



David Burtka



James Hong



Margaret Cho



Bruce Davison



Amy Hill



Willam Belli

HONORARY MALE

Written by
Amy Mäki and Luis S. Canete



LIFE'S
NOT
FITTING
LIKE IT
USED TO



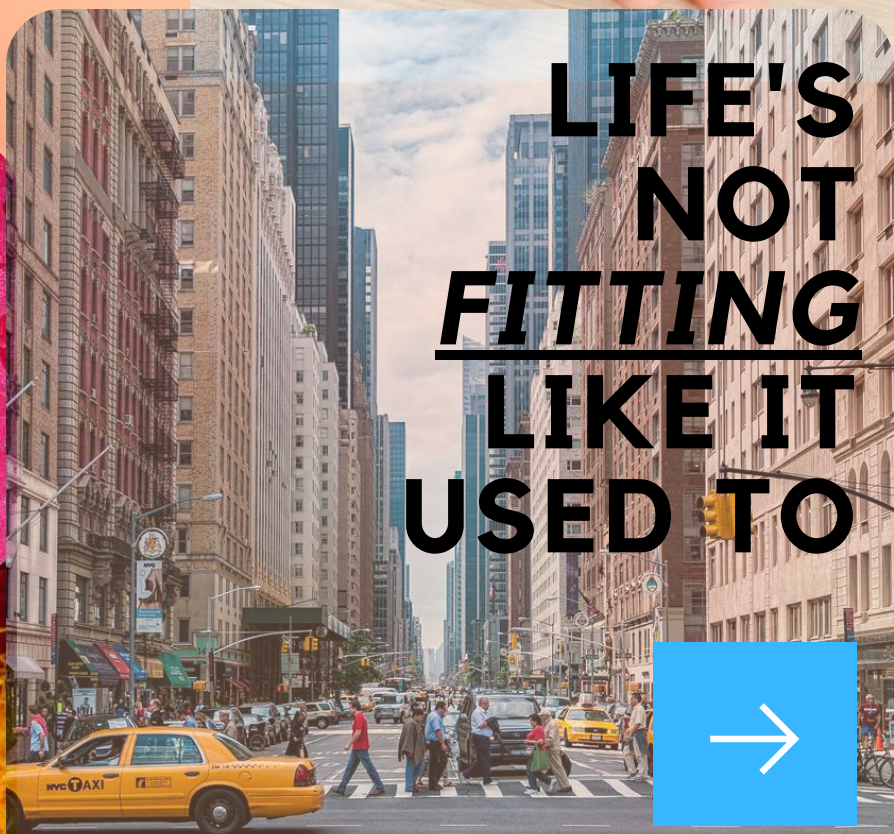
HONORARY MALE

Feature Film | RomCom, Comedy

Synopsis

SYNOPSIS:

HONORARY MALE follows CHIP JONES (39), an insecure, hopeless romantic Drag Queen in his pursuit to find a true love and lifelong partner. When he's disastrous in his own attempts, he unwittingly embraces a Chinese American family desperate to produce an heir. They plan to fix Chip up with a female partner if he hangs up his stilettos for one month. Chip accepts the challenge but is torn because he develops strong feelings for another family member that's off limits. Behind this cockamamie scheme is a conservative, geriatric war veteran, LI CHEN (80) who isn't concerned with Chip's pursuit of love, but more interested in recruiting Chip to be the "Honorary Male" of the family, before he dies. As Chip moves away from his drag queen persona, he gets closer to having a partner he's always wanted; but at the sake of losing his sexuality and personality. However, our hero does find his way in the end.



**LIFE'S
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HONORARY MALE

Feature Film | RomCom, Comedy

Setting

New York City. The economy is doing fabulously for Wall Street but for the queens in the Village, things aren't so rosy. Tensions are so high that one disgruntled queen PEACHES plans to win over the voters to build a wall around the Village to keep out anyone over the age of 30... because that's what it takes to "Make The Village Great Again."



WRITER'S STATEMENT

I was raised by conservatives and sitcoms on the plains of the bible belt.

After college, I moved to San Francisco, and years later married into a big Asian family. Through these experiences, I started to write about the wacky family dynamics that occur when two vastly different cultures come together.

My Dad was like Archie Bunker with his armchair and opinions.

Growing up I worked on cars, and tried to look like a boy. I thought if I acted like a son, then my father would love me. I was mistaken. This story is an attempt to make sense of the word, "acceptance" in the LGBTQ+ community, and the hoops people have to jump through even today, to be accepted.

When I sat down to write Honorary Male, the premise I sought to unravel was:

What if someone felt so strongly about their dream of finding a lifelong partner, that they would even consider giving up their sexuality in order to achieve it?

It's an absurd notion that someone would even do this, but even more absurd that someone would ask someone to do this! In this story, the comedy is not the Drag Queens and Kings, but the people who want to stop and change them to what they think is normal.

The courage of the Drag Queen world struck a chord in me.

I believe, Drag performance is an expression of confidence that captures the viewer's imagination of what is possible, if we can just stand up and be our true selves. As seen in the story, it's easier said than done. However, if achieved it may be one of the most important realizations one can have in their life. And as RuPaul so eloquently said: "If you can't love yourself, how the hell are you going to love somebody else?"

-Writer, Amy C. Mäki



CAST



David Burtka- CHIP

On the cusp of his 40th birthday (*turning the same age his mother died*), hopeless romantic drag queen, CHIP JONES begins to have an existential crisis and is pulled in various directions to try and find his most authentic self. Once a top singer/dancer in the Village, now Chip works at a nursing home, teaching disco to the elderly. To make ends meet, Chip holds a second job at GGD (Glam Girls Dance) escort company.

Crazy nursing home resident, and former Army General, LI CHEN (70s) is a consummate schemer, on the lookout for the perfect person he can manipulate to serve his ultimate goal--to find what he calls an "Honorary Male" to replace him as the male in the family when he passes. This would fulfill his mother's dying wish for someone to take care of his annoying sisters: "The Aunties" in the event he dies--something he doesn't wish... even on his worst enemies. He means well, but relies on his old-fashioned traditions more than his moral virtue.



James Hong - LI CHEN

THE AUNTIES (50-70s) Li's four meddling sisters: (JACKIE, RULING, FLORA, ANGIE) don't need to be taken care of, but they do more than anything want a grandchild NOW and nothing will stand in their way.

JACKIE (55), is pretty with dyed long black hair. She wears teen fashions: tight T-shirts and jeans and she's the biggest gossiper of them all. Jackie is good at getting information.



Margaret Cho - JACKIE



CAST



ATTACHED!

Amy Hill - FLORA

The more sensible member of the Auntie's: She's a Harvard graduate, great at cooking authentic Chinese food, and a total judgmental gossiper but great at keeping the "Aunties" needs front and center.

She's the main communicator between the "Aunties" and their brother Li. She has interesting about her and with a great smile she manages to have everyone gravitate to her.

Chip's egomaniac boss at GGD, PEACHES is running for city council with the promise of building a wall around the Village to keep out the riffraff oldies over 30.

Peaches knows Chip could make a comeback as a top dancer and she's going to make damn sure that doesn't happen.

Deadly afraid of aging herself, PEACHES starts a campaign to keep anyone older than 30 out of the Village. She wants to be number one in the room so her insecurities can diminish and have her ego stroked.



ATTACHED!

Willam Belli - PEACHES

Chip's father, POP (80) a cranky and opinionated man. He likes his old recliner and TV, just like Archie Bunker did. He thinks the family's Fabric Store is doing wonderfully, especially because Chip continues to turn in envelopes of cash each day.

ATTACHED!

Bruce Davison- POP

Handsome son of RULING (one of the Aunties), straight-laced accountant. Gets introduced to CHIP at the family Sunday dinners and falls in love. Comes out of the closet but is separated from CHIP by his family and pressured to date girls. He ends up following his authentic self and reconnecting with CHIP in the end!



ATTACHED!

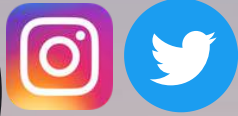
Kevin Woo- Longwei



SOCIAL INFLUENCE



David Burtka



531K 110K

Broadway Star and Host of
Hulu's Drag me to Dinner

IMDb



James Hong



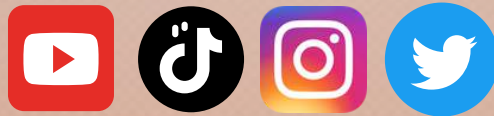
20K

Oscar® Winner for *Everything
Everywhere All At Once*

IMDb



Margaret Cho



23K 248K 249K 446K

Emmy® & Grammy® Nominated

IMDb

Amy Hill



25K

Emmy® Nominated



IMDb



Bruce Davison

Oscar® Nominated & 2X
Golden Globe® Winner

IMDb

Willam Belli



935K 1M 396K

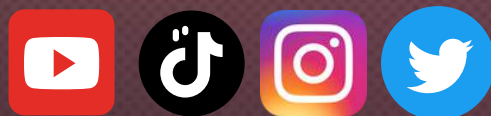
RuPaul's Drag Race & LGBT Celebrity



IMDb



Kevin Woo



161K 663K 693K 1.1M

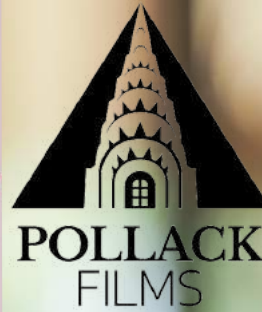
K-POP Star in 3X Tony®
Nominated K-Pop on Broadway

IMDb



PRODUCERS

Michael Pollack has held leadership positions for more than 35 years in the legal, financial, and entertainment industries. Michael is the founder and former President of a litigation support firm that is today part of an international group of companies. He has held directorship positions for more than a dozen financial institutions that are both private and publicly held. Specializing for decades in M&A and Turnaround Management, he has spearheaded tens of billions of dollars of financing in commercial real estate, business, and entertainment-related transactions. Stage and screen projects in which Michael has played an integral role in financing and/or producing have grossed more than \$2 billion at the box office.



Michael Pollack- Pollack Films



Luis S. Canete- Bonachia Films



Luis S. Canete is an American casting director & producer based in Los Angeles. He is a proud member of the Casting Society of America® and Television Academy®. He has worked in the Film & TV industry for over 20 years in New York, Los Angeles and Europe.

Currently, Luis & team are casting a feature called *Bike(Her)*, *Ring Cave*, & *Unusual Cowboys*; the film *High Adventure* where they attached Mena Suvari and Bruce Campbell and the SVOD series called *Glow & Darkness* with Jane Seymour, Bruce Davison, Lily Cole, Stephen Berkoff, Denise Richards & Joan Collins are among the hundreds of the US/EU/UK cast.

Additional credits include; a theatrically released Universal Pictures feature called *Remember Me*, starring Bruce Dern & Brian Cox, an Amazon Prime Video TV series titled *Magi*, and additional casting for a Warner Bros/Eyeworks TV series called *The Infiltrator*.

Additional principal casting of; the film *Duck Butter* for Netflix, and a mini series docudrama for the BBC titled *Six Wives with Lucy Worsley*.

He holds a B.A. in Theater with a focus on acting & directing from George Mason University in Virginia, USA. He has worked production on films such as *Super Troopers*, *Knight & Day*, and *The Cold Light of Day*. Luis has produced video content for the Moving Pictures Video Lounge at the TriBeCa Film Festival and recently has written, directed and produced a proof of concept short film called *Sad Sally's Peering Plan*.



CO-PRODUCERS/EPs



Briana Frapart

Briana grew up in Coral Springs, Florida and graduated with a B.F.A. in Film Production from the FSU College of Motion Picture Arts. In 2012, Briana began her career in Miami at Lori Wyman Casting, and later moved to Los Angeles that year to further pursue work in the entertainment industry.

She has since cast and produced award-winning projects, with credits including that of HBO Max, Netflix, Comedy Central, Cameo, Zach King Studio, AwesomenessTV, Omaze, Puma, and more. Briana specializes in the production, artist management, and casting of digital content, commercials, features, docu-series, music videos, shorts, and K-Pop.

Across varieties of content, Briana's work has collected over 100 million views on the internet, and played at festivals all over the world. She is a proud member of the Casting Society, the Television Academy, and Women in Music.



Orpheus Group Casting & Liberty Films are New York City-based Casting and Production firms led by legendary casting directors and producers, Maria E. Nelson and Ellyn Long Marshall (*daughter of the late renowned performer, Avon Long*), who share over 30 years of proven professional experience in the entertainment industry.

Some of their selected casting credits include HBO Films's Oscar nominated film *Maria Full of Grace*, *Girlfight* and *Real Women Have Curves*. In theater they have cast Broadway-bound workshops of Lin Manuel Miranda's *In The Heights*, Paul Simon's *Capeman* as well as off-Broadway production of *Celia Cruz-The Musical*. For television, this talented duo cast *Simple Justice* (PBS), the *Untitled Judd Apatow Pilot*, *Men Who Built America* (History Channel) & *Lies in Plain Sight* (Lifetime).

Ellyn and Maria's producing arm is called Liberty Films which has several productions in development. They pride themselves on operating from a place of excellence and a love of characters who elevate storytelling. Moreover, they are committed to supporting the success of independent films, television and theatre featuring multicultural themes.



Ellyn L. Marshall & Maria E. Nelson



EXECUTIVE PRODUCER



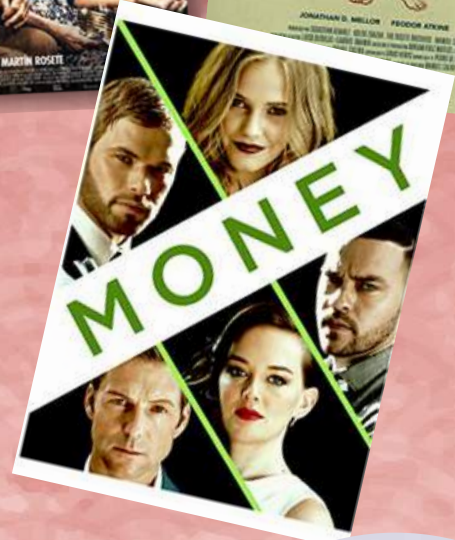
Martin Rosete

Martin Rosete is an Award-Winning film Director & Producer based in New York. In 2013 he was nominated for the Spanish Academy Award (Goya Awards) and won over 100 awards for his short film Voice Over, including the Melies d'Or at Stiges Film Festival.

In 2018, Rosete directed Remember Me, an American-Spanish-French romantic comedy starred two-time Oscar Nominee Bruce Dern and Golden Globe Winner Brian Cox. The movie released theatrically in 2019.

Rosete directorial debut was an American thriller titled Money, written by Josep Ciutat and produced with Atit Shah. The film stars Jamie Bamber, Kellan Lutz, Jesse Williams and Jess Weixler. Money was released worldwide by 20th Century Fox Home Entertainment and Netflix in 2017.

Variety has called Rosete "one of Spain's most talked-about shorts/commercials directors."



WRITER

Amy C. Mäki is an award winning writer/producer best known for RUB THE SPEED and IN YOUR BLOOD. Mäki's credits include work on: THOSE WHO WISH ME DEAD (Angelina Jolie) and PERPETUAL GRACE, LTD. Mäki got her start in San Francisco, working as an editor in the deadline-heavy world of TV News at KPIX CBS and KRON NBC. In the early 90s, Maki had the honor of working as a production assistant on the Oscar Award nominated Documentary: *Changing Our Minds: The Story of Dr. Evelyn Hooker*, directed by Richard Schmiechen (THE TIMES OF HARVEY MILK). Schmiechen's documentary work inspired Mäki to write and produce her own work. Two years later, Mäki produced the PBS documentary AFTERMATH OF APARTHEID based on her volunteer teaching experience in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The Nebraska native holds a BSBA in Biology, a BA in Film, and a MFA in screenwriting from the Institute of American Indian Arts. Mäki is based out of Santa Fe, New Mexico.

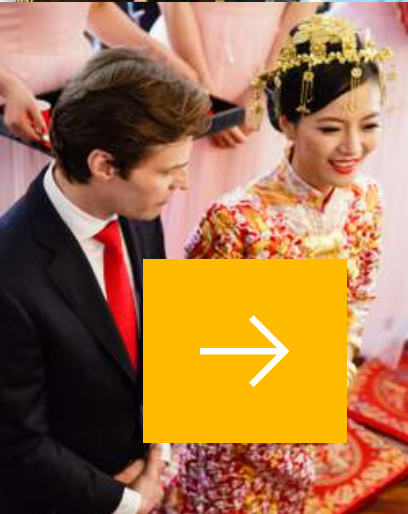


Amy Mäki



tone & style





BOX OFFICE POWER



\$4,000,000
BUDGET

\$65,336,603
GROSS (WORLD)



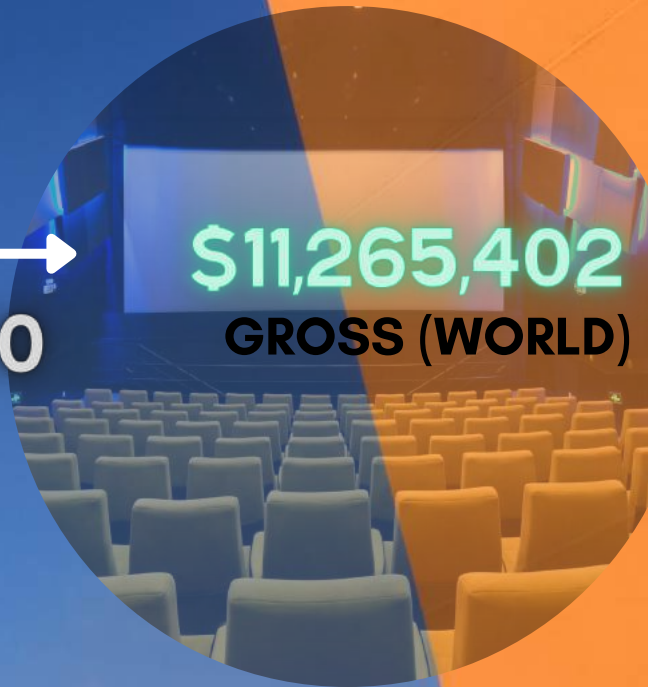
4,000,000€
BUDGET

\$41,888,660
GROSS (WORLD)



\$2,000,000
BUDGET

\$11,265,402
GROSS (WORLD)





BUZZY NEWS

FIRE ISLAND



[TRAILER](#)

[JOEL KIM BOOSTER HOPES "FIRE ISLAND" STARTS A GAY-MOVIE MOVEMENT](#)

[GMA INTERVIEW](#)

[MARGARET CHO ON "FIRE ISLAND"](#)



[DAVID BURTKA AND HIS HUSBAND NEIL PATRICK HARRIS PRODUCE DRAG REALITY SERIES FOR HULU.](#)



A24

EVERYTHING EVERYWHERE ALL AT ONCE

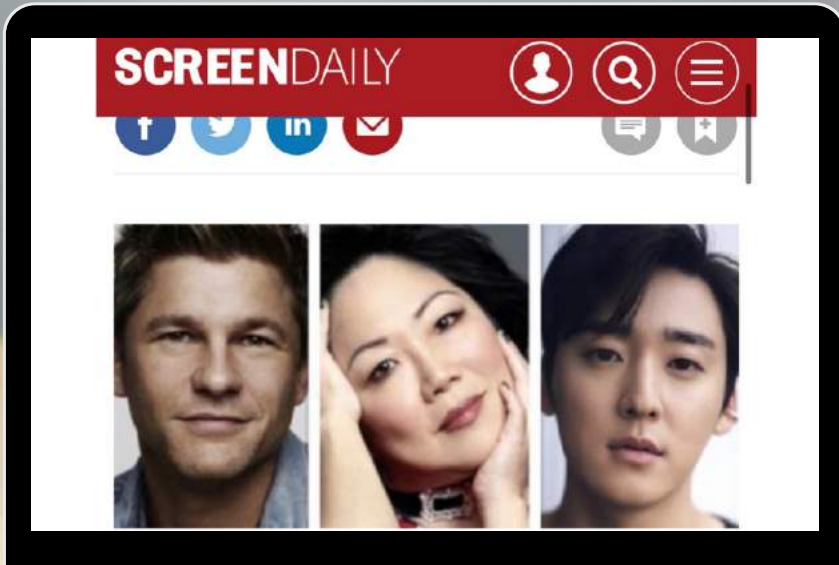


[TRAILER](#)



BUZZY NEWS

[OneTwoThree Media in Cannes selling Margaret Cho, David Burtka, Kevin Woo comedy 'Honorary Male' \(exclusive\)](#)



attitude

[Drag Me to Dinner's David Burtka dishes on rude dinner guests and showcasing drag: 'Drag queens are our superheroes](#)

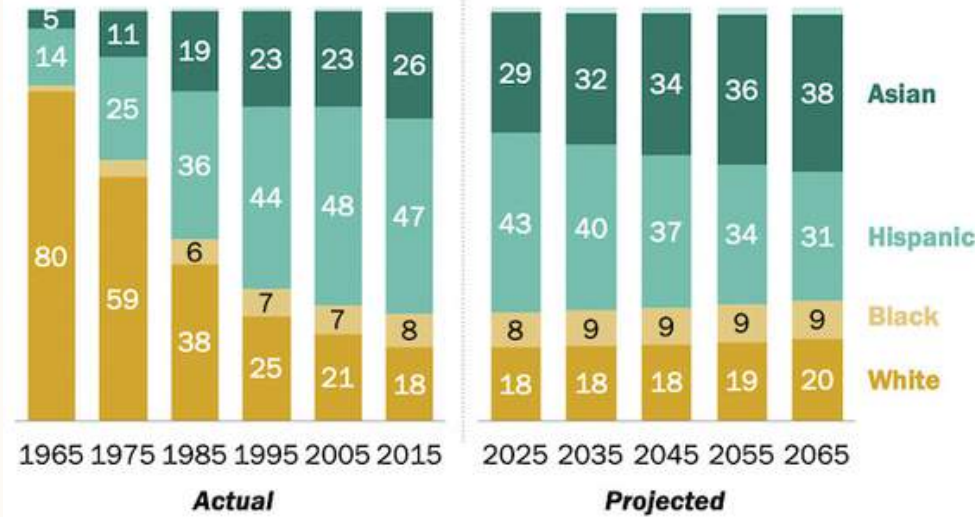
Another culturally relevant project is *Honorary Male*, which has a through line of being true to yourself, which again, is very timely right now. Is that what attracted you to that project?

Yeah! It's another drag queen project. I'm in my drag queen world. I do think it is about inclusivity and it's about celebrating and loving who you are. I'm one of the only people in the movie besides Willam who is Caucasian. [Otherwise] It's all amazing Asian actors like Margaret Cho and Kevin Woo. It's going to be a hoot. I'm playing Chip, a drag queen celebrating his 40th birthday, and is not really out to his parents and not really proud of who he is. He is figuring out life and having a midlife crisis. He also teaches dance to senior citizens and has this friend that he befriends. In the Chinese culture, they need an honorary male to pass down the generational lines, and their son and nephew is infertile. So, they try to get me to be the honorary male of the family.

STATS / MARKET

Asians projected to become the largest immigrant group in the U.S., surpassing Hispanics

% of immigrant population



Note: White, Black and Asian populations include those who report being only one race and are not Hispanic. Asians include Pacific Islanders. Hispanics are of any race. Other races shown but not labeled.

Source: Pew Research Center estimates for 1965-2015 based on adjusted census data; Pew Research Center projections for 2025-2065.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER



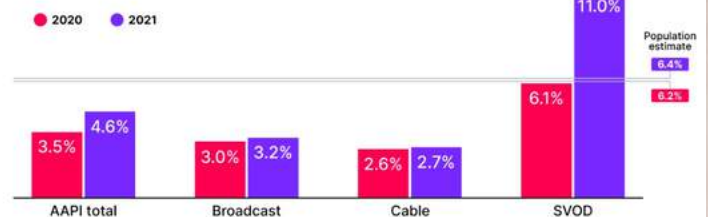
- **Asians in movies attract increasing numbers of Asians into US cinemas**
- **Latinos And (Crazy Rich) Asian Americans Are Hollywood's Final Growth Frontier**



Asian population in U.S. nearly doubled between 2000 and 2019 and is projected to surpass 46 million by 2060



Representation of Asians on screen is improving



Source: Gracenote Inclusion Analytics 2021
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STATS / MARKET



543,000 SAME-SEX MARRIED HOUSEHOLDS IN THE U.S. IN 2019.



LGBT IDENTIFICATION ROSE TO 5.6% IN 2020.

nielsen

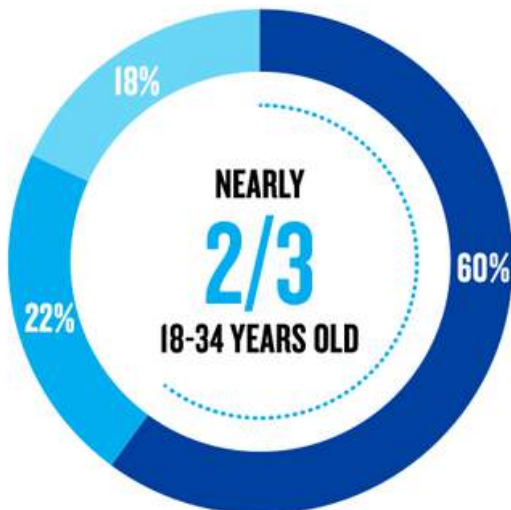
PROUD & PRESENT

LGBTQ AUDIENCES & CONTENT TAKE CENTER STAGE

YOUNG AND AFFLUENT

LGBTQ streamers are more likely to be millennials or Generation Z, with more disposable income to spend on multiple digital platform subscriptions. Variety and options surface as important factors for the LGBTQ community when it comes to finding content of choice. While there are clear preferences, the data shows that across the board, the community over-indexes for use of almost all digital content delivery platforms.

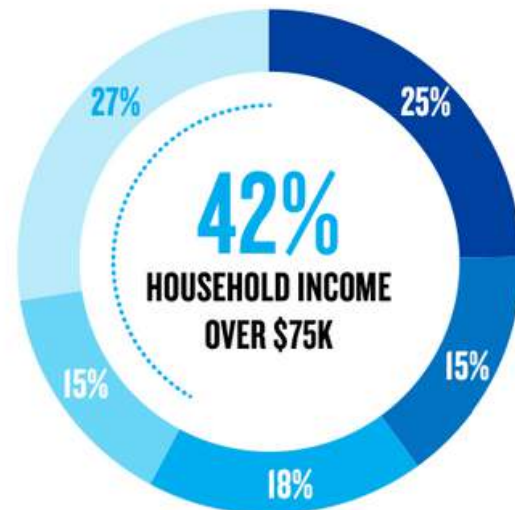
AGE



NEARLY
2/3
18-34 YEARS OLD

■ Adults 18-34 ■ Adults 35-49 ■ Adults 50+

INCOME



42%
HOUSEHOLD INCOME
OVER \$75K

■ < \$35,000 ■ \$35k-\$49,999 ■ \$50,000-\$74,999 ■ \$75k-\$100,000

Source: Nielsen Scarborough USA+ 2020, Release 2



LGBTQ BUYING POWER IN THE U.S. IS MORE THAN \$1 TRILLION.



FINALIST
**Los Angeles
Comedy Film &
Screenplay Festival**
2019



Finalist
**Filmmatic Comedy
Screenplay
Competition**



HONORARY MALE

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Bonachia Films, LLC**

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SCREEN DAILY

Press Release

