



# San Jose ♦ Peninsula Newsletter

April/May 2016

Parents, Families, Friends,  
LGBTQ People and Allies,  
United for Equality

[www.pflagsanjose.org](http://www.pflagsanjose.org)

P.O. Box 2718, Sunnyvale, CA 94087

♥ NEED HELP? ♥ Call the Help/Info Line: (408) 270-8182 ♥

## North Carolina

A dangerous unfair law now exists in North Carolina. The new law, HB 2, does two appalling things:

First, it strips away existing LGBT non-discrimination protections in North Carolina cities that had them, and prevents any additional cities from enacting them. In other words, the legislature went out of its way – even convening a special session – to affirmatively authorize employers to fire lesbians, businesses to refuse service to transgender people, and landlords to evict bisexuals.

Because it's so clear that the law was aimed at authorizing discrimination against LGBT people, HB 2 violates equal protection and the Supreme Court's 1996 *Romer v. Evans* decision.

Second, it forces transgender men into women's restrooms and transgender women into men's rooms in schools and other public buildings.

Forcing transgender people into the wrong restroom is sex discrimination that violates the U.S. Constitution's guarantee of equal protection, and *Title IX's* prohibition of sex discrimination by educational institutions. Codifying this type of anti-trans policy also contributes to the harassment and violence that transgender people are forced to navigate every day.

PFLAG National issued this statement:

"This law, HB2, must be repealed; nondiscrimination protections must be restored; North Carolina deserves its rightful legacy aiming toward equality for all of its residents and visitors. Our 15 PFLAG chapters in North Carolina and all across the country will keep fighting for equality and against dangerous, harmful bills and laws like this one.

"We're not done with this fight, and we're not alone. We thank all of the businesses who have spoken up and said that this cannot stand, and that number is growing. We thank all of the people in North Carolina who have rallied and protested and reached their government officials to say clearly that this injustice cannot stand."

On March 28, Lambda Legal, the American Civil Liberties Union, ACLU of North Carolina, and Equality North Carolina sued Governor Patrick McCrory and other state officials for violating the constitutional and civil rights of LGBT people.

You can sign the ACLU petition at: [https://action.aclu.org/secure/NC-repeal-HB2?ms=web\\_160325\\_LGBTrights\\_NC repeal](https://action.aclu.org/secure/NC-repeal-HB2?ms=web_160325_LGBTrights_NC repeal)



## Meeting Calendar

◀ APRIL/MAY ▶



**Apr. 2** **Parents, Family & Friends of Transgender Children** - 10 am  
**May 7** 1017 Middlefield Rd., Redwood City  
(1st Saturday of the month)

**Apr. 11** **San Mateo Support** - 7:00 pm  
**May 9** UUs of San Mateo  
300 E. Santa Inez Ave., San Mateo  
(2nd Monday of the month)

**Apr. 13** **San Jose Support** - 7:30 pm  
**May 11** First Congregational Church  
1980 Hamilton Ave. (at Leigh)  
(2nd Wednesday of the month)

**Apr. 21** **Straight Spouse Support**-7:30 pm  
**May 19** Call our Helpline for info.  
(3rd Thursday of the month)

**Apr. 21** **Board Meeting** online - 7:30 pm  
**May 19** (3rd Thursday of the month)  
**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**GILROY** and other locations:  
Call the Helpline  
for support and information:  
(408) 270-8182



**June/July Newsletter Deadline:**  
**Friday, May 27**

## San Jose/Peninsula PFLAG

### Scholarship Awards Ceremony

Monday, May 9

7:00 PM

at the San Mateo Meeting

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PFLAG Support Meetings

### San Mateo, Monday, April 11 — 7:00 pm

The San Mateo meeting has a new location — see the map on the last page!

### San Jose, Wednesday, April 13 — 7:30 pm

At the San Jose meeting, Ramon Reynaga, aka Mona Lott Moore, will share his involvement with the Drag Community. He is associated with the Billy DeFrank Center.

### San Mateo, Monday, May 9 — 7:00 pm PFLAG Scholarship Awards Ceremony tonight!

### San Jose, Monday, May 11 — 7:30 pm

Small group support is offered at all meetings.



**Support Group for Parents, Families & Friends of Transgender Children**  
Saturdays, April 2 & May 7 — 10:00 am

All parents, families, friends and allies of transgender persons are welcome — please join us! We meet in the Redwood City Library Community Room, 1017 Middlefield Road, between Jefferson and Main. Meetings take place on the first Saturday of every month.

For more information, email: [Trans@pflagsanjose.org](mailto:Trans@pflagsanjose.org)

NOTE: Redwood City requires this disclaimer on publicity for events held on city premises: *The meeting space is provided as a community service by the City of Redwood City. The City neither sponsors nor endorses this event nor the presenting individual or organizations.* ▼

## PFLAG Virtual Board Meetings

Our PFLAG Chapter Board meets monthly online via Zoom (audio/video or telephone). We welcome new, creative ideas for helping families, getting our message out, raising money for scholarships, and just having fun together. We'd love to have you become part of the Board, attend a meeting, or send us your ideas. For more information, email: [volunteer@pflagsanjose.org](mailto:volunteer@pflagsanjose.org) ▼

### ► Mark Your Calendar ◀

- Apr. 2 — Transgender Day of Visibility
- May 9 — PFLAG Scholarship Awards Ceremony
- June 4 — San Mateo County Pride Festival
- June 25/26 — San Francisco Pride Festival

## PFLAG Membership Update

Many thanks to all of you who renewed your membership. Our annual membership renewal period is October 1—January 31. Paying your dues on time is a great help, but you can join or renew at any time by mail, or online at: [www.pflagsanjose.org](http://www.pflagsanjose.org).

Donations at the Benefactor, Angel, or Diva level, or to our Scholarship Fund, are deeply appreciated. Many employers offer matching programs that could double your contribution. If you ask your employer to make a matching gift, you will need to give them our EIN (Employer ID Number): 95-3750694. See *The Gift of Giving* brochure on our website for more information.

On behalf of our chapter, we thank you for your commitment to the mission of PFLAG and for all you do to help us achieve our goals of support, education, and advocacy.

Your Finance Committee ▼



## Join the San Jose/Peninsula PFLAG Speaker's Bureau!

By sharing our own personal experiences face-to-face, we aim to educate others about the issues that face lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and their family members. Through the power of personal experience, we can deconstruct the stereotypes, misinformation and negative attitudes so prevalent in our society, and create a more compassionate, understanding, and unified world.

For more information about the PFLAG Speakers Bureau, please contact our Speakers Bureau Coordinator, Brian Chin at [speakersbureau@pflagsanjose.org](mailto:speakersbureau@pflagsanjose.org) ▼



South Bay  
Trans Day of Visibility

**Saturday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>**

1pm – 6pm: Workshops, Community Sliding Scale \$5-\$25  
7pm – 10pm: Show, Sliding Scale \$20  
**Billy DeFrank LGBTQ Community Center**  
938 The Alameda, San Jose CA 95126



## PFLAG Scholarship Awards Night May 9 — 7:00 PM

A select group of talented student activists from San Mateo and Santa Clara counties will receive scholarship awards and share their stories at our PFLAG Scholarship Awards Ceremony on **Monday, May 9, 7:00 PM**, at our San Mateo support meeting. Don't miss this wonderfully inspiring event!

Many thanks to Rosemary for leading the effort again this year, and to all of the volunteers and donors. Your gifts make a huge difference! ▼



## San Jose/Peninsula PFLAG Board Election

At the 2015 Annual Meeting 3 PFLAG members were elected to the Board. We could still use 2 more Board members. We're also looking for Advocacy, Education, Program, Publicity, and Support Chairs. As you can see, there are a number of excellent volunteer opportunities!

Please contact any Board member for more information: [volunteer@pflagsanjose.org](mailto:volunteer@pflagsanjose.org)

**Note:** Advocacy, Education, Program, Publicity, and Support Chairs are welcome to serve on the Board, but Board membership is not required. You must be a member in good standing of San Jose/Peninsula PFLAG in order to serve on the Board. ▼

## Ending Sex Discrimination against Transgender Students Roundtable April 7

9:00 - 11:00 AM

Santa Clara County Government Center, Isaac Newton Senter Auditorium  
70 West Hedding Street, San Jose, CA 95110

Congressman Mike Honda is hosting a roundtable to address the issues facing transgender students as we are in the midst of a controversial national debate on the protections for transgender students in schools, including anti-bullying, Title IX discrimination protections, access to athletics, access to gender-specific facilities, transition-related health care, and privacy. Please RSVP by April 6th: <https://goo.gl/4ZROg7> ▼

## 101 India ComingOut - Inspiring Stories

101 India ComingOut presents the inspiring stories of members of the Indian LGBTQ community who have finally decided that they don't want to hide who they really are, or who they love. The series cuts across gender, sexuality and economic backgrounds to tell inspiring and emotional stories. Watch all 4 videos, or subscribe to the growing playlist at: [www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLxn\\_d4fW8YYrHFEZAIFFyFWXx\\_v1swl15U](http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLxn_d4fW8YYrHFEZAIFFyFWXx_v1swl15U) ▼

## PFLAG Newsletter — Future Changes

Our PFLAG Newsletter editor is planning to retire this summer. We are looking into new options for creating and sharing our Chapter's news. If you have ideas and/or interest — please contact Carol or another PFLAG Board member!

Email: [volunteer@pflagsanjose.org](mailto:volunteer@pflagsanjose.org). ▼

## Santa Clara County — First in US to Raise Trans Flag

by Heather Cassell (excerpt)

On March 22, Santa Clara County became the first county government in the U.S. to raise the transgender flag. Activist Lance Moore was also honored for his work on behalf of the South Bay's transgender community.

The flag, with blue, pink, and white stripes, will fly along with the rainbow flag in front of Santa Clara County government offices for the month of April in honor of Transgender Day of Visibility (March 31). The flag-raising kicked off a month of "More than Visible" events for the South Bay transgender community (#morethanvisible).

"It just shows what a beacon we are here for everybody in California," said gay Santa Clara County Supervisor Ken Yeager. Maribel Martinez, a 35-year old queer woman who is the executive director of the Santa Clara Office of LGBTQ Affairs, agreed, "It is our visual commitment to inclusion and empowerment of transgender communities." Read more:

<http://ebar.com/news/article.php?sec=news&article=71398> ▼

## New Book Store in the Castro

Lesbian bookseller Kate Rosenberger is bringing her popular Dog Eared Books brand to the Castro in June. She plans to sell a mix of used, new, and remaindered books with an LGBTQ emphasis at 489 Castro Street, San Francisco. The location was home to A Different Light Bookstore from 1986-2011.

For the past 20 years, Rosenberger has owned Dog Eared Books at 900 Valencia. "I'm absolutely thrilled" to be opening in the Castro, said Rosenberger. "The Castro needs and deserves a great bookstore and we are planning to bring it to the neighborhood." Read more:

<http://ebar.com/news/article.php?sec=news&article=71400> ▼

**This country will not be a good place  
for any of us to live in unless we make  
it a good place for all of us to live in.**

**Theodore Roosevelt**

