



Log In

[Join HuffPost](#)[ENTERTAINMENT](#) [MUSIC](#) [LGBTQ](#) [JANELLE MONAE](#)

Janelle Monae Vows To Fight Anti-LGBTQ Bills: I'll Never 'Be Silent'

"If we're erasing history, how are we supposed to correct the mistakes that the past has made and create a better future?" Monáe asked.



By Ben Blanchet

Jun 8, 2023, 02:24 AM EDT | **Updated** an hour ago

[Janelle Monáe](#) said they aren't willing to "sit back and be silent" as lawmakers introduce anti-LGBTQ+ bills [in record numbers](#) around the country this year.

Monáe, who is nonbinary and goes by both she/her and they/them pronouns, [told Washington's NBC affiliate](#) that the best response to efforts to pass anti-LGBTQ+ bills is to be "fighting back" against them.

"As a nonbinary, queer, pansexual person, I am proud to be in this community," Monáe said.

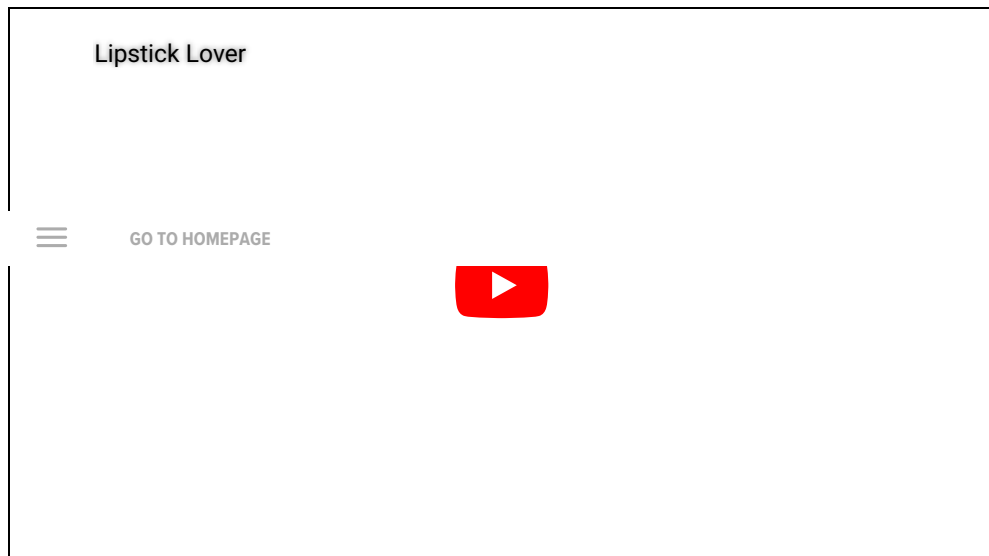
"I will never sit back and be silent about the injustices that are happening against our trans community. ... They're trying to erase our history, which is American history. If we're erasing history, how are we supposed to correct the mistakes that the past has made and create a

better future?"

The U.S. has experienced nearly 500 anti-LGBTQ bills so far this year, [according to American Civil Liberties Union data](#).

Monáe previously spoke out against "an agenda for erasure" [during an interview with CNN's](#) Christiane Amanpour last year in which the singer addressed Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis' (R) "Don't Say Gay" law and efforts from Texas Gov. Greg Abbott (R) [to restrict lessons](#) on race in his state's schools.

"These are real experiences for our ancestors, real experiences for us," they said. "And erasure is happening right underneath our noses. And it's being done through lawmaking."



Monáe, who is set to release the album "The Age of Pleasure" on Friday, [told The Sydney Morning Herald](#) that it's important to create "safe spaces for brown and Black people to experience joy, to be and to exist, free from oppression and fear."

"You can't even talk about certain things in school any more. Those who are trans, they're literally trying to erase their existence and not treat them with human decency," Monáe said.

"So, of course we fight, but even in the middle of the fight we take time to find joy."

RELATED

- MUSIC
- LGBTQ
- JANELLE MONAE

/ TRENDING /



Karine Jean-Pierre Will Not Discuss Golf With Fox News Reporter And That's That



Fox News Hosts Have Most Predictable Response To New York Wildfire Smoke



Rep. Lauren Boebert's Pride Flag Rant Receives Different Kind Of Salute



Zelenskyy Visits Area Flooded By Destroyed Dam



Californians Share Advice For Protecting Yourself From Wildfire Smoke

Entertainment

Don't miss a beat. Your culture and entertainment cheat-sheet.

SIGN UP

By entering your email and clicking Sign Up, you're agreeing to let us send you customized marketing messages about us and our advertising partners. You are also agreeing to our [Terms of Service](#) and [Privacy Policy](#).



Matty Healy Thanks Fans, Says He's 'Not Very Online' Amid Taylor Swift Breakup Reports



Keke Palmer Details How She Made The First Move With Boyfriend Darius Jackson



A Longtime Broadway Star Is Finally Getting Her Due In 'Some Like It Hot'

[< GO TO HOMEPAGE](#)



Ben Blanchet

[Suggest a correction](#)

293
 Comments posted on **HuffPost** today

[Comment](#)

AdChoices

Sponsored

POPULAR IN THE COMMUNITY

AdChoices

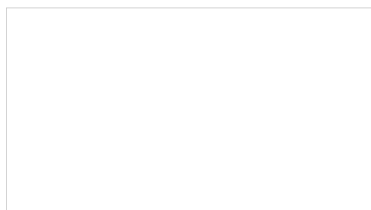
Sponsored

'Hold The Floor': Right-Wing Stages...

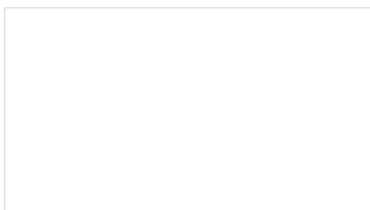
The Supreme Cc Gun Rights Deci

YOU MAY LIKE

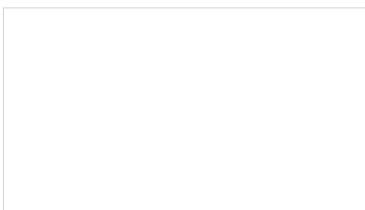
WHAT'S HOT



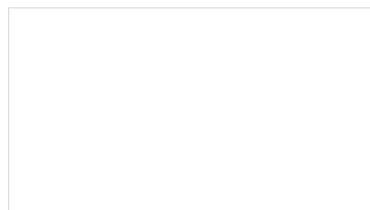
Street Artist Trolls Ron DeSantis With Guerrilla 'Say Gay' Campaign In Orlando



Mike Pence Compares Gender Transition Treatments For Kids To Getting A Tattoo

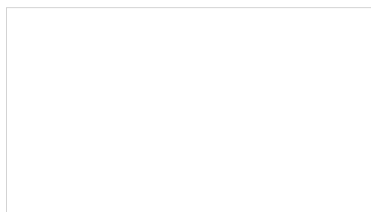


Chris Christie Says Trump's Insults About His Weight Prove Only 1 Thing

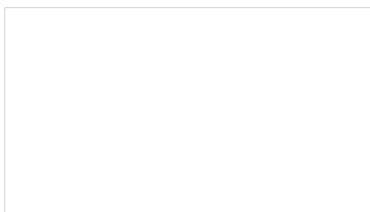


31 Products That Reviewers Say Deserve More Than 5 Stars

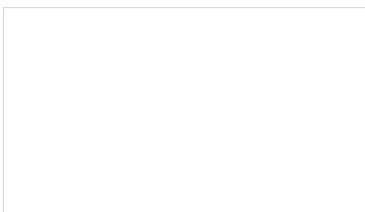
MORE IN ENTERTAINMENT



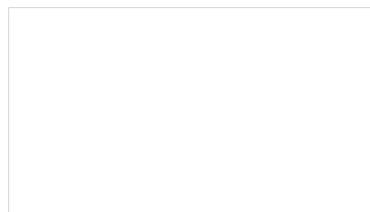
'Across The Spider-Verse' Producers Drop The Secret To Avoiding 'Superhero Fatigue'



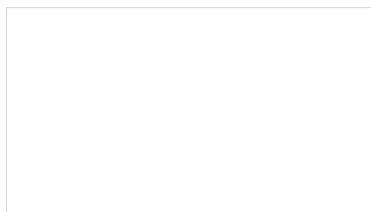
Arnold Schwarzenegger Nearly Ruined 1 Of The Most Famous Lines In Movie History



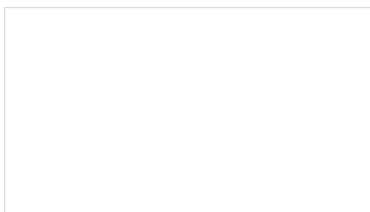
Jenna Ortega Reveals 1 Major Change Coming To 'Wednesday' Season 2



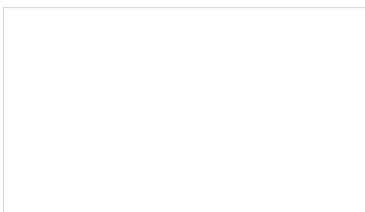
Steven Spielberg Says He Felt 'Helpless' About Drew Barrymore's Home Life While Making 'E.T.'



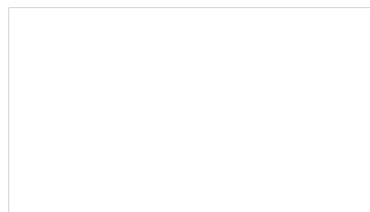
New Age Pianist George Winston Dead At Age 73



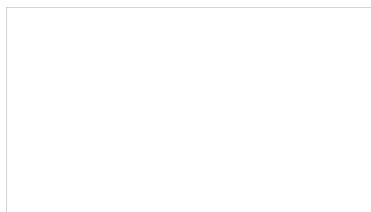
Drake Goes Viral After An 'Embarrassing' Credit Card Decline Moment On Livestream



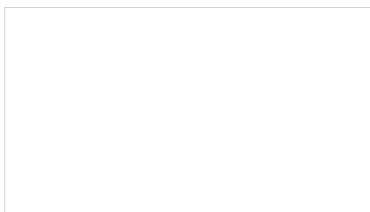
Tom Holland Shares Why His New Series Caused Him To Take A 1-Year Break



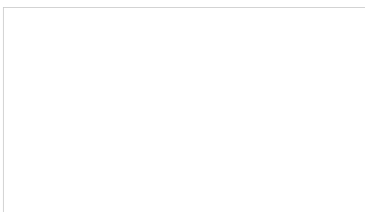
Jodie Comer Halts Broadway Performance Amid NYC Air Crisis



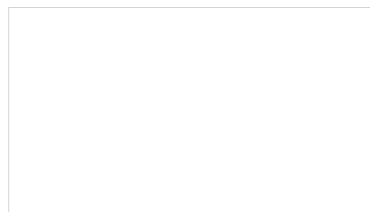
Matty Healy Thanks Fans, Says He's 'Not Very Online' Amid Taylor Swift Breakup Reports



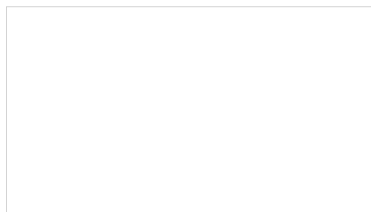
Keke Palmer Details How She Made The First Move With Boyfriend Darius Jackson



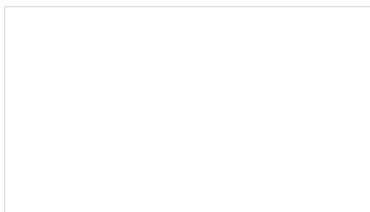
Elliot Page Reveals One 'Juno' Co-Star He Had 'Sexually Open' Relationship With



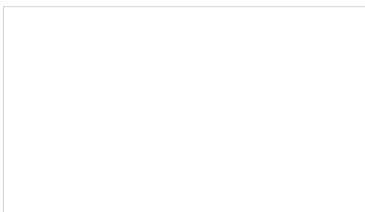
Jenna Bush Hager Reveals Why Her Kids Will 'Never Be Invited' On 'Today' Show Again



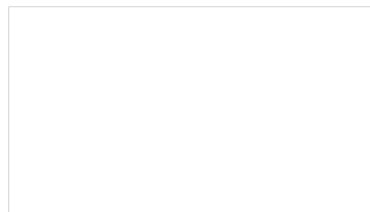
Martha Stewart Tells Workers To Do 1 Thing So U.S. Doesn't 'Go Down The Drain'



'Sex And The City' Author Can't Wait For Kim Cattrall's Return As Samantha



Shannen Doherty Shares Cancer Update Generating 'Fear' And 'Frustration'

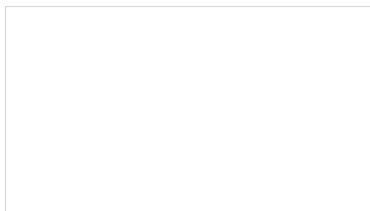


Elle Fanning Says She Lost Teenage Role For Being 'Unf*kable'**

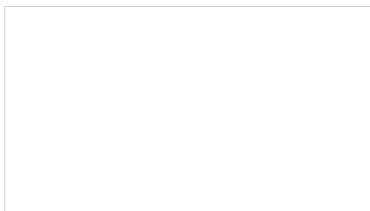
Brain

Samantha

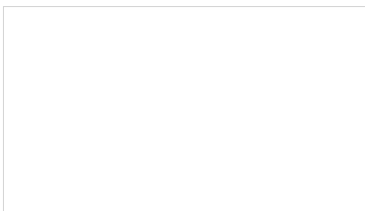
Turmon



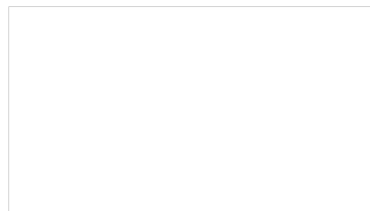
Kim Cattrall Says She's Changed Her Mind About Plastic Surgery



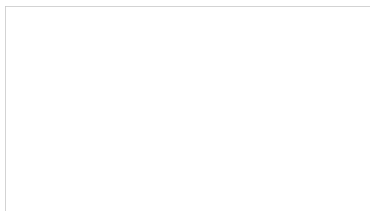
A Longtime Broadway Star Is Finally Getting Her Due In 'Some Like It Hot'



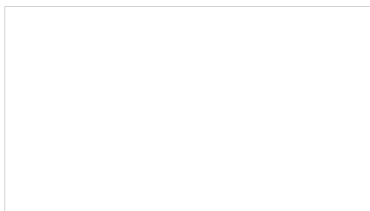
Chris Hemsworth Addresses Marvel Criticism From 'Heroes' Tarantino, Scorsese



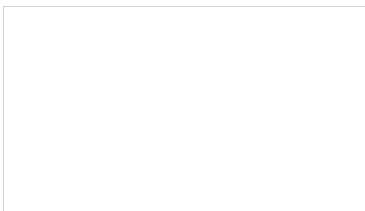
Françoise Gilot, Acclaimed Artist Who Loved And Later Left Picasso, Dead At 101



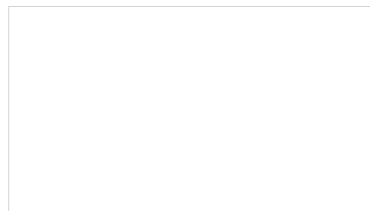
Joe Exotic Taunts Trump From Prison: 'I Will Save You A Bunk And A Bed Roll'



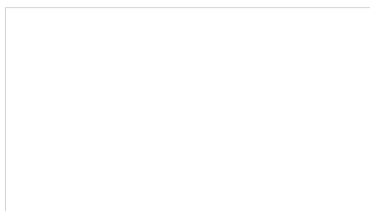
'Black Mirror' Creator Tried To Get Artificial Intelligence To Write An Episode, But It Was 'Sh*t'



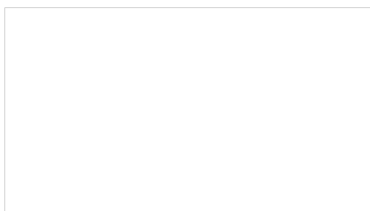
Ricki Lake Embraces 'Self Love' In Blissful Nude Instagram Post



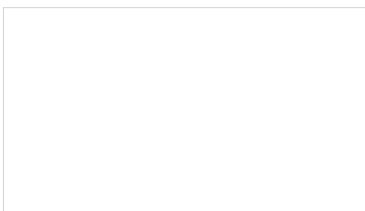
Chris Hemsworth Reveals How Jeremy Renner's Near-Fatal Accident Changed His Life



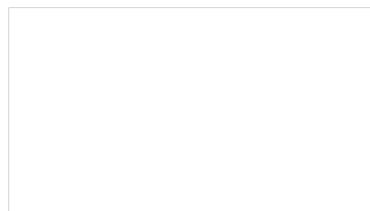
Susan Boyle Reveals She Had A Stroke As She Returns To 'Britain's Got Talent' Stage



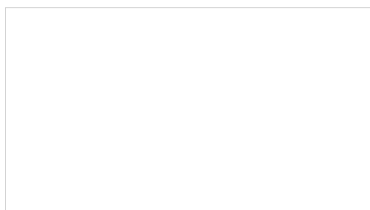
Jessie J Celebrates Partner Weeks After Giving Birth: 'Not Keeping Things Private'



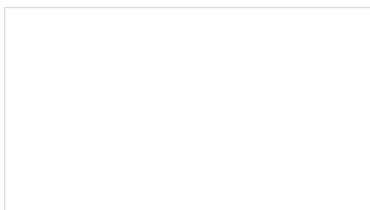
Zendaya And Timothée Chalamet Go Viral For Their Dance Moves At Birthday Party



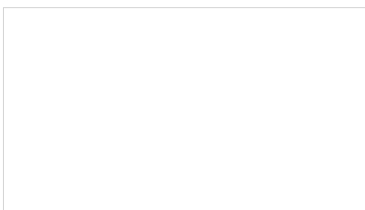
Paramore's Hayley Williams Says She 'Abused' Her Platform By Calling Out Fans Out At Show



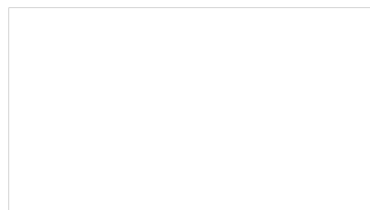
Debra Messing Says NBC Boss Pushed Her To Have 'Big Boobs' On 'Will & Grace'



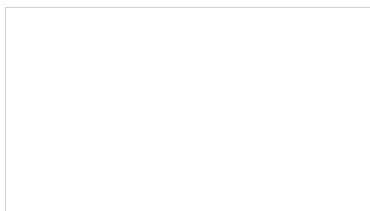
Pete Davidson Leaves R-Rated Voicemail For PETA Exec Who Criticized His Dog Purchase



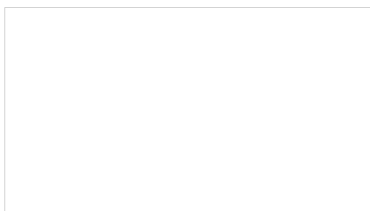
Actor Cuba Gooding Jr. Settles Civil Sex Abuse Case



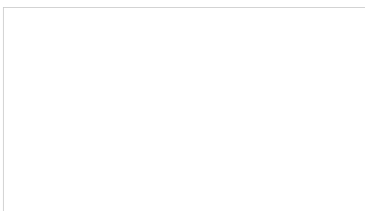
Leah Remini Celebrates Education Milestone After 35 Years In Scientology 'Cult'



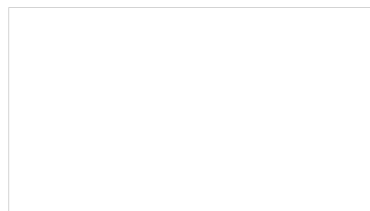
Astrud Gilberto, Singer Of 'The Girl From Ipanema,' Dead At 83



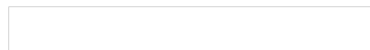
Anthony Hopkins Says Acting Is 'Pointless' In Marvel Movies



Drew Barrymore Considering Psychedelics To Explore Why She's Not Open To Relationship

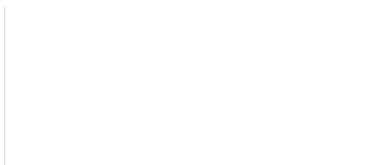


Jennifer Coolidge Wants 'White Lotus' Husband In Season 3 For A Brutal Reason





Arnold Schwarzenegger Says Heaven Is 'Fantasy' And 'Nothing' Happens When We Die



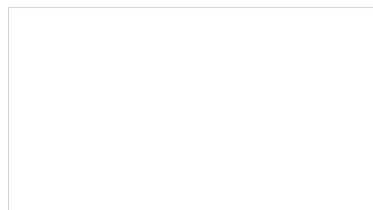
Anna Shay, Fan Favorite On 'Bling Empire,' Dead At 62



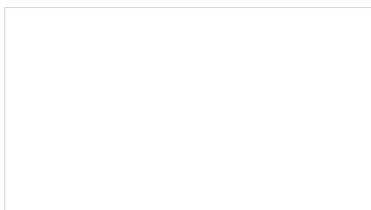
Drew Barrymore Slams Tabloids Claiming She Wants Her Mother Dead



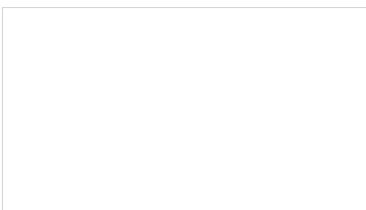
Tyler James Williams Addresses 'Dangerous' Rumors About His Sexuality



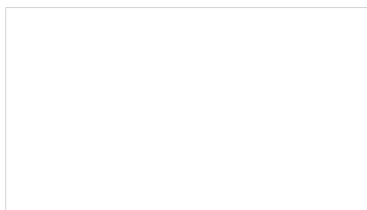
Dr. Phil Stands By His Troubling 2016 Interview With Shelley Duvall



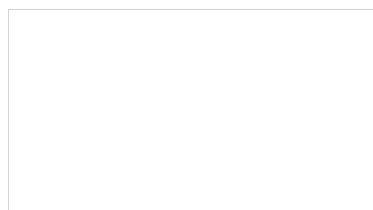
'Glamorous' Trailer Has Kim Cattrall In Charge Of Queer-Inclusive Beauty Empire



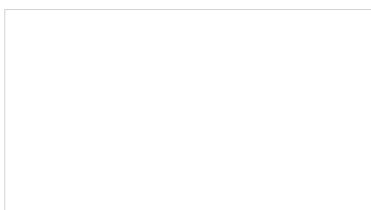
Emmy Rossum Opens Up About Playing Tom Holland's Mom Despite Questionable Age Gap



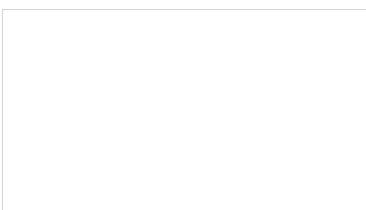
Taylor Swift Reportedly Calls It Quits With Matty Healy



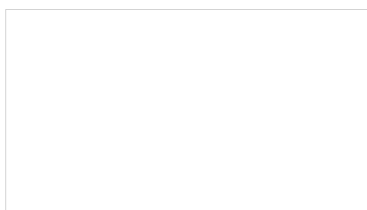
Taylor Swift Hilariously Reacts To Accidentally Swallowing 'Delicious' Bug Onstage



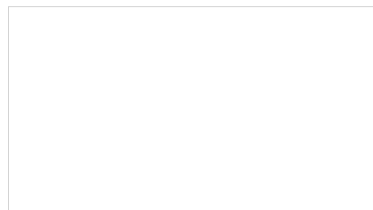
Chrissy Teigen Thought She Had An Identical Twin, But The Truth Was Much More Confusing



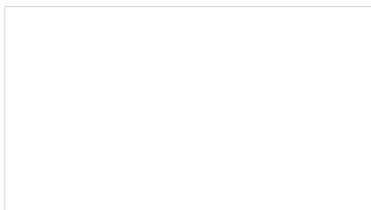
Sharon Stone Says She Hasn't Had Work Since Her 2001 Stroke



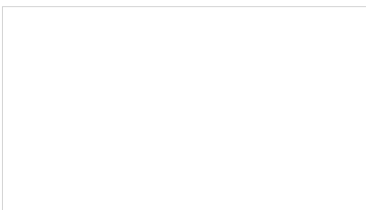
Prince Harry A No-Show On First Day Of Court Showdown With British Tabloid Publisher



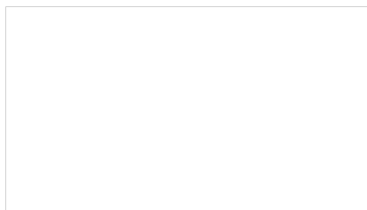
Princess Eugenie Welcomes Second Child, Buckingham Palace Says



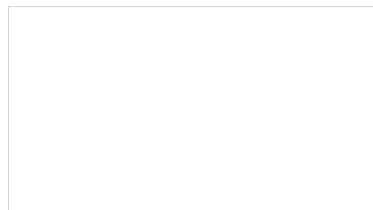
Jessica Chastain Explains Why She Kept Masking Up At Awards Shows Despite Backlash



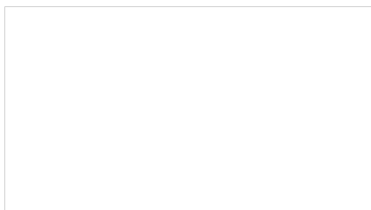
Arnold Schwarzenegger Details Moment He Told Maria Shriver About Maid's Son



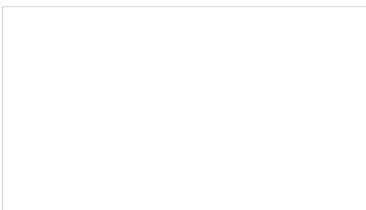
Harrison Ford Admits He Had 'Complicated' Tension With Brad Pitt On 'Devil's Own' Set



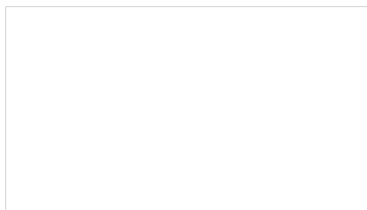
Dwayne Johnson Reveals He's Returning To 'Fast & Furious' Franchise In New Spinoff



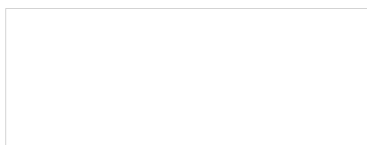
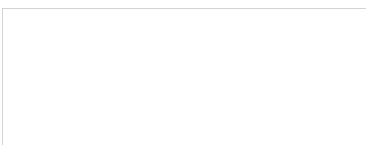
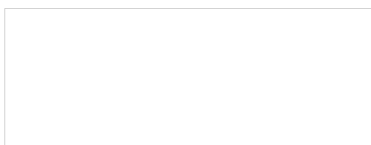
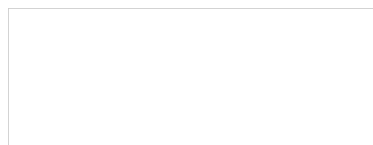
Lily-Rose Depp Reveals She Tries To 'Steer Clear' Of The Weeknd On 'The Idol' Set



Danny Bonaduce Bound For Brain Surgery After Losing His Ability To Walk



Taylor Swift Breaks Silence And Condemns Anti-LGBTQ Bills During Eras Tour





Jason Segel Says He Was 'Really Unhappy' During Part Of 'How I Met Your Mother'



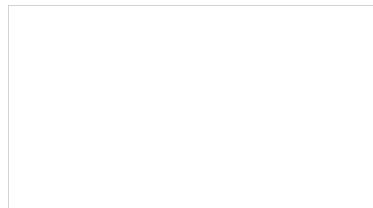
Sydney Sweeney Says Her Dad 'Walked Out' After Watching Racy 'Euphoria' Scenes



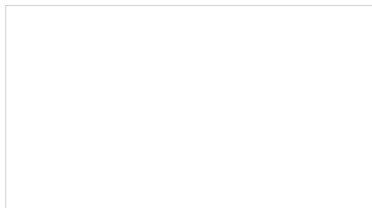
Shaggy Says Everyone Got A Big Thing Wrong About 'It Wasn't Me'



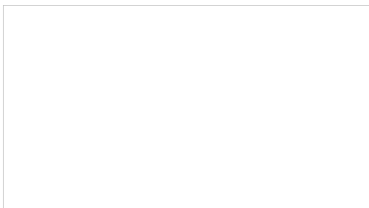
After 11 Years, Matchbox Twenty Is Back And Done With 'Manufactured Angst'



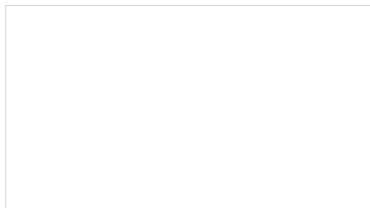
Beanie Feldstein And Bonnie-Chance Roberts Had The Most Magical Wedding Theme



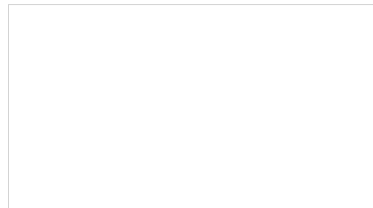
Bella Ramsey Fears The Internet's Thirst For 'Daddy' Pedro Pascal Has 'Gone Too Far'



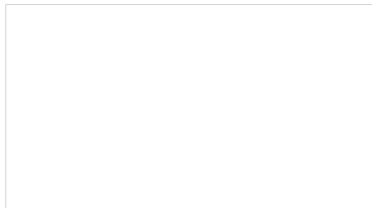
Elliot Page Says Actor Warned: 'I'm Going To Fk You To Make You Realize You Aren't Gay'**



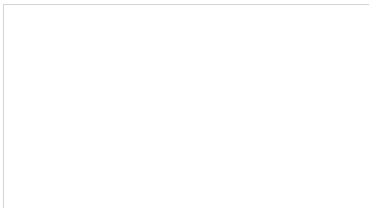
Mary Steenburgen Says She Got Turned On By Controversial Actor In Love Scene



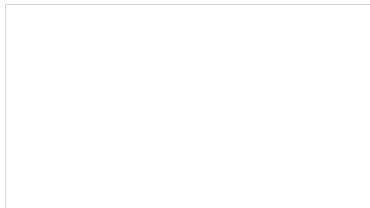
Legendary Songwriter Cynthia Weil Dead At 82



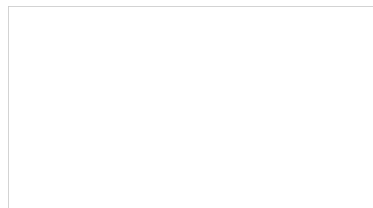
Brooke Shields Fought To Keep 17-Year-Old Daughter From Modeling



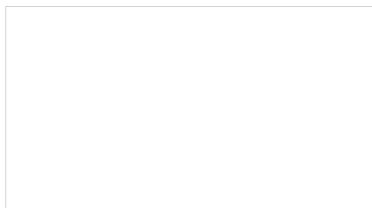
Padma Lakshmi Announces Departure From 'Top Chef'



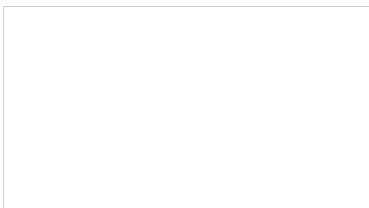
Freddie Mercury Auction Suggests Earlier Title For Queen's 'Bohemian Rhapsody'



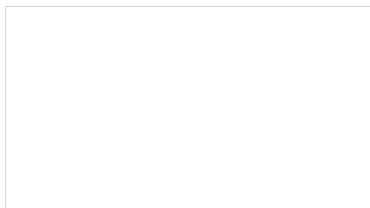
Jonathan Bailey And Matt Bomer Are Star-Crossed Lovers In 'Fellow Travelers' Teaser



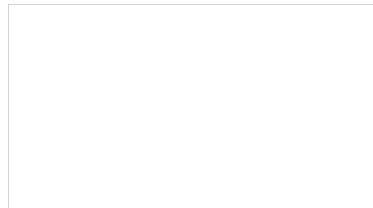
Dwayne Johnson Breaks Silence On Vin Diesel Feud In 'Furious' Fashion



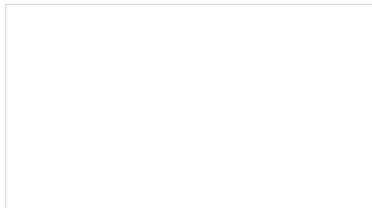
Jacky Oh, Former Star Of 'Wild 'N Out,' Dead At 32



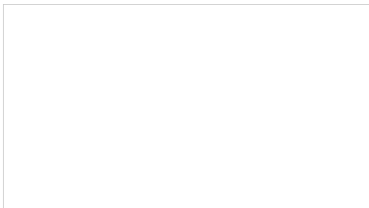
Ali Wong Says It's 'Weird' How Interested People Are In Her Relationship With Bill Hader



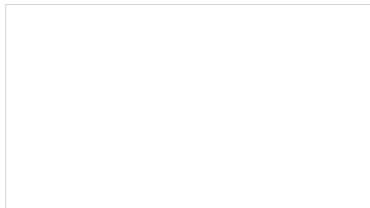
Tom Hanks Admits The Ugly Truth About Several Of His Movies



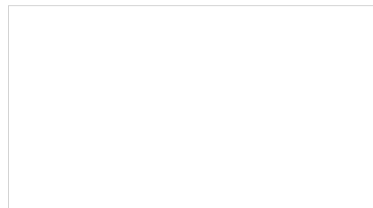
Carson Daly's Letter From The AARP Has Us Feeling Older Than Ever



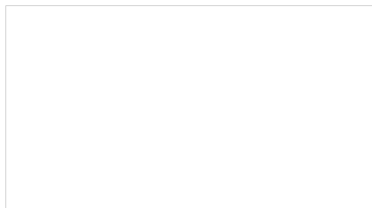
Ryan Gosling Says He Was Cast In 'The Notebook' For A Pretty Unflattering Reason



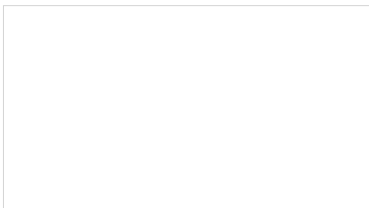
A Very Pregnant Rihanna Wears 'Use A Condom' Tee, And Twitter Users Totally Approve



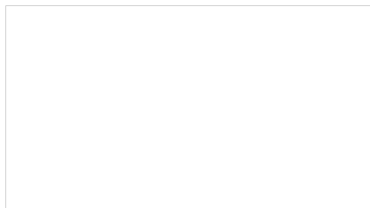
Julia Louis-Dreyfus Is Annoyed That Women Do This 1 Common Thing Wav



Zoey Deschanel Is Totally Unrecognizable With Her New Blond



Tupac Shakur To Be Honored With Posthumous Star On Hollywood Walk



Things Heat Up On 'The Ultimatum:

Women Do This Common Thing They
Too Much

Unrecognizable Hair For Her
Hair

1. Controversial Star
Of Fame

Queer Love'

NEWS

VOICES

ABOUT US

CAREERS

HUFFPOST PRESS ROOM

POLITICS

HUFFPOST PERSONAL

ADVERTISE

ARCHIVE

ACCESSIBILITY STATEMENT

ENTERTAINMENT

SHOPPING

CONTACT US

USER AGREEMENT

PRIVACY POLICY

LIFE

NEWSLETTERS

RSS

COMMENT POLICY

CONSENT PREFERENCES

FAQ

DMCA POLICY

DO NOT SELL OR SHARE MY PERSONAL INFORMAT