



G a y a n d L e s b i a n A c c e p t a n c e , I n c .

June 18, 2018

To our members:

On June 28, 1969, a police raid took place at the Stonewall Inn in New York City against members of the LGBT+ community. This raid and the riots that followed were the beginning of the gay liberation movement in the United States. The following June (1970), the first “gay pride” parade was held, and events have been held in June since then.

A number of previous U.S. presidents have acknowledged the significance of June in the LGBTQ community as “Pride Month.” While the current president has not, the community continues to recognize its importance as well as the importance of supportive events both for individuals who are out and active members of the community as well as for individuals who are struggling and/or who do not feel safe coming out as their authentic selves.

During this time of celebration, members of the LGBT+ community have been disappointed in the recent Supreme Court ruling in support of a baker who declined to bake a cake for a same-sex marriage. This ruling was based on a specific (narrow) point, due to some unfortunate disparaging remarks made by some of the Colorado Civil Rights Commissioners in the course of hearing that case. The broader issue of disputes over same-sex weddings and religious freedom objections were not resolved, and so there is still significant hope for the broader view of potential justice, even though this specific case did not go the way members of the community had hoped.

GALA supports all individuals in living as their authentic selves. We also believe that businesses that provide a service to one part of our society should also be required to provide that same service to all parts of society. We will continue to support activities in support of that change.

We continue to work toward developing communities that witness that persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities have sacred worth. We will continue to work towards a time when all persons are fully included, celebrated, and affirmed with their chosen faith traditions.

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