

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**qFLIX Philadelphia 2019 Opening Night Film + Black & Pink Gala
Announced for 25th Anniversary of LGBTQ+ Film in Region**

Philadelphia, PA - qFLIX Philadelphia 2019 is proud to present our Opening Night Film + Black & Pink Gala to be held at two fabulous venues on one spectacular night in recognition of twenty-five years of LGBTQ+ film festivals in the Philadelphia region.

We begin our evening on the red carpet at the Perelman Theater at the Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts on Monday, March 25, at 6:30 PM, for the North American premiere of "From Zero to I Love You," an LGBTQ+ film shot entirely in Philadelphia that will be subsequently featured at the BFI Flare in London the following evening.

The Opening Night Black & Pink Gala continues with a trip up to the Observation Deck on the 57th floor of Liberty Place. We will celebrate 25 years of LGBTQ+ film festivals among the stars with a 360-degree view of the city.

You will enjoy a night which includes hors d'oeuvres, fancy desserts and an open bar, along with music to enjoy, and a who's who guest list you won't want to miss!

qFLIX Philadelphia 2019 marks the 25th LGBTQ+ film festival in the region, with the amazing film from writer/director Doug Spearman ("Hot Guys with Guns") and starring Darryl Stephens ("Noah's Ark," "Boy Culture") and Scott Bailey ("The Bay").

Stephens plays Pete Logsdon-just a guy in Philadelphia who happens to have a history of getting involved with married men. His father, played by veteran Richard Lawson and his soon-to-be step mom Leslie Zemeckis, are on him to find someone who's actually available and to settle down. Instead, he finds a man named Jack, played by Bailey, who is fifteen years into a perfect marriage with two beautiful children and an enviable wife, Keili Lefkovitz.

Darryl Stephens will be in attendance to receive the qFLIX Philadelphia 2019 Rising Star Award.

Doug Spearman, writer/director, will be in attendance for the opening of the festival.

At a recent meeting in Philadelphia, Mr. Spearman made this statement after expressing how amazing the Greater Philadelphia Film Office was to work with during his filming: "I wanted to make a movie about the Philly that I saw since I was a kid. Being from Washington, D.C., I've been coming to Philadelphia my whole life. But it wasn't till I was here showing my first film that I really saw Philly. Saw all the beautiful side streets and the alley ways and the still thriving colonial heart of this city. I also wanted to make a film about an African American who didn't need a white savior. There are no saviors in the film. People stand and fall by their own decisions and actions in the film. Learning who you are when things fall apart is very important to me. Especially when things fall apart because of love."

And Doug did exactly that and we are so proud that this film is the opening night selection of qFLIX Philadelphia 2019: Twenty-Five Years of LGBTQ+ Film!

Prior the opening night feature film we will be screening a short film titled "Going Forward."

This moving film shows viewers what Election Day is like for a lower-level candidate, campaigning in a district that's desperate for a solution. Malcolm Kenyatta, a third-generation activist from North Philadelphia, was followed from 5am to 11pm, capturing the last hours of his campaign to become a Pennsylvania State Representative in the 181st District, and to become the first openly LGBTQ+ candidate of color elected to PA's state office.

State Representative Malcolm Kenyatta will be in attendance to receive the qFLIX Philadelphia 2019 Harvey Milk Community Service Award.

Badges are available at: <https://qflixgala.brownpapertickets.com>

Single tickets to opening night film available at: <https://www.kimmelcenter.org/events-and-tickets/201819/rentals/qflix-philadelphia-2019-from-zero-to-i-love-you/>

Complete schedule to be announced soon.

About qFLIX Philadelphia:

qFLIX Philadelphia is a production of qFLIX USA, Inc. Founded in 2014 qFLIX USA is rooted in 25 years of LGBTQ+ film festival leadership. We believe that experiencing our voices, stories and visions on film from around the world, from birth to death, from the loved to the loveless, from youth to maturity, helps lift us forward as individuals and as a community. Film as an international language allows qFLIX USA to foster, support, and give access to independent filmmakers and to encourage and nurture younger ones in the art of filmmaking. Queer film inspires the imagination and encourages the journey of discovery and acceptance by both the ever-growing region's LGBTQ+ and the mainstream communities.

Our mission is to preserve the tradition of the exhibition of American and international lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer independent film that reflects the diversity of our community. qFLIX USA presents this film festival for, by, and about our community. We produce this festival for the education, entertainment, and enjoyment of past, present and future generations.

State Representative Malcolm Kenyatta to Receive the qFLIX Philadelphia 2019 Harvey Milk Community Service Award on Opening Night



qFLIX MARCH 25 - 31
Philadelphia
The LGBTQ+ Film Festival
Twenty-Five Years of Tradition **2019**

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BLACK & PINK GALA

MARCH 25TH, 2019