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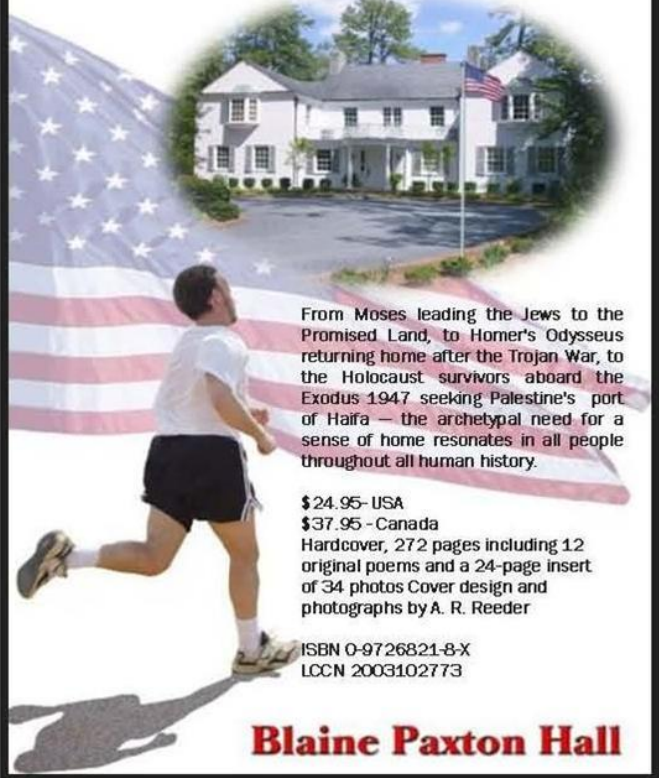
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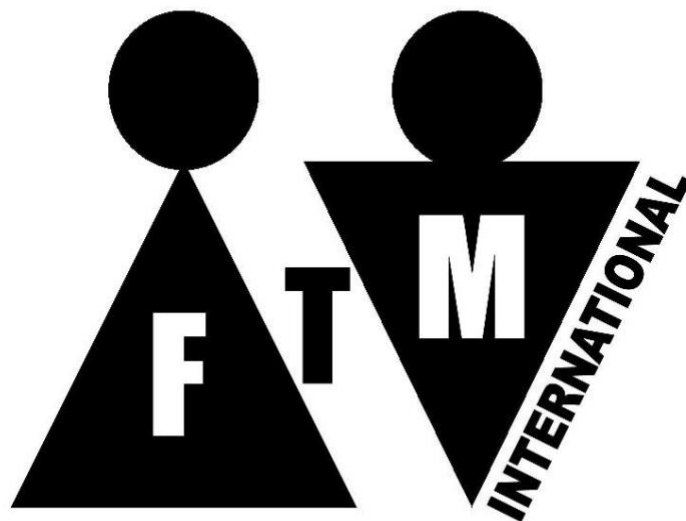
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Prez Sez by Rabbi Levi Alter President FTMI

Summer is the time for Pride!

Pride Month began with Trans Shabbat in San Francisco June 1-2, featured in this issue, and the eighth annual Trans Unity Pride VIII "Everything Changes" June 1-3, 2007 in Los Angeles, the largest trans pride in the world. More than 1,000 attended Trans-Unity VII in 2006. The weekend-long event includes rallies, music, transgender short films, vendors and workshops and discussion groups led by well-known advocates. The producers of Trans-Unity Pride are the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center, The Unique Woman's Coalition, FTM Alliance, Children's Hospital Los Angeles, and Minority AIDS Project.

FTMI*International* is in Pride in the three largest cities in California. FTMI San Buenaventura Chapter appeared on the Empowerment Stage and in the Zone at Christopher Street West in the largest city, Los Angeles. FTMI San Francisco has a full schedule of events around San Francisco Pride in the second-largest city in California. And FTMI San Diego Chapter in the third largest city not only is in San Diego Pride, but Chapter President Connor Maddocks is on the board of directors of San Diego Pride. So come and join your friends at FTMI*International* at Pride!

FTMI welcomes our newest chapter led by President Jake Nash, Secretary Emile Primeaux and Treasurer Tristan Read, FTMI Ohio Dr M Edwards Walker Chapter.

Shumail Raj of Pakistan has been sentenced to three years in prison for perjury for saying he is male. FTMI*International* is working on his appeal and also the appeal of his young wife's sentence on the same charge, and to prevent the surgeon who performed Shumail's SRS from being charged and imprisoned by the same court. If you would like to help us in this effort, contact Levi@FTMI.org.



Connor Maddocks
FTMI San Diego President



Jake Nash
FTMI Ohio President

Dear Members & Readers by Alexander Yoo

FTMI participated in Christopher Street West Los Angeles Pride. Metahuman's spirited rap celebrating his chest reconstruction surgery and gender experience, performed on the Empowerment Stage June 9 and 10 at LA Pride, is featured in this issue.



Martin Rawlings-Fein
Director of "Clocked"

Lou Sullivan
FTMI Founder

Veteran writer Jacob Anderson-Minshall interviews former FTMI board member Martin Rawlings-Fein on his documentary "Clocked."

FTMI sponsors Trans March! Friday, June 22, 2007 with Live Performances/ Spoken Word/Speeches/ Drag.

FTMSF presents Remembering Lou: Celebrating 20 Years of FTM Voices Saturday, June 23, 2007 Curated by Bri Smith.

San Francisco Pride June 24th Parade Contingent Coordinated by Martin Rawlings-Fein

San Francisco Pride June 24th Pride Booth Coordinated by Zander Keig.

Gender Odyssey is presenting a Family Conference coordinated by Stephanie Brill.

FTMI encourages all our members and families to experience this year's *Gender Odyssey*. We present a sneak preview for you in this issue. Please note that all workshop text is the property of Gender Odyssey and cannot be used or reprinted without the express permission of Gender Odyssey.



Stephanie Brill



Transgender Shabbat

Attendees of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav's transgender Shabbat weren't just asked their names. They were also asked their preferred pronoun: he or she?

The weekend Shabbaton held June 1 and 2 blended worship, Torah study and workshops — all focused on the struggles and successes of transgender people.

Congregant Ben Lunine and Sha'ar Zahav rabbinic intern Reuben Zellman, both transgender, helped organize the event which Lunine says is the first of its kind in the world.

"In terms of transgender-related days, we only have one — the Day of Remembrance — to remember people who have been murdered," Lunine said. "It struck us as a shame that there was no day of celebration." The Transgender Day of Remembrance, held every November since 1999, honors the memory of the many transgender people murdered in hate crimes over the years.

The June 1 event began with a screening of "Clocked: An Oral History," a film about the local transgender community from filmmaker and Sha'ar Zahav congregant Martin Rawlings-Fein, followed by a Shabbat service led by Sha'ar Zahav rabbinic intern Reuben Zellman.

The Saturday itinerary began with gender queer-themed Torah study and services in the Sha'ar Zahav sanctuary, followed by workshops. Topics ranged from legal issues facing the transgender community to developing new rituals to mark "trans" lifecycles at the S.F. Reform congregation.

One workshop delved into an unlikely source for transgender studies: the Talmud. Led by Zellman and Max Strassfeld, a transgender Sha'ar Zahav congregant and religious studies graduate student at Stanford, the group examined an excerpt from the Mishnah, Tosefta Bikkurim, Chapter 2.

It deals with the androgynos, a Hebrew term borrowed from the Greek that possibly refers to hermaphrodites and others who don't fall neatly into prescribed male and female gender roles.

To quote the Talmud: "An androgynos is in some ways like men, and zie is in some ways like women; and zie is in some ways like both men and women, and in some ways like neither men nor women."

The text goes on to describe Jewish androgynos and guidelines for including them in the community.

"Does this text open up more space, or is it a clampdown?" Zellman asked. "Maybe this two-gender thing is not working. Evidently, there were Jews around who were not male or female, and made as their own creation. We cannot squeeze everyone into two boxes."

In another workshop, facilitators discussed ways parents can help their children better understand gender issues.

Stephanie Brill, a midwife and gender specialist, said that 80 percent of the white families attending an ongoing transgender support group she facilitates at Oakland's Children's Hospital are Jewish.

"It's never too late, and you're never too young to talk about the limitations of gender," Brill said. "There are boys; there are girls; there is neither; there are both. Gender is a spectrum."

Razi Zarchy, a Jewish FTM transgender activist from Los Angeles who grew up in Berkeley attending Renewal congregation Chochmat HaLev, co-led the discussion with his partner, Bryan Dunncan, also FTM.

"Yentl was my role model," Zarchy said.

That's when Sha'ar Zahav Rabbi Camille Angel noted, "We can look to Yentl, other texts in the Talmud and Torah that explain that in some ways we have more capacity for fluidity."

Lunine, a Berkeley native and an attorney with the Transgender Law Center, was pleased with the weekend's events. "We can be a proactive, strong minority," he said. "Ultimately this is creating a new holiday: a transgender, celebratory Shabbat."

Havdallah concluded the event followed by a spoken-word performance by Ali Cannon.

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5

Activist Filmmaker Clocks In

Jacob Anderson-Minshall

“We don't often see [trans] people with triumphant stories about being themselves and really making it...I thought it was time for a celebration of our differences, our sameness and our lives.”

So says first-time filmmaker Martin Rawlings-Fein of the impetus behind his ethnographic film *Clocked: An Oral History*, a portrait of the trans community told through personal insights, stories and the reflections of six trans individuals.

The Native American-Jewish activist Rawlings-Fein has served on the Native American Task Force of the Human Rights Commission, and co-chaired San Francisco Transgender Empowerment, Advocacy and Mentorship (SFTEAM), furthering the latter group's efforts to bring economic empowerment, mentorship and jobs to San Francisco's transgender population.

He also co-chaired FTM International, the support group founded in San Francisco 20 years ago for FTMs and their families, which has expanded globally.

“Speaking from personal experience, I don't know if I'd even be here without FTMI. It's the only place I could be myself and talk about the issues that affected me.”

He says he also learned to give back to the community that supported him during his transition. In fact, Rawlings-Fein gave back so much of his personal time to develop 2006's Men of FTMI calendar that it nearly cost him his marriage. “It's still an issue with my wife,” admits the trans activist who worked on the project through the last month of his wife's pregnancy.

“When my daughter was born I spent...every minute of what I thought was my spare time putting the calendar together. My wife thinks that FTMI and the calendar took me away from my family in those weeks, [and] she's right. Which is why I scaled back my involvement with FTMI and didn't run for another term of the board of directors.”

He now limits his trans activism to a few causes and runs a web design company, Fein Designs, founded on skills he attributes to the tutelage of trans mentors Gwen Smith and Cecilia Chung. 6

When not busy with childcare, activism, filming or design, Rawlings-Fein is wrapping up a media studies degree, which he sees as “a great place to start a revolution.”

“You can change someone's mind with a well-written article...Media can change lives and allow for doors to open where there were none. I believe that as transgender people get cameras and make their personal stories public...hearts and minds will change regarding transgender issues.”


In fact, it is with *Clocked* Rawlings-Fein is gaining the most attention. The idea for the film was seeded by a friend who suggested taking oral histories from transgender elders. However, Rawlings-Fein says, the film quickly gained a life of its own.

“I wanted to make a statement that not all transgendered people have the same narrative; and that not all history is objective. I've learned that the community is far more diverse than...mainstream society portrays. I've come away with appreciation for the many communities that are underneath the transgender umbrella.”

A lay leader at Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, San Francisco's LGBT affiliated synagogue, Rawlings-Fein says his own path to Judaism was a convoluted one. He married his wife at Sha'ar Zahav, and they are raising their daughter, in the shul (the synagogue as a place of study).

“I feel like the Jewish community at the congregation is one of the most dynamic I've ever come across,” he enthuses, “Maybe that's because it's the most ethnically diverse places that I've ever prayed. I just feel like I'm home.”

Blind Curves, the first Blind Eye mystery co-authored by trans writer Jacob Anderson-Minshall, is available now



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The Chance to Be Free

Metahuman

They're gone from my chest, those lumps of flesh.
I always knew they would go, these days are
the best.

I got this weight off my chest, along with the rest.
Along with the self-hatred, repression and stress.

Realized I am whole through mutilation.
Through making my body my own creation.

Being true to myself for my own mental health
Means living for me and defining my own self.

If I don't do it now who will do it for me?

If I don't do it now, who will do it for he?

Or she?

Or ze?

All those coming up after me,

got the chance to know

What it means to be free.

Gotta edit the script that's found us where we are.
Gotta keep making progress to raise the bar.

I met some kids today, a real inspiration.
Being trans and proud, our future nation.

I gotta fight for them, and also for myself.
For acceptance and freedom, good care for our
health.

I'm only one person, just like anyone.
Deserve respect and guidance, civil rights and love.

I don't want to blend in, if that's an option.
I can't put my identities up for auction.

It's not for someone else to say who I am.
That's for me to do, and I'm a transman.

I'm not just some guy, personally.
I'm a complex human being who wants to be free.

Time to plant the seeds
Of my own unique masculinity.

If I don't do it now who will do it for me?

If I don't do it now, who will do it for he?

Or she?

Or ze?

All those coming up after me,

got the chance to know

What it means to be free.

This body I craft isn't mutilation.
Seeing it as such only fuels the hatred.

Despite the rhetoric of a fascist nation,
My mere existence no abomination.

I'm building up, not tearing down.
Reaching for my dreams, and for the clouds.

If you're in my life, then you gotta learn.
Gotta honor my transition, and make the turn.

It's not just "my problem" that you've gotta face,

But society's way to keep us each in our place.

Living gendered lives with no analysis
Makes you part of a lie you can't help but
assist.

Aiding and abetting in this mass oppression
Every one of us is facing its repressions.

Trans or not, you're stuck with it.
So let's tear it down, brick by brick.

If I don't do it now who will do it for me?

If I don't do it now, who will do it for he?

Or she?

Or ze?

All those coming up after me,

got the chance to know

What it means to be free.

I got a new mission and official statement.
'cause I gotta take a stand before I hit the
pavement.

Let's break these walls of identity,
Building up a world where we're truly free.

Not a man or a woman, a boy or a girl.
So many different options give them all a whirl!

Don't settle for the shame of gendered
implications
Look a little harder for a new equation.

I do what I can, and so do you.
I'm just one tranny, but I got a crew.

Of people like me who got my back.
Who spread the love and keep me on track.

Time to move forward and take some action,
Time to fight back and write my own captions.

Tell my own story so they don't mess it up.
Be out and proud, it's time to stand up.

If I don't do it now who will do it for me?

If I don't do it now, who will do it for he?

Or she?

Or ze?

All those coming up after me,



7

Trans March 2007: “The largest transgender event in history.”

The San Francisco Trans March is the largest transgender event in the world; celebrating transgender, intersex, and gender-variant community and building alliances that support equality, freedom, and civil rights for ALL people of ALL genders.

The Fourth Annual Trans March takes place Friday June 22nd in Dolores Park, San Francisco. Live bands, transgender activists, political speakers, drag kings, and musicians will perform onstage starting at 3 pm. The March will begin at 7 pm, circling through the Castro and returning to Dolores Park for more performances until 9:30 pm.

The Trans March is a grassroots, community-building political event, welcoming transgender, genderqueer, intersex, and all genders of people and all of our allies in a demonstration of trans visibility; celebrating the growth of a gender movement. The purpose of this event is to:

1. Celebrate the successes of the trans community in regards to visibility, acceptance, civic participation and civil rights won.
2. Build a supportive, unified trans and ally community; bringing together people of all genders, ages, ethnic backgrounds, class, religious and spiritual practices.
3. Demonstrate that the violence and discrimination directed against the transgender community will not be tolerated.

Last year’s historic Trans March brought together an estimated 7,500 people for an amazing community-driven grassroots demonstration kicking off LGBT Pride weekend.

This year’s event is expected to attract over 10,000 transgender people and allies.

Featured speakers and artists on the Dolores Park stage will include Namoli Brennet, Katastrophe, Shawna Virago, the Momma’s Boyz, Lynn Breedlove, Dyspecific, AfroDisiac, Jaycub Perez, and many others.

Sam Davis has been with the event since it began in 2004. San Francisco’s Trans March is only the latest event Davis has helped create. In 2001, he started United Genders of the Universe. Davis also founded Gender Pirates, San Francisco’s bimonthly nightclub of gender-

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variant performers. When not working on trans issues, Davis is a social worker at an African-American senior center.

While thousands gather Friday for San Francisco’s Trans March, across the country others will participate in New York City’s Third Annual Trans Day of Action for Social and Economic Justice,.

“For over a decade, there has been some kind of transgender peoples’ march on the Friday evening of NYC Pride weekend,” says Lourdes Hunter, an organizer with TransJustice created by and for trans and gender non-conforming people of color.

Both events happen Friday, June 22. San Francisco’s Trans March will be held in Dolores Park, 3 pm-9:30 pm with the March at 7 pm. Meanwhile, New York’s Trans Day of Action for Social and Economic Justice starts with a 4 pm rally at the Covenant House, 460 West 41st Street (at 10th Avenue).

Sponsors include:

- Many individual transgender community activists, The National Center for Lesbian Rights,
- The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence,
- Horizons Foundation,
- United Genders of the Universe,
- OurChart,
- The Dyke March,
- Trans In Prison Project,
- Walden House,
- Fresh Meat Productions,
- Pride at Work,
- SF LGBT Pride,
- Spectrum LGBT Center,
- FTM International,
- TrannyWood Pictures,

and Transgender Law Center.

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Remembering Lou Sullivan: Celebrating 20 Years of FTM Voices

by Martin Rawlings-Fein and Rev. Zander Keig MS MTS

Saturday, June 23 (6-8pm) San Francisco
LGBT Center, Ceremonial Room (1800 Market Street)

Join us in witnessing Bri Smith's dynamic presentation, which highlights the life of Louis Graydon Sullivan, founder of FTM International and one of the transgender community's early leaders. Lou's identity brought unique challenges to 1970s feminist consciousness, as he tried to be a part of the gay liberation movement in his native Milwaukee, but he found a home, and the beginnings of a transsexual community, in San Francisco in the mid-1970s. Follow Sullivan's transition from female transvestite to gay man, and learn how Sullivan was able to negotiate being a gay FTM with AIDS in the 1980s. Lou Sullivan challenged the prevailing stereotypes about FTM transsexuality, and was a friend to hundreds of transgender people; his life story, filled with thought-provoking events and inspirational effects, shines light on a legacy of activism.

Born Sheila Sullivan in Milwaukee in 1951, Lou Sullivan died from AIDS complications in San Francisco in 1991. Among many accomplishments during his short life, Sullivan founded FTM and its newsletter, published the biography *From Female to Male: The Life of Jack Bee Garland* (Boston: Alyson, 1990) and booklet *Information for the Female-to-Male Crossdresser and Transsexual* (3d ed. Seattle: Ingersoll Gender Center, 1991), and got contemporary "gender professionals" to

recognize and acknowledge the existence of gay FTMs. Part of a comprehensive biographical work on Louis Graydon Sullivan, this presentation highlights Sullivan's intersections with contemporary social movements and articulations of identity, including: Sullivan's unique challenges to 1970s feminist consciousness, a comparison between the gay liberation movement in Milwaukee and the beginnings of a transsexual community in San Francisco, the struggle for agency between transsexual individuals and university-based gender programs, Sullivan's transition from female transvestite to gay man, and how Sullivan was able to negotiate being a gay FTM with AIDS in the 1980s. Following in

Sullivan's footsteps, this presentation recognizes the importance of sharing portraits of transpeople in the past to fostering our sense of historical identity, especially our movement's foretransmen.

Bri Smith, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, PhD candidate in History, Modern Studies concentration

I met Lou in the same place where he met his first FTMs: on the shelves of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee's Golda Meier Library. Lou's life and work immediately had a profound impact on me. The more I learned about Lou, the more I wanted to know. The more I come to know about Lou, the more honored I feel to be working on this project. It is truly a privilege to be the biographer of such a phenomenal individual, and to see his life and work live on.

Unlike Lou – who was an independent, self-taught scholar – I sought the institutional support and training of UWM's History Department, where I am working on my PhD. My dissertation is titled "'Yours in Liberation': The Life and Work of Lou Sullivan." Please email me at SMITHB@UWM.EDU with recollections, questions, and/or comments.

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Gender Odyssey Presents Conference Dedicated to Families Raising Gender-Variant Kids

Families with gender variant and transgender children will find a wealth of information and support at *Gender Odyssey's* first national conference focused specifically on them. The ground-breaking conference will be held Aug. 31- Sept. 2, 2007 at the Washington State Trade and Convention Center in Seattle. At this event, families with kids who do not conform to society's traditional gender expectations can connect with each other, while having access to national experts in the field of gender variance.

Stephanie Brill, conference program director, will be sharing her wealth of expertise on the subject. 'Most of us haven't yet considered the idea of gender as reaching beyond male or female,' Brill said. 'Gender variations exist---influenced by genetics and brain chemistry---and shaped by our culture, customs, and beliefs.'

Gender Odyssey is dedicated to increasing awareness and understanding of normal gender variations, and that dedication has drawn national attention. In the past month

alone, Gender Odyssey has been a resource for the Barbara Walters 20/20 special, '*Transgender Children Face Unique Challenges*,' about families raising gender variant children, and in *Newsweek*, featuring the cover story, '*The Mystery of Gender*.' Both stories agree that gender is much more complex than just anatomy, and that the '...new visibility of transgender America is shedding light on the ancient riddle of identity' (*Newsweek*, May 21, 2007).

Conference organizer and transgender activist Aidan Key explains, 'No single child is alike, and for gender variant kids, this opportunity can help solidify who they are, as well as who they are not.' Aidan and his twin sister Brenda Chevis are dedicated to helping gender variant people of all ages, appearing worldwide on shows such as '*The Oprah Winfrey Show*' and '*Larry King Live*.'

This new family conference grew out of Gender Odyssey, a national five-year-running annual conference focusing on the needs of transmen, genderqueers and others who are gender-variant. Gender Odyssey is open to all and the presence and participation of families, partners

and allies is integral to the success of both conferences.

Respected author, gender expert, and co-founder of the internationally renowned Maia Midwifery and Preconception Services in the San Francisco Bay Area, Stephanie Brill has broken barriers in every area of her work. Through the use of education and training, Stephanie has shaped new thinking on gender equity and gender identity in young children. With numerous articles and publications, Stephanie is a sought-after contributor to magazines, journals and books including *Curve Magazine*, *Hip Mama*, *Midwifery Today*, *Jane and Jane*, *The San Francisco Chronicle* and more.

Stephanie is author of the acclaimed books *The Queer Parents' Primer: A Lesbian and Gay Families' Guide to Navigating the Straight World* and *The New Essential Guide to Lesbian Conception, Pregnancy, and Birth*.

In addition, she is also the founder of the Children's Hospital Oakland support group for parents of gender variant and transgender children, one of the most active support groups in the country.

Stephanie has led gender equity and gender identity trainings for public and private schools, City of Berkeley Public Health Department, Alameda County Early Childhood Specialists, Contra Costa County Mental Health Specialists, and many more. Stephanie also provides comprehensive training and consultation for health professionals on transgender reproductive health care, and gender identity information in young children. She presents at health forums and mental health forums. A featured speaker and trainer at workshops, conferences and seminars across the country, Stephanie is currently the Programming Director at *Gender Odyssey - Family* (part of the *Gender Odyssey* Conference in Seattle, Washington). 10

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Gender Odyssey Family Programming

This year marks Gender Odyssey's 5th conference serving the transgender community and what a year it will be! Join GO Friday through Monday of Labor Day weekend for:

-More than 60 workshops, town hall meetings, and caucuses

-Social events, entertainment, receptions and BBQ

-Seattle's second annual transgender film festival TRANSLATIONS

Location: Washington State Convention & Trade Center the Pacific NW's largest conference venue

Increased programming for families, partners, and youth

Gender Odyssey's programming is focused on the needs and interests of transmen, genderqueers, FTMs, and other gender-variant people. We are proud to be the only long-standing national conference with a transmasculine emphasis.

The conference offers a variety of workshops addressing the logistical and practical aspects of living trans lives. GO will look at issues surrounding identity and discuss the complex challenges FTMs face in building and

sustaining community. The organizing committee makes every effort to create space where people of all backgrounds can come together to meet, share, & learn. Gender Odyssey is open to ALL and embraces the presence and participation of families, partners and allies. It is also a great place for those who serve the community to expand their knowledge and understanding of transgender and FTM issues. Programming for connected communities is expanding greatly this year with a strong commitment to this continued progression.

Terminology

What are the differences between gender presentation, gender identity, gender fluidity, and gender behavior?

Navigating Gender Inside/Outside of the Home

What are the obstacles my child might face? How can I best prepare my child?

Parental Concerns

How do I best protect my child? How do I tell my family, friends or co-workers? How do we navigate disagreement within our family or between parents? What are the specific concerns fathers may have? How can I protect my child from bullying? Is there a difference between what's ok for my child at home and what's ok out in the world? 11

concerns fathers may have? How can I protect my child from bullying? Is there a difference between what's ok for my child at home and what's ok out in the world?

Advocacy for Your Child

How do I educate my child's school, other children's parents, doctors or therapists?

The Fallout

I feel the loss of my son/daughter? Will they be able to find love and happiness? How do I talk to others when they ask about my child and, at the same time, respect my kid's privacy? What kind of life will my child have?

Developing your Child's Self-Esteem

How do I best love and support my child?

Moving Forward

How do I decide when or if to change pronouns? How can I best celebrate and empower my child?

Ask the Trans Person

Q & A panel discussion

Should I Consider Medical Intervention?

If so, what's reasonable? Do I wait until my child is an adult? What about puberty? What if my kid changes his/her mind?

Managing Healthcare

Current medical information about endocrinology—hormones, physical changes, side effects, insurance options.

Please take advantage of the discounted group rate at the conference Host Hotel, The Silver Cloud—Broadway. You must reserve your room by August 1st, 2007 for this group rate. If you'd like to try to hook up with local housing options, you may want to try out the Gender Odyssey Yahoo Group. Friday Registration opens at 4PM, Meet & Greet, and other social opportunities abound throughout the evening. Saturday thru Monday are packed solid with workshops, caucuses, and entertainment. Monday is a full day of programming and workshops end late afternoon. All the workshops and town meetings you can squeeze into three days, Friday's meet and greet, several receptions, an art show and vendor fair and popular evening events such as a BBQ, Translations: Seattle's only trans film festival, keynote address, performance art, and a chance to chill out at the wind-down party after Monday's programming are all part of Gender Odyssey.

Permission Granted! Parents and Their Own Changes

This workshop will provide parents of trans and gender variant children an opportunity to acknowledge and discuss the conflicting emotions they often experience. Parents want to be their child's strongest advocate and supporter but this role does not often allow for the expression of the internal struggles a parent may be feeling. Parents may minimize their own doubts, fears, and grief to support their child. It is important for these thoughts and emotions to find an appropriate outlet and to provide continued support for their child. We will provide an opportunity for parents to let down their guard and express these doubts, concerns and hopes in a supportive environment. Additionally, we will discuss the perceptive abilities of children with respect to their parent's unspoken feelings or doubts. Trans children often feel guilty for the complex and challenging ways this impacts a family and this may subsequently minimize their ability to ask for help or support. Parents must take care of themselves to ensure their optimal ability to be there for their child. Peer support for parents is critical. Join us as we share coping skills, swap insights, connect with each other

and, as a result, be better prepared as a parent to meet your own needs, and subsequently your child's, as your family traverses this complex journey.

Dr. Melady Preece, PhD, a clinical psychologist from Vancouver, BC, works primarily with transgender individuals and their families. She works collaboratively with the Transgender Health Program and various medical providers to ensure that transgender individuals get the care they need. She initiated and runs a group for transgender teens while also facilitating an informal network of parental support and connection.

Lukas Walther is the coordinator of Vancouver, B.C.'s Transgender Health Program. In 1996, he co-founded FTM Etc/BC FTM Network, a peer-facilitated support/discussion/education group. Lucas' wealth of knowledge combined with first-hand experience makes him a veteran and sought-after presenter. His irony, humour and knack for creating in-depth discussions allow his audiences to readily and openly receive his valuable insights. Lukas has a talent for using common threads of human experience to ignite genuine empathy and

understanding regarding extremely complex matters.

A Dad's Place: Fathering Transgender and Gender Variant Children

This workshop is designed to create a safe, supportive and non-judgmental space for fathers of gender non-conforming kids to talk about their own experiences as they negotiate this wonderful but challenging road less challenged. Men face certain societal expectations about what it means to be a "dad" in our culture; rarely does it encompass our experience as dads of trans kids. During our time together this weekend, we will share our perspectives, explore our fears, and celebrate our joys as fathers. This interactive session will feature each of us as the experts of our own experiences. Along with this formally scheduled session, it is hoped that we will connect and support one another throughout the conference and beyond.

Joel Baum is a lifelong educator and advocate for social justice. Currently an administrator with the Oakland Unified School District, he is a former award winning teacher and school principal. Along with his duties with OUSD, he is also a professor of Educational Leadership at California State University, East Bay. His

most important role, however, is as the proud and fatuous father of an incredible transgender daughter.

*Raising Anatomic Female Children:
Be an Informed Medical Advocate for Your Child*

This workshop will provide participants with a brief review of gender development and pubertal development in anatomic female children. We will have a thorough discussion of the wide ranging and fluid nature of gender identity expression in children. We will delve into endocrinologic therapy to halt puberty and its possible side effects. Attendees will gain an understanding of virilizing hormone therapy, ways to access physicians who are knowledgeable and supportive, and discuss the costs of these therapies. Additionally, we will discuss long range issues such as fertility preservation.

Irene N. Sills, MD has been a Board-certified pediatric endocrinologist since 1983.

Throughout her career in pediatric endocrinology, she has been approached by parents of gender dysphoric children seeking to better understand possible endocrine

12 abnormalities causing this dysphoria (and has never found any!). For the past seven years and in collaboration with an experienced mental health therapist, Irene Sills has prescribed hormone therapy to transgender adolescents. She presented a workshop on gender variant children at the national meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies and Lawson Wilkins Pediatric Endocrine Society in May, 2006. The workshop attracted both pediatric endocrinologists and pediatricians hoping to gain skills and knowledge about this increasingly recognized group of children who have been approaching them for care and advice. This workshop has been accepted for presentation again this year.

*Raising Anatomic Male Children:
Be an Informed Medical Advocate for Your Child*

This workshop will provide participants with a brief review of gender development and pubertal development in anatomic male children. We will have a thorough discussion of the wide ranging and fluid nature of gender identity expression in children. We will delve into endocrinologic therapy to halt puberty and its possible side effects. Attendees will gain an understanding of feminizing hormone therapy,

ways to access physicians who are knowledgeable and supportive, and discuss the costs of these therapies. Additionally, we will discuss long range issues such as fertility preservation.

Irene N. Sills, MD has been a Board-certified pediatric endocrinologist since 1983.

Throughout her career in pediatric endocrinology, she has been approached by parents of gender dysphoric children seeking to better understand possible endocrinologic abnormalities causing this dysphoria (and has never found any!). For the past seven years and in collaboration with an experienced mental health therapist, Irene Sills has prescribed hormone therapy to transgender adolescents. She presented a workshop on gender variant children at the national meeting of the Pediatric Academic Societies and Lawson Wilkins Pediatric Endocrine Society in May, 2006. The workshop attracted both pediatric endocrinologists and pediatricians hoping to gain skills and knowledge about this increasingly recognized group of children who have been approaching them for care and advice. This workshop has been accepted for presentation again this year. 13

Legal Rights for Transgender Children and Teenagers

Share your questions with a leading national expert on the current transgender legal issues affecting our families. Come discuss the possibilities with respect to legal name changes, gender designation changes on school records, birth certificates, passports, and other identity documents. Parents can learn the most updated information about legal protections for transgender people in your state. We will discuss how a parent or guardian can use the law to advocate for their children – at school, with doctors, health insurance companies, when traveling, in custody battles, and other contexts. What can we do to support our children legally? What rights do they have and what are the advantages and disadvantages to their status as children and youth?

Shannon Price Minter is the Legal Director for the National Center for Lesbian Rights, one of the nation's leading advocacy organizations for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. In 2005, Minter was one of 18 people to receive the Ford Foundation's Leadership for a Changing World award. In 2004, Minter was awarded an Honorary Degree from the City

University of New York School of Law for his advocacy on behalf of same-sex couples and their families. He has also received the Anderson Prize Foundation Creating Change Award by the NGLTF and the distinguished national service award from GAYLAW, the bar association for glbt lawyers, law students, and legal professionals in Washington, D.C. Minter serves on the boards of Equality California and the Transgender Law & Policy Institute. He is the editor, along with Paisley Currah and Richard Juang of Transgender Rights (Univ. of Minnesota 2006).

Disclosure: How to Talk About my Child to Others

Learning to speak about our children's gender is complex and we, as parents, can go through many progressive stages of this learning. Speaking about our children in respectful ways can help make the world easier for them. It is a form of advocacy. Disclosure is not always preferable in every situation. Yet whom do we tell? What do we say? How do we do it? What language should we use? How can we be best prepared to speak about our children in ways that will allow everyone to feel comfortable? What does it mean to me, my family, my child

and my other children to not correct someone's misperceptions? What does it mean for our interaction if I do? What do you do if various family members are at odds with each other about this topic? Is it ok not to tell certain family members? To disclose or not to disclose - that is the question!

Laura L. Grimes, LCSW, is a private practice psychotherapist and consultant in Chicago, Illinois. She received her master's degree in social work from Loyola University Chicago and is trained as a sex therapist. She has particular expertise in issues related to transgender individuals and provides training to other medical professionals to increase their awareness and cultural competency as it relates to LGBTQI communities.

Medical Decisions – Open Forum Discourse

This is an open discussion format for parents to explore their feelings, concerns, considerations, and hesitations regarding the options of medical interventions for our teens and preteens. This will be a lively discussion regarding the intersections of ethical considerations, health considerations, and social pressures to change the body. The premise of the workshop is that there is not

one right decision – each family and each child will make the choices that are right for them. However, together we will explore what are our family's unique considerations and how to make the best informed decision for our child and for our family.

Panel of Gender Fluid and Trans Identified Adults

During this session, you will hear from a number of gender-fluid and transgender identified adults. These people will share with you how they define their gender, how they experience their bodies, and how they navigate everyday society. You will not hear personal coming out histories but rather an exploration of how wide-ranging gender expression and identity can be. This workshop will provide an opportunity to look ahead to some possible futures for your child and recognizing the powerful effect of variables such as family support and increasing societal acceptance. The possibilities for our children are far greater than we can possibly imagine – but we will attempt to come close through this workshop!

Raising a Gender Fluid Child

Gender fluidity in our children and how, when, and where they express it, can bring up a host

of situations that all may require different decisions. In this workshop we will address how these situations influence our selves, our child, and our families. What strategies have we found that work best in coming to terms with our child's gender expression? How we decide what gender expression is okay inside the home compared to outside the home? Is, or should there be, a difference? So, your boy likes to wear dresses or your girl hates them — will there be a time when this is irrelevant? Is gender fluidity an indication that your child is gay? We will be addressing the myriad of issues surrounding raising gender non-conforming young children and teenagers.

Working with Your Child's School

This workshop will bring together parents and professionals who have worked within schools or with school administrations on behalf of gender variant children to further gender awareness. We encourage all workshop attendees to bring any resources—handouts, books, videos, etc.— that you have found helpful for teachers or administrators as you do this work. There will be a number of people who have advocated for gender non-conforming and gender variant children within

elementary, middle, and high schools. Within this workshop, you can expect to find a number of different approaches and strategies for working with your child's school to create a supportive, safe and positive learning environment.

New Resource for the Allies, Friends, Loved Ones, and Tribe of FTMs!

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FTM_International_AFLOAT The partners, parents, children, families, and friends of FTMs

Support and discussion unique to your experiences and needs

Check out FTM International's other online presences:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FTM_International

The FTM_International announcements list welcomes FTMs and their friends, family, allies, and others in the trans community

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/FTM_International_Discussion

The FTM_International_Discussion group, reserved for those on the FTM spectrum as a safe space for discussion

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GO! Teens and Young Adults

So I'm Trans... Now What Do I Say to People? Coming Out to Others

How do you begin what can often be a risk-taking conversation around gender with someone you've just met? What happens when you have to come out for the third or fourth time as a different identity than before? How do you explain to others that you are not confused just because the evolving language of gender is confusing to them? How do you talk about your identity when it may challenge the identity of those close to you? How do you negotiate coming out into a new environment such as a new school? We'll address these topics and more in a panel discussion format, so bring your questions, concerns and contributions.

Do I Look Boyish in This? A How-To Workshop on 'Passing'

How do you begin what can often be a risk-taking conversation around gender with someone you've just met? What happens when you have to come out for the third or fourth time as a different identity than before? How do you explain to others that you are not confused just because the evolving language

of gender is confusing to them? How do you talk about your identity when it may challenge the identity of those close to you? How do you negotiate coming out into a new environment such as a new school? We'll address these topics and more in a panel discussion format, so bring your questions, concerns and contributions.

Actually... I Go By Male Pronouns.

Clueing In Others but Not at Your Own Expense.

Taking on the role of an educator/activist should be a choice not a prison we're forced into simply because of our gender expression. How can we make sure we're doing this kind of work from an empowered place within ourselves? This workshop will cover ways we can communicate with those around us about pronoun usage, new and evolving language around gender, problematic gender designations on forms, gendered places like bathrooms and locker rooms, legal issues and medical transitions. This presentation will include interactive activities as well as handouts to take home.

Needle and Scalpel: Are You Ready for Hormones & Surgeries? 15

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to not go through puberty of your birth sex? Well it's not a far-fetched idea. This workshop will provide information about hormone therapy to stop puberty and its resulting physical changes. We'll begin with a review of puberty in both anatomic males and females as well as a brief review of gender development. In addition, we will discuss things such as the ways to preserve fertility; options to physically transition if you're genderqueer identified youth; finding physicians who are willing to prescribe hormones; a look at the costs of such therapies; the issue of confidentiality and parental consent; the role of the mental health therapist in accessing hormonal therapy and more!

Presenter: Irene N Sills, MD

Where Are the Trans Parties? A Look at Dating & Relationships

When gay and lesbian people come out, they attend social events geared towards gay/lesbians, where they may scout for potential dates. But when we come out as trans, where do we go to find a date? In gay/lesbian settings? Hetero settings? How respectful and accepting are these

communities to trans people? Once you find a date, how do you talk about the boundaries around your body or simply your identity? Come and join us and share your frustrations and obstacles as well as successes in navigating the social dating scenes. This workshop includes a panel presentation followed by open discussion.

The Mirror Must Be Lying to Me! Body Image
In this peer-facilitated discussion, we will talk about how we feel about our bodies. Does this affect our daily lives and interactions with others? How do we manage puberty and its continual impact on our physical and mental development? Does the media impact your perception of how your body should look? Do you struggle with things like eating disorders as a result? How do your clothing choices help or hinder your body image? Come share your experiences and thoughts!

Being Trans Doesn't Mean I'm Crazy ...or am I?!

This workshop welcomes anyone who has experienced or is currently experiencing any mental health issues like stress, grief/loss, anxiety, depression, abuse, etc. We will have a chance to talk about the existence of the

diagnosis GID as well as the intersections of identities experienced by people who can identify as both trans and mad/crazy/(insert-your-descriptor-of-choice-here). This session will include peer discussion where we will allow the conversation to be as fluid as our collective genders. Possible topics can include a discussion on our potential barriers to services (for example: how does being young person in an adult-run world impact our ability to access trans-appropriate therapy?) and fighting discrimination and finding acceptance in both trans and consumer/survivor/ex-patient communities. Bring your unique perspective and a readiness to expand it as we interact with each other with honesty and respect.

Neutrois, Tranny-fag, Boi-dyke, Grrl-fag. What the..?! Generational Differences

Youth culture is constantly changing with new ideas and its own jargons. How are the self-identifying terms used by trans youth today different from the terminology of the 60's, 70's and 80's? Or was there any? We'll share some terms and ideas you may have never heard before. This youth-focused workshop strives to not only bridge generational differences and search out similarities in our experiences, but

to educate older generations on how youth are actively evolving our options around gender and simultaneously creating new language to describe it. Open to people of all ages!

Framing Trans Youth: Exploring Gender Identity and Age in Media

This workshop will explore how transgender youth are represented in today's mass media. In particular, we will look at six media texts:

- *Ma Vie En Rose* (1997)
- *The Dress Code* (2000)
- *Just Call Me Kade* (2002)
- *Transgender Teens* (Discovery Channel)
- Trans youth featured on The Tyra Banks Show in *Transgender Kids* (2006)
- The Oprah Winfrey Show's *Transgender Children: The 11-Year-Old Who Wants a Sex Change* (2004)

With a diverse mixture of narrative films, documentaries and talk shows, we will discuss the positive and negative features of images of transgender youth. How do these depictions square with the reality of transgender young people's lives? How do these programs educate society about gender diversity in children and teens and how do they also reinforce stereotypes and inaccurate

information? Let's discuss the value of media images and the need for both youth media literacy and youth-produced media that challenges dominant societal conventions.

*GENDER ODYSSEY TOWN MEETING
Competition & Labels with James Green*

Many of us use labels to offer a shorthand version of who we are to those we meet. It is a time-saving technique that helps us know how to interact with each other. The use of labels, however, can create divisive categories and make invisible some parts of our identity that we value. What purposes do labels serve in your life? Do you change labels often/rarely and why? Do labels estrange you from others who do not opt to use your labels? Do you feel that your hard-fought-for identity is co-opted by someone who chooses the same label but expresses it differently? For those of us who decide to not label ourselves, does the creation of new language reflecting our more "fluid" identities only result in more labeling?

As in any social change movement, internal divisiveness can splinter and demoralize us in ways that diminish our capacities to create the change we wish to see in the world. We ask you to use this conversation not to determine

the validity/invalidity of labeling, but to help us understand each other's perspectives.

-Younger people dismiss me as "old school FTM," but I've been living as "genderqueer" since before the term was ever coined.

-Seems like my take on my identity is open to debate by almost everyone -- except me. No one will listen to what I say because they think I'm too young to know anything.

-I transitioned 32 years ago, and my experience and ground-breaking are scarcely acknowledged. People who weren't even born when I transitioned want to tell me all about it.

-While I hesitate to say this in mixed space, I feel living as a non-transitioned person is more dangerous. Some FTMs don't understand the anger I experience every day because others cannot readily assign me a gender. It is hard to hear from others that I am not "really" trans. Who are they to say?!

-I am sick of being labeled "queer." I'm not. I've always been a straight man and, now that my body is congruent with that, I am seen for whom I am—a man.

-I've never been part of the queer community, though I love an FTM. Where do I fit in? There is no label to describe me and I wonder if there is a place for me?

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Older and Post-transitioned Programming

Perhaps you are post-transition and are looking for programming beyond the critical but now dated discussions that had to do with your early or pre-transition period. Or you may be a little older and have discovered that life intersects with your trans identity in unanticipated ways and are looking to connect with others who may have similar experiences. Well you're in luck! This year Gender Odyssey is pleased to offer increased family programming – including childcare and fun children's programming – plus more options for socializing and meeting new people.

Translations: Seattle's Transgender Film Festival Saturday night includes Flash Connections--a "speed dating" type of way to meet people without the extra pressure of dating (unless you want to!). Sunday evening will include the return of the POCFTM Universe delicious more-than-you-can-possibly-eat BBQ-To-Die-For.

Stepping Up! Caring for Our Partners and Allies During Transition

There is can be much discussion on how to best support someone through a gender transition and often very little discussion

addressing the ways we can support and nurture our partners. A gender transition can be overwhelming and the resulting tunnel-vision can be extremely difficult on those around us. In this workshop, we will discuss ways of giving back to our partners, families, and allies so that we may be pro-active in preserving our relationships through these challenging times. We will also strategize optimal ways to effectively advocate for ourselves as our loved ones transition. Through small group discussions, we will learn how to nurture the people around us as we collectively go through this time of transition.

Renegotiating our Social Contracts *

As we physically transition or express our gender in ways that are unrecognizable to others, we may find ourselves stepping outside the established, and often unspoken, rules of society. Living as trans can mean constantly challenging others' perceptions and expectations. We may find ourselves renegotiating most if not all of our social contracts on a daily basis. The ongoing work of explaining ourselves and advocating for ourselves is often exhausting, and we may feel guilty when we choose to put trans

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activism on hold in favor of self-care or taking a break. With this discussion, we will look at the many arenas we move through and recognize when we are challenging established social contracts. If we can identify and predict in advance when this will happen, we can prepare to take an active rather than reactive role in creating change. We will also share techniques for coping and for self-empowerment. * Society's standard and expected rules, behaviors and protocol mutually enforced by the same society.

Mentoring

By sharing our knowledge and experience, we help build community. We are then better able to move forward without repeatedly reinventing the wheel. We will look at the mentoring model of sharing knowledge found in many arenas such as familial traditions, tribal economies, trade unions, and even business settings. We will discuss how to move away from unproductive power dynamics and, instead, acknowledge what all of us bring to the table. We will look at role interchange and real collaboration as a way to facilitate personal growth for everyone. This discussion will include what we personally have learned about

finding our own mentors, or one can be a mentor, what to expect from these relationships, and how to nourish this special dynamic. Mentoring is something from which anyone can benefit whether one is the mentoring, the one being mentored, or both!

The Rules of Attraction

Sex and Intimacy

Man Among Men

Boys to Men

How Do You Measure Up?

CALLING ALL JEWS !

I'm White, What's Race Got To Do With Me?

It's Not All Black and White: Interracial and

Intergendered Relationships

POC Intensive Workshop: Double sessions. Descriptions in progress.

Interracial Dialogue: Double sessions. Descriptions in progress.

BARBARA F. ANDERSON, PH.D.

Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Diplomat

Psychotherapist

Certified Sex Therapist

1537 Franklin St, Suite 104
San Francisco, CA 94109

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Gender Odyssey Partners Track

The Rules of Attraction

Homosexual, heterosexual, bisexual . . . transsexual? There is no word for people who are specifically attracted to trans people. For trans people, how does this affect our ability to feel sexy and desirable? How do we know if someone's attraction to us is based on a gender fetish? Do we ourselves fetishize non-trans bodies? As non-trans people, are our motives questioned when we choose a trans lover? Are they questioned when we prefer to date trans people? How can we claim our desire for trans bodies as a legitimate sexual orientation? How do we deal with language that assumes we'd rather date non-trans people? This will be an in-depth discussion of navigating dating, sex, and intimacy with bodies that aren't recognized by the current language of sexual orientation. We'll talk about getting confident in our own sexiness, and making room for trans-specific desire.

Fierce Dyke Found Doing Husband's Laundry:

Changing Roles in a Gender Blurred Marriage
So, a dyke gets legally married to a heterosexual man who used to identify as an old school feminist lesbian...

If this sounds like the start of a joke, this workshop is not for you. If, however, your partner's transition (at any stage) has wreaked some form of havoc on how your identities previously intersected, this workshop is for you. Connect with others who have had their views of themselves along with the perceptions of others go through a hodge-podge of identity shifts in which aspects such as race, class, age collide in unpredictable ways. For example, what happens when he is going through a second puberty and you're going through menopause? Some of these intersections may work for us, some don't. Join us in what is sure to be a lively conversation.

The Relationship Balancing Act

Loving relationships revolve around the willingness to share the most intimate parts of ourselves with someone we trust, value and are committed to. Many couples struggle to either build or maintain a grounded foundation. How is this disrupted and where do we find balance when gender identity comes into the mix? How does a couple move through trans identity issues in a way that is supportive to all? Are the needs of trans couples any different than other couples? Does the

exploration/transition of gender identity create imbalance in relationships? Do partners focus more on being caregivers than equal partners? Do we as couples have the networks we need to both examine our relationships and simultaneously support each other? Within this workshop, we will examine problems common to trans relationships, better develop relationship skills, dispel some stereotypes and myths, and seek networks within our community to celebrate and support our relationships.

Old Married Broads Unite!

Let's Talk About Sex

HOT SEX! (For FTM/Female Couples)

Bisexuality and Seduction: a Femme/Trans Dialogue



Gender Odyssey founder Aidan Key presented an award to former FTMI board member Hawk Stone

FTMI and NCTE:

FTMI has been actively supporting a trans-inclusive ENDA through NCTE. Please contact your legislators to increase support for this excellent legislation. FTMI former Board Members Rev. Dr. Justin Tanis and Andre Wilson and FTM Simon Aronoff are on the NCTE staff and FTMI member Masen Davis MSW is on the NCTE Board of Directors.

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	<p>Michael L. Brownstein, M.D., FACS <i>Plastic, Reconstructive and Gender Surgery</i></p>
<p>1001 Mariposa Street Suite 101 San Francisco, CA 94107-2519</p> <p>Toll Free (877) 255-2081 e-mail: mlb@brownsteinmd.com www.brownsteinmd.com</p> <p>Member American Society of Plastic Surgeons</p>	

Recent FTMI News

**From the Bay Area Reporter:
 FRAMELINE REACHES DECISION
 REGARDING THE FILM THE
 GENDERCATOR**

After considerable dialogue with members of the transgender community and after careful consideration of the issues raised by Catherine

Crouch's film The Gendercator, Frameline has decided not to screen The Gendercator in Frameline31. Given the nature of the film, the director's comments, and the strong community reaction to both, it is clear that this film cannot be used to create a positive and meaningful dialogue within our festival. We are grateful to the many Frameline members, filmmakers and Transgender community leaders who brought this issue to our attention and assisted Frameline's senior staff in making this important decision.

We are deeply committed to promoting the work of transgender filmmakers and films about transgender issues. Frameline Distribution distributes over twenty transgender themed films and over one third of our free monthly Frameline at the Center screenings

have been transgender themed. Through the Frameline Completion Fund, we have given funding to the following films: The Brandon Teena Story, Southern Comfort, A Boy Named Sue, By Hook Or By Crook, Screaming Queens: The Riot At Compton's Cafeteria, Red Without Blue, The Believers.

"Frameline has partnered with Female-to-Male International in jointly sponsoring screenings of transgender films for our community and the public. We have enjoyed our association with Frameline and welcome their timely and community-minded response to the concern we expressed on this issue," stated Rabbi Levi Alter, President of FTM International. "We look forward to continuing our partnership with Frameline to present films of interest by, for and about the transgender community."

Frameline's Board of Directors and staff are proud of our work with and on behalf of our Transgender community members. Going forward, we will continue working with the community to further our own education and encourage more discussion and understanding within the filmmaking community as a whole.

CALLING ALL TRANSFOLKS, FRIENDS, ALLIES, AND ADMIRERS:
DRESS UP, SHOW UP, BRING SIGNS, AND BE WHAT HAPPENS!

trans march san francisco

June 22, 2007, Dolores Park, SF
3:30-9:30 pm Performance Stage
7:00 pm MARCH!

WWW.TRANSMARCH.ORG



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Fresh Meat Productions
Transgender San Francisco
*United Genders of the Universe
*National Center for Lesbian Rights
*The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence

Gender Odyssey 2007

A National Conference

focused on the needs and interests of transmen, genderqueers, and other gender variant people.

This conference is open to all.

Labor Day Weekend

August 31st - Sept 3rd
Seattle Washington

Featuring

Three full days of workshops, presentations, and discussions

Trans Awareness Week

Aug 27th – Sept 1st

Sponsored by the City of Seattle

Translations: Seattle's second annual Transgender Film Festival

POCFTM Universe Barbeque

Register today

Gender Odyssey 2007
1122 E Pike St #796
Seattle WA 98122

www.genderodyssey.com

Trans kids? Check out our Gender Odyssey – Family conference at www.genderodysseyfamily.com

Gender Odyssey is a fiscal project of Gay City Health Project, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.