

WE ARE GLAD LAW.

Since 1978, GLAD Law's bold litigation has achieved scores of precedent-setting victories on behalf of LGBTQ+ people and those living with HIV.

Our work advances safety and nondiscrimination, protects our families, fights for affirmation and dignity in state and federal laws, and takes down barriers to economic and life opportunities.

Each time GLAD Law argues a case or tackles an issue, we tear down more outdated laws and stereotypes that have denied LGBTQ+ people and people living with HIV basic protections and opportunities in every area of daily life.

GLAD LAW

GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders

Justice with Pride



26TH ANNUAL
SPIRIT of
JUSTICE
AWARD DINNER

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Indigenous peoples have been acknowledging the land at the start of gatherings, ceremonies, and events since time immemorial.

Tonight, GLAD Law acknowledges the land on which we gather as home to and stolen from Massachusetts, Aquinnah Wampanoag, Mashpee Wampanoag, and Nipmuc Nations, whose people live here today, as they have for thousands of years. We are dedicated to creating a space in our programming to promote the voices of indigenous queer and Two-Spirit people.

We also affirm our allyship with all Nations and peoples here in the Dawnland region, otherwise known as New England, where GLAD Law established our roots.

We extend our respect to citizens of these Nations and others who care for Mother Earth, who live here today, their ancestors who have lived here for over 500 generations, and to all Indigenous people. We are grateful for the opportunity to live and learn here in mutual respect and appreciation.

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESENTING SPONSORS

In September, Todd and I had the joy of celebrating 20 years of marriage and 30 years together with a vow renewal party that was both a personal milestone for us and a fundraiser for GLAD Law. It was a beautiful evening filled with love, reflection, and purpose – a chance to honor our journey and support the organization that helped make our marriage possible.

When we first said “I do” on Thompson Island in 2005, it was shortly after marriage equality became law in Massachusetts. At the time, our wedding felt like a bold act of love and hope – but not necessarily a political act. We were simply two people committing to a life together, surrounded by family and friends.

Today, as support for marriage equality faces renewed challenges across our country, and the LGBTQ+ community has faced relentless attacks, our vow renewal took on a new meaning. It was not only a celebration of our relationship, but also a public affirmation of the right to love and marry freely. What once felt personal now feels political – and we believe that love like ours is worth loudly celebrating and defending.

That’s why we’re proud to sponsor the Spirit of Justice Award Dinner. GLAD Law’s work has been instrumental in advancing and protecting the rights of the LGBTQ+ community for decades, and we are honored to support their work fighting for our dignity, equality, justice, and love.



Matthew McTygue & Todd Rivers

TONIGHT'S PROGRAM

WELCOME

Gavin Alexander, Jamie Bergeron,
& Jean-Phillip Brignol, *Co-Chairs*
Matthew McTygue & Todd Rivers, *Presenting Sponsor*

FEATURED REMARKS

Ricardo Martinez, *Executive Director*
Major Erica Vandal, *Plaintiff, Talbott v. USA*

DINNER BREAK

LEGAL UPDATE

Mary Bonauto, *Senior Director of
Civil Rights and Legal Strategies*

2025 SPIRIT OF JUSTICE AWARD

Honoree Tony Hoang

Presented by:

Joe Metmowlee Garland, MD, *Board President*

DESSERT & DRINKS

FEATURED SPEAKERS



RICARDO MARTINEZ

Executive Director, GLAD Law

Ricardo Martinez is a veteran LGBTQ+ movement leader, with experience in roles at PENCIL, Summer Search, GLSEN, Stand for Children, and as CEO of Equality Texas, where he fortified the organization with increased staff and funding during an intense wave of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation. He was recognized as an emerging LGBTQ+ Leader by the Obama Administration and received the 40 Under 40 award from his alma mater Stony Brook University for his impact in Civil Service and Activism.

MAJOR ERICA VANDAL

Plaintiff, Talbott v. USA

Major Erica Vandal is an Army Field Artillery Officer, West Point graduate, and combat veteran with deployments to Afghanistan and Romania. Major Vandal's path was shaped by her father's legacy of service and leadership. She has served with distinction for nearly 15 years, receiving a Bronze Star, a Meritorious Service Medal, a Joint Service Commendation Medal, an Army Commendation Medal, and two Army Achievement Awards.



MARY L. BONAUTO

*Senior Director of Civil Rights & Legal
Strategies*



Mary Bonauto has been pivotal in shaping the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement. Her work includes major legal victories on non-discrimination, family protections, transgender student rights, and free speech. In 2015, she argued *Obergefell v. Hodges* before the U.S. Supreme Court, securing marriage equality nationwide. Bonauto has received numerous honors, including the 2014 MacArthur Fellowship and the 2024 Presidential Citizens Medal.

A WELCOME MESSAGE FROM OUR 2025 CO-CHAIRS:



Thank you for being with us at the 26th annual Spirit of Justice Award Dinner! We need each other now more than ever.

We're all being tested by this moment – but we do have power. Together, we are standing strong, drawing on our community's history of courage, strategic organizing and advocacy, creative resistance, collaboration, and compassion.

We are taking inspiration from movement leaders like tonight's Spirit of Justice Award Honoree, Tony Hoang, who is leading urgent, successful efforts to protect and expand LGBTQ+ rights in California.

And we are refusing to back down from our vision of a future of justice and freedom.

With your support, GLAD Law is leading the fight against the Trump administration's attacks on our community, filing six lawsuits in just the first two months.

That included immediately challenging the ban on transgender military service. Tonight, you'll hear from Major Erica Vandal, one of our incredibly accomplished plaintiffs, about her deep commitment to service during her long Army career.

Because of you, GLAD Law also made remarkable advancements for LGBTQ+ people and families, despite the challenging political and social climate.

In New Hampshire, GLAD Law blocked laws banning DEI programs or classroom discussions related to race, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, and disability.

GLAD Law's team is forging legal strategies to defend our civil rights laws, ensuring transgender workers like Lillian Bernier get equal healthcare benefits and large companies like her employer, Turbocam, Inc., can't ignore nondiscrimination laws because they dislike LGBTQ+ people.

In Maine, we helped rally the community and allies to defeat eight bills to restrict the basic rights of transgender people and turn back nondiscrimination protections. And we passed a law expanding access to pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP), including new long-acting forms of the game-changing HIV prevention medication.

We helped update laws in six states including Illinois, Michigan, New Mexico, and Vermont, to ensure LGBTQ+ families have crucial protections. And we are prepared to defend marriage equality against any threat.

In Massachusetts we strengthened our shield law protecting access to reproductive and transgender health care and worked to implement the Massachusetts Parentage Act when it took effect this year.

Maybe, like us you've kept abreast of these and other developments through Executive Director Ricardo Martinez's Resistance Brief, launched this year to provide insight, guidance, hope, and inspiration as we navigate our shifting legal and political landscape. With each installment Ricardo helps find a path forward on the road to justice and freedom.

With your generosity and commitment, we will get there.

Enjoy tonight's program and thank you for being part of this work.

Gavin Alexander, Jamie Bergeron, & Jean-Philip Brignol
2025 Spirit of Justice Co-Chairs

A NOTE FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT, JOSEPH METMOWLEE GARLAND

Welcome to the 26th Annual Spirit of Justice Award Dinner!

If you're seeking community, connection, inspiration, and hope in these difficult days, you're in the right place. We are powerful when we come together.



These are times that require courage and action. We all have a role to play in preserving democracy and safeguarding protections and policies that ensure LGBTQ+ people can live safely, freely, and with equitable opportunities to thrive. GLAD Law works through strategic litigation, policy advocacy, and education to create a just society free of discrimination based on gender identity and expression, HIV status, and sexual orientation.

As a proud gay man and a physician who provides primary and HIV specialty care in Providence, Rhode Island, I have many threads that have pulled me to GLAD Law. My marriage, my ability to work without fear of discrimination, and my ability to provide quality care to my trans patients, my PrEP patients, and my patients living with HIV have largely been made possible by GLAD Law's work.

Today, GLAD Law is at the forefront of responding to attacks on LGBTQ+ people by the Trump administration, using its expertise to stop, delay, and reduce the harm to our community.

We will never be intimidated or deterred in fighting for fairness for our community. We are forging ahead in state legislatures in New England and beyond, strengthening laws and protections for LGBTQ+ people, defeating or minimizing the harm of damaging

legislation, and working to change hearts and minds through public education.

Partnership and collaboration are key to this work, which is why we are so thrilled to celebrate this year's Spirit of Justice Award recipient, Tony Hoang, executive director of Equality California, for his leadership in continuing progress for our communities despite powerful forces arrayed against us.

Thank you for being with us in this struggle. We cannot do this work without you.

Sincerely,

Joseph Metmowlee Garland, MD

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OUR 2025 SPIRIT OF JUSTICE HONOREE

TONY HOANG

GLAD Law is thrilled to present the 2025 Spirit of Justice Award to Tony Hoang, Executive Director of Equality California (ECQA), for his visionary, influential, and intersectional leadership in the movement for LGBTQ+ equality.

Tony Hoang has dedicated his career to advancing full, lived equality for LGBTQ+ people. For over 16 years at the largest statewide LGBTQ+ organization in the United States, including the past 4 as executive director, Hoang has played pivotal roles in passing groundbreaking civil rights legislation, implementing statewide public education campaigns, and electing hundreds of openly LGBTQ+ and pro-equality candidates. The son of Vietnam War refugees, Hoang is the first Asian American person to lead ECQA, bringing with him an understanding of the marginalized intersections of sexuality, gender, race, and immigration status in the U.S.

Local leaders power the LGBTQ+ movement – working on the ground to identify needs, marshalling resources to meet them, and contributing to the expansion of protections and support in their communities and around the country. Tony Hoang’s leadership to proactively secure fairness, safety, and dignity for LGBTQ+ people in California and beyond shows us that we can create opportunities to advance justice even in a hostile climate.



CONGRATULATIONS

to our Executive Director,
Tony Hoang, on receiving GLAD Law’s
Spirit of Justice Award!

—EQUALITY CALIFORNIA BOARD & STAFF



EQUALITY CALIFORNIA

Equality California brings the voices of LGBTQ+ people and allies to institutions of power in California and across the United States, striving to create a world that is healthy, just, and fully equal for all LGBTQ+ people. We advance civil rights and social justice by inspiring, advocating, and mobilizing through an inclusive movement that works tirelessly on behalf of those we serve.

REMEMBERING REV. DAVID S. KING

Rev. David S. King devoted his life to social justice and equality. Ordained as a minister in the 1950s, David brought faith and activism together in pursuit of human dignity. He was jailed in 1963 for participating in a desegregation protest and continued advocating for equality throughout his life.



In 1966, David and his husband, Stanton Wesley Putnam, purchased their first home – beginning a 40-year partnership built on love, courage, and shared purpose. Their bond culminated in marriage in 2007, inspiring everyone who knew them.

Whether uniting churches across differences, serving his community on the local school committee, or working for decades with Boston's City Mission Society, David brought people together to build connection and compassion.

A devoted supporter of GLAD Law, David was a longtime sponsor of the Spirit of Justice Award Dinner and a proud member of our Legacy Society.

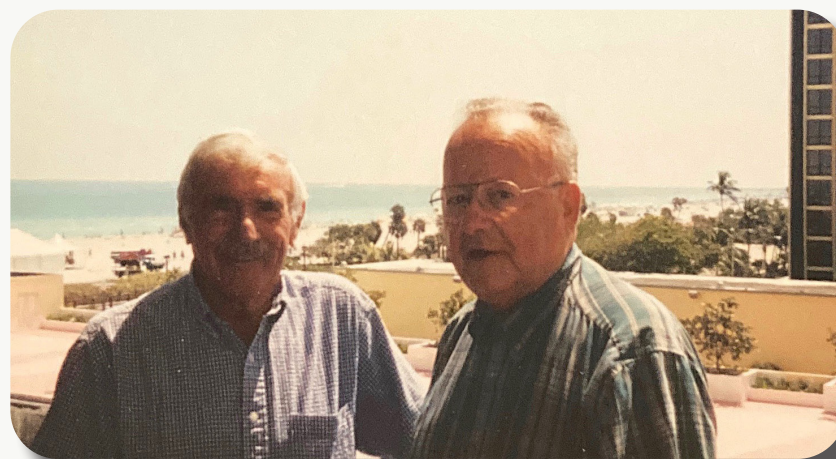
Through his bequest, David continues to advance the work he believed in so deeply – ensuring dignity, equality, and justice for all.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to David's niece, Katie King, for helping to fulfill his wishes and directing additional funds from David and Stanton's estate to support GLAD Law's mission and tonight's celebration.

TONIGHT'S MATCH

Tonight's \$100,000 match is made possible through a generous gift from the estate of Rev. David S. King and his husband, Stanton Wesley Putnam.

**MAKE YOUR
DONATION AT
GLADLAW.ORG/MATCH**



Rev. David S. King and his husband, Stanton Wesley Putnam

PRIDE, HOPE, AND RESISTANCE

GLAD Law refuses to back down from our vision of a future of justice and freedom. We fight for LGBTQ+ people and people with HIV to live fully and safely, without discrimination. And we fight in solidarity with partners and across communities – stronger when we show up for one another.

We are working to protect our democracy and the promise of our Constitution in the face of attacks and disinformation.



We provide legal expertise at the Supreme Court.

We are committed to justice for all, standing in solidarity with immigrants and against any attempts to dehumanize our communities.



We are preparing to defend marriage equality against any challenge.



We are meeting rising community needs through our legal infoline, GLAD Law Answers.

Relentlessly challenging executive orders targeting transgender people in the military, schools, prisons, and more. Six cases filed in the first two months – and counting.



GLAD Law refuses to be intimidated or silenced by Trump's actions targeting nonprofits.



For more information on our ongoing work, visit: GLADLaw.org/Cases

OUR HEARTFELT THANKS TO TONIGHT'S SPONSORS:

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Matthew McTygue & Todd Rivers

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As of program book inclusion deadline of October 17, 2025

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is proud to support



Congratulations to this
year's Spirit of Justice
honoree,

Tony Hoang.

Thank you for your
important work.

SUSMAN GODFREY

Houston New York Los Angeles Seattle



Recognizing GLAD Law's
commitment to LGBT+
rights and celebrating this
year's award recipients.



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Eastern Bank is committed to recognizing the good in our communities and celebrating the work of

GLAD LAW

**We proudly support the
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SPIRIT OF JUSTICE AWARD DINNER**

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The Equality Fund at the Boston Foundation is honored to support GLAD Law's 26th Annual Spirit of Justice Award Dinner.

For more about the Equality Fund, visit tbf.org/equality.

The **EQUALITY** Fund
AT THE BOSTON FOUNDATION

Holland & Knight is proud to support

GLAD Law's Spirit of Justice Award Dinner

We commend GLAD Law and its efforts to create a just society that is free of discrimination based on gender identity and expression, HIV status and sexual orientation.

Holland & Knight

www.hklaw.com

Dianne R. Phillips, Partner
Boston, Massachusetts | +1.617.573.5818



Justice & Inclusion

We are proud to support **GLAD Law's** work to advance LGBTQ+ equality and to join in honoring **Tony Hoang**, Executive Director of Equality California and Silver State Equality.

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Latham & Watkins is proud to support

GLAD Law's 26th Annual Spirit of Justice Award Dinner

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WilmerHale is a proud supporter of the GLAD Law 26th Annual Spirit of Justice Award Dinner. We applaud GLAD Law and this year's honorees for working on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community to make our democracy more inclusive, more representative, and more just.

wilmerhale.com

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The ACLU of Massachusetts is proud to stand in community with GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD Law)!



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ACLU New Hampshire

Defending the civil rights and liberties of all, with pride.

Congratulations to this year's Spirit of Justice award honoree



CONGRATULATIONS
TO THE HONOREE
TONY HOANG

AND WE WISH
TONIGHT'S
ATTENDEES A
FABULOUS EVENING

Ashley & Emily Barfield

STANDING TOGETHER

We're proud to support the 26th Annual Spirit of Justice Award Dinner.



Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts is an Independent Licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

UNITING & EMPOWERING

the next generation of people with LGBTQ+ parents/caregivers

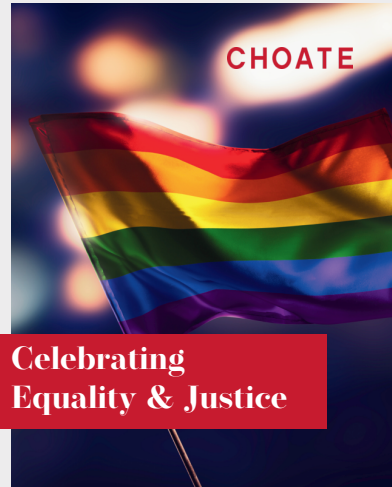
Our work at a glance:

- QUIP--Queerspawn Utilizing and Interrupting Policy
- Year-round programming through the Boston Chapter and beyond
- Family Week programming in Provincetown



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Celebrating Equality & Justice

Choate supports GLAD Law in creating lasting and meaningful progress for LGBTQ+ equality.

To learn more, visit choate.com

We're in this together.

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Hogan Lovells

Hogan Lovells proudly supports *GLAD Law's Annual Spirit of Justice Award Dinner.*

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HRC

New England

invites you,

to join us for Dinner!

Saturday, March 14, 2026

SoWa Power Station

Boston, MA

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Keshet is honored to stand with GLAD Law in the shared fight for LGBTQ+ rights, dignity, and belonging.

With pride and gratitude,

Keshet Staff and Board



For LGBTQ+ equality in Jewish life



**MASSACHUSETTS
TRANSGENDER
POLITICAL
COALITION**

We are grateful to be in partnership with GLAD Law as we work together to advance the safety and equality of transgender and nonbinary people in Massachusetts. Thank you!

MTPC is the oldest trans advocacy organization in the US! We work to advance lived equity for all transgender & nonbinary people in Massachusetts, not just equality under the law.

**Scan here to sign
up for our emails
and get involved!**



Learn more about our work at
www.masspc.org



**Working for a Commonwealth
Where All Youth Thrive.**

The Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth is the nation's only independent state agency dedicated to LGBTQ youth. We drive systemic change through research, advocacy, and our landmark Safe Schools Program.



Learn more about us:
<https://linktr.ee/malgbt>

MASS EQUALITY

Advocate. Elect. Educate. Protect.

MassEquality is the leading statewide grassroots advocacy organization working to ensure that everyone across Massachusetts can thrive from cradle to grave without discrimination and oppression based on sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression. We partner across identities, issues, and communities to build a broad, inclusive, and politically powerful movement that changes hearts and minds and achieves policy and electoral victories.

Learn more at www.MassEquality.org

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Creating safer, more inclusive spaces for LGBTQ+ people in all of our communities through **conversation, education, and commitment.**

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- LGBTQ+ 101
- Supporting Caregivers of LGBTQ+ Youth
- Allyship in the Workplace
- Queer History Past and Present
- Speaker Panels
- Facilitated Discussions
- and many more!

Scan the QR for more information -



ROPES & GRAY

Ropes & Gray is proud to support GLAD Law and the 26th Annual Spirit of Justice Award Dinner.

Helping to build strong community relationships.

The Rockland Trust Charitable Foundation is dedicated to giving back to the communities we serve. That's why we're happy to support **GLAD Law.**




**ROCKLAND
TRUST**

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Thank you GLAD Law for being a champion of trans healthcare!

 **transhealth**
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GLAD Law receives hundreds of requests each year through GLAD Law Answers, our free legal information line. Join our Lawyer Referral Service (LRS) to grow your practice and support the LGBTQ+ and HIV communities.

Learn more or sign up at GLADLaw.org/LRS.



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