

KQED

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ATTENTION: LISTINGS EDITOR

KQED Public Media and Metropolitan Community Church San Francisco(MCCSF) Explore U.S. Military's 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' Policy with Public Screening and Discussion of the New Documentary "Ask Not."

Filmmaker Johnny Symons to Participate in Panel Discussion, hosted by Rev. Lea Brown, former military chaplain candidate (2nd Lt.) and current senior pastor at MCCSF

WHAT: ASK NOT - Screening and Discussion
WHERE: Metropolitan Community Church, 150 Eureka St., San Francisco
DATE: Thursday, April 30, 2009
TIME: 7pm Screening, 8pm discussion and reception
COST: FREE

KQED Public Media, in partnership with Independent Television Service (ITVS) and MCCSF will explore the issues surrounding the U.S. Military's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. The free public screening and post-screening discussion and reception are designed to create conversation around the subject of allowing LGBT persons to serve openly in the military. A screening of the ITVS film "Ask Not" will be followed by a discussion and a light reception.

Panelists include Jonny Symons, producer and director of "Ask Not", and former armed services members Dan Leifker and Albert Patterson. Rev. Lea Brown, MCCSF Senior Pastor and a former military chaplain candidate, will serve as moderator. More panelists will be announced shortly.

ASK NOT description

As wars rage in the Middle East, the U.S. military is eager for more recruits--unless you happen to be openly gay or lesbian. ASK NOT explores the tangled political battles that led to the infamous "don't ask, don't tell" policy and reveals the personal stories of gay and lesbian Americans who serve in combat under a veil of secrecy. Audience Award - Best Documentary, Spokane LGBT Film Festival, 2008.

Metropolitan Community Church San Francisco (MCCSF) was formed in 1970. MCCSF is a progressive congregation that welcomes persons of all sexual orientations and expressions of gender. MCCSF currently holds multiple services each week at 150 Eureka Street in the Castro, in addition to many other programs and activities structured around community service and spiritual development. For more information on MCCSF, please visit <http://www.mccsf.org/>.

KQED (www.kqed.org) is a service of Northern California Public Broadcasting, Inc. (NCPB). KQED Public Television 9, the nation's most-watched public television station, is the producer of local and national series such as *QUEST*; *Check, Please! Bay Area*; *Jacques Pepin: More Fast Food My Way*; and *Jean-Michel Cousteau: Ocean Adventures*. KQED Public Radio, home of *Forum with Michael Krasny* and *The California Report*, is the most-listened-to public radio station in the nation with an award-winning news and public affairs program service (88.5 FM in San Francisco and 89.3 FM in Sacramento).

ASK NOT is a co-production of Persistent Films LLC and the Independent Television Service (ITVS), with funding provided by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB). The Emmy Award-winning series Independent Lens is jointly curated by ITVS and PBS and is funded by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) with additional funding provided by PBS and the National Endowment for the Arts. To find out more about ITVS Community Cinema visit pbs.org/independentlens/communitycinema.