## PEROXIDE'S PRESS

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I am so glad to share that I'll be sharing monthly updates in the form of a personal editorial. While this current edition is still in the rough I promise my upcoming editions will both look and sound amazing lol! Now onto my first edition of "Peroxide's Press" 🖤

2023 Where do I begin? This year has flown by so quickly! The holidays have been such a busy time for me! I recently moved houses and managed to close out my 2023 show season with a big bang! I co hosted a fundraiser over at the creative cauldron to raise funds for the Juan Febles fund right here in the little city of falls church, VA! Which I proudly also call my 2nd hometown (my 1st being Buenos Aires of course lol) We had so much fun and raised a lot of money that night! So much holiday joy and cheer was spread throughout the night and I will most definitely be coming back again very very soon!

Now onto today's update lol! Tonight, as I was unpacking my new drag studio I came across something that I'll truly cherish forever. It is what helped me decide that teaching children and education is what I was most passionate about and it reminded me why I chose that profession.

Many years ago I was a struggling teenager in middle school who questioned their sexuality. I had a teacher (which I still look up to to this date ) that helped me realize who I truly was and guided me to unlock so much potential in my career and life! I wanted to come out but had so much fear, I didn't know who to turn to. So little ole me wrote a handwritten anonymous letter to my choir teacher (who also happens to be a part of the lgbtqia+ community) and asked what it was like and why he chose to live the way he does. Little did I know that this letter would be the start of something so amazing for little ole me. VERY LONG story short, he found out it was me and wrote me back. This is when I felt most comfortable to come out as a gay male and proudly say that I liked men. (Which to this day I still do lol ). This letter later made me realize that teachers are truly amazing individuals who deserve the world! Had it not been for my choral teacher and a few of my other teachers as well, I would not be where I am today. I want to thank all teachers nationwide for their efforts in working to provide a supportive, safe, friendly, welcoming, and open space for students to be themselves. As a teacher, our job is to support, help, and guide the future of our world into successful human beings and when my teacher from many years ago did this for me, I realized that is what I wanted to be doing as well. This piece of paper may not mean much to you all but to me it really contains a lot of sentimental value (which is worth way more than what words could ever explain lol).

Fast forward to the present, I currently teach Pk-6th grade students and work just as hard to do the same for them. I always tell my students the following-

"No matter who you are, or what you wear, be you and be true" This little saying that I tell my students could have a long lasting impact especially in today's world. The best choice is to always choose kindness.

Not only has this paper guided me on days that I struggle to get out of bed to go teach in the mornings it inspired me to pass the message along. Who is one of your teachers that helped you become who you are today, and what did they do for you?

I don't want to make this too long but all in all 2023 was a year of highs and lows for me. I'm hoping that 2024 will bring some new opportunities, connections, friends, and peace my and hopefully your way as well. Here's to a new year, Happy 2024!

Yours in Pride,

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**EVITA PEROXIDE** MISS ATLANTIC STATES GAY RODEO 2024 EMERITUS MS. NORTHERN VIRGINIA 2023 IST LADY OF BUENOS AIRES, MS. ARGENTINA

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