

PRESS RELEASE



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MEMPHIS-BASED THEATER SEEKS INJUNCTION AGAINST TENNESSEE'S ANTI-DRAG LAW

Memphis, TN, March 2023:

Friends of George's, a Memphis-based 501(c)(3) theatre company, succeeded in challenging the Tennessee anti-drag bill by receiving a 14-day temporary restraining order in the U.S. District Court for the Western District (TN) today. This bigoted anti-drag law, approved recently by Tennessee Governor Bill Lee, will no longer take effect on April 1. Friends of George's is set to return to court within the next two weeks to argue their case before they open their next production on April 14th.

Since 2011, Friends of George's has produced original, drag-centric performances, comedy sketches, and plays. Each production raises thousands of dollars for other Mid-South organizations that support or affirm the LGBTQIA+ population.

"We won because this is a bad law" says Mark Campbell, current President of the Board of Directors for Friend's of George's. "We look forward to our day in court where the rights for all Tennesseans will be affirmed".

All Friends of George's productions are rooted in the rich history of drag, gender impersonation, and gender exploration through theater art, honoring this centuries-old tradition of queer culture and storytelling.

"We are committed to landing a victory against hate," says Goldie Dee Collins, performer, board member, and proud drag queen. "We stand in firm solidarity with all drag performers, the greater LBGTQIA+ community, and countless allies in the fight for Justice, self-expression, and pursuit of happiness."

[Temporary Restraining Order](#)

Boiler plate:

Friends of George's is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization based in Memphis, TN. Its mission is to empower the LGBTQIA+ community by raising the visibility of queer representation on the stage. Every production benefits a selected local charity that inclusively supports or affirms the LGBTQIA+ population.

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Friends of George's is proud to announce its upcoming production of "Drag Rocks!" - a rock-inspired drag and sketch comedy show. "Drag Rocks!" runs April 14 through April 22 at the Evergreen Theatre at 1705 Poplar Ave in Memphis, TN. Tickets can be purchased at friendsofgeorges.org.