



# PFLAG BOULDER COUNTY

**PFLAG**  
Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

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February 2010

## **"Dude You're a Fag: Masculinity and Sexuality in Adolescence" by author C.J. Pascoe** PFLAG Program - Thursday, February 18th, 7pm

Did you ever wonder why calling someone a "fag" is so pervasive among teenage boys? CJ Pascoe's talk is drawn from her book, *Dude You're a Fag: Masculinity and Sexuality in Adolescence*, an ethnographic study of teenagers, examining masculinity, its meaning and social behaviors. She will talk about masculinity as it relates to both gender and sexuality.

For boys, creating a masculine identity entails continually repudiating the specter of failed masculinity through invoking a "fag discourse." Additionally, boys enact a "compulsive heterosexuality" to prove to themselves and others that they are not fags. Looking at how homophobic epithets are expressed, Pascoe documents that "fag" is not necessarily a static identity attached to a particular (homosexual) boy. Rather fag talk and fag imitations serve as a discourse with which boys discipline themselves and each other through joking relationships. The talk will conclude with suggestions for social change and policy reform to combat the homophobia central to adolescent masculinity. This program is open to the public and is free of charge.

## **"Mental (St)eaalth—the Art. Life and Projects of Dylan Scholinski"**

PFLAG Program Preview - Thursday, March 18th, 7pm

Currently based in Washington DC, transman Dylan Scholinski, is an award-winning author, distinguished visual & performance artist, and public speaker. Dylan Scholinski has appeared on *20/20*, *Dateline* and *Today* to discuss his experiences when he was institutionalized as a teenager for his "gender identity disorder". Scholinski's work appeared in the National Queer Arts Festival (USA) in 2001. Daphne Scholinski co-authored the book, *The Last Time I Wore a Dress*, with Jane Meredith Adams, published in 1997. His written and artistic work not only portrays the anguish of his hospital years but also his ultimate triumph.

### Meetings

PFLAG Boulder County  
First United Methodist Church  
1421 Spruce Street  
14th & Spruce - 303.444.8164

**7:00 PM - Program**  
**8:30 PM - Support & Advocacy Groups Meet**

The public is always welcome to the main program at 7:00 p.m. on the 3rd Thursday of each month, held in the Parlor.

At 8:30 p.m. a support group, especially intended for newcomers and others dealing with personal LGBT-related issues, meets in the library as long as needed. Confidentiality is promised.

First PFLAG meeting?  
Need directions or more info?

E-mail **Melissa Druckman** at:  
mellowhellow@googlemail.com

Or contact her at her cellphone number: (720) 299-1453.

**February 12th - 7pm**  
PFLAG Night at Curious Theater

**February 18th - 7pm**  
PFLAG Program: C.J. Pascoe

**March 3rd - noon**  
Faith Communion Luncheon

**March 14th - 4pm**  
Fundraiser Show & Dessert

**March 18th - 7pm**  
PFLAG Program: Dylan Scholinski

**April 14th - 7pm**  
"Queering the Torah"  
David Schneer at Boulder Public Library Auditorium

**Make sure to see the Theatre Party Announcement on Page 5!!**

## Greetings from the New Program Director at Boulder Pride

by Cathy Busha

I am delighted to be the new Program Director at Boulder Pride. I started in December and have hit the ground running. I am very grateful that Boulder County has such a strong PFLAG chapter and I look forward to collaborating.

Like many of you, I come to this work with personal conviction. I was born in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. With a large Amish community, rolling hills and historic farms, it was a beautiful place to grow up; however, it is also a very conservative. After graduating from college, I taught 8th grade English and coached high school girls basketball, softball, and track and field.

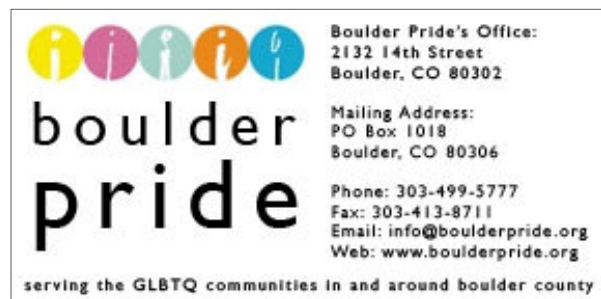
During my fourth year of teaching, I came out to myself as a lesbian. Had I come out on the job or been 'outed' I would have been fired. I made the painful decision to leave teaching.

After a year in the Master's of Journalism program at Temple University, I decided that I wanted to live in wide open spaces. I sold most of what I owned, packed up the car and camped my way across the Northern US and Canada for four months - I moved to Tucson, sight unseen. I was hired by Wingspan, Southern Arizona's LGBT Community Center. I worked as an advocate for LGBTQ survivors of violence, a presenter/trainer, grant writer, community organizer and program director. While working at Wingspan, I earned my Master's of Social Work degree from Arizona State. After working at Wingspan for 9 years, I became the first Director for the Office of LGBTQ Affairs at the University of Arizona.

Last year, my partner and I decided to relocate to Colorado to be near family, as well as the beautiful mountains and farms. She grew up in Golden and is a CU Boulder alum. For the past year, I worked at the GLBT Community Center of Colorado as the Community Programs Director, overseeing the state-wide SmokeFree GLBT project. With recent state budget cuts, the grant and subsequently, my position with the Center were cut.

I was thrilled that a position was open at Boulder Pride. I currently live in Louisville (though as of March, my partner and I are moving to Lyons). I look forward to working with PFLAG as we continue to build a Boulder County that welcomes and celebrates LGBTQ and Allied people.

I am currently seeking volunteers who are interested in sharing their story as part of the "Speaking OUT" program. Straight allies lend an important voice to these panels, so please let me know if you are interested in learning more about SpeakingOUT. I welcome your ideas and feedback about Boulder Pride and its programs. Please feel free to email me, [cathy@boulderpride.org](mailto:cathy@boulderpride.org) or call 303-380-6206.



## Trans Woman Receives Presidential Appointment

Amanda Simpson, who has served on NCTE's Board of Directors for the past 3 years, has been appointed by the Obama Administration as a Senior Technical Advisor to the Department of Commerce. She'll be working in the Bureau of Industry and Security.



"I'm truly honored to have received this appointment and am eager and excited about this opportunity that is before me. And at the same time, as one of the first transgender presidential appointees to the federal government, I hope that I will soon be one of hundreds, and that this appointment opens future opportunities for many others."

Simpson brings considerable professional credentials to her new job. For thirty years, she has worked in the aerospace and defense industry, most recently serving as Deputy Director in Advanced Technology Development at Raytheon Missile Systems in Tucson, Arizona. She holds degrees in physics, engineering and business administration along with an extensive flight background. She is a certified flight instructor and test pilot with 20 years of experience.

## How Beautiful the Ordinary

*Edited by Michael Cart, HarperTEEN Books*

*Reviewed by Dave Parker (reprinted with permission)*

This unusual book is an assembly of 12 stories of identity written by twelve authors of note in the GLBT community. It is unique, in that the stories vary from spiritually philosophical to personal histories to comic strips – all dealing with teen GLBT experiences.

The book starts with a tale of young romance narrated by an unknown spirit of gays past now observing gays present and projecting their future. There are a number of brief views into the hesitancy of young romance with all the mental anguish so many teenagers suffer over their affection for another and that person's response. A young transwoman relates her first venture outside her home dressed as the girl she knows she is. In *First Time*, Julie Anne Peters expresses all their joys and fears as two girls stumble their way through their first full loving experience.

Two adult perspectives complete the picture. A woman writes (again) to the daughter she lost when she lost her partner, who refuses to allow contact with the child they shared for several years; she doesn't know if this daughter even receives her letters. A young Muslim father remembers as he travels with his two sons back to his Alma Mater to hear his former lover perform in concert. He has chosen to suppress his true feelings to live as his Iranian parents desire.

Every reader will react differently to these stories, probably preferring one over another for their own reasons. The main point, I think, is that there are joys and sorrows in all relationships, no matter our orientation or identity.

David Levithan's quote on the back jacket is one to treasure: "Freedom isn't just about voting and marrying and kissing on the street, although all of these things are important. Freedom is also about what you will allow yourself to do."

## Fundraiser for PFLAG Film Set for March 14th

SAVE THE DATE! Plans are nearly complete for varied and amazing entertainment for the fundraiser to be held on Sunday, March 14, at 4 p.m. in the First United Methodist Church sanctuary. Our hope is to take our transgender education film financing over the top! We have raised nearly \$10,000 for the film that is co-directed by Gus Spheeris and Carol Christenson. We hope to raise another \$2000 to complete a 12 to 15 minute film.

*"Trans Mission: The Faces and Places of Transgender Experience"* is the video's title. Filming began in January; some clips will be seen on Sunday, March 14, in the First United Methodist Church sanctuary. Exhilarating entertainment, which begins at 4 p.m., will include our favorite Somethin' About Lulu trio; Resonance Women's Chorus of Boulder; Gregg Tobo, local magician, who has performed in Boulder's Fringe Festival with SRO audiences for two years; and the Low Lying Knobs, a lively marimba band. One or two other acts may be announced in the March newsletter. A suggested donation of \$20 will be collected at the door

We plan to offer dessert following the show, but Lynne Howard and Melissa Druckman need more help in contacting bakeries or restaurants or providing homemade cupcakes or cookies, or helping the afternoon of the show itself.

Contact them at [lynnehoward@comcast.net](mailto:lynnehoward@comcast.net) or Melissa at [mellowhellow@googlemail.com](mailto:mellowhellow@googlemail.com) about food or Rollie Butler about tickets, ushering or program, [rollie@safeforcealliance.com](mailto:rollie@safeforcealliance.com).



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## State-wide Youth Summit in Denver

Colorado Queer Youth Summit will be held on Feb. 13 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at Mi Casa Resource Center, 360 Acoma Street, Denver, CO. Workshops will mostly be led by students. An opportunity to increase empowerment and a social network is the purpose of the summit. The Colorado Coalition of PFLAG Chapters is staffing a hospitality room for parent, guardians of LGBTQ youth. Plans include showing the film made by PFLAG San Diego, "Holding Families Together", as well as offering snacks and beverages.

COUNSELING THAT HONORS YOUR FAMILY

JAYME L. PETA, MA  
PSYCHOTHERAPIST

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## Join Us for a PFLAG Theatre Party!

Friday, February 12th, 7pm

Friday, February 12th is PFLAG Night at the Curious Theatre, 1031 Acoma St. ,Denver, an opportunity to see the world premiere of Terry Dodd's play, *Home by Dark*. The 90 minute production will be preceded by a champagne reception and followed by a PFLAG panel to discuss the contrast of the coming out process for LGBT persons and their families, in 2010 with 1986, the time setting of the play.

*Home by Dark* is summarized by the playwright: On a snowy morning in 1986, a father makes a surprise visit to his son in Boulder, Colorado to confront him about a secret, and reveal one of his own. A compelling story of a young man and his father grappling to turn their fear of the truth into acceptance, HOME BY DARK is a truly heartwarming story about the risks of love, secrets, and compassion.

It took 35 years for Terry to create the play that was inspired by his own experience of coming out to his dad when he was a student at the University of Colorado. PFLAG Boulder served as an "angel" to promote a staged reading of "Home by Dark" when the cast traveled to the National PFLAG Convention in 2007 to present it to an enthusiastic capacity crowd. The world premiere of "Home by Dark" is currently in production at the Curious Theatre in Denver from Jan. 9 through Feb. 13.

PFLAG has been offered a 30% discount for our group, \$25 for a \$34 ticket on Feb. 12th only. Anyone who would like to be included is welcome. Reserve and pay for tickets by sending checks made out to Curious Theatre to Louise and Herb Crede, 853 Wade Rd., Longmont, CO 80503 by February 5 or sooner to ensure group seating. The reception at 7 p.m. will be held in Mamie's, located behind the backstage of the Curious Theatre for all PFLAGers and guests. The curtain is at 8 p.m.

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## Travel and Benefit PFLAG

Take advantage of these discounts while traveling and PFLAG will also receive a donation for each purchase you make!

- Select PFLAG in Orbitz' LGBT and HIV/AIDS charity promotion and PFLAG National will receive a donation every time you book a hotel or vacation package for two or more nights through March 31, 2010.
- American Airlines is offers discounted travel to PFLAG members. To book travel, call 1-800-433-7300 or go to [www.aa.com/rainbow](http://www.aa.com/rainbow) and give PFLAG's Business ExtrAA number 527590. PFLAG members will receive discounts on travel, and each ticket booked will benefit PFLAG National.
- Get 10% off Kimpton's lowest available rates by using rate code "LAG" when calling 1-800-KIMPTON



**PFLAG Boulder County**  
 PO Box 19696  
 Boulder, CO 80308  
**303.444.8164**  
 www.pflagboulder.org

PFLAG Boulder meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at First United Methodist Church, 14th and Spruce, Boulder, Colorado. Program starts at 7:00 pm, sharing time begins at 8:30 pm.

**REMEMBER**, our confidentiality pledge must not be broken.

Newsletter is published monthly. A subscription is included with each membership to PFLAG. Material related to PFLAG is welcome from any source. Deadline is the twentieth of each month. The editor reserves the right to accept, reject, or edit any material submitted.

**Membership Categories**

- \$25.00 Individual
- \$35.00 Family
- \$10.00 Student
- \$10.00 Newsletter Only
- \$50.00 Supporting
- \$100.00+ Sustaining

Membership dues are renewed on October 1st of each year. Send address changes and membership information to PFLAG, P.O. Box 19696, Boulder, CO 80308.

**Advertising**

Business card size: \$15 monthly / \$130 annually. Please send scans / digital images to info@pflagboulder.org . If special arrangements need to be made feel free to send an email.

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**OUR MISSION**

*PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gays, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered persons, their families and friends through:*

- SUPPORT**, to cope with an adverse society;
- EDUCATION**, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and
- ADVOCACY**, to end discrimination and to secure civil rights.

*PFLAG provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.*

**FAMILY MATTERS**

**Aloha from Elizabeth**

Our former co-president, Elizabeth Bethea who moved with her partner Sharon Malloy to Hawaii in 2008, sent us some good news: "I am happy to share a much-hoped-for development, with which I am blessed as I begin this new year: a fabulous new position in which I will be able to have an even greater impact on policy and programming for seniors and adults with disabilities. My new position is Chief Executive on Aging/Elderly Affairs Division Administrator for the City and County of Honolulu (for my mainland friends, the City and County of Honolulu encompasses the entire island of O'ahu, home to 70% of Hawaii's population). I thought that I would have a week or two before starting the new position, but received a call this morning asking if I could start tomorrow!"

**PFLAG Board Changes**

At our December board meeting, Susan Hofer announced her resignation due to health issues and other personal reasons. She will complete her commitment to help with advertising PFLAG events this spring. We are happy to announce that Louise Crede has agreed to join her spouse, Herb, on the board. Herb and Louise live in Longmont and will help us to increase our presence in the East County. Connie Coleman was a former board member and has decided to reconnect with PFLAG by reorganizing the PFLAG library. Jeff Vance, our faithful newsletter publisher, has taken over the website from Kit McChesney. Thank you one and all!

**Kitten Needs a New Home!**

Kristen Kinard, board member, wants to find a good home for a 2 year-old black and white male, domestic, short-haired cat named Bruce Wayne, a kind-of Batman look alike. As an only cat he is a scaredy cat for about 10 days, then warms up to whoever is around. Current on all vaccinations. Contact me at kkinard@gmail.com or call us at 303 772 2005 if you are interested.

