

GLSO

GAY AND LESBIAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION

NEWSLETTER

A Publication of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization

June 2012 Vol 34 No. 6

Letter from
Festival Chair



Fairness
Awards

Sponsored by
Lexington Pride Festival

Open Letter from 5th Pride Festival Chair

Dear Community,

Once again we have arrived at June, the month that GLBTQ people have selected to stand up in front of the world and proclaim, "I'm proud." We who compose the Pride Festival Committee have worked hard to ensure that once again we will declare our pride with flare. We now invite you to come experience and share what we have prepared with many hours of work and many more touches of care and love. It is for you, the community, that we put forth a year-long effort, and, in the end, it is you who make the effort worth every minute.

This year our Committee has suffered trials, and it has enjoyed successes. First of all, the Committee inherited a Festival that had endured some rather large bruises. Unfortunately, last year's festival, while fun, did not make any money and left this year's Committee to start from scratch. I am proud to report that due to an incredible team, tough decisions, and tremendous work, we have bounced back. The Festival will have enough money to cover its costs by the day of the Festival. All the profit, and there will be profit this year, will go to support the ever expanding programming of Kentucky's only Pride Center. Here is where I need to thank all of our sponsors. I want to make special mention of Crossings, which dug deep in its pockets to support the Festival; Ahava, which gave immensely; and Lexington Fairness, which ensured that street banners hanged throughout downtown for June.

Most of you know that Hands On Originals refused to honor a quote toward printing our t-shirts due to Christian belief. At times, great stress ensued. Reading the hostile comments on the Herald-Leader website among others dampened our spirits, but they reminded us that events like the Pride Festival are all the more necessary to show the world that we are good and proud people. You the community stood behind us and never wavered as we took a stand against discrimina-

tion and filed a complaint with the Human Rights Commission on behalf of the Fairness Ordinance. We thank you for the support. While the complaint is under investigation, the Committee has received what seems like an early birthday gift: Cincy Apparel decided to print our shirts for free. We thank them for reminding us that there are allies in the world who are finished with discrimination. We would like to take a moment to thank those businesses in the community like UK and Fayette County Public Schools who voiced their opposition to discrimination in the face of this complaint. Our mayor, Jim Gray, also deserves thanks for not shying away from a topic that has hurt many politicians before.

Another huge success is inaugurating the first Mr. LexPride: Clayton Burchell. We have had a couple Miss LexPrides, but Clayton merits a round of applause for being the first Mr. LexPride. He and Georgia Peach, Miss LexPride 2012, have done great work to bolster the name of Lexington Pride. Please shout out props to them when you see them.

Also, with the help of the Imperial Court, we pulled off a successful Very Fairy Christmas. Thanks go out to Shotz with a Z and Fred Worsham for their help on that event. While it was a jolly time, our biggest fundraising venture came from the Bachelor/Bachelorette auction. Thanks to JoDee Monroe aka Chad Hundley for his leadership there.

Perhaps our greatest success was creating year 5. I am so proud of that accomplishment. I feel like a parent sending his child to kindergarten. You will see on the street banners that our theme for 2012 is a simple 5 designed by Andrew Tan. The 5 represents 5 years of Pride Festivals, which feels like a dream. When we started five years ago, we couldn't have imagined what year five would look like.

When I came to Lexington, we celebrated Pride with a picnic at Jennifer Crossen's and Joan Callahan's farm. Some of us referred to the occasion lovingly as the Pride

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EDITOR

Don Lowe

The GLSO News is published monthly by and for the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization members and community.

The mission of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization is to provide support and services to the GLBTQQIA community.

The vision of the Lexington Gay and Lesbian Services Organization is to empower the GLBTQQIA community through voice.

The Lexington GLSO is founded upon the core values of fun, inclusion, respect, integrity, dignity, service and competence.

GLSO Pride Center
389 Waller Avenue
Suite 100
Lexington, Ky. 40504
859.253.3233
www.glso.org

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EDITORIAL NOTES

The GLSO is currently looking for new contributors and editorial staff. If interested, e-mail editor@glso.org.

Pride Center Hours

Sun, Mon & Tues - Closed,
Wednes 3pm-5pm, Thurs 3pm-7pm,
Fri - 11am-5pm and Sat 11am-5pm.

"Views expressed in this newsletter are solely those of the contributor and do not necessarily reflect the views of the GLSO."

Fairness Awards Kick Off Pride Weekend

by Craig Cammack,
Contributor

Each year, Lexington Fairness is honored to kick off a weekend full of Pride activities! This year, on Friday, June 29th, Lexington Fairness presents the 5th Annual Fairness Awards at the Hilton Lexington Downtown Hotel! This year's fundraiser is dedicated to our bullying prevention program, Project Speak Out.

There are too many in our schools that face unrelenting bullying, teasing, and torment. Now is the time to stand up and make a change. Lexington Fairness is pleased to partner with Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) to provide FREE bullying prevention trainings for our schools, community groups, and events. The initial training will take place on August 3, 4, and 5. We will make a difference and we hope you can help!

The 5th Annual Fairness Awards are a great opportunity to help us raise the funds needed to keep the program going strong. This year's event features THE VOICE finalist, Grammy Nominee, Broadway Star, and AMERICAN IDOL Diva Ms. Frenchie Davis! You will be wowed by her amazing voice and charisma. Also, the crowd will be entertained by a preview from the 2012 SummerFest cast production of Legally Blonde, the musical. It is going to be a night filled with entertainment.



However, the night is not just about being entertained. We also honor community leadership. Lexington Fairness is proud to honor those who work day in and day out making life better for the LGBT community. NOW is your opportunity to make a nomination. You can find out more by visiting our event webpage: www.fairnessawards.org.

Tickets are available now... so make sure you reserve your seat today! There is limited seating and we want to make sure everyone has a blast, so don't wait until the last minute!! This year, seating is first come, first serve, unless you reserve a full table. Again, you can purchase your ticket by visiting our event webpage: www.fairnessawards.org.

We hope you can join us for this amazing night filled with entertainment and honor. All of this, while raising funds for bullying prevention... what could be better?! Make sure to check out the event webpage (www.fairnessawards.org) and thank our amazing list of supporters who help bring this important event to life!

We'll see you Friday, June 29th!

Proud to be Christian AND Gay

By Pastor Karen Taylor

Gay Pride Month is rapidly becoming one of my favorite times of year. It's a time I enjoy setting aside to recognize it isn't shameful to be gay. I look forward to the Lexington Pride Festival each year where I meet some fantastic people and going to other festivals close by. One I hope to visit is the Cincinnati Festival. After I went to Louisville Pride last year I realized what a wonderful festival we have in Lexington. Much kudos are due to our Lexington Pride Committee as these are the people that spend many hours, days and months to make this event so special. So what exactly am I proud of?

For one, I'm proud of the fact that I can hold my head up as a lesbian because I know that I am fearfully and wonderfully made in the image of Christ. The Bible has a lot to say about who we are. It says that as a born again believer and follower of Jesus Christ I am a new creation, old things have passed away, behold new things have come. I'm a child of the King with inherited rights. I could go on but the point is I have nothing to hang my head about. I know God loves me, accepts me, and walks with me every day.

I'm also proud of the fact that I can worship my God in spite of the jabs, ridicule, and condemnation I receive from some in the body of Christ. Their opinions do not trump my experience. It brings me much joy to see so many Christ centered booths at the festival. Two years ago Open Arms of God Ministry was one of the first area churches to have a presence at the festival. Last year there was several and hopefully even more this year. I can hold my head up and declare I am a Christian who happens to be a lesbian.

Each year we as a community find ourselves in a more acceptable environment. Each year we get a step closer to equal rights, even though they may be small steps, it is still a step. We have a long way to go, but by working together as a community, standing tall as good citizens, I do believe we will one day see equal treatments in marriage, jobs, church membership, and general acceptance as a part of the community.

The mission of Open Arms of God Ministry is to get the word out there that Jesus loves you and me. In spite of what you have been told in the past, God is reaching out to you, desiring a personal and intimate relationship with you. All we have to do is turn toward Him and say yes Lord.

One of my goals in the next year is to unite the ministers in Lexington who believe as we do. I firmly believe we are all the body of Christ and we should be working together to further the Kingdom. The fact that we may be meeting in separate locations doesn't mean we can't work together. I hope to see us collectively hosting Christian concerts (Jennifer Knapp being one of the first I'd love to see come to Lexington), seminars, workshops, retreats, and being a beacon of light in the city for all to see the glory of our God. How can you deny the fact God loves us and works through us when you see first-hand His glory shining in how we live?

If you sense some excitement and enthusiasm, you are right. With this being my last year as a Middle School teacher, I'm retiring; I plan on devoting all my attention to the growth of the Kingdom of God. The harvest is many but the workers are few, pray for the harvest. If you have a similar dream, come join us. We need you, God needs you, and the citizens of Lexington need you. I pray God's richest blessings on you. Enjoy the month.



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There Is No Place Else

There is no place else that you can meet people face to face and have a discussion with them about anything you'd like to talk about. So often these days the way you meet people is online. You can only tell so much about the person. They may be lying to you, and you certainly have no idea what they look like. The immediate goal of this may be to "hook up". The discussion group gives you a place to meet others outside of the bars in a safe environment just to get to know people. Nearly any topic may be brought up during the two hour session; politics, religion, jobs, family, friends, exes, joys, sadness, anger, happiness, sex, children, marriage or health among other topics. Right now, the group is mostly men, and that changes from week to week. It is so much better to come to the Pride Center on Wednesday night at 7PM and meet some welcoming new friends. Everyone walking through the door is accepted just as they are. Confidentiality, respect and listening are practiced here. There is no advice or therapy. Please join us.

Come join us at our PFLAG meeting!

Tuesday, June 12 6:30 to 8:30
Speaker: Jessica Bollinger, LCSW
"Raising Children in a GLBT Family"

After our speaker will be Q and A, support group discussion, and then some refreshments/ social time. Family members, allies, and GLBT individuals of all ages are welcome.

St Michael's Episcopal Church
2025 Bellefonte Drive, Lexington

For further information, go to
www.pflaglex.org

Senior Social Group

The Senior Social Group (I wish we could find another name that is identifiable as a group over 55+ age, but I can't think of one! Not everybody over 55 wants to be described as a senior!) is meeting this month for the Gallery Hop on June 15th at the Main Library lobby at 5:45PM. The hop will go from building to building downtown for some great art and sculpture. Each place will have maps to the galleries so if you miss us at one, you can catch up with us at another. The trolley is free, so we won't have to do a tremendous amount of walking.

The other place we will meet each other is the Pride Festival, Saturday, June 30 at the Courthouse on Main Street. However we will be all over the festival, so you'll have to look for us. I am working the Activities for the children for half a day, and then working at the Open Arms of God Ministry booth. Some of us will be at the TransKentucky booth, and some at the Moveable Feast booth. Anyone over 55 could be a member, so be friendly and ask. Tell them to sign up for this newsletter at the GLSO booth if they would like to join us. The more, the merrier!

We are here to have companionship for events and outings that we all enjoy. So far, we have accomplished that with a pot luck, seminar, dance, art, horse outings and music. There is something for everyone, and if you want to do something else, just ask. We are a bright, interesting, friendly and welcoming group of gay men and women. We have the Pride Center reserved for the third Friday of every month for a pot-luck at 7PM.

Whats the Tee???

A T-Shirt Release Party for The Lexington Pride Festival

June 10th

Tee Shirt Party at 8:30

Drag Show at 9:30

Hosted By:

Mr and Miss Lexington PRIDE

Clayton Burchell, and Georgia Peach

pulse
nightlife



No Cover

The 2012 Lexington Pride
Festival
is presented by:



Our Platinum Sponsors are:



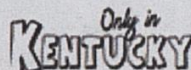
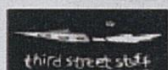
Our Gold Sponsors are:



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Our Rainbow Sponsors are:

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Pride Festival

Entertainment 2012

- 11:00 – 11:15 am Welcome/Proclamation/
Presentation of Miss/Mr. LexPride 2012
- 11:15 – 11:30 am Faces of Pride – community
members
- 11:30 am – 12:00 pm Starlight Singers - Lexington
Children's Theatre Production
- 12:00 – 1:00 pm DJ SET – DANCE BREAK – DJ Brady
- 1:00 – 2:00 pm Reel World String Band
- 2:00 – 2:30 pm EKV Dance Troupe
- 2:30 – 3:00 pm Faces of Pride – Local LGBT Supportive
Politicians
- 3:00 – 4:00 pm DJ SET – DANCE BREAK – DJ ESquare –
DJ Xenergy
- 4:00 – 5:00 pm Drag Show 1
- 5:00 – 5:30 pm BETH BURDEN
- 5:30 – 6:00 pm Faces of Pride
- 6:00 – 7:00 pm DOMINO
- 7:00 – 8:00 pm Drag Show 2
- 8:00 – 9:00 pm Robbie Bartlett Band

PRIDE FESTIVAL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

If you or someone you know, wants to be part of the volunteers for the Pride Festival, we would love to have you!

There are many time slots and jobs that are needing to be filled such as: security, hospitality, merchandising, concessions, first aid, services, activities and many more! All volunteers at the end of their 2 hour shift will receive a special gift as a small "Thank You" for helping to pull off yet another great year for LexPride!

We are having an orientation as part of the training and sign up for all the individuals who wish to assist us this year on Saturday, June 23rd at Woodland Christian Church, 530 E. Main Street in Lexington from 3-5pm. All of the chairs of each subcommittee for the Festival will have a table and sign up sheets for each job description. Time slots will be for 2 hours blocks but you are more than welcome to sign up for more time as well. If you are unable to attend the orientation and still wish to volunteer for a certain job and time slot, please email us at volunteers@lexpridefest.org. We hope to see you all there!!

Chad Hundley and Adam Imparato - LexPride Fest Volunteer Chairs



**This is where you want to be for all the scoop on
volunteering on the day of the Pride Festival!**

Saturday, June 23, 2012 3-5pm

Woodland Christian Church

530 E. Main Street, Lexington

If you are unable to attend and still wish to volunteer, please email
us at volunteers@lexpridefest.org.



Pride Greetings from ICK

By ShotZ, Contributor

HAPPY PRIDE! Summer is here and with it comes a month long of Pride celebrations. Lexington is a very lucky city in that organizations across the city provide plenty of outlets for showing your Pride in yourself, your city, and your community.

The annual kick-off to Pride month is our very own Coronation Ball. This year Coronation 31: A Red Carpet Affair, A Night with the SilverScreen Academy will be held Sunday, June 3 at 5:30 pm in the Lexington Downtown Hiltons Grand Ballroom. We look forward to seeing you all there as we present and evening of Crowns and Gowns that always promising to be a decadent and dazzling evening! This year we are the proud hosts of the International Court Council and our International spokesperson, Nicole the Great, Queen Mother of the Americas. We encourage you to join us and meet our friends from nearly 72 courts across Canada, the United States and Mexico. This is the evening when we elect the next Emperor and Empress to take center stage as the titular figureheads of the ICK for one year. That's right, we elect them. Qualifying members of the Imperial Court of Kentucky will place their votes and by the evenings end we will have crowned a new Emperor and Empress. Qualifying voting members will have maintained membership tenure in good standing since at least November 30, 2011. If you would like to join the Imperial Court of Kentucky please see our Reigning Monarchs, Fred Worsham and/or ShotZ for an application and more details.

The following weekend on Saturday, June 9 at 4:00pm Moveable Feast will be holding their annual fundraiser the Belmont BBQ. Enjoy live music, the Belmont Stakes

Race and special performances by the Imperial Court of Kentucky all on the lovely Conoid Farm located at 2492 N. Cleveland Road here in Lexington. Call 252-2867 for advance ticket purchase discounts.

Later in the month Lexington Fairness will kick-off Pride weekend here in Lexington with their annual Fairness Awards. The Awards will be held at the Lexington Downtown Hilton on Friday, June 29 with cocktails at 6 pm and the Dinner and Awards show at 7pm.

Enjoy performances from Kentucky Conservatory Theatre's upcoming production of "Legally Blonde" and American Idol Diva and recording artist, Frenchie Davis. During this evening Lexington Fairness will honor those in our community that have devoted a part of themselves in some way to promoting Fairness in our community. Go to www.fairnessawards.org for advance ticket purchase (discounts until June 22) so you can see one of the first outings of our new Emperor and Empress! Please introduce yourself to them and get to know your new Monarchs.

Saturday, June 30 will be Lexington's only Pride Festival produced by the GLSO. They have a day full of events planned for us including music, dancing, performances by the Imperial Court of Kentucky and much more. Vendors typically are lined down Limestone in the Courthouse plazas just waiting to help us all celebrate! Please visit www.glso.org for more information and scheduling of events.

Lastly, Reign XXX of the Imperial Court of Kentucky wishes to bid you a fond farewell. We have had an amazing time representing the ICK and our community and look forward to many more years of service. As we pass the torch on to the next Monarchs we do it with Pride; Pride in ourselves, Pride in our community and Pride in our Court!

Off To Neverland Sixth Pride Prom

By Mary Crone,
Contributor

The GLSO GSA organized and produced our sixth Pride Prom on May 18th. One Hundred teens from Lexington and surrounding counties had a great time dancing and socializing at a new location this year.

We rented the Children's Theater where the floor had been recently painted purple with stars scattered throughout. Our theme, Off To Neverland, blossomed from that floor and we hosted several Tinker Bells, at least one Peter Pan and a gaggle of no-longer-lost boys. A wonderful venue for a great evening.

Applause to the youth who helped create this event for themselves and their friends. Thanks to all members of our community that turned out to chaperone, run the lights and music, and generally help us provide this experience for our youth.

The GSA now begins it's summer program, Drugs, Sex, and Rock and Roll: How to make informed decision that are right for you. Donations to GLSO are welcome to help us provide books, pizza and other treats for youth attending our summer programs.

June 2012 Classifieds

Fur Coat For Sale

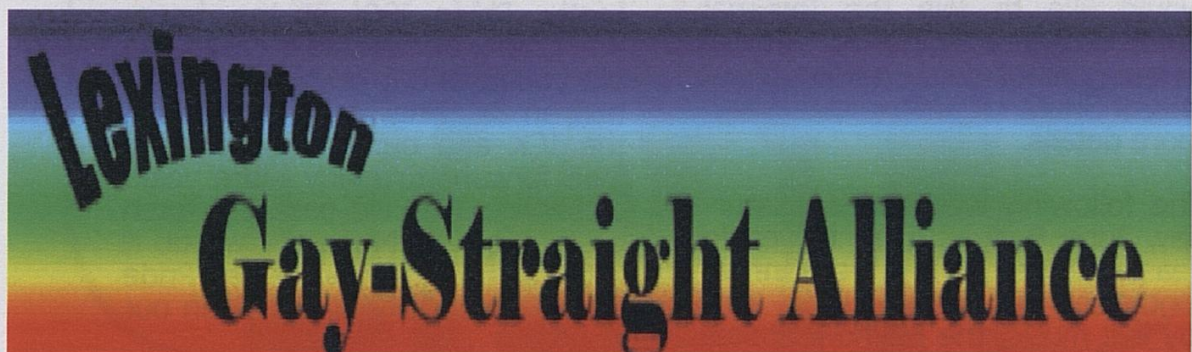
Gorgeous Fur Coat valued at \$15,000. Asking only \$3,000. Would be great for an elegant drag performer or classy real girl. Pictures available upon request. If interested, please contact Joyce K Cruse at 859-254-682.

1 BR Apartments for Rent

North Hanover Ave, just off East Main St, near Woodland Park. Kitchen & bath. Private entry. \$550 per month plus electric. \$250 deposit, pet friendly, Section 8 Welcome. Laundry room on site. Please call Nori at 859-230-8079.

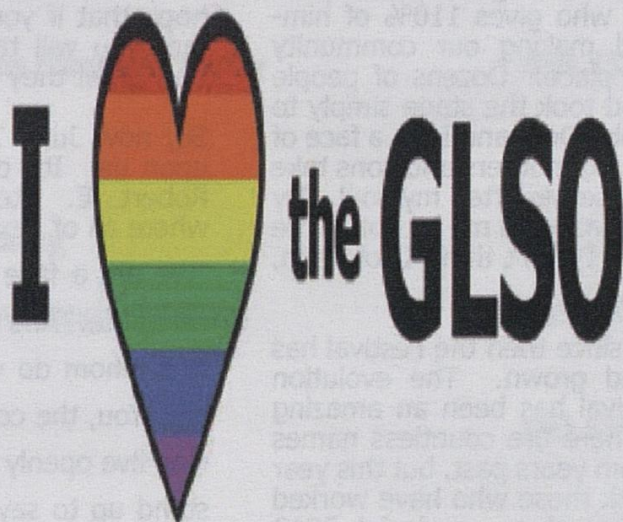
For more information or to place a **FREE classified ad** in our next edition, please email the detailed info to Chad at chad@glso.org.

All classifieds should be directed through the Pride Center and should be short but contain the basic information of who, what, when, where, cost, etc. Deadline for all submissions to the GLSO Newsletter is June 20, 2012.



**SUPPORT
YOUR
COMMUNITY**

**Join the GLSO
Member Program
Today!**



www.glsso.org/membership

(continued from Page 2)

Hide. Of course, we were grateful for Jennifer's and Joan's space, and we had a wonderful time each year, but by 2008, it was time to move downtown and let the world see us face-to-face. The first year we had no clue what we were doing. We didn't know if we could do it. We didn't know if we'd be successful if we did accomplish it, yet we were a determined crew. We started planning in March, suffered some crazy moments, and pulled off a successful Festival in a little over three months. By successful, I mean it made money and everyone enjoyed himself/herself. However, its success went far beyond money. The first Festival was on the lawn of the old courthouse. I will never forget a lady who stopped me on my way to the stage. She tearfully thanked me for all the work we had done. She told me that years before she had lost custody of her children in that courthouse for being a lesbian. She was overwhelmed with joy by how far we had come. Other people on that year's Committee had similar stories to share. That Festival will always be a success to me because people like that lady felt validated, overjoyed, and empowered.

The positive energy kept strong through year two. One of my favorite memories from that year was Faces of Pride, a genius idea from Brian Slate who gives 110% of himself toward making our community a beautiful place. Dozens of people lined up and took the stage simply to say, "I'm John Doe, and I am a face of pride." Seeing mothers and sons take the stage together lifted my soul. My friend Joey Rose told me he got a little teary-eyed. I don't think I told him, but so did I.

Every year since then the Festival has evolved and grown. The evolution of the Festival has been an amazing journey. There are countless names to thank from years past, but this year I must thank those who have worked tirelessly toward a wonderful 2012 Festival:

Chad Hundley: festival VP, co-chair of volunteers, and organizer of the Bach-

elor/Bachelorette auction

Daryl Royse: treasurer, entertainment chair, and organizer of Mr and Miss Lex-Pride events

Samara Baker: chair of fundraising and sponsorships

Don Lowe: chair of marketing and merchandising

Paul Holland and Donny Royse: chairs of logistics

Donovan Jefferson: technology and website chair

Jessica Martin: secretary

Ginger Moore-Minder and Corinna Svarlien: co-chairs of activities

Brad Shepherd: organizer of Coke and liquor contracts as well as all vendor apps

Adam Imparato: co-chair of volunteers

Shawn Pfeiffer: seller of many Pride bracelets

Aaron Baker: chair of GLSO

I'm sure there are others who deserve a huge thank you, but these are the people who have stood by the process since August and given their time and energy. They are all truly amazing people, and I hope that if you know them or see them that you will take a second to tell them how great they are.

So, now June 30th, our Festival date, is upon us. It's our chance to stand in the Robert E. Stephens courthouse plaza where all of Lexington can see and to yell, "We are a face of Pride." It's our day to celebrate. And a celebration we will have. And whom do we have to thank most of all? You, the community. You, the people who live openly and lovingly every day and stand up to say, "I have pride." Now, go forth with Pride and enjoy!

Hugs,
Paul Brown
Chair of Lexington Pride 2012

The GLSO Rainbow Sponsor

The Imperial Court of Kentucky

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Unitarian Universalist Church 859.223.1448

3564 Clays Mill Road

Scott Ackerman, Keller Williams Bluegrass Realty 859.338.8483

ackermanteam@aol.com

GLSO Pride Center—www.glsso.org 859.253.3233

Lexington Pride Festival—www.lexpridefest.org 859.253.3233

Open Arms of God Ministry 502.545.6355

www.openarmsofgodministry.org

Richardson Vision Center 859.278.4201

1757 Alexandria Drive, Gardenside Shopping Center

GLSO Phone Directory

A community resource page for gay and/or gay-friendly organizations across Kentucky.

HIV/STD Testing, Services & Info.

AIDS Volunteers Inc (AVOL)	859.225.3000
Cumberland Region, SE Ky.	606.864.3776 888.425.7282
Health Dept., Fayette	859.288.2437 877.606.2437
Health Dept., Jessamine	859.885.4149
Health Dept., Woodford	859.873.4541
HIV/AIDS Legal Project	502.584.1254
Louisville Region	502.574.0161
Moveable Feast	859.252.2867
Northern Ky. Region	859.341.4264
UK Adolescent Medicine	859.323.5643

Community and Social Groups

24-Hour Crisis Line	800.928.8000
24-Hour Teen Crisis Line	800.999.9999
Alcoholics Anonymous	859.967.9960
AA/Alcoholic Teens	859.277.1877
Bluegrass COLTS	859.225.9169
Council for Peace & Justice	859.225.6999
Discussion Group	859.253.3233
Fairness of Louisville	502.893.0788
Gay Straight Alliance, Teens	859.266.5904
GLSO Pride Center	859.253.3233
Imperial Court of Kentucky	859.619.7521
International Gay Bowling	859.276.3058
Kentucky Fairness	270.703.1582
Lexington Fairness	859.951-8565
Lexington Human Rights	859.252.4931
Lexington Insight Group	859.230.2428
Lexington Pride Festival	859.253.3233
MACT	859.358.8335
MASH	859.254.2501
PLFAG Lexington	859.338.7393

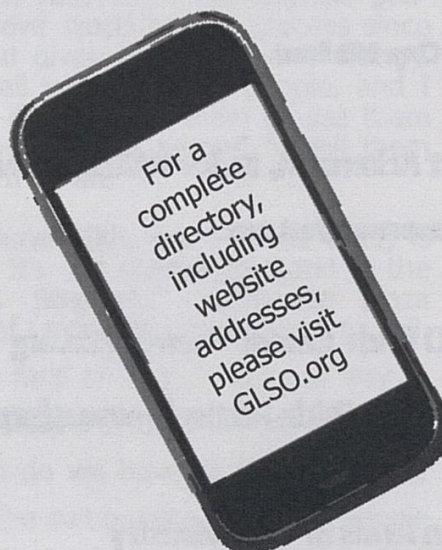
PFLAG Louisville	502.329.0229
Sister Sound	859.806.0243
Social Services, Lexington	211
Speaker's Bureau	859.266.5904
TransKentucky	cassiemtf@ yahoo.com
United Way	859.313.5465

Religious Groups

Integrity, Ky. Diocese	859.369.9691
Integrity, St. Martha's	859.533.9851
Interweave, Unitarian	859.266.5904
Lex Friends, Quakers	859.254.3319
Mercy Ministry Church	859.358.3357
MCC Paducah	270.443.3339
Open Arms of God Ministry	502.545.6355

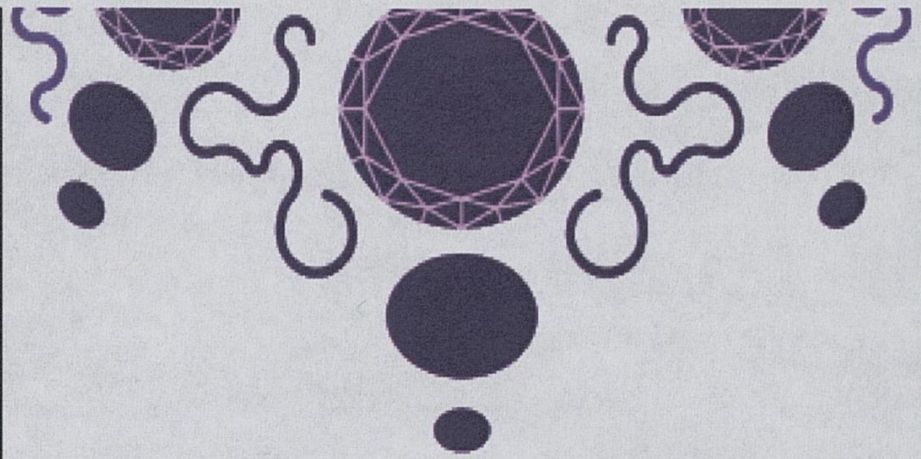
Student Groups

Berea College ACE	859.958.3633
Centre College BGLA	859.238.5332
Morehead State University	606.783.2294

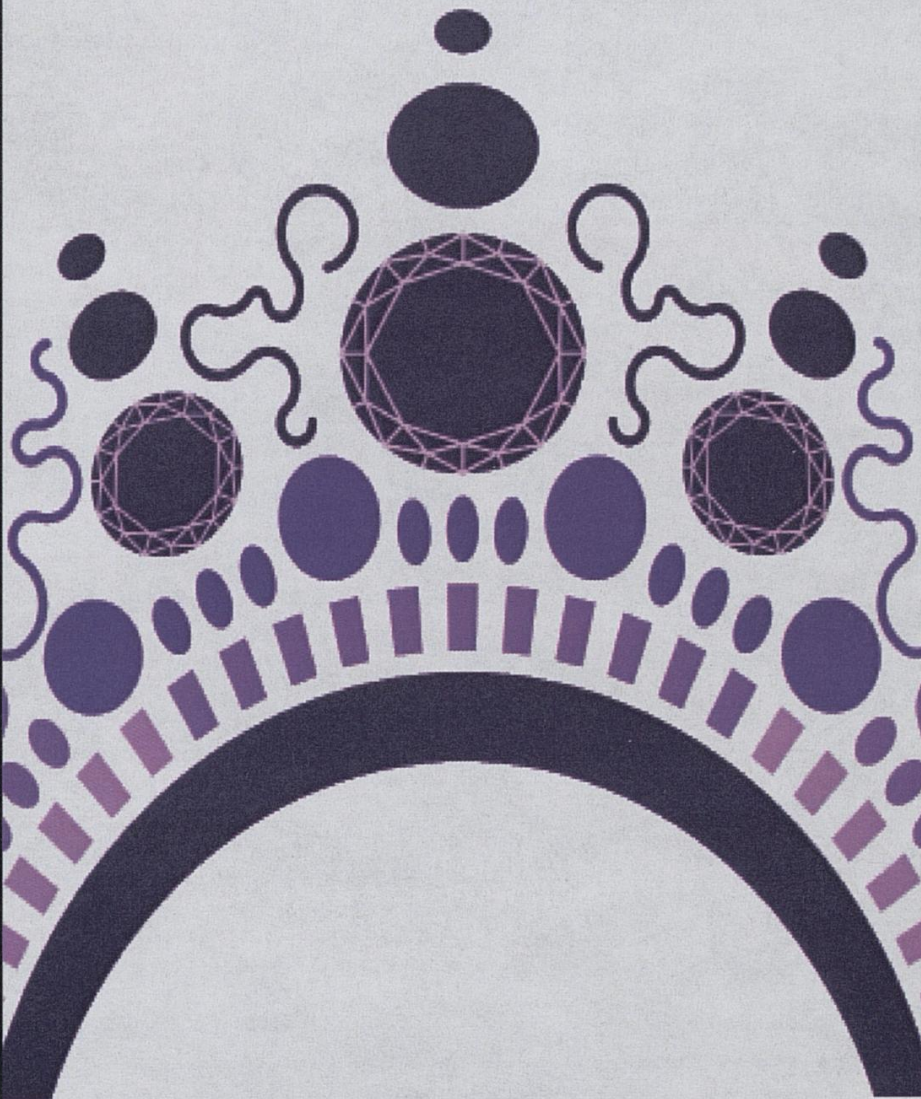


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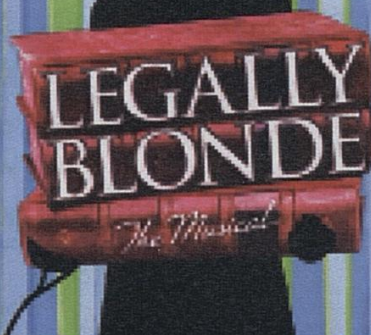
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