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## *THE RAINBOW CONNECTION*

**August 1, 2021**

Welcome to *The Rainbow Connection!* A monthly newsletter highlighting programs, upcoming events, and more, brought to you by Rainbow Rose Center, serving York County's LGBTQIA+ Community.

*Welcome Note from  
Christina Stetler, Secretary*

Hello! I am proud to be the Secretary of the Rainbow Rose Center and an ally to the LGBTQIA+ community. My name is Christina Stetler (she/her/hers) and I have spent almost 15 years of my professional life as a fundraiser, raising funds for multiple organizations to help them meet their mission. It is fulfilling work, and I believe it is making a difference in the world.

Years ago, I began volunteering with Equality Fest, the precursor to the Rainbow Rose Center, through community organizations. In 2019, I started volunteering with Equality



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in December of 2019, when the core group of volunteers decided to turn this event into a nonprofit, that I took on the responsibility of Board Member. I am so thrilled to provide whatever I can to make the Rainbow Rose Center a success!

I hope you'll join us at some of our upcoming events! I specifically invite you to join me in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Rainbow Rose 5k, virtual this year. You can walk or run the 3.1 miles and I can tell you the York County Rail Trail makes a great location to do your miles, while being the perfect backdrop for that post-run selfie! You will find more information on the race in this month's newsletter. Please let me know if you have any questions!

Thank you for your support of the work we do! We are so happy to have you with us, and look forward to seeing you this fall!

All the best,  
Chris

Christina Stetler  
Rainbow Rose Center Secretary

**Rainbow Rose Center  
Nominated for  
*Outstanding Nonprofit Organization Award  
Downtown First Awards!***



## Organization by Downtown Inc. for the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Downtown First Awards!

We are humbled to be in the same category with such outstanding organizations as Bell Socialization Services, Crispus Attucks York, The Program, and York Fresh Food Farms. All organizations help make York County a better place, and we cannot express how excited we are to be among those nominated.

The awards ceremony will be held Thursday, August 19, 2021 at People'sBank Park from 6:00 until 8:00 p.m. If you would like to join us that evening, tickets can be purchased through Downtown, Inc. here:

[PURCHASE TICKETS](#)

We cannot wait to share all the excitement of the night with you! Thank you to everyone who's helped make the Rainbow Rose Center worthy of being nominated for Outstanding Nonprofit Organization at the Downtown First Awards!

## Join us for the first ever Rainbow Rose Center virtual Rainbow Run 5k!



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pride in who they are and come out to friends and family as a member of the LGBTQIA+ community! It is a day of celebration, and what better way to celebrate than running or walking a 5k?

In this virtual run, you have over a whole month to complete your race and submit your results!

The race goes through November 20th, which is Transgender Day of Remembrance. On this day, we honor the names and lives of transgender people whose lives we lost in acts of violence with a candlelight vigil. We hope you will join us as we take the time to remember those whose lives were lost solely because of who they are.

Races are more fun with friends, so invite your friends and family to join us in this great opportunity to get physically fit and support a great cause! This event is open to EVERYONE, regardless of age or ability.

Registration for the race is \$40.00 and includes:

1. Cotton race t-shirt
2. Rainbow socks
3. Race bib
4. Flying Feet Sport Shoes coupon
5. 2 tickets to a York Rev's baseball game

To register, go to [RunSignUp](#).

If you have any questions about this race, please contact the race directors, Christina Stetler and Melanie Playdon, at [rainbowrun@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:rainbowrun@rainbowrosecenter.org).

A portion of your registration goes to support the Rainbow Rose Center's programming, which includes support groups for Transgendered individuals, those living with HIV, and Queer Transgender People of Color (QTPOC). Your registration also help the Rainbow Rose Center take the big step of finding a physical location and make additional resources available to the LGBTQIA+ community!

## Become a Preferred Partner!

The Rainbow Rose Center Preferred Partner Program is designed to connect our supporters, allies, and the York LGBTQIA+ community with local consumer businesses and organizations that are passionate about equality and acceptance. Our Preferred Partners support our community every day by creating environments where people of all backgrounds can feel safe, supported, and welcome. We are proud to partner with the following organizations and businesses and encourage members of the York community, both LGBTQIA+ and allies, to visit and support them. Be sure to keep a look out throughout York County for our Preferred Partnership logo!



**York Revolution**, the most welcoming place in York, values every customer regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, age, disability, or any other characteristic. Every employee is empowered to make best day ever! They educate their employees to help them understand and utilize words and actions that support this attitude and avoid those that contradict it. They also address any behavior from employees or fans that is contrary to that goal. The York Revolution hosts the annual Pride Night at the Ballpark and supports the LGBTQIA+ community all year, and especially season, long!



**Union Lutheran Church in York City** believes that they are called to share the good news of Jesus with their neighbors, as they grow together in Christ. As a Reconciling in Christ church, they welcome everyone seeking God's love and grace to participate no matter their gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, age, race, ability, or socio-economic status. They believe God welcomes all, and unity can be found in Jesus Christ. Union Lutheran is looking forward to hosting a Coming Out Day Celebration and Blessing - details

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**Opera Susquehanna, Inc** brings world class music to South Central Pennsylvania. Headquartered in Gettysburg, they are committed to musical entertainment, education, and edification for adults and children throughout the region. They also empower singers through lessons, workshops, masterclasses, operatic productions, and similar opportunities to enhance success in their careers. Opera Susquehanna looks forward to collaborating with DreamWrights on a performance of Sondheim's *Company* August 20, 21, and 23. With many of the singers from the June 26<sup>th</sup> Operatic Celebration of Pride concert performing, this event will have some very different music!



Since 1955, the **Unitarian Universalist Congregation of York (UUCY)** has offered a religious experience based on freedom, reason, tolerance, and compassion. This ongoing process is filled with reverence and responsibility to individuals and community in a spirit of love and continually brings with it an enduring hope for the future. Notwithstanding change over the years, the founding principles of this congregation continue to offer hope and support to those on their own religious spiritual journey. Through action and partnership, the UUCY makes a commitment to welcoming and affirming individuals and families of all sexual orientations and gender identities.



**Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of York**  
Nurture Your Spirit,  
Help Heal Our World!

The **York Jewish Community Center (JCC)** isn't just "a gym." They are so much more. They are a community. When you join the J, you join a place created for our members and the needs they have, whether that be fitness, educational, or cultural. They provide a supportive, inclusive environment that many of our members call "a home away from home." At the York JCC, you belong. Everyone is welcome. In addition to their ongoing commitment to making everyone feel included, the JCC hosts the annual Pancakes for Pride event which supports the Rainbow Rose Center and brings fun, family-centered entertainment and wholesome breakfasts to the community.



**The Handsome Cab** is a gay owned restaurant and wine bar located in downtown York City, the perfect spot to travel the world by food, by art, and by glass. A beautiful place for the relaxed, easy going, and harmonious members of the York, Pennsylvania community. The Handsome Cab combines wonderful style, sophistication, and genuine hospitality to create a truly unique experience. In addition to hosting fundraising events benefitting the Rainbow Rose Center during Pride month and beyond, the Handsome Cab hosts

Drag Trivia every 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday!

**THE HANDSOME CAB**

*Restaurant • Wine Bar • Cocktails • Beer*

**Appell Center for the Performing Arts** inspires, educates, and entertains through professional performing arts experiences that bring together York County's diverse voices. As a public gathering place for our brilliantly diverse community, the Appell Center sees it as their top priority to ensure that all of our patrons, performers, staff and guests feel welcome - regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, race, religion, or sexual orientation. The performing arts

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and the Capitol Theatre built in 1906 - houses with those of diverse backgrounds and perspectives makes their entire organization stronger.



**The Cantina & Aviano's Trattoria** offer a great space in the heart of Royal Square for delicious dining in a safe and welcoming environment. The Cantina's green space offers plenty of beer, margaritas, and fun food with a beautiful space to sit outside and relax. Aviano's Corner Trattoria & Bar is a new neighborhood family joint for wood fired pizza, pasta, paninis, and more that pays homage to 4 generations of restaurant owners in Toni Calderone's family starting with the first pizzeria in York County.



**The Left Bank** works through culinary collaboration to bring food and dining experiences that nourish and nurture people and planet. Exploring new ideas in flavor and sourcing, they work with local and regional purveyors, farmers, and producers to responsibly source food that invests in our community.

*The* **LEFT BANK**  


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*Restaurant & Bar*

**DreamWrights Center for Community Arts** provides creative educational experiences through inclusive inter-generational performance and arts programming. Their Guiding Principles include maintaining a unique culture of promoting positive interactions and inclusion among everyone involved; building character (self-worth, self-confidence, leadership, respect and responsibility) through the learning experiences inherent in creating art together; and



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to strengthen our commitment to the LGBTQ+ Community in York by providing programs to improve access, increase awareness, and foster greater inclusion.

They are looking forward to hosting auditions for "Next Fall" by Geoffrey Nauffts (an LGBTQIA+ Story) on Sept 20. with Callbacks Sept 21 and are seeking 9 actors ages 14 to adult. The performances will be on Nov 4, 5, & 6 at 7 pm; Nov 7 at 3 pm.



*Building characters for life*

**White Rose Bar and Grill** has been serving the community of downtown York for over 85 years now. We enjoy making our guests smile day in and day out. So when people come to White Rose, it is important to us that they feel safe and at home regardless of their race, ethnicity, religious beliefs, sexual orientation or identity. White Rose celebrates the individuality that makes our guests so beautifully unique. White Rose Bar and Grill is looking forward to hosting a community celebration the weekend before National Coming Out Day. Details are being finalized so please keep your eye on social media and future newsletters for this exciting event!



If you are part of an organization or business that would be interested in becoming a Preferred Partner, please visit our website at <https://www.rainbowrosecenter.org/preferred-partners/> or email Nate Tile at [fundraising@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:fundraising@rainbowrosecenter.org).

## CURRENT PROGRAM SCHEDULE

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months.

**York Transgender Support Group**

Occurs 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of Every Month from 8:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

August 28

September 25

October 23

**Queer and Trans People of Color (QTPOC) Support Group**

Occurs 2nd Sunday of Every Month from 2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

August 8

September 12

October 10

**Living Proudly HIV Support Group**

Occurs 2nd Wednesday of Every Month from 6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

August 11

September 8

October 13

Safety is our utmost priority for all virtual support group meetings. To find out more about our meetings, join our mailing list at:

[www.rainbowrosecenter.org/programs/](http://www.rainbowrosecenter.org/programs/) and fill out the intake form to receive instructions on how to join the meeting.

For more information about services for our Transgender community in Pennsylvania, visit: [www.TransCentralPA.Org](http://www.TransCentralPA.Org)



**Calling All Volunteers!**

Thanks to everyone who has signed up to be a volunteer. We're excited to say that we're back to onboarding volunteers. So if you sign up,

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For those who are interested in helping to make our community better,  
consider volunteering with the Rainbow Rose Center!  
**Sign up to become a volunteer [here](#).**

Unable to volunteer but still want to support the LGBTQIA+ community?  
Rainbow Rose Center has partnered with Give Lively to provide you with a secure  
online donation process.

Visit [www.rainbowrosecenter.org/donations/](http://www.rainbowrosecenter.org/donations/) to learn more.



**BRADBURY-SULLIVAN**  
**LGBT COMMUNITY CENTER**

*Serving the LGBT Community  
of the Greater Lehigh Valley*

The Rainbow Rose Center is a Smoke Free Organization. All our events are **SMOKE FREE** in partnership with **Bradbury-Sullivan LGBT Center** as part of their initiative for a healthier and longer-lived community! We do not accept sponsorship or vending applications from tobacco, vaping, cigarette, or other similar companies.

If you need information on smoking cessation or are interested in quitting contact the Pennsylvania Quitline at 1-800-QUIT-NOW or contact the RRC Programs Committee at: [programs@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:programs@rainbowrosecenter.org)

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*Living Proudly. Living Longer*  
**LGBT SMOKE FREE**

LGBTQA populations have increased rates of tobacco use, while also facing challenges accessing and receiving care.

**For help quitting smoking call 1-800-QUIT-NOW**

 

*Join us on Facebook to learn more about Rainbow Rose Center, stay up to date on events and programs, and join the Rainbow Rose community!*

[www.facebook.com/rainbowrosecenter](http://www.facebook.com/rainbowrosecenter).

Visit us at [www.rainbowrosecenter.org](http://www.rainbowrosecenter.org).

Email us at: [info@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:info@rainbowrosecenter.org)

Contact us by phone: (717-746-8738)

To Send a Letter to Rainbow Rose Center:

P.O. Box 1134  
 York, PA 27405



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 Begin With **Great LGBT Community Centers**

[www.lgbtcenters.org](http://www.lgbtcenters.org)

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