



A KEEPER



Please join us for our general meeting on **Monday, June 25**, at 7:00 pm at Jewish Family Service, 8788 Balboa Avenue, San Diego.

Prabha is the recently hired Director of Operations at the San Diego Human Dignity Foundation. Many of you had the pleasure of meeting her at the Launching Leaders Luncheon Scholarship Awards. Her career has taken her down many paths; she worked for the Chicano Federation BEEHIVE Project, Health Planner for the HIV Planning Group, Co-chair of the Young Professionals Council at the LGBT Center, a Digital Mentor for Pendulum Global, and Director of Development for the San Diego Gay Men's Chorus.

Prabha plans to share with us what led her to human rights work and extensively with work in the area of HIV/AIDS. She will give us an overview what San Diego Human Dignity Foundation does in the San Diego community.

Please join us for support groups, followed by the cookie social, then Prabha's presentation.

BE PART OF TRANS PRIDE

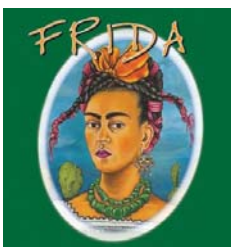


The 5th Annual Trans Pride celebration is the first official event of Pride Weekend. On **July 13**, from 1:00-6:00 pm, in Balboa Park at 6th and El Prado, you can be part of the fun. The event is free and family friendly. Trans folks, friends, and allies are encouraged to

attend. You are welcome to bring a picnic lunch. There will be entertainment, food, and games. At 5:00 pm, there will be a march to the Hillcrest Pride Flag to join the Spirit of Stonewall Rally and Awards.

Resource tables are available for businesses/organizations that serve the trans community, as well as businesses or organizations owned by trans folks. To complete an application, go to www.facebook.com/SDTransPride. It is due by **June 30**. If you would like to volunteer or need more information, contact Kathie Moehlig: Kathie@transfamilysos.org or 858-382-9156.

FELIZ CUMPLEAÑOS, FRIDA



On **Saturday, June 23**, the San Diego LGBTQ community celebrates the birthday of Frida Kahlo, commemorating the legendary life of one of the most influential Mexican painters of the mid-twentieth century while enjoying live music, multiple art exhibits by local Latin@ artists and vendors, a Frida look-alike contest, great food and Tequila! Proceeds from this event benefit Latin@ Services at The Center! For tickets and more info, visit thecentersd.org/Frida.

FUNNY IF IT WEREN'T SO SAD

Despite the fact that hate crimes have doubled since Russia implemented its "gay propaganda" law in 2013, LGBT people attending the World Cup, which kicks off there June 14 and runs through mid-July, will be met with a "warm" welcome, even allowing attendees to put their LGBT pride on display, according to the country's World Cup organizing committee, the Associated Press reports.

"All visitors to Russia in 2018 — regardless of race, gender, religion, ability or sexual orientation — can expect a warm welcome," the committee said in a statement. "Persons will not be fined for expressing their feelings. The display of rainbow flags in the stands or at public celebrations will be allowed."

The head of Russia's LGBT Sports Federation, Alexander Agapov, backed up the committee's assertion that LGBT attendees can expect to feel safe in a country where the government has arrested its citizens under the "gay propaganda" law for disseminating material supportive of LGBT rights or even discussing such identities in any venue where minors could be exposed to it.

Time will tell. Hopefully, Russian citizens won't take advantage of this temporary freedom, as it will cost them dearly when the World Cup is over.

REMINDER

The North County Coastal Meeting will be July 9 (not July 2).

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Terrie Vorono

Membership Application

- New Renewal Change of Address
 Please contact me for volunteer opportunities

Confidentiality is respected. Your donation is tax deductible (Tax ID 33-0512868)

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PO Box 82762
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or go online www.pflag.com (forms available)

VISION STATEMENT

PFLAG envisions a world where diversity is celebrated and all people are respected, valued, and affirmed inclusive of their sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.

MISSION STATEMENT

By meeting people where they are and collaborating with others, PFLAG realizes its vision through: Support for families, allies and people who are LGBTQ; Education for ourselves and others about the unique issues and challenges facing people who are LGBTQ; Advocacy in our communities to change attitudes and create policies and laws that achieve full equality for people who are LGBTQ.

PFLAG San Diego
PO Box 82762
San Diego, CA 92138

Tax ID #33-0512868

National PFLAG, Washington, DC
(202) 647-8180, www.pflag.org

Current Events

- | | |
|--|--|
| June 16 Saturday
Hillcrest Youth Center
Rainbow Prom (see article) | July 9 Monday
PFLAG Support Group
North County Coastal |
| June 18 Monday
PFLAG Support Group
South Bay | July 9 Monday
Mi Familia |
| Through June 24
Diversionary Theatre
The Loneliest Girl in the World
(see article) | July 10 Tuesday
PFLAG Support Group
North County Inland |
| June 25 Monday
San Diego General Meeting
and Support Groups | July 10 Tuesday
Our Space-Poway/
High School |
| June 26 Tuesday
PFLAG Support Group
North County Inland | July 10 Tuesday
Our Space-Poway/
Middle School |
| June 26 Tuesday
Our Space-Poway/
High School | July 13-15
PRIDE Weekend
(see article) |
| June 26 Tuesday
Our Space-Poway/
Middle School | July 16 Monday
PFLAG Support Group
South Bay |

LAUNCHING LEADERS LUNCHEON

San Diego Human Dignity Foundation

San Diego Human Dignity Board of Directors

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| Joselyn Harris | Steven Mather |
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Prabha Singh

Photographer

Elsa Flores

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- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Donna Bowersox | Ina Price |
| Joselyn Harris | Jason Schreiber |
| Sabrina Johnson | Joe Wahl |
| Mark MacLean | Sherry Cohen-Richards |

PFLAG THANKS YOU FOR YOUR EXTRA HELP

GENERAL FUND DONATIONS

- Jan Garbosky
Rosa Karina Jones
Peter Valentini

SUPPORT GROUPS

SD METRO GENERAL MEETING & SUPPORT GROUP

Meets every 4th Monday at 7:00 pm, at Jewish Family Service, 8788 Balboa Ave, San Diego in Kearny Mesa.

**For further information, contact the Info Line:
888-398-0006 or www.pflag.com**

NORTH COUNTY COASTAL

JULY MEETING DATE HAS BEEN CHANGED to July 9 (the second Monday) at 6:30 Pilgrim UCC, 2020 Chestnut Avenue, Carlsbad.

Annette: 760-518-3345 | northcountycoastal@pflag.com

NORTH COUNTY INLAND

Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 pm St. Bart's Church, 16275 Pomerado Road, Poway.

Jill/Dan: 760-855-9424 | RBPowaypflagsdc@pflag.com

EAST COUNTY

Not currently meeting. For questions and information:

Raegan: 858-531-5426 | eastcountysdc@pflag.com

SOUTH BAY

Meets 3rd Monday at 6:00 pm, Our Safe Place, 746 Ada St, Chula Vista.

Patti: 619-227-6092 | pboman@pflag.com

POWAY LGBTQ YOUTH SUPPORT/HIGH SCHOOL

Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 pm St. Bart's Church, 16275 Pomerado Road, Poway.

Kathie: 858-382-9156 | info@transfamilyosos.org

OUR SPACE-POWAY--LGBTQIA/MIDDLE SCHOOL

Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays from 6:30-8:30 pm, St. Bart's Church, 16275 Pomerado Road, Poway. Facilitated by

•youth. Kathie: 858-382-9156 | info@transfamilyosos.org •

MI FAMILIA (Spanish)

Meets 2nd Monday from 6-8 pm, South Chula Vista Library, 389 Orange Avenue, Chula Vista.

Patti: 619-227-6092 | pboman@pflag.com

TRANSFAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Support groups held separately for children, teens, & adults to explore topics around gender identity and expressions.

Kathie: 858-382-9156 | info@transfamilyosos.org

YAY, WE DID IT AGAIN



Congratulations are in orders for the success of the 2018 Launching Leaders Luncheon where we honored 10 students to receive scholarships. Continuing our partnership with San Diego Human Dignity Foundation has proved to be successful.

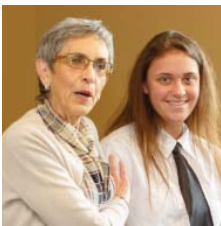
We were pleased to have as our keynote speaker Paul Messerle, a visual arts teacher and GSA advisor from Rancho Bernardo High School. He has won many Teacher of the Year awards on various levels.

Presenting our 2018 recipients:

The Mary Wagner Memorial Scholarship: **Kalo Grimsby**; John Bessemer Memorial Scholarship: **Gemma Samoy**; Rob Benzon Memorial Scholarships: **Sav Schlauderaff** and **Taylor McElroy**; Stephen G. Bowersox Memorial Scholarship: **Felipe De La Cruz**; John McCusker Memorial Scholarship: **Erica Wright**; Richard Geysler Memorial Ethics Scholarship: **Ruth "Tiki" Inacay**; Raytheon STEM Scholarship: **Daria Bonds**; Dr. Lloyd Kendall Memorial Scholarship: **Syd Schlafman**; "We Believe in You" award: **Evan Hillard**.

Thank you to emcee Ian Morton for running the show and keeping it moving with his good sense of humor.

Every month, we will highlight one or two of the recipients.



A perfect way to start is with our longest running scholarship (19 years!), the **Mary Wagner Memorial Scholarship**. Friends of Mary Wagner, Art and Marilyn Carpenter and Sharon Murphy, have made this annual scholarship possible. The recipient is **Kalo Grimsby**. Presenter Olivia Dorman, past Scholarship Chairperson, was aptly chosen to give Kalo her award. She recently graduated from San Dieguito Academy and is headed to UC San Diego where she will major in cognitive and behavioral

neuroscience. Her goal is to eventually get her Master's degree in neuropsychology. Kalo was a participant in the AVID Club (Advancement Via Individual Determination; a college readiness program) her entire high school career. In her senior year, she was in the AVID Senior Seminar. Kalo has overcome many personal obstacles and is well deserving of this award.

Kalo's essay:

"When I first heard about Trailblazers I wanted to join immediately. Trailblazers is a program where high school students help teach struggling elementary school kids how to read. I wanted to contribute to this effort because reading is very important to me and has helped me get through my life teaching me many valuable life lessons. Because of this, I thought the best thing I could do for the community is teach these children the passion of reading. The first day I started as an official Trailblazer I nervously walked into the designated elementary school room. I sat down with my first student and introduced myself, and picked out a book. The student, oblivious to my awkwardness, began to read. As I pointed out errors, and helped the student understand what he was reading, I began to relax. As we finished the book, I was proud of him, and grew excited as he showed a growing passion for reading. I have stayed in the Trailblazers program all through high school, and now as a senior, I am a coordinator for the Trailblazer program. I now record who is coming to the elementary school on which days and determine where people can get rides, and help the other Trailblazers determine which kids to read with, and how to work with the children if they are unable to focus. The best part of being a Trailblazers coordinator is being able to work with the children in developing new reading skills. In the beginning of the year, we did orientation for the incoming Trailblazers, and I spoke to the new faces, most of which looked just as nervous as I felt when I started and I began to teach them on how to read with the students. A week after that, I was able to sit down and help more students. As we were reading I saw the curious interest in their eyes, and I could not wait to teach more children the joys of reading. Trailblazers has led me to a passion of helping people. I want to change the world for the better by helping the people within the community, and I can do this by doing my part to help the people who need it, such as sick people. A way to make these differences in the community is to become a neurologist or neuropsychologist. I am interested in neuropsychology, and in addition to studying what I enjoy I can help people. I want to work both in the research setting, and the medical setting with patients around me. By learning about how the brain works and how changes in the brain can affect a person's psychological state, I will be able to create new techniques to further medical research into these growing fields. I would like to do research about neurology and about new

Continued on page 5

OUR FRIEND OF PRIDE



The expression, "Proud as a peacock," is apropos to describe our relation that **Terrie Vorono**, PFLAG San Diego County President, has been selected as San Diego Pride's Friend of Pride. This is a tremendous honor and is going to a well deserving person (no prejudice, of course!). As the grand opening of Pride Weekend, Terrie will be honored at The Stonewall Rally on **Friday, July 13**.

The only way to do Terrie justice is to quote her bio from the Pride web site:

"Terrie Vorono is the current President of PFLAG San Diego County and is a board member of GLSEN San Diego. In a conversation decades ago she said, 'If the world needs a parent for a gay child, let it be me.' She is the mother of two sons, Ben and Jake; Ben is gay. After sharing the information with her parents, they invited her to hear some people from PFLAG at an adult education class.

Terrie attended a PFLAG SDC meeting 13 years ago and discovered people who could teach her how to be an advocate for her son and other people's children. She asked to attend a board meeting and was invited to assume a board position and to become a support group facilitator. She's served in many roles in the chapter and as president for several years.

She attended a GLSEN board meeting to learn how PFLAG could support their mission and now serves on the board attending meetings and helping wherever she can at events.

YAY, WE DID IT AGAIN (Continued from page 4)

treatments as well to especially help stroke victims, or other brain damaged patients. Also doing research into the brain itself and how the brain functions and how neurons are able to be manipulated within research and gaining access to the limits of the brain. Lastly, I can change the community for the better by becoming a role model for other LGBTQ+ youth, and in turn, my success will highlight the positive contributions of the LGBTQ+ community."



As PFLAG San Diego County President, Terrie is grateful for the opportunity to meet other LGBTQ supporting organization members, advocate for youth and the LGBTQ community, educate herself and others, and support families that have questions and concerns. She's had the pleasure of sharing the PFLAG message in Portugal and with visitors from around the globe who hope to use PFLAG as a model to create a network of informed, supportive families worldwide. She has learned so much from the strong voices in the LGBTQ and ally communities in San Diego and is forever grateful for their generosity. She thanks her parents for teaching her that all human beings deserve respect and kindness and for guiding her to PFLAG.



All of this, though, pales in comparison to her fearless dedication to our LGBTQ youth as an advocate and activist on the front lines of service. Terrie helped PFLAG lead the charge, alongside Pride, The Center, and GLSEN, to reform San Diego Unified School District's policies and implementation for LGBTQ youth. For years she has served on the Community Leadership Council's Youth Services and Advocacy Committee, and SDUSD's LGBTQ Advisory Committee. Without Terrie's bold passion, visionary dedication, and relentless strength, our region's LGBTQ youth would not have seen the level of progress we all now know and love in San Diego. She is the embodiment of the word ally, and a true Friend of Pride."

THERE IS STILL TIME!

For your teens, don't miss this great opportunity for them to attend the Diversionary Theatre Teen-Versionary. It's their first teen acting company exploring the LGBT experience. Teen-Versionary runs **Monday-Friday, July 9-19**, 10:00 am-3:00 pm. Concluding on **Friday, July 20**, at both 3:00 pm and 7:00 pm, the group will present the play, *queerSpawn*. This provocative, hilarious and poignant new play takes an unflinching look at what it means to be a teen today, and the persisting stigma around the LGBT identity.

The group is comprised of LGBTQ teens and their allies, creating a safe space to creatively explore the story and characters. Youth from 13 to recent high school graduates are welcome to apply for a position in Teen-Versionary.

For tuition and scholarship details, go to diversionary.org/education/, click on Teen-Versionary and then **CLICK HERE**. For questions, please contact Education Associate, Skyler Sullivan, at ssullivan@diversionary.org.



PERSIST WITH PRIDE

Here are events, in order of appearance, for the 44th Pride Weekend, themed "Persist with Pride." See separate article on the Trans Pride Celebration.

July 13 (Friday): Spirit of Stonewall Rally and Awards - they will be presented to individuals or groups who contribute significantly to the LGBT community through their leadership, activism, and fundraising effort (see article, "Our Friend of Pride"). The location for the rally is the Hillcrest Pride Flag, 1500 University Ave, Hillcrest, starting at 6:00 pm. The keynote speaker is Virginia Delegate **Danica Roem**, the first transgender state legislator. The event is free.



As a refresher on the history of Stonewall (Inn) riots, there was a series of violent confrontations that began in the early hours of June 28, 1969, between police, who were brutal in the treatment of the gay community, and gay rights activists outside the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in the Greenwich Village. The "event" lasted three days and is heralded as the beginning of the mainstream LGBT rights movement.

July 14 (Saturday): At 9:30 am, Front Runners and Walkers will have their Pride 5K Run/Walk beginning at University Avenue at Centre Street. To register, go to: www.frwsd.org.

July 14 (Saturday): The Pride Parade begins at 11:00 am. It starts at University Avenue and Normal Street in Hillcrest. The route is 1.1 miles. If you have never marched in San Diego's parade, you are in for a real treat. Besides all the excitement of the event, the crowd goes crazy when PFLAG passes by. There are upwards of 100,000 spectators. And speaking of walking 1.1 miles, if you cannot walk that distance and want to ride in the parade, please contact Mike Minnick immediately. There is only one car this year. Mike can be reached at 619-804-5512 or MMinnick@pflag.com. Free event.

After the parade (until 10:00 pm) is the Pride Festival (also Sunday, **July 15** from 11:00 am-9:00 pm), which includes multiple stages of entertainment, more than 80 musicians, bands, comedy and dance performers, 300 participating vendor booths, an art exhibit, cultural presentations, and great food! There is also a Farmers Market, Beer Garden, and Youth Zone. Most important is our PFLAG booth, located on the main drag. The festival is located at Marston Point at 6th and Laurel in Balboa Park. Tickets are \$20 for one day and \$25 for the weekend (+\$1.75 service charge if purchased online). To purchase tickets: www.sdpride.org. Please note, there are no discounts for seniors or military.

At the Festival, tickets are \$30.00 which is a weekend pass.

Anyone wanting to volunteer to work at the PFLAG booth at the Festival (Saturday or Sunday), please contact Mike Minnick at 619-804-5512 or MMinnick@pflag.com.

Here comes the lecture part. For the Pride Parade on Saturday, read this **BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME!** These are suggestions that have stood the test of time: 1) get to the shuttle buses early; there are free shuttle buses from the old Balboa Naval Hospital located on Park Blvd. across from President's Way. If you are a procrastinator, now isn't the time as the buses back up and you'll be waiting in line so long that you'll miss part of the parade, 2) wear comfortable shoes, 3) put on lots of sun block, 4) wear a hat, 5) bring a camera/cell phone, 6) make PFLAG signs and bring them, 7) wear as much PFLAG/rainbow clothing and paraphernalia as you own.

Here are a few suggestions for signs:

Closets are for Clothes, Focus on Your Own Family, Gay Rights ARE Civil Rights, Homophobia - Now That's a Choice, I'm for the Separation of Church and Hate, Homophobia - That's SO last millennium, I'm the Pink Sheep of the Family, Love Knows No Gender, Protect Marriage. Let's Expand It, What Part of Love Don't You Understand?, We the People - that means all of us.

Hope to see your decorated selves and signs at the Parade.

OLIVIA OTTONE HONORED



It is always nice to have updates on past scholarship recipients. The STEM scholarship was awarded to Olivia in 2012. After graduating high school, she attended Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, which was not known for their LGBTQ diversity. Olivia set out to change that. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering, and in May, 2018, received her Master's degree in Engineering Management.

Much to Olivia's surprise, she received of the 2018 Tom Miller Fabric of Rose-Hulman Award. She is the first recipient of this prestigious award. Tom Miller, Dean of Student Affairs, has been credited with developing the Rose-Hulman experience, a much-loved program by the student body.

Olivia did not know she was receiving the award. Luckily, her partner, Jordan, recorded the presentation by Dr. Miller. Here is the transcript:

OLIVA continued on page 8

JUNE REMINDERS

June 16: All LGBTQ+ youth between 14-18 years old are invited to the Hillcrest Youth Center's Rainbow Prom. It takes place at the LGBT Center, 3909 Centre Street in Hillcrest from 6:00-10:00 pm. There is no charge to attend. There will be a DJ, dancing, food, photo booth, games, and performances. With

Any organization or individual who would like to help out with monetary or food donations, please contact Kiona Daelyn at hyc@thecentersd.org.

June 21-24: The theme for this year's Gender Odyssey is Exploring Gender. Together. This international conference is taking place June 21-24 in Pasadena. The conference focuses on the needs and interests of transgender and gender diverse children of all ages, their families and supporters, and the professionals who serve them. Presented are thought-provoking workshops, medical

A TRIBUNE TO BARBARA BUSH

Barbara Bush, who died April 16, left behind a legacy as both a former First and Second Lady for encouraging good citizenship and patriotism. But she is unique also for using her position to embrace gay rights and HIV/AIDS at a time when they were unpopular issues, especially among conservatives. It was said that she sent the religious right into orbit!

The standout moment for Bush on gay rights was in 1990 when she was First Lady. Mrs. Bush responded to a letter from then-PFLAG president Paulette Goodman, who led the group for parents and friends of gay people and sought support for the then-fledgling organization. Ms Goodman was initially prompted to write the letter when she saw Mrs. Bush on TV, visiting a home with babies and children affected by HIV and AIDS. At a time when HIV infection was a death sentence, her hugging those with HIV/AIDS helped to dispel stigma and fears the disease could be transferred simply through touch.

In the response to Paulette the First Lady said, "I firmly believe we cannot tolerate discrimination against any

KEEP THE BALL ROLLING

Following in the steps of Oregon, California, and Washington, Maine has become the fourth state in the U.S. to offer gender-neutral licenses. In June, 2017, Ian-Meredythe Dehne Lindsey requested a driver's license with a non-binary gender marker. When denied because of "current computer system limitations," he filed an official complaint

information and consultation opportunities, discussion groups, networking, children and youth programming, and social events. For registration (which may include some discounts), go to www.genderodyssey.org/los-angeles/.

Through June 24: the award-winning musical, *The Loneliest Girl in the World*, is at the Diversionary Theatre. Synopsis: Following the life and evolution of Anita Bryant and her biggest fan, Tommy, the play magically charts the emergence of the gay rights movement on urgently intimate terms. By turns delightful and provocative, this inspiring new musical is a reminder of a battle yet won, the purpose of pie, and the power of an individual voice. For performance times and ticket info, go to: www.diversionary.org. You can also call: 619-220-0097. When ordering, use the Promo Code PFLAG for a \$5 discount. The theatre is located at 4545 Park Blvd., San Diego.

individuals or groups in our country. Such treatment always brings with it pain and perpetuates intolerance." Referring to Ms Goodman's letter, she concluded by saying, "Your words speak eloquently of your love for your child and your compassion for all gay Americans and their families."

The letter, which may have been the first gay-positive comments to come from the White House, was reported by the Associated Press and reportedly ignited a firestorm among social conservatives, who were pushing for the U.S. government to condemn gay people at a time when the HIV/AIDS epidemic was at its height. Goodman said Bush's letter to PFLAG "put us on the national scene" and in the aftermath "our letters were picked up by press, and PFLAG National began getting calls, putting PFLAG on the map."

As a P.S. to this article, in 2013, Barbara and former President George H.W. Bush attended a same-sex wedding of friends near their vacation home in Kennebunkport, Maine. President Bush signed the marriage certificate as a witness. It's nice to see people evolving, even in their 80s!

with the Maine Human Rights Commission. Thanks to the formal complaint, starting in July, 2019, the Maine Bureau of Motor Vehicles license application will have an "X" as a gender marker option. In the meantime, they are currently issuing stickers for licenses stating, "Gender has been changed to X – Non-binary."

OLIVA continued from page 6

“...the success of her peers in many different ways during her time at Rose-Hulman. She has served as a Sophomore Advisor, Resident Assistant, Graduate Assistant for the Office of Student Affairs, in addition to being the instructor for College and Life Skills. She has coordinated and instructed Safe Zone LGBTQ+ Ally Education Program and co-founded, (*editor's note – with Jordan*), F.E.M., Feminist Engineering Movement for which she currently serves as Co-president. She has been instrumental in helping the Office of Student Affairs intentionally make our campus a more gender-inclusive environment in our resident halls and beyond. Her open-minded, patient and non-judgmental approach to working with faculty, staff, and students creates a feeling of safety and collaboration. Just last week she presented her thesis work, Gender Bias in STEM Education, to the president's cabinet and sparked a conversation among the vice presidents regarding ways our campus leadership can push the institution to be more inclusive. She is humble, respectful and reflective. Frankly, it is hard for me to articulate how much I have learned from this individual during her six years at Rose-Hulman. It is my great pleasure to present the 2018 Tom Miller Fabric of Rose-Hulman Award to Olivia Ottone. Congratulations, Olivia.”

DOWN, BUT NOT OUT

Terrie Vorono, PFLAG San Diego County President, had a bit of a mishap and landed (literally) in the hospital with a dislocated shoulder and broken humerus bone (which wasn't so humorous!). She is mending and we hope she is back in action very soon. She wears many hats and, as we know, no one can fill her shoes.



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