

## Screen Actors Guild LGBT Committee

Dear SAG Members:

I am Jason Stuart, a SAG member since 1978. I have done over 80 films and TV shows. All I ever wanted to do was be a good actor, make a living and work with like minded people.

I am also a gay man. I came out on one of the popular talk shows in 1993 and started doing my stand up as an openly gay comedian and got a fair amount of success which made my acting career took off. I tell you all of this to let you know who I am and where I come from.

We started the first ever SAG LGBT Actors Caucus with the support of Duncan Crabtree-Ireland (SAG General Counsel), Ann Marie Johnson (National Board Member) and Sumi Haru (EEOC National Chair). We had a meeting in NY and became a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Actors Committee (Committee).

Our goal is to provide support to LGBT actors and to educate the membership, the industry, and the public on LGBT actors' issues, with a focus on ending discrimination against LGBT actors in the workplace.

We have had several Committee meetings. We are in the process of changing the language in the union Constitution from sexual preference to sexual orientation and gender identity. We are working on meeting with GLAAD to include openly gay actors in their agenda and awards. We are in talks to make the process of obtaining health coverage in our plans equal to our straight actor counter parts. And lastly, we are joining OUTFEST as community collaborators. OUTFEST is in the process of having us sponsor a film and hopefully having an outreach party after. In addition, we will have a table at the event for actors to speak with us and become part of our Committee.

Please spread the news to other gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and straight allies to email us and get on the list for our future events

and meetings. Let us know who you are by emailing  
LGBTActors@sag.org or calling (323) 549-6556.

Thank you. Jason Stuart

LGBT National Chair