



Out & About

News and notes for LGBT-parented families

PFP parents enjoy night out at Gay Bingo

On Saturday, March 12, 18 PFP parents enjoyed a much-needed night out at **Gay Bingo** at the Gershman Y in Center City. The monthly event benefits the AIDS Fund.



The BVDs (Bingo Verifying Divas) entertained the crowd while hostess-with-the-mostest **Carlota Ttendant** oversaw the 12 bingo games.

Philadelphia Family Pride had a great table right in front. We also sponsored game #9, which meant Community Coordinator **Stephanie Haynes** and her wife **Vicky Kresge** got to join Carlota on stage. Stephanie "called the balls" for the game and told the crowd about PFP.

After bingo, we ventured over to **Q Lounge** in the gayborhood for drinks, snacks and conversation.

If you have ideas for other **Parent Night Out** events, please let us know!



Damon M. Constantinides, LSW, M.Ed.

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PAID ADVERTISEMENT

PFP sponsoring events at Equality Forum

Philadelphia Family Pride is very excited to be involved again this year with the annual "Global LGBT Summit" taking place in Philadelphia between



April 25 - May 1.



On Saturday, April 30, PFP members will be part of a [National Families Panel](#) from 1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m. at the Levitt Auditorium in the Gershman Y (same location as Gay Bingo!), 401 S. Broad Street. The panel will take a look at the issues facing LGBT families from a variety of different perspectives.

Panelists include moderator Steven Sokoll, Deidre Ashton, Marla McCulloch, and Tiffany Palmer. Joining these PFP members will be Joe Valentine, former professional baseball player, who has two moms.

From 3:30 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. at nearby Temple - Center City (1515 Market Street, Room 321), PFP will lead a workshop entitled [TransPARENT: Pathways to Parenthood](#). A panel of peers and experts will guide prospective transgender parents through the maze of assisted reproduction and adoption options to build a family.

Immediately following the workshop, PFP is hosting a **Prospective Parent Happy Hour** in the gayborhood at [Tabu Lounge](#), 200 S. 12th Street from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This will be a great chance for prospective and current parents to mix and mingle. Please join us for snacks and cocktails. 10% of the bar will be donated to PFP!

Finally, on May 1, PFP will have a table at [SundayOUT!](#) at the Piazza in Northern Liberties. We're partnering with PFP member-owned kid's party venue [Hip Philly](#) to provide some fun for families with children who attend. Look for us there!

The advertisement features the Cafe Press logo in green and white. Below it is a white mug with the Philadelphia Family Pride logo. To the right are four pieces of apparel: a black long-sleeved shirt, a white and red raglan t-shirt, a blue t-shirt, and a white onesie. All items feature the Philadelphia Family Pride logo. Below the items is the text: "Visit the brand new **Philly Family Pride Cafe Press** store for your PFP logo gear: adult and kids t-shirts, tote bags, mugs, onesies and more! www.cafepress.com/PhillyFamilyPride"

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, April 16: The [Philadelphia Gay Men's Chorus](#) is performing a special concert focusing on loving families - "Cherish the Child" - at 2 p.m. at the Temple Performing Arts Center, located at 1837 N. Broad Street in Philadelphia.

The chorus has graciously donated **20 free tickets** to PFP for this performance. To reserve yours, please e-mail marc@phillyfamilypride.org.

Saturday, April 16: Join the dads for a [Spring Potluck](#) at Rick's home in Huntingdon Valley, from 3 - 6 p.m. Please RSVP to dadsgroup@phillyfamilypride.org, and include number of adults and children (with ages). We'll reply with the exact address, and directions.



Sunday, April 24: PFP will have a table at the annual [Mr. & Miss Philadelphia Black Gay Pride Pageant](#) from 5:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. [E-mail Stephanie](#) if you can help spread the word about PFP at this fabulous event!

Saturday, April 30 and Sunday, May 1: Four great events at [Equality Forum](#), including the [National Families Panel](#), [TransPARENT workshop](#), [Prospective Parent Happy Hour](#) and [SundayOUT!](#)

Sunday, May 1: The [Reading Phillies](#) have donated **22 free tickets** to PFP for their 1 p.m. minor league baseball game. [E-mail Marc](#) to get yours. These are sure to go fast!

Saturday, May 7: PFP trip to the [Elmwood Park Zoo](#) in Norristown. Member price only \$5 person. Kids 2 and under are free.

Saturday, May 14: March with PFP in the [New Hope Pride Parade](#), kicking off at noon.

Sunday, May 15: Join the PFP team for this year's [Yoga on the Steps](#) to benefit Living Beyond Breast Cancer.

Sunday, May 22: See the ["Wizard of Oz"](#) at the [Kimmel Center](#). Get your discounted tickets today!



Save these dates:

June 2-4: [Trans-Health Conference](#)

June 12: [Philly Pride Parade & Festival](#)

June 18: Moms Potluck & Pool Party

July 16: [PFP Summer Picnic](#) at Ridley Creek State Park

Camping with Pride

[Camping with Pride 4](#) will take place **August 19-21** at Elk Neck State Park in Maryland.

Camping is free for members (\$20 for non-member families) and will include organized hikes, kids activities, Saturday night potluck dinner, campfire songs and marshmallow roast.



Find out more details on [our web site](#). This event is one of our members' favorites every year and a great chance for families to spend an extended amount of time together and enjoy the great outdoors at the same time!

Our group camping area only holds 100 campers, so reserve your camp site today! For more information or to register, contact Lee Chudzinski at alt.chud@verizon.net.



Catching up with longtime PFP members Barbara McDermott and Jeanne Buckley

PFP Community Coordinator Stephanie Haynes recently spoke to longtime member Barbara McDermott (2nd from left) about her family's involvement over the years with PFP.

Stephanie: *Tell me about how you first got involved with PFP.*



Barbara: I adopted our older daughter, Nicole, 19 years ago. At the time, there were parents, mostly women, in Mt. Airy who had biological children getting together informally to share birth and infant stories and discussing parenting issues. Adoptive parents, especially those of us with

children of color, began getting together, too. Pretty soon, the two groups merged and became what is now PFP.

Many of the events you still organize we held back then, including the New Year's Day Brunch, the Halloween Party and involvement with city-wide pride festivals.

It's great to see other families carrying the torch and expanding the depth and breadth of programming, the number and type of families involved and the geographical diversity of the membership.

Stephanie: *How did your involvement with PFP impact your family?*

Barbara: It was very important for our daughters to be with other children of gay and lesbian parents, and for us, with other kids of color like them. Their world is so different and better than we could have ever expected 20 years ago in terms of society's treatment of our family.

Stephanie: *What is your family up to now?*

Barbara: Jeanne is the Director of Library Services and Instructional Technology at Arcadia University.

Our daughter Nicole, 21, is a multilingual world traveler and senior at Arcadia, majoring in International Affairs.

Colette, 19, is a former track star and sophomore at my alma mater Seton Hill University. She is vice president of her class and majoring in social work.

I am a criminal defense attorney with a long history of defending the poor, particularly those charged with capital offenses. I'm currently on the ballot for the May 17 primary in Philadelphia for the Court of Common Pleas.



Special thanks to [Damon Constantinides](#) for sponsoring this newsletter.

Suggestions for what else we should include in our newsletter? Want to sponsor our next issue?

Contact Stephanie Haynes, PFP Community Coordinator at stephanie@phillyfamilypride.org.

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