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Jax Gay Magazine is published every first Friday of the month (12 issues/year).

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# **WHO WE ARE**

Jax Gay Mag LLC is the ONLY LGBT+ Publication in Northeast Florida. With monthly readership of approximately 300,000.

Our mission is to promote North Florida and especially in Jacksonville, as a welcoming LGBT+ destination through marketing and events.

Jax Gay Mag produces many events throughout year. Visit www.JaxGayMag.com for more information.

Jax Gay Mag LLC also plans to launch our Jax Event Center & LGBT+ Art Gallery in Fall of 2026.

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MEN, **STUCK** IN THE **OFF** POSITION?

WE CAN HELP WITH THE **P-SHOT** 

GENTLEMEN, LETS FACE IT, ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION IS A TOUCHY SUBJECT.

We'd rather not talk about it, however, the National Institute of Health estimates that over 30 million American men currently suffer from the inability to perform and while it is more common with age, it does affect younger men.

hile sexual dysfunction is common, it is not normal. Previously, it was widely assumed that E.D. was an inevitable consequence of aging. We now know that this is simply not true. And as we learn more about this condition, more treatment

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- · Drug Side Effects
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options become available.

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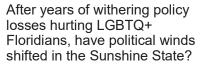


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# Have LGBTQ+ Rights In Florida Reached A Turning Point? By William Blake



An Equality Florida press conference on Wednesday felt unusually celebratory following the possible death of two bills in the Florida Senate that appeared to be fresh attacks on the queer community.

"We the people are speaking out against this," said Florida Sen. Carlos Guillermo Smith, an out Democrat representing the Orlando area. "As a result of those 1,000-plus comment cards that were submitted in a certain Senate committee, two bad bills were pushed off of the agenda."

He referenced bills that would have prohibited state contractors and local governments from using preferred pronouns for LGBTQ+ employees and repealed the weighing of minority diversity in awarding contracts. After a flood of critics requested to speak during public comment at a Senate Government Oversight and Accountability hearing on Tuesday, both bills were tabled and listed on the state website

as "Not considered." Of note, a representative of Republican Senate President Ben Albritton said the bills can still be taken up at a later meeting if the committee desires.

Those bills were among a relatively small number flagged as concerning to LGBTQ+ advocates in Tallahassee this year.

That may be because Florida has already repealed many rights and representation efforts in the state. Gov. Ron DeSantis already chipped away at bathroom access for transgender people, diversity programs at Florida universities, and even recognition of self-identified gender markers on state IDs.

But in the wake of DeSantis's failed presidential campaign and a general tiring among even Republican lawmakers of waging culture wars in Tallahassee, advocates suggested the tide may just have turned.

"We see it as a hopeful sign that far fewer bills specifically targeting the LGBTQ community have been filed this year," said Stratton Pollitzer, deputy director of Equality Florida. "Maybe, just maybe,



more legislators are growing tired of the cruelty."

It's not just legislation.
Angelique Godwin, director of transgender equality for Equality Florida, said even moving around the capitol feels more welcoming for transgender people than in recent years.

"I'm sharing the bathroom with senators and Republicans and Christian people today," she said, "and not one person has had a bad thing to say about me. Not one person has been scared of me."

Advocates and allies said that's something progressive advocates and LGBTQ individuals should note, especially after Florida for years put anti-LGBTQ+ policies into place in a state once seen as a refuge in the South from discrimination.

Florida Rep. Anna Eskamani, a straight ally who also hails from Orlando, said she's been frustrated by Democrats nationwide shying away from protections of trans rights and said legal victories over bad Florida policies should bolster instead of repel Democratic leaders.

Florida Rep. Anna Eskamani, a straight ally who also hails from Orlando, said she's been frustrated by Democrats nationwide shying away from protections of trans rights and said legal victories over bad Florida policies should bolster instead of repel Democratic leaders.

"What we're experiencing right now is backlash to the progress that we have made," she said. "Remember, that backlash is a reaction to our hope becoming a reality. Don't stop hoping, don't stop fighting, because we are here, we are proud and we are not backing down."

Several out lawmakers appeared at the press conference, including Florida Reps. Michele Rayner and Mitch Rosenwald. Their mere presence showed advances in the state from 20 years ago, and Rayner said that representation was a positive sign.

"My mother used to talk about being unshakable and being unmovable," she said. "And when you begin to take up space, especially in places they say that you can't have space, you become unshakable and unmovable."









Lexi Love Comes Out As HIV+ By Ariel Sampson

Lexi Love may be best known as the high-energy queen from season 17 of RuPaul's Drag Race, but today, she's making waves by sharing her HIV status and calling out the Trump administration.

When President Donald Trump's team overhauled the official White House website on inauguration day, not only was the Spanish-language version of the site taken down and the accessibility features wiped out, but all references to the LGBTQ+ community and HIV resources were pulled down from federal government webpages

In the wake of the wake of this move by Trump, the trans queen took to Instagram to speak out and seems to have announced that she's HIVpositive in the process.

"I actually utilized the

"My health and well being as an entertainer is at risk now." Lexi wrote about the information being pulled from the White House website. "I am personally affected by this stance and will work to use this new platform to not only find resources for myself but those who I am connected to socially and here! I'm so sorry everyone! This is hard and it's frustrating and it's insulting."

While the post was mostly met with support from followers, some people were rude and clearly didn't understand why having HIV information and resources on a government website is important.

When someone asked if people her trans identity and Trump actually turn to the federal government website for those resources, Lexi opened up and shared her own personal experience.

government funded program for over 10 years and it's the only reason that I am alive today," she responded.

"My heart is broken for the lack of education surrounding HIV protection in our community; I really did not think that I would have to explain myself like this today but it seems appropriate and necessary," she captioned a screenshot of the back-andforth she had with the commenter.

Lexi has now joined a long line of drag queens who put themselves at risk by speaking truth to power, which is even more impressive considering making it clear with an executive order that only the binary male and female genders would be recognized by the government.







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# Injection Could Offer Years Of Birth Control With One Shot

By Mrigakshi Dixit

In the near future, drug injections could be less painful and less frequent.

Many medications, like contraceptives or treatments for chronic conditions, require regular, painful injections.

MIT engineers have developed a new, less painful drug delivery system using injectable crystal suspensions. These crystals form a long-lasting "depot" under the skin, releasing medication over months or years, and reducing the need for frequent injections.

"We showed that we can have very controlled, sustained delivery, likely for multiple months and even years through a small needle," said Giovanni Traverso, an associate professor of mechanical engineering at MIT.

# **Drug Depot Under Skin**

This research focuses on developing improved contraceptive options for women, especially in developing nations.

Some injectable suspensions exist, but they are short-acting. Other long-lasting injectable

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depots require high concentrations of polymers, making them difficult to inject. This new development aims to address these limitations.

The objective was to produce a drug delivery system that could be administered via a thin needle and provide sustained release for six months to two years.

For the development, the team used levonorgestrel, a crystal-forming contraceptive.

It was found that suspending it in biocompatible benzyl benzoate solvent allowed the crystals to form a compact, long-lasting implant after injection. This acted like a self-assembling drug depot under the skin.

The researchers discovered that the solvent's inability to mix with bodily fluids is key for the drug crystals to clump together and form a long-lasting drug reservoir (depot) beneath the skin post-injection.

This method enables easier injection through a thin needle.

"The solvent is critical because it allows you to inject the fluid through a small needle, but once in place, the crystals selfassemble into a drug depot," Traverso added.

# **Shows Promise In Rats**

So how does it work? Researchers can control how quickly the drug is released from the implanted depot by changing its density.

They demonstrated this control by adding small amounts of a biodegradable polymer, polycaprolactone, to the drug formulation.

"By incorporating a very small amount of polymers — less than 1.6 percent by weight — we can modulate the drug release rate, extending its duration while maintaining injectability. This demonstrates the tunability of our system, which can be engineered to accommodate a broader range of contraceptive needs as well as tailored dosing regimens for other therapeutic applications," said Sanghyun Park, MIT graduate student.

In rat studies, the injected drug depots proved stable and released medication steadily for three months.

With 85% of the drug remaining

after this period, the results indicate the depots could potentially provide drug release for significantly longer durations.

If necessary, these compact drug depots can be surgically extracted to halt the treatment before full drug depletion.

The benefits include minimized pain, reduced injection

frequency, and consistent drug delivery.

"We anticipate that the depots could last for more than a year, based on our post-analysis of preclinical data. Follow-up studies are underway to further validate their efficacy beyond this initial proof-of-concept," added Park in the press release.

Researchers believe this drug delivery method could be applied to treat various conditions, including neuropsychiatric disorders, HIV, and tuberculosis. They are now conducting further preclinical studies to prepare for human trials, focusing on how the drug depot assembles in realistic skin conditions.







# **Progressive Spirit**

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Lizzo, Lil Nas X, Kim Petras To Headline WeHo Pride 2025

By Debi Massengill



The "About Damn Time" singer will be performing in the fest as a part of WeHo Pride weekend along with Lil Nas X, Ellie Goulding, Honey Dijon, Paris Hilton, and Kim Petras.

Other artist, bands, and drag performers appearing include Pabllo Vittar, Rebecca Black, Empress Of, Horse Meat Disco, Tommy Genesis, Sasha Colby, Alyssa Edwards, Onya Nurve, Flyana Boss, Alex Chapman, The Knocks x Dragonette with Aquaria, Meredith Marks, Frankie Grande, Corook, Rose Gray, Chrissy Chlapecka, Zoe Gitter,

www.StAugstineFoodandWineFestival.com



Xana, Kalie Shorr, Grant Knoche, Neverending Nina, and Shygirl Presents: Club Shy.

Ryan Mitchell, Hannah Rad, Arisce Wanzer, and Billy Francesca will serve as hosts of the event, which is produced by JJLA.

"At a time when our rights and visibility continue to be challenged, it's more important than ever for the LGBTQ+ community, allies, organizations, and advocates to come together in solidarity," Founder and Executive Producer of OUTLOUD Jeff Consoletti said in a statement. "This festival is a place where

we celebrate and empower queer artists on a massive scale. As we continue to grow, so does our impact in bringing the LGBTQ+ community to the forefront of entertainment."

The OUTLOUD Music Festival at WeHo Pride runs May 31 to June 1, 2025 at the West Hollywood Park from 1pm to midnight. More additions to the lineup will be announced soon, including for a free outdoor concert, courtesy of the City of West Hollywood, taking place on Friday, May 30.

Tickets are officially on sale Tuesday, March 25 at 10 a.m. PST.

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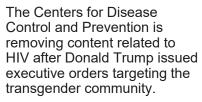




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Trump's Orders Prompt CDC To Erase HIV Resources By Ryan Roberts



The order prohibiting federal agencies from making any mention of "gender ideology" has given staffers little time to implement changes with its deadline of Friday afternoon, resulting in the agency taking down HIV-related pages regardless of if they mentioned gender or not.

Charles Ezell, the acting director of the U.S. office of personnel management titled "Defending Women," sent an email to CDC employees Tuesday, obtained by NBC News, that directly ordered them not to make any references to "gender ideology" and to only recognize two sexes, male and female,

against medical fact.

"The process is underway," an anonymous agency staffer told the outlet. "There's just so much gender content in HIV that we have to take everything down in order to meet the deadline."

Trump's so-called "Defending Women from Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological Truth to the Federal Government" order defines sex as strictly male or female based on a person's assigned sex at birth. This is in opposition to all major medical associations in the United States, which maintain that sex is not binary and that transgender and nonbinary identities are real.

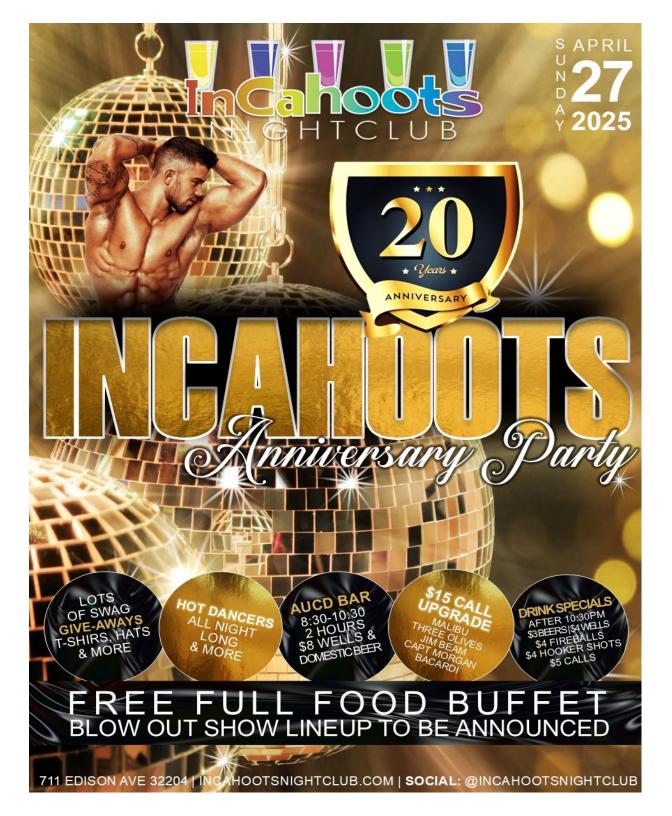
The Trump Administration last week removed references to LGBTQ+ identities and HIVrelated resources from government sites such as



WhiteHouse.gov, the Department of State, and Department of Labor. The removed content included the White House's equity report, information on HIV prevention and treatment, and Pride Month acknowledgments. The Department of Labor's LGBTQ+ workers' rights page and the State Department's LGBTQ+ rights page were also taken down.

"President Trump claims to be a strong proponent of freedom of speech, yet he is clearly committed to censorship of any information containing or related to LGBTQ Americans and issues that we face," GLAAD president and CEO Sarah Kate Ellis said in a statement. "Sadly for him, our community is more visible than ever; and this pathetic attempt to diminish and remove us will again prove unsuccessful."





# LifeStyle

How To Survive The Trump Era? Financial Planning By Nick Wolny



So, uh, that happened. And to quote RuPaul's Drag Race star Shea Coulée: "Why y'all acting brand new?" Project 2025, the Heritage Foundation's literal playbook for the second Trump presidency, is starting to roll out, and erasing queer people is near the top of its to-do list. Have a stress cry about it, drink a glass of rosé on the porch, watch some Law & Order: SVU reruns, and when you're ready, let's get to work.

I won't sugarcoat it: Attacks against LGBTQ+ people will continue for a while in the current national political landscape. And as they occur, queer people should use their resources wisely to protect their physical and mental health.

One of those resources is money. And I don't mean that as throwaway retail therapy advice. (If you have been comfort shopping lately, though, consider buying from an LGBTQ-owned business). Money helps you cultivate safety. It can help you find queer joy and connect in-person with your community, experiences that are increasingly important right now. You have other resources 20 www.JaxGayMaq.com

too, like time and attention, and we want these resources working in your favor as well to assemble a strong defense in a hostile climate.

Consider these five financial priorities in the weeks and months ahead.

## Save More Cash

A common consideration in personal finance is deciding whether to save money or pay down debt faster. Right now, the former is probably better. Federal and state protections are evolving, your city council and school boards are too, and the misinformed "protect families" rhetoric is charged right now. Example: Last November, local officials in Odessa, Texas, passed a law permitting residents who found someone using a bathroom different from the sex they were assigned at birth to sue them for up to \$10,000. (In short: Turn in a trans person, get a bounty.) As such, queer people are making hard decisions right now about whether it's safe to remain in their current communities.

If you decide to relocate, remember that you often can't pay a deposit for a new credit card in another state. You need cash for that. Get some cash into a savings account, preferably one that pays interest so you make a little extra spending money. Pay down high-interest debt like credit cards quickly when you can, but if you're short on savings, prioritize building up those reserves before you put extra money toward lower-interest debts like student loans or a mortgage.

Do what's needed to scrape together a few additional bucks each month to save. This can include picking up some extra hours at work or taking a close look at your expenses. I know you pay for 12 streaming subscriptions and only ever use four of them; put a few on pause and save those coins instead.

# Get Your Estate Plan Together

Not to be morbid, but estate planning documents like a will and a trust can give you peace of mind about the future. That's a feeling we could all use a little more of right about now, and it also might also give you a kick in the pants to figure out what you want to experience in the time you do have on Earth. Two in three Americans don't

have wills, and that number is even higher for queer people; a lot of us have put this one off, and it's adding unnecessary stress.

If something happens and you suddenly become incapacitated or pass away, the last thing you want is for all your assets to go to your homophobic parents (or worse, the government). Estates are managed at the state level, and when you don't have estate documents set up, blood relatives typically inherit your belongings and make decisions on final matters, depending on vour state of residence. If the state can't get in touch with anyone, your assets are eventually seized.

Transgender and nonbinary people should consider naming a funeral representative as part of their estate. This person can help ensure that important end-of -life wishes are carried out, like using your chosen name on a tombstone or being buried in clothing that aligns with your gender identity. Estate planning can feel dark at times, but working on it in your younger years can help you get clarity on what you want both your current and future life to look like.

# **Reorganize Your Information** Sources

For me, the most chilling image of Inauguration Day was the front row of tech billionaires standing shoulder to shoulder to kiss the ring. It reminded me of one of the video interludes in Beyoncé's Renaissance World Tour, when the enormous Jim Morrison guote filled the screen: "Whoever controls the media controls the mind."

Algorithms can suppress queer

content under the false pretense that all queer content is inherently sexual. Your access to finances being one of them. LGBTQ+ sources of information might become more distorted or restricted in the future. Now is a good time to adjust not only your sources of information but also where that information gets delivered.

Consider following your favorite creators' newsletters, websites, or other channels, and make time to read and absorb their information regularly. (Follow Out's newsletter at out.com/ signup.) If able, engage with and share pro-LGBTQ+ information from accounts more often. These actions count as engagement data points and can amplify the content's overall reach.

# **Avoid Legal Catastrophizing**

While we're on the topic of online platforms, also know that they can be a breeding ground for hot takes that are under-researched and/or overblown. Example: At the time of this writing, the Idaho legislature has asked the Supreme Court to revisit Obergefell v. Hodges, the decision that federally recognizes same-sex marriage.

A few things about this. First, the Supreme Court can't go back and just overrule; there has to be a new case that comes forward that would reset the precedent. Second, the Respect for Marriage Act, passed in 2022, codified same-sex and interracial marriages, so if a future ruling changed the Obergefell precedent, same-sex marriage goes back to being state by state. If that happens, the RFM Act does still require states to recognize marriages that were performed legally at the time.

Third, marriage is a big decision with several considerations. Know the legal nuances of what's happening right now regarding LGBTQ+ rights, and resist the urge to make rash conclusions or decisions based on what you see on social media.



# **Budget For More Queer Joy**

It's important to keep spirits up right now. So enjoy life, pursue passions, and spend time cultivating queer joy and doing what you love. But do so in a way that is financially sustainable.

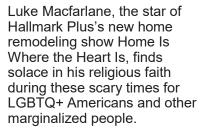
If you already know you're going to go all out for Pride this year, start setting aside money now so you can really enjoy that experience. See if you can make some adjustments and bring more money into your budget each month. Then, sock that money away for those big splurges, adventures, and experiences alongside saving efforts

It's important to take care of ourselves right now. Build your financial foundation now, and it'll be a little easier to stand tall as we face an uncertain future.



# Luke Macfarlane Talks Importance Of Faith & Kindness In A Dark Time

By Renea Warrington



Macfarlane credits the Hallmark Channel, known for its Christmas movies and past religious roots, with supporting his career. His first Hallmark movie. The Memory Book. debuted in 2014. "I've worked with Hallmark a really long time, and they've grown with me, and they've let me try different things, different kinds of characters," he says. "They've let me play an out gay man on their network [2023's Notes of Autumn], so I've been part of their change as well."

In 2025, Macfarlane will be far from the only out host of a home makeover show; Queer Eye looms large in this space as well as Jeff Lewis and the married design duo Nate Berkus and Jeremiah Brent. Macfarlane has a theory as to why this lane is so gaytrodden. "Maybe when you're growing up, and your world



feels a little chaotic and a little scary, the one thing you can order is your clothes and your space and your fashion. So it comes out of a need to feel safe in the world." he mulls.

However, Macfarlane sees himself as carving out his own space. "I'm a maker, and I'm a builder. I'm not great at design, or at least I'm intimidated by fabric. I'm intimidated by color. Pattern freaks me out," he admits. It's an area of expertise where he defers to his cohost, Westbrooks.

But when Macfarlane speaks of homes, he attributes to them something of a soul and an ability to have "lost its way." In transforming a space, he seeks to unearth the house's history and to encourage a family to "honor" that past — framing a cherished grandmother's recipe by the stove, for example, or consulting a local historian about the preferences of painted wood during the Victorian era (a sign of wealth, they learn). "I think we often talk about

wanting to represent ourselves with clothing, but we

don't often do it with the same intents and intentionality as we do with our homes and the spaces we live in," he says.

Macfarlane has taken this care with his own Los Angeles home, an American Craftsman with "beautiful quarter sawn oak paneling" built over a century ago by the owner of a lumberyard. "I think that I sometimes bought a house because of two rooms that were beautifully paneled in wood because I'm a sucker for beautiful wood," he shares.

Macfarlane has created a woodshop in his garage, where — particularly in his downtime between productions — he adds to his home's history by making projects for his family. Noticing a loose cable for his partner's electric car, he built a spool and a hook as a surprise. He also constructed a crib for their daughter, Tess, and is currently trying to complete a tea table for her. "She's gonna be 19 by the time you get this done," his partner, Hig Roberts, joked, as relayed by Macfarlane. (Tess was born in June 2023.) But he sees the table's completion as part of his duty as a dad.

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"I think so much as a first-time parent, you're trying to figure out how to do it," he says. "We borrow from our parents. I borrow from my dad, 'cause I think he did a pretty good job, and so I want to be able to do the same thing for my daughter." The message? "Knowing that someone that you love created this for you."

Fatherhood has changed Macfarlane for the better. "I find I'm so much more loving and compassionate with other ", he marvels. "And I didn't expect that. I spend so much time looking at the world through Tess's eyes and trying to figure out her needs and wants...and so you're tapping into this deep well of attention and empathy for somebody. I do find that that is translated to other people in my life that maybe I was a little more impatient with."

That includes Roberts: "I find that I'm much more sympathetic to his feelings than I think I was before we had a child."

Macfarlane, who is gay, attends church weekly at an Episcopal congregation in Los Angeles. In that inclusive Christian denomination, he sees an alternative to right-wingers' use of religion as a weapon.

"I just wish people [would] operate a little bit more from, How was the other person feeling? rather than telling the person that what they feel is wrong," Macfarlane said in his interview. "It's what I feel like is happening a lot right now is



less asking the question, more demanding the results. It makes me sad."

"At least in my understanding of scripture in the life of Jesus, I don't think that's what he had in mind," he said of moves to cast out marginalized people.

"I'm grateful for a continuing conversation with myself and some really smart, sensitive people about what it means to have faith and live in Los Angeles in 2025, and be openly gay and a parent — but also to surround myself with people that have dedicated their lives to understanding the Bible and scripture and gospel and thinking about that in the time we live and how to care and give back." he added.

He also seeks to practice a kinder version of masculinity. He dislikes a concept of that is "brutal and tough and mean," he said.

"I used to think, Well, if I'm too nice, I'll be a pushover, but [now] I don't think that's true," Macfarlane said. "At least right now at 45, I'm feeling it doesn't hurt you to be kind."

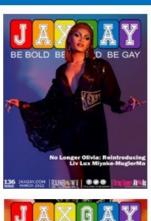
The actor has starred in films including Bros, TV series such as Brothers & Sisters and Platonic, and many Hallmark movies, and he's excited about his new reality series, premiering Thursday, which he hosts with designer Olivia Westbrooks. Home remodeling isn't just a passing fancy for him.

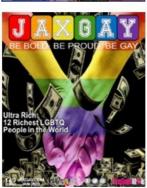
"I'm an actor, design enthusiast, and a woodworker," he says in the intro to the show. "When I'm not on set filming movies, I'm pursuing a passion for carpentry and home renovation, a skill that's been passed down through my family."

In his Out interview, he talked about this passion, being a father to daughter Tess, and his relationship with his husband, Hig Roberts.

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U.S. Scientists Create Jet Fuel From Sunlight By Daniel Bennett



Carbon-neutral aviation, a term that sounds like science fiction. might be around the corner.

For decades, soaring across the sky without leaving behind a trail of carbon emissions has been a shared dream of scientists, environmentalists. and industry leaders alike.

Now, that dream is closer to becoming a reality thanks to the trailblazing work of researchers at Caltech, who have developed a solar-powered system that could change the future of sustainable flight.

They've successfully built a small-scale photothermocatalytic reactor that runs entirely on solar power without depending on electricity or fossil fuels.

This reactor captures solar heat and uses it to drive chemical reactions necessary to create fuel, bringing the world closer to carbon-neutral aviation

# Multi-Layer Solar Absorber For Maximum Efficiency

This reactor stands out because its sophisticated solar

absorber is carefully engineered to retain as much heat as possible while reducing losses.

The device features a layered structure of silicon, germanium, and gold, all deposited onto a silver base.

Above this assembly sits a quartz window, allowing sunlight to enter, and a vacuum layer that helps insulate the system.

"We're not competing with concentrated solar technology, where you can reach up to 2,700 suns," explains Aisulu Aitbekova, co-author of the study and a Kavli Nanoscience Institute Postdoctoral Scholar Research Associate at Caltech.

"We're looking for a complementary technology, which can be used in areas where concentrated solar is not fossil fuels," says Harry feasible "

The result is a reactor that can reach temperatures up to 249° C under direct sunlight and maintain around 130°C during normal operation.

These conditions are sufficient to drive ethylene oligomerization—a process that from fossil fuels, the LiSA team

converts simple hydrocarbon molecules into longer chains, the essential components of jet fuel.

# Clean Jet Fuel Creation Without Exploiting Fossil **Fuels**

The Caltech team demonstrated that their solar-powered reactor could take ethylene, a two-carbon molecule, and turn it into alkenes with seven to 26 carbon atoms—the exact range in conventional jet fuel.

This is accomplished without relying on burning fossil fuels or using external electricity.

"This device demonstrates that the heat generated by abundant solar energy can be used to directly drive catalytic processes, which has normally been done using electricity or Atwater, director of LiSA and Howard Hughes Professor of Applied Physics and Materials Science at Caltech.

# Path To Fully Renewable Aviation

While the current process starts with ethylene derived

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has made progress on producing ethylene from carbon dioxide, water, and sunlight alone.

This means that both steps can be driven entirely by solar energy, making ethylene and transforming it into fuel. "So, now we show two steps: First, we use CO2, water, and sunlight to make ethylene, and then we do ethylene oligomerization. And solar energy is the only energy input to the system," Aitbekova adds. This achievement paves the

way for sustainable and carbon -neutral fuel production.

With aviation among the hardest sectors to decarbonize, this breakthrough brings hope for a cleaner sky.

The study is published in the journal Device.



MEN, **STUCK** IN THE **OFF** POSITION?

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GENTLEMEN, LETS FACE IT, ERECTILE DYSFUNCTION IS A TOUCHY SUBJECT.

We'd rather not talk about it, however, the National Institute of Health estimates that over 30 million American men currently suffer from the inability to perform and while it is more common with age, it does affect younger men.

hile sexual dysfunction is common, it is not normal. Previously, it was widely assumed that E.D. was an inevitable consequence of aging. We now know that this is simply not true. And as we learn more about this condition, more treatment

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- Hypertension
- Atherosclerosis
- Hormone Imbalances
- · Neurological Disorders
- Drug Side Effects
- Obesity

options become available.

Traditionally, E.D. was treated with surgery, devices, medications and possibly hormone replacement therapy. All of which may work for a time but carry with them potentially damaging side effects or inconveniences, however, there are alternatives.

The providers at Riddle Wellness/ Northeast Florida Wellness in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fl have another option for men seeking lasting improvements in sexual performance. It's safe, natural and designed to use only your body's own healing powers to enhance and rejuvenate male sexual performance. It's called the P-Shot®

The P-Shot® or Priapus-Shot is a male regenerative procedure designed to use your own platelets and plasma, otherwise known as PRP which are extracted from your own blood. It is carefully introduced into certain areas, which cause natural healing and tissue growth.

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- Virtually painless
- No downtime
- No allergic reactions

Potentiates the effect of other E.D. medications like Viagra, Cialis, especially in cases where effects of these medications are dwindling.

# Is the P-Shot® a New Procedure?

The P-Shot® is a fairly new procedure, but the PRP technique has been around for decades and has been used in countless other medical applications. The PRP-PRFM (platelet rich fibrin matrix) techniques are commonly used to enhance, heal and rejuvenate tissues by promoting neovascularization (formation of new blood vessels and increasing blood supply).

# Who Can Benefit From the P-Shot®?

Anyone who wants to enhance length, girth and function, along with anyone looking for enhanced sexual stiumulation.



# How Long is the Procedure and is there Down Time?

The P-Shot® procedure will take 20 minutes or less and there is no downtime after the treatment. You can return to normal activity immediately and it is encouraged.

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# Denmark Issue U.S. With Travel Advisory For Transgender Travelers

By Drew Williams



Denmark Has Joined A
Growing List Of Countries Issuing Travel Advisories To
Transgender Travelers Looking
To Visit The U.S. Donald
Trump Issued An Executive
Order Curtailing The Rights Of
The Transgender Community
In January, Which Has Led The
U.S. To Cease Issuing
Passports With X Gender
Markers And To Not Allow
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Passports.

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Us Embas
For Guida
Proceed."
The Minis
Trump's E
Defending
Gender Id
And Resto
To The Fe
Although
Reference
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Orders Sie

The Ministry Of Foreign Affairs For Denmark Issued The Advisory On Its Page Dedicated To Danish Citizens Traveling To The U.S. The Foreign Ministry Did Not Advise Transgender Folks To Avoid Travel To The U.S. But Warned That They Should Contact U.S. Embassy Officials If Their Passport's Gender Marker Does Not Match Their Sex Assigned At Birth.

"When Applying For An Esta Or Visa To The United States, There Are Two Gender Designations To Choose From: Male Or Female," The Ministry Wrote On Its Travel Website. "If Your Passport Has The Gender Designation X Or You Have Changed Gender, It Is 30 www.JaxGayMag.com

Recommended To Contact The Under Section 2 Of This Order; Us Embassy Prior To Travel For Guidance On How To Proceed."

Under Section 2 Of This Order; And The Director Of The Office Of Personnel Management Shall Ensure That Applicable

The Ministry Is Responding To Trump's Executive Order Titled Defending Women From Gender Ideology Extremism And Restoring Biological Truth To The Federal Government, Although The Order Is Not Referenced In The Advisory. It Was One Of The Dozens Of Orders Signed On Trump's First Day In Office Of His Second Term.

While The Order Primarily Bars Trans Women And Girls From Competing In Women's Sports And Using Changing And Restroom Facilities That Align With Their Gender Identity, It Also Sets New Guidelines For Documentation And Gender Markers.

"The Secretaries Of State And Homeland Security, And The Director Of The Office Of Personnel Management, Shall Implement Changes To Require That Government-Issued Identification Documents, Including Passports, Visas, And Global Entry Cards, Accurately Reflect The Holder's Sex. As Defined

Under Section 2 Of This Order; And The Director Of The Office Of Personnel Management Shall Ensure That Applicable Personnel Records Accurately Report Federal Employees' Sex, As Defined By Section 2 Of This Order."

With The Advisory, Denmark Joins A Growing List Of Nations Warning Transgender Citizens About Passport Issues They May Encounter When Visiting The U.S. Finland, Germany, And The United Kingdom Have Issued Similar Warnings, The Associated Press Reports.

For Its Part, The U.S. Department Of State Last Year Issued An Advisory For U.S. Citizens Considering Travel To Denmark, Warning Visitors To "Exercise Increased Caution In The Kingdom Of Denmark Due To Terrorism" On Its Website.

North Florida's ONLY LGBTQ+ Publication



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Khalid To Perform At WorldPride — First Pride Event Since Being Outed By Greg Combs

R&B star Khalid is the latest musician to be added to the WorldPride festival lineup in Washington D.C.!

Alongside 2AM Ricky and Brooke Eden Hoover, Khalid is among the latest performers set to join the "free WorldPride DC Street Festival + Closing Concert with Doechii on Sunday, June 8th!" The Instagram announcement from Capital Pride Alliance & WorldPride Washington, DC 2025 adds, "We're so excited to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Pride In Our Nation's Capital with this incredible lineup."

The largest LGBTQ+ music festival in history takes place between June 6 and 8 in Washington D.C. — and it is



just a small part of the city's full month of LGBTQ+ celebrations from May 17-June 8. Khalid, alongside Cynthia Erivo and Doechii, will headline the free event on June 8. Jennifer Lopez, Troye Sivan, and RuPaul are set to headline the June 6-7 celebrations alongside Tinashe, Kim Petras, Sasha Colby, and more.

The upcoming performance marks Khalid's first time appearing on a Pride lineup, and is the singer's first Pride performance since being outed last year.

The Grammy Award-nominated singer, who was quiet about his sexuality throughout his career, came out in November after social media personality Hugo D Almonte posted a photo of

the two together captioned "Bitch ass [ninja emoji] lied and said that I broke into his house cause I didn't want him."

Social media speculation began to swirl, and Khalid eventually felt the need to post a rainbow flag emoji alongside exclamation points on X/ Twitter, followed by, "There y'all go. Next topic please lol."

He then wrote, "I got outted and the world still continues to turn. Let's get this straight (Imao) I am not ashamed of my sexuality! In reality it ain't nobodies business! But I am okay with me. love yall."

Despite the upsetting circumstances, it's exciting to see Khalid living his truth and celebrating Pride with his community!





# LifeStyle

Why Social Security Is An LGBTQ+ Right
By Marcus Nixon



If you grow old with your partner, and they pass away before you do, you'd continue to receive their Social Security benefits. These are called survivor's benefits, and about 4 million Americans receive them, with the average payout being around \$1,500 a month.

For a long time, though, gueer people in same-sex marriages and civil unions weren't eligible for this money, which is fucked up. It was only in 2013, in United States v. Windsor, that inheritances and Social Security survivor's benefits began to include couples in same-sex partnerships. Later district cases, like 2020's Thornton v. Saul. found that queer widows who should have received survivor's benefits but didn't due to thendiscriminatory laws can claim the back pay (Thornton was a class-action lawsuit).

Social Security is that thing your granny complained about when her monthly check hadn't vet arrived in the mail. It's that extra tax that nips a few extra employee paycheck (and does so with enough charisma, uniqueness, nerve, and talent to get its own box on your W-2 tax form). The bigger picture is that Social Security is a

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program that creates financial stability for millions, and in today's shifting politics, its future feels uncertain.

Since queer elders are more likely to financially struggle than their straight counterparts, programs like Social Security help many of them live their lives with dignity. They're also twice as likely to be single and living alone, and four times as likely to not have children. according to SAGE, an advocacy and services organization for LGBTQ+ elders. Social Security is often a lifeline for retirees, grieving family members, and people with disabilities, which is why you should keep an eye on the Trump administration's efforts to change it.

Queer or not, Americans depend on Social Security income, uh, a lot. One analysis found that, for half of the 65 million people who receive benefits, this money accounts for at least half their monthly income. For one in five, it was 90 percent or more of their dollars from your twice-a-month income. This is because a lot of people can't or won't save enough money to retire, and retirement in this country is becoming more difficult to reach. As such, Social Security is a way to help those in need; it is evidence of a civilized

society.

Now, the system isn't perfect. The most recent efforts to downsize Social Security position the cuts as a way to reduce fraud, and yes, there is some fraud. Fraud often means identity theft, but could also mean things like faking a disability or not reporting a loved one's death to keep the checks flowing. But it doesn't mean vampire conspiracies (and yes, that tweet, or whatever we call 'em these days, was real).

There's also the fact that you pay into Social Security all your life, but don't get to glean the benefits of doing so until much, much later (you can make a profile on SSA.gov for free if you want to see your progress for planning purposes). And then there's insolvency, the ongoing fear that eventually more money from Social Security will pay out than come in and the whole thing will go belly-up.

Anti-billionaire discourse is quite trendy these days, so let me also mention that taxing billionaires even a wee bit would solve a lot of these shortfalls. Social Security never forecasted that this much of America's wealth would be disproportionately held by the

top one percent. Since Social Security tax is only applied to the queer people live better lives by first \$176,100 of earnings annually, the super-rich who made eleventy-million dollars last year (\*brings pinky to lip and makes pouty Dr. Evil face\*) pay very little compared to what they earn.

My goal as a writer is to help learning about personal finance. One aspect of this is understanding the basics of when they dominate news headlines, you feel informed on what's going on rather than

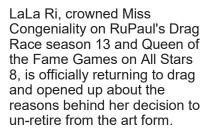
overwhelmed. This helps you not only plan for your future, but also be more socially and politically engaged in the present. When we help protect queer elders and things like Social Security so that other vulnerable populations, we tap back into empathy and keep our culture alive.





# Drag Race star LaLa Ri **Returning To Drag**

By Jason Willis



After sharing a few cryptic posts on social media suggesting that a drag comeback was potentially in the works, the iconic Drag Race fan-favorite has now confirmed that she is, indeed, bringing back The LaLa Ri Experience in full force.

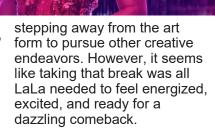
"I'm dusting the heels off and returning back to the stage," LaLa Ri tells Out. "After a period of rest and reflection, I realized my heart is the most full when I'm performing in drag surrounded by the love and energy of the community that has always lifted me up. I see it as sense of revival, restoring

life back into my drag and awakening it with new energy."

She adds, "Also, due to the current political climate, we need joy now more than ever - one thing that my drag has always brought."

LaLa has been called the ultimate "homegirl" of the Drag Race franchise for years now. In season 13 and All Stars 8. she was a fan-favorite queen in the lip syncs, challenges, confessionals, runways, performances, and beyond with even her lowest points on the show (like a fashion fumble in "The Bag Ball") spawning thousands of viral memes across the Drag Race aueendom.

In November 2024, LaLa shocked fans with the announcement that she was "leaving the drag behind" and



This summer, LaLa is hosting a new series of events that she created, Rivival, which aims to combine "the energy of underground raves, the pulse of queer nightlife, and the spectacle of live music performances into an electrifying experience."

The rumors are true: LaLa Ri is back to bring us joy, fun, and an experience we've never had before. Fans can keep up with LaLa Ri's comeback by following her on Instagram and X/ Twitter. To learn more about the Rivival series of shows, visit TheRivival.com.

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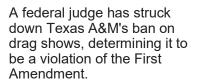


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#### Texas Drag Ban Blocked By Federal Court

By Tim Smith



Motivated by Donald Trump's executive order denying the existence of trans people, the Texas A&M University System Board of Regents voted to ban drag performances across all 11 campuses earlier this month, claiming that the art form was somehow "offensive" and "inconsistent" with the "core values of its universities, including the value of respect for others."

The Board of Regents vote cancelled a performance of "Draggieland" (a combination of "Drag" and "Aggieland"), an award-winning student-hosted show that has been performed annually since 2020. In response, the Texas A&M Queer Empowerment Council and the Foundation for

Individual Rights and Expression (FIRE) filed a lawsuit against the university

"Texas A&M, like any public university, has the utmost duty to respect the First Amendment rights of students," FIRE Supervising Senior Attorney JT Morris said in a statement. "As public officials, they can't banish speech from campus just because it offends them, any more than they could shut down a political rally or a Christmas pageant."

Judge Lee H. Rosenthal of the U.S. District Court for the Southern District of Texas struck down the ban Monday, ruling that "the law requires the recognition and application of speech rights and guardrails that preserve and protect all our treasured First Amendment rights," even in cases where "opinions and speech that are deemed, or actually are, offensive or wrong."



student expression they claim

political points at the expense

of students' First Amendment

is offensive. State officials

should stop trying to score

rights."

The students' March 27 performance will go on as scheduled, which the Queer Empowerment Council said they are "overjoyed" by.

"This is another display of the resilience of queer joy, as that is an unstoppable force despite those that wish to see it destroyed," the group said. "While this fight isn't over, we are going to appreciate the joy we get to bring by putting on the best show that we can do."





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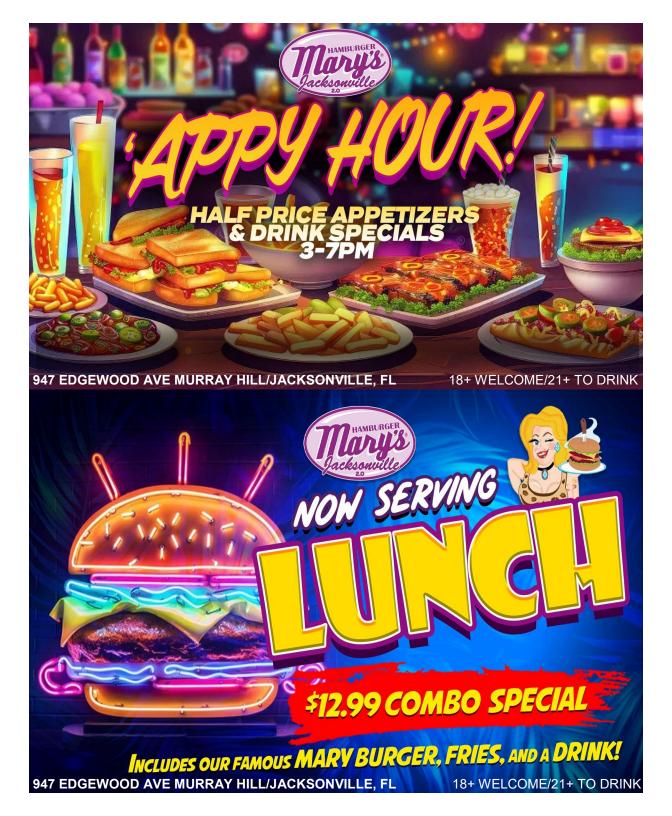
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## WorldPride Organizers Urge Global Unity Amid Calls To Boycott U.S. LGBTQ+ Celebration

By Adam Davis



WorldPride 2025 in Washington, D.C., was meant to be a global celebration of resilience, history, and solidarity. But with the event just weeks away, it has become the center of an international debate over safety and visibility for LGBTQ+ people under the Donald Trump administration's sweeping rollback of rights.

On Saturday, the African Human Rights Coalition called for a boycott of WorldPride, citing grave concerns about the safety of foreign LGBTQ+ attendees, especially transgender individuals and people of color. The organization, which advocates for LGBTQ+ Africans and asylum seekers, likened attending WorldPride in the U.S. to legitimizing apartheidera South Africa, arguing that visibility in a hostile environment does not guarantee safety or progress.

"The United States is no longer a free democratic country that WorldPride signed up for," AHRC Executive Director Melanie Nathan wrote in a statement. She pointed to 42 www.JaxGayMag.com recent anti-LGBTQ+ policies, the administration's gutting of asylum protections, and increased hostility toward trans and nonbinary people as reasons for the boycott.

Organizers of WorldPride are pushing back against the boycott call, emphasizing that participation in the event is an act of resistance.

"A boycott of WorldPride sends the wrong message," Capital Pride Alliance Executive Director Ryan Bos said in a statement to Jax Gay Magazine. "We need to show up together, show resilience and resistance to ensure we remain visible and heard."

WorldPride, licensed by InterPride and put on by Capital Pride this year, is a global LGBTQ+ gathering that has been hosted in cities such as New York, Toronto, and Sydney. This year's event, set for May 17 to June 8, coincides with the 50th anniversary of Pride celebrations in the nation's capital and is expected to draw millions from around the world

Despite the boycott call, organizers have insisted previ-

ously that cancelingor relocating the event is not an option. Instead, they argue that WorldPride in D.C. is an opportunity to push back against the administration's anti-LGBTQ+ policies and demonstrate collective strength.

The AHRC remains firm in its warning, particularly for transgender people and other marginalized groups who may face increased risks when entering the U.S.

"Trans people especially will not be safe entering U.S. airports or crossing borders for this event," the AHRC stated. The group warned that foreign visitors — regardless of visa status — could face heightened scrutiny, denial of entry, or placement in detention centers that do not recognize their gender identity.

In February, a directive from the State Department, spearheaded by Secretary of State Marco Rubio, raised alarms over potential travel restrictions for transgender people entering the U.S. The memo, which the administration framed as a policy targeting transgender athletes, included language requiring all visas to reflect an applicant's sex at birth. Immigration attorneys and LGBTQ+ advocates warned that the vague wording could be used to deny visas to any transgender person, not just athletes.

Since Trump took office in January, LGBTQ+ people who have made plans to attend WorldPride have raised concerns in online forums dedicated to this year's events. However, D.C. residents in those forums often explain to visitors that the District is more than just the federal government.

Capital Pride Alliance has emphasized that it is working with law enforcement and federal agencies to ensure safety, but the AHRC argues that under Trump's leadership, those agencies cannot be trusted. The group has urged attendees to consider whether traveling to the U.S. is worth the potential risk.

Bos directly addressed these concerns, offering reassurance to transgender and nonbinary people considering attending

WorldPride.

"To the transgender and nonbinary people who are considering joining us in D.C. for WorldPride, I want you to know that we are working tirelessly with agencies and advocates to ensure that you are able to safely and securely travel to and from the U.S.," Bos said. "Our local community is vibrant and diverse, and we are excited to welcome everyone. For those that choose not to, or are unable to, join us in D.C., know that we need you to remain a part of this movement. Please stay active where you are and join us virtually if you are able."

Organizers say that rather than a purely celebratory event, WorldPride 2025 will serve as a direct act of protest. A largescale march and rally is planned for June 8, modeled after the 2017 Women's March, to highlight global LGBTQ+ among others.

In a major moment for visil R&B star Khalid, who was outed last year, will perform the free WorldPride DC St Festival and Closing Concording on June 8, Out reports. The Grammy-nominated artist, has largely kept his persor

Still, the political climate has already had an impact. Booz Allen Hamilton, a major defense contractor, recently withdrew its sponsorship, citing Trump's executive orders restricting diversity, equity, and

inclusion programs. The John F. Kennedy Center for the Percerforming Arts, now under Trump's leadership, also removed a National Symphony Orchestra concert tied to WorldPride from its website, raising concerns about LGBTQ+ erasure from cultural institutions.

Even as political tensions escalate, WorldPride is moving forward with its full slate of events, including the largest LGBTQ+ music festival in history. The festival, running June 6-8, will feature performances from Jennifer Lopez, Troye Sivan, Doechii, Kim Petras, and RuPaul, among others.

In a major moment for visibility, R&B star Khalid, who was outed last year, will perform at the free WorldPride DC Street Festival and Closing Concert on June 8, Out reports. The Grammy-nominated artist, who has largely kept his personal life private, confirmed his sexuality in November after social media speculation. Now he will be celebrating with the LGBTQ+ community in what will be his first Pride event.





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FRIDAY MAY 23

**KOOL & THE GANG** 

MAYSA | SPYRO GYRA LET'S RIDE BRASS BAND FEATURING BELLA KOSAL

SATURDAY MAY 24

JANELLE MONÁE

TROMBONE SHORTY & ORLEANS AVENUE
TANK AND THE BANGAS | PIANO COMPETITION WINNER
DOUGLAS ANDERSON SCHOOL OF THE ARTS JAZZ COMBO

SUNDAY MAY 25

THE ROOTS

BONEY JAMES | BRANFORD MARSALIS QUARTET
CONNIE HAN | UNF JAZZ ENSEMBLE I

MORE INFO ----

JACKSONVILLEJAZZFEST.COM

## JACKSONVILLE JAZZ FESTIVAL

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

THE 2025 FESTIVAL IS MOVING!



MORE INFO ---

JACKSONVILLEJAZZFEST.COM



## with FINAL15 Promo Code!

Enjoy a variety of all-inclusive beverage and culinary tasting events, featuring some of the region's best restaurants, food trucks, artisans and more. Hundreds of wines, beers and spirits to sample with a souvenir glass -Limited Discount Tickets Available!



#### NEW LOCATION Friday - Sunday events only!

St. Augustine's BRAND-NEW premier wedding and event venue, Ancient City Farmstead! Only 10 minutes from historic, downtown St. Augustine, for Friday - Sunday!

#### Grand Tasting, Saturday, May 10

- NEW VIP Lounge! Indoor, air-conditioned with Rosé Garden, Gourmet Bloody Mary Bar & Signature Bites, Publix Liquors & Coca-Cola Open Bar, Private Restrooms and Early Access!
- Live Music, Publix Cooking Demo Stage, Silent Auction, Artisan Market & People's Choice Harvest Awards





PRESENTED BY

**Buy Tickets Now!** \*excludes VIP Lounge tickets & Packages

### StAugustineFoodandWineFestival.com

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!













