

workshops for teens, young adults and adults with LGBT parents. The focus will be on development of critical social analysis, including ways to educate and incite social change in communities, schools, media, policy and in politics with regard to issues LGBT parents face. This programming will also highlight the role adult COLAGERS can play in social justice and LGBT organizing as community leaders.

The pre-conference leadership workshop will be held on Oct. 27, followed by Act Out.

Meet other chapter leaders and develop skills to help support local chapter efforts. The weekend will be filled with activism, education, empowerment and community celebration.

Act OUT will also feature an expo that will be fun for adults and kids alike.

To learn more about COLAGE visit www.colage.org. To register, visit Family Pride at www.familypride.org.

Space is limited. Sponsorship and fundraising resources are available. COLAGE is working hard to secure funding for travel scholarships for chapter leaders to attend Act OUT and the pre-conference institute.

For those interested and available to attend, contact Meredith Fenton, COLAGE program director at meredith@colage.org. Let her know if financial assistance is needed in order to attend.

COLAGE-Rainbow Kids NC in Asheville is a participating chapter. For more information about the N.C. chapter, email hdmichelle@yahoo.com.

Kaleidoscope winners announce

WINSTON-SALEM — Area leaders in

advancing equality for local LGBT residents were honored on Sept. 9 at the PFLAG Kaleidoscope Awards Banquet.

The evening started with an address from Jimmy Creech, a former minister who was removed from his position in the church because he presided over a same-sex commitment ceremony. He is now the director of community service for North Carolina-based Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams, Inc.

The Kaleidoscope Business Award went to Wachovia Corporation for its strong stand for equality and fairness in the workplace.

The North Carolina School of the Arts (NCSA) received the Kaleidoscope Safe School Award for being one of the first public schools in N.C. to include sexual orientation in their non-discrimination statement and the second school to include transgender.

Trinity Presbyterian Church was the recipient of the Kaleidoscope Faith Community Award because of the work it has done for more than 15 years. Trinity is public about its openness and acceptance of LGBT people in the full life and ministry of their congregation.

The Kaleidoscope Individual Award was presented jointly to Frank Benedetti and Gary Trowbridge who have been together over 40 years and have set an example of how one can live successfully and be out of the closet.

For more information, visit www.pflagwinstonsalem.org.

¡Habla Español!

CHARLOTTE — The Lesbian & Gay Community Center, 1401 Central Ave., has announced the start of English as a Second

Language classes. Miguel Llamas will serve as instructor.

"We want The Center to be a home for everybody in our community, even if English is not your first language. It is a great first step in building bridges with the LGBT Latino community by offering these classes here." The classes are totally free and feature a beginner and advanced track.

For more information, visit www.GayCharlotte.com.

Coaliton to hold gathering

RALEIGH — On Oct. 14, join the North Carolina Religious Coalition for Marriage Equality (NCRC4ME) at Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, 1801 Hillsborough St., for its "On the Matter of Liberation: A Day with Rev. Dr. James Forbes."

NCRC4ME will bring together religious leaders and people of faith from across N.C. to strengthen the movement toward LGBT rights and marriage equality with a focus on how marriage equality has been used as a "wedge issue" between predominantly white communities of faith and faith communities of color. Its hope is to build a movement grounded in faith, love and respect for the full human rights of members of the LGBT community.

Forbes, senior minister at the historic Riverside Church in N.Y., will be the keynote speaker. He is the first African-American to serve as senior minister of one of the largest multicultural congregations in the nation. He is an ordained minister in the American Baptist Churches and the Original United Holy Church of America. The 2,400-member church is affili-

ated with the American Baptist Churches and the United Church of Christ.

A rousing interfaith service and sermon by Forbes will touch on how the struggle for LGBT liberation is intimately connected to other liberation struggles throughout our history.

Cost to attend is \$20 that includes lunch. Scholarships are available.

To register, call Pullen's Rev. Jack McKinney at 919-828-0897 or visit www.pullen.org.

Those wishing to volunteer for this event, contact Chantelle Fisher-Borne by email at chantelle@ncrc4me.org.

Annual retreat slated

MAGGIE VALLEY — A multi-denominational LGBT retreat is being held Oct. 6-8 at the Living Waters Reflection Center in Maggie Valley. Fr. Richard Sotillo from El Paso, Texas, will serve as the retreat director, which is open to people of all faiths.

A light meal will kick-off the weekend between 6-8 p.m., on Oct. 6, followed by an opening session at 8:30 p.m. The first morning session with Fr. Sotillo will take place at 8:30 a.m., preceded by breakfast at 8 a.m. After lunch, attendees will be able to choose activities including a nature hike, quiet time for reflection, shopping or napping. Dinner will be served at 5 p.m. and mass will be celebrated at 7 p.m. On Oct. 8, the second morning session will be held, followed by lunch at 12 noon.

Cost to attend is \$90 per person.

To make a reservation, call 704-921-5711 or email devinsleigh@aol.com. ■

info: Announce your community event in NC News Notes. email: editor@q-notes.com or fax 704-531-1361

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