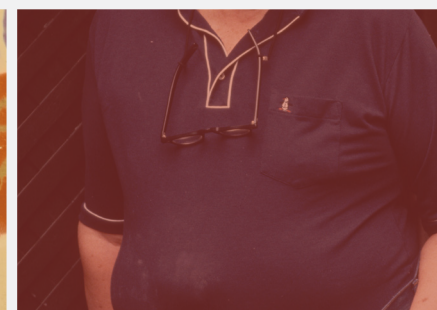
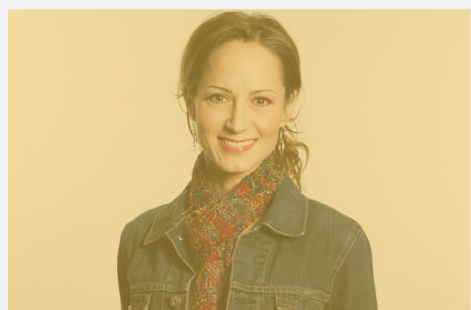
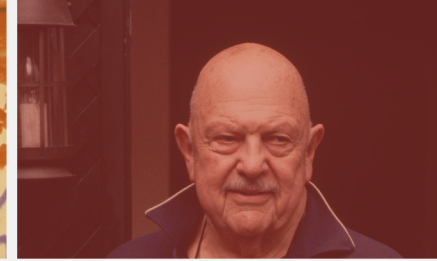
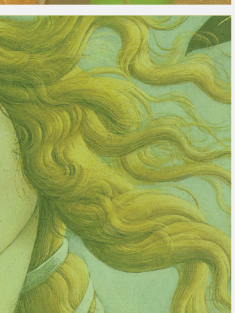
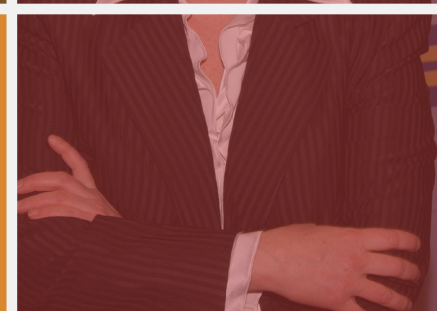




FALL
2018



lgbt
HISTORY
MONTH





turn OUT

2018 | #turnOUT

The continued attacks by Donald Trump and Mike Pence towards LGBTQ people, women, people of color, and immigrants has gone uncontested by some members of Congress for far too long. **Enough is enough.**

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MGM RESORTS

THE VOICES OF YOUR COMMUNITY



by Russ White and Garrett Pattiani
Co-Founders and Co-Publishers, QLife Media

For many years, our tag line was "The LGBT Voice Since 1978." With grass-root origins, local LGBTQ publications played the necessary role of one shared voice in the pursuit of equality. While we still have challenges ahead, times and technology continue to change. With social media playing a role in our everyday lives, user-generated content grows with each passing day. The reader has become the author.

When we set out to build LivePublisher, the software platform that powers QLife and our sister publications, we knew that it needed to be different than anything that has ever existed before. When we looked at existing LGBTQ publications, we didn't find that much diversity in ownership or messaging.

Our mission was to build a product that can be more inclusive and amplify the voices from within the communities we serve. We strive to be a brand that is for the people, by the people. Now that it's ready—we want to hear from all the voices that aren't currently being represented. We are dedicated to the vision of serving every letter and every color of the LGBTQ community.

Your Local LGBTQ Publication

As we continue to focus on our digital publications, we are redefining the magazine industry and how customers

and brands interact in the digital age.

For our online readers, you will enjoy the aesthetic design of our articles, unencumbered by inline advertising and pop-up ads. Our advertising model returns to the roots of print publications where ads appear between articles, not between paragraphs. We provide a hyper-targeted reach to the LGBTQ consumer for our advertisers.

Thank You Advertisers

We are thankful for the advertisers that continue to believe in us and the value of a local LGBTQ publication. This special edition could not have been possible without Caesars Entertainment, Human Rights Campaign, and MGM Resorts International with their unwavering commitment to diversity and inclusion.

QLife Ambassadors

As we expand into our other local communities, we are recruiting local ambassadors to ensure that our content fully represents each community. If you're interest in participating as one of your local ambassadors, visit QLife look for the QLife Ambassador Link.

Community Partners

While we call Vegas home, QLife supports local LGBTQ and HIV/AIDS non-profits in every market we serve through in-kind sponsorships year round. If your non-profit organization is interested in free advertising, please contact us for details.



Russ White



Garrett Pattiani



On the Cover

LGBT History Month celebrates the achievements of 31 lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender icons. This month we share this year's icons as curated by Equality Forum, the non-profit organization that has been assembling the list since 2006.

Advertising Information



QLife is a local, all-digital publication serving thousands of LGBTQ+ readers every month. Our combined partnership with ProudQueer currently reaches 10 major markets across the United States. We have affordable local and national rates available

sales@qlifemagazine.com



Throughout this edition you'll find **QR Codes** that link to more content on our website and social media.

Scan the QR Code with your iPhone built-in Camera app or download a reader app for Android to visit the sites embedded in the code. These codes are your shortcuts to our website that holds even more great articles, stories, and videos.

Of course you can always visit us directly online at www.qlifemedia.com and on social media, too.



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We're not reporters.

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ANDERSON COOPER AND ANDY COHEN TO KIKI IN VEGAS

by Garrett Pattiani

Join Cohen and Cooper for an unscripted, uncensored and unforgettable night of conversation. The late night talk show host and the journalist, longtime friends, interview each other and take questions from the audience. It's a live, interactive look behind the scenes of pop culture and world events.

After 3 1/2 years and 50 cities, Anderson Cooper and Andy Cohen are bringing their show to the Fabulous Las Vegas Strip for the first time. "It's basically like going out to the bar with me and Anderson and we tell everyone stories that we would never tell on TV or in mixed company," says Cohen. Audience members can join the duo, sipping cocktails and listening to the two tell their most outrageous stories. There's guaranteed to be a lot of laughs and surprises. "We are super excited to come to Las Vegas because it's always super fun, anything can happen, and it's always a party!" added Cohen.

"Anderson and I met over 25 years ago on what was supposed to be a blind date. Nothing really ever happened besides the initial phone call, but we became great friends," Cohen says with a chuckle. Audiences can expect to hear some stories about all the crazy and meaningful things that have happened since the very beginning.

Both Andy and Anderson started their careers in Journalism. Since QLife just returned from the NLGJA conference, we wanted to know how being an LGBTQ journalist has changed over the last few decades. "Listen, I'm old so I have seen things change for the LGBTQ community that I would have never imagined. I never thought we would have marriage equality. I think our stories have just become more

"It's a great night. A lot of laughs. It's intimate. You will see Anderson in a whole new light. He is so funny and I think people will be surprised by how loose and funny he is."

of a part of the national conversation than they were before." For our young readers interested in becoming a journalist, Andy has some advice for you. "Write as much as you possibly can. Keep writing until you have your voice. Don't give up. If this (journalism) is your passion then don't give up. Always follow your passion."

We notice that Cohen said write, so we asked his thoughts about the popularity of video and audio today. "It all comes down to the word at the end of the day, so yeah, I think it's still important to write."

Vegas is a melting pot of so many different people, so we wanted to know what content the audience should expect. "We will talk about current events and what's been happening in our lives, but we don't get too political. It's like having a front row seat to world events, pop culture, and the great stories behind those things."

"It's a great night. A lot of laughs. It's intimate. You will see Anderson in a whole new light. He is so funny and I think people will be surprised by how loose and funny he is."

We **had** to ask if there was ever going to be a **Real Housewives of Las Vegas**. Cohen responded, "you never know. There sure is a lot of drama in that town." Well, that sure is the truth!

What's next for Cohen? He told us to be on the look out for a new show he's producing called Play by Play, "It's like The View, but an all male round table that talks about Bravo."

You can catch Cohen and Cooper on October 26th at The Colosseum at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. Visit ticketmaster.com for tickets.



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OCTOBER

31 Days. 31 Icons.

LGBT History Month celebrates the achievements of 31 lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender Icons. Each day in October, a new LGBT Icon is featured on lgbthistorymonth.com.

In 1994, Rodney Wilson, a Missouri high school teacher, believed a month should be dedicated to the celebration and teaching of gay and lesbian history, and gathered other teachers and community leaders. They selected October because public schools are in session and existing traditions, such as Coming Out Day (October 11), occur that month.

Gay and Lesbian History Month was endorsed by GLAAD, the Human Rights Campaign, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the National Education Association and other national organizations. In 2006 Equality Forum assumed responsibility for providing content, promotion and resources for LGBT History Month.

The LGBT community is the only community worldwide that is not taught its history at home, in public

schools or in religious institutions. LGBT History Month provides role models, builds community and makes the civil rights statement about our extraordinary national and international contributions.

Equality Forum is a national and international LGBT civil rights organization with an educational focus. Equality Forum coordinates LGBT History Month, produces documentary films, undertakes high-impact initiatives and presents the largest annual national and international LGBT civil rights summit.

For more information, visit equalityforum.com.



"I thought of everything I had been through as a young kid to get to that moment, and to feel confident, and to feel that I really liked who I was."

Adam Rippon



"I love going to cities around the world and seeing the rainbow flag."

Gilbert Baker



"The constant fear of people discovering who you really were and the inevitable shame that would fall upon you and your family dictated how you lived your life every day."

Lance Bass



"I hear the word 'tolerance'... I am gay, and I am not seeking to be 'tolerated.' One tolerates a toothache, rush-hour traffic, an annoying neighbor with a cluttered yard. I am not a negative to be tolerated."

Chely Wright





"It's really important for us, in terms of the storytellers, to be able to talk about these intimate details that built our lives."

Tarell Alvin McCraney



"This should certainly offer some encouragement to different societies to consider following in Taiwan's footsteps and giving gays and lesbians the right to marry."

Chi Chia-Wei



"It's all about coming out."

Elizabeth Birch



"We need to do a better job educating medical students about LGBT issues and transgender medicine."

Rachel Levine



"Being different should not be a reason to hate or discriminate against a person. There are more reasons to respect sexual diversity than stars in the universe."

Francisco Cartagena



"I know I should've come out sooner and I'm sorry for that. Especially when I think about the possibility that I might have made a difference in someone's life."

Sean Hayes

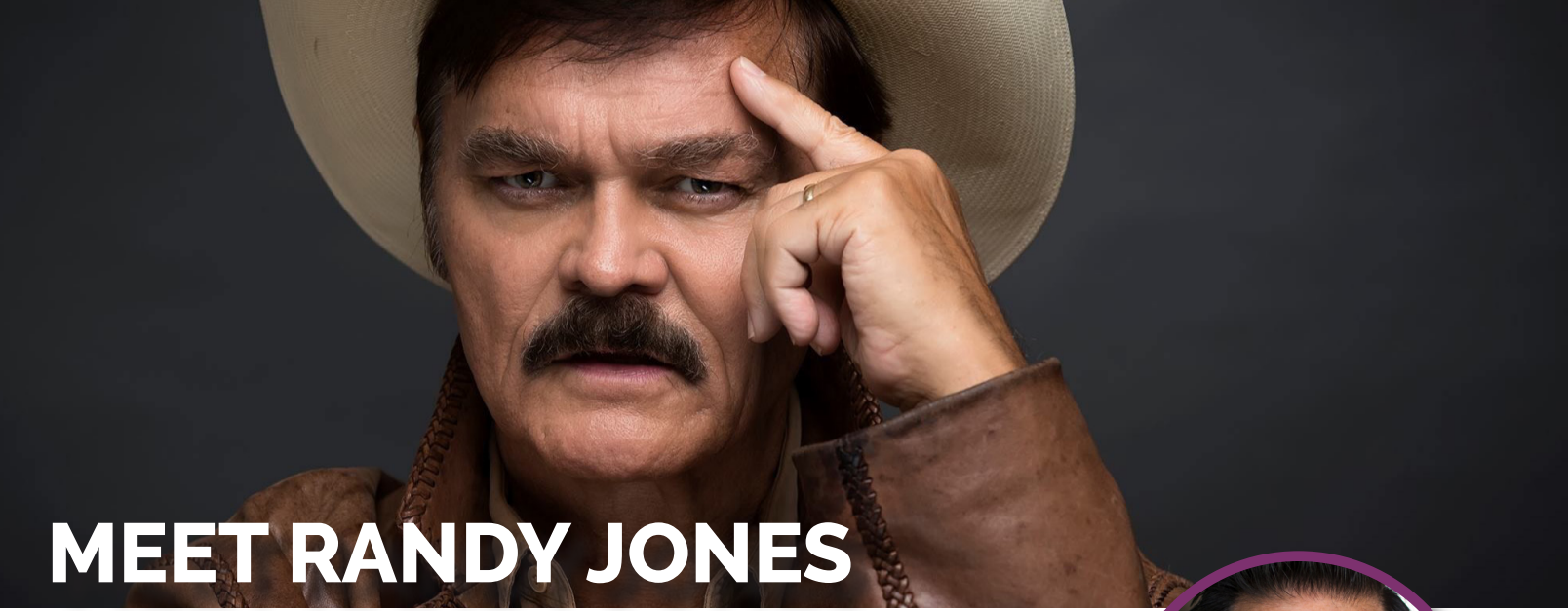
Visit lgbthistorymonth.com every day in October for more information on all of the icons for 2018.

1. Gilbert Baker
2. Lance Bass
3. James Beard
4. Elizabeth Birch
5. Melvin Boozer
6. Sandro Botticelli
7. Richard Burns
8. Jonathan Capehart

9. Francisco Cartagena
10. Debra Chasnoff
11. Chi Chia-wei
12. Meg Christian
13. Ani DiFranco
14. Gavin Grimm
15. Sean Hayes
16. Joyce Hunter

17. Tab Hunter
18. Dale Jennings
19. Roberta Kaplan
20. Steve Letsike
21. Saul Levin
22. Rachel Levine
23. Tarell Alvin McCraney
24. Ann Northrop

25. Adam Rippon
26. Danica Roem
27. Michelangelo Signorile
28. Ethel Smyth
29. Leo Varadkar
30. Perry Watkins
31. Chely Wright



MEET RANDY JONES

Randy Jones, an actor, author, and Multi-Platinum Award Winning Hit Billboard Recording Artist, is the original Cowboy of Village People. In his career spanning five decades before, with and since Village People, he has sold more than 135 million units and garnered in excess of one-half billion views on YouTube. Perhaps best known for his hits with the group, like "Macho Man", "In the Navy", "Go West" and "Y.M.C.A.," he has earned 75 Gold and Platinum record certificates, toured worldwide, starred in the camp classic film, "Can't Stop the Music", made the cover of Rolling Stone Magazine and in 2008, was honored with a star on Hollywood's Walk of Fame.

MICHAEL: Randy, you're originally from North Carolina, yes? When did you come to New York? What's your most fond memory of growing up in North Carolina? Is your family still there? Do you go back often? You and I have a mutual friend, the lovely and talented Gina Hecht, who starred in "Mork and Mindy" back in the day, and I believe you met her there, in North Carolina. Tell me about that.

RANDY: Yep, from Nawth Cackilacky....born, bred, raised and educated there. Attended University of NC in Chapel Hill and UNC School of the Arts in Winston-Salem. Most of my family is right there enjoying the beauty of the state from the majestic Smoky Mountains to the gorgeous beaches on the coast. Yep, Gina and I were students together at UNC School of the Arts. Ain't she simply fabulous and gorgeous? What a gal! Fantastic times growing up and becoming adults and learning the craft of the profession in the early days of the school when it was still wild and woolly. UNCSA has become a rather prestigious institution today. And it provides a student with an outstanding preparation for a career in film, tv, production design, dance, music, and acting. I don't think one can find better. We share our Alma Mater with a ton of other successful kids like Tom Hulse, Mary Louise Parker, Jada Pinkett Smith, Diedrich Bader, Terrence Mann, Danny McBride, Joe Mantello, not to mention all the other folks in this business that hail from

NC like Beth Grant, Michael C. Hall, Sharon Lawrence, Emily Proctor, Kathryn Grayson, Randolph Scott, Ava Gardner and of course Andy Griffith.

MICHAEL: Tell us all about "Tales of Poe." That just came out, right?

RANDY: "Tales of Poe" has been out for a bit. Got a wider release last year with extensive DVD and VOD on all the platforms like Amazon, etc. It's a terrific horror piece produced and directed by Alan Rowe Kelly and Bart Mastronardi, two extremely talented folks that I absolutely love working with. and will again at the drop of a hat...as long as that's not the ONLY thing I'm wearing at the time. LOL.

MICHAEL: Ha! Do you have a favorite film or a performance that you saw as a child that made you want to get into acting?

RANDY: I can't recall any single performance, but I was definitely fascinated with the early programming I watched on television as a child, and of course the films I saw in theaters. The Warner Bros western tv show with Clint Walker. Steve McQueen, Nick Adams, Clint Eastwood, Roy Rogers and the Lone Ranger were my heroes. And I was extremely honored to be named alongside John Wayne, Roy Rogers and the Lone Ranger as one of the All-Time Great Cowboys of Pop Culture by Entertainment Magazine a couple years ago for National Cowboy Day.

MICHAEL: Wow! That's amazing! Who now would you like to work with?

RANDY: Anyone with a budget. LOL.

MICHAEL: I get it!

RANDY: Seriously, there are so many incredibly creative people out there working today, I'm open to collaboration with just about anyone. I love the ingeniousness that comes



by Michael Vaccaro





CITY GUIDES

Scan the QR codes to visit categories in your city.
Find local LGBTQ resources, LGBTQ-owned and
LGBTQ-friendly businesses. You can also suggest
businesses you want to see listed in your area.



qlife | Austin

Austin

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LGBTQ Chamber



Austin LGBT Chamber of Commerce

P.O. Box 49216, Austin, TX 78765

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membership@austintlgbtchamber.com



qlife | Ohio

LGBTQ Chambers

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Cleveland, Ohio

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Cincinnati, OH

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Diversity Chamber of Central Ohio, Inc.

175 S. Third St., Suite 340

Columbus, OH 43215

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The Chamber of Commerce for the LGBT Community
and its Allies in Northeast Ohio

**Plexus LGBT & Allied Chamber of
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888-753-9879 or 888-753-9879

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qlife | Rhode Island

LGBTQ Chamber

Rhode Island

Nestled in the Northeast between Connecticut and Massachusetts, Rhode Island and its capital of Providence have an active LGBTQ community,

Become a QLife Ambassador for Rhode Island and share all the wonderful activities and resources available to the local community.

Rhode Island does not have an official LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce.

If you are interested in starting a local chamber, we are interested in assisting you with the formation process. Please contact us at info@qlifemagazine.com





Welcome to Sunny San Diego

San Diego has a diverse, slightly younger LGBT community and with 300 days of sunshine, there is plenty to do outdoors. You'll find gay bars and clubs in North Park, Hillcrest, and University Heights. Stay active while soaking in the sun and landscape strolling the hilly, palm tree-lined streets of Mission Hills or the winding sidewalks of Mission Bay Park. Rugged hills and valleys make for great hiking. San Diego borders Mexico, so bring your passport for those unexpected excursions.

Become a QLife Ambassador for San Diego and share all the wonderful activities and resources available to the local community.

San Diego Equality Business Association

P.O. Box 33848

San Diego, CA 92163

(619) 296-4543

info@gsdba.org



BECOMING A QLIFE AMBASSADOR

This Summer we introduced the **QLife City Guides** in Las Vegas, Los Angeles, and San Diego. This issue we've added a few of our favorite things in New York, and we're ready to expand our guides into Austin, Ohio, and Rhode Island.

As we grow into new communities, we want our guides to represent the best that each community has to offer for the LGBTQ resident, business traveler, or tourist.

Are you the go-to person for everything LGBTQ in your community?

Represent your local LGBTQ community as a QLife Ambassador. Whether you want to create content, share on social media, or even earn some coin selling ads, if you are passionate about your local LGBTQ community, we want to hear from you. Visit qlifemedia.com/ambassadors for more information.



In 2016, \$6.8 billion was spent on federal elections around the country, the largest amount ever in USA history. But, **Voter turnout in the 2016 presidential election hit a 20-year low.** The United States is the second largest democracy in the world, yet 40% of registered voters don't vote in any given election.

Visit **VOTE.ORG** for comprehensive information on how to register, where to vote, and even how to get your absentee ballot.



PROUDQUEER.COM

QLife and ProudQueer have partnered to bring you LGBTQ content from even more cities. We are looking for PQ Ambassadors in Portland, Seattle, and San Francisco, too.

THERE'S EVEN MORE ONLINE!

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Scan the QR codes throughout the magazine to jump to the right page on qlifemedia.com.

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Open up the Camera app on your iPhone or iPad. Hold the camera up to the QR code. Your iOS device will automatically recognize the QR code and provide you with an on-screen notification to open the web page.

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qlife Las Vegas

LGBTQ Chamber

Welcome to Fabulous Las Vegas!

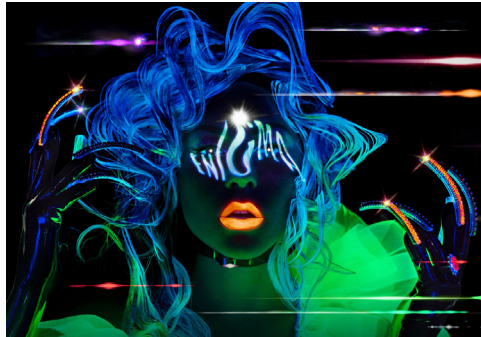
The Vegas LGBTQ scene may seem disconnected, but there are so many things that cater to the community, you just have to know where to look. Overall, Vegas is a diverse and inclusive atmosphere where all walks of life are welcome. It's not called Sin City for nothing—check off all of your Seven Deadly Sins here, just remember what happens here, stays on Instagram and might require a cream or prescription when you get home. Party responsibly and you'll return with no regrets.



Nearly two years since we announced QLife, **Cher** continues to be strong enough to endure the rigor of a three-year Las Vegas **Classic Cher** residency. Not only has she returned to the stage at Park MGM, but to the screen with **Mamma Mia! Here we Go Again**, and to studio with **Dancing Queen**. Cher covers Abba? There are rainbow flavored unicorns!



#GoKnightsGo! Vegas Golden Knights celebrate the LGBTQ community at their October 20th game at T-Mobile Arena.



Lady Gaga announced not one, but two residencies starting New Years Eve Weekend. **Enigma** will bring everything you expect from the Fame Monster. Her **Jazz & Piano** brings classics from the Great American Songbook.



This Summer, **Imagine Dragons** and front man Dan Reynolds performed at Loveloud in Salt Lake City, bringing awareness to high suicide rates among LGBTQ Mormon teens. In October, the Dragons will receive Allies of the Year at The Center's 25th Annual Honorary in Las Vegas.



Lambda Business Association

401 S Maryland Parkway

Las Vegas, NV 89101

info@lambdalv.com

The QLife Las Vegas Guide is created in collaboration with Lambda Business Association, the LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce of Southern Nevada. Lambda members receive a business listing on lambdalv.com and a free listing on the QLife Las Vegas directory.

Membership information is available online at lambdalv.com



Michael Barbieri



Elliott Puckett



Russ White



Garrett Pattiani



Chris Twist



Scan Here for Las Vegas Bars and Nightclubs



CATEGORY IS: POSE

"Paris Is Burning" is a documentary from 1990 that gave the world its first glimpse into the world of Balls, house mothers, and voguing. Most people's knowledge of drag, voguing, and lip syncing comes from "RuPaul's Drag Race", but many are unaware of where all of our signature finger-wagging and "Yass Queen" catch phrases originated. If documentaries aren't your thing, now you have the opportunity to see where it all began with Ryan Murphy's new FX show "Pose".

"Pose" is set in New York City in 1987, the pinnacle time period of the AIDS outbreak, Madonna, and the infamous Ball scene. A "Ball" is a gathering of people coming together to compete in different categories for trophies and praise beyond compare. People of the streets are given the opportunity to live their best fantasy at the ball. Whether it's executive realness, military realness, or royalty eleganza. It gives anyone the chance to present yourself as the CEO of a company, a military officer, or a queen, then each category is judged and winners are announced and crowned.

A lot of the acting in the opening scene can come off as "overacting", but a lot of legendary housemothers from the ball scene, such as Crystal Labeija, always spoke in an outlandish, over exaggerated way to appear entitled and regal. So if you can get past the opening scene, you start to get into the real meat and heart of the show.

All the topics "Pose" touches on are important aspects of the LGBT community's history. The AIDS epidemic, homeless gay youth, transphobia, and racism. "Pose" shows the real-life heartbreak that comes from a teenager being kicked out of their home by their parents simply for being gay, the fear that comes with an HIV diagnosis in a time with so little information about the disease, and the struggle of being a black trans woman in modern day America. It opens conversations about topics and issues that many are unaware of that go on around us and hopefully helps educate people about being more kind to one another. The way the show displays these issues makes it easy to digest

but still gives you a serious look into the real-life struggles that so many had to face in that time period.

I love how much of the Balls you get to see. The costumes, presentations, and music really show the pure fantasy the ball scene was for everyone. It was an escape from the struggles on the street, and the realities that everyone had to face in their daily lives. I will say that I wish some of the "dancers" were stronger performers, but there weren't many trained dancers in the ball scene, so I understand it wouldn't be authentic to cast ballet dancers and have them vogue. As a dancer myself, I cried during the final scene. The way it feels to dance and just escape reality, forget everything, and just move your body is truly captured in this scene. I had goosebumps.

Overall, "Pose" is a colorful, exciting, and informative show about inner New York City's Ball and vogue culture that inspired the likes of Madonna, RuPaul, and modern pop culture. The show follows multiple storylines so it always stays interesting, and gives you a look into each character's backstory and what brought them all together in the infamous ball scene. I can't wait to see how Ryan Murphy unpacks the real-life struggles that faced these characters that so many can relate to, and of course, all the twirling, voguing and serving face at the balls.

Pose was co-created by Ryan Murphy, Brad Falchuk and Steven Canals, with Murphy directing the first two episodes. The series is executive produced by Murphy, Falchuk, Nina Jacobson, Brad Simpson, Alexis Martin Woodall and Sherry Marsh. Canals and Silas Howard serve as co-executive producers, and Janet Mock, Our Lady J and Erica Kay also serve as producers. The eight-episode first season is produced by Fox 21 Television Studios and FX Productions.



by Elliott Puckett





Welcome to Glamorous Los Angeles

The epicenter of movies and performing arts, Los Angeles and the surrounding areas are home to the stars. In neighboring West Hollywood you'll find the gayest of neighborhoods south of San Francisco. From pretty boy to leather daddy, you'll also find every ethnicity, age, and gender identity. With easy access to beaches, shopping, and world class dining, there's no shortage of things to do and see for the local or visiting LGBTQ community.



Photo by: Chris Haston/NBC

Eric McCormack received his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. The star was unveiled next to the star of McCormack's "Will & Grace" co-star Debra Messing. The return of the series has been extended for a third season in 2019.



Photo by: Paul Drinkwater/NBC

Mama Ru got her Emmy! Just weeks before Dragcon NYC, **RuPaul Charles** claimed the award for outstanding reality-competition program for the first time at The 70th Primetime Emmy Awards. Can we get an AMEN!



October is a month of thrills and terrors and masked desires at **OUTFEST**. Start it off with this collection of pulse-pounding **QUEER HORROR SHORTS** that go bump in the night. Wednesday, October 3 at the West Hollywood City Council Chambers at West Hollywood Library.



Inspired by and in support of youth-led movement-building efforts that are awakening critical conversations for social change, **Greater Palm Springs Pride** kicks off the 2018 Pride season under the theme of Youth Power for Change. Organizers also announced that the youth of Coachella Valley have collectively been named Grand Marshals of the 2018 Pride Parade. The Palm Springs Pride Parade is scheduled for November 4.



Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce

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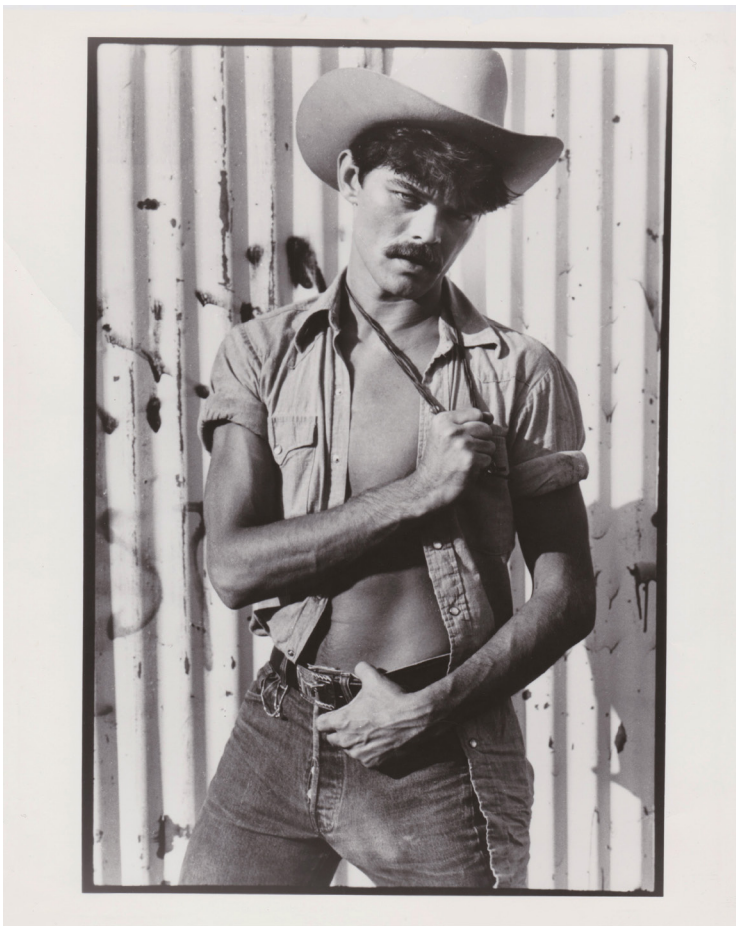
Michael
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**Scan Here for Los Angeles
Bars and Nightclubs**



with independent filmmaking. It reminds me so much of what I studied in film school about the early days of film when techniques were being created and new ways of achieving a goal were being explored. Lower budgets tend to lead creative people to be even more creative. And I'm an admirer of that. I do like a comfortable place to rest in between takes, however. And air conditioning. I do like air conditioning.

MICHAEL: I'm going to name a few people... will you give us some of your thoughts about them? Michael Musto.

RANDY: Michael Musto: one of my earliest pals in NYC. From back before recorded history. He's the best. Love MM.

MICHAEL: Liz Smith.

RANDY: I met fellow Southerner Liz upon my arrival in NYC. She was delightful in every way. She was a true doyenne of gossip when it was done correctly with taste and style. Not done with that kind of skilled dexterity any longer. Pity. Liz was a true friend and a class act. She was the very first person that wrote of me and supported me after my first departure from Village People and subsequent first solo release, "Pretty Woman," in 1982. Liz Smith is sorely missed in today's world of entertainment journalism.

MICHAEL: The Former Bruce Jenner.

RANDY: Quick story. Loved working with and becoming long time friends with Bruce Jenner on the set of the cult fave film, "Can't Stop the Music". When all the life changes began to surface, I have to admit, it was something I had to

do work on to wrap my head around it. But two years ago at the GLAAD Media Awards in NYC after having know "Bruce" for nearly 40 years, I got the opportunity to meet Caitlyn. I was seated at our table watching the stage, when I felt a hand on my shoulder and a whisper in my ear say, "Hey, this is B. Remember me?" I recognized the voice. I turned around and saw a hand and looking into the eyes of my friend for nearly forty years and met Caitlyn. In that moment I realized that it is impossible to know what the experience of living in another human being's skin is like. And that everyone's journey, path and burdens are completely unique to them. That friendship has helped me to evolve with understanding and deeper compassion for all of my brothers and sisters on this planet, who, like me, must live our individual lives and walk our completely unique paths, whether bumpy or smooth, trying to avoid the cracks and pitfalls when possible in whatever footwear we choose, be it boots, sneakers, high-heels or simply barefoot. I have always desired to walk a path in the light with honesty and compassion.

MICHAEL: Alan Cumming.

RANDY: Love and respect Alan to the high heavens. Not only is he a helluva actor that keeps re-inventing himself and his world, but he is dedicated to his community, and his efforts with his new nightspot, Club Cumming in NYC, simply proves the point by providing a completely unique space and environment where all manner of artists feel comfortable and safe to practice and work out in front of an audience. Club Cumming is the essence of what our neighborhood, The East Village, is all about. We both live here.

MICHAEL: Madonna.

RANDY: What's not been said? She opened for us back in the early '80s. Knew her in the neighborhood here. She's one of the first that made me understand the axiom, "Never think you know the potential of another human being". She knew MORE than anyone where she was going. Trust me. She KNEW.

MICHAEL: My old pal, Bruce Vilanch.

RANDY: Of course Bruce is the ultimo best. I love and treasure every single opportunity I get to stand in the presence of Bruce Vilanch. Brilliant and hysterical mind. Little known fact: He wrote the first screenplay to the Village People film, "Can't Stop the Music".

MICHAEL: What's coming up next for you?

RANDY: Working on a new comedy series for Amazon, a new CD with the single out for my birthday in Sept. Several films lining up for release, "Alexander Jamieson", "The Rack Pack". Just finished shooting "Prepper's Grove" and of course we all can't wait to see the final season of "Child of the 70s," to see how we all wind up. Thanks, Michael, love working with you, bud, and can't wait to dance with y'all again.

For more the complete interview with Randy, visit www.qlifemedia.com.





New York, New York!

So nice they named it twice!

The LGBTQ Community here is as diverse as our population. There's so much to do and see—iconic sights like the Empire State Building, Broadway shows, cabaret, fabulous restaurants, LGBTQ-inclusive sporting events, landmark bars where all are welcome, museums, parks, and so much more.

You can try to do it all, but that's impossible. You'll just have to come back again and again!



NGLCCNY is celebrating ten years as the premier LGBT business network in New York City and as the regional office of the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC)! With over 500 members and nearly 200 NGLCC certified LGBT Business Enterprises locally, we have hundreds of reasons to celebrate our past decade of work in the NY LGBT business community!



The **45th Annual Village Halloween Parade** kicks off on Halloween Night at 7 p.m. Only those in costume are welcome to join hundreds of puppets, 35 bands, dancers, artists, and thousands of other New Yorkers in costumes of their own creation in the nation's most wildly creative public participatory event in the greatest city in the world!



Join **Hetrick-Martin Institute** at the 2018 EMERY AWARDS in support of LGBTQ young people on Wednesday, November 7, 2018 at Cipriani Wall Street. Visit www.hmi.org/emery2018 for more details.



The Eagle NYC proudly hosts and sponsors **Mr. Eagle NYC** who represents New York City at the International Mr. Leather Competition (IML) in Chicago each May. The annual Mr. Eagle NYC Contest is held every first weekend of October.



Gather your friends, colleagues and family members for this year's Broadway Run, Saturday, Nov 3.

Visit BroadwayCares.org for more information or to register.



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QLife is a proud member of the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce New York



Michael Barbieri



Become a QLife ambassador for your city and specialties.



Scan Here for New York Bars and Nightclubs



DRAGCON NYC

On September 9th & 10th, 2017, RuPaul's DragCon NYC sashayed into New York's Jacob Javits Center, and I was there to cover it for QLife Media! In my 6 years of writing for our publications, this was by far the largest event I've attended, and the weekend was a whirlwind of activity!

Press check-in on Day 1 was scheduled for 8 AM, with a ribbon cutting ceremony at 9:00. Now, I'm not an 8 AM kind of guy, but I wanted to see RuPaul make herstory, so I arrived bright and early. For anyone not able to be there, you can't imagine the scope of DragCon! A huge banner reading "Shantay This Way" welcomed everyone, and my Press pass gave me access to the convention floor before the public was admitted, so I began exploring.

The enormous space was divided up into drag-themed "roads" of sorts - there was Glamazon Blvd, Sickening Street, Tuckahoe Lane, and Realness Road. Running down the center of it all, was Death Drop Alley, covered in a luxurious, bright pink carpet! Each road was lined with booths and tables where fans could pose for pictures with their favorite drag queens, or purchase all manner of merchandise, like fabulous makeup, towering drag heels, wigs, specialty t-shirts, and even cat toys for their drag kitty! There was a runway/stage in one corner, a backdrop resembling the Drag Race mainstage, where people could pose for photos, Autograph Alley, where celebrities signed autographs and posed for selfies with eager fans, a RuPaul merchandise booth festooned with mannequins sporting some of Ru's famous costumes, and a lounge area, where folks could get off their feet and rest awhile - and with all the high heels worn, that was a necessity!

All in all, more than 35,000 people attended, 53 of the former Drag Race contestants appeared, and there were 177 different vendors and exhibitors. As I said, it was huge!

I wasn't able to do everything, but I did an awful lot. I was right up front for the ribbon cutting, where RuPaul and 10-year old drag prodigy, Desmond Is Amazing,

welcomed everyone to the love fest. Mama Ru was surrounded by Drag Race royalty, like Michelle Visage, Chad Michaels, Manila Luzon, Milk, Vivacious, Darienne Lake, and others.

Over the course of two days, I ran into friends like Randy Jones - the original Cowboy from The Village People, Honey LaBronx: the Vegan Drag Queen, and the girls from Lips Drag Queen Show Palace, Restaurant & Bar. I caught a performance from Mighty Real: A Fabulous Sylvester Musical, chatted with Mrs. Kasha Davis, Tempest DuJour, Alexis Michelle, and Cynthia Lee Fontaine, and posed for pictures with Ongina, Ivy Winters, and one of my favorites, Detox, who remembered me from an evening two years ago when I saw her show at the Laurie Beechman Theater. Of course, it wouldn't have been a complete DragCon experience without grabbing a photo with RuPaul herself!

When I was all over, I was absolutely exhausted...and I can't wait to do it all again next year!



by Michael Barbieri



RuPaul's DragCon NYC 2018 returns to New York City September 28, 29, & 30 at the Javits Center and DragCon LA is slated for Spring 2019.



Western Business Alliance Conference

March 14-16, 2019

LGBT Economic Summit & Conference

On March 14-16, 2019 the LAGLCC will host the Western Business Alliance (WBA) LGBT Economic Summit & Conference. The WBA was founded in 1994 as an opportunity for LGBT chambers throughout the Western United States to advocate on behalf of the LGBT economic equality movement, share 'best practices' and serve as the collective voice of the LGBT business community in the West.

HOSTED BY:



www.wbasummit.com



The WBA includes LGBT chambers and thought-leaders from twenty-two cities, eleven states and Vancouver, British Columbia. Represented within the WBA are:

San Francisco	Honolulu
Palm Springs	Dallas
Sacramento	Albuquerque
Silicon Valley/San Jose	Tucson
Los Angeles	Spokane
Long Beach	Atlanta
San Diego	Washington DC
Milwaukee	Portland
Seattle	Austin
Vancouver	Houston
Las Vegas	Toronto
	Anchorage



THE RAINBOW ECONOMY

by Russ White

For many years, the LGBTQ consumer has been a powerful economic voice. According to a recent report by NGLCC, the National LGBT Chamber of Commerce, Now worth approximately \$1 trillion dollars in spending and economic influence, the rainbow economy in the US represents unprecedented spending power.

Corporate America recognizes this at the supplier diversity level, with over 200 companies spending millions of dollars each year with over 1,000 Certified LGBT Business Enterprises across the nation.

For the consumer, this means choosing companies that support the LGBTQ community. Each year, the Human Rights Campaign Foundation releases their Corporate Equality Index, a survey of businesses and their attitudes and actions for and against the LGBTQ community. Brands like Apple, Amazon, Google, Starbucks, Home Depot, and Target continually score 100 in the CEI and in brand loyalty among LGBTQ consumers.

NGLCC and HRC help identify major corporations, but how do consumers know where to spend their dollars locally?

Many local LGBTQ Chambers of Commerce provide valuable business directories that help consumers and businesses locate LGBTQ-owned and LGBTQ-friendly businesses. Dozens of LGBTQ chambers across the country serve local business communities.

In 2017, the Western Business Alliance, a consortium of LGBTQ chambers of commerce across the western United States kicked off the first LGBT Economic Summit in Seattle, hosted by the Greater Seattle Business Association, attracting over 200 participants for a luncheon and panel discussions. This year Golden Gate Business Association hosted the second annual summit, with over 700 attending. This coming March, LAGLCC will host the 3rd Annual LGBT Economic Summit in Los Angeles.

Perhaps even more important than shopping at LGBTQ-owned and LGBTQ-friendly businesses would be to

become an LGBTQ-owned business. This year, QLife received its LGBTBE certification from NGLCC and we have interviewed dozens of other LGBTQ business owners like Hanna Levon—owner of Pal Socks, Robert Gaskill—owner of MOTEV, Kempe Scanlan, Serafina Palandech—co-founder of HipChick Farms, and Iron Chef Cat Cora.

The Rainbow Economy supports the businesses that support the LGBTQ community. Make an effort to choose them when you open your wallet.

And if you see them advertising in QLife, thank them for making our community resource possible.

Russ White is the co-founder and co-publisher of QLife. Russ also serves as the Executive Director for Lambda Business Association in Las Vegas.



COMING SOON

2018 QLIFE HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE



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Wellness

This year, depression and mental health became the #1 concern within the LGBTQ community, with millennial and gender expansive individuals expressing significantly higher concerns.

46%



45%

Body weight ranked closely behind depression and mental health, especially among GenX and gay and bisexual men.



39%

Losing access to or not having health insurance is the 3rd greatest concern, outranking other physical ailments and diseases.

31%

Cancer

24%

Heart disease

20%

Alzheimer's disease

19%

Diabetes

Other health concerns including sexually transmitted diseases vary among gender and generation, but Cancer, Heart disease, Alzheimer's disease, and diabetes remain top concerns across the community.

16%



The HIV and AIDS epidemic continues to affect millions each year. In recent years, treatment, prevention, and Undetectable = Untransmittable (U=U) have reduced HIV and AIDS to the 8th health concern among the LGBTQ community.



qlifemedia.com

