

May is

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Spotlight on: **Peggy Rajski**



Why we're proud of this individual:

Dean of the LMU School of Film & Television, Peggy Rajski, is an Academy-Award winning filmmaker, the founder of the groundbreaking nonprofit The Trevor Project, and has spent the last eight years leading the Graduate Producing Program at the NYU Tisch School of the Arts. Rajski won the Academy Award for Best Live Action Short with her directorial debut, the short film TREVOR. In 1998, the film secured a special presentation on HBO hosted by Ellen DeGeneres. Rajski recognized that the program's timing created an exceptional opportunity to address one of the greatest mental health crises in the country—the high rate of suicide among LGBTQ+ youth. As a result, she created The Trevor Project, America's first and only 24/7 crisis intervention and suicide prevention service dedicated to LGBTQ+ young people. Two decades later, Rajski continues her service as founder and member of the organization's Board of Directors.

<https://www.lmu.edu/about/academicdeans/peggyrajski/>

Other Observances in Month:

May, 4 1494– During his second journey of exploration in the New World, Christopher Columbus discovered Jamaica.

May 30, 1783– *The Pennsylvania Evening Post* became the first daily newspaper published in America.

May 6, 1856– Psychoanalysis founder Sigmund Freud was born in Freiberg, Moravia.

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