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CONTACT: Michelle Mobley, Director of Communications
mmobley@capitalpride.org or 202-359-1957



Capital Pride Announces Virginia's Lieutenant Governor Ralph S. Northam will be honored at the 2014 Heroes Gala

WASHINGTON, DC -- Capital Pride is proud to announce Virginia's Lieutenant Governor Ralph S. Northam will receive the **Paving the Way award**. The Lieutenant Governor will be honored at the **Capital Pride Heroes Gala & Silent Auction**, Presented by Hilton Hotels & Resorts, on **Wednesday, May 21, 2014, 7:00-10:00 p.m.**, at the Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22209.

The Paving the Way award honors those in public life who have shown courage and leadership in helping to advance the cause of LGBT rights.

Ralph Northam grew up working on the Chesapeake Bay before attending Virginia Military Institute, where he graduated with distinction and was President of the Honor Court. After graduating from Eastern Virginia Medical School, Northam served eight years active duty in the United States Army, rising to the rank of Major. Upon his return from treating soldiers injured in Desert Storm, Northam began practicing pediatric neurology at Children's Hospital of the King's Daughters in Norfolk. Northam also serves as Assistant Professor of Neurology at Eastern Virginia Medical School and has ten years of volunteer service as Medical Director for the Edmarc Hospice for Children in Portsmouth.

As a State Senator from 2008-2013, Northam scored numerous major legislative accomplishments, including helping to prohibit smoking in restaurants, protecting youth athletes who have sustained concussions, improving the health of the Chesapeake Bay, and shielding our first responders from communicable diseases.

Elected Lieutenant Governor on November 5, 2013, Northam's top priorities are economic development, women's health, early childhood education and development, and meaningful mental health reform.

Lieutenant Governor Northam has been a steadfast advocate for LGBT rights over the years, and an outspoken supporter of same-sex marriage in Virginia. From his votes supporting legislation to prohibit the state government from discriminating against employees based on their sexual orientation, to his support for same-sex marriage and adoption rights, the Lieutenant Governor has always been a vocal advocate for the LGBT community.

The 2014 Heroes Gala is presented by Hilton Hotels & Resorts. Additional event sponsors include the Artisphere, Absolute Barefoot Wine & Bubbly, Celebrity Cruises, Rainbow Floral Studios, State Farm Insurance, UBER, Verizon, and Wells Fargo.

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Capital Pride, located in Washington, DC, is the non-profit organization dedicated to serving the needs of the LGBT community and its partners through educational events, entertainment, community outreach, and celebrations of diversity.

For Editorial Requests: Michelle Mobley | mmobley@capitalpride.org | 202-359-1957

2000 14th ST NW Suite 105 ♦ Washington, DC 20009
capitalpride.org ♦ [facebook.com/CapitalPrideDC](https://www.facebook.com/CapitalPrideDC) ♦ [@CapitalPrideDC](https://twitter.com/CapitalPrideDC)
Tel/Fax: (202) 719-5304

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