

# ArtServe Hosts LGBTQ Film Screening “Open Dialogues” on National Coming Out Day, October 11

*Panel discussion follows screening*

FORT LAUDERDALE, FLORIDA, USA, September 29, 2021 / EINPresswire.com/ -- To commemorate the 33rd Annual National Coming Out Day on Monday, October 11, [ArtServe](https://www.artserve.com) will host a film screening and discussion panel for the award-winning documentary, “Open Dialogues: Stories From the LGBTQ Community,” produced by the Art and Culture Center/Hollywood. Open Dialogues is presented by ArtServe in partnership with Art and Culture Center/Hollywood, ArtsUnited, Stonewall National Museum & Archives and World AIDS Museum and Education Center.

The doors open at 6 p.m. with the public screening of the film at 6:30 p.m. and an interactive panel discussion at 7 p.m. Admission is free. To register for the event, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/live-film-screening-open-dialogues-stories-from-the-lgbtq-community-tickets-175663041887>. ArtServe is located at 1350 East Sunrise Blvd. in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

“This is a film that will touch something deep in your soul. It’s poignant and very real,” said ArtServe Executive Director Jason Hughes, who will moderate the panel. “Amid each individual’s thoughts expressed in the documentary, I think you’ll find what’s most impactful is often what is not said.”

“[Open Dialogues: Stories From the LGBTQ Community](#)” was produced by the Art and Culture Center/Hollywood and directed by award-winning Miami-based filmmaker, Freddy Rodriguez.



**OPEN DIALOGUES**  
Stories from the LGBTQ Community

66 FILMS PRODUCTION PRESENTS A FILM BY FREDDY RODRIGUEZ.  
WRITTEN BY JEFF RUSNAK. DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY FREDDY RODRIGUEZ.  
PRODUCED BY ART AND CULTURE CENTER/HOLLYWOOD AND FUNDED BY  
A GRANT FROM THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF BROWARD.

**Oct 11 / 6 – 8 PM**  
@ ArtServe 1350 E Sunrise Blvd Ft Lauderdale



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Community leaders interviewed in the film, Julie Marie Wade, Dan Bassett, Christine Walters, Omar Morales, Gary Keating, Franchesca D'Amore and Michael Goodman, reveal in intimate detail how the LGBTQ community is often marginalized within families, schools, churches and public spaces, and how they learned to empower themselves in these spaces. "Open Dialogues: Stories From the LGBTQ Community" was an official selection in OUTshine LGBTQ+ Film Festival and 35th Annual Fort Lauderdale International Film Festival, where it was awarded Best Broward Documentary.

The discussion panel will feature Nicole Stodard, producing artistic director/chair of Thinking Cap Theatre and an award-winning theater artist, educator and scholar who is also the founding executive director of The Vanguard, a Fort Lauderdale-based remodeled 1939 church that now serves as a modern sanctuary for the arts; Terry Dyer, director of development for the administrative and executive department of SunServe, who was named by POZ Health Magazine as "African-American Person of the Month" for his work to stem the spread of AIDS and a bestselling author of *Letters to a GAY BLACK BOY*, a memoir sparking conversations around racism, inequality, homophobia and more; and Dr. Gary Keating, who is featured in the film and founder of the Fort Lauderdale Gay Men's Chorus. His work led to the founding of 16 choruses throughout Florida that served gay men, lesbian women and their allies.

Support for *Open Dialogues: Stories From the LGBTQ Community* was provided by the following funds at the Community Foundation of Broward: Helen and Frank Stoykov Charitable Endowment Fund, Ruth H. Brown Fund for the Arts, Dot and Keith Cobb Fund and Mary and Alex Mackenzie Community Impact Fund.

Serving as the backdrop for this screening and inspiring panel discussion is ArtServe's newest exhibition, "Stories From Within," made possible by a grant from Our Fund, an LGBTQ Community Foundation. The exhibition explores LGBTQIA+ culture, history and experience in South Florida and beyond through the presentation of multidisciplinary works inspired by the LGBTQIA+ social movements, its resilience, sense of community and artistic expressions. The exhibit was curated by ArtServe's Sophie Bonet in conjunction with ArtsUnited, a LGBTQIA+ arts



ArtServe Executive Director Jason Hughes

**ArtServe**  
ArtServe of Broward County, Florida



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organization. It includes displays from the Stonewall National Museum & Archives, as well as the World AIDS Museum. The exhibition runs through Saturday, October 23.

Admission to "Stories From Within" is also free. ArtServe is open to patrons Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

#### About ArtServe

Named a "2020 Top-Rated Nonprofit" by GreatNonprofits, the leading provider of user reviews of charities and

nonprofits, Fort Lauderdale-based ArtServe is an award-winning arts incubator that is advancing the arts for social good as a creative laboratory and hub for experimental artists committed to diversity, equity and inclusion. Now in its 33rd year, ArtServe has won several awards for innovation in the arts and is supported in part by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and Florida's Department of State and the Division of Cultural Affairs. Each year, ArtServe programs contribute tangibly to the region's economy, helping 2,000+ artists sell their work, build businesses and engage the community. To do that, ArtServe secures financial support through donations, sponsorships and memberships. Become a member of ArtServe as either an artist or community member at [www.ArtServe.org/member/](http://www.ArtServe.org/member/) or become a founding member of Friends of ArtServe at [www.ArtServe.org/friends](http://www.ArtServe.org/friends). Requests and questions about the ArtServe facility or programs can be emailed to [information@ArtServe.org](mailto:information@ArtServe.org).

#### Art and Culture Center/Hollywood

The Art and Culture Center/Hollywood presents contemporary gallery exhibitions, live stage performances, and award-winning education programs in the visual and performing arts at three unique facilities in downtown Hollywood. The Center's mission is to cultivate creativity and the support of the arts in our community through education, innovation and collaboration and is a regional leader among South Florida arts institutions in presenting originally curated visual-arts exhibitions by national and local artists, and standards-based, multi-disciplinary arts education programs for youth. The Center impacts about 40,000 people each year through its programs and facilities. Contemporary artists exhibit in four ground-floor gallery spaces while the upstairs Community Gallery presents exhibitions by K-12 students who study under some of the most dedicated arts teachers in the region. Each year, 125+ artists representing a vast range of backgrounds and artistic media exhibit in our galleries. Through its programs and facilities, the Center fosters a creative environment where new and challenging work can flourish through exhibitions and art-making activities that reflect the highest standards of artistry and diversity. <https://www.artandculturecenter.org/>

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