

BURSTING through

Storytelling Workshop

The Power of Community & Storytelling



Bursting Through is a Social Justice Movement for Allies and the Queer Community.

**Our mission is to help create sustainable equality
and safety for the Queer community.**

Our method is storytelling.

**Through storytelling, we have created a safe space for
Allies and the Queer Community to come together on a
balanced platform where everyone's story is valued.**

Did you know? 55% of the adult US population identify as LGBTQ+ supporters.

And... the percentage of US adults who self identify as gay, bisexual, transgender or something other than heterosexual has increased to 7.1%.

Yet... anti-LGBTQ+ mobilization has significantly increased in recent years. Legislation targeting LGBTQ+ rights more than doubled in 2023 and 26 states now have book bans in place banning books with a LGBTQ+ people or themes.

So... anti-LGBTQIA+ rhetoric, violence and legislation at the state level are on the rise even though the LGBTQ+ community is growing and some federal protections have been put in place.

WHY? Because, we (Allies and the LGBTQ+ Community) are not as visible and verbal as the LGBTQ+ hate movement.

WHY ARE WE LESS VISIBLE?

HATE IS ORGANIZED.

Hate groups are grassroots, highly organized and constantly taking action. They have won significant battles at all levels of American government and society - from local school boards to the federal courts.

We (Allies and the Queer Community) are not as organized and actionable. We tend to rely too heavily on huge political organizations like HRC and PFLAG to do the heavy lifting, counteract the hate and solve the problem.

WE CAN AND WILL CHANGE THAT.

OUR SOLUTION: Storytelling Workshops

Bursting Through Storytelling Workshops will:

- 1.** Be intentional about counteracting LGBTQ+ hate by working with community organizations at the grassroots level.
- 2.** Strengthen community organizations by connecting Allies and the Queer Community through the power of storytelling.
- 3.** Empower Allies with the actions to take and how to take them safely and effectively.

“There is no power greater than a community discovering what it cares about.”

-Margaret J. Wheatley



THE STORYTELLING WORKSHOP STRUCTURE

Part I: Storytelling

Bursting Through Founder, Steve Petersen begins each Workshop with sharing a relevant and powerful story from **Bursting Through's** library.

Part II: Your Story

Following the story is a guided discussion leading to an interactive experience allowing your workshop participants to explore and share their **Allyship stories**.

Part III: Understandings and moving forward

In the final part of the workshop, **Steve** summarizes what your participants, as a group, have realized and gives concrete steps to move forward.

WHY BOOK Storytelling Workshops?

Booking one or more Bursting Through's Storytelling Workshops will:

- **Introduce your community to a grassroots movement working to counteract the effective work being done by the anti-LGBTQ+ movements.**
- **Give your community members an opportunity to join the conversation and let their voices be heard.**
- **Create a safe environment where people can share their true selves, be heard and learn from each other.**
- **Show your communities commitment to equality for the LGBTQ+ community and further your commitment to diversity and inclusion.**
- **Pave the way for continuing member conversation, better relationships and put people on the path to Active Allyship.**

THE POWER OF COMMUNITY





Judith Whitmer

"I can't express how grateful I am to Steve Petersen and for the incredible work being done by Bursting Through. We were proud to host a joint session with Bursting Through at our 2022 State Party Convention and were amazed not just by the incredible stories that were shared there but by the conversation and community it fostered and the inspiration we were left with.

Now more than ever, we need to hear the voices of our LGBTQ+ community, and the phenomenal work Bursting Through is doing is not only giving those voices a platform but bringing activists, advocates, and allies together!

The stories that Bursting Through offers are so much more than just reminders to value and care for each other - they're calls to action. They're living records of the ongoing struggle for true inclusion and equality, and just as importantly, they serve as all-important proof that the battles we face, no matter how difficult, can be won!"

Judith Whitmer, former Chair of the Nevada State Democratic Party and Bursting Through fan.

ABOUT STEVE



Steve Petersen

Steve Petersen is the founder of Bursting Through, the storytelling movement for Allies and the Queer Community. Steve's 27-year marketing and visual merchandising career took him on a journey from rural Iowa to Fortune 500 companies in Manhattan. While his professional success informed much of his life's work, the journey of coming out in his mid-20s cemented his core values of compassion, courage, and change. These values are the heartbeat of the Bursting Through Movement and drive him in his mission to create sustainable equality and safety for the Queer Community.

“My professional and personal experience created a unique combination of skills that allow me to connect deeply and meaningfully with your workshop participants. They will leave with a renewed awareness of each other, the human experience and Allyship“

Storytelling Workshops pricing.

Bursting Through Storytelling Workshops are priced with the flat fee for a Workshop + travel.

ONE WORKSHOP INCLUDES:

- 60 minute interactive workshop
 - Complimentary follow-up at two and four-week intervals.
 - A story featuring your organizations allyship actions on Bursting Through ONLINE.
 - (YOUR ORGANIZATION) listed as a life- long coalition partner on Bursting Through's website.
 - Complimentary table for 4 OR viewing party package for Bursting Through's 2024 National Out Ally Day Celebration.
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\$2000 per workshop + Travel Expenses

ASK ABOUT OUR MEMBERSHIP, MILITARY or MULTIPLE WORKSHOP DISCOUNTS.

Book your Storytelling Workshop now



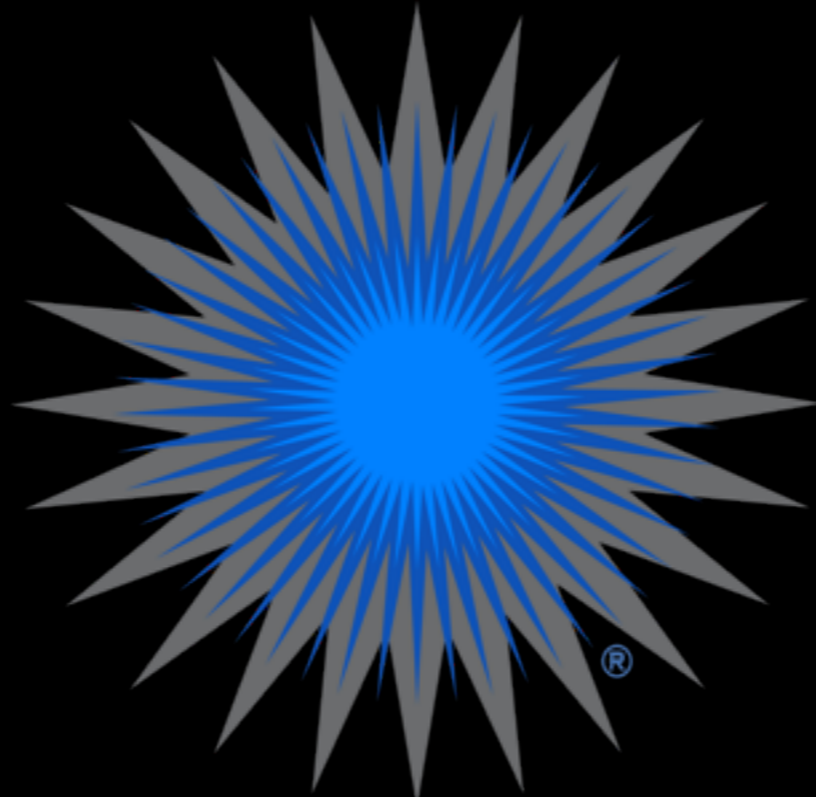
Steve Petersen

Schedule a 30- Minute
Discovery Call with Steve.

Email: Steve@burstingthrough.gay

Phone: 515-554-1132

“The most powerful, effective way to foster compassion, empathy, and understanding is through the superpower of storytelling.”



Thank you!

BURSTING through® LLC

nglcc 
Certified LGBT
Business Enterprise®

vc VEGAS
CHAMBER™
PROUD MEMBER