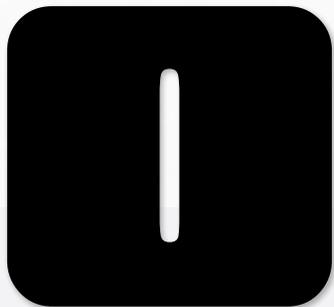


our lives



22



42



70

# ENTERTAINMENT

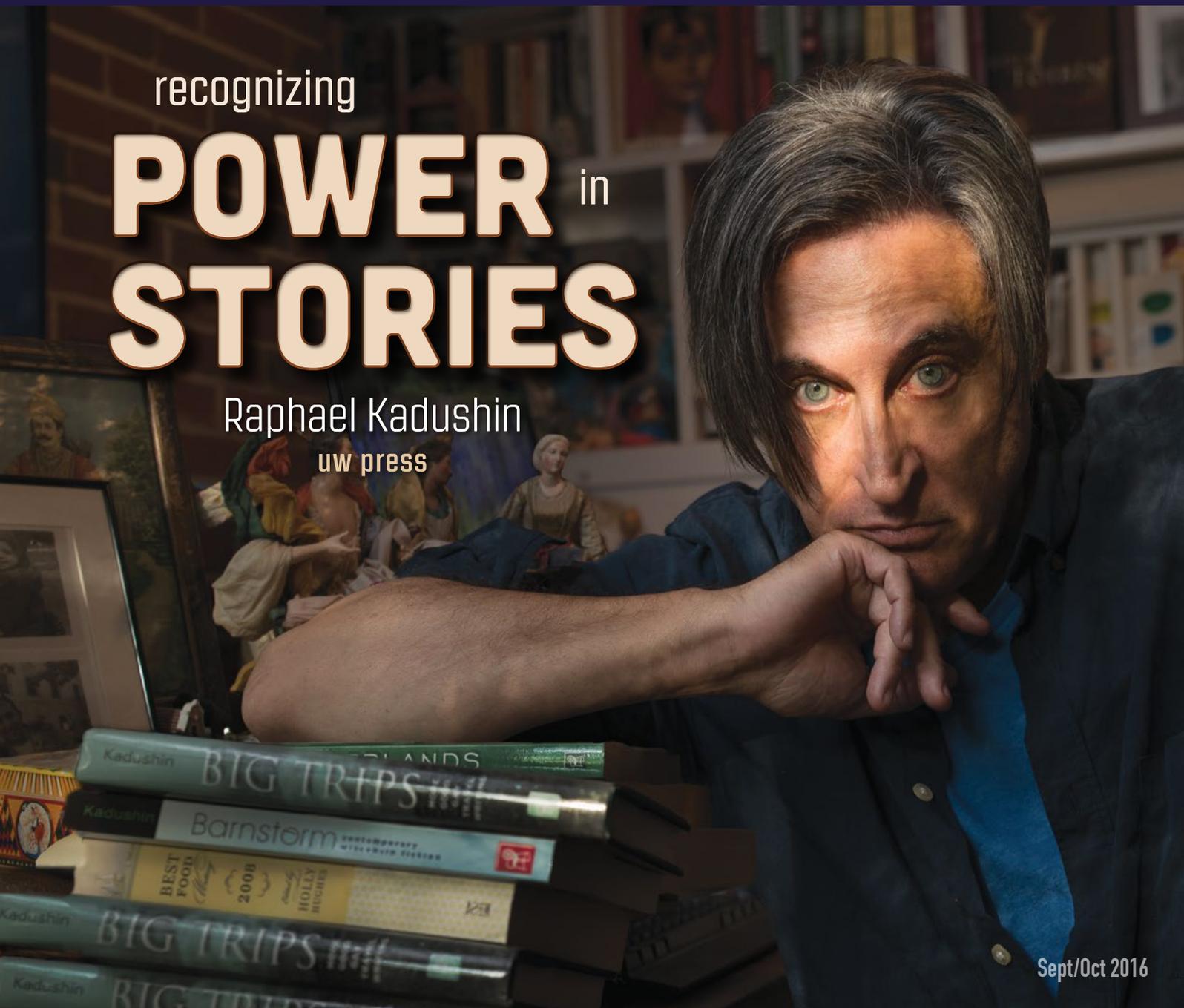
Madison's LGBT&XYZ Magazine

Experts share the best in local arts & culture

recognizing

# POWER in STORIES

Raphael Kadushin  
uw press



Sept/Oct 2016

31st Annual  
**MILWAUKEE LGBT**  
**FILM/VIDEO FESTIVAL**

Opening Night! **OCTOBER 12** Festival Continues **OCTOBER 14-23**



**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 23, 5PM • UWM UNION CINEMA**

**MAJOR!** (Director, Annalise Ophelian, 91 min., 2015)

The justly celebratory – and award-winning – documentary that explores the life and campaigns of Miss Major Griffin-Gracy, a veteran of the Stonewall Rebellion and a formerly incarcerated Black transgender elder and activist who has been fighting for the rights of trans women of color for over 40 years. Miss Major and her on-going history of activism intersects with LGBT+ struggles for justice and equality from the 1960s to today. Co-sponsored by *Our Lives* and Burbach & Stansbury S.C., Attorneys at Law: *Fairness to all Families*.

Full schedule and ticket info:  
**UWM.EDU/LGBTFILMFESTIVAL**

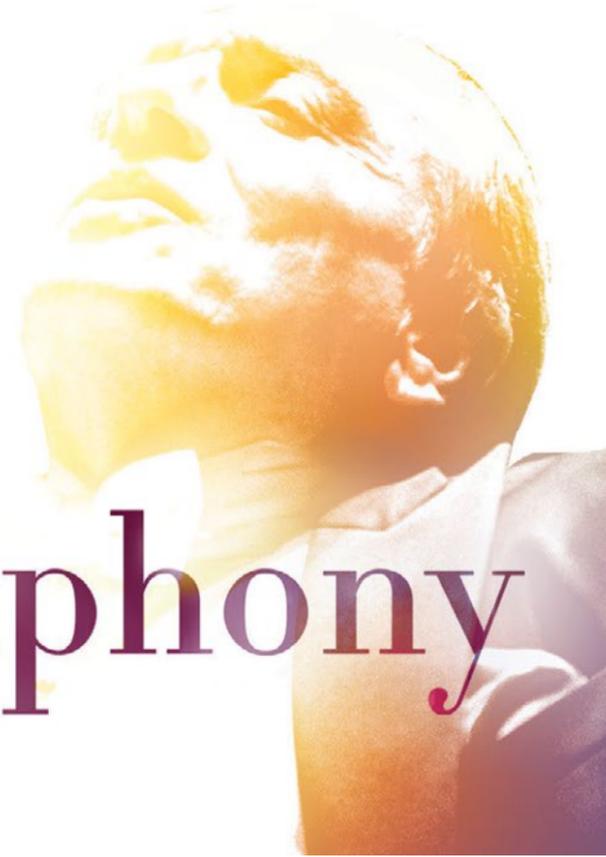
MADISON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

John DeMain 2016|2017 Music Director

**NEW SUBSCRIBERS:**  
*save up to 50%*

lose yourself | find yourself

at the symphony



- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <p>SEPTEMBER 23, 24, 25<br/> <b>The Planets: An HD Odyssey</b><br/>         Enescu   Corigliano   Holst</p>   | <p>DECEMBER 2, 3, 4<br/> <b>Madison Symphony Christmas</b><br/>         Madison Symphony Chorus<br/>         Madison Youth Choirs<br/>         Mount Zion Gospel Choir</p> | <p>MARCH 10, 11, 12<br/> <b>Peak Performance</b><br/>         Tine Thing Helseth, <i>Trumpet</i><br/>         Beethoven   Hummel   Strauss</p>             |
| <p>OCTOBER 21, 22, 23<br/> <b>Beethoven's Pastorale</b><br/>         Henning Kraggerud, <i>Violin</i><br/>         Elgar   Bruch   Kraggerud   Beethoven</p>        | <p>JANUARY 14, 15*<br/> <b>Beyond the Score: Scheherazade</b><br/> <i>Multi-media/symphony concert</i><br/>         Rimsky-Korsakov</p>                                    | <p>APRIL 7, 8, 9<br/> <b>Colossal Piano</b><br/>         Philippe Bianconi, <i>Piano</i><br/>         Schumann   Lutosławski   Rachmaninoff</p>            |
| <p>NOVEMBER 11, 12, 13<br/> <b>Paired to Perfection</b><br/>         Christina and Michelle Naughton, <i>Piano</i><br/>         Debussy   Mozart   Shostakovich</p> | <p>FEBRUARY 17, 18, 19<br/> <b>Ultimate Tchaikovsky</b><br/>         Stephen Hough, <i>Piano</i><br/>         Barber   Saint-Saëns   Tchaikovsky</p>                       | <p>MAY 5, 6, 7<br/> <b>Brahms' Requiem</b><br/>         Nathan Laube, <i>Organ</i><br/>         Madison Symphony Chorus<br/>         Stanford   Brahms</p> |
- \*Not subscription concerts

**Subscribe**

to 5 or more concerts for the best savings  
 at madisonsymphony.org or call (608) 257-3734.

**Buy Tickets Now**

at madisonsymphony.org,  
 Overture Box Office or call (608) 258-4141.



70



36

“Poetry is not only dream and vision; it is the skeleton architecture of our lives. It lays the foundations for a future of change, a bridge across our fears of what has never been before.”

—Audre Lorde

TABLE OF CONTENTS **ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT** SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2016

**FEATURES**

- 36 LOVE, LIFE, LITERATURE**  
UW Press Executive Editor Raphael Kadushin.
- 37 TIPS & TRENDS: ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT**  
Local leaders talk what's new.
- 42 THE WORDSMITH**  
Author Bridget Birdsall.
- 46 BLUE PRINTS FOR ICE**  
Artist Anders Zanichowsky recounts his making art in the Arctic Circle.
- 52 TO ENCLAVE OR NOT TO ENCLAVE**  
Dick Wagner on efforts to create separate spaces for LGBTQ people in Wisconsin.
- 54 MILWAUKEE'S LGBT HISTORY**  
Author Michail Takach on his book, *LGBT Milwaukee*.

**DEPARTMENTS**

- 8 EDITOR'S NOTE & CONTRIBUTORS**
- 9 DANE BUY LOCAL SPOTLIGHT & LETTER TO THE EDITOR**
- CONNECT**
- 11 TRANSGENDER RIGHTS**  
Lawsuits in the Wisconsin courts.
- 12 OUR ORGANIZATIONS**  
LGBTQ service organizations.
- 20 OUR ARTISTS**  
Artist Rhea Ewing.
- 22 OUR PAGES**  
Local author E. M. Kokie.
- 24 OUR ORGANIZERS**  
Self-defense for trans women.
- 26 OUR MONUMENTS**  
The Stonewall Inn.
- 28 OUR CALENDAR & SPONSORED EVENTS**

**IMPROVE**

- 56 OUR PETS**  
Reader-submitted for our cuddle quota.
- 58 OUR MONEY**  
Socially responsible investments.
- 61 OUR HEALTH**  
LGBTQ alcohol abuse.
- 62 OUR INTERSECTIONS**  
Kathy Flores reflects on being a public face in the fight for equality.
- 66 OUR CAREERS**  
Summer Laird on what it takes to be successful in the workplace.
- 68 OUR ELDERS**  
Elder abuse.
- 70 OUR FUTURE LEADERS**  
High school student and poet Emme Goldman.



**Madison's LGBT&XYZ Magazine**

Patrick Farabaugh  
**Publisher / Editor-in-Chief**

Emily Mills  
**Editor**

Virginia Harrison  
**Copy Editor**

**Contributing Writers**  
Vivienne Andersen  
Bridget Birdsall  
Abigail Churchill  
Rhea Ewing  
Kathy Flores  
Katie Gaynor  
Emme Goldman  
Raphael Kadushin  
E. M. Kokie  
Summer Laird  
Kristen Ramirez  
Meghan E. Roed  
Dick Wagner  
Anders Zanichowsky

**Contributing Artists**  
Samantha Dutcher  
Ian DeGraff  
Spencer Micka

**Business Manager**  
Matt Jelinek

**National Advertising Sales**  
Rivendell Media Inc.

**Subscribers in 400+ Wisconsin cities & towns**

©2016 All Rights Reserved.  
Sept. / Oct. 2016, Volume 10, Issue 2  
Life in the Middle Publishing, LLC  
Patrick Farabaugh & Joseph Patane,  
Publishers. 215 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd.,  
Box 1202, Madison, WI 53701

Any reproduction of OL: Our Lives Magazine in part or in full without the written permission of the publisher is strictly prohibited. OL: Our Lives Magazine shall not be held responsible for any claims made by our advertisers. Submission of photographs or other images to OL: Our Lives Magazine may be published without providing image credit. Appearance of any person, business or organization within photographs, advertisements, or editorial content neither implies nor infers any indication of their sexual orientation.

Cover photo by Ian DeGraff.

**ON SALE NOW!**  
OVERTURE'S 2016/17 SEASON | OVERTURE.ORG

**BROADWAY**

Series partner: Broadway Across America

**OCT 4-9** Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella

**NOV 22-27** The Illusionists

**JAN 3-8 | ON SALE SEP 17**  
Jersey Boys  
Community Partner: Park Bank

**JAN 25 - FEB 5 | ON SALE NOV 19**  
The Phantom of the Opera  
Community Partner: Rare Steakhouse

**MAR 21-26** Cabaret

**MAY 9-14 | ON SALE TBA**  
The Book of Mormon

**JUN 13-18 | ON SALE APR 8**  
Beautiful

**CELEBRITY**

Series sponsored by Investment Services at UW Credit Union

**OCT 16** An Afternoon with Garrison Keillor  
Sponsored by University Research Park

**OCT 28 SELLING FAST!**  
An Evening with Tony Bennett

**APR 29** Itzhak Perlman

**MAY 2** Alton Brown Live

**THEATRICAL**

**OCT 25-30** Trey Parker's Cannibal! The Musical

**MAR 3-4** Graeme of Thrones

**MAR 4** Saturday Night Fever

**FAMILY**

Series sponsored by American Girl's Fund for Children

**NOV 19** The Okee Dokee Brothers

**JAN 14** Brown Bear, Brown Bear And Other Treasured Stories

**FEB 19** Elephant and Piggie's We Are in a Play!

**COMEDY**

Series sponsored by ProVideo

**OCT 14** The Capitol Steps

**APR 14** Arsenio Hall

**JUN 2** The Second City Summer Blockbuster  
Sponsored by Workloud

**CABARET SELLING FAST!**

**NOV 3** Levi Kreis

**MAR 9** Megon McDonough

**MAY 4** Chris Mann **SOLD OUT**

**DANCE**

**JAN 10** CITIZEN: Reggie Wilson/Fist and Heel Performance Group  
Sponsored by UW Health & Unity Health Insurance

**FEB 24** Les Ballets Trockadero de Monte Carlo

**NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LIVE!**

Series sponsored by Exact Sciences

**SEP 20** Chasing Rivers

**FEB 28** Spinosaurus: Lost Giant of the Cretaceous

**APR 4** Rhinos, Rickshaws & Revolutions: My Search for Truth

**MAY 2** Among Giants: A Life with Whales

**PUPPET FESTIVAL**

**MAR 31** Manual Cinema's Lula Del Ray

**APR 1** The Man Who Planted Trees

**APR 2** Erth's Dinosaur Zoo Live

**DUCK SOUP CINEMA**

Series sponsored by Goodman's Jewelers

**OCT 8** Metropolis

**NOV 5** Her Wild Oat

**FEB 18** Safety Last

**MAR 11** The Thief of Bagdad

**APR 8** Sherlock Jr., Cops

**MUSIC**

Series sponsored by Bell Laboratories

**OCT 7** Maraca and His Latin Jazz All Stars  
Underwritten by Joe & Mary Ellyn Sensenbrenner

**OCT 20** 2015 Overture's Rising Stars winners: Charles Scott & John DeHaven

**NOV 10** The Hillbenders present The Who's TOMMY: A Bluegrass Opry

**NOV 28** Mannheim Steamroller Christmas  
Sponsored by State Bank of Cross Plains

**FEB 12** Boyz II Men

**MAR 1** Drumline Live

**MAR 16** Jazz 100

**MAY 6** Wild Sound by Third Coast Percussion with Glenn Kotche



**YOUR REAL ALTERNATIVE**  
Professional • Polite • Progressive • Effective • Trans\*

**VIVIENNE ANDERSEN**  
Anything but Ordinary™

(608) 425-0929 • Negotiation Ninja  
Vivienne.A@EXPrealty.com • VivienneAndersen.com

**Wisconsin's Entertainment Destination**

**Overture CENTER**

OVERTURECENTER.ORG | 608.258.4141  
Group Discounts: 608.258.4159

CHRIS MANN AS THE PHANTOM: PHOTO: MATTHEW MURPHY



# 2016/17 SEASON

ALL CONCERTS **NEW TIME 7:30 PM** | CAPITOL THEATER



The familiar becomes unfamiliar  
in a wonderful way this season.

Let your imagination soar.

OCTOBER **14** VIOLIN **Ilya Kaler**  
2016

**Ana Vidovic** GUITAR JANUARY **27**  
2017

FEBRUARY **24** VIOLIN **Julian Rhee**  
2017

**Vicki Powell** VIOLA MARCH **24**  
2017

APRIL **28** PIANO **Michael Shinn & Jessica Chow**  
2017

**SUBSCRIBE NOW**  
(608) 257-0638 | WCOCONCERTS.ORG

**SINGLE TICKETS**  
(608) 258-4141 | OVERTURECENTER.ORG



**ARCW MEDICAL CENTER**  
Manage your HIV • Reduce HIV transmission

## GET 2 UNDETECTABLE

Wisconsin's only HIV patient-centered medical home, offering medical, dental, mental health, pharmacy and social services. **Appointments are available now.**



# BETHKE

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING, INC.

**251.2222**  
Emergency Service 24/7

Furnaces • Boilers • Air Conditioners  
Humidifiers • Duct Cleaning  
Preventative Maintenance Plans

Prompt, Professional Service For All Brands Since 1989  
Free Estimates On All New Installs

**BETHKEHEATING.COM**  
521 Half Mile Road, Verona, WI 53593

### EDITOR'S NOTE EMILY MILLS

## EXPRESSING OURSELVES

**PERHAPS IT SHOULD** come as no surprise that the arts have long been a stronghold of LGBTQ presence. Some of the most achingly beautiful works of art have sprung from that most basic human need to express the deepest parts of ourselves, and when those parts are repressed—by violence, by oppression, by external or internal loathing—it becomes all the more cathartic and crucial for them to come out.

So it is that our arts and entertainment issue always seems to involve no shortage of excellent choices for people, works, and organizations to feature. We're lucky to get wonderfully personal glimpses into the lives and processes of several incredibly talented and hard working artists—from authors (Bridget Birdsall's tale of the power of storytelling) to editors (Raphael Kadushin's fascinating journey through the world of words) to visual artists (Rhea Ewing's stunning explorations of natural and human history), and on.

The whole beautiful and terrible spectrum of human experience is painted in vivid color by the arts, perhaps made all the more poignant and important when the stories told are by those people who have otherwise had their tales tacitly or forcibly ignored by the mainstream. Despite those forces, the human need to speak our stories, through one medium or another, is irrepressible—much like the spirit of our LGBTQ community. ■



### CONTRIBUTORS



**SUMMER LAIRD** is a Healthcare IT professional working with clinics and hospital systems. Her background includes roles at Epic, American Family Insurance, National Decision Support Company and CUNA Mutual Group. She co-founded the LGBTQ Business Resource Group at American Family Insurance which resulted in helping the company achieve a perfect score from Human Rights Campaign.

**KATHY FLORES** began her career in diversity and inclusion at Kimberly-Clark Corporation, followed by her work as Harmony Café's first program director. Kathy worked with survivors of intimate partner violence and sexual assault at Harbor House in Appleton for eight years, then founded the Fox Valley LGBTQ Anti-Violence project. In her most visible role, Kathy spent seven years as the City of Appleton's Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator. In August 2016, she began her new role with Diverse & Resilient as the statewide coordinator addressing Intimate Partner and Community Violence within the LGBTQ community.

**ABIGAIL CHURCHILL** is an associate attorney with Koritzinsky & Karls, LLC and works part-time for Lincoln Financial Advisors. She is a 2015 graduate of the University of Wisconsin Law School and focuses her practice in the areas of estate planning, probate, LGBT family planning, and assisted reproduction. She has worked closely with the LGBT community for over 10 years, and she strives to create an inclusive legal environment which recognizes the myriad of identities, relationships, and lifestyles that transcend traditional notions of "family."

### DANE BUY LOCAL MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

## OVERTURE CENTER

[OVERTURECENTER.ORG](http://OVERTURECENTER.ORG)

**Sarah Knab**, Communications Manager



### Why is buying local important to you and your business?

Buying local is essential to small business sustainability and diversity of commerce. We are successful because people choose to buy their tickets here rather than Chicago, Milwaukee, etc., which furthers spending on food, lodging, and hospitality in the downtown area. While we present international performances, we are home to many local organizations like Children's Theater of Madison and the Madison Symphony Orchestra.

### What is your connection to the LGBTQ community?

The arts have always provided a home for the LGBTQ community. Overture Center is a welcoming place for all people, and we are proud to provide access to the arts that can be used to build bridges and create conversations. Led by Overture's President and CEO Ted DeDee and designed by John Frautschi, Overture ran a month-long light tribute to all impacted by the Orlando tragedy. Our programming presents diverse performers and inclusive performances.

### How do you or your organization give back to the local community?

We give back by making the arts accessible for ALL by offering diverse programming, free and low-cost events, the Community Ticket Voucher program, OnStage school performance ticket and transportation subsidies, and ticket certificate donations to local fundraising efforts.

### LETTER TO THE EDITOR

#### DEAR PATRICK, EMILY AND STAFF,

The July/August issue of *Our Lives* comes close to being the best since the first one some 10 years ago. This, alas, is partly because of the community's need to grieve and be angry at the same time. Thank you for a superb job with the community response!

However, my attention was drawn right away to the segment "Your First Gay Bar." Not because I'm a lush (I've been sober for many years), but because, as has been pointed out in the post-Orlando days, the gay bar is often the heart and soul of the LGBTQA communities all over. Dig out Dick Wagner's excellent *Our Lives* article of November, 2015 which features the reminiscences of the inimitable D. J. Wipperfurth for her views of our community.

I was surprised to find that the women and men polled for the "First Gay Bar" columns did not mention the very first gay bar in Madison, The 602 Club, which I frequented illegally at the age of 18. You will now know it as Wando's. There was also male "action" at the first Kollege Klub on the Mall. Three other bars were "mixed" in the good old days: The 3 Bells, Troia's and the Shuffle Inn.

After bar action could be had with breakfast at a charming little diner on State Street, the Uptown Café owned by two Danish women, Ingeborg and her sister, where the famous Patty-Poo waited tables before she moved on to the Pirate Ship. The Pirate Ship also had the distinction of having Bill Ferris as a bartender; he went on to become Sheriff of Dane County. Both the 602 Club and the Pirate Ship catered to straight customers during the day.

One other bar that isn't mentioned in the list is the Senate Bar, located just off the square, and for a time a gay bar. As of now, the bar of longest tenure in Madison is the Shamrock.

**LEWIS BOSWORTH**, Former bartender at Rod's

## Helping you make room for the things that matter most.

Consider a U.S. Bank Home Equity Line of Credit for your next project. With competitive rates and flexible payment options, lasting home improvements could be within reach.

Call 800.209.BANK (2265), visit a local branch, or go to [usbank.com/dreambig](http://usbank.com/dreambig).



the POWER of POSSIBLE. **usbank**

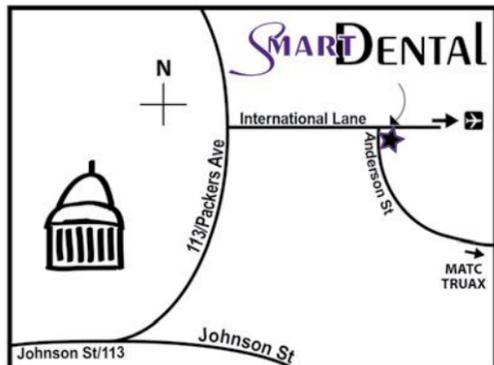


Loan approval is subject to credit approval and program guidelines. Not all loan programs are available in all states for all loan amounts. Interest rates and program terms are subject to change without notice. Visit [usbank.com](http://usbank.com) to learn more about U.S. Bank products and services. Mortgage and Home Equity products are offered by U.S. Bank National Association. Deposit products are offered by U.S. Bank National Association. Member FDIC. ©2016 U.S. Bank. 160474 8/16

# SMART DENTAL

## Take a smart step towards a healthier smile!

- Voted one of Madison's Favorite Dentists!
- General, Cosmetic and Implant Dentistry
  - Children Welcome!
  - Evening Appointments
- Most insurance accepted

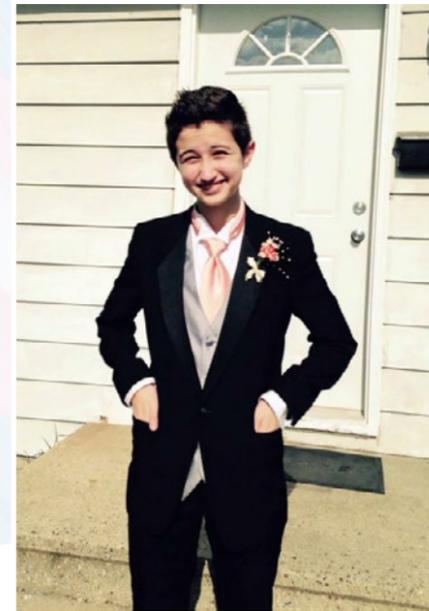


Reserve your appointment.  
Call Today!  
608-241-8782



Tamim Sifri, DDS

www.smartdentalmadison.com • 2317 International Ln, Suite 101 • Madison, WI 53704



Ashton Whitaker is being represented by the Transgender Law Center and Relman, Dane & Colfax PLLC.



## Major Moves for Transgender Rights in Wisconsin

At least two major lawsuits that seek to address the rights of transgender youth and adults in the state are wending their way through the Wisconsin courts.

**THE TRANSGENDER LAW CENTER** and the civil rights law firm Relman, Dane & Colfax PLLC filed suit on behalf of 16-year-old student Ashton Whitaker against the Kenosha Unified School District. That suit alleges that the district repeatedly denies him use of the boy's bathroom and insists on using his female birth name. Whitaker further alleges that staff at his school have been instructed to monitor his bathroom usage, and that the environment in general is a hostile one that violates federal anti-discrimination laws and the U.S. Constitution.

The ACLU of Wisconsin also filed a discrimination complaint in July with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission on behalf of Dr. Shannon Andrews, a cancer researcher at the University of Wisconsin Medical School, against the Medical School, the Group Insurance Board, and WPS Insurance, for denying her coverage for medically necessary gender confirmation surgery to treat her gender dysphoria.

The state's employee health plans specifically exclude coverage of "procedures, services, and supplies related to surgery and sex hormones associated with gender reassignment." This policy denies these individuals equal coverage of medically necessary treatment because of their sex, in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment. Wisconsin's Group Insurance Board recently announced that it would end its exclusion of coverage for gender dysphoria treatment starting January 2017, but this change comes too late for Dr. Andrews, while many other public and private employers in Wisconsin continue to discriminate against their transgender employees by offering insurance with exclusions similar to the one Dr. Andrews is challenging.

"Notwithstanding the medical community's agreement about the medical necessity of treatment for some transgender individuals, many employers continue to offer health insurance coverage that specifically targets transgender

CONTINUED NEXT PAGE



Dr. Shannon Andrews is being represented by the ACLU of Wisconsin.





people and denies them coverage for life-saving medical care,” said ACLU of Wisconsin Legal Director Larry Dupuis. “These exclusions arbitrarily target transgender people for discrimination by forcing them to pay out-of-pocket for medically necessary services.”

“To be singled out for a denial of coverage is hurtful and burdensome,” said Dr. Andrews. “I’m glad the State of Wisconsin has finally announced its plan to end this discriminatory exclusion, but the change comes too late for me. Too many transgender people continue to face coverage denials just like this.” Andrews added, “Many people can relate to paying into an insurance plan only to be told that the treatment they need is not covered. But when the reason you are denied coverage is because of who you are, it is even more painful.”

“Shannon paid out of pocket to have the surgery and lost her appeal to the company to cover it, despite the fact that they will start to cover these types of surgeries in January 2017,” explained Molly Collins, Associate Director of the ACLU of Wisconsin. “It is our position that even though the State is planning on doing the right thing in the future, they don’t get a free pass for their past discriminatory practices, which led to real harm for individuals like Shannon.”

Both suits have the potential not only to bring justice for their plaintiffs, but to also set important precedent related to transgender rights in the state and, potentially, at the national level.



**LGBTQ Organizations Update**

Events | Accolades | News | Staff & Board Changes  
Recognition | Calls to Action

Reported by **Emily Mills**

NEWS

Important notes about area LGBTQ groups

**GSAFE** The 17th annual Leadership Training Institute (LTI) was a huge success and a profound experience was had by the youth who participated! More than 40 high school students gathered with adult mentors and GSAFE Staff at DeJope Residence Hall on the U.W.-Madison campus. LTI is a four-day summer camp that helps students take their activism, organizing, and leadership skills to the next level.

**DIVERSE & RESILIENT** D&R now offers additional confidential and free HIV and STI testing from the Northwest Health Center on 76th and Mill Road in Milwaukee. As of July, the group has also launched their new 414ALL bus and bus shelter Condom Campaign. The goal is to lower HIV, STI, and teen pregnancy rates in Milwaukee. The campaign makes condoms more available, accessible, and acceptable for teens. See more at: [www.414allmke.org](http://www.414allmke.org).

**MADISON AREA TRANSGENDER ASSOC.** MATA meets the 1st and 3rd Saturdays 3:00–5:00 p.m. MATA also meets the 2nd and 4th Fridays 7:00–9:00 p.m. A support group for

partners, families, and friends meets the 4th Friday. All groups meet at OutReach. For more info on the group and its activities call 608-255-8582, or visit their new location at 2701 International Lane in Madison.

**OUTREACH LGBT COMMUNITY CENTER** After 18 years at the Gateway Mall, OutReach moved to a larger, nicer office with better parking on the northeast side. The new address is 2701 International Lane, Suite 101, Madison, WI 53704. They are next to Great Lakes Higher Education and Smart Dental. The new space includes more meeting rooms, more staff offices, and a kitchen.

**PROUD THEATER** The company will hold several workshops and performances in the near future in the Madison and Milwaukee areas, and they will venture outside the state for the first time with a workshop in Crowne Pointe, Indiana as a potential first step toward a Proud Theater outside of Wisconsin. In addition, Proud Theater will be running workshops with members outside of the LGBTQ community, including a workshop with the Wisconsin Asperger’s Empowerment Group in Milwaukee, the 2016 Teen Adoptee & Parent Conference in New Berlin, and the Supporting Transgender and Gender Expansive Youth Conference in Madison.

AWARDS / RECOGNITION / GRANTS

Special thanks for those who do good.

**GSAFE** We would like to recognize our Leadership Training Institute volunteers and sponsors including William Frahm-Gilles and the School of Veterinary Medicine, U.W.-Madison Gay Hockey Association, the Trans-Parent group, former board member Amelia Ramirez and community members Roxanne O’Neil and Vicki Hudson for their generous support in coordinating home-cooked meals and other resources for our campers!

**OUTREACH** OutReach presents our list of honorees for our 24th Annual Awards Banquet:  
**LGBT Advocate of the Year:** Owen Karcher  
**Organization of the Year:** GSAFE  
**Ally of the Year:** Nicole Tepe  
**OutReach Volunteer of the Year:** Sam Van Haren  
**Courage Award:** Freedom, Inc

Join us at the Monona Terrace on Friday, September 23, 5:00–9:00 p.m. to help congratulate the award winners.

Former OutReach Board member and Madison Area Transgender Association leader **Darla Lannert** has been awarded the Linda Sund-



BAN LIFTED ON TRANSGENDER MILITARY SERVICE

Thursday, June 30 was a historic day. Secretary of Defense Ash Carter announced transgender service members would be able to openly serve, effective immediately. The study he initiated last July found permitting trans service members to serve openly would have little-to-no effect on readiness and unit morale. Allowing service members to serve authentically creates a win-win scenario for the Department of Defense and its employees. DOD leaders understand what matters most is an individual’s performance and character. Those traits are unrelated to gender identity.

While this was a collaborative effort between DOD, medical experts, and advocacy groups like SPART\*A, the Palm Center and others, it was made possible, largely, because of the brave transgender men and women serving in the Active and Reserve Components who have pushed the issue by coming out to their commands over the past two years. They are the real heroes.

The previous policy was based on 1970s-era information. As Secretary Carter said last year, DOD is a learning organization and one which must continue to evolve if we are to recruit the best and the brightest and maintain our status as the best fighting force in history.

Commanders’ guidance on how to implement this policy change will be provided to the field by October 1. During the next nine months, every service member and DOD civilian will receive training similar to that conducted when the repeal of Don’t Ask/Don’t Tell was implemented. Starting July 1, 2017 trans individuals who desire to enlist will be accommodated, as long as they have been stable in their gender for the previous 18-month period.

This policy change means 14,000+ service members have had their identities validated and can no longer be fired for who they are. Many transgender service members are already top rated in their units. Allowing them to serve authentically and receive medically necessary care without fear of reprisal will only increase their job performance and enhance individual and unit readiness.

The U.S. military has played a not insignificant role in advancing equality for decades (e.g. Tuskegee Airmen, repeal of DADT, opening all military jobs to women). This latest step is no less significant. The Department of Defense is, at last, an Equal Opportunity Employer where now, and only now, no one is left behind. —Ret. Col. Sheri Swokowski



**gsafe** presents the  
**TRICK OR TROT**  
**HALLOWEEN THEMED RUN/WALK**  
**5K**  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16**

All participants receive a complimentary witch, pumpkin, or cat costume and a goody bag to collect candy along the route!

gsafe decided to add a little extra magic to our 5k for safe schools! The Walk/Run/Eat has shape shifted into the new and improved Trick or Trot.

[gsafe.org/5k](http://gsafe.org/5k)

GSAFE works with students, educators, and families to create schools in Wisconsin where all LGBTQ+ youth thrive.





Chalmers Jewelers

608.233.4700 • Middleton, WI  
www.ChalmersJewelers.com



CONNECT → OUR ORGANIZATIONS

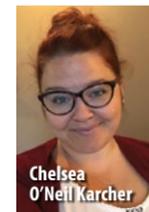


berg Civil Rights Defender award from Community Shares of Wisconsin. Darla will receive her award at their annual banquet on September 8. **Willma's Fund** received national recognition in the Movement Assistant Project's annual report on activities of LGBT Centers.

STAFF / BOARD CHANGES

*Who's moving on or moving into org leadership*

**GSAFE** The organization welcomed a new executive director, **Chelsea O'Neil Karcher**, in July. Karcher's experience includes more than 10 years of fundraising, administration, communications, program management, di-



rect advocacy, and support services to young people and their families. GSAFE welcomes **William Frahm-Gilles** as incoming chair and will host a board retreat this September.

DIVERSE & RESILIENT

**Kathy Flores** has joined Diverse & Resilient as their statewide Intimate Partner Violence program coordinator. Prior to joining D&R, Kathy was the Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator for the City of Appleton. Kathy will be based from her home in Appleton. **Tanya Atkinson**, vice president of external affairs at Planned Parenthood of WI, and executive director of Planned Parenthood Advocates of WI has been named chair of the board of directors.

LGBT CAMPUS CENTER

The LGBT Campus Center is very pleased to announce a new staff member: **Tiffany Lee**, Program Coordinator. Tiffany will be in this role until July 2017. We are so excited for her energy and framework as part of the team as she helps push the LGBTCC vision forward on our community programming, event planning, student staff development, QTPOC services, and more. Tiffany Lee



## New initiative Orgullo Latinx LGBT+ created to support and enhance the lives of the local Latinx LGBT+ community

*Story originally appeared at and reported by Madison365.com*



**ACCORDING TO A 2013 REPORT** by the UCLA Williams Institute, an estimated 1.4 million Latino adults in the United States identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. While research has shown that a majority of Latinos support same-sex marriage, norms and beliefs and support for the gay community vary widely among the Latino population. To support and enhance the lives of the Latinx LGBT+ community in the Madison area and beyond, a new initiative called Orgullo Latinx LGBT+ of Dane County was recently created.

Orgullo Latinx LGBT+'s mission is to build a safe, ethnically equitable and racial social justice place for the Latinx LGBT+ community in Dane County where the LGBT+ community can thrive. This initiative's vision consists in engaging the community to cultivate a safe environment for the LGBT+ Latinx community.

The group will focus on educating, sharing resources, and promoting the community on LGBT issues. Organizers say they started the group when they realized there was a need for cultural understanding on a larger scale. A press conference was held on Aug. 11 to let the community know more about the new initiative at the UNIDOS location on Fish Hatchery Rd.

"Madison, what do you really have for us as a Latinx community ... and especially with LGBT+? We don't have anything," stated Christian Real, coordinator of Outreach. "We don't have a place where we can be safe. So, I think what this organization is trying to do is to make sure that these things happen."

The core values of Orgullo Latinx LGBT+ are:

- **Education:** Creating awareness about the barriers that enhance the struggles of the LGBT+ Latinx community in Dane County.
- **Outreach:** Developing culturally educational materials to disseminate information about the LGBT+ Latinx community and share resources.
- **Social Justice:** Engaging the community to cultivate a place of equality, respect, and dignity.
- **Advocacy:** Fostering empowerment and ensuring that our LGBT+ community rights are respected and honored.
- **Community Engagement:** Strengthening partnerships with allies, families and community groups.

In August, Orgullo Latinx LGBT+ participated in the annual Outreach Pride Parade in downtown Madison marking the first activity of the year for the group.

UNIDOS Against Domestic Violence will serve as fiscal agent for Orgullo Latinx LGBT+, which will be hosted at the UNIDOS' location. Orgullo Latinx LGBT+ has the support and guidance of UNIDOS Executive Director Veronica Lazo. ■

## Lois Bielefeld accepted into 2016 Wisconsin Triennial art show

**FROM OVER 600 APPLICANTS**, photographer and frequent *Our Lives* contributor Lois Bielefeld is one of 34 individuals recently selected to have their work appear in the Madison Museum of Contemporary Art's Wisconsin Triennial art exhibit.

This year's Wisconsin Triennial will open with a reception beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Friday, September 23. The exhibition will be on view in the museum's lobby, State Street Gallery, Imprint Gallery, main galleries, and rooftop sculpture garden through January 8, 2017. A cornerstone of MMoCA's exhibition programming, the Triennial captures the richness and variety of artistic expressions across the state and showcases emerging trends and themes being addressed within the contemporary art world.

The 2016 Triennial will feature several site-specific sculptures and installations designed for spaces in the museum, as well as completed works transported from artists' studios. Paintings, drawings, prints, photographs, sculpture, and video are among the media represented, reflecting the diversity of approaches artists undertake in their explorations of process and content. The included artworks will address topical issues such as the consequences of environmental destruction, the staging and representation of social and cultural identity, and the subjective impacts of our current political and racial climate. ■



BARTON PERREIRA

ULLA EYEWEAR

Local. Independent. Hand-crafted eyewear.  
Hilldale | 608.231.3937 | www.ullaeyewear.com



Looking for your new tranquil bathroom?

Looks like it's...

TIME 2 REMODEL  
time2remodel.com





is a Black queer femme from New York City. She has Master's degrees in Gender and Women's Studies and Afro-American Studies from U.W.-Madison. Her scholarship and activism are centered on queer folk of color. She enjoys (good) spoken word, clever Internet memes, and challenging oppressive structures—small and large. She is extremely excited to bring her passion and experience to help create and sustain an empowering environment for queer people and our allies on this campus.

**OPEN** The Out Professional Engagement Network is happy to have welcomed new members to their board and committees. **Brandon Rounds** of HotelRED joined the board of directors; **Kevin Polinsky** of Patina Solutions and **Michael Shultz** of Spirit Rising Coaching joined the Internal Committee; and **Justin Williams** of Community Shares of Wisconsin, **Travis Rickert** of CDW, **Cherie Gon** of Edward Jones and **Ashley Dorn** or Oak Park Dental have joined the External Committee.

**OUTREACH** **Paul Garza** is now OutReach board President, **Angie Alcorta** became Vice President, **Michael Ruiz** is now Secretary. **Elisabeth Cousin** and **Rolf Rodefeld** were also added as board members. **Roger Hansen, Tom Neal, Ryan Schroth, Katherine Parsons,** and **Darla Lannert** stepped down from the board.



### FORMER DANE COUNTY JUDGE PUSHED ANTI-LGBT AGENDA IN COURT

The weekly *Isthmus* newspaper reported in July on a case of apparent anti-LGBTQ bias by a former Dane County judge that caused one same-sex couple's surrogacy case to drag out and added tens of thousands of dollars in costs.

Judge James Troupis, who was appointed to the bench by Governor Scott Walker, took a series of unusual steps in the otherwise simple case, including denying parental rights to the couple, a ruling that was then overturned by another Dane County judge and has also been appealed to the state Court of Appeals.

According to the *Isthmus* piece, "Troupis in August 2015 appointed a Waukesha County law firm that employs an outspoken opponent of same-sex marriage to assist in the case. That resulted in hefty additional legal fees for Jay Timmons and Rick Olson as they attempted to become the legal parents to their infant son, born to a surrogate in Wisconsin. And the couple says the judge wreaked emotional havoc on their family by keeping the child's legal status in limbo for 10 months.

"In early July, Dane County Judge Peter Anderson vacated Troupis' order, giving Timmons and Olson parental rights to Jacob, who will be a year old in August. Troupis had already terminated the parental rights of the surrogate, who never contested the contract she had with Timmons and Olson."

Troupis' actions may well violate the ethical standards set in place for judges in Wisconsin. Read more about the case: [isthmus.com/news/news/was-judge-pushing-anti-gay-agenda](http://isthmus.com/news/news/was-judge-pushing-anti-gay-agenda). ■

### CALLS TO ACTION

Where and how you can help

**GSAFE TRICK OR TROT 5K** Become a superhero! Our superheroes have a long tradition of inspiring others to contribute to the mission of GSAFE by forming teams and raising funds during the annual GSAFE 5k run/walk. Bonus: Trick or Trot superheroes will receive a GSAFE hoodie to rock their superhero pride all year long and an outpouring of gratitude from the GSAFE community. Just select "Become a Fundraiser" when you register for the Trick or Trot.

Interested in helping us shape the event? The Trick or Trot 5k planning committee will meet the third Wednesday evening of September and October. Contact GSAFE's Executive Director, Chelsea O'Neil Karcher at [chelsea@gsafewi.org](mailto:chelsea@gsafewi.org) to join our team!

**FREEDOM INC.** At the Movement For Black Lives Convening in July 2015, Freedom Inc. received a mandate from over 2,000 Black freedom fighters from around the country that we needed to form a united front to create a set of national demands that would lift up the radical work being done across the country. Political candidates and others continue to articulate policies that don't represent our vision, don't address the ongoing war on our communities, and aren't accountable to us. We've come together to tell the country—and the world—that instead, we are choosing



Freedom Inc.'s M Adams speaking at the OutReach Pride Parade Rally on August 21.

to advance a vision and a set of demands that we hope will move us closer to freedom.

One year later, over 50 organizations representing thousands of Black people from across the country have collectively developed "A Vision For Black Lives: Policy Demands for Black Power, Freedom & Justice."

Freedom Inc. is a member of the leadership team that facilitates this process, and we are very proud and honored to have done this work. This platform does not belong to any one entity—it is all of ours collectively. This platform is not new—it lifts up the transformative work and demands of grassroots organizations from across the country, reflects dreams and conversations from Black people everywhere, and builds on the legacy of struggle that we have inherited and continue. We invite you to be a part of the launch starting right now.

- Visit [policy.m4bl.org](http://policy.m4bl.org) now, and share your thoughts and favorite parts of the platform using the hashtag #Vision4BlackLives. You can download some social media graphics and profile pictures to help spread the news, straight from the website. Also look for webinars coming out soon on each of the policy categories.

- Connect with Freedom Inc. ([freedom-inc.org](http://freedom-inc.org)) to get involved with our local campaign of Community Control over the Police, and other work to make the #vision4blacklives real for Queer and trans Black communities.

Justice will be ours. Power will be ours. Let's get free.

**OPEN** The Out Professional Engagement Network is looking for folks—even (and maybe especially) those that have not previously been involved in OPEN—to join our short-term Engagement Committee. There's no long-term commitment and you don't

### UPCOMING EVENTS

Plan ahead to join in

**SEPT 10 DIVERSE & RESILIENT** Representatives will be at Fox Valley Pride in Appleton.

**SEPT 18 & OCT 16 PFLAG** The Madison chapter of the support group for parents, friends, and other allies of LGBTQ+ people gathers at the Friends Meeting House (1704 Roberts Ct.) 2:00–4:00 p.m. the third Sunday of the month. Speakers 2:00–3:00 p.m., support circle 3:00–4:00 p.m.

**SEPT 20 & OCT 18 ROLLERS** The Retired Older Lesbians Lunch meets monthly at Elie's Family Restaurant in the Lake Edge Shopping Center on Monona Drive in the private banquet room.

**SEPT 22 OPEN** The Out Professional Engagement Network hosts their annual Member Appreciation event on September 22, which is going to be a fantastic party at Plan B. In October OPEN will be sponsoring a night of StageQ's coming production, "Commander." Keep an eye on their Facebook page for more information.

CAFÉ ESTRELLON

EUROPEAN CAFÉ

Quiet & Relaxed Atmosphere  
Pastries / Sandwiches / Soup  
Tapas & Small Plates

GATHERING SPACE  
FOR GROUPS OF ALL SIZES

TUESDAY - SATURDAY  
8am to 2:30pm

SUNDAY  
9am to 2:30pm

313 W JOHNSON ST / 608.251.2111  
ESTRELLONRESTAURANT.COM  
OFF STATE ST IN THE OVATION BUILDING



Wisconsin's Premier Custom Jeweler

[www.ChalmersJewelers.com](http://www.ChalmersJewelers.com)



# Wisconsin Legislator Threatens to Slash U.W. Budget Over LGBT Reading Assignment

Reprinted with permission from *thefire.org*  
Written by Alex Morey and Adam Steinbaugh

A WISCONSIN LEGISLATOR'S threat to cut the University of Wisconsin System's budget over an "obscene" course reading assignment is the latest salvo in what is becoming a years-long war between the university and state lawmakers over academic freedom.

State Senator Stephen Nass made the remarks in an email he sent in early July to email lists for Republicans and Democrats in Wisconsin's Senate and Assembly. In it, he criticized a reading assignment lecturer Jason Nolen gave in his U.W.-Madison sociology course titled "Problems of American Racial and Ethnic Minorities."

The reading assignment sparking Nass' ire is the 2011 essay, "Not just a preference," which ran in the now-defunct Canadian magazine *fab*. The essay's author, Alex Rowison, argues that the preferences and language used in gay hookup profiles "seem[] to signal that the culture of sexual liberation has been replaced by sexual segregation," and he concludes:

"Words can beat people down, but it's within our power to change how we frame our desires, and even to change our desires to create more inclusive screwing. By challenging ourselves and others we can expand our desires. So go out there and be indiscriminately promiscuous. Or deny that bigoted beefcake a hookup because of his prejudiced profile."

U.W.-Madison Sociology Department Chair Pamela Oliver responded to *FIRE*'s request for comment with a public statement she sent to Nass, describing Nolen as a popular, "award-winning" instructor whose teaching extends to the topic of sexual racism. Oliver defended the *fab* magazine piece as "material [that] appropriately pushes boundaries in order to spark discussion" on that topic.

"Among adult college students," Oliver wrote, "analyzing how people talk about sexuality is considered appropriate material." She quoted from Nolen's course syllabus in which he explains his choice of material:

"Most people have not had much practice talking about race and ethnicity, and some of the topics we will explore are controversial.

"Participation will likely feel uncomfortable at times—both as a speaker and as a listener—but productive conversation is the goal. It is crucial that we all remember that every person is living with a race and ethnicity (and sex, gender, sexual orientation, class, size, belief system, nationality, etc.), and each person's individual perspective is relevant to our conversation."



**SEPT 23 OUTREACH** Save the Date for OutReach's 24th Annual Awards Banquet, 5:00–9:00 p.m. at Monona Terrace. This year's keynote speaker will be Z! Haukeness, winner of the 2015 Advocate of the Year award, as well as the City of Madison's Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award. The event

will be emceed by Michael Bruno, and also features dinner and entertainment.

**SEPT 24 & OCT 8 MINOTAURS GAY RUGBY** Cheer your Minotaurs at their home games: September 24 vs. St. Louis Crusaders and Columbus Kodiaks, and October 8 vs. She-

Senator Nass' comments reflect larger tensions between the state's university system and the legislature. Lawmakers not only dealt the U.W. System a \$250 million budget cut last year but also moved to weaken tenure protections and U.W.'s somewhat unique shared governance plan in which staff, faculty, and students "all take part in making significant decisions concerning the operation of the university."

University of Wisconsin Professor Emeritus Donald Downs, who spent his career fighting for free speech and academic freedom at U.W.-Madison, told *FIRE* that Nass' most recent comments are deeply troubling in light of what's been going on at U.W. in recent years. His comments, via email, describe both what has happened at U.W. over the past year and what remains at stake:

"The legislature has already done a lot to seriously affect the university over the course of the last year, the long-term consequences of which have raised valid concerns, though these perhaps remain to be determined. Financial assistance has been cut big-time, we have lost the guarantee of shared governance, and the status of tenure has been modified. Threatening further cuts because of disagreement with the content of one course reading raises even more serious concerns, as it cuts to the core of academic freedom.

"I disagreed with a lot of what my colleagues assigned as readings while I taught here, and I assume many of them felt the same way about my assignments. Such is the nature of a university. And though I have been very public about critiquing the lack of intellectual diversity at U.W.-Madison and higher education in general, I have never threatened the right of a colleague to teach as he or she saw fit.

"But once the legislature sticks its nose into what is taught, one of the four traditional pillars of academic freedom is directly challenged: the right of the instructor and institution to determine what may be taught. (The others are the right to determine on academic grounds who may teach, how it shall be taught, and who may be admitted to study.)

"I would be very surprised if the legislature went along with this, but the threat alone is improper."

*FIRE* agrees. It should come as no surprise that a sociology professor might want to share material about a debate within the gay community while discussing the different forms that racism might take. That adult students might be exposed to views that might shock, offend, or intrigue, and might thereby be encouraged to discuss controversial issues, is a feature—not a bug—of academic discourse. The threat to academic freedom when state legislators micromanage classroom content is grave. *FIRE* urges all legislators to resist the temptation to enforce their personal sensibilities on classrooms by threatening institutions with budget cuts. Academic freedom cannot flourish under those conditions. ■



## HAMBURGER MARY'S RELOCATES FROM BAY VIEW TO WALKER'S POINT

The *Milwaukee Business Journal* reports that Hamburger Mary's has officially filed an application with the city to move from its current Bay View location to a new spot in Walker's Point, occupying the former La Perla Mexican restaurant building at 730–734 S. Fifth St.

Hamburger Mary's, a national chain, is famous for its drag shows, karaoke, and signature burgers, and has been a popular spot for the LGBTQ community in Milwaukee. Owners have not yet commented on the reason for the move.



boygan Silverbacks, 1:00 p.m. kickoff time for both. All games are played at the Wisconsin Rugby Sports Complex in Cottage Grove at 4064 Vilas Road. For more information, email [info@madisonminotaurs.com](mailto:info@madisonminotaurs.com).

**OCT 7-27 STAGEQ** Madison's queer theatre company is proud to present "Commander," by Mario Correa, running Oct. 7–27 at the Bartell Theater. This often-humorous, fictional, political drama tells the story of the openly gay Governor of Rhode Island and his run for president and explores whether America is ready for an openly LGBTQ candidate.

**OCT 16 GSAFE** GSAFE hosts an annual fundraising event in the fall and this year they have decided to add a little extra magic. The 5k for safe schools, formally the Walk/Run/Eat, has shape-shifted into the Trick or Trot! Sunday, October 16th at 3:00 pm around the Capitol square in Madison, WI. Join us for an afternoon of fun including face painting, trick-or-treating, games, raffle prizes, music and more! All participants receive a goodie bag and a complimentary costume: cat, pumpkin, or witch!



Susan Oshman

206.1440

237.2306



Karner Blue  
Candle & Supply



"Healthy Candles"  
Classes  
Parties  
Handmade Gifts  
Candle Making  
Supplies

1915 Monroe St \* Madison, WI  
608\* 258 \*2558

# Achieve the dream of home ownership

To find out how you can get into the home of your dreams, call Mike today.

- Buyer's Edge® – first-time homebuyers program
- Fixed- and adjustable-rate mortgages
- New construction loans
- Refinancing
- Providing statewide support to the community



**Michael Fumelle**  
4402 East Towne Blvd.  
608-259-4263  
[Michael.Fumelle@AssociatedBank.com](mailto:Michael.Fumelle@AssociatedBank.com)  
NMLS ID: 523546



Subject to credit approval. Equal Housing Lender. Associated Bank, N.A. is a Member FDIC and Associated Banc-Corp. (4/12) 1336



## Adaptable Identities

Artist **Rhea Ewing** creates works of visual art—both abstract and direct—that explore the various ways marginalized communities struggle, adapt, and thrive.

**THE WAY WE DESCRIBE OURSELVES** can sometimes feel like a laundry list of terms. Here's mine: Artist. Comic creator. Bisexual. Genderqueer. Nonbinary. Agender? They/them/their pronouns, please.

I like the laundry list method of self-identity. I can pick and choose which ones to trot out in a given setting, or not use them at all. Mostly, I like it because it allows me to describe, in the short-hand of a few words and sparse punctuation, the slippery and transient nature of my experiences. Those words are how I want you to understand my identity and experiences right now. Context for the conversation.

It took me a relatively long time to identify myself as a part of the LGBT community, despite access to a wealth of supportive family and friends. Biphobia and a lack of adequate language to describe my experiences held me back from being out and open about my identity. I felt in between categories, and I didn't see my experiences in the stories and media around me.

Maybe it's no surprise then that my work has always had its root themes of identity, curiosity, and a drive to challenge the narratives that ask us to be untrue to ourselves.

I make two kinds of art. The first is fine art drawings, prints, and paintings that embody my way of thinking. In most of this work, I depict larger ideas as creatures made of leaves, flowers, and insects. These amalgams interact with each other, fumble, and reach out to the viewer. Themes of identity and resiliency are always at the core of my work.

I also make comics that tell specific stories and challenge assumptions in clear, direct ways. My work on the online magazine *Everyday*

*Feminism* and in nonfiction shorts like "Depression vs. Heartbreak" do this. I'm also working on a larger graphic novel about gender identity in the Midwest called *FINE: a comic about gender*.

My prints and paintings provide me with intuitive and complex way of exploring ideas. It starts from a place of research; discovering some interesting detail about a plant, or the survival strategies of insects, or the tools used by ancient hominids. From there I connect ideas about human survival strategies, social expectations, and my own experiences.

I work back and forth between digital and traditional media to create my images. Layers of insects, flowers, and animals become a larger whole; an amalgam or a spirit representing an idea.

For example, there's my piece, "Invisible Only to You," that is on display at the Overture Center until September 4. Here's the description that accompanies it:



***Underwing Moths (Catocala) do more than hide from their predators. The moths usually blend seamlessly into backgrounds of tree bark and leaves, but when threatened they reveal a pair of startlingly bright hind wings in red, orange, or pink. This sudden revelation startles predators, giving the moths time to escape and fly away.***

***Many marginalized human communities also remain unseen by outsiders. Have you ever heard someone claim that there was no racism in your town? Or gay people in your community? Still, these communities exist and—especially when threatened by verbal, physical, or state violence—may***

***reveal themselves in startling brilliance. The choice of when, how, and by whom to be seen is a powerful one as individuals navigate states of invisibility and hypervisibility under oppressive power structures.***

The reaction I get from this work varies; tears of recognition, exciting and joyful new connections, and solemn discussions of the issues affecting our world have all happened. Occasionally, people will react to my work as if the experiences behind it are somehow fabricated, rather than the genuine experiences of someone different from them.

### Worst comments on short hair...



More common, thankfully, are people who are genuinely touched by the connections my work makes.

My comics work is a much more straight-forward way of communicating. I work mostly in nonfiction, because hearing someone's story directly can be a powerful tool. My comics name oppression for what it is and tell narratives that aren't shared frequently enough.

If I'm directly addressing a specific stereotype that affects (or has affected) me personally, I'll write on my own. For example, there's my comic "Assumptions About Women with Short Hair" that I did for *Everyday Feminism*. Even though I am not a woman, I have identified that way in the past and have that experience. I also talked with women and people who have previously identified as women to help round out the perspectives.

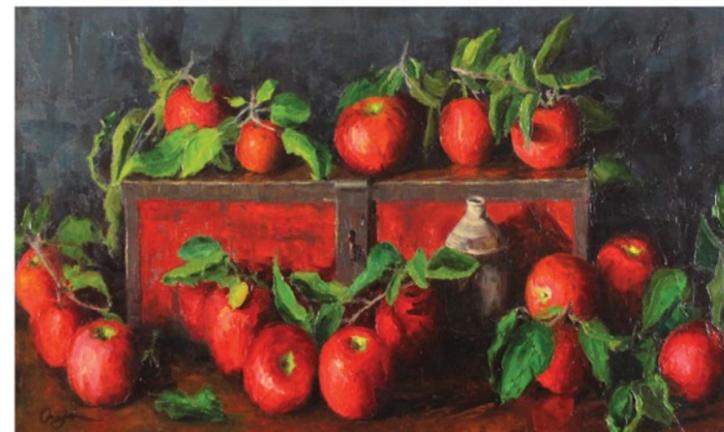
I work back and forth between digital and traditional media to create my images. Layers of insects, flowers, and animals become a larger whole; an amalgam or a spirit representing an idea.

If it's an issue or story about an identity I don't share, I'll work with other people to tell it. Sometimes I do this through extensive interviews with others. Other times the script is written entirely by someone else, like the comic "11 Common Assumptions About Being a Queer Femme—Debunked," which was written by Annah Anti-Palindrome.

Comics are powerful because they can convey a lot of information in a short amount of time. Where my fine arts work allows people to make connections on their own, my comics directly tell people what I want them to understand or do. I've gotten a lot of good responses to my comics, but my favorite was, "I didn't realize there were people besides me who felt that way."

Vulnerability and honesty are what I strive for in my artistic practice. Even though my comics and fine art appear very different, they are ultimately both informed by my search for identity and community.

Rhea Ewing's "Against Entropy" exhibit runs through Sept. 4 at Overture Center. Their work will also be on display as part of the Fall Art Tour in Baraboo (fallarttour.com) Oct. 14–16, and their "Seven Strengths" exhibit will be up at the Arts+Literature Lab Nov. 1–30. Visit Rhea online at [rheaewing.com](http://rheaewing.com). ■



Cover Image: Amy J. Johnson, *Harvest*, Oil on canvas, 18x36

Each month, our annual art calendar celebrates Dane County with original works created by local artists. This is a beautiful gift that is perfect for family and friends! 2017 Dane Arts Calendars will be available for purchase after October 1, 2016. Contact the Dane County Cultural Affairs Office at 608.266.5915, [danearts@countyofdane.com](mailto:danearts@countyofdane.com) or visit us in person (210 MLK Jr. BLVD #421 Madison, WI 53703).



THIS PLACE : THIS TIME : THIS ART  
SEPTEMBER 24, 2016–JANUARY 8, 2017  
OPENING SEPTEMBER 23, 6–9 PM

[MMOCA.ORG](http://MMOCA.ORG)



## Fringe Character

Local author **E. M. Kokie** explains the motivation and process behind her forthcoming young adult novel that tackles queer identity from within a conservative, gun loving culture.

**MY STRONGEST STORIES** always seem to come not from something I know well, but from a desire to understand someone or something better. Four years ago what I wanted to understand better was guns, specifically our country's obsession with guns and the anti-government subcultures within the larger community of gun ownership. I couldn't have predicted then just how relevant this book would feel in the months leading up to its release.

The spark of the idea was a news story about a homegrown, anti-government group, several members of which were alleged to have hatched a plan to spark armed revolt against the United States through attacking law enforcement. Many news outlets called them a militia. Some called them a cult. I was haunted by photographs of the youngest arrested member. He was still a teen; barely an adult. His pimply face was plastered across newspapers and television screens. He seemed to be exactly who the people in the mugshots beside him raised him to be.

I wondered if he was a true believer. I wondered when you become responsible for beliefs so outside the mainstream if all you have ever known is extremism. If the leader is your father. If his leadership is cloaked in the proffer of religious doctrine (in this case, a version of Christianity). When do you become responsible if your indoctrination with paranoia started so young?

My thoughts about that young man shifted quickly to the larger issues. What causes someone to become certain that the government—or something else—is coming for them so that they need an arsenal, or that they need to act now, even if the action could very well destroy them? What causes someone to slip from mainstream anger and frustration and fear to extremism? What is feeding the pervasive paranoia and governmental distrust which seems to be growing and spreading,



especially among those who own firearms? I was simultaneously terrified by and fascinated with these questions.

I read endless articles and studies about guns and the various social movements that seem to coalesce around them. I watched hours of online videos. I researched preppers and survivalists and private militias, and tried to understand both the differences between these movements and the all-too-common fears driving them. The research caused nightmares and more anxiety than I anticipated, and I wondered if I could write this story well. These communities seemed so different than my world, even though it was likely they existed all around me. I forced myself to hold and shoot a gun for the first time in my life. To shoot multiple guns, and to try to get past my feelings about them to find the visceral details my character would love. I had to confront my own fears and anxieties about the state of our country, and then push them aside long enough to understand those held by others.

I began to imagine a story about a boy growing up in a very off-the-grid, radicalized militia family. But the early attempts felt stale and one-dimensional. I wasn't digging deep enough. It's easy to paint others in broad, universally condemning strokes. It's harder to dig down and find the humanity and the more nuanced truths.

On the nights I couldn't sleep, I wondered about the young women growing up in these pockets of hyper-masculine America. Their pictures—girls in camouflage and paramilitary gear, or sexed-up for amateur shooting videos—also haunted me. What were they really afraid of, and what did they really want? And what about the LGBTQIA+ teens in these communities and families?

Was there room in this story to explore guns and survivalist movements, as well as what it means to be queer and female within them? How would this cultural lens cast a light on female strength and female friendship? Was there room to also tell the story of a young lesbian, experiencing her first romance? How would the different sides of her personality fit within one character, and could I do her justice? Could I write a version of this story that people would want to read?

Writing *Radical* from Bex's point of view was one of the most difficult things I have done, and only partly because of my concerns about telling a nuanced story about guns and the survivalist movement. I also wanted to tell a nuanced story about being young, female, and queer in some of the more conservative pockets in America.

When I was a teenager, just starting to question my sexual identity, I didn't have the resources and role models many teens have today. I didn't know any out peers. We didn't have a GSA. In my later teens I

met a few out gay men, but I didn't know a single out lesbian. Those in my world who were suspected of being lesbian were targets of snickering and derision, mostly behind their backs, but very much in my face. I had no clue about the possible fluidity of sexual identity or that I might find a future in which I could be openly queer and fulfilled. Unfortunately, as a teen, I didn't even find very many books with self-identified LGBTQIA+ characters. I knew that I hated being laughed at. I knew that I wanted to be liked and respected. I believed that to be those things, I had to shut away parts of who I was.

Children and teens today are more likely to know out queer adults who are living happy, successful lives. Comparatively, they have a multitude of books and media with openly queer characters, though still with a surprising lack of diversity. They often have more outlets for queer community, but they are still forced to come out amidst cisgender and heterosexual assumptions. Too many of them are still struggling just to survive. Their very existence is debated on television, in state houses, and at dinner tables. Books that show the realities of their lives are often banned, challenged, or quietly shunned. And many LGBTQIA+ teens lack the support or resources available to teens in communities like Madison. For teens like Bex, the mixed messages from outside and from within their communities of birth and communities of choice can cause them to feel even more isolated. Even within online LGBTQIA+ communities, a teen like Bex—politically non-liberal, gun-loving, and struggling with her faith—can feel unwelcome or ostracized.

I wanted to explore all the facets of her personality, all of the ways in which she is strong and fierce and resilient, and all of the ways in which she is vulnerable. I wanted to better understand her gender identity and expression, not just as something she feels but as something she lives. I felt a challenging dichotomy between my understanding of queer identity and Bex's, my political awareness as a queer woman and hers. I had to strip away all of my years of identity analysis and self-exploration to allow her to define herself, with her own language and shaped by her own experiences.

Writing *Radical* from Bex's point of view was one of the most difficult things I have done, and only partly because of my concerns about telling a nuanced story about guns and the survivalist movement. I also wanted to tell a nuanced story about being young, female, and queer in some of the more conservative pockets in America.

I wanted to understand her better, not just as a gun enthusiast, or as a survivalist, but as a young, butch, queer woman finding her way in a country that for her would have few safe harbors.

What resulted is a book that is definitely about guns and gun culture, about the societal pressures feeding the survivalist movement, and about family and trust and sacrifice. But it's also about female friendship and identity. About being true to who you know yourself to be and being brave enough to survive. And about those first, heady tastes of physical love.

A lot for one book. But the survivalist movement, the pervasive, ever-present fear of attack, is an apt metaphor for how it may feel for many teens growing up queer or female in America. We're all just trying to survive long enough to find something more, to find everything, and to hope that the kisses are as good as we dream.

*Radical* will release on September 13, with a launch event for September 16 at A Room of One's Own in Madison. ■

PHOTOGRAPHED BY SAMANTHA DUTCHER.

A team of experienced lawyers committed to the rights of the **LGBTQ Community.**



ATTORNEY  
**Linda S. Balisle**

Wisconsin's only representative to the American College of Family Trial Lawyers, representing the top 100 family law trial attorneys in the United States.

**BALISLE FAMILY LAW**  
— LEGAL COUNSEL, S. C. —

- |                        |                          |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| DIVORCE                | ADOPTION                 |
| POWERS OF ATTORNEY     | CHILD CUSTODY DISPUTES   |
| PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS | NON-TRADITIONAL FAMILIES |
| WILLS                  | MEDIATION                |

608-259-8702 | [www.balislefamilylaw.com](http://www.balislefamilylaw.com)  
131 West Wilson St., Madison, WI 53703

Experience Our State-Of-The-Art 12,000 sq ft Salon!

Over 500 Bridal Gowns • Over 1000 Bridesmaids  
Just 20-25 minutes from Madison in New Glarus  
(608) 527-4436 • [brandisbridal.com](http://brandisbridal.com)

**Brandi's**  
BRIDAL GALLERIA, ETC.



jennifer brindley photography

**A Room of One's Own**  
NEW & USED BOOKS IN DOWNTOWN MADISON

Serving the LGBT community for over 35 years. Visit us at our new, expanded location just off State Street, next to Community Pharmacy.  
315 W. Gorham St. Madison, WI • (608) 257-7888  
Mon.–Sat. 10–8, Sun. 12–5 • [www.roomofonesown.com](http://www.roomofonesown.com)



## LGBTQ Reading List

A current LGBTQ reading list at the Madison Public Library, compiled by Madison librarians **Ed Graves** and **Beth McIntyre**.

**Black Deutschland** by Darryl Pinckney. FSG, 2016.

A novel that's a little bit Christopher Isherwood and a little bit James Baldwin, going back and forth between gay Berlin and black Chicago. Among his family, in a commune of young Berliners, and a community of black immigrants, a young man struggles with addiction, class, and race.

**Black Dove: Mamá, Mi'jo, and Me** by Ana Castillo. Feminist Press, 2016.

New essays from a bicultural and bisexual feminist author, partly for mothers raising black and brown children. She shares her family history, a life in Chicago, and revelations when her son is incarcerated.

**Drag Teen** by Jeffery Self. Push, 2016.

This bubbly road novel finds an insecure Florida teen on a road trip to his first drag competition in NYC.

**The Fixes** by Owen Matthews. Harper Teen, 2016.

The closeted son of a senator takes up with a crowd of attractive, unsupervised rich kids. As their political-minded pranks ramp up into something more dangerous, he has to decide if his budding romance with their leader is worth it.

**The Gay Revolution: The Story of the Struggle** by Lillian Faderman. Simon & Schuster, 2015.

The flashpoints and demands that shaped a movement and informed the strategy for LGBTQ rights from 1950 through the end of the 20th century from a lesbian history scholar.

**Honor Girl** by Maggie Trash. Candlewick, 2015.

In Trash's graphic format memoir, she takes us back to the Christian sleepaway camp of her youth, and the summer when she fell in love with an older girl.

**I Would Die 4 U: How Prince Became an Icon** by Touré. Atria Books, 2013.

Worth a second look with the recent passing of The Purple One. Adapted from a popular culture lecture by celebrated author Touré, it looks at Prince's music, spirituality, nuances of gender, and outsized sexuality.

**If I Was Your Girl** by Meredith Russo. Flatiron Books, 2016.

This hopeful and authentic novel isn't the first book for young people about the high school trans experience, but it's one of the first written by a trans woman.

**Stand by Me: Forgotten History of Gay Liberation** by Jim Downs. Basic Books, 2016.

Historian Jim Downs mined the archives to contrast a persistent narrative of a sexually permissive decade before HIV/AIDS, filling in the social history of different forms of gay community built by bookstores, newspapers, and churches.

**You Know Me Well** by David Levithan and Nina LaCour. St. Martin, 2016.

Pride week in San Francisco brings a group of near-adults together. Told in alternating viewpoints from two of the strongest voices in teen fiction.



## Empowered, Not Afraid

**Vivienne Andersen** previews the new self-defense class designed specifically for transgender women.

**WHEN I FIRST CAME OUT** as a transsexual woman, my wife sat me down and very sternly explained that now that I was publicly female, there were things that I needed to know—things that would keep me “safe.”

This was the same conversation that mothers and friends have been having with young girls for as long as there have been girls. “Don’t walk alone at night!” “Keep your car keys in your hands when you walk through a parking lot!” “Don’t wear a short skirt!” The underlying message was “Be afraid, or be a victim!” Soon, I started to hear the stories women tell to each other, about their experiences of sexual assault. I was horrified by the sheer number of stories. And then I was chased around town by a man in a pickup truck for the first time. One of the women I worked with quipped,

“Aww...you have your first stalker!” as if this was merely a normal part of life.

One afternoon while chatting with a group of trans folks, one of the women regaled us with the story of how she had met a man on Craigslist and had gone, alone, to his home to meet him for the first time. After this conversation, Taryn Bachman and I talked about how there should be a trans-specific self-defense course; something to teach the basics of self-defense and to fill in the gaps about how we may be more vulnerable post-transition.

This led to conversations with the Dane County Rape Crisis Center (RCC) to see if they had any interest in incorporating a trans-specific component with their self-defense curriculum. Their course is named after the Chimera, a mythological female



monster intended to explain in one word the values of the curriculum—it is a creature with a lion’s head (to deliver a terrible bite and frightening roar), dragon’s wings (in order to provide a hasty retreat), and a snake’s tail (embodying the wiliness of the serpent). What the Chimera is not is vulnerable, nor in danger. The Chimera is empowered and safe wherever it goes, whatever it does, whatever it chooses to wear.

Natalie DeMaiores of the RCC described the Chimera program as something of an antidote to the “dubious benefit women receive from constantly being told that they are responsible when something awful happens. The idea is to be empowered, not afraid.”

Participants are taught how to be aware of their surroundings, to fight, to yell, to evade, to deescalate, to identify a potential attacker, and how to behave to discourage a confrontation in the first place. The trans-specific module is an additional three hours dealing with issues unique to trans women.

Over the previous three years, Chimera trainers and trans women set to work on building, testing, and refining a new trans module—and now it is ready. Trans women are welcome to take just the trans module, though ideally it would be used as an addendum to a regular Chimera class, and pricing reflects that.

A typical Chimera 1 class is 12 hours long, during which participants are taught how to be aware of their surroundings, to fight, to yell, to evade, to deescalate, to identify a potential attacker, and how to behave to discourage a confrontation in the first place. The trans-specific module is an additional three hours dealing with issues



**VIVienne ANDERSEN** is a full-time REALTOR® with EXP Realty. She is a member the Wisconsin REALTORS® Association and blogs about the Madison Real Estate market at [VivienneAndersen.com](http://VivienneAndersen.com).



unique to trans women.

The cost for the 12 hours of Chimera training is \$120, with or without the trans module. If you only want to take the three-hour trans module without Chimera 1, the cost is \$30.00 (Trans Chimera is free with Chimera 1). If you require financial assistance, scholarships are available by emailing Natalie DeMaiores at [Chimera@dane-countyrcc.org](mailto:Chimera@dane-countyrcc.org).

If you would like to register for Chimera, registration and additional information is available on line at: <http://DaneCountyRCC.org/Chimera>.

The first trans-specific module is scheduled for Tuesday, October 11, from 6:00 to 9:30 p.m. ■

# QUIGLEY

## Decks&Fence

608.577.4277 | [quigleydecks.com](http://quigleydecks.com)

QUALITY CRAFTSMANSHIP + QUALITY MATERIALS = LASTING BEAUTY

Locally owned. Community focused.

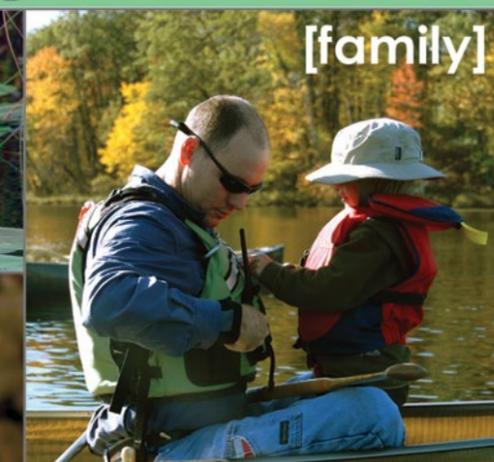
**YOUR ART +  
QUALITY FRAMING =  
ENJOYMENT!**

# LYNN'S

**QUALITY CUSTOM FRAMING, ART SUPPLIES,  
STITCHERY SUPPLIES, CLASSES**

5928 odana road, madison  
m-th 10-7, f 10-6, sat 10-5  
608.274.1442 or [lynnsfmadison.com](http://lynnsfmadison.com)

whatever brings you [insert whatever you want here].



**rutabaga** paddlesports  
220 w broadway, madison (wi) 53716

Find us on Facebook  
[rutabagapaddlesports](http://rutabagapaddlesports)





New York City, USA - July 14, 2016: People walk in Christopher Park, location of the Gay Liberation Monument, a bronze sculpture created by George Segal in 1992. The park, located in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of New York City, is also part of Stonewall National Monument, which was established in June 2016.

## Flashpoint

Local attorney **Meghan Roed** interviews **Ben Weiland** of the Trust for Public Land in New York City about the process that went into designating the Stonewall Inn as the first National Monument for LGBT rights.

**PRIOR TO 1969** gay bars were technically legal in New York State but, contradictorily, could not obtain a liquor license because of the state's regulations against serving "disorderly" homosexuals in bars.

This illogical circumstance, in addition to blatant and socially sanctioned homophobia, gave the police cause to repeatedly raid gay bars, which were breaking the law by fulfilling their very purpose. Just past one in the morning on June 28, 1969, patrons of the Stonewall Inn (now famously) refused to comply with another police raid and, in what is today considered the beginning of the LGBTQ civil rights movement, chose instead to fight back.

As a testament to the progress that has been fought for and hard-won in the LGBTQ civil rights movement over the past 47 years, on June 24, 2016, President Obama declared the area around the Stonewall Inn a National Monument. As such, the Stonewall Inn joins the ranks of 122 other historical sites and natural features that are integral to the American story, including George Washington's birthplace, portions of the Underground Railroad, and Pearl Harbor. Madison attorney Meghan Roed sat down with her former classmate, Ben Weiland, who works in New York City at the Trust for Public Land, an organization that was integral to the establishment of the Stonewall Inn National Monument, to talk about how this came about and what this designation means for the future of the Stonewall Inn.

**WHEN DID THE PROCESS OF DESIGNATING THE STONEWALL INN AS A NATIONAL MONUMENT BEGIN?**

The idea gained significant interest when President Obama named the site in his second inaugural address. That was really when it got put on a lot of people's radar screens...having an equivalent historical significance or a similar historical significance to sites like Seneca Falls and Selma. I think that's when it got in a lot of people's heads that the

national story was missing a pretty significant chapter about LGBT rights, as told by the National Park Service.

**SO THE PROCESS BEGAN WITH PRESIDENT OBAMA'S SECOND INAUGURAL ADDRESS THREE AND A HALF YEARS AGO. HAS THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND BEEN WORKING ON THIS DESIGNATION SINCE THEN?**

No, we've been working on it for the past eight months. It was really led by the National Park Conservation Association for a couple of years as sort of a grass roots effort—in building a movement, engaging local stakeholders. One of the earliest groups to make a formal action was the local Community Board [a resident advisory group in New York City]. They wrote a letter to President Obama asking that it be designated as a National Monument. The site was already a New York City Landmark. They wrote a letter to the National Park Service asking that it be designated as a National Monument.

In order for a National Monument to be designated, the Federal Government needs to own the property, and so the Federal Government actually now owns a small park out in front of the Stonewall Inn.

**SO WHEN YOU SAY THAT, DO YOU MEAN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT DOESN'T OWN THE BAR ITSELF?**

Correct, the bar is still privately owned, privately run, and it is in this National Monument—this 7.7-acre area.

**I WENT TO THE STONEWALL ONCE A LONG TIME AGO, AND ISN'T IT JUST A STREET IN FRONT OF THE BAR?**

There is a street in front of it, and also a 7.7-acre area in this neighborhood that includes the Stonewall Inn, Christopher Park, and a large portion of Christopher Street—all part of the National Monument.

**WHAT IS THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A SITE BEING DESIGNATED AS A NATIONAL MONUMENT? WHAT DOES THAT MEAN EXACTLY?**

The most important thing—the most significant part—of being a National Monument is that now this site is part of the national story, as told by the National Park Service. National Parks are America's story teller; they tell the story of World War II, Civil War battlefields, voting rights, women's rights, civil rights, and now, LGBT rights.

**DOES THE DESIGNATION MEAN ANYTHING IN TERMS OF THE FUTURE PRESERVATION OF THAT AREA?**

The short answer is no. There is no additional restriction placed. There is no property interest that has gone to the Federal Government other than the property interest in the park. It's primarily a designation of historical significance and also creates the potential for federal resources to help tell the story. The National Park Foundation, a private non-profit, has started the process of raising \$2,000,000 for programmatic activities. As of today, if you go there, really all that is different is a different plaque. But the process is in motion to create an interpretive neighborhood experience that tells the LGBT civil rights story.

**DOWN THE ROAD, YOU COULD VISIT STONEWALL AND HAVE A PARK RANGER GIVE YOU A TOUR, FOR EXAMPLE?**

Exactly. So there will be rangers around the neighborhood. [Christopher] Park is going to remain the same. Christopher Park has this really moving statue that's called "Gay Liberation" that's going to stay. Basically the dream of the National Park Foundation is to have this storytelling, way-finding phone application you can use that can tell

the story of that night in 1969 when the patrons fought back against the police arresting people for being in this gay bar. And then the bar is still there, so you can go into the bar.

**ACTUALLY THAT STATUE USED TO BE IN A PARK IN MADISON, IN ORTON PARK.**

Oh, no way!

**IT'S THE NEW YORK-MADISON CONNECTION! YOU SAID YOU HAD SOME SUPPORT FROM A LOCAL GROUP, THE COMMUNITY BOARD. WHAT OTHER SUPPORT DID YOU HAVE IN MAKING THE STONEWALL A NATIONAL MONUMENT?**

It was really a tremendous outpouring of support to tell this story. The National Park Conservation Association was a huge partner early on. Lots of community support. Secretary of the Interior [Sally] Jewell came and had a public hearing about whether or not a National Monument designation was needed, and there was a tremendous outpouring of support at that hearing. And then, in order to transfer the property interests [to the Federal Government], both New York City and New York State had to approve the sale of their property interest. All levels of government got on board, and a great deal of work was done by Congressman Jerry Nadler.

**DID YOU HAVE ANY PUSHBACK, ANY OPPOSITION, ANYONE WHO DIDN'T WANT THIS TO HAPPEN?**

There was some, but most recognized the significance of the struggle for LGBT civil rights. When there is such outpouring of support for a new National Monument, the most efficient method of designation is the President using the Antiquities Act to designate the site.

**SO THERE ARE TWO ROUTES FOR A SITE TO BECOME A NATIONAL MONUMENT, AND ONE IS THROUGH CONGRESS AND ONE IS THROUGH AN EXECUTIVE PROCLAMATION. WAS IT A STRATEGIC DECISION ON OBAMA'S PART IN GOING THE ROUTE THAT MAYBE HAD A GREATER CHANCE OF SUCCESS?**

I think that was a strategic decision. The president has the ability under certain circumstances under the Antiquities Act to declare sites National Monuments and this site was important enough that it met the criteria to go that route.

**WAS THERE A CONGRESSIONAL BILL PREVIOUSLY PROPOSED FOR THIS SITE?**

There was a bill proposed in Congress in 2015 that wasn't successful. It wasn't so much that there was strong opposition, but we had to be relatively discreet about the language and it wasn't a welcome action by a lot of legislators. It got approved in the end, but there are a lot of individuals that don't see the telling of this story as important.

**NOW THAT THE SITE HAS BEEN MADE A NATIONAL MONUMENT, WHAT'S BEEN THE RESPONSE? HAS YOUR ORGANIZATION RECEIVED ANY FEEDBACK?**

There's been tremendously positive feedback. The people who were in the Stonewall Inn on the night that they pushed back against the police raids have expressed tremendous gratification and satisfaction that the site where they once were persecuted, basically, is now a site of historical importance and significance for telling the story of LGBT civil rights. They're very pleased. I think the site is well known by people who celebrate LGBT civil rights. It's not an unknown site, but [the Historical Monument designation] brings an additional designation and some permanence, and so there has been a slight uptick in interest ever since gay pride month. I don't know if it's necessarily related to the designation, and then gay pride month, and then during that the Orlando shooting, but you can tell that the site is being really well used.

Donations to the National Park Foundation can be made here: [nationalparks.org](http://nationalparks.org). ■



**INVENTURE REALTY GROUP**

Let us help you **Buy A Home**

**Inventure is:**

- **Honest**
- **Neighborhood-knowledgeable**
- **Agents with a track record of getting offers accepted**
- **Skilled in many price ranges**
- **Quick to return calls or emails**
- **Connected to a team of brokers, home inspectors, and contractors**
- **LGBT-owned & operated**

Inventure Realty 608-729-0246  
www.inventurerealty.com 701 E. Washington Ave, Madison



**OAK PARK DENTAL**

**“You deserve a dentist that takes the time to get to know you.”**

— Dr. Jana Gyurina

EXCEPTIONAL DENTISTRY. PERSONALIZED ATTENTION. SCHEDULE YOUR COMPLIMENTARY CONSULTATION TODAY.  
DR. JANA GYURINA | [OAKPARKDENTALMADISON.COM](http://OAKPARKDENTALMADISON.COM) | 608.709.0845



# Sept. & Oct.

When the seasons change, variety in the local arts multiplies. From community theater like StageQ, to Overture residents like the Symphony and Opera—your options abound!

For more LGBTQ-specific events, see our Organization Updates on page 12.

SEPTEMBER

# 23

## OUTREACH 24TH ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET *Monona Terrace*

OutReach's 24th Annual Awards Banquet celebrates our community! The event runs 5:00–9:00 p.m. at the Monona Terrace. This year's keynote speaker will be Z! Haukeness, winner of the 2015 Advocate of the Year award, as well as the City of Madison's Martin Luther King Jr. Humanitarian Award. The event will be emceed by Michael Bruno and includes dinner and entertainment.

[lgbtoutreach.org](http://lgbtoutreach.org)



SEPTEMBER

# 18

## JAVA JIVE: 21ST ANNUAL COFFEE TASTING TO BENEFIT RAPE CRISIS CENTER *The Brink Lounge*

Rape Crisis Center's signature fundraising event features coffee tasting, breakfast, live jazz, and a silent auction and raffle with items from local businesses. The event runs from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Your ticket to Java Jive helps ensure the Rape Crisis Center's ongoing free support for those in our community harmed by sexual violence.

[danecountyrc.org](http://danecountyrc.org)

# 22

## OPEN MEMBER APPRECIATION PARTY *Plan B*

The LGBTQ networking group hosts their annual event at Plan B. Current and new members both are welcome in a celebration of community.

[openmadison.org](http://openmadison.org)

# 23-25

## INTERNATIONAL WFTDA D1 ROLLER DERBY PLAYOFFS *Coliseum at Alliant Energy Center*

Watch some of the most talented skaters in the world compete for women's flat track roller derby's highest honor. Teams from 10 cities and two countries will be represented at this three-day tournament hosted by the Mad Rollin' Dolls.

[wftda.com/madison](http://wftda.com/madison)

## "THE PLANETS" MADISON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA *Overture Center*

Experience Holt's masterpiece like never before, with a spectacular new high-definition film to accompany this modern classic. Featuring violin soloist Naha Greenholtz on "Chaconne" from The Red Violin, and a performance of "Romanian Rhapsody No. 1."

[madisonsymphony.org](http://madisonsymphony.org)



Out Professional Engagement Network

OCTOBER

# 1

## AIDS WALK WISCONSIN *Summerfest Grounds, Milwaukee*

AIDS Walk Wisconsin & 5K Run, produced by the AIDS Resource Center of Wisconsin, raises funds to help people living with HIV and AIDS access life-saving health care and social services. All funds raised stay in Wisconsin for the fight against AIDS. The route takes walkers along Milwaukee's scenic lakefront and features restroom facilities, refreshments, and entertainment at each of the two rest stops.

Honorary Chair: Taye Diggs (pictured below).

[aidswalkwis.org](http://aidswalkwis.org)



# 7

## LATINO ART FAIR *Overture Center*

The 4th Annual Latino Art Fair runs from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. A wonderful evening with "Cinderella" as the Broadway musical in Overture Hall, Maraca and His Latin Jazz All Stars playing in the Capitol Theater, and Gallery Night at MMoCA. Dozens of Latinx artists will show and sell their works. Hosted by the Latino Chamber of Commerce as a conduit for artists.

[overturecenter.org](http://overturecenter.org)

# 7-22

## STAGEQ PRESENTS "THE COMMANDER" *Bartell Theatre*

Is America ready for an openly gay commander-in-chief? That's the idea tackled in this droll, humorous play by Mario Correa, which follows the fictional governor of Rhode Island in his unexpected campaign for the presidency.

[stageq.com](http://stageq.com)

# MADISON OPERA

Don't miss one moment of the spectacular 2016/17 season!

# Romeo & Juliet



BY CHARLES GOUNOD  
NOVEMBER 4 & 6, 2016  
OVERTURE HALL

# Charlie Parker's YARDBIRD



MUSIC BY DANIEL SCHNYDER  
LIBRETTO BY BRIDGETTE A. WIMBERLY  
FEBRUARY 10 & 12, 2017  
CAPITOL THEATER at Overture Center

# the MAGIC FLUTE



BY W.A. MOZART  
APRIL 21 & 23, 2017  
OVERTURE HALL

Buy season tickets today – see all three shows for as little as \$51!

[madisonopera.org](http://madisonopera.org) | 608.238.8085 |

OCTOBER 16

## GSAFE unveils revamped "Trick or Trot" fundraising event

**GSAFE WORKS WITH STUDENTS.** educators, and families to create schools in Wisconsin where all LGBTQ+ youth thrive. This year they decided to add a little extra magic to their 5k fundraiser for safe schools. The Walk/Run/Eat has shapeshifted into the new and improved Trick or Trot. GSAFE's Executive Director Chelsea O'Neil Karcher sat down with us to discuss the changes and provide an overview of what we can look forward to at the event.

### WHY DID GSAFE MAKE THE DECISION TO CHANGE THE WALK/RUN/EAT TO THE TRICK OR TROT?

As GSAFE has continued to grow in size, our fundraising goals have also changed in order to support this development. Moving the event to the capitol square and adding a

theme opens the day up to new participants and sponsors that may not have had interest or a connection to the event in the past. Non-profit fundraising requires creativity, and sometimes it's necessary to make changes, although the heart and soul of the event is very much the same. The GSAFE 5k will always be a fun and supportive community-driven event dedicated to building safer schools in Wisconsin.

### WILL THERE STILL BE SUPERHEROES?

Heck yeah! Superheroes have a long tradition of supporting the 5k, and we hope they're just as excited this year. They make it a priority to energize and engage their community to raise funds for a great cause! Superheroes who raise \$500 receive a GSAFE hoodie, and those that raise \$1,000 or more will also be recognized at our Celebration of Leadership banquet in the spring. To become a superhero just select "become a fundraiser" during registration.

### HOW IS THE TRICK OR TROT DIFFERENT FROM THE WALK/RUN/EAT?

Trick-or-Trot is a Halloween fun-run so

there will be spooky music and candy stations, and each runner will receive a complimentary headwear including cat ears, a witch hat, or a green pumpkin-stem beanie to go along with the colorful event t-shirts. The new event is downtown near the capitol square, so we will also provide coupons to receive free goodies at area businesses after crossing the finish line.

### AS THE NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF GSAFE, WHAT ARE YOU MOST EXCITED ABOUT?

There is truly something special about the community that rallies around GSAFE. I am already so grateful for the outpouring of support and excitement that has surrounded our staff as we plan this event. And who doesn't love a reason to wear cat ears?

### HOW CAN PEOPLE GET INVOLVED?

To get all of the details about the event and the link to register, people can visit [gsafei.org/5k](http://gsafei.org/5k). If you're not much for walking or running, we also have several volunteer opportunities for the day of the event and leading up to it. Contact [info@gsafei.org](mailto:info@gsafei.org) if you're interested in volunteering. ■



CONNECT → OUR SPONSORED EVENTS

### JULY 28-31 ARCW's Wisconsin AIDS Ride



14

### WISCONSIN CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

Overture Center

William Boyce, the English contemporary of Handel, wrote eight Symphonies. His "Symphony No. 5" is a fitting fanfare to open the season and similar in style to Handel's Water Music. MSO welcomes the debut of Russian virtuoso Ilya Kaler, with Tchaikovsky's awe-inspiring "Violin Concerto."

The 4th Symphony of Schubert, dubbed the "Tragic," is famous for its mood and mystery. The master of German lieder, Schubert can spin a melody that touches every emotion.

[wcoconcerts.org](http://wcoconcerts.org)

14-23

### MILWAUKEE LGBT FILM/VIDEO FESTIVAL

U.W.-Milwaukee

Presenting regional premieres of films by, for, and about

the LGBT+ community, this fest will be illuminating local screens, unspooling narrative features, documentaries, short films, experimental work, presentations from visiting artists, and more.

[uwm.edu/lgbtfilmfestival](http://uwm.edu/lgbtfilmfestival)

21

### TRANSFORM HEALTH CARE CONFERENCE

Madison

This conference, born out of the efforts of area professionals who are dedicated to improving health care for trans clients, is the only event of its kind. With a focus not only on education but also on outreach, TRANSforum is designed to educate and connect providers in order to raise the bar for trans health care in Wisconsin and beyond. Speakers include shor e. salkas, Kathy Oriel, MD, and Ted Weltzin, MD.

[transformconference.com](http://transformconference.com)

22

### AN EVENING WITH JOAN BAEZ

Overture Center

Joan Baez has been as busy as ever since she celebrated the landmark years of 2008-2009, the 50th anniversaries of her legendary residency in 1958 at the famed Club 47 in Cambridge. She remains a musical force of nature—marching on the front line of the civil rights movement with Martin Luther King, Jr., singing on the first Amnesty International tour, and more recently, standing alongside Nelson Mandela on his 90th birthday in London's Hyde Park. Her earliest recordings fed a host of traditional ballads into the rock vernacular, before she self-consciously introduced Bob Dylan to the world in 1963, beginning a tradition of mutual mentoring that continues to this day.

[overturecenter.org](http://overturecenter.org)

Season Highlights

October 22 Fundraiser "A Taste of Perfect Harmony"

December 9 & 11 Winter Concert

June 2 Spring Concert

March 17 & 18 Fundraiser Cabaret Show

perfect harmony MEN'S CHORUS • MADISON

We Sing to make a better world

[www.PerfectHarmonyChorus.org](http://www.PerfectHarmonyChorus.org)

# COMING HOME

2016-2017 SEASON



FORWARD THEATER CO.

4000 MILES | NOV 3-20, 2016

OUTSIDE MULLINGAR  
JAN 26-FEB 12, 2017

LEARNING TO STAY  
MAR 23-APR 9, 2017

SOMEONE'S GOTTA DO IT  
MONOLOGUE FESTIVAL  
SEPT 22-24, 2016

[WWW.FORWARDTHEATER.COM](http://WWW.FORWARDTHEATER.COM)

# NEW ORLEANS TAKE-OUT



“EAT MO’ BETTAH!”



Serving Authentic Creole Cuisine Since 1985

JED

KEN

EAST - 1920 Fordem Ave.  
608-241-6655

WEST - 1517 Monroe St.  
608-280-8000

Monday-Saturday 11 am-9 pm. Closed Sunday.  
Fordem Avenue Closed Mondays • eatmobettah.com

## Madison's Favorite Happy Hour



Under new ownership

# shamrock bar & grille

- Proudly supporting Madison's LGBT community
- Serving Lunch Monday through Friday 11-2
- Serving Brunch Saturday and Sunday from 10-3pm
- Grille open until 10 pm everyday
- No cover deejay Thursday through Saturday



facebook.com/ShamrockBG

117 W Main St, Madison, WI



CONNECT → OUR SPONSORED EVENTS

### AUGUST 21 OutReach Pride Parade



OURLIVESMADISON.COM



**DAR WILLIAMS**  
RETURN TO MORTAL CITY  
20TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR  
— PERFORMING THE ALBUM IN ITS ENTIRETY, PLUS OTHER FAVORITES —

TICKETS ON SALE NOW

**FRIDAY • NOVEMBER 18**  
**BARRYMORE THEATRE**  
Tickets at BarrymoreLive.com • 608-241-8633 • Barrymore Outlets

darwilliams.com | /darwilliamstour | DarWilliamsOfficial

**i INDEPENDENT LIVING, INC.**

Offering services for seniors and adults with disabilities

- Personal care, home chores, home safety changes, Evening Meals on Wheels, more
- Home health care including PT/OT/Speech
- Retirement communities in Madison, Fitchburg and Sun Prairie

Your local connection to an independent life

Call 274-7900 today | www.IndependentLivingInc.org

**Madison's Premier Cloud Service Provider**

enjoy cloud technology solutions for business

5NINES.com  
608-512-1027

Proud Sponsor of **TUGHA**  
MADISON GAY HOCKEY ASSOCIATION



AUGUST 20 WOOF's Pride Block Party



**PrEP YOURSELF**  
PREVENTION FOR YOUR LIFE

This blue pill is 92% effective at preventing HIV infection, when taken every day. Learn how PrEP can become part of your personal HIV prevention strategy. Visit us at [arcw.org/prep](http://arcw.org/prep) today!

**ARCW**  
AIDS RESOURCE CENTER OF WISCONSIN  
Excellence in HIV Health Care

Madison: 800.486.6276  
Milwaukee: 800.359.9272

**ANDREW CHRISTIAN**  
ULTIMATE SPORTS UNDERWEAR

*Berkeley*  
Running Company

2852 UNIVERSITY AVE. MADISON, WI 53705  
MONDAY - FRIDAY 10AM - 8PM  
SAT. 10AM - 6PM SUN. 10AM - 5PM

**FREE**

INSTANT ACCESS TO MADISON AND THE NATION'S TOP GAY & LESBIAN REALTORS

[www.GayRealEstate.com](http://www.GayRealEstate.com)

Find Your Perfect Agent Online: [www.GayRealEstate.com](http://www.GayRealEstate.com)  
or Call Toll Free 1.888.420.MOVE (6683)

We stand for Your true colors

**DANE COUNTY CREDIT UNION**  
www.dccu.us  
608 256-5665 • 800 593-3228

**COMMUNITY SHARES OF WISCONSIN**  
Proud Sponsor

**GayRealEstate.com**

We stand for you



# Love, Life, Literature

UW Press Executive Editor **Raphael Kadushin** reflects on a life of good fortune and world travel, from his first generation immigrant roots in New York to finding the love of his life and “settling” in Madison—and the work yet to be done.

**I’VE BEEN VERY LUCKY** throughout my life, at least so far, but probably my greatest luck was having the parents I had. They were both New Yorkers, the children of Jewish immigrants who landed on Ellis Island, escaping the anti-Semitic pogroms that ruled life in the ghettos of Russia and Eastern Europe.

My mom grew up on the lower east side of Manhattan and my dad grew up in the Bronx, above his family grocery store. Their parents came over to America speaking nothing but Yiddish and had to scramble to find any kind of work in New York (like many men of that generation, one of my grandfathers ended up working as a cutter in a tailor shop). But in a generation both my parents had worked their way up and out of their own New York ghettos. My mom ended up running an art gallery in Greenwich Village. And my dad paid his way through a PhD program

The first series I launched was our now long-running *Living Out* series, the only series in the world—today or actually ever—devoted strictly to LGBTQ memoirs.

at Columbia and NYU by working as a postman during the day, and then interrupting his academic program to serve in the Navy during World War II. For Jews, of course, the war was something very personal; almost all our family who remained in Europe, on both my maternal and paternal sides, was killed. When the war was over my parents, who had recently married, went to Europe with pretty much nothing and worked as volunteers to help resettle orphaned Jews. They were so penniless they had to basically stow aboard a freighter to get back home.

All of this experience, plus their own ineffable personalities, helped shape two peerless people. My parents were both incredibly generous, charming, very funny, cosmopolitan; they were steadfast liberals but realists, too, who had no patience for demagogues, bigots, or hypocrites; they knew the difference between substance and trivia. They allowed my sister and me amazing openness and flexibility for the times—but with definite rules to avoid turning us into little entitled poobahs.

#### SLIPPING OUT OF THE CLOSET

What was characteristic of them, and my upbringing, was the fact that I don’t actually remember coming out. I just sort of slipped out in my senior year of high school knowing it wouldn’t be a big deal to my parents, which it wasn’t, and I never had to carry the sense of guilt or anxiety that so many gay kids still seem to be burdened by. The only thing that bothered my parents was the fact that my first boyfriend didn’t seem well-read; that was the big issue for them.

In fact, the only real experience of overt homophobia I ever knew

#### Broadway Renaissance



TIM SAUERS, VP OF PROGRAMMING  
OVERTURE CENTER FOR THE ARTS

This was Broadway’s healthiest season. Attendance reached over 13 million yielding over \$1 billion in grosses. Musicals and tourism are the main contributors. The phenomenon of “Hamilton” along with “Disney’s The Lion King” and “Wicked” were packing houses. Newcomers such as “Waitress the Musical” and the revivals of “The Color Purple” and “Fiddler on the Roof” added to the success. This past season Overture Center mirrored the trend with the our most successful Broadway season. The return of “The Lion King” grossed over \$5 million and set records. With potential of blockbusters such as “Frozen the Musical” coming and “Aladdin” about to hit the road, the future looks promising.

#### Striking the balance



MADISON BALLET  
W. EARLE SMITH, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

More not-for-profit performing arts organizations are having to operate like corporations or small businesses. I’ve read that “Sixty percent of the revenue for nonprofit arts organizations comes from the sale of tickets, merchandise, and services” (Robert L. Lynch, President and CEO, Americans for the Arts). On the up-side, this means developing innovative ways to generate revenue. The down-side? Organizations losing focus on the mission and ultimately not serving the community to its fullest.

AMERICAN  
PLAYERS  
THEATRE

“...the best classical theater company in America”  
Terry Teachout,  
Wall Street Journal Arts Critic

PLAY OUTSIDE  
on the HILL  
through October 2

EXPLORE INDOORS  
in the TOUCHSTONE THEATRE  
through November 20  
Jennifer Latimore in  
An Ideal Husband

Tickets on sale now | americanplayers.org | 608.588.2361

was during the summer before college, when the university police arrested me for kissing my boyfriend at Picnic Point. One of the officers took me into a back room and started banging my head, again and again, against a concrete wall. I was scared but I didn't feel anything but anger; I've never been able to take homophobes seriously.

The other lucky thing about my childhood was the gift of travel. My dad's first tenure-track job as a professor was at U.W.-Madison; he was already in his 40s then, and most colleges at that time had quotas against hiring Jews. My parents had never lived outside of New York, and when they got here my mom had real culture shock. Luckily my dad's field of study was child welfare, and he initiated a global study of child welfare systems in different countries. As a result, we lived in Jerusalem and Holland and California and traveled to Europe most summers and New York every other summer. My dad's study ended up being a big revelation. He was the first scholar to establish the fact that although Americans are so sentimental about children (and by children they mostly mean fetuses) the U.S. came in dead last, compared to other western countries, in terms of child welfare, child poverty, child abuse, and infant mortality. A lot of the child welfare legislation finally enacted in the '60s and '70s was based on his findings.

All of that travel made for an exciting childhood, and probably instilled my own love of travel and my yin and yang approach to Madison; today I love coming back to our house here but I love leaving it, too. I pretty much ignored high school, which seemed pointless to me, and I didn't really start seriously studying until college. I went partly here and partly to Sarah Lawrence in New York, with a semester abroad in London. I studied English lit because all I really wanted to do was read and write, since those are the only two things I have ever been good at.

THOMAS

Then, in my junior year, I met Thomas McGhee and that was my second big stroke of luck. No one is really looking for a life partner in college; at least I wasn't. But when I met Tommy at a Christmas party I could sense something was different. Tommy was never afraid of revealing himself; he has an implacable emotional honesty. So even then—I was 19 and he was 21 when we met—he acted on his feelings. I wasn't ready to move in together. My dad was at the think tank at Stan-

ford, so I would go out and see my parents in Palo Alto on vacation, and then go into San Francisco to see Tommy, who was finishing his degree at the San Francisco Art Institute.

Finally, when I graduated I moved to San Francisco, and we rented an apartment together near Chinatown. Every morning I'd wake up and think, today I will see the dark side of Tommy—but I never did. This went on for two years until an old boyfriend of mine called from New York and wanted to get back together. I had my big epiphany: I was never going to see any dark side at all to Tommy. And I never have. We married two years ago when it was finally legal and my vows expressed why I've stayed with Tommy all these years. Even when I coach him, Tommy can't tell a lie. He is absolutely guileless and has an almost genetic sense of generosity. He's the kind of person who always befriends the underdog and sees the best in people; when he can't find anything good to say about someone he finds some way to excuse them. He has this unerring sense of morality.

START OF A CAREER

The first few years in San Francisco we just did odd jobs and then I went to law school in the city, at Hastings, which was a bore. After that I started a Ph.D. program in English literature. But I realized I didn't like teaching, and at that time you had to write your doctoral dissertation in an academic jargon that felt stilted to me; I was afraid it would destroy my own voice. So I made the big leap and did the only thing you can do, aside from law, with an English background; I started working in book publishing, as an editor, and I started writing. I was willing to write just about anything as long as I had the freedom to write in my own voice.

I started by writing book and movie reviews, and then we met Karen Kaplan, an editor at *Bon Appetit* magazine, on a trip to Amsterdam. I started writing their travel stories—another ex-

ample of luck. I never considered doing food or travel writing. For some reason, though, Karen had faith in me and gave me an assignment, which I realized later was kind of a trial run that the magazine usually doesn't intend on publishing. The magazine had just been bought up by Condé Nast, and they were looking for food writers who were writers first and foodies second, and they liked my first piece. I ended up writing the majority of *Bon Appetit's* culinary travel features for almost a decade, and then becoming a Contributing Editor at the magazine.

From there I started writing for *Epicurious*, too, but I was also doing more and more travel writing which I liked better because travel writing allows you to tell a complete story. I moved onto writing for *National Geographic Traveler* magazine, where I became a Contributing Editor as well, and then *Condé Nast Traveler*, *Travel & Leisure*, *Out*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Town & Country*, etc. I love travel writing. I approach the pieces as a short story; my favorite pieces focus on revealing something of the mystery or essence of a place, like the dark side of the Grimms fairytale route in Germany, or the roots of gothic in Yorkshire. And plus, of course, in addition to the writing, the travel is a gift in itself, and something I could never afford to do on my own. This year alone, typically, I've traveled to Provence, London, the Cotswolds, Amsterdam, Barcelona, Rome, Naples, the Swiss Alps, Greece, Sicily,



The only real experience of overt homophobia I ever knew was during the summer before college, when the university police arrested me for kissing my boyfriend at Picnic Point. One of the officers took me into a back room and started banging my head, again and again, against a concrete wall.



ABOVE: Raphael with his dad and sister at the Memorial Union Terrace, and with his mother.

Hawaii, and Los Cabos on assignments. In the next few months I go back to England, Vienna, Holland, and Morocco. I love the duality this gives my life. Tommy and I are very bonded, in an almost unhealthy way, to our house in Madison, and also to our sense of community here, and the sheer tranquility of the town. Until their recent deaths, too, my parents were here in Madison as well. But if I had to stay here full time I would feel I was missing out on too much of a larger world.

AMPLIFYING OUR VOICES

At the same time I started writing, I was able to move into acquisitions work in publishing. The acquisitions editor is the person who finds and signs the books the publishing house actually publishes. I think it's the most creative editorial job because you are shaping a list of books and able to give voice to talented writers who, particularly these days, may otherwise not be able to get published. When I jumped houses (I was originally at Wm C Brown) and started working as an acquisitions editor at the University of Wisconsin Press, I had a lot of creative opportunity. We have always had very strong academic lists at

A Wealth of New American Works



KATHRYN SMITH, GENERAL DIRECTOR MADISON OPERA

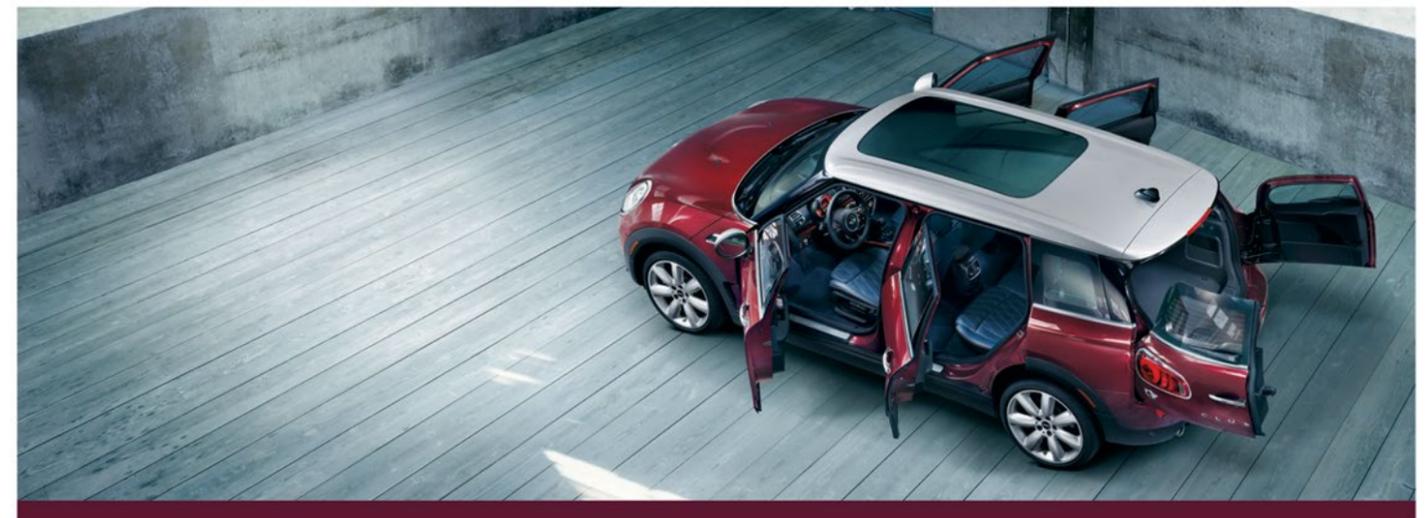
Over 40 new American operas premiered in 2015, while a decade ago there were only few premieres each year. This February, Madison Opera is proud to offer the Midwest premiere of one of 2015's most acclaimed new operas, "Charlie Parker's Yardbird." Set on the night Charlie Parker dies, its jazz-inflected score tells a very American story, with characters that include Parker, his mother, his three wives, Dizzy Gillespie, and more. We are planning a number of events in collaboration with other arts and community groups to talk about Parker and that period in American history and music.

Healing Through Art



SHARON KILFOY, DIRECTOR DANE ARTS MURAL ARTS

During our second year, DAMA (Dane Arts Mural Arts) has extended our reach throughout the county, especially working in communities who need us most. We have worked with alternative high school youth in Madison, Middleton, and Sun Prairie—with a new program being launched soon in Fitchburg. Our work has deepened, too. A new mural behind the Social Justice Center is the culmination of much hard grief work with families in the Willy Street neighborhood who lost loved ones to violence. Many families participated in the creation of the mural.



THOSE WHO DEFY LABELS, DEFINE THEMSELVES



MINI of Madison

310 West Beltline Highway Madison, WI 53713 608-729-MINI (6464) MINIOFMADISON.COM

© 2016 MINI USA, a division of BMW of North America, LLC. The MINI name, model names and logo are registered trademarks.



Alicia Stevenson MINI Motoring Advisor 608-729-6442 Mon 8:30 AM to 8:00 PM Tues 8:30 AM to 6:00 PM, Thurs 8:30 AM to 7:00 PM Fri 9:30 to 6:00, Sat 8:30 to 4:00



Phil Keller MINI Service Manager 608-729-6421 Mon - Fri 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM

TAKE CONTROL OF YOUR BODY



- Personalized Fitness
- State of the Art Studio
- All Fitness Levels
- Therapeutic Massage
- On the Capitol Square

10 South Carroll St. 608.204.0727

SEPTI@SEPTIFIT.COM



## TIPS & TRENDS

### Diversity and Opportunity on Stage



JENNIFER UPHOFF GRAY, DIRECTOR  
FORWARD THEATER COMPANY

Lin-Manuel Miranda's epic musical "Hamilton" has won every prize, from the Tony to the Grammy to the Pulitzer, and topped every chart. It's as brilliant as everyone says it is.

There are many things to celebrate about this show, but from my perspective as the artistic director of a company in a state where the population of professional theater artists is less diverse than we'd hope for, the success of "Hamilton" is BIG news. There will be good-paying jobs for actors of color for YEARS to come thanks to "Hamilton." The amount of paid work (for good, unsterotypical roles) will surely encourage more young actors of color to consider a career in the theater as an option for them. "You have to see it to be it," isn't that what they say? More diversity in the audition pool = more diversity on our own stages. More diversity on our stages = better theater for our communities. We will not throw away our shot.

### The Art of Play



ERIKA MONROE-KANE, DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS  
MADISON MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

We're seeing a playful approach in the work of artists and in how we engage audiences. Our Learning Centers visitors are finding fun ways to explore the artwork and techniques of artists. A number of Wisconsin Triennial artists are using play and humor in how they address current topics and universal theme.



the Press, and I continue to develop them. We are known for our books in classics, film, modern history, and environmental and regional studies. But we had no real trade list when I started acquiring, and I wanted to initiate fiction and creative nonfiction lists.

The first series I launched was our now long-running Living Out series, the only series in the world—today or actually ever—devoted strictly to LGBTQ memoirs. Oddly, the series isn't as well known locally as it should be, but it is considered one of the premiere LGBTQ lists in the country. I've published more than 150 LGBTQ titles in the last 15 years, and our books have been nominated for and won a record number of Lammie Awards. The UW Press's LGBTQ list is probably

Every morning I'd wake up and think, today I will see the dark side of Tommy—but I never did. This went on for two years until an old boyfriend of mine called from New York and wanted to get back together. I had my big epiphany: I was never going to see any dark side at all to Tommy. And I never have.

the largest original gay arts initiative coming out of Wisconsin. The real key to the success of the series is its range. We've published everything from the first memoir of a gay survivor of the Holocaust to Edmund White's *Loss Within Loss*, an anthology that looks at what the arts in America have lost to AIDS. We've also published Rigoberto Gonzalez's *Butterfly Boy*, a gay Latino memoir that won the American Book Award, as well as work by Colm Toibin, Brad Gooch, Bruce Benderson, Martin Duberman, Christopher Bram, Dale Peck, Andrew Holleran, Duncan Fallowell, Emma Donoghue, Leslea Newman, Jewelle Gomez, David Sedaris, Michael Klein, Wayne Koestenbaum, and more. It's really a who's who of contemporary LGBTQ writers.

We've also published a range of classic LGBTQ writers: Glenway Wescott, Christopher Isherwood, Walt Whitman, etc. Upcoming this fall: Lucy Bledsoe's *A Thin Bright Line*, a novel based on the secret life of her namesake lesbian aunt; *Good Night, Beloved Comrade*, the love letters of Denton Welch, the great British writer and artist, to his partner Eric Oliver; Brian Bouldrey's *Inspired Journeys*, a collection of travel writing that contains mostly LGBTQ writers; Julie Tarney's *My Son Wears Heels*, a memoir of how a mother learned to raise her gender nonconforming future drag queen son; and the very moving yet still funny memoir *Treehab*, by pioneering gay comedian Bob Smith, about his life with and beyond ALS.

#### WRITING YOUR OWN FUTURE

Right now I am starting to think about the future in a new way. You always know life is short in a kind of abstract, distanced way. But since



OPPOSITE PAGE: Raphael on the fire escape and Tommy by leaves with long hair, the year they met. ABOVE: Raphael at the inception of his relationship with Tommy. The couple together in Amsterdam.

my parents died I see, in a visceral way, how fragile life really is, how it vanishes in a split second, and I feel more urgency to do whatever I need to do. I do want to finish a novel; chapters of it have appeared in various stages in a range of anthologies, but I need to complete it.

The other thing Tommy and I talk about is how to stay excited and challenged. We are thinking, sometime in the near future, about dividing our time between our house in Madison and an apartment in London or Amsterdam. Recently I did a story for the *Wall Street Journal* on Tel Aviv. During that trip I met some survivors from my father's family and I realized again how lucky I am, as someone born to really the first generation of Jews who didn't face some form of abject oppression, and often some form of genocide.

And then there has been my own more personal, private run of luck. I've never had to live without love, and that's probably the most anyone can hope for. ■

## INVENTURE REALTY GROUP

Let us help you **Sell Your Home**

**Inventure is:**

- **Honest**
- **Experienced in the local market**
- **Excellent negotiators**
- **Readily available**
- **Free Staging & Seller Concierge Service**
- **Quick to return calls or emails**
- **Successful in getting results**
- **LGBT-owned & operated**

www.inventurerealty.com 608-729-0246  
701 E. Washington Ave, Madison

## Love, hope, success, family, security.

**Some things we all have in common.**

There's nobody like me to protect the things we all value. **Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.®**

**CALL ME TODAY.**

1101022.1 State Farm, Home Office, Bloomington, IL

# Treating the whole you...

By building strong, open and caring relationships with our patients and focusing on the importance of addressing all aspects of an individual's life, Wildwood providers are your partner in the journey towards a healthier you.

## WILDWOOD FAMILY CLINIC, S.C.

"HEALTHCARE FOR ALL AGES"  
www.wildwoodclinic.com

Since 1978 | Independently Owned | Individualized Care



# The Wordsmith

Through struggles with identity, death, dyslexia, and homophobia, author **Bridget Birdsall** found a way to reclaim her self, her memory, and her life through the power of the written word.

**I AM AN ARTIST, WRITER,** and published author. Since 1992 I've called Madison home. The firstborn of six children, I was raised in Milwaukee where my first two books are based.

*Double Exposure* is the story of an intersex teen athlete who overcomes bullying and learns to stand in her personal power. It's won numerous awards. The paperback edition, along with an LGBTQ youth-focused educational supplement is scheduled for release this October. May it land in the hands of millions of middle and high school students, teachers, and librarians.

*Ordinary Angels* is part memoir, part novel. Originally, I wrote the book for the purpose of personal healing but because of a promise I made to my son—to publish a book by the time I turned 50—it became my first self-published novel. Ironically, after years of pursuing traditional publishing channels, it was a book I wasn't sure I wanted out in the world that landed me a New York literary agent.

My books are for young people of all ages, including those that live within us, no matter how old we might be. I write fiction focused on the struggles of those whose stories need to be told, from those whose voices need to be heard.

Perhaps the most subversive and radical thing I've done in my life, besides coming out as a lesbian, has been to keep writing; despite dyslexic challenges, countless rejection slips and years of near-publishing misses, and the casual comments from straight-white-male editors that my books were not "commercial enough." This literary label seemed to me to be a kind of code for books that contained gay characters or content; the kind of code words that closed doors.

### LIFE CHANGING WORDS

But then came Amazon and Harry Potter—the series that changed the face of publishing forever, not only for young readers but the entire world! All because, in the dust and rubble of corporate layoffs and publishing mergers, a gay editor believed, like I do, that books can change the world.

That is why I suit up, and show up, and write.

This is why, though I was a single parent with a 13-year-old, and though it would require taking out school loans which I'm still paying back, and though I wasn't sure I was even a good enough writer, and though my spelling was still atrocious, I applied to Vermont College, for

a low-residency writing program located in Montpelier where I earned my Masters of Fine Arts, while holding down a job and raising my son.

All because once, a long time ago, I read a book by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings called *The Sojourner*. The year was 1971, I was eleven years old and starting sixth grade in a new school in the suburbs. I'd picked that book up off my mother's library pile, because I was in the practice of pretending to read and I was tired of being teased about the picture books my younger siblings had long since left behind.

I cried all the way down the aisle, only I didn't know why. Shouldn't I be happy? I remember wanting to turn around and run, but there was an enormous church filled with 300 of my parents' best friends.

Then, it happened. To this day I can't explain it, but suddenly, the words started making sense. And the protagonist, a grown man from a different place and time seemed to whisper to me in some secret language that only my soul could know.

This book was not a child's book, but my world was not a child's world. And my mother, her Irish eyes, bloodshot, her belly ballooning with the last of six children, sipped her wine and succinctly stated, "That's nice dear."

Archie Comics, Shakespeare or the Bible, it made no difference to her—at least I was reading. No more endless evenings flashing cards in front of my face, turning b's into d's, or covering up the pictures to the storybooks I had memorized—verbatim.

### DISCOVERING A DREAM

My mother had enough on her hands, and out of the bunch, I was the oldest, the dependable one, the one she could count on to help with the babies. As she saw it, life crushes us all soon enough, what could it hurt to let me dream?

Every girl needs a dream.

Especially a girl who struggles in school, a girl who can't sit still, a girl who refuses to wear skirts, a girl who wants to run around shirtless with random packs of wild boys, a girl who races her bicycle off home-made jumps until it breaks in half, a girl who just doesn't seem to know how to act like a girl. The kind of girl that a mother worries about, so...

So what if I wrote my letters backwards and upside down. So what!

I was reading. A trapdoor had sprung open in my brain and now, somehow, the words no longer tripped me up. No longer intimidated me. Words, I decided, were the key. I couldn't always sound them out, but with contextual clues, I discovered an amazing secret. Not in the words themselves, but in the spaces between the words, around the words, within the words, into the world of knowing.

It was in this world of knowing that I began to write. Sporadically. Spasmodically. Illegibly. No one could read what teachers dubbed my "chicken scratch," yet these efforts served me well for I became adept at plumbing the messages buried deep within the crusty shells of images and words.

Things I could comprehend but not explain: the wine stains, like blood, on mother's closet floor; the frantic quivering of my brother's chin when he'd wet the bed; the chalky soap scum on my sister's lips after she called the lady who came to help around the house the n-word.

### WRESTLING WITH TRUTH

Then something strange began to happen. The more I wrote, the more I began to remember: my brother Michael laid out in a tiny coffin, wear-

### Rise of Youth Theater



ROSEANN SHERIDAN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
CHILDREN'S THEATER OF MADISON

The TYA (Theater of Young Audiences) field is gaining the recognition it deserves in the professional theater industry. Recent articles in *American Theatre* magazine describe the theater for youth national scene "as enriching as it is entertaining, as high stakes as it is low barrier." CTM is now part of a national program called Young Playwrights for Change, which engages middle school students in creating plays around social issues. While recognized titles still drive much of season planning, we're finding ways of working new material and approaches into the work.

### The Melting Pot of Art



JONNIE DIXON, WRITER & MENTOR  
PROUD THEATRE

The art of spoken word is slowly sneaking its way into other forms. From video documentaries to one-person shows, artists from different genres are figuring out ways to utilize spoken word for what it is: the melting pot of art. Spoken word is a form of poetry that may contain elements of theatre, dance, vocal art, and more. Artists are now starting to recognize that not only can other art forms be incorporated into spoken word, but spoken word may also play a part in other arts. Take, for example, Nakila Robinson's *One Woman Show: "Little Big Woman."* Nakila used spoken word poetry to defy the typical standards of theatre. While other actors



Powerful Results.  
Real People.

## 414 N Sherman Ave Maple Bluff Tudor!

3 bdrms | 1 bath | 1,248 SqFt | \$249,900



Craftsman era details will have you in love at first sight! Arched doorways, hardwood floors & original woodwork are just a taste!



www.LauerRealtyGroup.com  
608.444.5725

ing a powder blue suit with a rosary wrapped in his three-year-old fingers and the gash on his forehead so finely powdered a person would hardly notice it after the accident.

Michael is in heaven now. We must not talk about it. Accidents happen. I was the oldest, the dependable one. The one they could count on. So like Michael's body, I buried my memories, my questions, and my knowing. And it worked, slowly, gradually, I began to forget, until I forgot everything—even who I was.

I put down my books, my paper, my pen, and picked up a basketball. The single thing I had a talent for. In high school I made the varsity team and I clung to that ball like a drowning swimmer clings to a life vest; it alone would be my ticket out.

Out to a Jesuit University in Omaha, Nebraska on a four-year Division I basketball scholarship. Out into the post Title IX world of women's sports. Out amidst a world of tumbleweeds and new ideas and an endless array of words. Including words whispered with disdain: gay, dyke, sinner.

Once again, I picked up my pen and began to write. On the court and on the page I pounded out my pain. Yet, wherever I went, a thin black thread tugged at my soul, as if I'd forgotten something, something important, and I was forever searching for it in the next basket, in the next town, on the next page.

I received a bonus Phys Ed grade for playing basketball. My only "A." At the end of the season someone outed my coach and she was fired. Rumors flew like torpedoes across campus and a few of my dorm mates simply disappeared, too.

"Lesbians." My roommate, a fellow freshman basketball player, shrugged her shoulders. "The school has a responsibility to protect us from predatory lesbians." I was in shock, and after a year of sleeping in dank hotel rooms across Iowa, Indiana, and South Dakota, then twisting my knee beyond repair, I quit.

IN THE COMPANY OF BOOKS

My father was furious. "If you want to stay at that fancy school, you pay for it!" he shouted through the phone.

So I did. I took out loans. I landed a job as a resident adviser and during those late night shifts, I wrote and wrote and wrote. By day, I took as many "ology"s as my schedule would allow: theology, sociology, psychology, and after I graduated with a degree in marketing (less math, more ology's) I soared off to save the world.

Perhaps if I poured myself into helping other people I wouldn't have time to worry about the feelings surfacing inside me.

In California's San Joaquin Valley, known to the natives as the Grapes of Wrath County, I learned to make solar breadboxes and red-hot tamales and how to fend off the wild dogs that fed on the scraps of the poor. I learned that poverty had many faces, and that there were those who had little money and those who had little heart.

Most importantly, I learned to be alone.



FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: Bridget's writing journals, with her son Quinn, and her late nephew Jeffrey Fehr, whom she dedicated *Double Exposure* to.

On a mattress, on the floor, with the dry breath of night air and the smell of rotting muskmelons and the heat pressing down on me, I learned to silently sing myself to sleep with books—cheap, bent, paperbacks, and moldy Penguin classics. Whatever I could lay my hands on. Harper Lee. Pearl Buck. Flannery O'Connor. Kate Chopin.

I loved women writers. Especially women of color, women who tackled tough issues head on, women who taught me what it meant to be a woman—beyond color, class, creed, or even sexual orientation. Maya Angelo. Alice Walker. Zora Neale Hurston.

FALLING BACK

Then came the call that mother had fallen ill from an allergic reaction to the gold salt injections used to treat her Rheumatoid Arthritis. A solution that washed through her veins with rivers of red wine and whatever blue or red or pink pills could be had at the time.

I was the oldest, the dependable one, the one they could count on. I flew home and cooked and cared for the youngest boys, 10 and 12. The ones that came after Michael died. At my father's urging, I joined the family real estate business, and then I began to make money. More money than I knew what to do with.

Never mind dreams. Never mind the writing. Like other women, I did what was expected of me, I met a man and married.

My mother was ecstatic. She insisted on a large Catholic wedding, and the night before I was to walk down the aisle I dreamed that I was trapped under the ice on the lake where I lived.

My friend tried to help me find a place to come up for air. My friend's father, a member of the Moral Majority, had recently dumped every picture of her into a large black trash bag and thrown it out onto her sister's front lawn.

The friend who'd introduced me to Ferron, Holly Near, and Chris Williamson. Who drank shots of double espresso and took me to my first gay bar in Portland, Oregon. My friend who patiently answered questions about her personal life, and who'd never been anything but loving and kind and incredibly generous.

If she was sinner, I should have realized that night, that I needed to get a different God. The next day, I cried all the way down the aisle, only I didn't know why. Shouldn't I be happy? I remember wanting to turn around and run, but there was an enormous church filled with 300 of my parents' best friends, three priests on the altar, one who'd tutored me when I played basketball in college, all ready to seal the deal. Not even my friend could save me now.

And love, I secretly decided, could fix this. After all, love was the answer to every problem, wasn't it? Determined to build the best life I could, I tried to be the wife I could be and before long I held in my arms

the most beautiful creature I had ever laid eyes on; a wrinkled, brown-skinned boy.

FALLING APART TO BUILD SOMETHING BETTER

But there was a problem—not with my baby, with me. Every time he cried, the blanched dead bones of my past grew flesh, gathered strength, and marched in my mind like a mad, thunderous army of truth.

Michael's in heaven, we must not talk about it. I could not eat. I could not sleep. I lost track of what was then and what was now and when I could no longer count the scoops to make my baby's milk, when I lost even my words, I checked myself in.

"It helps some people to start at the beginning and write," the young doctor said.

So I did. I wrote, and I cried, and I wrote. I wrote until my eyes swelled shut, until the sobs shook through my body and the pen slipped from my hand, until I fell into a deep sleep, and it wasn't until I woke that I fully understood what my writing meant to me—that this irrepressible inner drive I had to understand my world, to delve deeply into the subtext of my life, to put thought forms out into the world was as vital to my essence as the air I breathe.

Writing saved my life. Without it, I doubt I would have survived to raise my son.

Writing gave me the first glimpse of a "God" I could understand. Writing taught me that dyslexia was not a disability, but a gift, a leveling agent, like yeast, that would keep me humble enough to ask for help, willing enough to be persistent, and honest enough to accept who I really am.

STORIES SAVE LIVES

When I write, I cease to be, and I tune into my muses, my angels, who see the world like a dyslexic, from the inside-out, with x-ray eyes that can pierce the walls of any person or character's heart. No matter how hard or scarred it may be.

My muses are not burdened with burgeoning self-doubt and they define dyslexia as freedom, a way of seeing things differently and they whisper to me as the man in *The Sojourner* once did, in that secret language of the soul, ever-reminding me that I am not alone, nor have I ever been. There are people who think like me, feel like me, love like me, and the truth is gay or straight, black or white, Catholic or Jewish or Muslim or whatever, we are all more alike than we are different. Literature taught me this truth.

Only a week ago, the Assistant Surgeon General's office released a report on the health and well being of lesbian, gay, and bisexual high school students. Unfortunately the "T" was left out. The data supports the cold, hard truth that most of us already know: Teens who do not identify as heterosexual are at a far greater risk for isolation, depression, drug use, bullying, and suicide.

The suicide statistics for LGBTQ youth are staggering, and *Double Exposure* is dedicated to those we've lost to suicide, including my nephew, Jeffrey Fehr. And this is why we need to support LGBTQ writers. This is why we must read books, and pass them on, and write our own stories, and keep finding ways to fight the subtle forms of censorship that want to silence our voices.

Because we matter, our stories matter, our words matter, and books can transform, heal, and save lives! ■

*Bridget lives with her amazingly talented partner and creative cohort Roseann Sheridan, and their dog Sophie. To sustain her writing, she recently joined the Sprinkman Real Estate group, and will be offering a free poem for every home! Learn more at [bridgetbirdsall.com](http://bridgetbirdsall.com).*

used props, costumes, and voice-overs to bring a set to life, Nakila used poetry as a tool for narration and characterization. Also, dissect Beyonce's visual rendition of her latest album "Lemonade." While spoken word was not the main art form utilized in this visual, it served as the backbone for her story. Spoken word, combined with powerful images, added an element of ambiguity and depth to the album.

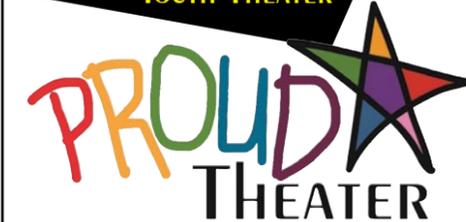
Beyond Marriage Equality



FRANZO LAW II, DIRECTOR PERFECT HARMONY MEN'S CHORUS

At a meeting for planning our next concert season a fellow singer asked, "Now that marriage equality is here, what's the next big thing?" I thought for a moment, then answered that I hope there will be focus on the less-visible members of the LGBTQ+ community. At our winter concert, we sang "Testimony," a piece originally commissioned for the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus. This piece was based on words from the "It Gets Better Project." It echoed many of the darker inner monologues all too familiar to the LGBTQ community, but it also offered hope. I attended a concert by One Voice Mixed Chorus-St. Paul, entitled "Gender UnChecked." This concert entertained, educated the audience about our trans brothers and sisters, and also broadened the conversation to include those within our community that do not, cannot fit into a predefined box. These themes and more were present in the works performed by the many choruses that attended GALA Festival in Denver this past July. I look forward to raising up those within our community who continue to struggle for recognition and equality.

LGBTQ+ YOUTH THEATER



**MADISON**  
Thursdays, 5:30pm - 9:00  
Starting September 8  
Trinity United Methodist  
1123 Vilas Ave., Madison

**WAUSAU**  
Wednesdays, 3:30pm - 6:30  
Now meeting!  
First Universalist Unitarian  
504 Grant St., Wausau

**SUN PRAIRIE**  
Mondays, 5:30pm - 9:00  
Starting September 12  
Sun Prairie United Methodist  
702 North St., Sun Prairie

**MILWAUKEE**  
Sundays, 2:00pm - 4:30  
Starting September 18  
Milwaukee LGBT Community Center  
1110 North Market St., 2nd Floor,  
Milwaukee

**PROUD THEATER BEYOND MILWAUKEE**  
Sundays, 11:00am - 1:30  
Starting September 18  
Milwaukee LGBT Community Center  
1110 North Market St., 2nd Floor,  
Milwaukee

NOW IS THE TIME TO JOIN!

Between now and November 30, if you are between the ages of 13 and 18, you can join Wisconsin's fastest growing LGBTQ+ youth theater organization, Proud Theater. Or, if you are between the ages of post high-school 18-24 years old, Proud Theater Beyond-Milwaukee is open for you!

FOR MORE INFORMATION: 608-222-9086  
[info@proudtheater.org](mailto:info@proudtheater.org)

**GREENBUSH BAR**  
914 Regent St., Madison 608-257-2874

**BUYING FRESH** **BUYING LOCAL**

Sicilian Cuisine in the Heart of Madison's Old Greenbush Neighborhood

MADISON  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA

John DeMain | Music Director

# The Planets: An HD Odyssey

SEPT. 23, 24, 25  
Overture Hall

*A spectacular, high-definition film accompanies Holst's masterpiece. Experience "The Planets" like never before!*

**GEORGE ENESCU**  
Romanian Rhapsody No. 1

**JOHN CORIGLIANO**  
Chaconne from *The Red Violin*

**GUSTAV HOLST**  
The Planets

John DeMain, *Conductor*  
Madison Symphony Orchestra

**buy tickets now!**  
madisonsymphony.org,  
the Overture Center Box Office  
or (608) 258-4141.

MAJOR FUNDING PROVIDED BY:  
NBC15 | Diane Ballweg | Capitol Lakes  
Friends of UW-Madison Astronomy  
The Gialamas Company, Inc.  
Nicholas and Elaine Mischler

ADDITIONAL FUNDING PROVIDED BY  
Analucia and Mark Allie, for our beloved "Doc"  
Judith and Nick Topitzes | Wisconsin Arts Board

feature



## Blue Prints for Ice

Artist **Anders Zanichowsky** recounts his time working, learning, and making art with ice and sun in the stark, unforgiving landscapes of the Arctic Circle.

**IN JUNE I SPENT THREE WEEKS** in the high Arctic as an artist in residence with The Arctic Circle program. Our group of artists, writers, and crew sailed on a barquentine tall ship in the international territory of Svalbard, an archipelago near the North Pole, which lies between Greenland and Franz Josef Land.

The landscape is a polar wilderness of permafrost, glaciers, moss-dotted mountains and rocky moraines jutting out over deep fjords. The seas are scattered with icebergs that have broken off the faces of glaciers that send off cracks of muffled thunder. The sun never sets in summer and never rises in the winter. During our time there it circled the sky like a clock running counter-clockwise: North around midnight, South about noon. In the winter snows, you

can see by the moon.

The oldest evidence of human activity in Svalbard are whaling sites from the 17th century. No indigenous people claim the islands. Two thousand people live in the port town of Longyearbyen ("Long Year City") and a few dozen scientists live year-round at Ny Åledund, the northernmost settlement in the world. Mainly, the islands are home to some of the toughest plants and animals in the world which, in this most remote of places so inhospitable to human life, are among the first we are endangering with the effects of global warming.

During our expedition I printed a series of cyanotypes. These "blue prints" or "sun prints" are an early form of photography, made using paper treated with a chemical solution that is sensitive to UV light. The cyanotype process was famously used in 1843 by Anna Atkins, a botanist and the first-known woman photographer, whose book on British algae was the first to be illustrated with photographic images: cyanotypes printed directly from her specimen.

The following was taken from the travel journal I wrote for the people who funded my project:

### JUNE 10: FLIGHT TO LONGYEARBYEN

[Notes recorded over the fjords near Trømso.]

Mountains cut with deep long lakes, thin snow caps, and naked-looking brown rock. Glaciers are the same but steeper, bluer in the water, taller, snow that looks like someone took the lands above the tree line and spun them. And at the beaches on the inlets—a pale, tropical-looking blue. If I had not seen it, I would not ask you to believe it.

You can easily imagine the ocean draining away down the earth. The shape of the water just reveals the evidence of the land. The clouds look like pictures of icebergs. It is impossible to tell our scale. Earlier, departing the runway in Oslo, the sunlight on the wing looked just like the sun.

What is happening to our position under the sun? I try to work this out with a drawing. Realize I have forgotten all my erasers in Madison.

**LANDING.** Sun over the airport and a rainbow on the water. Trickling water from the foothills to the runway.

The stratas in view from the bus into town:

the road, the shore, the bay, the mountains, the clouds

I remember my first bird in Svalbard. And after the first, too many to number.

Our group meets at the Karlburger's Pub. It is totally dark, built inside the mall, the back of the bar a wall of bottles, famous for its whiskey selection. ("The fourth best bar in the world!") I try to order a dirty martini. Stephen the bartender tells me plainly he hates mixing drinks. I order some kind of barrel-aged gin from Sweden in a glass.

We leave into daylight. It is extremely jarring, like going to the theater in the afternoon and the movie was shot inside a coalmine and then you all go out into white-hot sun and have a pleasant lunch. Except in our case, it's the middle of the night and we're up too late and the walk back is 30 more minutes up hill. Now the sun is in the north. Inside our room, the light is ruthless and seizes every crack in the shades.

It is late at night; time for bed. The thing about the time here: You have to tell yourself something about it.

### JUNE 12: EVE OF DEPARTURE ON THE ANTIGUA

Z! and Alex e-mail me about the shooting in Orlando. 50 killed, 50 injured. Latino night. Trans women of color performing. I go out onto the fire escape. Cry. With my mouth open, facing the mountain, there in the corner of the balcony in socks. Tiny flocks of birds are flying over the mountain which is melting and which came from a star and will turn into another one. The world is one place. The world is one place.

TIPS & TRENDS

### Embracing the New



MEGHAN RANDOLPH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
MUSIC THEATRE OF MADISON

The work being done by Madison theatre companies is daring. We're seeing more new works and premieres that haven't made it to Madison yet. It's important to continue to produce the classics, but I'm glad to see Madison embracing the new. This has been going on for a few years, but in the last year or two it's been really taking off. I would encourage audiences to take advantage of this and embrace the opportunity to see something you've never heard of. There's a good chance you'll be pleasantly surprised at how many wonderful plays and musicals are out there.

### Comfort in the Classics



BRENDA DEVITA, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
AMERICAN PLAYERS THEATRE

This marks the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare's legacy. For theaters like APT that specialize in the classics and are anchored in Shakespeare, it's a big deal. Celebrations abound, including one in Chicago that encompasses 850 events. At APT, we celebrated the actual day—April 23—with a vigil to his genius. For 24 hours, his words continuously filled the air of our outdoor Hill Theatre, spoken by anyone who wanted a chance. For me, it renewed one of my most closely held beliefs: that Shakespeare is for everyone. That the words of this long-dead poet beautifully illuminate the big stuff: love, loss, humanity.



arts  
on/campus



Your source for  
UW-Madison Arts  
events | news | academics | tickets

arts.wisc.edu

@uwmadisonarts



## TIPS & TRENDS

### Stand and be Counted



DANIELLE DRESDEN, PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
TAPIT/NEW WORKS ENSEMBLE THEATER

It's said that awareness is the first step toward addressing any sort of problem or challenge. Thanks to a study called "The Count," a collaboration between the Dramatists Guild and the Lilly Awards, more people are now aware that only 10.2% of the plays produced each year are written by people of color, and only 20.4% are written by women. Now, let's see if that awareness translates into a theatrical landscape that is more reflective of all the different kinds of people who are out there making theater. Of course, at TAPIT/new works, 100% of our productions feature women—and queer!—writers, but then as a company run by two lesbians, we did have a head start....

### Mixed Media Inspiration



PETER RODGERS, DIRECTOR OF MARKETING  
MADISON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Total immersion into music and visuals is something to behold. One of my most memorable experiences is how stories can be told with just music and film. "Pixar in Concert" is a beautifully composed series of clips from 14 Disney/Pixar animated films, with music performed live by a symphony orchestra. The performance by Alasdair Neale and the Marin Symphony (California) brought to life every one of the stories with a feeling and sensitivity I'd never known. Everyone, of every age, in the audience loved it.



### JUNE 13: DAY OF DEPARTURE. ARRIVAL AT YMERBUKTA

After dinner we approach our first glacier: It looks hazy. Soft. Close. The clear blue sky above it looks closer. It takes so much longer than you think to get there, then you look back and you're so much closer than you thought.

At one point we ask our guide Kristin, How far away are we? She points to an outcropping of rocks that look to be at the base of the glacier, far off in the distance. You see that line of rocks? When we reach that, we will be halfway to the glacier.

### JUNE 16: DRAWING

Afternoon: Landing at the so-called Lloyd's Hotel. A bright orange wooden shack like a beacon up on a cliff above the beach.

I go out to draw. I have brought everything. Away from where we landed, up over the crest of the hill, is another body of water and beyond this a glacier, sitting low between two mountains. I am fully aware of the futility of my attempting to draw this, or any Arctic landscape. Too big. Too blank. Too far away, the closer I am.

I suspect this problem has something to do with scale. My scale.

I lay on my stomach where a cluster of flowers are growing out of the gravel. I frame this behind the rock that shadows them. I sketch the flowers. Focus intently on the angle of each petal. These are the ends of Svalbard so far: The mountain peak. The tiniest flower.

The drawing is pretty terrible.

I draw from memory a picture that is both the landing at Yrmabukta and a map of our walk there. This turns out okay.

For the first time I wonder if I am feeling discouraged. Rushed. So far it has felt as though time is running exactly at the rate it should.

After dinner Sarah comes in to announce a first for The Arctic Circle program, and for many on the Antigua: We have sailed to 80° N! And will continue on sail for the rest of the night.

On June 18 we reached the pack ice at 81° N—the edge of the frozen sea that forms the cap of the North Pole. An incredible day. I collect pieces of the ice, with some idea I can print them.

### JUNE 18: PRINTING

At the end of the night I tell Sarah I'm worried my ice will melt before morning. But it's overcast—I have no idea how to print now. She says, Don't wait! Do it now, go now!

I have paper ready. I place it in the tray, with plexiglass on top to protect it. There is a light snow coming down and moisture in the air that will create bright white spots on the image.

I try to think. I hold a piece of pack ice in my hands as still as I can on top of the plex. Shouldn't this create at least some kind of shadow? The ice slips around. Will the shadow just be blurred? How long will this take? I can see the paper changing color—no shadow, but then



again, I can't see well. What am I even looking for?

I give it more time. Exposure is at 20 minutes now. Jana comes out, looking skeptical. Sascha comes out and raises an eyebrow: What are you doing? Will that work? I really don't know. Fritz comes out and wonders why I'm using plex. Couldn't I just put the ice on the paper? I tell him the limitations, as I see them: You only use water at the end. He asks what would happen if it got wet now? You would prematurely develop the solution. He says, Might be a cool effect, and goes inside.

I try a few more. I wrap the top of the ice in a towel, to better apply pressure with my hands without freezing. The ice starts melting down the face of the plex. I become aware that I am in the midst of failure and have no better idea but to see it through. Inside, everyone has gone to bed. Alex is baking the bread for breakfast. Jana tells me, You're trying to get blue fingers! I ask for a jug of water and wash the prints out on the deck. At least I will see the results in an instant—either an image, or a solid blue.

There's nothing.

### JUNE 19: PRINTING CONTINUED

The prints washed out because they were underexposed. That's the only reason, or at least the best one, why the water ran green instead of blue and no image held. So, the missing piece is time.

I listen to Fritz. The ice, where it touches the paper, will imprint itself in immediate white. The water, which melts off, should also print—perhaps very differently—along with the ice's shadow over the dry parts of the paper. I begin, knowing that of course this was the way to begin. I give it a full 60 minutes, ten times the exposure on Lake Monona last winter.

It holds.

I spend the day editioning the pack ice.

### JUNE 21: GLAD MIDSOMMAR!

Several in our group have talked about the meaning in landscapes. The value of objects, of things in nature. It occurs to me: The land here has no meaning; it even resists meaning. This is the most surprising thing so far.

On our landing I collect more glacier ice for printing. Fine ice—jagged pieces that Sascha says look like beehives. Smooth little pieces resembling coral.

Later: A bonfire on the beach. Songs, swimming, the ice in our drinks.

### JUNE 22: BEAR

I spend the morning printing more of the glacier. After lunch, our guide Marry Kristin comes and says: "Everyone, please remain very calm. We have spotted a bear. We have to remain very quiet on deck."

Rushing in silence. Everyone out. Those who have them pass around



"I'm **happy** because the atmosphere is **vibrant** and **inclusive**."

— Melvyn, graphic design student

"Instructors **take time** to have conversations with you here. I'm **learning** different perspectives on important issues."

Apply today!



madisoncollege.edu

Madison College. Find your Happy Place.

Madison College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs or activities. Inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies are handled by the Affirmative Action Office, 1701 Wright Street, Madison, WI 53706, phone (608) 263-4137.

# OutReach 24th Annual Awards Banquet



Friday  
September 23rd 2016

5-9PM

Monona Terrace  
[www.lgbt Outreach.org](http://www.lgbt Outreach.org)

## HANDMADE IN MADISON

JEWELERS WORKSHOP

391 N. SHERMAN AVE 608.251.7795 JEWELERSWORKSHOP.COM

## TIPS & TRENDS

There is something profound about visual images when combined with music that is transformative. I'm excited to experience the first concert in my new role as Director of Marketing with the Madison Symphony Orchestra: "The Planets: An HD Odyssey" on September 23-25, will envelope us in Holst's music and images that are certain to inspire our imagination.

### Diverse and Democratic Arts Spaces



HEATHER OWENS, AUDIENCE DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNICATIONS  
U.W.-MADISON ARTS INSTITUTE

John Baldacchino, the new Executive Director of the U.W.-Madison Arts Institute, "sees the arts as a community of diverse and dynamic practices that herald the vibrant character of a democratic space." Historically the intersection of arts and activism has been integral in calling out and changing social injustices. U.W.-Madison Arts and Humanities continue to encourage dialogue about contemporary issues and foster collaboration across campus and in the community. Recent examples include presentations by guest speakers Laverne Cox, David Henry Hwang, Anna Deavere Smith, and John Waters; performances/exhibitions of "2 Journeys, 1 Cause," "Bought & Sold: Voices of Human Trafficking," "Direct Message," "Smart People," and "Unhood Yourself"; and international traveling performances "Facing Home: Love & Redemption," "Performing the Jewish Archive," and "Project Indigo." We are excited to see a new generation of diverse artists and activists and their vision for implementing and modernizing the Wisconsin Idea.

binoculars. At first, a tiny movement which my brain only tells me I see as white. We approach closer. The bear is walking on a small rocky island with not much space on its shores before it rises into sheer, high cliffs. He (Kristin confirms it's a male) is circling the island in a clockwise direction. In the ship we follow very slowly. I ask Kristin if he's aware of us. He spotted us long before we spotted him.

Walking, their long necks take on the life of a fifth limb, loping around like one of their legs, casting about for smells the way the others find footing on the rocks. He walks carefully but steadily, which carries with it a kind of speed, although our bear is quite unhurried. He walks like he has walked here before.

Our bear is skinny. Most likely too skinny to survive the year. His fur hangs loose from his bones like a heavy piece of laundry. It is midsummer and he should be fat from the winter, which is when polar bears do their real hunting: eating the seals that live on the ice. On this land, our bear will struggle for food. There are only birds here, and these are nested out of reach.

We are thrilled to be seeing a bear until we see this one, walking around with his death. Up close we stop seeing him and find ourselves witnessing. This is what happens when seeing becomes stricken, pursued with the dedication produced by this hardest kind of watching: Seeing and unable to look away, watching and unable to preserve. Anguish at watching from the safety of a ship the largest predator on any land, shrinking from within his own body as he stalks and stalks the shore, maybe only heightens the impotence inherent in all seeing, in all witness.

#### JULY 1: LAST DAY IN SVALBARD

A walk to the church along the stream. It looks polluted: grayish brown, thick with sediment, like sludge. It is totally pure: water and minerals, washing down from the snow melt on the mountains. An industrial wasteland where the product is rocks; where the capital is time.

I am preoccupied by thoughts of home; news of more police violence in Madison. Depart 1:00 p.m. from Longyearbyen airport.

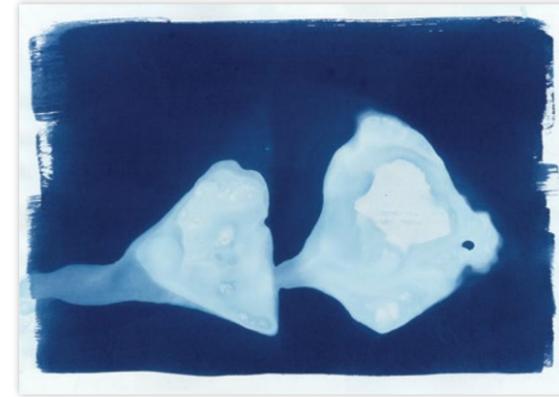
#### JULY 2: ARRIVAL IN HAMBURG

I sleep on the flight over mainland Norway. I sleep on the flight to Copenhagen. I sleep on the overnight train to Hamburg. Outside it is the same blurry green and blue as it was in the evening, leaving the station. I walk. There's a light rain. I take the hood of my jacket down and my head feels cool and wet like a beach stone. I sleep in the low light until ten thirty, until noon, until half past two.

What can I tell you about waking up in Germany? The dark isn't real here. The trees aren't either. A strong wind here only blows the window shut. The buildings are tall and close in like morphine: I can't see the horizon, but I also don't care. I can't tell if what I'm hearing is the thunder or the train.

After dinner, before sunset: I play a livestream of the guillemots in Hornøya. The birds chatter on, their cries rising up in an urgent and mysterious crescendo. Outside a crowd sings while an anthem plays, coming up and over the birds. It's the start of the Germany vs. Italy game. Every so often the shouts of the neighborhood reach across the open windows of the building facing mine and clasp together above the streets, straining in that singular mixture of angst and joy that accompany suspense and its painful relief. Jaaaaaaa! Aaaaaaaa! Ja, ah ah!

At the peak of the drama the local birds shout back at the neighbors. They are followed by sirens and car horns and fireworks for the rest of the night, all of which can create its own chaotic rhythm of overlap, which can be coupled with the whining guillemot laughter on the cliffs at the sea where they, in turn, can be watched, unseen. I have gone to the



Arctic, and the 21st century. The sun sets blue on the white, stone walls.

This project was funded by individual donors and the Madison Arts Commission, with additional support from the Wisconsin Arts Board.

You can see a selection of the cyanotypes from Svalbard this winter:

#### "Alternative Photographies"

Anders Zaniczkowsky & Eric Baillies

Overture Gallery III

December 13-March 5

Opening Reception: January 13, 6-8 p.m.

Artist Talk on Saturday, January 28 (time TBA)

For more images and writing visit:  
[anderszaniczkowsky.com/theartcticcircle](http://anderszaniczkowsky.com/theartcticcircle) ■

## Madison Physical Therapy

Working Towards A Better You.



Did you suffer a work related injury?  
Were you involved in an auto accident?  
Are you tired of long waits to access PT?

- Your Physical Therapist is YOUR choice!
- Faster care=Better results!

1605 Monroe St. • 608-957-7088 • [madisonptandconsulting.com](http://madisonptandconsulting.com)



Tiffany Virag

PT, OCS  
ORTHOPEDIC  
SPECIALIST

## What's important to you? Let's talk.



Cherie A Gon  
Financial Advisor

7780 Elmwood Ave Ste 206  
Middleton, WI 53562  
608-827-6769  
[www.edwardjones.com](http://www.edwardjones.com)

Edward Jones®  
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Member SIPC

"Thanks for the great work on our bathroom. It looks fabulous and we're very pleased!" **MARK POCAN**



Looking to **finish your basement** to create more living space?

Looks like it's...

TIME 2 REMODEL

[time2remodel.com](http://time2remodel.com)



## HOW DO YOU WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD?

Donate to Community Shares of Wisconsin and our member groups—for 45 years we've been your connection to our community's work for justice:

- OutReach
- GSAFE
- Perfect Harmony Men's Chorus
- New Harvest Foundation
- Fair Wisconsin Education Fund
- ACLU of Wisconsin Foundation
- Wisconsin Women's Network
- Interfaith Coalition for Worker Justice
- Working Capital for Community Needs
- NARAL Pro-Choice Wisconsin Foundation
- Wisconsin Network for Peace and Justice
- Center for Media and Democracy



Photo: ACLU of Wisconsin Foundation

MANY YEARS  
MANY VOICES  
ONE MOVEMENT since 1971  
COMMUNITY SHARES OF WISCONSIN  
[communityshares.com](http://communityshares.com)

COMMUNITY  
SHARES  
OF WISCONSIN

MADISON  
SYMPHONY  
ORCHESTRA

John DeMain | Music Director

# Beethoven's Pastorale

OCTOBER 21, 22, 23  
Overture Hall

**EDWARD ELGAR**

In The South (*Alassio*)

**MAX BRUCH**

Violin Concerto No. 1

**HENNING KRAGGERUD**

Three Postludes from *Equinox*

**LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN**

Symphony No. 6 (*Pastorale*)

John DeMain, *Conductor*  
Henning Kraggerud, *Violin*

**buy tickets now!**

[madisonsymphony.org](http://madisonsymphony.org),  
the Overture Center Box Office  
or (608) 258-4141.



MAJOR FUNDING PROVIDED BY  
Steinhauer Charitable Trust | Rosemarie Blancke  
Cyrena and Lee Pondrom | UW Health & Unity Health Insurance

ADDITIONAL FUNDING PROVIDED BY  
DeWitt Ross & Stevens S.C. | Audrey and Philip Dybdahl  
Wisconsin Arts Board



## To Enclave or Not to Enclave

Dick Wagner looks back at some of the efforts, realized or not, to create separate spaces for LGBTQ people in Wisconsin.

**WISCONSIN LGBTQ PEOPLE** have always faced a dilemma and a choice. The dilemma is how to deal with a homophobic society. In the pre-Stonewall days some people fled, like Glenway Wescott who went to Europe and settled in New York. He then penned a book of stories called *Goodbye Wisconsin* about the experience. Other gay men while exploring homosexuality in Europe would return to the state and build places or enclaves where they could lead their lives openly.

In the post-Stonewall era, while the main choice of the community was to throw themselves into liberating an oppressive society from its patriarchy and homophobia, the appeal of enclaves did not totally disappear. One of the post-Stonewall models floating in the 1960s counterculture was the hippie commune as an enclave of withdrawn space that also shared a back-to-the-land ethic.

**WELCOME TO THE GAY ALPS?**

So it is not surprising that the Wisconsin alternative press found the idea of a gay self-empowerment community attractive. Kaleidoscope in the fall of 1970 reported on an idea that had surfaced in California. They described it in a story titled "Gay Alps." The Los Angeles Gay Liberation Front (GLF) under the leadership of Morris Knight and Don Jackson proposed that many gays should move to a sparsely populated county (450 people) named Alpine in the high Sierras south of Lake Tahoe. GLF claimed to have 1200 gay "pioneers" signed up for the trek to the gay

refuge. The strategy was to move in enough gays to outvote the locals and establish a gay government.

Jackson believed, "Alpine can do more to end the oppression of homosexuals than the combined efforts of the homophile groups during the past 20 years." For lesbians there was to be employment in law and construction that was denied them elsewhere. Jackson told the press, "All oppressed people would like to have a place of their own, where they can govern themselves and be policed by in-group members."

The Wisconsin Womyn's Land Coop was reported as place where one could be without being hassled by men. It was mainly described as primitive, yet there was a sauna and dance floor in the barn.

Gov. Ronald Regan's office was quoted, as there was nothing the state could do to prevent the gay migration and possible takeover. The Alpine County Sheriff speculated, "A few of these critters will be found in the river sewed up in flour sacks." An Alpine judge thought issuing Queer Hunting Licenses was a fine idea. Rumors of vigilantes abounded. Christian activists also threatened to move in "missionaries" to counter the gay migration.

The Berkeley GLF condemned the Alpine idea as "separatist," but other GLF groups in New York and Florida were reported as supportive. By 1971 the Alpine County project

was abandoned, though there was some idle talk of seeking a place with a warmer climate.

**BIG DREAMS**

Nevertheless, the Alpine idea had an attraction for at least one Wisconsinite. Wally Jordan was from Rhinelander where he claimed an extensive homosexual network in the 1930s. During World War II he had gathered stories of oppression from other gay service people and hoped after the war to organize gays to obtain their rights.

Jordan was something of a dreamer, able to spin out schemes in his mind but less solid in their execution. After the war he settled in Milwaukee and was involved with a flying saucer group, the Inter-Continental Aerial Research Foundation. By 1970 he was proposing to move "back up north, and settle in the least populous county in the state, hoping to eventually set up a more sensible 'operation Alpine' there." His target was Florence County with a 1970 population of 3,298, the smallest county in the state with the exception of Menominee County, which was Native American tribal land.

Jordan envisioned a Freedom Corporation to purchase land. "Of course, the actual location of this citadel would have to be kept secret until everything is in readiness to move." He feared the locals would blow up the bridges if they knew they were coming. A migration of 5,000 gay people was his vision. He also considered they should include some bisexual people, "to keep the project from dying out like the Shakers did," who had practiced celibacy. Gays were to be trained in woodworking to use the plentiful local timber. Florence County need not have worried even if they had but known. No gay separatist migration in Wisconsin ever occurred.

**WOMEN'S WORK**

Another Wisconsin enclave strategy, however, evolved from the attacks on patriarchy. There were elements of lesbian separatism in the Wisconsin women's community. These were especially prominent in Milwaukee and La Crosse. These would be supportive of a successful enclave that lasted decades. The pages of the feminist magazine Amazon published in Milwaukee showed special affection for D.O.E. Farm, or Daughters of the Earth Farm near Norwalk. The Wisconsin Womyn's Land Cooperative owned the farm. In 1980 Norwalk was a small place of 517 in Monroe County. The 80 rural acres, purchased in April 1977, was called "some of the prettiest land east of the Mississippi," in the unglaciated Driftless area of the state.

To use the land one had to be a Co-op mem-

ber, initially costing annually \$2 per \$1,000 of gross income. Purposes included conserving the land and developing alternative skills. One assertion was that "patriarchal culture is a death culture, unconsciously (or consciously) raping, polluting, and slowly killing the earth..." In 1980 there were 250 members. There were fees for camping and classes as there was a mortgage to pay off. Goats were raised for milk and vegetables grown and trails built. The magazine also noted a similar experiment in Arkansas.

Being an all-womyn environment, D.O.E. Farm permitted the rebuilding of feminist culture "with a minimum amount of contamination/interference from the straight patriarchal value system." The rule was, "there would be no intrusions by men, for none were welcome on the land." D.O.E. Farm could also provide a resource to isolated rural women without battered woman shelters or lesbian centers as they had in some cities. It might be space to recover from burnout or a place to heal. A July 1980 story featured one woman's experience. When she and friends woke in their trailer to the sound of a hundred chickens, they laughed because in the dark they had chosen the spot to park five feet from the henhouse. The friends enjoyed the communal fire ring and looked forward to the solar showers that were being built.

D.O.E. Farm was also featured in *Leaping La Crosse News*, the lesbian separatist newsletter of Western Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Womyn's Land Coop was reported as place where one could be without being hassled by men. It was mainly described as primitive, yet there was a sauna and dance floor in the barn. The newsletter debunked the stereotype that the hosts were "a bunch of dogmatic, sprout-eating, spiritually and politically correct, man-hating separatists," but instead were wonderful women. It positively identified it as "a growing, evolving example of Lesbian womyn engaging in a cooperative effort."

Enclave strategies might have attractions for some in Wisconsin, but most of the state's LGBTQ community believed in engagement and claiming their rights in the civic life of the state. The path of that engagement would result in remarkable political victories as shown in the first gay rights law in the nation and a string of out elected officials including the only state with three out members of Congress. ■



**DICK WAGNER** (rdickwagner@gmail.com), openly gay former Dane County Board Chair and co-chair of Governor Earl's Commission on Lesbian and Gay Issues, is working on gay Wisconsin history and welcomes topics and sources.



**POVERTY IS**

DROPPING OUT OF COLLEGE TO HELP PROVIDE FOR MY FAMILY

The thing about poverty is you don't always see it.

United Way uncovers the needs of our community to create a big picture of the issues at hand and initiate the strategies to solve them.



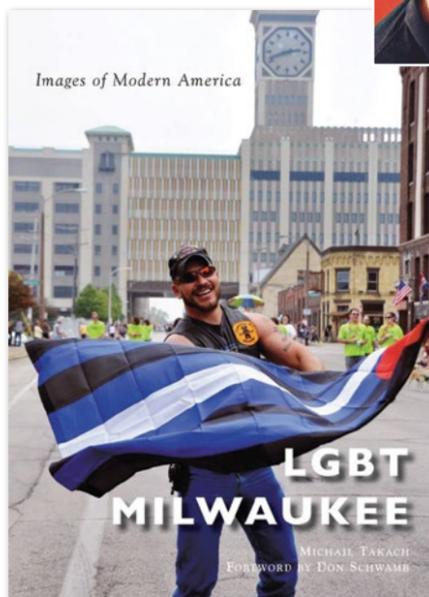
# Milwaukee's LGBT History

A Q&A with author **Michail Takach** about the recent publication of his book, *LGBT Milwaukee*, chronicling the LGBTQ history of Brew City.

**GROWING UP IN A TIME** of great downtown reinvention, Michail Takach became fascinated with Milwaukee's urban culture, landmarks, and neighborhoods at a young age. He's been chasing ghosts ever since.

A lifelong Milwaukeean, Michail dreams of the day when time travel will be possible, as he's always felt born too late. Fearlessly exploring forbidden spaces and obsessively recording shameless stories, Michail brings local color to the often colorless topic of local history.

As an author, archivist, and communications professional, Michail works with community organizations, including Milwaukee Pride, OnMilwaukee.com, and Historic Milwaukee to broaden the scope of historical appreciation beyond the "same old, same old" textbook stories.



**WHY DID YOU DECIDE TO TACKLE THIS PARTICULAR PROJECT? WHY DO YOU FEEL IT'S IMPORTANT TO CATALOGUE LGBTQ HISTORY, ESPECIALLY IN THE MILWAUKEE AREA?**

Hidden history fascinates me, and LGBTQ history especially so. I moved to Milwaukee's historic Fifth Ward neighborhood just as the nightlife strip at 2nd and Pittsburgh started to disappear. For 10 years, I watched as longtime landmarks—and the elders who enjoyed them—started to disappear from the landscape. Gentrification and renewal often come with the cost of lost heritage. I realized the time was now to capture this history before we no longer knew it. In partnership with the Wisconsin LGBT History Project, I dove deeper into our untraced cultural ancestry than ever before, and I still haven't stopped. In fact, we had to remove an entire chapter from the book, because there was more content than anyone expected.



**WHAT IDEAS DID YOU ALREADY HAVE ABOUT THE HISTORY OF THE AREA, AND WHAT CHANGED/WHAT DID YOU LEARN DURING THE PROCESS?**

Growing up in the '80s and '90s, I always understood LGBTQ nightlife to be concentrated in Walker's Point, with a handful of outliers here and there. I'm increasingly fascinated by how far and wide "gay bars" were actually scattered throughout Milwaukee, and how only in recent decades did they become concentrated in a "gayborhood." It's amazing to see how many longtime landmarks were operating in plain sight, integrated into city blocks at places like 19th and North, 27th and Michigan, 12th and Vine, 18th and Vliet—places that few Milwaukeeans would consider nightlife destinations today, and may have never actually visited in their lifetimes. In fact, Milwaukee's scene was so developed by the 1960s that over 30 known "gay bars" had already opened by the 1969 Stonewall Riots. I don't know that I would have ever expected that.

**ANY PARTICULARLY STAND-OUT FACTS OR EVENTS THAT YOU CAN SHARE?**

What stood out most to me, throughout my research, was the incredible spirit, courage, and resilience of LGBTQ elders. In today's world of hookup apps, genderfluid celebrities, and same-sex marriage, we can barely even understand what it was like to live proud in a time when gays and lesbians were told every single day that they had nothing to be proud of.

The media wasn't just openly hostile and hateful, it was also demonizing and dehumanizing. Local newspapers didn't start using the word "homosexual" until the 1960s. Prior to that, gays and lesbians were referred to as "sexual deviates," along with rapists, child molesters, and sex workers.

In the mid-1960s, a local judge actually declared war on Milwaukee's "deviate" community and vowed to take back Juneau

# Madison LGBTQ Archives Update

U.W.-Madison Archives is helping preserve stories from Madison's vast queer past. You can contribute your own materials to the Archive. Visit us online at [go.wisc.edu/LGBTQ60s](http://go.wisc.edu/LGBTQ60s).

## The Back Door: Madison's first gay bar

In December of 1972, Rodney Scheel opened *The Back Door*, the first exclusively gay bar in Madison's history and the first bar owned and operated by an openly queer-identified person. Located at 46 North Park St. at Spring St., patrons entered through the rear of the building, and followed the stairs to the bar in the basement. At the bottom of the stairs was a life-size mural of Dorothy and Toto from the *Wizard of Oz* with the quote, "Toto, I have a feeling we're not in Kansas anymore."

At the time, few bars in Madison were welcoming to the Madison lesbian community. In 1973 a group of lesbians approached Scheel about having a dedicated lesbian night at *The Back Door*. Scheel agreed, making Thursday Women's Night at *The Back Door*, which is seen in the pictures here. This tradition continued until the bar closed in 1978 and Scheel moved his full efforts to his new business, the *Hotel Washington*.

Photos from Judy Greenspan and Greg Scheel. Funding has been generously provided by the New Harvest Foundation, Inc. and the George L. Mosse Program in History. ■



Park for "normal" people. One of the casualties of this war was Elroy Schulz, a local brewery worker who was arrested for propositioning a police officer. Although the officer claimed to have only hit Elroy once in the process of apprehension, he died the next morning after being released from police custody. The officer, who just happened to be a boxing champion, was cleared of all charges and applauded for making Milwaukee safer for "normal" people. There were no protests, vigils, parades or memorials for Elroy. He died without even having a chance to tell his side of the story. Fifty years later, we cannot forget that this is where we came from, and could find ourselves again if we don't learn from history. The book is a tribute to Elroy, and all of the nameless men and women of Milwaukee who endured injustice, violence, and murder just trying to be who they really were.

**WHEN AND WHERE CAN PEOPLE FIND THE BOOK?**

*LGBT Milwaukee* was released on August 22, and is available at the Arcadia Publishing website as well as Amazon, BarnesandNoble.com and other retailers. All purchases benefit Milwaukee Pride, Inc., as the author is donating commissions to the 501c3 to establish local LGBTQ history programs.

Start your purchases at Milwaukee Pride's Amazon Smile page and an additional .5% will be donated directly to the organization: <http://bit.ly/mkepride16>. ■



## New Harvest Foundation

is the only foundation in South Central Wisconsin that channels charitable contributions exclusively to organizations working to promote lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights, services, culture and community development. Founded in 1984, New Harvest Foundation is operated by a Board of Directors, along with other volunteers. It pools contributions of hundreds of donors each year to provide grant money to LGBT causes. We raise money to give back!

**Applying for a grant just got easier. The entire process can be completed online.**

Three times a year, New Harvest accepts – from individuals, groups and/or organizations – innovative and compelling project proposals that seek to address the unmet or undermet needs of LGBT individuals and groups in our communities, striving to create positive change in the areas of social service, social change, public education, health care, arts and culture, and development of LGBT communities. These projects empower and support our lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities.

## Support Us

You can make a secure donation on our website or contact us for information about planned giving. Please consider joining one of our committees, volunteering at an event, or becoming a member of our board.



[newharvestfoundation.org](http://newharvestfoundation.org)  
Find us on Facebook!

**2016-2017 StageQ Season**

**Casa Valentina**  
by Harvey Fierstein directed by Michael Bruno  
July 22-August 06, 2016

**Commander**  
by Mario Correa directed by Kathleen Tissot  
October 07-22, 2016

**Queer Shorts 2.1: Queer Love**  
Various Artists  
February 10-18, 2017

**Perfect Arrangement**  
by Topher Payne directed by John Siewert  
April 28-May 13, 2017

**Die Mommie, Die**  
by Charles Busch directed by Michael Bruno  
June 16-July 01, 2017

**The Bartell Theatre**  
608 • 661 • 9696  
113 East Millin Street  
Madison, WI 53703  
stageq.com  
bartelltheatre.org

Scan here to join our mailing list

**outUgo!**  
AWESOME PET CARE.

DOG WALKING • DOG & CAT SITTING  
HOUSE SITTING • BELLY RUBS

Call us **today** for a complimentary meet & greet!  
**608.268.9161**

www.madison.outugo.com

serapdog 100% guarantee  
bonded & insured

**IMPROVE → OUR PETS**

OURLIVESMADISON.COM

**NAME** Clarke  
**OWNERS** z  
**HOW DID YOU FIND YOUR PET?** My sister found her at a shelter she volunteers at.  
**AGE** 6 months  
**SEX** Female  
**BREED** Husky and Shepherd mix (we think?)  
**BIRTHPLACE** Waco, Texas  
**RESIDENCE** Madison, WI  
**OCCUPATION** Chaser of deer, part-time dishwasher and floor cleaner  
**FAVORITE TOYS** The stuffed monkey my sister bought her when she picked her up from the shelter.  
**FAVORITE LEISURE ACTIVITIES** Splashing around in her kiddie pool and helping re-landscape the yard  
**FAVORITE FOODS** Absolutely anything, especially peanut butter or mulberries  
**PET PEEVES** Deer in the back yard, other animals rejecting her enthusiastic friendship  
**LEAST FAVORITE PHRASE** Clarke, be quiet!  
**IF PETS COULD TALK, WHAT WOULD YOURS SAY?** HI, LET'S BE BEST FRIENDS! Should I run first or should I just chase you first? Wait, is that food in your hand?

**Breakfast and Lunch served daily**  
**Dinner served Tuesdays through Saturdays**

**DAISY CAFE & CUPCAKERY**  
www.daisycafeandcupcakery.com  
2827 Atwood Ave. Madison, Wis. 53704 • (608) 241-2200

**2827 Atwood Ave (608) 241-2200**  
info@daisycafeandcupcakery.com

**Creative Cupcakes baked in-house daily.**

Providing the best care for your best friend

**DEER-GROVE**  
Veterinary Clinics LLC.

535 Southing Grange  
Cottage Grove, WI 53527  
608-839-5323  
www.deergrovevet.com  
deergrovevet@deergrovevet.com  
A Full Service Small Animal Clinic

**NAME** Reggie  
**OWNER** Leanne  
**HOW DID YOU FIND YOUR PET?** Dane Co. Humane Society  
**AGE** 3  
**SEX** Male  
**BREED** Nova Scotia Duck Toller mix  
**BIRTHPLACE** Unknown  
**RESIDENCE** Mostly the couch or my bed!  
**OCCUPATION** Bed warmer!  
**FAVORITE TOYS** Stuffed squirrel  
**FAVORITE LEISURE ACTIVITIES** Sleeping  
**FAVORITE FOODS** Anything that I'm eating!  
**PET PEEVES** He doesn't like getting his nails trimmed  
**LEAST FAVORITE PHRASE** Get down  
**IF PETS COULD TALK, WHAT WOULD YOURS SAY?** I'm still hungry!

**waterproof pooch**

Don't let the rain chase you and your dog inside. Snap a packable rain poncho onto your dog's leash, just in case.

**bad dog frida**

442.6868 baddogfrida.com 2094 atwood ave. m-f 10-7, sa-su 9-5

parking in back

purrrrrsonal matchmaking for every family!

**Angel's Wish**  
WWW.ANGELSWISH.ORG

Pet Adoption • Microchipping • Retail Store  
Educational Resources • Volunteer Opportunities

**NAME** Armani  
**OWNER** Michael Braatz  
**HOW DID YOU FIND YOUR PET?** Underdog Pet Rescue  
**AGE** 1 year  
**SEX** Male  
**BREED** Tabby Cat  
**BIRTHPLACE** Milwaukee (Stray)  
**RESIDENCE** Michael's Apartment  
**OCCUPATION** Server/Male Model/Drag Queen  
**FAVORITE TOYS** Catnip, Bells  
**FAVORITE LEISURE ACTIVITIES** Napping, Watching Birds, Netflix with Dad  
**FAVORITE FOODS** Shrimp, Salmon  
**PET PEEVES** Lack of Attention, Bathtime  
**LEAST FAVORITE PHRASE** See you after work!  
**IF PETS COULD TALK, WHAT WOULD YOURS SAY?** Is it nap time yet?

Madison's Premier Running Specialty Store

**Berkeley**  
Running Company

**Proud Sponsor of GSAFE's WALK/RUN/EAT**

berkeleyrunningcompany.com  
2852 University Ave • 608-395-BERK  
Weekdays 10am - 8pm • Sat 10am - 7pm • Sun 10am - 6pm

**The Sow's Ear**

Needles and caffeine - Feed your addictions!

CAFE/BAKERY | Fresh, Daily Lunch Menu Items  
COFFEE | Featuring artisan coffees from Ancora, Kickapoo, Ruby, Anadyne & many more!  
SMOOTHIES | Fresh Fruit, Chocolate & Espresso  
KNITTING | Yarns, Accessories & Classes  
We use local produce and cheese

608-848-2755 125 S. Main Street, Verona, WI knitandsip.com

## Shaping, Strengthening and Engaging Our Faith.

Join us to help realize a more loving and just world.



203 Wisconsin Avenue • Madison, WI 53703  
608-256-9061 • www.fumc.org



## Are You Passively Funding Firearms?

Abigail Churchill talks to an investment advisor about ways to put your money where your morals are with socially responsible investments.

**IN THE WAKE OF THE PULSE SHOOTING,** I have heard many opinions expressed regarding the controversy around gun control. For the folks seeking greater restrictions to firearms access, there has been one particular message rising to the top: how can I help? There are many different ways in which we could take action. This article sheds light on one of those little-known ways: through Socially Responsible Investments (SRI).

One quick note: I recognize how deeply economic disparities impact our community, and I want to acknowledge the fact that many of our community members may not be able to contribute to an investment or retirement fund. Additionally, there are some in the community who fundamentally disagree with using the economic market for personal financial gain. For those of you who can and do, even if only through an employer-sponsored retirement plan, I hope you find this information useful.

### SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENTS (SRI)

I had the opportunity to interview Carrie Schmidt, a registered representative and Financial Planner with Lincoln Financial Advisors Corp., for this article. Below is a transcript of our interaction. Carrie, as a registered representative, is the only one of the two of us who can specifically discuss SRI funds.

### LET'S START WITH THE BASICS. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO "INVEST" IN A COMPANY? AND WHY MIGHT IT MATTER WHERE YOU INVEST?

When you purchase stock, say either on its own or in a mutual fund, you are becoming an owner of the company. If the company succeeds and profits, it will likely show up in the price of your stock. In the case of bonds, again whether or not you own them outright or in a mutual fund, you are lending money to a business and in return they are paying you an interest rate. Either way, you are essentially supporting the company and hoping for their success. As a result, it may be against your moral fiber to invest in certain companies due to their ethics or corporate governance.

### HOW, AND WHY, DO SOME PEOPLE INVEST?

Many of us invest so we can achieve a goal, such as saving for retirement, helping our kids fund college, or building a legacy for which we may be remembered. One thing some investors may not have paid much attention to is the type of company or companies in which they are invested. Now, more than ever, some investors are concerned.

### WHAT IS A SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE INVESTMENT?

An SRI (Socially Responsible Investment) or ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) investment is just like any other investment that you might have, yet the pool of stocks or bonds that are limited to fit within different constraints. For instance, some SRI funds exclude weaponry and firearms whereas some limit their investments to only include women-lead companies.

### CAN YOU GIVE ME AN EXAMPLE OF WHAT MIGHT BE IN AN SRI INVESTMENT FUND?

I will answer this from the perspective of what's not in SRI: you can screen out nearly any industry you are not comfortable investing in and limit your investment options to things you are comfortable with. For example, some investments do not include banks, alcohol and tobacco, or fossil fuels.

### IF SOMEONE WANTED TO SCREEN ALL FIREARMS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION FROM THEIR INVESTMENTS, HOW WOULD THEY DO THAT?

If your investments include a non-SRI mutual fund, unfortunately, information about your stocks is not readily available. Most reports only provide the top 10 to 15 stock holdings in a mutual fund, and that is only looking at one point in time. Mutual fund managers can, and often do, greatly change the mixture of stocks they are invested in on any given day. So though you might not have stock in XYZ Guns today, you might tomorrow. Other than working with an advisor that specializes in SRI investing, I would suggest doing a lot of research online and looking at the prospectus for any investment you are interested in. That is where you would find the limitations and focus of the investment.



IMPROVE → OUR MONEY

OURLIVESMADISON.COM

### WHO CAN INVEST USING SRI PRINCIPLES?

Most anyone can invest responsibly; it's just a matter of what they want to screen out. In many employer-sponsored retirement plans at least one SRI fund is offered. In the case of an IRA (Individual Retirement Account), which is not connected to an employer, or a non-retirement account, the investor has the ability to invest most anywhere they choose. Other than the minimum investment level determined by the investment company, there are no other restrictions. If you choose to invest in a single company's stock because you like their stance on certain issues, you can purchase their stock on your own through a brokerage account or with the help of a stockbroker.

It is worth noting that SRI investing is just the opposite of index funds investing, which is now a recent trend. An index fund is one that mimics a segment of the market. If you are invested in an S&P 500 Index fund, you are sure to be invested in guns and the like.

As an aside, it is not possible to invest directly in any index. The performance of an unmanaged index is not indicative of the performance of any particular investment. The performance of an index assumes no transaction costs, taxes, management fees, or other expenses. Past performance does not guarantee future results.

### SO I COULD SCREEN OUT FIREARMS PRODUCERS/DISTRIBUTORS AND SCREEN IN COMPANIES WHO ARE SUPPORTIVE OF THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY?

Possibly, but it sounds easier than it really is. Let's suppose supporting the LGBTQ community and screening out firearm manufacturers are important topics for you. The screens for the funds that focus on LGBTQ equality typically include equal and fair pay to all persons, regardless of sexual orientation, and there are only a few options out there for this. On the other hand, there are several more options that screen out weapons. There is no guarantee that a weapon manufacturer will not qualify as an employer that provides workplace equality. As a result, there may be a chance that a weapons manufacturer might be part of the LGBTQ equality fund, or a bigoted employer might screen out weapons. For you to get fully diversified it may require investing a portion in both places. Many investors feel this solution is a comfortable compromise and still conveys their intentions of supporting businesses that share their same values.

### WHAT WOULD YOU SAY IS THE BENEFIT OF USING AN SRI FUND? ARE THERE ANY DOWNSIDES?

Investing in SRI funds is a growing movement, as it allows you to "put your

Simply beautiful.



naLEDI RINGFINDER



Goodman's Jewelers - 220 State Street. Madison - 608.257.3644

Best OF MADISON

2015: FOOD & DRINK CHOCOLATE

Madison magazine

CHOCOLATERIAN

EVERYDAY. CHOCOLATE.

2004 Atwood Ave  
Madison, Wisconsin 53704

Madison Public Library  
201 West Mifflin St

chocolateriancafe.com

## ADVISING LGBT FAMILIES POST-WOLF AND OBERGEFELL

ESTATE PLANNING  
TAXES  
PRE-NUPTIAL AGREEMENTS  
IMMIGRATION  
DIVORCE

## FORMING AND PROTECTING FAMILIES

PARENTAGE • ADOPTION  
ASSISTED REPRODUCTION  
FOSTER PARENTING  
GUARDIANSHIPS  
APPEALS



the LAW CENTER for  
CHILDREN  
& FAMILIES

ATTORNEYS FIGHTING FOR  
LGBT FAMILIES FOR OVER 20 YEARS

WWW.LAW4KIDS.COM • 608-821-8200  
450 S. YELLOWSTONE DRIVE, MADISON, WI 53719



## Sedrick Huppert

licensed massage therapist  
license #12960-146

715.495.9865

sedrickhuppertlmt@gmail.com

25% OFF YOUR FIRST  
THREE MESSAGES

SHOULD  
HAVE  
STRETCHED  
BEFORE  
THAT  
RUN



money where your mouth is,” so to speak. You, along with many others, are clearly stating that you are not interested in supporting certain behaviors or products. On a large-scale, as the balance in investments shifts from non-SRI to SRI, eventually there will be pressure on the companies that you are against which will cause change. There is real evidence showing that certain company’s mantras are outdated and will eventually be less profitable. For instance, fossil fuels. The idea is eventually fossil fuels will no longer be utilized as their availability dwindles. From a purely growth-oriented perspective, it does not make sense to invest in a dying industry. An unfortunate downside to screening companies is the cost involved in researching their ethics, governance, and products. As a result, the typical SRI fund has a higher expense ratio than a non-screened fund. The good news is that despite the higher fees, many have performed just as well.

On a small scale, by screening out firearms/weapons manufacturing using SRI funds, you are restricting the flow of money to manufacturers in the market. On a larger scale, this small change could have a significant impact on the amount of firearms being

produced and distributed. According to a recent market research report by IBISWorld, the Guns and Ammunition Manufacturing industry’s annual revenue is \$13.5 billion. It could drive up the cost of a firearm, which might limit access to some, if not most, of the myriad of options currently available. Driving up the cost could also restrict the number of guns an individual might own. In 2013, the average number of firearms in a typical gun-owning household was 8.1 and rising.

If you wish to participate in the fight for greater restrictions to firearms access, using an SRI fund is just one of the many ways in which you could engage in the discourse. If you are investing in your employer-sponsored retirement plan, such as a 401(k), 403(b), or SIMPLE IRA, talk to your provider about what funds are in your account. If you invest in an IRA and/or a non-retirement account, investigate where this money is going. If you are invested in an indexed fund, consider an SRI fund instead. Making these small-but-meaningful changes to your investments can help you discontinue the passive funding of firearms manufacturing.

Your contributions may be funding companies you would not support otherwise. Take

advantage of the opportunity to be as conscientious of an investor as you are a conscious consumer.

Mutual funds are offered by prospectus. An investor should carefully consider the investment objectives, risks, charges, and expenses of an investment company before investing. Read the prospectus carefully before you invest or send money. The investment return and principal value of an investment will fluctuate with changes in market conditions so that an investor’s shares when redeemed may be worth more or less than the original amount invested. ■



**CARRIE SCHMIDT** is a registered representative and investment advisor representative with Lincoln Financial Advisors Corp., a broker/dealer (member SIPC) and registered investment advisor. CRN-1545093-071216



**ABIGAIL CHURCHILL** is an associate attorney with Koritzinsky & Karls, LLC and works part-time for Lincoln Financial Advisors.



## Sobering Up

Diverse & Resilient’s **Kristen Ramirez** digs into Wisconsin’s problematic relationship with alcohol and how abuse disproportionately impacts LGBTQ communities.

**DID YOU KNOW THAT**, unlike most of the United States, Wisconsin has 2.7 times the amount of bars as grocery stores? In Wisconsin it’s easier to buy alcohol than it is to buy groceries. Amidst facts like this and 24/7 Wall Street’s recent rating of 11 of Wisconsin’s cities as the “drunkiest cities in America,” it is no surprise that alcohol is a large component of our state’s culture and history.

Wisconsin is home to some of the oldest and largest breweries. On top of this, alcohol is affordable here. It has some of the lowest tax rates (dollars per gallon) in the United States. While alcohol is a staple in Wisconsin culture, alcohol abuse continues to affect the LGBTQ community in a substantial way.

When looking at scientific studies, findings show alcohol and substance abuse continues to be a relevant issue among both LGBTQ adults and youth. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA) Center for Substance Abuse Treatment reviewed 16 studies focused on substance use or abuse problems in the LGBTQ population and the reports repeat-

Our alcohol-reduction program, Thinking Under the Influence, looks to give LGBTQ young people knowledge and skills to reduce the risks associated with using alcohol.

edly displayed that gay men and lesbians have greater substance abuse problems than straight/cisgender people. When looking specifically at LGB youth alcohol abuse, the 2013 Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), a national survey conducted every other year by the Center for Disease Control that collects self-reported health-related information from students in ninth-to-twelfth grade, reveals information similar to that of adults. The survey showed 34.2% of LGB students surveyed reported alcohol use before age 13 compared to 13.2% of straight students surveyed. Furthermore, the 2013 Milwaukee YRBS data revealed 23.2% of LGB youth reported binge drinking in the past 30 days compared to 10% of straight students.

While these numbers display some of the

realities of alcohol and substance abuse in the state, the numbers only show part of the story. The high percentage of alcohol and substance abuse among LGBTQ people requires much attention, but the greater systemic issue is the disparity of rates between two groups. An individual or group’s health, functioning, quality-of-life outcomes, and risks are affected by a plethora of specific economic and social conditions. These conditions are called the social determinants of health. Perceptions of discrimination, racism, homophobia/transphobia/biphobia, and access to health care are just a few examples of these social determinants. Often, differences in health, like these higher numbers of alcohol and substance abuse in the LGBTQ community when compared to other groups, are linked to social determinants.

At Diverse & Resilient, we recognize high rates of alcohol use and abuse affect the LGBTQ community, but we also see the rates as influenced by the continual presence of discrimination and rejection of LGBTQ people, adults and youth alike. Our alcohol-reduction program, Thinking Under the Influence, looks to give LGBTQ young people knowledge and skills to reduce the risks associated with using alcohol. Not only do young people learn skills that help them in social settings where alcohol is present, but they also can be trained as Youth Health Promoters to talk to peers about harm-reduction strategies.

Through this program, we are taking steps to not only raise awareness about the high levels of alcohol abuse in the LGBTQ community, but also to equip LGBTQ youth with skills that can help them be healthy adults in the future. Alcohol is abundant in Wisconsin and alcohol misuse is often normalized, but as a public health organization we continue working toward the development of communities where the healthiest choice is the easiest choice to make. ■



**KRISTEN RAMIREZ** earned a degree in Applied Health Science, with a concentration in Urban Public Health. She’s a Program Coordinator and passionate about helping individuals be engaged and healthy members of their community.



ATLAS COUNSELING

ATLASMADISON.COM 608.535.9285

Mind + Body Focus  
LGBTQ-Affirming  
Relationship Therapy  
EMDR  
Hypnosis

LGBTQ-AFFIRMING & EXPERIENCED

LOOKING FOR A  
**PROFESSIONAL**  
TO HELP YOU  
**GET THROUGH IT?**

I CAN HELP INDIVIDUALS AND COUPLES:

Live authentically  
Overcome depression, anxiety,  
low self-esteem  
Improve relationships

David Lacocque, Psy.D.  
LICENSED PSYCHOLOGIST



Free phone consultation  
608-358-6868 drlacocque.com

702 N. BLACKHAWK AVE.

Martha Kauppi, LMFT  
AAECT Certified Sex Therapist

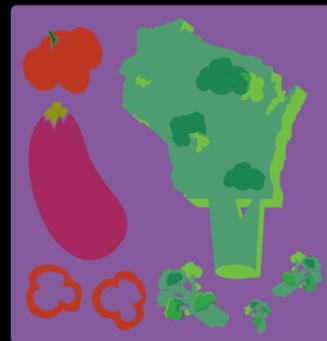
- Relationships
- Sexuality & Alt Sex
- Identity
- Creativity
- Health & Wellness
- Joyous Living



(608) 698-4171

111 S. 1st Street, Suite 120, Madison, WI, 53704  
www.marthakauppi.com • LGBTQAI Affirming

# willy street co-op



## September is Eat Local Month!

We’ll have many local foods on sale, recipes, giveaways, tips on adding more local foods to your diet, and more.

**Willy North now open!**



www.willystreet.coop





Sustainable Renovations  
Since 1992



If You Value...

- Accurate Pricing
- Professional Design Assistance
- Empowering Project Development
- Comfort and Durability
- A Respectful and Communicative Team...

Then contact Chads Design Build  
for your next home improvement!

[ChadsDesignBuild.com](http://ChadsDesignBuild.com)

(608) 221-1799



One Remodeled Home at a Time



IMPROVE → OUR INTERSECTIONS

OURLIVESMADISON.COM

## Activism Within the System

Longtime community activist **Kathy Flores** reflects on pursuing her calling while navigating the slings and arrows that come with being a public face in the fight for equality.

**RECENTLY, I LEFT MY WORK** as the City of Appleton's Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator and have spent time reflecting on what it means to be a grassroots activist working within mainstream structures. For over two decades, I have always done some sort of social/racial justice work starting in the corporate life for a large employer in the Fox Cities. After six years of working in diversity and inclusion within the corporate arena, I felt the pull to focus more on my community so I helped start Harmony Café, a place that was known as a peaceful place for celebrating diversity. It eventually became known as the local LGBTQ center and a place of support for LGBTQ youth.

I moved into the work of domestic violence/intimate partner violence/sexual assault not long after my role with Harmony Café and spent seven years helping educate health care providers, advocates, faith leaders, employers and more about domestic violence. My outreach work focused on

Within a four-year time period we identified that 85% of the teens who had died by suicide had also identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or questioning.

women in jail settings and other marginalized communities while employed at Harbor House Domestic Abuse Programs. It was in this organization that I learned about the roots of true activism and advocacy, mainly through the supportive role of its director, Beth Schnorr, and the survivors themselves. I learned how to hone in my skills of listening to survivors and always including them in everything we did, from safety planning to designing new programs.

Harbor House is also the place where I met my spouse when she became a volunteer; it's where I came out of the closet and where I began working with LGBTQ survivors of intimate partner violence, sexual assault, and hate crimes. While at Harbor House, I found my voice as a survivor, an activist, and a queer woman.



### AN ACTIVIST GOES TO CITY HALL

Seeing the disparity for addressing LGBTQ survivors of violence, I founded the Fox Valley LGBTQ Anti-Violence Project in collaboration with Harbor House Domestic Abuse Programs, Christine Ann Domestic Abuse Services, Reach Counseling, and the Sexual Assault Crisis Center.

After my time with Harbor House, I became City of Appleton's Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator, feeling I could round out all the work of activism and advocacy I felt called to do. I questioned whether this would be a good fit for me and in the interview I asked City of Appleton Mayor Tim Hanna if he was ready to hire an advocate in a government role. He gave me the charge to shake up the status quo. I'm not sure if he lived to regret those words, but he was always supportive and remains an ally to me and the work I do today.

During my time as Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator, the City of Appleton started to visibly support the LGBTQ community for the first time, along with other marginalized communities. Within just months of working for the city we discovered that the rash of teen suicides in the Fox Valley had greatly impacted LGBTQ teens at an alarming rate. Within a four-year time period we identified that 85% of the teens who had died by suicide had also identified as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or questioning. I worked with others in the community as we addressed this crisis with our teens. As

a community organizer, I brought people together to make sure we were addressing all areas where teens were vulnerable.

### PUSHBACK

The work of LGBTQ suicide prevention became public as we led campaigns to help keep kids alive. Not long after this, the city took on the task of passing a policy to provide domestic partner benefits for same-sex-coupled employees. Within the following three years, I was being called out for my vocal support of the LGBTQ community and spent months dealing with open records requests from anti-gay forces in our community and pushback from some members of our City Council, including one who publicly stated that "this position has gotten a little too gay."

It wasn't long before a few alderpersons sought to remove the position of Diversity and Inclusion from the City's budget. This happened three years in a row with very public battles to keep the position in place, including long public hearings where the merits of the position were hotly debated. Many of the attacks were on me personally in not-so-thinly veiled comments and actions. The front page of our local newspaper declared, "Gay activist defends her work!" It became such a nasty public battle that I started to question the cars that were parked in front of my house at night.

Each year, we managed to save the position in the budget, but each year I felt the sting of being so public on these issues impact the work a bit more. Even with the pushback, we forged ahead. With the help of Fair Wisconsin, we eventually became the third city in the state to pass inclusive ordinances for transgender and gender nonconforming individuals through laws protecting housing, accommodations, and employment.

### ACTIVISM AND INTERSECTIONAL IDENTITY

Still, the message was clear that I needed to fly a bit more under the radar and not be so outwardly queer. Time and time again I was asked to pull back, hide the work a bit more and not be so outspoken on LGBTQ and race issues. Whether refugee resettlement, transgender rights, Black Lives Matter, working with the local Black-led organization of African Heritage, marriage equality, or a whole host of other issues that I worked on, it became a regular routine for me to find a way to get things done without notice as much as possible.

When the massacre in Orlando happened, I was called upon to pull together

a vigil for the community. Knowing the pushback I would receive for a large public gathering honoring LGBTQ people of color, it became just one more thing that needed to be done on my own time and not in my role with the City of Appleton.

The front page of our local newspaper declared, "Gay activist defends her work!" It became such a nasty public battle that I started to question the cars that were parked in front of my house at night.

By this point, I had become accustomed to using most of my vacation days to do the work that would be deemed "too radical" even though I knew in my heart this was far from radical work. As a result, I felt not only devalued personally, I felt that marginalized community members were also being devalued and that my work was starting to suffer for it.

### GETTING LOUD FIGHTING RACISM

The last 10 months of my time with the City of Appleton were some of the hardest months I faced in that role yet. In October 2015, I attended a Black Lives Matter demonstration facilitated by Lawrence University students of color. I was in

do you dream of a



but you only have



Christie Olsen, MSN, NP

forwardfertility.com • christie@forwardfertility.com  
608-217-7511 • Madison, Wis.

EGG DONATION AND SURROGACY  
PROVEN RESULTS IN THIRD-PARTY FERTILITY

- Woman Owned
- Full Service Landscape & Maintenance
- Professional Design
- Creative Lighting for Your Special Event



**BLAIR**

Lawn & Landscape, Inc.

(608) 255-1920

blairlandscape.com

Creative Landscapes Since 1984





attendance on my own time because I felt it important to show up, show solidarity, and listen to the concerns of the students. I did not march because this was a student demonstration, but stood on the sidelines in a show of support.

In the weeks before as they planned this protest, I helped them connect to community leaders and gave information from the ACLU so they would know their rights. My

appearance at this protest ended up on the front page of our local newspaper, drawing wrath from some elected officials and other city leaders. At the same time, I was speaking out internally about some concerns that were happening with our own city leadership and in one department in particular about racism and the lack of understanding of the Black Lives Matter movement and helping voice the concerns I was hearing

from members of the Black community. Things became very tense, and I was called to task many times for voicing my concerns about what we were doing within the city and how it was negatively impacting marginalized community members.

As time went on, I was shut out of some of the work within the City of Appleton due to my internal outspokenness on racism that existed within our own structures. Mayor Hanna continued to support me. I believe he probably saved me from getting fired, but it became quite difficult to navigate work with other leaders, and I started to feel like the work itself was suffering.

**MOVING ON**

I decided to leave the City of Appleton to get back to doing grassroots activism work in an organization that would allow me to bring my full self to the work. In July, I accepted a position with Diverse & Resilient to facilitate statewide work around intimate partner and community violence within the LGBTQ community. In my short time with this organization, I already feel fully embraced, encouraged, and welcomed to do the work that needs to get done.

There are many of us in this world who are activists trying to fit into mainstream organizations, so I understand I was far from alone in that struggle. However, for me, trying to suppress who I was and the work I feel called to do became such a burden on my soul that I felt I could no longer move forward effectively with the work. In the past decade, I have survived an aneurysm, cancer, and MS, so I'm not afraid of surviving the tough stuff in life. However, at almost 50 I'm finally recognizing that the health of my spirit in this work is just as important as the health of my body. In fact, I know that the two are greatly linked. Being an activist and advocate is deeply a part of my DNA.

I am quite grateful for my time with the City of Appleton. I feel that while I was there we were able to do strong work including the passage of transgender-inclusive ordinances, the important work of refugee resettlement, anti-racism work, suicide prevention work, harm reduction advocacy, and so much more. It is my commitment to all of this work that shifts me to move onward.

**THE POWER OF IDENTITY**

As someone who identifies as a queer Latina with a disability, I have learned much about my own oppression as well as the

privilege I carry as a white-appearing person. I realize that had I been a Black queer woman, I would have been forced out long ago. I understand the power of my privilege and plan to continue to learn how to be a better conspirator with other marginalized community members, rather than an obstacle. Because my commitment to fighting

Recently I helped launch an Appleton chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) which focuses on white people educating other white people.

racism and other forms of oppression continues, I will bring the same passion to my new work. Recently I helped launch an Appleton chapter of Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ) which focuses on white people educating other white people. We are a chapter of the national SURJ and unapologetically stand in solidarity with Black Lives Matter.

**THE PERSON AND THE PERSONA BLEND**

When Diverse & Resilient first announced that I had joined the team, I had a bit of a moment of panic in looking at their profile of me on their website. I clicked on the link to "learn more about Kathy Flores" and saw that it went directly to my personal Face-

book page. After years of having to state that there is a private citizen Kathy and a public advocate Kathy, even having a personal Facebook account and a "Kathy at Work" account, I became quite adept at compartmentalizing the various identities I held. As I sat and looked at this link it dawned on me that this new organization not only knows who I am, but they fully embrace me. Diverse & Resilient is already doing strong advocacy work, and I'm no longer the only queer voice in the room. This makes my heart swell in ways I haven't felt in years. Being an advocate surrounded by so many other fierce advocates makes me feel like I have found home once again.

I am so thrilled I joined the team of Diverse & Resilient. It takes me to the core of who I am as a grassroots activist/advocate, community organizer and leader within the LGBTQ community. It feels so affirming to be embraced for being fully authentic.

*"We have to talk about liberating minds as well as liberating society."  
—Dr. Angela Davis*

**KATHY FLORES** is the new statewide coordinator for addressing intimate partner and community violence with Diverse & Resilient, following seven years as the City of Appleton's Diversity and Inclusion Coordinator.

**NO ONE PROTECTS DREAMS LIKE FAMILY.**

**Colleen Frentzel Agency**  
4407 Milton Ave Ste 110  
Janesville, WI 53546  
cfrentze@amfam.com  
(608) 302-4101

**AMERICAN FAMILY INSURANCE**  
Insure carefully, dream fearlessly.

American Family Mutual Insurance Company, American Family Insurance Company, American Family Life Insurance Company, American Standard Insurance Company of Ohio, American Standard Insurance Company of Wisconsin, 6000 American Parkway, Madison, WI 53787 ©2015 008748 - Rev. 04/15



*Sewing the L.G.B.T. community since 1974*

**Cardinal**

**Madison's Classic Dance Bar**  
418 E. Wilson St. • 608.257.bird (2473)  
cardinalbar.com • facebook.com/cardinalmadison



Looking for a **new kitchen** with more counter top space and storage?

Looks like it's... **TIME 2 REMODEL**

time2remodel.com

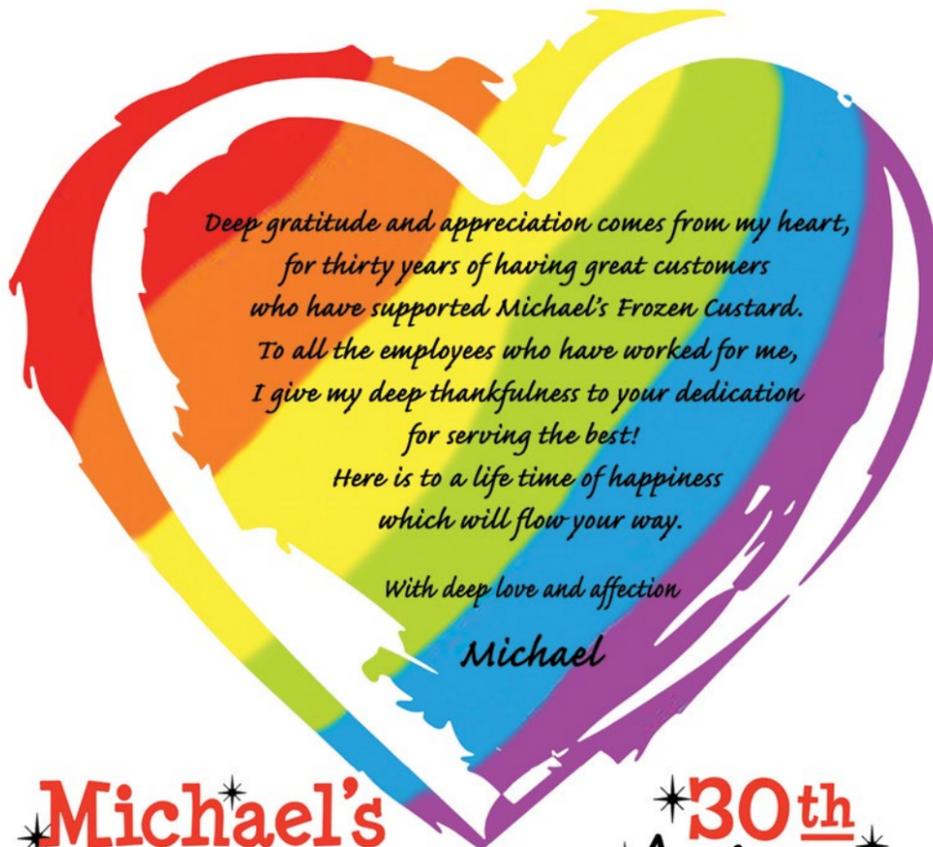



*Deep gratitude and appreciation comes from my heart, for thirty years of having great customers who have supported Michael's Frozen Custard. To all the employees who have worked for me, I give my deep thankfulness to your dedication for serving the best! Here is to a life time of happiness which will flow your way. With deep love and affection*

**Michael**

**Michael's Frozen Custard**

**30th Anniversary**



**building tomorrow's energy company**  
the power of working together

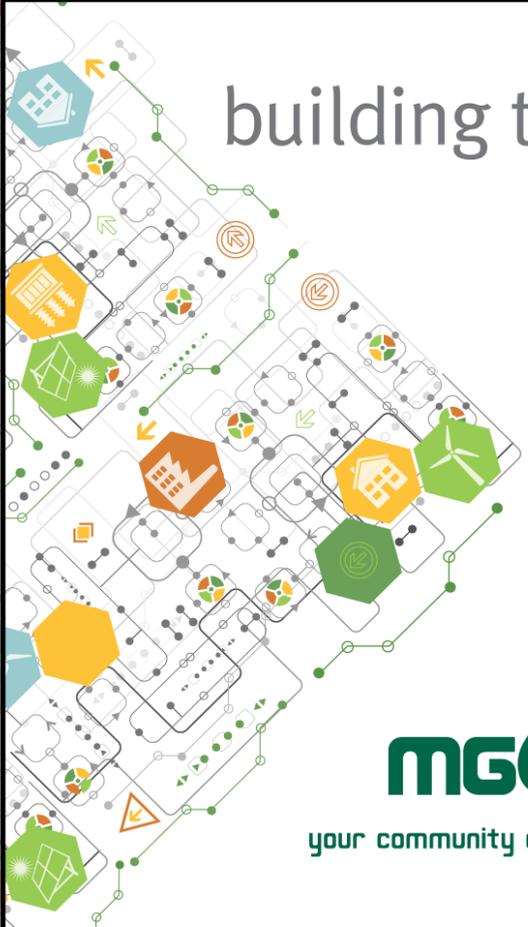
*"Working together, we can harness the power of new technologies to reduce our collective energy usage—and costs—to create a better, more sustainable future for our community."  
— Gary Wolter, MGE Chairman, President and CEO*

**ENERGY 2030**

- Cleaner energy.
- Reduced emissions.
- Innovative products and services.

learn more: [mge.com/Energy2030](http://mge.com/Energy2030)

**mge**  
your community energy company



October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Join DAIS in their community events and awareness raising efforts.



**Dine Out for DAIS**  
Thursday, October 6  
All Day  
At Participating Restaurants throughout Dane County



**Dress for DAIS Fashion Show**  
Thursday, October 20  
Doors Open 6:30pm  
Overture Center  
Tickets available online



**What Does it Mean to Support a Survivor?**  
Wednesday October 26  
5:30pm - 7:00pm  
DAIS Community Room

More information available at:  
[www.abuseintervention.org](http://www.abuseintervention.org)



Commercial Events Portraits



EMPOWERING & INCLUSIONARY

PROFESSIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY SERVICES

FOR THE LGBT+ & ALLIED COMMUNITY.

(608) 695-6456 [SPENCERMICKA.COM](http://SPENCERMICKA.COM)



## Non-Conforming Leadership

**Summer Laird** dismantles the limiting and dangerous conventional “wisdom” of what it takes to be successful in the workplace.

IN THE JULY 2016 EDITION of *In Business* the article entitled “Cover Charge” confronted the cost associated with being fat or short in the workplace ([ibmadison.com/In-Business-Madison/July-2016/Cover-charge](http://ibmadison.com/In-Business-Madison/July-2016/Cover-charge)). This article singles out women in, presumably, corporate business settings and reminds us that we are judged by our “cover.” We are encouraged to stay fit and brush up our wardrobe in order to be successful in business and not suffer a “cover charge” based upon our appearance.

The author innocently suggests that all of this is in order to “improve your chances of getting picked off of the shelf.” Going on to admit that, “[w]hile you probably won’t have much luck making yourself taller (unless you add a couple inches with your shoe collection), there are steps you can take to ensure your appearance is helping—not hindering—your opportunities for advancement and the higher earnings that come with it.” The steps provided build on changing your body to conform to a thin ideal. So, get thin and/or stay that way.

What’s wrong with being a thin woman in Corporate America? Nothing, of course. But if you aren’t a thin woman—if you are, instead, a fat woman who has something to contribute (gasp!)—this advice misses the mark. It felt to me as though this was the same story we’ve been told for decades. Hidden behind cited studies and a reference to all the deeply steeped social expectations of beauty equaling success is the argument we could find in any women’s magazine from the 1950s or ‘60s. It seems like the message is: “You can’t be successful in the workplace as a woman if you are anything other than a potential paramour for your male superiors.” I am disheartened that this overly simplified perspective is being passed as good advice for (presumably) all sexes and genders from all backgrounds with any skin color. However, it really only seems to be speaking to fat women.

So what’s the problem? The perspective represented in this article doesn’t do anything



What we have the opportunity to do is candidly present the research that exists that supports the pervasive discrimination against women, not just fat women, but also women of color, men of color, and men and women who are LGBTQ.

to address any group other than women in the workplace. So, research says that you will be discounted in the workplace if you are overweight? What about just being a woman? What about being a Black, Asian, or Latina woman? What about being a Black, Asian, or Latino man? What about being LGBTQ? What about being an older man or woman?

What we have the opportunity to do is candidly present the research that exists that supports the pervasive discrimination against women, not just fat women, but also women of color, men of color, and men and women who are LGBTQ. Then, acknowledging the ugly truth of this disadvantaged position, we could highlight the many examples of people in business who have succeeded in the face of this disadvantage. So here’s where diversity comes in: Don’t we all have personal experi-

ence of strong, non-thin, non-white, non-conforming leaders who have defied this theory?

Maybe the problem is that we are talking about a very specific definition of “success” in a very specific type of environment. Perhaps “success” in this case means being promoted to senior positions in a corporate setting. Even if we agree to proceed with this definition of “success,” this article, perhaps unwittingly, reinforces the lowest-common denominator notion that the only way to be successful in business is to impress men with your sexual currency. While I do not deny that this can be a factor (a nasty underbelly truth in Corporate America), it functions to fortify institutional discrimination that is willfully ignorant to the political landscape and to what successful people actually look like. Does this mean we should just “stay home” if we don’t fit into a particular mold?

And what other types of success are there? Is the definition of “success” different for everyone? I think so. So, why take a “safe” approach with our advice? Why not take an inspirational and confidence-building stance? Why not be on the side of those building a platform for others who break the mold? Why not raise up examples of people who have “succeeded” even though they faced these seemingly inevitable hurdles?

What about these steps to be successful?

- 1 Be the best at what you do and know it. Never apologize for knowing what you know and what you bring to the table.
- 2 Be aware of the politics at play. Pay attention, ask questions, and don’t be shocked by the sometimes-blatant favoritism and cronyism at work.
- 3 Get a mentor. Ask your mentor questions about their perspective of the politics. Strategize with your mentor.
- 4 With knowledge of 1–3, just go for what you want. Recognize that the only failure is in not trying.

Repeat #4 until you get where you wanted to go or have decided that, based upon what you’ve learned, you want to go in a different direction. This is also success.

- Need some inspiration?
- [forbes.com/power-women/](http://forbes.com/power-women/)
  - [forbes.com/pictures/mef45ehggm/the-top-25-most-powerful/#344833793e72](http://forbes.com/pictures/mef45ehggm/the-top-25-most-powerful/#344833793e72)
  - [businessinsurance.org/10-most-successful-african-american-ceos-of-all-time](http://businessinsurance.org/10-most-successful-african-american-ceos-of-all-time)



**SUMMER LAIRD** is a Healthcare IT professional at Huron Consulting Group, with experience working with clinics and hospital systems across the country.

## Busy? You’re not too busy for OPEN!



**September**  
Annual Member Appreciation Party  
Thursday, September 22nd | 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. | Plan B

Join us for a night of pampering and fun! Activities include massages, a photo booth, music, food, and a special program recognizing some of OPEN’s founding members.

**October**  
Nite Out with Stage Q Featuring “Commander” by Mario Correa  
Friday, October 14th | Pre-Party, 5:30-7 p.m.  
VIP Reception w/ Rep. Mark Pocan, 7-7:30 p.m. | Showtime at 8 p.m.

Join us for light refreshments and mingling before heading to the Bartell for a special, VIP reception. Guests can choose their seats before the general admission is admitted, while enjoying a talk from Stage Q President Michael Bruno and Representative Mark Pocan.

**November**  
OPEN Workshop: What You Can Do to Support Diversity & Inclusion in the Workplace,  
Featuring Angela Russell & Jordan Bingham  
Thursday, November 3rd | 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Angela Russell, Manager of Diversity & Inclusion at CUNA Mutual, and Jordan Bingham, with the Racial Equity & Social Justice Initiative at City of Madison, will share ways you can help create a diverse and inclusive working environment, no matter your position.



## Your financial needs are unique.

Whether you want to provide for your loved ones, support the organizations that are important to you, or plan for your own comfortable retirement, I can help you plan for your goals. I’ll look at all aspects of your finances, then find solutions that are right for your unique needs. And as your goals and needs change, I’ll be there to adjust your plan and help put your dreams within reach.

Call me today at 608.819.0520 to get started.



**Shannon M. Anderson, CFP®, ADPA®**  
Financial Advisor  
**Eventus Wealth Advisors**  
A financial advisory practice of Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc.  
2501 West Beltline Hwy, Ste 301 • Madison, WI 53713  
**608.819.0520**  
shannon.m.anderson@ampf.com  
ameripriseadvisors.com/shannon.m.anderson



Investment advisory products and services are made available through Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc., a registered investment adviser. Ameriprise Financial Services, Inc. Member FINRA and SIPC. © 2014 Ameriprise Financial, Inc. All rights reserved. (7/14)

# RYAN & JOYCE-RYAN

FUNERAL HOME & CREMATION SERVICES

SINCE 1938

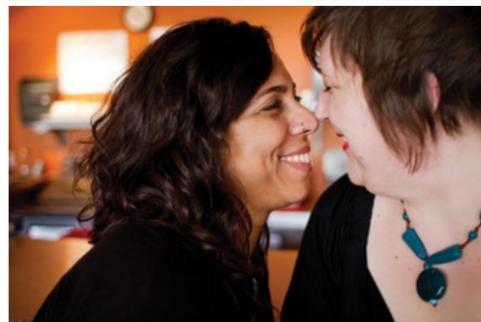
Since 1938, we have guided families through the process of grieving with neighborly concern and professional care. As a family owned and operated Funeral Home, we treat all families with the compassion, dignity, and professionalism that you will not find anywhere else.

**Personalized Burial & Cremation Services**  
**Pre-Arrangements - Monuments**  
**Madison - Verona - DeForest**



608-249-8257

www.ryanfuneralservice.com



robandsamphoto.com



IMPROVE → OUR ELDERS

OURLIVESMADISON.COM

## Shining a Light

Too often overlooked or ignored, elder abuse is a serious issue facing all aging adults and their loved ones, and LGBTQ people are even more vulnerable to neglect and mistreatment.

**NATIONALLY, ONE IN FOUR** women are impacted by domestic abuse in her lifetime and one in seven men. But when visualizing what those one in four women look like, whom do we see? Do we see one of those four as a senior? It is estimated that one in ten seniors (over the age of 60) will experience abuse. The hard reality is that domestic abuse knows no boundaries including age.

The abuse experienced in later life has many similarities to the abuse felt by any victim of domestic violence. Within elder abuse it can take many forms including verbal, physical, sexual, financial, and more. This kind of abuse is often shrouded in secrecy and older members of the LGBTQ community face a unique set of barriers to overcome this injustice.

The elder population may find it even more difficult to leave because of transportation concerns, lack of housing, financial barriers, and access to healthcare.

The fear, shame, and isolation experienced by victims of domestic abuse can be escalated in the elder community. Meg Sohns, DAIS Community Services Manager shares that often there is a misconception that intimate partner abuse doesn't happen in the elder community. "There is a perception that intimate partner abuse may not happen in this generation but this is a generation where it was rare to leave your partner. In addition to that, as partners pass away, the senior population is getting back into dating and unfortunately experiencing these forms of trauma again, continuing the cycle of violence."

Abuse experienced from a partner at any age is shrouded in secrecy, and the barriers that stand between them and their safety can feel daunting. In addition to feelings of fear, guilt, and juggling their beliefs and convictions, the elder population may find it even more difficult to leave because of transportation concerns, lack of housing, financial



barriers, and access to healthcare.

Caroline Werner, MSSW, LGBT Senior Advocate at OutReach shares that from her experience one of the biggest barriers felt by the elder population is isolation. "Particularly in older LGBT adults, being isolated can make it harder to identify and reach out to seniors." LGBTQ older people are less likely to have children, they may have had friends and family pass away, and they may have been rejected by their families. DAIS and Outreach are both actively working to help break down the barriers of isolation felt by seniors.

DAIS hosts a weekly support group called Women with Vision for individuals who identify as female, are victims of intimate partner violence, and are over the age of 50. This group has been running since 2014 and is a place for victims to share their traumas and triumphs and help build a support network. The Women with Vision support group is led by facilitators over the age of 50 and held on Fridays from 12:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Please call DAIS at (608) 251-4445 to sign up.

OutReach recently moved into a new location on 2701 International Lane in Madison where they have been able to expand their programs specific to the LGBTQ seniors. OutReach offers several groups and social opportunities for seniors. A list of these social events can be found at [lgbtoutreach.org](http://lgbtoutreach.org).

Each of us has the power to reach out to someone we love and tell them that abuse is not their fault. Provide support and let them know that you are there for them. Also, be mindful of how identifying as LGBTQ may increase their barriers and/or impact their safety. You members can help by:

1. Looking for red flags.
2. Having a conversation about healthy relationships.
3. Asking questions about their dating life.

4. Listening without judgment.
5. Believing them.
6. Sharing your concern and supporting their decisions.
7. Providing resources.

In Dane County, domestic violence victims involved in an abusive relationship or concerned friends or family members can reach out to DAIS for help. DAIS operates a 24-hour help line and the only emergency domestic violence shelter in Dane County. The help line can be reached at (608) 251-4445. DAIS also provides legal advocacy services, programming for children of victims who access our services, and support groups. Services are also available for non-English speakers.

Additionally, there are community organizations and resources available:

1. OutReach LGBT Community Center:  
[lgbtoutreach.org](http://lgbtoutreach.org) or call (608) 255-8582
2. Elder Abuse and Neglect Helpline:  
(608) 261-9933 ■



**KAITLYN GAYNOR** is the Communications Manager for Domestic Abuse Intervention Services (DAIS). She manages their media relations, crisis communications, and online presence. She previously worked at the American Red Cross.

**PROUD TO SUPPORT AIDS RESOURCE CENTER OF WISCONSIN COMMUNITY SHARES**

- OPEN 24 HOURS
- Locally owned since 1983
- Shop Online 24/7
- Free delivery available!

111 N. BROOM ST. • [CAPCENTREMARKET.COM](http://CAPCENTREMARKET.COM) • 608-255-2616

**GAY, LESBIAN, BI, TRANS, STRAIGHT.**  
Honestly, the only label we care about is **FAMILY.**

The Wiscconsin Fertility Institute is proud to help gay and lesbian couples create the family of their dreams. Schedule your private consultation today, 608.824.0075.

**wiscconsin fertility INSTITUTE**

wiscconsinfertility.com  
3146 Deming Way, Middleton

photo: bornarchivalco.com

ILLUSTRATION BY DANIELLA ECHEVERRÍA.



## The Poetry of Grief and Hope

High school student and poet **Emme Goldman** shares a new work that grapples with her feelings about the murder of her transgender sisters across the country.

**2015 WAS A DIFFICULT YEAR.** I was an incoming freshman, and newly out as a transgender girl. I was overwhelmingly fearful, and instantly hanging over me was a reality that would punch me in the gut every couple of weeks. On my Facebook newsfeed or in my email inbox would be the same headline: “Transgender woman killed in \_\_\_\_.” Upon clicking, I would find a paragraph or two, maybe a picture of the late woman in question. I felt deep sadness every time this happened; was this all these women got? There was no honor, no celebration of their essence, their existence. It seemed, more than anything, a reality devoid of music.

2015 saw the highest number of anti-transgender hate crimes recorded to date. Upwards of 20 transgender women were reported murdered in 2015 alone. At one point, three unconnected transgender women were killed in a period of 24 hours. So far in 2016, there have been at least another 14 killed. My love and solidarity goes to them, their families (blood or not), and their communities.

I wrote this piece with all of this in mind. It’s dedicated to transgender women of color whose lives were unfairly taken away at the hands of their communities and the police. ■

about every two and a half weeks im  
confronted with a  
Two paragraph local news story  
From whatever city is on hate watch  
This time  
From whatever city is on vigil this time  
From whatever city  
Is killing you softly this time

I wish I could say you died with  
music in your ears  
whatever music sounds like in  
bullet hole trans bodies  
lifeless black bodies  
trans woman of color in a  
not for you type of world  
your body is synonymous with gunshot

When your life flashes before your eyes  
(as they say it does)  
I wanna say there was a soundtrack  
There’s gotta be cymbal crash  
broken-glass windchimes syncopated breath  
get jiggy with it  
and don’t forget the [clap clap clap]

Which is to say  
that night  
gunshots rang out

but to say gunshots [clap]  
Ring  
Is inaccurate  
Gunshots [clap]  
Spring they  
Ripple they  
Earthquake  
But never is there ringing only the taste  
of Hollow air

there is only  
When they tell you’ll die in gunshots [clap]  
and sadness say no  
Don’t you mean rhythm  
And blues

They fire their snare rhythmically  
I wish for soul  
I wish for R&B and turntable orchestra  
I wish the last thing that a woman hears is  
music  
I hope she feels it in her body before she  
..feels it  
In her body  
And I hope she constructs melodies in the  
time that it takes for  
Far too many gunshots to ring out

but to say gunshots [clap]  
Ring  
Is inaccurate  
Gunshots [clap]  
Spring they  
Ripple they  
Earthquake  
But never is there ringing only  
Hollow air

Give her a song  
Give her a song  
give her music in a moment devoid of all poetry  
They’re killing us  
Not so Softly  
And where is the song  
What would Lauryn say

we gave her a two paragraph local news story  
We gave her shattered glass  
and three gunshots to the chest  
Is it too much to ask to give her a song?

# Accepting New Orthodontics Patients



**Dr. Audi Long** is welcoming new patients to her orthodontic practice! The ability to smile with confidence is such an important part of social interaction and self-esteem, Dr. Audi Long finds her work especially rewarding. She says, “I like to think that orthodontic treatment doesn’t just improve a patient’s bite and appearance, but can also make him or her feel more self-assured. I love building relationships with patients and their families and creating a comfortable, friendly clinic atmosphere with open lines of communication.” She believes, “People don’t care how much you know until they know how much you care.”

Dr. Long is originally from Appleton, WI. She and her husband, Micah, met while attending UW Madison and always planned to settle in Madison after completing their training (he is a physician beginning fellowship with UW). Together, they have a daughter, Addison. They cheer on the Packers and Badgers, love music, and keeping up with their two dogs, “Lunchbox” (French Bulldog) and “Burgie” (Pug).

**Education**  
M.S., Certificate in Orthodontics, Marquette University  
Doctor of Dental Surgery  
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor  
B.S., University of Wisconsin, Madison



**DENTAL  
HEALTH  
ASSOCIATES**  
dhamadison.com

West Orthodontics Clinic  
7007 Old Sauk Road  
608.833.6112

South Clinic  
2971 Chapel Valley Road  
608.661.6420



# Wrap Up Your Home Project

Secure a competitive-rate loan to pay for anything you need.

Hurry, our discounts end October 31.

INTRO RATE FOR 12 MONTHS

**1.99%** Intro APR\*  
Variable Rate Line of Credit<sup>1</sup>

RATES AS LOW AS

**3.99%** APR\*  
Variable Rate after Intro Period<sup>1</sup>

Visit [uwcu.org/heloc](http://uwcu.org/heloc) to apply.



Your best interest always comes first.<sup>®</sup>

<sup>®</sup> \*APR is annual percentage rate. Rates are subject to change. The minimum loan amount is \$5,000. The one-time charge of \$149 that applies to newly booked HELOCs due at closing is waived through October 31, 2016, except appraisal costs or title insurance, if required. Member is responsible for appraisal costs ranging from \$400 to \$600, if required. Property insurance is required. Promotional rates are for fixed home equity loan segments and new home equity line requests received between 4/1/16 – 10/31/16 and closed within 30 days of request. Rates shown are for homeowners with 70% loan-to-value.  
<sup>1</sup>The introductory rate of 1.99% APR is valid for new UW Credit Union home equity line of credit requests received between 4/1/16 – 10/31/16 and closed within 30 days of request and is valid for homeowners with up to 70% loan-to-value (LTV). Intro rate is 2.49% APR for up to 80% LTV, 2.99% for 90% LTV and 5.99% for up to 100% LTV. APR will be fixed at the introductory rate during the 12-month introductory period. No annual fees. Offer is subject to normal credit qualifications. Rates are subject to change but cannot exceed 18%. Some restrictions may apply. After the twelve-month introductory period, the rate is indexed to *The Wall Street Journal* Prime. APR is subject to change monthly but cannot exceed 18%, and the APR will never fall below 3.99% for HELOC 70%, 4.49% for HELOC 80%, 4.99% for HELOC 90% or 7.99% for HELOC 100%. During the introductory and 5-year draw periods, the minimum monthly payment for HELOC 70%, HELOC 80% and HELOC 90% will be (a) \$50 or (b) the accrued interest on the outstanding balance under the agreement as of the close of the billing cycle, whichever is greater. The minimum monthly payment for HELOC 100% will be (a) \$100 or (b) 1.5% of the outstanding balance, whichever is greater. However, if you exceed the maximum principal loan balance allowed under your agreement, you will also be required to pay an amount sufficient to reduce your principal loan balance to the maximum principal loan balance allowed under the agreement. Balances of less than \$100.00 must be paid in full. Late payment fee: \$10 or 5% of your monthly payment, whichever is less.