

CENTER NEWS+EVENTS

November/December 2008

CENTER ON HALSTED

COH Offers Information and Support for HIV/AIDS and STDs



I am pleased to highlight two outstanding programs at Center on Halsted: The State of Illinois AIDS/HIV & STD Hotline and the HIV Testing & Prevention Program. HIV/AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) continue to impact the LGBT community despite social awareness and advancements in medicine. These programs demonstrate the Center's core values, evolution, and commitment to the community through client-oriented, value based services that address significant issues touching our hearts.

The State of Illinois AIDS/HIV & STD Hotline

The anonymity and accessibility offered by the AIDS/HIV & STD Hotline at the Center provides an easy start to a difficult conversation through trained professionals. Funded by the Illinois Department of Public Health, the Hotline responds to 20,000 calls each year by being available from 8a to 10p every day. Our resource counselors provide expert guidance on where to obtain low/no-cost HIV and STD testing and support services for individuals waiting for results/post test support, as well as for HIV positive individuals in need of continued support.

All of the Hotline resource counselors are bilingual in English and Spanish, making it possible to serve the Latino community. As of last month, 25% of calls handled by the Hotline were conducted in Spanish, enriching our continued outreach efforts into Spanish speaking segments of our community. The Center views the Hotline as a resource to build awareness, share information, and act as a culture neutral advocate for people with diseases that show no prejudice.

HIV Testing & Prevention Program

Launched in May, this critically adjunct service to the Hotline provides free, rapid, anonymous and confidential HIV testing with results in just 20 minutes. Available from 8a to 9p every day, this resource provides an immediate answer for any client, who has decided they want an answer about their HIV status. Rather than having a client wait in a waiting room, we build a supportive rapport focused on risk reduction, safer sex practices and STD information.

Center on Halsted's commitment to high quality services is exemplified by staff members who have masters-level clinical social work education, licenses and experience. In the privacy of our confidential space, clients encounter unprecedented freedom to ask about HIV and other sex-related questions, which can be incredibly valuable in today's world where competent, LGBT-friendly sex education is still not universally available. Clients who require longer-term counseling support are referred to the Mental Health Services program at Center on Halsted, which provides therapy to persons who are HIV positive for no fee or sliding scale with the Ryan White Grant. At the same time, we provide extensive counseling and support to individuals who are HIV negative.

With our AIDS/HIV & STD Hotline and HIV Testing & Prevention Program, the Center on Halsted offers valuable resources to all members of our community who are in need of timely, accurate and confidential information and emotional support. We strive to share our expertise and knowledge about these programs, so that our success can be replicated throughout the state of Illinois.

Modesto Tico Valle, Executive Director

CULTURAL PROGRAMS

SUNDAY, NOV 2

Chicago Humanities Festival: Mark Doty, Achy Obejas: Queer Lyrics

3:30p – 4:30p \$5, FREE for educators and students
Harold Washington Library Center, Cindy Pritzker Auditorium
Chicago Humanities Festival and Center on Halsted present Lambda Literary Award-winning authors Mark Doty and Achy Obejas who will read and discuss their latest works. Doty has written movingly on love and loss in modern gay life. Obejas writes about tension between public identity and private experiences in the US and her native Cuba. Purchase tickets at www.chfestival.org.

WEDNESDAY, NOV 12 – FRIDAY, NOV 14

Reeling Film Festival See show times and listings below
Prices vary. Purchase tickets at www.reelingfilmfestival.org.
Hoover-Leppen Theatre

WEDNESDAY, NOV 12 6:30p and 8:00p

Out Late
Beatrice Alda & Jennifer Brooke; USA, 2008, 62 Min
The moving documentary Out Late reminds us that it's never too late to become the person you were meant to be. LGBT progress in the past half century is abundantly apparent as we follow the tales of people who were unable to be themselves for the majority of their adult lives.

Straight

Nicolas Flessa; Germany, 2008, 60 Min
Three young Germans are intertwined in a complex love triangle in this subtle tale of betrayal. German-Turk Nazim is a hedonist, whose nightly pursuits amount to no more than a good high and cold sex. He maintains little attachment to the women or the men he sleeps with. German-Polish Jana lies to her boyfriend and Nazim about her sexual encounters. When the thin fleece of lies falls away, the characters are left with their true selves bare.

THURSDAY, NOV 13 7:00p and 8:30p

U People
Haniyah Walidah & Olive Demetrius; USA, 2008, 76 Min
A music video morphed into an accidental documentary featuring 30 gay and straight women and trans folks of color. What the camera caught behind the scenes is a strong, candid, and human perspective into the lives of queer women of color. They discuss, fight, argue, cry, laugh, and poignantly represent their diversity. You can't help but be pulled into the world these women inhabit.

Japan Japan

Lior Shamriz; Israel/Germany, 2007, 65 Min
Director/writer Lior Shamriz borrows the loose production styles of French New Wave to tell the story of Imri, a nineteen-year-old Israeli gay man who dreams of moving to Japan. Unfortunately, getting there isn't easy, as he seems bound to Tel Aviv. The film is part music video, part documentary, and part coming of age story.

FRIDAY, NOV 14 6:00p and 8:15p

Spinnin'
Eusebio Pastrana; Spain, 2007, 110 Min
Alejandro Tous as Garate and Olav Fernandez as Omar are a couple split on the idea of children. But when their lesbian friends decide to have a child, the foursome begins to explore the various permutations that will lead to their desired result.

Simple People (Einfache Leute)

Thorston Näter; Germany, 2007, 88 Min
When confronted with the choice to either swim competitively or be gay, young Henrik Bode made the difficult decision to take to the water. Now 40, Henrik's days as a swim star are over and the consequences of his decision are felt in the daily drudgery of his marriage, his job, and his bouts of clandestine sex in gay clubs. When the lover from his youth, Lutz, returns to town, Henrik's conflicted feelings are reawakened and the complacency of his family life is unsettled.

MONDAY, NOV 17

singOUT featuring Marlis Petersen 7:00p \$10 (\$5 students/seniors)
Hoover-Leppen Theatre
Join in an intimate discussion with world-renowned soprano, Marlis Petersen, who will be starring as the sexually smoldering femme fatale in Alban Berg's opera, Lulu. Moderated by Lyric Opera of Chicago's dramaturg, Roger Pines. For more information, please call 773.472.6469. Purchase tickets online at centeronhalsted.org.

FRIDAY, NOV 21

Opening Reception for Artist Cal Calvird's Compliance
6:00p – 9:00p \$5 2nd Floor
Cal Calvird's exhibit entitled Compliance will be on display from November 21 through January 7 in observance of World AIDS Day.

MONDAY, DEC 15

OutFront and Center: Lakeside Pride Ensemble plays Holiday Classics 7:00p – 8:30p \$10 (\$5 students/seniors) Hoover-Leppen Theatre
Featuring much of the traditional Nutcracker Suite and some assorted holiday pieces, Lakeside Pride Ensemble joins us again to ring in the holidays. Join us for a sing-along with your favorite holiday tunes. For more information contact Courtney Reid at creid@centeronhalsted.org or 773-472-6469 x259. Purchase tickets online at centeronhalsted.org.

WEDNESDAY, DEC 17

Tamale's Comedy Show 6:30p – 9:00p \$15 (\$10 students/seniors)
Hoover-Leppen Theatre
Diva Femme 'Fatale Tamale' makes her producing debut at Center on Halsted with the Hot Tamale show featuring local and national queer comedienne. Join us for this opening event with surprise celeb comics - we promise to make you laugh until you... For more information contact Courtney Reid at creid@centeronhalsted.org or 773-472-6469 x259. Purchase tickets online at centeronhalsted.org.

LOOK WHAT'S HAPPENING IN NOV/DEC AT CENTER ON HALSTED >

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER EVENTS

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CENTER ON HALSTED

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

MONDAYS: NOV 3 | DEC 1

The M-Network, Men on Mondays 6:00p – 9:00p
\$20 (\$10 students/seniors) *Irving Harris Reception Hall*

Join us in **November** for a conversation with and performance by Tony-nominated actor John Herrea, currently playing in *Medium at Large* at Village Players Theatre. In **December**, join us for an entertaining evening with Mark Byrne, a giant in the comedy industry and Chicago sports scene, performing open mic. RSVP to Ben Gannon, bgannon@centeronhalsted.org. \$20 includes food and 2 drink tickets.

WEDNESDAYS: NOV 5 | DEC 3

Women on Wednesdays (WOW!) 6:00p – 9:00p
\$20 (\$10 students/seniors)

WOW is back on Wednesdays! Join us in **November** for a sneak peek at Reeling, Chicago's Gay and Lesbian Film Festival and meet 3WayTV and new 90210 actress Maeve Quinlan. In **December**, the staff of Tulip will share some ideas for holiday gifts with A Few of Our Favorite Things. Join us for cider, egg nog, and delicious holiday goodies. RSVP to Courtney Reid at creid@centeronhalsted.org. \$20 includes food and 2 drink tickets.

THURSDAY, NOV 6

Center on Halsted Anti-Violence Project and LifeSpan Center for Legal Services and Advocacy presents: Know Your Rights: LGBT Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault 6:00p – 8:00p FREE
Room 201

This workshop covers legal rights of victims of domestic violence and sexual assault in civil and criminal cases and within family law situations.

THURSDAYS: NOV 6 | DEC 4

American Veterans for Equal Rights (AVER) 7:00p
Monthly meeting at Center on Halsted.

MONDAY, NOV 10

Protect Your Assets: All You Need to Know About Partnership Agreements 7:00p FREE *Room 201*

This workshop, sponsored by Bruzgal and Associates LTD, covers structuring innovative legal arrangements when there are no clear protections under the law for LGBT individuals and couples.

SUNDAY, NOV 16

Day of Remembrance Vigil in Memory of Transgender Victims of Hate Crime 5:00p Vigil, 7:00p Night of Fallen Stars

Join Illinois Gender Advocates as they sponsor the 10th annual candlelight vigil to honor the memory of the Transgender and gender variant men and women who were killed in the past year. Speakers will include Lois Bates, Stevie Conlon, Rick Garcia, Bill Greaves, Rev. Bradley Mickelson, Cyndi Richards, Casey Schwartz and Laura Velazquez. Refreshments will be provided.

MONDAY, NOV 17

CAPS Community Meeting 7:00p
CAPS Community Meeting will take place in John Baran Senior Center. Beverages will be provided.

TUESDAY, NOV 18

Project CRYSP presents Tunnel of Love 7:00p – 9:00p FREE
Hoover-Leppen Theatre

Join us for a live podcast forum on sex, health and your booty moderated by Faustos Fernos and Marc Felion, hosts of Feast of Fools, with a panel of experts including Dr. Will Wong of the Chicago Dept. of Public Health, Jim Pickett of AFC, and J.C. Carter, a Chicago-based porn star. Doors open at 6:00p for light snacks and socializing. Register on-line at www.lifelube.org or call 312.334.0939.

THURSDAY, NOV 20

Queer Funding Strategies for Women-Led Organizations and Women Leaders 6:00p FREE

Join the Lesbian Leadership Council of Chicago Foundation for Women in a conversation focusing on ways to obtain funding. Learn where the dollars are and how to secure them for your organization. RSVP online at www.cfw.org.

TUESDAY, DEC 2

Healthy You—Soul Matters: The Hineini Education Project 6:00p FREE

Join Rabbi Robin Fryer Bodzin in a follow-up discussion to the screening of Hineini: Coming Out in a Jewish High School. It's not required to see the film to join in the conversation.

SATURDAY, DEC 6 AND SUNDAY, DEC 7

Windy City Gay Chorus and Aria: Windy City Women's Ensemble present Don We Now...30! Holiday Concert

12/6 at 5:00p and 8:00p, 12/7 at 2:00p \$20 *Hoover-Leppen Theatre*
Annual Holiday concert featuring three decades of Windy City Performing Arts holiday classics and more! For group and student rates, please call 773.404.9242. Tickets available online at: www.windycitysings.org

FAMILY PROGRAMS

SATURDAYS: NOV 1 | DEC 6

Saturday Family Playdate 10:00a – 12:00p
\$5 per family *Billie Jean King Recreation Center*

Join us for our 1st Saturday Family Playdate for kids up to age 6 and their parents. Join in fun, games and conversation. Call Courtney Reid, 773.472.6469 x259 for more information.

WEDNESDAYS: NOV 5 | DEC 3

Parent/Tot Playgroup 9:30a – 11:00a
\$5 per family *Childspace*

Join with other parents and toddlers for a morning of play and conversation. Call Courtney Reid at 773.472.6469 x259 for more information.

SATURDAYS: NOV 15 | DEC 20

LGBT New Parent Peer Support Group
10:30p – 12:00p FREE

This ongoing monthly drop-in group is for LGBT new parents with children up to age 5. It provides families a place to find support, share joys and challenges of new parenthood and exchange resources and information. To RSVP or for more information, please call Karen Rothstein Pineda at 773.472.6469 x261.

YOUTH PROGRAMS

Polk Bros. Foundation Youth Center

Join us in celebrating the holidays throughout the months of November and December!

Check out our MySpace (Center on Halsted Youth Program) and Facebook (Center on Halsted) pages to find out more.

Membership Levels are in place at the Center. The higher your level, the more benefits AND responsibilities.

See Antonio Jones, Drop-In Coordinator, for more information or e-mail him at ajones@centeronhalsted.org.

Youth Career Development Center

Need a job? Learn all you need to know to become job-ready! Contact Natasha Gutman at ngutman@centeronhalsted.org for more information.

HIV testing available daily from 8:00a – 9:00p FREE

Rapid, anonymous and confidential. Walk-in and ask or call and make an appointment: 773.661.0910

Yoga Class available

Contact Cathy Jones for more information at cjones@centeronhalsted.org.

GLOCY

A group from Ebenezer Lutheran Church that gets us talking about spiritual matters. Thursdays: NOV 13 and DEC 11 at 5:15p.

Gathering of Friends Brunch

Join us on Saturdays: NOV 8 and DEC 13 at 10:00a. RSVP is required.

New Youth Orientations

All new youths participating in Center on Halsted Youth Programs are required to attend an orientation session Fridays at 4:00p or Tuesdays at 7:00p. Membership Classes take place Wednesdays and Volunteer Trainings on Tuesdays. Contact Antonio Jones for the schedule at ajones@centeronhalsted.org.

Weekly Youth Program Activities

MONDAY – THURSDAY: Group time 5:15p

SATURDAY PROGRAMMING: 12:00p – 5:00p unless otherwise noted

MONDAYS

Young Men's Group

Discussion group for men who identify as gay, bisexual, and transgender.

Zee's Discussion Group

Youth guided discussion group with guest facilitator.

Coming Up and Out

It's a life-long journey.

Choir at 7:00 following Dinner

TUESDAYS

Teen Talk

Discussion group facilitated by youth, focusing on a variety of topics that impact teens' lives.

Youth Leadership Council/Leadership Skill Development

Learn how to be a leader. Participate in our Justice Circle. Plan the monthly program calendar.

Open Art Studio

Choose your medium and express yourself surrounded by supportive peers.

New Youth Weekly Orientation at 7:00p following dinner



RECREATION PROGRAMS

BILLIE JEAN KING RECREATION HALL

MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS

Open Gym Volleyball 6:00p – 9:00p \$5 admission

Adults 18 years of age and older. Purchase a monthly pass the first week of every month for \$20 or a \$5 fee for each night. Schedule subject to change. Call 773.472.6469 for updates.

MONDAY, NOV 17

Healthy You – Body Matters: Introduction to Yoga 6:30p – 7:30p
\$5 admission; 18 years with ID

Join Yoga instructor Jordan Molt, a graduate of Temple of Kriya Yoga, for an introduction to yoga. Whether you're an experienced practitioner or a yoga newbie, you will experience a class that will nourish the body and assist in creating a sense of well being and calmness for all. Space is limited. Please RSVP to creid@centeronhalsted.org.

WEDNESDAYS

Youth Gym 3:00p – 5:00p

Pickup volleyball, basketball and badminton games.

BELONG/Peer Education

Learn the ABC's of HIV.

Anti-Violence Art Group

Make art and build relationships free of violence.

Theatre Workshop

Express yourself!

Membership Classes I and II on alternating Wednesdays

THURSDAYS

Youth Gym 3:00p – 5:00p

Pick-up volleyball, basketball and badminton games.

Let's Talk About Sex

Do you have questions you need answered? This is the group for you!

Art Group

Express yourself!

Theatre Workshop

Express yourself!

FRIDAYS

Youth Volleyball Games in the gym 2:00p – 4:00p

Come and challenge each other in a volleyball game. Ages 13-24 are welcome.

Weekly Orientation for New Youth 4:00p – 5:00p

Drag King Workshop 4:00p – 5:00p

SATURDAYS

Movie 12:00p – 2:00p

Lunch 2:00p – 3:00p

Diva Workshop

A series of workshops will lead up to our second annual Queer Gender Cabaret.

Art Studio 3:00p – 5:00p

Youth programming supported in part by:

POLK BROS FOUNDATION
a foundation for chicago families

JPMorganChase

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF
CHILDREN &
YOUTH SERVICES

SaraLee
FOUNDATION

Comcast

UBS

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER EVENTS



BUILDING TOUR

SATURDAYS: NOV 29 | DEC 27 1:00p

RSVP required: tours@centeronhalsted.org

Meet in the Amy N. Maggio Lobby. FREE

VOLUNTEER TRAINING SESSIONS

To sign up to volunteer at the Center, please visit us on the web at www.centeronhalsted.org under the section "Getting Involved."

TRANS-FOCUSED ACTIVITIES

MONDAYS: NOV 3 | NOV 10 | NOV 17 | NOV 24 | DEC 3

Breaking the Binary 7:00p – 8:30p \$15

A weekly support group fostering discussion and community for those questioning and exploring gender, who identify as gender queer, and other gender variant persons (regardless of transition status) who live with messages and cues that their gender expression/role is problematic. Pre-screening is required for this group. Please contact Amber Siler-Knogl at 773.472.6469 x491 to register or for more information.

SUNDAY, NOV 16

Day of Remembrance Vigil in Memory of Transgender Victims of Hate Crime 5:00p Vigil, 7:00p Night of Fallen Stars

Join Illinois Gender Advocates as they sponsor the 10th annual candlelight vigil to honor the memory of the Transgender and gender variant men and women who were killed the past year. Speakers will include Lois Bates, Stevie Conlon, Rick Garcia, Bill Greaves, Rev. Bradley Mickelson, Cyndi Richards, Casey Schwartz and Laura Velazquez. Refreshments will be provided.

TECHNOLOGY PROGRAMS

SUNDAYS: NOV 2 | NOV 9 | NOV 16 | NOV 23 | DEC 7 | DEC 14 | DEC 21

Introduction to Computers 4:00p – 6:00p \$35 Pre-registration required
Learn the basics of computers: hardware, software, mouse, keyboard, Windows operating system, files, folders, Microsoft Word, internet, and e-mail. No prerequisites. Call 773.661.0730 to register. Sliding scale available.

FRIDAYS: SESSION 1 NOV 7 | NOV 14 | NOV 21

FRIDAYS: SESSION 2: DEC 5 | DEC 12 | DEC 19

Microsoft Excel 2003, Level 1 4:00p – 6:00p \$15

Pre-registration required

Start using Microsoft Excel. Topics include: entering data, editing cells, file management, worksheets, formatting, copy, paste, and basic formulas. Call 773.661.0730 to register. Sliding scale available.

SATURDAYS: DEC 6 | DEC 13 | DEC 20

Microsoft Word 2003, Level 1 4:00p – 6:00p \$15

Pre-registration required

Start using Microsoft Word. Topics include: entering text, editing, file management, formatting, copy, paste, margins, page numbers, headers, and footers. Call 773.661.0730 to register. Sliding scale available.

12-STEP PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAYS: NOV 5 | NOV 12 | NOV 19 | NOV 26 | DEC 3 | DEC 10 | DEC 17 | DEC 24 | DEC 31

CMA Beginners Group 6:30p – 8:30p

FRIDAYS: NOV 7 | NOV 14 | NOV 21 | NOV 28 |

DEC 5 | DEC 12 | DEC 19 | DEC 26

CMA Beginners Group 7:00p – 9:00p

SCA Group 7:00p – 9:00p

Call 773.243.2301 or visit www.scachicago.org.

SATURDAYS: NOV 8 | NOV 15 | NOV 22 | NOV 29 |

DEC 6 | DEC 13 | DEC 20 | DEC 27

Gay & Straight Together NA 11:30a – 1:00p

SUNDAYS: NOV 9 | NOV 16 | NOV 23 | NOV 30 |

DEC 7 | DEC 14 | DEC 21 | DEC 28

Sober Horizons 9:30a – 11:30a

SCA Group 7:00p – 9:00p

Call 773.243.2301 or visit www.scachicago.org.

COUNSELING & SUPPORT PROGRAMS

HIV Testing and Prevention Counseling

Available everyday from 8:00a – 9:00p FREE

Rapid, Anonymous and Confidential.

Walk-in and ask or call and make an appointment: 773.661.0910

SUNDAYS: NOV 2 | DEC 7

Beyond Words: Expressive Arts Workshop for Women

10:00a – 12:00p \$60/workshop, \$500 for the entire series

Pre-registration required

Are you someone who worries too easily? Do you forget to smell the roses?

Practice living in the moment by using expressive arts to help connect to a deeper level. This monthly workshop will teach you ritual-making, sandtray and other expressive acts. Commitment for the entire series is preferred but not required. Co-facilitated by Susan Ochwat, LCSW, and Cheryl Pripusich, LCSW & Jungian Analyst. Please call 773.472.6469 x158 to pre-register.

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MONDAYS: ONGOING

JANUS Support Group 7:00p – 8:30p \$15 per session

Pre-registration required

This support group is for older GBT men who survived the 1980's and 90's, while witnessing friends and loved ones get sick and die. Topics to be addressed include 'survivor's guilt,' complicated grieving, resiliency, rebuilding support networks, maintaining wellness and negotiating the latter phase of one's life. To register or for more information, please call 773.472.6469 x158.

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Breaking the Binary 7:00p – 8:30p \$15

A weekly support group fostering discussion and community for those questioning and exploring gender, who identify as gender queer, and other gender variant persons (regardless of transition status) who live with messages and cues that their gender expression/role is problematic. Pre-screening is required for this group. Please contact Amber Siler-Knogl at 773.472.6469 x491 to register or for more information.

MONDAYS: NOV 3 | NOV 10 | NOV 17 | NOV 24 | DEC 1 |

DEC 8 | DEC 15 | DEC 22 | DEC 29

Men's Support Group

7:00p – 8:30p \$15/week Pre-screening required

A weekly support group that provides a safe place to explore relationships, sexuality, health, wellness, identity, stress and other issues in a supportive environment. Please call 773.472.6469 x158 to pre-register or for more information.

TUESDAYS: NOV 4 | NOV 11

Mens's Coming Out Support Group 7:00p – 8:30p \$15

Pre-registration required

A 10-week group providing a safe place for adult men in the early stages of coming out to ask questions, gain information and receive support. Please call 773.472.6469 x482 to register or for more information.

WEDNESDAYS: ONGOING

Women's Support Group 6:00p – 7:30p \$15 Pre-registration required

Providing a safe place to explore relationships, sexuality, health, wellness, identity, coping with stress and other issues in a supportive environment. Please call 773.472.6469 x158 to register or for more information.

SPIRITUAL PROGRAMS

SUNDAYS: NOV 9 | NOV 16 | NOV 23 | NOV 30 | DEC 7 | DEC 14 | DEC 21 | DEC 28

Worship Celebration Sundays by achurch4me/MCC 11:00a

Hoover Leppen Theater

We are collecting winter wear for LGBT youth throughout the holiday season and will hold a special holiday service of music and song on December 21st and commemorate Kwanzaa on December 28th.

TUESDAYS: NOV 4 | NOV 18 | DEC 2 | DEC 16

Free2Be: A time of reflection, meditation, music and prayer

7:15p FREE

On the first and third Tuesdays of the month Free2Be offers a contemplative, safe space for people from all faiths and spiritualities to reflect, pray, listen to music and meditate. Free 2Be is hosted by achurch4me/MCC and open to all.

SATURDAYS: NOV 1 | NOV 15 | DEC 6 | DEC 20

Faithful Conversations: Sexuality and Spirituality 10:00a FREE

On the first and third Saturdays we meet to explore questions of sexuality, gender identity, body image, spirituality and faith; watch a movie or discuss a book. Open to all.

THURSDAYS: NOV 6 | DEC 4

Monthly Caregiver Support Group 6:00p – 7:30p FREE

Offered in partnership with Rush University Medical Center, this is an educational support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender caregivers who are attending to a partner, parent, family member or friend. For more information, please call 773.472.6469 x158.

MONDAYS: NOV 10 | NOV 24 | DEC 8 | DEC 22

Bi-Monthly LGBTQ Grief Group 7:00p – 8:30p \$5

Offered in partnership with Rainbow Hospice, this group is designed to help grieving members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning communities to find support and information as they mourn someone they love. For more information, call Elizabeth K. at 847.685.6381 x1125.

WEDNESDAYS: NOV 12 | NOV 19 | NOV 26 | DEC 3 | DEC 10 | DEC 17

Mental Health Rainbow Group 3:00p FREE Pre-registration required

This support group is for LGBTQ individuals with chronic mental illness. This group provides a safe place to address the dual stigma directed at mental health consumers who are also part of the LGBT community and helps to foster a new sense of pride, sharing with others who are also trying to cope. Please call 773.472.6469 x158 for more information and to pre-register.

THURSDAYS: NOV 6 | NOV 13 | NOV 20 | DEC 4 | DEC 11 | DEC 18

HIV Support Group for LGBT Individuals 7:00p – 8:30p FREE

Pre-registration required

This support group provides a safe place to explore relationships, disclosure, health, wellness, identity, coping with stress and other issues in a supportive environment. Please call 773.472.6469 x158 to pre-register or for more information.

SATURDAYS: NOV 15 | DEC 20

Many Loves Seminar and Support Series 10:00a – 1:00p \$15

Pre-registration required.

A continuing series designed to provide a supportive and safe environment for people to explore issues of non-monogamous practice and identity. Please call 773.472.6469 x158 for more information or to pre-register.

WEDNESDAYS: NOV 19 | DEC 17

LGBT Survivors of Suicide Group 7:15p – 8:30p FREE

This forum is an open support group for LGBT individuals who are grieving the loss of a loved one from suicide. In an affirming and supportive space, participants gather to discuss the unique issues of pain, grief and stigma that accompany suicides. Please contact Edmond Yomtoob at 773.450.4434 for more information.

WEDNESDAY, NOV 19

Center on Halsted Monthly Focus Group 5:30p – 7:30p FREE

Community members and new consumers are welcome to participate in monthly focus groups to holistically identify the needs of consumers and create new programs. For more information, please call 773.472.6469 x158.



NOVEMBER & DECEMBER EVENTS

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SENIOR PROGRAMS

John Baran Senior Center

Program Info Line 773.472.6469 x444. Registration required for outings. To register, please call 773.472.6469 x160. All events are free and held at the *John Baran Senior Center* unless otherwise noted.

WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBILITY: All SAGE events at Center on Halsted are fully accessible. Off-site events are not always accessible. For off-site events, please call ahead if you have any concerns.

Do you know an isolated elder? SAGE's Friendly Visitor Program can help!

Trained volunteers provide companionship visits to isolated or homebound LGBT elder or disabled individuals. Volunteers are committed to one visit a week for a year. If you know an isolated LGBT elder who would enjoy a weekly visit or like to volunteer, please contact Serena Worthington, SAGE Director, at 773.472.6469 x160 or sworthington@centeronhalsted.org.

TUESDAYS: NOV 4 | NOV 11 | NOV 18 | NOV 25 | DEC 2 | DEC 9 | DEC 16 | DEC 23 | DEC 30 | DEC 16 | JAN 6

Writing Our Lives: Guided Autobiography Group 6:00p – 8:00p FREE
Pre-registration required

LBT women over 50 are invited to join a 10-week guided autobiography group to explore their life experiences by writing short pieces weekly. Attendance at all 10 sessions will provide a richer experience. Call Serena Worthington 773.472.6469 x160 to pre-register or for more information.

TUESDAYS: NOV 4 | NOV 11 | NOV 18 | DEC 2 | DEC 9 | DEC 16 | DEC 23 | DEC 30

Coffee and Conversation 12:00p – 3:00p

Join us in the *John Baran Senior Center*. This is a safe, confidential place for participants to gather, socialize, and discuss concerns and ideas. Lunch begins around noon.

Conversational French 1:00p – 2:00p

This group is designed for all proficiency levels. Come practice and make some new friends.

Discussion Group 2:00p – 3:00p

This weekly discussion group is peer-led and open to all seniors and allies. Topic generated by group.

Explore Art 2:00p - 3:30p

SAGE is pleased to offer this weekly group. We'll have a rotating series of topics. Among them are LGBT artists, art techniques, art materials, experimental art and more.

TUESDAYS: NOV 4 | DEC 2

Planning Meeting 3:00p – 4:00p

Everyone is welcome at this monthly planning session. Get involved! Have your say!

WEDNESDAYS: NOV 5 | NOV 19 | DEC 3 | DEC 17

Yoga for Seniors 2:30p – 3:45p

Improve your flexibility, balance, breathing and overall fitness. This gentle chair yoga will make you feel good all over. Taught by Yoga Alliance-certified instructor Nathan Boland. Space is limited to 12 in this popular class so it is offered on a first come, first served basis. A sign-up sheet will be available one hour before class begins.

THURSDAYS: NOV 6 | NOV 20 | DEC 4 | DEC 18

Gym Walk and Bingo 9:00a and 10:00a

Join us as we walk to a healthy you! Gym Walk is a great way to keep walking no matter what the weather is like outdoors. It is convenient with water fountains, restrooms and best of all, no street traffic. Followed by Bingo! Bingo! Bingo!

THURSDAYS: NOV 6 | DEC 4

Barternative™ for Women 6:30p – 8:30p

SAGE is happy to announce this new event for women, Barternative™, an alternative to bars. Drop by after work for a non-cocktail hour followed by a fun, group activity. Come and meet some new women or enjoy an evening with friends.

Caregiver Support Group 6:00p – 7:00p

Mental Health Room 223 at Center on Halsted.

Offered in partnership with Rush University Medical Center, this is an educational support group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender caregivers who are attending to a partner, parent, family member or friend.

SATURDAY, NOV 8

Lakeside Pride Symphonic Band Presents: Harmony and Discord the Struggle for Peace – Music Related to War and Its Aftermath 8:00p \$15 at the door, \$12 if purchased in advance.

Northside College Prep School 5501 N. Kedzie Ave., Chicago, IL

The history of this planet is shaped by conflicts which have sparked the creation of some of the most well known compositions in musical history. SAGE participants will meet at the venue, Northside College Prep High School, but please call 773.472.6469 x160 to let us know that you will be attending. Purchase tickets online at www.lakesidepride.org.

TUESDAYS: NOV 11 | DEC 9

Wellness Check with Nurse Matta 1:30p – 2:30p

Twice a month Illinois Masonic hosts this free blood pressure screening.

THURSDAYS: NOV 13 | NOV 20 | DEC 11 | DEC 18

Game Night 6:30p – 8:30p

Come and play a familiar game or learn a new one. If you have a favorite game, you are encouraged to bring it along and teach it to the group. We'll have a few classic games on hand as well as some newer ones. Light refreshments.

MONDAYS: NOV 17 | DEC 1 | DEC 8 | DEC 15

Tea Time 2:00p – 3:30p

Enjoy some tea and friendly conversation in the John Baran Senior Center.

MONDAYS: NOV 17 | DEC 15

Expressive Art for Women 6:30p – 9:00p

This program is designed to bring women together in a comfortable atmosphere to explore art making and expression.

FRIDAY, NOV 21

Friday Movie - "Fame" 6:30p – 8:30p

Watch this 1980 Alan Ball classic with some friends. Remember this? "If they've really got what it takes, it's going to take everything they've got."

MONDAY, NOV 24

Monday Movie – "Fabulous: The Story of Queer Cinema" 2:00p

Through interviews with a host of gay and lesbian producers, directors and actors, including John Waters, Todd Haynes, Gus Van Sant and more, directors Lisa Ades and Lesli Klainberg explore the roots of queer cinema. Along the way, this thoughtful documentary examines the cultural, political and social influences that have shaped the way stories depicting gay life have found their way into films over the last 50 years. — *From Netflix*

TUESDAY, NOV 25

SAGE Thanksgiving 12:30p

Join us in the John Baran Senior Center for a lovely meal with friends. RSVP is required. Space is limited! Call Serena Worthington at 773.472.6469 x160.

Explore Art Puppet Show 2:00p

Our weekly art group has created a marionette show of hand-made puppets and they are having a show! Come and enjoy.

WEDNESDAY, NOV 26

Thanksgiving Movie Marathon 1:00p – 8:00p

Bring your favorite holiday movie, be it touching, funny or just plain weird, the more LGBT content, the better. Movies will be selected by vote and we'll fit as many in as we can. Come for part or the entire marathon. Some refreshments provided but you are encouraged to bring something festive to share.

Chicago Prime Timers/Center on Halsted Book Group

7:30p – 9:00p

The November book is *Christopher and His Kind* by Christopher Isherwood. Isherwood freely discusses a dimension of his experience previously repressed in his fiction, his homosexuality. And in telling the truth about himself, he ultimately transcends the limits of autobiography to write what is, in effect, another novel." - Paul Piazza, *The Washington Post*. **Anyone is welcome to attend this Primetimers/SAGE Center on Halsted joint program.**

DEC 8 – 29

SAGE Art Exhibit

Center on Halsted exhibition space on 3rd floor

Featuring sculpture, prints, painting and drawing by SAGE participants.

FRIDAY, DEC 5

Transgender Aging Intensive 9:00a – 5:00p \$100

Pre-registration required

The class is designed specifically for service providers and advocates to give you the tools you need to appropriately and sensitively serve transgender elders and their significant others, family and friends. Space is limited. Register at www.forge-forward.org/tan/intensive.php.

For more information email TAN/FORGE at tan@forge-forward.org, call 414.540.6456 or visit www.forge-forward.org/tan

WEDNESDAY, DEC 10

SAGE Art Exhibit Reception 5:30p – 8:30p

Featuring sculpture, prints, painting and drawing by SAGE participants. The exhibit runs from December 8 through 29 on Center on Halsted's 3rd Floor exhibition space

FRIDAY, DEC 19

Friday Movie – "Bam Bam and Celeste" 6:30p – 8:30p

Best friends and outcasts Celeste (Margaret Cho) and Bam Bam (Bruce Daniels) ditch suffocating small-town life and head for New York City, where they sign up to be contestants in a reality makeover show in this hilarious adventure.

One disaster follows another, and when the past converges with the present, it seems as though the friends will be losers forever. But Celeste and Bam Bam are about to learn that sometimes "winning" isn't everything. — *From Netflix*

MONDAY, DEC 22

Monday Movie – "The Ultimate Lesbian Short Film Festival"

2:00p

This eclectic sampling of 10 short films from American, Australian and Canadian directors tackles the lesbian lifestyle from a variety of angles. Included are "Blow" by Marie Craven; "Half Laughing" by Michelle Ehlen; "Tina Paulina: Living on Hope Street" by Barbara Green and Michelle Boyaner; "The Black Plum" by Meredyth Wilson; and "A Woman Reported," helmed by Chris J. Russo and featuring Moira Kelly. — *From Netflix*

DATE TBD

Chicago Prime Timers/Center on Halsted Book Group

7:30p – 9:00p

Chicago Prime Timers/Center on Halsted Book Group book title and date for December was unavailable when this newsletter went to press. Please contact Primetimers at 312.409.1590 or primetimersww.org/chicago for information.

WEDNESDAY, DEC 24

Christmas Eve Indoor Games 1:00p – 4:00p

Come and play some beanbag, board games or cards. Some refreshments provided but you are welcome to bring something festive to share.

WEDNESDAY, DEC 31

New Year's Eve Indoor Games 1:00p – 4:00p

Come and play some beanbag, board games or cards. Some refreshments provided but you are welcome to bring something festive to share.



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