



The Women's Issue:

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

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FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

Making Her-story!

By: William S. Gooden, Publisher
Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine

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As the old saying goes, "Behind every great man is a woman." But as time goes by we are finding many historical moments have been spearheaded entirely by women on their own. For many years, academia and historians have downplayed the role of women in a historical context. And when it came to bi, lesbian and transgender women they were either left out of the history books or their queer status was eliminated or downplayed. There have even been arguments that Sappho, one of the most famous Greek poets and most well-known lesbians in history was really a man (to downplay her success and contributions to history).

More recently historians, researchers and archaeologists have had younger and fresher minds join their ranks. Academia is taking a new look at some of major historical moments and discoveries and seeing that not only women, but *queer* women, have had a more significant role in history, than your high school textbooks lead you to believe. From finding the graves and decedents of the legendary Amazons, to Eleanor Roosevelt redefining the role of a First Lady (in terms of shaping social and political policy), all while having a lesbian relationship while still in the White House. We are now just realizing the greater role that queer people have played in shaping history. This month we celebrate Women's History Month by looking at some bi, lesbian and transgender women who have made history in the realms of sports, arts, entertainment, history and politics. In *LGBTQ Women Who Have Changed Our World*, we take a look at a few of the major ground-breakers in recent years.



Just a reminder: Despite what certain children's book authors may say on their Twitter feeds, transgender women are women, too! So this month we also celebrate Transgender Day of Visibility, which takes place on **March 31, 2022**. We spoke with two young people who are currently on their journey of transition in *Queens and Kings: Celebrating International Transgender Day of Visibility*.

Of course women's and transgender health are current topics of discussion, which is why this month we spoke with Tanya Atkinson, President of Planned Parenthood of Wisconsin about how they have historically helped all people across all genders in reproductive healthcare.

Lastly, spring is in the air and Michael Johnston has a rundown of all the spring happenings here in Milwaukee, this month.

Have a Happy Spring!
- William S. Gooden

THE OPINION EDITORIAL

America's New Favorite Pastime: LGBTQ Erasure

By William S. Gooden, Publisher
Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine

There is a disturbing trend taking the country by storm, though it has been around for ages. No, it's not some TikTok dance craze or challenge like "Planking." It's LGBTQ erasure and it's all the rage, and right now it's sweeping through our schools. With recent book bans in libraries of books featuring LGBTQ and gender topics, to laws banning transgender athletes and to Florida's new "Don't Say Gay" bill. The erasure of queer people, our history, our lives, and our issues are very much in vogue.

On March 3, 2022, Iowa joined 10 other GOP-led states in limiting transgender students' ability to participate in school sports. All 11 states have passed such measures over the past two years. On February 24, 2022, Florida passed a new piece of state legislation — titled the Parental Rights in Education bill, but dubbed by detractors the "Don't Say Gay" bill — that would prohibit the discussion of sexuality and gender identity in schools. But perhaps the biggest trend in state bills is targeting LGBTQ youths are those focused on transgender youth. Of note, Texas Gov. Greg Abbott (R) issued a letter confirming his Attorney General's opinion that gender-affirming care, including puberty blockers, hormone treatments and surgical interventions, should be treated as child abuse. The governor also claimed medical professionals, educators, and members of the public are required to report what Abbott sneeringly refers to as "so-called 'sex change' procedures" to state authorities. Those authorities could potentially prosecute parents, or even remove children from their parents' care, although any such prosecution would face immediate challenges in court. And that's just what we're facing in our schools.



The erasure continues on the Internet, one of the places where LGBTQ people had found a place to have an unfettered voice, queer people are being forced off as well. Queer account holders who knowingly talk about LGBTQ issues are having their accounts shadow-banned, demonetized, deleted for no reason, or are being harassed and dogpiled with no real recourse to stop it. One such individual who has been banned is Terry Miller, the founder of the "It Gets Better," project. His Instagram account has been suspended multiple times with out suitable cause given.

In all of this, we should be asking: Where are our Great Defenders? Those valiant liberal politicians who show up each June to our Pride festivals and promise they will fight the good fight for us if we vote for them? They seem oddly silent at the moment, perhaps hoping the Supreme Court will strike them down.

There is a greater danger in all of this than just some lost social media accounts or disallowing sports competition among transgender girls and women. When you erase our presence from public spaces and forums we lose our voice as a community. Once we are silenced as a community then we are truly in danger once we are silenced. Now is the time to make our voices heard. To tell those that would silence us that we will not be silenced. If we don't it may be too late when we finally do.



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In The News

LOCAL & NATIONAL LGBTQ+ NEWS



After Florida Passes 'Don't Say Gay' Bill, Wisconsin to Consider Bill Banning Gender-Affirming Care for Those Under 18

SB915 would prevent people under 18 from accessing hormones, surgery

By Marissa Haegele

A vocal group of around 60 people gathered with signs and megaphones at the Capitol to voice their concerns Feb. 17 against Senate Bill 915.

The bill would bar physicians and healthcare providers from administering any gender transition procedure for individuals under the age of 18. The bill defines such procedures as “any physician’s service, inpatient and outpatient hospital service, puberty blocking drug, cross-sex hormone, genital gender reassignment surgery, or non-genital gender reassignment surgery.”

The bill is an attack on trans youth, according to organizer and activist for gender expansive rights Amira Pierotti.

“All of the mythology that comes out of [saying] ‘Trans youth aren’t able to make these decisions for themselves’ is based on transphobia ... even though it may not have malintent, this misunderstanding is very costly,” Pierotti said.

The Badger Herald reached out to Senators André Jacque, R-DePere, and Kathleen Bernier, R-Chippewa Falls — two of the representatives who introduced the bill Feb. 1 — but neither office responded to requests for comment.

The Herald also contacted the University of Wisconsin’s Gender and Sexuality Campus Center’s Program Coordinator Whitney Anderson, who said the GSCC is unable to comment on pending legislation.

The legislation comes as a late ripple in the larger wave of similar bills that swept across the U.S. in 2021. That year saw 23 bills regarding the restriction of transitional healthcare for youth across 16 states.

Until now, two bills have been introduced, 14 are still in committee, one has passed through its state’s senate and four are currently dead in the water. The only



one of these bills to have made it all the way through its state legislature was Arkansas HB 1750 in March of 2021.

What makes WI SB 915 particularly noteworthy in comparison to others is its wide-sweeping definition of gender transitional procedures. It includes psychiatric care and counseling as a form of social transitioning, meaning these would also be off limits and physicians could be subject to legal punishment for administering them. The bill also forgoes the ability of a parental guardian’s consent to override the law’s restrictions.

The bill would need to be signed by Gov. Tony Evers, who vocally opposed bills that would ban transgender youth athletes from competing in girls sports in May 2021.

“I very seldom think about a veto before I actually see the bills, but anytime we decide to take a certain group of kids and prevent them from reaching their full potential, that’s a problem,” Evers said, according to Channel3000.

In 2019, the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry published a statement in support of the use of current evidence-based clinical care with people under 18. AACAP also stated they oppose any attempt to block access to such interventions.

Supporters of bills like SB 915 often cite de-transitioning — the decision later in life to reverse the procedures they had undergone previously to return to their assigned gender — as a concern

for youth who are seeking medical gender transition.

Arkansas representative Robin Lundstrum was the lead sponsor for AR HB 1570, which passed in 2021.

“These kids deserve to be loved and cherished, and let’s let them wait until they are 18 until they make a serious decision that they can’t take back,” Lundstrum said in a statement.

In a 2015 survey by the National Center for Transgender Equality, over 90% of the 28,000 transgender respondents said they had not de-transitioned in any capacity. A different 50-year survey released in 2010 revealed that roughly 2% of the 767 transgender participants regretted undergoing gender-affirming surgery in Sweden.

One such solution to transitioning before someone may be ready to do so are puberty blockers, which place the changes a person goes through during puberty on pause, often giving time for individuals and their families to weigh their options as well generally improving mental health for those taking them.

SB 915 would also ban the prescription of puberty blockers, something Pierotti has been keen to point out as counter-intuitive.

Despite the continued push by some representatives to limit options for trans youth and by-passers walking directly through their protest, Pierotti came away feeling empowered afterward and optimistic about the future.

“It doesn’t have to be like this,” Pierotti said. “I’m a trans youth, I’m very much happy to sit down with anyone to explain this because shouting at each other isn’t working.”

Source: <https://badgerherald.com/news/2022/03/02/youth-adults-rally-at-capitol-against-new-legislation-proposing-ban-on-services-for-adolescents-seeking-gender-affirming-care/>

Pride Life Features

THE EVENTS AND PEOPLE THAT ARE SHAPING LGBTQ+ MILWAUKEE

History in the Making: Planned Parenthood of WI (1935)

By: David Todd, Writer
Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine

One of the very first things Tanya Atkinson, President and CEO of Planned Parenthood of WI, wanted you to know is that, though many think of Planned Parenthood as historically a women's advocacy organization, Planned Parenthood serves the health needs of people across the gender spectrum and is dedicated to the health of our community. "We're very proud of Planned Parenthood's reputation as a safe place for all individuals to come for healthcare – men, women, gay, straight, people of color – who are still the most disproportionately affected by healthcare disparities than any other group," Atkins says, like she's giving a big hug to the community at large, not wanting to miss one person or their needs. "Now, anyone can go online and make an appointment to see a healthcare professional onsite or virtually, all throughout the state, rural communities included," she beams. Accessibility is their thing.

Speaking of accessibility, last year was another historic one for Planned Parenthood. "The LGBT community has long been a partner to Planned Parenthood," Atkinson explains, "and us to them. We're proud to be viewed as a trusted ally, having a nonjudgmental environment to support the needs of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals in Wisconsin. And the trust is returned." Atkinson recalls. "When 'Defense of Marriage' was under attack here in Wisconsin, PPWI was the very first nonprofit to sign on in full support of the Community in advocacy, moral and even financial support. Our paths have been intertwined for years. And continue to be," she says with excite-



Tanya Atkinson

ment. "So, when we were able to add gender-affirming hormone therapy recently, we were excited to be able to provide more complete healthcare services to transgender men and women." And what PPWI doesn't do themselves they supplement with a rich online resource center for complimentary social services, with the goal of being able to care for the whole individual – a healthy, empowered and informed individual.

Atkinson beats that drum and stresses how each Wisconsin resident can help the cause and help themselves. "One: Be Aware. Educate yourself on the issues. Visit our website (www.plannedparenthood.org) or do research yourself. But know what's going on and what's at stake. Two: Talk About It. These are life changing decisions people are making. Get comfortable with having tough discussions. Get the right information. Seek counsel," Atkinson enumerates. "Three: Contact Your Legislators. So many people say they know where their representatives stand. But do they know where YOU stand? Tell them. Let them know what's important to you. Put pres-



sure on them. All three are vital to protecting quality healthcare for all."

Wisconsin is facing that battle once again. Today, reproductive freedom is under attack like it hasn't been since the *Roe V. Wade* decision secured women legal jurisdiction over their bodies and their family's future in 1973. Now several states are taking their lead from Texas, which outlawed anyone from providing abortion care to women after only 6 weeks of pregnancy. Now copycat bills are coming forward across the US trying to limit these freedoms including our state. A 173-year-old Wisconsin law - still on the books - makes providing an abortion a felony, with penalties of up to six years in prison and a fine of up to \$10,000. *Roe V. Wade* made the law unenforceable here. But if the United States Supreme Court overturns *Roe V. Wade*, the stage is set for critical abortion care to be set back decades in Wisconsin. "We know one thing," Atkinson says, with a chill in her voice, "making abortion illegal only makes it unsafe... not gone."

"Yes, we have a fight ahead of us. We all do. But hand in hand with that, every day we celebrate our expansion of services to help more people, in more areas, with greater resources," Atkinson reminds us. "And with help from our allies, we'll continue to do so until everyone in Wisconsin who needs it can benefit from an inclusive community health program like the one Planned Parenthood offers."

In The Spotlight

SPOTLIGHTING MILWAUKEE'S AMAZING PRIDE COMMUNITY

Queens and Kings: Celebrating International Transgender Day of Visibility

By: David Todd, Writer
Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine

March 31, 2022, is the Human Rights Campaign's International Transgender Day of Visibility. Every year on this day since its inception in 2009. The Day of Visibility is a time to celebrate transgender, non-binary people and advocates around the globe and acknowledge the determination it takes to live openly and authentically. Participants also work to eradicate the violence and discrimination that many transgender and non-binary people, especially trans women of color and Black trans women, still face.

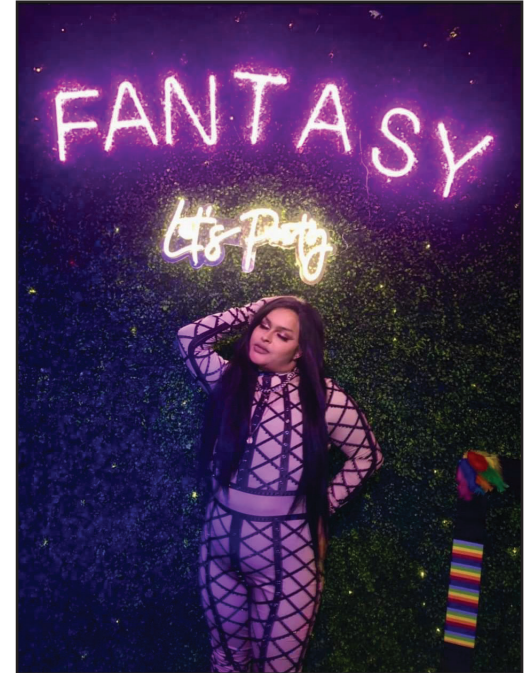
To mark this year's observation, Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine sat down with some Kings and Queens of the Transgender Drag community and asked them what is lacking visibility in their eyes. Brooklyn Alexandria Moore, aka Mimi Versace, is a transgender woman a good way into her transition. "I'm happy with where I am, yes," says Moore. "Surgery is big. Everything is big. But I am the person I want to be, now" (especially after her recent name change). "Having my own name was really big for me. It means a lot," she adds.



Brooklyn Alexandria Moore

When reflecting on what a Transgender Day of Visibility means for her, she answers quickly, with passion. "It's important to be seen as we want to be, not as a question or a different kind of queer, not a piece of meat," says Moore. "I want to be loved for who I am - not what I am."

Angel Pabullo Shabaka, Assistant General Manager at Milwaukee's THIS IS IT bar is a trans man. "I do female drag to connect with the feminine side of who I am," he says performing as Adore Sanchez (House of Sanchez), "and it's really fun." Being Latino, Shabaka is acutely aware of the challenges facing trans people of color. As reported in the December issue of MPLM, 2021 "[was] the single deadliest year for transgender and



Angel Pabullo Shabaka

gender non-conforming people...with 47 trans deaths" last year. "Internationally, the number grows to 375 deaths."

"That's who we need to be looking at," says Shabaka, "My black and brown brothers and sisters. They face a lot more discrimination and violence than anyone." To him, we need to "stand in solidarity with them and show them that we are their allies and will speak up."

What makes the transgender community "visible" to your eyes? It's a question each one of us will be asked to examine this year - an important year to turn the tide of discrimination and violence against our transgender family and friends. Mark your calendars for **March 31** but carry the thought with you all year long.

TRANSGENDER DAY of VISIBILITY





Our Queer History

OUR HISTORY & THOSE THAT SHAPED IT

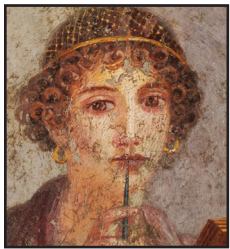
LGBTQ Women Who Have Changed Our World

These women have changed sports, art, entertainment, history and politics

By William S. Gooden, Publisher
Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine

As the Beyoncé song asks, "Who runs the world? Girls!" Perhaps for this instance it's more women – queer women. From time recorded LGBTQ+ women have helped shaped history. For Women's History Month we're taking a look at queer women who have shaped our history and culture. While there are only 23 in this article, there are numerous queer women who have made a difference in history, and we salute them all for their part.

History



Sappho

Sappho was an Archaic Greek poet from Eresos or Mytilene on the island of Lesbos. Sappho is known for her lyric poetry, written to be sung while accompanied by music. In ancient times, Sappho was widely regarded as one of the greatest lyric poets and was given names such as the "Tenth Muse" and "The Poetess." Beyond her poetry, she is well-known as a symbol of love and desire between women, with the English words sapphic and lesbian being derived from her own name and the name of her home island respectively.



Sally Ride

A physicist and astronaut, Sally Ride was the first American woman in space. As a physics student at Stanford, Ride answered a newspaper ad for female astronauts and became one of six women selected. She flew on the space shuttle *Challenger* in 1983 and

in 1984, controlling the robotic arm, the tool that places satellites in space. After she left NASA, Ride taught at the University of California San Diego. Upon her death in 2012, her obituary revealed that she had been in a relationship with a woman, Tam O'Shaughnessy, for 27 years.



Florence Nightingale

Likely the most famous nurse in all of history, Florence Nightingale was working as a nurse in London when she learned of deplorable conditions sick soldiers faced during the Crimean War in the 1850's. At the behest of Secretary of War Sidney Herbert, Nightingale was tasked with forming a team of nurses to help tend to the soldiers in Crimea. She assembled a team of nearly 40 nurses and set off to Scutari, where she helped vastly improve the sanitary conditions of the infirmary there. Nightingale never married, but she was reportedly completely devoted to various women in her life, including her cousin Marianne Nicholson.

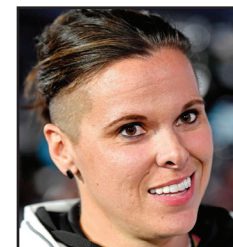


Sports

Megan Rapinoe

Megan Rapinoe is a USWNT player who commands attention and respect on and off the field. She led her team to victory at the 2019 Women's World Cup in France, her third World Cup appearance, and was awarded the Golden Boot and the Golden Ball awards as the top scorer and Most Valuable Player in the tournament — all while having a very public argument with U.S. President Donald Trump after saying "I'm not go-

ing to the f---ing White House." Trump angrily tweeted that Rapinoe "should WIN before she TALKS," but it turns out she can do both.



Katie Sowers

Katie Sowers, offensive assistant for the San Francisco 49ers, became the first woman and the first openly gay person to coach at the Super Bowl in 2020. The former high school athletics director and Women's Football Alliance player and coach even got her own Super Bowl commercial with Microsoft, one of many LGBTQ-inclusive ads that played during the game. Despite all the media buzz around her gender and sexual identity, Sowers and the players she works with stay focused on her talent, her hard work, and her knowledge of the game. Thanks to her, it will be much easier for girls to watch the Super Bowl and imagine themselves on the sidelines.

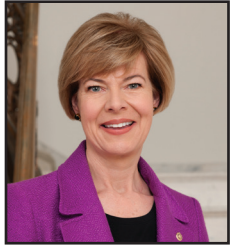


Billie Jean King

No list of groundbreaking athletes would be complete without Billie Jean King, one of the greatest women's tennis players of all time and a dedicated activist for gay rights and gender equality. The out lesbian and 39-time Grand Slam events winner is best known for beating Bobby Riggs in the "Battle of the Sexes" in 1973, and was inducted into the International Tennis Hall of Fame in 1987. King is also the founder of the Women's Tennis Association and the Women's Sports Foundation, and received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Obama. As she's often quoted,

"Champions keep playing until they get it right."

Politics



Tammy Baldwin

Sen. Tammy Baldwin from Wisconsin is the first openly LGBT woman elected to Congress. The openly gay Democrat served three terms in the Wisconsin State Assembly before being elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1999. She achieved the same milestone for the Senate in 2012, and was re-elected in the 2018 midterms. She frequently challenged the Trump administration on its roll-backs of LGBTQ rights, and voted to convict President Trump of abuse of power and obstruction of Congress during his impeachment trial.



Sharice Davids

Rep. Sharice Davids from Kansas is a politician in her prime with many firsts to her name. She is the first openly LGBT Native American elected to the U.S. Congress, the first of only two Native American women elected to Congress, and the first Democrat to represent Kansas in the U.S. House of Representatives since 2011. Before her political career, she was a lawyer and a professional MMA fighter, and spent years living on Native American reservations across the U.S. to work on community development programs.



Danica Roem

Danica Roem is the first openly transgender person to be elected to the Virginia General Assembly, challenging and defeating 13-term incumbent and offed-described "chief homophobe" Bob Marshall in the 2017 special election. She was re-elected in 2019, making her the first openly trans state legislator to be re-elected. At a time when "bathroom bills" and military bans have threatened the privacy and safety of transgender people, Roem

continues to be an inspiring leader and activist for the LGBTQ community.



Jóhanna Sigurðardóttir

Jóhanna Sigurðardóttir is the former Prime Minister of Iceland. Elected in February 2009, she was Iceland's first woman Prime Minister and the world's first openly LGBTQ head of government. A former activist in the trade union movement and an MP since 1978, she was named by Forbes as one of the 100 most powerful women in the world. In 1987, she entered into a civil union with author and playwright Jónína Leósdóttir, and they changed their civil union into a marriage when same-sex marriage was legalized, becoming one of the first same-sex married couples in Iceland.



Arts

Frida Kahlo

Passionately bisexual painter Frida Kahlo captured Mexican identity with her surrealist work, combining self-portraits with folk culture and artifacts. She became the first Mexican artist to be featured in the Louvre in 1939, was a founding member of the Seminario de Cultura Mexicana, and is now recognized as an icon of feminism, the Mexican-American civil rights movement, and the LGBTQ+ community.



Jennifer Finney Boylan

Jennifer Finney Boylan is an American author and transgender activist who writes op-eds for *The New York Times*. Her autobiography *She's Not There: A Life in Two Genders* was the first book published by an openly trans author to become a bestseller. She is also a reality TV personality, regularly appearing on Caitlyn Jenner's show *I Am Cait*, and was chosen as the first openly trans co-chair of GLAAD's National Board of Directors.



Lorraine Hansberry

Playwright and activist Lorraine Hansberry, the author of the 1959 play *A Raisin in the Sun*, was the first African-American female author to have a play performed on Broadway. She was also the first African-American dramatist and the youngest playwright, at age 29, to win the *New York Drama Critics Circle Award*. She was married to Robert Nemiroff but had affairs with women, and contributed to early queer publications including the lesbian-oriented *The Ladder* and the gay magazine *One*.



Audre Lorde

Audre Lorde is a celebrated poet, essayist, feminist and civil rights activist. A proud lesbian and the daughter of Caribbean immigrants, her poetry and writing dealt with the intersection of race, class, gender and sexuality, as with her crucial essay "*The Master's Tools Will Not Dismantle the Master's House*." Other notable works include "*From a Land Where Other People Live*" (1972), nominated for a National Book Award, and "*The Cancer Journals*" from her own struggle with breast cancer. Lorde was also co-founder of Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press, a founding member of Sisterhood in Support of Sisters in South Africa, and poet laureate of New York in 1991.

Entertainment



Lena Waithe

Actor, producer and screenwriter Lena Waithe is an out lesbian from Chicago, and the first Black woman to win an Emmy for Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series for her work on *Master of None* in 2017. She went on to produce diverse, cutting-edge shows like *The Chi* and *Boomerang*, as well as last year's crime film *Queen and Slim*. Recently, she voiced the first openly queer animated Disney

(Continued on pg. 11)

LGBTQ women in History

(Continued from pg. 9)

character in *Onward*. Throughout her career, she has pushed for more queer people and people of color to be involved in her film and TV projects, and acted as a mentor for up-and-coming artists.



Donna Deitch

Award-winning filmmaker and television director Donna Deitch is best known for her 1985 movie *Desert Hearts*, which was

the first feature film with a mainstream lesbian love story, told in a positive and respectful way. The film was a hit at the Toronto International Film Festival and the Sundance Film Festival, and it inspired Oprah Winfrey to hire Deitch to direct Emmy-nominated mini-series *The Women of Brewster Place*. She went on to direct episodes in TV dramas like *NYPD Blue*, *ER*, *Law and Order: SVU* and others, and directed docu-series for HBO and Showtime.



Lily Tomlin

Few people have been more influential in the world of comedy than Lily Tomlin. Recently honored on the Hollywood Walk of

Fame, the *Grace & Frankie* star began as a stand-up comedian and off-Broadway actor before her breakout role in *Rowan & Martin's Laugh-In*. You may also know her from her Tony Award-winning show *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*, and films like *Nashville*, *9 to 5*, *Big Business*, and *Flirting with Disaster*. She and her partner Jane Wagner first met in 1971 and officially got married in 2013, after 42 years together.



Ellen DeGeneres

Television would not be the same without Ellen DeGeneres, the comedian, talk show host and producer who famously risked her

career to come out as a lesbian in 1997. This led to her sitcom *Ellen* being canceled, but she went on to launch the hugely successful *The Ellen Show*, star in movies like Pixar's *Finding Nemo* and *Finding Dory*, and host events like the Emmys and the Oscars, among numerous other projects. She married her wife Portia De Rossi in 2008, providing an important example of a mainstream gay marriage at the height of the Proposition 8 debate.

Activism



Angela Davis

Angela Davis is a feminist and revolutionary of the 1960s and 70s, she became a prominent figure in movements like second-wave

feminism, Marxism, the Black Panther Party, the anti-Vietnam War movement and the abolition of prisons. She taught philosophy at UCLA until she was fired for her political beliefs, and was professor of Ethnic Studies at San Francisco State University in the 1980s. She is now a professor emerita at the University of California at Santa Cruz. Davis discussed being a lesbian in an *Out Magazine* interview in 1997.

Emma González



Bisexual activist Emma González is a survivor of the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in Parkland, Florida in 2018, and has been a fierce

advocate for gun control ever since. They are known for using social media to organize rallies and re-shape narratives around gun control, giving a viral speech calling out politicians funded by the NRA and organizing the March For Our Lives, where they honored the victims of the shooting with a powerful six minutes of silence. They were also president of their school's gay-straight alliance.

Sara Ramirez

Sara Ramirez has combined entertainment and activism throughout her career. Best known for her groundbreaking role as bisexual character Callie on



Grey's Anatomy and a Tony Award-winning Broadway career, the Mexican-American actor is also a vocal advocate for Latinx culture and LGBTQ

rights, which has included sitting on the board of directors of True Colors United and the LGBTQ Task Force, and supporting groups like the Bisexual Organizing Project and Mujeres de Maiz. She came out as bisexual in 2016 and has been a committed activist for the bi-plus community.



Ivy Bottini

Queer activism owes a lot to Ivy Bottini. Born in 1926, she was involved in the early days of the modern feminist movement,

helping found the New York chapter of the National Organization for Women and becoming president of that chapter the same year she came out as a lesbian. She founded AIDS Network LA in 1971, APLA in 1983, and Gay & Lesbian Elder Housing in 1993, among many other achievements. Her activism continues to this day.



Edie Windsor

Edith "Edie" Windsor was one of the original leaders in the fight for marriage equality. She fell in love with Thea Spyer in Greenwich

Village in 1965, and they married in Canada in 2007 near the end of a long, happy life together. When Spyer died two years later and the American government refused to recognize their marriage because of the Defense of Marriage Act, Windsor owed estate taxes totaling more than \$300,000. Such funds would not have been owed had she been married to a man. Windsor sued, and the case went all the way to the Supreme Court, which in 2013 overturned the main section of DOMA. That decision paved the way for the court's ruling for nationwide marriage equality two years later.

Cordially Yours, Again!

YOUR MONTHLY DOSE OF WHO'S WHO AND WHAT'S HAPPENING



“Spring is in the Air ...”

March is marching in, hoping it does it in “lamb fashion”. And for that matter, it can exit in the same manner!

What better way to say hi to the third month of the not so new year, than with **Broadway Across America's** “*Pretty Woman*”. We all remember the Roy Orbison classic, then Richard Gere and Julia Roberts did the motion picture in 1990, and now over 30 years later this property has been “Broadway-ized”! Music, dancing, and sweet romancing with a live audience! This modern-day Cinderella Tale plays through Sunday, March 6th at the newly renovated **Uihlein Hall of The Marcus Center** for the Performing Arts. So, by all means, go and enjoy, just don't lose a shoe! So far this season, I've truly enjoyed “*Jesus Christ Superstar*” and “*Mean Girls*”. Interesting how popular movies are being revamped for live theatre. I had never seen “*Mean Girls*” so after the fact, a dear friend made sure I watched it and it was amazing making the comparisons.

March 2nd, 2022 is Ash Wednesday, if you so give a flick.

The world as we know and love it, is trying to return to the way we were, and here's a sign: “**The Shamrock Shuffle**”. The Shuffle takes over our fair hamlet, **Saturday March 5th**. Warning, warning from 12 Noon – until Bar close (02:30 a.m.) the honorary Irish revelers will be making up for lost time and looking for their pot of gold!

The Greater Milwaukee Auto Show is running through **Sunday, March 06th**, so following a day of shuffling, you can sober up and go car shopping.

March is the month of the wearing of the green, the following weekend **Saturday, March 12th** brings 76 trombones of a St. Patrick's Day Parade! Both Downtown and Wauwatosa! Mil-



By: Michael Johnston

waukee's very own “Karen Walker” is probably picking out his wardrobe as we go to press. **Shamrock Club of Wisconsin** and **Westown Association** gather for the 54th *Shamrock Club of Wisconsin's St. Patrick's Day Parade*. As for the West End, St. Paddy's Day, 2022 in ‘Tosa – *The Parade, Bar Crawling & Cruise Parties*. McDonald's does have their sensation Shamrock Shakes through the month of March.

Celebrating culture, when in Wisconsin, we're all over the globe. **America's Black Holocaust Museum (ABHM)** is now OPEN! After a 13-year absence ABHM at **401 West North Avenue (414)209-3640** opened in 1988, have their doors open to the public once again! Originally from day one, James Cameron, who became well known after surviving a lynching, created this monument for all to learn, commemorate, and remember. From more information email admin@abhmuseum.org We are so fortunate to have this jewel right here in our back yard. Please visit, support, and encourage the next generation to get into the practice, the habit if you well of patronizing these museums, galleries, communities gifts: **The Milwaukee Public Museum, The Milwau-**

kee Art Museum, The Harley – Davidson Museum, The Milwaukee County Zoo, and so many more magnificent options. Currently, **The Charles Allis Art Museum 1801 North Prospect Avenue** has an exhibit to die for! “*Dressing the Abbey*”. It is taking place now through **Monday, May 30** (Memorial Day). Weekdays 10:00 a.m. – 06:00 p.m., Weekends 10:00 a.m. – 04:00 p.m. I've had the pleasure to take this in, it is exquisite! Extraordinary, wardrobe truly a work of art from the television show and the movie “*Downton Abbey*”. Included Cliffs notes to remind us of the actor, character, and when/where the costume was worn. If memory serves, I'd guesstimate 50 ensembles, some are created from original pieces, some are reworks from period pieces, i.e., table clothes, and what have you. The Allis makes for an ideal setting, you can get very close to these works of art, and if you're lucky, you get to see Neil Albrecht, who's currently the Interim Executive Director.

Loving the Arts, ecstatic that “*Art in Bloom*” is resurrected at **The Milwaukee Art Museum (MAM)** from **Thursday, April 07th – Sunday, April 10th**. Always a thrill for the eye and the nose! And to see all my many florist friends flourish so favorably with all the flora recreating the masterpiece they are assigned to.

The art exhibitions at **The Art Bar**, are really one of Brew City's best kept secrets. If you're looking for something to brighten your home, which for the past two years has been our world, how about art? Something to hang on the walls, hang from the ceiling, lean, stand, place on an easel, however you opt to display your creative output. Recently my gal pal, **Shelby Keefe** had 50 outstanding paintings on display over half sold, such great exposure. Other talented Artists, and valued friends who've had piece on display: **Burton (Burt) Gross, Pam Jacobs Eader, Carol Rode-Curley, Peggy**

Mead, Thom Ertl, Dawn Marie Weed-en, and many more!

I must give a standing O' to **Bombshell Theatre Company** and their debut production of *"Funny Girl"*. First off what an ambitious vehicle to take flight with! Bryanna VanCaster made for a fabulous Fanny Brice. Singing, dancing, and the humor/timing perfect in a word. Eric Welch and Tim Albrechtson are the parents of this, their love child, with help from the God Mother Marcee Doherty-Elst.

This young theatre group, really have it going! Their next production is *"Bubble Boy, The Musical"* it hits the boards the end of the month, **Wednesday, March 30th** concluding **Saturday, April 9th** at **The Waukesha Civic Theatre**.

"Actually" by Anna Ziegler on **Friday, March 11th** – **Sunday, April 03rd** at **Renaissance Theaterworks**. Please note they currently have a new performance home. They are doing their revolutionary works at **The Next Act Theatre** across the bridge. Plenty of room and a parking lot!

Sunday, March 13th, 2022, we lose a valuable hour of weekend as we all *"Spring forward"*. So, before you go to bed **Saturday night (March 12th)** at midnight, change all your time pieces to 01:00 a.m. Therefore, the next day and foreword you will not be tardy!

The Milwaukee Repertory Theatre is mixing two the Avon's biggest exports **Shakespeare** and **The Beatles** with *"As You Like It"*. You too, can see if you like it, playing now through **Sunday, March 20th**. Updating this classic with the classic 1960's music of the four lads from Liverpool.



Love doing **Pride Night** with B.J. Daniels and Dear Ruthie talk about a recipe for fun! The next one will be **Friday April 08th**, *"Titanic - The Musical"* **8:00 p.m.** curtain. To take advantage of the **Pride Night Discount** when ordering your tickets use the code word **Pride**.

Friday, April 08th is also the opening of *"Raisin"* at **The Skylight Music Theatre**. This rarely run, but highly revered musical based on *"Raisin in the Sun"* is in performance through **Sunday, March 24th**. **The Cabot Theatre** will be their home, celebrating the message of the importance of home.

I know this is all music to your ears, speaking of which, Eric Lind, Bobby Sharon, and the rest of my Friends of **The Florentine Opera Company** are working madly with their latest masterpiece Mainstage: French Double Bill Ravel's *"The Child and the Enchantment"* and Viardi's *"Cinderella"* **March 11, 13, 18, and 20th** on the stage at **Wilson Theater at Vogel Hall, of The Marcus Center for the Performing Arts**. A must see!

"Bosom Buddies", La Cage's popular monthly Broadway Salute is taking place for the month of March on the

Saturday, March 19th, as always at **5:00 p.m.**, doors open at 4:00 p.m., Running the Saturday after the St Patrick's Day Parades taking place on (03/12/2022) so we don't have to make you choose.

Spring will spring from its winter prison, **Sunday, March 20th** at 10:33 a.m.

Looking for a unique, fresh, delicious, spot to brunch, lunch, snack? My "Office Wife" and good pal, Mary has introduced me to **The Sherman Phoenix**. A food court, Plus! Built on/in where once stood a BMO Harris Bank. After an unfortunate summer melee, that turned into an ugly memory of a riot... like a Phoenix, something very positive rose from the ashes and this is it! Eateries, where you can order and sit through out a food court and enjoy, boutiques, shops, salons, galleries – a one stop shop – with a parking lot! A great vibe, great flavor and quality. What's on the menu? In one word, diversity.

And that's a wrap, the days are becoming longer, the Sun is brighter, and we all seem to be coming more Alive! Please remember, it's the glamour, not the grammar as I remain **Still Cordially Yours, Again!**



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Arts Life

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Feinstein Country!

By: David Todd, Writer
Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine

Milwaukee is Michael Feinstein country! (So is The White House, Buckingham Palace and the Hollywood Bowl, so we're in good company, having just hosted the singer over Valentine's Day weekend.)

The Great American Songbook is Feinstein country! Michael Feinstein is an official Ambassador of the Songbook – an agreed-upon collection of American standards that have stood the test of time.

Now country music is Feinstein country! He's bringing his love of the classics and his signature style to country music with an all-star lineup of entertainers. His latest project is called *Gershwin Country*. The classic tunes of George and Ira Gershwin are coming to a store near you March 11th with a country twist.

Recently, Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine talked with Michael Feinstein, one of the leading musical entertainers in the world and piano virtuosi, about a new project coming to fruition this month. The educator, archivist, interpreter, and Ambassador of the Great American Songbook has established him as a preeminent force in contemporary music. So we were curious as to his take on the country genre in his new album. The album is executive-produced by long-time friend and collaborator, Liza Minnelli and marries the great song stories of George and Ira Gershwin with some of country music's most prolific artists like Amy Grant, Mary Chapin Carpenter, Allison Krause, Brad Paisley and icon Dolly Parton, to name a few. Liza even has a very special track on the album. If that isn't enough to make your

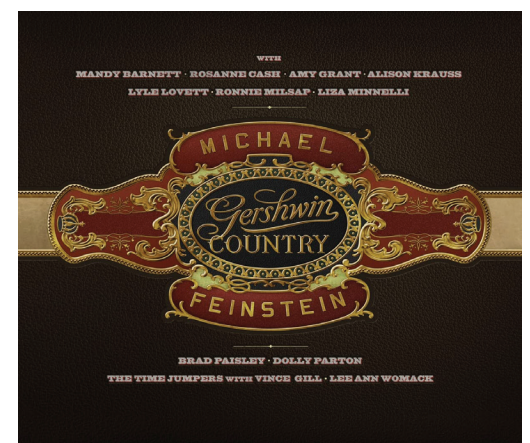


run out and buy your copy, every album sold with benefit MusiCares, a partner of the Recording Academy® that provides a support system of health and human services across a spectrum of needs (including physical and mental health, addiction recovery, preventative clinics, unforeseen personal emergencies and disaster relief to the music community).

The Gershwins are famous for music like *Summertime*, *Rhapsody in Blue*, *I Got Rhythm* and *Someone To Watch Over Me* and dozens more. When asked why country music and the Gershwin catalog, Feinstein's answer was simple and elegant, "The main thing about country music is its dedication to lyrics and storytelling. No genre does it better. That's not so in today's pop music." As he further explained, Feinstein says he came to the realization about country music, that it influences all other types of music, and its influence is felt throughout our country. He adds, "the musicians are the finest and I just had a wonderful time working with each

and every one of them." Feinstein adds a playful spin to the Gershwin classics, and so do the singers asked to join him on this project. The tinkling ringing of Allison Krause. The tenderness of Amy Grant or Mary Chapin Carpenter. The playfulness of Brad Paisley. All bring a fascinating new appeal to these songs, new classics just waiting for new listeners. Add Dolly Parton and Liza Minnelli, and Feinstein's new collection is a knockout.

"We've been collaborating for decades," says Feinstein about his Executive Producer Liza Minnelli. "She was perfect for this role, because when she sings she embodies the song. It takes her over. She's singing that song like no one else could understand it." That's what he was looking for with *Gershwin Country*. "We first sang together in 1985," Feinstein says of Minnelli. "I used to accompany her father [on the piano]." In fact, the song he and Liza recorded for the album is one of Vincente Minnelli's favorite tunes, *Embraceable You*. "It's special to her – being one of her father's favorites – and her mother [Judy Garland] sang it in *Girl Crazy*, so it's very personal," says Feinstein. "It was magical to perform with her again," he says. "Every time is magical. She's such a dear friend."





Resource Guide

A SHORT GUIDE TO LGBTQ + MILWAUKEE

TAVERNS

Art Bar ♦

Mixed bar with college-age crowd
722 E. Burleigh St.
Milwaukee, WI 53212
(414) 372-7880
<https://www.facebook.com/artbarmke>

DIX Milwaukee ♦

Southern Style Video/Dance Bar
739 S. 1st St.
Milwaukee, WI 53204
(414) 231-9085
<https://dixmke.com>

Fluid Milwaukee ♦

Gay Bar
819 S. 2nd St.
Milwaukee, WI 53204
414-Oh-Fluid/(414) 643-5843
<https://fluidmke.com>

Harbor Room ♦

Levis' & Leather Bar
117 E. Greenfield Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53204
(414) 672-7988
<https://www.facebook.com/Harbor-Room-117-E-Greenfield-Ave-Milwaukee-WI-151982704821436/>

Hunty's Social Club ♦

Drag Bar inside
Hamburger Marys
734 S. 5th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53204
(414) 488-2555
<https://huntsymke.com>

Kruz ♦

Levis' & Leather Bar
354 E. National Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53204
(414) 272-5789
<https://www.facebook.com/kruz.kruzbar>

La Cage Niteclub ♦

Gay Dance Club
801 S. 2nd St.
Milwaukee, WI 53204
(414) 383-8330
<https://www.facebook.com/LaCageNiteclub>

This Is It! ♦

Gay Bar with Drag Shows

418 E. Wells St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 278-9192
<https://www.thisisitbar.com>

Walker's Pint ♦

Lesbian Bar
818 S. 2nd St.
Milwaukee, WI 53204
(414) 643-7468
<https://walkerspint.com>

Woody's Sports Bar ♦

Gay Sports Bar
1579 S. 2nd St.
Milwaukee, WI 53204
(414) 672-0806
<https://www.facebook.com/woodysmke>

Zócolo Food Park ♦

Bar with food trucks, gay friendly
636 S. 6th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53204
(414) 433-9747
<https://www.zocalomke.com>

BUSINESS

C 3 Designs ♦

Custom Jewelry designer in South
Milwaukee, Wisconsin
2110 10th Ave.
South Milwaukee, WI 53172
(414) 764-3892
<http://c3designs.rocks/>

Oun Kine Grindz ♦

Hawaiian Cafe, caterer and store
7215 W. North Ave.
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
(414) 778-0727
<http://www.okgrindz.com>

Kilwins Milwaukee

LGBTQ-owned candy and ice cream
shop in Bayshore Mall
5756 N. Bayshore Dr., Q101
Glendale, WI 53217
(414) 967-4803
<https://www.kilwins.com/stores/kilwins-milwaukee-bayshore>

Purple Door Ice Cream ♦

LGBTQ-owned ice cream parlor with
unique flavors and treats
205 S. 2nd St.
Milwaukee, WI 53204

(414) 988-2521
<https://www.purpledooricecream.com>

Todo Postres LLC. ♦

Gay-owned and operated bakery
and dessert shop. Specializes in
unique cakes for quinceañeras,
weddings and pride events.
958 W. Oklahoma Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53215
(414) 988-2149
<https://www.facebook.com/TodoPostresOfficial/>

HEALTH

Sixteenth Street Community Health Centers

Community health center provides
discounted or free health programs
2906 S. 20th St.
Milwaukee, WI 53215
(414) 672-1353
<https://sschc.org>

BESTD Clinic

Free STI testing Clinic
1240 E. Brady St.
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 272-2144
<https://www.bestd.org>

Compassionate Clinical Services

Provides private therapy and
counseling services by Ryan Larkey,
LCSW, SAC
985 W. Oklahoma Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53204
Planned Parenthood
(414) 839-1821
<https://www.compassionateclinicalservices.com>

Vivent Health (formally ARCW)

HIV/AIDS health center that pro-
vides medical, dental, counseling
and social service help
820 N. Plankinton Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53203
(414) 273-1991
<https://viventhealth.org>

ADVOCACY

Cream City Foundation

Not-for-profit that funds LGBTQ+
outreach organizations
PO Box 511099
Milwaukee, WI 53202
(414) 225-0244
<https://creamcityfoundation.org>

Diverse & Resilient ♦

LGBTQ+ health and advocacy
group
2439 N. Holton St.
Milwaukee, WI 53212
(414) 390-0444
<https://www.diverseandresilient.org>

LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin

Community center with many
programs for LGBTQ+ groups
1456 Junction Ave.
Racine, WI 53403
(262) 664-4100
<https://www.lgbtsewi.org>

Milwaukee LGBT Community Center ♦

Community center with many
programs for LGBTQ+ groups
315 W. Court St.
Milwaukee, WI 53212
(414) 271-2656
<https://www.mkelgbt.org>

Wisconsin LGBT Chamber of Commerce

Networking and resources for
LGBTQ+ business
5027 W. North Ave.
Milwaukee, WI 53208
(414) 678-9275
<https://wislgbtchamber.com>



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MARCH 18

Lynden by Night

MARCH 13

Birding with Poet Chuck Stebelton

MARCH 19

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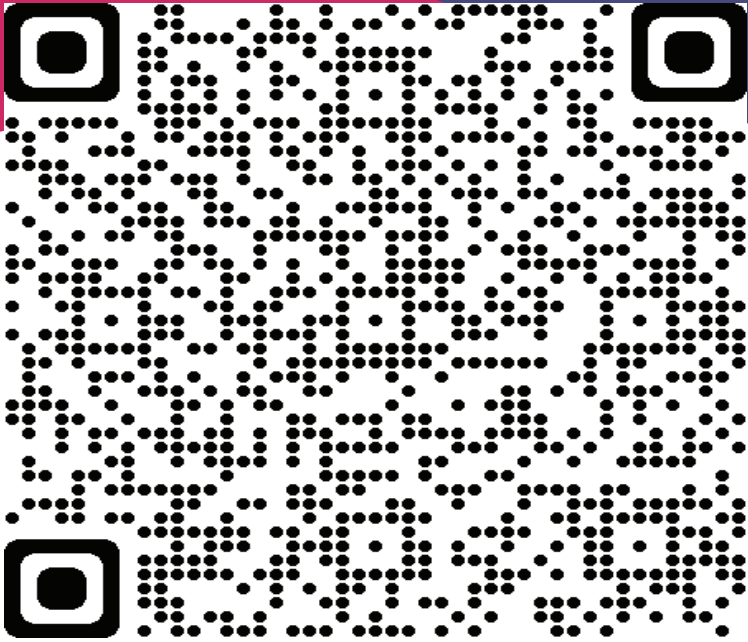
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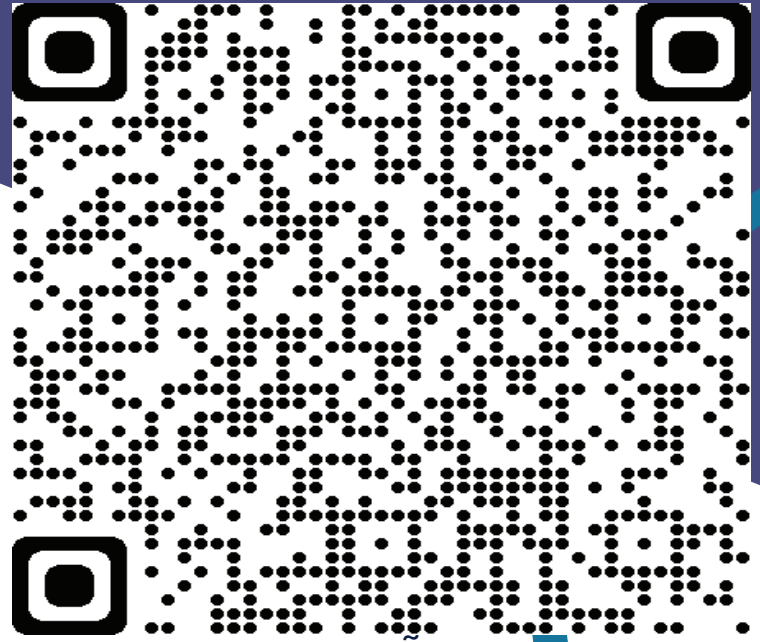
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