



INDY PFLAG NEWS

JUNE 2010

PFLAG meets the 2nd Sunday of each month. The next meeting will be Sun., June 13 from 2 to 4 pm at St. Luke's United Methodist Church in the Youth Wing (North door), just west of Meridian on 86th St.

June 13 Meeting

Our June program speaker will be Bil Browning, a long-time LGBT activist and writer. He is the founder and Editor-In-Chief of [The Bilerico Project](#), one of the nation's top LGBT community blogs. Bil is also a contributor to the Huffington Post and the *Advocate* magazine. He is an established conference speaker and regularly appears on television and radio news programs.

A full-time writer, Bil does consulting work for online, fundraising and political projects. He has won the Indiana Stonewall Democrats' Chuck Avery Award, the New York City Anti-Violence Project's Courage Award, the Los Angeles Stonewall Democratic Club's Bob Craig Media Award and numerous animal rights honors.

Bil has fought for gay rights since coming out in high school in rural Indiana. He followed the Clinton campaign across America with ACT UP in 1992 and has organized many protests and direct actions over the years since. Bil has led grassroots coalitions including the effort to pass an inclusive human rights ordinance in Indianapolis and has served in the leadership of several LGBT organizations.

Bil's presentation will follow our confidential sharing time.

Circle City IN Pride

June 6-12, 2010

New Year – New Venue!

This year's Pride Festival will be held at the American Legion Mall which is located at North Street between Pennsylvania & Meridian.

The parade will step off at the corner of College and Mass Avenue and proceed down Mass Avenue to Michigan Street.

Please join Indiana's PFLAG chapters as we march together in support of our LGBT loved ones.

We'll assemble near the corner of College and Mass Ave. at 9:30 am for the 10 am step off.

Notes from Annette

Once again, the Indianapolis Chapter of PFLAG is going to be marching in the Indy Pride Parade and manning a booth at the Festival. This event will take place on Saturday, June 12th at 10:00 a.m. The parade will step off at the corner of College and Mass Avenue and proceed down Mass Avenue to Michigan Street. The parade will turn west onto Michigan Street and proceed on Michigan passing the front of the War Memorial Building and then will turn north onto Meridian Street and end at the corner of Meridian and St. Clair Streets. Because University Park cannot accommodate the 45,000 people who attended last year, the Pride Festival will now be held at the American Legion Mall which is located at North Street between Pennsylvania and Meridian.

And, once again, I am urging you to march under the PFLAG banner this year! We had a wonderful turnout last year and we'd like to replicate that again. I can't explain the warm feeling I get as we march down Mass Avenue and hear dozens of people on the sidewalk shouting out "We love you PFLAG!" I never fail to get emotional as people wave and yell out their appreciation to PFLAG. For some of these folks, we are the parents they wished they had.

I also ask you to join us at our booth, as we sell buttons and banners, and give out lots of information. We are also going to be passing out our rainbow leis. Hopefully the sun will shine and we'll have good weather! I hope to see you there as we support our GLBT children!

5th Anniversary Pride Concert - June 8

Join the Pride of Indy Concert & Jazz Bands on June 8 for the 5th Anniversary Pride Concert.

Bring your lawn chair and a picnic, and be ready to enjoy an evening of great music. We'll be featuring favorites from our past 5 years.

The concert is held on the lawn at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue, College Avenue, and St. Clair Street. Admission is free!

For a complete list of this year's Circle City IN Pride events go to: www.indyprideinc.org

Indy PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) is a group of people who share common experiences and provide support for each other. We listen and love. We help families have open, positive and loving relationships with GLBT children and we work for their civil and human rights.

Indy PFLAG Scholarship – Apply Now!

The Indianapolis PFLAG Chapter is pleased to be able to offer at least one \$500 scholarship for the upcoming academic year. These scholarships are available to any student who has been accepted to an accredited institution of higher education or to a vocational institution. The application deadline is **July 15**. The award will be paid to the recipient by September 1, after receipt of proof of enrollment.

In order to be eligible for these funds, you must meet the following requirements:

- Be a resident of Indiana
- Be a graduating high school senior or hold a high school diploma or a GED
- Self identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender
- Demonstrate an interest in service to the LGBT community
- Have been accepted to an accredited institution of higher education or to a vocational institution.

You must provide the following documents:

- Completed scholarship application form
- Two letters of recommendation

An essay (no more than 2 pages) discussing either your life as an LGBT student or how you have been involved in the LGBT community

Please send your completed application packet to the following address **postmarked no later than July 15**:

Indianapolis PFLAG Scholarship

P. O. Box 441633

Indianapolis, IN 46244-1633

All candidates will be notified of the outcome of their applications by August 15. You'll find applications and recommendation forms online at

<http://indypflag.org/Scholarship/Scholarship.htm>

If you have any questions, e-mail info@indypflag.org.

What to Say When Your Teenager Says She's Gay

While the development of same-sex attraction isn't completely understood, most medical and mental-health professionals have long concluded that being gay is not an illness and that people cannot choose their true sexual orientation. Studies show that on average, young people, gay and straight, first become aware of sexual attraction about age 10, and that this is a part of early childhood development. "Families and caregivers have a dramatic and compelling impact on their LGBT children's health, mental health and well-being," says Caitlin Ryan, director of the Family Acceptance Project. She also notes that because sexual orientation starts so early, "we tell parents and families that they need to provide a supportive environment for their children before they know who they'll become."

LGBT FAMILY PICNIC!

Saturday, June 12th, 2010

Eagle Creek 10am - 5pm

LGBT families, your friends, relatives, neighbors and anyone else who loves you - join us for a day packed full of fun, fun, fun!

- bounce houses for the kiddos
- food vendors (hot dogs, cotton candy, veggie burgers, chips, sodas, water, ice cream)
- \$10 professional family photographs taken by keenphotos.net in a beautiful park setting
- free fingerprint kits for for the kiddos offered by Farmers Insurance
- playground
- live music (performers tba)

Event is FREE, bring \$5 to get into the park, and money for food. www.likeourfamily.com

Watch A Movie!

Who knew that you could move equality forward just by watching a movie? All of these films are educational and entertaining, and all of them are either about straight allies or from the perspective of straight allies.

for the BIBLE tells me so

This documentary depicts the journey of five American families coming to terms with having a gay child or being gay themselves and how they reconcile this with their religion. Featuring faith leaders and theologians, this film shows that there is a place for gay people in Christianity and vice versa. Featuring Bishop Desmond Tutu, Orthodox Rabbi Steve Greenberg, Reverend Jimmy Creech, Bishop Gene Robinson, and theologians Peter Gomes and Reverend Irene Monroe.

No Dumb Questions

What happens when a family member comes out as transgender? These and many more questions are answered in this short, sweet documentary about three girls (ages 6, 9, and 11) who learn that their Uncle Bill is becoming Aunt Barbara.

Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt

This documentary tells the stories of five people from very different backgrounds afflicted with AIDS. These personal stories, told through the eyes of loved ones, are intertwined with news stories to illuminate the history of the AIDS epidemic.

It's Elementary: Talking About Gay Issues in School

What do kids think about gay issues? This documentary is told from the point of view of children from grades 1 to 8. Through honest, open discussions with kids, we begin to see how gay issues, and how they're taught, affect even the youngest in our society.

(From PFLAG's *Straight for Equality* website)

To talk with a parent who also has a gay son or lesbian daughter & to learn more about Indy PFLAG, please contact:

***Annette (317) 872-1385**

***Charlene/Oran (317) 897-0126**

***info@indypflag.org**

Indianapolis PFLAG, P.O. Box 441633, Indianapolis IN 46244-1633

www.indypflag.org