

GoGuide Magazine

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March 2019

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Starting and staying on treatment will help you to be undetectable. Start talking about the options that work for you.

Vol. 3; Issue 6
March 2019

Community Voices Issue

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Publisher
Tim Nedoba

Cedar Rapids-Linn County Editor
Julia Freeman

**Iowa City-Johnson County/Des Moines-Central
Iowa/Political/& Features Editor**
Tim Nedoba

Theater Editor
Matthew Brewbaker

Music Editor/Operations
Gregory Cameron

Columnist
Erik Sosa

Design
GoGuide Media

Website Development
AIT, Inc./GoGuide Media

Contributors
Gregg Shapiro
Terri Schlichenmeyer

Local Sales
Reach Out Marketing, LLC
www.ROMLLC.us
timr@romllc.us
(319) 800-3223

National Sales
Rivendell Media
(212) 242-6863

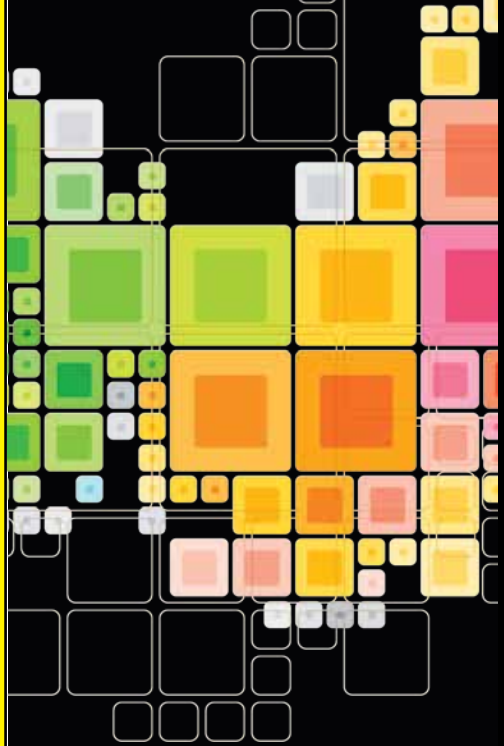


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Midwest Intergenerational Lesbian Conference 2019

The first-ever Midwest Intergenerational Lesbian Conference on Saturday, March 9th at the Iowa City Public Library. The vision is to bring lesbians together across generations to share history, culture, wisdom, and community. You need tickets in advance. Register at lesbianconference.com! Tickets are FREE!

“Ultimately, we hope to heal the generational divide within the lesbian community, one conversation at a time,” said Elise Bargman and Jennifer Rowray.

One Iowa’s 10th Annual Gala Announced

oneiowa

One Iowa to host tenth annual celebration on Friday, April 12 and will include a top-notch dinner, live and silent auctions, live music, and an

awards ceremony honoring the work our state’s advocates for LGBTQ equality have accomplished this past year. This year’s honorees are:

Donna Red Wing Advocate of the Year Award: OC Pride (Orange City Pride organizers)

Courageous 6 Award: EerieAnna Good and Carol Ann Beal, plaintiffs in lawsuit challenging Iowa’s Medicaid ban on gender-affirming surgery

Sharon Malheiro Award: UnityPoint Health - Des Moines

All proceeds from the gala celebration support One Iowa’s mission to preserve and advance equality for LGBTQ Iowans.

A limited number of free and/or reduced price tickets will be made available in late March. If you have financial need and would like to attend, please send an email to gala@oneiowa.org.

Name Change: UI’s LGBTQ Resource Center is now Pride Alliance Center

February 1 “The Pride House” as known by many students became officially known as Pride Alliance Center. This name change was initi-

News briefs

ated in order to to give the center a feeling of more inclusiveness.

Emma Welch, Coordinator, Pride House, said in an email, “This change was a student-led initiative that started last year. The language used to discuss gender and sexual and romantic orientation is constantly evolving, and using acronyms such as, ‘LGBTQ’ is not fully inclusive and may unintentionally exclude some folx who identify within the community.”

For more information visit Pride Alliance on Facebook at www.facebook.com/uiowapridehouse/.

Pride Alliance Center is located at 125 Grand Ave Ct., Iowa City on the campus of the University of Iowa.



UI's "Pride House"



You Do You: LGBTQ Fashion Show

Mark your calendars! One Iowa is hosting a party and fashion show to celebrate the uniqueness and style of our community. Join us to see local LGBTQ celebrities and allies bring it to the runway and show off looks they've crafted with the help of local clothing stores and local designers!

All proceeds will support One Iowa and our work for LGBTQ Iowans in The Corridor region.

Saturday, April 6, 2019 at 7-11pm

Shores Event Center
700 16th St NE, Ste L100
Cedar Rapids

Ticket link: <https://oneiowa.org/lgbtq-fashion-show/>





By Julia Freeman



1 ST ANNUAL COMMUNITY VOICES ISSUE

LGBTQ Youth Center coordinator, Lori Ampey, asked the question ‘why is GSA so important to have in school?’

Molly Richie- “It helps kids that are LGBT youth feel more accepted if they are not accepted at home.”

Student of GSA- “So people know that they are supported and not alone in feeling the way they do for being LGBT+.”

Rachel Pickup- “I believe GSA is important in schools to give LGBT students a place to be themselves even in not so accepting environments.”



Photo courtesy CR-W GSA

Mr. Mason Marshall- “Students just need a place to feel comfortable and go to. What I know about the LGBT community that everybody knows that mental health effects that group because of social reasons. So a lot of times students just need a place to be themselves, feel comfortable, and hang out with other students that understand what they are going through. I think social support is essential and if GSA does only one thing is to provide social support.”

Cole Schmidt- “For the final, I decided to ask myself why GSA is so import-

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ant to have in schools, and I could just say the same as everyone else, but GSA is much more. GSA is the spot for kids who are and aren't accepted at home to come and be themselves. Kids can talk about life issues and serious LGBT+ problems in the world that they usually wouldn't be able to talk about out in public because of the way they identify. Lastly, GSA is like a big family of kids from your school. Also, the new LGBT+ youth center is like a giant family from all over Cedar Rapids."

Jayne Flowers (LGBT Youth Center representative)- "I think its important because it gives LGBTQ youth a safe place for them to feel accepted and welcomed. This space isn't just for gay kids with a gay agenda. It's a family. It's a place of belonging in which you can be who you truly are or want to be without judgment or ridicule." - **Submitted by The GSA of Wash**

Tanager Place LGBTQ Youth Center

The LGBT+ Youth Center is a wonderful place to meet others that are in the LGBT+ community. You can also learn so much from the Youth Center hopefully from the panels that we hold on the last Tuesdays of every month. I had also made so many wonderful friends there have the same story as me and some that stories are different from mine. We also go on wonderful trips like a little while ago we went bowling. Lastly, it's just a safe place for the LGBT+ youth. **Submitted by Anonymous.**

The Center provides a safe and confidential environment for LGBTQ youth, families and allies. Programs at the Center are diverse and include support groups, special art offerings, mentoring program, Pride Café, community service, health initiative classes, parent workshops, financial literacy, tutoring, and career exploration. **The Center is located at The Estle Center, 1030 5th Avenue SE, Cedar Rapids.**



Community Voices in original hand
and pictues, Pages 11-17

In my 1st year (freshman) of high school I was in PMIE (Psychiatric Medical Institute for Children) Residential Treatment. Everyone there went to schools within the district and the one I went to definitely wasn't my favorite, especially since I'm black AND transgender. The school was filled with people that didn't look like me, which was something I was ~~really~~ uncomfortable with.

During my tour of the school I ~~to~~ asked what bathrooms I was allowed to use because I'm transgender and the principal told me to use the Nurses. The nurse was nice but being treated differently made me extremely uncomfortable.

Believe me, - I tried to do things their way but I knew it wasn't fair to make me walk from the 3rd floor to the first to go to the bathroom. So, I began using the bathroom I preferred, male. I did this for a while and eventually was

Sent to the principals office due to 3 boys reporting me, a "girl", for being in the "wrong" restroom.

The principal told me, and I quote:

"For the safety of others I need you to use the nurses bathroom."

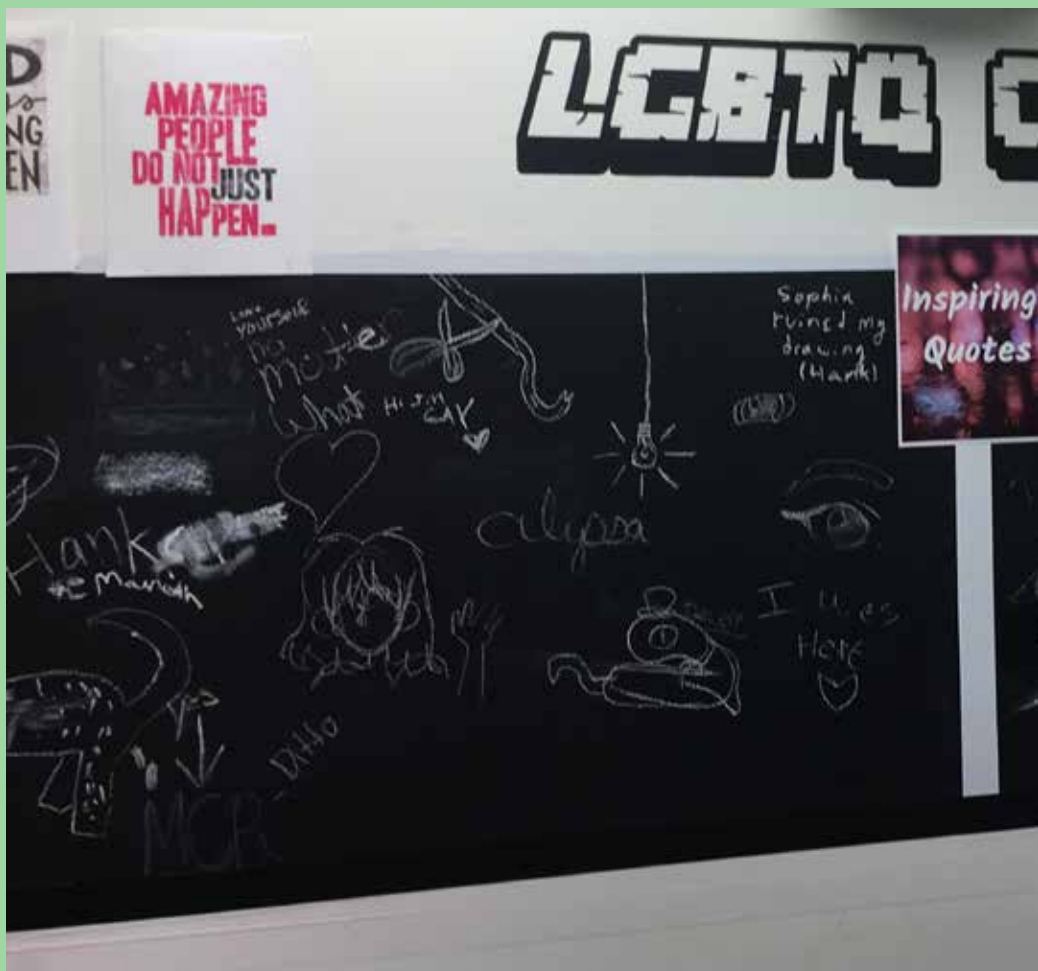
What about my safety? I was repeatedly called a faggot for simply going to the bathroom. After this I used the boys bathroom everyday

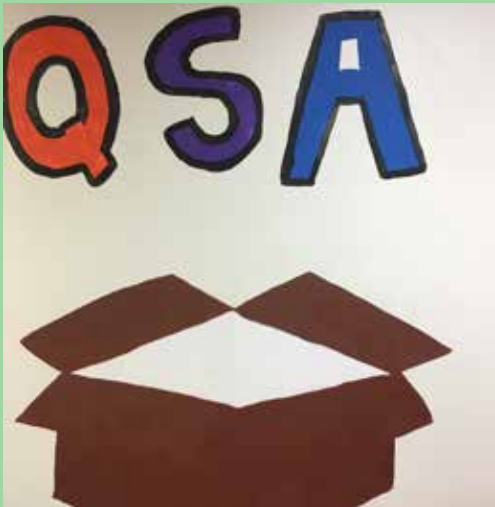
It was only until 8 months later that I figured out they were breaking the law Obama tried so hard to enforce -

~~Letting~~ it was "guidance" by the administration but isn't legally binding. It suggests that if public schools revoke transgender students' right to use the restroom they prefer, they would be non-compliant with the federal law ~~(IX)~~. (Title IX) Violation of Title IX can result to the loss of federal funding or even facing a lawsuit.

Trans
is
Beautiful







All images in this section submitted and photographed by Lori Ampey for publication in GoGuide Magazine.





A SOURCE OF FLAIR IN CEDAR RAPIDS

By Julia Freeman

In a society that has featured tokens of support ranging from affirming, understanding, and kind gestures to actions, policies, and language deemed unwelcoming, disingenuous, and outright cruel in regard to diverse populations, there is a 20 year and still going staple of Cedar Rapids that is dedicated to featuring the best of Eastern Iowa.

As the only facility with weekly drag shows in Cedar Rapids, Belle's Basix has become a safe space for expression and a relaxing atmosphere for many that visit from out of town and for those that call Cedar Rapids home as well.

Like many gay bars, it has music and games such as darts and billiards while being open from 4 pm- 2 am daily. However, it is only accessible for persons age 21 and older due to serving alcohol and city ordinances per such liquor licenses. There is also occasionally a relatively nominal \$5 cover charge on drag show or other special event nights, yet there are other occasions when there is no cover for events. Therefore, patrons may want to check almost daily, updated social media posts on the club's Facebook page for information.

Many communities are losing their gay bars nationally. Hornet Stories' Daniel Villarreal writes, "If gay bars are actually in decline, it's for a myriad of reasons, lest we lose a part of our queer culture without ever knowing why." This is an aspect that Belle's Basix has been able to combat on a local level.

They have also been known to invest in the health and safety of their patrons by providing a space for free, confidential Rapid HIV screenings in partnership with the Linn County Public Health.

Belle's Basix has daily specials in addition to serving alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages alike. For example, they offer free billiards beginning at 9 pm on Mondays and all day Happy Hour on Sun-

days. On Tuesdays, Belle's Basix hosts Poker Ringo from 6-8 pm and Trivia at 8 pm on Thursdays for a night known as "We drink and we know things" with accompanying drink specials.

For more information about Belle's Basix visit them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/bellesbasix/>.

Belle's Basix is located 3916 1st Ave NE, Cedar Rapids.



Photo by Tim Nedoba



Q-Music: Dynamic divas

By Gregg Shapiro

The answer to the burning question regarding Swedish dance diva **Robyn's** new album *Honey* (Konichiwa/Interscope) is no. No, there is nothing on the level of "Dancing On My Own" on *Honey*. That said, *Honey* is in a class by itself, representing a departure from the Body Talk series as well as Robyn's 2005 eponymous breakthrough comeback album. If there is a similarity, other than the dance energy, it's in the way that, like its predecessors, *Honey* sets a mood and maintains it throughout. While "Missing U" might come closest to previous Robyn tunes, it fits best on this album. Working with producer Joseph Mount (of Metronomy), Robyn dabbles in vintage disco (the bassline of "Because It's In the Music") and retro '90s dance music (the keyboard of "Between The Lines" which recalls Crystal Waters' "Gypsy Woman"). The title track, "Ever Again" and the percolating emotions of "Baby Forgive Me" are also sweet to the ear.

Like Robyn, **Natalie Prass** has an interest in keeping you on your feet and dancing. She also gives you something to think about while you're shaking your booty to the tunes on *The Future and the Past* (ATO). "Oh, My" and "Far From You" address the decline of the environment. "Hot for the Mountain," asks us to stand up and be counted. The Erykah Badu-esque "Sisters" is a necessary anthem about the power of sisterhood, while "Ship Go Down" offers hope for weathering the storm. Album closer "Ain't Nobody" sings "I am the sources of my body's choices now," a statement we hope will continue to hold true at this crucial point in time.

Elle King takes a somewhat different approach. You can dance to the songs on her second album *Shake the Spirit* (RCA), but the dance floor would probably be in a seedy, roadside biker bar as opposed to a queer spot somewhere on Halsted Street in Chicago, on Wilton Drive in Wilton Manors or on Commercial Street in Provinc-

etown. With her 2015 debut album and its ubiquitous hit single “Ex’s and Oh’s,” King seemed to appear out of nowhere. On *Shake the Spirit*, King remains faithful to her modern rockabilly roots while expanding her songwriting partnerships, collaborating with Tim Pagnotta (of *Sugarcult* fame) on the first single “Shame”, as well as Death Cab For Cutie’s Ben Gibbard (“Naturally Pretty Girls”) and in-demand hit songwriter Greg Kurstin (“Baby Outlaw” and “Run-away”). It makes sense for King to stick with the formula that made her a success and it will be just as exciting to see what she does next.

Who could ever forget Jess Glynne’s fantastic vocal on **Clean Bandit’s** massive hit single “Rather Be”? The song was so huge that she included it on her 2015 domestic debut disc *I Cry When I Laugh*. Three years is a long time to wait between albums, but her latest *Always In Between* (Atlantic) tries its best to recapture the momentum. “All I Am,” “No One” and “Rollin” come closest to being worthy dance-track steps in the right direction.



Because of her “avant-garde aesthetic,” **Allie x** (aka Alexandra Hughes) has earned comparisons to Lady Gaga. This is of note at a time when Gaga has transitioned to movie star status (*A Star is Born*) after forays into jazz (with Tony Bennett) and Americana pop (her 2016 *Joanne* album). The thing is, it takes more than just a bizarre fashion sense and an affinity for the LGBTQ community to be catapulted to superstardom. To be fair, Allie x has co-written songs with Troye Sivan on both of his albums. So how does she fare on her own *Super Sunset* (Twin Music) album? Among the six full-length tracks (and one intro and one interlude), “Not So Bad In LA” owes something to Lorde and dance track “Girl of the Year” would possibly benefit from a remix.



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Book Review

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15 S. Dubuque Street, Iowa City

“An Indefinite Sentence: A Personal History of Outlawed Love and Sex” by Siddharth Dube

**Coming out was difficult
enough.**

Review by Terri Schlichenmeyer
The Bookworm Sez

Even if everyone supported you and very little changed, you changed; still, though you had doubts and fear, it was something you had to do. Now read the new book “An Indefinite Sentence” by Siddharth Dube and imagine what it might’ve been like coming out but knowing that it’s dangerous.

When Siddharth Dube was ten years old, he saw a dancer who was lovely, curvy, and sultry, and who pulled off her skirt with a flourish at the end, revealing herself as a man. The memory, the surprise, stuck with him – in part, perhaps, because he had known for two years then that he “was a girly-boy...”

No one much cared about that while he was young and growing up in relative affluence near Calcutta. He was “a carefree child,” unashamed of his “undefined gender,” but that disappeared: as a preteen, he was enrolled in a private academy and was bullied for being “sissy,” despite a school culture that allowed boys to demand sex from other boys.

At that time, and for most of Dube’s youth, there was nothing available in India “to help a young man... deal with his... homosexuality.” He felt “hatred” from his peers and neighbors and from his father, who strongly urged Dube to leave India to attend college in America. In the U.S., though, Dube found that “hatred for homosexuality was many magnitudes greater than in India.”

And yet – seeing gay life in a more friendly country was liberating. Dube

patronized a gay bar for the first time, finally found the love he sought and discovered his passion for careers in journalism and activism on the subject of AIDS, the people affected by the disease, and the world's attitude toward it. That began a journey that ultimately took him back to his home country, where he settled in with "one of the greatest loves of my adult life" although, because gay sex was illegal in India, doing so was dangerous.

Months after they moved, Dube discovered just how dangerous...

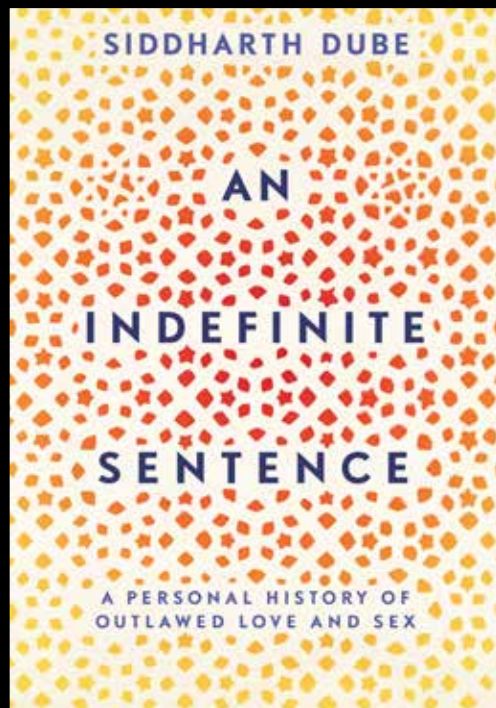
Take that as a warning: that little bombshell arrives all too early inside "An Indefinite Sentence." By the time it does, you'll be lulled into a veil of serenity.

That is due entirely to the prose with which author Siddharth Dube tells his story: it's soft and formal but with elegant slang and an astonishing willingness to use profanity in a matter-of-fact way that still feels like a slap. Dube shares his life and his travels by mixing shades of his faith along with tales of men he loved platonically and otherwise, female sex workers who bore the most blame on the spread of disease, and the politics of and attitudes toward AIDS around the world. This, too, is told with outraged mindfulness that feels like a burning torch wrapped up in tranquility.

Readers searching for something

different this week can end their search with this book. It's stirring and calming, funny and sad; start "An Indefinite Sentence," and you'll have no difficulty enjoying it.

c.2015, 2019, Atria Books | 376 pages



**GoGuide
Magazine
.com**

March has arrived, and there are a lot of great reasons to get out of the house again and go see some great theater and exciting stories.

Hopefully, many of you had a chance to see my show, **Blood Wedding at Iowa City Community Theater** but I want to take a moment to recognize the fantastic cast and crew I got to work with. Having had the chance to work with many community theaters in a few different states I have to say how fortunate we are in the Corridor. To live in an area where so many volunteer theaters that are willing to entrust community members with material like *Blood Wedding* is fantastic. To have a cast that embraced this play and the challenges that it entails is almost unbelievable, yet it happened. Better yet, theaters like TCR, Dreamwell Theatre, Giving Tree, City Circle, and RHCR, to name just a few, are taking these risks season after season.

As I mentioned last month, **Theater Cedar Rapids** will be starting off



the month with **Shakespeare in Love** based on the film, then moving into the Linge Lounge black box space with *Ada* and the *Memory Engine* starring Jessica Link. Jessica is always great to watch and her ability to inhabit strong and smart female characters is awe-inspiring. I had the pleasure to work with her many years ago in *Private Lives*, for Fourth Room Theatre, and will hopefully have a chance to see this exciting play described as, “Jane Austen meets Steve Jobs in this pre-tech romance heralding the computer age.” This is another play that in most parts of our country you would only get to see in a professional regional theater or academic setting.

Dreamwell Theatre will be presenting *Fix Me, Jesus* by Helen Snead in early March directed by Rachael Lindhart. This play, set in the changing room of a Neiman Marcus department store, tells the story of a woman looking for the right dress on the eve of the most important event of her personal and political life, as her past and present collide. A very good friend and frequent collaborator, Jessica Wilson, stars with a talented cast of Dreamwell and ICCT favorites, including Amy Schaefer. Having worked with these amazing actresses and Rachael Lindhart, I know this is going to be a great show well worth seeing.



At the end of March, the classic musical and Iowa favorite **The Music Man** will be opening at **Iowa City Community Theater**. With a cast of over 50 local adults and children, this show is being directed by Josh Sazon. This musical is so popular and beloved that ICCT will be running it for three weekends instead of their usual two.

There is so much more great theater happening as well as other community theaters, regional professional theaters, and academic theater departments. The important thing to note is these are members of the community creating rich, vibrant art, telling interesting stories, and in many cases, their primary reward is audience recognition. Please support their artistic contribution and enjoy a night of live theater!

Check for dates and ticket ordering information on each theatre's web-sites.

As always feel free to reach me via email at DreamwellAD@mchsi.com or through Facebook if I've missed something so I can mention your organization next time.

Matthew Brewbaker
Theater Arts Editor

Coralville PrideFest One-Step Closer to Reality

As we go to print with the March issue of GoGuide Magazine organizers, report the first meeting of the organizing committee is scheduled to take place the last week of February. Organizers are still looking for volunteers, committee members, ideas for the event, event sponsors, potential vendors, and more.

Coralville PrideFest is scheduled to take place Sunday, September 1 at Coralville Center for Performing arts. For more information visit [https://www.facebook.com/CoralvillePride/oremail tim@romllc.us](https://www.facebook.com/CoralvillePride/oremail%20tim@romllc.us).



LGBTQ Fashion Show Saturday, April 6 Shores Event Center - Cedar Rapids

We're hosting a party and fashion show to celebrate the uniqueness and style of our community. Join us to see local LGBTQ celebrities and allies bring it to the runway and show off looks they've crafted with the help of local clothing stores and local designers!

Visit oneiowa.org/events
for tickets and more information.

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Our Guide to Mission Creek Festival 2019

by Tim Nedoba

Welcome to GoGuide Magazine's first guide to Mission Creek Festival. It really is an honor to be associated with such an Iowa City treasure.

Recently, I was speaking with a friend about this event and he told me, "you're so lucky to live in Iowa City. Here in Ft. Lauderdale we never see such a collection of cutting edge artists at one event in one city. Even South Beach doesn't offer an event the quality of your Mission Creek Festival."

So, with that in mind GoGuide is here to highlight several events on the schedule. Of course, there are so many events to attend it's impossible for us to feature everything. I hope you visit the Mission Creek Festival website or visit GoGuideMagazine.com for a complete schedule.

We're excited to have some extra insight on a couple of performers and the fortunate opportunity to highlight one of the great venues of Mission Creek Festival - Big Grove Brewery.

GoGuide will introduce you to out poet Jericho Brown. Our own Gregg Shapiro went one-One-one with poet. The full interview starts on page 29.

In fact, Jericho Brown tells our Gregg Shapiro about his visit to Iowa City, "I'll be reading my poems as my life depended on it!"

Maybe the best part of our preview is our opportunity to introduce you to the official beer of the Festival. It's Mission Creek Lager and brewed locally at Big Grove Brewery. Also, visit GoGuideMagazine.com for updates.

Free Show takes over the Big Grove Brewery stage Saturday, April 6

“Take an afternoon break at Big Grove”

Music Line up:

Flash in a Pan
Jonathan Timm Band
Mercy Bell
Becca Mancari
Middle Western
Lilly Hyatt

1225 S Gilbert St,
Iowa City



Danny Standley &
Brian Johannesen



BIG GROVE VINYL MARKET

Saturday, April 6, 2 – 7 p.m

FREE and open to the public

Record vendors from across Iowa
will gather at the Vinyl Market! Vendors include:

Bog's Vinyl, The Record Collector, Sweet Livin' Antiques, The Analog Vault, Rogue Planet, Vinyl Cup, and Ragged Records

Mission Creek Lager: the official beer of Mis- sion Creek Festival 2019

The Mission Creek

lager is a beer that we chose to brew to harken back to the way brewing used to happen in Iowa City before prohibition.



Lager yeast strains are known for their clean, crisp character and allow the malt flavors of the beer to shine truly. Our

Mission Creek Lager has an amber hue and a toasted bread maltiness. The beer will be hitting the market in March in cans and draught.

Cheers,
Andy Joynt
Head Brewer
Big Grove Brewery

There were several breweries in Iowa City, and they were brewing lager beer at that time. We chose a Vienna style lager for our Mission Creek beer which means that we use a German lager strain to ferment the beer.

We handle the fermentation much differently from our core lineup of ales as ales ferment fast and warm and the yeast contributes a certain fruitiness to the finished beer.

Lagers are fermented at cooler temperatures, and once the fermentation is complete, they are cold stored for several weeks to condition the beer.

Editor's note: Mission Creek Lager will be available at Big Grove Brewery, around Iowa City, and at many of the host venues. If you're a beer drinker, you will undoubtedly want to give this lager a try and feel free to try more than one. Of course, it's vital that everyone drink all alcohol responsibly.

Maintaining a Tradition: an interview with gay poet Jericho Brown

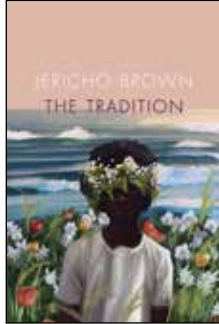
By Gregg Shapiro

Editors note: Jericho Brown will appear at The Mill on Saturday, April 6 at 6 pm.

Jericho Brown is a gay poet. Poets are known for their economy of language.

That said, as a storyteller (and one telling his own story with a blend of humor and honesty), Brown has a lot to say. What follows is some of

what we talked about in advance of the publication of *The Tradition* (Copper Canyon Press, 2019), as well as his April 2019 appearance at the Mission Creek Festival in Iowa City.



Gregg Shapiro: In April, just in time for National Poetry Month, as well as the publication of *The Tradition*, you are performing at the Mission Creek Festival in Iowa City. What can folks expect from your appearance there?

Jericho Brown: I'll be reading my poems as my life depended on it!

GS: Jericho, which came first for you, writing poetry or reading books of poetry?

JB: This is a great question! Reading poems came first because poems are available to us before we can actually be very good (writers of poems). There are great poems available to you when you

are five years old or even before you have speech, maybe! At least to me they were available.

GS: Do you remember what you read or what was read to you?

JB: I grew up in a black church. There were always occasions for which young people had to get up and recite a bible verse or something or to sing or to be in this play or that pageant. You can be on the debate or the drill team or the swim team, and you can do this among a series of churches. Everything you can do in the world [laughs], you don't really have to go to the world to do if you're in the right church affiliation. I was in that kind of church. If you went on an Easter Sunday to hear young people recite their Easter speeches, you would also hear somebody reciting "Ego Tripping" by Nikki Giovanni or "I, Too" by Langston Hughes or "Still I Rise" by Maya Angelou.

GS: Something by Gwendolyn Brooks, too?

JB: "We Real Cool" is something that would be recited, though they had no idea what it actually meant or said [laughs]. Those are the kinds of things I was hearing or seeing or reading when I was growing up. Then, when I was in elementary, middle and high school, I spent a lot of time in libraries. I think the idea that rhyme is attractive comes to us very early. When you're very young you notice and get caught up in the music of rhyme. I know I did. My mother distinctly remembers me walking around

the house saying words that rhyme before I was in the first grade. When I could finally write, I was writing lines and poems that I thought were good, that really aren't that good, and my mom would put them on the refrigerator. The idea of revision wouldn't come to me until high school.

GS: How did you arrive at the name Jericho Brown?

JB: I was living in New Orleans, and I had a great full-time job. When you have a full-time job, you go to bed at a certain time. I had a dream that I was in a hot and sweaty waiting room filled with men. You know how whoever is beyond the waiting room door is taking too long, and things get anxious? People were coming in on time, and in spite of that, they would not be seen anywhere near on time. There was a woman with a little box haircut, a little frame around her face, calling names. When a name was called, they would go through a door that was just beyond her little desk.

She got to the name Jericho and repeated it. I realized that I was in a dream and that the law of the dream was that if no one got up to go beyond the door, I would never get up. I would just be in this dream with this woman saying Jericho forever. I said, "I'm going to be Jericho" and she looked at me strangely as if to say, "Why are you announcing that to me? Don't you want to go through the door?" And then I woke up. It was some weird time.

I had been thinking about changing my name for a while before that. My friends were all making fun of me about it. I was

actually thinking of changing my name to Rooster, that's how bad it got. My birth name is Nelson Demery III. That third always did drive me crazy. I didn't feel free to write about my family with my family name, at least not at that time. I was finally getting poems published. I would see them in print and get all excited, then I would see what seemed to me like my grandad or dad's name, and the gift of seeing the poem in print would be taken away at that moment. I wanted the gift back.

GS: In what ways would you say that being gay inspires and influences your work?



JB: I think in every way, and therefore in no way at all. Thinking about queer poetic, there's no other way for me to be able to proceed since it is who I am. It turns out to be all of my perceptions. That doesn't mean that being black isn't all of my perceptions, too. That doesn't mean that being

Southern is all of my perceptions. That doesn't mean that coming from a kind of impoverished background isn't part of my perception. I think it allows me to be able to see things. If I weren't queer, I wouldn't be a poet, that's certain. I remember being queer allows me to see opportunities in language that can create for me an existence in a world that keeps trying to erase the fact of my being.

Editors note: This interview has been edited for space. The full interview is available online at GoGuideMagazine.com

Our Guide to Mission Creek Festival 2019



**Becca Mancari, Big Grove Brewery
Sat., April 6**



JENNY LEWIS

with TBA

Venue: The Englert Theatre

Dates: Tuesday, April 2

Doors: 6 p.m.

Support: 7 p.m.

Jenny Lewis: 8:15 p.m.

Tickets: Included with festival pass OR \$39.50

G.A. OR \$89.50 with Goosetown Kick-off Party

Gregg Shapiro reviews Mitski's new CD 'Be the Cowboy'

Beginning with “Geyser”’s slightly startling opening organ and unexpected glitch, **Mitski** lassos our attention on her amazing third album *Be the Cowboy* (Dead Oceans). The follow-up to her acclaimed 2016 masterwork *Puberty 2*, *Be the Cowboy* is a worthy successor. Embracing her inner dance diva, Mitski sends us flocking to the dance floor on irresistible club cuts such as “Nobody” and “Why Didn’t You Stop Me?” **Mitski performs on Apr. 5, 2019 at 7 pm at the Englert Theatre as part of the Mission Creek Festival.**

HURRAY FOR THE RIFF RAFF

with Elizabeth Moen and Nadalands

Venue: The Englert Theatre

Dates: Saturday, April 6

Doors: 6 p.m.

Nadalands: 7 p.m.

Elizabeth Moen: 8 p.m.

Hurray for the Riff Raff: 9:15 p.m.

JERICHO BROWN

Reading with Glory Edim & Daniel Gumbiner

Venue: The Mill

Dates: Saturday, April 6

Doors: 6 p.m.

Tickets: FREE and open to the public

MISSION CREEK FESTIVAL 2019

MUSIC • LITERATURE • COMMUNITY

IOWA CITY, IA

APRIL 2-7, 2019

Mitski • Jenny Lewis • Hurray for the Riff Raff
Black Moth Super Rainbow • John Moreland
Kweku Collins • Moor Mother • Jay Som
Mark Guiliana SPACE HEROES + BEAT MUSIC
Noura Mint Seymali • Pete Dominick
Jaimie Branch (2019 Artist-in-Residence)
and more

Kevin Young • Jericho Brown • R.O. Kwon
Glory Edim • Stephanie Burt
Brandon Alexander Williams
Sabrina Orah Mark • Michael Martone
and more

Big Free Show + Vinyl Market at Big Grove
Literary Magazine & Small Press Book Fair
ICE CREAM Comics + Zine Fair
Underground Showcase
and more

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