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compiled by Lainey Millen | Matt Comer

Local bar becomes national sponsor of students' group



CHARLOTTE — The Scorpio, a local bar popular with the LGBT community, has become a national sponsor of the locally-based Campus Pride, a national organization for student leaders and college groups works to create safer environments for LGBT students on college and university campuses.

The Scorpio, founded in 1968, is the oldest LGBT nightclub establishment in Charlotte. Its \$10,000 donation makes it a national sponsor for Campus Pride, which made the announcement in late November.

"Campus Pride is grateful to The Scorpio/Von Entertainment and its owner Donald O'Shields for all their support to LGBTQ youth with this sponsorship gift," Campus Pride Executive Director Shane Windmeyer said in a release. "The Scorpio has always been a positive force locally in Charlotte and this sponsorship only reinforces their actions to make the future better for LGBTQ youth. Campus Pride sincerely appreciates this gift to support our work."

The group promoted a national fundraising campaign, "Campus Pride Day," coinciding with the national #GivingTuesday on Dec. 3.

National organizers of #GivingTuesday, which was first held last year, say they are a "movement to create a national day of giving to kick off the giving season added to the calendar on the Tuesday following Thanksgiving, Black Friday and Cyber Monday."

The group said The Scorpio's gift "was made prior to #GivingTuesday to encourage other individuals and businesses to give back this Holiday Season."

Windmeyer added, "Giving back, no matter how we do it, that's what the Holiday Season is all about. LGBTQ youth need our support and Campus Pride is touching hundreds of thousands of youth annually. Donations of any size for #GivingTuesday allow us to do even more."

info: campuspride.org.

—Compiled from release. This writer, Matt Comer, previously worked as a communications manager for Campus Pride

Band to hold concert

CHARLOTTE — Charlotte Pride Band, in association with Temple Beth El, will hold a holiday concert on Dec. 15, 3 p.m., at 5101 Providence Rd.

The program will feature seasonal favorites performed by small ensembles of Charlotte Pride Band including the jazz band, woodwind quintet, brass quintet, clarinet choir, sax ensemble, brass choir, trumpet choir and trombone quartet. The band is assisting Temple Beth El in its support to the Freedom School Partners, Inc., 1030 Arosa Ave., and Sterling Elementary School, 9601 China Grove Church Rd. Attendees can bring snacks and school supplies which will be donated to the schools. A list of requested school supply items is available online.

Admission is free.

info: charlotteprideband.org.

—L.M.

Fundraiser slated

CHARLOTTE — During five Wednesday nights in January 2014, The Scorpio and *Charlotte Pocket Rocket* will bring "Dragging with the Stars" to raise money for Charlotte Pride, Cystic Fibrosis Foundation, Don't H8, Campus Pride and a surprise mystery charity.

Cierra Nichole, Angela Lopez, Buff Faye, Jessica Raynes and Felicia Monet will take to the stage to compete on Jan. 8, 15, 22 and Feb. 5 and 12.

These men will be vying to win \$1,000 for their favorite charity at The Scorpio, 2301 Freedom Dr. Showtime is 11 p.m.

Audience members will help serve as judges and will select a winner.

info: the scorpio.com.

charlottepocketrocket.com.

—L.M.

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Gift ideas at the Rabbit!