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### To Purchase Tickets:

- Order online at [MIM.org](http://MIM.org)
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- Visit MIM's Ticket Office at 4725 E. Mayo Blvd., Phoenix  
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**MIM MUSIC THEATER**  
Located in the Musical Instrument Museum

### Gay Marriage from p 25

same-sex marriage ban, was running errands on October 17 when he and his husband got the news. They scrambled downtown but accidentally went to the wrong clerk's office — one that handles divorces, they were told. They ran around the corner to the correct office and watched as couples obtained their licenses and married just outside.

"For us, it was sort of anti-climactic," Pochert said. "Because even though we won the case, and we were so excited, it started becoming the day for the people getting their marriage licenses and having their weddings. And we just sort of stood in the background. It was really starting to be a day for the rest of Arizona."

On the Friday night after same-sex marriage was made legal, a celebratory gathering was held at the Southwest Conference United Church of Christ in Central Phoenix. Hundreds of people gathered into a small, packed room. Before the event began, the crowd erupted into applause lasting several minutes.

Various leaders of marriage-equality groups, the attorneys in the two cases, and several of the plaintiffs spoke.

"What a pleasure, what an honor," Shawn Aiken said. "What an honor it was for these lawyers to make sure that wedding bells ring in Arizona, today and forever."

The crowd cheered as a couple in the middle of the audience held up their signed marriage certificate.

Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton spoke at the event. "I do want to thank the courageous couples who served in this case," he said. "We honor you and thank you. We are a better city, a better state, because of your courage. It is a civil rights victory for the people of this community, not just LGBT couples. It's a civil rights victory for everyone in the state of Arizona."

But, already, the group began to look to what must come next. "This work has paid off, but it isn't finished," said Jeremy Zegas, program director of Why Marriage Matters Arizona. "The fight isn't over until all Americans have the freedom to marry."

Jenny Pizer seconded him: "We are winning here. We are winning across the country. And we need to take this energy, this brilliant progress, the persuasive powers that all of you are putting to work, and do the next chapter of the work. Because we are not actually done here in Arizona."

Friday's decision leaves some legal gray areas. Same-sex marriages are now recognized in the state, but it is not clear yet how this will affect some existing laws, including those surrounding adoption rights.

In terms of new legislation, Pizer and many of the plaintiffs spoke of the need for enactment of state-level, non-discrimination protections in housing, employment, and business for LGBT citizens. Just because laws have changed, does not mean attitudes have, she warned.

"SB 1062 passed last year out of the be-

lief that it was important that florists and bakers and people involved in the wedding industry should be able to turn away same-sex couples," Pizer said. "Let us not think that those attitudes have changed overnight. They are sure to come back again."

Indeed, the reaction to Friday's decision was far from universally positive. Governor Jan Brewer released a statement calling it "deeply troubling" that a federal judge would overturn the voters' decision.

Cathi Herrod, president of the Center for Arizona Policy, the conservative Christian group behind much of the legislation that was torn down on Friday, released a statement expressing her disgust with the ruling.

"Today, we grieve," she said. "We grieve for the children who now have no chance of growing up with a mom and a dad. We mourn the loss of a culture and its ethical foundation. We mourn a culture that continues to turn its back on timeless principles. But we do not despair. We do not throw in the towel. We do not give up. Just as we have worked to build a culture of life, we will focus on rebuilding a culture of marriage as the union of one man and one woman."

The Episcopal Church offered to bless all same-sex marriages performed in the state, but Arizona's Catholic bishops issued a statement calling Sedwick's decision "a misunderstanding of the institution of marriage."

At Friday night's celebration, John Dorhauer, the United Church of Christ leader who earlier had performed the county's first same-sex marriage, gave a speech aimed at countering such views.

"I speak on behalf of faith leaders who owe the LGBT community a huge apology," he said. "We have come a long way, but we have a long way to go to win back your trust. We hope that moments like this help to repair the damage created in our relationships with each other. We not only refused to do your weddings; we were the ones who empowered political leaders across the country to think that this was the religious thing to do. I want to offer a heartfelt and sincere apology for the pain we've inflicted upon your community. You honor us by being here today, and [by] entrusting to us moments like this."

Dorhauer said he spoke on behalf of the 150 clergy members statewide who gathered outside marriage-licensing offices that day and provided their services for free: "The God who created you as the beautiful children you are celebrates your love for each other and rejoices."

Zegas informed the crowd that marriages would be performed without charge in the courtyard outside the Maricopa County Superior Court clerk's office for the next week and that clergy people would be available after the evening's event to perform marriages for anyone who so desired.

A group of friends eagerly turned to a couple standing among them. The couple looked at each other, smiled, laughed, and shook their heads no. Arizona was ready on October 17, but they were not ready yet. **E-mail [ashley.cusick@newtimes.com](mailto:ashley.cusick@newtimes.com).**