

PRESS RELEASE



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FEDERAL JUDGE EXTENDS TRO AGAINST TENNESSEE'S ANTI-DRAG LAW

Memphis, TN, April 2023:

Today, the U.S. District Court for the Western District (TN) extended the temporary restraining order against the Tennessee anti-drag law through May 26.

This bigoted anti-drag law, approved by Tennessee Governor Bill Lee, was originally set to take effect on April 1 until a 14-day stay was issued before midnight on March 31 by a federal judge. A hearing will be held in May on the matter before the extension is set to expire.

This extension represents another win for all drag performers across the state of Tennessee and Friends of George's who is set to open its next theatrical production, *Drag Rocks*, on April 14th.

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

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

"We have been overwhelmed by the outpouring of support Friends of George's has received from allies standing with us all across the country," says Mark Campbell, president of the board of directors for Friends of George's. "We refuse to sit still while hateful rhetoric and oppressive laws threaten our freedom of expression."

[Temporary Restraining Order](#)

[Photo Archive of Past Productions + Friends of George's Origin](#)

friendsofgeorges.org

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

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