

ONE WEEK ONLY! ★ JULY 15-22 2023



A MILLION DREAMS

GAYLA mission:

Celebrating men loving men, inspiring individuals to be healthy, caring, spiritual & loving, and to share & nurture our gifts to the human experience.

FERRY BEACH, SACO MAINE
Saturday to Saturday • July 15-22 2023

Welcome to the Big Top!

This year at GAYLA, we are making your dreams come true. Our theme is “A Million Dreams,” and the inspiration comes from the movie “The Greatest Showman.” Now that we are post-COVID, we can express ourselves more freely and concentrate on ourselves and each other. This week will be packed full of inspirational Tracks and Workshops focused on honoring ourselves and our bodies, reviving our souls, awakening our senses, and making our dreams a reality.

DAYLA: GAYLA for the Day

On Sunday, we invite newcomers and old friends to experience GAYLA for a day. This year, we will

turn Rowland Courtyard into a circus midway. Come dressed as your favorite circus character or animal. Enjoy while other GAYLA brothers entertain you with their unique circus talents, play some games, and win some prizes. In the afternoon we will have a showing of the movie “The Greatest Showman.” We will also have a workshop introducing Body Electric to the brothers. There will be tons of food and snacks available throughout the day, and

we will have an outdoor cookout in the early evening. Around 8:00 p.m., we will open the Big Top (Rowland/GAYLA Theater) for an incredible show. DJ Lady D will bring some local drag talent to perform. It’s going to be HOT! We will close the evening out with music and dancing.

JOIN US FOR THE DAY! SUNDAY JULY 16 2023

DAYLA GAYLA IN A DAY!

AFTERNOON
FUN ON THE MIDWAY
MATINEE - THE GREATEST SHOWMAN
GAMES • POPCORN • COTTON CANDY
Fortune Teller
A TASTE OF THE BODY ELECTRIC WORKSHOP

EVENING
Cocktails & Summer BBQ

NIGHT TIME
Entertainment with **DJ LADY D**
LADONYA LOVELACE
AND **SHAUNNA RAI**

REGISTER WITH JEFF OR RICK WHEN YOU GET TO THE BEACH
\$75 FOR THE FULL DAY

FERRY BEACH, SACO MAINE
July 16 2023
WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GAYLABROTHERHOOD

On the Midway & GAYLA Theatre

Rapid HIV and STI Testing (Peabody Tent)

Ren Morrill

Ren Morrill of Portland's Frannie Peabody Center will offer 1-on-1 confidential HIV information, and testing will be available on the Midway in the Frannie Peabody tent from 2 – 5 PM



Movie: *The Greatest Showman* – Singalong version (GAYLA Theatre, Rowland), 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Sit back and enjoy the show that inspired this year's GAYLA. Watch and see how a million dreams can come true and enjoy the incredible music.

Special Sunday Workshop – 1:00-2:30 p.m.

A Taste of Body Electric (Rowland North)

Don Shine

This workshop will lead participants into a guided journey of conscious eroticism, self-love, deeper connections, and vulnerability that attendees can apply for the rest of their week at GAYLA. Offered through the Body Electric School (one of the most trusted names in embodiment education), we will establish a solid container of consent and boundaries, while exploring specific breath, touch, and movement practices for learning and exploration. This work is appropriate for all people who feel called to go deeper into a journey of personal growth.



Don Shine - Don is a healer, body worker and sacred intimacy coach. He facilitates one-on-one and group workshops designed to help people connect to the most authentic version of themselves through the healing power of Eros. Based in Cincinnati, OH, Don is a facilitator with the Body Electric School and has studied various modalities, including Wheel of Consent, Sacred Intimacy Training, Myers-Briggs and more. Learn more at <https://donshine.net>.

Sunday Evening Show – 7:30 p.m. – GAYLA Theatre

JOIN US AT THE BEACH  SUNDAY JULY 16 2023 



DJ LADY D

DAYLA Evening Activities



JOIN US AT 7:30 PM FOR SOME
NIGHT TIME ENTERTAINMENT
DRAG PERFORMANCES & DANCING

LADONYA
LOVELACE



DJ LADY D
LADONYA LOVELACE
SHAUNNA RAI



SHAUNNA RAI

AND MORE!!

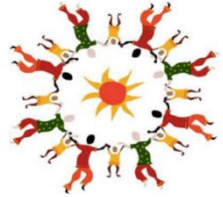


CONTACT RICK AT 216.694.0560
FOR MORE INFO OR TO REGISTER
FOR THE WHOLE DAY

FERRY BEACH, SACO MAINE
July 16 2023

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GAYLABROTHERHOOD

DAILY SUNRISE CIRCLE



Meets on the volleyball court at 7:00. a.m.

Ron Willett

We all enjoy (or need) a spiritual connection and a little stretch before breakfast.

This activity uses simple movements from Qigong and Paneurhythmy disciplines to awaken energy meridians of the body and the Earth.

No prior experience is needed. Full instructions are given on Sunday and Monday; on the following days, we start right in.



POLAR BEAR SWIM

Meets on the beach at 7:00. a.m.

For those so brave, meet at the end of the Beach Access Boardwalk to take a bracing dip in the waters of Saco Bay.

PICK UP CHOIR AND CHAPEL

Meets daily in the outdoor Chapel in The Grove

If you like to sing, meet at the Chapel in The Grove before the Chapel Service every morning. Our Musician of the Week will provide music and do a short rehearsal.

Chapel Services are meaningful morning gatherings with inspiring messages from our Ministers of the Week, music, and a great way to start your day. Always optional – always well worth it!



FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

Every evening on the beach at 7:00 p.m.

Join the Ministers of the Week, with those from GAYLA and ChoralFest to spend a few minutes in a circle, listening to the waves and feeling the sand. Share a few thoughts from the day, take some deep breaths, maybe sing a song, or listen to a short reading. And when you're done, don't forget to hug someone!



Tracks & Workshops

Morning Tracks

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10 AM-Noon

Sign Up Saturday after Opening Circle in the GAYLA Theatre

Awakening the Sense: A Sensual Yoga Practice for Mind and Body (Rose Pavilion)

Vern Sherrill

Experience a one-of-a-kind transformational journey designed for men with a series of yoga and mindfulness practices. This program offers a safe and mindful space to explore touch, recognizing that some men may feel uneasy or unsettled by it. Throughout the program, you will be guided through various yoga postures and partner exercises, allowing you to explore touch and connection within a group while respecting each other's boundaries and needs. Through this experience, you will learn to connect with your body, mind, and breath on a deeper profound level.



Monday will be indoors and an Intro to breath and movement. Getting to know how



everyone moves and any limitations. - Gentle Yoga

Tuesday: we'll go to the beach and start with breath and the sounds of nature and surroundings. No mats? You can rinse off in the water, followed by a floating meditation.

Thursday: Will be back inside and we'll be doing Partner yoga. Exploring sensual yoga with a partner.

Friday: Our final day will be a group yoga and we'll be exploring sensual yoga in a group setting.

Vern Sherril - Vern Sherrill is the owner/yoga instructor at InwardCompass Yoga in Cleveland, Ohio. He is a seasoned yoga teacher with over seven years of experience in practice. As an openly gay man, he brings a unique perspective and approach to his yoga practice, creating a welcoming and inclusive environment for all students. Vern believes sensuality is a natural part of the human experience, and yoga can be a powerful tool for cultivating a deeper connection to our bodies and desires. He is committed to creating an inclusive and non-judgmental environment where everyone can feel comfortable exploring their sensuality and connecting with others.

Shamanic Practices for Insight and Healing (Ziegler)



Jay Thomas – Come-and-go-Track

Contemporary shamanism is an effective spiritual practice for problem-solving, self-discovery, personal growth, and healing. Learn how to use the basic, Core Shamanism technique of the journey as a visionary method to induce a natural, altered state of consciousness via breathwork and sound by using drums and rattles. When used with intention, the journey is a bridge to the Spirit realms. Each day we'll create sacred space and then seek out connections to Nature and Spirit allies for insight.

This “come-and-go” track is also planned for four mornings (M, T, R, F), where the attendee is not required to participate in all four sessions. Each session has a related subject matter.

Monday: **Nature Spirit Connections**—connecting with the soil, water, clouds, trees.

Tuesday: **Restorative Sound Bath** via rhythmic healing with drums, rattles, bells.

Thursday: **Rock Divination**: we'll cultivate a relationship with the spirits of stones and rocks we respectfully gather from the land.

Friday: **Nature Spirit Connections**—connecting with the soil, water, clouds, trees.

Jay Thomas - Jay Thomas is a health coach, workshop leader, and shamanic practitioner. For over 30 years he has helped others by using ancient and modern techniques for problem-solving, self-discovery, personal growth and healing. Jay facilitates workshops and retreats throughout New England, including for the gay/queer communities at Easton Mountain, Boston Living Soulfully, Rowe Labor Day Retreat for Men Who Love Men, GAYLA, the Radical Faeries at Camp Destiny, and the Rainbow Warriors of the Mankind Project. At Easton Mountain, Jay has led several Introduction to Shamanism retreats and the Annual LGBTQ Men's Shamanic Retreats. Jay is on the board of the Northeast Chapter of the Society for Shamanic Practices. He is co-author with John Myerson, PHD of the upcoming book, *The Way of the Red Dragon: Inner Alchemy, Shamanic Power and the Journey Within*.

Imaginative Movement (GAYLA Theatre)

Ron McClelland – Come-and-go-Track

If you love to dance – but don't necessarily call yourself a dancer – this one's for you! This isn't about technique – it's about feeling good in body, mind and soul. And we choose music from all around the world. Walk out of class feeling renewed and reconnected. It's the breath of fresh air you've been searching for. Open to all levels of fitness, flexibility, and dance experience.



This year's theme got me excited about how "Shake Your Soul" could help open a door to "A Million Dreams," because every song is another opportunity to say, "this is me." See what it's like to be king or queen, ringmaster or trapeze artist, bearded lady or strong man. Come join our circus. We'll ignite joy and passion through transformative movement, dynamic music and dance. And there will be props to get you in the mood. All are welcome, Step Right Up!

Ron McClelland – Ron is a lifelong mover with a foot in the worlds of Tap, Country Western, Contra and Swing. He first walked into a "Shake Your Soul" class at Kripalu Center for Yoga and Health over a decade ago and was instantly mesmerized by the sense of freedom, joy and abandon that filled the space. Every kind of dance and dancer seemed woven together in common yet individual expression. Ron co-teaches Shake Your Soul with Marcia Hulley at Brookline Adult Community Education in Brookline MA, most Monday Evenings of the Fall, Winter, and Spring semesters.

Honoring Who We Are

(Gardiner Living Room)

Richard Barrett

We are all subject to compulsive behaviors that we know are against our better judgment. Some of those behaviors become addictions. We gain a clearer understanding through sharing our personal experiences when given an invitation to do so. I wish to meet with twelve of you who wish to gain insight in what promotes these compulsive & addictive behaviors.



Richard Barrett - During his years as a GAYLA brother, Richard has conducted engaging and therapeutic workshops. Richard has over 30 years of experience as a Psychiatric Nurse, with 15 specializing in alcohol and drug rehabilitation.

Our Erotic Selves

(Rowland North)

William McMeniman

Our bodies are sacred, holders of the Life Force that flows through everything.



Throughout the 4 days of this track we will welcome the spirit of Eros as playful, powerful, honoring and pleasurable. Through carefully designed exercises you will be invited to breathe, move, make sound, touch, gaze, and be seen and expand towards an ecstatic way of being.

Some of this will be solo, some with others. All stages of dress and undress (nudity) are welcome. Informed consent is the groundwork throughout our time together.

Did someone just invite me to cuddle?

Bring your playful, curious self to dive into realms of pleasure!

It is through our dreams that a million dreams can be brought to light!

William McMeniman – William is a gender fluid pleasure activist, body worker, and long time facilitator for the Body Electric School, a school for the healing arts. William is a deep lover of nature, hence an environmentalist, an artist, poet and dancer.

Recently they have been taking a deep dive into Celtic lore and kinship in an effort to heal the collective trauma of the diaspora and bring us more fully into joy, our birthright.

They are thrilled to be back in the collective arms of GAYLA!

Don't hesitate to invite me into a hug!



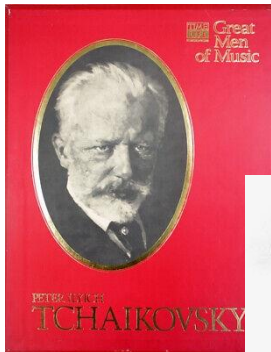
Queering the Pitch: A Menagerie of Gay Composers (Cross Basement)

Joe Law

The track will sample the music of men-loving male composers over several centuries. It will be organized into six categories, with at least one composer from each represented each day. A typical day features music by a composer associated with musical theater (e.g., Stephen Sondheim), one whose music is heard regularly at orchestra concerts (e.g., P.Tchaikovsky), one from the eighteenth century or earlier (e.g., Nicolas Gombert), a living composer (e.g., John Corigliano), an “American Maverick” (e.g., John Cage), and a composer whose queer orientation has been suggested (and challenged) in recent years (e.g., Franz Schubert).



Joe Law - Joe has been attending GAYLA since 2012 and has presented workshop tracks at earlier conferences, including sessions on opera, Oscar Wilde, and Larry Kramer. Until his retirement in 2014, he was a member of the administration at Wright State University (Dayton, OH) and Professor of English there.



Afternoon Workshops A

Monday (2:00 to 3:30 pm)

Gay Men's Health and Why It Matters (Or Does It?) - (GAYLA Theatre)

Ren Morrill

Gay and bisexual men are the bedrock of the LGBT movement from Stonewall to AIDS to Marriage Equality, but there are still significant health disparities unique to gay and bi men. Since marriage equality passed, there is a prevailing attitude that gay men "have it all" and that our issues should take a back seat. Yet the issues that plagued us prior to marriage equality continue to do so today. Why isn't the rest of the LGBT community talking about it, or better yet why aren't gay and bi-sexual men talking about it? This session will explore the prevalence of mental health, substance abuse (methamphetamine), bias crime, loneliness, aging, and sexually transmitted diseases (including HIV) among gay and bi men, and then we'll discuss ways that we can begin to address them.



Ren Morrill – Ren works as the Prevention Program Manager for Frannie Peabody Center, a comprehensive HIV/AIDS service organization based in Portland, Maine. Ren firmly believes it is good to be gay, that faggots are fantastic, and that cocks are delicious! This passion informs his work in HIV prevention and gay men's sexual health. In his spare time, Ren enjoys writing science fiction, sewing, and fussing over his bonsai trees. Ren can be reached at Prevention@peabodycenter.org or 207-749-6818.

**F R A N N I E
P E A B O D Y
C E N T E R**
comprehensive HIV & AIDS services

Why Porn, Erotica is Important in our Culture - (Ziegler)

Julio Aponte

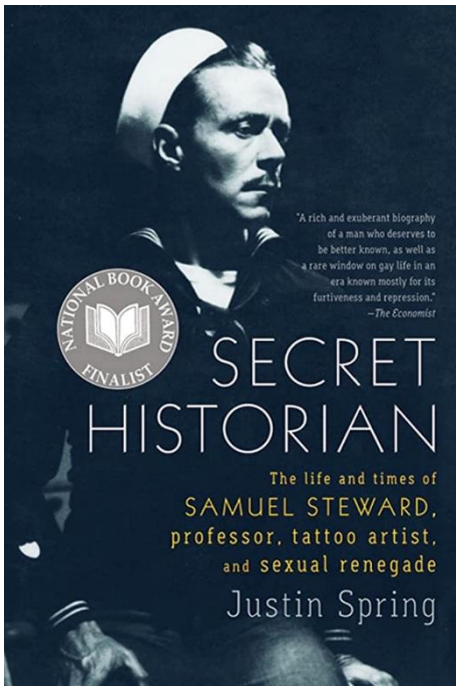
The history of erotic writing, as detailed in the book “Secret Historian” is important as part of Gay Liberation.

Take pride in your sexuality.

It’s important to avoid shame in everything related to love and sex.

Heteronormative ideas are for heterosexuals; try to avoid the tyranny of social expectations in order to be authentic.

Carlos Julio Aponte - Julio is a Physician with certifications in Internal Medicine, Rheumatology, and Geriatric Medicine. He was born in Colombia, completed Medical School at the National University of Colombia, and did his Postgraduate training in Cleveland. He had a private practice in the west side of Cleveland, which he closed in 2013, and is now teaching his three specialties in several countries. He is also a competitive swimmer and enjoys cooking.



Afternoon Workshops B

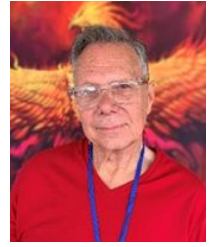
Monday (3:30 to 5:00 pm)

Scavenger Art in Nature (Creative Cabin/Art Room)

Tom Guzio

This is a demonstration and "hands on" workshop where you will arrange botanical clippings, gathered from the Ferry Beach property, in vases provided. They will be displayed afterwards on the dining hall tables for all to admire. No experience needed, just a want to create. There is no pressure - this is a fun experience. Limited to 12 in the Creative Cabin.

Tom Guzio – Tom is an artist, freelance floral designer/New Jersey native, BFA Syracuse University, former florist owner in NJ, Creative Soul.



What Are Your Million Dreams? (DeWolfe Dining Hall Porch)

Jeff Ingle and Others

So what dreams do you have for yourself? For today? For the week? For the rest of the summer? The year? Your life? We'll start with some time to reflect. And if you want, you can gather with a few others to share your dreams and hear from others. Rocking chairs for reflection and picnic tables for conversation are provided.

Join ChoralFest for Talent-No-Talent Opening Act (Dolphin Room in Quillen)

Molly Webster (*ChoralFest Music Director*)

ChoralFest has invited GAYLA brothers who love to sing to join them in rehearsing a couple of songs to sing at TNT. Molly will provide music and rehearse the combined choir. There will be a dress rehearsal on Thursday afternoon after the Volleyball Game, and another optional time to meet and practice – after Chapel on Wednesday morning (our Free Day).

Afternoon Workshops C

Tuesday (2:00 to 3:30 pm)

A Million Peak Experiences: Ecological Poetry of Passion Politics

(Ziegler)

Gerald Dillenbeck



During this workshop we will discuss gay male sexual politics as engaged through Taoist-influenced poetry. Tops will be cast as YangPoles and Bottoms as YinHoles. Our primal relationships in-between are of paramount peak experience focus. What political and economic experiences are possible as these relationships manifest compassion (and good humor), rather than competitive dispassion's and disempowering trauma? We may move from discussion to a short QiGong music therapy application for those who are able and willing to move with mojo flow.

I will bring a couple pieces to share from an extensive collection on a variety of social, sexual, political, economic, racial, and climate justice topics, available for your preview on poetrysoup.com (search: Gerald Dillenbeck). The biographical context for this body of work includes Green STEAM Teacher Certification, NonViolent Communication practice, graduate studies in sacred ecology and public/religious sector health care for trauma prevention through resilient peak experience optimization.

Gerald Dillenbeck, Gerald Dillenbeck, MDiv, MPA, lives in Norwich, CT, and is a member of the All-Souls UU Choir in New London. Married, separated, and now best friends with Jerome, we adopted and did our Queer best with



four children with diverse special needs. Gerald retired from grant writing and non-profit administration and has been writing primarily political poetry for the last fifteen years. Interests include

mental/spiritual health mapping between UU polycultural theology and Taoist Yang/Yin neurosystemic energy balance.



Make Your Dreams Come True! (DeWolfe Dining Hall Porch)

Jeff Ingle and Others

A continuation of the previous workshop, but here we focus on what we need to do

to make our dreams come true.

Afternoon Workshops D

Tuesday (3:30 to 5:00 pm)

The Future of GAYLA Leadership – (GAYLA Theatre) The GAYLA Elders (Ferry Godmothers)

GAYLA has been a successful men's retreat for over 45 years. In those years, our leadership consisted of the coordinators and then branched out to Elders, Treasurer and Techno-Queen. Part of the Elders charge is to look at the future of GAYLA. In this workshop we will explore committee structures that might aid spawning new leadership and future GAYLA growth.



Or Free Time – (Anywhere You Want)



Need some time to unwind? Want to chat with a new friend? Visit Rowland Room 1 with a new friend (check the doorknob)? Walk on the beach? Take a nap? Go for it!

Monday Game Night

GAYLART

During the pandemic, museums around the world invited people to recreate famous images with things around the house. GAYLART invites you and your Check-In-Circle to create no-talent art based on paintings and



photographs. Gayla will provide materials, inspiration and snacks. You are the artist and the art, a living masterpiece! The evening will conclude with a grand celebration.

**8 pm in the
GAYLA Theater**

Tuesday Night Remembrance Service

Tuesday evening is our Remembrance Service and Bonfire. This is a meaningful time when we honor our brothers who have gone before us, and others who have touched our lives. We move together as a group between the beach and the Grove, salute our dear ones, and then share wonderful stories of the lives we lost around a bonfire in the Grove's firepit, mixing tears and laughter with light and s'mores!





Free Day Wednesday



Use this day to catch up on reading, go to the beach, or go somewhere fun.

DAYTIME ACTIVITIES

Plan an excursion and invite people to join you. Find someone doing something that inspires you and add to their fun. Ideas are unlimited – Old Orchard Beach, Portland, Ogunquit, a museum, water park, walk the beach, or just nap.

For organized activities, sign up (or make a sign-up sheet) in the GAYLA Theatre.

EVENING EVENTS

ChoralFest is Invited to the Wednesday Evenings Events

Karaoke (GAYLA Theatre)

This is a great way to practice for TNT and be in front of an audience. Bring your voices and have a great time. See Rick to sign up early and often! We'll have karaoke before and after the Uke Jam.



Uke Jam (Cross Cottage Basement)



ChoralFest is inviting everyone to their second annual Ukulele Jam and Sing-Along! All instruments are welcome for an hour of practice and warmup, followed by a sing-along on the stage in the GAYLA Theater! So plan to bring your instruments and any cheat sheet you think might be helpful, or just bring your voice and join us for the sing-along portion!

Table Games (Zeigler)

Tables are set up in the Zeigler Room with various board games, cards, dominoes. Come and join everyone for a night of friendly competition.



Thursday Volleyball (DeWolfe Porch – 2pm)

Thursday afternoon features the Big Volleyball



game between the GAYLA + ChoralFest team and the Ferry Beach staff - a long tradition of friendly competition to own the "Sea Hag" trophy for the coming year. Whether you play, or cheer, or get decked out in your finest (?!) cheerleader outfit, it's a rousing time! Those wanting to find a cheerleader outfit are invited to the drag room in Rowland 15 minutes before the game starts.



Talent-No-Talent (Rowland – GAYLA Theatre)

The highlight of the week for many is the Talent - No Talent show in Rowland's GAYLA Theatre! Individuals and groups will have signed up during the week for acts that range from singing, dancing, readings, comedy, lip sync and more! This year, in addition to our always wonderful host and emcee, Tedly "Theodorable" Kerecz, we have a celebrity joining him - Christine O'Leary, award winning comedian (see <https://christineoleary.com/>)! You are sure to laugh and enjoy all evening.



We also hold a Silent Auction in Ziegler that benefits our Helping Hands program to defray costs for some attendees - bring your treasures to Ziegler on Thursday afternoon to sell for a good cause!

Check-in Circles

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 1–2 PM

Check-in Circles are small groups that help us create relationships and find meaning in our week, and they are a great way to connect and build friendships. Like all other activities at GAYLA, Check-in Circles are optional, but we encourage you to attend at least one day before deciding. Our Check-in Circles this year have been coordinated by Mark Koenig and David Allen – huge thanks!

Check-in Circle	Meeting Location	Leader
Fabulous Feathers	Ziegler Room (Rowland)	David Allen
Sexy Sultans	Screen House (behind Underwood)	Perry Carrison
Lavish Lions	Rowland Front Porch	Brian Dustin
Bearded Ladies	Cross Cottage Ground Floor	Tedly Kerecz
Dancing Bears	Kelly Cabin Living Room	Malcolm Kroh
Snake Charmers	Ron’s campsite (right outside Rose Pavilion) or Rose Pavilion depending on the weather	Ron King
Rainbow Ringmasters	Claflin Porch	Kip Plaisted
Captivating Contortionists	Rowland Back Porch	Jose Morales
Joyous Jugglers	Gardiner Porch	Bill Mitchell
Sword Swallowers	Gardiner Living Room	Adam Patterson



Check In **CIRCUS** Circles



Ministers of the Week

Rev. David Adams is a Grammy Award-winning tenor that has thrilled audiences in many of our nation's finest venues. A pragmatic optimist, he enjoys meeting real-world challenges head-on. Whether singing or speaking, David's mission is to create a heartfelt connection with the listener. His pastoral work is grounded in this personal Truth, "*The lasting way to rise above any circumstance is to move through it with a sense of wonder.*" His no-nonsense yet compassionate approach to everyday experiences offers practical inspiration. His passion lies in encouraging and supporting others on their individual journeys toward cultivating the extraordinary life of their dreams- *which is the birthright of each of us as divine expressions of God.* When not engaged in pastoral or musical opportunities, you'll find David either outside enjoying the wonders of nature, curled up with a good book, or writing away in one of his many well-worn journals.



Warren Teachout attended his first Unity service in the summer of 1995. It took his now-husband, David Adams, nearly a year of inviting and persuading before Warren finally went to that first service at Unity Temple on the Plaza in Kansas City, Missouri. By the end of the service, he knew he had found his spiritual home! Warren received guidance to be a prayer chaplain in 2012. His call to

ministry came during the "observing silence" part of the weekend training retreat. A little over a year later, he honored that call by enrolling at Unity Urban Ministerial School. He completed his training and was ordained in May 2017. He was co-minister with Rev. Sandra Campbell of the Wednesday Evening service to Renew, Inspire, Support, Evolve! (Known as WE - RISE!) at Unity Temple on the Plaza for three years before becoming Senior Co-Minister at Unity of Independence. Warren's vision is a world of peace and plenty for all, where love and its extensions, such as kindness, compassion, and forgiveness, are how all people should treat one another because they are living from Christ's Light. His mission is to provide spiritual principles and tools enabling people to transform their relationships with themselves, others, and God to an awareness of Oneness. Warren and his husband David, a soon-to-be UUMS graduate then intern, live in Kansas City, Missouri, with their cats, Lulu and Elizabeth. Warren loves knitting, reading, jogging, and working out in his spare time.

What's What & Who's Who?

GAYLA is created by the men who attend. Please consider offering your skill, passion and energy this week and throughout the year.

Town Meeting - GAYLA's official business is conducted at our annual Town Meeting, held on Friday at 2:30 PM. All are welcome to participate. *Have an agenda item? Submit it to any Coordinator by lunchtime on Friday.*

Coordinator Elections - Our Coordinators are elected at the Town Meeting. A brief description of the coordinator role is available at <https://www.ferrybeach.org/gayla.html>, under Conference Leadership.

If you are interested in nominating yourself or someone else, speak with a Coordinator and bring your nomination to the Town Meeting. If you are nominating someone else, be sure to speak with them before Town Meeting.

Nominees are encouraged to make a short speech during the Talent No Talent Show on Thursday night. If you would like this opportunity to share your vision, skills, and commitment with your brothers, talk with TNT host Tedly Kerecz by noon on Thursday. This is a return to an old tradition.

Council of Elders - Affectionately known as the Ferry God Mothers, the Council of Elders offers the wisdom of experience and love of GAYLA in support of the GAYLA Coordinators and our larger brotherhood. The Elders tend to the long-term growth and vision of GAYLA, freeing the coordinators to focus on organizing our fantastic conference. The Council has five members who are appointed by the elected Coordinators.

Treasurer - Our elected Coordinators appoint our Treasurer to a 3-year term. The Treasurer oversees the responsible administration of Helping Hands and our General budget, which includes the Activity Fees.

Frivs - Short for "Frivolity Committee," our Frivs perform service that is hardly frivolous. The elected Coordinators appoint them to serve the week of GAYLA, and they are the logistical magicians behind our week. Please ask them how you can help and be sure to thank them.

Techno Queen - Appointed by the elected Coordinators to a 3-year term. They are responsible for newsletters, minutes at the annual town meeting, Facebook page, and the GAYLA email account.

Many Hands Make Joyful Work - Countless volunteers join the Coordinators, Elders, Treasurer, and Frivs throughout the year and during the week. Thanks to everyone who gives so passionately!

Keep in Touch...



... this week and throughout the year!

Your Photos in DeWolfe Send prize-winning photos to photos@ferrybeach.org

Help Create Our Closing Slide Show Post pictures on Facebook or send gayla.at.ferry.beach@gmail.com

"Gayla At Ferry Beach" on Facebook Tag "Gayla at Ferry Beach" on photos and posts. Post pictures to the "GAYLA 45" shared Album. Our tradition is to let brothers tag themselves or ask before tagging.

Newsletters Receive occasional email newsletters throughout the year. You'll be automatically signed up.

GAYLA 45.1, 45.2, 45.3... Reunions, Potlucks, and More Help plan the GAYLA Winter Reunion or host a local mini reunion.

GO-GAYLA Greater Ohio GAYLA creates connections with GAYLA brothers & friends in Ohio and surrounding states. To join the email or Facebook group, contact Bob Walker.

Greater Boston GAYLA - The group started this past year, held a fabulous Winter Gathering in Feb 2023, and is hosting our Monday Night Game, GAYLART.

#GAYLA #DAYLA #GaylaAtFerryBeach #GayMensRetreat #GayCamp
#GoodGayFun

GAYLA Covenant

Rise with us, we are GAYLA.

A circle of love, of men loving men.

Together we make this circle sacred.

Between us we make these promises.

With you we make this covenant:

I accept you without condition.

I will be truthful.

When you speak, I will listen so I may understand.

I will care for you. Help me to care for myself.

When I have something to say, I will say it.

When I have tears or fears or laughter, I will share it.

I will hold and shape our community's vision.

If I betray our covenant, help me.

If I betray myself, accept me, and love me without condition.

Living our conscience is our goal.

Be with us, we are GAYLA.

A sacred circle; a circle of love, of men loving men.

Enough love to hold us all.

With you we make this covenant.



Flying Free

There is a place I call my own,
Where I can stand, by the sea,
And look beyond the things I've known,
And dream that I might be free.
Like the bird above the trees,
Gliding gently on the breeze.
I wish that all my life I'd be,
Without a care and flying free!

But life is not a distant sky,
Without a cloud, without rain.
And I can never hope that I
Can travel on without pain.
Time goes swiftly on its way.
All too soon we've lost today.
I cannot wait for skies of blue,
Or dream so long that life is through.

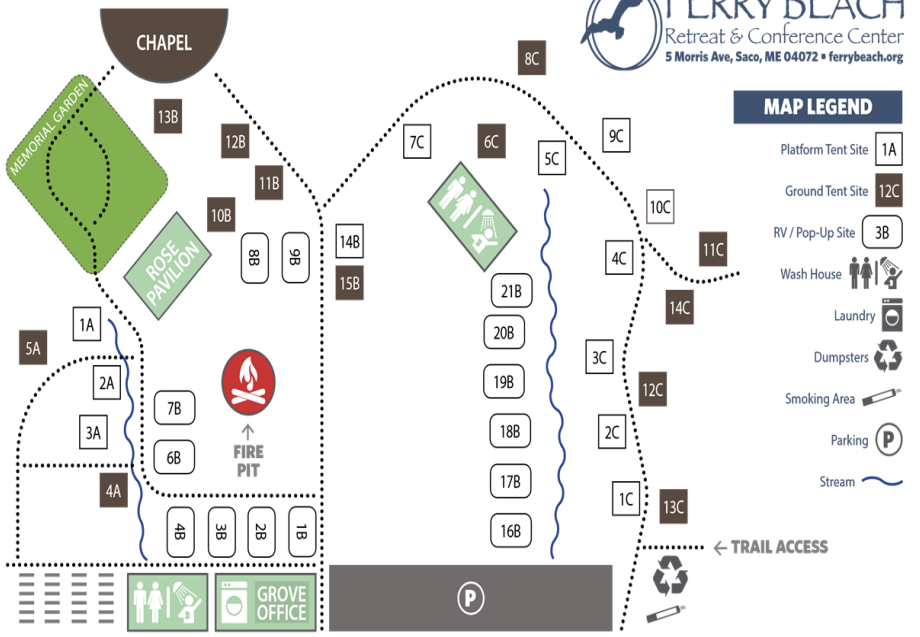
So life's a song that I must sing,
A gift of love I must share.
And when I see the joy it brings,
My spirits soar through the air.
Like the bird up in the sky,
Life has taught me how to fly.
For now I know what I can be,
And now my heart is flying free.





MAP LEGEND

- Platform Tent Site **1A**
- Ground Tent Site **12C**
- RV / Pop-Up Site **3B**
- Wash House
- Laundry
- Dumpsters
- Smoking Area
- Parking **P**
- Stream



SEASIDE AVE - ROUTE 9



STOP AT THE DUNE GRASS

GAYLA 45 AT-A-GLANCE

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
ROWLAND DAILY CLEANING: 9:30am 1 st floor 10am & 6pm 2 nd floor	7:00am - Sunrise Circle (Volleyball Court) -- Polar Bear Club (Beach)							
	7:30-8:30am - Breakfast (DeWolfe Dining Hall)						7:30-9:00am Forewell Breakfast - Hugs - & Evaluations	
	8:15am - Pick-up Choir (Grove)							
	9:30-10:30am Sunday Chapel Chapel (Grove)		8:45-9:30am - Chapel (Grove) – or GAYLA Theatre if rainy/wet					
11:00am Prep for DAYLA & Signups Cont. GAYLA Theatre		10:00 am Tracks		FREE DAY	10:00 am Tracks		10:00am Room Check Out <i>Stay for lunch and enjoy the beach!</i>	
12:00 - 1:00pm – Lunch (DeWolfe Dining Hall)								
2:30pm Registration & Reception (Quillen Porch)		DAYLA	1:00pm Check-In Circles – (Not on Wednesday)				2:30pm GAYLA	
Welcome Newcomers & Campus Tours 3:00pm & 5:00pm		1:00-3:00pm Midway/Carnival (Inside and Outside Rowland)	2-5pm - Open Art (Creative Cabin)				2:00pm Group Photo (DeWolfe Porch) followed by GAYLA/ChoralFest vs Ferry Beach Volleyball Match (Volleyball Court)	
1:00 – 2:30pm Special Workshop Don Shine A Taste of Body Electric (Rowland North)		2:00-3:30pm Workshops A Ren Morrill Gay Men's Health & Why It Matters (GAYLA Theatre)	2:00-3:30pm Workshops C Gerald Dillenbeck A Million Peak Experiences (Ziegler)	FREE DAY	2:00pm TNT Rehearsal (GAYLA Theatre)	2:30pm TNT Rehearsal (GAYLA Theatre)	2:30pm GAYLA Town Hall Meeting & Elections (Chapel) — (in case of rain GAYLA Theatre)	
3:00-5:00pm Movie: The Greatest Showman – Singalong Version (GAYLA Theatre)		3:30-5:00pm Workshops B Tom Guzio Scavenger Art in Nature (Creative Cabin/Art Room) Jeff Ingie + What are Your Million Dreams? (DeWolfe Porch)	3:30-5:00pm Workshops D The Elders The Future of GAYLA Leadership (GAYLA Theatre)		3:30pm Choral Fest's TNT Rehearsal (GAYLA Theatre)	or Free Time	See you on Facebook, at the Reunion 45.5 & GAYLA 46 July 20 -27, 2024	
5:00pm - Social Hour (Gardiner Lawn) - or - Open 12 Step Meeting (Ziegler)								
6:00 - 7:00pm - Dinner (DeWolfe Dining Hall)								
7:00pm - Friendship Circle (Beach)								
7:15pm Ferry Beach Welcome (GAYLA Theatre)	7:30pm Night Time Entertainment DJ Lady D and Friends (GAYLA Theatre)	8:00pm Game Night GAYLART (GAYLA Theatre)	8:00pm Remembrance Service (Starting on the Beach, moving to the Chapel in the Grove) followed by Bonfire (Grove)	8:00pm Karaoke (GAYLA Theatre)	8:00pm Talent-No Talent Show (GAYLA Theatre)	8:00pm Closing Ceremony (GAYLA Theatre)	followed by Music & Dancing	
8:00pm Opening Ceremony (GAYLA Theatre)	Track & Workshop Signup	Uke Jam (Starts in Cross Cottage basement, then GAYLA Theatre at ~9pm)	Table Games (Ziegler)	Intermission GAYLA Silent Auction (Ziegler)	8:00pm Lavender Reels Gardiner Living Room			
8:00pm Lavender Reels Gardiner Living Room								
11pm-7am Quiet Time								
Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	