18th annual DOROTHY AWARDS

Saturday, March 13, 2021 • A Virtual Fundraising Event

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30 Myano Lane, Stamford, CT 06902 | 203-674-1102

CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
Anchor Health Initiative is excited to announce our Case Management Program! Through the efforts of our Care Team and Senior Manager of Community Services, we are able to provide a holistic approach to wellness for LGBTQ clients in need of support.

LOCATIONS
2200 Whitney Avenue
Suite 290
Hamden, CT 06518
203-903-8308
30 Myano Lane
Stamford, CT 06902
203-674-1102

www.AnchorHealthInitiative.org
Welcome Message

Welcome to the 18th Annual Dorothy Awards!

Five years ago, the New Haven Pride Center’s Board Co-President Joshua O’Connell announced the Center’s intention to hire its first staff member. At the time, the Center’s annual budget was between $25,000 – 35,000 and was operated by a small core group of volunteers. Today, we are operating on an annual budget of over $500,000 with a staff of nine!

The significance of this year’s Awards ceremony is not lost on me. Last year, the Dorothy Awards was the last public event in Connecticut before COVID-19 impacted and uprooted our lives significantly in insurmountable and unprecedented ways. There were times where we were unsure if the Center would survive. Thanks to the effort and willpower of our community, the Center emerged as a leader.

The Center responded to the impact of COVID-19 by stepping up, launching new initiatives including a community food program in May that in 17 weeks gave away 65,000 pounds of food to 175 households, increased the Center’s advocacy-based initiatives, paid out over $40,000 to under and unemployed artists and community members to participate in over 100 virtual events, and conducted over 1,000 tele-case management hours.

Every year at the Dorothy Awards, we honor incredible LGBTQ+ Nutmeggers having a huge impact and creating positive change for Connecticut’s LGBTQ+ community. It cannot be overstated how vital this year’s honorees have been. Thanks to their hard work and dedication, our community has thrived despite the ongoing pandemic.

I also thank the incredible group of folks that I have the privilege of working beside every day. Every day when we come together to go this work, we get a step closer to a place where no one in our community goes without the services, programming and support that they need. The team working at the New Haven Pride Center is unmatched in so many ways, and I appreciate each of you for what you bring to the table and for being a part of building a space where folks can be their authentic selves and we can celebrate the rich diversity of the LGBTQQIP2sAA community.

Thank you to our honorees, our participants, our sponsors, and, most importantly, our community.

Patrick Dunn
New Haven Pride Center Executive Director
Restaurant | Bar | Cabaret

Chez

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Event Schedule

5:30p Pre-Show Entertainment
Performance by Carrie Ashton
Performance by Robin Fierce

6:00p Program Begins
Performance by Rory Roux Lay
Award : Jahnice Cajigas, Rising Star
Performance by Mz October May Lay
Award : Dr. Gary Blick, MD

Performance by Frizzie Borden
Performance by Imperial Sovereign Court of All Connecticut
Award : Black Lives Matter New Haven (VIDEO / LIVE)
Performance by Versatile Poetiq
Award : Rep. Raven Matherne
Performance by Xiomarie LaBeija
Award : Ahmad Abojaradeh
Performance by Kiki Lucia

MAY 14 - JUNE 27 ARTIDEA.ORG
Congratulations and Well Deserved To This Caring and Compassionate Leader
- Dr. Gary Blick

JOHN M. LETIZIA, NEIL J. AMBROSE, KRISTEN SOTNIK FALLS, POLLY L. ORENSTEIN, PHYLLIS M. PARI, JAMES A. MONGILLO, MELISSA B. CONVERTITO, JUDITH A. MURRAY, MARYBETH C. MCPADDEN, GENEVIEVE M. LAGE

REPRESENTING NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS IN THE AREAS OF CORPORATE COMPLIANCE, DPH AND DSS AUDITS, HIPAA, LITIGATION, MERGERS & ACQUISITIONS, COMMERCIAL CLOSINGS AND REFINANCINGS, EMPLOYMENT AND WORKERS’ COMPENSATION
Ahmad (They/Them) is a disabled, trans, queer, Muslim, indigenous Palestinian focusing on creating transformative work around displacement, decolonization, equity, and centering lived experiences of individuals most impacted by injustice. Currently, they are working as an Equity and Transformation consultant, supporting various organizations in four continents. They are working on their MA in Conflict Transformation and Social Justice from Queen’s University Belfast. They have worked in over two dozen countries, and specialize in global and community vision building. Ahmad is an engineer, with a specialty in sustainability and social engineering, a peer support specialist, has a traumatic stress graduate certificate, and is currently working towards a MA in Conflict Transformation and Social Justice. They are the Founder of Life in My Days, an international non-profit that supports individuals and their communities on their journeys for self-actualization through mutual aid, transformative justice, and disability justice. For the last few years, Ahmad has also been a Master Recovery Educator, facilitating the RI Peer Support Certification training nationally to certify individuals as Peer Support Specialists.

Additionally, they are an Equity Coach with Sustainable CT, supporting municipalities in the State in engraining equity practices into any sustainability work. Ahmad brings together engineering, peer support, and trauma to support their vision of more equitable and accountable communities that lead to individuals’ self-actualization. Ahmad currently serves as a board member for TransLifeline and is the previous co-chair of the International Association of Peer Supporters board. In their free time, Ahmad is a world traveler and novelist, having visited over 70 countries and written over a dozen books.
THE NEW HAVEN PRIDE CENTER'S COMMUNITY IMPACT 2020

FOOD PANTRY PROGRAM

- 65,000 pounds of food given away
- 105 households signed up for our weekly delivery program
- 200-300 individual weekly participants
- Total invested over $30,000 & 200+ volunteer and staff hours

VIRTUAL CASE MANAGEMENT

- 1,000+ hours virtual case management
- Most frequent community requests:
  - Mental Health Referrals
  - Housing Assistance
  - Unemployment/ Stimulus Assistance
  - Food Assistance
  - Social Support/WarmLine

INVESTMENT IN THE COMMUNITY

- 347 artists & speakers
- Total paid out to performers, speakers, and artists: $40,815
- 103 programs & events
- 35,000+ views on Facebook & YouTube of our virtual programs
Dr. Blick (he/him) is an internationally renowned HIV/AIDS clinician, clinical researcher, lecturer, and humanitarian. While in medical school at the University of Miami in the early 1980s, he was inspired to become an infectious disease specialist due to the burgeoning national HIV crisis. Dr. Blick completed his residency training at Yale University and Greenwich Hospital Association and went on to receive additional credentialing from the American Academy of HIV Medicine. He has had a successful medical career for more than 30 years.

Dr. Blick is the chief medical officer of Health Care Advocates International (HCAI), co-founder of HIV Advocates, and founder of the Zimbabwe AIDS Project (ZAP). He established ZAP following the successful treatment of an HIV-positive Zimbabwean couple who gave birth to an HIV-negative child in 2002 – years before prevention of mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT) became the standard of care throughout the world.
Congratulations!!

Jahnice

2021 Dorothy Award Recipient

Your CWYC Family Loves You!! We are so proud! We could not do this work without you
Shortly after turning 29, Raven (she/her or they/them) found they couldn’t cope with the physical consequences of remaining closeted any longer. After choosing to pursue medical help, they found they were no longer welcome in their career as a professional martial artist and were forced to leave. Starting again, they began talking to all their neighbors, discussing the ways their community could be improved, and fighting to ensure that everyone had equal access to all the resources of the city.

On December 4th, 2017 (their 30th birthday), Raven was sworn in as an elected member of the Stamford Board of Representatives, becoming the first transgender elected lawmaker in the State of Connecticut. They also became the Representative for many of the students they once taught traits like honesty, persistence, and respect. As an elected official, most recently Raven interviewed candidates for Chief of Police, and was appointed Vice Chair of the Parks & Recreation Committee. They were the first Representative to submit items to review the coming impacts of Covid 19. They also proposed a resolution in support of transgender student athletes, which passed with bipartisan support. In 2019, Raven was honored to serve as a Grand Marshal for the first Middletown Pride. They formerly served on Triangle Community Center’s Board of Directors, and they frequently volunteer at local events to bring attention to trans issues. When not on Zoom, Raven can usually be found on the closest “new to me” trails, discussing medical access and voting rights with the local fauna.
Our Programming

Arts, Culture, and Humanities
- 20 - 25 art exhibitions a year
- One to two performance programs a year
- Thought leaders engaged in PRIDE New Haven
- Panels exploring LGBTQ+ issues and culture

Racial Justice
- Focus on BIPOC performers and panelists
- Days of Action focusing on racial justice
- Racial justice programs in PRIDE New Haven
- Drive for racial equity on staff and board

Youth Empowerment
- Year-round youth social and support groups
- Pride Prom and Queer Halloween
- Youth programs during PRIDE New Haven
- Panels exploring LGBTQ+ youth issues

Case Management & Support Services
- Assistance with resources in the community
- 25-hour-a-week Case Management warm line
- Full complement of support groups
- Community closet of free affirming clothing

Get in touch with us!
84 Orange Street
New Haven, CT 06510
(203) 387-2252
info@newhavenpridecenter.org
newhavenpridecenter.org
Black Lives Matter New Haven, established in August 2015 by co-founders Sun Queen, ala ochumare, Dawnise Boulware and Sy Frasier, is a grassroots organization committed to building community power. BLMNHV leads grassroots efforts to eradicate systemic white supremacy, oppression and racial violence on Black, Brown and Queer communities and to combat the compounding effects of such violence by promoting holistic healing and Black, Brown and Queer creativity and joy. BLMNHV’s work is centered in New Haven but the organization is a recognized leader in racial justice across the state of Connecticut. BLMNHV is ardently committed to systemic change to actualize racial, economic and health equity!

Mission

We envision transforming our community, emphasizing on accountability, discovering new knowledge and sharing our resources with the community.

Vision

Black Lives Matter New Haven, an organizing collective that actively fights for Black Liberation. To inspire and revitalize our community through advocacy, education, transformational justice and community partnerships, to create long-lasting solutions to systemic racism.
The Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective
Congratulates the 2021 Dorothy Award Nominees

Ahmad Abojaradeh
International Queer Muslim Advocate and Organizer

Dr. Gary Blick, M.D.
Pioneering HIV/AIDS Clinician and Humanitarian

Rep. Raven Matherne
Connecticut’s First Elected Trans Lawmaker & Advocate for Trans Athletes

Sy Fraiser, Sun Queen, Dawnise Traore,
and Ala Ochumare
Founders of Black Lives Matter New Haven

and Jahnice Cajigas
LGBTQ+ Youth Organizer and Queer & Trans Black, Indigenous,
and People of Color (BIPOC) Advocate

Thank You For All You Do!
1841 Broad St. Hartford, CT - 860-278-4163 - hglhc.org

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is PROUD to be a sponsor of The New Haven Pride Center

EXPAND YOUR BRAND!
PROMOTIONAL MERCHANDISE SOLUTIONS THAT FIT YOU AND YOUR BRAND’S IDENTITY!
Jahnice (she/her), is the Director of Organizing for the Citywide Youth Coalition Inc. Jahnice is a Strategy Council Member for the Perrin Family Foundation. She has also previously interned for PPSNE, with them they successfully launched the state’s first queer camp specifically for youth of color. For Jahnice the camp is more than just a program, it’s providing a space she always wished to have offered to her. Jahnice has been a community organizer for the past seven years she has worked on issues like LGBTQ+ rights, juvenile justice reform and the miseducation of our education system, among many other issues. In total, Jahnice is a true organizer and leader in the state of Connecticut who exudes the spirit of a new generation of youth that are politically conscious and personally committed to improving the community for the better.
Connecticut Bisexual+ Support Groups

Bisexual+ Discussion Group (Middlesex County)
Every fourth Wednesday of the month, 7:00 p.m.
This group is for all genders who consider themselves bisexual, bi-curious, pansexual, queer, allies, or those who wish to know more about bisexuality. We are self moderated and do not offer professional advice. For ages 18 and up.
Virtual for now, otherwise we meet at First Church, 190 Court St., Middletown, CT 06457. Zoom info is posted on the Meetup page.
Join us on Meetup to see all our events. Meetup is free to use. Go to meetup.com to sign up.
Shari Lucas, organizer  shari.lucas@sbcglobal.net, 860-405-4205

Bisexuals & Allies of Fairfield County
Every first Thursday of the month, 8:00 p.m.
Ages 18+, Free, Monthly.
Bisexuals & Allies of Fairfield County (BAFC) is a nonjudgmental support and social group for all bisexual/non-monosexual folks in the Fairfield County area and their allies. Members include people who identify as bisexual, pansexual, queer, fluid, no label, asexual, or otherwise, as well as straight, gay, and lesbian allies (friends and family). The group welcomes people of all genders, including cisgender, transgender, gender non-conforming, androgynous, genderqueer, and other gender identities. Closeted or out, monogamous or polyamorous, all are welcome to join us. http://www.ctpridecenter.org
Find us on Meetup under “Bisexuals and Allies of Fairfield County”
Virtual for now, otherwise we meet at the Triangle Community Center, 618 West Ave., Norwalk, CT 06850

Bisexual+ Social (New Haven County)
Every Fourth Saturday of the month, 1:30 p.m.
Join us for our monthly Bisexual+ Social at the New Haven Pride Center. This is a social gathering that is open to anyone who identifies as Bisexual+ (bisexual, pansexual, queer, genderfluid) and their allies. Also check-out our online community on Facebook for other meet-ups and gatherings Bisexual+ Connecticut. http://www.newhavenpridecenter.org
Virtual for now, otherwise we meet at the New Haven Pride Center, 84 Orange St., New Haven, CT. 06511. Zoom info is offered on the Bisexual+ Connecticut facebook page or from the New Haven Pride Center facebook page.

The New Haven Pride Center maintains a Bi+ group on Facebook!
Just search for “Bisexual+ Connecticut”
Xiomarie LaBeija
Latinx drag artist from the House of LaBeija

Kiki Lucia
CT’s own “Queen of Mean” and your host for the evening

Carrie Ashton
lesbian guitarist and musician

Mz October May Lay
Miss Chez Est 2019 & Miss PRIDE New Haven 2018

Xiomarie LaBeija
Latinx drag artist from the House of LaBeija
On behalf of Their Most Imperial Sovereign Majesties, Emperor 22 Vu and Empress 22 Miss Frank, and the membership of the Imperial Sovereign Court of All Connecticut:

CONGRATULATIONS

We are honored to be a part of your 18th Annual Dorothy Awards and to partner with you as one of our Reign 22 beneficiaries.

Follow us on social media

The Imperial Sovereign Court of All Connecticut is on Facebook and Instagram: @ctimperialcourt. Also subscribe to our new YouTube page.
Entertainment

Rory Roux-Lay
Mx. PRIDE New Haven 2020

Robin Fierce
prolific drag artist

Versatile Poetiq
spoken word artist

Frizzie Borden
fierce AFAB diva drag artist

Also performing:
Reign 22 Royal Family, Imperial Sovereign Court of All Connecticut
The Sweetheart Invitational Bowling Tournament would like to congratulate all of this year’s Dorothy Award honorees!

Thank you for your service to Connecticut's LGBTQ+ community!

Sweetheart Invitational: Lumberjack Lovin'
February 18-20, 2022
www.sweetheartinvitational.com
Our honorees are an eclectic, talented and energetic group that have made incredible contributions to our community. The Center takes pride each year in locating some of our community’s finest. Below are our previous honorees, grouped by the year they were honored.

**2020**
Suzanne Kachmar  
Ricky Mestre  
Nadine Ruff, MSW  
Gretchen Raffa  
OutCT  
Joe Grabarz (Lifetime)

**2019**
IV Staklo  
Juancarlos Soto  
Bernard Lanche  
& David Kleman  
Yale Cabaret

**2018**
Dr. AC Demidont  
Beth Bye & Jeff Currey  
GLSEN Connecticut  
Sonia Salazar

**2017**
Dandy Lions  
Paul Kuehn  
& George Appleby  
Triangle Community Center

**2016**
Fleurette King  
Selma Miriam  
Dolores Dégagé Hopkins  
& Sassie Saltimboca  
CT TransAdvocacy Coalition

**2015**
Anne Beon  
Frank DeMayo  
Trevor Reynolds  
& Michael Morgan  
True Colors

**2014**
APNH (A Place to Nourish Your Health)  
Betty Gallo  
Joe Mannetti  
Christine O’Leary

**2013**
Sweetheart Invitational  
Irwin Krieger  
Carolyn & Leslie Gabel-Brett

**2012**
Mayor Pedro Segarra  
Diana Richter  
Robin Banks  
Out Film CT

**2011**
Rev. Marilyn Bowens  
Tony Ferraiolo  
Robb Bartolomeo  
Northeast Ursamen

**2010**
Michael Morand  
Dena Castricone  
Leif Mitchell  
Imperial Sovereign Court of All CT

**2009**
Rev. John Maclver Gage  
Fran Rzeznik  
& Zinka Benton  
Connecticut Gay Men’s Chorus

**2008**
Vincent Farricelli  
& Robert Modena  
Patricia Nicolari  
Another Octave

**2007**
Linda Estabrook  
Curtis Miller  
& Peter Goodman  
Jerimarie Liesegang

**2006**
David Knapp  
Anne Stanback  
Maureen Murphy  
Michael Lawlor

**2005**
Bobbi Blake  
& Cyd Slotorhoff  
John Anderson  
Robin Passariello  
McHaelan

**2004**
Ellen Gabrielle  
Joseph Goodwin  
& George Coyle  
Stephanie Philips
Congratulations
to all of the 2021
Dorothy Award winners!

Thank you for all you do to benefit the Connecticut LGBTQ+ community!

Offering the following services:

- Primary Medical Care
- Sexual Health
- LGBT Health
- HIV Prevention
- HIV Treatment
- Mental Health
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Planned Parenthood Care. No matter what.

The Imperial Sovereign Court of All Connecticut

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Mr. Connecticut Bear

Mr. Connecticut Leather

Yale University
SIGN UP FOR A FREE NEW HAVEN PRIDE CENTER MEMBERSHIP!

Get discounts on ticketed events and merch, hear about programming first, and show your commitment to the Pride Center by joining the group of insiders that powers CT’s most active LGBTQ+ community organization!

Join free today at newhavenpridecenter.org/joinnow

Save the date for PRIDE New Haven 2021!

The most diverse pride event in Connecticut returns in 2021! With a whole slate of panels, conversations, performance programs, and, COVID permitting, in-person festivities, this will be a celebration of PRIDE not to be missed! Planned for September 19 - 26, follow PRIDE New Haven and the New Haven Pride Center on social media for all the updates!
CONGRATULATIONS ON YOUR DOROTHY AWARD, RAVEN!

And thanks so much for all you do for our community year-round.

With love from all of your friends and the people whose lives you touch every day.

Thank you to the New Haven Pride Center for all the amazing work it does and its recognition of the wonderful volunteers within in our community!

Keep up to date with us:
www.MrCTBear.org | www.Ursamen.org
Facebook: Northeast Ursamen

2015 DOROTHY AWARD HONOREES
EMPEROR AND EMPRESS 2013
TREVOR & MORGANA DE LUXE

CONGRATULATE THE NEW HAVEN PRIDE CENTER AND THIS YEAR’S HONOREES
EVER WONDER WHERE THE PEOPLE WITH ALL THE ANSWERS, GET ALL THE ANSWERS?

Ask MARCUM

We are proud to provide high-quality, compassionate, and affirming care to the LGBTQ+ community.

Congratulations to tonight’s honorees. Thank you for working to build a more inclusive and equitable Connecticut.
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THE great Give®
MAY 4-5, 2021
A 36-hour, online-giving event to support local nonprofits

Help your favorite nonprofits win thousands of dollars!
See the list of participating nonprofits to date:

www.thegreatgive.org
HCAI is a health & advocacy organization dedicated to serving the needs of the LGBTQ+ community through prevention, programs, education, advocacy & treatment

**Our Services:**

- Primary Care-Annual wellness exams & preventative services. Management of chronic health conditions (diabetes, high blood pressure, depression, ect.)
- Pre-exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP) for the prevention of HIV & Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) for those exposed to HIV
- Comprehensive care for those living with HIV/AIDS
- Sexual health services- STI/HPV screenings & treatment. In office rapid (20min) HIV testing. Preventative vaccinations for Hepatitis A & B and HPV
- In office counseling/therapy available
- Transgender care- including hormone replacement therapy & referral to surgeons for gender confirmation surgeries

2595 Main ST Stratford CT 06615
203-345-0404

[www.hcaillc.com](http://www.hcaillc.com)

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**HIV ADVOCATES®**

Anti-Stigma & Testing Initiative Campaign

**Our Mission:**

To create a community of Advocates that fight stigma & discrimination against people living with HIV through education, positive messaging, social media and promoting HIV testing.

Join us online at
[www.hivadvocates.org](http://www.hivadvocates.org)

Get social with us
Instagram/HIVadvocate
Facebook/weareHIVadvocates