



Rainbow FALL 2016 Connection



ROY
HAYLOCK

RACHEL
DRATCH

ALAN
CUMMING

MARGARET
CHO

RUPAUL

HURRICANE BIANCA

A FILM BY MATT KUGELMAN

FREE SCREENING!

Saturday, Nov. 12
7 p.m.

The Normal Theater
Uptown Normal



The **Your Normal LGBT Film Festival**, a project of the **Prairie Pride Coalition**, is sponsoring a free screening of **HURRICANE BIANCA**, the festival's first 2016 film, at 7 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 12 at the Normal Theater.

Presented in partnership with the **Normal Theater**, and hosted by our very own drag legend Sharon Sharealike, **HURRICANE BIANCA** is a fast-paced revenge comedy starring RuPaul's Drag Race winner Bianca Del Rio (comic Roy Haylock). When Richard, a New York teacher, can't find work, he accepts a position in a small Texas school. Almost

immediately, they discover that he is gay and fire him. Later, when a new friend introduces him to the underground drag scene, Richard dons a new identity as the sharp-tongued and utterly hilarious "Bianca," and returns to the school to wreak havoc. As everyone quickly learns, this is one teacher you definitely do NOT want to cross.

HURRICANE BIANCA has screened at several LGBT film festivals this year including last month's Chicago Reeling Film Festival where it played to a sold-

BIANCA continued on page 2

Miss Gay Illinois US of A Pageant November 12 Following Screening

Join us after **HURRICANE BIANCA** at **THE BISTRO** as Sharon and Jan host the Miss Gay Illinois US of A Pageant that begins at **9 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 12**. A bevy of featured guests including past title holders Jodie Santana, Anita Mann, Brandi Monroe, Blanche Dubois, and Aurora Sexton will be on hand for the fun. More than \$2,100 in cash prizes will be awarded at the pageant.

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For Your Viewing Pleasure

Acorn Breakfast Dec. 3



If you are looking for interesting movies to watch at home, I have a couple of recommendations. I streamed them on Netflix but I think they are available on other networks as well.

Oriented

This compelling documentary shows a series of events during the Israel-Gaza conflict of 2014 in the lives of three gay Palestinian friends living in Tel-Aviv. One has a Jewish boyfriend. All three are also activists developing films to present to the public demonstrating what it is like to be them as they explore their national and sexual identity. Even though very little of it is in English the men's personalities and feelings come through loud and clear. Their passionate discussions are particularly poignant and urgent given their environment.

Boy Meets Girl

This is an engaging film that shows clearly that sexual orientation and gender identity are not at all binary in a way that is poignant as well as entertaining without being at all



preachy. The main character is a young trans woman who lives with no fear in her small hometown. The relationships portrayed are very natural and believable. There are no bad people in this film, just those finding their way to their own truths.

Enjoy.

BIANCA, continued from page 1

out house. The movie is fun, fast-paced comedy with tart-tongued dialogue and over-the-top, hilarious performances by a strong cast.

The screening is part of a re-imagining of the **Your Normal LGBT Film Festival**. Instead of a week-long festival with several films, we plan to sponsor quarterly screenings throughout the year. This will help us be flexible in scheduling films and will enable us to provide LGBTQ film opportunities year round.

**The screening is FREE.
We encourage everyone to
come out for a fun evening!**



Acorn Equality Fund Breakfast December 3

The Acorn Equality Fund's 18th annual scholarship breakfast will be at 9 a.m. on Saturday, Dec. 3 at the Embassy Suites Conference Center in East Peoria.

The fund annually provides thousands of dollars in scholarship money to downstate LGBTQI+ and allied students to continue their important work in higher education. Attending the fund raising breakfast is an easy yet important way to support our downstate youth.

The Prairie Pride Coalition has supported this organization for many years and is again sponsoring a table at the breakfast; if you are interested in sitting at our table please contact us at info@ppc-il.org.

[More information about the Acorn Equality Fund can be found at www.acornequalityfund.org](http://www.acornequalityfund.org)

Mission

Established in 1999, Acorn Equality Fund (AEF) in Peoria, Illinois, is a grassroots nonprofit organization that provides financial support for the advancement of education, health, and civil rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender persons and their allies. We raise funds in order to give out grants and scholarships to promote higher education. Together we can build a bright, united future.

CI Pride Health Center Offers Weekly Youth Group

TRIVIA NIGHT 7-10PM NOV 5 SATURDAY



RAFFLES 50/50
6 MAX PER TEAM
\$60 PER TEAM

Will BE HELD AT THE EAGLES CLUB IN BLOOMINGTON
EMAIL fundraising@cipridehealthcenter.org TO PLAY

lgbt center awareness day October 19, 2016



October 16 was National LGBT Center Awareness Day!

Since we do not, currently, have a space to call our own, we hope you can celebrate our successes thus far on FB.

We currently have our 501(c)3 in process with the IRS and hope to hear something back in the next 90 days.

We have a medical director, Dr. Adam Houghton, in place and are working hard to built relationships with other organizations to help get our doors open.

Our board is working hard, along with our MCLP Team, on a fundraising strategy to obtain a space for us to call home.

Our Social Groups are in full swing with the "Friends Like Us" youth group meeting every Friday.

Our Parents Group meeting on a monthly basis, our Adult Social Group just had their first event.

We have donated five (5) compress binders to transgender individuals in need.

We are overwhelmed by the community support we have received to this date!

Thank you to all those who have donated time, money, ideas to our center, and much more. More to come soon!

CI PRIDE Health Center Interview Links

Type these links into your web browser to hear radio interviews of CIPHC.

WGLT <http://wglit.org/post/new-clinic-could-lessen-lgbtq-medical-discrimination>

WJBC <http://www.wjbc.com/2016/10/10/local-clinic-in-development-for-lgbtq-community/>



HIV Among Transgender People

April 2016

Fast Facts

- Studies reveal high HIV prevalence rates among transgender women in the United States.
- Black/African American transgender women are more likely to have HIV than transgender women of other races/ethnicities.
- Many social and structural factors pose challenges to preventing HIV among transgender people.

Terminology

Transgender is an umbrella term for persons whose gender identity or expression (masculine, feminine, other) is different from their sex (male, female) at birth. *Gender identity* refers to one's internal understanding of one's own gender, or the gender with which a person identifies. *Gender expression* is a term used to describe people's outward presentation of their gender.

The Numbers

Because data for transgender people are not uniformly collected, information is lacking on how many transgender people in the United States are infected with HIV. However, data collected by local health departments and scientists studying these communities show high levels of HIV and racial/ethnic disparities.

In 2013, a meta-analysis (Baral et al.) reported that the estimated HIV prevalence among transgender women was 22% in five high-income countries, including the United States.

Findings from a systematic review (Herbst et al.) of 29 published studies showed that 28% of transgender women had HIV infection (4 studies), while 12% of transgender women self-reported having HIV (18 studies). This discrepancy suggests many transgender women living with HIV don't know their HIV status.

In the systematic review, black/African American transgender women were most likely to test HIV positive, compared to those of other races/ethnicities: 56% of black/African American transgender women had positive HIV test results compared to 17% of white or 16% of Hispanic/Latina transgender women.

Among the 3.3 million HIV testing events^a reported to CDC in 2013, the highest percentages of newly identified HIV-positive persons were among transgender persons.

Although HIV prevalence among transgender men is relatively low (0-3%), a 2011 study (Rowniak et al.) suggests that transgender men who have sex with men are at substantial risk for acquiring HIV.

Prevention Challenges

Individual behaviors alone do not account for the disparate HIV diagnoses among transgender people. Many cultural, socioeconomic, and health-related factors contribute to these diagnoses and prevention challenges in transgender communities.

Sexual behaviors and factors that may contribute to the high risk of HIV infection among transgender people include receptive anal sex without a condom or medicines to prevent HIV, a high prevalence of HIV in sexual networks, sex with multiple partners, and exchanging sex for drugs or money.

Other factors that contribute to high rates of HIV among transgender people include drug and alcohol abuse, mental health disorders, incarceration, homelessness, unemployment, lack of familial support, violence, stigma, discrimination, limited health care access, and negative health care encounters.

Many transgender people face social rejection and marginalization that excludes them from participating and functioning in society. Lack of legal recognition of gender identity can result in the denial of educational, employment, and housing opportunities. Some transgender people who experience poverty rely on sex work to meet their basic survival needs.

Insensitivity to transgender identity can be a barrier for those who are diagnosed with HIV and seek quality treatment and care services. Research shows transgender women with diagnosed HIV infection are less likely to be on antiretroviral therapy (ART) or achieve viral suppression. Furthermore, few health care providers receive adequate training or are knowledgeable about transgender health issues and their unique needs.

Transgender-specific data are limited. Currently, many federal, state, and local agencies inaccurately collect data about individuals' sex and gender. Using the two-step data collection method of asking for sex assigned at birth and current gender identity can help to increase the likelihood that transgender people will be accurately identified in HIV surveillance programs.

Behavioral HIV prevention interventions developed for other at-risk groups with similar behaviors have been adapted for use with transgender people; however, their effectiveness is still unknown. There is a need for effective interventions that address the multiple co-occurring public health problems in transgender persons.

Transgender men's sexual health has been understudied. Additional research is needed to understand HIV risk behavior among transgender men, especially those who have sex with men.

What CDC Is Doing

- CDC and its partners are pursuing a high-impact prevention approach to achieve the goals of the National HIV/AIDS Strategy: Updated to 2020 (<https://www.aids.gov/federal-resources/national-hiv-aids-strategy/nhas-update.pdf>) and maximize the effectiveness of current HIV prevention methods among transgender people. Activities include:
- Funding community-based organizations (CBOs) to enhance their capacities to increase HIV testing, link transgender persons with diagnosed HIV infection to medical care, increase referrals to partner services, and provide prevention and support services for transgender persons at risk for or diagnosed with HIV.
- Supporting health department demonstration projects (<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/funding/announcements/ps15-1506/index.html>) that provide pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) (<http://www.cdc.gov/hiv/risk/prep/index.html>) support services and data-to-care activities prioritizing gay and bisexual men and transgender persons at substantial risk for acquiring HIV, particularly persons of color.
- Providing support and technical assistance to providers that help CBOs enhance structural interventions for transgender people (e.g., condom distribution, community mobilization, HIV testing, and coordinated referral networks and service integration).
- Developing Act Against AIDS (<http://www.cdc.gov/actagainstaids/>) communication materials to reach transgender people, including campaigns such as:
- Doing It (<http://www.cdc.gov/actagainstaids/campaigns/doingit/index.html>), which encourages all adults to get tested for HIV and know their status, and includes images (<http://www.cdc.gov/actagainstaids/pdf/campaigns/doingit/getmaterials/posters/doingit-chandimoore.pdf>) and testimonial videos featuring transgender leaders.
- Let's Stop HIV Together (<http://www.cdc.gov/actagainstaids/campaigns/lsht/index.html>), which raises awareness about HIV and fights stigma, and includes the stories (<https://www.youtube.com/embed/9XXsTVYj22U>) of transgender women.

Additional Resources

CDC-INFO
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
www.cdc.gov/info

CDC HIV Website
www.cdc.gov/hiv

CDC Act Against AIDS Campaign
www.cdc.gov/actagainstaids

^a An HIV testing event is one or more HIV tests performed with a person to determine that person's HIV status. During one testing event, a person may be tested once or multiple times.

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Some other sites with HIV prevention information for transgender men & women

<http://caps.ucsf.edu/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2011/01/TransmenFS-Sept2015.pdf>

<http://www.avert.org/professionals/hiv-social-issues/key-affected-populations/transgender>

<http://www.hivplusmag.com/case-studies/2013/04/08/invisible-women-why-transgender-women-are-hit-so-hard-hiv>



To Find an HIV Testing site Near You

For local Information on HIV Testing and prevention call **309.888.5478** or visit <http://health.mcleancountyil.gov/index.aspx?NID=98>

To find information on HIV testing sites in other locations visit <https://gettested.cdc.gov/>

Call 800-CDC-INFO (800-232-4636) to ask for free testing sites in your area.



QUEERtalk Speaker Series Continues at ISU

QUEERtalks

New Work in LGBT/Queer Studies

12:30 — 1:30 pm

Sept. 20

Oct. 10

Nov. 1

Dec. 5



Two more acclaimed scholars will be a part of this semester's QUEERtalks series at Illinois State University.

"Our Love on Fire: Gay Men's Stories of Violence and Hope in Haiti" will be presented by Mario LaMothe of the University of Illinois at Chicago at 12:30 p.m. Tuesday, November 1, in LGBT/Queer Studies and Services Institute located in the Professional Development Annex at 205 S. Main St.

At 12:30 p.m. on Monday, Dec. 5 Carly A. Thomsen, assistant professor at Middlebury College, will speak on *"Queering the Rural: Visibility, Politics, and the Production of Place,"* also at the LGBTQ Institute.

The speakers series is free and open to the public. Metered parking is available next to the Institute which is located on Main Street across from Metcalf School and directly south of the Wittenberg Lutheran Center. Refreshments will be provided.

The QUEERtalks speaker series is sponsored by Illinois State University Women's and Gender Studies Program, the LGBT/Queer Studies and Services Institute, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Department of Philosophy, Department of English, Department of History, Department of Politics and Government, Latin American and Latino/a Studies, ISU Pride, and The League of Extraordinary Genders (TLEG).



SAVE THE DATE: AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT Nov. 28 - Dec. 1



SAVE THE DATE: AIDS Memorial Quilt, Keynote Speaker Coming to B/N

The Prairie Pride Coalition and the Central Illinois Pride Health Center are collaborating to bring the National AIDS Memorial Quilt to Bloomington/Normal Nov. 28 - Dec. 1 to commemorate World AIDS Day and the lives lost to and affected by HIV/AIDS.



Chris Wade, IPHA/ Central IL Friends December 1 Keynote Speaker

A part of the Dec. 1 World AIDS Day activities will be a keynote address by Chris Wade, project coordinator at the Illinois Public Health Association and director of prevention services at Central Illinois Friends of People with AIDS.

Details are still being finalized, but please mark your calendars and join us for this four-day exhibition and remembrance of those who we have lost to AIDS.



A Day Without Art

During the early nineties, as artists became more intimately involved with the group, Visual AIDS initiated numerous projects that included: A Night Without Light (the dimming of the New York skylight); the Electric Blanket (a nationwide outdoor slide projection with text and images); Positive Actions (an exhibition-competition for a television PSA held simultaneously in three NYC venues); the Broadside Project (distribution of copyright-

free text and images by well-known artists targeted to specific audiences); and ambitious media collaborations, including AIDS Timeline by Group Material and national televised events. Artists created many of the most moving actions, including Robert Farber's Every Ten Minutes. By the mid-90's, Day Without Art attracted more than 8000 participants throughout the world. In 1998, for its 10th anniversary, Day Without Art became Day With(out) Art. Visual AIDS added the parentheses to highlight the ongoing inclusion of art projects focused on the AIDS pandemic, and to encourage programming of artists living with HIV. **Drape one piece of art in your home or workplace in memory of lost artists.**



COMMUNITY CALENDAR



October 26, Wednesday 8:00 PM
Annual Pumpkin Carving Night
 The Bistro, 316 N. Main Street, Bloomington



October 28, Friday, 11 PM
Sharon's Halloween Birthday Bash
 The Bistro, 316 N. Main Street, Bloomington



October 29, Saturday, 8:00 PM
Bistro Halloween Bash
 The Bistro, 316 N. Main Street, Bloomington



November 1, Tuesday, 12:30-1:30
QUEERtalk
Our Love is on Fire: Gay Men's Stories of Violence and Hope in Haiti
 LGBT Institute, 205 S. Main St., Normal



November 5, Saturday, 7:00 PM
Trivia Night, CI PRIDE Health Center
 Eagles Lodge NO. 527,
 Bloomington



November 5, Saturday, 9:00 PM
Unemployed Architects
 The Bistro, 316 N. Main Street, Bloomington



November 11, Friday, 11:00 PM
Miss Gay Illinois US of A All Stars Show
 The Bistro, 316 N. Main Street, Bloomington



November 11, Friday
Veteran's Day



November 12, Saturday, 7:00 PM
FREE Screening: Hurricane Bianca
 The Normal Theater, Uptown Normal



November 12, Saturday, 9:00 PM
Miss Gay Illinois US of A Back to the Future Show
 The Bistro, 316 N. Main Street, Bloomington



November 14, Monday, 5:30 PM meeting
B/N PFLAG
 Unitarian Universalist Church of B/N
 1613 E. Emerson St., Bloomington



November 24, Thursday
Thanksgiving (US)



November 25, Friday
World Day to Eliminate Violence Against Women



November 28-December 1, Monday-Thursday
Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt display
 Details to be announced



December 1, Thursday
World AIDS Day & A Day Without Art
Chris Wade, Keynote Address
 Details to be announced



December 3, Saturday
Doors open 8:30 AM, Breakfast at 9:00 AM
Acorn Equality Fund Family Breakfast
 Embassy Suites Conference Center, East Peoria



December 5, Monday 12:30-1:30
QUEERtalk
Queering the Rural: Visibility, Politics, and the Production of Place
 LGBT Institute, 205 S. Main St., Normal



December 12, Monday, 5:30 PM meeting
B/N PFLAG
 Unitarian Universalist Church of B/N
 1613 E. Emerson St., Bloomington



December 31, Saturday, Midnight
New Year's Eve

RECURRING EVENTS



Fridays - Weekly
LGBTQ Youth Group
 First United Methodist, 211 N. School St., Normal



Thursdays - Weekly
Bingo at 9 PM, a the Bistro
Karaoke at 10 PM, a the Bistro
 316 N. Main Street, Bloomington



Fridays - Weekly
Improv Attack, 8:30 PM at the Bistro
 316 N. Main Street, Bloomington

Visit these organizations on Facebook for more details about their activities:
 Central Illinois PRIDE Health Center
 The Bistro • Prairie Pride Coalition

District 211/Transgender Case



OCTOBER 18, 2016 2:36 PM

Decision denying preliminary injunction in District 211/Transgender Student Case

Earlier today, U.S. District Magistrate Judge Jeffrey Gilbert issued his report and recommendation recommending denial of a preliminary injunction to students and parents seeking to deny a transgender female student and other transgender students the ability to continue using the restrooms and locker rooms consistent with their gender identity. Assuming that District Judge Alonzo agrees with the magistrate's recommendations, the decision means that Student A will still be allowed to use the locker room consistent with her gender identity at her high school in suburban Chicago District 211 rather than being forced to dress and use the restroom in a separate facility from her fellow students. Student A, a young woman who is transgender, has used the girls' locker room since the District reached an agreement with the United States Department of Education in December 2015 and has used the girls' restrooms since the fall of 2013.

In May, a group of parents and students calling themselves Students and Parents for Privacy ("SPP") filed a lawsuit with the help of two anti-LGBT legal organizations to challenge the agreement, as well as District 211's practice of allowing Student A and other transgender students to use gender-appropriate restrooms. Judge Gilbert recommends denial of SPP's request for a preliminary injunction, which would

Prairie Pride Board Elections

Every two years the Prairie Pride Coalition has elections for positions on its board of directors. Those two-year terms are up in December.

With that in mind, a ballot will be e-mailed to members of our e-mail list the week of Nov. 28. Look for the e-mail and bring your ballot to the annual membership meeting at 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Dec. 8 in the lounge at the Marriott in Uptown Normal. At this meeting ballots will be counted and board members will be elected to a two-year term.

If you are interested in seeking nomination to the board or are interested in volunteer opportunities please e-mail us at info@ppc-il.org

have blocked the use of locker rooms and bathrooms for these students. The following can be attributed to John Knight of the ACLU of Illinois:

Judge Gilbert's decision is welcome news, reducing some of the uncertainty experienced by our clients in this case. The Judge plainly recognized that the organizations who filed this case are unable to demonstrate any harm to their clients from sharing restrooms and locker rooms with students they perceive as different, while Student A and other transgender students would have been isolated and stigmatized if they were forced out of the appropriate restrooms and locker rooms after using the facilities without incident for several years. As the decision makes clear, "[h]igh school students do not have a constitutional right not to share restrooms or locker rooms with transgender students" and "sharing a restroom or locker room with a transgender student does not create ... a hostile environment under Title IX."

**The
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info@ppc-il.org

PPC Board

Dave Bentlin, President
Elizabeth Anvick, Secretary
Olemuel Ashford, Treasurer
Kathleen Burger
Gary Gletty
Margot Mendoza

Barring Student A and other transgender students from the restrooms and locker rooms that match their gender challenges their basic identity and humanity, suggests that they should be ashamed of who they are, and puts them at serious risk of long-term emotional and psychological injury.

We are pleased that Judge Gilbert rejected specious arguments about privacy and protected the interests of all the students.

We look forward to moving ahead to fight this suit, so that District 211 can work towards becoming a model for tolerance and humane treatment for all students, including Student A and others who are transgender.