

# PFLAG ORLANDO

*Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends.*

Page 1

Oct 08

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends. This is done through: support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights. Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

**Support meetings** are held on the third Wednesday of the Month at the First United Methodist Church of Downtown Orlando 142 East Jackson Street, Orlando, FL, Wesley Building, Room 205 and start at 7:00pm

**Next two meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed 11/19/08 and 12/17/08 7:00pm-9:00pm**

---

## **Gay Pride Parade Draws 45,000, Raises Awareness For Amendment 2**

ORLANDO, Fla. -- Organizers of Orlando's annual Gay Pride parade believe politics may have helped them attract their largest crowd ever. Over the weekend about **45,000 people** attended the event in downtown Orlando. VOTE 2008: Learn More About The Amendments, Local Elections Organizers hoped to raise awareness to Amendment 2 on the November ballot, which would ban same sex marriages. Gay activists have already gained the support of city leaders such as Mayor Buddy Dyer, who last week voted to allow domestic partner benefits to city employees who are gay.  
wftv.com

## **PFLAG was the recipient of the 2008 Community Groups Award at the 2008 Orlando Gay Pride Event! Thank you!**



---

## **Orlando To Issue Gay Partner Benefits Workers Required To Sign Commitment Affidavit**

ORLANDO, Fla. -- Orlando is expected to become the first Central Florida city to offer benefits to the partners of gay employees. Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer said the employees will have to sign an affidavit declaring they are in a committed relationship.

local6.com

### Connecticut 3rd State to Legalize Gay Marriage

infoZine Staff

By Christine Vestal - The Connecticut Supreme Court has joined California and Massachusetts in ruling that same-sex partners are entitled to all the benefits of traditional marriage, including the title. The Connecticut Supreme Court has joined California and Massachusetts in ruling that same-sex partners are entitled to all the benefits of traditional marriage, including the title.

infozine.com

---

### Steve Rothaus' Gay South Florida

I just left the Orlando City Commission Chambers and wanted to share the great news with you as soon as I could.

Orlando City Commissioners just unanimously voted to provide city employees with domestic partner health insurance for same-sex couples.

Today's vote makes Orlando the 35th governmental employer in Florida to offer some form of Domestic Partner protections

miamiherald.typepad.com

---

### Orlando To Issue Gay Partner Benefits

ORLANDO, Fla. -- Orlando is expected to become the first Central Florida city to offer benefits to the partners of gay employees. Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer said the employees will have to sign an affidavit declaring they are in a committed relationship.

local6.com

### Jess Dugan Blurs the lines of rectitude

By BO MOORE

Gender can be a bossy little jerk, disallowing 50 percent of our potential personality traits the instant we pop out of the womb. In an either/or world, our roles as men or women are not very flexible, but the transgender community is creating a more universal sexual identity. "Freedom from these norms is for everybody," says photographer Jess Dugan, whose portrait series Rectitude examines the joys of ambiguity. Dugan's subjects are subtly masculine, vaguely feminine and beautifully unconcerned with the difference. "I am interested in how gender manifests itself in everybody," says the recent MassArt grad.

weeklydig.com

---

### University renames 'gents' as 'toilets with urinals' - to avoid upsetting transgender students

By Daily Mail Reporter

Anyone caught short at Manchester University will have to decide whether to use the 'toilets' or the 'toilets with urinals' after the women's and men's were re-named to avoid offending transgender students.

The change was made in the university's Students' Union after a number of transgender women claimed they were uncomfortable using men's loos.

dailymail.co.uk

---

CitizenLink: University of Pittsburgh Lets 'Transgender' Students Choose Their Dorm  
University of Pittsburgh Lets 'Transgender' Students Choose Their Dorm

The University of Pittsburgh is revising its policies to include special protection based on "gender identity." That means "transgender" students can live in the dormitory of their choice — male or female.

citizenlink.org

### Transgender in the workplace

What happens to female-to-male and male-to-female transgender people in the workplace?

We use the workplace experiences of transgender people - individuals who change their gender typically with hormone therapy and surgery - to provide new insights into the long-standing question of what role gender plays in shaping workplace outcomes. Using an original survey of male-to-female and female-to-male transgender people, we document the earnings and employment experiences of transgender people before and after their gender transitions. We find that while transgender people have the same human capital after their transitions, their workplace experiences often change radically. We estimate that average earnings for female-to-male transgender workers increase slightly following their gender transitions, while average earnings for male-to-female transgender workers fall by nearly 1/3. This finding is consistent with qualitative evidence that for many male-to-female workers, becoming a woman often brings a loss of authority, harassment, and termination, but that for many female-to-male workers, becoming a man often brings an increase in respect and authority. These findings challenge the omitted variables explanations for the gender pay gap and illustrate the often hidden and subtle processes that produce gender inequality in workplace outcomes. [clusterflock.org](http://clusterflock.org)

### Javno - World - British Students: Toilets Are `Too PC`

British students have complained the signs on their toilets have been made "too politically correct". Students at The University of Manchester, England, insist union executives have gone too far by changing the men's toilet sign to "toilets with urinals" while the women's simply say "toilets" in a bid to make them more inviting to transgender students

[javno.com](http://javno.com)

### Breaking News - WE tv Adds "Girlfriends," More in October

SEX CHANGE HOSPITAL (Tuesdays at 11:00/10:00c starting October 14) A fascinating six-part series based in Trinidad, Colorado, SEX CHANGE HOSPITAL follows transgender men and women as they arrive in this unassuming town to receive a life-changing surgery from Dr. Marci Bowers, also known as the "Rock Star" of transgender surgery. From housewives to businessmen, construction workers to office managers, each shares their unique story of how they came to terms with their sexuality and their journey toward making the final transition from one gender to another.

[thefutoncritic.com](http://thefutoncritic.com)

### PepsiCo Foundation gives \$500,000 to PFLAG

The PepsiCo Foundation is giving a \$500,000 grant to Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. The money will be used to support Straight for Equality, a national education campaign encouraging support for gay people. [Advocate.com](http://Advocate.com) (09/26)

[smartbrief.com](http://smartbrief.com)

### Florida High School Student Wins First Amendment Award Senior Heather Gillman Honored for Fearlessness In Speaking Out For the Rights of Gay and Lesbian Students.

MIAMI - The American Civil Liberties Union of Florida announces that Heather Gillman has been selected by the Playboy Foundation to receive the Hugh M. Hefner First Amendment Award for "her fearlessness in speaking out on behalf of the rights of gay students" at her Ponce de Leon high school, located in Florida's Panhandle.

[fosterfollynews.com](http://fosterfollynews.com)

## SAFE SCHOOLS SOUTH FLORIDA TRAINS STUDENTS

OIA Newswire

"I used to be so afraid, and my pain was pent up and not to be shared. I now live a life of truth, and I am alive. Thank you, for everything :]"

-Andre

On September 6, 2008, over 15 GLBTQ students participated in a workshop in which they learned about themselves, their identities, and how best they could share their stories of themselves to help teachers understand GLBTQ students in their classes.

One of the goals of Safe Schools South Florida is to educate teachers about GLBTQ students and the issues they face and how teachers and others can best support these students. One of the best ways to teach these teachers and others -- Safe Schools South Florida has found -- is to have panels of GLBTQ students tell teachers and others about their school and life experiences.

outinsarasota.com

---

## NATIONAL ROUNDUP

The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) recently released the 2007 National School Climate Survey, a comprehensive report about the experiences of LGBT students.

The survey of middle and high school students found that over 86 percent of LGBT students experienced verbal harassment at school in the past year. Over 44 percent reported being physically harassed and over 22 percent reported being physically assaulted because of their sexual orientation. Over 60 percent of LGBT students reported feeling unsafe at school, and nearly 33 percent said they skipped school in the past month as a result. GLSEN released the report in conjunction with the launch of a national public education campaign targeting anti-LGBT language among teens. The report also reveals that nearly three-quarters of students hear anti-gay language often at school.

windycitymediagroup.com

## Calif. Gay Couples Rush Pre-Vote Nuptials

By AP/ LISA LEFF

(SAN FRANCISCO) — Gay couples from around California and the nation are feverishly tying the knot ahead of Election Day to avoid missing out if voters approve a ballot initiative aimed at banning same-sex marriage.

time.com

---

## GLBT Historical Society Celebrates Third Decade

By Dennis McMillan

Board co-chairs Denise Dellotti and Don Romesburg, Supervisor and soon-to-be Assemblyman Tom Ammiano, and ED Paul Boneberg. The dramatic 1978 No on 6 campaign was brought back to life by speakers and film. Photo by Rink. Celebrating 30 years of queer history in the making, the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society held its annual gala fundraiser, "Modern History: From Milk to Marriage," at Elan on Oct. 9. The event honored author Armistead Maupin and two groups of activists who coordinated the fight against the 1978 Briggs Initiative. Maupin and representatives from the Bay Area Coalition Against the Briggs Initiative (BACABI) and The No on 6 Committee were presented with the Walker Award. Named after Willie Walker, a co-founder of the GLBT Historical Society who passed away in 2004, the award honors individuals who have made a significant contribution to the civic, cultural, and political life of the LGBT community. "Armistead Maupin and the groups that organized against the Briggs Initiative are both such pivotal figures in GLBT history," said Executive Director Paul Boneberg. "They are a perfect fit for our Walker Award this year as we take a moment to look back on thirty years of GLBT history in San Francisco."

sfbaytimes.com

---

Several news sites move articles behind firewall creating broken links. Please go to their site and use the search boxes to find more on articles found here.