For support, call 816-765-9818 or email  $\underline{support}@pflagkc.org$  View this email in your browser

Our June 11th Meeting will feature Finoa Nowling with SOFFA Kansas City.

**Fiona Nowling** is originally from England and moved to Kansas to marry her wife, Una, a transsexual woman over 14 years ago. Since then, she has led the SOFFA group for four years, spoken at conferences and in schools, co-hosts Trans Talk, an episode of the Tenth Voice on KKFI, sings with Transfinity KC and is on the board of the LGBT employee resource group at McKesson, where she works as a software engineer.

SOFFA (Significant Others, Family, Friends and Allies) of Transgender Persons is a support group for those close to someone who is or feels they may be transgender or transsexual.



The Pride Event this weekend appeared to be a grand success! PFLAG KC had a great group of people working to staff our table (and some people worked every day! S/O to Judy and Scott!) and we had a blast with our new Spinning Wheel (thanks, John)!

Highlights from PrideFEST 2017:

\*KC Care Clinic, Kansas City Human Rights Commission, Public Health and Good Samaritan Project sponsored HIV testing at

PrideFEST.

\*You can get FREE HIV testing at Healthy Living Projects, 8650 W. 95th St #3, OP KS, Good Samaritan Project, 3030 Walnut

St., KCMO, the HIMM Project at 3515 Broadway and 2340 E. Meyer Ste 200, and Mobile Testing: Text 816-663-9832

- \*Loved those coconut drinks!
- \*Heartland Men's Chorus tempted us with a bit of their next concert featuring showtunes!
- \*Many great performers donated their time and talents!
- \*Michael Jackson was in the house!
- \*Major Sly James was there!
- \*Kansas City MO Police Department LGBT Liaison Kim Shaw Ellis was there!
- \*BE WHO YOU ARE!
- \*Rainbows, condoms and glitter galore!
- \*A Mom and Dad spotted holding a sign supporting their gay child!
- \*So many happy people celebrating inclusion and acceptance!



FUN HOME at the Kauffman Performing Arts! This play is based on the book by Alison Bechdel, *Fun Home: A Family Tragicomic,* a lesbian who navigates her personal history having a gay dad. It was a busy week for PFLAG KC tabling at FUN HOME and at Pride! Thanks to all who helped!



Real Boy is an intimate story of a family in transition. As 19-year-old Bennett Wallace navigates

early sobriety, late adolescence, and the evolution of his gender identity, his mother makes her own transformation from resistance to acceptance of her trans son. Along the way, both mother and son find support in their communities, reminding us that families are not only given, but chosen. *Real Boy* has screened at more than 70 festivals worldwide, received 20 awards and will be screened in Kansas City, sponsored by KCPT and GLSEN Greater Kansas City at:

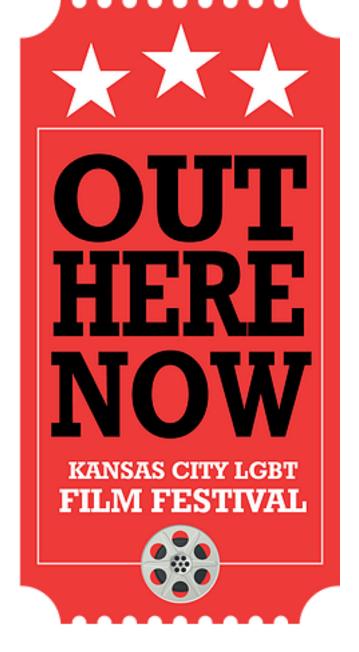
- The Plaza Branch of the Kansas City Public Library 4801 Main St. Kansas City, MO 64112.
- Sat, June 10, 2:00pm 4:30pm

After the film is show, local musician, Ivory Black will be performing. This is a great way to celebrate Pride Month.Chapter volunteers will be available to answer questions bout what the Greater Kansas City chapter of GLSEN is doing these days. We hope to see you at the Library.

If you have questions about this screening, please contact Lindsey Foat, <u>816.398.4245</u> or <u>lfoat@kcpt.org</u>.

Thanks,

David Alonzo, chair GLSEN Greater Kansas City



Eight Days of Film Premiers, Audience Choice Screenings and More June 22-29. Tickets on sale now online and at the Tivoli Cinemas Box Office, 4050 Pennsylvania, KCMO 64111. <u>https://www.outherenow.com</u>

#### MIND, BODY, SOUL

Session '17 Day Retreat Unity Temple on the Plaza, "A place where diversity is praised & peace & harmony are the rewards." 707 W. 47th Street, KCMC 64112

#### Same Love, Soul Saving

A discussion on religion and its impact on those who are LGBTQIA. Have you been persecuted or abandoned in the name of religion for being LGBTQIA? Who do you turn to for spiritual guidance after being shunned by religion and religious folks? Who and what gives you spiritual motivation?

"Sidechicks in Sisterhood" and Party Panel, too!

Ticket Registration: <u>Foodartsqulture.com</u> or <u>Eventbrite.com</u> Bring your yoga mats and journals!

### Here are some links you might find helpful:

http://www.accreditedschoolsonline.org/resources/lgbtq-student-support/ https://www.drugrehab.com/guides/lgbtq/

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0P2GGcuJl6w&feature=youtu.be

#### AND MORE FROM PFLAG NATIONAL:

<u>Gay-Straight Alliances get new attention in Buffalo lawsuit, continue to provide comforting spaces to high-schoolers.</u> The article reports on student Byshop Elliot's lawsuit against McKinley High School and discusses the proliferation of GSAs, highlighting a particularly successful one at Hutch-Tech High School. PFLAGers continue to advocate for GSAs in our schools, where LGBTQ students and allies can feel accepted.

<u>Google Doodle Celebrates the Man Behind the Rainbow Flag.</u> On Friday, June 2nd, Google commemorated the life and work of Gilbert Baker, who created the rainbow flag after Harvey Milk challenged him to make a new symbol for activists to rally around. Baker passed away last year; he would have turned 66 on Friday.

Ben & Jerry's bans two scoops of same flavor to support marriage equality in Australia. Ice cream giant Ben & Jerry's has officially prohibited customers from ordering two scoops of the same flavor in its 26 Australian locations until marriage equality is legalized. The company will provide postcards and post boxes at their stores to encourage customers to write to their MPs and make their voices heard.

LGBTQ youth homeless shelter in North Carolina receives backing from influential donors. The former CEO of Family Dollar, Howard Levine, and his wife Julie have issued a \$100,000 matching grant to help fund the opening of the first homeless shelter for LGBTQ youth in Charlotte, the project of an organization called Time Out Youth. Two other significant donations have propelled the fundraiser to half of its five-year goal in under three months.

<u>10-year-old boy captivates the web with his impressive makeup skills.</u> A young British boy named Jack reminds us that makeup need not be restricted to any one gender. With a following of over 128,000, he continues to impress Instagrammers with his artistry and careful hand.

<u>Husband of Gay Prime Minister Poses in NATO Spouses Photo.</u> Gauthier Destenay, the husband of Luxembourg's Prime Minister Xavier Bettel, joined the wives of world leaders attending the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) conference in Brussels, Belgium. Bettel is currently the world's only openly gay prime minister.

<u>**Pro-LGBT**</u> priest named auxiliary bishop in San Francisco.</u> Pope Francis named Father John P. Dolan, the pastor of a pro-LGBT parish, as San Diego's auxiliary bishop. We are reminded of the potential link between faith and allyship, and how the two can not only coexist, but thrive together. To read more about the link between faith and allyship, download our free publication <u>be not afraid</u>.

<u>President declines to issue Pride proclamation.</u> The President has declined to participate a tradition started by President Bill Clinton, discontinued by President George W. Bush, and renewed by President Obama.

Orlando portrait exhibit honors Pulse victims. Art Professor Mia Merlin reached out to artists across her network to create portraits of the 49 victims of the massacre at Pulse in Orlando last year. The portraits range in media, including chalk drawings, paintings, and embroidery. The exhibit is an effort of healing and remembering. See our top story for how you can help honor those who lost their lives at Pulse.

# PFLAG-KC general meetings are held at two locations:

2nd Sunday, 3pm Village Presbyterian Church 4th Sunday, 3pm Kansas City Center for Inclusion

## 6641 Mission Road, Room 307

Prairie Village, KS.

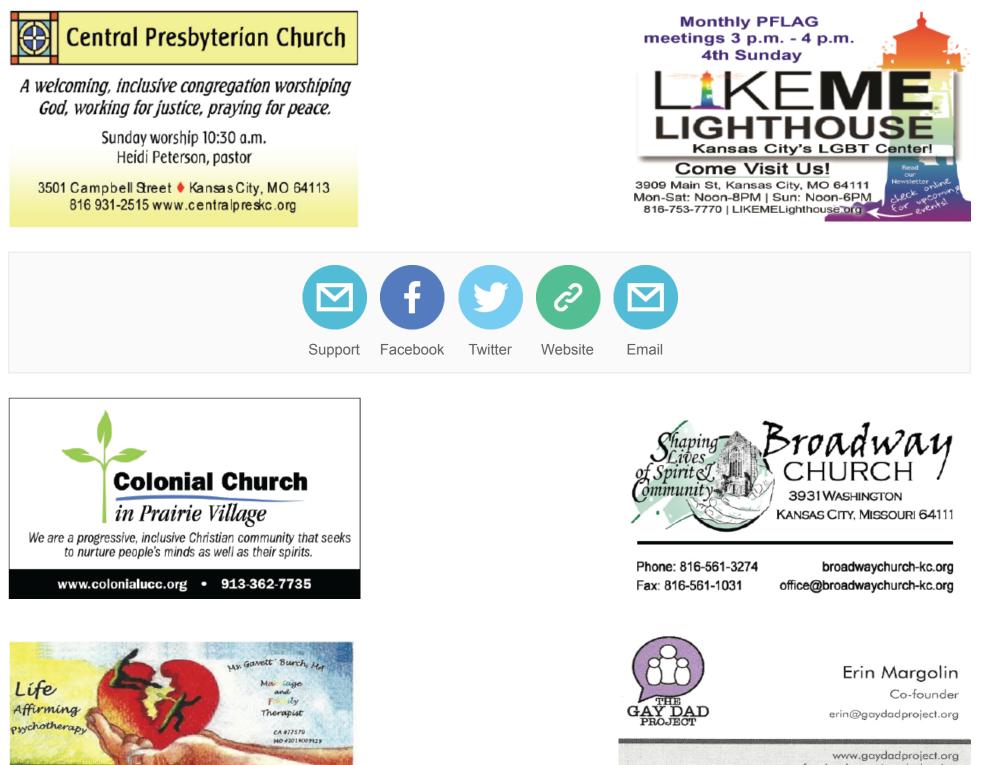
(Wheelchair accessible)

This Month's meeting is on June 11th. Fiona Nowling, with SOFFA, will be our speaker.

WyTherapist@gmail.com 834-9494 (formerly LikeMe Lighthouse) 3909 Main St Kansas City, MO

No special programming occurs at this meeting. It is strictly for support, so if you need to talk to someone, we look forward to seeing your here.

### Upcoming Events



www.gaydadproject.org www.facebook.com/gaydadproject Twitter: @gaydadproject SHELLEY STELMACH-NIGRO, M.S. LICENSED PROFESSIONAL COUNSELOR WESTPORT GROWTH CENTER WWW.WESTPORTGROWTHCENTER.COM

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