
BOSTON PRIDE NEWSLETTER Vol. 2 No. 5 - May 2007

Dear Friends of Pride,

It's the middle of May and Pride is only two weeks away!!!

Beginning with the Flag Raising on Friday, June 1st, and ending with the last piece of litter that gets picked up from the Block Parties on Sunday, June 10th, all of us here on the Committee and, hopefully, all of you out there in Prideland will eat, sleep, and breathe PRIDE - more so than usual, that is.

We volunteer for Pride because it matters. It is meaningful for us to be able to set aside this week to act how we want, kiss who we please, wear what we're dying to wear and, of course, party - all without having to apologize for who we are or make excuses for what we do. Pride is for every woman whose girlfriend won't hold hands in public. It's for every teenage boy who can feel the closet he lives in getting smaller by the second and who needs to come out and feel the sun. Pride is for those of us who've exchanged wedding vows and are equal under the eyes of the law - and for anyone else who isn't equal yet.

The point, friends, is that Pride is a celebration of YOU - an opportunity for you to take to the streets and be yourself! There are so many great events going on - go to as many as you can! Increase our visibility - show our strength - be proud!

To get us all in the mood, we have begun an ad campaign to celebrate this year's theme, "Ask. Tell. Proud to Serve Our Community, Our Country, Our World." The ads appear in Bay Windows, In Newsweekly, the Phoenix, certain MBTA busses, and the Blue, Orange, and Red line trains. The ads feature a fascinating cross-section of our community, highlighting the beauty and diversity of our LGBT family! Be sure to check the ads out!

Also remember to regularly check www.bostonpride.org for news and updates on Pride 2007. Please feel free to forward this newsletter to other LGBT community members and our allies. You can access this and past newsletters at <http://www.bostonpride.org/newsletter.php>. If you have any questions or comments, please contact us at info@bostonpride.org or on the PrideLine at 617-262-9405.

Thanks,
The Boston Pride Committee

Note to readers: If this document is misaligned, please set typeface to a non-proportional font such as Courier 10.

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1 - CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

Folks, that schmaltzy introduction wasn't just to get the waterworks pumping: we need volunteers! Boston Pride, a 501c3 non-profit organization, is completely volunteer-run. As such, when the time comes for the big events like the Parade, Festival and Block Parties, we rely on the willingness of local volunteers to help us out. Not all the jobs are glamorous, but they're all important, because without them Pride wouldn't exist! Please become a volunteer today - send an email to volunteer@bostonpride.org, or visit our web site, www.bostonpride.org, and click on the "Volunteer" tab.

Ready to volunteer? Then come on down to a Volunteer Orientation Meeting, where you'll meet some of us on the Pride Committee and get a better idea of just how you can help Pride. There are two meetings left, and they're both at 6:30pm in the Wainwright Bank Community Room in the Back Bay on Dartmouth St. One is on Thursday, May 24th and the other is the following Thursday, May 31st. We hope to see you there!

Remember: we couldn't have Pride without you!

2- Parade & Festival Applications Online / Marshal Meetings

It's not too late to register your group to march in the Pride Parade! Just visit www.bostonpride.com/parade.php and download an entry form!

Also check out our web site if you're interested in reserving a space at our Festival! These are both excellent ways to increase visibility and get out into the community!

Attention group Marshals - you must attend a Marshal orientation meeting if your group is planning on marching! The parade route is different this year, and as a result we're taking time to educate the designated Marshals about the changes and our practices to make sure the Parade goes as smoothly as possible!

There are two meetings left: Monday, May 21 and Wednesday, May 23, 6-7pm at the Hyatt Regency, 1 Avenue de Lafayette, Boston. We'll see you there!

3 - Tracy Young to Perform at Stuart St. Block Party

World-famous DJ and Miami sensation Tracy Young has been booked to perform live on stage at the 2007 Stuart Street Block Party on Sunday, June 10th! Boston Pride is completely excited to have this world-class musical dynamo on stage for the second year running. Tracy plays all your club favorites and knows how to keep the party moving!! Also performing is Boston's own DJ JST.

The Block Party is on the corner of Stuart and Arlington St. in the Back Bay, and runs from 12noon to 8pm. All ages are welcome, but you must be 21 to drink! \$10 at the door. We'll see you there!

4- Pride Idol FINALS!

On Wednesday, June 6th, from 7-10pm at the Back Bay Grand, 180 Berkeley St. in Boston, see the best and brightest from the Pride Idol auditions battle for the glamour and glory of being crowned Pride Idol 2007! This can't-miss event is sure to have you on the edge of your seat!!

Think you have what it takes to be Pride Idol? It's not too late to try out - just visit www.bostonpride.org/pride_idol.php for audition locations!

5- Military Ball Change of Venue

The Military Ball has changed locations, and will now take place at Avalon, 15 Landsdowne St., Boston, on Saturday, June 9 from 10pm-2am. The Military Ball will be a night to remember - costumes, Pride, and dancing! One of NYC's hottest DJ's, Billy Carroll, will hold down what's sure to be a sold-out event - don't miss out!

This will make a first-ever GLBT double-header for Avalon, which will host the Pride Closing Party the next night - Sunday, June 11! Featuring DJ Chris Cox, you best join us for the official party to celebrate another successful Pride!

6- Festival Entertainment Lineup Online

Get ready to party! We've booked the hottest acts around to perform on stage at the 2007 Pride Festival, Saturday, June 9 at City Hall Plaza starting at 1pm! Billie Myers, the Pierces, and Jason & deMarco are just a few of the performers on stage at Pride!

See the entire list on our web site, www.bostonpride.org under the "Entertainment" tab. Click the performer's thumbnail photo for their bio and links!

7- New Venue for the 2007 Pride Festival & Family Area!

The 2007 Boston Pride Festival will be held at the Boston City Hall Plaza on Saturday, June 9, 2007.

Boston Pride is proud to announce that the 2007 Festival at City Hall Plaza will include a family area. Hosted by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC), the family area will be free to the public and will feature face painting, carnival games, a moonwalk, and balloon twisting. It will be open from 12-5pm on Saturday, June 9, at City Hall Plaza.

8- A Message from MassEquality

MassEquality Needs Your Help to Protect Equal Marriage Rights in Massachusetts! The next Constitutional Convention has been scheduled for June 14th, and there is a lot to do between now and then. To find out how you or your group can help between now and June 14th, contact Jesse Sullivan at 617-878-2328 or email JesseSullivan@MassEquality.org.

9- Huntington Theatre Presents: Present Laughter with Victor Garber

Pride Night at "Present Laughter" starring Victor Garber! Thursday, June 7 at 8 p.m., to be followed by a post-show party with the cast!

In celebration of Pride Week, the Huntington Theatre Company welcomes the GLBT community to a special performance of the hilarious Noel Coward comedy "Present Laughter," starring stage and screen icon Victor Garber!

Special Pride rate: \$55. Includes orchestra or mezzanine seating plus complimentary post-show reception with the cast, including beer, wine, soft drinks, and dessert (normal price without reception, \$65).

Pride rate available by using the discount code 1491. Offer available by phone (617 266-0800), online (<http://www.huntingtontheatre.org>), or in-person (264 Huntington Avenue or 527 Tremont Street).

10- Boston Pride Presents: The Edwards Twins!

On Friday, June 8 at the Berklee Performance Center, Boston Pride is proud to present The Edwards Twins! Described by People Magazine as "Unbelievable," with "flawless voices and visuals" and "better than watching the real superstars," The Edwards Twins (Eddie & Anthony) "become" Elton John, Cher, Bette Midler, Barbra Streisand, Billy Joel, Liza Minnelli and Neil Diamond, lacing their concert with humor, nostalgia and "loving" bitchiness. A hi-tech light show and band highlight this celebrity happening that Pride is excited to be a part of! Tickets are \$65, \$55, and \$45, with a portion of each ticket sold earmarked to support Boston Pride.

11- Gays for Patsy to Host Pride Dance

Boston Pride is super excited about Gays for Patsy, a Boston-based, nonprofit, all-volunteer organization of Country/Western dance enthusiasts dedicated to sharing the joys of dancing. Gays for Patsy hosts several dances each month from the fall through the spring, and is honoring Boston Pride with a special fundraising dance on Friday, May 18 in the Arlington St. Church. Admission is \$10 at the door, \$7 for members - but be sure to mention that you're with Boston Pride, so that your admission will be set aside to help fund Pride! Find out more about Gays for Patsy at www.gaysforpatsy.org, and get your dancin' boots ready!

12- Dates for Pride Week 2007

The 2007 Boston Pride Week will run from Friday, June 1, 2007 through Sunday, June 10, 2007. The flag raising at City Hall will be on Friday, June 1, 2007; Pride Day at Faneuil Hall will be celebrated on Saturday, June 2, 2007. Be sure to check out Paws for Pride, a dog-stravaganza which will go from 11am to 1pm and includes a doggie costume contest and a celebrity fashion show, hosted by Channel 7's Randy Price! Finals for the Pride Idol Contest will be held on Wednesday, June 6, 2007; the Parade and Festival will be on Saturday, June 9, 2007; and the Jamaica Plain Women's Block Party and the Stuart Street Block Party will be on Sunday, June 10, 2007.

13- Pride Meetings

The Boston Pride Committee meets on Tuesdays, at 6:30pm, at the Wainwright Bank Community Room, 155 Dartmouth Street in Boston (next to Back Bay T Station). Meetings are open to anyone, and we welcome your participation. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 22, 2007.

14- About Boston Pride

The Boston Pride Committee is an all-volunteer, non-profit organization registered in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Members of the Committee include:

- Keri Aulita - Vice President, Board of Directors
<vp@bostonpride.org>
- David Avruch - Media and Public Relations
- Bill Berggren - Fundraising Chair <fundraising@bostonpride.org>
- Sylvain Bruni - Stuart Street Block Party Chair
<stuart-blockparty@bostonpride.org>
- Gordon K. Burns - Flag Raising / Faneuil Hall Day Chair
<faneuilhall@bostonpride.org>

Malcolm Carey - Parade Chair <parade@bostonpride.org>
Linda DeMarco - President, Board of Directors
<president@bostonpride.org>
Corey Dinopoulos - Media and Public Relations
Pierce Durkin - Clerk, Board of Directors, Community Outreach
Chair <clerk@bostonpride.org>
Yasuhiko Fukuoka - Media and Public Relations
Kayla Gorski - Media and Public Relations
Rob Hatch - Merchandising Chair <merchandise@bostonpride.org>
Kyle Hemingway - Media and Public Relations
Robbyn Issner - Fundraising and Merchandise
Kevin Keyser - Board of Directors
Wilfred Labiosa - Board of Directors
Shannon Lank - Entertainment Chair <entertainment@bostonpride.org>
Shawna Liff - Entertainment
Jayme Martin - Festival Chair <festival@bostonpride.org>
Cale Moore - Merchandise
Karthik Ramanna - Media and Public Relations Chair
<media@bostonpride.org>
Bernadette Smith - Jamaica Plain Women's Block Party Chair
<jp-blockparty@bostonpride.org>
Danny Tyrrell - Festival

"The Boston Pride Committee, Inc., serving the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT) and ally community, works to enhance the visibility of Boston's LGBT community through a week of events each June, in conjunction with year long activities, to promote LGBT awareness, dignity, and understanding."

Web: www.BostonPride.org
Email: info@bostonpride.org
PrideLine: 617-262-9405