2019 Annual General Meeting

Saturday, September 21, 2019
San Francisco LGBT Community Center
Rainbow Room – Second Floor
1800 Market Street, San Francisco

Check-In begins at 10:30 AM
Meeting convenes at 11:00 AM

INSIDE: Voting Guide and Candidate Statements
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2019

San Francisco LGBT Community Center
Rainbow Room - 2nd Floor
1800 Market Street, San Francisco
11:00 AM to 5:00 PM

10:30 AM – Check-in and registration
11:00 AM – Meeting convenes

WHAT’S ON THE AGENDA:
• BOARD ELECTIONS
• Vote to adopt the Membership Meeting Calendar for October 2019 through September 2020.
• Other agency business may be added to the agenda

OPEN SEATS
Currently, three (3) open seats on the Board of Directors are up for election. These seats are for SF Pride fiscal years 2020-2022. Newly elected Board members will begin their service at the October 9, 2019 Board Meeting and serve for three years.

VOTER ELIGIBILITY
In order to be eligible to vote in the upcoming elections, you must be a member in good standing of SF Pride as of July 24, 2019. You must be present at the Annual General Meeting during the designated election hours in order to cast your vote.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS
Candidates for the Board are encouraged, but not required, to submit a written statement in support of their candidacy. Statements and opinions expressed by the candidates do not necessarily reflect the views of SF Pride.

CANDIDATES
Laurence Berland
Jacqueline Bishop (incumbent)
Paul Calderon
Brad Chapin
DJ Gray (incumbent)
Steve Guilliams
Alex U. Inn
Doonie Love
Angelique Mahan
Simone Manganelli
Stacy Poulos
Anjali Rimi
William Walker (incumbent)
A SIMPLIFIED GUIDE TO THE VOTING PROCESS

Eligible voting members may cast their ballots at any time after the polls open, during the candidates’ statements and members’ questions, and for ten (10) minutes thereafter. The Membership will be asked at the start to determine how many minutes each candidate will be allowed to speak/answer questions. We do encourage you to make informed choices by reading the candidate statements enclosed, and asking questions during the AGM.

Members shall cast their votes by indicating their choices in the box to the right of the candidates’ names on the paper ballot (see the sample ballot on the next page), and may vote for as few or as many candidates of their choosing to fill the three (3) open seats on the Board of Directors. Those candidates receiving the highest simple majority votes (50% + 1) will fill the open seats in the order according the numbers of votes attained. In the event of a tie that would determine the election or non-election of any nominee, members shall undertake a second balloting for those candidates only.

A ballot (see next page) on which a voter’s choice is unintelligible to the election officers and/or the election inspectors shall be disqualified.

To facilitate both secret balloting and verification of voter eligibility, members shall use BOTH of the envelopes provided with their voter packets upon check-in prior to the convening of the meeting.

A voting member must first place the completed ballot inside the BLACK envelope provided, seal it, and leave the outside blank.

The voting member must then put the sealed black envelope, containing the completed ballot, inside the MANILA/GOLD envelope provided, and seal that as well.

On the outside of the MANILA/GOLD envelope, the voting member must legibly write their name as it appears on the membership roster.

The voting member may then deposit the enveloped ballot into the designated ballot box(es).

Only the voting member may handle and deposit their envelope in the ballot box(es).
MEET YOUR SF PRIDE BOARD CANDIDATES!

Laurence Berland
My name is Laurence and I’m running for the board of SF Pride. I moved to the San Francisco in 2006 and have, over time, become frustrated with how far Pride in our city has drifted from its original purpose. I believe that Pride is a protest and Pride is a riot. Instead, pride has become dominated by corporate sponsors who frequently lack any commitment and concern for our community, policed by a department that brutalizes protestors and refuses to apologize for its shameful past. Attempts to change this have been stymied by a Pride organization that lacks transparency and member engagement, instead voting behind closed doors on nearly all matters. It is my hope that I can help make Pride a force for change in our community and the world. The mission statement of SF Pride says that part of Pride’s purpose is to “liberate our people”. I want a Pride committed to that purpose. If elected, I’ll endeavor to further that cause.

Jacqueline Bishop (incumbent)
Dear members of SF Pride,
It has been an honor to serve as board President this last year, and board Treasurer for the prior two years, for this beautiful organization. During this time I’ve grown extremely fond for the team of SF Pride and the resilience they have to navigation evolutions to our systems. Attending and supporting our event each year becomes more and more meaningful and significant. I see how many other individuals this event impacts and I personally connect to the beauty that “PRIDE” is unique to each visitor to our events. Feedback I’ve received from my fellow board members and staff is that they appreciate my diligence and leadership. My personal professional life as a business advisor is helpful serving on the board, not only articulate analysis of our current matters, but also to provide proposed solutions. It is for these reasons, the support I receive from my peers and from staff and my skill-sets to offer, that I ask for you to vote me onto the board one more three year term. This year, the board was redirected toward managing the transition of our executive director. I hope, with another term, I will be able to collaborate with this current team to implement the ideas we’ve been discussing. This upcoming year we are preparing for our 50th anniversary and I believe my recent past experiences with the organization are critical to assist during this time of great transition.
Thank you for your consideration.

Paul Calderon (Statement/photo not submitted)
STEVE GUILLIAMS
SF Pride Members,
I am excited and humbled to be nominated for the SF Pride Board of Directors. With the help and power of SF Pride, we brought Facebook to the negotiating table in 2015, leading to the biggest concessions wrung from Facebook around queer and particularly trans right to self-identify. Because of that organizing, trans users can appeal to sensitivity-trained US-based humans when their profiles are bullied and reported for using a new name—a critical time in trans life.
I run today to continue that thread: my platform is that corporations marketing themselves at SF Pride must do more than treat LGBTQIA employees with respect and care. If their product impacts our community, their policies need to treat us all with respect and care. For Facebook, that starts with not forcing a rigid model for naming and content reporting on minorities. For Google, that starts with shutting down violently homophobic content creators.
My other priority for Pride is that we change how SFPD behaves. Their role should be peripheral: supportive of our safety against cars and violent homophobes, not in the middle of our march intimidating our community. Like corporations, I demand respect and care from the SFPD. They should apologize for the violence they have perpetrated against our community this year, going back to the Compton’s Cafeteria era, and before.
I’m not just an activist—I will also bring valuable experience from my time on the Livable City/Sunday Streets board, where I’ve participated in the growth of that organization to the point where today, it produces 10 Sunday Streets events a year all around San Francisco, closing 1-4 miles of streets to cars for community expression each time. Dozens of smaller Neighborfest and Play Streets are held throughout the city each year, harnessing a staff of 6-9 and volunteer army of thousands to pull off these events, which put together look a bit like cousins to the SF Pride March.
Professionally, I work as an engineer at iRhythm, a local heart health care company. As a Bay Area native with deep San Francisco roots, this has always been the march I saw on TV as a child and the first march I attended when I came out in the 90s. I’m proud of our history as one of the oldest prides, and I’m excited for the future we can build with the power of our platform.

BRAD CHAPIN
(Statement/photo not submitted)

DJ GRAY
First Term
• First ran for SF Pride Board 2016
• Elected for three year term Sept. 2016
• Chair of Development Committee
• Co-Produced Pride Safe Zone with BALIF. Panel speakers from the ABC mini-series When We Rise about SF History
• Assisted Fellow board members in organizing first SF Pride Board Resistance Contingent “Generations Of Strength”

Second Year
• Chair of Community Affairs
• Facilitated Members Meetings
• Produced a small Grand Marshal panel for Members Meeting

Third Year
• Chair of Community Affairs
• Produced Grand Marshal Present and Past Community Event at SF LGBT Center
• Organized this year’s Resistance Contingent through the Community Affairs Committee (CAC)
• Successfully deescalated the protest by fellow activists at SF Pride Parade 2019, “Generations Of Resistance”
• Continually dedicated in Institutional Change!

I hope my record earns your vote for my second term as your representative!
DOONIE LOVE

My name is Dominique Armstrong, I prefer to be called Doonie Love. My pronouns are He/Him/His. I hold the perspective of a Bay Area Native that is associated and or affiliated with marginalized communities like the: LGBTQIA+ community, Black community, lower middle class community, PTSD community, first generation college student community, and more that are not be listed.

Being born into a marginalized community and suffering daily traumas I had to rapidly expand my awareness of the harsh realities of the world. I assumed the position of Peer Counselor around the age of 13 at a non-profit organization based out of Oakland, called Project Reconnect. At the same time, I was being mentored through an organization called The Life Project, by an amazing queer woman whom I fought against the rules to have as my mentor.

At 15, per recommendation, I assumed the position of Youth Facilitator for a non-profit organization called Community Works. I was in the Project WHAT! (We’re Here And Talking) division, which advocated for children of incarcerated parents. Life changed after I identified myself as bisexual to the public. I began advocating for my peers in school and within the community.

I discovered SF PRIDE in 2012 and felt an immediate connection to the culture and community, there were many people to share experiences and learn from. Elders taught me history, young adults shared their stories, youth found refuge and felt comfortable enough to confide in me. I have prevented youth suicide by creating a judgement free zone and actively listening. Unfortunately, I feel the environment has changed for the worst yet it is not too far gone.

Our community is still under attack, and we must combat against the political and economic powers at play. I stand against: police brutality, mass incarceration, institutional racism, systemic oppression, White supremacy, gender specific injustices, and sexual identity injustices. I identify as an artist and I use my art to inform and bring awareness. I am the descendant of the “slaves” that refused to die. Though my words may be limited in this bio, my voice and practice will not be. I am open and willing to contribute my efforts toward not only restoring what has been lost, but toward the progression resulting in global equity for the human race.

ALEX U. INN

International Artivist; 2017 SF Pride Grand Marshal; Creator of the first ever Resistance Contingent at Pride; Founder, LGBTQ Center, Lead Vocals of Drag King Group, Momma’s Boyz; Former Board Pres.-Friends of Harvey Milk; Member of MyNamels Coalition – Fought Facebook for Authentic Name Policy and won. Winner of multiple Community Activist Awards.

My statement is simple. We must bring SF Pride back to its roots. We owe it to our queer-cestors before us to recognize that Pride started as a riot; fighting for our rights and our lives. Pride should be looked at through a protest lens. With this current administration trying to eliminate any gain we have made, we can’t stand back and not use the platform we have as the most watched pride organization in the world. We owe it to those whose don’t have a voice. Our 50th anniversary should say it all: WE ARE PROUD AND NOT INTIMIDATED! Pride IS a riot; a protest! a march!

Let’s bring back our People of Color! Does it not concern you that we have lost those rich cultures from our march? Let’s bring back our Elders. Does it not concern you that we have this rich history that does not get recognized and/or tapped into? Where are they? Let’s no longer let our Community Services bring up the rear of the march!

SFPD wants to contain us. We say NO. They call it safety. I call it bullshit. There are other ways to keep us safe then to walk lock step with us as if we are entering a prison yard. All we are to the corporations is a marketing tool. They make lots of money off of our one-million people that attend. Do we see any of that profit compare to what we get? Let’s make them work for their place to be with us. They HAVE to pair with a Community Service (CS). Work with that service all year long and shore them up from failing. Only then, do they have the right to march; and only as part of the CS contingent they partnered with. The CS tells the corporation how many people can join them. Then the service gets to have a spot, up front, that is usually reserved for the corporations. No longer at the back of the march.

We have an opportunity to have our voices heard loud! As a Proud Pride Board Member, I’ll make that happen!
If elected, I hope to leverage skills and relationships I have developed to create a more diverse and community driven organization. Producing events that support and are representative of all the unique part of our community. Thank you for your consideration.

This year's parade was a great example: corporations who don't really have the LGBT community's best interest in mind — like Google and Facebook — were allowed to walk in the parade. It felt like any corporation could slap some rainbow paint on their logo, and they were allowed to walk in the parade without doing anything else for the community. We need to have strict standards on corporations which we allow to participate, because SF Pride wields considerable power in swaying the community's perception of the actions performed by, and the internal policies that govern these corporations.

In addition, despite the longstanding blatantly homophobic and transphobic history of police in general and the SFPD in particular, SF Pride continues to have a tight relationship with the police during the parade. This year, that culminated with police brutality at the parade itself, where multiple protesters were beaten and arrested by the police, even though they were championing good causes. SF Pride's credibility on this issue is seriously lacking, and the board needs to rapidly develop a community effort to maintain safety at the parade ourselves, without involving a police force that we know will not protect our members.

We need to start listening to and supporting the most vulnerable in our LGBT community, the ones that have been consistently and constantly overlooked: Black people, trans people, immigrants, and the disabled. Current events in the world are rapidly spiraling out of control, and we cannot in good conscience continue to merely celebrate the view of the privileged in our community. Pride needs to be a powerful force for good. Pride needs to remember the history of the organization, and the event that caused the “celebration” to occur in the first place. Pride was a riot.

I am a humbled and honored to have been nominated for the SF Pride Board. As a SF Native, I have watched how the PRIDE Parade has grown and inspired so many from all over the world over the last 50 years. Currently I work with the Human Rights Commission, yet most of my adult life has been spend volunteering in neighborhood organizations and LGBTQ groups such as Bayard Rustin Coalition, Rafiki House Coalition for San Francisco Neighborhoods, and Inner City Youth just to name a few.

I need your vote for SF Pride board to bring further accountability, organization and ensure the most democratic ways of serving the LGBTQ+ community.

I believe that there is always Shanthi (peace) that needs a collaborative dialogue before Kranthi (revolution) is required to protest and achieve solidarity. PrideSF has built legacy for almost 50 years in bringing together many of us. Pride is survival, validation and freedom for many like me coming from small towns, far away countries. I still remember my first SF pride over 15 years ago when I showed up from Idaho.

I am attesting to a vision of building transparency, accountability, and competency within SF pride once on the board. I will deploy inclusion and diversity checks for any for profit corporation participating at SF pride along with a revamp of the revenue model that today relies heavily on corporations. SF Pride is a riot not a pink washing overload. I also like bring trans leadership to ensure Trans GNC people of color are in forefront and resilience as a trans woman of color.

I appreciate your vote.

Hello! My name is Simone Manganelli. I’m a Bay Area native, and a resident of San Francisco for the past nine years. I’m a candidate for the board of directors because, for the past few years, the Pride parade here in SF does not feel like a celebration I want to participate in. While we have many victories to relish, there are many more fights that still need to be won, and the current manifestation of the parade feels like we’ve given up the battle.

As a Brown TransWoman, an immigrant, a leader, a corporate executive, I have the lived experiences of being margins within margins. Marginalized less abled lives need to be addressed with accessibility options in place at Pride. No person less abled should be denied their pride.

I need to bring to the community our member’s voices need to be uplifted. I will do that.

My personal and professional experiences have given me a perspective to build a community driven organization and ensure the most democratic ways of serving the LGBT+ community.

As a Bay Area native, I’ve experienced growing up with the parade. I remember watching it as a kid, growing up, and now having the opportunity to be a part of it. I want to be a part of the community and be a voice for the voices who are not heard.

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## BOARD ATTENDANCE REPORT CARD

**Board Attendance, Oct 2018-Sep 2019**

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**Note:** Grey italic text indicates attendance records pulled from meeting minutes not yet Board-approved as of Wednesday, 4 September 2019.