



Volume 24, Issue 7

July 2024

Happy 4th

Let Freedom Ring

www.GayDayton.org

Map

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Articles

Calendar

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Calendar of Events

July 01,	7:00 pm	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center
July 02,	6:30 pm	Men's Dining	Spaghetti Warehouse
July 02,	7:00 pm	SOAR-Survivors Overcoming Assault and Rape	Center
July 04,	Happy 4th of July		
July 08,	1:30 pm	HIV Testing with Equitas	Center
July 08,	7:00 pm	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center
July 09,	6:30 pm	PFLAG Monthly Meeting	Center
July 10,	7:00 pm	Pozitive Attitudes	Center
July 11,	6:00 pm	LGBTQ Board Meeting	Center
July 11,	7:00 pm	Yoga with Matt	Center
July 15,	1:30 pm	HIV Testing with Equitas	Center
July 15,	7:00 pm	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center
July 16,	6:30 pm	Men's Dining	
July 16,	7:00 pm	Gatlyn Dame Group	Center
July 18,	7:00 pm	Yoga with Matt	Center
July 21,	3:00 pm	MV Primetimers' Potluck	Center
July 22,	1:30 pm	HIV Testing with Equitas	Center
July 22,	7:00 pm	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center
July 23,	6:30 pm	Men's Dining	Spaghetti Warehouse
July 24,	7:00 pm	Pozitive Attitudes	Center
July 25,	7:00 pm	Yoga with Matt	Center
July 29,	1:30 pm	HIV Testing with Equitas	Center
July 29,	7:00 pm	LGBTQ AA Meeting	Center

“Be yourself; everyone else is already taken.” *Oscar Wilde*

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Randy Phillips, owner

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Book Reviews

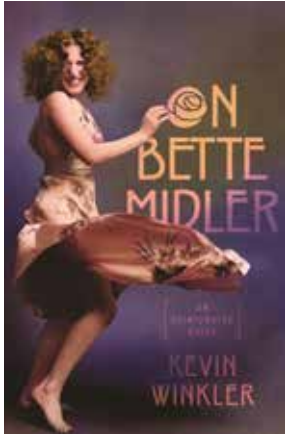
by: Terri Schlichenmeyer

aka: "The Book Worm"

bookwormsez@yahoo.com

"On Bette Midler: An Opinionated Guide" by Kevin Winkler
c.2024, Oxford University Press \$29.99

232 pages



Superb.

That word's appropriate in this situation. Fantastic, that's another. Transcendent or celestial, if you're of that mind, or perhaps *anointed*. There are many adjectives you can use for a performer who transports you, one who sings to your soul. Sensational, breathtaking, outstanding, or – as in the new book "**On Bette Midler**" by **Kevin Winkler** – another, better word may be more suitable.

Born in Hawaii a few months after the end of World War II, Bette Midler was named after film star Bette Davis. It was a perhaps auspicious start: despite a minor disparity (Midler's mother thought the movie star's first name was pronounced "Bet"), young Midler seemed at a young age to want to follow in her almost-namesake's footsteps. By age 11, she'd won accolades and prizes for her performances and she "yearned to be a serious actor..." As soon as she could, she headed for New York to seize her career.

Alas, her "unconventional" looks didn't help win the roles she wanted but she was undeterred. Unafraid of small venues and smaller gigs, she "just blossomed" in New York City. Eventually, she landed at the Improv on 44th Street; the owner there helped her negotiate some minor work. Another man became her manager and secured a job for her at the Continental, a New York bath house strictly for gay men. She was hired for eight summer nights, Friday and Saturdays only, for fifty bucks a night. Almost immediately, her authenticity, her raunchy language, and her ability to relate to her audience made her beloved in the gay community. Midler's tenure at the Continental expanded and, though legend points to

a longer time, she worked at the bath house for just over two years before moving on and up, to television, recording studios, movies, and into fans' hearts. Still, asks Winkler, "Did it really matter what stage she was on? She touched audiences wherever she performed."

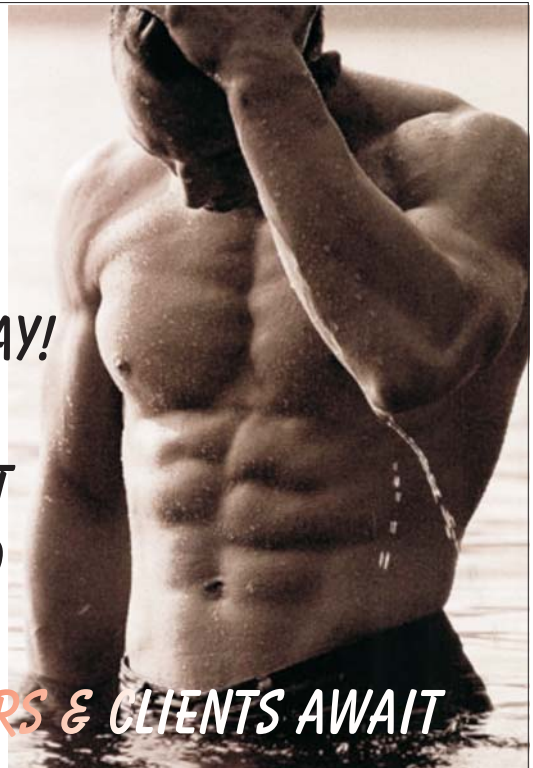
In his earliest words – and, in fact, in his subtitle – author Kevin Winkler reminds readers that "On Bette Midler" is a book that's "*highly* opinionated, filled with personal contemplations..." He is, in other words, a super-fan, but that status doesn't mar this book: Winkler restrains his love of his subject, and he doesn't gush. Whew.

That will be a relief to readers who wish to relish in their own fervor, although you'll be glad for Winkler's comprehensive timeline and his wide, wide look at Midler's career. Those things come after a long and fascinating biography that starts in 1970, takes us back to 1945, and then pulls us forward through movies, television appearances, stage performances, and songs you might remember – with appearances from Barbara Streisand, Barry Manilow, and Cher. It's a fun trip, part confidential, part charming, part nostalgic, and very affectionate. Despite that this is a "personal" book, it's great for readers who weren't around during Midler's earliest career. If you were and you're a fan, reading it's like communing with someone who appreciates Midler like you do. Find "On Bette Midler." You'll find it *divine*.

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Poets Corner

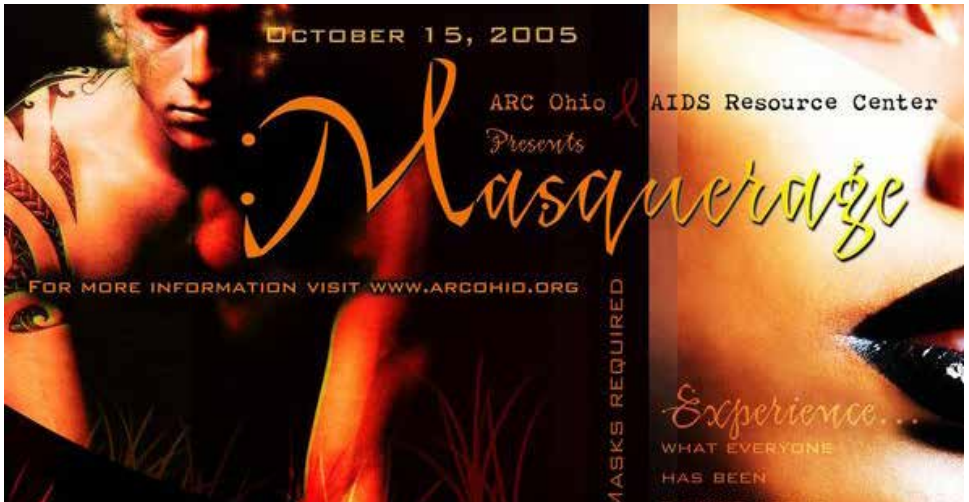
by True Hoffman

I know that when the dragon arrives at the tip of the tower
awaiting me to end its life
I will do no such thing
I will watch as the beast flicks the volcanic ash from its wings.
I will bathe it in peace, focus, and love.
I will entertain its secrets with my trust.
I will remember the way fire can singe a soul.
I will let the giants of tomorrow carry me.
I will be patient and watch the dragon watching me.
And when the sun rises - I will set with the next day
And the next day
And the next day
And the next day
Until I am returned home
By the phantoms of your voice
And the ghosts of all my love.
For the next day
And the next day
And the next day
And the next day

- true rivir newland



After 24 Years, Masquerage Announces The End



At the very beginning, Brent Johnson of the budding Square One Salon served on the associates board of the Aids Resource Center, ARC and took on the task of creating a fundraiser for ARC. It was to be a Halloween Party of Parties. As this concept developed, his partner, Josh Stucky who came up with the name “Masquerage” as a masked rage party complete with fashion show.

As the Cannery complex had not been fully developed yet, the empty underdeveloped spaces became home to the first Masquerage. DJ Hill, and DJ Venus cranked out the tunes to get the party started and soon Lisa Grigsby stepped in to produce Maquerage.

Over the years this annual Party of Parties continued to be a signature fundraising event for ARC and later with the re-branding Equitas. A variety of themes and an ever changing line up of entertainment hit the stage, but as it was from the very beginning, at the very heart of it all was the Rubi Girls who enthralled the crowd year after year with their very own brand of entertainment.

Lisa Grigsby said of the ending: “I just heard that Equitas has made the very difficult decision to discontinue Masquerage moving forward. Dayton’s Party of Parties for a cause had an incredible 24 year run. I had a blast producing this event from 2009- 2013! I want to say a great big thank you to all who volunteered, performed and supported this event. I made so many friends along the way!”

Ohio Lawmakers Threaten Your Rights!

June is PRIDE month and as we have been celebrating our individuality and openness, many of our Ohio lawmakers have been taking advantage of the distraction to push the agenda to take away those rights. Currently in the Ohio legislature is HB-245 & HB-8, and SB-104.

HB-245 would amend sections 2907.39 and 4301.25 of the Revised Code to prohibit adult cabaret performances in locations other than adult cabarets. What does this mean? This means that simple drag performances in public such as PRIDE events, PRIDE parades and the like would become prohibited. This was born out of the desire to end those dreaded drag queen story hours that cranked up the extreme right wing folks and has sent them into overload. Never mind the logic behind such fears do not make sense. Drag has been around for many, many years and depicted in film and TV to no ill effect. I do not believe anyone who ever watched “Tootsie”, “Mrs. Doubtfire” or “Mash” suddenly had a desire to wear a dress or change their sexual orientation.

Key Concerns with HB 245:

Criminalization and Felony Charges: HB 245 makes it a crime and in some cases a felony, to perform while transgender or in drag outside of adults-only clubs. The bill’s broad and ambiguous language creates significant legal risks and uncertainties.

Obscenity and Harmful Labeling: The bill equates living as or performing while transgender, and the art form of Drag, with being obscene and harmful to juveniles, perpetuating harmful stigmas and discrimination.

Chilling Effect on the Arts: By criminalizing Drag performances outside of “adult cabaret” venues and imposing felony charges if these performances occur in the presence of someone under 18, HB 245 will have a chilling effect on artistic expression and lead to self-censorship in spaces where gender-bending is part of the art form.

Conflict with First Amendment Rights: HB 245 poses a serious threat to First Amendment rights by restricting freedom of expression and artistic performance.

This bill is currently in House committee yet has not been introduced in the Ohio Senate.

When we look at HB-8, this sparks a whole new set of concerns. In summary: HB-8 would establish a fundamental right for parents to make decisions concerning the ‘upbringing, education, and care’ of the parent’s child, and prescribes specific obligations for the schools with regard to parental involvement. After being amended four times, HB-8 goes much further than protecting parental rights. It adds broad curriculum censorship reminiscent of the “Don’t Say Gay or Trans” bills from last session, adds a definition of sex to undermine existing civil rights protections granted to LGBTQ+ people, and creates disclosure and alternative curriculum rules for teachers and counselors that leave educators with impossible and conflicting rules and new obligations, further straining resources and time.

House Bill 8 adds a definition of sex that specifically contradicts Supreme precedents, Title IX laws, and undermines existing LGBTQ+ discrimination for employee and for students.

This bill prohibits “sexuality content” that is not ‘age appropriate’ defining “sexuality content” as any oral or written instruction, presentation, image, or description of “sexual concepts or gender ideology.” Yet, sexual concepts and gender ideology are not defined leaving room for broad interpretation. It also specifies that parental consent to health care services do not waive the parent’s right to access their child’s educational or health records or to be notified about a change in the student’s services or monitoring.

This amendment added a specific, explicit requirement for counselors and teachers to “out” a student that questions their gender identity or sexual orientation to their parents, no exceptions. Even in situations in which there is a fear of abuse.

A single parent will have the ability to file a complaint about the topics addressed by an entire class, which the school must address within 30 days, even if that parent’s child has been removed from class. The bill also specifies that an appeals process for the parents must be in place.

On the last Legislative session day before their summer recess, extremists in the Ohio legislature added an anti-LGBTQ+ amendment into Senate Bill 104 on the House floor. The last-minute amendment places a bathroom ban for transgender people in schools K-12 through Higher Education into an unrelated bill related to the College Credit Plus program.

This amendment to SB 104 bans transgender and gender diverse people from using restrooms and other facilities aligned with their identities in schools and all universities in Ohio. This bill impacts both youth and adults. Bathrooms and overnight accommodations in all university or school related facilities are included in this bill, including stadiums and school-sanctioned field trips. It is time to get vigilant and reach out to law makers to protect your rights.



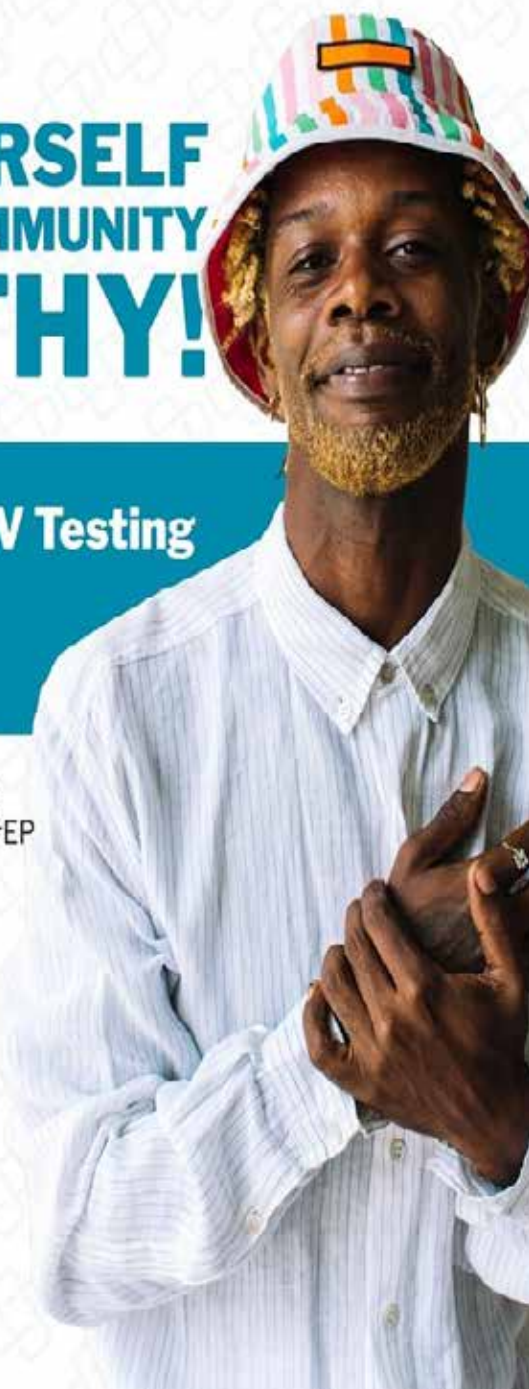
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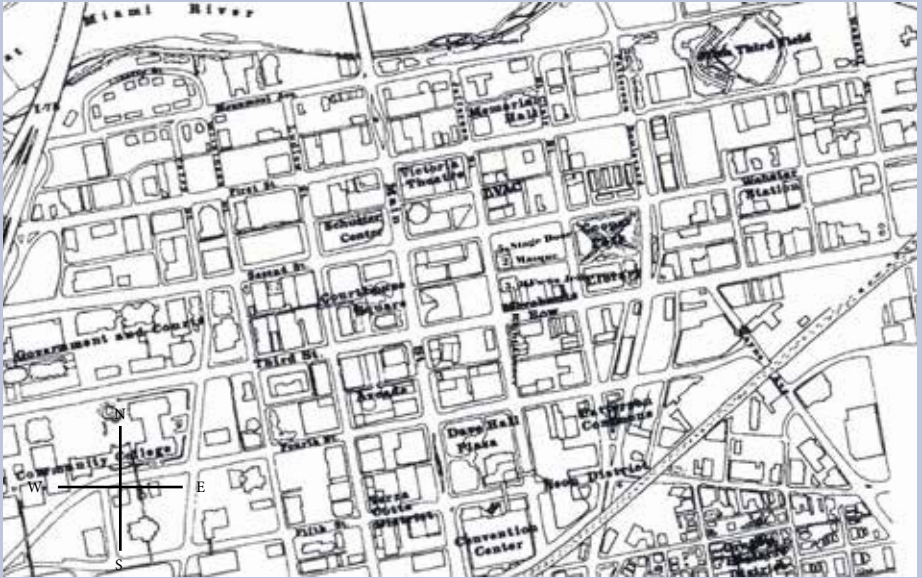
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Dayton LGBT Center
136 N. St. Clair St.
Dayton, OH 45402

EquitasHealth.com



Gay Dayton Map



18 +	18 and Up	E	Other Entertainment	N/H	Neighborhood
A	Alternative	F	Food	S	Strippers
AH	After Hours	G/S	Gay/Straight	T	Mature
C	Country	K	Karaoke	V	Video
D	Dance	L	Leather	W	Women
DG	Drag	M	Men	Y	Young

1. Argo's, 301 Mabel Street 252-2976 (M,L,E,S)
2. MJ's on Jefferson, 20 N. Jefferson 223-7340 (F,M,D,S,E,DG,V,K)
3. Right Corner, 105 E. Third St 228-2033 (NH,M,T,E)
4. Stage Door, 44 N. Jefferson St 223-7418 (M,L,C,K,T,NH,E)
5. Natalie Clifford Barney Historical Marker
6. The Greater Dayton LGBT Center, 136 N. St Clair 274-1776

www.GayDayton.org

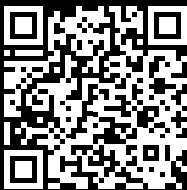
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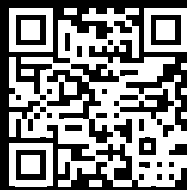


20 N Jefferson St - Dayton, OH - 45402
Phone (937) 223-7340

Open Daily @ 3 pm ~ 2:30 am



Beer Menu



Bourbon Menu