

The Rainbow Times

The Freshest Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Newspaper in New England

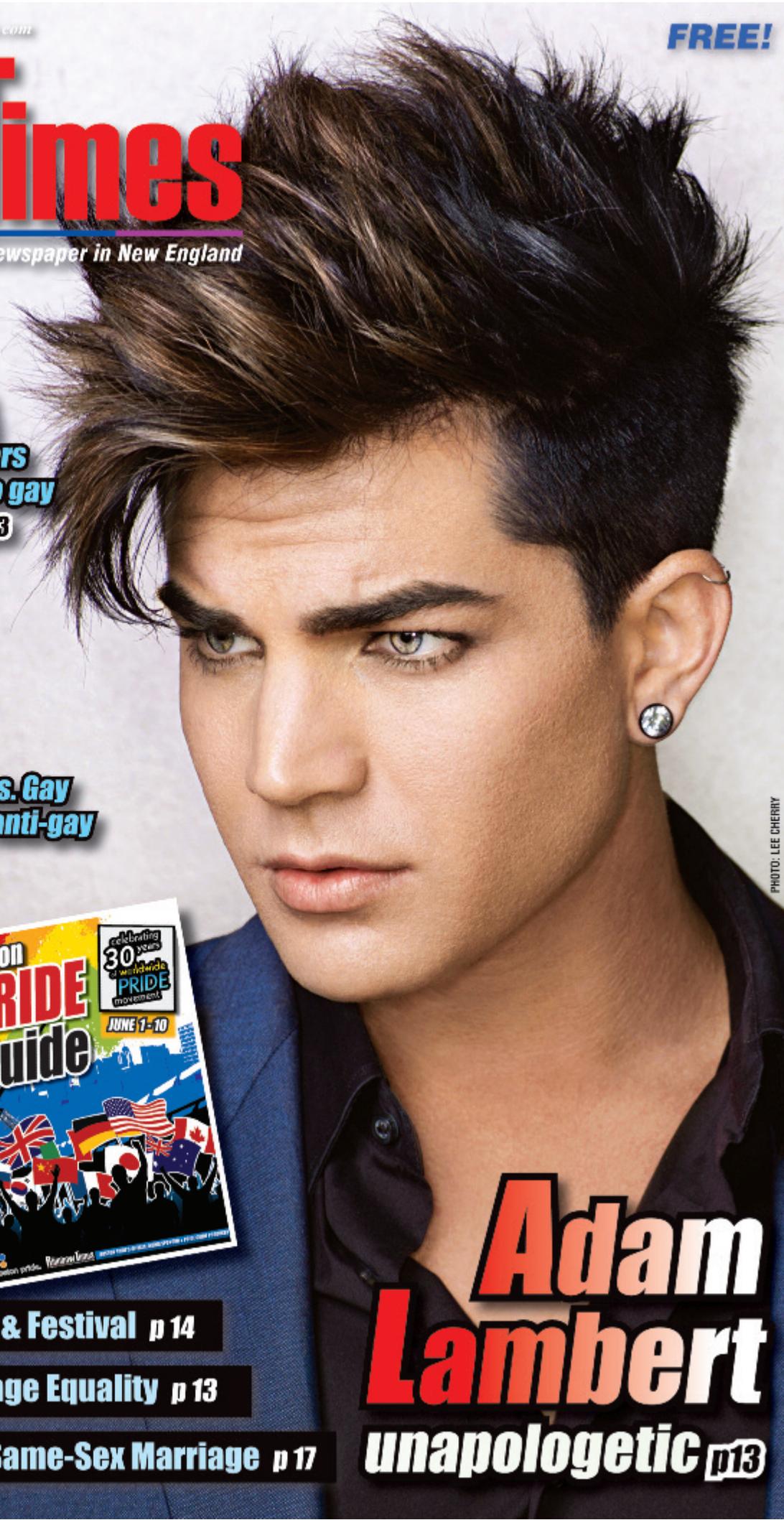


PHOTO: LEE CHERRY

PHOTO: GLENN KOETZNER



PRES. OBAMA
NAACP, others say "I do" to gay marriage p3

PHOTO: SCOTT BROWN, SENATE.GOV

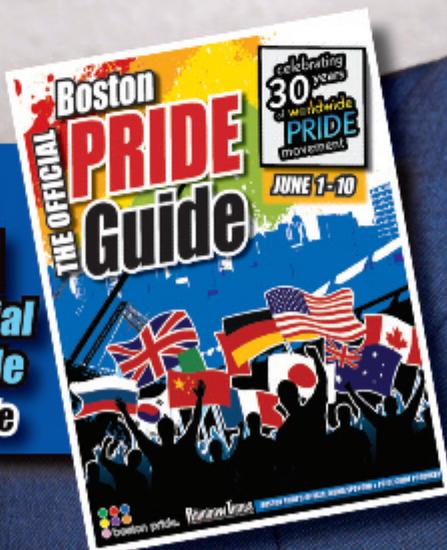


SCOTT BROWN
Decried by Mass. Gay Democrats for anti-gay stances p21

PHOTO: PROVIDED BY BOSTON PRIDE



ALEXIS JORDAN
in the Official Boston Pride Guide Inside



NOHO PRIDE: Approx. 8K Attend March & Festival p 14

MASSACHUSETTS: 8 years After Marriage Equality p 13

RI GOV: Signs Mandate to Recognize Same-Sex Marriage p 17

Adam Lambert
unapologetic p13

It's JUNE 1-10
Official...

**SO MANY EVENTS. SO MANY PARTIES.
SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO FIND
YOUR HAPPY PLACE.**



As you step out into the magical world of Pride Week, here are a few ways you can support your Pride organization:

- 1. DROP A FEW BUCKS IN THE BUCKET.**
You see an orange bucket. You drop in a \$5 or a \$10. It's that simple. Short cash. Tall return. You can also make an online donation at www.bostonpride.org/donate
- 2. THANK A VOLUNTEER.**
Over 200 people sacrifice time with their friends and family, so that you can celebrate and play with yours.
- 3. ATTEND EVENTS PRODUCED BY BOSTON PRIDE.**
The week boasts a broad range of activities that aim to bring people together, stir the mind, shake up the dance floor, create safe and healthy spaces, and make an impact. Make sure to "see and be seen" at official events that benefit Boston Pride.

1 FRIDAY
PRIDE KICKOFF EVENT
Emerald Lounge
@ the new Revere Hotel
200 Stuart St., Boston
7-10PM, \$10

4 MONDAY
ROYAL PAGEANT
Machine Nightclub, 6:30pm
Advance: \$10/\$20 VIP
@ Door: \$15/\$25 VIP

6 WEDNESDAY
PRIDE IDOL FINALE
The Revere Hotel
200 Stuart St, Boston
6:30pm, \$10/\$15 VIP

9 SATURDAY
THE BAR @ CITY HALL PLAZA
12-6pm, \$10
YOUTH DANCE
Quincy Market Rotunda
2nd Floor
7-11PM, \$5

10 SUNDAY
**PRIDE BLOCK PARTIES:
JP & BACK BAY**
Perkins St & St. James Ave.
\$10/\$20 (you decide!)

ADVANCE TICKETS ↓
BostonPride.org/tickets

Op-Ed: Turn Pride into Action; Making it better now for LGBT students

By: Jason Cianciotto & Sean Cahill*/Special for TRT



Jason Cianciotto
Credit: LGBT Youth In America's Schools

As parades and celebrations occur across the Bay State, LGBT youth are putting their pride into action this month by testifying at public hearings sponsored by the Massachusetts Commission on GLBT youth. These meetings are an opportunity for legislators, parents, and community leaders to hear directly from LGBT youth about their experiences at school. Stories about the tragic effects of anti-LGBT bullying remain all too common, and youth-led initiatives like these hearings are just one of the many interventions that can make a difference.

Massachusetts is one of the most pro-LGBT states in the country, as evidenced by the fact that the Bay State became the first in the nation to pass a sexual orientation-inclusive student nondiscrimination law in 1993. Many LGBT students are healthy and successful, exhibiting remarkable strength in the face of anti-LGBT bullying. However, we need to diligently ensure that a full range of support is available to LGBT youth not only in Massachusetts, but in schools across the nation.

Dozens of studies confirm that LGBT youth are more likely to experience health disparities related to bullying and rejection at school and in their homes and faith communities, including substance abuse, risky sexual behavior, and suicide. These risks lead to truancy, lower GPAs, and many other threats to their education, as well as their physical and mental health.

We also know that there are a number of resiliency factors that decrease the likelihood of these negative outcomes, including gay-straight alliances at school, openly LGBT role models among teachers or school administrators, LGBT-inclusive curricula, non-discrimination and anti-bullying policies, and family acceptance. Youth with these supports are less likely to have unprotected sex, report depression, become homeless, or abuse drugs, among other factors.

For example, the Massachusetts Safe Schools Project found that LGBT students in schools where staff participated in its training program were twice as likely to report feeling supported by teachers than were students in schools with-

out trained staff. Likewise, the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) recently reported that students in schools with LGBT-inclusive curricula are half as likely to experience high levels of anti-LGBT victimization and less likely to miss school because of feeling unsafe.

These are among the reasons why it is critical for LGBT people and our straight allies to remain active and engaged in the federal, state, and local elections that determine school policy. After several students who were bullied because of their real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity completed suicide in September

2010, gay activist and author Dan Savage launched the "It Gets Better" campaign. This was a popular effort to highlight anti-LGBT bullying and support for our youth. But we also know how to make it better now, and much of it takes political will.

Even though the Obama Administration recently announced support for the federal Student Non-Discrimination Act and the Safe Schools Improvement Act, which would outlaw anti-LGBT bullying at the federal level and require schools to collect and report data on bullying to the U.S. Department of Education, they have no chance of passing the Republican-controlled U.S. House this Congress.

In addition to federal efforts, most school policy is determined by state legislators, local elected officials, and school board members who are held accountable by voters. You have the power to turn pride into action by urging policy makers in Massachusetts and around the country to listen to the voices of LGBT youth and the children of LGBT parents attending their schools.

There are many common-sense, proven interventions that successfully challenge anti-LGBT bullying and make schools safer and more affirming places where all young people can focus on learning and developing their full potential. Ensuring that these programs are available to more students across the nation at the beginning of the next school year is something we can truly take pride in.

*Jason Cianciotto and Sean Cahill are authors of "LGBT Youth in America's Schools," recently published by the University of Michigan Press. Cahill is a member of the Massachusetts Commission on GLBT Youth. More information about the public hearings sponsored by the Commission is available at <http://mcglbt.org>.

Letters from Page 2

some members of my race become human again? People from other backgrounds, races, ethnicities, cultures, and so on are not the enemy! We are, if we continue this non-sense and fear about what we are not exposed to. I admire that your Publisher wrote back to the Stormfront website owners and that she took a stance for others. If no one else cares to comment, I do! Thank you Ms. Ocasio for your words. Don't think no one notices. Some of us, good, enlightened, fair and open Caucasians do. Thank you for taking the heat, but you're no victim Ma'am, you're a leader and a crusader. I've learned from you today.

—James O'Hara, New Haven, CT

Dear Editor,

Thanks for the pull-put calendar for Noho Pride. At first I thought it was small and not pocket size, but then I realized there was a glossy pocket size version, which I carried all day long with me. It helped me follow the route, since I'm from out of town and was there, my gay self, to just visit Northampton. I had no idea it was on the day it was. Thanks for keeping me informed.

—Justin Allen, Burlington, VT

Dear Editor,

Sorry, but I hated the Ms. Erisis column this time. It was wordy and seemed to lack organization. I usually like it. Not this time!

—Janet Jacklinson, Boston, MA