



Out & About

News and notes for LGBT-parented families

JANUARY 2015



PFP Families Ring in the New Year

Philadelphia Family Pride held our annual New Year's Day Brunch on Thursday, January 1, 2015 at Mishkan Shalom in Roxborough.

The food was yummy, starring veggie chili and cornbread with lots of other treats mixed in from salad to pizza to the ice cream sundae bar.

Kids had a great time playing games from Freeze Dance to Simon Says to Paper Bag Skits to Head Bandz. The dance party was definitely the most fun (pictured).



Our silent auction was again a success, with two families winning the Great Wolf Lodge passes and immediately picking a date to vacation there together later this year! Watch for an upcoming raffle with the passes to Disney World as one of the prizes.

Here's a group photo from the day, below. Thanks to photographer Rebecca Richardson from [Natural Shotz Photography](http://NaturalShotzPhotography.com) for donating her skills to the event. She is also working with GaysWithKids.com and offering free portrait sessions for gay dads and their kids as part of a promotion with the web site. [Contact her](http://NaturalShotzPhotography.com) if you are interested in taking part.



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PAID ADVERTISEMENT

PFP at the Aquarium!

Philly Family Pride's LGBTQ-parented families had a great time on Saturday, January 24 at the Adventure Aquarium in Camden, NJ.

The group stayed together and enjoyed all there was to see, including the new "Dinosaurs of the Deep" temporary exhibit.

The group learned that these enormous and deadly prehistoric marine reptile were as vicious and fascinating as their dinosaur counterparts that roamed the Earth, and often twice the size.

The exhibit is an immersive, larger-than-life experience that brings visitors face-to-face with more than 20 of these ancient animals.

After viewing the exhibits, the group had lunch together in the restaurant.

Thanks to board member Andreah Sanders for organizing and leading this outing.



5 Reasons to Renew or Join PFP for 2015!

1. **Get discounted tickets** to fun places like the Adventure Aquarium, Great Wolf Lodge, Diggerland and more family-friendly outings. Save as much as half-off the regular prices



when you go with a PFP group. Join now!

2. Be a part of our annual **Family Matters Conference** for LGBTQ parents, prospective parents and our kids. This year the conference will be on October 17 at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia. PFP members get a discount on the conference fee which includes breakfast, lunch and child care. Join now!

3. Financially **support PFP's mission** to build community for LGBTQ parents, prospective parents and our kids in the Greater Philadelphia region through advocacy, education and family-centered events. Dues and donations are tax-deductible. Join now!

4. Make it possible for us to continue to **expand the Family Zones** that we sponsor at Philly Pride (June 14) and OutFEST (October 11) with more fun for the kids. Join now!

5. Allow PFP to **dream big and expand** our support of LGBTQ prospective parents, parents and our kids with a resource guide, support groups and more to shift our group's offerings as the needs of the community evolve.

[Join or renew now!](#) Memberships are tracked by calendar year, so if you haven't given in 2015, it's time to join or renew now!

Read more about PFP in an interview with staffer Stephanie Haynes in the [Philanthropy Friday column of GPhilly](#). In December, the PFP Board voted to promote Stephanie from Community Coordinator to Executive Director.

Member Milestone

♥ Welcome Chloe Isabel, born on Thursday, November 20th at 3:31pm weighing 6 lbs 4 oz and measuring 20" in length.

Congratulations to proud parents Chris and Matt and big brother Lucas.

If you have a milestone you'd like included in next month's newsletter, please reply to this message with the details and a photo. Thanks!



UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, February 4: Meet up

with other LGBT parents and kids 5 and under at the free [Smith Playhouse](#) on the first Wednesday of each month.

Sunday, February 15: Join PFP on a trip to the [Crayola Factory](#) in Easton, PA. Lots of fun for the whole family and great group discount.

March 7-8: [Neighborhood potlucks](#) are back with a set of get-togethers in and around Philadelphia this March weekend. If you'd like to host, e-mail [Stephanie Haynes](#).

Wednesday, April 8: Come out on a weeknight and see [David Sedaris with PFP at the Keswick Theater](#). We have six tickets left at a discount, so act now. The show is sure to sell out. As always, parents nights out are also for prospective parents!

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



Letter from the Chair, Robin Matthews

Happy 2015!

How is it already February? Y'know, winter lasts pretty much just as long every year. We have the same threat of snowstorms, blustery cold days, and then surprise warm-ups every year. The days start getting longer at the end of December just like clockwork and yet, still, when we hit February and I can start to see spring on the horizon – every year, I am surprised.

I remember when I had my son, a good friend told me that “the days are long and the years are short,” and as the seasons start to shift, I always remember that. Lucky for us, we have such good friends with whom to spend our long days!



PFP has plenty on the calendar to last through these winter afternoons. There is a trip to the Crayola Experience in Easton, a SkyZone outing, and a Parents' and Prospective Parents' Night Out (to see David Sedaris – did you get your tickets yet?) and more to come (Phillies! The Flower Show! Smith Playground! Great Wolf Lodge!)

Also, with the addition of a Youth Programming board member this year, we will be putting fun events on the calendar geared especially for the teens and tweens in our group. Ideas like swimming parties, roller-skating, and ice-skating have been tossed around. (Do you or your kids have more ideas? Email them to voel@phillyfamilypride.org. We'd love to hear them!)

stephanie@phillyfamilypride.org. We'd love to hear from you!

It's going to be a great year, Philly Family Pride. I can't wait to see so many of your smiling faces in the coming months!

Stay warm,

Robin



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.

SUPPORT PHILADELPHIA FAMILY PRIDE
Support our work by [joining](#), [renewing your membership](#), making a donation or volunteering.

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



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