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## Join Gary Virginia and Donna Sachet for the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual 'Pride Brunch' On Sat., June 24 at Hotel Whitcomb in San Francisco

*The Festive Fundraising Event Supports Positive Resource Center (PRC)  
and Recognizes SF LGBT Pride Parade Grand Marshals/Honorees*

*Brett Andrews, CEO of PRC, to be honored as the 2017 recipient of the Heritage of Pride "10 Years of Service" Award*

**SAN FRANCISCO (May 15, 2017)** – For the 19<sup>th</sup> year, [Positive Resource Center](#) (PRC), the San Francisco-based nonprofit whose mission is to assist people living with HIV/AIDS and/or mental health disabilities, is lead beneficiary of Gary Virginia and Donna Sachet's Annual Pride Brunch on Sat., June 24 at Hotel Whitcomb in San Francisco. The fundraising event brings together more than 300 revelers to feast on a gourmet buffet brunch and recognize the Grand Marshals and honorees of the 47<sup>th</sup> Annual San Francisco LGBT Pride celebration.

Brett Andrews, PRC's chief executive officer, also will be recognized as this year's recipient of the Heritage of Pride "10 Years of Service" award. Presented by the SF Pride Board of Directors, this award honors organizations, individuals or other entities who have contributed at least a decade of consecutive service to the LGBT community.

"It's an honor and a privilege to be recognized with this prestigious award by the San Francisco Pride Board of Directors," said Andrews. "On top of that, PRC is so fortunate to have such a strong relationship with Gary and Donna, whose efforts throughout the years have been instrumental in our ability to provide services for our 5,000+ clients across San Francisco and the Bay Area."

### **History of Pride Brunch**

Pride Brunch got its start in 1999 when Gary Virginia, former SF Pride president, and Donna Sachet, a long-time LGBT advocate, inaugurated the event to raise much-needed and unrestricted funds for PRC. Nearly 20 years later, the community-based benefit event continues to raise an average of \$40,000 or more annually.



*Donna Sachet and Gary Virginia co-host the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual 'Pride Brunch' on June 24 at Hotel Whitcomb in San Francisco.  
(Photo ©Rich Stadtmiller)*

Pride Brunch is also an opportunity to support the SF Pride Parade Grand Marshals and honorees. Among the previous celebrity and equality activist honorees: Dustin Lance Black, Cleve Jones, Cloris Leachman, Sir Ian McKellan and Armistead Maupin.

"Gary and I are proud to have grown Pride Brunch from a small gathering at Jeremiah Tower's Stars restaurant to what it has become today: one of San Francisco's signature Pride Week events," said Sachet. "We look forward to mingling with familiar faces and getting to know a host of new movers and shakers who continue to shape our collective future. These efforts will not only further the causes and issues which are important to the LGBT community, but the funds raised during this event help provide vital support to help further PRC's mission, as well."

“Everyone gets their 15 seconds of fame at Pride Brunch – not just the Grand Marshals. Cameras flash nonstop among elected officials, community titleholders, drag queens, leather men and the curious... all inside the Whitcomb’s rainbow-festooned grand ballroom,” said Virginia. “Pride Brunch represents the best bang for your buck: three hours of open bars, an amazing buffet, live music and personal remarks from some of this year’s parade honorees.”

For the seventh consecutive year, Wells Fargo is the presenting sponsor of Pride Brunch. The event is also made possible with support from Barefoot Winery and Tito’s Handmade Vodka.

### **Positive Resource Center Services**

Since its inception nearly 30 years ago, PRC has helped people gain access to life-saving disability income and gainful employment, and ultimately providing clients a baseline of financial and healthcare security. Through PRC’s continuum of services, clients receive no-cost access to:

- Professional benefits analysis, advocacy and counseling about accessing public and private financial and health care benefits, such as Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplemental Security Income (SSI), long-term disability, health insurance, life insurance and Medi-Cal
- Representation before administrative law judges for reconsideration of disability denials
- Employment and vocational rehabilitation planning, counseling and coordination, job development and job search assistance, support groups and computer access and training for clients entering or re-entering the workplace
- Regular workshops/clinics designed to equip people with HIV/AIDS or mental illness to consider and develop employment goals and plans, as well as understand their legal rights and responsibilities concerning benefits, employment, housing and credit
- Emergency financial assistance via AIDS Emergency Fund, working to prevent eviction and stabilize housing for people living with HIV/AIDS and to provide emergency assistance for rent, utilities, communications, unpaid medical bills and more



*Brett Andrews, CEO of PRC, and recipient of the Heritage of Pride “10 Years of Service” award.  
(Photo courtesy of Terrence McCarthy)*

### **2017 San Francisco LGBT Pride Parade Grand Marshals and Honorees**

*(Celebrity Grand Marshals and special guests to be announced by San Francisco Pride)*

#### **Community Grand Marshals**

- Chris Carnes, Community Grand Marshal (public vote)
- Alex U. Inn, Community Grand Marshal (SF Pride members vote)
- San Francisco Gay Men’s Chorus, Community Grand Marshal, Organization (public vote)
- Amy Sueyoshi, Community Grand Marshal (selected by the Board of Directors)
- Danielle Castro, Community Grand Marshal (selected by the Board of Directors)
- Dr. Marcy Adelman, Lifetime Achievement Grand Marshal (selected by the Board of Directors)

#### **Commemoration Awards**

- Subhi Nahas, José Julio Sarria History Maker Award (selected by SF Pride Board of Directors)
- Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirits (BAAITS), Gilbert Baker Pride Founder’s Award (selected by SF Pride Board of Directors)
- Blackberri, Audrey Joseph LGBTQ Entertainment Award (selected by SF Pride Board of Directors)
- Maria Zamudio, Teddy Witherington Award (selected by SF Pride Board of Directors)

### Heritage of Pride Awards

- Brett Andrews, 10 Years of Service Award (selected by SF Pride Board of Directors)
- El/La Para TransLatinas, Pride Freedom Award (selected by SF Pride Board of Directors)
- National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR), Pride Community Award (selected by SF Pride Board of Directors)

Tickets to the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Pride Brunch are available via [Eventbrite](#). For more information on PRC services, please call (415) 777-0333 or visit [www.positiveresource.org](http://www.positiveresource.org).

### **CALENDAR EDITORS, PLEASE NOTE:**

#### **19<sup>th</sup> Annual Pride Brunch**

**Presented by Gary Virginia and Donna Sachet, benefitting Positive Resource Center**

#### **WHAT:**

Gary Virginia & Donna Sachet's 19th Annual Pride Brunch recognizes Grand Marshals and honorees of the San Francisco LGBT Pride Parade and affords guests a rare, meet-and-greet opportunity. The three-hour benefit includes musical entertainment by the Dixieland Dykes, a gourmet brunch buffet, hosted bars featuring libations from Barefoot Winery and Tito's Handmade Vodka, raffle prizes and dozens of auction items. The annual event, held inside Hotel Whitcomb's Grand Ballroom, attracts City officials, LGBT movers and shakers, and a colorful crowd of revelers. Proceeds support San Francisco-based Positive Resource Center. Presenting sponsor for the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Pride Brunch is Wells Fargo. Open to the public; tickets start at \$75.

#### **WHERE:**

Hotel Whitcomb  
1231 Market St.  
San Francisco, CA 94103

#### **WHEN:**

Saturday, June 24, 2017  
11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

#### **WHO:**

Attendees include:

- Gary Virginia, Pride Brunch co-host
- Donna Sachet, Pride Brunch co-host
- Brett Andrews, PRC CEO and Heritage of Pride Award recipient
- San Francisco LGBT Pride Parade Grand Marshals and honorees

#### **ADMISSION:**

Ticket prices start at \$75 per person and are available via [Eventbrite](#).

**MEDIA PLEASE NOTE:** To request an interview or more information, please contact Gus Nodal at (415) 359-2320 or via email at [gus@landispr.com](mailto:gus@landispr.com).

#### **ABOUT POSITIVE RESOURCE CENTER**

Positive Resource Center, a San Francisco-based nonprofit, assists people living with HIV/AIDS or mental health disabilities by providing comprehensive benefits including counseling and employment services. In 2016, Positive Resource Center merged with Baker Places, Inc. which provides a comprehensive array of residential treatment services to people with mental health, substance abuse and HIV/AIDS-related issues. PRC also merged with AIDS Emergency Fund, an emergency financial assistance provider for low-income residents disabled by HIV/AIDS. Combined, the three organizations operate as Positive Resource Center, represent a combined 115-year history of service and serve approximately 5,000 clients. For more information, please visit [www.positiveresource.org](http://www.positiveresource.org).