

Hello fellow Fire Island Pines community members,

My name is Ryan David Espinosa and I would like to introduce myself and provide some of my background.

I admire the work that FIPPOA does and the legacy of this beautiful community. I am asking for your support as I would love to contribute by bringing my experience to the table to collaboratively navigate and expand the Pines brand and influence as a beacon of love and acceptance for the world and our global queer community.

I am originally from Southern California and lived in that state until 2012 when I moved to NYC. My first time in the Pines was in 2009 and I immediately fell in love. On my second trip to the Pines the following summer, I decided to move to New York right then and there, and 6 months later I was a NY resident.

As many others, I was inspired by the community, the landscape and all the moments of joy, laughter and fun which this place facilitates.

For many years I was part of a share house and five years ago I acquired an "entry-level" yacht that has resided in the Pines Harbor every summer since. I have lived mostly full time in the Pines during that time. Two years ago I met my boyfriend and partner while in the Pines and end of last year we purchased a coop. Additionally, this year I opened the new store downtown DENIZEN.

The store is a continuation of my lifelong work and my personal mission of supporting three core areas and initiatives 1. healing and wellness, 2. creativity and expression, and 3. sustainability & regeneration.

I am a lifelong entrepreneur and started my first business when I was 21 in college. I have founded, ran, sold and revitalized businesses in real estate development, manufacturing, media and event production.

The vast majority of my experience is in real estate, both commercial brokerage and real estate

development ventures including hotels, residential tracks and restaurants. Additionally, I have developed relationships with Fortune 500 companies who are clients for my retail environments manufacturing and sourcing business. My team and I work with multiple US based and overseas businesses in operating this business which I have run for 15 years.

In 2015 I started a queer leadership organization in NYC named Spiire. We founded both a for profit and a nonprofit entity to support these endeavors. My business partner and I put our networks in action to produce workshops and events that promoted and discussed physical, emotional and mental wellness. We have collaborated with several LGBTQIA+ nonprofits in NYC and my goal is to bring more of that type of programming to the Pines in the coming months and years.

I look forward to discussing more with each of you and feel free to stop by the store anytime to meet in person. Thank you,
Ryan