

PFLAG

BUFFALO/NIAGARA

May 2024 Newsletter



We meet because someone close to us has come out as LGTBQIA+. We try to help one another with this information in a positive manner. Although we do not always agree, we try to be understanding. We offer help, but do not force ourselves on others. We strive to maintain anonymity while sharing on a level that is comfortable.

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PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.



This May 19th will be the Buffalo Brunch, a fun and delicious way to help embraceWNY fundraise for the many scholarships it awards. It is also a place for community and friends to share a drink, enjoy a meal, and catch up each May. It will be held at the Hyatt Hotel and begin at 11:00.

PFLAG B/N members have always supported and attended this annual event. As a past honoree, PFLAG was asked to give names of people or organizations to be considered for this year's honors. We asked that the Buffalo and Erie County Library be considered this year for recognition.

The embraceWNY committee agreed. The BECPL system's support and contributions to Western New York cannot be overstated. But in these concerning days, the BECPL, with its resources, events, safe spaces, and support of representation and access to books for all, has been a force for even more good.

The library has worked closely with PFLAG B/N in the past; the Central Library has given space and support to show a movies in October during the library's "It's Time to Stop Bullying" month. The library's list of LGBTQIA+ themed books



is a great local resource which we share with many. Over the worst times of Covid, GLYSwny student groups met in local libraries. Such a force for good.

We congratulate the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library system; as the local commercial stated decades ago, “It’s the latest, it’s the greatest, it’s the library.” We also congratulate the other groups and people to be honored, Upstate Black and Latino Pride, SoberOneSix, Hon. Mark Poloncarz, Chevon Davis, and Vanity Vogue.

The Buffalo Brunch is a great way to spend a May Sunday. If you are interested in attending this fabulous event, visit www.embracewny.org.

TIME IS SHORT!

LAST CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR PFLAG B/N SCHOLARSHIPS

PFLAG BUFFALO/NIAGARA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT OUR P.O.

BOX ONLY **BEFORE** MAY 1ST. DETAILS AT WWW.PFLAGBUFFALO.ORG.

SUNY UB PANEL SPENDS WEEK LEARNING ABOUT RESOURCES



On March 18th, two of our board members spoke with a panel of SUNY Buffalo students during their March break. The UB Alternative Break Team, a group of almost 20 students, volunteered with and learned from local LGBTQ+ related groups during its time away from classes.

Lisbeth Ball and Julie Christiano spoke to the socially conscious students and answered questions about PFLAG, its history, mission, and work. Many students in this group will be entering human services fields and their spring focus reflected this. We thank Rachel DiMizio, the Alternative Spring Break Team , and The Office of Student Engagement for the opportunity to share the good work of PFLAG Buffalo/Niagara.

How wonderful that these students chose to spend their break in such an important way! We thank the Alternative Break Team for the opportunity; we know they will take what they gained from this week with them in their careers and their lives.

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PRIDE MONTH IS AROUND THE CORNER

Stay tuned to this newsletter, our Facebook page, local news, and other local groups to find the many and varied ways to celebrate Pride.

If you plan on attending events and would like some complimentary PFLAG merchandise, we have small flags, fans, pins, and bracelets we would love for you to have. Please send an email to info@pflagbuffalo.org and we will make arrangements to get a PFLAG Pride Pack to you.

