



[San Mateo County Pride Center](#) (click for website)

March 2023 Updates

Pride Center Special Announcements:

- **Measure K Funding for the Pride Center!**
 - We extend deep gratitude to San Mateo County for including the Pride Center and LGBTQ+ community in the Measure K funding that was recently approved. The team, and our incredible programs and services, are now in a place to invest, dream, and grow.
- **Hiring: Peer Counseling Coordinator**
 - Do you have a passion for supporting the LGBTQ+ community? Do you understand the unique needs of working with Older Adults? Would love to bridge the work between Peninsula Family Service *and* the Pride Center? *Is this you?!* How about applying to work with us?! Curious? Look at the [job application here](#) and consider applying. For more information, contact Stella Zeng (she/her), Director of Peer Counseling Program, PFS at szeng@pfso.org.

Pride Center Special Events!

- **Homecoming- The San Mateo County Pride Center's Grand Reopening**
 - The Pride Center closed its doors in 2020 due to the COVID pandemic. Since then, we've hosted events, trainings, peer support groups, clinical services and gatherings virtually. While these digital spaces have been vital spaces of connection and education, there truly is nothing like being onsite at the Pride Center. After three long years, we are excited to announce our Grand Reopening Party.
 - Please join us on **Friday, March 24th from 5:30-7:30 PM** for a night of reconnection, celebration and reintroductions. There will be light refreshments, entertainment and special guest speakers.
 - Come meet our staff in-person, take a stroll through our newly redesigned & redecorated space, learn (or re-learn) about our programs and services, hear about the history of the Pride Center, learn about volunteer opportunities and other ways that you can be involved with the Pride Center & meet your community & neighbors!

- Thank you to our partners at Peninsula Family Service, Outlet and StarVista for **their ongoing support.**
- **The Pride Center is located at 1021 S. El Camino Real San Mateo, 94402. Our building is located at 11th and El Camino.**
- **Accessibility Information**
 - Masks are required
 - Scent reduced space
 - Parking is limited
- **Rainbow Kids Training Webinars**
 - Children form foundational concepts of gender, families, and love before the age of five This free webinar (in English) is returning for parents, caregivers, and anyone who wants a more expansive, welcoming world for young children. Using scenario practice and interactive games, this webinar will demonstrate how to support folks all across the rainbow. It will be facilitated by Azisa Todd (Lead Trainer for the San Mateo County Pride Center) and Nathanael Flynn (Early Childhood Educator and co-author of *Supporting Gender Diversity in Early Childhood Classrooms*). Closed captioning will be available.
 - Click below to register for one of four free webinars (each webinar contains the same content):
 - [April 19, 4:00 - 5:30 pm](#)
 - [June 21, 7:00 - 8:30 pm](#)
 - [September 7, 7:00 - 8:30 pm](#)
 - Rainbow Kids is a project of Community Equity Collaborative in partnership with the San Mateo County Pride Center and with funding from the Silicon Valley Community Foundation. For more information, contact Jen Sheldon at jennifer@communityequitycollaborative.org.
- **Exploring Our Roots: Unpacking Bias in Order to Grow**
 - It's human nature to make assumptions about people, identities, and communities. At a glance, we categorize people and place them into boxes frequently unknowingly. Many of our beliefs are often passed on through generations and go unnamed. We move through the world with ongoing assumptions and belief systems unknowingly until space is provided to help bring awareness to our own implicit biases. Thus, the Pride Center is proud to announce a new **FREE** training, **Exploring Our Roots: Unpacking Bias in Order to Grow.**
 - Supported by the Kaiser Foundation, each training will create a carefully guided training allowing work to begin to unpack our own internalized myths we hold, ask ourselves where they come from, and examine the roots of their inheritance. By providing interactive activities, discussion time, and videos, the Pride Center

will hold space for healing dialogue to help us all shift our assumptions and biases toward truth. All trainings will be capped at a 50-person maximum to foster a safe and grounding experience for all. Register [HERE](#) (<https://tinyurl.com/SMCPCBias>) for one of the two VIRTUAL trainings dates **(each training contains the same content)**:

- Thursday, March 30th from 5:30-8:30pm
- For any questions regarding trainings/registration, please contact Azisa Todd at azisa.todd@sanmateopride.org.

- **Peer Support Groups- Upcoming meeting dates**
 - **Please note: all groups are meeting on Zoom, stay tuned for updates**
 - LGBTQ Parent Group- Monthly on the 1st Tuesday from 7:30-8:30 PM PST
 - 3/7, 4/4, 5/2 & 6/6
 - Pre-registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-parentsgroup>
 - LGBTQ Book Club (18+) - Monthly on the 1st Wednesday from 4:30-6pm PST
 - Pre-registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-bookclub>
 - Polyamory Peer Power (18+)- Monthly on the 1st Wednesday fr. 7-8:30pm PST
 - Pre-registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-polyampower>
 - Gay Men's Group (18+)- Monthly on the 3rd Tuesday from 6-7pm PST
 - Pre-registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/SMCPC-gaymensgroup>
 - Queer Women's Social Group (18+)- Monthly on the 4th Friday from 6-7:30pm PST
 - Pre-registration link: <https://tinyurl.com/smcpc-queerwomensgroup>



San Mateo County PRIDE Initiative Report

- *Dana Johnson (they/ them/ theirs)- PRIDE Initiative co-chair*
- **LGBTQ Commission Meeting-** Tuesday, March 21, 2023 @ 6:00pm

- ❖ **About the PRIDE Initiative:** The PRIDE Initiative is committed to creating welcoming and inclusive environments grounded in equality and parity for LGBTQ+ community members living and working in San Mateo County. By adopting an interdisciplinary and inclusive approach to collaborating, the PRIDE Initiative looks to partner with individuals, organizations, and providers that work to ensure that services are sensitive and respectful of LGBTQ+ issues.

- ❖ *SMC Pride 2023 has been confirmed for Saturday June 10, 2023 from 11am-5pm*
- ❖ **We will be having a SMC Pride Planning meeting on Friday March 24, 2023 from 12-1pm. Join us as we plan for SMC Pride 2023 (for Pride Planning zoom link reach out to Dana)**
 - SMC Pride Celebration Booth/ Vendor form has went out. **Interested in a booth please feel out the link below:**
 - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScaKYT2vrDcjK4d03w74s3THsKvSzgOyyKWpSVVH8q6XtK0Kg/viewform?usp=pp_url
 - Deadline to complete SMC Pride Celebration booth/ vendor form is **Sunday April 23rd at 11:59pm**
 - Join us at the next Pride Initiative meeting (via virtual) on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 from 4:30-6pm.
 - PRIDE Initiative and local LGBTQIA+ updates
 - To join the Virtual Pride Initiative Meeting please see the Zoom Conference Information below:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81510844451>

Meeting ID: 815 1084 4451

Passcode: PRIDEBHRS **(PLEASE NOTE: Password is now required to join)**



CoastPride Report

LGBTQ Commission Meeting- Tuesday, March 21, 2023 @6:00pm

❖ **About CoastPride**

➤ **Our Vision**

A welcoming and safe Coastsides where all LGBTQ and gender-expansive individuals, their families, and allies thrive.

➤ **Our Mission**

Creating a Coastsides that supports and celebrates people of all sexual orientations and gender identities.

❖ **CoastPride Events/ Trainings:**

- For events and to learn about what's going on at CoastPride see the CoastPride newsletter.
- **Center Hours**
 - Drop-in—all are welcome
 - Mondays, 10am–2pm (ring the black doorbell when you arrive. Closed on federal holidays)
 - Tuesdays and Thursdays, 2–6 pm
 - Saturdays, 12–4 pm

Upcoming Event

● **Queer Happy Hour**

Thursday, March 30 | 5-7 pm, at Hop Dogma
270 Capistrano Road, HMB (in Princeton Harbor)

● **Help us support our family support groups today!**

<https://www.coastsidegives.org/coastpride>

We deeply appreciate you

Drop by your Pride Center on May 4th between the hours of 12:00 and 5:00 pm for a celebratory cupcake as we are also turning 4 years old. Donate now online or you may want to drop off your donation then. Thank you for standing with us today and every day.

Pride Celebrations on the Coast

May 31 | Pescadero Pride - youth march and flag raising

June 3 | Pacifica Pride - food, dancing, entertainment, parade, youth activities

June 11 | HMB Pride - food, dancing, entertainment, parade, youth activities

Pride Prom

Jenny reported on the team's planning and did a shout out to Joshua, VP student services CSM, who has been an amazing partner on this and with HMB Pride planning. CSM is the venue, CP provides a landing page on the website to register, the team is working on making it fun with CSM providing cosmetology students for make-up and CP reached out to Christopher to do Heels worship at Prom.

Logistics are: April 14th, 6 -10pm

Partners include: County Office of Education rep and former partner and Equity Award winner, Holly Wade, San Mateo Union High School District Director of Special Education Services; Dana just joined the group with their Pride Initiative and Commission hats.

To: San Mateo County LGBTQ Commission

From: Valeria Chavez

Date: 3/15/23

Subject: Youth Commission Updates

Overview, Last Youth Commission Meeting: Committee Progress, Overall Updates

Overview of Last Commission Meeting:

The Youth Commission was lively last meeting, with increased public engagement, getting a public comment from the Positive Alternative Recreation Team Building Impact (P.A.R.T.I) representative announcing a Stop the Violence Event, Student Led & Run. As we come closer to May 1st more potential youth commissioners come and engage with the youth commission. This past meeting they got the chance to hear a conversation with President Pine and Superintendent Nancy Mcgee discussing Gun Violence within our County and specifically its effect on youth. Overall a phenomenal meeting.

Update:

- Subcommittees
 - Educational Equity continues to work in conjunction with First Five San Mateo on their Diverse Literacy Project. The committee has decided to forgo its original project for this year and set the foundation for its continuation next year. As well as, begin planning another workshop to promote DEI within the county.
 - Civic Engagement continues work on its multiple projects, with a voter engagement event set for April 23rd. As well as the beginnings of a voter engagement website.
 - Immigrant Youth, continues to work on preparation for the launching of this year's Immigrant Youth Scholarship(more news to come). As well as outreach on redcards to pass out within the community.
 - Health & Wellness, continues with plans for their mental health walks event, with the possible date being April 8th (subject to change)
 - Environmental Justice has reached out to its speakers and set a date for its annual symposium, settling on April 8th 3-4pm. The committee also begins research on the coast's water quality, having conversations with community members and experts.
 - The Juvenile Justice Workgroup continues to work on its resolution with a plan to present it to the youth commission in April. Their resolution centers around making sure no Youth in the county is tried as an adult. With a possible second resolution to

assist youth in reporting issues they're facing.

Update:

- Commission Outreach
 - In our last meeting our Commission Outreach Coordinators(Social Media Coordinators) announced a feature in San Mateo High School's career fair, with both Chloe & I getting the opportunity to table that event this past Tuesday.
 - The Coordinators continue to run the Youth Commission's Social Media, and have announced a Youth Voices campaign featuring art in any medium on the Youth Commission Instagram.

Thank you so much and All the Best,

Youth Commissioner Chavez-Franco, Youth Commission Chan.

To: LGBTQ Commission of San Mateo County
From: Tanya Beat, Director
Date: March 21, 2023
Subject: Status of recent events/projects

Gender Neutral Language Resolution

- Approved 3/14/23 at Board of Supervisors meeting
- Dana Johnson shared remarks – [VIDEO](#) time mark 1 hour 39 minute Agenda Item #12

Retreat Logistics

- Saturday, April 15 from 8:30am – 1:30pm; In-Person
- College of San Mateo, Building 10, College Heights conference room on the 4th floor
- Wear comfortable clothing (layers) and you are encouraged to bring your own water bottles and snacks.
- Light breakfast will be available and boxed lunches

Pride Celebration Contribution and Activities

- Pride Proclamation: May 23 Board of Supervisors Meeting
- Pride Flag Raising: June 1 County Center at 10am

- Tanya Beat is volunteering to lead Older Adult Activities due to no PFS/Pride Center staff
 - Author Talk: Bettina Aptheker
 - BINGO
 - Panel of Storytellers
 - On-stage Line-Dancing

- How can the LGBTQ Commission Contribute to the 2023 Celebration? Created and Led by LGBTQ Commissioners

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

* * * * *

**RESOLUTION PROMOTING GENDER-INCLUSIVE AND GENDER-NEUTRAL
LANGUAGE IN COUNTY LEGISLATION, REGULATIONS, AND RESOLUTIONS**

WHEREAS, the County of San Mateo is committed to advancing the rights, protections, dignity, and inclusion of all its residents and employees; and

WHEREAS, the State of California recognized that many transgender, nonbinary, and gender non-conforming individuals are in the state and that there is a necessity for gender inclusivity in state-issued identification documents, legislative drafting guidelines, anti-discrimination laws, and policies related to employment, healthcare, and public facilities; and

WHEREAS, in 2018, the State of California passed a resolution (ACR-260) for the use of gender-neutral pronouns and gender-inclusive language in the drafting of legislation, and for state agencies to participate in efforts to use gender-neutral pronouns and avoid the use of gendered pronouns when drafting policies, regulations, and other guidance; and

WHEREAS, on June 15, 2020, the United States Supreme Court determined that gender identity is a protected category in relation to Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; and

WHEREAS, it is now a more common and increasingly suggested practice to use gender-neutral and gender-inclusive language in the drafting of legislation regulations, and resolutions where appropriate; and

WHEREAS, gender identity is a person’s understanding, definition, or experience of their own gender, regardless of sex assigned at birth; and

WHEREAS, misgendering someone (using the wrong pronouns) can have negative impacts on their mental health, self-confidence, and sense of inclusion; and

WHEREAS, the use of “they” as a singular pronoun is inclusive of transgender and gender variant individuals.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the County shall use gender-inclusive and gender-neutral language in any new legislation, regulations, and resolutions where appropriate to advance equity and inclusion for all individuals and promote a culture of equity and belonging.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County continues to offer trainings including those relating to LGBTQ+ diversity, gender identity and/or the County’s Transgender Policy to promote a respectful and welcoming work environment.

* * * * *

FREE TO BE ME! IN 2023

San Mateo County Pride Celebration

Resource & Vendor Booths • Food Trucks • Live DJ • Family Friendly

FREE
ENTRY

SAT JUNE 10, 2023
11 AM - 5 PM

SOBER
EVENT

LOCATION: SAN MATEO CENTRAL PARK

www.smcpridecelebration.com

SPONSORED BY



Lawmakers introduce amendment to repeal Proposition 8

BY INSIDE THE ISSUES STAFF EL SEGUNDO
PUBLISHED 12:16 PM PT MAR. 07, 2023

The California Supreme Court ruled same-sex marriage a fundamental right back in 2008.

In the same year of the ruling, critics launched a campaign for Proposition 8 to add an amendment in the constitution that stated only marriage between a man and a woman is recognized in California.

Proposition 8 was approved by 52% of the voters in the 2008 General Election.

Same-sex marriage became legalized in 2013 thanks to a Supreme Court ruling. Now a decade since same-sex marriage was legalized, two state legislators state Sen. Scott Wiener and Assembly member Evan Low, are working to eliminate the language of Prop 8 in the California constitution.

Low sat down with “Inside the Issues” host Alex Cohen to talk about the importance of changing the language in the California constitution to protect same-sex couples.

Low, a member of the California Legislative LGBTQ+ Caucus, dealt with the aftermath of Proposition 8 as an openly gay man.

“After 2008... I went into a downward spiral of depression, self-loathing, substance abuse, thinking about, why is it that fellow Californians hate me so much? Why did a majority of Californians who voted eliminate my right to get married?” Low said.

Low is a co-author with Wiener on Constitutional Amendment 5, or ACA 5, which would make same-sex marriage a basic right in California.

“It’s important that we address this and get [Proposition 8] out of our constitution to reflect the inclusive values of everyday Californians,” Low said.

Last year, California voters approved Proposition 1, which enshrined reproductive rights and protected access to abortions and contraceptives.

“There is a real fear given the rolling back of Roe v. Wade and the rollback of equal protections for everyday Californians and Americans, that this could be a real threat,” Low said.

Related Stories

- Youngest elected official in LA County history shares district goals
- California's legislative LGBTQ caucus celebrates 20 years of progress
- OC lawmaker finds solutions by taking it one step at a time
- California bill introduced to prevent voters from being duped

Two-thirds of the legislature will have to approve ACA 5, and then it will be put on the 2024 General Election Ballot for California voters to make the final decision.

While Low acknowledges that ACA 5 could help galvanize progressives to go out and vote, he also cautions that this campaign will require a lot of effort and money.

“There are many valid and equally justified issues that we should be advocating for and putting our efforts toward,” he said. “But again, this has been in our state constitution ever since 2008 and ever since then it’s been problematic.”

Opinion on same-sex marriage has shifted since 2008. According to a Public Policy Institute of California poll, 61% of likely voters supported same-sex marriage in 2013; and today, 75% of likely voters support same-sex marriage.

“Members of the LGBTQ+ community want to be just like every other individual,” Low said. “We want to be in loving, committed relationships recognized by the state and the rights that are afforded to that.”

Let “Inside the Issues” know your thoughts and watch Monday through Friday at 8 and 11 p.m. on Spectrum News 1.


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ACA-5 Marriage equality. (2023-2024)

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CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2023–2024 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT

CONSTITUTIONAL

NO. 5

Introduced by Assembly Member Low

(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Cervantes, Jackson, Lee, Ward, and Zbur)

(Principal coauthors: Senators Atkins, Eggman, Laird, Menjivar, Padilla, and Wiener)

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Arambula, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner Horvath, Bonta, Calderon, Connolly, Mike Fong, Friedman, Gabriel, Haney, Hart, Irwin, Jones-Sawyer, Lowenthal, Maienschein, McCarty, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Stephanie Nguyen, Ortega, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Luz Rivas, Robert Rivas, Blanca Rubio, Santiago, Ting, Wallis, Weber, Wicks, Wilson, and Wood)

(Coauthors: Senators Allen, Archuleta, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Bradford, Caballero, Cortese, Dodd, Durazo, Glazer, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Limón, McGuire, Min, Newman, Portantino, Roth, Rubio, Skinner, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Umberg, and Wahab)

February 14, 2023

A resolution to propose to the people of the State of California an amendment to the Constitution of the State, relating to rights.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACA 5, as introduced, Low. Marriage equality.

The California Constitution declares that defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining safety, happiness, and privacy are inalienable rights, and that a person may not be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law or equal protection of the laws.

This measure would express the intent of the Legislature to amend the Constitution of the State relating to marriage equality.

Vote: 2/3 Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: no Local Program: no

Resolved by the Assembly, the Senate concurring, That the Legislature of the State of California at its 2023–24 Regular Session commencing on the fifth day of December 2022, two-thirds of the membership of each house concurring, hereby proposes to the people of the State of California, that the Constitution of the State be amended as follows:

It is the intent of the Legislature to amend the Constitution of the State relating to marriage equality.