



**County Commissioners**

Joshua G. Parsons, Chairman  
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March 11, 2024

Joshua Schwartz, President  
Lissa Holland, Executive Director  
Lancaster Public Library Board of Trustees  
151 North Queen Street  
Lancaster, PA 17603  
(sent via email)

Dear Mr. Schwartz and Ms. Holland:

I have become aware of the "Drag Queen Story Hour" which the Lancaster Public Library plans to host on March 23 for "babies, toddlers, children." As you may know, I and many others have publicly stated that this event is not appropriate for "babies, toddlers, children." I am sure that others will also weigh in and voice their strong disapproval. Since making that statement, I have become aware of some disturbing information about the performer, which is further reason to not hold such an event.

It's entirely appropriate that there's an uproar over the Drag Queen Story Hour being hosted by the Lancaster Public Library. The outrage is not over a person who happens to identify as LGBTQ+ and will be reading an age-appropriate book like "A Cat in a Hat." What this is about is promoting hypersexualization and drag to young children.

A common definition of Drag Queens is that they are men "who dress up in women's clothing, typically for public performance. The man's clothing and makeup are typically greatly exaggerated, so the result is typically a parody of women in general."

It's no secret that I am a strong conservative, so no one is surprised by my thoughts on the issue. So, what do some progressive, left-wing people say about drag? In an interesting article in "CounterPunch" magazine, a far-left online magazine provides this view of drag: "Drag is a kind of hypersexualized variety show, often heavy on sexual innuendo and double entendre, featuring performances by men, typically in exaggerated costumes and makeup associated with women's objectified status in patriarchy, which claims to be breaking down gender stereotypes by caricaturing the other sex." The article goes on to equate Drag Queen Story Hour for kids to harmful cultural appropriation.

Not all entertainment involving cross-dressing is hypersexualized. We can and should distinguish between TV shows like "Bosom Buddies" and movies like "Tootsie" or "Mrs. Doubtfire" that are completely different than the performances of Drag Queens.



So how does this relate to the Drag Queen Story Hour being hosted by the Lancaster Public Library? Well, let's take a look at the performer who will be reading to the children, Amie Vanité, who owns AV Productions, has to say about some of Amie's other performances. Mind you, this is all available publicly on the performer's Facebook page. And I will warn you beforehand that the language and graphics are not family friendly.

**What to expect**

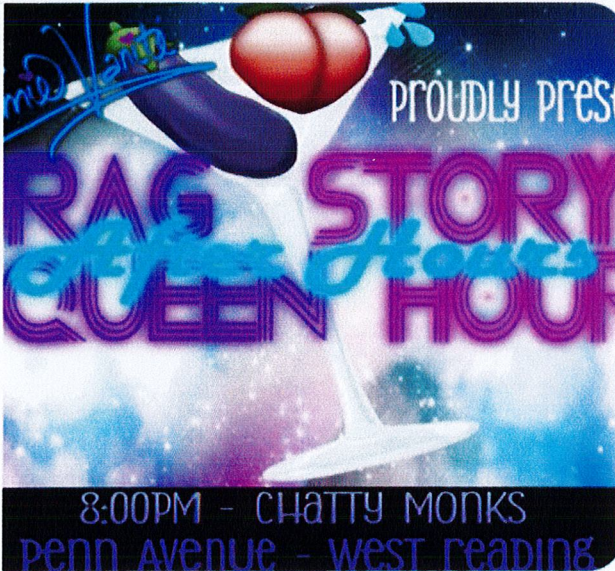
Well, you degenerates - SHE'S F\*#@#IN BACK

Join the incomparable Amie Vanité at Chatty Monks for DRAG QUEEN STORY HOUR: AFTER HOURS!!!!

Much like a regular Story Hour, Amie will read stories, perform songs, and we might have a DIY craft (TBD)... but nothing about this show is appropriate for your semen demon offspring - bless their little snotty-nosed, walking petri dish hearts..

**YOU MUST BE 18+ TO ATTEND  
CALL 484.818.0176 FOR RESERVATIONS**

**GRAB YOUR \$1s, \$5s, \$10s, \$20s, \$50s, \$100s (Amie accepts all U.S. paper currencies) AND GET OUT TO SEE THIS**



Found at: Facebook.com/amie.kincade

**Details**

55 people responded

Event by AV Productions, Allison Wissinger Shannon and Amie Vanité

Allison Clothing Company

Public · Anyone on or off Facebook

For the last 4 years, she's been doing some really cute-ass bullshit for all your little snot-nosed bastards.. bless them, the goddamn petri dishes..

Last year, she debuted a new show on October 8, 2021 and it was a HIT!!

Join the incomparable Amie Vanité again at Allison Clothing Co. (aka The Mothership, aka The Boozy Spot, aka the V. I. TRIPPLE P) for DRAG QUEEN STORY HOUR: AFTER HOURS!!!!

Much like a regular Story Hour, Amie will read stories, perform songs, and we'll have a very adult DIY craft... but this show is NOT suitable for your aforementioned spawn....

There is a \$10 Cover and YOU MUST BE 21+ TO ATTEND (apologies to all the adults that apparently aren't actually full adults yet)

GRAB YOUR \$1s, \$5s, \$10s, \$20s, \$50s, \$100s (Amie accepts all U.S. paper currencies) AND GET OUT TO SEE THIS SHOW!!!!

We're very excited in all the ways - things are already tingling..

CAN'T WAIT TO SEE YOU THERE!!!! See less

Parties West Reading, Pennsylvania

Found at: facebook.com/AmieVanite Productions

It's America, adults can do what they want. But choosing someone who specializes in sexually charged performances and talks about children in such a manner should not be reading to "babies, toddlers, children." Adults should not seek to entertain children with the hypersexualization of women or the sexualized caricature of women.

Don't take it from me and others in our community, let's look at what Kitty Demure, a Drag Queen, has to say about Drag Queen Story Hour. . "I have no idea why you want Drag Queens to read books to your children? ... Would you want a stripper or porn star to influence your child?"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fMSZdl2KVko>

Given all that has been revealed, how can anyone believe that providing Drag Queen Story Hour for "babies, toddlers, children" is appropriate? It simply is not.

Lancaster is such a wonderful caring community, one which values different people and perspectives. However, as noted and revealed in this letter, this event does not fit in a community, that cares, values and protects our children.

Therefore, I am compelled as a public official, sworn to protect the "health and welfare" of the citizens of Lancaster County, especially our children, to speak out against such an event that either directly or indirectly promotes such hypersexualization entertainment. Furthermore, I must insist that the Lancaster Public Library rescind the decision to host this event for the "babies, toddlers, children" in our community! And to be clear, I don't want Lancaster County's tax dollars funding an organization that hosts such an event.

As with other community issues, I anticipate that we will have people come to our public meeting(s) this week to address this issue. Therefore, I plan to make a statement during a meeting regarding the concerns raised in this letter, so I wanted to be sure you have this as soon as possible. Given the information, it is my hope that you will make the right decision and not host the Drag Queen Story Hour.

Sincerely,



Ray D'Agostino  
County Commissioner

Copy: Dale Hamby, President, Lancaster County Library System  
Karla Trout, Executive Director, Lancaster County Library System