IT'S TWO MAGAZINES IN ONE!
Flip this issue over to read the latest Centerline Magazine!
Our full service medical clinic is located at
2595 Main St. Stratford CT 06615
203-345-7003
www.hcaiinc.com

Our services include:

Primary Care  HIV/AIDS  Sexual Health  LGBTQ

TOGETHER WE FIGHT STIGMA.
TOGETHER WE ARE HIV ADVOCATES.

OUR MISSION:
To create a community of Advocates that fight stigma & discrimination
against people living with HIV through education, positive messaging,
social media and promoting HIV testing.

Visit us online for news stories, personal stories
& stories of encouragement
www.HIVadvocates.org

Get social with us:
Facebook.com/weareHIVadvocates
Instagram/hivadvocate
Each year, I write a greeting to welcome everyone to PRIDE New Haven. Within that, I try to shine a light on current events that are affecting our community, without being political or persuading someone’s thoughts to one way or another. It’s merely a “thought” for you to contemplate and decide on your own.

As the founder of this pride event and having had large displays in NYC Pride for over 20 years, I often get called for a statement on particular “gay topics.” The question I am asked the most is: “With all the acceptance of our LGBTQ+ community, is there a need for Pride today?” Well, my answer was, and has always been: YES. However comfortable we may feel about our lifestyle, others may not have gotten there yet, and it is the responsibility of those able to help them to get to that point in their life.

In just a few short years, we have gone from “Is Pride needed?” to an explosion of Pride events. Just look at how many are inside our very own state! With that growth, I’ve also seen the segregation of our pride events into ethnic groups: Latino pride, Black Pride, etc. This is a “hot topic” among our community – many will say there’s no need to segregate, while others may feel that they are not represented properly amidst the “general” prides. There is no “right” answer, but what I can be sure of, only because I have been involved in the planning of so many Prides over the years, is that no committee makes a plan to segregate or marginalize any ethnic group of our community. All are welcome to plan, participate and partake in all the festivities.

With that being said, I do understand the counter argument of segregation firsthand. Being a public person, I try to keep my personal life, well, personal, so most of you have never met my other half, who is Dominican and came to New York when he was 8. Although he is as American as you can get, he is proud of his ethnic heritage and celebrates it whenever he can. This is different than a 4th generation Italian like myself, who does not speak the language and much of my ties to that country have been lost forever.

I know most of us do not purposely try to exclude him in our festivities; that is not our intention. But maybe that is not enough for someone like him; maybe they are so proud of their heritage that they choose to shout out who they are and where they are from at the same time. Who can argue with that? It’s not a segregation of pride; it’s a celebration of heritage and diversity, and it should be welcomed into our community with open arms.

So, in the words of JP, WEPA!!! We welcome you to PRIDE New Haven’s 21st event. This year’s celebration has grown even larger, thanks to the tireless efforts of our chairpeople and volunteers who have pulled out all the stops to bring you many event firsts. May you celebrate your heritage and diversity every day!

Robb Bartolomeo
Founder and Chairman Emeritus, PRIDE New Haven
Founder and President, Empire Entertainment Group
WELCOME TO PRIDE NEW HAVEN

PRIDE New Haven, which turned 20 last year, has grown so much over the years – from its beginning as a day-long celebration to what is now a week-long PRIDE Festival featuring over a hundred LGBTQ+ artists and speakers and events both specific to aspects of our diversity and those that appeal to the masses. PRIDE in New Haven comes together with the goal to create moments for different parts of our community while maintaining an inclusive environment where all feel welcome to join in the celebration of what makes our community great: Our Diversity.

Unlike most minority groups, the LGBTQQIP2sAA community is centered around the celebration of diversity. Our community includes everyone – every race, every gender and gender identity, persons of all abilities and socio-economic backgrounds, folks of every religious beliefs and every culture, every political affiliation and workforce type, and status. Unfortunately, as a community we sometimes forget this, and we allow our differences to divide us instead of bringing us together. We must push against this trend. We must not give in to the desire to surround ourselves with people who look, act, and love like us. We must work towards an LGBTQ+ community that doesn’t just come together during PRIDE but comes together every day of every week of the year. Just look at what we create when we come together for PRIDE – a rainbow of beauty and love. Now imagine we did that every day.

At an event I recently attended, LGBTQ+ State Representative Jeff Currey said “We had the gayest legislative session in Connecticut history” to which the audience erupted in applause. It’s true – we had some major successes this past session. We shouldn’t diminish this success, but we have to continue to work together and push forward for further change. Yes, we live in Connecticut where we have some of the best laws in the Country, but we also still have major economic divide, workplace discrimination issues, and lack a gender-neutral marker for IDs. We still have LGBTQ+ youth disproportionately affected by housing and food insecurity. We still have protests at Drag Queen Story Hour events, and a lack of LGBTQ+ services across our State. Coming together and unifying is the only way we are going to begin to change this.

In a world and political climate where the world is constantly trying to divide us, let’s fight against that by coming together and working together for a future where everyone is able to live and love as their authentic selves. Happy PRIDE.

Patrick J Dunn
PRIDE New Haven Producer
Executive Director of the New Haven Pride Center

New Haven Pride Center Executive Director Patrick J Dunn
Editor and Designer Josh O’Connell
Entertainment Coordinator Karen Josephine Bertini
Official Pride Photographers
Daniel Eugene, Megan McGory Gleason
Chairman Emeritus
Robb Bartolomeo
PRIDE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, SEPT. 15

5:30-6p: Flag Raising Ceremony with Mayor Toni Harp
Steps of City Hall, 165 Church Street, New Haven

5:30-9p: PRIDE Kick-Off Event
Rooftop Terrace of the Arts Council, 70 Audubon St., New Haven

MONDAY, SEPT. 16

6-8p: Art Opening: 20 Years of PRIDE New Haven

TUESDAY, SEPT. 17

3-4p: Bisexuality+ Youth Discussion with Robyn Ochs
Co-Op High School, 177 College St., New Haven

5:30-7p: Getting Bi Workshop with Robyn Ochs§

7:30-9p: Bisexuality & Activism with Robyn Ochs and Shari Lucas

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 18

5-10p: LGBTQ+ Women’s Social
Three Sheets New Haven, 372 Elm St., New Haven

7-9p: Doc-YOU Film Screening: TransMilitary (US, 2018)
Southern Connecticut State University, Engleman Hall, 501 Crescent St., New Haven

THURSDAY, SEPT. 19

6:30, 8:30p: Center Cabaret Performance: "Edojah: Risking It All For Freedom" by Edafe Okporo§
Lyric Hall Theatre, 827 Whalley Ave., New Haven

8p-12a: LGBTQ+ College Social
Elm City Social, 266 College St., New Haven

FRIDAY, SEPT. 20

9p-2a: Gay New Haven Pageant
Partners Cafe, 365 Crown St., New Haven

SATURDAY, SEPT. 21

1-2p: PRIDE March
New Haven Green, 165 Church St., New Haven

2-10p: PRIDE Block Party
Center St., New Haven

7:30-9p: LGBTQ+ Youth Social and Open Mic
City Wide Youth Coalition, 928 Chapel St., New Haven

10p-2a: PRIDE After Party
Gotham Citi Nightclub, entrance on Center St., New Haven

SUNDAY, SEPT. 22

10-11a: Drag Queen Story Hour

11a-12:30p: New Haven’s LGBTQ+ History Walking Tour

4-8p: PRIDE Tea Dance
168 York St., New Haven

§Ticketed event; tickets available at http://www.pridenewhaven.org
Events take place or meet at 84 Orange St., New Haven unless noted.
PRIDE New Haven could not take place without the volunteers, organizers, performers and sponsors that makes the event so robust each year. Thanks to everyone who made this possible!

CHAIRMAN EMERITUS
Robb Bartolomeo

PRODUCER
Patrick J Dunn

PRODUCING PARTNERS
Gotham Citi Cafe and New Haven Pride Center

CHAIRMAN EMERITUS
Robb Bartolomeo

PRODUCER
Patrick J Dunn

PRODUCING PARTNERS
Gotham Citi Cafe and New Haven Pride Center

CRIME PREVENTION
Dolores Fransese

Sponsors

PRIDE New Haven Staff
Laura Boccadoro and Michael DeWolfe

SPONSORS

168 York Street Cafe
Anchor Health Initiative
APNH: A Place to Nourish
Your Health
AT&T
Atelier Florian
Barracuda Bistro & Bar
/ Te Amo Tequila Bar &
Restaurant
Bristol Health

THANK YOU!

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
Tony Apicella
Karen J. Bertini
George Coyle
Joe Goodwin
Sylvia Heart
David Kleman
Bernard Lanche
Jonathan Lucibelli
Joshua O’Connell

PRODUCING PARTNERS
Gotham Citi Cafe and New Haven Pride Center

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
Tony Apicella
Karen J. Bertini
George Coyle
Joe Goodwin
Sylvia Heart
David Kleman
Bernard Lanche
Jonathan Lucibelli
Joshua O’Connell

PRODUCING PARTNERS
Gotham Citi Cafe and New Haven Pride Center

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
Tony Apicella
Karen J. Bertini
George Coyle
Joe Goodwin
Sylvia Heart
David Kleman
Bernard Lanche
Jonathan Lucibelli
Joshua O’Connell

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS
Tony Apicella
Karen J. Bertini
George Coyle
Joe Goodwin
Sylvia Heart
David Kleman
Bernard Lanche
Jonathan Lucibelli
Joshua O’Connell

CITY LIAISONS
Kim Futrell and Andy Wolf (In Memoriam)

POLICE LIAISONS
David Hartman & Robert Criscuolo

VOLUNTEERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

案外人: Alisha Martin

CITY LIAISONS
Kim Futrell and Andy Wolf (In Memoriam)

POLICE LIAISONS
David Hartman & Robert Criscuolo

VOLUNTEERS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

PERFORMERS, DJS, AND ARTISTS

PRIDE New Haven this year features more than 100 talented individuals. We’ve highlighted all of them through their bios throughout this issue. Thank you to all of our performers, DJs and artists for their contributions!

PERFORMERS, DJS, AND ARTISTS

PRIDE New Haven this year features more than 100 talented individuals. We’ve highlighted all of them through their bios throughout this issue. Thank you to all of our performers, DJs and artists for their contributions!

PERFORMERS, DJS, AND ARTISTS

PRIDE New Haven this year features more than 100 talented individuals. We’ve highlighted all of them through their bios throughout this issue. Thank you to all of our performers, DJs and artists for their contributions!

PRIDE New Haven this year features more than 100 talented individuals. We’ve highlighted all of them through their bios throughout this issue. Thank you to all of our performers, DJs and artists for their contributions!

PERFORMERS, DJS, AND ARTISTS

PRIDE New Haven this year features more than 100 talented individuals. We’ve highlighted all of them through their bios throughout this issue. Thank you to all of our performers, DJs and artists for their contributions!
The Gay New Haven Pageant returned in 2018 for a second year, and was ultimately won by Mia E Z'Lay and Logan Starr. This year, eight contestants will vie for the two titles as part of our third year offering the pageant.

Photos: #NHVDrag by Daniel Eugene Photography
Happy Pride New Haven!

Proudly offering the following services at our medical center in Norwalk:

Primary Medical Care | Sexual Health
LGBT Health | PrEP & PEP
HIV Treatment | Mental Health
Hep C Treatment | Onsite Pharmacy

Visit us online at: www.CircleCareCenter.org

618 West Avenue | Norwalk, CT | 06850 | 203.852.9525
APNH is A Place for:

- Aging Positively - NEW!
- Behavior Health Services - EXPANDED!
- Support Groups
- Medical Case Management
- Nutrition Services
- Free HIV, Hep C & Syphilis Testing
- Free Testing Together for Couples
- HIV Testing @ Home! - NEW!
- Outreach & Education
- Free PrEP Referrals
- mPowerment
- Testing Advocate
- Free Condoms & Lube
- Free Syringe Exchange Services - NEW!

1302 Chapel Street
New Haven CT 06511
203.624.0947
www.apnh.org
**BLOCK PARTY MAIN STAGE LINEUP**

2:15 - 2:45p  
**Music:** Suzanne Sheridan and The One Night Stand Band

2:45 - 3:00p  
**ChibiCon: Where Cosplay Meets Drag**

3:00 - 3:15p  
**Music:** Connecticut Gay Men’s Chorus

3:15 - 3:30p  
**ChibiCon: Where Cosplay Meets Drag**

3:30 - 4:30p  
**Solo Drag Performances**

4:30 - 5:00p  
**Music:** Between Giants

5:00 - 5:15p  
**Imperial Sovereign Court of All Connecticut**

5:15 - 6:00p  
**Music:** Akira AK, Myles Jéh, Amanda Pogach

6:00 - 6:15p  
**The Zumbros**

6:15 - 6:30p  
**Okami Karate Dojo**

6:30 - 7:45p  
**Solo Drag Performances**

7:45 - 8:15p  
**Music:** PRIMME

8:15 - 9:15p  
**Solo Drag Performances**

9:15 - 9:45p  
**Music:** Taija New

*Street Performers between 3- 5p : Allison McDermott and Heidi Kirchofer & Joel Melendez / Matica Arts. Read about these artists and more at pridenewhaven.org*

---

**Yale**

- Growing New Haven’s biotech industry and the local economy
- Supporting public school education through New Haven Promise
- Strengthening neighborhoods by helping Yale employees buy homes
- Creating a vital downtown through Yale’s community investment program

**ONHSA.YALE.EDU**

---

**PRIDE NEW HAVEN 2019 PRIDE GUIDE**
ROBIN BANKS
Robin Banks is the love child of a one night stand between a carnival barker and a Lucille Ball impersonator. She has entertained all over the globe but most notably she hosts The Robin Banks Comedy Drag Show every 2nd and 4th Saturday at 168 York Street Cafe in New Haven and every 3rd Saturday Ms. Banks host the Connecticut Gay Men’s Chorus Bingomania also in New Haven. Hosts PRIDE Block Party

MADISON SAPPHIRE DUCHANNESES
Madison Sapphire Duchannes is Connecticut's resident Southern Belle. She runs one of New Haven’s monthly shows, “Friday Night Highlights” at Partners Café every second Friday of the month, and has been running that show for over two years. She was also appointed Grand Marshall of Middletown’s first ever Pride parade and Festival, and she’s been honored to represent Pride in her community throughout the year. Hosts LGTBQ+ College Social, Performs PRIDE Block Party

KAREN JOSEPHINE: PRIDE BLOCK PARTY
Karen Josephine Bertini is a Connecticut native, born and raised right here in New Haven. She has lived in California and Florida, but is now back here to stay. Karen is the hostess and part of the management team at Te Amo Tequila in downtown, where she works to promote an environment welcoming of all people, and also works as a freelance make-up artist, hair stylist, and devoted mom to her Gotham Citi children. Karen has also been the Entertainment Committee Chair for PRIDE New Haven for the last six years. As a proud LGBTQ+ advocate and transwoman herself, she has also led the PRIDE New Haven float in the New York City Pride Parade. You may have seen her as “Wonder Woman” or “Queen of the Enchanted Forest.” Hosts PRIDE Block Party

TIANA MAXIM ROSE
My name is Tiana Maxim Rose, I’m a 28 year old trans showgirl based out of New Haven, Connecticut. I am originally from upstate New York but am so glad to be here in New Haven. I have spent the last 8 years making a name for myself as the queen with no pants, and I’m your host for the PRIDE After Party for the 3rd year in a row. It’s an honor and I hope you will enjoy yourself this weekend! Be proud be happy! HAPPY PRIDE Hosts PRIDE After Party, Performs LGTBQ+ College Social and PRIDE Block Party

MIZ DESTINY NATIONS ROYAL
Destiny Nations Royal has been performing through out CT for the past 10 yrs. She started with Gotham Citi, and from there became the host of the Polo Club in Hartford. She went on to host Karma in Hartford and then received a call from Gotham to host the weekly drag shows on Saturday. She has been there 2 1/2 yrs and still continue to run the weekly show. She received the 2017 Sappho Drag Queen of the Year award and was crowned Miss Hartford Pride 2019. Happy 2019 Pride everyone. Love and let love. Hosts PRIDE Block Party and PRIDE After Party

STEVEY NEWNEZ
Stevey Newnez is most popularly known for his segment “Spanish Word of the Day” which airs Monday through Friday at 6:45am as well as his segment “Caliente En La Manana” which highlights the latest Latino news and music through social media. Aside from working in radio, his high energy, purpose and drive has presented the opportunity to be the host of the Greater Hartford Latino Fest in Hartford, CT., making appearances in several tv shows, including the newly added “Vamos a Hablar English” with co-star Anais from Love and Hip Hop on Thursdays as well as being a special guest of ‘Bee Informed’ with New Britain Mayor Erin Stewart. Hosts PRIDE Block Party
BARBRA JOAN STREETSAND

Barbra Joan Streetsand is humbly honored to be hosting the New Haven PRIDE Block Party for the third year in a row. The CT LGBTQI Community is very near and dear to her heart! This veteran host is utterly excited to see you all!

Hosts PRIDE Block Party

MIA E Z’LAY

If you’re looking for a campy, weird, and colorful queen who can fit into a size 2 than you’ve come to the wrong place. Mia E Z’Lay has it all. Comedy, personality, sewing skills, a variety of physical injuries, and a lot of overdue parking tickets. Mia can be found around New England doing what she loves most, performing and getting lost because her GPS doesn’t work and she refuses to ask for directions. Catch her on Instagram @miaezlay and other various social media sites she has lost the passwords to!

Hosts Gay New Haven Pageant, Performs PRIDE Block Party

“THE NEEDS OF OUR STUDENTS AND THEIR GOALS CANNOT BE ACHIEVED WITHOUT AN INSTITUTIONAL COMMITMENT TO SOCIAL JUSTICE AS A CORE VALUE OF SOUTHERN, ENSURING THAT OUR CAMPUS ENVIRONMENT IS SAFE, NURTURING AND WELCOMING FOR ALL.”

– President Joe Bertolino
‘GETTING BI’ WORKSHOP
WITH ROBYN OCHS, FOLLOWED BY A DISCUSSION “BISEXUALITY & ACTIVISM”

Tuesday, September 17 | 5:30 - 6:30p
New Haven Pride Center, 84 Orange St., New Haven

On the third day of PRIDE New Haven we are coming together for an evening with renowned Bisexual activist and advocate Robyn Ochs. Kicking off the night is her workshop “Getting Bi” where participants will explore bisexuality and discuss ways in which as a community we can move forward and advocate better for each other and creating supportive spaces (full description below). Following the workshop join us for a discussion on Bisexual activism with Robyn with local Bisexual activist Shari Lucas.

SHARI LUCAS, MODERATOR
Shari Lucas lives in Niantic with her husband and is bisexual. She is a graduate of Baldwin-Wallace University and Yale University where she majored in music. Currently she is the Minister of Music at First Church in Middletown, an Open and Affirming congregation. Shari leads a Bisexual+ Discussion Group as well as a LGBTQIA Potluck Social, both held monthly at First Church. As an activist, Shari has brought her Bisexual+ table to local Pride events with the goal of creating space, awareness, and visibility for the Bisexual+ community.

ROBYN OCHS, SPEAKER
Robyn is an educator, speaker, grassroots activist, and editor of Bi Women Quarterly and two anthologies: the 42-country collection Getting Bi: Voices of Bisexuals Around the World and RECOGNIZE: The Voices of Bisexual Men. An advocate for the rights of people of ALL orientations and genders to live safely, openly and with full access and opportunity, Robyn’s work focuses on increasing awareness and understanding of complex identities and mobilizing people to be powerful allies to one another within and across identities and social movements. Robyn was recently named by Teen Vogue as one of “9 Bisexual Women Who are Making History.”

EDOJAH: RISKING IT ALL FOR FREEDOM
BY EDAFE OKPORO

September 18 | Performances at 6:30p and 8:30p
Lyric Hall Theater, 827 Whalley Ave, New Haven

Join us at the historic Lyric Hall Theater for two incredible performances of Edojah: Risking It All for Freedom by Edafe Okporo. Performances will be at 6:30p and 8:30p

ABOUT THE SHOW
Edafe Okporo (he/him) is a human rights activist from Nigeria, displaced in 2016 due to persecution he faced in his home country based on his sexual orientation and work as an activist. Now living in Manhattan, New York, the Founder of the Pont LLC, LGBTQ+ writer and activist. His work has been featured in NBC, CNN GREAT BIG STORY, NOWTHIS, CBC, The Advocate et, al. He is also the author of BED 26: Memoir of an African Man’s Asylum in the United States. He is currently the Director of RDJ Refugee Shelter in Harlem, New York City.

Edafe Okporo (he/him) is a human rights activist from Nigeria, displaced in 2016 due to persecution he faced in his home country based on his sexual orientation and work as an activist. Now living in Manhattan, New York, the Founder of the Pont LLC, LGBTQ+ writer and activist. His work has been featured in NBC, CNN GREAT BIG STORY, NOWTHIS, CBC, The Advocate et, al. He is also the author of BED 26: Memoir of an African Man’s Asylum in the United States. He is currently the Director of RDJ Refugee Shelter in Harlem, New York City.

ABOUT THE ARTIST
Edafe Okporo (he/him) is a human rights activist from Nigeria, displaced in 2016 due to persecution he faced in his home country based on his sexual orientation and work as an activist. Now living in Manhattan, New York, the Founder of the Pont LLC, LGBTQ+ writer and activist. His work has been featured in NBC, CNN GREAT BIG STORY, NOWTHIS, CBC, The Advocate et, al. He is also the author of BED 26: Memoir of an African Man’s Asylum in the United States. He is currently the Director of RDJ Refugee Shelter in Harlem, New York City.

Edafe Okporo (he/him) is a human rights activist from Nigeria, displaced in 2016 due to persecution he faced in his home country based on his sexual orientation and work as an activist. Now living in Manhattan, New York, the Founder of the Pont LLC, LGBTQ+ writer and activist. His work has been featured in NBC, CNN GREAT BIG STORY, NOWTHIS, CBC, The Advocate et, al. He is also the author of BED 26: Memoir of an African Man’s Asylum in the United States. He is currently the Director of RDJ Refugee Shelter in Harlem, New York City.
Together with our partners we have the power to make a difference. Bank of America is proud to continue our longstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion by partnering with the Ad Council's Love Has No Labels campaign to build a more inclusive world for everyone, regardless of age, race, gender, sexuality, disability or religion.

To celebrate the diversity in your life, tag @bankofamerica and share a photo or message with #LoveHasNoLabels on Instagram or Twitter. Learn more about the ways we’re supporting diversity and inclusion at bankofamerica.com/inclusion.

What would you like the power to do?®

©2019 Bank of America Corporation.   |   GMCA-23S-AD   |   ARTPN9C7
BLOCK PARTY/AFTER PARTY

We celebrated 20 years of Pride in New Haven in 2018. It was the first time we had a full week of activities planned, but the centerpiece remained the annual Block Party, followed by the official After Party at Gotham Citi.

Photos by Megan McGory Gleason and #NHVDrag by Daniel Eugene Photography
Yale New Haven Health believes the sum is greater than all of its parts. When individual organizations work well together with a common mission, great things happen. This collaboration is what makes our community strong.
AMBROSIA
Hungering for a grungy CT based drag queen with a love for all things witchy and magical? Throw in some cosplay and a splash of political art, and you’ve got her. Ambrosia Lay Black is here to make all of your spooky dreams come true. PRIDE Block Party

KARELYS BLEAU
Hey it’s your favorite latin beauty Karelys Bleau. At 29 years old now I’ve been doing drag almost 9 years, and let me just say it’s been one of the most important things in my life. It’s changed me in a way that I cherish, love, and appreciate myself even more than I thought I could ever. This isn’t just what I do it’s who I am and I love it. I’ve been in the beauty industry pretty much my whole life doing Makeup and hair now with experience I also make wigs and can stitch up any outfit. PRIDE Block Party and PRIDE After Party

FRIZZIE BORDEN
Frizzie Borden is an AFAB queen who mixes her two favorite genres, comedy and horror, into her own little blend of creepy camp. PRIDE Block Party and Drag Queen Story Hour

BUBBLICIOUS
Bubblicious has been performing for over 30 years - taking on stages in Connecticut, New York, and in Europe. Bubblicious, or Bubbles as her friends call her, was one of the founding queens of the New Haven drag scene and has performed in every LGBTQ+ venue throughout New Haven. As an out and proud black transgender woman, Bubbles dedicates time and energy to bring awareness, support, and visibility to black and brown trans folk through performance and activism. Her performances at PRIDE New Haven are dedicated to the black (and brown) trans women who have been consistently targeted by bigotry and hate. PRIDE Block Party

CHIBICON: WHERE COSPLAY MEETS DRAG
ChibiCon started in January 2015. “Chibi” means small(er)/tiny version of something in Japanese and “Con” is a common abbreviation for conventions. We have performed at over 20 different venues, throughout New England and New York. This year ChibiCon will be performing acts from our “Anime” tour including our popular Sailor Moon Group performance. ChibiCon also volunteers at fundraisers and does free events for youth. PRIDE Block Party

FRANKIE CYANIDE
Raised by literal clowns, Frankie Cyanide doesn’t know the meaning of “normal” and stopped trying to figure it out ages ago. Out of Stamford, Frankie regularly performs as a king and a queen... but regardless of presentation, you can rest assured that they’re still a drag! @FrankieMCyanide on Instagram. PRIDE Block Party

RAY DECORAZÓN
Ray Decorazón is known for his suave demeanor. He has captured hearts performing in venues across seven states as well as in Puerto Rico. He always brings a mix of glam, leather and charm. LGBTQ+ College Night, PRIDE Block Party and PRIDE After Party

DOLORES DÉGAGÉ
Dolores Dégagé serves as a Co-Chair of Bridgeport PRIDE and as MC for the Annual SAMESEX Variety Show. Dolores Dégagé / Kenn Hopkins keeps the memories of Sassie Saltimboca alive with the annual Scholarship Fundraiser event “Vaudeville FROLIC” scheduled this year Nov.10th at the Bijou Theatre. She hosts the “TropiGay La-La” Drag Brunch at Soul de Cuba Cafe in downtown New Haven the 4th Sunday of each month. View her photography works on her Facebook pages Dragtographer or on Kenn Hopkins Photographer. PRIDE Block Party
SPARKLE A. DIAMOND
Sparkle A. Diamond was created in May 2006 by Kishorn C Henry-Walker. Sparkle lives by the motto, “leave a little Sparkle everywhere you go”. Sparkle hails originally from St. Thomas, United States Virgin Islands. Sparkle held a few titles over the years including the coveted Ms. East Coast International Newcomer, Ms. Leons, and Queen of Pride of Baltimore. Sparkle now resides in Bridgeport with her husband, Aharon, and family. PRIDE Block Party and PRIDE After Party

CASEY FITZPATRICK
Casey Fitzpatrick is one of Connecticut's Premier Transgender Entertainers. She performs at local venues as well as having graced Stonewall Inn in NYC and Southern Nights in Tampa FL. She likes to push the bar on regularity and frequently makes your head spin. She's been a part of the New Haven community for almost 10 years. She loves what she does and is an advocate for trans rights and raising awareness on Transgender rights. PRIDE Block Party and PRIDE After Party

FLAMINIA
Flaminia Fagiolina is a bubbly bombshell with bright colors, big hair, and bold fashion statements. Flaminia has a strong background in acting, and brings theatricality to everything she does. She lives in West Hartford, but loves performing all over the place! You can find her on instagram @ Flaminia69. LGBTQ+ College Social and PRIDE Block Party

ROARY ROUX HEART
Rory is a CT based queen who's been doing drag for about two years now. You can catch her performing anything from ballads, dance numbers, to comedic mixes in the New Haven and Hartford areas. PRIDE New Haven holds a very special place in her heart, and she's so excited to be performing this year. PRIDE Block Party, PRIDE After Party and Drag Queen Story Hour

KALYSTA
I’m Kalysta, I’m 23 years young. I was raised in the south, but don’t worry.. I got out as soon as I could.. My drag is fun, flirty, and risky! I hope to use my drag to give back, be a strong voice and to bring loving support to my community. PRIDE Block Party

XIOMARIE LABEJEA
Xiomarie LaBeija is known as Connecticut's Plus Size Dancing Diva! She performs throughout New England. Between performances, pageants, mentoring, modeling, and private bookings, Xiomarie is well known throughout the community. You can follow her at xiomarielabeija.com for updates and merch! LGBTQ+ College Social and PRIDE Block Party

LAIYAH ALF WA LAIYAH
I wanted a drag name that’s black and beautiful / exotic and regal, something people/are familiar with/A splash of camp; a dash of pith /”Alf Laiylah Wa Laiylah: 1001 Nights .Can’t do a Xena-esque ululation like Bedouin women? Serenade me on bended knee like Eric Clapton/ PRIDE Block Party

LUNA GEMINI MAXIM
She's your Anime Alien in New Haven Ms Luna Gemini Maxim originates from Meriden CT and is the magical girl drag daughter of Tiana Maxim Rose. She's a rising star. If you wanna girl who can turn the party out? Luna is the one, with kicks splits and death drops and violent voguing and a beat mug for days under her belt. PRIDE Block Party

MZ. OCTOBER MAY LAY
Mz. October May Lay is a Hartford native drag performer. The Current reigning Miss Chez Est. 2019 Mz. October is ready to shake up the scene with her unapologetic blackness. PRIDE Block Party and PRIDE After Party
MONICA INITA SIGN MONROE
Monica is a drag queen from Western Mass. She got her start last Fall in Holyoke at D’oeuvres Court Drag Competition. Since then, she has performed in many drag competitions and shows including Noho Pride 2019. You can find her including sign language in her performances. PRIDE Block Party

RARITY MOONCHILD
Rarity Moonchild is a drag queen known for her high energy performances and fierce looks; custom made costumes and hair. Rarity has won competitions such as DragWars at Pieces Bar in NYC and Chez Queen in Hartford. Rarity enjoys helping her community and is an animal rights advocate. www.raritymoonchild.com. PRIDE Block Party

RUBY REDD MOONCHILD
Ruby is a 16 year old queen from Hamden, CT, with her debut performance being 4 months ago at Pride Prom. She is very excited to celebrate pride along with a bunch of talented performers, including her drag mother, Rarity Moonchild. PRIDE Block Party

ANGEL RIVERS
A stupid bitch at heart & pretty bitch by trade Angel Rivers is always here to serve you L O O K S honey! Crafted to be the perfect blend of supermodel meets lawsuit video game hoe, she loves to use her sensuality for good on any stage she steps on. PRIDE Block Party

SIENNA ROSE
Sienna Rose is a Fairfield County queen who you can catch every Thursday at Troupe429 where she hosts The Choice: Connecticut’s only weekly drag game show, and Trail Mix Thursday, a monthly open mic variety show. Follow her Instagram at @siennaroseofficial. PRIDE Block Party and PRIDE After Party

GIGANTA SMALLS
Giganta Smalls is the anime space babe that the world needs. Delivering over the top humor and cartoonish looks, she reminds us to face the world with a smile and that we are stronger together. A wise man once said “with great drag comes great responsibility”, or something like that, and Giganta is certainly delivering! Keep up with her adventures at www.gigantasmalls.com PRIDE Block Party

NATASHA STARR
She is a dancing queen & a Latina diva that always turns the party! She is a StarOnTheRise that has been working in the drag industry for 8 years. Subscribe to her Youtube Channel #starontherise, follow her on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter. PRIDE Block Party

JAXAND STIX
Jaxand Stix is a trans man and drag performer primarily in the Hartford Drag Scene, excited to perform in New Haven for this year’s Pride Event. His drag is full of gender bending looks and numbers, and he’s thrilled to show his pride. PRIDE Block Party

KADIJAH TRAGEDIA VAIN
Caribbean Queen with a bubbly personality, that loves to perform! I’m here to show off, dance, and entertain!! And remember! “ If you can’t love yourself, how in the hell you gonna love somebody else?” -RuPaul #GetintoIt PRIDE Block Party

LUCIA VIRGINITY
Audiences may recognize Lucia from her appearances throughout Connecticut, New York, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. Based in the New Haven area, Lucia began performing in 2007, supporting and attending charity events, and served as Empress XVIII of the Imperial Court of All Connecticut. PRIDE Block Party
STREET PERFORMERS, DANCE & MORE

JONATHAN CUEBAS, THE ZUMBROS
Jonathan Cuebas is the reigning Emperor of the Imperial Sovereign Court of All Connecticut. In January 2017, Jonathan followed his passion for fitness and became a licensed Zumba instructor. PRIDE Block Party

IMPERIAL SOVEREIGN COURT OF ALL CONN.
The Imperial Sovereign Court of all Connecticut (ISCofAllCT) is an nonprofit organization that raises money for other state nonprofits. The ISCofAllCT has given away close to $500,000 to nearly 25 different nonprofit agencies and groups. Look us up on Facebook: @ctimperialcourt PRIDE Block Party

HEIDI KIRCHOFER / MATICA ARTS
Performing and teaching since 2000, Heidi travels internationally performing, collaborating and training. She spends most training time on aerial fabric and trapeze in her studio Thrive Movement Studio in Harwinton. She is also co-founder of the touring duo, Matica Arts. PRIDE Block Party

VIVIENNE LAFLAMME
Where there’s smoke, there’s fire. I like to start with a smoulder, move to a slow burn and finally leave the audience in ashes. I’m cute but quiet. Unknown but approachable. Classic with a twist. I’ve performed all over New England and New York City. PRIDE After Party

KENDALL MARIE
Kendall Marie is a burlesque jazz dancer from Hamden. She has performed in New York City, Norwalk, and New Haven. Kendall is known for infusing acrobatics into burlesque, creating the ultimate tease. PRIDE After Party

ALLISON MCDERMOTT
Allison McDermott is a circus artist raised and trained at the Children’s Circus of Middletown and the New England Center for Circus Arts. She is touring her most recent circus works, This is Arstagram! And CYCLES. Allison is excited to return for a 3rd year. PRIDE Block Party

JOEL MELENDEZ / MATICA ARTS
Co-founder of Matica Arts, Joel has traveled the Americas performing, collaborating and training. He is known for unicycling, clowning, improvisational, and acrobatic skills. Joel teaches Capoeira at Plus 1 Defense in West Hartford and his studio, Thrive Movement Studio, in Harwinton. PRIDE Block Party

THE MEN OF EDEN
The Men of Eden are Connecticut’s premier male entertainment company. Catch them at Trevi Lounge on Wednesdays and the fourth Friday of the month, and at the Chez in Hartford on the first Friday. Also available for private events. @TheMenOfEden on Facebook PRIDE After Party

SENSEI CHRIS / OKAMI KARATE DOJO
Sensei Chris, owner of Okami Karate Dojo is an avid practitioner of martial arts and self-defense. With 20+ years of experience we utilize core techniques that can be used in variety of situations. Come enjoy our brief main stage demo, and our booth with mini lessons and self defense tips, also check us out on facebook and at okamikaratedojo.com PRIDE Block Party

VU TRAN, THE ZUMBROS
Vu Tran is a licensed Zumba instructor and teaches at classes and events across New England. He has been teaching for five years and loves sharing his passion for dance and giving back to the community. PRIDE Block Party
Happy Pride 2019
Be Mpwered!

Mpowerment New Haven
1302 Chapel Street
New Haven CT 06511
203.624.0947
www.apnh.org
“When you put love out in the world it travels, and it can touch people and reach people in ways that we never even expected.”

Laverne Cox

Wiggin and Dana lawyers share a commitment to diversity. Our lawyers, staff and clients come from varied backgrounds, bringing unique and valued perspectives that make us stronger.

Wiggin and Dana is proud to sponsor New Haven Pride Center

www.wiggin.com
The COMMUNITY Foundation for Greater New Haven is proud to support

**Pride New Haven 2019**

and its efforts to build a welcoming, inclusive community.

Interested in supporting the LGBTQ+ community in perpetuity? The types of permanent funds that you can establish at The Community Foundation—throughout your lifetime and/or through your estate—are flexible in their design to provide something for everyone.

Visit cfgnh.org/startmyfund or call Sharon Cappetta at 203-777-7071 to learn more about the charitable giving options available to you.
Keeping Downtown New Haven a vibrant and exciting place to live, work, learn and play.
MUSICAL ACTS / BANDS

AKIRA AK
Pop singer-songwriter Akira AK is best known for his catchy melodies and loud voice – set to a blend of piano and synthetic driven instrumentals. We are excited for his performance, taking songs from both his current and upcoming EP. Follow him at @AkiraAKmusic on Instagram.

CARRIE ASHTON
Carrie Ashton began performing at the age of thirteen and never looked back. For almost 20 years, Carrie has been performing and perfecting a stage show that is unpretentious and captivating. She performs solo acoustic as well as with her band, and travels throughout New England and the east coast.

BABY KITTY
Baby Kitty is an up-and-coming singer and songwriter with a mean RnB purr. Her debut EP, Midnight Dream Girl, has been on everyone’s lips since its 2018 release. Give yourself a treat… indulge in Baby Kitty’s deep beats and velvety vocals today.

BETWEEN GIANTS
Between Giants is definitely already your friend’s favorite three piece Indie-Rock band from Brooklyn. When you take passionate words, drown them in an ambient synth landscapes and floor shaking bass, pretend you’re screaming at your next door neighbors with your hairy distorted guitars and punch all that in the face with some classic rock styled drums you get something really special.

CONNECTICUT GAY MEN’S CHORUS
Celebrating a milestone anniversary this year with 35 Years of Fabulous!, the Connecticut Gay Men’s Chorus was the first organization of its kind in the state and a proud member of the LGBT choral movement. Visit them at www.ctgmc.org and www.facebook.com/CtGayMensChorus/

EMMA
Emma is a singer/songwriter born and raised in Orange County, New York. You will be shocked by her unique voice and amazing poise! She is mainly a pop/R&B artist who sings any genre of music that catches her attention. Emma plays both the piano and guitar by ear. You will be mesmerized by her amazing voice and the smile in her eyes and love her music. The maturity in her vocals validates her songs as she truly sings from her heart.

LUMINOUS
Luminous is an American songwriter and producer that engages audiences with his universal sound. From feel good rhythms of old school R & B and island flavored rhythms combined with today’s pop content, audiences will find themselves up and dancing while singing along.

MYLES JÉH
Myles Jéh (pronounced Jay) is a charismatic and captivating singer/rapper who guarantees an entertaining performance. His story-telling lyrics and smooth approach to bass-filled beats creates a dynamic sound that will take you on a ride. For more information, visit www.mylesjeh.com and follow him on Instagram, Facebook, and Twitter: @mylesjeh.
SUZANNE SHERIDAN AND THE ONE NIGHT STAND BAND

When Suzanne Sheridan and The One Night Stand Band took the stage at a sold-out lesbian rock show in 1998, they thought that was it. They have gone on to do more than a one-night stand. Suzanne Sheridan (vocals and rhythm guitar), Bob Cooper (keyboards), and Jake Habegger (drums) are ready to rock and roll you. Let’s dance!! PRIDE Block Party

AMANDA POGACH

Amanda Pogach enjoys performing internationally and teaching voice, piano, and musical skills at her private studio and on Skype. Visit her booth at the Pride Block Party for more information, prizes, and musical fun, or visit her website: amandabpogach.wix.com/soprano. PRIDE Block Party

PRIMME

PRIMME blends songwriting sensibility with a hybrid of pop, R&B, and EDM. As a singer-songwriter and producer, PRIMME aims to bring storytelling back to mainstream pop - masterfully crafting accessible lyrics into infectious hooks. www.PRIMMEmusic.com // PRIMMEmusic PRIDE Block Party

RADIO STEVIE

Sometimes known as Stephen J. Grant, Radio Stevie is a rapper, singer, songwriter, and producer from New Haven. He released his sophomore EP, “HOME AGAIN” in August. His unapologetic attitude and empowering lyrics delivers a message of self-acceptance. PRIDE Block Party

SANS CHERUBS

Their sound defies categories but delivers a universal voice with a healthy side of wise-ass and humor. This coming year promises even more with new songs, sounds and venues and a brand new recording in 2020. PRIDE Tea Dance

SEMAPHORA

Semaphora, Lydia Arachne’s Bridgeport-based folk-funk fusion project, draws on diverse influences to create dense and intense songs that tell stories about our fascinating world. Semaphora has released one album about animals and is working on a second album about computers. PRIDE Kick-Off Reception

SEV7EN TAYLOR

24 years old born and raised in New Haven. He showcases his many talents in the art world; after penning three novels and recording a ground-breaking debut album. He’s just getting started! PRIDE After Party

SISTER FUNK

Sister Funk, the 5-piece, all female, high energy band delivers a sassy yet dynamic performance playing popular dance & rock covers and weaving in a little old school sound with their originals. LGBTQ+ Women’s Social

SINtheA

Sinthea has been playing music for over 30 years in all genres with a passion for classic rock. When she is not performing live she spends her time writing and recording her own music. PRIDE Tea Dance

IVY SPILLMAN

Ivy Spillman is a local producer, singer and musician. She has spent the last six years in the Fairfield County area. Her first album “Diversity” was released in March and her second album “The Bond” is around the corner. PRIDE Tea Dance

TAIJA NEW

Taija New is Rhythmic Pop entertainer from Massachusetts. Her performances have been seen from across the U.S. to Canada. New is currently on her album-titled tour, “The Heart on the Stage Tour.” PRIDE Block Party
**PRIDE WEEK DJS**

**DJ DARK ANJEL**
Anjel’s involvement and support of the LGBTQ+ community spans decades, with lengthy runs at Gotham Citi and 168 York St., as well as popular karaoke and dance parties throughout the New Haven area. Anjel regularly supports events thrown by the Imperial Sovereign Court of All Connecticut. Anjel has been working with the Pride Center for nearly 15 years, providing critical support for a number of events. **PRIDE Block Party (Main Stage), LGBTQ+ Women’s Social, and PRIDE Tea Dance**

**DJ EDGEOOD**
Connecticut’s very own disc jockey and music enthusiast from Fairfield County and radio host of 107.7 WFCS radio, DJ Edgewood hits the scene to bring life back to the dance floor with his taste in today’s and yesterday’s hits and deep cuts. **PRIDE Kick-Off Reception and LGBTQ+ College Social**

**DJ EPHRAIM**
DJ Ephraim Adamz has been dropping beats for 17 years. Since your 9th grade local skating rink to your iTunes, Amazon, and Spotify streaming services, he’s conquered it all. “Every day is a chance to make a difference. Just Google me gurl!” **PRIDE Block Party (Inside)**

**DJ K-RICO**
DJ, musician, producer, the crowd pleaser. Known for his creative open minded format and love of all forms of music. K-Rico is a genre bender, with a sampling and manipulation of live instruments, Synths, Vocals, Latin and Afro percussions. His recreation of music is not just an art but an experience that ties in a crowd for an event to remember. **PRIDE After Party**

**DJ MIKE NYCE**
With a career spanning over a quarter century, DJ Mike Nyce not only plays house music, he is house music! A veteran of radio and the local underground, Mike’s mix of today’s top cuts, personal productions, exclusive edits, and timeless classics, guarantee a packed floor of thumping music lovers. Allow Mike Nyce to take on a journey you’ll never forget ...from the Warehouse to Club! **Gay New Haven Pageant**

**DJ SCOOBY**
My name is Christian Martinez aka “Scooby” from New Haven, CT. I’ve enjoyed 23 years as a promoter in the gay scene for various clubs throughout CT. I’m very outgoing, fun, and love to have a good time. I’m currently the Saturday night DJ at Gotham in New Haven, dedicated to giving the LGBTQ community something fun to look forward to every weekend. **PRIDE After Party**
CONTESTANTS OF GAY NEW HAVEN PAGEANT

When asked “Why do you want to enter the Gay New Haven Pageant?” our contestants said:

PARADISE
Contender for Mr Gay New Haven
“I want to represent for the LGBTQ+ community in a different and positive light. A light that includes all members of the community.”

FRIZZIE BORDEN
Contender for Miss Gay New Haven
“I want to bring validity and visibility to AFAB performers.”

GIGANTA SMALLS
Contender for Miss Gay New Haven
“I am a big girl with a big mouth and I want to spread my message of love and body positivity to the world.”

KALYSTA
Contender for Miss Gay New Haven
“I want to be Miss Gay New Haven so that I can have a larger platform to speak off of. I want my voice to be louder, and I want to work with amazing resources and help the community out more.”

AUSTIN X HEART
Contender for Mr Gay New Haven
“To represent our community with pride both on stage and in our everyday lives through performance and connection.”

MZ OCTOBER MAY LAY
Contender for Miss Gay New Haven
“I want to show other black and brown queer boys and men it’s ok to be a King and a Queen. I want to show my black and brown boys you can still be yourself and be a Drag Queen Performer.”

DUSTIN DIAMONTE
Contender for Mr Gay New Haven
“I believe that everyone should be treated equally, be able to wear whatever they want to wear without judgement, love whoever they want to love, and act the way they were born to act.” - Dustin Diamante, Contender for Mr Gay New Haven

KARELYS BLEAU
Contender for Miss Gay New Haven
“To prove I can do anything show myself and the world what I have to offer.

The Gay New Haven pageant will take place Friday, September 20 at Partners Cafe. Join us to see who will be crowned at this year’s competition!

We’re all Banking Awesome.

BankingAwesome.com
860.513.5000
CT VOICE Magazine is proud to support the New Haven Pride Center

CTVoice.com
GOTHAM Citi... SETTING THE STANDARD IN GAY CT NIGHTLIFE FOR 23 YEARS... HERE YESTERDAY, HERE TODAY, HERE TOMORROW!

SETTING THE STANDARD IN GAY CT NIGHTLIFE FOR 23 YEARS... HERE YESTERDAY, HERE TODAY, HERE TOMORROW... GOTHAM Citi... SETTING THE STANDARD IN GAY CT NIGHTLIFE FOR 23 YEARS... HERE YESTERDAY, HERE TODAY, HERE TOMORROW...

Here yesterday...

Here today...

Here tomorrow!

Repeatedly named ‘Best Gay Bar’ by readers

Owner Robb Bart honored with a Dorothy Award

Only club in CT to be recognized by Out Magazine...

and they did it twice!

GOTHAM SATURDAYS
CT’S LEGENDARY DANCE PARTY
ALWAYS 18+

Gotham Citi Cafe
EMPIRE ENTERTAINMENT GROUP

CORNER OF ORANGE AND CENTER STREETS,
NEW HAVEN, CT
203.498.CITI

ADVOCATE ★ BEST OF NEW HAVEN
READERS’ POLL
GOTHAM CITI... SETTING THE STANDARD IN GAY CT NIGHTLIFE FOR 23 YEARS... HERE YESTERDAY, HERE TODAY, HERE TOMORROW!

Repeatedly named “Best Gay Bar” by readers

Owner Robb Bart honored with a Dorothy Award

OR JOIN US IN NEW LONDON!

DOCKSIDE RESORT BAR

32 BANK STREET,
NEW LONDON, CT
860.443.7433