HELLO EUROPE

Nonstop flights to Frankfurt and beyond.

Ready to explore Europe, the striped way? Then fly with Condor Airlines. With nonstop flights to Frankfurt, Germany, and connections to the most popular cities in Europe.

Learn more at condor.com

rest. relax. unwind.

Welcome to Descanso, the desert’s most exclusive men’s resort.

DESCANSO
288 E. Camino Monte Vista, Palm Springs
760.320.1928 | descansoresort.com
ART IS THE ANSWER

GAGE ACADEMY OF ART
ART PROGRAMS FOR EVERYONE!

REGISTER TODAY
GAGEACADEMY.ORG
@GAGEACADEMY

MAKE ART
Fifty years ago, a targeted arson attack on a Gay bar in New Orleans became the deadliest attack on the LGBTQ+ community in the United States. The Pulse Nightclub shooting surpassed it in 2016. Although the New Orleans tragedy killed 32 people and injuring at least 15 more, few today remember the Upstairs Lounge Fire.

A botched response from the city
At 7:50 pm on June 24, 1973, the Upstairs Lounge erupted in flames. Located in the New Orleans French Quarter, the bar was seen as a haven by many members of the LGBTQ+ community, who were targeted by law enforcement and persecuted for their sexuality. Survivors of the fire recalled that first responders failed to work diligently, and their personal biases and homophobia were responsible for many of the deaths that night. One survivor reported to historian Johnny Townsend that he heard a firefighter say, “Let the faggots burn.”

Patrons discovered the fire after an unidentified person rang the building’s buzzer. A bartender answered the door only to find that the staircase leading up to the second-floor bar had become engulfed in flames. The bartender later reported having smoked lighter fluid. The fire lasted for 16 minutes.

The response to the fire was abysmal. Reverend Bill Larson’s charred body was left in the open, scared to a window-sill, for all the public to see for four hours before responders finally covered it with a white sheet. Larson had been a pastor of the Metropolitan Community Church, the first Gay-focused denomination in the US; members of its New Orleans church often socialized in the Upstairs Lounge.

The bodies of a pair of lovers, George “Mitch” Mitchell and Louis Broussard, were also discovered in the aftermath, clutching each other. Survivors recalled that Mitchell initially escaped the blaze but ran back to save his husband. Many in the community felt that the city’s response was a gawking excuse to publicly out and shame survivors and the deceased.

Victims face shame, even after death
Many of the victims had been revered community members before their posthumous outings. Eleven of the men were veterans, including Ferris LeBlanc, whose body was thrown into an unmarked grave and buried in a pasture. For 50 years, LeBlanc’s family has fought for his body to be exhumed and given a proper military burial.

Most victims were denied burial or ceremonies at their local churches after they perished at the Gay bar. Several of their families even refused to claim their bodies. A local reverend, William P. Richardson, held a prayer service three days after the fire to remember the victims. In return for his act of kindness, he received hundreds of hateful letters from state homophobes.

Even though the Upstairs Lounge was the deadliest fire in New Orleans history, the city refused to declare a day of mourning or lower its flags. It took two weeks before the city released an official statement. National press coverage of the event was minimal. Only two news networks featured segments on the fire — CBS gave it less than three minutes, while NBC delivered a brief, emotionless statement before launching into a lengthy report on the stock market.

To this day, many of the victims remain unidentified. The arsonist was also never identified. Police had a primary suspect in the case, Roger Dale Nunez, a regular at the bar, but they never made any arrests. In 1980 the case went cold.
Triumph after tragedy

Despite New Orleans’ strident response to the fire, a hero did emerge. Steward Butler survived the fire and turned his trauma into motivation. He became an activist in Louisiana and successfully passed a non-discrimination ordinance in 1991 that outlawed discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation. In 1998 he successfully expanded it to include discrimination against gender identity.

On June 22, 2022, the City of New Orleans issued an official apology to the victims and their families. "The City Council deems it not only necessary but past due to formally apologize to the victims, survivors, and families affected by the 1973 Upstairs Lounge fire for the way that those who perished were not adequately and publicly memorialized as valuable and irreplaceable members of the community," he wrote.

Furthermore, New Orleans City Council member JP Morrell initiated a new search for the unmarked grave that holds LeBlanc and the three unidentified victims.

The Upstairs Lounge fire was one of the worst attacks in LGBTQ+ history and serves as a difficult reminder of just how far we’ve come in 50 years.
It seems no mistake that the rainbow has become the primary symbol for the LGBTQ+ community. Each color represents an individual quality or virtue, together standing for inclusion of people from all backgrounds and identities.

Rainbows, however, come only after rain. Likewise, many in the Queer community carry deeply painful experiences of rejection, ostracism, and degradation. Unsurprisingly, LGBTQ+ individuals are overrepresented in mental healthcare. We are more likely to experience anxiety and depression and are at higher risk for addiction and suicide. All this is a symptom of trauma experienced around one’s sense of self.

We often think of trauma as the result of large and horrific experiences, but it also comes from low-grade emotional wounding that occurs over time. Dr. Gabor Maté, a leading expert on addiction and trauma, clarifies that “trauma is not what happens to you; it’s what happens inside you as a result of what happened to you.”

Two particularly harmful types of trauma experienced by marginalized communities like the Queer community are belonging and dehumanization.

Unbelonging is the experience of being an outcast because of some part of one’s identity. The painful message is that we are unacceptable, that something about us makes us unworthy of love and belonging.

Related to this is dehumanization, a deeper and more dangerous kind of unbelonging. It is the belief that certain people are less than human and therefore do not deserve humane treatment. This mindset has been the seed of every kind of violent movement against a specific group of people throughout history.

Despite the progress of recent years, dehumanization of the Queer community is very much alive. We continue to see misrepresentation of and verbal abuse against Trans people and drug queens, for example. Violent attacks in Queer community spaces continue, such as the mass shooting at Club Q in Colorado Springs in November 2022.

These are not events from a less evolved and distant past. This is the stark reality that Queer people face today as we move through the world. The seriousness of these circumstances means that we need allies who will speak up and step up when they see mistreatment or hear language that dehumanizes others. In the words of the late Archbishop Desmond Tutu, “If you are neutral in situations of injustice, you have chosen the side of the oppressor.”

The antidote to unbelonging, dehumanization, and communal trauma is rehumanization. This requires people to take real action to undo injustice and give marginalized communities a voice. It requires stepping back and listening to the pain of others without trying to brush it off. If people truly care about those who have been pushed to the sidelines of society, then an intentional effort must be made to lift up marginalized people and bring them in.

For those of us who bear the wounds of unbelonging and dehumanization, our task is to engage in our own healing. We need to have the self-compassion to reach out for help, both from friends and mental health professionals. We need to muster the courage to be vulnerable and allow ourselves to be truly seen by those we trust, with all of our insecurities and imperfections. We must also give to ourselves that which we did not get from others: respect, compassion, and celebration.

Dr. Brené Brown describes this process as developing true belonging. “True belonging is the spiritual practice of believing in and belonging to yourself so deeply that you can share your most authentic self with the world and find sacredness in both being a part of something and standing alone in the wilderness. True belonging doesn’t require you to change who you are; it requires you to be who you are.”

The storm is still raging, and the struggle is not yet won. Yet as we work toward a better world, we can lift ourselves and others up. It’s above the clouds that the light touches the rain and creates a rainbow, and it is when we witness and honor the collective trauma of others that real healing is possible.

Nick Norman, LICSW, is the business relationship manager at Mindful Therapy Group, a diverse and collaborative network of licensed, independent mental health clinicians serving Washington and Oregon.
We are committed to providing a safe and welcoming environment for people looking to build their family.

Everyone's journey is different, but the option to become a parent should be available for all.

SRM is proud to be a Pridefest Capitol Hill Silver Sponsor, visit our booth on Saturday June 24th.
A GLANCE AT THE GEORGE JACKSON BRIGADE AND ITS LEGACY OF PRISON ACTIVISM

BY DANIEL LINDSLEY
SGN STAFF WRITER

The SGN's younger readers might have missed the George Jackson Brigade. It was one of the infamous "urban guerrilla" groups active in the United States in the 1970s, but the Pacific Northwest-based group was unique in that most of its membership was Queer — a mix of communists and anarchists whose ultimate goal was to replace the United States government with a more collective form of rule.

Obviously, the brigade never made it that far. One of its members, Bruce Seidel, was killed by police while robbing a bank in Tukwila in 1976. Five more had been arrested, charged, and imprisoned by 1978. Despite many of them being given multiple life sentences, by the turn of the century most had been released without much fanfare; and their public presence since then has been less militant, though some remain active in leftist movements.

Why look back at a group that blew things up, stole money, and had gun fights with police in the streets? Partly because it's a lesser-known piece of the Pacific Northwest's Queer history, and partly because readers who are old enough to remember the 1970s may have been offered only a limited narrative. Above all, many of the problems facing Seattle, the nation, and the Queer community today are the same problems cited in the GJB's fiery communiques to media outlets and police almost half a century ago.

At the time, articles in the Seattle Daily Times were quick to point out that the group was radical even among leftists. They rarely touched on the leftists community's actual concerns, however, even while interviewing them about the brigade's attacks.

Even just last year, a story on KIRO News Radio talked past the living members of the GJB, as if they weren't alive today to speak about their experiences (though whether or not they would want to talk with KIRO is another matter). In fact, the KIRO story instead quoted John Arthur Wilson, the author of the aforementioned Times pieces.

KIRO did mention the specific reasons for each of the brigade's bombings — solidarity with prisoners and unions, mostly — and noted that in most of the incidents, no one was injured. The radio story did not mention that targeting property and not people was the brigade's stated intent.

"It wasn't a Leninist attempt to seize state power," says Daniel Burton-Rose, author of Guerilla USA: The George Jackson Brigade and the Anticapitalist Underground of the 1970s. "It was armed propaganda," though he also notes that the brigade was "pretty callous about hurting other people," particularly police officers, two of whom brigade members seriously injured during shootouts.

That's why "the FBI ordered a new blackout on the brigade," Burton-Rose says — to take away their platform. And not long after the GJB dissolved, news about the AIDS crisis was far more pressing for Queer journalism.

The brigade marches on

Media coverage of the GJB never entirely stopped, however, and neither did the surviving members. Leaving out the revolutionary fringe of the group's media communiques ("bourgeoisie," "ruling class," and the like), one of the brigade's chief points of contention was the prison system, which many of them had experience with even before they became underground revolutionaries.

Former brigade member Mark Cook was interviewed by the Seattle Weekly in 2000 when he was still in prison and on the verge of being granted parole. He was the last of the arrested "brigadiers" to be released, which apparently didn't surprise him.

"It's something that we all understood — that I would be the last one out, just because I'm Black," he told the Weekly from the Airway Heights Correctional Center. He was 62 years old at the time.

In a video prepared for the parole board, Cook said, "I still believe in the philosophy of the working class looking out for the working class, but I don't think that violence is going to get people jobs. Violence is something I would avoid and counsel against. I'll stand on the sidelines."

While in Walla Walla State Prison, Cook organized a chapter of the Black Panthers, launched the PIVOT program to connect former prisoners with employers, and organized COVEN, an annual seminar for prisoners, crime victims, judges, lawyers, and social workers to discuss issues in the justice system.

Along with the late Bruce Seidel, Ed Maud was one of the earliest members of the GIB. He was arrested on the same day Seidel was killed. In Walla Walla, he organized Men Against Sexism, a group of Trans, Queer, and BIPOC people who worked within Washington State's prisons to dismantle the rampant rape culture there.

Mark Cook, Janine Bertman, and Ed Maud at the Northwest Film Forum in 2015
— Image courtesy of Revolutionary Audios Books YouTube

8 SGN JUNE 23, 2023
CELEBRATING 49 YEARS!
Rebels make death threats in war

SEATTLE (AP) — A revolutionary group calling itself the George Jackson Brigade has demanded the release for a January bank robbery attempt and the violent March 4, 1971, riot that freed out of the defendants in the case, a Seattle newspaper said Sunday in a highly-politicized story.

In a letter to the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, the group said it planned to patrol the ‘military class’ and kill whenever it felt necessary, the P-I said.

The organization earlier had blamed the organization for the deaths of black residents in Washington state.

The comment made it clear the attempted bombings of the bank branch in the north Seattle suburb of Woodinville was to finance their activities.

There can be no revolution without money — for weapons, explosives, survival, organizing, printing, etc.,” the letter added.

The people are yours,” the letter continued.

“We will make the revolution class war against the black people,” the letter said.

The group vowed to “get justice” for whom it called the murder of a black student in Seattle.

The group warned Seattle police that it was a “war with the police.”

In 2021, Mead wrote an article for the San Francisco Bay View, a national newspaper oriented around Black Americans, in which he spoke of how the prison system had changed over the decades — which actions had made lasting improvements, and which ones hadn’t. He claimed that the Prison Lives Matter movement would be the next to carry the torch of prison reform and abolition.

GIR member Rita “Bo” Brown, an Oregon-born black lesbian who was known as the “Gentleman Bank Robber” for her police way of demanding funds from tellers, died in 2021 of complications from dementia — but not before contributing to a biographical documentary in 2017, and a great number of prisoner advocacy organizations like Critical Resistance.

Brown told Berton-Brown in Gratafica USA that the leftist groups in the 60s and 70s were hardly welcoming to Queer people.

“The Seattle Liberation Coalition, an umbrella group of Left-oriented organizations in the city which had come out of the anti-war movement, couldn’t say the word ‘lesbian.’” Brown said. “They could not say the word ‘lesbian,’ in anything that they said, and any position they took. They could barely say ‘women.’”

Brown continued, “A little under half of the gang got back together at the Northwest Film Forum in 2018. Cook, Mead, and Janice Bertram answered questions from the audience after a screening of Crude Cuddly, Armored, and Dangerous, a documentary about the group.

“The question of next steps is an interesting one,” Bertram said. “It’s not something for me to answer, because I’m 67 years old and don’t have much time on the planet left.”

“The SGN on the return of Ed Mead and Bo Brown — Image courtesy of SGN Archives

A clipping from The Oregonian on the GJR — Image courtesy of The Oregonian archives.
Day after day on this beautiful stage
Sarah Cain
APR 1 – AUG 27, 2023
HENRYART.ORG

SEASON AT SAL
lectures.org

Oliver Jeffers
&
Anastasia-Renee & Roger Reeves
Ann Patchett
Matthew Desmond

In-person &
online options available

WEDGWOOD ART FESTIVAL
July 8-9
70 Local Artists
Food Trucks
Beer Garden
Live Music
Kids Activities
3520 NE 89th St
WedgwoodFestival.com

26th Annual
Westport Art Festival
at the docks
August 19 & 20, 2023
Saturday 10am to 5pm
Sunday 10am to 4pm
www.WestportArtFestival.org

THE MEYER BAR
118 S. Washington St. Pioneer Square-Seattle, WA
PRIDE BOOK PICKS

BE PROUD.

Science is for everyone.

PACIFIC SCIENCE CENTER
BE CURIOUS.

VENARDOS CIRCUS
JULY 7 - JULY 23
Tacoma, WA
STAR CENTER

BUY TICKETS ONLINE!

FROM University Book Store bookseller Brad Craft

Elliott Page
Elliot became one of the world’s best actors, but pressure suffocated him. He was forced to play a glossy young starlet, a role that made his skin crawl.

THE HUMBLE LOVER
Edmund White
From National Book Award-honored author Edmund White, a wildly hilarious and irreverent novel about a rich older man who falls in love with a young ballerino.

B3, FARRAH AND ME
Jack Hlavsky
Ever Resilient, Jack navigates an uncertain future on the path to self-discovery in his quest for a happy, Technicolor ending.

BOTH SIDES OF THE FIRE LINE
Bobbie Scoopa
An uplifting memoir of bravely facing the heat of fierce challenges, professionally and personally.

THE BIG REVEAL
Sasha Valver
This book is a quilt, piercing together memoir, history and theory into a living portrait of an artist and an art.
WE DESIGN MATTRESSES FOR EVERY BODY

This is our greenprint for a more sustainable way of living.

ALL-NATURAL BOTANICAL LATEX

ZIPPER ACCESS TO CUSTOMISE COMFORT

TWO-SIDED & FLIPPABLE

CERTIFIED ORGANIC

324 NE 45th Street, Seattle WA 98105 | bedroomsandmore.com | (206) 633-4494

BEDROOMS & MORE

FAMILY OWNED

30YRS OF SERVICE 1982-2022
"I am the We in Providence Swedish" demonstrates the passion and pride we collectively share in our life's calling: serving our patients and our community. We are a dedicated team of caregivers who show up not only for our patients, but for each other.
JUNE 28 - JULY 29
HED WIG AND THE ANGRY INCH
206.938.0339 | ARTSWEST.ORG
4711 CALIFORNIA AVE SW, SEATTLE, WA

TASTE A DIVERSE SELECTION OF AWARD WINNING BOTANICALLY INFUSED HONEY WINES.
LOCATED ON SOUTH WHIDBEY ISLAND, NEAR DOUBLE BLUFF BEACH, AND AT SEATTLE FARMERS MARKETS.

EXPLORE HOW HISTORY CONNECTS US ALL
FROM DISCO TO ROLLER DERBY, EXPLORE HOW SKATE CULTURE HAS REFLECTED SOCIAL AND POLITICAL MOVEMENTS OVER TIME, PROVIDING ENTERTAINMENT AND COMMUNITY FOR WASHINGTONIANS.

FEBRUARY 11 - AUGUST 20
WASHINGTONHISTORY.ORG/SKATE
BLACK TRANS ACTIVIST ARRESTED ON EVE OF PRIDE MONTH

BY LINDSEY ANDERSON
SGN STAFF WRITER

The New York City Police Department kicked off Pride by arresting Queen Jean, a well-known Black Trans activist. Jean helped to organize the May 31 Trans Revolution Rally and March in Washington Square Park. The small gathering of nearly 60 protesters intended to stand against the plethora of anti-Trans laws passed in recent weeks across the United States.

Although the protesters remained nonviolent, an excessive police response awaited them. NYPD deployed its Strategic Response Group, a unit often sent by the NYPD to deal with “out-of-control” protests. The SRG has been known to quickly resort to violent measures like using tear gas and pepper spray.

Violation of the first amendment?
The police outnumbered the protesters and threatened to arrest anyone who stepped into the streets. Outraged, Jean commented that threatening protesters with arrest violated their first amendment rights.

“We have a right to assemble. We have a right to gather in these streets,” Jean yelled out to the police with her megaphone. The protesters stood out of the streets for most of the event as they sang and chanted. The NYPD blared a long-range acoustic device to drown out the activist’s chants throughout the day.

New York activist Brenna Lip, who was on the scene during the protests, recalled, “The only people blocking the roadways were the New York Police Department.”

Eventually, the NYPD overtook the sidewalk as well. Lip described it as a “wave of terror” that had come to apprehend Jean.

The protest ended when police broke onto the sidewalk, and Jean took off running. She made it to a car where police eventually forcibly carried her off into a van. They also arrested three other protesters.

Who is Queen Jean?
Jean has been an active force in New York. She was one of the lead organizers for the Revival of Stonewall Protests, a movement composed of Black and Trans activists who marched in New York City every Thursday following the murder of George Floyd and demanded the defunding of police.

Jean also founded Black Trans Liberation, a mutual aid organization dedicated to eradicating homelessness in the Black Trans community. The organization provides fresh food to those in need and hosts community events such as the Juneteenth Celebration Ball.

The day after her arrest at the Trans Revolution Rally and March, Jean was released from prison. She was charged with using a megaphone without a permit. The New York Civil Liberties Union issued a statement condemning the NYPD: “The arrest of Queen Jean, a well organizer and pillar to her community, using a megaphone to address those who have gathered, reflects a choice by the SRG to escalate tensions with the community.”

Many activists involved in the May 31 protest believe the police specifically targeted Jean and intended to send a message of fear with her arrest.

Queen Jean speaks out
Since her release, Jean has spoken out about the incident. “Fighting for justice is not a crime,” she said. “Exploiting our resources, targeting innocent people and their families, and upholding white supremacy is an act of treason and must be dismantled immediately!”

Jean is using her arrest to remind the community what Pride Month is about. “We must reclaim and renew the intention of Pride. We will protest until we are ALL free,” she declared. “They failed Marsha, Sylvia, Amanda Milan, and the countless sisters and brothers who’ve been taken by gun and transphobic violence! We fight like never before. Those statues in Sheridan Square are the epitome of whitewashing. We owe it to our ancestors, our youth, and ourselves to free each other. Black Trans lives still matter.”
MENiNDANCE
2023 MEN IN DANCE
Choreographers Showcase
October 8-7, 2023 • eXit Space’s NOD Theatre
Sign up for our mailing list by scanning the QR code and be among the first to know when tickets go live!
www.menindance.org  @menindance  @menindancesea

Welcome to Seattle Rep’s
2023/24 SEASON
Seattle Rep’s Public Works
THE TEMPEST
August 25 - 27, 2023
by William Shakespeare
Adaptation, Music & New Lyrics by Todd Almond
Conceived by Lear deBessonet
PASSENGERS
September 22 - October 15, 2023
From The 7 Fingers
Directed, Wilton A Choreographed by Shana Carroll
ISLANDER
October 20 - November 19, 2023
Conceived & Directed by Amy Drover
Book by Stewart Helton | Music & Lyrics by Finn Anderson
LITTLE WOMEN
November 10 - December 17, 2023
by Kate Hamill
Adapted from the Novel by Louisa May Alcott
QUIXOTE NUEVO
January 19 - February 11, 2024
by Octavio Solis
SANCTUARY CITY
March 3 - 31, 2024
by Martyna Majok
FAT HAM
April 12 - May 15, 2024
by James Ijames

Jinkx Monsoon & Major Scales: Together Again, Again!
May 31 - June 23, 2024
Karen Rodriguez and Sean Hendrickson Starkel in June And Her Perfect Nervous Daughter (2012), photo: Richard Termine

OLYMPIC MUSIC FESTIVAL
FORT WORDEN | PORT TOWNSEND
AUGUST 12-SEPTEMBER 10
tickets: olympicmusicfestival.org

SUMER CLASSICAL CONCERTS
Ever since major companies discovered that Queer people have money, a plethora of Pride merchandise has been released every June. Some items are stylish and cool, but most are a cheap way of making extra cash for the company. In all fairness, major companies have increased their donations and Queer artist partnerships this year, but tacky merch still exists.

In response to articles relating to Pride merch people should buy, SGN has decided to provide a list of items you should not buy this month. Keep in mind this list was created by a 22-year-old Lesbian, so the opinions in this article may differ from yours and that’s totally fine.

Any item from the Coca-Cola Pride line

When people outside of the United States think of this country in a non-political context, the first things they usually think of are Coca-Cola and McDonald’s. The iconic red Coca-Cola logo has infiltrated every facet of American life, including Pride month.

The obvious money grab by the soda giant includes a variety of rainbow-colored products with words like “Love” and “Together is Beautiful” written on them. The design makes it seem like Coca-Cola thinks Queer people are bottles of soda, which in a way will make sense if the company sees people as only consumers of its product. The merchandise also gives the impression that the wearer likes soda, not necessarily Queer people. None of the proceeds go to Queer charities, nor is there any claim that Queer artists created the designs.

At least McDonald’s decided to focus on a possible Queer icon, Grimace, this Pride month. Daddy Grimace is way more intriguing than anything made by Coca-Cola this year.

If you want to wear soda-themed merch for Pride month, check out the earrings created by Queer artist Nicole Brennan. Their website includes items that parody major brands. For instance, a pair of earrings features the word “Spit” written in the Sprite font. Shop Nicole Brennan’s jewelry at https://www.nicolebrennandrawn.com.

continues on page 21
FAIRWELL FESTIVAL

JULY 21 - JULY 23, 2023

TURNPIKE TROUBADOURS
SAT. ZACH BRYAN
SUN. WILLIE NELSON & FAMILY

BUY TICKETS AT FAIRWELLFESTIVAL.COM

GET MARRIED & SUPPORT MUSIC & ARTS

NOW WITH AC

UPCOMING: 7/6 THE MOTH, 7/7 WORLDWIDE PUNS
7/8 NOT-CREEPY GATHERING, 7/11 BEASLEY, BRITTANY DARIELLE, 7/21 HEAT SPEAK, 7/22 JEN, 7/23 BROWN, 7/18 JOE HENRY, 9/9 GRANDBROTHERS, 9/27-28 DARLINGSIDE

DISCOUNTED DATES AVAILABLE FOR 2023
FREMONTABBEOY.ORG/RENT

MUSICIANS’ ASSOCIATION OF SEATTLE
LOCAL 76-493, AFM

Everyone is Welcome Here
seattlemusicians.org

SEATTLE TATTOO EXPO

AUG 18 TO 20, 2023
SEATTLE CENTER EXHIBITION HALL

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT SEATTLETATTOOEXPO.COM
Receive truly affirming health care in a safe and comfortable setting

Vigil Family Medicine
Specializing in LGBTQ+ health care
(253) 693-0071
vigilmd.com
drvigil@vigilmd.com

Henry Bischofberger Violins
Third Generation Violin Maker
"Voted Evening Magazine’s Best of Western WA!"

www.kirklandviolins.com
(425) 822-0717
Sales  Appraisals  Repairs  Rentals

BECAUSE OUR PETS ARE OUR FAMILY
Help us keep pets and their caretakers happy, healthy, and together!
Check out our resources for
Spay/Neuter  Pet Adoption  & Pet Retention

Pawsitive Alliance
pawsitivealliance.org

Find us at Pride Fest to get your free Pet ID Tag!

PLYMOUTH United Church of Christ
1217 6th Ave, Seattle, WA 98101
PLYMOUTHCHURCHSEATTLE.ORG

seattle first baptist
Harvard and Seneca
an ecumenical, progressive, baptist church

RADICALLY INCLUSIVE, WELCOMING and AFFIRMING
Handmade Showroom
Find us on the 3rd Floor
Visit our sister store on the 2nd floor!
Pacific Place - 600 Pine Street - downtown Seattle
(12pm - 7pm) Open Every Day (12pm - 6pm)

thehandmadeshowroom.com
bezelandkiln.com

Seattle Gay News Podcasting Network Presents

BEING YOURSELF LOUDLY
THE PODCAST
With Isabel Mata

Hosted by SGN's favorite neurodivergent bisexual advice columnist, Being Yourself Loudly illuminates the beautiful and chaotic path of becoming the best version of yourself — even if your brain is chemically imbalanced. Topics like mindfulness, self care, sex, and more are explored biweekly.

FIND BEING YOURSELF LOUDLY WHEREVER YOU LISTEN TO PODCASTS!

Representing the “best of the best” in LGBT media, with over a million readers weekly in print and online.

212-242-6863
info@nationalgltmediaassociation.com
www.nationalgltmediaassociation.com
Any item on Amazon from a seller you can’t find information about
Everybody who has shopped on Amazon has seen this seller. It usually has a run-on sentence as a shop name and uses way too many tags.
Here’s what the tags say on a shirt by LGBT Love Equality Queer Same Love Shirts & Gifts on Amazon, “Awesome Shirt for Drag Queens or Bisexuals and trans Rights.”
Show awareness of same love and support for the giant light rainbow community and don’t assume any gender. Perfect for coming out bisexual pansexual and intersex men and women. This tee a great gift idea for men, women, and kids, fathers, mothers, brother, sisters, aunts, and uncles who love to support the gay and trans same love community and other sexual orientation. Perfect for Marriage wedding Birthday and Xmas.LGBTQIA. 85% It’s hard to read the description and you can’t find any information about the seller, don’t buy the product. There’s no way of seeing where your money will go after purchasing the item.
Most Pride merchandise on Amazon’s website is from these types of sellers, but there is a way to support Queer-owned businesses or artists through the site. If you search for the item, you want to click on the brand listed above the name of the product and look at the other items they sell. Does the vendor have a link to its website or a description of what the brand stands for? When you look up the brand, can you find any information about who runs it and where it’s based? Small businesses using Amazon as a storefront and distributor like to make their brands known to the consumer, so this information should not be hard to find.
If that’s too much work for you, check out Pride Basics. It is a 100% Queer-owned business that specializes in affordable Pride merchandise.

Any item that Queerbaits characters from TV shows and movies
Why do television and movie studios think it’s okay to put two random characters on a shirt and imply they’re in a Queer relationship? SpongeBob and Patrick are not in a romantic relationship, nor is Troy and Sylvester. On another note, claiming Troy and Sylvester “fight together with Pride” makes it look like the show creators support domestic violence.
Queer characters do appear on television and in films. If you’re going to wear Pride merch based on your favorite show or movie, make sure they’re on it. Pretty much any Pride merch from sports teams Every Seattle sports team has a Pride line. The thing is, the lines for the Mariners, Seahawks, and Kraken look pretty much identical to each other. All three have a shirt that says “Seattle” in rainbow colors followed by the team’s logo. The Seattle Sounders don’t use the same designs as the other local teams; Sounders Pride merch is identical to that of every other MLS team. If these Pride lines had distinct differences, corporate-generated sports merch would be forgivable, but it feel like no effort was put into the designs. On top of that, there’s no indication that Queer artists produced or influenced the art or that the proceeds benefit Queer charities.
However, one Seattle sports team’s Pride collection is original and gives back to the community. All proceeds from sales of the OL Reign’s “Protect Trans Kids” shirt go to the Lavender Rights Project.
Well, there you have it: four things a 22-year-old thinks you shouldn’t buy. Hope you all enjoy the remainder of Pride month in your new merchandise.
Happy Pride from the Seattle Public Library! Find our LGBTQ+ reading recommendations, Library Pride events for all ages, and more at www.spl.org/Pride
WE STAND FOR LOVE

BOOK NOW TO EXPERIENCE THE STAND FOR LOVE PACKAGE

A portion of proceeds will be donated to The Trevor Project.