



IN THE LIFE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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IN THE LIFE DEBUTS NEW SEASON IN 30-MIN FORMAT WITH "CIVIL RITES & CIVIL RIGHTS"

**NAACP'S JULIAN BOND COMES OUT IN FAVOR OF GAY MARRIAGE;
LOOKING AT CA PROP 8; AND REMEMBERING LONGTIME GAY RIGHTS
ACTIVIST, DEL MARTIN**



NEW YORK -- IN THE LIFE, the three-time Emmy-nominated series documenting the gay experience, opens its new season next month, in a new 30-minute format. For the first time since it began airing as a series, IN THE LIFE will have something new in every show, including its popular "A Conversation With" segment.

"Since 1992, IN THE LIFE has been the 'go-to' source for information about people and issues shaping the LGBT experience, and, for nearly as long, our viewers have been telling us they want MORE... more segments, more new content, more often. In response, our 17th Season, in its new 30-minute format, will be broadcast without the repeat of a single episode," said Executive Director Michelle Kristel.

Next Season, IN THE LIFE's "A Conversation With" segment will feature New York Gov. David A. Paterson with Yale University professor and author, George Chauncey; Empire State Pride Agenda executive director, Alan Van Capelle, with American Federation of Teachers President Randi Weingarten; founding chairman of The Foundation for AIDS Research (amfAR), Dr. Mathilde Krim, with CEO of the Black AIDS Institute, Phill Wilson; and

- more -

actor Julianne Moore with producer Christine Vachon ("Far From Heaven," "Boy's Don't Cry," "Hedwig and the Angry Inch" and "Swoon").

In its season premiere, "Civil Rites & Civil Rights," IN THE LIFE looks at the journey to marriage equality in California, America's most populous state and the real possibility that this newly gained right could be erased with the passage of Proposition 8. This referendum would amend the California Constitution to read: "only marriage between a man and a woman is valid or recognized in California."

In its "A Conversation With" segment, IN THE LIFE features Pulitzer Prize-winning Washington Post writer, Jonathan Capehart, talking with NAACP Chairman Julian Bond about the intersections of gay rights, civil rights, and marriage equality. In this historic conversation, Bond makes the case for the NAACP support of marriage equality, saying, "We [the NAACP] oppose these amendments, because we think it's wrong to single out any group of people for special treatment, and that's what these amendments do." He also shares some little-known facts about Coretta Scott-King's advocacy of gay rights and he recounts how Bayard Rustin, the architect of the Civil Rights March on Washington - and a gay man - was so critical to its success. Explaining why the NAACP should be proud of its role in the Gay Civil Rights Movement, he says, "[The NAACP] ought to be proud of this. Say, 'look what we did.' We created a model that other people have followed, and they followed it successfully. Good for us!"

The episode concludes with Mayor Gavin Newsom of San Francisco presiding at the nuptials of Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, long-time partners and lesbian activists, who after more than 50 years together could finally say, "We're married." Sadly, Del passed away just over two months later on August 27, and IN THE LIFE is honored to be able to present this season premiere episode "In Memoriam" to this accomplished woman.

"Civil Rites & Civil Rights" will begin airing on American Public Television stations October 1ST, and be available for video streaming and as a FREE downloadable podcast from the IN THE LIFE website starting October 2ND. To find out when it will be airing in their local areas, to view, or download it, viewers should go to: www.inthelifetv.org.

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IN THE LIFE is the pioneering documentary series telling powerful stories about the people and issues shaping the gay experience, nationally and abroad. IN THE LIFE has a 17-year heritage of producing in-depth segments on a myriad of issues – politics, public policy, health, education, religion and spirituality. IN THE LIFE's mission is to create programming fostering better understanding and acceptance of the LGBT communities.

IN THE LIFE is a three-time Emmy Award nominee and the winner of numerous awards, including a Lambda Legal Liberty Award, the prestigious Barbara Gittings Award "for contributions to LGBT media" from GLAAD, and the Seigenthaler Award from the National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association for "excellence in network television." IN THE LIFE is produced by In The Life Media, Inc., the national not-for-profit organization dedicated to provocative documentary storytelling about the gay experience.