

LGBT PRIDE MONTH CELEBRATION

*Inclusion
Diversity
Equality*

JUNE 20, 2011

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSEMBLY CHAMBERS

California Legislative Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Caucus

Current members:

Hon. Christine Kehoe, Chair

Assembly 2000-2004

Senate Elected 2004

Speaker John A. Pérez

Assembly Elected 2008

Hon. Mark Leno

Assembly 2002-2008

Senate Elected 2008

Hon. Tom Ammiano

Assembly Elected 2008

Hon. Toni Atkins

Assembly Elected 2010

Hon. Richard Gordon

Assembly Elected 2010

Hon. Ricardo Lara

Assembly Elected 2010

Members-Emeriti:

Hon. Sheila Kuehl

Assembly 1994-2000

Senate 2000-2008

Hon. Carole Migden

Assembly 1996-2002

Senate 2004-2008

Hon. Jackie Goldberg

Assembly 2000-2006

Hon. John Laird

Assembly 2002-2008



LGBT Pride Month Floor Celebration

Prayer

Rev. Janice Steele

Imani Community United Church of Christ, Sacramento

Guest Performance

Joshua Klipp

Presentation of HR 15

Assemblymember Tom Ammiano

Honorees

Ingrid Cedeño

Alfredo Urquieta

Captain Robert D. Dockendorff, USNR (Ret.)

Nicole Murray-Ramirez

Roland Palencia

Yigit Pura

Judith Rickard

Valerie Spencer





INGRID CEDEÑO

Ingrid is a senior and president of the Herbert Hoover High School Gay Straight Alliance. She wanted to become more involved with the club to give support to other students and staff. As the GSA President, she witnessed homophobic harassment at her school that according to a GLSEN national school climate survey, more than 91 percent of

LGBTQ students say they hear homophobic slurs or expressions frequently or often. As a result, students do not like coming to school and some drop out. Ingrid felt the need to be heard and wanted others who also felt judged and less worthy to be respected. Her goal was to provide a safe environment where students could be accepted and also come to accept themselves. She is proud of all the allies the GSA made this year. With her leadership they were able to make a difference and stand up for others.



ALFREDO URQUIETA

Alfredo Urquieta is a junior at Herbert Hoover High School in San Diego, California. He is passionate about acting and performance and is active in the Visual and Performing Arts Academy at Hoover High School. Alfredo joined the Hoover Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) his junior year and became active

in gay rights issues which culminated in an amazing speech in front of the School Board as he spoke out for the inclusion of sexual orientation in the district's anti-bullying policy. He is proud to say his speech was influential since the Board adopted the anti-bullying policy. Alfredo and the GSA sponsored a very successful Day of Silence where approximately 500 students participated and amazingly, Alfredo was able to keep his vow of silence and stay quiet the entire day.



CAPT ROBERT D. DOCKENDORFF, USNR (RET.)

Bob Dockendorff was born and raised on a farm in Iowa. He received a B.A. degree in Sociology from the University of Iowa. In 2005 he established a scholarship fund at the University of Iowa that provides financial assistance to selected LGBT students. The Navy stationed him in California in 1965, then sent him to Vietnam. After returning in 1968 he settled San Francisco. He joined SIR (Society for Individual Rights) in the 1960's. He has served on the Boards of Cable Car Awards, Theatre Rhinoceros, Closet Ball, Operation Concern, and other organizations. He was a friend and supporter of Harvey Milk and served as treasurer of Supervisor Harry Britt's Friends Committee. He is a financial supporter of Horizons Foundation, NCLR, GLAAD, FRAMELINE, Lambda Legal, SLDN and other organizations. Bob served on the San Francisco Ethics Commission (1996-2000) and the Veterans Affairs Council (1989-1996). He is a past president of the Harvey Milk LGBT Democratic Club (1990) and was a part of the club's efforts in the early 1980's that produced the ground breaking "Can We Talk" prevention program for what was later called AIDS. He is a member of the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club Board (2009-present) and a member of the Military Advisory Council of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN).



NICOLE MURRAY RAMIREZ

Nicole Murray-Ramirez has been a Latino and gay activist for well over 45 years. He is currently a City Commissioner who has served the last five mayors of the City of San Diego. He is also a national board member of the Harvey Milk Foundation and Chairman of the International Court Council of the United States, Canada and Mexico. He is past chair of Equality California and past national board member of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) both headquartered in Washington, D.C.



JUDITH RICKARD

Judy Rickard is a lifelong lesbian, U.S. citizen and nearly lifelong resident of California. She has promoted civil rights and LGBT rights for nearly 40 years. She has served on the board of her local LGBT PAC, BAYMEC, in the San Francisco South

Bay Area for 15 years. She has promoted LGBT candidates and officials and educated leaders allied with the LGBT community. Late in life, Judy met and fell in love with a non-U.S. citizen. Legal barriers preventing them from carrying out their relationship galvanized Judy to author, “Torn Apart: United by Love, Divided by Law,” which contains a moving political and personal story of immigration and love. Judy and Karin’s story is not over – and their challenges are not over.



ROLAND PALENCIA

Roland Palencia was recently named as the new Executive Director of Equality California. Roland previously served as the Director of Community Benefits at L.A. Care Health Plan, as the CEO of Palencia Consulting, and as Chief of Operations and Vice-President of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation. Subsequently, he served as Executive Director

at Clinica Monseñor Oscar A. Romero which primarily serves Latino immigrants in the Pico-Union and Boyle Heights areas of Los Angeles. In 2003, he was appointed as the Greater Los Angeles Area Regional Director at The California Endowment. Mr. Palencia is a founding member of various community-based organizations and has been appointed by local elected officials to a number of task forces and commissions. Most recently, he was appointed to the Quality and Productivity Commission by Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa and previous to that by Los Angeles Supervisor Gloria Molina to the Los Angeles County Hospitals and Healthcare Delivery Commission, with an advisory role to the multi-billion dollar Los Angeles County’s Department of Health Services. Mr. Palencia received a B.A. in History from UCLA and is a former Lecturer of the Central American Studies Department at California State University, Northridge.



YIGIT PURA

Yigit Pura began his culinary training at the age of four in Ankara, Turkey making dark caramels at his mother's side. At the age of 20, he began his culinary training in some of San Francisco's top kitchens. He later moved to New York where he held coveted positions at such renowned locations as Le Cirque 2000, The Four Seasons Hotel and Daniel. Yigit was crowned the winner and fan favorite on the premiere season of BRAVO's "Top Chef Just Desserts" – a spin-off of the popular Emmy-nominated and James Beard Award-winning "Top Chef." He is currently back in San Francisco where he is very active on behalf of a variety of organizations. In particular, he seeks to shatter negative stereotypes and help to break the cycle of bullying experienced by many LGBT youth by participating in events such as the Bay Area Youth Summit, the GLAAD Media Awards and the "It Gets Better" campaign.



VALERIE SPENCER

Valerie Spencer describes herself as "being a woman from birth, but discovering that just a bit later." She has worked in the arena of social services, specifically representing HIV prevention and services delivery as it relates to transgender persons for nearly two decades. Over time she has worked with the federal government, health departments, universities, community groups, conferences and community based organizations around the country and is currently developing the Transcend Empowerment Institute, an organization that addresses empowerment on a social, cultural and holistic basis. She also authored Los Angeles County's first curriculum addressing Transgenderism from a people of color perspective and co-developed the Transgender Leadership Academy, a collaborative effort of the Los Angeles Transgender Youth Consortium and the FTM Alliance. Valerie has dipped into artistic endeavors by co-starring in the 2004 V-Day production of, "The Vagina Monologues", featuring an all TransWomen cast. She was also featured in the 2006 documentary "Beautiful Daughters" that aired on the LOGO network and Showtime television.



GUEST CHAPLAIN – REV. JANICE STEELE

Rev. Janice Steele is the Founder and Pastor of Imani Community United Church of Christ (UCC), a Midtown Sacramento congregation. She served in numerous leadership roles with various faith and community-based organizations including the UCC of Northern California’s HIV/AIDS

Ministry, the Vesper Society, City of Refuge UCC, the National Black Gay & Lesbian Leadership Forum, and the Zuna Institute. Rev. Steele currently serves as the Moderator for the Sacramento Valley Assn. of the UCC and serves on the Board of Directors for the CA Council of Churches. She lives with her life partner, Patrisha. Together, they continue to practice radical hospitality and spread the inclusive love of Christ through word, deed and song.



GUEST ENTERTAINER – JOSHUA KLIPP

Jazz vocalist Joshua Klipp has spent the last six years focused on his pop music project, and continues to work with trailblazing music producer Kristopher Cloud while foraying back into his first vocal love - jazz. In March 2011, Josh released his first complete jazz CD, “Josh Klipp & The Klipptones, Live at Enrico’s”. A Midwest transplant now living in Northern California, Josh founded and is the creative director for Freeplay Dance Crew - a diverse crew of hip hop dancers since 2000. Josh is a transgender man residing in San Francisco.



LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER (LGBT) CAUCUS

The California Legislative LGBT Caucus was originally formed in June 2002. The caucus’ role is to present a forum for the California Legislature to discuss issues that affect lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Californians and to further the goal of equality and justice for all Californians. Formation of the LGBT Caucus made California the first state in the country to recognize an official caucus of openly-LGBT state legislators.

This year, the California Legislature has the largest number of openly-LGBT lawmakers in its history, with 5 Assemblymembers (Speaker John A. Pérez, Assemblymembers Tom Ammiano, Toni Atkins, Richard Gordon, and Ricardo Lara) and 2 Senators (Christine Kehoe and Mark Leno). The Legislative LGBT Caucus is currently chaired by Senator Kehoe.

