



Out & About

News and notes for LGBT-parented families

APRIL 2015



2015 Conference Theme Announced!

The Philly Family Pride 2015 Family Matters Conference planning committee (pictured, right) and board of directors are happy to announce the theme for this year's conference, taking place at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia on **October 17, 2015**.



The theme is **"Mind, Body, and Soul: Caring for ourselves and our families"** and will encompass everything from self-care for better parenting to finding the right health care professionals for your family.

PFPP is also opening up our survey to get your ideas and proposals for workshops, panels and speakers for this year's event.

The survey can be found at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2015pfppcon_proposals.

Please let us know what kind of conference you'd like to have. If you can be the presenter, great! If you have a program idea, but no presenter, that's fine, too. The planning committee wants all your ideas to make this year's conference our most successful one yet!

Spring Hike this Saturday!

This Saturday, May 2, meet up with PFPP families and kids for a spring hike through the beautiful Wissahickon Gorge in Philadelphia's Fairmount Park.



There is a wide, flat path appropriate for strollers as well as more challenging hiking trails. Meet board member Tracy Smith in front of Valley Green Inn at 10am.

Bring picnic blankets and lunch if you'd like to stay and chat after the walk.

[Click here for directions and parking information.](#)

SkyZone and more in April

PFP families had a great time at some fun events in April.

Parents and kids got together at Smith Playground on April 1st and 18th and enjoyed the toddler playground now that the weather is warming up.

Several families and kids had a blast at SkyZone in Levittown. In addition to the regular jumping on the trampolines, they also got to enjoy some fun dodge ball time! (photo, below)



Parents had a well-deserved night out at the Keswick Theater for an evening with author David Sedaris on April 8, and Dads and Pops and their kids got together at Bryan and John's house in Perkasie on April 12.

Check the upcoming events below for more going on in May and June!

Member Milestone

After 14 years and two children, PFP Vice-Chair Sandra Telep legally married her best friend and partner Jess Burgan (pictured).

They signed the self-uniting license over brunch with their two children and their two witnesses in attendance (Sandra's mother and Jess' brother - the kids' known donor).

Sandra says "there may, or may not, be a wedding celebration forthcoming."

Congrats to Sandra and Jess!



If you'd like a family milestone included in a future newsletter, e-mail PFP director Stephanie Haynes at stephanie@phillyfamilypride.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, May 2: [PFP goes hiking](#) in the Wissahickon Gorge! Meet at Valley Green Inn at 10am.

Wednesday, May 6: Meet up at the toddler area at Smith Playground at 10am.

Saturday-Sunday, May 9-10: PFP returns to **Great Wolf Lodge!** This year's trip is SOLD OUT!

Saturday, May 16: PFP families will again march in the always-fun, family-friendly New Hope Pride Parade. Meet up at 11am. [More.](#)

Also on Saturday, those not going to the parade can meet up at the toddler area outside at Smith Playground at 10am.



Save these dates:

Sunday, June 14: Ride the PFP trolley and visit the family zone at [Philly Pride!](#)

Saturday, June 27: Potluck BBQ in Ardmore at the home of Paula and Jen.

Sunday, July 5: [Annual Reminders Block Party](#) to celebrate the 50th anniversary of LGBT rights demonstrations in Philadelphia.

Saturday, October 17: PFP's annual Family Matters Conference at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia.

Keep an eye on our [Facebook](#) page and [Twitter](#) feed for more upcoming events.



Equality PA's Ted Martin on Marriage Equality Cases in the Supreme Court

Tuesday's oral argument at the Supreme Court was an historic moment that caps a collective decades-long movement for the freedom to marry. The question at issue is whether all people, including same-sex couples, are given the freedom to marry under the constitution. We believe that all loving and committed couples should have the freedom to marry—and we are very hopeful that the court will agree.



It is time now for the Supreme Court to finish the job on marriage, and get our country on the right side of history. The Supreme Court should affirm the lower courts and the majority of Americans and rule in favor of the freedom to marry for all. The country is ready.

However, even while we are hopeful for the freedom to marry for all Americans, we are concerned for the LGBT community here in Pennsylvania where you

can get married on Sunday, and get fired on Monday just for being gay or transgender. So that's why we are focused here in Pennsylvania on updating our law to be sure that all people who have the freedom to marry are also protected from discrimination at work, in housing, and in business services.

[Read more.](#)



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

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

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Send a check to our address or give through the [Paypal link](#) on our web site. Thanks so much!



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