

# connections

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CENTRAL CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE

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JULY 2003

## **Mission Statement:**

The Central California Alliance is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting positive change, equal rights, social and networking opportunities for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people through programs of community service and philanthropy.

## **Purpose & Objectives:**

- To provide quality social events and educational activities for the lesbian/gay community and to promote the positive images and aspects of lesbian/gay culture throughout Central California.
- To provide a resourceful arena for professional and business networking within the lesbian/gay community.
- To provide and promote programs for community education, for all persons of Central California, which will project positive, healthy and inclusive images of lesbian and gay life.
- To provide a forum for social and political advocacy which shall assure full civil rights, access and equal opportunity.



Central California Alliance  
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Celebrating 10 Years of Pride & Service  
[www.ccafresno.org](http://www.ccafresno.org)

## CCA BEGINS 11th YEAR!



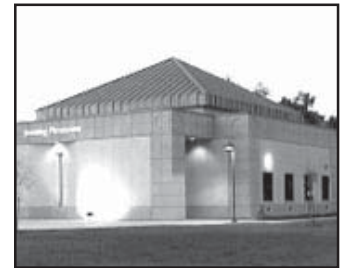
Robin Greiner and Ellis Vance, Grand Marshalls.



Community Link's Youth Group in June's Pride Parade.



PFLAG, Fresno Chapter. [All photos by Dan Waterhouse.]



## Tour of the Downing Planetarium

Thursday, August 28th

Operated by the Department of Physics within the College of Science and Mathematics at Fresno State, the Downing Planetarium opened three years ago.

It features a 74-seat Star Theater under a 30-foot hemispherical dome.

The Downing Planetarium, the only free-standing planetarium on any of the 23-campuses in the CSU system, has hosted 100,000-plus visitors since it opened.

CCA's "Night of Stars" at the Downing Planetarium is on Thursday, August 28th. Program starts at 7:00 PM. Tickets are \$10 for CCA Members and \$15 General. Call 265-7117 for details.

**About CCA:**

*Founded in 1993, the Central California Alliance [CCA] is a Fresno-based community-service organization supported through membership dues, as well as fundraising events. CCA is registered as a 501[c]4 non-profit organization with the IRS.*

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*Opinions expressed in "Connections" do not necessarily represent the views of CCA, its Board of Directors, nor its membership.*



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## CCA Still Accepting Board Nominations

The Central California Alliance is still accepting nominations to the Board of Directors. Currently, there are two positions available. The only requirement to serve is to be a member in good standing.

If you or someone you know are interested in serving on the Board, please send an e-mail to: [CCAexecutive@yahoo.com](mailto:CCAexecutive@yahoo.com).



*Photo left: John Lawrence, Attorney Mitchell Katine, and Tyron Garner celebrate during a Gay Pride Parade in Houston, Texas, June 28, 2003. [Photo: REUTERS/Carlos A. Martinez]*

## U.S. Supreme Court Strikes Down Texas' Sodomy Laws

The U.S. Supreme Court has delivered the most powerful gay rights opinion in history, overturning a Texas law that led to the arrest of two men for having consensual sex at home.

Written by Justice Anthony Kennedy, the 6-3 decision in *Lawrence v. Texas* strikes down sodomy laws throughout the country and overturns the infamous 1986 opinion in *Bowers v. Hardwick*. In *Bowers*, a 5-4 majority upheld Georgia's sodomy law on the basis of traditional morality.

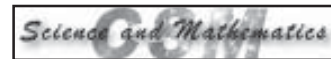
"*Bowers* was not correct when it was decided," wrote Kennedy, "and it is not correct today. It ought not to remain binding precedent. *Bowers v. Hardwick* should be, and is now, overruled."

In his strongly worded opinion, Kennedy took both sides into account. The decision is based on the privacy rights embedded in the 14th Amendment's order that no state "shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law."

But Kennedy makes clear that the determination to rule on privacy rather than equal protection was an effort to make the opinion wider rather than narrower.

The Lambda Legal Defense has said that high court ruling "starts an entirely new chapter in our fight for equality for lesbians and gay men."

For more information: [www.lambdalegal.org](http://www.lambdalegal.org).



## G/L Subjects Needed at Fresno State!

A psychological study is at California State University, Fresno that involves gay and lesbian issues need subject. Interviews need one-to-two hours to complete and \$10 compensation is given to all participants.

Subjects must be gay/lesbian, 18 years of age, with the ability to read and write English. All racial, ethnic, and cultural backgrounds are welcome. Also, confidentiality is maintained for all participants

For details and/or to participate, please contact the Edmondson Research Laboratory at Fresno State. Call 278-8073 and ask for Ryan to schedule a research appointment. When leaving a message, give a phone number and a good time to reach you.



**pride**

caring | unity | diversity | service  
 networking | equality | accessibility  
 education | opportunity | community  
 inclusive | resources | friendship

**membership**



**CCA Membership Application:**

All information provided remains confidential. CCA does not share its mailing, nor e-mail lists with anyone. Your privacy is respected.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday [Month and day only] \_\_\_\_\_  
 Partner [If household] \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday [Month and day only] \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail \_\_\_\_\_ Home Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Work Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Partner Employer \_\_\_\_\_ Partner Work Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**CCA Annual Membership Levels: \***

- |   |          |  |           |
|---|----------|--|-----------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student                    | \$15**   | <input type="checkbox"/> Friend                        | \$ 35***  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single Member              | \$35     | <input type="checkbox"/> Household Member              | \$ 50     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> President's Circle— Single | \$70**** | <input type="checkbox"/> President's Circle— Household | \$100**** |

\*Only a portion of membership fees are tax-deductible for income tax reporting purposes. Please consult a tax advisor.

\*\*Student memberships are for currently enrolled college and university students.

\*\*\*Friend category is for supportive individuals from throughout the community.

\*\*\*\*President Circle members receive an annual special reception with the current and past CCA Presidents.

**Please take a few moments to respond to these items:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> List me in CONNECTIONS and CCAFRESNO.ORG                              | <input type="checkbox"/> List my partner in CONNECTIONS and CCAFRESNO.ORG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> List my place of employment   | <input type="checkbox"/> List my partners' place of employment            |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send me [us] CCA-related e-mails                                      |   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send me [us] CCA-approved mailings from other community organizations |   |

**I am [we are] interested in these CCA activities:**

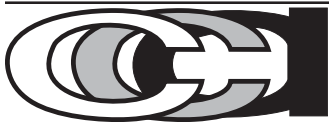
- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Single Events        | <input type="checkbox"/> Volunteering               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Political Activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Service Projects |

**I am [we are] interested in these CCA Committees:**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Political Group | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Advisory   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Telephone Tree  | <input type="checkbox"/> Board Member          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Events          | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership & Outreach |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising     | <input type="checkbox"/> Awards                |

**Please mail your check or money order made payable to "Central California Alliance":**

Attention: Memberships | Post Office Box 16422 | Fresno | California | 93755

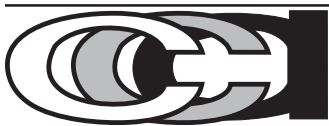


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FRESNO CA 93755

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



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