



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

## Stand With Muslims Day of Action

The Rev. Dr. Kelle J. Brown, lead pastor at Plymouth Church, joined hundreds of June 26 shortly after the United States Supreme Court upheld President Trump's travel ban, outside the William Kenzo Nakamura United States Courthouse in downtown Seattle, to show solidarity and support for the Muslim Community. The event was organized by the #NoMuslimBanEver campaign, along with CAIR-Washington State, OneAmerica, MAPS AMEN (American Muslim Empowerment Network), ACLU of Washington, and Truman Project - Pacific Northwest Chapter. Several of the speakers mentioned that this isn't the first time the Supreme Court decision has been wrong or condoned racism and xenophobia.

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#### The show includes four short one acts:

- "Lockdown," based on realistic lockdown situations that take place in schools across the country.
- "I Am A Gun," told from the gun's point of view.
- "Clowns with Guns," a dark vaudevillian style look at school shootings.
- "The Talk," a conversational piece between a black father and son about coming home alive.

The poetry, from several sources, examines a variety of topics related to gun violence, its history, and the ongoing pain it produces. Shows will be 90 minutes of performance and 30 minutes of talk back with a panel.

#### Performances:

- July 20 at First Unitarian Church (1011 SW 12th Ave, Portland)
- July 21 at Willamette Falls Unitarian Church (710 6th Street, Oregon City)
- July 27 at the Hollywood Senior Center (1820 NE 40th Ave, Portland)
- July 28 at the Multnomah Arts Center (7688 SW Capitol Highway, Portland)

All shows start at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$10, \$8 for seniors and students, and can be purchased with cash at the door or in advance online at [portlandcomedy.com/buy-tickets](http://portlandcomedy.com/buy-tickets) or by calling 503-236-8888 x2.

Due to mature themes and language, this show is recommended for ages 12 and up.

## Seattle News Briefs

### Mayor Durkan Honors Six Community Members at 2018 Pride Awards

In her first Pride Awards presentation, Mayor Durkan took the opportunity to honor the achievements of six members of the LGBTQ community. This year's award winners have extensive experience in advocacy, leadership, and the pursuit of equality – many of the winners have worked on behalf of Seattle's LGBTQ community for decades.

"Louise, Monisha, and Charlene are forces of nature and have fought for years to improve the lives of the LGBTQ community through policy and legislation," said Mayor Durkan. "Beto and Tristen continue to raise their voices for social justice while empowering others to do the same; and Aleksa deploys humor and wit while challenging our biases and raising awareness around the important issue of addiction, which affects the LGBTQ community at a disproportionate rate. Together, these six 2018 awards recipients represent the best of Seattle."

### The 2018 Established Leaders Pride Award winners are:

**Louise Chernin** – Louise is the President & CEO of Greater Seattle Business Association (GSBA), the largest LGBTQ and allied chamber of commerce in North America. Her dedication and commitment to the LGBTQ community are widely recognized. She received the Leadership Award from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and has also been named one of Puget Sound Business Journal's Women of Influence. The Seattle Storm honored Chernin with its 2013 Inspiring Women Award, and in January 2015, the University of Washington Women's Center presented her with the Women of Courage Award. Chernin is also the Chair of the Seattle Colleges Board of Trustees.

**Monisha Harrell** – Monisha has worked on a number of political campaigns across King and Snohomish Counties. Monisha has served as a board fellow for Lifelong AIDS Alliance, and currently serves on the boards for the Institute for a Democratic Future, the 21st Legislative District Democrats, and as board chair for Equal Rights Washington. She was also a leader on Washington Won't Discriminate, the campaign which successfully defeated I-1552, an initiative that would have overridden state and local protections against gender-identity discrimination in public facilities.

**Charlene Strong** – Charlene's human rights work began with the Pet Project, which for more than 20 years has provided pet care support for low-income pet owners with HIV/AIDS. In 2006, she was barred from entering her partner's hospital room, she became a tireless advocate of marriage and same-sex equality. Her work for this issue brought her to speak before the Washington State legislature. Her testimony helped pass landmark domestic partnership legislation in the state of Washington. She served on the Washington State Human Rights Commission from 2009-2017, including a stint as Commissioner Chair.

### The 2018 Emerging Leaders Pride Award winners are:

**Tristen Pamphlet-Gardner** – Tristen has been a strong advocate for Queer Trans People of Color (QTPOC) in Seattle, working to create spaces for LGBTQ+ people of color to come together for support, fellowship, and community. He has founded both a social group of nearly 500 Black LGBTQ professionals in Seattle, and Seattle Pride of Color, which aims to showcase QTPOC events happening in the Seattle area. He currently works at GSBA as a development coordinator.

**Beto Yarce** – Beto is the Executive Director of Ventures, a nonprofit that empowers individuals with limited resources and unlimited potential improve their lives through small business ownership. He also works with LGBTQ communities to advocate for equity in education, human rights, politics, business opportunities, and philanthropy.

## Community Calendar 2018

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**FOURTH OF JULY AT IMAGINE CHILDREN'S MUSEUM:** Are you heading to the City of Everett for the Fourth of July festivities? If so, make it a full day of it and head to Imagine Children's Museum for some additional fun. Create a Patriotic sun visor and play at the museum. Half-price admission all day. Military families receive free admission. 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Imagine Children's Museum, 1502 Wall St., Everett.

### SATURDAY, JULY 7

**7TH ANNUAL POLISH FESTIVAL:** The 7th Annual Polish Festival will feature authentic Polish food, live music and dance performances, children's activities and exhibits, demos, workshops and so much more. Noon – 8 p.m., Seattle Center, 305 Harrison St.

### SUNDAY, JULY 8

**STREET SCRAMBLE BELLINGHAM:** How many checkpoints will you find? Street Scramble of Bellingham is an urban adventure. You can run, walk, bike, push a stroller -- it's up to you. Join us and uncover Bellingham and Fairhaven treasures with your friends, family or co-workers. Start time is 10:30 a.m. \$3-\$30/Whatcom Family YMCA, 1256 N. State St. Bellingham.

### The 2018 Outstanding Leader Pride Award winner is:

**Aleksa Manila** – Aleksa is a celebrated and respected drag personality in Seattle. Originally from Manila, Philippines, Aleksa is not only an incredible performer, but the founder of Pride ASIA, which seeks to celebrate, empower, and nurture the multicultural diversity of the LGBTQ communities through the Asian Pacific Islander lens. When not in face, Alex (Aleksa's alter ego) educates the community and counsels clients about the harms of crystal methamphetamine with Project NEON, a program of Seattle Counseling Service (SCS). For many years, he tested for and counseled about HIV & STDs with Public Health – Seattle & King County. Currently, he is Program Coordinator and Addictions Services Program Supervisor at SCS, where he has worked for over ten years.

### WA State Debate Coalition Will Host Debates for U.S. Senate and WA-8th

The Washington State Debate Coalition, founded by Seattle CityClub in 2016 to increase the frequency and quality of publicly accessible nonpartisan debates in Washington, will host three debates in the Fall of 2018—two debates for U.S. Senate and one debate for WA-8th. The debates will be held throughout the state in October and broadcast statewide by the Coalition's media partners.

The following sites and co-hosts will host debates in 2018: Gonzaga University, Community Colleges of Spokane, Eastern Washington University, University of Washington, Washington State University Spokane, and Whitworth University (for a U.S. Senate Debate at Gonzaga University); Pacific Lutheran University, Bethel School District, Eatonville School District, and Franklin Pierce School District (for a U.S. Senate Debate at Pacific Lutheran University); Central Washington University, Kittitas County Chamber of Commerce, Ellensburg School District, Kittitas School District, Thorp School District, Cle Elum-Roslyn School District, Easton School District, and Associated Students of Central Washington University (for a WA-8th Debate at Central Washington University). The dates of the debates will be finalized this summer.

Coalition leaders weighed applications representing 18 organizations across the state. The organizations included urban and rural Washington collaborations between educational institutions, business organizations and school districts from eastern, western and central parts of the state.

The Washington State Debate Coalition is comprised of 100+ civic leaders, nonpartisan organizations, colleges and universities and media partners committed to leading the nation in setting a higher standard for political debates. More information about the Washington State Debate Coalition is available at [bit.ly/WADebate](http://bit.ly/WADebate).