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QVEGAS

The Fashion Issue

Eleven Local Designers

PROJECT NUNWAY

The Sisters Take the Runway

CELEB CENTRAL

QVegas Celebrity Interviews
Dolly Parton, Cyndi Lauper
and Cindy Williams

+PLUS: B&W Party Recap,
Queercon, Menopause,
Mommie Smearest, and
Megan Vice



ON THE COVER

The Sin City Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence bring Project Nunway to Las Vegas on October 1 featuring "verde couture" from eleven Las Vegas designers.

Photography by Kent Taylor

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PUBLISHERS' NOTE

LDW marks the end of the Las Vegas Summer. The pool parties wind down along with the intense heat.

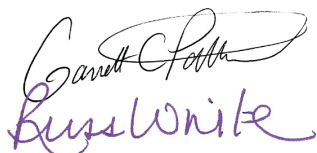
This month we present our Fashion Issue with an interesting twist—eleven local designers are preparing unique designs for The Sin City Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence's very first Las Vegas Project Nunway. We can't show you their designs, as they will make their debut on October 1 at the Sister's new annual fund raiser, but QVegas got an exclusive sneak peek and we're able to give you a preview of sketches as we profile these incredible designers.

This issue is also packed with celebrity interviews with three incredible and iconic women. Dolly Parton comes to Laughlin at the end of the September, Cyndi Lauper takes the stage at The Joint on NCOD weekend, and Cindy Williams has an extended residency in Menopause—The Musical.

We've been having a great time meeting and visiting with everyone on Sunday at Gay Brunchie Brunch, but this month Michael Barbieri features the ultimate Vegas Brunch at Bouchon. Scott Matti fills us in on Demi Lovato and Nick Jonas' Epic Tour. Christopher Connor fills us in on gay hackers invading Vegas for Queercon.

And this month we introduce a new feature: Throwing Shade. Edward Yeager provides a huntly guide to 82 generic white guy names. Don't take it personally—Edward doesn't live here, so this article isn't about you. Really.

And finally, Nyle DiMarco is coming to Vegas as the latest guest host of The Chippendales. Nyle is gay, deaf, and the winner of America's Next Top Model. Can you sign "Sexy?"



Garrett Pattiani & Russ White



PUBLISHER

Russ White

ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER & EDITOR

Garrett Pattiani

CONTRIBUTORS

Michael Barbieri

Jamie Booth

Christopher Conner

Elala Frank

Joseph Isaacs

Scott Matti

Garrett Pattiani

Russ White

Edward Yeager

FOR ADVERTISING INQUIRIES

info@gay.vegas

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Las Vegas, NV 89109

www.gay.vegas/qvegas

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BRUNCH, VEGAS STYLE!



[by Michael Barbieri,
myvegasobsession.com]



It's no secret that Bouchon, Chef Thomas Keller's lovely French bistro-inspired eatery in the Venetian Hotel, is one of my favorite restaurants. I've been there on many occasions, alone, with friends and with family.

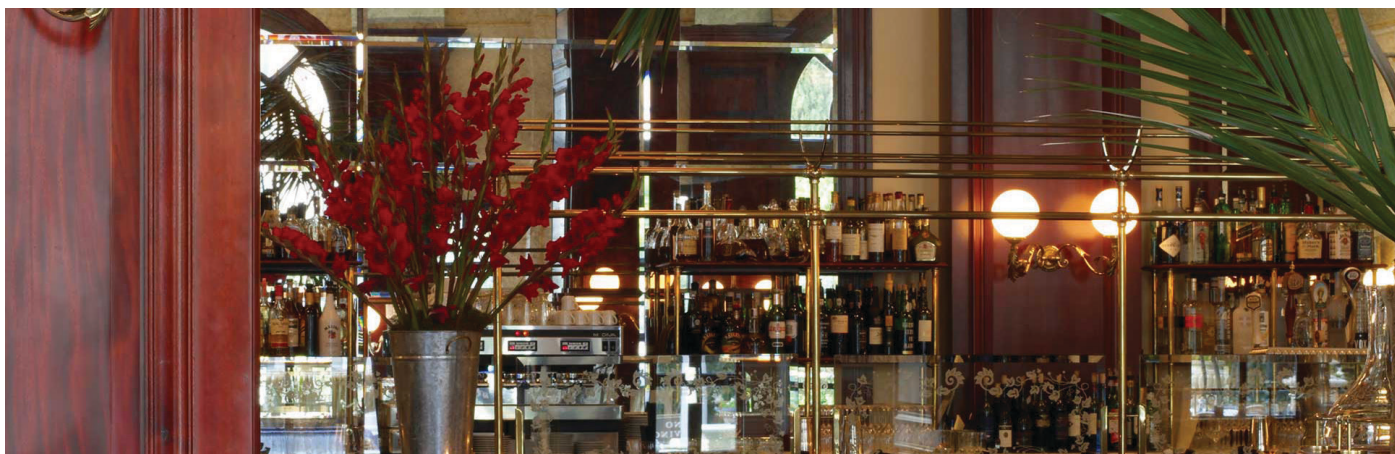
It's also no secret that Bouchon boasts what is quite possibly the most popular, and most award-winning brunches in Las Vegas. Among its accolades, *Eater: Las Vegas* named Bouchon as having the Best Brunch in Las Vegas, *Saveur Magazine* named it one of 100 Favorite Restaurants, and *What's On Magazine* called it one of the Top 3 Brunch Spots!

I have often said that I've never had a bad meal at Bouchon, but I'm not a morning person...or even an early afternoon person, so brunch isn't really my thing. On this occasion, however, an old school chum of mine came to Vegas to celebrate a milestone birthday, and one of her plans was brunch at Bouchon. What better opportunity, not only to visit with a good friend, but to finally try the phenomenal meal of which I'd heard so much, and then share it with all of you!

I arrived about 11:15 am, and the lovely space, with its glass topped hardwood panels dividing

up the room, blue, white, and red patterned tile floors, and high ceilings with demure food 'frescoes', seemed transformed by the sunlight streaming in through the wall of French doors and windows along the west side of the room. In the evenings, the space is dimly lit and romantic. This morning, it was bright, cheery, and homey. It was also packed!

There was much from which to choose: I began with an excellent Bloody Mary, garnished with Cornichon pickles, a small pickled pepper and a pimento-stuffed olive. My friends simply began with some of Bouchon's own delicious coffee blend. I saw two of my favorite items from the usual nighttime menu: the *Rillettes aux Deux Saumons* - a minced blend of fresh and smoked salmon, mixed with spices and clarified butter, which can be spread on crispy toasted croutons, and the *Terrine de Foie Gras de Canard* - rich, decadent duck's liver foie gras, served in its own



jar, accompanied by toasted baguette slices. These two dishes are indulgent treats, and I recommend them highly, but I started with the Pecan Sticky Bun. This was more than a mere pastry. It was practically a meal! A large, dense bun baked with a swirl of cinnamon inside, topped with large chunks of pecans and coated in a sweet, sugary, and yes, sticky glaze. I sampled one of their mini-Financiers, too - light, moist little cakes, with the subtle flavor of almonds and a sprinkle of powdered sugar. Yum!

The birthday girl chose the *Petit Déjeuner Américaine* - two eggs with bacon, sausage and potato croquettes, served with toasted brioche, and one of Bouchon's pastries; in her case, the *Pain au Chocolat* - flaky, buttery pastry filled with lovely bittersweet chocolate. The eggs were perfectly done, and complemented nicely by the bacon, the juicy sausage, and the lightly crispy croquettes. My friend's girlfriend decided on the *Oeufs Benedict* - two poached eggs, served with smoked pork loin, country bread, Hollandaise sauce, and mixed greens. With the pork loin standing in for the more traditional Canadian bacon and the country bread taking the place of the usual English muffins, this was a heartier, smokier, much more flavorful spin on the usual Eggs Benedict. Finally, I opted for the *Poulet et des Gaufres*, Bouchon's take on chicken and waffles. Ordinarily, we tend to think of this southern-style dish as made with fried chicken, but at Bouchon, the chicken was lightly and perfectly roasted; moist inside, with golden brown skin and a delicious *Sauce Chasseur* - butter, shallots, tomato, bacon, and white wine - on the

side. The sauce, good as it was, however, was practically unnecessary, as the chicken was tasty enough on its own! The bacon-chive waffle was light as air, and when topped with a touch of maple syrup, the dish struck a perfect balance of savory and sweet.

There was more from which to choose. Their *Quiche du Jour* was a *Quiche Florentine*, with tempting layers of cheese and spinach. If you prefer lunch-type dishes, the *Cobb Salade* or the *Burger Bouchon* might be to your liking. But remember, this IS Vegas, after all, so you might want to indulge in one of their seafood platters. The *Grand Plateau* comes with 1 lobster, 16 oysters, 4 shrimp, 8 clams, 10 mussels, and a seasonal crab. If that's not decadent enough, try the *Caviar d'Esturgeon*, at a mere \$85.00 for a 1 ounce serving! Either of these would make for a memorable Vegas brunch!

Of course there are other brunches in Las Vegas. The *Fountains Brunch* at Jasmine, in the Bellagio, serves up Asian inspired dishes along with traditional brunch fare. *Hash House A Go Go*, with locations throughout Vegas, is the home of "twisted farm food" like their giant sized *Fried Chicken Benedict*! And *Serendipity 3* at Caesar's Palace, revives you with the *Hangover Omelet*, or the *Bigger Than Your Head Pancakes*!

My experience at Bouchon, however, proved to me why their brunch is so acclaimed - and so well attended! So after a long Saturday night, get up bright and early...ish, throw on your darkest sunglasses, and start the day right, with brunch, Vegas style!

The

Holy Order-Sin City Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, is very excited about introducing their newest fundraiser "Project Nunway Las Vegas."

Project Nunway Las Vegas is an annual fashion fundraiser that pairs Sisters with designers to create a high fashion look based on a recycled theme to create couture designs that are constructed from recycled or reclaimed materials. ♡ Details or sponsorship opportunities, contact Sister Loosy at Tskin702@aol.com. ♡ Tickets: sinsitysisters.org/project-nunway.

Project Nunway las vegas

7

Deadly Sins
Vice & Virtue

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A Fashion Show like “nun” other, the Sin Sity Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence announces the very first Project Nunway Las Vegas. “Seven Deadly Sins Vice & Virtue” to make its debut on October 1.

Eleven local designers have been paired with one of the Sin Sity Sisters to walk the “Nunway.” Designers will construct one-of-a-kind “Verde Couture” outfits made from recycled, reclaimed, or reused materials. Designers are limiting to spending \$100 or less on their design. The designers must stay within the theme of the “Seven Deadly Sins Vice & Virtue.”

Sister Roma from the San Francisco Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence will guest emcee the event, along with a jam packed evening of entertainment, including singers, dancers, body paint exhibits, and specialty acts.

The original Project Nunway was created in 2008 by Sister Baba Ganesh of the SF House and inspired by the late Fellini Film “Roma” and

Bravo’s Project Runway. The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence formed in San Francisco in 1979 to advocate for LGBT community members. The Sin Sity Sisters

Famed for their annual Red Dress event, The Sisters are adding Project Nunway to their lineup as a second annual fund raiser to bring public awareness to up-and-coming designers, design and fashion students, and avant garde local designers.

All proceeds benefit the Sisters AIDS Drug Assistance Program (SADAP), a program that provides medication and services to people living with HIV/AIDS that cannot otherwise afford the cost of medication they need to survive.

Tickets are \$50-\$100 on sale now at sinsitysisters.org

Photos: Kent Taylor



Sister Roma will be in Sin City to host Project Nunway

When Sister Loosy put out the call for in July, eleven local designers answered. Each tasked with creating “verde couture” outfits from recycled materials and a \$100 budget, they feverishly started sketching and dumpster diving. Paired with one of the Sin City Sisters, designers will create custom look based on this year’s theme “Seven Deadly Sins Vice and Virtue.”



QVegas got an exclusive sneak peek behind the scenes as the designers envisioned their creations. We don’t want to give away the big reveals, but we are excited to introduce you to the designers are share some of their inspirations.



A graduate from Sanford-Brown, Justin has a BFA in Fashion Design with an emphasis in Pattern Making. A former Ms. Las Vegas Pride (JewDi Vine 2009), Justin has been designing for over 10 years in the Las Vegas community. He currently has private clients that he designs for and is also an Equipment Manager Specialist with the UFC Ultimate Fighting Championship. From alterations to designs and customizing fight gear for the athletes, there is never a dull moment in his life. Justin and his fiancé, Eric, continue to work and support the LGBTQ community and are proud to be a part of this incredible project!



Jim McCoy is an eclectic bohemian who has been creating fashion from an early age. His unique style of costume fused haute couture fashion has been witnessed nationwide in many live theatrical productions and art exhibitions. He studied fashion and design at the Institute of Art in Pennsylvania.

He strives to make things eccentric yet affordable, functional yet fabulous. He will be a featured designer in the LAS VEGAS HOUSE OF DIFFA Fashion show in 2017.



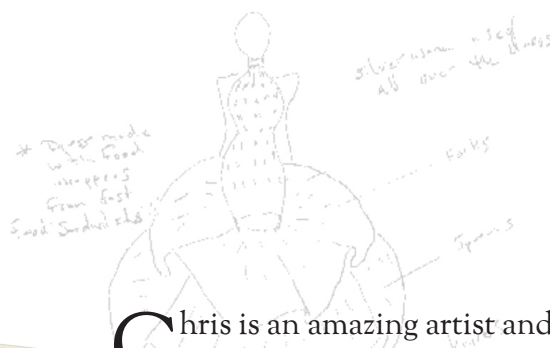
British tattooed and pierced Interior Designer, with a hint of quirky. I can be quiet and reserved through to the life of the party. My design tastes vary from English Victorian to bright neon pink zebra print carpet. I have been in Las Vegas now since 2011, got married in 2014. I also contribute a lot of my time to other local charities including Opportunity Village.



Matt is the 18th elected Emperor for the Imperial Royal Sovereign Court of the Desert Empire, Inc. The Imperial Court is a 501(c)3 that raises money for local charities here in Southern Nevada. This year Reign 18 is raising money for the Sin City Sisters, Golden Rainbow, Nathan Adelson Hospice Foundation, The Center.

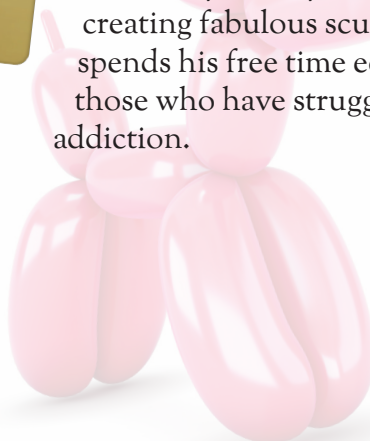
Matt is the Business Development Manager for Nathan Adelson Hospice and the Elaine Wynn Palliative Program, and is grateful for the ability to help families in need.

When Matt is not donating his time to various community organizations, you can find him at home making costumes for his travel all over the United State, or relaxing with his four dogs and husband of 21 years Jon Jones aka Diana Prince.



Chris is an amazing artist and entertainer that has been bringing cheer to Southern Nevada and surrounding areas for more than 13 years. Every year he dazzles our city and the LGBTQ community with his colorful designs for the annual AFAN Black and White Party as well as the Pride Parade and Festival not to mention other countless events.

He also spends time helping out many of the local night clubs to celebrate in their festivities and many charity events. When Chris is not creating fabulous sculptures out of latex he spends his free time educating and counseling those who have struggled with drug and alcohol addiction.





Paradox is one of the resident Bootblacks at Charlie's Las Vegas.

Co-Founder of the Sin City Switches, a mentor in the BDSM Educational Center Mentorship program.

2016 Secretary of Leather Uniform Club of Las Vegas.

Paradox became a member of the Leather Uniform Club of Las Vegas in 2014 and has been involved with the community since then.

Paradox has been making and designing costumes for well over a decade, when the local Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence did the call for their first ever Project Nunway, she wanted to be a part of the event to support them in the many wonderful things they do for our local community.



Joseph Charles Poli is a Fashion Designer and Stylist, based in Las Vegas, Nevada. He graduated with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Fashion Design from The Academy of Art University, San Francisco California. He is the Owner and Creative Director of the company that bares his name.

Joseph Charles Poli was born August 28th in San Diego, California to a family of English and Italian decent. Raised primarily by his Mother and Paternal Grandparents he was heavily influenced by the 1950s and 60s. Much of his inspiration for collections are influenced by his childhood love of vintage clothing and architecture.



Lead by Multi-Disciplinary Artist Angel Alcalá at the head of the team, a Mexican-American with a passion for all things creative, raised in both Mexico & Las Vegas, ANARCHALA was born from a conceptual idea that goes against the mainstream ideals & standards of art & fashion, challenging the social perception of what is art & fashion often combining both of the crafts and their numerous disciplines to evoke a certain emotion to challenge the viewer to experience the world from a different point of view.



Mexican born designer, Reyna Herrera has been creating pieces since an early age. Herrera has been designing on the local Las Vegas scene for years under her label Avanseh. Her aesthetic being more on the avant garde side she focuses her work on doing special projects and commissioned pieces. A former winner of RAW Las Vegas designer of the year and RAW international founders favorite Herrera has taken a break from designing in recent years to pursue her other passion of working in Public Health specifically in HIV related services.

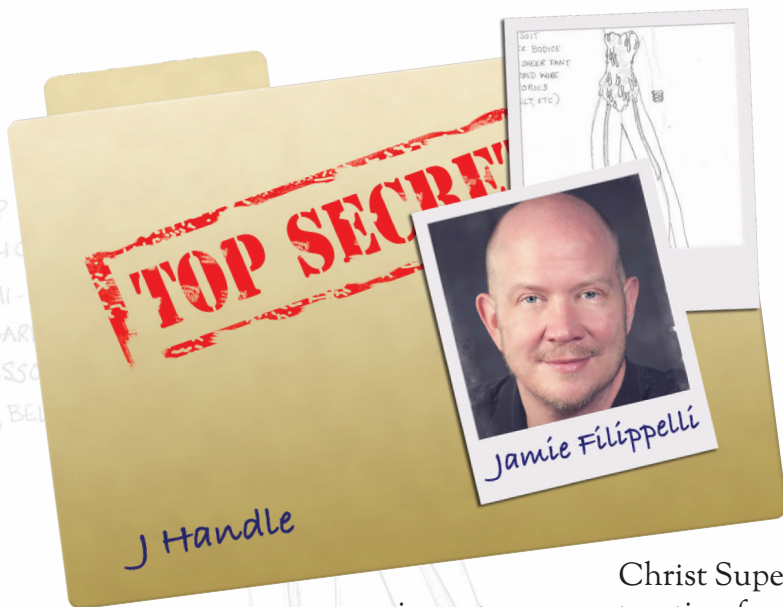
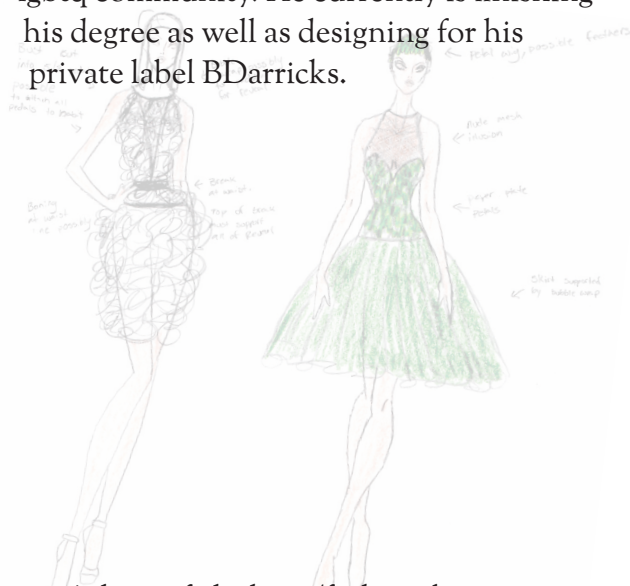
As an advocate and volunteer for different projects since the age of 12 Herrera has seen the growth and improvement of services for those living with HIV. However, after volunteering with a local agency four years ago she saw the need for Spanish speaking professionals working in the field and thus pursued a career in HIV services.

Herrera is currently the new HIV outreach coordinator under Ryan White at The LGBTQ Center. Although designing is still a large part of her life her focuses on doing on only special charity projects and commissioned work.





Brenton Coon aka Aaliyah Skyy has been designing for over twelve years. Originally from Dallas Texas, Brenton moved to Las Vegas to pursue his bachelors of fine arts in fashion design. His speciality is in costuming and bespoke women's sportswear. His alter ego Aaliyah Skyy never misses an opportunity to show off these many talents and is an active member in the Las Vegas lgbtq community. He currently is finishing his degree as well as designing for his private label BDarricks.



Jamie's love of clothing/fashion began at a very early age. The first piece he designed and created, at 7 years old, was a "groovy" two color denim hat with an appliqued turtle..." His interests also lead him to a lifetime of amateur clothing construction, modeling, fashion styling and a long career in "the rag trade". He has worked for Giorgio Armani brands, constructed costumes for Broadway shows such as Billy Elliot, Memphis, Rock of Ages, Ghost, Kinky Boots, Chaplin, Jesus

Christ Superstar and Leap of Faith. He was also involved in costume construction for the music industry (Katy Perry World Tour, Madonna Super Bowl Half-time Show, Madonna World Tour).

In 2013, Jamie was offered a position as Assistant Head of Costume Construction at The Wynn Las Vegas where his team produced the costumes for Le Reve: The Dream and Showstoppers, two of the most acclaimed shows on the Las Vegas Strip. In 2015 he became the co-owner and creative director of his own label, J Handle, creating looks for two of the hottest clubs on The Strip. Jamie lives in Las Vegas with his handsome husband, and their fur baby, Libby.

Chef D'Andre Balaoing

Season 7 MasterChef contestant and local Las Vegas bartender D'Andre Balaoing will be provide edible delights for Project Nunway attendees.

Follow him on Twitter @dandre.balaoing



Meet the Designers

September 9th at 8pm

Hard Rock Cafe @ Paradise & Harmon

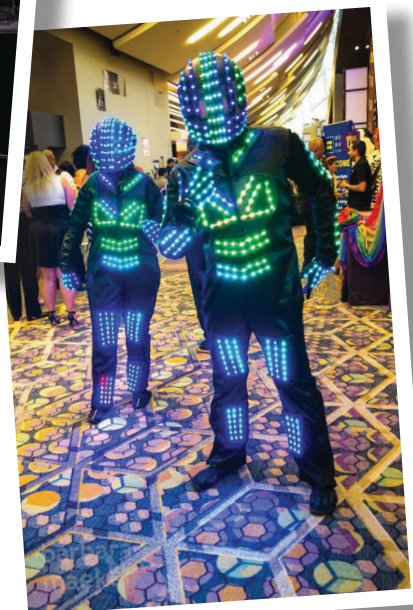
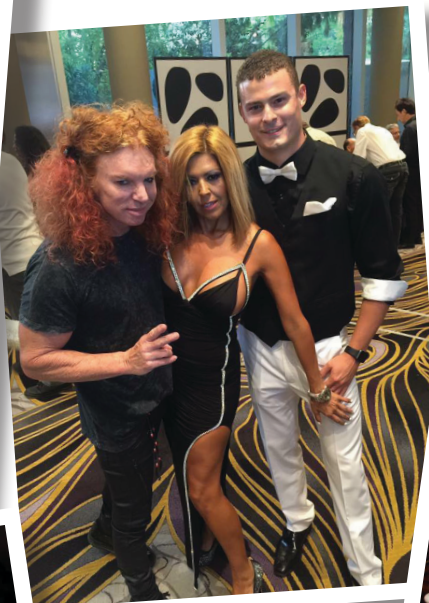


Join The Sisters and QVegas for a special pre-Nunway mixer where you can meet the designers and find out more about what they have in store for Project Nunway on October 1.

AFAN 30th Black & White Party at Aria

August 20th, 2016







SIMPLY DOLLY

[by Russ White]

Dolly Parton returns to stage and studio with her new album and concert tour “Pure & Simple.” In true Dolly style, the album is filled with songs about love, but fans can expect some old favorites to make their way into the tour. QVegas spent a little time catching up with Dolly as she packed up for her North American tour that rolls into Laughlin on September 30.

“We had decided early on that we were going to do a tour, so we sat down with the band and I thought ‘you know we need an album,’ and we didn’t have time to do one, so it should just be ‘pure and simple.’ Dolly enters her 50th year performing this year with her 46th album, but this will be her first major tour in over 25 years.

Dolly’s generous spirit and open heart has welcomed gay fans for decades. “They know I love them, they know I accept everybody for who they are. I have a lot of gays and lesbians in my family, friend, people in all of my businesses. I just love people, I don’t really think about it because your straight or gay.”

Know the world over for her iconic bleach blonde hair and buxom appearance, Dolly has

felt the judgement of others. “I’ve always wanted people to accept me for who I am. I’ve been persecuted for the way I look. I believe everybody should be allowed to be exactly who they are.”

Dolly fills Pure & Simple with love songs for every type of relationship. “It’s good love songs. It’s a ‘love of many colors.’ There’s true love, lasting love, all time love, cheating love, sexy love, romantic love—I just tried to cover it all.”

Written and produced by Parton, the songs return to her roots. With more and more artists releasing over-produced songs that mask—or make up for their talents—Pure & Simple is just that—pure and simple, under-produced, and all Dolly.

An outspoken advocate for LGBT, Parton is one of few stars in country music that are as accepting.



The ABC's series "Nashville" introduced a gay character trying to protect his image as a heterosexual country music heart throb.

"What really gets me is that so many Country people are supposed to be 'good Christian people' and to me, if they were to exercise more of what the Bible says, to love one another, to love your neighbor, and not to judge, there's room for everybody to be more accepting of all people."

In addition to a life-long career in music, Dolly made her film debut in 1980 as Doralee Rhodes in 9-to-5 and helped revived the show as a Broadway musical in 2008 by writing the musical score. Parton continued her movie career with titles that include The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas, and Truvy Jones in Steele Magnolias.

"After the tour I'm going to take some time off to produce and promote my TV shows, and possibly even be in a series."

We can only hope that includes a reunion with 9-to-5 co-stars Lily Tomlin and Jane Fonda in their hit series "Frankie and Grace" which has been renewed for its 3rd season on Netflix.

Dolly rolls into Laughlin on September 30. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster.com

Dolly Fun Facts

Dolly embarks on her new tour at age 70.

During her live shows, she is wired up with microphones in her wigs, her head piece, one in her cleavage, as well as a hand-held microphone.

Even though Dolly has written many love songs and cheating songs, she's been faithfully married to her husband Carl Dean since 1966.

Her passport is issued as Dolly Parton Dean.

Dolly's business enterprises include Dollywood theme park, Splash Country water park, and film and TV production companies.

Her TV production company produced "Buffy the Vampire Slayer"



It's no secret that Cyndi Lauper is always up to new things that many people might find unusual, ever since her debut album “She’s So Unusual” in 1983. She is an accomplished Grammy, Emmy and Tony award winning artist. With all of her success and awards, there is something deeper about Cyndi—her ongoing commitment to equality; not just for some but for everyone.

I couldn’t believe that I was actually going to be listening to a live interview—and had no idea I was going to get the chance to speak to Cyndi directly. You can imagine my surprise when I heard the moderator say, “Our next question comes from Garrett Pattiani from QVegas Magazine”... I didn’t know what to say, so I said what I always wanted to say. I wanted Cyndi to know that she changed my life. Let me give you a little back story...

My life has always had elements and vivid memories of Cyndi Lauper, which is why I am so excited to talk about her new concert tour and new album named *Detour*, (cleverly named as it is a twist many didn’t see coming). Her inspiration? “When I was a really young kid, country music

was pop music, so this is what we grew up listening to. These songs are part of some of my earliest memories.”

Her songs were some of my earliest memories. After all, the album was released on the day I was born, June 26 1984. My older sisters were in their early teens when my parents got us our first record player and I remember her songs blasting through our home. I remember being intrigued with that famous album cover with her dancing in the street, sporting wild colored hair, wearing that funky dress and her high heels kicked off in the street.

What I didn’t know was how this woman would continue to impact my life—time after time.

Cyndi was a big part of the 80’s and 90’s culture.



Cyndi Lauper's DETOUR tour comes to Las Vegas October 8th

Her music was found in the classic *Goonies* movie and *Girls Just Want To Have Fun*, both of which I must have seen dozens of times.

Girls Just Want to have Fun was particularly memorable because it exposed me to the art of dancing, and maybe the first time I saw people living out their dreams regardless of obstacles. I still sing this song at the top of my lungs like no one is watching.

Back to the interview.

I'm shocked. I'm frozen. I wanted to tell her all of this, but I had to be concise and let her know about the most important memory I had of her.

It was the summer of 2003. I was an 18 year old lifeguard at Mandalay Bay Resort on the Las Vegas strip. The main wave pool was set up with a large stage to host outdoor nighttime concerts, and I made sure I was on the schedule that night.

I was doing my job, while also enjoying the concert. Then, Cyndi walked all the way around the stage, climbed up the back of my lifeguard chair, and was standing there right next to me.

That would have been cool enough, but then she did something that changed the course of my life forever. She took a rainbow flag, draped it across her shoulder and told a story about an old friend of hers that was gay and she dedicated that song to him. As she sang *True Colors*, I knew she

was singing right to me and I wanted everyone at that pool concert to see my true colors. Later that summer, I came out to myself and the rest of the world.

I'm so grateful for the opportunity to tell her about the impact she had on my life, and I still couldn't believe I was talking right to her. Her response was so awesome. She talked about her life's mission to achieve equality and it only made me love her more.

Cyndi's passion for LGBTQ equality took over the rest of interview. I knew that this was something that she felt very strongly about. Equality and support of diversity is at her core belief system.

Her best advice: "Tell your story. Put a face on it." She is right. The only way to achieve progress is to live your authentic self and tell your story. The way to get someone to understand isn't to "preach" or talk about "ideologies". It is to show them the human side of it and show them the pain it causes when they discriminate. So if you wonder how to change the world, simply let your *True Colors* shine and it will automatically liberate you and give others the permission to do the same.

Cyndi Lauper returns to Las Vegas on October 8 at The Joint inside the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino.



Cindy Williams joins the cast of *Menopause-The Musical* at Harrah's in a special guest role now through October 1. This fun and humorous show parodies classic songs of the '60s, '70s and '80s as four women commiserate on "the change" that hits them as they age. Set in a New York department store, the cast makes fun of their woeful hot flashes, forgetfulness, mood swings, wrinkles, night sweats and chocolate binges.

"I don't know who enjoys the show more, the audience watching it or me getting to perform in it with this incredible cast. I love this show," said Williams.

With remakes and remixes of "Good Vibrations" and "Change-Change-Change," and an abundance of hot flash references, the show will resound with any woman going through or anyone affected by a woman going through "the change."

Williams, who turned 69 this month, auditioned for one of the cast roles two years ago, but she wasn't prepared for the Las Vegas climate's affect on her throat so she had to pass on the Vegas

role, but opted to join the tour. Audiences are certainly glad she's back in town though, with her run extended to October 1st.

As I sat down with Cindy, it was apparent that the vibrancy of Shirley Feeney wasn't that far of a stretch in acting. The smile I grew up with on television welcomed me with a familiar though aged laugh.

"Speaking of the gays, did you see that thing on Ellen with the twin boys coming out? That's the way America should be!" she said as she jumped right in to our interview.

My first question was about the show, having not seen it before, but staying for the evening



performance after the interview. “I wouldn’t say the kids should come because of the double entendres and things, but everyone enjoys this show—women, men, gay, straight. It’s a laugh out loud show. It’s an all-out entertaining show.”

Most famous for her role with Penny Marshall on *Laverne & Shirley*, Cindy recalled the early days of her career, much of which is covered in her new book, “*Shirley, I Jest*.”

“When we did *Laverne & Shirley*, it was a live audience, so it was like this show, but the cameras were on stage and we had a live audience. It was the best of all possible worlds for me.”

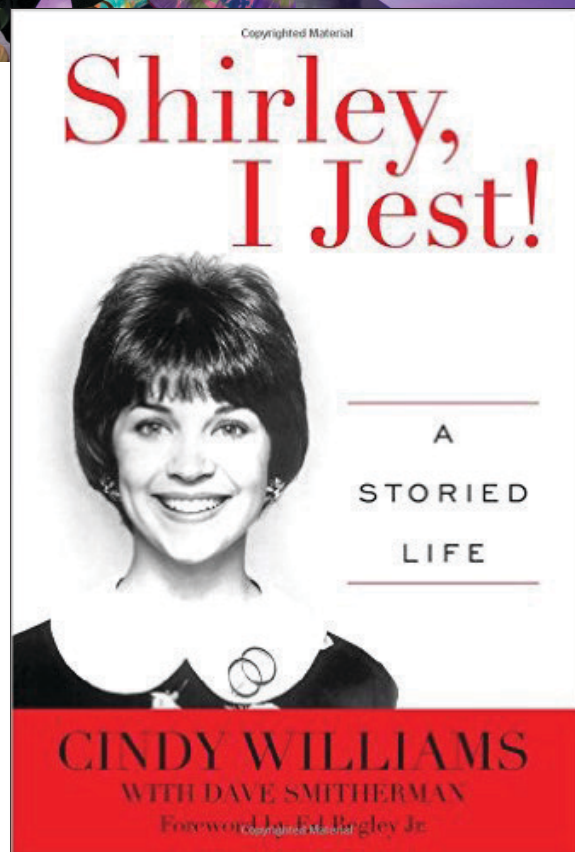
“Penny and I always tried to make ourselves laugh out loud during rehearsal. Then we knew it would translate to the studio audience, to the crew, and to the television audience.”

The chemistry between the two was rarely paralleled in television history. Yes, Carol Burnett and Tim Conway and Lucille Ball and Dezi Arnez—but the interplay of two female leads was ground breaking.

“When Penny and I were in our twenties, we were asked to write on the parody that Francis Ford Coppola was producing when Penny got a call from her brother, Gary Marshall.”

The two were invited to star as guest characters on *Happy Days* dating Fonzie and Richie. They put their writing job on hold for a week for the shoot.

“We were big and bold in the beginning. We



had pin curls in our hair and were smoking cigarettes. The director yelled, ‘Cut! You can’t smoke in prime time!’”

Cindy’s career goes far beyond *Laverne & Shirley*, with roles on stage and film, including “*American Graffiti*,” “*The First Nudie Musical*,” “*The Drowsy Chaperone*,” and here in Las Vegas, “*Menopause—The Musical*”.

Menopause—The Musical performs 7 nights a week at Harrah’s, and Cindy is available after the show for book signings and photos with the cast.



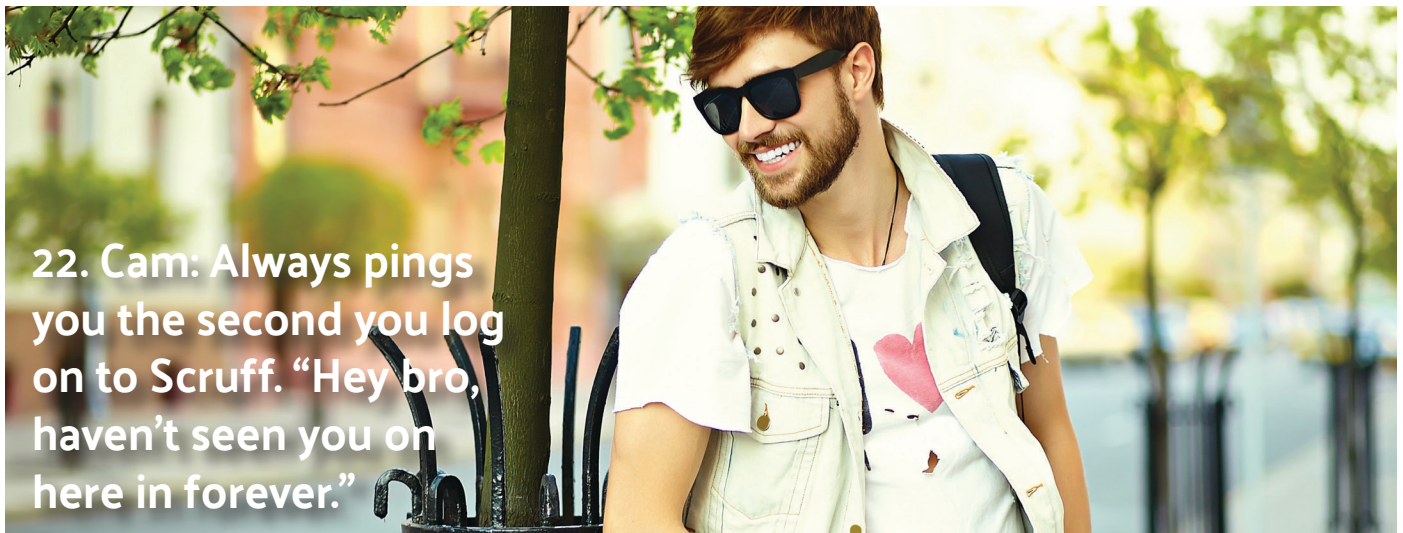
THROWING SHADE

[by Edward Yaeger]

82 Generic White Gay Guy Names And What It Says About His Personality

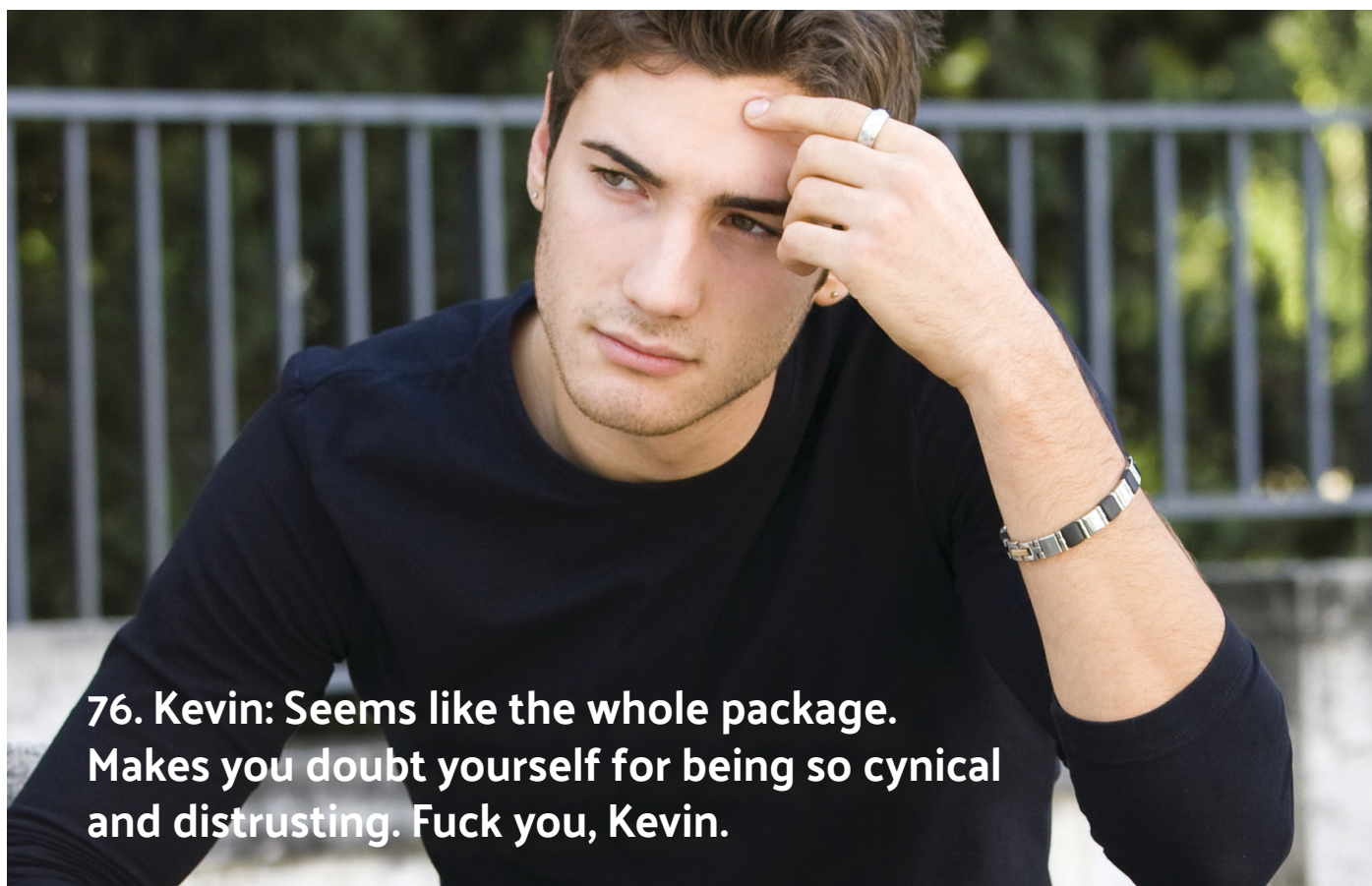
Editor's Note: Edward doesn't live in Las Vegas. This article isn't about you. Or is it?

1. Todd: Works in retail, positions himself as a fashionista even though everyone knows he's fleeing that Ralph Lauren employee discount.
2. Garrett: Chronic manorexic.
3. Will: Enjoys repartee. Terrible in bed.
4. Chad: Evil.
5. Brian: Clean-cut and natty, but dirty AF in the bedroom.
6. Bryan: Totally different from Brian. A gritty, unapologetic bad boy, but just likes to lie there during sex.
7. Ryan: Into puppy play, but no one will "adopt" him.
8. Ross: Always goes home with the first boy at the bar who hits on him.
9. Chase: His real name is Al, but he wants everyone to call him Chase. Chase?
10. Colin: We get it, you're gay AND Irish.
11. Greg: Lisped before exiting the womb.
12. Phillip: Always looking to marry his mother in a man. Yep, still single.
13. Kurt: Knows where the best online porn is.
14. Connor: Size queen.



22. Cam: Always pings you the second you log on to Scruff. "Hey bro, haven't seen you on here in forever."

15. Jack: Republican.
16. John: Married to his career, but somehow manages to attend EVERY circuit event across the globe.
17. Ian: A sociopathic chicken hawk (aka a "cougay").
18. Spencer: Pseudo-intellectual; always has to be right (i.e, bossy bottom).
19. Martin: Doesn't know his place in the world, blames the ruinous gay culture on everything.
20. Adam: We get it, you're gay AND Jewish.
21. Rob: ...
22. Cam: Always pings you the second you log on to Scruff. "Hey bro, haven't seen you on here in forever."
23. Cameron: Picky eater, but drinks like a fish. Goes MIA the day after a big party or a crazy night out.
24. Josh: Quiet and reserved so, naturally, is carnival freak crazy kinky in the sack.
25. Jeremy: Shames you for not knowing enough about gay pop culture.
26. Aaron: Shames you for not knowing enough about gay culture of yore. Liza who?
27. Chaz: Claims he doesn't know what "cis" means, but secretly knows what every letter of the gay alphabet stands for.
28. Austin: A veritable RAT (rapidly aging twink).
29. Jared: Still not out to his family, never will be.
30. Michael: Made a big statement by going from Mike to Michael when he came out. Incidentally, so did every other Mike.
31. Mike: Well done, Mike. You stayed you.
32. Matthew: Dates men who look EXACTLY like him.
33. Matt: Only hosts, never travels.
34. Paul: Constantly announces his short-lived Facebook breaks. Bye, Paul, see you next week.
35. Blake: Works his extreme whiteness and doesn't apologize for it.
36. Dillon: Everything is sexual innuendo with Dillon. EVERYTHING.
37. Dylan: His parents threw a party when he came out. Shares with them the most graphic of details from his dating life.
38. Dave: We get it, you have an enormous... vocabulary.
39. Daniel: Regina George.
40. Dan: Knows every DJ who ever spun at Burning Man.
41. Sam: Your go-to brunch friend.
42. Stewart: His Grindr profile pic is of argyle socks.
43. Alex: Don't ask him about Bernie.
44. Alexander: Don't ask him about Hillary.
45. Alec: Slightly annoying but his perpetual VPL never fails to tantalize.



76. Kevin: Seems like the whole package. Makes you doubt yourself for being so cynical and distrusting. Fuck you, Kevin.

46. Beau: Has a thick southern accent even though he went to Bowdoin and Harvard Law School.

47. Zachary: Always looking for an extra ticket to the Pier Dance.

48. Ben: You can't say anything bad about him, but at the same time...You can't really find anything great to say about him either?

49. Derek: Your drug dealer friend.

50. Tom: Masc for masc only.

51. Jim: On every single gay sports team. Always rocking a bandage or cast as a result.

52. James: Creepily savors his s's whenever he ssssspeakssss.

53. Zack: Unrepentant gamer. First to play Pokemon Go.

54. Mark: Doesn't clip, but shaves his body hair, including the hair on his legs. Eew.

55. Jesse: His lesbian friends are for more interesting and funnier than he is. (Note to self: get their numbers.)

56. Billy: Has gym memberships at Equinox, NYSC, Reebok, Chelsea Piers, and Gold's. You'd never know it.

57. Dick: Lives up to the love for his name.

58. Jeffrey: Always dates another Jeffrey (but spelled differently).

59. Reid: Big-time camper and griller. Born and raised in Staten Island.

60. Alan: Never get on his bad side. Seriously. Just don't.

61. Andrew: Hung.

62. Kyle: You can take the gay boy out of the fraternity...

63. Jason: Crazy eyes. They were alluring at first, but you learned your lesson the hard way. Twice.

64. Jacob: A nice Jewish doctor looking to marry a nice Jewish lawyer.

65. Jake: Doesn't do drugs, just steroids.

66. Nathan: Theater queen.

67. Eric: King of selfies.



46. Beau: Has a thick southern accent even though he went to Bowdoin and Harvard Law School.

69. Steve: The highest-maintenance “low-key” gay dude ever.

70. Stephen: Went to Duke, won’t shut up about it.

71. Steven: Too busy, he’ll have to get back to you.

72. Travis: Totally gay but somehow lacks the gay gene.

73. Trevor: Constantly posts boring pics of his dog-babies, aptly named “Precious” and “Pookie.”

74. Brady: Instawhore. 75,000 followers and counting.

75. Brenden: Two words: daddy issues.

76. Kevin: Seems like the whole package. Makes you doubt yourself for being so cynical and distrusting. Fuck you, Kevin.

77. Ethan: Your richest (and laziest) friend. Thank god for family money.

78. Tucker: ‘Sup? You up? You out? Looking? Not interested if you practice safe sex.

79. Nick: Catfisher.

80. Chris: Functional addict. But barely.

81. Peter: Tell us more about white gay male privilege.

82. Patrick: Hates, no, absolutely DESPISES online posts featuring lists, especially ones that reduce gay men to absurd stereotypes.

Edward is a contributing writer and guest blogger for Huffington Post, and has written for a variety of LGBT publications, including QVegas, Advocate.com and Outsports.



Center To Honor Person of the Year Matthew Frazier

For 22 years, The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Southern Nevada (The Center) has bestowed honors upon our local LGBTQ community's most dedicated and influential leaders, volunteers, allies and financial supporters at the annual Honorarium.

This year's event, which serves as the organization's largest annual fundraiser, will be held Saturday, Oct. 8 at The Chelsea, located inside The Cosmopolitan of Las Vegas.

The 2016 Person of the Year is Matthew Frazier, a trustee of the John C. Kish Foundation and founder of The Social CirKISH Foundation. With classes held at The Center and other locations throughout the year, The Social CirKISH program promotes the physical and social development of under-served youth through the exploration and participation of circus performing arts.

Matthew has a BA in history from Brigham Young University followed with a Juris Doctorate from The University of Utah College of Law. His passion for nonprofit work has led him to serve on the boards of UNLV, The Animal Foundation, The College of Southern Nevada, The Public

Education Foundation and The President's Advisory Council for the Smith Center for the Performing Arts.

Daniel and Robin Greenspun, media moguls and supporters of the arts, will be honored as Allies of the Year. Daniel is the founder and past chairman of Greenspun Media Group, which publishes a variety of titles including Las Vegas Magazine, Las Vegas Weekly and Vegas Inc. He is also the founder of Vegas.com and LasVegas.com. Currently, he is developing Cityledger.com, a Blockchain advertising business. Robin has a long history as an arts advocate, once serving as treasurer for the Kennedy Center President's Advisory Committee and most recently serving on The President's Advisory Council of The Smith Center for the Performing Arts. She recently received the 2016 Nevada Woman Filmmaker of the Year award from the

THE CENTER'S 22ND ANNUAL HONORARIUM

Nevada Women's Film Festival. Together, Daniel and Robin own the internationally recognized CineVegas Film Festival.

The philanthropic arm of their family, Greenspun Family Foundation, supports numerous local organizations and charitable causes such as Three Square, The Lou Ruvo Brain Institute, Nathan Adelson Hospice and the Greenspun School of Urban Affairs at UNLV. Within the LGBTQ community, Daniel and Robin are involved with the local Human Rights Campaign chapter and actively support The Center.

Receiving the honor of Corporation of the Year is Cox Communications, the nation's third-largest cable company and leading provider of broadband communications to Las Vegas residents and businesses. Cox is known for its pioneering efforts in cable telephone and commercial services, industry-leading customer care and its outstanding workplaces. For eight years, Cox has been recognized as the top operator for women by Women in Cable Telecommunications. Cox has ranked among DiversityInc's Top 50 Companies for Diversity 10 times, including the last nine years. Internet technology and cable television at The Center are supplied by Cox, and the provider's charitable arm, Cox Charities, recently granted The Center \$5,000 to use toward arts and culture programming.

The Honorarium will begin at 5 p.m. in the Brera ballroom with a silent auction, delicious dinner stations and luscious libations before guests move to luxurious lounge seating inside The Chelsea. The main program, which begins at 7:30 p.m., will involve guest speakers, video

introductions, presentations of awards and a rousing live auction. While live entertainment is traditionally mixed into the program, The Center has flipped the script this year by introducing a standalone entertainment component, with details to be announced in early September. Guests of the Honorarium are invited to stay in their comfortable seats while the remainder of the venue fills with hundreds more who have purchased seats solely for the show, which will begin at 9:30.

"This will be my third personal experience at the Honorarium," says Michael Dimengo, who became CEO of The Center in 2014. "In the past two years, I have been strikingly impressed by the outpouring of support and generosity by people who come together not only to honor our honorees but to support The Center. Each year, The Center depends upon the success of this event to fund its operations and its continued social impact within the LGBTQ and wider Southern Nevada community. Get ready for an outstanding event!"

Cabanas and enclaves for parties of 10 or 12, as well as individual tickets, are on sale now at www.thecenterlv.org/honorarium. Silent auction items will be displayed at the same link as the event approaches, with the chance to pre-bid on items and even bid without being present at the Honorarium itself. Individual tickets for the 9:30 show will go on sale shortly after the special entertainer is announced in early September. All proceeds from the Honorarium will go toward supporting The Center's programs and services for the LGBTQ, allied and low- to moderate-income populations it serves, throughout the following year.

THE CENTER'S 22ND ANNUAL
HONORARIUM

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[by Russ White]

QINC. TERRENCE THORNTON

Not all careers in Las Vegas relate to hospitality, entertainment, or gambling. Terrence Thornton's job is to ensure that. As Vice President of Investor Services & Development for the Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance, Terrence helps ensure that Las Vegas and Southern Nevada attract new businesses for a diversified job base.

Terrence completed his undergraduate degree at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and earned a Master's in Nonprofit Management and Leadership from Walden University in 2011. As a Las Vegas native, Terrence shares the passion of the organization's mission to help secure the economic future of Southern Nevada.

"Terrence has been a loyal, hardworking, and indispensable member of the LVGEA team for the last 10 years," said Jonas Peterson, president and CEO of the Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance. "Terrence's leadership in maintaining valuable relationships with our board of directors and investors allows the LVGEA to have the resources it needs in order to accomplish its goals. His dedication to community and economic development over the years have left a lasting impact on the diversification efforts of our

region."

What is your role at Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance?

I was recently promoted to Vice President of Investor Services and Development. With this promotion, I am looking forward to progressing LVGEA's connections to leaders and industries needed to advance economic development in Southern Nevada.

I oversee all of our fund raising efforts including memberships and the various fund raising and networking events we produce each year where we look at different issues within the community and how they relate to economic development.

You were recently promoted to Vice President. How long have you been with LVGEA?

This is my 10th year. I started as an



administrative assistant answering phones in the front office. I've had a number of supporting roles over the years and was promoted in 2013 to a new role as Director of Investor Services. Over the years we've been able to increase our support from the private sector and my role has evolved as well.

What is the difference between the LVEGA and the LVCVA?

LVCVA's primary focus is on tourism. We do partner with them as it relates to the economy, but our role is to work with companies as they qualify for state programs. We've been giving the authority under the Governor's office. If a company decides they want to relocate, to Southern Nevada, the Governor's office put them in touch with us.

What are some of the companies you've worked with?

We helped get Scientific Games here. More recently Hyperloop, Faraday's electric car plant, and Barclays. We also helped with Zappos when they first moved here. Our counterpart up north assisted with bringing Tesla to Nevada.

The Las Vegas Global Economic Alliance is a 501(c)6 membership organization dedicated to growing the economy in Southern Nevada through connectivity, community development, and strong business recruitment, retention and outreach. LVGEA's vision is to help Southern Nevada residents thrive in a global economy by fostering a more prosperous, diverse and connected regional economy. For more information, visit www.lvgea.org.



QInc features a local business, professional, or entrepreneur making a difference in Las Vegas.

Submit your story or nominate someone else for consideration at gay.vegas/contribute.



A MATCH MADE IN MUSIC

[by Scott Matti]

They may be millennials, but Demi Lovato and Nick Jonas know a thing or two about a world-class performance. As individuals, each has a signature aesthetic and approach to their art. Together, their long list of skillsets join to create a headstrong force of energy.

Both artists hold impressive resumes stemming from the beginnings of their youth. Each has spent years performing for crowds with their music, the cameras on the small screen, and the public with their philanthropic efforts. So it seems almost natural for two great friends to come together and create a grand tour, sharing the spotlight for what is known as The Honda Civic Tour: The Future Now.

On a pleasant summer evening, fans of all ages crowded the MGM Grand Garden Arena in an excited scurry, anticipating the two pop sensations. For such an energetic crowd, there was no better opening act than Mike Posner himself; the artist who came onto the scene some time ago and has now returned with a much more firm identity. Throughout his set, Posner was inspirational, eclectic, and adorable. At the very

end, Posner placed on his head a giant smiley face mask as the words, “The Artist Currently Playing is Named Mike Posner” were boldly displayed on the screen behind him. He warmed up the crowd with his band, his infectious music, and his humor.

With the dimming of the lights and an adrenaline-filled countdown, it was time for the main acts. Nick Jonas was up first. The crowd filled with both men and women, boys and girls, cheered for the young star as his hit “Levels” began. A heavy bass was felt throughout the arena as Jonas belted every note of his tracks like a rock star would. His artistry was put on a great display as he transitioned between guitar and piano, all the while making a connection with the crowd. His much-loved track “Chainsaw” was received with great appreciation as Jonas was able



Demi Lovato and Nick Jonas Join Forces On Their Epic Tour

to open up and show a softer side.

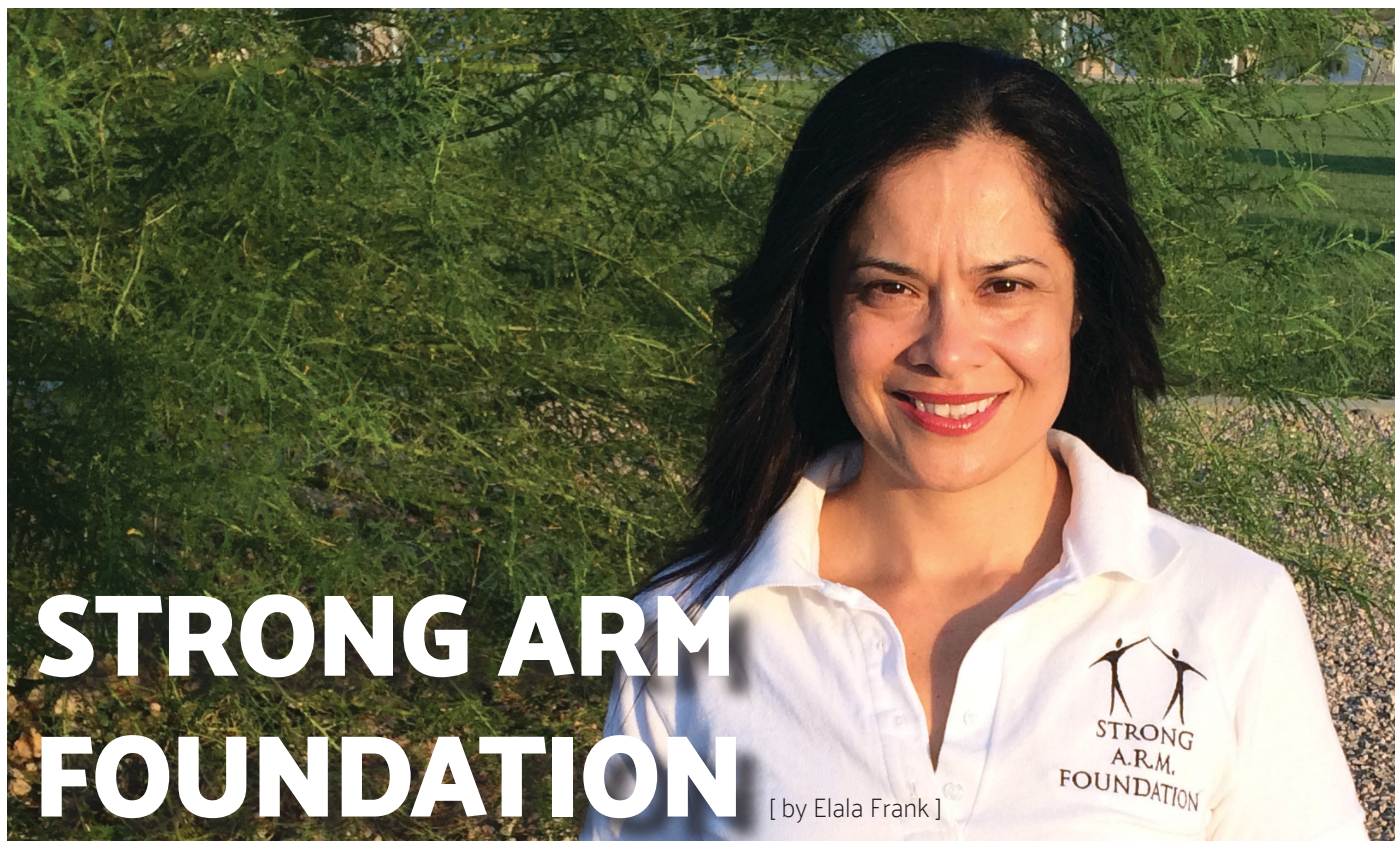
As Jonas seemed to disappear from the stage, a dramatic introduction began for Demi Lovato. Perched at the top of a large, cubic pedestal, Lovato stood strong as her anthem “Confident” began and the crowd screamed incessantly. Throughout the night, her outfits graced her gorgeous body showing her many hours at the gym were paying off. As to be expected, Lovato poured her heart out during her sets. “Neon Lights” was met with an insane display of lighting and lasers while “Stone Cold” was performed with intense heartache as a beautiful display of roses was shown on the large screen.

The stage, designed by Jonas and Lovato, was unique and ideal for the artists to put on a spectacular show. A giant screen that consumed

the back of the stage could be viewed from any angle and the runway in the center gave fans an intimate experience with the artists. The lighting was transformative as it pivoted, hovered, and tilted throughout the night. Each artist’s outfits were tailored perfectly and together, they resembled renegades with a mission.

Longtime fans of the artists cannot help but to feel proud of the beloved duo. Newer fans are embracing Lovato and Jonas and have gained a new appreciation for the both of them. The hard work and effort put into this show is evident in its refined details and seamless operation. The high energy is maintained from start to finish with emotions ranging from nostalgic sentiment, to rave-mode, to lighthearted fun. If this is the future, then sign me up.

Photos: Ron Koch for the MGM Grand Garden Arena



Las Vegas local, Sophia Smith, is the founder and driving force behind Strong A.R.M. Foundation, a local 501C3 tax exempt nonprofit organization that financially assists women and youths for placement in guidance programs as well as arts, recreation, and multicultural activities.

Smith's life was not always about helping others. There was a time when she was in dire need of help herself for alcohol addiction. In speaking about the time in her life when she felt mired and trapped in a lifestyle of chronic drinking, she states, "Not only was I suffering physically from the toll that such a lifestyle was taking on my body, I was suffering tremendously internally, as well, from all the inner turmoil and drama that usually ensues from such a habit. It was a time when I felt really lost and, I guess you could say, utterly purposeless. In hindsight, it's hard to say whether my drinking was making me feel purposeless, or if my purposelessness was making me drink".

Thankfully, the solution to that profound conundrum came for Smith in the form of the city of Las Vegas' three-year serious offenders

program. The program utterly changed her life and helped her realize that living a life of service gave her more fulfillment and joy than any other lifestyle. A purposeful life's calling was found as she created Strong A.R.M. Foundation and embarked on her mission to help as many women and children as possible find purpose in their lives through arts, sports, and recreational activities. Without the helping hand she received when she was at her lowest point, Smith doesn't believe she would have survived; now, her life's mission is to pay that gift forward.

The inspiration for Strong A.R.M. Foundation was born when Smith's nephew was unable to wrestle due to his mother and father's inability to pay \$300 in fees that were required for his participation. Seeing her nephew sitting at home, frustrated, and left with nothing to do but play



video games when he could've been out playing sports lit a fire in Sophia's heart.

Reminiscing, she says, "Playing sports as a youth gave me some of my greatest childhood memories and gave me many life lessons that have greatly impacted my business and personal life. I learned how to win and lose gracefully, how to be a team player, how to be tenacious with my goals, and most importantly, how to persevere through losses and learn from them. Youth sports is also what gave me my first taste of what self-confidence feels like. I truly believe with all my heart that participation in extracurricular activities is a great blessing for kids, and all kids deserve the opportunity to experience that blessing regardless of their family's financial situation".

With this core belief in mind, Smith began looking into how many children in the Las Vegas area might be suffering his same or similar plight. Through her research she realized the need was even greater than previously imagined, in helping children, and felt an immediate call to action. Within a year, Strong A.R.M Foundation was officially formed and registered as a 501C3 and Ms. Sophia Smith has been blazing a path sponsoring youths into various recreational activities ever since. Eventually, that fire for sponsoring children into programming grew into a desire to assist at-risk women as well.

Smith states: "In the process of approving

applications for assistance for many of our kids that we sponsor, I was meeting so many women with heartbreaking stories. Some had just been released from prison, some were just recovering from drug abuse, or escaping abusive relationships, and all they want is a little help finding some of the resources available for them to help themselves. This was exactly what I needed at one point in my life, as well, so, this is exactly what Strong A.R.M. Foundation helps these women with".

All of Smith's efforts are supported by the valiant battle cry of Strong A.R.M. Foundation:

We Believe, We Encourage, We Support.

Every day Strong A.R.M. Foundation is becoming more and more inundated with requests for assistance from families in need all over the Las Vegas valley. The need for donations to the organization are always urgent and pressing, as funds are put to good use as immediately as they arrive.

If you would like to donate to Strong A.R.M. Foundation and aid Sophia in her mission to assist and sponsor financially challenged children into arts, sports, and multicultural activities, and aid at-risk women in connecting with community resources, please go to her website:

www.strongarmfoundation.org.

All donations are tax deductible.



[by Jamie Booth]

VIRTUOUS VICE

Growing up in nineties New York, Megan Vice would often sing along with her favorite artists on the radio. Artists like Michael Jackson, Prince, Whitney Houston and her personal favorite, Taylor Dayne. It's probably why her sound often draws comparisons to the 90's R&B greats, but in "Spread The News", her latest ep, Vice is proving her tongue-in-cheek lyrical style and musical prowess are distinctly her own.

The first singles, out now, are "All of the Time" and "No Good For Nothing". In 'All of the Time', she sings about being into someone and owning the attraction with every fiber of her being. In "No Good For Nothing", she sings about turning the tables on men who string along the ladies they date. "No Good" first appeared on Megan's debut ep but rapper Fake Money managed to completely rebirth the fan favorite into a disco-infused retro track, giving it an entirely fresh new feel that Vice knew her fans had to hear.

QVegas: What inspires your look?

MV: Fashion as a whole inspires me. My look is ever-changing, literally every day is a new look.

QVegas: Describe your wardrobe.

MV: I love all things sequins and color and metallic, but I'm from New York so I also tend to fall into wearing all black all year-round. I love leather, high-waisted jeans, 60's mod, 70's disco, 80's glam, 90's... I fuck with it all.

QVegas: Your music, too, spans all decades, going from disco to glam rock to 90's R&B and 2000's future pop.

MV: My songs are all created organically.

QVegas: Do you have a favorite?

MV: I think my favorite track is "Like 2 Tell U" with French Horn Rebellion and Fake Money.



QVegas: “No Good For Nothing” is my favorite. It’s one of those tracks like you just can’t get it out of your head. It sounds like The Trammps “Disco Inferno”.

MV: Well, thank you! The version on the EP is a remix of “Step On The Scene” from my last EP. Fake Money did such an incredible job I had to include it in the new EP.

QVegas: Sam Lachow, or Fake Money as you call him, is one of the sexiest skinny boy white rappers around. Where did you find him?

MV: Five or six years ago I heard some really silly, shitty-quality garage band track he was rapping on as a joke and I was like, who is this? I had a strong feeling about him and what he would go on to create, so, being the creep that I am, I added him on Facebook and sent him a message. I’m pretty sure he ignored me but like six months later he posted a status that he was looking for a female rapper for a track on his debut album, so I messaged him like “yoooooo I wanna get on that!”

QVegas: Was that on “Rude Pussy”?

MV: Yes, at the time I had no original music out, just a few acoustic covers on YouTube so I’m sure he was suspect. He wrote back, “You can try but don’t be offended if I get some actual hood chick to be on it instead.” I recorded the verse, sent it over for review and the rest is history. A few days later we met up to lay down a proper recording, kicked it for a while, realized we have a shit ton of mutual friends and we’ve been fam ever since. Ahh, the glory of social media and me being a stalker.

QVegas: Is “No Good For Nothing” a true story about a romance you mishandled?

MV: No, its more a role reversal of my real personality. It’s me toying with the fantasy of behaving selfishly and treating someone like they’re disposable.

QVegas: Would you ever change your ways for a guy?

MV: It depends. If making the change would help me to grow and become a better person, and I knew I wanted to spend the rest of my life with the person, then sure! Relationships are mutual understandings between people. It’s about finding common ground where you can both experience happiness and comfort and have the freedom and confidence to be the most honest version of yourselves with each other.

QVegas: Amen to that!

MV: I’m not perfect so I am always willing to recognize my not-so-favorable personality traits and attempt to work through them.

QVegas: What would you like people to know about the real Megan Vice?

MV: (Laughing) I’m an over-emotional psychopath. Just kidding! But seriously...

Visit Megan Vice online at <http://www.megvice.com/>.

Follow her at:
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In the hilarious new book, *Mommie Smearest*, Joan Crawford is forced to return to Earth to rescue true celebrity back from today's reality and internet stars.

From a secret base at a Florida trailer park, she disguises herself as a hip-hop rapper and launches a brutal attack against reality starlets from Hollywood, politicians in Washington, and Wall Street suits. No one is safe from her wrath as she even stalks everyday people who think they're worthy enough to post photos for all the world to see online.

Mommie Smearest is a sharp, profane parody where the *Mommie Dearest* portrayal of Joan Crawford deconstructs today's celebrity and selfie obsessed culture. Author L. LeSueur explains more.

QVegas: Were you a fan of Joan Crawford's?

L. LeSueur: No. Despite Miss Crawford's unrivaled cinematic body of work, *Mommie Dearest* brought her to many peoples' attention for the first time. Without it, she might be just

another once-was. Instead, she's infamous and fun.

QVegas: How do you feel about her portrayal in *Mommie Dearest*?

L. LeSueur: The movie is a beautiful camp classic. Its so much fun in a *Rocky Horror Picture Show* way, you have to remind yourself that people actually got hurt in the true story.

QVegas: Not everyone believes Christina Crawford's portrayal of Joan as a cruel, abusive, alcoholic mother. Do you?

L. LeSueur: Yes. Christina Crawford is a smart, articulate woman. Watch any of her TV interviews after *Mommie Dearest* was published. She is credible. Many children suffer at the hands of abusive parents and spend the rest of their lives trying to unravel the damage—many gay people know this firsthand.



QVegas: Why did you decide to continue Joan's story?

L. LeSueur: Mommie Dearest elevated Joan Crawford's persona to a Natasha-in-Bullwinkle cartoon beauty who seems to be propelled by two key drives: determination to maintain her status as a movie star, and desire to control all elements of her life. I saw here as a fun and demanding mouthpiece to blast the idiocy of selfie-reality-celeb culture.

QVegas: In the book, Joan Crawford takes aim at today's celebrities.

L. LeSueur: She clarifies herself as a real celebrity and not someone "...who just thinks she is a movie star because she has a goddamned smartphone and a Twitter account."

QVegas: It's an interesting commentary on today's obsession with fake celebrities.

L. LeSueur: Reality TV and social media are about the human ego's need to be noticed and to compare itself to others. For some, public attention is like heroin. They are determined to fill white space with their voice and image to prove their superior existence. For others, it's like a sports fan who subconsciously experiences a game as though they are actually playing it.

QVegas: Have you ever posted a selfie?

L. LeSueur: Never. Selfies are not usually received with the same enthusiasm they are sent.

Photos: Blue Core Omnimedia



QVegas: Will Joan be back for a Mommie Smearest sequel?

L. LeSueur: There wasn't room in Mommie Smearest for all of today's silly reality stars, social-column posers and politicians so a sequel is possible! The craziness re-invents itself every day. All we have to do is watch, which is all they really want us to do.

Mommie Smearest is available digitally (\$8.95) and in print (\$16.95). Visit MommieSmearest.com



Annual Pole Expo Returns to Las Vegas For 5th Year

The largest worldwide event in pole fitness, Pole Expo returns to Las Vegas Wednesday, Sept. 7 through Sunday, Sept. 11 at the Hard Rock Hotel and Casino. Brainchild of local entrepreneur, Fawnia Mondey, Pole Expo illustrates the art, fitness, athleticism and competitive nature of the exploding sport.

“Our goal at Pole Expo, is to share our passion for pole dancing as a movement that is rewarding both physically and emotionally. Pole Expo offers something for everyone, whether they are interested in pole dancing as a form of art, expression and empowerment, pole fitness as a way of improving physical health, or pole sport to challenge their minds and bodies acrobatically. Pole Expo offers workshops, seminars and performances to inspire women and men to look outside the box when it comes to pole dancing and fitness in general,” stated Mondey.

Premier showcases include an appearance by Jalles Franca as MJ THE LEGEND, Tomoko, a 70-year-old pole dancer from Italia’s Got Talent, the Pole Classic Competition, Pole Show LA and more.

Thursday, Sept 8 (The Joint inside Hard Rock Hotel & Casino) – Pole Classic Competition & Pole Star Showcase

Friday, Sept. 9 (Vanity Nightclub inside Hard Rock Hotel & Casino) – Pole Expo’s 5th Annual Party

Saturday, Sept. 10 (Ham Hall, UNLV) – Pole Show LA: Where acrobatic athletics meet lingerie for a one-of-a-kind production highlighting the world’s best pole dancers.

Saturday, Sept. 10 (Foxtail Nightclub inside SLS Hotel) – Pole Expo’s Pole Olympia: Three finalists to spilt a grand prize of \$10,000.

For expo passes, special event ticket pricing and a complete line-up of activities, please visit www.PoleExpo.com.

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Shark Tank star creating promotional videos for Buzz Pops

[by Joseph Isaacs]

Buzz Pop Cocktails are a fresh and invigorating new twist on two very popular summer items – sorbets + premium liquors. The no mess retro style see through push-pops are perfect for pool bars, Las Vegas Day clubs, concerts, sporting venues, Cruise lines and huge parties.

The adult only brand of special frozen based desserts will let you “Lick your way to Paradise” with a full drink in every one containing 10% alcohol per volume.

Buzz Pops are all natural gourmet sorbets made with only fresh fruits and premium liquors. No artificial flavors, colorings or added sugars. Our initial flavor list includes Lemon Drop martini, Southern Belle, Moscow Mule, Blueberry Pomegranate, Watermelon Patch, Pink Paradise, Mango Passion Fruit and Caribbean Breeze.

Buzz Pops are the result of hard work, constant determination and persistence by our awesome Las Vegas culinary team which includes our Executive Chef Eric Kroeker and Buzz Master Chef Jason Isaacs. Executive Chef Kroeker is responsible for innovating and refining the

formulations and creativity of the delicious flavors of Buzz Pops. Currently employed by the Paris Hotel, Las Vegas, as an Executive Pastry Chef, Chef Kroeker previously held a similar position with Caesar’s Palace. Chef Kroeker is a graduate of the Western Culinary Institute, holds a degree in Baking and Pastry Arts and has shared his passion with others as an instructor of these same skills. Chef Jason Isaacs is a Master Chef and the official “Buzztender” for Buzz Pops. A graduate of CSN in both the culinary arts and pastry design, Jason is excited to share the delicious flavors of Buzz Pop Cocktails with the world.

BuzzPops intends to launch in Q1 2017 with the construction of its initial manufacturing/distribution facility in Las Vegas.



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NYLE'S COMING

Las Vegas just got hotter! The world famous Chippendales are thrilled to announce their latest celebrity guest host, actor, model, activist, Dancing with the Stars and America's Next Top Model winner, Nyle DiMarco. If you've seen him on Dancing With the Stars, then you know DiMarco has the moves, physique, charisma and charm to heat up the Las Vegas Strip like never before. He also happens to be fourth generation Deaf and is openly gay.

"I am so excited to join Chippendales Las Vegas as their celebrity guest host beginning in September," says DiMarco. "Chippendales is an iconic brand and legendary show – headlining a production like this with such a talented cast of performers is a once in a lifetime experience!"

Nyle DiMarco is the latest celebrity to join the exclusive roster of guest hosts at Chippendales. From international supermodel Tyson Beckford to everyone's favorite childhood crush, Ian Ziering, every celebrity guest who's ever donned the brand's iconic cuffs and collar brings his own flavor of excitement to sold-out audiences. DiMarco will also be the first-ever Deaf member of the internationally renowned production.

"We are thrilled to have Nyle joining us as a celebrity guest host in Las Vegas," commented Chippendales Managing Partner, Kevin Denberg. "After seeing his tremendous talent on Dancing with the Stars, it was immediately obvious that Nyle would be a great fit for our audience. His incredible sex appeal, talent and charm make him the perfect addition to our award winning production at Rio All Suite Hotel & Casino."

Chippendales performs nightly at 8:30 p.m., with additional shows on Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 10:30 p.m. Nyle DiMarco's limited engagement runs September 22 through October 16, 2016 (Thursday through Sunday night performances only).

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QVegas is a monthly publication. We publish every month. On time. Twelve months out of the year. The fast pace of the digital age means we've done away with pre-determined editorial calendars. This allows us to be more agile and timely with our content. As an all digital publication hosted on Gay.Vegas, we are also able to respond throughout the month with fresh featured content and late-breaking news.

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As one of the first .VEGAS websites to launch in 2014, Gay.Vegas launched as a new brand, a new domain, and a new website. Paired with the QVegas brand, we experienced explosive online growth, so much so that we decided to end 38 years of print and focus on digital publishing. We are constantly innovating and coming up with new ways to reach our readers when, where and how they want to engage.

Community Focused

We are proud to sponsor any Las Vegas LGBTQ or HIV/AIDS focused non-profit organization with year-round advertising every month. Our sponsorships include The Gay & Lesbian Center of Southern Nevada, Lambda Business Association, Aid for AIDS of Nevada, The Sin City Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence, Golden Rainbow, and Nevada Gay Rodeo Association.

We are also proud sponsors of Mondays Dark and The Space LV. Mondays Dark raises funds for eleven Las Vegas charities every year through a monthly show.

National Reach with a Local Feel

QVegas and Gay.Vegas are proud members of the National Equality Publishers Association—a consortium of local LGBTQ publications across the Top 25 markets in the US. As founding members, we represent the Las Vegas market for national advertisers wanting to reach multiple markets with a single media buy.

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As an international travel destination, QVegas and Gay.Vegas readers span the global. In 2015, visitors from Russia, United Kingdom, Canada, Germany, France, Australia, and Brazil represented 20% of our readership.

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While we attract readers of all ages, ethnicities, and sexual orientations, our core US demographic is 35-54, predominantly gay men, no kids, college educated, earning 32% more than the US average household. 27% earn more than \$100K per year.

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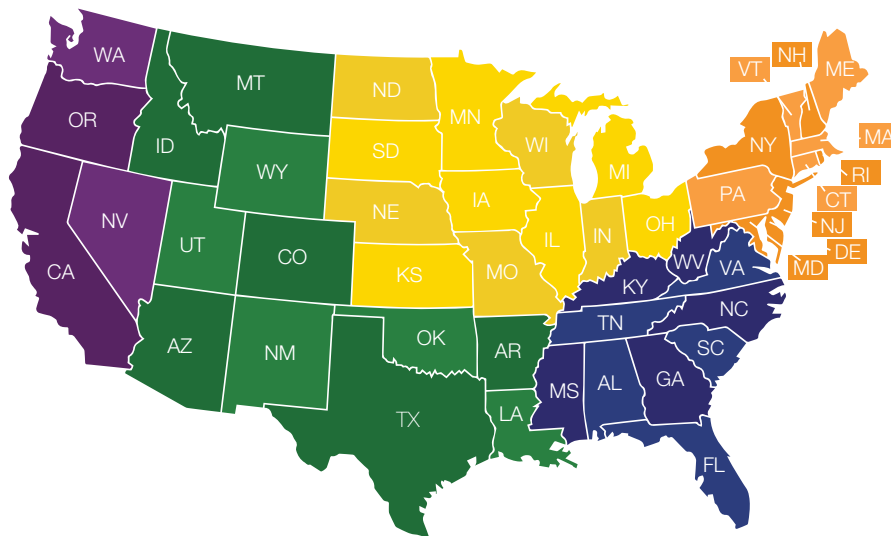
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HACKING THE GAYBORHOOD

[by Christopher T. Conner, PhD.]

Las Vegas seem like an unlikely place to find unique and interesting forms of community, but for ten years now the annual Queercon hacker conference has offered its members just that. The event, which started out as an informal gathering during the annual Def-Con cyber security convention, has grown to one of the largest sub-groups coinciding with Def-Con.

For those unfamiliar with Defcon, and hacking, it is an annual event drawing together thousands of attendees interested in learning the latest exploits and computer innovations. While some people use this knowledge towards nefarious ends, most attendees are merely interested in obtaining new knowledge. Culturally, the group exists as a subculture in an of itself. Their philosophy, grossly simplified, is the overcoming of obstacles and barriers to information. Hacking as a way of life however, means to innovate new ways of overcoming obstacles. Queercon, according to their website (www.queercon.org), exists as an organization to get all the “GLBT (gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender) hackers together and hopefully we can discover how strong our ranks really are.” Queercon emerged

once its members realized they made up a large number of attendees of Def-Con, and thus set out to provide a space for their members to gather during Def-Con. They have applied the hacking ethos towards non-computer related tasks, such as how to get their members to socialize. Thus, they have tapped into the core of what pioneers of gayborhoods were trying to accomplish and hacked the code of these spaces into creating their own temporary community spaces.

Beyond the express purpose of the convention, Queercon event organizers use technology to facilitate human interaction. Unlike Grindr, which often is used as an end in and of itself, Queercon organizers use technology to facilitate a deeper level of group interaction. One way



they achieve this is through the utilization of electronic badges. Participants are encouraged to hack, modify, and alter the badges in unique and interesting ways. The badges are also designed to facilitate interaction by interfacing with other badges. This year's badge involved inserting two ports together and pressing buttons located on the badge. Part of what brings attendees of Decon/Queercon together is a spirit of curiosity, not being powerless against technology (which they realize is ultimately created by humans), and being self-sufficient through acquiring knowledge. Thus, rather than seeing technologically created community as an end itself, they understand that technology is a means to an end that they ultimately must take ownership over the results.

Queercon has become notorious for its annual pool party—one of the most well-attended events during Def-Con. This year the event featured Go-Gos from West Hollywood and Vegas, internationally acclaimed DJ Bret Law (Seattle), Skittish and Bus (St. Lake City), and DJ Mass Effect (San Francisco). Ordinarily, I avoid pool parties in Las Vegas due to the fact that they tend to be dominated by hyper-masculine men who look like they just jumped off a magazine ad. However, while Queercon's pool party did have some of these individuals they were far from the norm. At Queercon, I quickly learned, it was a place for all types of people who exists. Their attendees span the whole spectrum of the LGBT+ community including muscle boys, twinkies, bears, guys who had a few extra pounds, women, and





Queercon organizers use technology to facilitate a deeper level of group interaction. Participants are encouraged to hack, modify, and alter the badges in unique and interesting ways.

even transgender folk. Even locals who had managed to get an invite had the following to say, “this is the best pool party I’ve ever been too. Everyone is so free here and we love it.” Such a ringing endorsement from a local might not mean much unless you consider Las Vegas is known for its epic pool parties in which hundreds of attendees show up. Thus, Queercon is about more than just learning the latest exploits, but rather is a reminder that the LGBT+ community emerged out of innovative thinkers seeking to create spaces where all felt welcome. Queercon is a reminder that LGBT+ persons are the most innovate, creative, and diverse groups in society. Most importantly, it reminds us that we can solve the problems that face our community today if we replace apathy with our collective will.

In many ways Queercon has hacked the very essence of the gayborhood. While they recognize the need for queer spaces, they are also critical

of traditional spaces (which according to Queercon attendees have become dominated by straight culture) which overemphasize appearances and downplay substance.

It was quite a relief to see one popular gay model, hired as a go-go from, express puzzled and confused expressions. It was as though he didn’t understand why he was not the center of attention, and how people could have fun outside of the traditional hypersexualized environment so typical of the Las Vegas nightlife. Thus at Queercon events, who one is, rather than what one looks like, is the most important element. Queercon shows us that we are not powerless in shaping the destiny of queer culture. Nor are we powerless against technology which dominates us, divides us, and atomizes community. Queercon reminds us that queer spaces are human created spaces and as such, they are subject to our collective will if we only utilize agency in reclaiming them.


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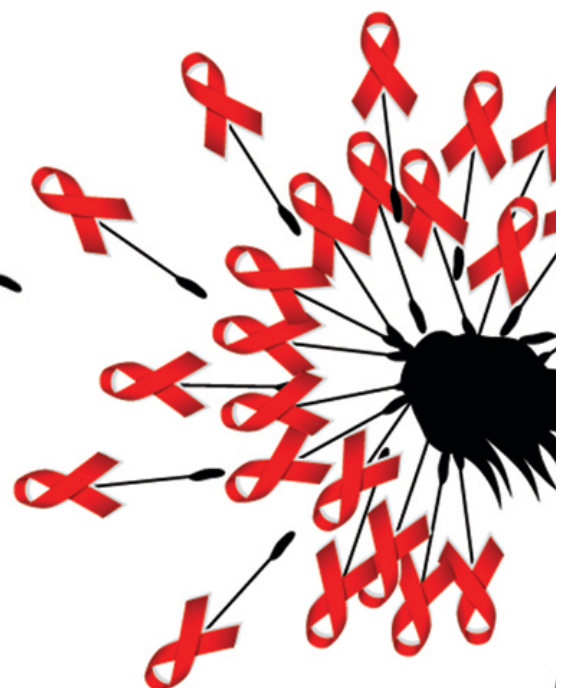
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