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At MassMutual, we are committed to providing the guidance you need to help reach your financial goals. Our financial professionals work to earn your trust delivering custom insurance solutions and sharing your financial priorities. To take a step toward building your financial future, contact us today at massmutual.com/lgbt.





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MassMutual Financial Group refers to Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co. (MassMutual) and its affiliated companies and sales representatives. Insurance products are issued by MassMutual, Springfield, MA 01111, and its subsidiaries, C.M. Life Insurance Company and MML Bay State Life Insurance Company, Enfield, CT 06082. As of April 2016, MassMutual received a 100% score on the Human Rights Commission's Corporate Equality Index and was named a Best Places to Work. CRN201703-169729.

### WELCOME TO NOHO PRIDE 2016

In 1981 Northampton held the first liberation Pride march in the area despite the overwhelmingly homophobic and discriminatory realities facing LGBT people nation-wide. Our Pride parade and event has evolved from people marching with bags on their heads into a day that brings diverse communities together to celebrate the freedom of being who we are. 2016 marks our 35th year of inclusion and diversity. We are a community that actively cares about justice and humanity. The ever-present political and spiritual connectedness for human rights draws people together both near and far, across gender, sexuality, age, ability, class, race and diversity broadly. This strong commitment to social justice allows this area to be an open, rather than closeted, home for many lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people are intricately woven with all aspects of life. We are mothers/fathers, daughters/sons, brothers/sisters, friends, business owners, employees, democrats/republicans, artists, writers, scholars. We are a big part of Western Massachusetts and we welcome you to our ever-growing diverse communities.

#### **Our Pride Shows**



CONSTRUCT ASSOCIATES, INC.

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#### Top Ten Reasons to Donate to Noho Pride

- 1. You believe that diversity is important.
- 2. You want to ensure that quality LGBT Resources will always be available.
- 3. You--or someone you care about-- is LGBT, and you want to say thanks.
- 4. You appreciate how improving unity among the LGBT/allied communities can make stronger communities.
- 5. You believe in paying it forward.
- 6. You want to ensure that others experience the same high energy you get as a volunteer and giving back.
- 7. You support Noho Pride's vision of expanding the availability of LGBT scholarships to go beyond our local area colleges and to reach out nationwide.
- 8. You believe every LGBT child coming out deserves a safe future.
- 9. You want to help families understand and create dialog with LGBT family member(s).
- 10. You believe in the power of education and research to overcome the stigma of LGBT communities.

DONATE at www.NohoPride.org/Donate.html



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# "Celebrate 35 Years Of Love, Strength, Progress"

By Bear White

Our vision and mission has always been to foster events that honor the integrity, history and diversity of our community and to focus on education, awareness, and unity among LGBT and allied communities.

While we have made great strides on the marriage equality front we continue to fight for even the basic rights in many other areas here in the United States and around the world.

Through the long-lasting efforts of volunteers and local community members, our annual pride event now draws thousands of people from New England and beyond. With understanding and appreciating our differences, we can celebrate another wonderful day of LGBT Pride bringing us all together for this extraordinary occasion.









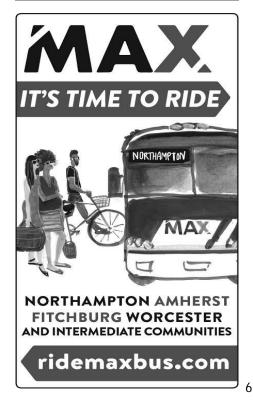
WGBY 57 44 Hampden St. Springfield, MA 01103 (413) 781-2801 WGBY.org



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## LGBT Scholarship

2016 marks the fifth year that Noho Pride will be granting a college scholarship. This \$500 scholarship is being offered to high school seniors who attend school in either Hampshire, Hampden, Berkshire, or Franklin county and have financial need.

To be considered for the scholarship, applicants are asked to write an essay describing how he or she plans to become a positive role model in the LGBT community. A panel of 3

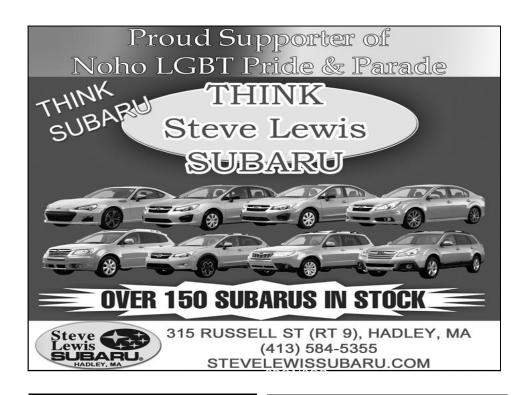
volunteers will read all essays received and vote to decide the winning entry.

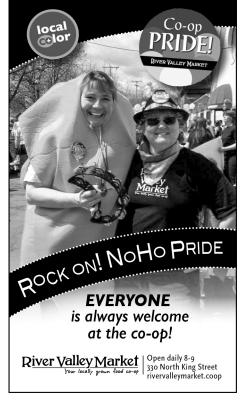
In future years, the Noho Pride committee plans to increase the award amount as well as the scope of the scholarship to include students already attending college, as well as nontraditional students returning to college as adults. Each year, the scholarship application will be posted on the Noho Pride website as well as with popular scholarship search engines.

For more information visit us online at www.NohoPride.org/Scholarship.html

Scholarship fund managed by

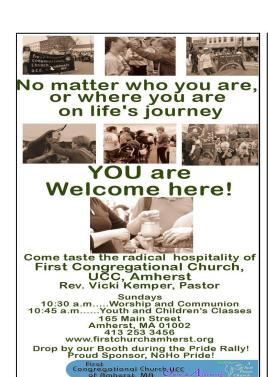






We would like to thank all our wonderful craft, food and non-profit info tent vendors.

Once a year, we come from all over the region to celebrate, to fight for our rights, to engage in discourse, to dance, to see people we have not seen all year, and to recognize our ever-





#### Honoring and Respecting Everybody

Cooley Dickinson is committed to:

- equal access to the highest quality health care for LGBT people;
- workforce diversity that reflects the community we serve:
- care and services that respond to the needs of LGBT people; and
- eliminating health disparities based on sexual orientation and gender identity

Cooley's Got PRIDE! cooley-dickinson.org







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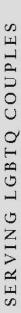
We can help.

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TAPESTRY*health.org* \_\_\_413-586-2016

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#### Many thanks to our 2016 SPONSORS

#### <u>Please support the sponsors who support us</u> <u>www.NohoPride.org/sponsor-1.html</u>

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**Amherst** 

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#### FRIENDS OF PRIDE

-Indigo Coffee -The Academy at Charlemont

-South Congregational Church -Jewish Community Center

-Shelter Tails -Valley Womens Martial Arts

## A proud supporter of Northampton Pride

CYNTHIA J. TURNBULL

OF

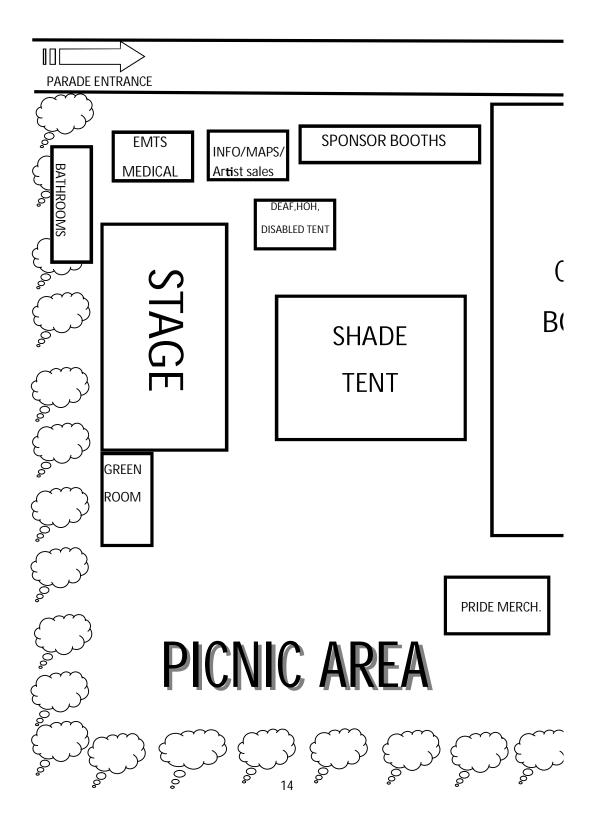


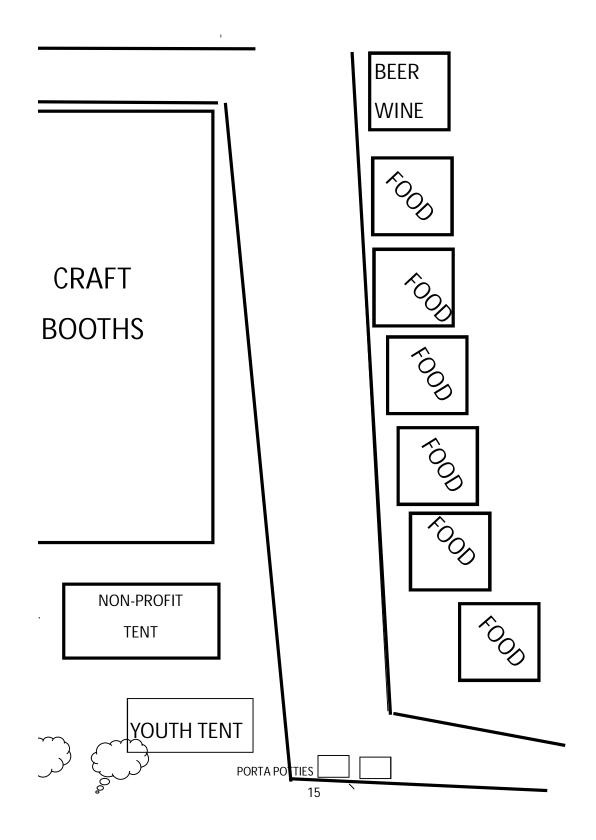
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ANITA THIBAULT VOLUNTEERS

FELICIA FORRESTOR
DRAG



Parade kicks off at Noon sharp followed by the Pride event entertainment which will begin at approximately 1:15 pm and run until 5-5:30 pm. Performers and speakers will be on stage in the order they are listed below.

Pride Parade
Welcome by Emcee Cindy Foster
Proclamation by Northampton
Mayor David Narkewicz
Ayisha Knight Shaw
DRAG
Queen Mary
Ephraim Adamz
SoloSexx
Drag Finale

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> please note times and lineup are subject to change

#### MAYOR DAVID NARKEWICZ



David Narkewicz was elected the 44<sup>th</sup> Mayor of the City of Northampton in November 2011. Prior to that, he served as Councilor At-Large and President of the Northampton City Council from 2010-2011 and Ward 4 City Councilor from 2006-2010

#### Cindy Foster



I have performed with the queer queens of comedy along side Poppy Champlain, Michelle Balan and Ian Harvie at the Calvin theater . I am a regular performer at Divas nightclub in Northampton . I have performed in new England's funniest comic at Mohegan sun. I have performed at colleges including UMaine and Worcester state.

I am the emcee for Worcester pride for the second year in a row. I live locally in Greenfield, Mass with my two amazing kids Noah and Hannah . Also I will have my own radio show on 107.9 Fm. Details coming soon!

#### EPHRAIM ADAMZ



Ephraim Adamz is an American DJD and Pop Performer, raised in the southern countryside of Hamppton VA. His music brings a variety of sounds including Dance, EDM, Hip-Hop, Baltimore Club, Miami Bass, Ballroom Vogue, Jersey Club, and R&B.

"The best medicine in life is when you make people laugh, smile, or feel sexy. I like to perform music that describes a story or sends a positive message. I has to feel soothing to the body and the soul. Stuff that get's people thinking while grooving. People come to my shows to celebrate, and that makes me feel good." - Ephraim Adamz

#### **SOLO SEXX**



Solo Sexx are 2 rip-rollin' riotous girls from Boston & Amherst, MA. We're ready to get your brains fried and your no-no spots electrified, Solo Sexx is a big middle finger to a consumerist, male-driven circle jerk of a hip hop game that's been played against itself for far too long.

With a fearless sense of humor and a no-holds barred attitude, Solo Sexx turns the hip-hop hypocrites on their head and leads fans to a whole new horizon: with homemade beats and outta sight rhymes! Solo Sexx proves that the alternative to the add-water-and -stir rap chumpitude is funkier, fresher, and just plain sexxier than ever before!

#### **QUEEN MARY**



In 2012 The General Manager of River Valley Co-op had the idea for the musicians on staff to form a band to play the Pride Parade. Queen Mary consists of four co-op staff members ~ Toni Maestas, Mark Schilling, Dave Cook and Tom Bradbury

#### Ayisha Knight Shaw



I am the daughter of a white Jewish mother and a Black Cherokee father by birth, but I was raised in a community of single mothers who raised me as their own. At last count, fifteen mothers, three fathers, numerous brothers, sisters all forming an unconventional yet profoundly beautiful family. This ethnically diverse community of poets, painters, sculptors, storytellers taught me that creating and sharing art is as much a political act as a thing of beauty. Sharing myself and my work has been my greatest challenge and most rewarding experience.

#### **OUR DRAG PERFORMERS**



**FELICIA FORRESTOR** 

Felicia Forrestor ...... I am so happy and honored ,this is my second year as the Noho Pride Drag Coordinator. I was recently crowned `Miss Diva Massachusetts 2014. You can catch me at Diva's Nightclub hosting my own monthly show called Drag Cabaret one Saturday night a month. I also do shows in Connecticut with the fabulous Dixie Normous which is my co-host this year at Pride. I have been doing the art of female impersonation for over 20 years now and have entertained audiences in over 150 cities in 9 states. I am here to make Noho Pride bigger and better every single year with great entertainers which include drag queens and drag kings.



SERENITY LOCKHART FULL BIOS ON WEBSITE WWW.NOHOPRIDE.ORG



LOO D'FLYEST PRIESTLY

**VERONICA BOW** 





**IZZY MJ** 

**RUBY MONROE** 





MIA E Z'LAY

TYTANINA LOVELESS LOCKHART





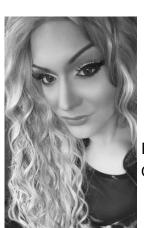
**GALAXY LAFOXX** 



**DEVIN GRABERASS** 



LEO CRAYZ



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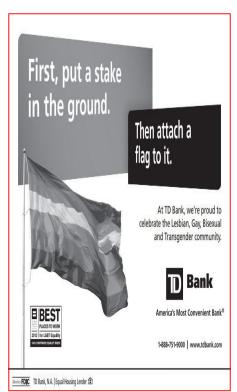
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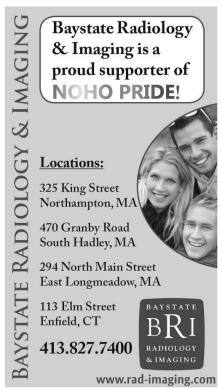
JUSTIN SYDER



#### THANK YOU!!!

Thanks so much to our wonderful ASL interpreters who make our event accessible to our Deaf and Hard of Hearing community.







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#### Here's what people are saying about Noho Pride's event and parade:

"It brings people together, all demographics and that's so empowering."

"At pride I am able to be who I am and feel safe among people who do not judge me."

"Pride resurrects a very important part of history, locally and na**ti**onally."

"At Pride it provides a great way to support people and businesses."

"Pride encourages growth as individuals and groups

like the GSA's at the schools."

"It brings awareness to every facet of society."

Please consider sponsoring Noho Pride 2017
Visit www.NohoPride.org/sponsor-1.html for details





Noho Pride would like to thank the Friends of Pride who have generously made donations to help us have this wonderful day.

# CONNECTING DAILY HAMPSHIRE TO SUBSCRIBE IN PRINT OR ONLINE, CALL 413-586-1925.



We have changed our look, but our commitment to our community remains as strong as ever.

At Health New England, our mission is to improve the health and lives of the people in our communities and we are deeply committed to the individuals we serve each day. Based in Springfield, Massachusetts, we have been meeting the health care needs of our members for more than 30 years.

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#### **Baystate Health**

is proud to partner with the LGBT community to improve the health of the people in our communities every day with quality and compassion.

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Baystate Health's Community Benefits Mission is to reduce health disparities, promote community wellness and improve access to care for vulnerable populations.