



Out & About

News and notes for LGBT-parented families

FEBRUARY 2014



Happy Valentine's Day from PFP

Philadelphia Family Pride held a Valentine's themed **Family Fun Day** at the [William Way Center](#) on Sunday, February 15.

A dozen families joined in making heart-shaped crafts, eating pizza, strawberries and Valentine's cookies, playing Legos (or Duplos), freeze dance and more.

Thanks to PFP Chair Robin Matthews and Vice-Chair Sandra Telep for putting it together and to Candice Thompson and the William Way Center for hosting us yet again.





The American Fertility Association
and Fairfax Cryobank invite you to a FREE event on

Growing Your Family: LGBTQ Options

Saturday, February 22 • 12:00-3:00 p.m.

The William Way LGBT Community Center

Reservations preferred. Email corey@theafa.org

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

More fun at the Aquarium and Play Cafe

In addition to the fun at the William Way Center, PFP families also enjoyed a trip to the **Adventure Aquarium** on Sunday, January 26. The group is pictured here having lunch together.



While the hippos are off exhibit while their space is being renovated, the group did learn a lot about frogs, penguins and got to touch rays and (little) sharks.

On Sunday, February 9, parents and the littlest PFPers checked out the new **Play Cafe** in Bryn Mawr. Parents got to sit and chat while the kids played with the toys.



The Lego wall was an especially popular attraction (pictured). Look for more events here in the future.

Thanks again to [The Play Cafe](#) for hosting us and for the discount. We hope to schedule another play date there soon!

Great Wolf Lodge scheduled for May 9

Join Philly Family Pride again this year at the [Great Wolf Lodge](#) in the Poconos on Friday, May 9, at a steeply discounted rate of \$209/night. The price includes admission to the water park all day Friday and Saturday. The rooms hold 6 people.



Since there are a limited number rooms available and this is a very steep discount, we're making this a "members only" event. (Haven't joined or renewed for 2014? [Do so now!](#))

To reserve your room, contact PFP Board Member Andreah Sanders at andrea@phillyfamilypride.org for the discount code, then book your room directly with Great Wolf Lodge.

While we realize a Saturday in April would have been preferred, they are totally booked. The availability they did have were \$500+/night. Unfortunately they've changed their group rates and discounts significantly from past years during "spring break" and for Saturdays.

We'll keep working with them to get a Saturday night at a decent rate for next winter or spring.

Member Milestone

♥ Congratulations to PFP members Tyler Colvard and Rowan Machalow on the birth of their baby Shiloh Indigo Miller Colvard. He was born December 5, and weighed 7 lbs, 7 oz.



If you have a milestone you'd like included in an upcoming newsletter, please e-mail Stephanie Haynes at stephanie@phillyfamilypride.org.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, March 1: Monthly [Lego club](#) at William Way, 12-2pm, recommended for kids ages 5+.

Saturday - Sunday, March 15-16: [Neighborhood Potlucks](#) at locations around the area. Bring a dish and make friends in your area with other PFP families. Details being finalized now.



Monday, April 14: [Tour the State Capitol with Rep. Brian Sims](#) in



Harrisburg at noon on Monday during Spring Break. RSVP to find out more details and reserve your spot. PFP members only.



Sunday, April 20: PFP will have a table again at this year's Philly Black Gay Pride Mr. & Miss Pageant. [E-mail Stephanie](#) if you'd like to volunteer.

Saturday, May 3: PFP will host a program as part of this year's [Equality Forum](#) on "Adoption Options" for LGBT parents and prospective parents.

Friday, May 9: Great Wolf Lodge Trip in the Poconos. [More info.](#)



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



Welcoming Schools Conference at Arcadia U.

In 2012, PFP held our 3rd Annual Family Matters Conference at Arcadia University with the Welcoming Schools theme. While our conference has moved on to other locations and covered other topics, the fantastic Arcadia education professor Graciela Slesaransky-Poe has continued her work to create safe and welcoming schools.



Building on last year's successful Welcoming Schools conference, this year's conference will take place this fall at Arcadia University Grey Towers Castle, in Glenside, PA.

(The original dates were Feb. 28-March 1, but they just announced that the conference is being postponed due to the inability of educators to take a day off after so many snow days. Keep an eye out for the new dates.)

- Are you an educator who wants to learn how to create safe and welcoming schools for diverse K-12 students? Have you been successful in creating safe spaces for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender/ gender nonconforming, and questioning/queer (LGBTQ) individuals in your K-12 school?
- Are you a member of your high school Gay Straight Alliance? Are you considering starting one? Would you like to be an ally? Are you ready to be an

“up-stander”?

- Are you a parent raising children who do not conform to the gender box or who may be wondering about their sexual orientation? Do you want to learn how to collaborate with your children’s school?
- Act 48 Credits available.

This year’s focus will be on taking concrete action steps to create safe, welcoming, and affirming K-12 and college spaces for LGBTQ students. Act 48 credits available.

For more information, visit <http://www.arcadia.edu/Creating-Safe-and-Welcoming-Schools-Conference/>.



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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