images of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons change in the last century? The first film depiction of a gay person came in 1912 in the silent comedy "Algie the Miner," a film about a "pansy" who wants to be a cowboy. Gay film roles in the 1930s and 1940s were filled with stereotypes. In 1970, the film "The Boys in the Band" began to portray gay people in more realistic characterizations. While some gay characters began to reflect the freedom that gay people were beginning to experience, many descended into stereotyped portrayals of self-loathing. What has happened since Ellen came out on television in the 1990s? Does the media still present clichéd images of LGBT people? How are transgender persons portrayed in the media compared to their LGB counterparts? Join this fascinating discussion about how LGBT people have been portrayed in the media, past and present.

Save the Date!
Thursday, May 21st, 6:30pm

Thursday, May 21 at 6:30 p.m., PFLAG Boulder County will present its Annual Appreciation Banquet. Following a delicious potluck feast, we will elect officers to the board, present a brief annual report, and bestow Appreciation Awards to outstanding community members, both LGBT and straight allies, in the categories of government/public service, business, education, outstanding youth, gay activist and community ally. All friends and members of PFLAG are urged to attend this evening of celebration to be held in Mead Hall, downstairs in the First United Methodist Church.

PFLAG at PrideFest
Saturday & Sunday, June 27th-28th

Denver's annual PrideFest will take place on the weekend of June 27-28. Plan to join with PFLAG to march in the Pride Parade from Cheesman Park to Civic Center Park. Volunteers are needed to help staff the PFLAG booth on both Saturday and Sunday.

Contact Ron Braun, 303-428-1404.

Meetings

PFLAG Boulder County
First United Methodist Church
1421 Spruce Street
14th & Spruce - 303.444.8164

6:45 PM - Support & Advocacy Groups Meet
7:30 PM - Program

At 6:45 p.m. a support group, especially intended for newcomers and others dealing with personal LGBT-related issues, meets in the library as long as needed. Confidentiality is promised. At 7:00 p.m. refreshments will be served before the 7:30 p.m. program in the parlor. The public is always welcome to the main program at 7:30 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of each month.

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PFLAG Program -
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May 21st, 6:30pm
Annual Appreciation Banquet

Boulder PFLAG Needs Board Members and Other Volunteers!

Boulder PFLAG needs more volunteers to help our chapter with both Board and Non-Board leadership. We are especially interested in attracting volunteers who have interests in the following areas:

Advocacy Chair (Board Position): PFLAG seeks someone with passion for helping us pursue LGBT equality by keeping current with pending legislation and encouraging lobbying on specific issues by following the national PFLAG guidelines. This position would involve communication with members of the state legislature. Applicant must be interested in working with legislators and with the national organization.

Board Members: Board member responsibilities include attending a board meeting at 5:30 preceding each monthly PFLAG meeting, helping with programming, attendance at our annual planning retreat and other tasks that fit with individual interests and skills. Fundraising is not a requirement of this board since we are all volunteers. Contact us to arrange an interview.

Librarian (Board Member or Non-Board Member): Organize our book collection, weed out dated materials, publicize information about our free lending library contents, possibly highlight books related to program themes or review new books (or find a community member willing to review books) for our monthly newsletter. This position could be divided between two volunteers.

Straight Spouse Support Facilitator (Board or non-Board member): We need to revive our support for straight spouses in the Boulder County area. Counseling background helpful. Understanding the issues facing straight spouses essential.

We are especially interested in seeking board members representative of the following groups:

- Youth board members of high school or college age
- LGBT or straight persons of color
- Transgender persons

For more information, or to apply, contact Jean Hodges at 303-444-4580 (JeanInBldr@comcast.net), or Melissa Druckman, 303-642-7661 (mellowhellow@googlemail.com).



It's a New Day!

The Obama Administration has shown its commitment to inclusiveness by hiring and nominating many LGBT folks to appointments. The following names were cited in the March issue of *The Advocate*.

Brad Kiley -- Director, White House Office of Management and Administration

Brian Bond - Deputy Director, White House Office of Public Liaison

Fred Hochberg -- Director, U.S. Export-Import Bank

John Berry -- Director, Office of Personnel Management

Mike Perriello -- Director of Priority Placement, Presidential Personnel

Michael Camuñez -- Special Assistant to President, Presidential Personnel

Nancy Sutley – Chair, White House Council on Environmental Quality

Sad to Say Goodbye

ColoradoOutSpoken, the locally generated monthly LGBT news and interview show featured by KBDI Channel 12, Broomfield's PBS station, is going off the air after 19 years. Economic factors and programming decisions as well as burn-out and pending retirement of long-time volunteers were cited as factors in the show's cancellation.



National News

Tell Three

All across the country, PFLAGers are vowing to “tell three” and move equality forward. We are proud to partner with www.tell-three.org, a new web site that encourages and empowers LGBT people and their friends and family, to “tell three” people about why equality is important. Visitors to the site can find additional information about who to talk with and how to start these important conversations. There are also resources for those who want to learn more about the issues affecting LGBT people. As the web site notes, the most important thing is for people to have personal conversations. To get started, visit www.tell-three.org.

Vermont Moves Closer to Legalizing Same-Sex Marriage

Vermont’s Senate voted 26-4 in favor of a bill allowing same-sex couples to marry in that state. Vermont was the first state to legalize civil unions in 2000. The Vermont House of Representatives must consider the issue next. Governor Jim Douglas, a Republican, has said he will veto the bill if it is ratified by the legislature. He tempered his remarks by saying that though he opposed the law, that he felt that the legislature had enough votes to override his veto. Some lawmakers weren’t so confident about that possibility. The Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force says it will lobby the governor to persuade him to change his mind.

PFLAG Supports the Uniting American Families Act (UAFSA)

Even as our nation looks forward to progress on long-delayed issues like employment non-discrimination and a federal hate crimes bill, there are other pieces of important legislation that directly impact our families, but will face significant obstacles from anti-equality activists in the months ahead. At PFLAG, however, we have always understood that, when it comes to equality for *every* family, *all* of our families must build the foundation today that makes progress possible tomorrow. That’s why, over the past month, we’ve been proud to provide important support on two issues with far-reaching impact for many of our loved ones: Passing the Uniting American Families Act (UAFSA) and repealing the military’s “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” ban on lesbian, gay and bisexual service members. In February, Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) and Congressman Jerold Nadler (D-NY) re-introduced UAFSA, which would update U.S. immigration law to treat heterosexual and same-sex families equally. The proposal would add “or permanent partner” to parts of the Immigration and Nationality Act which currently only allows straight U.S. citizens to sponsor spouses for green cards. And, by recognizing our families as part of the larger American family, the legislation also sends an important message that, regardless of sexual orientation, loving couples should not be forced to choose between their country and their loved one.

PFLAG has asked all of our supporters to call their Member of Congress to urge them to support this critically important bill. PFLAG’s communications team, which has helped to frame countless legislative issues in the media, has been proud to provide messaging, media and public relations counsel to our friends at Immigration Equality (www.immigrationequality.org) the organization spearheading the effort to pass the bill. From doing media trainings at the group’s offices in New York to preparing I.E. spokespeople for media interviews, we are honored to be a partner in their efforts to keep families together and end federal discrimination against same-sex couples.

PFLAG and Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell

PFLAG is proud to be working with our chapters and our allies in Washington to push for an end to “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell.” Since 1993, more than 12,000 men and women have been dismissed from the armed forces under the law, which bars openly lesbian, gay and bisexual Americans from serving in our armed forces. LGBT Americans from families with long traditions of military service are not able to carry on that tradition, and the loved ones of LGBT service personnel are discriminated against in myriad ways every day. In fact, “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” remains the only law in our country which *mandates* firing someone simply because of their sexual orientation.

On March 13th, PFLAG National Board Member, and Retired Air Force Colonel, Dan Tepfer, will join veterans, advocates and allies from across the country on the lawn of the U.S. Capitol. Colonel Tepfer, who has written eloquently about the need to topple “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell,” will highlight the toll the military’s ban has on families. As a member of PFLAG’s Dayton, Ohio chapter, Colonel Tepfer has hosted standing-room-only discussions with military leaders, and publicly called for an end to the military’s second-class treatment of LGBT patriots. Now, he’s taking his message to Washington, to urge our elected leaders to pass the Military Readiness Enhancement Act, which would end the ban and open up our armed forces to lesbian and gay Americans who want to serve. If you’ll be in Washington on March 13th, please plan to join me and Colonel Tepfer on Capitol Hill, and <http://www.sldn.org>.

Day of Silence

Gay-Straight Alliances will participate in the National Day of Silence, a youth-run effort using *silence* to protest the actual silencing of LGBT people due to harassment, bias and abuse.

Mountain Pride Connections is pleased to support PFLAG at the Boulder Farmers’ Market this season ... come visit us!

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Resonance Women’s Chorus - “Brave Souls and Dreamers” Concert
Saturday, April 18th, 2pm and 7pm

“BraveSouls and Dreamers is a profoundly beautiful work, a powerful and cathartic musical offering,” says Resonance artistic director Sue Coffee. Commissioned in 2007 for the Portland Gay Men’s Chorus, this performance will be the Colorado premiere and its first performance by a women’s chorus. Both showings will be at the First United Methodist Church, 1421 Spruce St., Boulder.

The text is adapted from and inspired by words of some of the world’s great peacemakers and visionaries, including Jesus Christ, the Dalai Lama, Mother Theresa, and Jimmy Carter. The music is rich and warm. “Composer Robert Seeley is a master at making choruses sound good,” said Coffee. “His music is tonal, accessible, and beautifully crafted. It is easy to listen to and extremely effective at conveying deeply emotional messages.” Seeley and librettist Robert Espindola, who have written a number of large-scale works together, will be present at the performances and will participate in post-concert discussion with the audience.

There is a short but potent narrative line in the piece. Two opposing soldiers experience the disorientation and terror of combat, and encounter each other on the battlefield. A mother deals with the grief of losing her son, and works her way through a path of forgiveness. Throughout, a sage offers words of simple wisdom and spiritual truth, and the chorus offers a witness to the emotional journey of the piece.


Tickets, at \$15 for general admission and \$10 for seniors and children, can be purchased through the Boulder Theater Box Office, www.bouldertheater.com or 303-786-7030; at Troubadour Bookstore, 5290 Arapahoe Ave., in Boulder; or at door. More info at www.resonancechorus.org, or contact Resonance Women’s Chorus at (303) 473-8337 or resonance_chorus@yahoo.com.

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WHEN A FAMILY MEMBER OR LOVED ONE COMES OUT, YOU MIGHT FEEL CONFUSED, SCARED, OR JUST IN NEED OF MORE INFORMATION AND SUPPORT. I OFFER COMPASSIONATE, ACCEPTING AND PRACTICAL COUNSELING FOR FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS; AND YEARS OF EXPERIENCE WORKING WITH LGBTQ YOUTH, ADOLESCENTS & ADULTS, AND THOSE WHO CARE ABOUT THEM.



boulder pride


Boulder Pride’s Office:
2132 14th Street
Boulder, CO 80302

Mailing Address:
PO Box 1018
Boulder, CO 80306

Phone: 303-499-5777
Fax: 303-413-8711
Email: info@boulderpride.org
Web: www.boulderpride.org

serving the GLBTQ communities in and around boulder county



MATTHEW SHEPARD FOUNDATION PRESENTS



The Legacy of **Matthew Shepard**
featuring Judy Shepard

Sunday, April 19
4:30pm

Regis University Chapel
3333 Regis Blvd, Denver

This event is FREE and open the public.

For more information call 303.830.7400 x15 **MatthewShepard.org**

COMMUNITY PARTNERS: PFLAG Denver GLBT Center of Colorado Colorado Gay Rodeo Association
Gender Identity Center of Colorado Interfaith Alliance of Colorado

BVSD Health Curriculum Reformatted

New Boulder Valley Health Education Coordinator Geoff Sandfort recently met with the Boulder Valley Safe Schools Coalition to respond to concerns about changes to the comprehensive K-12 health curriculum. Former health coordinator Katy Fleming worked for several years to create this ground-breaking curriculum despite pressure from conservative citizens to press for inclusion of reparative therapy in the unit on Human Sexuality. Mr. Sandfort described the changes as “reformatting” to make the curriculum less verbose and more teacher-friendly. He assured the Coalition that no content changes have been made.

You can view the current changes to K-5 curriculum only by going to this website: <http://bvsd.org/curriculum/Pages/default.aspx>. Information regarding all curricular areas may be obtained by accessing the BVSD home page; click the BVSD A-Z tab, then click "Curriculum & Instruction" in the "C" box. Work to bring clarity and consistency to the 6-12 curricula will continue later this spring.

PFLAG Publishes New Resource

PFLAG has published its latest trans resource, Welcoming Our Trans Family and Friends, continuing a tradition of unconditional support. For decades, PFLAG has been proud to serve as a resource for transgender and gender non-conforming people, their families and friends. PFLAG was the first national LGBT organization to include trans people in its mission statement. We were proud to lead the way in adopting a groundbreaking policy of supporting only legislation that is fully inclusive, that protects our entire family, a family that includes our trans loved ones.

This new publication includes insights from the parents of trans children, professional viewpoints from experts on gender issues, and information on terminology, including a terrific list of other resources and unique advice on how to embrace our trans family and friends by helping them feel more comfortable as they strive to live openly, honestly and authentically as who they are. You can download a copy from our web site (<http://www.pflagboulder.org>) or obtain a copy from Kristen Kinard (klkinard@comcast.net) who supplies our information table at the monthly PFLAG meetings.



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PFLAG Boulder meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at First United Methodist Church, 14th and Spruce, Boulder, Colorado. Sharing time begins at 7:00 pm, program at 8:00 pm.

REMEMBER, our confidentiality pledge must not be broken.

Newsletter is published monthly. A subscription is included with each membership to PFLAG. Material related to PFLAG is welcome from any source. Deadline is the twentieth of each month. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject, or edit any material submitted.

Membership Categories

- \$25.00 Individual
- \$35.00 Family
- \$10.00 Student
- \$10.00 Newsletter Only
- \$50.00 Supporting
- \$100.00+ Sustaining

Membership dues are renewed on October 1st of each year. Send address changes and membership information to PFLAG, P.O. Box 19696, Boulder, CO 80308.

Advertising

Business card size: \$15 monthly / \$130 annually. Please send scans / digital images to info@pflagboulder.org . If special arrangements need to be made feel free to send an email.

< Please support our advertisers >

OUR MISSION

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gays, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered persons, their families and friends through:

- SUPPORT**, to cope with an adverse society;
- EDUCATION**, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and
- ADVOCACY**, to end discrimination and to secure civil rights.

PFLAG provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

April 4th Safe Schools Training

Representatives from at least six of our Colorado PFLAG Chapters will gather in Colorado Springs for the Spring Colorado Coalition of PFLAG Chapters meeting. The day will focus a Safe Schools training to empower participants to develop strategies to work with schools districts to make LGBT students and staff experience more respect and acceptance. The all-day workshop will be led by National PFLAG staffers, Elizabeth Hampton Brown, Director of Policy & Programs, and Cesar Hernandez, our new Western Field and Policy Director. Representing our PFLAG chapter will be Melissa Druckman, Kristen Kinard and Jean Hodges.

HELP WANTED: Time to Step Up!

Boulder PFLAG needs volunteers to do lots of interesting things! First of all, we are looking for volunteers to staff our booth at the Boulder Farmers' Market. Last summer, Susan Hofer and Kit McChesney womaned the booth all summer long, every weekend, and gave PFLAG lots of great exposure to the Boulder community. This year the Farmers' Market will allow nonprofits only one space per month, so this Spring, Summer, and Fall, we'd like to take advantage of this opportunity and present our "wares" to the public at the market. This is a great opportunity for folks to get out on a beautiful Saturday morning and early afternoon and enjoy the market community. Please contact Jean Hodges (303-444-4580) if you are interested and we'll get you signed up!

Speak Out with a Thank You

Please take a minute to thank PepsiCo for its support of PFLAG and LGBT equality. Because they are under siege by those who oppose equality for LGBT people, they need to know that we appreciate their stand for equal rights. Call their offices toll-free at 1-800-433-2652, extension 0. They will ask for your zip code and will forward your comments on to the chairman of the PepsiCo Foundation.

"Call Me Little Bridget"

T shirts that are fashionable with a slice of GLBTQ advocacy.

Our shirts are for anyone who wants to spread the word of love and acceptance. We believe that if people wear them... then the message will get through to others.

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