

Pride 2012 lineup

Festivals and parades across North Carolina and the surrounding area

by *qnotes* staff

1 Wilmington Pride, Wilmington NC | 06.07-14

Wilmington celebrates their 5th Annual Pride Week this year with a fabulous line-up of events to kick off the Pride season. The celebrations culminate around their Pride Festival on June 10 from 12-6 p.m. There will be a community march at 2 p.m. and entertainment to follow. For a full listing of the week's schedule be sure to check out their website and be mindful of changes to the schedule as the date draws near. wilmingtonpride.com.

2 OBX Pridefest, Outer Banks NC | 06.15-18

This year OBX Pride is partnering with Dare County based HIV-AIDS assistance non-profit organization Brandon's Beacon of Hope. Brandon's Beacon of Hope will be the festival's second charity recipient, last year the festival supported the Outer Banks Hotline for battered spouses and children. OBX Pride has a long list of activities to have fun in the sun during their annual Pride celebration with plenty of time to enjoy the beach and the sights between events. obxpridefest.com.

3 SC Black Pride, Columbia SC | 06.20-24

Celebrating their 2012 theme, "Free 2b fierce," South Carolina Black Pride is a non-profit organization dedicated to unifying and celebrating the diversity, genius and beauty of the South Carolina people of color same gender loving lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning communities, in order to empower, promote and support the human rights of these communities. Visit their website and get all the details on this year's events! southcarolinablackpride.com.

4 Augusta Pride, Augusta GA | 06.21-24

Just a short drive away from the Carolinas, Augusta Pride is gearing up for their 2012 festival and they already have a great lineup announced for their parade and festival on June 23. Events are scheduled before and after the main festival day and VIP tickets are already available online so you can be involved in every bit of the celebration. This is a great opportunity to celebrate Pride in Georgia without having to stray too far from home. Check out ticket pricing, hotel accommodations, event lineup and more on their website! prideaugusta.org.

5 Salisbury Pride, Salisbury NC | 06.23

Salisbury's LGBT community is back again with their second local Pride festival! The street festival will be held along 110 S. Lee St. in Salisbury and is scheduled to run from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. For more information about the festival be sure to check out their website. salisburypride.com.

6 Charleston Pride Festival, Charleston SC | 07.12-15

Charleston South Carolina is "lighting the path to progress" with their 2012 Pride cel-

ebration. Film festivals, parades, pageants, parties and more are on the list for this year's festivities. The annual Pride parade will be on July 14 and will start on Durant Ave. and end on Virginia Ave. Go ahead and book your stay in Charleston for what is sure to be a beautiful and fabulous Pride. For more information please visit the Charleston Pride website. charlestonpridefestival.org.

7 Charlotte Black Gay Pride, Charlotte NC | 07.19-22

Charlotte Black Gay Pride is back again this year with a full lineup of events across the Queen City for participants to get involved with. Currently, Charlotte Black Gay Pride is still lining up their entertainment and events. If you would like to be a part of this year's entertainment lineup there is still plenty of time to get involved. For more information about the various events or to be a part of Charlotte Black Gay Pride, visit their website and get involved. charlotteblackgaypride.com.

8 Triangle Black Gay Pride, Raleigh NC | 07.26-29

Shades of Pride, Raleigh's third annual Triangle Black Gay Pride is packed with arts, entertainments, music, fun and more. The festival lineup features a huge variety of events and entertainment across the city during the festival. For information on hotels, tickets, workshops and the full schedule of events, visit Triangle Black Gay Pride's website. triangleblackpride.org.

9 Pride Charlotte, Charlotte NC | 08.25-26

After a hugely successful Pride festival in the heart of Uptown Charlotte in 2011, Pride Charlotte is returning with a two-day festival in 2012! The annual Pride Charlotte festival is looking to be even bigger and better than before. While the festival has announced that hip-hop superstar Trina will be headlining this year, there is still more to be announced, as well as a line-up of events leading up to the first two-day Pride festival in the Queen City. To stay on top of everything Pride Charlotte, be sure to visit their website. pridecharlotte.com.

10 Triad Pride, Greensboro NC | 09.15

Triad Pride 2012 Festival will be Saturday, Sept. 15 at Festival Park in beautiful downtown Greensboro. Last year over 1,300 attendees took part in Triad Pride and they have pushed the date back this year to take advantage of all of the returning students to local colleges and universities ensuring that this year will be even bigger than before. Visit Triad Pride's website as the date draws closer for more information on events. triadpride.org.

11 Upstate Pride, Spartanburg SC | 09.22

It's all about peace, love and pride in Spartanburg during their annual Upstate Pride festival scheduled for Sept. 22. According to their website, Upstate Pride SC strives to empower the LGBTQI community and their straight allies to achieve civil equal-

ity and promote social awareness through education, advocacy and social networking. Limited information about this year's events is available at this time so be sure to check their website for updates. upstatepridesc.org.

12 NC Pride, Raleigh-Durham NC | 09.20

Celebrating 28 years of Pride in North Carolina, NC Pride brings roughly 8,000 to 10,000 people together to celebrate LGBT Pride together. Details have yet to be announced, so be sure to visit NC Pride's website for more information. ncpride.org.

13 Blue Ridge Pride, Asheville NC | 10.06

The Blue Ridge is united with pride and it shows! This year's Blue Ridge Pride will take place on Oct. 8 at Pack Square Park in downtown Asheville. Details to be announced, For information on sponsorships, volunteering or being an entertainer, visit their website. blueridgepride.com.

14 Winston-Salem Pride, Winston-Salem NC | 10.13

Equality Winston-Salem is bringing back Pride to the city after the success of last year's festival. The event is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 13 from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. in downtown Winston-Salem. The festival's parade will begin at 4 p.m. For more information and event details be sure to visit their website. equalitywinstonsalem.org.

15 Atlanta Pride, Atlanta GA | 10.13-14

Celebrating during this year's National Coming Out Day, Atlanta Pride is definitely one to have on the calendar even if you aren't a resident of Georgia. Details are still in the works for this year's festival, so make sure to visit their website and plan accordingly for a fabulous time. atlantapride.org.

16 SC Pride, Columbia SC | 10.20

SC Pride is celebrating 23 years of organizing Pride Celebrations in South Carolina! This year the festival has made some big changes and moved location to Main St. The annual parade down Main St. is hosted live on WXYR 99.3FM with commentary by Ms. SC Pride 2006 Patti O'Furniture and Mr. Larry Hembree, the executive director of Trustus Theater. Start your Pride day by marching in or viewing the South Carolina Pride Parade! Details for the day to be announced. Upcoming pre-Pride events include Joan Rivers on July 13 at the Koger Center for the Performing Arts. Visit the SC Pride website for more information. scpride.org.

If we missed a Pride festival or parade let us know so we can make sure to feature your Pride event in our online listing of this article. You can also submit your Pride festivities and other events online at goqnotes.com/qguide/events/submit.