# POSITIVE MAY IMAGES 2024

#### **Our Commitment**

Based in Sonoma County, Positive Images is an LGBTQIA+
Community Center established in 1990. We provide support to
the North Bay's LGBTQIA+ population, with an emphasis on
identities and individuals at the margins – including
transgender and nonbinary individuals, LGBTQIA+ people of
color, Latiné families, neurodivergent people, and disabled
people. We are dedicated to providing essential services that
encompass mental health support, advocacy, and education.

# **Our Values**

Community
Intersectionality
Accessibility
Creativity
Equity & Anti-Racism
Accountability
Liberation

#### **Our Vision**

A North Bay where LGBTQIA2S+ people, especially folks living at the intersection of multiple marginalized identities, have equitable access to resources, feel a sense of safety and belonging rooted in communities of care, and can live authentic, thriving, interconnected lives.



#### **Make a Donation**

Make a Donation by scanning the QR Code or by sending a check to: 200 Montgomery Drive, Suite C Santa Rosa, CA,95404

# **Trainings & Education**

We proudly offer **virtual and in-person trainings** tailored for schools, community groups, businesses, human service agencies, healthcare, and mental health care providers. From technical assistance and consultation, to intimate group trainings and expansive workshops, our training initiatives are designed to be engaging and adaptable. Our trainers are professionally equipped to deepen the understanding of **beautifully diverse LGBTQIA+ communities**, empowering participants with tools and strategies to effectively contribute to creating more inclusive practices and progressive systems change.

An **equitable future for LGBTQIA+ communities** requires all of us to do the work deconstructing myths and systems that oppress and harm LGBTQIA+ folks, while becoming fierce advocates and more **creative co-conspirators** as we affirm and celebrate queerness in our communities.

If you want to schedule a training or consultation session please email <u>training@posimages.org</u>

# A Message from the Board

Hello from the PI Board of Directors!



We have been busy as ever here, adding new lovely people to the board and getting our finance literacy on! Spring has sprung and we are so excited for Pride season coming up so soon! There's no better time to be in community with us at Positive Images. A few of us have been busy playing pickleball and soaking up the sun. Will we see you out on the courts?

Best, Alicia LeCompte Pl Board Member

# The Queer Magic GAYla: Cirque du SoGAY



Join us for a gala unlike Sonoma County has ever seen and help us raise critical funds. Positive Images is excited to invite you to our very first annual Queer Magic GAYla.

# July 26th at Paradise Ridge Winery Santa Rosa, CA

6:00PM Welcome Carnival 7:00PM Dinner, Live Auction, Performances and More!

Come ready to dance, laugh, cry, and enjoy unique cirque performances.

# Become a Sponsor

Sponsors receive tickets, promotional opportunities, and ads in our program.

#### Email Chase to learn more:

chase@posimages.org

**Get Your Ticket Today!** 

### **LGBTQIA+ Needs Assessment**

Over the course of our 34 years, we have seen firsthand the unique needs and barriers (as well as joy and strengths) that comes with identifying as queer and/or trans.

LGBTQIA+ people are frequently left out of reports analyzing our community's demographics, access to healthcare, housing, education, job stability, and more. In response, Positive Images created a non-extractive survey to better understand and serve the diverse needs of Sonoma County's LGBTQIA+ population.

Data from this project will be released publicly in October at our first ever, State of the Queer Community event.

# **Staff Highlights**



**Jess Carroll** 

#### **Director of Programs** (Any Pronouns)

Jess grew up in the Roseland community of Santa Rosa. After graduating from UC Davis she started her career in nonprofits working with youth and young adults in the foster care system, suicide prevention programs, and mental health treatment. With positivity, warmth, and excitement Jess creates space at Positive Images where all LGBTQIA+ folks are accepted, respected, valued, and loved.

### **Training & Education Manager** (He/They)

Drew originally hails from Appalachia. Drew studied sociology at West Virginia University before relocating to northern California. There, they embarked on a career in outdoor education and environmental stewardship. Drew earned a Master's Degree in education and taught 5th and 6th-grade students. Drew has a passion for mentoring, uplifting, and advocating for LGBTQIA+ youth, while also providing education in allyship.



**Drew Crawford** 



Marian Mejia
Fun fact: Marian Created our

**QTBIPOC Hangout!** 

Program Coordinator (They/She)

Marian is a first-gen queer Filipino person from the SF Bay Area. They received their BA with Distinction in Geography, Environment, & Planning with a Society, Environment, & Development emphasis at SSU. Marian is an avid community organizer, focused on issues including, immigrant rights, housing, and environmental justice. Guided by the identities & lived experiences that shape them, They're dedicated to fostering more belonging and increasing access to care for Sonoma County's LGBTQIA+ community—especially for our queer/trans communities of color.