

### GLOBAL INNOVATIVE ADVOCACY SUMMIT







### TABLE OF CONTENTS

LETTER FROM HRC FOUNDATION	3
GLOBAL INNOVATIVE ADVOCACY SUMMIT	
MAPPING A GLOBAL MOVEMENT OF INNOVATORS	8
2017 GLOBAL INNOVATORS	10
THIS YEAR'S GLOBAL INNOVATIVE ADVOCACY SUMMIT	12
STORYTELLING	16
INNOVATING	18
ADVOCATING	20
COMMITTING	22

### THANK YOU,





**LEVI STRAUSS & CO.** 

### **DEAR FRIENDS,**

In April 2017, we were excited to welcome 30 remarkable Global Innovators from 28 different countries across five continents to Washington, D.C. for HRC's second annual Global Innovative Advocacy Summit. We received close to 200 highly qualified applicants for this year's Global Summit and selected 30 of the most qualified and diverse. This year's group of established and emerging leaders increased the size of this network to nearly 60 since our inaugural Global Summit last year.

Global Innovators are engaging in a variety of advocacy work — from corporate engagement to strategic litigation to building community through the arts. Advocates from last year's group are currently running for elected office in Chile, passionately leading marriage equality efforts in Taiwan and holding their government accountable as transgender women are facing horrendous violence in El Salvador. Each of them — from 2016 to 2017 — is an inspiration, a profile in courage.

Yet from Chechnya to Bangladesh to Indonesia, this year proves that too many LGBTQ people around the world live in places where there are few to no legal protections, draconian civil or criminal penalties for being LGBTQ and sometimes threats of violence or death. For members of our global community, the Trump administration's anti-LGBTQ, anti-immigrant and refugee, anti-Muslim and anti-democratic policies and rhetoric provide little relief or solace.

That is why HRC remains committed to advancing equality globally. In fact, without a champion in the White House, our work in support of global equality is more important than ever before. At the Global Summit, these leaders shared their approaches to advocacy, learned from each other and HRC, and returned home with renewed energy to continue their important work.

Now — more than ever — we must be listening to each other and combining our strengths to fight for the human rights of LGBTQ people everywhere. Love will trump hate. These are more than words that inspire us on a t-shirt or sign, but a profound belief in the power of WE and the dignity of all. These words drive our action - to reach across borders and divisions, create coalitions and mobilize the majority that we know believes in a world where no one should have to live in fear because of who they are or who they love.

I want to thank Ty Cobb, Director of HRC Global, Jay Gilliam, Senior Global Programs Officer, and the talented and hardworking team at HRC Global for hosting another successful, informative and energizing Global Summit. I also want to thank HRC President Chad Griffin for his vision to move HRC's work beyond our borders and his steadfast support of it. I can't wait to see the continued great work coming from this group of Global Innovators over the next year.

**Mary Beth Maxwell** 

Senior Vice President for Programs, Research and Training Human Rights Campaign Foundation

NBMaxwell





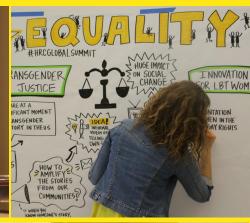




### GLOBAL INNOVATIVE ADVOCACY SUMMIT















THE GLOBAL SUMMIT PROVIDES A FORUM TO EXCHANGE IDEAS FOR ADVANCING LGBTO EQUALITY, A NETWORK OF NEARLY 60 GLOBAL INNOVATORS TO CONTINUE SHARING LESSONS-LEARNED IN THEIR ADVOCACY WORK AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH KEY POLICYMAKERS AND SUPPORTERS OF GLOBAL EQUALITY.

Inspired by the incredible work being done across five continents, HRC launched its Global Innovative Advocacy Summit in 2016. The inaugural Global Summit brought together twenty-six established and emerging advocates for the exchange of ideas and practices for advancing LGBTO equality. The 2017 Global Summit brought together 30 new established and emerging global LGBTO advocates in a dynamic environment, Global Innovators and HRC staff showcased projects and approaches that have improved the lives of LGBTO people in their countries and communities.

### **QUICK FACTS:**

- Same-sex sexual relations are criminalized in 72 countries.
- Same-sex sexual relations may be punishable by death in up to 10 countries.
- So-called "anti-propaganda" laws inhibit LGBTQ advocacy in three countries.
- Nearly 300 transgender people were reported killed around the world between October 2015 and September 2016.
- Most countries do not have national legislation to protect LGBTQ people from discrimination in education, employment, housing and in other areas.
- Owing to stigma, discrimination and violence, LGBTQ youth experience higher rates of HIV incidence, mental health challenges and susceptibility to bullying in schools around the world

### MAPPING A MOVEMENT OF GLOBAL INNOVATORS



### Global Innovators represent 47 different countries of origin.



### GLOBAL INNOVATORS 2017

GLOBAL INNOVATORS HAILED FROM 28 COUNTRIES ACROSS FIVE CONTINENTS. IN IDENTIFYING GLOBAL INNOVATORS, HRC CONSIDERED SEVERAL ELEMENTS, SUCH AS GEOGRAPHY, CULTURAL AND ORGANIZATIONAL DIVERSITY, AND SEXUAL ORIENTATION, GENDER AND GENDER IDENTITY. MOST IMPORTANTLY, THE ADVOCATES BROUGHT A TRACK RECORD OF INNOVATIVE ADVOCACY. THE SECOND COHORT OF OUTSTANDING GLOBAL INNOVATORS CAME READY TO TELL THEIR STORIES OF INNOVATING AND ADVOCATING FOR EQUALITY.

### **ORGANIZING COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS**



BANGLADESH Ahmed\* he/him/his

HRC Global Fellow



BELIZE Caleb Orozco he/him/his

United Belize Advocacy Movement (UNIBAM)



COLOMBIA Diego Mora Bello he/him/his

HRC Global Fellow



KENYA Njeri Gateru she/her/hers and they/them/theirs

National Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission (Kenya)



ALGERIA Zoheir Djazeiri he/him/his

*TransHomosDz* 



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA Emina Bosnjak she/her/hers

Sarajevo Open Centre



BRAZIL Clarisse Kalume she/her/hers

Micro Rainbow International



CAMBODIA Srorn Srun he/him/his

CamASEAN



CHINA H.C. she/her/hers

Trans Center



COLOMBIA Laura Frida Weinstein Nisenbon

she/her/hers

Action and Support Group for Trans People Foundation (GAAT)



CROATIA Mima Simic she/her/hers

Independent Activist



INDIA Abhina Aher she/her/hers

Global Action for Trans Equality/Asia-Pacific Transgender Network



IRAQ Ayaz Shalal Hassan he/him/his

Rasan Organization



JAMAICA George Young he/him/his

Stand Up For Jamaica



KENYA Anonymous he/him/his



LATVIA Kaspars Zalitis he/him/his

Association of LGBT and Mozaika



**LEBANON Steph\***they/them/theirs

Arab Foundations for Freedom and Equality (AFE)



LIBYA Mustafa\* he/him/his

Independent Activist



MACEDONIA Antonio Mihajlov he/him/his

Subversive Front



NEPAL Salina Tamang she/her/hers

CORE Nepal



NIGERIA Owen\* she/her/hers

Freedom Africa Initiative



PERU Gabriel de la Cruz Soler he/him/his

Independent Activist



RUSSIA/ UKRAINE Irene\* she/her/hers

Association of Russian-Speaking Intersex People/ interACT Youth



SOUTH AFRICA Tashwill Esterhuizen he/him/his

Southern Africa Litigation Centre



SRI LANKA Kaushalya Ariyarathna she/her/hers

Samadhi Community Development Foundation



SUDAN Azza Sultan she/her/hers

Mesahat Foundation for Sexual and Gender Diversity



TAIWAN Sean Du he/him/his

Taiwan Tongzhi Hotline Association



TUNISIA Aida\* she/her/hers

Mawjoudin



UGANDA Deus Kiriisa he/him/his

Voices Combating Homophobia



VIETNAM Vu Lieu he/him/his

ILGA Asia

\* Certain innovators chose to remain anonymous due to privacy and/or security concerns.



# THIS YEAR'S GLOBAL INNOVATIVE ADVOCACY SUMMIT

OVER THREE DAYS, THE GLOBAL INNOVATORS SHOWCASED PROJECTS AND APPROACHES THAT HAVE ADVANCED EQUALITY, PARTICULARLY AROUND DAILY THEMES OF STORYTELLING, INNOVATING AND ADVOCATING.

**DAY 1:** Building public awareness of LGBTQ people through **storytelling.** 

**DAY 2:** Using **innovative approaches** to expand support.

**DAY 3: Advocating** for laws and policies that advance LGBTQ equality.

With Global Innovators bringing their unique perspectives on advocacy and HRC sharing its experiences organizing in the U.S., the Global Summit is designed to maximize sharing, learning and impact:

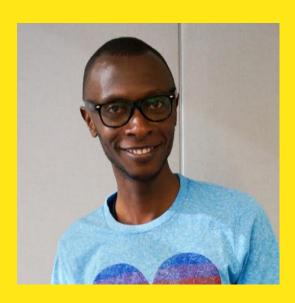
**Innovation Talks:** Global Innovators gave Innovation Talks to showcase their innovative approaches to advocacy.

**Panel discussions:** Global Innovators participated in discussions with 3-4 other Global Innovators focused on particular topics and moderated by HRC staff. HRC staff also shared how HRC has organized over the past 37 years to promote equality in the U.S.

**Small group learning:** Global Innovators met in small groups throughout the Global Summit to connect and share more about their work.

**Global marketplace:** The marketplace brought Global Innovators together with other organizations that support the global equality movement.

# THE GLOBAL SUMMIT WAS FOR ALL THE SUPPORT AND C WHILE I WAS IN WASHINGTON MUCH FOR BRINGING ME TO V



### **DEUS FROM UGANDA**

Deus produces documentaries exploring the cultural and legal history of LGBTQ people in Uganda which help portray LGBTQ people as ordinary members of society to dispel fear and hatred.



**KASPARS FROM LATVIA** 

Kaspars co-chaired EuroPride 2015, a regional event. He initiated a diversity program targeting global and local companies operating in Latvia.

## PHENOMENAL! THANK YOU ARE THAT HRC PROVIDED D.C. AND THANK YOU VERY WASHINGTON, D.C.

### Deus from Uganda



### **ABHINA FROM INDIA**

A hijra woman and transgender and HIV advocate, Abhina created the LGBTQ dancing troupe 'Dancing Queens' to sensitize the public and policy makers on gender and sexuality issues and to raise funding for HIV positive transgender people.



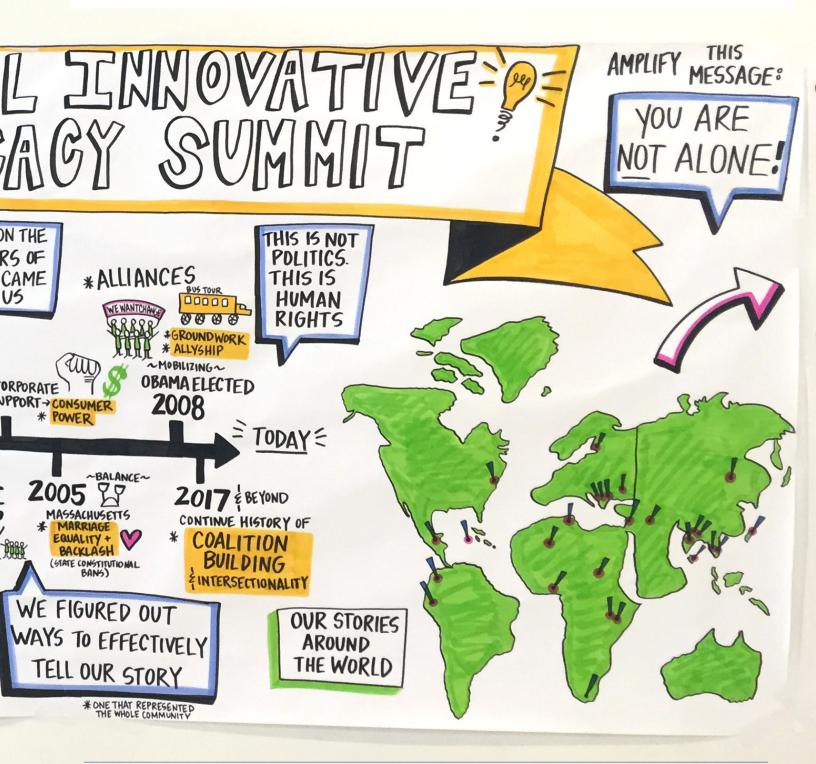
### CLARISSE FROM BRAZIL AND SRORN FROM CAMBODIA

Clarisse and Sorn both work to alleviate poverty among LGBTQ communities and have collaborated to develop an entrepreneurship training program to set up small businesses and a micro loan initiative.

### **STORYTELLING**

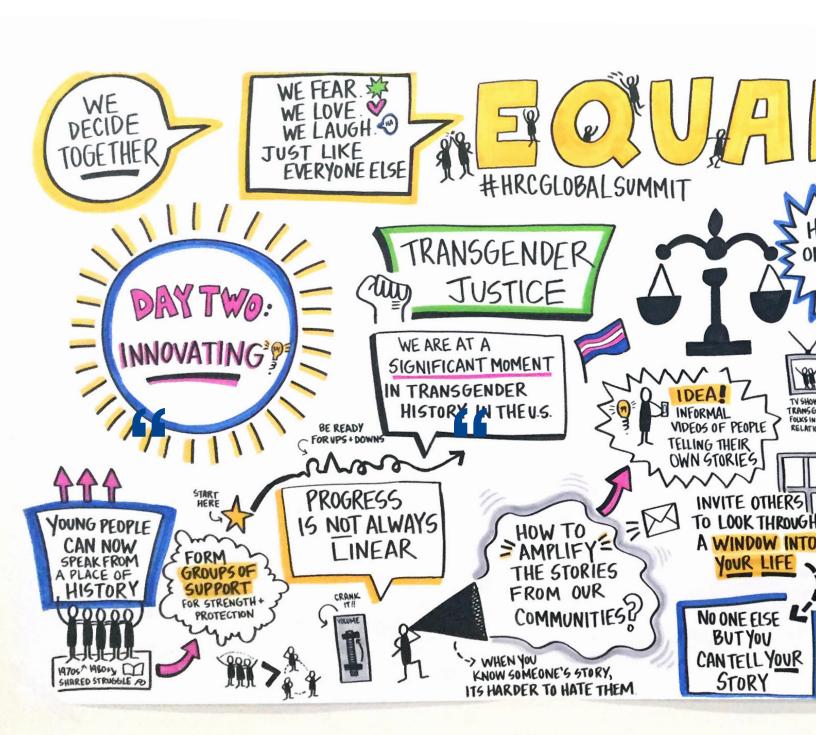


STORYTELLING IS THE FOUNDATION FOR GLOBAL EQUALITY ACTION. STORIES ABOUT LGBTQ PEOPLE THAT MAKE THE PUBLIC AWARE OF AND UNDERSTAND WHO WE ARE TRANSFORMS STORIES INTO VEHICLES FOR CHANGE. WHEN ADVOCATES ARE ABLE TO EFFECTIVELY TELL THOSE STORIES THROUGH ART, CREATIVITY AND THE USE OF POP CULTURE, WE SPEAK TO PEOPLE'S HEARTS AND MINDS.

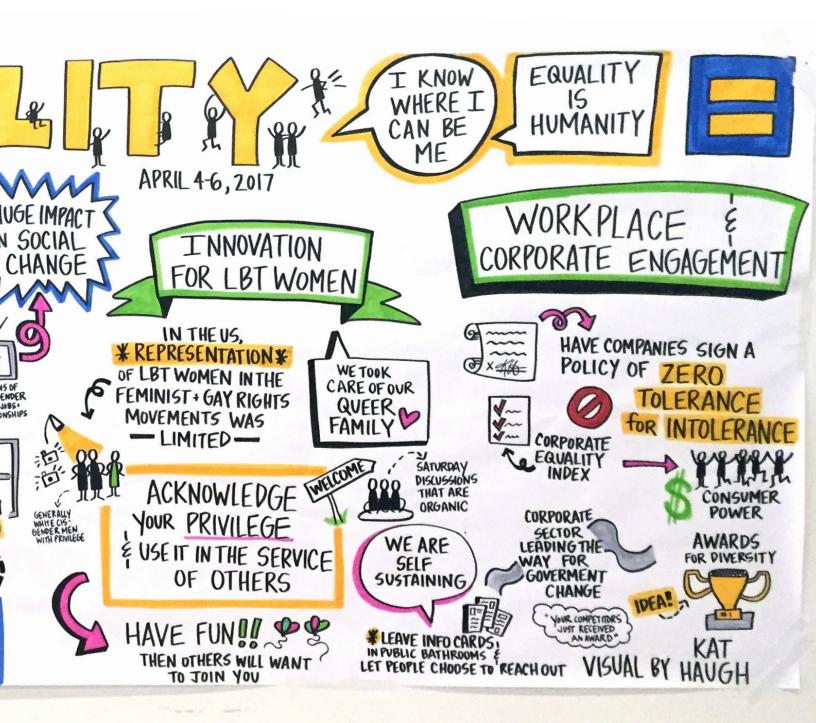


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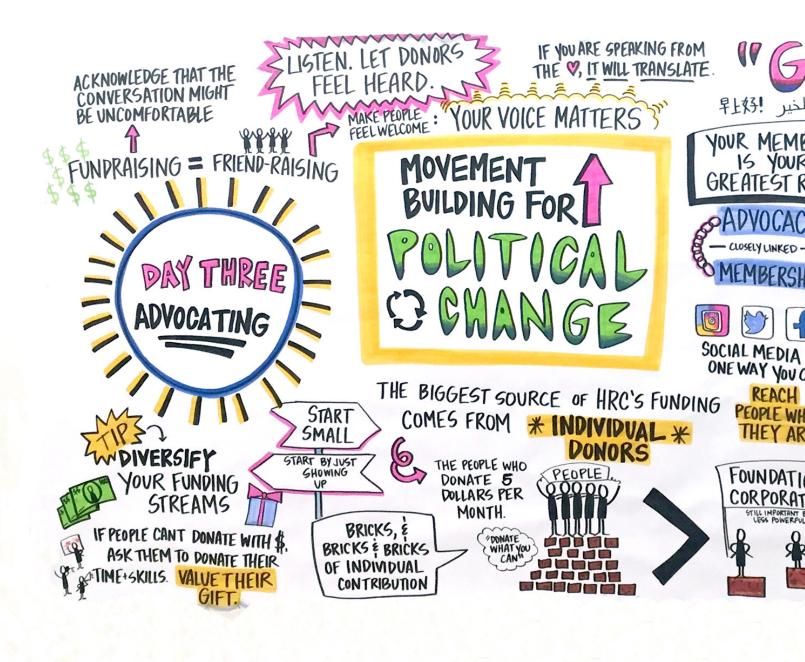
### **INNOVATING**



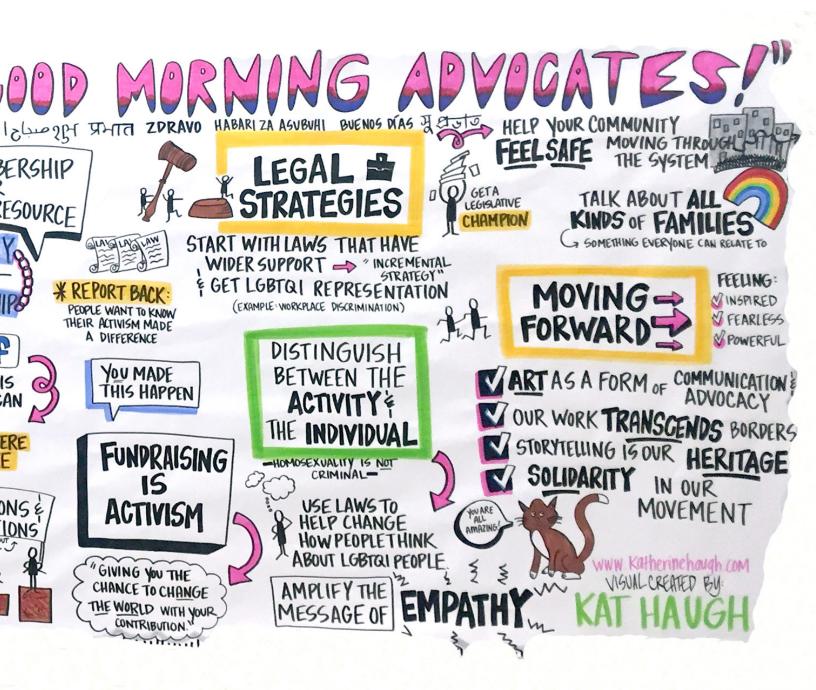
GLOBAL INNOVATORS WERE CHOSEN BECAUSE OF THEIR INNOVATIVE APPROACHES TO ADVOCACY WORK. SOME USED THE POWER OF CELEBRITIES, ALLIANCES AND THE GLOBAL MEDIA TO PROMOTE EQUALITY. ONE CREATED AN EMPOWERMENT SCHOOL FOR TRANSGENDER PEOPLE WHILE ANOTHER STARTED HIS OWN BUSINESS THAT LIFTS UP THE LGBTQ COMMUNITY THROUGH ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT. WHATEVER THEIR APPROACH, THESE GLOBAL INNOVATORS USE CREATIVE WAYS TO PROMOTE GLOBAL EQUALITY.



### **ADVOCATING**



GLOBAL INNOVATORS USE MYRIAD STRATEGIES TO ADVOCATE FOR EQUALITY. SOME BUILT LEGAL STRATEGIES THAT USE LAWS TO HELP CHANGE HOW PEOPLE THINK ABOUT LGBTQ PEOPLE. OTHERS WORKED WITH ALLIES TO BUILD A MEMBERSHIP BASE THAT EVENTUALLY CREATED A MOVEMENT. HOWEVER THEY DO IT, THESE GLOBAL INNOVATORS ARE STRONG LGBTQ ADVOCATES IN THEIR HOME COUNTRIES.





GLOBAL INNOVATORS LEFT THE GLOBAL SUMMIT RENEWED AND RE-ENERGIZED TO CONTINUE THEIR WORK. HRC IS COMMITTED TO DEEPENING OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH GLOBAL INNOVATORS BY KEEPING THEM CONNECTED, SHARING THEIR STORIES AND CONTINUING OUR PARTNERSHIPS WITH THEM THROUGH HRC'S OTHER GLOBAL PROGRAMS, INCLUDING:

### Global Partnerships in Innovative Advocacy:

Global Innovators may apply for on-the-ground capacitybuilding partnerships with HRC that will help alumni grow their equality movements through more effective advocacy, campaigning, organizing and outreach.



Global Partnerships in Pride: Global Innovators may apply for sponsorship and in-kind support to Prides and related events in places where visibility can make a difference.

### **Global Fellows Program:**

Global Innovators may apply to work alongside HRC staff as a HRC Global Fellow. HRC Global partners with organizations that facilitate short (up to two-months) and long-term (up to one-year) fellowships for international nonprofit leaders.

Global Stories: Global Innovators are encouraged to share news and stories about their work so that HRC can amplify that work with our members and the media, including through a new partnership on a regular op-ed for our Global Innovators with the Daily Beast.

# THANK YOU FOR A REALLY AMAND YOUR CONTINUED COMMITM ADVANCING EQUALITY FOR ALL. I FEXPERIENCE AND HAVE LEARNED THE GLOBAL INNOVATORS.



### NJERI FROM KENYA

Njeri led her organization's engagement in incremental strategic litigation that created judicial precedence for LGBTQ equality in Kenya.



ANTONIO FROM MACEDONIA:

Antonio organized a national LGBTO conference that brought together government officials and representatives of various political parties to support equality.

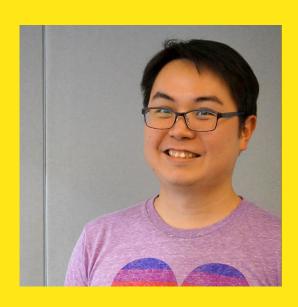
### AZING GLOBAL SUMMIT ENT TO HUMAN RIGHTS AND IAD A REALLY REMARKABLE SO MUCH FROM HRC AND ALL

### Tashwill from South Africa



### **LAURA FROM COLOMBIA**

Laura established an empowerment school that fosters and empowers trans leaders working in local and national institutions, social movements and on campaigns against transphobia.



### **SEAN FROM TAIWAN**

Sean is a member of the advocacy team pushing for marriage equality in Taiwan by lobbying parliament and mobilizing the community. He launched crowdfunding projects that raised money for marriage equality and HIV prevention.



### **HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN FOUNDATION**

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LEVI STRAUSS & CO.