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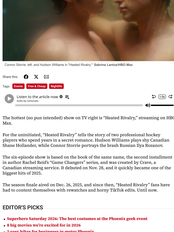
FILM, TV & STREAMING

'Heated Rivalry' parties take over Phoenix venues

If you can't make it to the cottage, come to one of these local events.

By Jennifer Goldberg | January 22, 2026



Connor Storrie, left, and Hudson Williams in "Heated Rivalry." Sabrina Lantos/HBO Max

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The hottest (no pun intended) show on TV right is "Heated Rivalry," streaming on HBO Max.

For the uninitiated, "Heated Rivalry" tells the story of two professional hockey players who are rivals on the ice and boyfriends off it. Based on the novel by Canadian Shane Hollander, while Connor Storrie portrays the brash Russian Ilya Rozanov.

The six-episode show is based on the book of the same name, the second installment in author Rachel Reid's "Game Changers" series, and was created by Crave, a Canadian streaming service. It debuted on Nov. 28, and it quickly became one of the biggest hits of 2025.

The season finale aired on Dec. 26, 2025, and since then, "Heated Rivalry" fans have had to content themselves with rewatches and horny TikTok edits. Until now.

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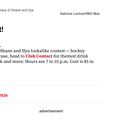

All of a sudden, there's a slew of "Heated Rivalry"-themed events coming up at Phoenix venues starting this Friday night. Head on to find a party to ride you over until Season 2.

We're just going to fill this whole article with photos of Shane and Ilya.

Sabrina Lantos/HBO Max

'Heated Rivalry' Night!

Friday, Jan. 23
Club Contact, 747 W. Van Buren St.
We're not sure what you wear for a Shane and Ilya lookalike contest — hockey uniforms, perhaps? But that's the party case head to Club Contact for themed drink specials, music from the soundtrack and more. Hours are 7 to 10 p.m. Cost is $5 in advance and $10 at the door.

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OK, maybe some Scott and Kip, too.

Sabrina Lantos/HBO Max

'Heated Rivalry' Night

Friday, Jan. 30
The Pemberton, 1121 N. Second St.
In downtown Phoenix, the fun starts at 9 p.m. Enjoy themed drinks, photo ops and giveaways of hockey sticks before a screening of episodes five and six. Once the episodes end, the DJ takes over with the best gifts, gays and theys anthems. Tickets are $15.

More Shane and Ilya.

Sabrina Lantos/HBO Max

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'Heated Rivalry' Special Event

Saturday, Jan. 31
Wabi Modern Japanese, 1110 SE Southern Ave., Mesa
And now for something a little different: a way to indulge in "Heated Rivalry" fandom during the day. Indie coffee shop Beanchain Coffee in Mesa is hosting an event that includes flash tattoos, vendors, specialty drinks, and a giveaway and other freebies while supplies last. Hours are 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Connor Storrie as Ilya Rozanov.

Sabrina Lantos/HBO Max

'Heated Rivalry': The Party

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Saturday, Jan. 31
Walter Studios, 747 W. Roosevelt St.
Ariana Grande's "Wicked" movie wasn't made in heaven. Express Grande is the honors for this theme party that includes performances by drag queens, costume contests, sing-alongs, drinks and music. Hours are 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets are currently $15.06 but will go up closer to the event date.

OK, a little more Scott and Kip.

Sabrina Lantos/HBO Max

Heated Rivalrave

Saturday, Feb. 7
The Van Buren, 400 W. Van Buren St.
Relive the greatest moments of "Heated Rivalry" with Club 90's at The Van Buren. Dance to fan edits on the big screen all night with a soundtrack of queer and pop anthems. The event will also include a photobooth, giveaways and more. Heated Rivalrave starts at 8:30 p.m. and is open to people ages 18 and up. Resale tickets are available on TicketmasterHudson Williams as Shane Hollander.

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Hudson Williams as Shane Hollander.

Sabrina Lantos/HBO Max

Cottage Chemistry: A 'Heated Rivalry' Dance Party

Thursday, Feb. 12
Crescent Ballroom, 303 N. Second Ave.
Come celebrate your favorite TV obsession and dance to the "Heated Rivalry" soundtrack, the hottest queer pop anthems and nostalgic all hits all night long featuring local DJs & Claire Slattery and Trent. The fun starts at 8 p.m. Tickets are $25/21 at the moment but will go up before the event.

Kip and Shane forever.

Sabrina Lantos/HBO Max

Heated Rivalrave

Friday, Feb. 13
The Van Buren, 400 W. Van Buren St.
There was so much demand for Club 90's Heated Rivalrave at The Van Buren that they added a second show. Spend Valentine's Eve dancing to fan edits on the big screen all night with a soundtrack of queer and pop anthems. The event will also include a photobooth, giveaways and more. Heated Rivalrave starts at 8:30 p.m. and is open to people ages 18 and up. Resale tickets are available on Ticketmaster.

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Jennifer Goldberg is the Senior Editor of Culture at Phoenix New Times. She joined the New Times staff in February 2016. In her role, Jennifer writes and edits stories about the arts, culture, and entertainment, including profiles, performances and provides guides on the best of Phoenix's entertainment scene. She also oversees the Best of Phoenix. Jennifer previously worked for Phoenix Magazine and Cronkite News. She has received several awards from the Arizona Press Club, the Arizona Newspaper Association and the American Jewish Press Association. She holds a bachelor's of arts in journalism from Arizona State University.
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