



Cathy Renna, Communications Director

It is my honor and pleasure to support the nomination of Empress Coco LaChine, Queen Mother of the Imperial Court of New York and Queen Mother of the Universe as Queen Mother II of the Americas.

I have known coco since my very early days as an activist in the 90's when they were on the board of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation / New York (GLAAD) and I was a new activist working with the Washington DC chapter. Coco has always been a role model for their integrity, poise, and impact as a voice for our community.

When I returned home to New York, Coco again became a fixture of my life as someone I saw all the time at protests, rallies, and events in good times and difficult times for our community.

Most recently, it has been truly an honor to partner with them to organize the annual event at the Stonewall Inn adding names of trailblazers to the National LGBTQ Wall of Honor. Founded by the Imperial Court in 2019, the Wall of Honor is a physical manifestation of our history in a place where it can never be erased. For several years it was a smaller event, but since partnering in my capacity as Communications Director for the National LGBTQ Task Force, a partner in this endeavor from the beginning, the event has grown into a highly visible and extremely well attended event during NYC Pride week and a highlight for many.

Coco was an integral part of this growth from 2021 to 2024 as we co-hosted the event in collaboration with the current Queen Mother, who was the founder of the Wall of Honor.

I can think of no one more appropriate or qualified to take on this position than Coco, who has dedicated their life to our LGBTQ+ community and movement for liberation and in this role will further build a legacy of work towards liberation and will contribute to our honoring of LGBTQ+ history as we continue to add the names of trailblazers and changemakers to the Wall of Honor.

Cathy Renna

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