



Summer Fun!

Raiders' Carl Nassib comes out as gay
- Page 4

Events from Around The City!
- Page 5 - 7

What Bisexuality Means, Doesn't Mean, and How to Know If You're Bi
- Page 9 & 13

How to Support LGBTQ-Owned Small Businesses
- Pages 8 & 12

16 New LGBTQ+ Books to Pick Up This Summer
- Page 10 & 11





Milwaukee's
Favorite Gay Bar
Since 1968

LIVE DRAG
SHOWS
FRIDAY AND
SATURDAY
NIGHTS

Daily
HAPPY HOUR,
2.4.1 on all
rails/taps,
open-8pm 2.4.1
on all drinks
when the
alarm lights
are on, 8pm-
close.

CHECK OUT
OUR OFFICIAL
MERCH AT
<https://this-is-it-bar.myshopify.com/>



This Is It!
418 E Wells St, Mil-
waukee, WI 53202
414-278-9192

Open Daily
at 3pm.

SPRING/SUMMER 2021

WITH DORA DIAMOND AND BETH ANNE BODYWORKS

SCREEN QUEENS

MOVIE NIGHT WITH A TWIST

MAY 25 th :	<i>Mommie Dearest</i>	JUL 27 th :	TANK GIRL
JUN 1 st :	THE ADVENTURES OF <i>Priscilla</i> QUEEN OF THE DESERT	AUG 3 rd :	<i>The Brady Bunch Movie</i>
JUN 8 th :	<i>the birdcage</i>	AUG 10 th :	<i>A VERY BRADY Sequel</i>
JUN 15 th :	<i>To Wong Foo, Thanks For Everything!</i> Julie Newmar	AUG 17 th :	ROMY AND MICHELE'S HIGH SCHOOL REUNION
JUN 22 nd :	<i>VICTOR Victoria</i>	AUG 24 th :	Clueless
JUN 29 th :	XANADU	AUG 31 st :	SHOWGIRLS
JUL 6 th :	LEGALLY blonde	SEP 7 th :	CHICAGO
JUL 13 th :	EARTH GIRLS ARE EASY	SEP 14 th :	KILL BILL 1 & 2
JUL 20 th :	SPICE WORLD	SEP 21 st :	Mrs. Doubtfire

every tuesday @ 7:30

MKE
Pride
LIFE
MAGAZINE



FROM THE PUBLISHER'S DESK

Summer Fun is Back Again

CONTENTS

Up Front.....1
Summer Fun is Back Again

Editorial.....2
The Remarkable Marriage Between Pride Month 2021 and Corporate Branding

In The News.....3
Title IX protection extended to transgender students amid surge of legislation attacking their rights

Men's Life.....4
Raiders DE Carl Nassib comes out as gay, becomes first active NFL player to do so

Events & Happenings.....5-7
Milwaukee Pride Life Launch Party; March with Pride for Black Lives Matter; MKE LGBT Community Center Block Party

Pride Life Features.....8 & 12
How to Support LGBTQ-Owned Small Businesses

In The Spotlight.....9
What Bi-sexuality Means, Doesn't Mean, and How to Know If You're Bi

The Arts.....10 & 11
Sixteen New LGBTQ+ Books to Pick Up This Summer!

The Last Page.....12
Next Issue: August - The Social Issue



Summer has arrived!

The restrictions of the past year or so induced by COVID-19 have been gradually eliminated day-to-day and it seems just in time for our favorite season's activities. There have been many milestones put on hold: anniversaries, graduations, birthdays and family reunions (not to mention just catching up on some good old-fashioned summer fun).

The urge to catch up is powerful as is the fear that it all could be taken away again. In the rush to head to that bear pool party or hang out at the beach with your friends, be certain to remember to take the time

to slow down. It's been quite a while since you may have engaged in any intense close-quarters socialization, so your tolerance for such things may have diminished.

Take a moment to assess what everyone around you has endured this past year and a half. Let yourself ease back into things. If you need a little more time before you are comfortable with that, then that's okay, too.

So pack your swim gear, your racy romance novel, some sun block and head out to soak up some sun and fun. After all, we've certainly all earned it.

THE OPINION EDITORIAL

The Remarkable Marriage Between Pride Month 2021 and Corporate Branding



By Jaye Syc, Associate Editor,
Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine

The recent annual celebration of Pride Month showcased an unprecedented global marketing presence in the way of corporate branding, from Kellogg's to Boeing and nearly every organization and industry in between. Naturally, the highly socially conscious Ben & Jerry's rolled out a Hubby Hubby flavor for the occasion.

Subsequently, a fine line is walked between community support and publicity-driven commercialization. In fact, it may very well be tougher to find a globally traded corporation that has *not* jumped on the "let's-show-the-gays-we-love-them" bandwagon than otherwise. The question which invariably follows is this: Is such an onslaught of support genuinely progressively driven, or is it merely a marketing tactic thinly disguised as social relevance? This editor believes it is a reasonably harmless amalgam of both.

Data has shown that, more often than not, large corporations generate massive revenue from progressive causes but contribute very little in the way of measurable social benefit. With poverty on the rise in our community, it would be much more impressive that a greater portion of direct proceeds of the sale of rainbow-colored New York Giants shirts and Kellogg's Together cereal be directed where they belong.

Conversely, the **messaging** such a union offers is incredibly encouraging. Vicious urban homophobia-rooted

beatdowns are little more than a shameful relic of public opinion. Years later, massive conglomerates are making it globally clear once and for all that tolerance trumps ignorance. They are temporarily re-branding to accommodate our community, and, as a gay man that has just crowned the age of fifty, I can assure our younger readers that we have indeed progressed enormously.

So...is it all too little too late, an outright overload or just enough?

The answer, I believe, is just enough. One could certainly debate that "rainbow capitalism" exploits (and even occasionally undermines) true pride values. This belief is startlingly common among older LGBT activists. These Boomers and GenXers see the branding as the insulting dilution of a vital cause dating back to Stonewall. On the other hand, millennials see it as a victory in equity.

The branding flood seems to have fluctuated significantly based upon political and cultural climate. It is easy to feel overwhelmed by the influx of social justice messaging, politics and media reach. But when the matter is given deep analysis, the most reasonable conclusion to draw is that corporate branding infused with queer activism has undoubtedly normalized a lifestyle once considered by seemingly evolved people to be abhorrent. LGBT acceptance, even when promoted by mega-corporations such as Google, is still acceptance and must be sincerely commended.



STAFF

Founder, Publisher & Editor-in-Chief:
William S. Gooden

Associate Editor
Jaye Syc

President of Advertising & Marketing:
Carmen Murguia

Notice of Publication:
Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine published monthly by
A Little Bit Different Media LLC
in Milwaukee, WI 53207

Contact Us:

Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine
Milwaukee, WI 53207
Phone: (414) 559-6061
E-Mail: mkepridelife@gmail.com
Web: www.mkepridelife.com

Copyright/Fair Use Disclaimer:

Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine may contain content not authorized for use by its owner. This content is used for news and information purposes only and constitutes a fair-use of any copy-written materials as provided for in Section 107 of the Copyright Act.

In The News

LOCAL & NATIONAL LGBTQ+ NEWS



Title IX protection extended to transgender students amid surge of legislation attacking their rights

By Li Cohen

The Department of Education announced Wednesday that transgender students are now protected under Title IX. The federal civil rights law, passed in 1972, protects people from discrimination based on sex, and now, gender identity and sexual orientation, in any educational setting that receives federal aid.

“The Supreme Court has upheld the right for LGBTQ+ people to live and work without fear of harassment, exclusion, and discrimination — and our LGBTQ+ students have the same rights and deserve the same protections,” Secretary of Education Miguel Cardona said in a statement. “Today, the Department makes clear that all students — including LGBTQ+ students — deserve the opportunity to learn and thrive in schools that are free from discrimination.”

The announcement comes amid a difficult year for LGBTQ+ youth. A recent survey from The Trevor Project found that of the nearly 35,000 LGBTQ youth between the ages of 13 and 24 who responded to the survey, 70% said that over the past year, their mental health was “poor” at least most of the time. More than half of transgender or nonbinary youth reported they seriously considered attempting suicide, the survey found.



Education Secretary Miguel Cardona testifies before the Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Subcommittee on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, on June 16, 2021.

Trevor Project CEO and Executive Director Amit Paley said in a statement that the organization is grateful to the department for “actively working to ensure that schools are safe and affirming spaces for transgender and nonbinary youth.”

“We know that trans-affirming schools can be life-saving,” he said. “Young people spend most of their time at school and it’s crucial that all students are protected from discrimination and afforded the same rights.”

The protections also come during a year in which states have pushed for and passed a surge of bills that seek to limit the rights of transgender youth.

In the 2021 legislative session alone, 23 states have considered more than 50 bills targeting transgender youth, according to a list maintained by the National Center for Transgender Equality.

The majority of those bills, according to the Center, limit either the health care transgender youth can receive or limit their ability to participate in school sports.

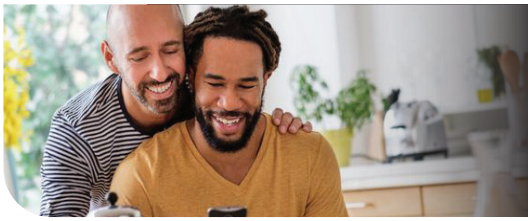
The announcement signals the Biden administration’s effort to reverse the myriad policies targeting transgender individuals that were implemented under the Trump administration. In 2017, for example, the administration reversed policies that required public schools to allow transgender students to use the bathroom that corresponds with their gender.

Acting Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights Suzanne B. Goldberg said in a statement that the department wants to provide schools with support so that all students can get adequate resources and the tools they need to succeed, “regardless of their gender identity or sexual orientation.”

“Equity in education means all students have access to schools that allow them to learn and thrive in all aspects of their educational experience,” Goldberg said. “As part of our mission to protect all students’ civil rights, it is essential that OCR acts to eliminate discrimination that targets LGBTQ+ students.”

Source: <https://www.cbsnews.com>





Raiders DE Carl Nassib comes out as gay, becomes first active NFL player to do so

By Ryan Young

Las Vegas Raiders defensive end Carl Nassib did something no active NFL player has ever done before on the afternoon of Monday, June 21, 2021.

He came out as gay. Nassib made the announcement while speaking in an Instagram video from his Pennsylvania home — which he said was long overdue.

“I just wanted to take a quick moment to say that I’m gay. I’ve been meaning to do this for a while now, but I finally feel comfortable enough to get it off my chest,” Nassib said.

“I really have the best life. I’ve got the best family, friends and job a guy can ask for. I’m a pretty private person, so I hope you guys know that I’m really not doing this for attention. I just think that representation and visibility are so important. I actually hope that like one day, videos like this and the whole coming out process are just not necessary. But until then I’m going to do my best and my part to cultivate a culture that’s accepting and compassionate.”

Nassib is entering his sixth season in the league this fall and his second with the Raiders, who signed him to a three-year, \$25 million deal before last season.

Nassib racked up 28 total tackles and 2.5 sacks last year in Las Vegas. He also spent two seasons apiece with the



Carl Nassib of the Las Vegas Raiders came out as gay on Instagram on Monday, becoming the first active NFL player to ever do so.

Tampa Bay Buccaneers and Cleveland Browns, who first selected him in the third round of the 2016 draft.

The former Penn State walk-on wrote that he is “incredibly thankful” to the league, his coaches and teammates for their support.

“I would not have been able to do this without them. From the jump, I was greeted with the utmost respect and acceptance,” he wrote. “I truly love my life and cannot understand why I have been blessed this much. I feel especially thankful to have had so much support when many who came before — and many even now — do not.”

“The NFL family is proud of Carl for courageously sharing his truth today,” NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said in a statement. “Representa-

tion matters. We share his hope that someday soon statements like his will no longer be newsworthy as we march toward full equality for the LGBTQ+ community. We wish Carl the best of luck this coming season.”

The 28-year-old also pledged a \$100,000 donation to the Trevor Project, an organization dedicated to helping LGBTQ youth.

Nassib is now the first player in NFL history to come out as gay or bisexual while still active in the league.

Several players have done so in retirement, including former Chiefs and Patriots offensive lineman Ryan O’Callaghan, former Washington tight end Jerry Smith and former Cowboys linebacker Jerry Rohrer. Michael Sam came out after his college career at Missouri, but he never made it out of the preseason.

Nassib received support on social media after the announcement, too, including from former Penn State teammate and New York Giants running back Saquon Barkley.

Penn State coach James Franklin praised his former player, too, and announced that he and his wife had also donated to the Trevor Project in his honor.

Source: <https://sports.yahoo.com>

Events & Happenings

PHOTOS OF EVENTS • NIGHTLIFE • MILESTONES



Milwaukee Pride Life Launch Party



On Saturday, June 12, 2021, Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine hosted their launch party at This Is It! Bar, 418 E. Wells Street. Pride Life staff were on hand to greet well wishers and let people know about our great magazine! A very big thank you to This Is It's owner George Schneider and his staff for their generous hospitality.

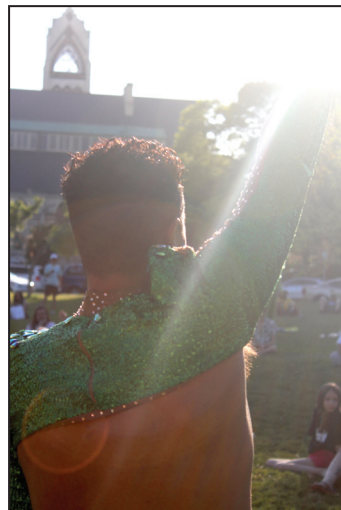
Photos by: Angela Rose-Mueller



Events & Happenings

PHOTOS OF EVENTS • NIGHTLIFE • MILESTONES

March with Pride for Black Lives Matter



On Sunday, June 13, 2021, more than 2,000 community members showed up in front of the Summerfest grounds and took part in "March with Pride for BLM." The event commemorated the march that transpired last year during the Black Lives Matter protest. The marchers walked to Juneau Park where they could rest, eat, browse vendors and enjoy speakers and a drag show. The day was filled with love, peace and solidarity.



Photos by: Cate Murray

Events & Happenings

PHOTOS OF EVENTS • NIGHTLIFE • MILESTONES



MKE LGBT Community Center Block Party



On Friday, June 18, 2021, the Milwaukee LGBT Community Center re-opened their doors after more than a year of virtual programming. The re-opening took place just outside their new location at 315 W. Court St. To celebrate the occasion, the Center hosted a block party in their new location's parking lot. The organization was actually housed in the Court Street location 20 years ago. At that time, it was merely a suite in the building. With the Center now occupying nearly the entire building, it additionally aspires to expand its reach after a particularly isolating year.

Photos by: MKE LGBT Community Center



Pride Life Features

THE EVENTS AND PEOPLE THAT ARE SHAPING LGBTQ+ MILWAUKEE

How to Support LGBTQ-Owned Small Businesses

As a group, the LGBTQ community has been somewhat overlooked in comparison to other social demographics – for instance, there are relatively few resources available in comparison to African Americans or female entrepreneurs.

However, the group of LGBTQ-owned enterprises is growing and their impact is accelerating. This guide will inform you as to how to support the LGBTQ community. We'll also run through some of the top resources for LGBTQ business-owners for business, legal, workforce, and other spheres.

How to Support LGBTQ Businesses

Supporting LGBTQ-owned enterprises is especially important in the current situation. With COVID-19 and the Black Lives Matter movements, it's time to turn attention to all of the underprivileged groups and to generate a better world at large.

With increased awareness surrounding these issues, now is the perfect opportunity for expansion. LGBTQ owners need support at a time when people are becoming aware of different demographics that do not have an equal platform to excel in the world of business.

The following are some of the best ways to support LGBTQ-owned businesses right now.

Buy From Them

The most simple and obvious way to support LGBTQ-owned businesses is to shop at their stores. This is a direct financial contribution to this cause. If they are helped out financially, it will give them more empowerment and a larger voice in business and commerce. And with COVID-19 making it more difficult right now, the financial assistance is badly needed.

1. MyRainbowPages
2. WI LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce



3. Outward Magazine

While LGBTQ-owned businesses are not as numerous as other groups, such as Blacks or female entrepreneurs, they are there. You can also check an online resource for a register of LGBTQ-owned enterprises. Three ways you can investigate LGBTQ-owned enterprises include:

Use Social Media

Social media is a powerful tool for helping out underprivileged groups who do not have an active presence or voice. It has been instrumental in bringing social issues to the public awareness across many different spheres – third world poverty, racism, animal cruelty, the destruction of the Amazon rainforest – all of these vital issues are being brought to public attention through social media.

Whether you are on Instagram, Facebook, or Twitter, use a social media platform to highlight important statistics and facts about the plight of the LGBTQ community. You could even share this post to help people get informed about the topic at hand and to generate awareness.

Do Your Research

There is little point in launching a campaign for this social demographic if you are not made aware of the statistics and the data surrounding it. Have you talked to people in the community? How do they feel about it? What studies have you looked into? What are your

data sources? How many data sources are you drawing from?

The more research you do, the more information you will have. You can then answer questions and outline your reasons for supporting this particular group. It will make you sound more intelligent – because you will actually be more intelligent. At least with regard to this topic. You can then educate others and see where the real problems lie, instead of adding blind support to a cause you know little about.

Take an Active Role

You can champion the cause and take an active role in terms of helping out. Form groups, attend parades, go to seminars, get active on online forums, etc. You can also ally your business with the movement. There are media outlets that list LGBTQ-allied businesses. If your business is more than 51% LGBTQ-owned, then you can get LGBTQBE certified ('BE' standing for 'Business Enterprise'). There are many ways to actively support the campaign.

(Continued on pg. 12)

Uncles David & Guy

Invite you **TO JOIN US AT**

ONO KINE GRINDZ

to enjoy home cooked, local style

HAWAIIAN FAVORITES



New Online Ordering

OKGRINDZ.COM

7215 W North Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

In The Spotlight

SPOTLIGHTING MILWAUKEE'S AMAZING PRIDE COMMUNITY

What Bi-sexuality Means, Doesn't Mean, and How to Know If You're Bi

By Gabrielle Kassel

Bops like New You by Zolita, Monopoly by Ariana Grande, and Girls by Rita Ora may have bisexuality at their center. But adding tunes about ~bisexual longing~ to your Spotify doesn't mean you suddenly know the definition of this often-misunderstood sexual orientation.

What does it mean to be bisexual, exactly? And how do you know if that might apply to you? Read on to learn the definition of bisexuality, how to learn if you're bisexual, and seven ways to explore your sexuality if you think you might be bisexual.

What does 'bisexual' mean?

If you hopped on a time travel machine and trekked from 1892 (when the word "bisexual" was first conceived, according to LGBTQ nonprofit GLAAD) until now, you'd notice that it's had quite the evolution.

In the nineteenth century, Charles Chaddock first used the word to refer to sexual attraction to both men and women. Many people assume this is still the most widely used definition — but it's not. As Jamie LeClaire, a sex educator who specializes in sexuality and gender previously told Shape, "many of the definitions of bisexuality that you'll find in textbooks were created during a time where culture and the general public still understood gender as a binary."

However, from the 1970s and on, the OG definition began to be seen as inadequate as people began to understand the true expansiveness of gender. These days, there are a few different widely accepted definitions of bisexuality.

First, is the definition you'll find in Merriam Webster that says bisexuality is "characterized by sexual or romantic attraction to people of one's own gender identity and of other gender identities." The second definition, cited by the Uni-



versity of Massachusetts, for example, also nods to that 'bi' prefix which means two, noting that bisexuality is the potential for romantic or sexual attraction to genders similar to one's own and dissimilar to one's own. (ICYWW, this is the definition I use when people ask why or how I use the term bisexual for myself.) Bisexuality can also be simply defined as the attraction to multiple genders.

If you're thinking that these all sound super similar, you're not wrong; the takeaway from all of them is that "bisexual" means you're not only attracted to one gender. The difficulty is when a definition implies or assumes that there are only two genders, male and female (but more on that in a sec).

Ultimately, "it's important to recognize that the term may mean something different to different bisexual folks," says psychotherapist and marriage and relationship expert Rachel Wright, M.A., L.M.F.T. (Learn more from Wright: What Everyone Should Know About Sex and Dating, According to a Relationship Therapist)

So, to understand what bisexual means to someone, you're going to have to ask. Of course, make sure you have a pre-established relationship with someone before doing so. Your curiosity is far less important than their comfort. Got it?

Does bisexuality mean you're only into people that identify as a man or

woman?

Nope! "There's a misunderstanding that bisexuality reinforces the gender binary," says Marla Renee Stewart, sexologist with Velvet Lips Sex Down South and co-author of *The Ultimate Guide to Seduction and Foreplay*. "But identifying as bisexual does not reinforce the gender binary."

The bisexual community has been fighting against that misconception for decades now! Case in point: *The Bisexuality Manifesto* published in 1990. Arguably the most iconic text in the ~bisexuality canon~, the manifesto actively went after that dangerous myth, stating: "Do not assume that bisexuality is binary or duogamous in nature [...]. In fact, don't assume that there are only two genders."

No, bisexuality is not a 50/50 split.

To be very clear: Bisexuality does not mean half gay and half straight. *Eye roll.* Bisexuals are, well, 100-freaking-percent bisexual!

Bisexual also does not always imply equal attraction to men and women. For starters, this idea erases all the non-binary, gender-queer, and gender-fluid folks a bisexual person might be attracted to. (Also: quantifying attraction is hard AF!)

Plus, it's simply not accurate. Some bisexuals mostly experience attraction to folks with genders like their own, while others mostly experience attraction to folks with genders unlike their own. Many may notice that their attraction fluctuates over time.

No, bisexuality does not imply attraction to everyone.

"There a misconception that bisexual people are attracted to literally everyone," says Wright. This, she says, is pretty ridiculous.

(Continued on pg. 13)



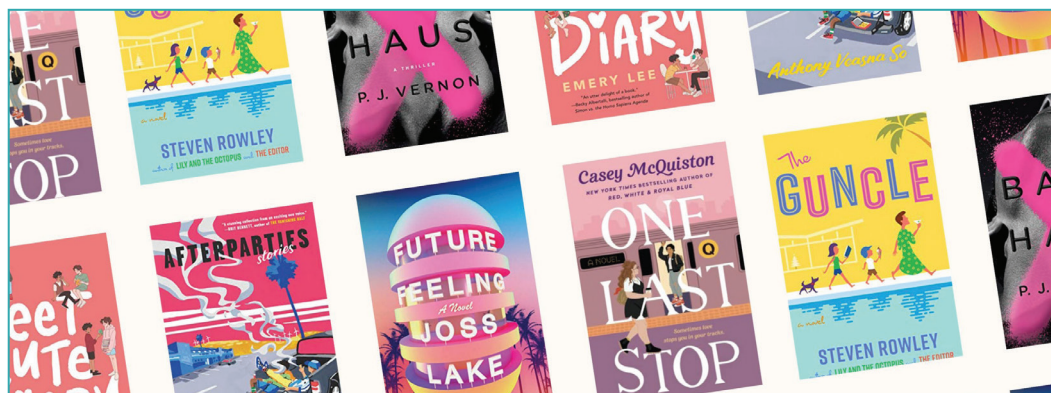
Sixteen New LGBTQ+ Books to Pick Up This Summer

Pride month isn't the only month to immerse yourself in stories about the LGBTQ+ community and by the LGBTQ+ community, but it's a great month start, especially given this summer's slate of new books hitting the shelves. Whether you're looking for nonfiction, memoirs, story collections, YA fiction and more, there's a new LGBTQ+ book on the horizon for you. We've rounded up 15 favorites to pick up this summer.

One Last Stop by Casey McQuiston: August moved to New York City to prove to herself that fairy tale endings do not exist. But on the subway on her way to her first day of school, she's quickly proven wrong when she meets Jane. Soon she realizes her new subway crush is literally displaced from the 1970s, stuck in a timeslip with no memory of her past. This time-bending queer romance is as big-hearted as it gets. ing the shelves. Whether you're looking for nonfiction, memoirs, story collections, YA fiction and more, there's a new LGBTQ+ book on the horizon for you. We've rounded up 15 favorites to pick up this summer

The Chosen and the Beautiful by Nghi Vo: Set in the Roaring Twenties, this Great Gatsby retelling follows Jordan Baker, an adopted Asian woman who has to work twice as hard to get what she wants. She's a queer professional golfer raised in wealth and seen at every extravagant party, but on top of invitations to the secluded speakeasies and intoxicating Gatsby gatherings, golf meets and working to prove her worth, she's still always seen as "other," and that's something of which she's well aware.

Bath Haus by P.J. Vernon: Oliver Park



lives with his affectionate partner, Nathan. But after visiting Haus, a gay bathhouse, without Nathan knowing, and following a man into a private room, everything starts to go wrong. As the lies begin to unravel, he'll work to save more than just his relationship—but his life as well.

Afterparties by Anthony Veasna So: From refugee children planning to create new paths for themselves to a queer couple inspiring the creation of a new app. Afterparties is a composition of short stories of Cambodian-Americans that explores the complexities of sexuality, family, friendship and race.

Kate in Waiting by Becky Albertalli: Best friends Kate and Anderson are rarely separated, making big-time life decisions together and even pining for the same guys from afar. But when one of their most recent crushes, Matt Olson, shows up at their school, Kate and Anderson realize they both have feelings for him. Will it put their long-term friendship at risk?

Future Feeling by Joss Lake: Penfield R. Henderson spends his life as a dog walker, obsessing over holograms of Aiden Chase, a social media influenc-

er and fellow trans man who posts of his transition on Instagram. After an uncomfortable encounter between the two, Pen convinces his roommates to put a hex on Aiden and curse him to the Shadowlands. But the hex transports a young trans man named Blithe instead, which means Pen and Aiden must work together to bring him back.

Meet Cute Diary by Emery Lee: Transgender teen Noah thinks he's a romance expert, running a blog about trans romance happily-ever-afters that's loved by his many viewers. But when it's revealed that all of his stories are made up, he tries to prove its authenticity by fake dating Drew, slowly falling for him and realizing that love is nothing like the fantasies he's created.

The Guncle by Steven Rowley: Patrick, a previously famous gay sitcom star, has discovered that parenting, even temporary parenting, is not as simple as he thought. After his sister-in-law dies and his brother checks himself into rehab, his niece and nephew are placed in Patrick's care for the time being. His current lifestyle isn't suited for children, especially as he recovers from losing his love and his career.

(Continued on pg. 11)

Sixteen New LGBTQ+ Books

(Continued from pg. 10)

But he'll start to take on a new form of responsibility, accepting the importance of family, especially when tragedy strikes.

The Key to You and Me by Jaye Robin Brown: Piper spends the summer living with her grandmother, taking the opportunity to train with a former Olympic horseback rider and recover from a brutal breakup with her long-time girlfriend. Much to her disliking, her grandmother takes this opportunity to help Piper overcome a fear of driving, hiring Kat, a girl from a small North Carolina town in unchartered territory with her new crush. Over the course of a couple of weeks, the two girls will form a bond beyond driving instructor and pupil.

Love & Other Natural Disasters by Misa Sugiura: When Nozomi travels to San Francisco, she's determined to find the summer romance of her dreams. She meets Willow, a devastated girl who just broke up with her girlfriend, and who convinces Nozomi to fake date her to make her ex jealous. But when lies

start to pile up, disaster begins.

The Lucky List by Rachael Lippincott: After Emily's mother loses her battle to cancer, it seems as if her luck has run out; she and her boyfriend break up, her best friend is away for the summer, and her father decides to sell their old house as well as most of her mother's belongings. Everything seems bleak until she meets new-to-town Blake. When Emily finds her mother's senior year bucket list, the two embark on a summer journey filled with self-discovery, love and overcoming grief.

Rainbow Milk by Paul Mendez: A young 19-year-old raised a Jehovah's Witness seeks a fresh start in London as he grapples with his racial and sexual identities.

Jay's Gay Agenda by Jason June: Jay Collier grew up in his small, rural town as the only out gay kid, watching his friends' relationships and hookups from the sidelines. Then he begins to form his Gay Agenda, a to-do list of all of the firsts and experiences that he wants to achieve in life. When his family moves to Seattle during his senior year of high school, Jay is finally surrounded by an LGBTQIA+ community and starts to check off goals, but things aren't going according to plan.

Filthy Animals by Brandon Taylor: This collection of short stories explores intimacy, pain, identity and tension

with those you love, by the author of Real Life. The stories interlink with the life of a man who navigates his relationship with two dancers. Perspectives switch between this man, the dancers, a woman battling cancer, tension between teenagers and more.

Hot Stew by Fiona Mozley: The Soho that Tabitha and Precious work in and call home is currently under threat as billionaire-owner Agatha wants to tear the buildings down to build new and expensive flats and restaurants. Men who visit the brothel will be forced to go elsewhere and the people who live in the basement will have to find a new home. But Tabitha and Precious decide they're not leaving without a fight.

Last Call: A True Story of Love, Lust, and Murder in Queer New York by Elon Green: The Last Call Killer preyed upon gay men in New York in the '80s and '90s and had all the hallmarks of the most notorious serial killers. Yet because of the sexuality of his victims, the skyhigh murder rates, and the AIDS epidemic, his murders have been almost entirely forgotten. This gripping true-crime narrative tells the story of the Last Call Killer and the decades-long chase to find him. And at the same time, it paints a portrait of his victims and a vibrant community navigating threat and resilience.

- Accepts most insurance plans
- Virtual and in-person sessions available
- Now accepting new clients



compassionate
clinical services



As a member of the LGBTQ+ community, I am personally and professionally committed to providing affirming counseling in a space that feels safe and supportive. Contact me for a free consultation.

Ryan Larkey, LCSW, SAC

www.compassionateclinicalservices.com

985 W. Oklahoma Ave. Milwaukee - 414-839-1821

How to Support LGBTQ-Owned Small Businesses

(Continued from pg. 8)

Donate

Instead of buying from the many LGBT-owned businesses, you could also consider a direct donation. Donations do not have to be large. As little as \$5 a month can be of assistance. Every little helps, and if a lot of people donate a large amount, it can really make a difference. Most people prefer to buy from LGBT businesses as opposed to making a donation – we don't want to make them into a charity group, but we do want to lend them support.

What's an LGBT-Owned Business Anyway?

In order to qualify as an LGBT-owned business, the enterprise must meet the following criteria:

- Must be at least 51% owned, operated, managed, and controlled by an LGBT person.

- LGBT owner must be either U.S. citizen or lawful permanent residents.
- Enterprise has independence from any non-LGBT business enterprise.
- Enterprise has headquarters in the USA.
- Enterprise has been formed as a legal entity in the United States.

There is no criteria for the LGBT criteria other than that the person identifies as a member of the LGBT community. It is a subjective measure.

How to Get Certified

There are 2 ways you can get certified as an LGBT owner. The first is self-certification. You simply need to sign one of two forms, the Self-certification affidavit form or the SBA online self-certification. That's it. If you want to get certified, you simply have to fill out the form.

The other way is to get certified with a third party. At present, there is only one entity offering this certification, known as the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce ('NGLCC'). There are numerous advantages to getting certified with the NGLCC, such as access to corporate partners.

Big corporations are huge in sponsoring LGBTQ communities due to public appeal. And there are precious few en-

tities that have actually registered with the NGLCC.

In other words, NGLCC business owners should definitely register with this organization and take advantage of the huge corporate sponsorship on offer.

Future Trends for LGBTQ

According to the latest research, LGBTQ business owners tend to do far better than the rest of the population, similar to female entrepreneurs and diverse ownership boards. However, the research is mostly based on a small dataset of 900 or so LGBT certified businesses.

The support will continue to grow for this community and they are taking a more prominent role in mainstream society. Right now, it is important to generate awareness so they get a fair hearing and an equal footing in the context of economic development.



Join the Chamber

Join more than 675 businesses as a member and connect with consumers who want to support LGBTQ and allied owned businesses.



Join online today.
Memberships start at just \$175 a year

Get Certified

Is your business 51% or more LGBT-owned?

nglcc 
Certified LGBTBE

If yes, contact us to learn about how you can get certified as an LGBT Business Enterprise by the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce.

WisLGBTChamber.com

Gone from our sight, but never from our hearts

On June 3, 2021, a light was extinguished from our community, when Edwin "Eddie" Ernest Carver-Fitzpatrick passed all too soon. The staff of Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine would like to extend our sincerest condolences to Eddie's husband Gregg Fitzpatrick, his family and friends. Eddie was well know and loved at the Harbor Room and in this community...



...He will truly be missed!

Next Issue



August 2021

- The Social Issue - What are our most pressing social issues of the day.
- Spotlight On: Our Local Social Organizations
- The Return of a Milwaukee legend, *Cordially Yours*, comes to Milwaukee Pride Life Magazine
- And much more!

What Bi-sexuality Means

(Continued from pg. 9)

“We don’t think a heterosexual woman is attracted to every single man in the world...so why would we think similarly about bisexual folks?”

In my personal experience, identifying as bisexual — and more specifically as a queer bisexual dyke — has actually limited my dating pool rather than expand it. Why? Well, because I don’t want to date someone who merely tolerates my sexuality. Nor do I want to date someone who loves me in spite of my sexuality. I want to date someone who celebrates my sexuality with me! And unfortunately, thanks to all the myths floating around about bisexuals, that’s been more difficult to find than you might guess.

So...am I bisexual??

“Only you can determine if you’re bisexual or not,” says Dr. Maroon. But how do you determine that exactly? Well, do you ~feel~ bisexual? Do you feel like the term accurately describes your lived experience (or the one you desire)? Do you just have a hunch that you’re bi? If you answered yes to any of the those Qs *and* you like the label, then yes, you’re bisexual!

If, however, you don’t know the answer to those questions yet and you want to know, you may have to do a little exploring, says Wright.

How to Explore Your Potential Bi-sexuality

“What that exploration looks like will vary whether you’re a single person who’s never been with a person other than their own gender or a married monogamous person who wants to explore their sexuality within the confines of their current relationship,” says Wright.

Below, a non-exhaustive list of the things that exploration might include:

1. Making an online dating profile: You can either just talk to the gender(s) you’re interested in, says Wright. Or you can actually make plans to meet up and mingle with folks. (IMHO, Lex, #Open, and Tinder are best for this.)

2. Reading or watching ethical porn: Specifically, porn and erotica that features the gender(s) you’re explor-

ing your attraction toward. “See what words, phrases, acts, and scenes turn you on,” says Wright. Some good resources include *SugarButch Chronicles*, *Bellesa*, *Four Chambers*, *Pink and White Productions*, and *CrashPad Series*.

3. Going on Reddit: Sexuality Reddit is surprisingly robust. “If you head to Reddit and type in ‘bisexual’ and your age, you’ll find a lot of stories about people like you exploring their (bi)sexuality,” says Wright.

4. Reading sexuality textbooks: “Doing a deep dive on sexuality studies can be helpful for folks who enjoy learning via book,” says Wright. She recommends the classic sexological texts *Sexual Behavior In The Human Female* by Alfred Kinsey. And personally I found it profoundly helpful to read textbooks about bisexuality such as *Sexual Fluidity* by Lisa M. Diamond, *Bi: Notes for a Bisexual Revolution* by Shiri, and a book by the aforementioned activist Robyn Ochs, *Getting Bi: Voices of Bisexuals Around the World and Recognize*.

5. Or queer memoirs: Because seeing yourself in a book’s pages can be validating, Wright notes that memoirs that feature queer characters can be a great tool. I recommend: *Tomboyland* by Melissa Faliveno, *In The Dream House* by Carmen Maria Machado, *Zami* by Audre Lorde, *The Chronology of Water* by Lidia Yuknavich, *The Fixed Stars* by Molly Wizenburg, *Bad Dyke* by Allison Moon, and *The Other Side Of Paradise* by Staceyann Chin (to name just a few).

6. Following and engaging with queer folks on social media: “I recommend actively seeking out folks in the LGBTQ community to follow on Instagram,” says Dr. Maroon. “The more sexual variation you see on your feed, the more vibrant your life is going to be and the more comfortable you’ll feel exploring your sexuality.”

7. Jamming to queer tunes. No matter your sexuality, those aforementioned numbers are *chefs kiss.* But if you feel seen (er, heard?) in those very bisexual lyrics, well, spend some time thinking on that!

Source: <https://www.shape.com>

where art meets nature

Lynden

SCULPTURE GARDEN

In 2021, we observe World Refugee Day in a series of small, outdoor, pandemic-safe events. Join us to celebrate our refugee communities through art, fashion, and performance.



JULY 10

MUSIC DAY

JULY 25

DANCE DAY

HOME-AT-LYNDEN.ORG