



## Out & About

*News and notes for LGBT-parented families*

### Rain or shine, PFP families camp with pride!

Thirteen PFP families found their way to Elk Neck State Park the weekend of August 19-21 for PFP's **Camping with Pride 4**. After a rainy start on Friday, the campers were rewarded with a beautiful day Saturday.

The group spent time crabbing and swimming during the day. Saturday night was a feast of amazing food at the potluck dinner. While the kids made animal masks of local wildlife and ran around the camp site, the parents had a chance to just kick back and relax.



Rain sent many home early Sunday, but some families waited it out. Families of deer spent the weekend around the campsite and bald eagles soared overhead. All in all it was a blast. Thanks to all the families that made this a great PFP event. We're already looking forward to next year and Camping with Pride 5!

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### Family Matters Conference Registration Open

The 2nd Annual PFP [Family Matters Conference](#) is set for Saturday, **October 15** in the beautiful University Center at **Widener University**. The conference cosponsors are Widener's Center for Social Work Education and the Graduate Program in Human Sexuality.

There will be 17 workshops, a panel of teens with LGBTQ parents, and informal networking time -- all for LGBTQ parents and prospective parents.



We'll also have programming, activities and child care on-site for kids 3 and up and a visit from the Philadelphia Freedom Band!



Here's a taste of the workshop schedule. ([View the complete schedule on our web site.](#))

*For current LGBTQ parents:*

- Pink, Blue or Green? A discussion about raising healthy gender nonconforming kids in a pink and blue world.
- What Does Saying "I Do!" Mean for You? Relationship Recognition and the Legal Confusion over Marriage, Civil Unions and Domestic Partnerships
- In the Spotlight: The pressure to be a model LGBT family

*For prospective parents:*

- Dos and Don'ts of Donor Insemination
- Babymaking in the 21st Century: Assisted Reproduction Options
- Adoption Options

*For the transgender community:*

- Talking About Transition
- Transgender Legal Issues

*For the whole family:*

- Stress Relief with yoga and meditation
- Ask a Pediatrician
- Bang Your Drum! A Percussion Workshop

[Register now!](#)

If you'd like to **volunteer**, please e-mail conference organizer [Marla McCulloch](#).

## Member Milestones



Board member Bill Stevers and his partner Thom Radtke celebrated their 14th anniversary on September 2 and finalized the adoption of their son Alex on August 30. Congratulations!



PFP



members Scarlett Bellamy and Deidre Ashton welcomed their first child, Makhai, at 5:49am on August 29, 2011. He weighed 6lbs, 3oz and was 19.25" long. Welcome to the newest member of PFP!

♥ PFP also has a milestone to announce: we have more member families than ever before in our nearly 20 year history! Thanks to everyone for joining and being a part of our organization. Not a member? You can [join here](#).

If you have a milestone you'd like included in a future newsletter, please [e-mail Stephanie](#).



# UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday, September 18:** Get together with other Dads and Pops and prospective parents for a vegetarian potluck lunch in Center City from noon - 3pm. RSVP to [dadsgroup@phillyfamilypride.org](mailto:dadsgroup@phillyfamilypride.org) for address and more information.



**Sunday, September 25:** Meet up with other parents and their toddlers and babies at Clark Park in W. Philly from 10am - 1pm. [More info.](#)

**Sunday, October 9:** Join us at OutFEST in the Gayborhood to celebrate National Coming Out Day. Stop by the PFP table and Family Zone at one of the biggest Pride events of the year. [E-mail Stephanie](#) if you can volunteer.

**Saturday, October 15:** PFP's 2nd Annual [Family Matters Conference](#) at Widener University on Saturday, October 15.

**Saturday, October 22:** Celebrate Halloween at Linvilla Orchard with a hay ride and more. Details coming soon.

**Saturday, November 5:** Meet other PFP families at Valley Green Inn at 10 a.m. for a fall hike in the Wissahickon.

**Sunday, November 6:** [Gazillion Bubbles](#) show at the Merriam Theater (pictured). Our first 20 tickets sold out, but we got 20 more. Act quickly before they sell out again!



**Saturday and Sunday, November 12-13:** Back by popular demand - PFP's Neighborhood Potlucks. Watch for more information as we nail down the details.

Keep an eye on your e-mail and our [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter feed](#) for more upcoming events.



## Board Member Profile: Marla McCulloch

PFP Board Member Marla McCulloch (second from right) is the proud mom of three very active children and partner to Jenn Santisi. They live in Media and first joined PFP in 2005.

Marla is a professor of social work and psychology and teaches at both West Chester University and Widener University.

"We joined PFP so that our kids could see more multi-racial, adoptive families. We continue to be a part of PFP because we feel supported as a whole family. And, PFP does fun stuff," Marla said.



Their favorite PFP events are the New Year's Brunch, the camping trips, the hikes and the summer picnic. Marla and Jenn took Michaela to the summer picnic the day after she came home as a 9 month-old baby.

Marla is now the Education Committee Chair for PFP and coordinator of the upcoming [Family Matters Conference](#).

"I hope that folks find the conference to be educational and supportive, but mostly a chance to make some new friends, deepen relationships and have a ton of fun as a whole family."

Thanks, Marla, for all your hard work for PFP!



Thanks again to the [Giampolo Law Group](#) for sponsoring this month's newsletter.

Suggestions for what else we should include in our newsletter? Want to sponsor our next issue?

Contact Stephanie Haynes, PFP Community Coordinator at [stephanie@phillyfamilypride.org](mailto:stephanie@phillyfamilypride.org).

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