



PFLAG
p h o e n i x

Parents, Families and Friends ^{And} of Lesbians and Gays
(and BiSexual, Transgender, and "Questioning" People)

PFLAG Phoenix Newsletter

Events and information

Oct/Nov 2020

In This Issue

- Desperado Film Festival**
- Oct/Nov support meetings**
- It's Membership Time**
- A Sad Anniversary**
- AmazonSmile**
- Support through United Way**

Quick Links

- Meeting times and locations**
- Become a member**
- About our chapter**
- Our Sponsors**
- Our Calendar of Events**

Greetings!

It's October! We can finally look forward to some cooler temperatures! That means a lot more outdoor fun, especially since Covid is still with us.

And speaking of the pandemic, we understand that many people in our LGBTQ+ community are feeling the loneliness, fear, and isolation even more than usual. We here at PFLAG Phoenix are acutely aware of the added worry & pain that many of our beloved PFLAGers are feeling. We feel it too. If you are one of those people, please consider attending one of our 3 virtual monthly meetings. You can find more information about the dates and how to rsvp [here](#).

It's also that time of the year, the Desperado Film Festival (October 12-25) has arrived, but in a different format because of, you-guessed-it, the pandemic. More details below.

October is also the month when our membership drive goes into full swing. So if you haven't yet purchased or renewed your membership, **[please take a moment to do so](#)**. We want to continue supporting our Phoenix-area LGBTQ+ community.

Please "like" our [Facebook page](#) if you haven't yet and check out our [Instagram page](#) too!

Sincerely,

PFLAG Phoenix
602.843.1404

It's that time of year!



October 12-25, 2020

Attention PFLAGers:

Desperado 2020 is moving to a streaming platform to maintain connection and share the profound joys that LGBTQ film delivers. For those of us in the film and arts community, the loss of human connections provided through our in-person festival and other local events hits hard; however, we feel that our virtual festival will provide exciting new opportunities.

PFLAG Phoenix is a proud sponsor of the (Virtual/Streaming) Desperado Film Festival. We'd like to give you a peek of some of this year's films.

- [Here](#) is a true crime film, "Dog Valley", that takes place in Southern Utah.
 - In 1988, two ex-convicts kidnapped, beat, raped, tortured, and murdered Gordon Church, a gay college student from a rural Mormon community in southern Utah. Dog Valley explores the horrific events of his death, the lives and minds of his killers, and how it has helped shape modern hate crimes legislation in Utah. Suggested for Mature Audiences: Violence
- [Here](#) is a story about a transgender chorus, "Out Loud", from Los Angeles.
 - Out Loud chronicles the first season of the historic Trans Chorus of Los Angeles, the largest group of transgender and gender-nonconforming people anywhere in the world who regularly sing together.
- [Here](#) is a documentary about being LGBTQ and attending BYU.
 - Same Sex Attracted follows a handful of LGBT & SSA students over the course of an academic year at LDS-owned Brigham Young University as they live and grow at "The Lord's University." These incredible individuals experience not only the regular day-to-day of being college kids but also the unique trials that come with being LGBT at a Mormon school, grappling with questions of faith, sexuality, gender, family, love, and life. Combined, the students' stories paint an elaborate picture of what is going on in the trenches of the "Mormon and Gay" conversation.

Click [here](#) for more information about the Virtual Film Festival.



PFLAG Phoenix Virtual Support Meetings:



Here are the October Virtual Support

Meeting Dates:

Tuesday, October 6th

Thursday, October 8th

Sunday, October 25th



Here are the November Virtual Support

Meeting Dates:

Tuesday, November 3rd

Thursday, November 12th

Sunday, November 22nd

You can find more information about our meetings [here](#).

A Message From Our President: It's Membership Time!

Please join PFLAG Phoenix as an official member, or renew your existing membership for 2020/21

Greetings from PFLAG Phoenix,

October is our annual renewal month for memberships. Would you please consider joining PFLAG Phoenix or renewing your membership again?

While there have been many advances for this community, we still have a long way to go. Our LGBTQ+ community needs our support now more than ever. Many are staying closeted because of fear. Fear of being rejected by family & friends, fear of not finding

housing, fear of being denied health care & other services, fear for their safety, and fear that they are slowly losing all the rights they have gained over the past few decades. This fear can lead to depression, isolation, drugs/alcoholism, and suicide. All people deserve the same respect and human dignity that everyone else takes for granted and we are fighting for it.



Generous donors and membership purchases & renewals keep PFLAG Phoenix afloat. We have no paid staff and all work is done by volunteers. Please consider renewing or joining now to help us **support** our loved ones, **educate** families and friends, and **advocate** to protect & advance strides gained in the past.

We have 4 easy ways to join, renew or donate [on our website](#): 1) You can pay online with PayPal or a credit card ([here](#)). 2) You can donate using a credit card via Network for Good. 3) You can download a form ([here](#)), fill it out, pay by credit card or check, and mail it in. 4) You can donate using a credit card via United Way (see below). Simple-to-follow instructions are provided with each option on our website.

We also have a wide variety of different Memberships and Sponsorships from which to choose [on our website](#), there is bound to be an option that is perfect for you. And remember: PFLAG Phoenix is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, non-profit organization. All donations are fully tax-deductible, as permitted by law.

Thank you for your past and ongoing support. And remember, membership is NOT required to attend any of our support meetings or public functions.

Best wishes,



Crystal Asetta, President, PFLAG Phoenix

You can read our MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN LETTER [here](#).

And Finally: A Very Sad Anniversary



It has been a year since PFLAG Phoenix lost a truly wonderful & giving man, Albert (Al) Ellis. We are still coping with the large void he left. He and his wife had been the face of PFLAG Phoenix for many years (and his wife still is). Their dedication, love, & support had NO bounds. We could always count on seeing them anywhere there was a PFLAG Phoenix function going on. Suffice it to say, Al's passing left a huge hole in our PFLAG Phoenix leadership, community, and hearts.

We will never forget Al. He gave us his time, his love, his leadership, and so much more.

PFLAG Phoenix is an all-volunteer-run organization. We welcome volunteers with open arms. If you are interested in becoming part of our awesome team, [please email us](#).

AmazonSmile, a different way to help out!

**Do you shop at Amazon?
Great news if you do!**



If you shop Amazon, you can easily switch to Amazon Smile and use your same Amazon account. By shopping on AmazonSmile, the Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to PFLAG Phoenix. Simply go to smile.amazon.com, select PFLAG Phoenix as your charitable organization, and you are ready to shop.

Are you looking for an easy way to donate to PFLAG Phoenix? Well, look no farther, we have an easy solution. If you shop Amazon, you are in luck. See above for details.

Looking for a great way to support PFLAG Phoenix?



Have You Considered United Way?

We have great news for those of you who are looking for a good way to support PFLAG Phoenix but do not have the time to volunteer. **United Way** and **United Way Bank of America** have been very important sources of our (PFLAG Phoenix) income.

Anyone working for an employer who participates in an annual campaign for United Way may designate all or part of their donation to **PFLAG Phoenix** by entering agency code: **1016**. And the best part is there are even some companies that match all or a percentage of these donations! Maybe yours is one of them.

What if **PFLAG Phoenix** is not on your company's list? Then **PFLAG Phoenix** can be written in, but you must remember to include **PFLAG Phoenix's** agency code, which is **1016**.

We cannot express enough how much this helps us and how much we appreciate these donors. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your generosity!

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