# DE newsletter

# JUNE

#### **HAPPY PRIDE MONTH!**



CNY PRIDE informational website: www.cnypride.org

# There is currently a GoFundMe going to "Keep Pride Free"

- Consider donating or sharing at: <u>www.gofundme.com/f/help-keep-the</u> <u>-cny-pride-festival-free</u>

### What is Pride Month?

Pride month celebrates the LGBTQ+ community. LGBTQ+ stands for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning/Queer, and all other identities that fall into the LGBTQ+ community.

Lesbian: An identity label sometimes claimed by woman-identified people who form their primary romantic and sexual relationships with other woman-identified people.

Gay: An identity label sometimes claimed by man-identified people who form their primary romantic and sexual relationships with other man-identified people.

Bisexual: An identity label sometimes claimed by people who are sexually attracted to two (or more) sexes or genders, not necessarily equally or simultaneously.

Transgender: An identity label used to describe a person whose gender identity does not align with the socially expected one according to their sex assigned at birth. Often used as an umbrella term to include people who transgress gender norms, including genderqueer people, trans women, trans men, bigender or polygender people, etc.

Questioning/Queer: An umbrella identity term used by people who do not conform to norms of heterosexuality and/or the gender binary.

Intersex: Term to describe a person whose sex assigned at birth does not neatly fit into the socially accepted binary of "male" or "female," because they have genitalia, hormone production levels and/or chromosomal makeups that are ambiguous or non-binary.

Asexual: An identity label sometimes claimed by people who do not experience sexual attraction. This differs from celibacy or abstinence, which are behaviors. Often used as an umbrella term to encompass identities such as aromantic, demisexual, grey-A, heteroromantic, homoromantic, etc.

Ally: A person that actively combats homophobia, queerphobia, transphobia, heterosexism and cissexism in their day-to-day life.

## A Timeline of LGBTQ+ Rights in the USA

1924 – The Society for Human Rights, the first gay rights organization, was founded by Henry Gerber in Chicago who had emigrated from Germany. The organization ceased to exist after most of its members were arrested.

1950 – The Mattachine Society formed in Los Angeles, California by activist Harry Hay and is one of the first sustained gay rights groups in the United States. The Society focused on social acceptance and other support for homosexuals. Various branches formed in other cities. The organization continues today with different objectives.

1962 – Illinois becomes the first state to decriminalize homosexual acts between two consenting adults in private.

1966 – Compton's Cafeteria Riot, San Francisco. Transgender and drag queens in San Francisco reacted to ongoing harassment by the police force. After several days, the protests stopped. One of the outgrowths was the establishment of the National Transsexual Counseling Unit (NTCU) in support of transgender people.

1967 - Sexual Freedom League formed in San Francisco in support of bisexual people.

1969 (June 27-29) – The Stonewall Riots. The Stonewall Inn was a gay bar in Greenwich Village in New York City. In response to an unprovoked police raid on an early Saturday morning, over 400 people, including gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and straight people protested their treatment and pushed the police away from the area. Some level of rioting continued over the next six nights, which closed the Stonewall Inn. people at the riots who went on to tell their stories were: Sylvia Rivera, Martha P. Johnson, Dick Leitsch, Seymore Pine and Craig Rodwell.

1969 – Gay Liberation Front organization formed in New York following the Stonewall Riots

1974 – Elaine Noble becomes the first openly gay person to be elected as a state legislator; she served in the Massachusetts State House of Representatives for two terms.

1975 – The Bisexual Forum founded in New York City and the Gay American Indians Organization founded in San Francisco.

1978 (June 25) – In San Francisco, the Rainbow Flag is first flown during the Gay Freedom Parade; the flag becomes a symbol of gay and lesbian pride.

1993 – The U.S. Congress passed and President Bill Clinton signed "Don't Ask Don't Tell" that allowed gay and lesbian people to serve in the military. They would not be asked their sexual orientation during enlistment screening.

1998 – Matthew Shepard, a 21-year-old student at the University of Wyoming, was brutally attacked and tied to a fence in Laramie, Wyo. and left to die because he was gay. This was one of the most notorious anti-gay hate crimes in America and resulted in a federal law passed 10 years later in 2009 called the "Hate Crimes Prevention Act", a federal law against bias crimes directed at lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender people.

2003 – Lawrence v. Texas (Supreme Court Decision) Ruled by a vote of 6-3 that a Kansas law criminalizing gay or lesbian sex was unconstitutional declaring the importance of constitutional liberty and privacy consistent with the due process clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

2004 – Massachusetts holds the first legal same sex marriage in the US.

2008 (November) – Proposition 8 passes with a 52% yes vote in California declaring that marriage is only legally recognized between a man and a woman.

2010 – The U.S. Congress passed and President Barack Obama signed the repeal of "Don't Ask Don't Tell" so that gay and lesbian people could serve openly in the military.

2013 – U.S. v. Windsor / Repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act – DOMA (Supreme Court Decision) By a vote of 5-4 ruled that defining marriage as just between a man and a woman is unconstitutional under the Fifth Amendment guarantee of equal protection.

2015 – Obergefell v. Hodges (Supreme Court Decision) The Court voted 5-4 that the fundamental right to marry is guaranteed to same-sex couples by both the Due Process Clause and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. This decision mandated that states must allow same-sex couples to legally marry.

2020- US Supreme Court ruling protections for LGBTQ employees (June) In a historic decision, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the 1964 Civil Rights Act protects gay, lesbian, and transgender employees from discrimination based on sex

# **Top-Line Statistics (via The Trevor Project)**

1) Suicide is the second leading cause of death among young people aged 10 to 24 (Hedegaard, Curtin, & Warner, 2018) — and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning (LGBTQ) youth are at significantly increased risk.

2) LGBTQ youth are more than four times as likely to attempt suicide than their peers (Johns et al., 2019; Johns et al., 2020).

3) The Trevor Project estimates that more than 1.8 million LGBTQ youth (13-24) seriously consider suicide each year in the U.S. — and at least one attempts suicide every 45 seconds.

4) The Trevor Project's 2022 National Survey on LGBTQ Youth Mental Health found that 45% of LGBTQ youth seriously considered attempting suicide in the past year, including more than half of

transgender and nonbinary youth.

Click the link to learn more about the Trevor Project: www.thetrevorproject.org

## **Resources for the LGBTQ+ Community**

These websites include many resources for LGBTQ+ individuals including support groups and healthcare:

<u>experience.syracuse.edu/lgbtq/resources/central-new-york-resources/</u> <u>www.cnypride.org/communitydirectory/categories/resources</u>

#### **The Importance of Using Proper Pronouns**

Pronoun: A third-person pronoun by which an individual chooses to be referred to in order to indicate their gender identity.

Why pronouns are important:

"Often, people make assumptions about the gender of another person based on the person's appearance or name. These assumptions aren't always correct, and the act of assuming (even if correct) sends a potentially harmful message -- that people must look a certain way to demonstrate the gender that they are or are not.

Using someone's correct personal pronouns is a way to respect them and create an inclusive environment, just as using a person's name can be a way to respect them. Just as it can be offensive or even harassing to make up a nickname for someone and call them that nickname against their will, it can be offensive or harassing to guess at someone's pronouns and refer to them using those pronouns if that is not how that person wants to be known. Or, worse, actively choosing to ignore the pronouns someone has stated that they go by could imply the oppressive notion that intersex, transgender, nonbinary, and gender nonconforming people do not or should not exist."

Read more about this, and the rest of this excerpt here: <u>mypronouns.org/what-and-why/</u>

You can now add your pronouns to your email signature as an employee of SOS!

#### Local business that are LGBTQ+ Owned or Friendly

#### (Friendly = Safe Spaces)

Cordero Collective Tattoos in Syracuse NY | Brunch at Wolf's Den | Capital Assurance | Marketplace on James | The Curd Nerd | Earthbound Metaphysical Shoppe | Found Things Co | Wunderbar in Syracuse | The Food Bank of CNY is LGBTQ+ friendly | Café Bing Cicero is LGBTQ+ friendly | The Golden Bee Bookshop in Liverpool is LGBTQ+ friendly | BeeKind on Tipperary Hill is LGBTQ+ friendly | Found Things Co in Syracuse is LGBTQ+ friendly | Oh My Darling and the speakeasy attached "The Fitz" are LGBTQ+ friendly | Santangelo's Restaurant in Liverpool is LGBTQ+ friendly | Funky Town Comics in Camillus is LGBTQ+ friendly | Carmelita's Mexican Restaurant in Cicero is LGBTQ+ friendly | Q center is a safe space | BlackCuse Pride is a safe space | Lambda Legal is a safe space

#### **Community Events for Pride Month:**

Saturday June 4 – Gay 5K at Willow Bay Park in Liverpool

Saturday June 4 – Opening night of "Queer Icons" Exhibition at ArtRage Gallery

- Wednesday June 8 LGBTQIA film series 7-9pm at the Hamilton Theater
- Thursday June 9 Pride Night at the Syracuse Mets, game at 6:35pm
- Saturday June 11 Pride Day at Stone Quarry Park from 12-9pm
- Saturday June 11 Pride flag raising at Syracuse City Hall at 11am
- Tuesday June 14 Queer Yoga (Zoom) with HK Goldstein at 5:30-6:30pm
- Thursday June 16 Artist talk: Gabriel Garcia Roman on "Queer Icons" from 7-9 pm at ArtRage Gallery
- Friday June 17 Syracuse Gay and Lesbian Chorus Spring Concert 7-9pm at May Memorial Unitarian Universalist Society

Saturday June 18 – Trans Social from 7-8:30pm at Sage Upstate Inc (Zoom option available)

Tuesday June 21 – Pride InterFaith Service from 7-9pm at University United Methodist Church Friday June 24 – Pride happy hour at Aloft Hotel from 6-9pm

Saturday June 25 – CNY Pride Festival and Parade from 11am-5pm

#### Juneteenth

Every year, communities across the nation gather to commemorate the day of emancipation from slavery in Texas – the last of all states to abolish slavery – which was June 19, 1865. This day is now celebrated as Juneteenth. More information will be sent on this important holiday in two weeks.

This year, Syracuse is hosting a Juneteenth festival that acknowledges the role that many people in CNY had/have in achieving and maintaining freedom, equality, and opportunity for African Americans. This is an inclusive event, transcending racial and ethnic boundaries.



# **Purpose Statement**

SOS as a medical practice and a contributor to the local community is committed in its support of diversity, equity, and inclusion. SOS seeks to build patient and team-member relationships among individuals of all ages, races, ethnicities, genders, and sexual identities that fully represents many cultures, backgrounds and viewpoints and thereby cultivate a culture of tolerance where all feel welcome.

#### **DEI Committee Members**

Brandi Brown | Yolanda Brown | Melissa Butler | Helena Capone | Nicole Chidsey Shelly Devries | Dr. Naven Duggal | Melissa Griffin | Cheryl Holdrege | Mike Humphrey Diana Jones | Melissa Patnella | Victoria Rolls | Robert Taylor | Dr. Daniel Wnorowski

If you have any questions about the content of this newsletter, have suggestions for future topics, or would like to contribute to the DEI newsletter, please contact the DEI newsletter editor in chief, Melissa Patnella, at <u>melissa.patnella@sosbones.com</u> OR any of the DEI committee members.