



Out & About

News and notes for LGBT-parented families

MAY 2015



Family Matters Conference Keynote Announced

The planning committee for this year's Philly Family Pride **Family Matters Conference** is excited to announce that this year's keynote speaker will be Pennsylvania's Physician General **Dr. Rachel Levine**.

Dr. Levine is the highest ranking out transgender woman in Pennsylvania's state government and will be honored at this year's Philly Pride as the parade's Grand Marshal. In her role as Physician General, Dr. Levine advises the governor and secretary of the Department of Health on medical and public health-related issues.



Before being tapped for her current position in Gov. Wolf's cabinet, Dr. Levine, a resident of Middletown, Pennsylvania, was a professor of Pediatrics and Psychiatry at the Penn State Milton S. Hershey Medical Center, where she also served as chief of the Division of Adolescent Medicine and Eating Disorders, a program she created. She has also worked actively with the school's Office of Diversity, mentoring LGBT students, faculty and staff, and she sits on the board of Equality PA.

This year's conference will take place on **Saturday, October 17** from 9am-4pm at the **Children's Hospital of Philadelphia's** main building. The theme and subject of Dr. Levine's talk will be "Mind, Body and Soul: Taking care of ourselves and our families."

To help us plan the rest of the programming for the conference, [please fill out this short survey](#) with your ideas and proposals. The deadline is June 19th.

The next meeting of the planning committee will take place on June 7th in Ardmore, PA. E-mail PFP Director Stephanie Haynes at stephanie@phillyfamilypride.org if you'd like to participate.



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PFP Trip to Great Wolf Lodge and more

PFP families enjoyed several fun activities in May. The highlight was a trip to **Great Wolf Lodge in the Poconos** on Mothers' Day weekend, led by PFP Treasurer Andreah Sanders.



The group had a great time in the water park, and a nice dinner out together. The kids also enjoyed running around the resort playing the MagiQuest game.

Because this is such a popular trip for our members, we are looking into adding a second trip for this year in the fall. Stay tuned for more details.

In addition to leading the Great Wolf Lodge trip, Andreah also stepped up and led the PFP group at the **New Hope Pride Parade** on Saturday, May 16.



After their part in the parade, the families watched the rest of the festivities and then went out to lunch together.

On Saturday, May 2, PFP board member Tracy Smith led a Spring Hike through the Wissahickon Gorge in Fairmount Park.

Check out the upcoming events listing below for PFP events in June and July.

PFP on LesBe Real Radio

PFP Director Stephanie Haynes was the featured guest on the [LesBe Real Radio](#) show on Thursday, May 17 on the topic of LGBT parenting.

The show was broadcast live from the [G-Town Radio](#) studio in the Germantown section of Philadelphia.

Stephanie and the hosts Kati "Jazz" Gray-Sadler, DeAnn Cox and Jess Branans discussed everything from Philly Family Pride programming to what it's like raising twins.



Thanks to LesBeReal Media for having us on as guests and for helping promote Philadelphia Family Pride!

Member Milestones

* On May 2nd, after 23 years together, former PFP Board Chair **Doug Metcalfe and Brian Lahmann** were married before friends, family and their two daughters: Helen, age 13 and Sara, age 8.

The ceremony was performed by Judge Dan Anders at Stokesay Castle in Reading, PA.

Doug led PFP through a rebranding effort, web redesign and updating of the bylaws in 2007-2008 and served as PFP Board Chair for four years.



Congratulations!

* After 10 years together, PFP members **David D'Amico and Brad Kushner** got married on May 8th surrounded by close friends and family and their son, Noah.

David said, "It was a perfect day, and we're already looking forward to renewing our vows in another 10 years!"

David served on the PFP board in 2014 as a prospective parent.



Congratulations guys!

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 30: See "The Jungle Book" at the Arden Theatre with PFP at noon on May 30. Group discount available for PFP members. [More.](#)



Tuesday, June 9 and Saturday, June 13: Philly Dyke March! Participate in the [pre-march craft night](#) at William Way and [rally and march](#) for dyke visibility.

Sunday, June 14: Ride the PFP trolley and visit the family zone at [Philly Pride](#)! Meet to ride the trolley at 12th and Locust at 11am and then stop by the Family Zone at the festival at Penn's Landing.

Saturday, June 20: Join PFP families at the Franklin Institute for the ["Art of the Brick" exhibit](#) of sculptures made from Legos by artist Nathan Sawaya. Exact time and discounted ticket prices TBA.



Saturday, June 20: PFP is sponsoring an info session for LGBT parents and prospective parents at the William Way Center at 3pm on the topic of fostering kids and the foster-to-adopt process.

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. Volunteer to help out in the Family Zone by replying to this e-mail.

Save these dates:

Saturday, July 11: PFP's Summer Picnic, Fairmount Park, exact location TBA

Saturday, August 15: PFP Day Trip to Ocean City, NJ

September 11-13: PFP Camping Trip to Wharton State Forest in NJ

Saturday, September 26: Trip to Diggerland

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.



From the PFP Blog: Social Media and Our Kids

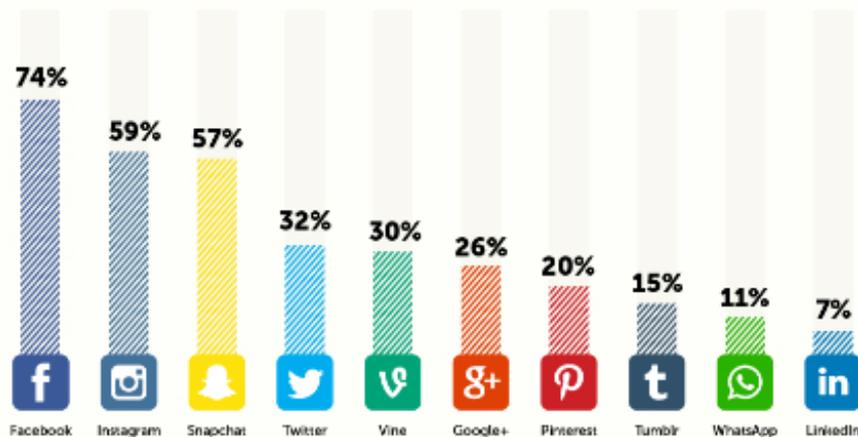
*We are hosting a guest post by **Amy Williams** a social worker who specializes in helping parents understand how to navigate technology and the digital life that their tweens and teens are immersed in. This issue is fresh in our minds after last year's conference theme was "Our Families and the Future" and there were many discussions about social media and their impact on our children's futures. I hope our members find this infographic helpful. -Sandra Telep, Vice-Chair*

Social media has been popular among teens for quite a few years now, but for LGBT teens and children of LGBT parents, the issues run deeper than that – one message copied and spread without their consent could reveal their orientation in front of their peers before they're ready, and that's a big problem. Unfortunately, many teens are exposed to shaming and gender stereotypes on social media everyday, and aren't aware of the dangers until something goes badly wrong – but those who care are constantly looking for new ways of improving their privacy.

If your teen is worried about how they'll be treated at school – which is perfectly understandable, given their increased chance of being bullied – you may want to keep a closer eye on what they're saying and help them understand how a message they post without thinking could wind up hurting them. Effective monitoring software can help you keep an eye on what's going on until they're ready to handle it on their own.



ACCORDING TO A 2015 SURVEY OF 12-25 YEAR-OLDS...



[See the rest of the infographic on our blog.](#)



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

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