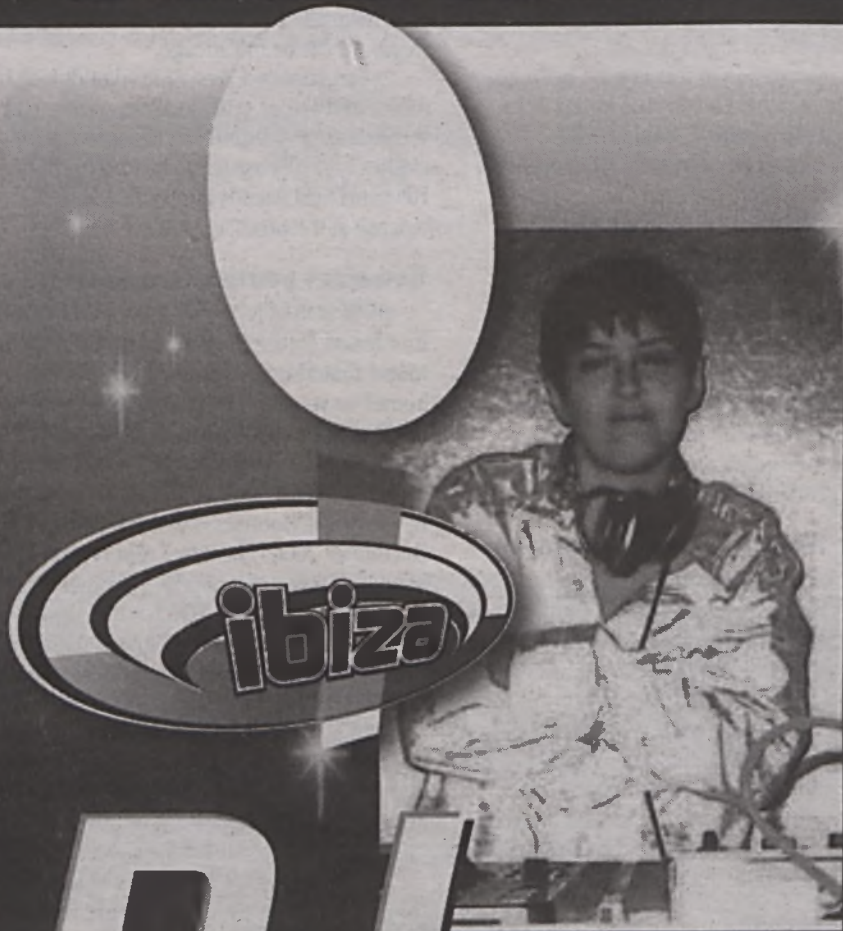


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NORTH CAROLINA

North Carolina News Notes

by Lainey Millen . Q-Notes staff

Guild to host Gorman

CHARLOTTE — The Charlotte Business Guild will host its monthly gathering with a presentation by Dr. Peter Gorman on Jan. 15 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at the VanLandingham Estate, 2010 The Plaza. The event is sponsored by Costco.

Gorman, who has served as the superintendent of Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools (CMS) since July 2006, will bring another milestone program to the Guild. He has over two decades of experience in education.

Gorman, a native of Dearborn, Mich., holds a Master's in Business Administration from Rollins College in Winter Park, Fla., and a Master's and Doctorate in Education from the University of Central Florida in Orlando. He attended the New Superintendents Institute at Harvard University in 1998 and was named a fellow at the Broad Urban Superintendents Academy in 2004.

In addition to his role as superintendent, Gorman serves on the boards of the United Way, Charlotte Center City Partners, Greater Enrichment Program, Institute for Social Capital, Boy Scouts and Junior Achievement. He is also a member of the board of trustees for Communities in Schools, the North Carolina Blumenthal Performing Arts Center, WTVI, Right Moves for Youth and ArtsTeach.

Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar will be available. (CBG members get one free beverage ticket if they make a reservation.) Cost is \$15 for CBG members and \$20 for guests and non-members. To make reservations, call 704-565-5075 or email businessguild@yahoo.com. Individuals making reservations who do not attend will be charged for the event. A \$5 fee will be added to the entrance cost for those without reservations.

For more information, visit www.charlottebusinessguild.com.

It's movie time!

RALEIGH — Legends Night Club will begin presenting a monthly gay film series called Queer Flicks Fest starting this month.

Queer Flicks Fest will be held at the SpotLight Theater inside of View Video Bar, 119 S. Harrington, on the third Sunday of the month at 5 p.m. It will showcase gay independent film makers from across the country.

Kicking off the Fest on Jan. 20 will be "The Houseboy," directed by Spencer Schilly.

For more information, email manager@flex-club.com or visit www.legends-club.com or www.flex-club.com.

CBPM to hold King gala

CHARLOTTE — The Carolinas Black Pride Movement (CBPM) will host the Third Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Gala Reception and Awards Presentation on Jan. 26 at the Afro-American Cultural Center, 401 N. Myers St.

A V.I.P. pre-show reception with honorees and live band will take place at 5 p.m., with the evening program starting at 6 p.m. sharp.

Highlighting the evening will be the presentation of the Audre Lorde and Bayard Rustin Community Leadership Award 2008 honorees. Additionally, a fashion showcasing local and regional designers, along with live entertainment, a silent auction and heavy hors d'oeuvres and wine tasting will be provided,

in addition to a full-course dinner.

The Lorde award goes to Dorae Saunders,

celebrity transgender and community activist, of Columbia, S.C.

The Rustin award goes to DeArcy McVay, style icon and popular opinion leader, of Charlotte, N.C.

To further recognize the life and contributions of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the awards recognize one N.C. and one S.C. individual in leadership who serves with the convictions of King - as demonstrated by outstanding initiative, inspiration to others and significant contributions to improving the quality of life for LGBT residents of the Carolinas. This work may confront social justice issues, health and wellness or promote arts, culture or the humanities.

A portion of the proceeds from this event will benefit The Freedom Center for Social Justice. The Center's mission is to enhance the quality of life by increasing the number of healthy options and opportunities available for low income communities, communities of color and youth. It's goal is to counter the effects of poverty and all forms of oppression as they impact the lives of those on the margins of society. The main areas of focus are Health and Wellness (including mental, physical, social and economic), Cultural and Civic Engagement, as well as Education.

To learn more about the center or to make a contribution, contact Kori Higgs at kdhiggs@hotmail.com or visit www.fcsj.org.

General admission is \$15 and VIP is \$40. Semi-formal attire is recommended.

The premiere of the D-Up documentary, "Conversations," will be presented. D-Up serves as event sponsor. To learn more about this organization, visit www.d-up.info.

For more information, call 704-713-6948, email info@carolinasblackpridemovement.com or visit www.cbpmovement.com.

Kickin to tell stories

STATEWIDE — "Kicked Out," an anthology to be published by Homofactus Press and edited by Sassafras Lowrey, is extending an invitation for submissions. Deadline is March 1.

The book uniquely seeks to tell the tales of former queer youth and current queer youth who were forced to leave home because of their sexuality and/or gender identity. This anthology will tell collective stories of survival, weaving together descriptions of abuse and homelessness with poignant accounts of the ways in which queer community centers offered sanctuary. It will speak to the power and importance of creating one's own chosen families in the face of losing everything one has ever known.

"Kicked Out" will offer advice and wisdom to the queer youth of today from those who have been in their shoes. Additionally, it will provide the opportunity for readers to get a glimpse into the world of those queer youth who, as a result of circumstance, have had to leave home, while simultaneously shattering the stereotypes of who queer youth are and what they have the potential to become.

The anthology is a collection of stories on queer survival. These are the stories of overcoming obstacles, not simply surviving but thriving in the face of seemingly insurmountable adversity. "Kicked Out" will explore the diversity of experiences across lines of race, class, gender, sexuality and geographic region.

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