

# Scott Capurro's Performance at the DeFrank's 25th Anniversary Dinner Was An Unacceptable Affront to Our Community and the Values We Hold Dear To Us!

In an evening filled with the celebration of our pride...our family...our community, we were appalled by the performance given by Scott Capurro. We have fought for years to have a place at the table of the Silicon Valley Community. We have earned that place by respecting and loving our neighbors - by respecting and loving ourselves. Scott Capurro presented the antithesis of what we are proud to have become. We demand of Capurro both an apology to our community and the return of his performance fee to the DeFrank Center. He did both a huge disservice.

Words can be hurtful. We all know that. We do not condone the kind of hurt, disrespect and loathing that Capurro spewed from his podium. We were embarrassed by his comments. We will never sponsor an event that has him or his style of performance again. Furthermore, the DeFrank 25th Anniversary Event Committee, which screened and chose Capurro owes everyone in our community and our broader Silicon Valley Community an apology for making such an egregious error in choosing this performer. We understand, as we write this, that such an apology is being offered.

We are proud to be part of a community that doesn't hate – of a community that has a Center as beautiful in its service as the Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center. With such a thoughtful, inspiring celebration program, it is unfortunate that Capurro left such a tarnished memory.

We must move on as a community and remember the pride we have as brothers and sisters - as proud, healthy lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people. We must continue to move forward with our friends and allies. We will not turn the clock back to a time when self-hate and hate of others motivated so many in our community. We hope that anyone who was offended by Capurro's remarks — as we were and are – realize that they do not reflect our feelings nor the feelings or sentiments of the DeFrank Center which we continue to support.



Photo by TommyWu.net

In solidarity, pride and love.

Michael LoMonaco and Bill Lister,  
Premier Sponsors of the Billy DeFrank  
LGBT Community Center  
25th Anniversary Gala



Photo by Ovidio Salazar