

June 6, 2022

ABC NEWS ANNOUNCES 'SOUL OF A NATION' PRIDE MONTH SPECIAL, EXPLORING THE LGBTQ+ EXPERIENCE

Primetime Special Airs Thursday, June 9 on ABC, Next Day on Hulu

Steven Canals, Co-Creator of the Groundbreaking FX series POSE, Serves as Executive Producer on the Project



ABC News*

ABC News' "Soul of a Nation" will present a one-hour primetime special, "PRIDE: To Be Seen," documenting the LGBTQ+ experience and examining what it means to be seen in the current moment as a member of the community. The special, hosted by actress and model **Cara Delevingne** with a special show open composed and performed by artist **Alok**, explores the meaning of Pride and celebrates and honors the past while looking ahead to the future. "Good Morning America" co-anchor **Robin Roberts** also explores the intersectionality of faith and queerness through a revealing conversation with pastor **Michael Walrond Jr.** of the First Corinthian Baptist Church in Harlem, New York. The special will also celebrate trans joy, with "Nightline" co-anchor **Juju Chang** sitting down with activist **Diamond Stylz** at the historic Stonewall Inn in New York City. Senior national correspondent **Steve Osunsami** highlights a group of teenagers devoted to creating an LGBTQ+-affirming learning environment as anti-LGBTQ+ legislation sweeps the nation. Osunsami also speaks to Camika Shelby, the mother of Nigel Shelby, a gay teen from Alabama who died by suicide. Correspondent **Gio Benitez** will have an exclusive primetime interview with newly appointed White House press secretary **Karine Jean-Pierre**, the first Black and openly LGBTQ+ woman in the role. "PRIDE: To Be Seen" also details the anthology of drag culture and the ballroom scene and how many

people now embrace the once underground artforms, featuring “POSE” star **Dominique Jackson** and “Drag Race”’s **Aquaria, Eureka, GotMik, Olivia Lux, Pangina Heals** and **Symone**. Correspondent **Alex Perez** will moderate the “Soul of a Nation” staple “In the Kitchen” discussion on parenting trans and queer children with actor/television host **Jonathan Bennett**, singer/actor **Joshua Colley** and **Schuyler Bailar**, the first openly transgender athlete to compete in any sport on NCAA Division I men’s team. “PRIDE: To Be Seen – A Soul of a Nation Presentation” airs **Thursday, June 9** (10:00-11:00 p.m. EDT), on ABC. **Steven Canals**, co-creator of the groundbreaking FX series “POSE,” is executive producer of the “Soul of a Nation” special.

“When I think of PRIDE I will always think of my queer and trans forebearers who were not afraid to rebel against discrimination,” **Canals** shared. “Alongside the ABC News team, I’m honored to contribute to the Soul of a Nation series by producing ‘PRIDE: To Be Seen,’ which celebrates all the ways the LGBTQ+ community continues to resist thereby creating change.”

“PRIDE: To Be Seen” is executive produced by Robert Zepeda, Catherine McKenzie, Seni Tienabeso and Steven Canals. ABC News’ “Soul of a Nation” was created by Marie Nelson.

Follow “Soul of a Nation” (**#SoulOfANation**) on [Instagram](#) and [Twitter](#).

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