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#### A MESSAGE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

## Marriage Equality - looking ahead

As the leaves are beginning to change, so could the world of LGBTQ+ rights. Who knows? Flip a coin...

News from the Human Rights Campaign affirms just how popular same-sex and interracial marriage is in battleground states. Seventythree percent of Wisconsin residents want the Respect for



Marriage Act passed so that the status of our families is no longer vulnerable to the whims of the Supreme Court. You can <u>email Ron Johnson</u> about what marriage equality means to your family.

A new case will be heard this fall by the Supreme Court called 303 Creative vs. Elenis which is about a wedding website that a small business refuses to build because of first amendment rights. Sound familiar? 4 years ago the court heard Masterpiece Cakeshop, Ltd. vs. Colorado Civil Liberties Commission which was about a wedding cake. When the business owner refused to make their cake, the couple sued. The court sided with the gay couple, but settled on a technicality and did not address the hard question of LGBTQ+ rights vs. religious freedom.

The 303 Creative case will likely bring free speech and freedom of religion to the forefront of this debate this fall. That court decision could have an impact on determining the future of Marriage Equality.

The future is now! Wisconsin is perhaps the closest state in the country in its current midterm races. Do your homework and get out and vote! If you have moved or are ready to vote, go to My Vote Wisconsin. It's possible we could

see our state swing by a few hundred votes. They all matter!

Peace, Barb



**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT** 

### Party on the Pavement 2022



This is our third year participating in Party on the Pavement celebrating Downtown Racine. Each year we meet more people who are new to the Center and we get to connect with old friends. This event pulls all the beautiful people out of their houses to take to the streets downtown. SE Wisconsin is such a beautifully diverse place.

Thanks to Pepi's for another amazing drag show and for letting us keep the tips at the outdoor beer tent we worked.

#### **Advocacy**

## **DEI** is for Everyone

This week our Board and staff spent 3 hours with Kimberly Payne & Arletta Frazier (Payne & Frazier Consulting) for a Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) training. We learned many things but a highlight was how the Gay Rights Movement followed the successful strategies of the Civil Rights



Movement. That is one reason why Gay Rights advanced so quickly.

The more you know, the more you realize what you don't know. It's part of the journey.

We are lucky to have such knowledgeable and talented facilitators here in SE Wisconsin. And thanks to the United Way of Racine County for the Mackenzie Scott Training Grant to make this possible.

### **ADVOCACY**

### Join RAISE

RAISE is a project that is growing from the ground up. We want to identify people in the community that are ready to help advocate for our rights whether that is publicly or privately. RAISE is a group of people who have the inside knowledge of what is happening in the LGBTQ+ community and are ready to take action when needed. We are over 60 strong!

If you are interested in any type of LGBTQ+ advocacy work, whether short-term, ongoing or just for one or two events. Go **here** to signup.



We are also looking for leaders to help organize. If interested, email info@lgbtsewi.org

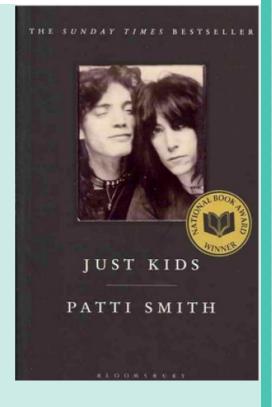
#### **QUEER BOOK CLUB**

# September's Read: Just Kids by Patti Smith

"Patti Smith would evolve as a poet and performer, and Robert Mapplethorpe would direct his highly provocative style toward photography. Bound in innocence and enthusiasm, they traversed the city from Coney Island to Forty-second Street, and eventually to the celebrated round table of Max's Kansas City, where the Andy Warhol contingent held court. In 1969, the pair set up camp at the Hotel Chelsea and soon entered a community of the famous and infamous--the influential artists of the day and the colorful fringe. It was a time of heightened awareness when the worlds of poetry, rock and roll, art, AIDS, and sexual politics were colliding and exploding."

"Just Kids begins as a love story and ends as an elegy. It serves as a salute to New York City during the late sixties and seventies and to its rich and poor, its hustlers and hellions."

The Queer Book Club will select a new book monthly and meet virtually the last Tuesday of every month from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. for a facilitated discussion.



Email <u>queerbookclubwi@gmail.com</u> to join!

Join us on Tuesday, September 27th.







## Youth Programming Youth Art Night

Join us tomorrow for our first youth art night of the school year! We'll press custom pronoun pins and other buttons that you design yourselves! Middle and high school youth are welcome to join us on Thursday, Sept 21 from 5:30 - 7:00 pm at 1456 Junction Ave,

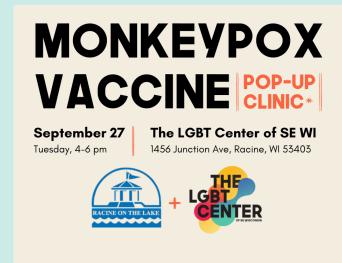
Racine. Why not join us at our next meeting?

#### **HEALTH**

# Monkeypox Pop-up Clinic:

Next **Tuesday**, **September 27** is our second pop-up clinic to distribute free Monkeypox vaccines.

This is a two-dose vaccine series, so if you attended our last event, please join us next Tuesday to receive your second dose! If you haven't yet



been vaccinated and qualify as high risk, we encourage you to join us. Highrisk groups include anyone with known exposure to a case of monkeypox and people assigned male at birth who have sex with people assigned male at birth.

# What a Drag: A Pageant Benefitting the LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin

Saturday, October 8th, 2022, 7:30-11:00 PM



Join Social on Sixth and The LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin as they host "What a Drag" pageant.

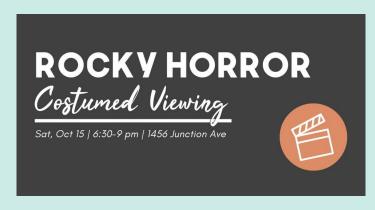
Contestants will compete in formal wear, talent, and interview by a specially selected panel of judges. The winner will receive the crown and title of Miss Social on Sixth. Producer and award-winning Queen Tequila Rose (Miss. Kenosha Pride 2019, Miss. Central Pride 2022) is a co-host for the evening along with George Tooney, Racine's newest Drag King will make his inaugural appearance as co-host and performer.

Tickets: \$25 (\$5 per ticket goes directly to the LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin)

For more information, <u>Facebook event link</u> or <u>buy tickets</u>. **This will sell out!** 

## "Rocky Horror" - Costumed Viewing Party

Saturday, October 15th, 6:30-9:00 PM



Grab your shake-and-go wig and put on a black lip for a costumed viewing party of the legendary Rocky Horror Picture Show! If you've never seen it, get ready for a queer awakening. If you have seen it, take deep breaths to manage the

"antici...pation."

Join us for our monthly movie night hosted by Zak Butler at the LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin, 1456 Junction Ave, Racine! Facebook event details

## A Guided LGBTQ Walking Tour - IgbtmilWALKee

Fall is the perfect time to go for a hike. Why not learn about Milwaukee's LGBT history at the same time?

Go to your favorite app store and download lgbtmilWALKee app. Each tour has multiple sites and a guided video tour! Choose from "Birth of the Movement", "Gayborhoods That Are Gone", or "Walker's Point Then..."



"Our history has been one of erasure," said Dr. Brice Smith, project director. "It's not taught in schools. It's not passed down between generations. It's not visible in our cityscape. In 2022, there are still no historical markers in Milwaukee about LGBTQ events. There are no memorials to any LGBTQ people."

"No more," said Dr. Smith. "This app will reveal the spaces we claimed, the roles we played, the lives we led, the love we spread throughout the city we call home. It will help us all rethink how we walk through life."

Read the full article from Our Lives or See more on TMJ4

## Virtual Support Groups

### **HYBRID GROUPS ARE HERE**

**Starting September 17th** 

Thanks to the United Way of Racine County and the MacKenzie Scott
Technology Grant award, we are busy bringing our inperson and virtual groups together! One of the awesome ways we are doing this is by using an OWL from OWL Labs. (right)

It's a microphone, a speaker and a camera all in one. And it follows you around



the room if you are talking (or chewing loudly in the other room).

For a full listing of our groups go to the <u>website calendar</u>. The first groups to go full HYBRID are below.







Trans and Nonbinary Group Wednesday from 5 - 6:00 PM

Queer Social Group Wednesday from 10 - 11:00 AM Parenting With Pride Group Tuesdays from 5 - 6:00 PM

Are you okay? We're here to support you if you do—like through the support of our virtual and hybrid support and social groups. Sign up for groups <a href="https://example.com/here/be/here/b

#### **LOOKING AHEAD**

### **NEW! Community Safe Zone Training: Allies 101**

**MONDAY, October 10th, 5:30 – 7:00 PM CST** 

What's new with Community Safe Zone Training? This month, David Ulrich, our Safe Zone Trainer will be presenting our Ally training 101.

This virtual training is open to the public and designed for those who have questions and want to learn. Topics include



vocabulary, resources available, and how to be a better ally. These events are held over Zoom on the **second Monday of every month**. They are FREE to attend! Click here to register. **Next month is Allies 201!** 

For customized training for your workplace or organization send inquiries to <u>David Ulrich</u>.



# **SC Johnson helps Safe Zone Training**

We're pleased to announce a boost to our Safe Zone Training in the form of a grant from the consumer products company SC Johnson.



This \$7,000 grant is being used to create new modules for our Safe Zone

program and to continue to increase the number of trainings we conduct each year.

SC Johnson is a family company dedicated to innovative, high-quality products, excellence in the workplace, and a long-term commitment to the environment and the communities in which it operates. Based in the USA, the company is one of the world's leading manufacturers of household cleaning products and products for home storage, air care, pest control, and shoe care, as well as professional products. It markets such well-known brands as GLADE®, KIWI®, OFF! ®, PLEDGE®, RAID®, SCRUBBING BUBBLES®, SHOUT®, WINDEX®, and ZIPLOC® in the U.S. and beyond, with brands marketed outside the U.S. including AUTAN®, BAYGON®, BRISE®, KABIKILLER®, KLEAR®, MR MUSCLE®, and RIDSECT®. The 135-year-old company employs approximately 13,000 people globally and sells products in virtually every country around the world. www.scjohnson.com

Watch this newsletter for updates about how the LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin continues to make a difference in our community.



### The LGBT Center of SE Wisconsin

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