Celebrating, Supporting, and Uniting LGBTQI+ Older Adults

Award-winning film *Cured* Spotlights Historic LGBTQ Campaign Against Medical Inequity By Joyce Bolinger

Medical Diagnosis: Homosexuality = Illness. Almost 50 years ago, for gays and lesbians this label could mean the loss of careers and families and being subjected to extreme “cures” like electroshock therapy.

Opening a long-forgotten chapter in Pride history, two filmmakers spent years to uncover a tale of LGBTQ activism aimed at removing a cruel and unjust, but far reaching, stigma.

Senior Pride is pleased to present the result of their efforts: the award-winning film *Cured* at the Loft Cinema on April 24 at 2-4 pm.

The celebrated filmmaker Bennett Singer joins the screening to tell the unseen narrative of the campaign that led the American Psychiatric Association (APA) to remove homosexuality from its manual of mental illnesses.

“This film is a riveting drama told through stories about the people whose lives were changed,” says Robert Bell, co-chair for Senior Pride’s screening.

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Save These Dates:

Senior Pride Tours “The Art of Food.”
Join a Senior Pride tour of “The Art of Food” at the University of Arizona Art Museum led by Chelsea Farrar, Curator of Community Engagement on Sunday, March 20 from 2-4 pm.

Capitalizing on Tucson’s recognition as a UNESCO City of Gastronomy, local writer Margaret Regan says, “The 109 pieces selected for the exhibition represent moods ranging from serious to fun and include paintings, prints, sculptures and drawings.” The exhibit includes works from some of the most important artists of the 20th and 21st centuries. https://soazseniorpride.org/event/art-of-food-tour/

Andy Warhol (American, 1928-1987) Banana (II.10), ca. 1966
Collection of the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation
Image: Strode Photographic

Related exhibitions are “Stories of Hunger and Hope” and “Tucson Stories: Food, health and community justice.”

Register for this event at https://soazseniorpride.org
Free admittance for Senior Pride participants.

For more information, https://artmuseum.arizona.edu. The UA Art Museum is located at 1031 North Olive Road.

Lesbian Looks presents: Prognosis: Notes on Living
April 17 at 5 pm • at the Loft Cinema

Prognosis is an intimate personal memoir initiated by celebrated documentarian Debra Chasnoff when she received a fatal breast cancer diagnosis. She died in 2017. It is described as a story about hanging onto people you love, as you prepare to let them go.

Debra Chasnoff was a documentary filmmaker and activist. Her 1984 film Choosing Children helped launch a cultural shift regarding parenting in the LGBT community. In 1992, she won an Academy Award for Deadly Deception: General Electric, Nuclear Weapons and Our Environment.

Lesbian Looks is now in its 29th year of presenting films for our local LGBTQI + audience. https://groundspark.org/prognosis-notes-on-living/

Senior Pride presents the film CURED
April 24 • 2-4pm at the Loft Cinema

See article on front page regarding this award-winning film.
Questions:
info@soazseniorpride.org
or 520-312-8923

PCOA
Aging with Pride
Pima Council on Aging
Help Line: 520.790.7262
(M-F 8:30am-5pm)
help@pcoa.org
To learn about in house LGBTQ Elder Care specialists on PCOA’s staff, email: SBahnson@pcoa.org
Community Profile: FRED RODRIGUEZ, Newest Board Member
By Tammy and Harrison Orr (our newest editors)

Fred Rodriguez, one of Senior Pride’s newest board members, sees his life as a journey towards bringing out the best in himself and in others. His life motto is “the more you learn, the more you teach,” and his proudest accomplishment is something done for another.

The oldest of three siblings, Fred was born and raised in Tucson, and “just never left.” After graduating from University of Arizona’s School of Theatre with a BA degree in Theatre Production, Fred served as the resident stage manager for the Invisible Theatre in Tucson. That was Fred’s first experience working for a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization—but not his last. Over the years, he has held positions in the events management and philanthropy areas for Mobile Meals of Southern Arizona, Southern Arizona Aids Foundation (SAAF), Habitat for Humanity and, currently, Youth On Their Own (YOTO).

In observance of World AIDS Day 2015, Fred, then the events coordinator for SAAF, had the privilege of directing a reading of Looking for Magic, a semi-autobiographical play by Tucsonan Beverly King Pollack. Beverly and her husband, Mel, had lost both of their sons to AIDS in the 1990s.

In addition to working with Beverly, Fred was also involved in bringing several sections of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt to Tucson for the AIDSWALK. Upon learning there was a quilt panel for each of Beverly’s sons, he made it his mission to have those panels shipped to Tucson for the Quilt Opening Ceremony. Fred will forever remember the moment when Beverly and her family saw the two quilt panels for the first time in many years. “It was truly my proudest moment and one that strengthened my belief in the good you can do by taking the time to help others.”

As a board member, Fred hopes his experience with various non-profits will be valuable to Senior Pride as we make the transition to becoming an independent nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, and he “can’t wait to see what is in store.” In addition to his love for nonprofits and volunteering, Fred enjoys hanging out with his family, friends and his rescue kitty, Keaton. He also enjoys local theatre productions and an occasional TV show binge, including “The Handmaid’s Tale” and “The Queen’s Gambit.”

Some of the first things you may notice about Fred when you meet him are his warm smile, contagious laugh and keen sense of humor. If you are lucky, he may tell you his endearingly comical coming out story!

Senior Pride Connects Our Community -- Your Donations Keep Us Strong!
Senior Pride’s cultural events, support groups, Community Cares Program, workshops, website with local resources, Facebook page, YouTube channel and weekly e-news updates provide a hub for our community.

Our success is made possible by supporters like you. Please donate today.

By Check: Make checks payable to Senior Pride or So.AZ Senior Pride
Mail to: 1632 N Country Club Rd,
Tucson, AZ 85716

Online: Go to our website soozseniorpride.org
Click on “DONATE”

All donations to Senior Pride are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. Please note: We no longer qualify for the Arizona Charitable Tax Credit.
APRIL SELECTION:
*Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*
by Isabel Wilkerson

Isabel Wilkerson’s second book, *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents* is what NPR calls “a masterwork of writing—a profound achievement of scholarship and research that stands also as a triumph of both visceral storytelling and cogent analysis.”

And Kenneth W. Mack in the Washington Post writes that “Wilkerson’s thesis is that Americans’ current obsession with race is somewhat misplaced, for there is a deeper and more intractable system that hides behind the chimera of race, and that system is properly called American caste.”

Wilkerson is the Pulitzer Prize-winning former New York Times Chicago bureau chief.

Wed., April 20, 2022
2-3:30 p.m.

Register Online for Zoom

Invitation

**Pasta with Pesto** -- from the Health and Wellbeing Program

While pasta is cooking, roast the pine nuts on a cookie sheet in the oven until they start to become fragrant. Combine ingredients, including pine nuts, in a food processor then serve over hot pasta.

*Prep: 5 mins • Yield: 2 cups pesto*