

Scholarships Awarded to Seven Recipients

Seven Colorado high school seniors were introduced and presented with certificates and checks at the festive Scholarship Awards Ceremony hosted by PFLAG Denver on May 17 at the Artwork Network Gallery on Santa Fe Drive.

The Elinor and Tom Lewallen Memorial Scholarship, valued at \$5,000, was awarded to **Evan Tribelhorn**, a student at the Denver Center for International Studies. Evan will attend Seattle University where he will study nursing.

\$2,500 scholarships were awarded to:

- **Maya Bode**, Fort Collins High School. See her biography and photo on page 2.
- **Nez Jimenez-Gonzales**, Girls Athletic Leadership



From left to right: Maya Bode, Nez Jimenez-Gonzales, Evan Tribelhorn, Anna Nica, Isabelle Morden, and Gaia Malin. Liz Martin-Kaz was unable to attend the ceremony.

School, Denver. Nez will attend Regis University and aims to become a teen therapist for LGBTQ+ youth of color.

- **Gaia Malin**, Peak to Peak High School, Lafayette. Gaia will study theater arts at New York University.

- **Liz Martin-Kaz**, Union Colony Preparatory School, Greeley. Liz plans to major in psychology at Colorado State University.

- **Isabelle Morden**, Cherokee Trail High School, Aurora. She will attend Montclair State University and plans to pursue a career in clinical psychology.

- **Anna Nica**, Chatfield High School, Littleton. Anna plans to earn a PhD in astrophysics at University of Colorado, Boulder.

PRIDE WEEKEND EVENTS

Denver PrideFest

Downtown Denver Civic Center Park
Saturday and Sunday, June 16-17
Saturday (Family Day): 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Free Admission

Pride 5K (Run, Walk, Roll, or Sashay)

Saturday, June 16, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.
Colorado State Capitol, 200 E. Colfax Avenue
Register online at <https://denverpride.org>

Coors Light PrideFest Parade

Sunday, June 17, 9:30 a.m.
Steps off from Cheesman Park at 13th Avenue & Franklin exit, goes down Franklin to Colfax, down Colfax to Lincoln, ending at Civic Center Park.

Transportation will be provided for those unable to walk, **but call the office (303-573-5861) to save a spot so they will know how many cars to reserve.**

Office Has New Administrative Assistant



My name is Rebecca Lee. At the beginning of May I was hired on as the new Admin Assistant for PFLAG Denver. I am an enormously proud mother of three children, two of whom have left the nest to fly on their own.

Currently, my husband and I live in Aurora with my 17-year-old daughter, my toy poodle, and our two cats. The animals have all become mascots for the many Facebook and personal blog articles I love to write! Another huge inspiration for my writing comes from hiking alone or with my family in colorful Colorado nature. I have been in love with Colorado ever since

I moved here, fresh out of high school, in 1993, from Irving, Texas, with my twin sister and our parents. Since that time I've worked primarily in the care industry. I loved my work but I'm enjoying my transition from 'hands-on' work to an office management role and I'm excited for the opportunity to support the PFLAG mission.

For several years, my three grown children and I have been involved in supporting and advocating for the LBGTQ community. For this reason, among others, I am excited to be serving the cause of making the world a safer and more equal place for us all to live in. I'm so excited to meet everyone who works with our PFLAG chapter, as I travel through this exciting new stage of my life!

News & Views, published monthly, is the official newsletter of

PFLAG Denver
P.O. Box 18901
Denver, CO 80218-0901

Office: 303-573-5861
E-mail: pflagden@tde.com
Web: www.pflagdenver.org

OUR VISION

PFLAG envisions a world where diversity is celebrated and all people are respected, valued, and affirmed inclusive of their sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.

OUR MISSION

By meeting people where they are and collaborating with others, PFLAG realizes its vision through:

- Support for families, allies and people who are LGBTQ
- Education for ourselves and others about the unique issues and challenges facing people who are LGBTQ
- Advocacy in our communities to change attitudes and create policies and laws that achieve full equality for people who are LGBTQ.

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Calendar of Events

PFLAG SUPPORT GROUPS

Wednesday, June 6

Jeffco Families Group
100 Jefferson County Pkwy, Golden
Kittridge/Pleasantview Combo Rooms
5:30 P.M.

Thursday, June 7

Denver Families Group
CHUN Mansion, 1290 Williams St.
6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, June 13

Grupo de Alianza Familiar
CHUN Mansion, 1290 Williams St.
6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, June 13

Transgender Community Circle
3405 N. Downing St., Suite D
6:30 P.M.

Wednesday, June 20

PFLAG Online Community
www.freeconferencecall.com/join/pflagden
6:30 P.M.

June 8-9

Denver Gay Men's Chorus Concerts
Street Requiem
(See News & Notes, p. 3)

June 16-17

Denver PrideFest
(See page 1)

June 21

Denver Museum of Nature and Science
The Science Lounge: Under the Sea
6:30—9:30 P.M.

June 27

Board of Directors Meeting
CHUN Mansion, 6:30 P.M.

August 18

AIDS Walk Colorado

A Deeper Look at Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee reviewed the applications of 24 Colorado high school and college students. Each applicant's essays, letters of recommendation, and transcript were carefully read and evaluated, narrowing the list of original applicants down to seven finalists. Candidates are evaluated on the basis of leadership, commitment to the LGBTQ+ community, and general scholarship.

The scholarship committee is comprised of Brett James, Chair; Mia Furtado, Deborah Stone, Sam Roecker, Dean Lewallen, Janet Lewallen, Price Jepsen, and Jaime Marston-Cook.

We have asked each of this year's recipients to send us a short biography and a photo, to inform our readership of their accomplishments and aspirations. The first of these appears below, with others to follow.

Introducing Scholarship Recipient Maya Bode

Maya Bode will be attending Emerson College in Boston next year, pursuing a degree in Media Arts Production. Whether through filmmaking, journalism, or creative writing, she wants to tell stories that dispel misconceptions, promote empathy, and make people think.



As president of her school's Gay-Straight Alliance, she was active in her school community as a senior in high school. At the beginning of the year, Maya worked with administration to recognize the club as school-sponsored for the first time. She also changed the club's name to "Spectrum," in order to be more inclusive of all identities.

In the fall, she worked with other groups including Amnesty International, the Asian, Latin American, and African American student associations, and Diverse Leaders to plan a Diversity Conference, where she presented on LGBTQ+ issues, including bullying and anti-LGBTQ+ slurs, the difficulties of gender-specific bathrooms, and other challenges faced by the LGBTQ+

community such as mental health, identity erasure, and homelessness.

In the spring, she met with Student Council about concerns regarding transphobia, homophobia, and sexism present in the school's "Mr. FCHS," event, an annual beauty pageant for senior boys.

In addition to her work as president of Spectrum, Maya was Managing Editor of her school newspaper, Spilled Ink. Throughout high school, Maya wrote over 80 articles for the paper, including an editorial on the importance of recognizing gender and sexuality as spectrums rather than binaries, for which she was awarded 3rd Place for Commentary Writing from Colorado Student Media Association.

Music is also an important part of Maya's life; she was selected for Colorado All-State choir her junior and senior year, and enjoys songwriting.

She is grateful for the support of PFLAG, and is honored to be recognized by an organization with the vision of "a world where diversity is celebrated and all people are respected, valued, and affirmed inclusive of their sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression." She believes we are getting closer to this world every day.

Volunteer Voice

By Lisa Telk

Thank you to our volunteers!

A loud shout out to George, Becky, and Jen for helping us at the Scholarship Awards Ceremony. You all were an important part of the night, contributing your time and energy to help make it a success! Thank you for your helping PFLAG Denver continue to carry on the scholarship tradition, and for being a part of our PFLAG family.

Volunteer to be remembered!

The PFLAG Board wants to honor a volunteer who passed away recently. **Scott Teters** was an integral part of our team, participat-

ing in our support group consistently for a year before moving into a co-facilitator role. There he helped parents and families navigate through their feelings. He was a quiet strength — compassionate and a great listener — for many people who came to the group for support and guidance. We honor Scott for his volunteer work and will miss him greatly!

PRIDE Volunteers!

We are looking for PFLAGers to help us for 2-hour slots on both Saturday, June 16, and Sunday, June 17, for PRIDE booth duty. It will be a fun and exciting day, so please come help us spread the word about PFLAG and our resources. Please email me, Lisa Telk, at Lisa@pflagdenver.org and let me know what times you will volunteer. Thank you so much for your continued support!

KEEPING UP WITH CHAPTER

Support – Education – Advocacy

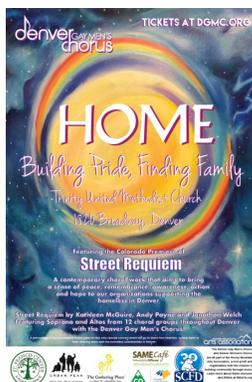
SPEAKERS' BUREAU – No engagements.

HELPLINE — The office/Helpline received 12 calls this past month.

SUPPORT GROUPS – Seven people attended our regular and trans support groups.

News & Notes

We are saddened to report the death of longtime member **Patt Rempel**, on May 9, 2018, at the age of 89. Patt and her husband Warren joined PFLAG Denver (then PFG) soon after their son Scott came out to them in the early 1980s. After Scott died of AIDS in 1989, the Rempels offered their mountain sanctuary, Shadowcliff, to persons with HIV/AIDS. Over the years "Shadowcliff" evolved into an agenda-packed retreat which provided comfort and enjoyment to many. Patt will be remembered as a supremely spiritual and loving person.



Some 50 sopranos and altos will join the **Denver Gay Men's Chorus** in its June 8-9 concerts, at which the Colorado premiere of a new choral work, *Street Requiem*, by Kathleen McGuire, Andy Payne and Jonathon Welch, will be performed. The concert will highlight the concept of home within all walks of life, including the homeless population in Denver, and will benefit four Denver charitable organizations which support the homeless. Performances will be at Trinity United Methodist Church, 18th & Broadway in Denver on Friday, June 8 (7:30 p.m.), and on Saturday, June 9 (2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.).

Judy Trompeter alerted us to this catchy design for the 2018 PrideFest. By **Queer America Clothing**, <http://queeramerica.co/collections/denver>.



From PFLAG National's Policy Matters, May 4 and May 18, 2018

- Openly gay Richard Grenell was sworn in as Ambassador to Germany by Vice President Mike Pence on May 3, strongly supported by the President and opposed by some U.S. Senators for his conservative views. Mike Pompeo was confirmed by the Senate as Secretary of State, amid strong opposition to his anti-LGBTQ views.
- The U.S. Census Bureau announced on March 29 that it will explicitly count same-sex couples, yet it has not yet agreed to inquire about individuals' sexual orientation or gender identity.
- In Colorado an anti-LGBTQ adoption bill advanced to the floor of the Senate but the Republican-majority chamber rejected the legislation by a 16-19 bipartisan vote. But in Kansas an anti-LGBTQ bill that ensures faith-based adoption agencies can turn away same-sex couples based on religious beliefs was to be signed into law by the governor. after passing the Senate 24-15 and the House 63-58.
- Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell has appointed Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council, to the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom. The Southern Poverty Law Center considers the Family Research Council to be a hate group.

Thanks to Tim Wilson for this item: Xu Jingsen has become **China's first openly gay athlete** after he came out on Weibo. He wrote: "Hello everyone! I am A Sam. I will attend the global Gay Games in Paris, France, in August this year and serve as an ambassador. Coming out is the ultimate measure of our inner courage. Yes, I am gay. We have the right to choose who to love and how to be loved. Gender, age, and skin color are not an embarrassment. We all live under the same sun. Today, I bravely live my truth, and I regard it as the best gift bestowed upon me. If my courage can bring comfort to those who feel lonely and helpless, and encourage everyone to support equality, then everything I do will make more sense. Thank you friends!"

BUSINESS MEMBERSHIPS

Supporting Partnerships –

Estate Planning Attorney

950 S. Cherry St. #1650, 303-321-1267
erica@ambler-keenan.com

Bill Coleman Entertainment

www.bubbletower.com, stretch@stiltwalker.com

Denver Psychotherapy Care

Tony Miles, Ph.D., 720-205-9752
Tony@DenverPsychotherapyCare.com
DenverPsychotherapyCare.com

Sharon S. Russell, D.D.S.

3300 E. First Ave. #580
303-320-1640
linda@friedmanrussell.com

Basic Partnership –

Trilogy Financial

Wade Frisbie, Financial Advisor
Wade.frisbie@trilogyfs.com
303-999-1847 — 101 University Blvd.,
Ste. 450, Denver 80206
303-922-4655

Announcement in PFLAG Voice from PFLAG National

"When the shooting at Pulse happened, I was really disturbed by seeing how the narrative was quickly becoming one about so-called Islamic terrorism and really sort of skipping over the very Christian and very homophobic environment of Florida," says queer director Jessica Devaney, whose stunning documentary *Love the Sinner* is a must-watch for every PFLAG member and supporter.

Devaney — a queer woman and former evangelical who was fully immersed in her conservative faith community — grew up only three miles from the site of the Orlando tragedy. She is now taking on a new role, combining filmmaking and social activism. This film in particular hits home for so many in the LGBTQ community who regularly deal with faith-based discrimination. Delaney's interview with her own mother is especially poignant.

The film spans roughly 16 minutes and is available at <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/lovethesinner> for only \$1.99 for a 48-hour rental.

