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## *THE RAINBOW CONNECTION*

***August 1, 2022***

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!**



The Rainbow Rose Center is excited to announce that we have brought on many new board members who represent the full York County Community. These individuals bring fresh ideas, different perspectives, and renewed energy to our organization as we look to grow and expand in many directions. Check out our new board below and get more exciting news in this month's newsletter!

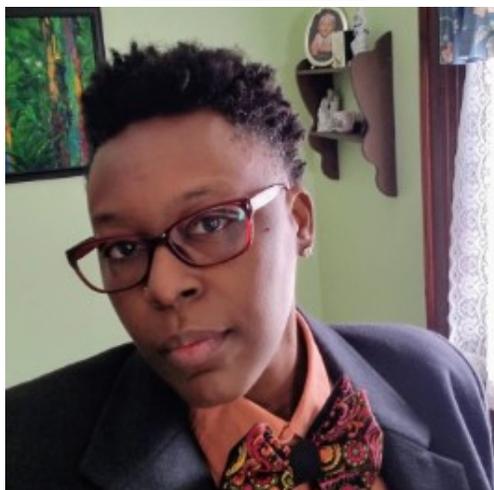
### **Meet the Rainbow Rose Center Board Members**

Tesla Taliaferro -



Tesla (he/they) has been re-elected President of the Board.

Maria Gable -



Maria (she/her) has been re-elected Vice President of the Board.

Mary Almy -



Mary (she/her) has been re-elected Treasurer of the Board.

Deb Smith -



Deb Smith (she/her) has been elected as the Secretary of the Board. Deb is the Social/Racial Coordinator at YWCA Hanover. She and her husband, Andy, live in Hanover, PA, and are both retired music teachers. They are blessed with two daughters, two sons-in-law, and two grandchildren (Amelia and Jimmy). Deb enjoys playing piano, reading, and doing all she can to make this a better world. We are very excited to have her as a new member and voice on our Executive Board

Christina Stetler -



Christina (she/her), former Secretary of the Board, has been elected to the new Development Director role and will oversee major gifts and grants as we look to expand our organization. She brings a wealth of experience to this new position as the Assistant Development Director at the Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra. The Development Director is the fifth position on the Executive Board.

### **Community Engagement Committee**

We're excited to announce two new co-chairs for the Community Engagement Committee!

Erin Gibson -



Erin (she/her) is a proud York native and a single mother of her adopted 12-year-old son. She has worked in the mental health and social work fields for nearly thirty years. As a Family Advocate at the Children's Advocacy Center, she supports families who are dealing with significant trauma. In her free time, she likes to relax by enjoying time in nature, being with family and friends, or spending time

### Eli Holland-Garcia -



Eli (any pronouns) was briefly on the Rainbow Rose Center Board originally until our insurance required all board members to be over the age of 18. Throughout the past two years, Eli has kept his passion for caring for others and brings to the organization new and youthful energy. Eli identifies as a gay man and also does drag performances. As an LGBTQIA+ activist, Eli takes pride in working to help people see and express their better nature, as Eli believes that everyone is capable of improvement, even if it takes a long time.

### **Events Committee**

With the term expiration of the fantastic Jenny Beth Kissner and the July resignation of Kyle Howard, we have two new faces to introduce for the Events Committee!

### Christina Wingert -



Christina (she/her) has always been drawn to the needs of others, especially those who are often overlooked and/or marginalized. She has worked as a Social Worker with families and children of different cultural, racial, financial, and family backgrounds. She has also worked as a therapist in the local school systems. She now focuses on the home education and social engagement of her three children while also volunteering time with organizations that align with her values. She has previously volunteered with Pride Hanover as the vendor coordinator for their event, and brings lots of amazing ideas, passion, and energy to the Rainbow Rose Center Board.

Alizee LaCreame -



Alizee LaCreame (she/her) is a name and face that many in our community know. She is a dynamic performer who, just like her Puerto Rican heritage, is spicy! She's bringing a lot of experience with organizing and working with various performers to keep our event entertainment top notch.

## **Fundraising Committee**

Nate Tile -



Nate (he/him) has been reelected as the Fundraising Committee Chair, and we really appreciate his ongoing commitment to helping the Rainbow Rose Center grow and succeed!

**Marketing & Communications Committee**  
Brittaney DeArmond -



Brittaney (she/her) will continue to serve on the Board as one of the M&C Committee Chairs.

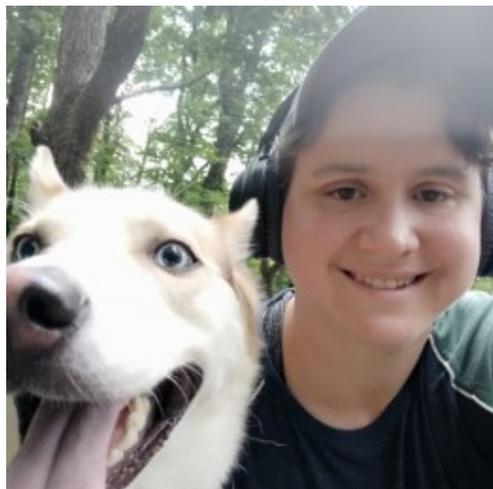
Trevor Brandt -



Trevor (he/him) is a communications professional with non-profit and higher education experience. He has an extensive background in communication and recruitment plan development and is versed in compliance, risk assessment, and brand reputation management. Trevor currently reports to the CEO of a statewide non-profit organization that guides 30 regional non-profit organizations throughout the Commonwealth. A member of the LGBTQIA+ community, Trevor is excited to learn about opportunities with the Rainbow Rose Center Board. Previously, Trevor has participated in LGBTQIA+ organizations in Williamsport and Hanover.

### **Programs Committee**

Caleb Schenck -



Caleb (he/him) is continuing in his role as Programs Committee Chair, and we're very glad to have him.

### **Resources Committee**

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Christa (she/her) is a Library Assistant at Mason-Dixon Public Library in Stewartstown, and has previously worked in the libraries of the York County School System. She firmly believes in inclusion for all, and has been an ally to the LGBTQIA+ Community since she was a teenager. Now, as a mother of two, one of her main purposes is to keep her LGBTQIA+ child happy, healthy, safe, and alive. That is why, in addition to her hobbies of reading, hanging with family, painting, crafting, and photography, she is also a Free Mom Hugger and now a volunteer board member with the Rainbow Rose Center. We're looking forward to having Christa find more safe spaces and useful resources to help both her child and the community we serve.

### **Volunteer Committee**

After a long vacancy, we are very excited to fill the Volunteer Committee Chair role!

Trish Allen -



Trish (she/her) is a no-nonsense person and was the co-founder/actress of an improvisational group called "Controversy" based out of Bloomfield College, Bloomfield, New Jersey. She has also worked as the assistant producer and owner for a now defunct Bollywood film company, "Apple Productions." She has a lot of experience with coordinating diverse groups of people to get things done, and will be great at onboarding our new volunteers and keeping everyone engaged.

### **Board Members at Large**

Scarlett Denman -



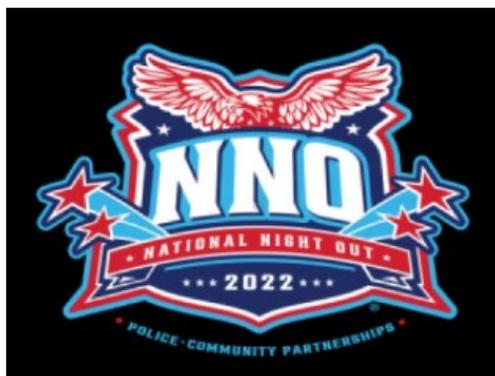
Scarlett (she/her) will be joined by another passionate At-Large board member.

Dr. Scott McCracken -

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Dr. McCracken (he/him) has been directly involved in community health in York since starting as a family physician at WellSpan Community Health Center in 2012. He became more intentionally active in LGBTQIA+ healthcare in 2016. He has had the pleasure of working with numerous great organizations around York, including Rainbow Rose Center, which are immeasurably important in the pursuit of human and community health. In his current role as Medical Director at WellSpan Community Health Center, Dr. McCracken works to advance community health and advocate for underserved populations throughout York. He hopes that service to the Rainbow Rose Center Board may help to further that work.

## Where To Find Us in August!



### National Night Out

Tuesday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Sylvia Newcombe Center (301 E. Philadelphia St. York, PA)

The Rainbow Rose Center will be part of the National Night at the York County Council of Human Service Agencies Human Services Fair at the Sylvia Newcombe Center. Face painter extraordinaire and former board member Anne Gray will be at Union Lutheran with additional materials and information for those attending that event downtown.



### **Phineas Davis K-8 Back to School Night**

Thursday, August 11<sup>th</sup> 5:00 - 7:00 p.m.  
300 S Ogontz St, York, PA 17403, USA

The Rainbow Rose Center is excited to interact with students and their families at the Phineas Davis K-8 Back to School Night. We look forward to connecting with more schools and student programs over the upcoming school year through our Community Engagement Committee.

## **York County Pride T-Shirts!**

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We have exciting news about the York County Pride T-Shirt orders from June! Last week we picked them up from the incredible Insatiable Melanin and they look fantastic! In addition to our initial distribution at the Central PA Pride event on Saturday, July 30<sup>th</sup>, we will have T-shirt pick up events throughout August. We will be in touch with those who placed an order on when and where they will be able to get their shirts, so if that includes you, please keep an eye on your email. Tesla Taliaferro already sent out an initial email update on July 29<sup>th</sup> from [ttaliaferro@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:ttaliaferro@rainbowrosecenter.org). Didn't receive a message from Tesla but ordered a t-shirt? Feel free to check in with Tesla at the email above.

## Request for Facebook/Google Reviews



Your help is requested!

If you believe the work the Rainbow Rose Center is doing is helping you, someone you know, or just the community in general, your review can help build confidence in the work we're doing. We thank you for your consideration and look forward to continuing benefit the LGBTQIA+ York County Community!

You can leave a Google review by clicking this

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link: <https://www.facebook.com/rainbowrosecenter/reviews>

Thank you for considering leaving us a review!

## **There are Plenty of Volunteer Opportunities Throughout the Year!**

By volunteering with the Rainbow Rose Center, you have the opportunity to make a positive impact in our beautiful community. Volunteering also presents the chance to meet and bond with likeminded LGBTQIA+ folx and allies! There are so many ways to get involved as a volunteer at the Rainbow Rose Center, and we have opportunities for volunteers of all ages! Each volunteer adds value to our organization, and we greatly cherish each individual that dedicates time to help our cause.

**Sign up to become a volunteer  
[HERE](#).**

Don't have time to volunteer but still want to contribute?

## **Consider making a donation to support the Rainbow Rose Center!**

Your support helps our Resource Specialists provide invaluable information to members of the LGBTQIA+ community on where they can go to get the help they need to thrive right here in York County! Donate directly on our website at

<https://www.rainbowrosecenter.org/donations/>

## **[Program Schedule](#)**

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### **York Transgender Support Group**

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

August 27<sup>th</sup>, September 24<sup>th</sup>

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

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

August 14<sup>th</sup>, September 11<sup>th</sup>

### **Living Proudly HIV Support Group**

Occurs 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of Every Month from 6:00 p.m. -  
7:30 p.m.

August 17<sup>th</sup>, September 21<sup>th</sup>

### **All Adult Identities Group**

Keep an eye on Facebook for additional upcoming events and  
activities!

Check the [Rainbow Rose Center Website](#) or visit us on  
[Facebook](#) for updates!

Safety is our utmost priority for all virtual support group  
meetings, so we do not publish meeting link details publicly.  
To participate our meetings, join each group's 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.

Visit the [Rainbow Rose Center website](#) for exciting  
new additions, program offerings, services, and

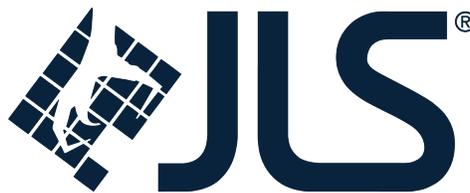
## Thank You to Our Sponsors!

The Rainbow Rose Center is tremendously grateful to our sponsors. Their generous support provides the funds for the resources, services, and programs the York County LGBTQIA+ community needs and deserves. And it allows for creative solutions necessary to allow all York County individuals to feel safe and welcome in their everyday lives.

CHAMPION



LEADERS



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If you are part of an organization or business that would be interested in becoming an Organizational Sponsor, please reach out to Nate Tile at [fundraising@rainbowrosecenter.org](mailto:fundraising@rainbowrosecenter.org).

## Visit Our Preferred Partners!

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!



### Current Preferred Partners include:

[Heidelberg United Church of Christ](#)  
[I-ron-ic Coffee Shop & Art Boutique](#)  
[York Revolution](#)  
[York Jewish Community Center](#)  
[Appell Center for the Performing Arts](#)  
[Opera Susquehanna](#)  
[Unitarian Universalist Congregation of York](#)  
[Union Lutheran Church](#)

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[White Rose Bar & Grill](#)  
[The Left Bank Restaurant & Bar](#)  
[The Handsome Cab](#)  
[YWCA York](#)  
[Dover United Church of Christ](#)  
[Kinetic Kreations](#)

### Become a Preferred Partner!

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).

### Rainbow Rose Center Affiliations



**KEYSTONE  
BUSINESS  
ALLIANCE**

Proud and Active Member



The Rainbow Rose Center is a Smoke Free Organization. All our events are SMOKE FREE as part of our desire 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

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To Send a Letter to Rainbow Rose Center:  
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