

JUSTIN ORTIZ / DAISY ASTRAEA

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San Jose, CA

Community Advocate • Public Health Educator • Professional Drag Performer • Host and Producer

PROFILE

Justin Ortiz is a Bay Area community advocate, educator, and Program Coordinator focused on LGBTQ+ empowerment, mental health education, youth engagement, and intimate partner violence prevention. Alongside his advocacy work, he performs as Daisy Astraea, a drag entertainer, host, and producer known across California for high energy pop performances that also center community connection and queer visibility.

With over eight years of drag experience since January 2018, Daisy Astraea has performed at nightlife venues, Pride festivals, schools, and community events throughout the region. Justin and Daisy's work exists at the intersection of entertainment and advocacy, blending performance, hosting, youth engagement, fundraising, and educational programming to create spaces that are both affirming and accessible.

Across both roles, Justin moves between nonprofit leadership, public speaking, live entertainment, and event production, with a consistent focus on building spaces where queer communities feel seen, supported, and celebrated.

EDUCATION

San Francisco State University

Bachelor's Degree of Science in Health Education, Minor in Human Sexuality Studies

San Francisco, CA

Dec. 2019

WORK & LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

H.E.A.R.T. (Healthy, Equitable, and Respectful Together), Caminar

Program Coordinator

San Jose, CA

Jan. 2023 - Present (Full-Time)

- Developed and launched a new Intimate Partner Violence prevention program to promote healthy interpersonal relationships through direct participant services, interactive workshops and presentations, outreach, and referrals
- Supported at-risk clients by addressing risk factors and building protective skills through a culturally competent, consumer and family-driven approach, aimed at reducing disparities in access to services due to stigma, discrimination, and a lack of knowledge about IPV and mental health
- Created social media content, participated in televised news interviews, and developed resource materials
- Managed documentation, including progress notes, data collection, program reporting, and grant applications
- Facilitated 115+ workshops reaching 2,180+ participants across Santa Clara County in partnership with multiple community organizations, including The Office of Gender-Based Violence Prevention's 30th and 31st Annual Domestic Violence Conferences.

The LGBTQ+ Youth Space, Caminar

Speakers Bureau Coordinator

San Jose, CA

July 2024 - Present (Full-Time)

- Coordinated speaker panels featuring participants aged 13 and older, using personal storytelling to educate providers and community groups about LGBTQIA+ experiences. Led public speaking workshops and facilitated presentations centered on storytelling as a tool for empowerment in marginalized communities.
- Created promotional materials and managed speaker recruitment, training, and engagement processes, including coordination of incentives. Built and maintained relationships with community partners and panel hosts while conducting impact evaluations and surveys.
- Delivered public speaking engagements for community partners across Santa Clara County, including the 2025 Pride Invocation Speech at the Santa Clara County Office.
- Facilitated 65+ panels reaching over 1,650 audience members.

Carbon Health**Santa Clara, CA***Site Lead**July 2021 - Sept. 2022 (Full-Time)*

- Served as the primary onsite lead, responsible for maintaining the flow of the Pandemic Response and COVID-19 testing divisions while overseeing a ground team of 20 people
- Managed scheduling and time cards, budget development and maintenance, supply purchases, data entry, team communications, end-of-day reports, onsite logistics, and training for event staff
- Facilitated administrative functions, including patient-focused customer service, conducting health screenings, handling personal and medical information, preparing lab paperwork and orders, recording payment transactions, assembling testing materials, and assisting patients with onboarding and scheduling through the Carbon Health mobile application

YMCA Stonestown**San Francisco, CA***Assistant Program Leader**Nov. 2018 - March 2020 (Full-Time)*

- Created and implemented educational curriculums for 5 elementary-level Before, After, and Summer School Youth Development Programs
- Organized and facilitated 12 enrichment courses that promoted healthy living and achievement through engaging activities, while cultivating positive relationships among youth and their families

Health Promotion & Wellness Center**San Francisco State University***Sexual Violence Prevention & Men's Health Intern**Sept. 2019 - Dec. 2019 (Part-Time)*

- Promoted and advocated for the reduction of sexual violence through the development and implementation of projects in collaboration with professional staff, focusing on equity issues on the SFSU campus
- Designed program plans and agendas, created and steered goals and objectives for the Sexual Violence Prevention Coalition, facilitated team-building activities during outreach events and meetings, crafted media campaigns, took meeting minutes, and laid the groundwork for literature reviews and research

DRAG EXPERIENCE**Self-Produced Events**

- GAG: Monthly drag production at The Turf Club, *2023 to 2025*
 - Produced and hosted recurring themed drag showcases highlighting emerging and established queer performers throughout the Bay Area nightlife community.
- The Cage: Monthly drag production at The Dirty Bird of Paradise, *2025 to present*
 - Created and currently hosts community centered drag entertainment events featuring themed productions, performances, and audience engagement.

Featured Community Engagements

- Santa Clara County Office of Education, Unity Youth Conference: Emcee and featured host, *2023 to 2025*
- Bill Wilson Center Pride: Annual emcee and host, *2024 to present*
- Avenidas Rainbow Collective Pride: Emcee and host, *2024 to present*
- Caminar LGBTQ+ Benefit Show: Coordinated, emceed, and performed in fundraising drag benefit supporting LGBTQ Youth Space, LGBTQ Wellness, and H.E.A.R.T. programming. Raised over \$1,000 for LGBTQ+ community services, *October 2025*
- School of Drag Educational Workshop: Panelist and educator in partnership with The LGBTQ Youth Space and Queer Hope Institute, *January 2026*
- LGBTQ+ Youth Space Drag Race Finale Event: Hosted community viewing and engagement event, *April 2026*

Featured Performance Highlights

- Featured audience member during filming of RuPaul's Drag Race in Los Angeles, *2023*
- Partnered with Sephora as a featured brand representative during San Francisco Pride Parade activation, *2023*
- Graphic designer of drag show flyers and promotional marketing materials, *2023 to present*
- Featured Sabrina Carpenter illusionist and social media collaborator during the Short and Sweet Tour at Chase Center San Francisco, *2024*
- Headlined Drag Race All Stars 10 finale event alongside finalist Jorgeous in Sacramento, *July 2025*

- Regularly booked as a drag emcee and entertainer for weddings, private celebrations, and LGBTQ+ events, *2025 to present*

Awards and Recognition

- Runner Up: Midnight Sun Old vs. New Drag Competition, *2022*
- Runner Up: The Lookout New Drag Pageant, *2022*
- Featured Media Guest: PBS and NorCal Media “Direct Messages: Youth Media” series, *2025*
 - Featured episode: “Becoming Daisy Astraea: A Story of Self Expression and Pride”
 - Included community conversations focused on LGBTQ+ youth empowerment and visibility
- Celebrity Guest Judge: “Growing Up in America” Contest hosted by AACI and NBC Bay Area, *2026*

Public Appearances

- RuPaul’s DragCon: Featured public appearances and convention participation from *2018 through 2024*
- Pride Festivals and Community Celebrations: Featured performer, host, and speaker throughout Northern California Pride events and LGBTQ+ celebrations
- Educational and Youth Spaces: Frequent guest performer, speaker, and facilitator for schools, conferences, and youth centered LGBTQ+ programming

Social Media and Digital Presence

- Instagram: @daisyastraea
- 4,150+ followers
- Followed by notable entertainers and drag artists including Trisha Paytas, Blu Hydrangea (RuPaul's Drag Race UK, RuPaul's Drag Race: UK vs the World), Jorgeous (RuPaul's Drag Race, RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars), Naomi Smalls (RuPaul's Drag Race, RuPaul's Drag Race All Stars), Sugar (RuPaul's Drag Race), and Princess Poppy (RuPaul's Drag Race)

Featured Performance Venues

- Splash Modesto
- Splash San Jose
- Splash Fresno
- Badlands Sacramento
- Midnight Sun San Francisco
- Faces Sacramento
- Summer Bar and Lounge
- The Turf Club
- Renegades
- Que Rico!
- Brave Bull
- Vibe Lounge
- The Dirty Bird
- The Castro
- UC Davis
- The Lookout
- SoFa Market

Upcoming Engagements

- Inaugural Palo Alto Pride Festival: Headlining performer, *June 2026*
- Santa Clara County Office of Education Lavender Graduation: Featured emcee, *June 2026*
- Santa Clara County Office of LGBTQ Affairs 10 Year Celebration: Featured emcee, *June 2026*
- De Anza College Lavender Graduation: Featured emcee and performer, *June 2026*