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e-Pw brings you a glimpse of events near and far, from around your neighborhood to around our world.

Marriage for Same-Sex Couples: ECQA Answers Your Questions

Message from Equality California:

Equality sure feels good, doesn't it?



Our offices have been flooded with calls and emails: questions about how and when to get married, moving stories about marriage proposals and words of congratulations.

Answers to your questions can be found online at www.eqca.org/marriage/faq.

Marriage for Same-Sex Couples in California Frequently Asked Questions

Can same-sex couples marry in California?

Yes. On May 15, 2008, the California Supreme Court ruled that barring same-sex couples from marriage is unconstitutional. Beginning as soon as June 16, same-sex couples will be able to marry in California.

Could right-wing forces take away the freedom to marry at the ballot box in California?

Yes. Because the court based its decision on rights guaranteed by the California Constitution, right-wing groups are trying to amend our state



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Event Highlights

June 1-28 - Fellow
Travelers: Liberation
Portraits by Mark
ThompsonJune 6 - Fellow
Travelers: Opening
Celebration

Constitution to eliminate these fundamental constitutional protections and take away the basis for the decision.

[Read the full FAQ](#)

What can we do to help preserve the freedom to marry we have just won?

We urge you to get involved today! For more information about how you can help, please contact Equality For All at www.EqualityForAll.com. Now that we have won this victory, all residents of California are better off, because strengthening any group of families makes stronger communities for everyone. All people who value families and fairness have a stake in preserving the freedom to marry for lesbian and gay couples. We cannot afford to wait, please act now.

SPC brings GLBT historical photo exhibit to area in June**National photo exhibit honors Modesto native and gay culture**

Fellow Travelers: Liberation Portraits by Mark Thompson, opens June 1st at Deva Café in downtown Modesto. The exhibit, on a national tour, includes 14 large-format black and white, historic portraits of gay liberation pioneers. The exhibit is sponsored by The Stanislaus PRIDE Center is sponsoring the exhibit with curatorial advice from the Modesto Art Museum.

**Fellow Travelers: Liberation Portraits by Mark Thompson****June 1st - 28th, 2008 at Deva Cafe, 1206 J Street, Modesto, CA****Monday - Sunday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.****Opening reception: Friday, June 6, 2008, 7:00 p.m.**

Portraits in the exhibit include religious leaders Malcolm Boyd, Ram Dass, and Harry Hay; controversial photographer Robert Mapplethorpe; and influential sexologist Joseph Kramer. Men who have two things in common: their enormous contributions to civil rights for gay people, and the powerful effect their lives and friendships have had

June 14 - Out in the
Mother Lode Pride
Picnic in Angels
Camp, CA

September 27 -
[Stanislaus PRIDE Day
2008](#)



on photographer and author Mark Thompson.

The exhibit includes Modesto native James Broughton. Broughton was born in Modesto in 1912 and is remembered for being the father of the West Coast avant-garde film movement.

The exhibit's national tour started in San Francisco last year. Before coming to Modesto, it will make stops in Los Angeles, New York, Salt Lake City, Philadelphia, and Portland.

Quotes about the exhibit:

"Fellow Travelers is the manifestation of a masterful collaboration between photographer Mark Thompson and writer Mark Thompson. With uncommon sensitivity, he manages to capture the heart and soul of 14 extraordinary men who redefine what it is to be beautiful. The pictures in tandem with the text achieve an intimacy and vibrancy that is electric--at once graceful, insightful, political and lyrical." -- *Michael Kearns, actor-playwright-activist*

"Even the briefest glimpse of these pictures is worth the bother. The show is dedicated to the exploration of gay male spiritual consciousness." -- *David Lambie, Bay Area Reporter*

"Author, journalist, therapist Mark Thompson has spent more than 30 years articulating the ineffable. As an artist, he waits for that one 'perfect' moment to capture the interior of the gay soul." -- *Karen Ocamb, IN Los Angeles Magazine*

Out in the Mother Lode Pride Picnic on June 14

Out in the Mother Lode Presents:

Mardi Gras in June Our Pride Picnic Celebration

**Saturday June 14,
2008**

From 5:00 pm until dark

At **Green Stone Ranch & Inn**
Angels Camp, CA

Featuring:



- * No Host Beer & Wine Bar - From 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm
- * Cajun BBQ Dinner beginning at 6pm
- * Live music and dancing from 7pm until dark

Tickets are \$25 per person. RSPV by June 11, 2008.

Advance ticket purchase recommended

Send us a [Ticket Purchase Form](#) or call (209) 736-6792

Proceeds benefit local HIV/AIDS and Hepatitis C programs of Sierra HOPE

Coyote Grace to perform

The story goes...Girl meets Girl. Girl becomes Boy. Girl and Boy become a band. Meet COYOTE GRACE at Out in the Mother Lode's Pride Picnic Celebration on Saturday, June 14 in Angels Camp.

[Club Axis - Grand Re-Opening Tonight at Banana Joe's](#)



2008 Fresh Meat Festival - June 19-22 in San Francisco

Local gay opera singer, Jose Luis Munoz, to perform!

Fresh Meat Productions presents the:

**2008 Fresh Meat Festival
7th Annual
Transgender & Queer
Performance Festival
June 19-22, 2008**



Get your tickets now for this outrageously popular, critically acclaimed, history-making event! The Fresh Meat Festival is the only festival of its

kind in North America, celebrated for its powerful, joyful, deeply moving performances. Due to audience demand, this year Fresh Meat is expanding and moving to big, beautiful Theater Artaud. Transgender and queer hip hop, hula, modern dance, opera, gospel music, Afro-Colombian dance, traditional clogging, theater, live music and more!

Dates:

Thursday June 19: 8pm
Friday June 20: 8pm
Saturday June 21: 8pm
Sunday June 22: 7pm

Location:

Project Artaud Theater (450 Florida Street b/w 17th & Mariposa), San Francisco

Tickets:

\$15 (advance tickets strongly recommended)
ODC box office: 415-863-9834
www.brownpapertickets.com,
www.ticketweb.com

ASL interpretation:
Sunday June 22 show

Opening reception: post-performance,
Thursday June 19

More Info: www.freshmeatproductions.org

Performances by Artistic Director Sean Dorsey, Nejla Baguio, the Barbary Coast Cloggers, Colombian Soul, Freeplay Dance Crew, Prado Gomez, Jose Luis Munoz (from Carla Lucero's opera Juana), Na Lei Hulu I Ka Wekiu, Scott Turner Schofield, the Transcendence Gospel Choir and Shawna Virago. The 2008 Fresh Meat Festival is a featured part of the National Queer Arts

Festival (www.queerculturalcenter.org) and SF Pride.

The SPC facility is open Wednesday through Saturday from 3:00 PM until 7:00 PM.

The mission of the Stanislaus PRIDE Center is to provide resources to strengthen and support gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons in Stanislaus and surrounding counties."

The SPC has three areas of focus: Culture and Community; Education and Information; Health and Wellness. PRIDE stands for "People Respecting Individuality, Diversity and Education".

SPC is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization. All contributions are tax deductible. Federal tax ID 20-2676088.

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