



**MEDIA CONTACT:**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Youth Pride, Inc. Welcomes New Board Members**

Providence, R.I. – December 12, 2018 -- Youth Pride, Inc. is excited to announce three new Board Members as of December 2018. Bringing diverse and extensive experience in community relations, business, and healthcare, the new Board Members share in YPI's core values of leadership, affirmation, and community for all LGBTQ youth in Rhode Island. "All three of our newest Board members embody the spirit of community and bring talent, expertise and energy to the table. We are very fortunate to have them by our side as we continue to strengthen community in Rhode Island.", Michelle Saunders, Board Chair.



**Guillaume Bagal** leads **Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Rhode Island's** diversity and inclusion efforts. Guillaume, whose experience spans corporate and government settings, served as the associate director of policy for Whitman-Walker Health, a legal and healthcare institute in Washington, DC with expertise in LGBTQ health and HIV care. Guillaume held roles at the Center for Global Health & Diplomacy and Avalere Health in the D.C. area. He has served on a number of boards including the National Institute of Health Community Advisory Board and was elected president of the Gay and Lesbian Activist Alliance (GLAA). He has a Bachelor's degree in Biology and French, and earned two master's degrees – one in healthcare administration and policy from George Mason University and the second in sociology from East Carolina University, both with high honors. He authored the health chapter of "Intersecting Injustice" in 2018, which addressed LGBTQ poverty and economic justice. Guillaume is excited to lend his advocacy skills and coalition building

expertise to help YPI make Rhode Island a safer place for LGBTQ youth.



**Tom Canterino, Co-Founder & Vice President** at **Ageless Innovation LLC** Tom is an innovator, entrepreneur, life-long student of marketing and sales, and on occasion – a teacher of these subjects. Professionally, he is dedicated to achieving growth through new initiatives and the design and execution of innovative marketing and business development programs. Prior to cofounding Ageless Innovation, Canterino's experience includes starting over five companies in the past ten years, including 2 non-profit organizations, he serves on the advisory board for 2 start-ups in the US, and is an active volunteer in the community. He also led and defined Hasbro's senior care channel, selling and marketing to professional caregivers and corporate level senior communities. Ageless Innovation launched earlier this year, aiming to develop products to stimulate and foster meaningful connections for older adults, and their first brand being Joy for All Companion Pets. He is a junior Olympic champion skier, aquatics coach, and volunteer for the Rhode Island Special

Olympics. Tom is an active advocate for the well-being and equal rights for the LGBTQ community and is excited to serve on the Youth Pride RI Board of Directors.



**Tayla Reo** works on the **global publishing team** at **Hasbro, Inc.**, editing and managing book projects for brands like My Little Pony, Transformers and Littlest Pet Shop. At Hasbro, Tayla leads the PRIDE Network, organizing LGBTQ-focused speaker series, socials and community action events and advocating for LGBTQ policies and benefits that best serve employees. Prior to joining Hasbro, Tayla lived in New York City where she worked in sales at Simon and Schuster while simultaneously earning a Master's degree in Publishing from Pace University. Before making the move to the big apple, she served as an organizational strengthening worker with the United States Peace Corps stationed in Mozambique. In this role, Tayla was a teacher and facilitator of health and wellness classes at an orphanage of 140 children and a counselor to those first learning their HIV positive status at the local hospital. She has a Bachelor's degree in English Literature from Saint Michael's College and is currently pursuing a continuing education certificate in Animation at Rhode Island School of Design.

Tayla is passionate about writing, leading and supporting those who need platforms to champion change. She is deeply committed to the mission of Youth Pride, Inc. and is ecstatic to serve as a board member.

For more information about Youth Pride RI email [info@youthprideri.org](mailto:info@youthprideri.org) or visit [www.youthprideri.org](http://www.youthprideri.org).

**About Youth Pride RI:**

Youth Pride, Inc. is dedicated to meeting the unique needs of youth and young adults impacted by sexual orientation and gender identity/expression while working to end the homophobic and transphobic environments in which they live, work and play.

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