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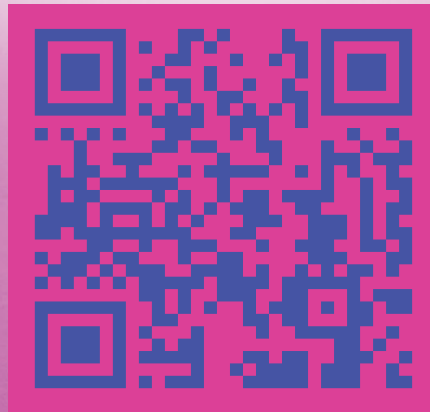
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trans enough

Trans Day of Visibility Exhibition



scan with your phone

The Milwaukee LGBT Community Center is seeking art submissions on the Trans experience to exhibit as a part of a collection for Trans Day of Visibility. The submission deadline is March 8, 2024.



315 West Court Street, Milwaukee, WI 53212

MKE Pride LIFE MAGAZINE



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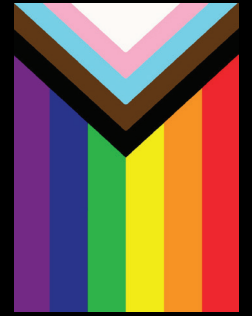
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MKE Pride LIFE MAGAZINE



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In The News

LOCAL & NATIONAL LGBTQ+ NEWS



Remembering Bobby Rivers, Milwaukee's First Black and Queer TV & Film Critic

Bobby Rivers was a friendly face on Milwaukee airwaves roughly 40 years ago, and as a Black queer man, he was a trailblazer for many after him.

He died Tuesday, December 26, 2023, in Minneapolis following a battle with cancer. He was 70 years old.

"Love you big!" It was Bobby Rivers' favorite mantra and exactly how he lived. "Big personality, big laughs," said his brother, Tony Rivers.

Bobby Rivers was born September 20, 1953, in Southern California. He moved to Milwaukee in the 1970s to attend Marquette University and worked on the campus radio station.

"It was a culture shock for Bobby," Tony Rivers said. "He went from South Central LA, never seen snow before, to 'Happy Days' Wisconsin, that's a shock. But he embraced it. He met lots of good and lifelong friends in Milwaukee and at Marquette."

Soon, Bobby Rivers earned a gig at WQFM-FM (93.3) radio station in Milwaukee. According to *Variety*, over 1,000 listeners signed three separate petitions to keep Bobby Rivers on the air after he was fired in July 1978. Rivers renegotiated his contract and stayed at WQFM for another year.

In 1979, he was hired by WISN-TV (Channel 12) and became the city's first Black film critic on television. He was a contributor to "PM Magazine," a localized version of "Entertainment Tonight," and then hosted "More" — both on Channel 12.

Gino Salomone, longtime local enter-



tainment reporter, worked with Bobby Rivers at Channel 12. Soon they became good friends. Salomone said Bobby Rivers would grow frustrated with media executives.

"I will tell you that this business was not good to Bobby," Salomone said.

"He was one of the most talented people but people didn't know what to do with him. He grew frustrated with agents and news directors, you know, a Black gay man was not something they knew what to do with. And it's just a shame because he was so fast and so entertaining. And quick and accurate."

Bobby was recruited to host shows on VH1 when it started out in the mid-1980s, and he accepted the jobs. He hosted "Watch Bobby Rivers," VH1's celebrity talk show.

"New York was really home for him. ... He savored every moment of it," Tony Rivers said.

On "Watch Bobby Rivers," Bobby interviewed notable stars over the years,

including Mel Gibson, Meryl Streep, Paul McCartney and Robin Williams.

"Bobby would just excite the talent, because they knew this was not going to be a conventional interview," Salomone said. "He did his homework. He knew his stuff."

Salomone recalls the interview with Robin Williams. "All of a sudden Bobby was going toe-to-toe with him like in a boxing ring," he said. "Saying funny lines back-and-forth and that only made Robin funnier. It was just one of the great treats seeing these two quick-witted people at the top of their game going back-and-forth."

He was nominated for two ACE Cable awards in 1988 and 1989 for hosting "VH1 Music Videos" program.

He later hosted a show called "Top 5" on Food Network, and had acting stints on "The Sopranos" and on *The Onion's* fake news reports.

Tributes from the film and television industry poured in this week.

"All hail this pioneer Bobby Rivers... He brought SO much to the table. R I P Bobby," Whoopi Goldberg captioned a photo of the two smiling on Instagram Wednesday.

"I am so sad to hear this. Bobby was a terrific guy and wonderfully warm, funny and smart," Katie Couric wrote on X Wednesday.

France Gets Its Youngest-Ever Prime Minister As Macron Seeks A Reset

Gabriel Attal, 34, rose to prominence as the government spokesman and education minister. He is France's first openly gay prime minister.

By The Associated Press

Gabriel Attal was named Tuesday, January 9, 2024, as France's youngest-ever prime minister, as President Emmanuel Macron seeks a fresh start for the rest of his term amid growing political pressure from the far right.

Macron's office announced the appointment in a statement. Attal, 34, rose to prominence as the government spokesman and education minister. He is France's first openly gay prime minister.

His predecessor, Elisabeth Borne, resigned Monday, January 8, 2024, following recent political turmoil over an immigration law that strengthens the government's ability to deport foreigners.

Macron — who was France's youngest-ever president when he came to power in 2017 — is to work with Attal to name a new government in the coming days, though some key ministers are expected to continue in their posts.

The 46-year-old president has shifted rightward on security and migration issues since rising to power on a pro-business centrist platform in 2017, notably as far-right rival Marine Le Pen and her anti-immigration, anti-Islam National Rally have gained political influence.

Attal, a former member of the Socialist Party, joined Macron's newly created political movement in 2016 and was



Government spokesperson Gabriel Attal, walks out after the weekly cabinet meeting, at the Elysee Palace, in Paris, Wednesday, May 11, 2022. Gabriel Attal was named Tuesday Jan.9, 2024 as France's youngest-ever prime minister, as President Emmanuel Macron seeks a fresh start for the rest of his term amid growing political pressure from the far right. Photo: Francois Mori / AP

government spokesperson from 2020 to 2022, a job that made him well-known to the French public. He was then named budget minister before being appointed in July as education minister, one of the most prestigious positions in the French government.

Attal quickly announced a ban on long robes in classrooms which took effect with the new school year in September, saying the garments worn mainly by Muslims were testing secularism in the schools.

He also launched a plan to experiment with uniforms in some public schools, as part of efforts to move the focus away from clothes and reduce school bullying.

Attal recently detailed on national television TF1 how he suffered bullying at middle school, including homophobic harassment.

French opinion polls show he was the most popular minister in Borne's government.

Source: The Associated Press

Our Queer History

OUR HISTORY & THOSE THAT SHAPED IT



Black Queer History Is American History

By Myeshia Price

In fourth grade, I remember seeing Maya Angelou on my television for the first time. Angelou was a fierce advocate for the LGBTQIA+ community at a time when few people were, once famously reciting, “I am gay. I am lesbian. I am Black. I am white. I am Native American. I am Christian. I am Jew. I am Muslim” to a crowd of queer people in Florida in 1996. While she wasn’t a part of the queer community, I recall feeling a sense of kinship towards her. The feeling of hearing her powerful voice reciting her poem “And Still I Rise” with the image of thousands of Black students participating in a graduation ceremony had a profound impact on me and my ability to see myself as not only one of those graduates, but also someone who could one day contribute to and celebrate the rich history of Black people.

Growing up and exploring my identity further, I never once saw a Black LGBTQIA+ person like me represented in my history books. As a matter of fact, I rarely learned about Black historical figures outside of the common heavy hitters such as Martin Luther King Jr., Malcolm X, Sojourner Truth, or Harriet Tubman. While they are monumentally important to our history as Black Americans, they also represent very specific factions of our struggle for justice and liberation.

When I first discovered Angelou, I immediately started reading as much of her work as I could—albeit with a dictionary on hand—and learned how fortitude is often born from our most pain-



ful periods. It wasn’t until much later, in graduate school, that I was introduced to the works of LGBTQIA+ authors for the very first time—writers like Audre Lorde and bell hooks. Their radically inspiring approach to Black queerness and feminist theory resonated with me on a much deeper level: How, as Lorde once wrote, “caring for myself is not self-indulgence, it is self-preservation, and that is an act of political warfare;” how the struggles to end racism, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia are inextricably intertwined. Reading their words instilled a sense of pride in me, particularly as someone who wrote more than I spoke. These collective experiences throughout my life made me want to continue learning and pursue a career in research, so I could help expand public knowledge on important topics impacting people like me.

As the Director of Research Science

at The Trevor Project, my work focuses on adolescent gender and sexuality, and reducing LGBTQIA+ youth mental health disparities. My research particularly looks at the role that protective factors—such as supportive and affirming schools or LGBTQIA+ role models and representation—have on reducing this risk. Every student should experience moments of feeling seen and represented in school. When we see ourselves reflected in books or in the media, it opens up a world of possibilities that we may have never known were otherwise possible and inspires a new generation of thought-leaders.

Unfortunately, politicians are attempting to strip that hope by censoring curriculums and banning books related to both Black and LGBTQIA+ topics. In 2023 alone, more than 400 anti-LGBTQIA+ bills have been introduced across the country—most of

which target transgender and nonbinary young people—with more popping up each day. We know that LGBTQIA+ young people are listening as their rights are being debated on the national stage. For LGBTQIA+ youth of color, these types of bills can have a compounding negative impact on their mental health and well-being—they force not just one aspect, but multiple aspects, of their identities into the shadows. Nearly 7 in 10 Black LGBTQIA+ youth say debates around state laws restricting the rights of LGBTQIA+ young people have negatively impacted their mental health, and 1 in 5 also reported experiencing cyberbullying or online harassment as a result of these policies and debates in the last year.



Nowhere is this more apparent than in Florida. In March 2022, Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis signed what became commonly known as the “Don’t Say Gay” bill, banning classroom instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity from kindergarten to third grade or “in a manner that is not age-appropriate or developmentally appropriate for students in accordance with state standards.” The very next month, he signed the originally-named Stop the Wrongs to Our Kids and Employees (WOKE) Act, which prohibits classroom instruction or diversity training in workplaces that imply a person is privileged or oppressed based on their identity.

“Don’t Say Gay” has had a chilling effect, discouraging teachers at all grade levels from ever discussing the LGBTQIA+ community, offering supportive resources, or displaying symbols of Pride in their classrooms out of fear of retribution. In fact, one bill has been introduced that would extend the ban on LGBTQIA+ related classroom instruction through ninth grade, and prohibit students and teachers from respecting pronouns or personal titles that don’t correspond with one’s sex assigned at birth through twelfth grade. In a similar unwarranted effort to “protect” students, the state of Florida decided in February 2023 to reject the College Board’s new AP African American Studies course on the grounds that it “lacks educational

value” and equates to “indoctrination.” Particularly, the Florida Department of Education took issue with the course including lessons on intersectionality and Black queer studies. It’s clear that Florida officials view public education on marginalized identities and ongoing cycles of oppression as threats to their power and their ability to perpetuate these cycles.

This type of extreme government overreach and censorship comes at a time when new CDC data found suicide rates significantly increased among Black young people between 2018 and 2021. Among Black LGBTQIA+ youth,

(Continued on pg. 11)



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In The Spotlight

SPOTLIGHTING MILWAUKEE'S AMAZING PRIDE COMMUNITY

Heart Stoppers: The Local Men of OnlyFans

By: David Todd, Editor At Large
Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine

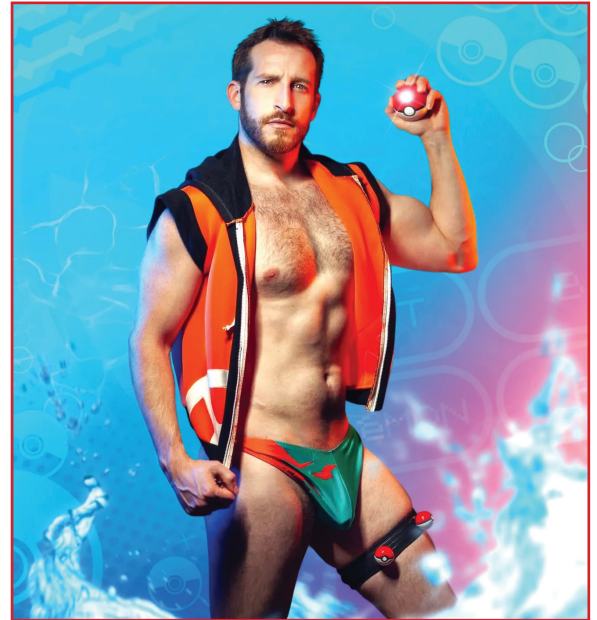
Chances are you know someone who has an *OnlyFans* (or *JustForFans* or *Pornhub Models*) account. Whether they are a subscriber to the video streaming service or a content developer, *OnlyFans* has become a cultural phenomenon for fans and finance-forward entrepreneurs. So, what exactly IS *OnlyFans*? It's an internet content subscription service based in London, say our friends at Wikipedia, where content creators can earn money from users who subscribe to their content—the “fans”. It allows content creators to receive funding directly from their fans on a monthly basis as well as one-time tips and the pay-per-view feature. Most people know it as a home for adult content. That's where the story gets good... Last year, *OnlyFans* nearly banned adult content from the platform, upending creators' livelihoods, after a change in Master-

card and Visa regulations. *OnlyFans* walked back the decision after clarifications from their banking partners and pressure from creators and fans alike.

Business is thriving. At least for the people we found. But, there's a lot that goes on behind the cameras to make *OnlyFans* a successful venture for anyone...as you'll see!

Meet “KJ,” ([@thatnakednerd](#)) on OF. He's the veteran. When asked how long he's had an OF account, he asked back, “how long have they been around?” Serious. It's been since its founding in 2016. And a solid fan base pretty much the whole time. How? He does much of his promotion of his page in person, to his “fans.” KJ is a somewhat of a well-known player in the world of cosplay, dressing up like his favorite super heroes and Disney characters. He's also a model.

And he's not shy. “I'm an exhibitionist,” says KJ, “so I pose in the nude a lot for painters, photographers, drawing classes, things like that. And when you're wearing spandex for cosplay, it doesn't leave much to the imagination anyway,” he giggles. So, many of his fans over the last six years have been with him a long while. “I probably gross about 5000 a month, but then *OnlyFans* gets their commission,” which is 20% - quick math



KJ ([@thatnakednerd](#))

– that's \$4K left. Mind you that's over 6 years of work, marketing and content. (A quick tutorial – “content” includes photos or videos, even live shows, and it's what motivates a lot of people to get into this business, existing content or the ease of making it. Also, make no mistake, the business is considered “sex work.” Content creators are paid by subscribers for posting explicit photos or video and often tipped for their performances and can earn extra money for special requests delivered to individual subscribers.) In addition to fans of his cosplay appearances, KJ uses another website that has much of his content, social media like Twitter, email and word of mouth to promote his *OnlyFans* page. When you've been around a while, you have many more options to get business to your page.

Meet “Duck,” ([@duckkubb42](#)) on *OnlyFans.com*. He's brand new. In fact, he has yet to officially launch his page but is becoming a *OnlyFans* performer





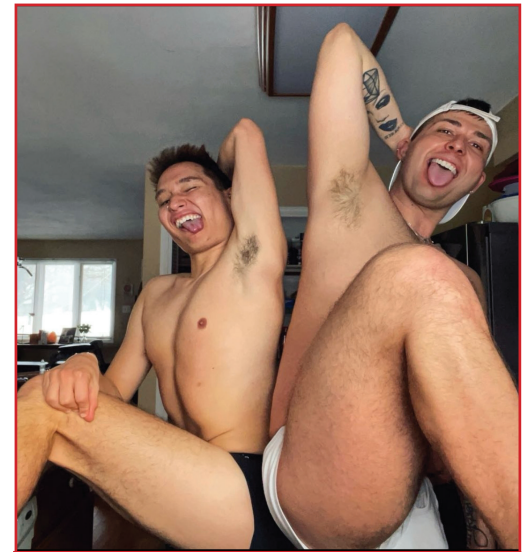
Duck (@duckkubb42)

in large part due to a robust library of videos and pics (content) he has ready for posting. “I really enjoy recording myself and have for years,” he says. With an admitted fetish for “gear” including leather and over 1000 jocks/jock accessories, he has photos and videos to keep fans entertained for a while. “Being a member of *OnlyFans* is huge, kind of victory for me,” says Duck. “I grew up with major body issues. I always felt fat and not attractive. That’s changed, As I became an adult and found that others found my body attractive and so do I. So, that’s part of the reason I started video taping myself and also because it’s sexy. It brings something to the process.” In fact, it brought something to this process when KJ and Duck met for their interview. The resulting collaboration can be found on their individual pages on *OnlyFans.com*.

Collaboration is key to a lot of the success of *OnlyFans* creators. KJ sites collaborations he has done at cosplay conventions or with photographers and artists who utilize him as a model. Collaboration also allows for another stream of cross promotion with other content creators! Another way of collaborating is working as a team! Meet “**Rowan**” and “**Michael**” (@[xrowan-](#)

[michaelx](#)). Rowan and Michael are in a committed relationship. They record their love making for their audience. “It’s hot. It’s definitely work, but we really enjoy it. We wouldn’t do it if we didn’t,” explains Michael. “But, yeah, there are days when we rush home from work to set up the camera because we’re really in the mood,” adds Rowan. “And luckily, we’re often in the mood,” they say laughing. “But, it’s still work and we take it seriously,” Michael explains, “and we completely share the work.” “Yeah, I do a lot of the camera work and set up, the editing,” Rowan says. “And I do a lot of the outreach, social media like Twitter and work on creating content ideas. It’s important that you break it up,” adds Michael. “Share the burden,” Rowan echoes. You can see they are quite versed in teamwork, practically finishing each other’s thoughts and sentences. It’s cute and transfers to their work. “What you see? That’s us. That’s our passion. Our fun. Our love,” boasts Rowan. “And not that it’s not a lot of work leading up, but when the camera is on you, you have to forget it’s there. And we can for the most part,” says Michael. “That really is us, and it is hot. We think,” as they smile at each other.

Rowan and Michael cannot stress enough that being an *OnlyFans* creator is WORK. They both agree, “it’s a full-time job in addition to your full-time job. You need to be ready, dedicated and prepared,” says Rowan. “And,” Michael adds, “you have to be willing to put yourself out there. To be who you are and interact with your audience. I don’t see how anyone makes this happen if they’re not fully committed.” “And that means being comfortable with what you’re putting out there and whoever sees it,” says Rowan. “Do we want our families seeing this, no. Are we proud of it and stand behind what we put out there, yes,” he affirms. “You need to accept you’re a sex worker, but what you do and how you do it is your decision,” he explains. “There are a lot of things we’re asked to do that we don’t because it’s not us, it’s not something we’re comfortable doing...” “And we love what



“Rowan” and “Michael”
(@[xrowanmichaelx](#))

we’re doing,” Michael assures. “We love it every day because, at the end of the day, we get to do it together.”

The two also echoed the issue of body image and the importance of being able to accept yourself. “I used to have problems with my weight. But that’s in the past,” says Rowan. “Still, every once in a while, I’ll catch myself at a certain angle when I’m editing and it brings up painful memories of being ashamed of my body. I’m not anymore,” he says and you can see the relief on his face. “I mean, people are watching us, fully naked! You can’t be your own enemy and succeed. Not in this business.” Rowan and Michael also have aspirations of their business being able to supplant their regular full-time jobs, but that’s down the road. After five months they’re just happy to be profitable. And happy to be doing it together.

Milwaukee Pride Life hopes we conveyed to the reader that the business of *OnlyFans* is a business and it is sex work not to be entered into lightly. We also hope the reader understands the people behind the camera are real people, with real issues of great concern to them and to their work. And hope you enjoyed the information.



Cordially Yours, Again!

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

A Jolly Good, New Year - 2024

Here we are, a fresh, new slate. An even year! For whatever reason, I prefer them, and this too is a Leap Year! Leap Years allow women to do the proposing so, you never know ... You may be putting a ring on it!

2023, was a fine old year up until the very end. And then, right after Thanksgiving The M&M Club's very own Rona died. As of this column, I truly can't comprehend a world without him. Truly one in a million, so thrilled I had the privilege to call him friend. If that isn't bad enough Holiday week, the phone rings at some ungodly hour, I believe it was 8:00a.m. – there is an 8:00 in the morning as well! It was gal pal, Janet Gurwitz, beside herself with the horrible news of the death of Media Mega Star, Bobby Rivers. So sad yes, but gee, how lucky was I to know them? What fun we shared, what a great legacy, impact, difference these two men made. Life is so fragile, such a gift and not to be taken for grant it.

I do so love my Theatre, and so very grateful our community has so much to offer.

- The Marcus Performing Arts Center (MPAC) and the Johnson Financial Group will have Uihlein Hall filled with Tony Award Winning and worthy entertainment.

- The 40th Annual Revered Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration, will be acknowledged Monday, January 15th, 2024 Uihlein Hall

- “Forbidden Broadway: The Next Generation” debuts at The Marcus Thursday, January 25th – Saturday, January 27th.

- February brings the fabulous



By: Michael Johnston

selections of the Dance Theatre of Harlem on Valentine's evening, Wednesday, February 14th and the following night, the Man in Black,” Johnny Cash – The Official Concert Experience” graces the stage on Thursday, February 15th.

- With the New Year (2024) comes a show that hasn't played in decades, “Funny Girl”. The opus that propelled Streisand to stardom! The fabled tale of long forgotten singer, actress, comedienne Fanny Brice! Lea (Glee) Michelle resuscitated her on Broadway. And now, a new life On Tour! Katerina McCrimmon has the tiara on the road, and playing her mother, Miss Melissa Manchester! Yep, “Don't Cry Out Loud”, a Bette Midler Harlette, and daughter of David Manchester of The New York Metropolitan Opera – true pedigree.

- Some toe-tapping fun and sing-along madness warms your Valentine month. “Mama Mia” dances into port Tuesday, February 20th – Sunday, February 25th. And once again, you can be the winner and take it all!

- Between a family reunion and a murder mystery, one night only “On Your Feet! The Story of Emilio & Gloria Estefan cha-chas into Uihlein on Saturday, March 2nd – Not to be missed !

- Mystery, music, and gamesmanship takes center stage as “Clue, A New Comedy” debuts here Tuesday, March 12th thru St. Patrick's Day, Sunday, March 17th. An opportunity to catch up with Col. Mustard – everyone relishes that!

- We may have lost her, but her music and this tribute will live on – “Tina, The Tina Turner Musical”. No reason to be a private dancer Tuesday, April 23 – Sunday, April 28, and love is what it's got to do with it!

- Closing out this stellar selection of showstoppers “Moulin Rouge! The Musical”. The windmill will be circling May 14th – May 26th, an extended stay to make sure you all have a chance to marvel at this masterpiece.

- If it is Saturday, and the middle of the month, it's Bosom Buddies. La Cage, doors opening at 4:00 pm, Curtain up 5:00 pm, No cover charge, Second Level, Maple Veneer and Karen Valentine. January 20th will bring “Maple-palooza” Maple's Birthday Extravaganza with a Cast of Friends and Admirers.

Michael Unger and Susan Varela have put their heads together and have a 64th Season that is a potpourri of eclectic taste and interest for 2023/2024:

- “Xanadu” skates in 2024, Friday, January 26th – Sunday, February. This show combines, disco, dancing, music, skating, fantasy, time travel, and was Gene Kelly's last movie! It is fun, quirky,

campy, and an escape. If you've read the newspaper as of late – this maybe the ideal bromide. What a thrill it was to work with Doug, Samantha, and D'Eric members of the cast that took part in the December edition of Bosom Buddies. I just know this Show will have the right amount of kitsch, camp, and fun, and isn't that what it's all about?



- “Spring Awakening” (with Special Hand Signage) Is appropriately Skylighting in the very merry month of March the First through Saint Patrick’s Day (Friday, March 01st – Sunday, March 17th).

- “From Here To Eternity” the motion picture that resurrected Frank Sinatra’s career, was also a book a hit pop tune, and now, a theatrical musical play with lyrics and input by Tim Rice (Sir Elton John’s Musical Business Partner). Mr. Rice will be here, on hand to make sure his vision is brought to fruition. Formation begins Friday, April 12th – Sunday, May 05th.

Milwaukee Repertory Theatre is 70 years old, with this the 2023/2024 Season, 1953 – 2023. There are twelve terrific theater-pleasing productions not to be missed:

- “Guys on Ice” This slippery devil is skating into your funny bone now through – Sunday, March 17th (Saint

Patrick’s Day).

- Louisa Mae Alcott’s classic “Little Women” adds their special touch to the New Year as well. The March Sisters march on in January 16th – February 28th, 2024.

- In these days of governmental questions left and right on being left or right, The Rep helps their house with “What the Constitution Means to Me”. By seeing this, perhaps it will assist you when voting take place.

February 06th continuing through March 10th.

- “The Chosen”, many are picked, and this is a must to see March 05th running the entire month through March 31st.

- “Piano Men 2” and the music of Billy Joel and making 88 keys sing ... March 22nd crescendoing through May 12th.

- And the finale, “Nina Simone: Four Women”, closes the landmark 70th season out. Can you think of a bet-

ter voice? A better message? April 16th (Tax Day) – May 12th. This tantalizing tribute has the third PRIDE Night, Thursday, April 18th. With the same format – Reception 6:00 pm, show to follow at 7:30 pm and the amazing Pride Hostesses. To be a part of this historic event, please call The Rep and/or subscribe to their sensational 70th Season at 414-224-9490/www.

MilwaukeeRep.com.

Bombshell Theatre Co. explodes with a new season of bombastic Broadway to brighten your world. And what better way to say bravo, than with “Gentlemen Prefer Blondes” ? With all the beauty and humor of both Carol Channing and Marilyn Monroe, Lorelei Lee will stun you with “Diamonds are a Girl’s Best Friend” and many more melodic, memorable tunes Friday, January 05th – Wednesday, January 24th, 2024, The Sunset Playhouse, Elm Grove. And springtime will bloom with “Music of the Night, a Tribute to Andrew Lloyd Webber”. Friday, March 8th – Sunday, March 10th, a wonderful weekend of Webber, indeed! Happy Wedding to Bombshell’s very own Eric & Tim – wishing you a long and successful run!

The Fireside Dinner Theatre of Fort Atkinson takes us back in time to a sim-

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pler era of street corner crooners and the sounds of Philadelphia, before they found their freedom. “Jersey Boys” the sounds of the 1950s and 60s and the music of Frankie Valli and The Four Seasons. Starring a local Theatre favorite Joey Chelius. Joey was last seen at The Fort, floating around in “Titanic”, obviously he survived! Now through Sunday, February 25th the Seasons will sing and to hear their sound, please call 920-563-9505.

Calendar

Monday, January 01, 2024 New Year’s Day

Monday, January 15, 2024 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Friday, February 02, 2024 Groundhog Day

Saturday, February 10, 2024 Lunar New Year, Year of the Dragon

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 Valentines Day

Wednesday, February 14, 2024 Ash Wednesday

Monday, February 19, 2024 Presidents’ Day

Sunday, March 10, 2024 Ramadan at Sundown

Sunday, March 10, 2024 Daylight Saving Time Begins

Sunday, March 17, 2024 St. Patrick’s Day

Tuesday, March 19, 2024 First Day of Spring

Sunday, March 24, 2024 Palm Sunday

Friday, March 29, 2024 Good Friday

Sunday, March 31 Easter

As I start my 25th year of “Cordially Yours-ing” (1999 – 2024) I thank You for sharing your comings and goings with me and our readers. Please keep reading and keep on doing!

Remember it’s the glamour, not the grammar, as I remain Still Cordially Yours, Again !!!

Black Queer History

(Continued from pg. 6)

The Trevor Project’s research found that 19% reported attempting suicide in the past year compared to 12% of their white LGBTQIA+ peers. And when broken down by gender identity, our latest study shows that 1 in 4 Black transgender and nonbinary youth reported a suicide attempt in the past year—more than double the rate of suicide attempts compared to Black cisgender young members of the queer community. This staggering data further emphasizes the importance of applying an intersectional lens to understand the world around us and the disparities that exist across our most marginalized and vulnerable communities.

My Blackness is everything to me—it shapes how I perceive the world and how the world perceives me. But as a queer nonbinary Black person that holds multiple marginalized identities, the stakes are even higher for me. I am hyper-conscious of how I present myself in predominantly white spaces and often feel misunderstood or invalidated in heteronormative spaces. It’s a nuanced balancing act that I have to perform every day, and is a direct result of my intersecting identities. To reject the concept of intersectionality is denying my own lived experiences, and that of so many other Black LGBTQIA+ people who have to navigate a world that so often causes them harm.

Black LGBTQIA+ history is complex, rich, and, yes, traumatic. It’s the harsh reality of not only our nation’s dark past, but the current state of society. Attempting to censor classrooms from teaching about the contributions of Black LGBTQIA+ people will erase critical decades of history—from Bayard Rustin’s leadership in the Civil Rights Movement and Marsha P. Johnson’s role



in the Stonewall Riots, to the timeless literary works of James Baldwin. Innovative writers such as Langston Hughes, Countee Cullen, and Alain Locke and entertainers Ethel Waters, Bessie Smith, and Ma Rainey defined the Harlem Renaissance and paved the way for Beyoncé’s Renaissance. In the words of African American literary critic Henry Louis Gates Jr., the Harlem Renaissance “was surely as gay as it was Black.”

Fast forward to today, and we have press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre, the first Black woman and openly LGBTQIA+ person to hold the position, and activists such as Black Lives Matter co-founder Patrisse Cullors inspiring a new generation of Black LGBTQIA+ leaders. Black, queer history is American history, and it has shaped nearly every aspect of our culture as we know it today.

Students shouldn’t have to wait until they potentially find themselves in a college classroom to learn about people with a shared identity. Black history, which is already primarily limited to our experiences in enslavement and segregation, must stress that Black people are not a monolith in order to fully embody the diversity that is the Black experience in America. While our shared experiences around racism and systemic oppression bond us, our myriad of identities cannot simply be packaged into a one-stop-shop curriculum. LGBTQIA+ students—like all students—deserve to have their history and experiences reflected in their education.

Source: <https://time.com/6263354/black-lgbtq-history-representation/>



Resource Guide

A SHORT GUIDE TO LGBTQ + MILWAUKEE



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-](https://www.facebook.com/Harbor-Room-117-E-Greenfield-Ave-Milwaukee-WI-151982704821436/)

[Room-117-E-Greenfield-Ave-](https://www.facebook.com/Harbor-Room-117-E-Greenfield-Ave-Milwaukee-WI-151982704821436/)

[Milwaukee-WI-151982704821436/](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://huntysmke.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/](https://www.facebook.com/LaCageNiteclub)

[LaCageNiteclub](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/woodys.](https://www.facebook.com/woodys.mke)

[mke](https://www.facebook.com/woodys.mke)

Zócolo Food Park ♦

Bar with food trucks, gay friendly

636 S. 6th St.

Milwaukee, WI 53204

(414) 433-9747

<https://www.zocalomke.com>



Businesses

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/](https://www.kilwins.com/stores/kilwins-milwaukee-bayshore)

[kilwins-milwaukee-bayshore](https://www.kilwins.com/stores/kilwins-milwaukee-bayshore)

Outwards Books

Gifts & Coffee ♦

LGBTQ+ books, movies and gifts

2710 N. Murray Ave. #3645,

Milwaukee, WI 53211

(414) 963-9089

<https://outwardsbooks.com>

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>

Sherman Perk Cafe ♦

Local coffee shop in the Sherman Park
Neighborhood

4924 W Roosevelt Dr.

Milwaukee, WI 53216

(414) 875-7375

<https://shermanperkcoffeeshop.com/>

La Finca Coffeehouse ♦

Women owned coffee shop with unique
coffees and eats.

3558 E Sivyer Ave.

St Francis, WI 53235

(414) 394-0722

<https://www.lafinca.cafe>

Resource Guide

A SHORT GUIDE TO LGBTQ + MILWAUKEE



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/](https://www.facebook.com/ToDoPostresOfficial/)

[ToDoPostresOfficial/](https://www.facebook.com/ToDoPostresOfficial/)



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>

Community Health Systems, Inc. ♦

A federally qualified Health Center that operates a medical, dental, and behavioral health clinic in Beloit, Wisconsin

74 Eclipse Center,

Beloit, WI 53511

tel: (608) 361-0311

www.chsofwi.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>

Waukesha County Public Health Division

514 Riverview Ave.,

Waukesha, WI, 53188

262-896-8430

www.waukeshacounty.gov/publichealth

Vivent Health (formerly ARCW)

HIV/AIDS health center that provides medical, dental, counseling and social service help

820 N. Plankinton Ave.

Milwaukee, WI 53203

(414) 273-1991

<https://viventhealth.org>



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>



Central Library ♦

The main branch of The Milwaukee County Library system has books, movies, periodicals available for lending.

814 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53233

414) 286-3000

Wisconsin LGBTQ History Project, Inc.

Local organization dedicated to preserving and bringing light to LGBTQ+ historical events and people.

(414) 324-9072

<https://wislgbthistory.com>

KEY: ♦ Distribution point for Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine



Sixteenth Street

PREVENTION AND OUTREACH

1243 S Cesar Chavez Drive
Milwaukee, WI 53204

OUR SERVICES

FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL TESTING

We provide a safe space for free and confidential HIV/STD testing. No appointment needed!

HARM REDUCTION

Needle Exchange Program:
Mon. Wed. Fri.

Free Narcan Training

PREP NAVIGATION

Come talk to us about PrEP- The groundbreaking medication that protects you from contracting HIV!.

LGBTQ HEALTH NAVIGATION

We provide free LGTBQ Health & HIV education facilitation as well as support for people of Trans experience.

POR MI, POR TI, POR TODOS STUDY

If you're a Latino male or woman of trans- experience, come get enrolled into a study and earn \$300!



Call us at
(414) 897-5434

Open:
Mon-Friday|9am-5pm