

G O G U I D E
M A G A Z I N E



Sound-Off

Do you feel welcome on your campus?





**YOURSELF.
GET TESTED.**

5 YEARS!

Sound Off UI!

Celebrate October!

CULTURE

ENTERTAINMENT



**Coralville PrideFest
@ Iowa River Landing**

Sunday, September 5, 2021

Facebook.com/CoralvillePride

Planning is now underway for the First-Annual Coralville PrideFest

The date has been set. The location has been identified.

Coralville, IA -The first annual Coralville PrideFest is scheduled for Sunday, September 5, 2021. The location is Iowa River Landing. IRL is readily accessible, and parking is plentiful. It's also located in the heart of the community's newest and ever-growing entertainment, dining, and shopping district.

The date of the event is also significant. Coralville PrideFest will take place while the University of Iowa students are on campus. The event is located in Coralville, but in reality, it's for the entire area, and all should feel very welcome.

PrideFest will be family-friendly during the day and will transition to high-energy entertainment in the evening. The event will include booth space, all-day entertainment, and enticing food & drink options.

For more information and sponsorship opportunities, please email Reach Out Marketing events at tim@romllc.us.



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Sound-Off!

Cover Story

Do You Feel Welcome on Campus?

October 2020
GoGuide Magazine

Iowa City, IA - According to various media reports, it's been decided to keep UI's cultural houses closed through the rest of the fall semester. All of the cultural houses located on campus exist to serve those communities that often find themselves underserved or underrepresented in the overall campus community.

The Pride Alliance Center serves the LGBTQ+ community on campus. The Center offers various programming and educational programs throughout the year. It also serves as a resource for those students who may be struggling and is looking for help. The Pride Alliance Center is, among many other things, a clearinghouse of all the available resources on campus. For the record, there are a lot of resources available to the UI community. However, finding these resources can be a challenge.

Another resource center for many in the community is Studio 13. Studio 13 is Iowa City's only full-time LGBTQ+ bar. It offers a lot more than just entertainment. In many ways, it is the Center of LGBTQ+ life for many UI students.

Presently, Studio 13 and all bars have been closed by order the Governor of Iowa. This step was taken as a way to slow the spread of COVID-19. The bars and clubs in the two counties representing the University of Iowa and Iowa State University have been closed the longest. October 4th represents the last day of closure in Johnson and Story Counties. Of course, another spike in local COVID-19 cases could include another shutdown.

Voice your opinion at [GoGuideMagazine.com](https://www.goguidemagazine.com)

With all these hurdles this semester caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, GoGuide is asking the question, "Do you feel welcome on your college campus?" This question is more profound than just feeling welcomed. Do you feel like you have a safe place to go if needed? Do you feel isolated or depressed? We want to hear from you. Visit [GoGuideMagazine.com](https://www.goguidemagazine.com) and share your college experiences with the LGBTQ+ communities across the state of Iowa.

GoGuide Magazine reached out to the Pride Alliance Center and the UI administration asking these same questions. Read their responses online at [GoGuideMagazine.com](https://www.goguidemagazine.com). GG

LET'S STOP HIV TOGETHER



Picture a world
without HIV stigma.

*We can all stop HIV stigma by speaking up
against stigmatizing words or actions.*

**WHEN WE SPEAK UP AGAINST HIV STIGMA,
WE CAN STOP HIV TOGETHER.**

StopHIVIowa.org


NLAAD
National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day
October 15th

**STOP
HIV
IOWA**

October Highlights

LGBT History Month

In 1994, a Missouri high school history teacher, Rodney Wilson, first introduced LGBT History Month. Wilson wanted to bring lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender history into the mainstream classroom.

LGBT History Month is celebrated in the U.S. each October to coincide with National Coming out day on October 11 and commemoration of the first and second March on Washington for LGBT rights.

The third March on Washington took place in April 1993, ending the October tradition. More on the 1993 March is available to read online at www.GoGuide.com.

National Coming Out Day

October 11 is National Coming Out Day! NCOD was started in 1988 by Robert Eichberg and Jean O'Leary. Both Eichberg and O'Leary did not want to respond "defensively to anti-LGBT action"; instead, they tried to "maintain a sense positivity and celebrate the action of coming out."

October 11 was chosen because it is the anniversary of the 1987 National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. In 1990 NCOD merged its efforts with the Human Rights Campaign.



National LATINX AIDS Awareness Day is October 15th

Coordinated by the Latino Commission on AIDSexternal icon, National Latinx AIDS Awareness Day (NLAAD) is observed each year on October 15 to increase awareness of the impact of HIV on the Hispanic/Latino population in the United States. The NLAAD campaign promotes HIV testing and prevention. It provides information on access to care for Hispanic/Latino communities across the nation.

October Reminds Me....

A new column by Greg R. Baird for GoGuide Magazine
www.gregrbaird.com | www.greggersseasoning.com

October 2020 - Throughout the school year, I am very fortunate that I can lecture across the country on LGBTQ civil rights and equality. It is something I have done for 27 years now. When the pandemic hit our country in March, my lectures were decimated and I had to find a different way to share my message to the schools and communities. So this school year, I am virtually, sharing my story and educating the people I reach out to on our history, anti-hate, discovering our legacy, inclusion and most of all, peace.

October is my busiest month as it celebrates LGBTQ History Month. It is also the observance of Coming Out Day, (October 11). The hate crime and murder of Matthew Shepard (October 12, 1998) and Spirit Day. (October 19) This is for people to wear purple and stand with LGBTQ youth and speak out against LGBTQ bullying. It is also time to look back at our LGBTQ history and those who have been written off the pages of our history books to celebrate and speak of them. It's a time to educate and talk about our history because if we are not doing it, no one is going to do it for us. Our LGBTQ history is not pretty. Actually some of it is downright horrible. From people not living their truth, to firebombing of bars, beatings, lynching's and fear. Many of our LGBTQ brothers and sisters were hiding so far back in the closet with no extended hand to reach in and pull them out to say, "You are loved and accepted."

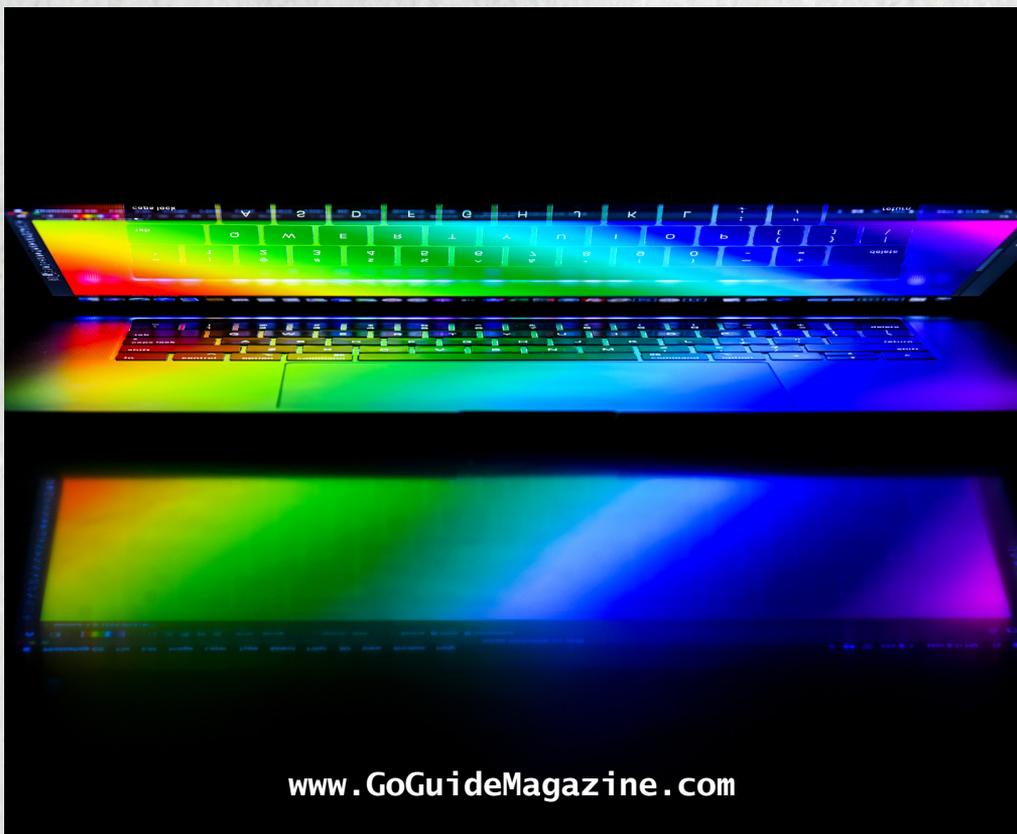
We must never, ever let our history repeat itself. Education is the key to celebrate our achievements, but we must share when things were not good and how we can be better humans so history will not repeat itself. If the last four years



have taught us anything, it showed us how to be empowered and rise up against hate, indifference and ignorance. Even though we are masked and social distancing, it gave us time to reconnect with others, and fight for what we feel will be a better world. I know it's challenging when some of our country doesn't feel that. As our LGBTQ history has shown us, we can be better and have gone through hell to share that with ourselves and the world.

October is a beautiful month. It shows us change and reflection just as our history does. May we never allow someone who is transgendered to live in fear and be murdered in our community. Or another person to be beaten and left on a fence to die or someone LGBTQ not to live their truth and be loved.

Share your stories and who you are. This is the real change. This is not only your history, but one that will shape your community and have a ripple effect for a better tomorrow. May LGBTQ month and the months ahead give you a renewed spirit and an understanding of where we have been and the road ahead. **GG**



B1G Football Is Back But No Fans In The Stands

Will Local Businesses Reap Any Windfall?

Iowa City, IA - It's not a big stretch of the imagination to understand that every home football game is like Christmas for local businesses. The hospitality sector depends on these home games to make ends meet.

However, it's not just the owners of these businesses hurting; it's all the employees who may live paycheck to paycheck that will be hit hardest.

A good season by the football team could help raise the local spirits and help us forget the year 2020. Go Hawks! **GG**



Silent Night

October 2020

The picture featured here looks at what would typically be the bustling intersection of Clinton and Washington streets downtown Iowa City.

However, the city, county, and state mandates regarding masks, bar closures, and social distancing requirements have had the effects of limiting large groups of people gathering downtown and potentially aiding the spread of COVID-19. Many of the restrictions will last through the end of the fall semester.

Various promotions are aiding the businesses downtown and assisting people that want to help the local businesses during these difficult times caused by the pandemic. Visit the Iowa City Downtown District at downtowniowacity.com for more information **GG**

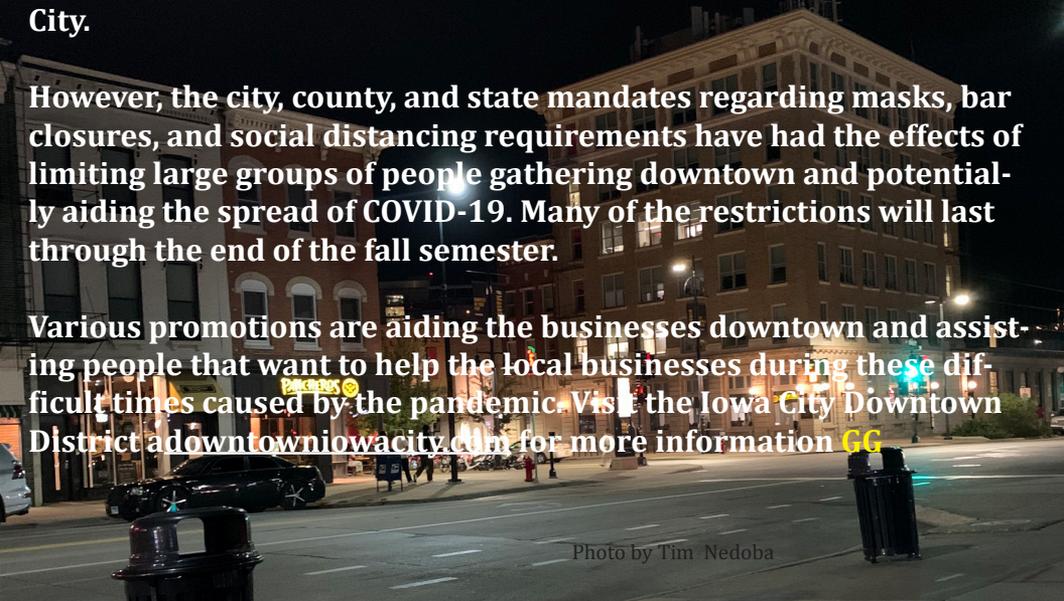


Photo by Tim Nedoba

PLEASE WEAR YOUR FACE MASK PROPERLY



Cover mouth and nose with mask and make sure there are no gaps between your face and the mask



Don't pull below the nose



Don't leave your chin exposed



Don't pull below chin



Don't touch the mask



Don't wear loose mask



Don't wear a dirty or wet mask

A reminder from GoGuide Magazine &
GoGuideMagazine.com



Our Guide to the 2020 General Election

Inside:

**Meet Theresa Greenfield
candidate for U.S. Senate**

**‘Vote
Like your
Life
Depends
on it!’**

Troy Price

Vice Chair

Iowa Democratic Party
Stonewall Caucus



AP Photo

Inside:

**Meet Ashley Hinson candi-
date for U.S. Congress
- Iowa’s 1st District -**

A note from the publisher...

Welcome to our second *Guide to the General Election*. It's the wrap-up to a year-long interview process with candidates for President, Senate, Congress, as well as local and state candidates and officials.

The section also includes features and articles from distinguished Iowan's offering their input on the upcoming election.

There is a lot to read. Continue visiting GoGuideMagazine.com throughout the election for updates and news of interest. Also, visit us on [Facebook at Facebook.com/GoGuideMagazine](https://www.facebook.com/GoGuideMagazine).

Your input is also welcome. Email info@GoGuideMagazine.com.



Our Guide to the General Election October 2020

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The road to equality for all is long. Theresa Greenfield will travel it with us in the U.S. Senate.

-  **PASS** the Equality Act.
-  **PROTECT** marriage equality.
-  **COMBAT** transgender violence.
-  **PROTECT** the Affordable Care Act.
-  **FIGHT** bullying in our schools.

**THERESA
GREENFIELD**
FOR IOWA



THERESA GREENFIELD. ALWAYS ON OUR SIDE.
Election Day is Tuesday, Nov. 3. Vote Early Oct. 5 – Nov. 2.

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Paid for by Theresa Greenfield for Iowa

‘Vote Like your Life Depends on it!’

Troy Price
Vice Chair
Iowa Democratic Party
Stonewall Caucus

October 2020

I was driving in my car in June 2015, listening to the radio when they broke in for a special report – the US Supreme Court had just released their decision in Obergefell v. Hodges stating that marriage equality was now the law of the land.



I pulled over on the side of the road and cried. While my husband and I had been married for nearly two years at this point, it still was overwhelming. This was something that we were told would never happen. But the LGBT community did not stop, we did not quit, and we kept fighting in cities, states, and across the country, until it became the law of the land.

I thought at that time that our community was finally making the progress that had so long been denied. But then came Donald Trump.

Four years ago, Trump and the GOP was swept into office up and down the ballot, many progressives and people in marginal communities had hope that it wouldn't be that bad. He said a lot of crazy things on the campaign trail, but once in office he would level out. Unfortunately, they were wrong.

We have watched in horror as policy after policy has been enacted rolling back the progress for our community. The Trump Administration has ended protections for Transgender students and reinstated a ban on Transgender individuals serving in our armed forces. They have proposed a new rule that would allow health care providers to discriminate against LGBTQ patients. Last week, Trump's labor department proposed a rule that would overturn an Obama-era executive order banning discrimination against LGBTQ individuals by federal contractors. And, this Administration even banned the Pride flag from flying outside embassies during Pride month.

Closer to home, the GOP controlled state house banned Medicaid funds to be used for medically necessary transition-related surgeries for Transgender individuals and has yet to take any action banning the barbaric practice of conversion therapy.

Who knows where we will be with four more years of GOP control in Washington or Des Moines. The good news is – we have a chance to end all of this in just two short months.

On November 3rd, we can elect politicians that will put us back on the path to progress here in Iowa and across the country. Joe Biden and Kamala Harris have long records of fighting for our community. US Senate Candidate Theresa Greenfield is a champion for our community. Democratic candidates for Congress and the Statehouse stand ready to pass legislation ending Republican restrictions on our freedom, and enacting policies that will move us forward once again.

So, make sure to fill out your absentee ballot request. When your ballot comes, immediately return it. Talk to your friends, neighbors, and loved ones as well about the importance of this election.

Make sure you do everything you can to get the vote out this year. Act like your life depends upon it, because for the lives and livelihoods of so many people - including the LGBTQ communit - it does!



May Her Memory Be a Revolution

October 2020

by Erica Barz

I found out about Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's death in the middle of a Rosh Hashanah seder with my fiancé. My fiancé' is Jewish, and she's graciously introduced me to many of her traditions and holidays, including this Jewish new year celebration.

Rosh Hashanah is supposed to be a joyful time of year, dedicated to celebrating the creation of the world and the beginning of the High Holidays. I'm heartsick for Justice Ginsburg's family that they lost her during this holiday. For them, the shadow of their loved one's death will forever be cast over this bright celebration.



Ruth Franklin, a Jewish author, pointed out on Twitter after Justice Ginsburg's death that someone who dies on Rosh Hashanah is considered a tzaddik, a person of great righteousness. Nothing could be truer about Justice Ginsburg, an incredible woman whose legacy of working for gender equality was unmatched.

After Justice Ginsburg's death, I saw a swell of panic rise on social media from the online LGBTQ community, in addition to the online progressive community in general. Wishing for Justice Ginsburg to stay alive until we no longer had an orange president had become such a central tenant of online progressivism that it was made into a meme dozens of times over. Every time I saw one of these posts, the way they disregarded her humanity concerned me, but I also intrinsically understood them as a coping mechanism. When a political system is so fragile that the death of one octogenarian woman opens the door to decades of judicial precedent opposed to the fundamental rights of multiple marginalized communities, making something to laugh at so you don't cry makes a lot of sense.

LGBTQ people in the United States have relied on the judicial system, and the Supreme Court most prominently, to uphold our rights and strike down discriminatory statutes. Just a few months ago, the Supreme Court held that Title VII protects our community from employment discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. The weakening of this institutional giant's defense is scary, but we can't let that paralyze us in the face of what may come.

A central component of Rosh Hashanah is reflecting on your actions over the past year, acknowledging the times you've done wrong (or times you've done nothing when you should have acted), and recommitting to be better this time around. Even those of us who aren't Jewish should take the time to evaluate our actions and dedicate ourselves to doing more for our community and pursuing justice. We need each other now more than ever, and it's certainly what Justice Ginsburg would have urged us to do. GG

This piece represents the viewpoint of the columnist, not any employer or group affiliation.

oneiowa



Workplace Culture Summit 2020

The virtual format of this annual event consists of four individual sessions. A diverse group of presenters will provide resources for employers and LGBTQ employees to cultivate safe and inclusive workplaces.

Session 1: LGBTQ 101 and Workplace Best Practices
Thursday, November 5th, 2-4 p.m.

Session 2: A 2020 Vision – It's Time to SEE Us
Thursday, November 12th, 2-4 p.m.

Session 3: COVID-19 Best Practices: A Panel Discussion
Thursday, December 3rd, 2-4 p.m.

Session 4: Building Diversity and Inclusion Initiatives with Intention
Thursday, December 10th, 2-4 p.m.

register at www.oneiowa.org



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The importance of voting as an LGBTQ+ person? No question what is at stake: Everything

October 2020

By Fausto Cardenas;
National LGBTQ Task Force's
Queering Democracy
Community Organizer

There are myriad op-eds and think pieces about why voting is so important this election cycle, no matter how far we've come and what we continue to be up against, but there not been enough acknowledgment of the privilege we have being able to move civil rights forward via the power of our vote.

Though not all rights or achievements for the LGBTQ+ community have been achieved through voting, the progress made but LGBTQ+ people and our allies in elected office across the country has helped propel us forward on local, state and national levels. What we must also realize is that we are fortunate in the US to have the power to have a voice in our vote, one that can influence the progress the LGBTQ+ equity via representation in state house, Federal office and local elected positions.

And as bleak as things seem right now, we are fortunate – but we must both appreciate what we have as we fight to maintain that power.

Unfortunately, in many countries, individuals do not have the ability to either vote for representatives that are allies and have a chance to have a direct way to be heard in a legislative body. There are quite a few countries that do not have a democratic process that LGBTQ+ movements and people can influence. This is a reason why voting is so crucial for LGBTQ+ people in this country. And it is with great privilege that we hold both the power and responsibility to engage our government officials and propel our movement for equality by supporting elected officials that support us.

How many times have you heard someone from another country say how much they would love to live or move to a country that allows them to live authentically themselves and has a LGBTQ+ affirmative environment? If you haven't take a look at the climate for LGBTQ people in places like Brasil, Russia and Poland, to simply name a few. Our fight is a global one and if we are to live up to ideals as a nation we need to be thinking about our brothers, sisters and trans and non-binary siblings around the world this November 3.

It's also so important to be cautious about the particular opposition we are facing directed at our trans and non-binary sibling across this country. The attacks from anti-LGBTQ+ people and their rhetoric have been heavily focused on targeting and taking down trans and non-binary inclusive policies and voices. New attacks spring up focusing on misinformation around bathrooms, sports, and public facilities. Where there is failure to

realize trans and non-binary people are most at risk from attacks by cis people, these thoughts permeate and influence exclusion and hate. The larger LGBTQ+ community can do better, and the National LGBTQ Task Force is focused on ensuring all of us – including trans and non-binary folx – are both counted in the census and heading to the polls in November.

The bottom line is this: voting is power. There is good reason that there are so many forces working to suppress or block the vote for marginalized communities, including LGBTQ communities. By owning our power to vote we understand that we must continue to take that power to elected office, institutions and systems that continue to oppress us and challenge the very structures that would like nothing more than for LGBTQ people, women, people of color, the disabled, poor and other marginalized folx to remain powerless. We have seen what happens when we come together in the streets, on social media and in our communities. The adage that a “community united can never be defeated” has never been more true. It is crucial our community stick together.

We must fight for all identities in our diverse community, across sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, race, economic status, ability, and all other identities, especially those that we with privilege may not align with personally. Election day is Tuesday, November 3rd. Voting has already begun in some places.

Get out there and vote like you and the lives of those coming after us depend on it. Because they do. For more information go to www.queerthevote.org.

Fausto Cardenas (pronouns they/them/theirs) is the National LGBTQ Task Force’s Queering Democracy Community Organizer, working to coordinate the Task Force’s outreach programs to Queer The Census, Get Out The Vote in registering and empowering returning citizens, ensuring successful election cycles, and fighting for LGBTQ people of color across the board.

QUEER THE VOTE 2020



NATIONAL LGBTQ TASK FORCE
ACTION FUND



Meet the 2020 candidates

As Americans, there is nothing more important than exercising our right to vote. It's incumbent upon each of us to educate ourselves about each candidate. It takes more work than simply following a Facebook feed to fulfill this most sacred obligation. The guiding policy at GoGuide Magazine is to ensure that our vote is never taken for granted.

GoGuide Magazine reached out to candidates from both major party's. The focus were on the races for U.S. Senate and the congressional races in Iowa's first and second districts.

Two candidates stepped up to the plate. One is Democrat, and one is a Republican. The two are Theresa Greenfield, candidate for U.S. Senate, and Ashley Hinson, candidate for U.S. Congress from Iowa's first district. The interviews appear over the next few pages.

For the record, Biden's Iowa campaign and the Iowa Democratic Party all failed to respond to our inquiry. The Trump campaign was not contacted. Ongoing coverage is available at GoGuideMagazine.com. **GG**



IOWA

Meet Theresa Greenfield

Candidate for U.S. Senate

"LGBTQ+ EQUALITY - Theresa is proud to stand with her LGBTQ+ family and friends, and she will work toward equal rights for all Iowans.

She has spent much of her professional life working in small businesses, and has seen firsthand the strength that comes from a diverse and inclusive workplace.

In the Senate, Theresa would proudly support legislation like the Equality Act that would prohibit discrimination based on gender identity or sexual orientation."

- Theresa Greenfield for Senate website

GoGuide Magazine: Why did you choose to run for U.S. Senate?

Theresa Greenfield: As a businesswoman, mother of four and proud farm kid, I'm running to put Iowa first. Right now, Iowans need leaders in Washington who know what it's like to go through tough times and come out stronger.

I was widowed at the age of 24, with a 13-month-old and another on the way. My husband was a union electrical worker killed on the job, and it was Social Security, hard-earned union benefits, along with community and family, that helped my family get back on our feet.

When I see Mitch McConnell and Senator Ernst talking about privatizing Social Security and gutting Medicare, I think back to my two young boys when I was a single mom. I got in this race because if they want to attack those programs, they're gonna have to run through this scrappy farm girl first.



GGM: What issues are you finding to most important to Iowan's?

TG: Health care is the number-one issue I hear about on the campaign trail. Iowans are worried about higher costs, losing their coverage, keeping rural hospitals open, and lowering the cost of prescription drugs. In Washington, I'll fight to protect and expand access to affordable, quality health care, create more good-paying jobs, and take urgent climate action that creates opportunities throughout Iowa.

To get this done, we need to get money out of our politics. I've pledged to not accept a dime of corporate PAC money and I put out a plan to end political corruption that includes overturning Citizens United, banning dark money and corporate PACs, and enacting a lifetime ban on lobbying for all members of Congress.

GGM: Why should the LGBTQ+ community and allies support your candidacy?

TG: I will always stand with LGBTQ+ Iowans and work toward equal rights and opportunities for all. Every Iowan should feel accepted for who they are and have equal opportunities to earn a good living and follow their dreams, without fear of discrimination or hate. We've made lots of progress toward equality but there's still so much more work to do.

I'll fight to pass the Federal Equality Act, which would ban discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. Nobody should be denied housing or job opportunities for who they love. We need a federal ban on conversion therapy. I also support the Student Non-Discrimination Act to make sure public schools can't discriminate against LGBTQ students.

GGM: Obviously, a big part of a U.S. Senators' job is to participate in the confirmation of Federal judges and Supreme Court justices. If you're elected U.S. Senator, what qualities will you look for if a nomination comes before the Senate while you're serving your term?

TG: Iowans are independent thinkers and voters, and we can all agree we certainly don't need more politicians in Washington who ignore what we think. This is a lifetime appointment. Washington should absolutely wait to fill the former seat of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg until after the election - and the next U.S. Senate and President we elect are sworn in. We need to appoint Justices who are independent, experienced, and fair. No matter who is nominated, if I'm a U.S. Senator I'll be vetting them and asking them tough questions about health care, civil rights, equal rights,

workers' and the influence of money in politics.

GGM: If someone wants to learn more about you or get more involved how would they go about doing so?

TG: Please go to our website - www.GreenfieldForIowa.com - to learn more and sign up to volunteer!

THERESA GREENFIELD



FOR IOWA



Meet Ashley Hinson

Candidate for U.S. Congress; Iowa's 1st Congressional District

"The federal government needs to improve access to health-care, especially for families in rural areas, women and our mental health system. In the Iowa house, Ashley supported critical access to rural hospitals, fought for funding for local women's health centers and worked across the aisle to increase funding for our mental health system. Ashley will take these same fights to Washington."

- ashleyhinson.com/issues

GoGuide Magazine: Why did you choose to run for Congress representing Iowa's 1st district?

Ashley Hinson: I'm running for Congress for two very specific reasons, and their names are Max and Jax and they're our two boys. As a mom, my mission is to leave them a stronger community and a better country. One of my main goals is to always make sure taxpayers have a seat at the table. I'm truly worried about the direction the country is headed, and the bickering and dysfunction we see in Washington on a daily basis is an outrage. Now more than ever, we need new leaders in Washington who know how to solve problems, build consensus and get things done.



GGM: What issues are you finding to be most important to Iowans?

AH: Iowans are sick and tired of the bickering and partisanship happening in Washington DC. Congress has failed to come together and work in a productive bipartisan manner. I'll work with anyone from any party who wants to work with me to solve problems for Iowans. I hear time and time again from voters in our district that we need healthcare reform. Under the Affordable Care Act, premiums have nearly doubled, costing Iowa families thousands of dollars each year. It's clear that the ACA is not working for everybody and that significant changes are needed. However, we cannot replace Obamacare until we have a plan in place that will always protect those with pre-existing conditions. We need to offer more health insurance and benefit options so individuals have choices and don't have to rely on the ACA. What's most critical is that we bring both sides to the table to come up with a bipartisan solution to make health care better. I also hear

on the trail just how important it is to make the tax cuts passed by Republican's permanent. As a result of the derecho and the coronavirus, we need economic growth now more than ever. It is not the time to raise taxes on Iowans.

GGM: Why should the LGBTQ+ community and allies support your candidacy?

AH: I support the LGBTQ+ community, and I support everyone's rights as human beings. No person should be discriminated against, no person should be bullied because of who they are, and no person should be discriminated against in the workplace, for any reason. I hope the community will support my candidacy not just because I will defend your rights and listen to your concerns, but because I will do what's right for all Iowans. I'm passionate about many issues that members of the LGBTQ+ community care about: safe streets, good schools, and an economy where a high paying job is available. I will support pro-economic growth policies that make these things happen while pushing for a strong investment in infrastructure projects here in Iowa's First Congressional District. I will work to cut government waste and never forget that my boss when in Congress is all taxpayers in Iowa's First Congressional District.

GGM: As a Republican, do you find that some people automatically assume you're NOT an ally of the LGBTQ community?

AH: No, because I have never changed my message about LGBTQ+ rights no matter what group I am speaking with. I will always listen to my constituents. Consistency is important, and many politicians tell different communities different things. I will never do that. I will fight for the rights of all people because every single person, regardless of sexuality, race, gender or creed has the right to pursue the American dream.

GGM: If someone wants to learn more about you or get more involved how would they go about doing so?

AH: Check out my website at ashleyhinson.com, and follow along on the campaign trail on my social media sites: www.facebook.com/AshleyHinsonIowa and <https://twitter.com/hinsonashley>. It would be the honor of a lifetime to represent you in Congress, and I humbly ask for your vote.

Ashley
HINSON
★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ FOR CONGRESS

STATE OF IOWA OFFICIAL VOTER REGISTRATION FORM *Revised 10/2/2020*

In Iowa, you are not qualified to vote following a felony conviction until your right to vote is restored by the Governor. To learn more about voting after a felony conviction visit RestoreYourVote.iowa.gov.

Qualifications 1. Are you a citizen of the United States? Yes No
 2. Will you be 18 years of age on or before Election Day? Yes No

If you answered "No" to either of these questions, do not complete this form.

ID Number

Provide your Iowa driver's license, non-operator ID number, or the last 4 digits of your Social Security number if you have one.

IA driver's license #: _____
 IA non-operator ID #: _____
 Last 4 digits of Social Security number: XXX-XX-_____
 I do not have an IA driver's license, non-operator ID, or Social Security number.

Additional Information Date of Birth (month, day, year) ____/____/_____
 Sex Male Female
 Date of birth and sex are required. Phone and/or Email (optional)

Your Name Last _____
 First _____
 Middle _____ Suffix _____

Address Where You Live Street Address (include apt., lot, etc.) _____
 City _____ Zip _____ County _____
 If homeless or you do not have an established residence, describe where you reside: _____

Where You Receive Mail (if different) Address/P.O.Box _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Previous Voter Registration Information Your name was _____
 Your address was _____
 Your city and state were _____ Your zip was _____

Political Affiliation (check only one) Political Parties: Democratic Republican No Party
 Non-Party Political Organizations: Green Libertarian

WARNING

If you sign this form and you know the information is not true, you may be convicted of perjury and fined up to \$7,500 and/or jailed for up to 5 years.

Registrant Affidavit

I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that:

- I am the person named above.
- I am a citizen of the United States.
- I have never been convicted of a felony **OR** my right to vote has been restored by the Governor, including through Executive Order, after a felony conviction.
- I am at least 17 years old.
- I live at the address listed above.
- I am not currently judged by a court to be "incompetent to vote."
- I do not claim the right to vote anywhere else.

Signature _____ Date _____

If You Liked the 2016 GOP Platform, You'll Love This One, Too.

By Loren A Olson MD.
Father, psychiatrist,
and a gay man who
writes about all three.



At this year's Republican National Convention, the RNC took the unusual step of adopting the 2016 platform unchanged. American Family Radio's response was, "the truth is the 2016 platform is just fine the way it is. In fact, it is great the way it is. This is the platform that put Donald Trump in the White House."

In a 6-3 vote, the conservative U.S. Supreme Court voted to enact the most sweeping legal protections for LGBTQ Americans in decades. This expansion of the 1964 Civil Rights Act based on "sex" extends workplace protections to all LGBTQ Americans.

The Trump administration opposes interpreting the Civil Rights Act to encompass LGBTQ workers. An active wing of the GOP seeks to push back on legal protections for gay and transgender Americans. The Republican Party is running on a platform that opposes expanding workplace protections to LGBTQ Americans.

The GOP platform maintains its positions that include opposition to same-sex marriage and a nod to gay conversion therapy. The platform continues to oppose "the deviancy agenda" of trans people that the GOP claims will allow boys into girls' restrooms, require females to compete against biologic males, and force Catholic hospitals to mutilate individuals in so-called "gender transition" surgery."

On the other hand, the Democratic platform supports:

- the Supreme Court's decision to marry the person of your choice
- protection of reproductive rights
- universal health care
- climate leadership

- a \$15 per hour living wage
- a debt-free college experience.

Words matter, especially words concerning our identities. Their effects are social, psychological, and personal.

This year, Dictionary.com underwent a significant overhaul. Many of the changes had to do with the LGBTQ+ community, including discouraging using the word “homosexual” and replacing it with “gay.” They made the change to put people first and respect the relationship language has to social values.

Casual offenses often are not intentional and can more easily be forgiven, but sometimes they are weaponized. “Homosexual” and “homosexuality” are now associated with pathology, mental illness, and criminality, implying that being gay is sick, diseased, or wrong.

Democrats prefer “gay” and “lesbian” over “homosexual.” Republicans also prefer “gay” over “homosexual” and rarely use “lesbian,” but Republicans use the word “homosexual” more than Democrats do. In Congress, anti-gay politicians like Steve King have weaponized “homosexual” most frequently.

When those of us who are gay hear “homosexual,” we hear opposition to our struggle for equal treatment under the law and promotion of homophobic conspiracy theories about immoral and corrupt “homosexual agendas.”

The Trump campaign released a list of potential Supreme Court nominees that LGBTQ advocacy groups identified as alarming and terrifying for LGBTQ rights. The Republican platform is the Trump platform.

The 2016 Republican platform--and now the 2020 platform--states “the foundation of civil society, and the cornerstone of the family is natural marriage, the union of one man and one woman.” They believed it then; they believe it now.

Since the 1970s, gay Americans have routinely given the GOP as much as 25% of their vote in presidential elections. We’ve done so even as religious conservatives dominate the Republican Party and actively opposed LGBTQ+’s fundamental rights.

ENTERTAINMENT

Gay Alt-Rocker Kristen Ford Stays Busy with No Plan



Kristen Ford is a singer-songwriter, looper and multi-instrumentalist based in Nashville, Tennessee. While working at Hefty Records, a co-worker suggested she perform 100 shows a year to take her craft to the next level. Since 2008 Ford has toured relentlessly across America and Europe, her sound evolving from beatboxing solo acoustic to a one-woman looping band. She has crafted pop hooks for electro-hop duo The Blu Janes and electrifying lead of indie rock outfit Kristen Ford & The Assembly. Her latest album *No Plans* was recorded in Music City and led by an all-female production and engineering team.

What was your inspiration for *No Plans*?

I wanted to create an album that was sparse, a hard look at the emotions I was processing going through the lockdown of COVID-19 and having my way of life (touring constantly) for the last 10 years suddenly pulled like a rug



out from under me. I reached out to a friend Piper Payne who is a member of the recording academy and a mastering engineer I had met in February - just a month before all hell broke loose. Piper connected me with Rachael Moore and the rest just really fell into place beautifully.

What song on the EP means the most to you and why?

“Stick Shift Corolla” is my favorite, it was so powerful to sing and cathartic to have this rocking band behind me finally telling off my demons, taking control of my own story.

As an independent artist, how has COVID-19 shaped you as a musician as well as the business behind your music?

It's been wild to actually qualify for unemployment as a self-employed person, and for the first time, I feel like the government has actually been somewhat supportive of my path as a musician. Business-wise much has changed, I have shifted from touring, merchandise booths and using local venues to connect with fans to doing live streams, Instagram collaborations and takeovers. I've been thinking about doing a lot more recording and thinking about having my music available to be streamed or in films rather than primarily a live experience. Lots more time on the computer.

How have you been staying in contact with your fans during this time?

The internet is amazing! I really appreciate those folks who stay in touch via my mailing list, there is a sign up online, and Patreon has been a great way to stay in touch. I post a new creation every month and that is reliable income for me, plus my patrons know they are making a meaningful difference in my life and allowing me to continue to create.

Describe your experience living in Nashville and being an LGBTQ musician in the home of country music:

I love how friendly people are in Tennessee, and Nashville is full of dreamers. I grew up around Northampton, Massachusetts, basically the most lesbian place on earth, so it is a shift living in a red state, but the queer community here is tight-knit and amazing, plus most serious musicians here don't care about your gender or orientation. We are all united with a deep love and respect of music. I also didn't grow up listening to country, so I've loved working with artists like Hannah Juanita, Sierra Ferrell and queer cowboy Paisley Fields. They have taught me lots of classics which are amazingly written and performed tunes. New country leaves a lot to be desired for me, but I enjoy the journey.

Have you been on any socially distant adventures lately?

Yes, I just went out west to Wyoming and Colorado, seen some old friends and played socially distant shows. It's weird, but not weirder than performing for your phone. I love long car trips. My happy place to just chill and allow the road to unfold.

You've been working as an actor as well. Tell me about that:

I did a few songs for the film "Valentine Crush". It's an indie horror flick about roller derby. I have done extra work for the show "Nashville" and some other big projects, but this was my first time with lines and an actual part. I'm totally hooked.

What are your future plans as a musician/actor?

I'm working on headshots and my reel this week! I am ready to audition for everything, get to know the people creating the movies, tv and web series and if they don't need my face on camera, perhaps I could provide music! I love writing for a theme. It helps channel this ADD where I love so many genres of music and instruments.

If there's one piece of advice you'd like to give other independent LGBTQ musicians, what would it be?

Be yourself. Trust the universe to connect you with likeminded people or the ability to change minds into a more tolerant place, just by you shining bright as you can. Plus, we need more gay songs! I wish one day a year we could turn on the radio and every single song would be singing about same sex relationships. The breeders can have the other 364 days!

[To listen to No Plans, visit www.kristenfordmusic.com](http://www.kristenfordmusic.com)



Kristen Ford

Kristen Ford is one of the most explosive names in Nashville's alternative rock music scene. The powerful singer/songwriter is scheduled to release her new EP titled *No Plans* next month led off by the single "Crooked Youth". The song was written by Ford and was produced, engineered & mixed by Rachael Moore.

www.kristenfordmusic.com

