

LA Unscripted | June 13th, 2023

From hot spots to hidden gems with lots of local flavor in between This is your guide to pride The unscripted way from Hamburger Mary's Bar and grill on Santa Monica Boulevard celebrating a quality acceptance achievements and advocacy from now until Sunday Grab your friends family and flags to follow the rainbow We host inaugural Pride 2022 Hi everyone I am proud pride Ally Da De And while West Hollywood has been home to some of the biggest pride parties in the world This year the 1.8 miles city is throwing its own three day festival Who knew we did and now you do too The city of West Hollywood has been celebrating pride for decades but this year is very special because this year is our inaugural We hope pride and we're very excited about it I've lived in West Hollywood for over 30 years What I love about West Hollywood is that I am free to be me Uh We are a very unique city We are a creative city The city of West Hollywood was incorporated in 1984 The city is known to be a beacon for all walks of life We have our Russian speaking community which is on the east side of town and we're just a very artsy city with a lot of design businesses We have our Rainbow District which is where uh pride kind of happens The Rainbow District is located on Santa Monica Boulevard from La Siega to uh Robertson The city of West Hollywood is is kind of like the mouse that roared We um you know we are very involved with uh our legislative partners Um We were one of the first cities to have uh uh marriage equality a resolution for marriage equality We were one of the first cities to have uh a domestic partnership ordinance And uh you know we we want people to live uh the way they want to live to be free to be who they are on June 5th we will have our uh we hope pride parade We have um people from all over that come to uh come to participate as well as watch So there's lots of ways to engage and celebrate with the city I identify as an ally of the LGBT Q community I've attended pride in the in the past It is a bundle of fun It is super celebratory lots of color lots of visual enjoyment And it's just uh a place where everybody feels loved and accepted and there's a great sense of community pride Now Ellie unscripted revealing the secret sauce behind the burger joint that's been serving up fabulous food and fun since 1972 This is a glass Can you believe it You drink through it right here Hamburger Mary's is an amazing magical place for everyone to come and party Hi I'm Jules Long Beach and excited to welcome you to Hamburger Mary's West Hollywood with all the low down the insights intrigues and the secrets behind this iconic

location It started in the seventies in San Francisco by a magical group of hippies and queers as an open air bar grill for open minded people And so over the years we've expanded to a ton of franchises Some of our locations had drag in different forms and of course our legendary drag bingo that happens here has been going for 24 years at different spots before they found their home here at Mary's every Tuesday and Wednesday night You can join bingo boy Jeffrey Bowman Fabulous Diva as they do drag queen bingo And it's all for charity We have fabulous celebrity guests that come in and it's always for a great cause We have so many events throughout the week and of course our weekends are huge for our famous drag brunch We've been going for almost 20 years If you wanna come get a leg up on your cocktail game you have to come to Hamburger Mary's I think this is real fish Stop it right now Well for starters on our appetizer menu we have um a sampler platter which is very very popular to get started There's mac and cheese balls which are made in house fried pickles are fresh and made in house tenders fries and onion rings and that kind of gets the party started This is the Proud Mary Burger here We got the barbecue bacon This is what I there's more Dana there's oh my God says here's the black and blue black and blue and blue Amazing We are a restaurant and everyone is welcome So Hamburger Mary's West Hollywood has been in the heart of Weho for 20 years now We're so excited to be celebrating our anniversary and it's really like the home spot We love welcoming in organizations across the board to celebrate their pride with us How are we ever going to eat all this food Um I have an idea what Queens Hamburger Mary's welcomes everyone whether or not you're in Fabulous drag We have all the party waiting for you You know I can't imagine We hope without Mary or jewels and speaking of jewels Look at this incredible rainbow cake Speaking of rainbows all hold that Have you taken your photo on we rainbow painted crosswalk It is one of the most grand spots And so now our day Bertoli with some tips on how to strike a pose for pride I bet you can strike a pose while I eat this cake West Hollywood is one of the pioneers of the rainbow crosswalk trends across the country I think that they mean like representation and it sort of creates a space for gay LGBT Q people in like we ho I think it's really a symbol for the city In fact our city flag we have a rainbow version It it's important again because this is a place where the city has historically had protests and rallies and gathered when we had our rallies about marriage equality You know that's where we were You get to see pride joy fun life no distractions But what I love is that everyone gets along and anyone could be whatever they

want to be Well I'm a painter so I love color and everywhere I go if you can make something happen like a mural or colored sidewalks or anything that kind of enhances your experience I'm open to it and everyone feels safe there and they feel that they are with community And recently we updated the crosswalk to be the progress flag What do you love about We like most of the world is like set up for straight people I love that It's like really caters or sort of panders to to LGBT Q people Like there's not a lot of places in the world that do that And remember make sure to tag us in your best rainbow selfies especially while watching the parade on KTL A and this unscripted Pride Party is just starting to sparkle coming up a deeper look At diversity Plus we shop with the pre eminent pickle where the local queen picks up her fierce fashions A unscripted celebrates the first ever We hope pride from hamburger marries a You will be back before the glitter settles drink and be merry Welcome back to L A scripted from West Hollywood's open air bar and grill Hamburger Mary I'm Devin This is Dante behind me He is wearing clothes trust me And I know you're not hearing a single word I say But pride month is all about inclusion and hamburger Mary's prides itself on welcoming people of all ages Of course the drag show might have a little bit of adult humor but we are all ages parental guidance maybe if we advised occasionally but we welcome everyone and it is a great spot to kick off a fun pride experience for the whole family Really remember if you can't hit the streets you can still support the important cause dating back to the twenties West Hollywood has been known for their inclusivity and this year's pride celebrations definitely have something for everyone West Hollywood is so great because literally and figuratively we're the center of Los Angeles You look at uh you know our history with gay lesbian LGBT Q lifestyle et cetera This is really the heart of of the city We have over 300 restaurants nightclubs bars It's a fun place to hang out It's a natural place to have pride celebration every year and we're really looking forward to welcoming everybody this year The history of West Hollywood really started back in the in the twenties And I think it was a part of Los Angeles uh that where people could come here and kind of be whomever they wish to be even back then But we also had people moving here because they felt they could be themselves And I think that's really where the gay lifestyle started in West Hollywood So we're super happy to be hosting uh West Hollywood We hope pride again in June I think it's great this year because uh you know all the shackles of COVID seem to be behind us now So we're really looking forward to having AAA wonderful big full blown celebration June 2nd 3rd and 4th in West

Hollywood Uh great entertainment We've got a a wonderful selection of artists performing at West Hollywood City Park We've got our our Dike March We've got our our pride parade which happens on Sunday which is one of the most exciting things that we have in the city and something we're certainly really well known for But pride here really isn't just those three days It's really 40 days because we start pride celebration in West Hollywood on May 22nd which is Harvey Milk Day And we've got a great celebration in the city all the way through the end of June of arts and entertainment Really the history of how that is tied to the LGBT Q movement and lifestyle It's celebrated all uh month of June Really really from May 22nd to June 30th So big celebration going on Even people in southern California just looking for a getaway It's a great place to come We've got 21 hotels anywhere from you know reasonably priced priced rather three star properties all the way up to a really super luxurious new five star properties So you mentioned all these great West Hollywood hotels but we're in a really gray one right now Tell me about it Sure We're at the London West Hollywood which is one of our most iconic properties Absolutely beautiful all sweet property Their smallest room is 700 square feet They also have the largest suite in all of Los Angeles the Vivian Westwood suite on the top floor 11,000 square feet So it's a wonderful wonderful home if you will certainly a great place to stay One of our most popular hotels and it's in the heart of West Hollywood right in the middle of it Yeah right on right on Sunset Boulevard If you go to visit West Hollywood dot com and you book a two night stay or longer at any one of our 21 hotels you get an automatic \$100 credit added to your to your room A credit to your room which is great So you can enjoy drinks with your friends Maybe before you go out maybe enjoy a light meal etcetera on us which is great A wonderful reason to come and stay in West Hollywood and stay at one of our beautiful hotels West Hollywood is welcoming and accepting of everybody In fact we really celebrate diversity here So we like having people that are different from us and we really welcome them and they do feel welcome here coming up Local black queer voices speak out when L A unscripted from Hamburger Mary's is back from a powder room break I got to check this face because you just wait The perfection of pickle is next all weekend long West Hollywood is throwing its own inaugural pride celebration and L A unscripted Plus K five continues to celebrate and honor the community supporters and allies Now our Jasmine Simpkins goes off script with the local voices that lift others up five months Not only is it a chance for folks in the community to come together But I also think it's an

opportunity for people to say wow I'm actually still here I'm still thriving and I'm leaving a history for other people as well I think pride over the last few years has changed mainly because it's become commercialized It's become less of a protest and more of a just celebration of life And I think there's a utility in all of that but pride always will be always was a protest Pride actually started in around 1969 right around the time of the Stonewall riots since it started with people being angry about the injustice they were facing And so what we find is that in black pride or black pride experiences a lot of that is kind of rooted and who were the folks that came before us What did they do when it comes to the pride movement I feel like black folks we've always been there even though folks may not know the names of us who have been present more and more We're seeing the broader LGBT Q movement Recognize those names that we don't often hear about You know today you'll hear more about Sylvia Rivera or Marsha P Johnson or Miss Major But there's even so many more folks so many more names that we don't talk about A lot of the work that I do is led by folks like James Baldwin Audrey Lord I'm thinking about Polly Murray and all of the work that she did in her lived experience And I think in the same way that black culture at large drives culture at large black queer culture drives black culture And by association drives the broader culture right We're the reason you're talking about shade and tea and snacks that your way We are the ones who give you the vocabulary that you're now using All Willy nilly We're the ones behind your favorite celebrities looking the way that they do right But we don't always get that credit And that's something I'm interested in seeing more that credit being given to black queer community while we're celebrating One thing that we have to remember is that safety is relative for so many people especially folks in our community especially a lot of black trans women they don't have the safety or the security that many other individuals have Just because you know we could walk down the street and see a rainbow flag you know on the street doesn't mean that we are at that promised land that a lot of folks think we we we are at I always like to tell people that because I'm black fat and queer you know I'm everything in this world that people don't like And so when Pride Month comes around it's this notion of there's a history of people who fought to make my life a little bit easier And so now I'm here kind of doing the same thing And this weekend in honor of we hope pride go off script and connect with someone you may never have before And I am so excited to introduce you to my new bestie Pickle She dared me to get we hope pride ready And I said yes quicker than my eyelash glue could dry Ok

So this is your favorite place This is the spot This is where we're gonna find you The perfect outfit for pride Welcome to Zoe's Vintage I have a very mixed customer We have beautiful um transgender drag queens Upcoming superstars are upcoming actresses and just a variety or even just young people that just want to come and play dress up I've always been fascinated with vintage clothing since I was a little kid And I used to always tell my grandmother one day I was gonna have my own store Ok So when you're shopping for drag what do you look for Well I think it's really important to consider what kind of queen you want to be You know Dana drag is all about the spirit and self expression Are there female drag queens Because I only know male drag queens Yes there You know I like to say the only requirement to do drag is a desire to be fabulous drag Kings females typically But you know sometimes it really the important thing to remember is that gender is an exploration and a spectrum It's not binary drag is definitely a sense of freedom for me as a performer drag It gave me the courage to do a lot of things that are maybe I didn't feel that I was good enough I have always had support for my drag from my family I have actually I have a gay father I have a really supportive mother I grew up in a really supportive environment I came out when I was eight years old My mother actually when I said I'm going to start doing drag she said OK but make sure that it's not sexist I really carried that with me I really like think about when I do drag Like I try to remember that the female experience doesn't belong to me Not be And so as Pickle I primarily perform at private events I do a lot of weddings a lot of birthdays I've done a funeral I also run the LA chapter of a fantastic organization called drag Queen Story Hour So I do a lot of work with kids reading in libraries Ben and his baby can be whatever she dreams There are some people that do drag just as entertainment There are some people that do drag as a form of gender expression There are some people that find their own trans identity through exploring drag There's trans people who also do drag as entertainment OK Option number 11 right What do we think I love it It's a little like I'm going to the club right We can do more drag I mean it's rainbow it's fitted What is your inner drag spirit telling you Yes you told me I know every cell in my body is saying yes we love this We really love this and this is just step one We still have to get you into hair Makeup Vaseline All right Dana So now it's time to get your glitz and glam on So I brought my good friend Makeup guru She works at Kara Beauty Khloe darling And she's gonna touch you up into the drag spirit We're gonna add some color and definitely a lot of glitter Yo

glitter is my best friend So right now we're just you know adding more drama more depth which really that is what drag is drama are we ready for The big reveal Here it comes introducing double D Monroe Yes Welcome to the stage Thank you Welcome to drag I thought in honor of this momentous occasion I would give you an honorary sticker because you are officially a drag superstar in training I'm a baby drag queen baby drag queen Now don't take my gig girl I will sue you Happy first ever We hope pride Thank you all I love you so much I love being a little baby drag queen and happy