

Intl Day of Pink Presents

COLOURING

WITH

PRIDE

3rd
EDITION

10 trans and queer Canadians
you SHOULD know (and 2
Americans)

ART: RACHEL MACKINNON

INTL.
DAY 08
OF APRIL
PINK

Colouring with Pride
Day of Pink
Launched Spring 2020

CREATOR'S NOTE

Since launching the first edition we continue to be inspired by trans and queer people in Canada.

Thank you to all those who nominated this new set of heroes who continue to create safer and more inclusive spaces.

We also want you to know that this book is not done. We will be creating more, so please reach out, send us your ideas and names of folks you wanna see featured!

Learn more about the Day of Pink at:
DayOfPink.org

Thank you,

Rachel MacKinnon



Kate Reid

ART & ACTIVISM

Slam-storytelling and folk-roots music meets many a queer-themed tune in Canadian singer-songwriter Kate Reid, whose songs just might have you rolling in the aisles with laughter or dabbing tears from your eyes.

Kate is a whip smart wordsmith with a knack for candid story-telling and songwriting that is charged with humour and social-political commentary. Their original, incisive, and entertaining songwriting garnered them a Canadian Folk Music Award nomination for Best/New Emerging Artist of 2009, and a 2010 Toronto Independent Music Award nomination for Best Acoustic Album.

She is as charming as she are in-your-face, singing sometimes in almost a spoken-word style musings about identity, love, queer life, and the interesting towns she's toured though and the characters she's met along the way with an irreverent, often self-deprecating sense of humour.

Kate is particularly interested in using songs and singing as a way to open up new understandings about gender, sexualities, bodies, and relationality. Kate also works with individuals and research teams to compose songs about people's lived experiences, and has collaborated with a number of individuals on personal songwriting projects, and composed and performed songs for a research project at the University of Toronto.

Kate is a PhD candidate at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto, where they are investigating the use of queer folk songs as teaching tools in a secondary school classroom. From this research they are developing a downloadable teaching resource that combines songs about LGBTQ2S+ families and children with classroom activities. This resource will be added to her website.

Keep learning:

- Kate has five albums under her belt. Which one is your favourite?
- Kate performs at school across Canada. Can you think of events at your school Kate could perform for? Check out her site: katereid.net





Sheri Benson

COMMUNITY BUILDER

A founding member of the Gay and Lesbian Health Services in Saskatoon, Benson has been a Passionate Advocate for ending homelessness, and led the first plan in Saskatchewan and the 1st Housing First Project in the province.

She was elected to the House of Commons as the first lesbian MP from Saskatchewan, and worked with community to sponsor a federal bill to end conversion therapy. She was also particularly involved in action around the creation of the first federal Housing Strategy.

Currently she is at the helm of United Way Strength of Spirit Initiative; creating the first position in local nonprofit dedicated to inclusion of indigenous people in United Way and broader community; this commitment and resources gave rise to the Wicahitowin Gathering and Conference, now in its 5th year; almost 900 participants!

Benson has a BSW from the University of Regina.



Keep learning:

- Sheri Benson is considered to be a CHAMPION of developing the foundation of the federal Housing Strategy. Why is this such an important issue for queer and trans youth?
- If you could lead one change in your school, community, town, province, country what would that be?
- Why is it important that elected leaders are from the LGBTQ2+ community?
- If you were going to run for office, what would your slogan be to get voters to vote for you?





Andrea Houston

HERO

Andrea has spent her career working at the intersection of journalism, activism, and politics. She's been a staff reporter at various publications, including the Toronto Star, the Peterborough Examiner, Xtra, Canada's gay and lesbian news, and served as managing editor of Torontoist. She developed and teaches the first-ever Queer Media course at Ryerson University School of Journalism. She's also worked at Queen's Park as executive assistant for MPP, and LGBTQ critic, Cheri DiNovo, helping to craft and pass legislation to make the province a safer and more accepting place for LGBTQ youth.

For Historica Canada, Andrea was consultant on the first LGBTQ-themed Heritage Minute about pioneering gay activist Jim Egan. At Rainbow Railroad, Andrea was part of the team helping queer and trans people facing persecution in more than 70 countries around the world escape to freedom.

Keep learning:

- Check out her website: www.andreahouston.com
- Andrea has written several articles about the issues queer and trans people face. Google your favourite.
- What do you think of the LGBTQ-themed Heritage Minute about pioneering gay activist Jim Egan?





R. Kelly Clipperton

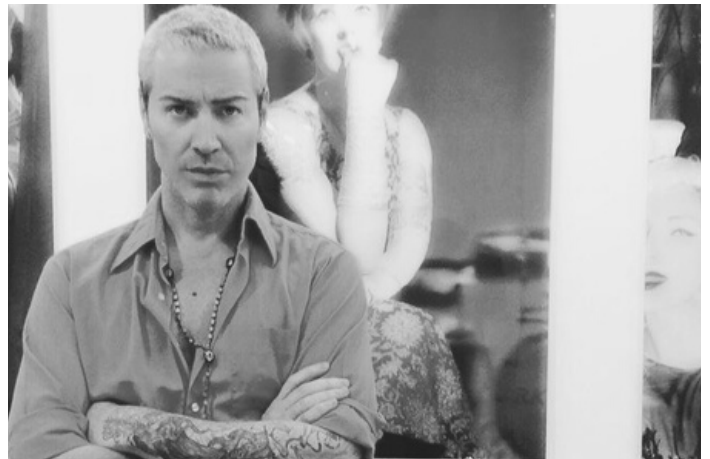
RENAISSANCE MAN

In his varied career, Clipperton has written and produced six plays, designed costumes for the stage (with one Dora Nomination), exhibited his saturated, sex positive photography a dozen times, recently released a book of his catalogued works, toured Canada and Europe repeatedly with his various band My Dear Heretic, Merkury Burn and Kelly & the Kellygirls.

Those three bands released over 10 recordings of original material and his newest project MANifesto is a ManBand of grown up gays covering songs originated by Girl Groups with their debut album expected Summer 2020. He received his BFA in Theatre from York University in 92 and has been working as a stylist out of his own Toronto studio for the past 2 decades.

Keep learning:

- Check out their website:
kellyclipperton.wordpress.com
- Clipperton has created a few music videos. Check out their YouTube channel and pick your favourite.





Morgane Oger

VOICE FOR US

Morgane Oger is a Transgender mom with two kids who is a human rights activist. Morgane uses politics, education, and our courts to make life more fair for all Canadians who face discrimination or bullying because of who they are. She helps a lot of Transgender kids and youth.

Morgane helped convince lawmakers to support adding gender identity or expression to our human rights laws. She helped convince school boards to protect Transgender and Gender-diverse kids. Morgane helped protect SOGI policies across Canada and overseas.

Morgane even proved transgender rights laws work in a two-year-long human rights tribunal case that she won in 2019 against a bully who did very mean things.

Morgane founded the Morgane Oger Foundation which uses education, advocacy, and our laws to help people stand up to unfairness and hatred. Because she works with everyone and all levels of Government, even people who don't agree with Morgane want to talk to her.

Morgane's work was featured in award-winning documentaries "In Alliance", "1253 Letters", and "Morgane Oger: Moving Forward" that you can watch online. Morgane was named "National Hero" Grand Marshal at the 2016 Vancouver Pride Parade and was awarded the Kimberly Nixon Pride Legacy Award, Shakti Trailblazer Award, and in 2018 the Meritorious Service Medal on behalf of The Queen and all Canadians by Governor General Julia Payette.

Morgane wrote part of the book *We Resist* and was written about in *Women On The Ballot*.

Keep learning:

- Check out their website: ogrerfoundation.ca
- Why do you think it is important to make sure people from all kinds of communities and backgrounds are elected in Canada?
- Can you remember a time when you helped somebody else stand up to a bully by being nice?
- Do you think standing up nicely or fighting back works best when dealing with a bully?





Rupert Raj

TRANS SENIOR

A trans elder, Rupert Raj has been a Eurasian-Canadian, pansexual, trans activist since 1971, founding six support groups/service organizations for transsexuals and crossdressers across Canada.

As a former psychotherapist/gender consultant from 2000 to 2015, he counselled queer, transgender, genderqueer, gender non-binary, intersex and Two-Spirit people and their loved ones, and trained mental health professionals in transpositive healthcare.

In 2013, he was inducted into the Canadian Lesbian & Gay Archives (Toronto), where The Rupert Raj Collection is housed. His three books include: *'Trans Activism in Canada: A Reader'* (co-edited with Dan Irving, PhD, Canadian Scholars' Press, 2014), *'Of Souls & Roles, Of Sex & Gender: A Treasury of Transsexual, Transgenderist & Transvestic Verse from 1967 to 1991'* (unpublished, 2017, revised 2018; free PDF available online through the Transgender Archives and the Digital Transgender Archive), and *'Dancing The Dialectic: True Tales of A Transgender Trailblazer'* (first-edition, self-published, 2017; second edition with Transgender Publishing in 2020).

Keep learning:

- Check out Rupert Raj on Wikipedia, The ArQuives, the Transgender Archives, and Transgender Publishing (www.transgenderpublishing.ca).
- Rupert's transjectory went from Trans Youth (19 in 1971) to Trans Elder (now 68 in 2020). Which Canadian Trans, Intersex, Gender Non-Binary, or Two-Spirit Elders do you know, and what were their key accomplishments?
- What can we do, in Canada, to foster more intergenerational community engagement among younger, middle aged, and older Trans, Intersex, Gender Non-Binary, and Two-Spirit people?





Syrus Marcus Ware

POC REPRESENTATION

Syrus Marcus Ware is a Vanier Scholar, a visual artist, community activist, researcher, youth-advocate and educator. For 12 years, he was the Coordinator of the Art Gallery of Ontario Youth Program. Syrus is currently a facilitator/designer for the Cultural Leaders Lab (Toronto Arts Council & The Banff Centre). He is the inaugural artist-in-residence for Daniels Spectrum (2016/2017). Syrus is also a core-team member of Black Lives Matter Toronto.

As a visual artist, Syrus works within the mediums of painting, installation and performance to challenge systemic oppression. Syrus' work explores the spaces between and around identities; acting as provocations to our understandings of gender, sexuality and race.

Syrus is a core-team member of Black Lives Matter-Toronto. For 14 years, Syrus has worked with Blackness Yes! to produce Blockorama (the black queer and trans stage at Pride), and other related events throughout the year. Syrus is also a founding member of the Prison Justice Action Committee of Toronto.



Syrus holds degrees in Art History, Visual Studies and a Masters in Sociology and Equity Studies, University of Toronto. Syrus is a PhD candidate in the Faculty of Environmental Studies at York University.

Keep learning:

- Check out Syrus' website: syrusmarcusware.com
- What does freedom feel like for you?
- If you could change three things about how society functions what would you change to make us all more free?
- What are you feeling hopeful for?





ADAM ZIVO

LOVE IS LOVE IS LOVE

Adam Zivo is the founder and director of the LoveisLoveisLove campaign. Through his campaign, Adam supports the LGBTQ+ community by using photography to build empathy and educate the public about LGBTQ+ issues. LoveisLoveisLove has produced several large-scale installations in major civic spaces in Ontario, including a takeover of Toronto City Hall. In 2019, Adam put together Toronto's "Big Gay Bus", a project where a public transit bus was turned into a mobile educational resource, when then taught non-LGBTQ+ audiences basic ideas about the queer community.

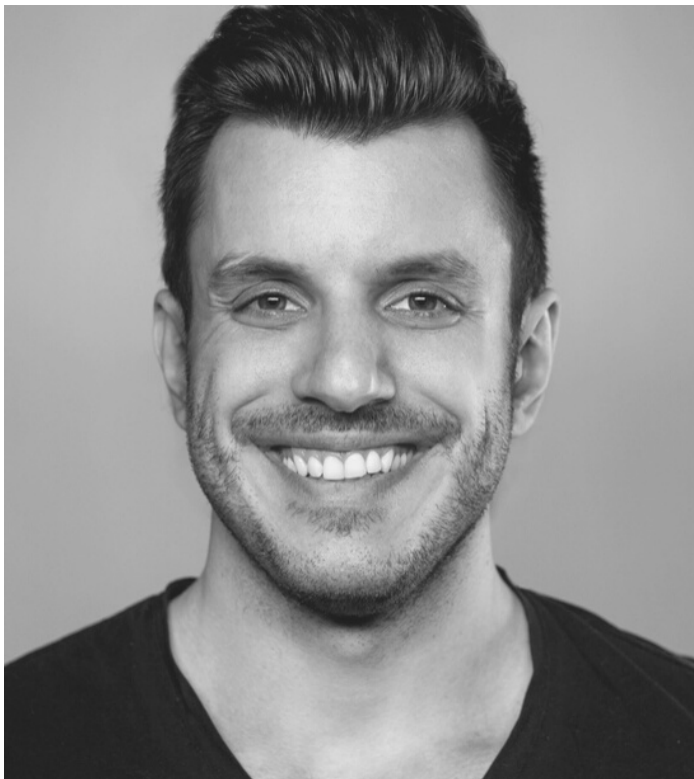
Outside of LoveisLoveisLove, Adam worked with the Canadian Armed Forces as the community liaison for their first-ever roundtable with LGBTQ+ community leaders.

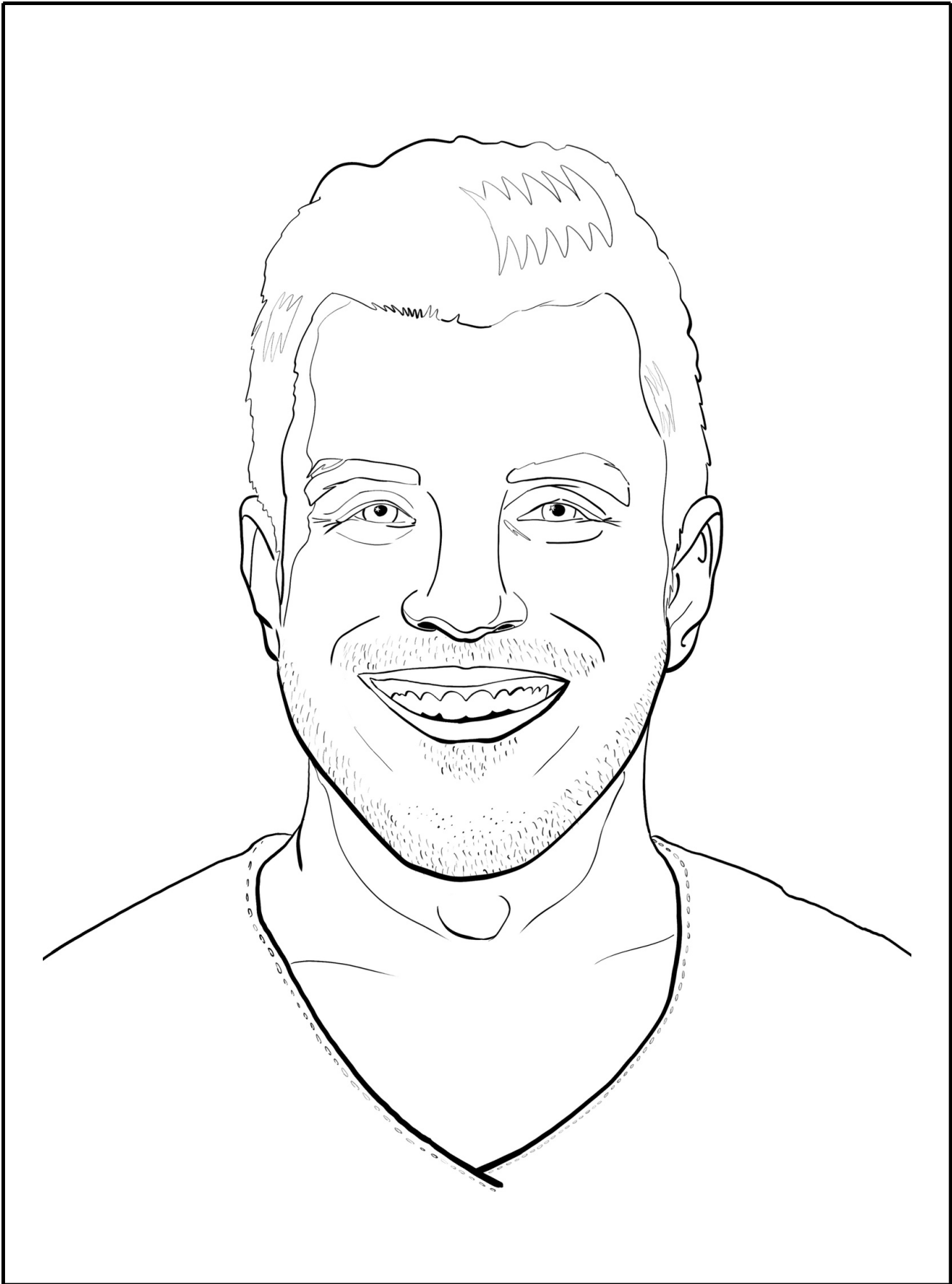
Adam's approach to activism is focussed on two ideas. The first is that you build support by listening to people who hold prejudices against you. Even if it's difficult, understanding them and their concerns helps you translate 2SLGBTQIA+ rights in a way that can start to make sense to them.

The second idea is that, though raising the ceiling of human rights is important, we also need to focus on lifting the floor. How do we engage the people who like us least? How do we prevent backsliding on the rights we've already won?

Keep learning:

- Visit LoveisLoveisLove.org
- Do you know someone who is acts homophobic or transphobic? How can you challenges their behaviour?
- Is activism perfect, no. What can do you do improve your communication? How can you create room for everyone?





Ryan Kerr

HIV ACTIVIST

Ryan Kerr is an artist, activist and general communications expert who's been a part of the HIV sector for almost a decade. He has written for both FAB and XTRA! Magazines as well as completed a self-published, illustrated memoir called *On Growin' Up*..a guide which has taken him across Canada, Europe and the US. Ryan has facilitated arts-based workshops for the Toronto Public Library, the TDSB, Peel and Ottawa-Carleton School boards, as well as York University and Western University as a keynote speaker on topics of Storytelling and Coming Out.

In 2016, Ryan co-organized the PulseTO Vigil in Nathan Philips Square. In 2017, he co-organized a rally in support of Rainbow Railroad's work to rescue Chechen refugees and helped bring together that organization with the Liberal Government who silently sponsored dozens of LGBTQ refugees that summer. Ryan is also the founder of an amateur drag pageant fundraiser called *Lady 5 in the Hole*, which has been building community and holding space for queer-identified people to explore their expression since 2017.

Keep learning:

- **Why do you think HIV Stigma continues to be a problem in 2SLGBTQIA+ community?**
- **What can you do to challenge HIV Stigma?**
- **Ryan is the author of 'On Growin' Up'. What do you think of his book?**





Joseph Beaton

CONSTABLE

Constable Joseph Beaton is an out, open and proud trans man. He has eleven years of policing experience with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. His real education began when posted to the First Nation Reserve, Eskasoni, Nova Scotia.

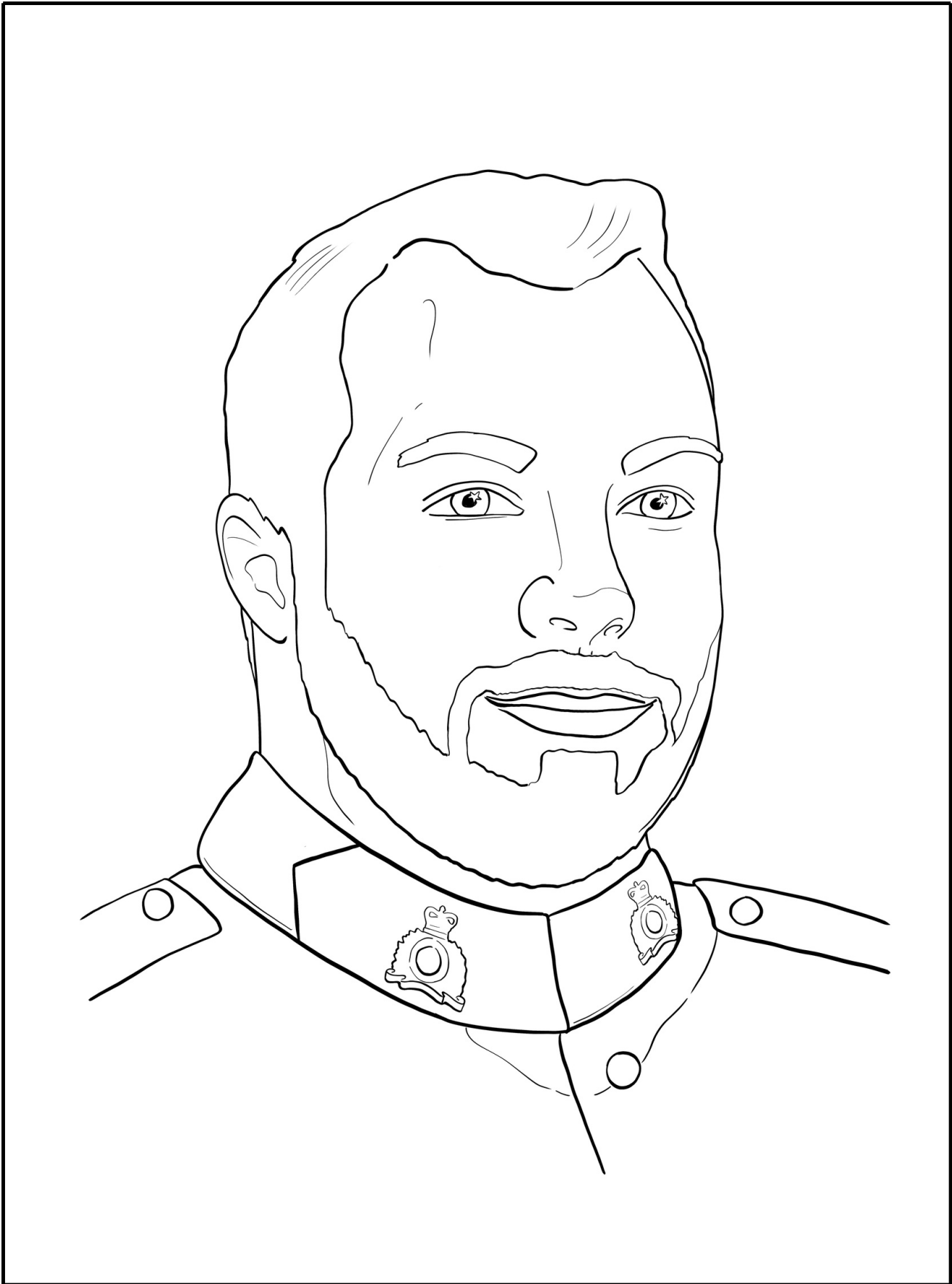
He feels privileged to have been part of the RCMP Musical Ride, where he participated in the performance for Queen Elizabeth's 90th birthday. He now works with Operational Policy and Compliance, at National Headquarters, Ottawa. His spare time is spent advocating for colleagues as a Peer to Peer Advisor, advocating for organizational change via the Interdepartmental Pride Network and, having difficult but meaningful conversations with people.



Keep learning:

- Joseph has spoken at a number of conferences including *Serving with Pride* (servingwithpride.ca). How do these initiatives help address the challenges between police and 2SLGBTQIA+ communities?
- How can we improve policing in our communities?





Martin Boyce

STONEWALL UPRISING

Martin was born in New York, NY. As a teenager in the 1960s, he came out and found his way to Christopher Street in Greenwich Village. He was involved in the post Mattachine Society gay rights movements that sought to push gay activism beyond its traditional approach and embrace the diversity in our community by challenging racism, sexism and transphobia in the community.

He was a regular of the Stonewall Inn, and on June 28, 1969, he was a participant in the Stonewall Riots (also known as the Stonewall Uprising). The Stonewall Uprising were a series of spontaneous, violent demonstrations by members of the gay (LGBT) community against a police raid that began in the early morning hours. They are widely considered to constitute the most important event leading to the gay liberation movement and the modern fight for LGBT rights in the United States.

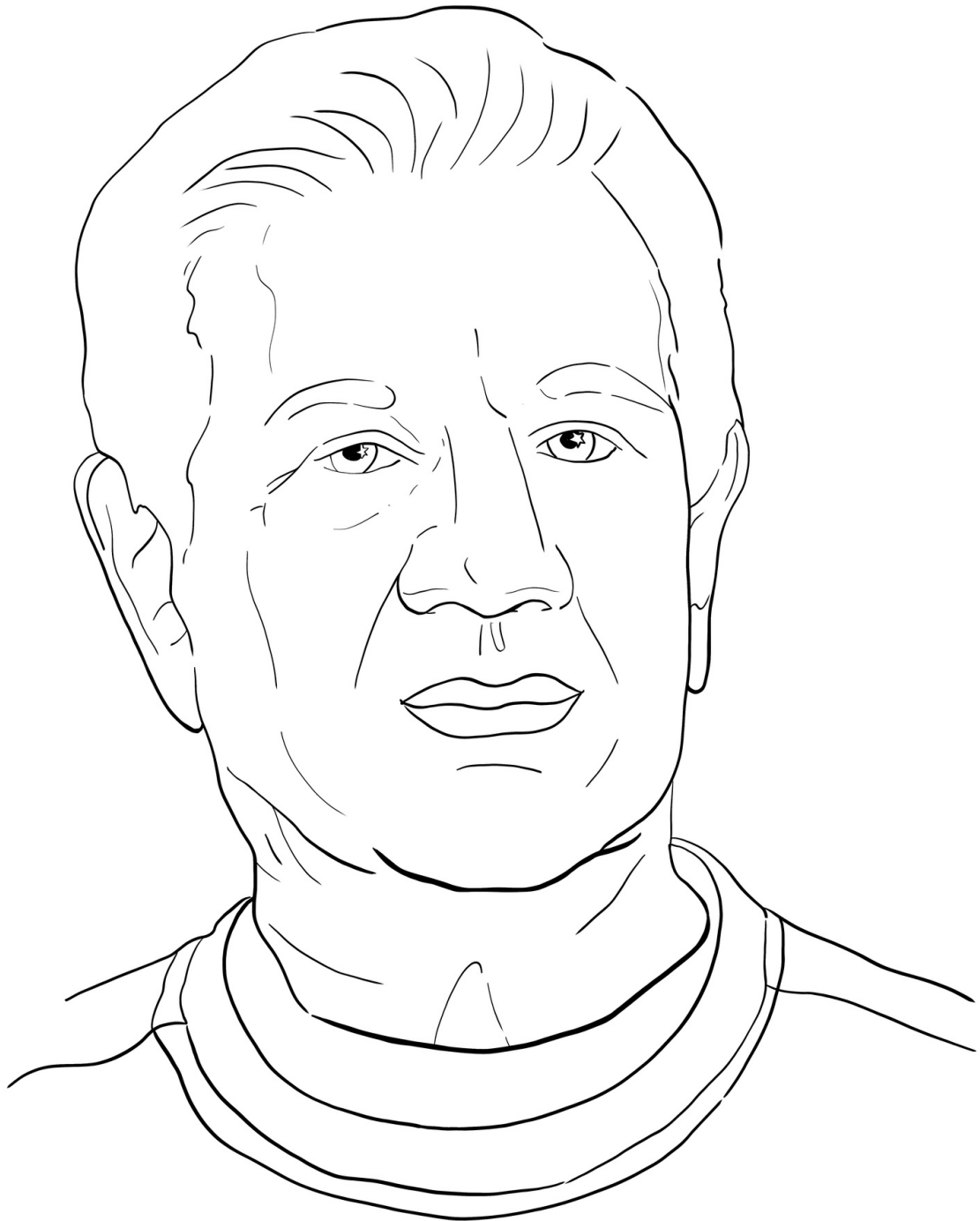


Following the Uprising, Martin continued to participate in activism, completed a degree at Hunter College and opened a restaurant in The East Village. He continues to share his stories and keep queer and trans history alive.

Keep learning:

- Martin has been interviewed in countless news articles. Google one and learn more about his story.
- Martin has been featured in the documentary the Stonewall Uprising. Watch the documentary and learn about stories of our past.
- What can we learn about our past to shape our future?





Anthony Rapp

ACTOR

Anthony Deane Rapp is an American actor and singer who originated the role of Mark Cohen in the Broadway production of *Rent*. Following his original performance of the role in 1996, Rapp reprised it in the film version of the show and then the show's United States Tour in 2009. He also performed the role of Charlie Brown in the 1999 Broadway revival of *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* and originated the role of Lucas in the musical *If/Then* in 2014. His screen roles include Lieutenant Commander Paul Stamets on the television series *Star Trek: Discovery*.

Rapp's contribution to *Rent* was described as historic. He brought a level of visibility and authenticity to the experiences of gay and bisexual men living through HIV in the 90s, and how discrimination, oppression, poverty and human challenges can bring folks together.



In 2016, Rapp was cast in *Star Trek: Discovery* as Lt. Commander Paul Stamets, the first openly gay character in the *Star Trek* television series. This groundbreaking role changed Sci-Fi forever by putting queer and trans experiences in living rooms across the world. This was Rapp's first television regular role; while he had watched some *Star Trek* as a child, he watched "curated lists" of episodes from the multiple series to prepare for the role.

Rapp is also a strong voice in the #MeToo movement. His actions have since sparked a conversation on Intimate Partner Violence in queer and trans communities.

Keep learning:

- Why is representation in the media important for queer and trans people?
- Check out one of Anthony's many interviews. What is his greatest contribution to the community?



