6th Annual Stonewall Lecture 2-2-2023

Roger Williams University School of Law

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6th Annual Stonewall Lecture

Thursday, February 2, 2023
4:30pm - 6:15 pm
School of Law
Law 262
RSVP Required

The 1969 Stonewall Riots marked a critical turn in the fight for LGBTQ rights, serving as the impetus for the formation of several gay, lesbian and bisexual civil rights organizations. Today we honor the numerous individuals who have fought for LGBTQ equality and justice and the many contributions they have made to advance this modern day civil rights movement.
This year's keynote speaker is Senator Dawn Euer L'10. Senator Euer will be discussing the importance of allyship. *What is allyship? Join the discussion...*

Dawn Euer was elected in 2017 to serve Rhode Island Senate District 13 which encompasses Jamestown and most of Newport. Senator Euer was appointed Chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Environment and Agriculture in January 2021. She is also a member of the Judiciary Committee and the Committee on Rules, Government Ethics and Oversight. She works as Legal Counsel for Capitol Good Fund and in private practice at the Law Office of Dawn Euer.

Senator Euer is deeply passionate about preserving and protecting our environment and increasing affordable housing, human rights protections, women’s reproductive rights and safe and accessible access to voting. She is dedicated to promoting equity in health and education, environmental justice, and to creating a sustainable climate-conscious economy. As the representative of a district on the front lines of climate change, she is an outspoken advocate for substantial investments in renewable energy and resiliency. Dawn has always been a steadfast ally to the LGBTQ+ community and served as the Deputy Campaign Manager of Marriage Equality Rhode Island. In her role, she helped oversee the largest grassroots campaign in Rhode Island's history that led to Rhode Island being the tenth state to recognize the rights and dignity of same sex couples.

During her time in the legislature, Senator Euer sponsored successful legislation to assist LGBTQ+ military veterans who were unfairly discharged under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" to have
their discharges recognized as honorable and access state veteran benefits. Senator Euer was the lead sponsor of 2021's historic Act on Climate, the most comprehensive climate legislation in Rhode Island history. She was also lead sponsor of the 2022 Let Rhode Island Vote Act and the 2022 Affordable Clean Energy Security Act.

4:30 PM lecture followed by a 5:30 PM reception.

REGISTER HERE

Special Accommodations
Persons who, because of a special need or condition, would like to request an accommodation for an event should contact the Office of Programs & Events, as soon as possible, but no later than 72 hours before the event, so that appropriate arrangements can be made. lawevents@rwu.edu

In 2017, Roger Williams School of Law established its annual Stonewall Lecture. The title of the lecture series pays tribute to the 1969 events known as the Stonewall Uprising. The lecture series itself pays tribute to all the individuals who have fought for LGBTQ+ equality and justice and the contributions they have made to advance this civil rights movement.

On June 28, 1969 police raided the Stonewall Inn, a popular LGBTQ+ bar and now a national monument, located in the Greenwich Village section of New York City. Although this was not the first time the bar had been raided, the event sparked the local LGBTQ+ community to fight back. The uprising that continued for the next 5 days was a turning point in the civil rights struggle for LGBTQ+ rights. This was not the first efforts at activism for LGBTQ+ rights but because of this event the public support and awareness that developed was unprecedented.
On February 2, 2023, Roger Williams School of Law will hold its 6th Annual Stonewall Lecture. This year’s keynote speaker is Senator Dawn Euer L’10. Senator Euer represents RI Senate District 13, which encompasses Jamestown and most of Newport. An activist and organizer, Senator Euer is a staunch ally to the LGBTQ+ community. She served as the Deputy Campaign Manager of Marriage Equality Rhode Island, a local grassroots campaign leading to RI being the 10th state to recognize the rights and dignity of same sex couples. Senator Euer also sponsored successful legislation assisting LGBTQ+ military veterans unfairly discharged under the “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy. The legislation allows LGBTQ+ military veterans’ discharges to be recognized as honorable, allowing access to state veteran benefits.

Senator Euer’s discussion for the 6th Annual Stonewall Lecture will discuss the importance of allyship. *What is allyship?* Join the discussion...

Please register to attend the Stonewall Lecture.

Rhode Island Senator and Chair of the Judiciary Committee, Dawn Euer L’10, gave RWU’s 6th annual Stonewall Lecture last Thursday. Senator Euer engaged our law students in a conversation on allyship. The President of our LGBTQ+ Alliance, Judd Krasher, interviewed the Senator and explored the complexities of what it truly means to be an ally to any community. Before running for office, Senator Euer was instrumental in the campaign for marriage equality. As Senator, she has been lead sponsor of legislation guaranteeing benefits to LGBTQ+ veterans. This program was sponsored by the Office of Diversity and Outreach.

Photos: @iknowjustincase
Ana Barraza, Michael Donnelly-Boylen, Sen. Dawn Euer, Dean Greg Bowman, Lorraine Lalli, Colleen Brown