

news notes: carolinas. nation. world.

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Records broken for foundation

WINSTON-SALEM — The Adam Foundation has received an all-time record-breaking contribution season leaving them with \$42,000 to distribute to local projects and initiatives in 2012.

The non-profit awards funding to alternative causes that focus on diversity and support. Those recipients are: Equality NC Foundation, \$2,500, networking to impact statewide LGBT issues; AIDS Care Service, \$15,000, support onsite with pantry and Holly Haven Home food needs (up to 77,000 meals) and interim LGBT resource center and teen HIV group; Positive Wellness Alliance, \$12,000, direct HIV/AIDS client case management and special support group for women of color; Echo Network, \$1,000, "Storyline" project to record "All Families" stories of parents and kids; Triad Softball League, \$1,000, sponsorship to increase number of teams and events for "All Families;" Adam Foundation's "Adolescent Futures" Initiative, \$1,000, emergency homeless youth fund, teen suicide prevention, anti-bullying programs; Theatre Alliance of Winston-Salem, \$3,000, two diversity or teen-related play productions, "Spring Awakening" and "Sordid Lives;" Triad Pride Men's Chorus, \$1,500, upgrade equipment to improve both live and recorded performances; and Adam Foundation's "Aging Friends" Initiative, \$5,000, create community leadership for project that impact the unique needs of the aging LGBT population.

The two Adam Foundation initiative grants were the first for Forsyth County. In 2011, funds were made available to target LGBT homeless youth. This year the foundation will be collaborating with The Trevor Project on teen suicide. Work will also specifically directed to the aging community and their specialized needs.

For more information or to learn how to support the foundation's work, visit adamfoundation.org.

— L.M.

Charlotte



Theatre company mounts gay Abe play

CHARLOTTE — The Queen City Theatre Company brings its "Abraham Lincoln's Big, Gay Dance Party" to the Queen City from Aug. 16-25 at Duke Energy Theatre at Spirit Square, 345 N. College St.

Each of the three acts gives audience members the opportunity to see the story from different characters' viewpoint. And, to make things more interesting, the audience decides in what order the acts are performed. Of course, top hats and beards abound during this presentation as prejudice, both past and present, are depicted and explored.

The story surrounds a fourth-grade Christmas pageant in Lincoln's rural Illinois hometown which sets off a firestorm of controversy when it calls into question Honest Abe's sexuality. When the most beloved homegrown hero is "outed," a thought-provoking, laugh-out-loud funny and uniquely American story unfolds, offering surprises at every turn as the trial of the century begins, big city reporters and congressional candidates descend, and family skeletons are forced out of the closet.

The off-Broadway hit was written by Aaron Loeb.

Tickets are \$22-24 with discounts for students and seniors. A special discounted performance will be held on Aug. 21.

For more information, visit queencitytheatre.com.

Triad

Amendment workshop scheduled

WINSTON-SALEM — The Campaign for Southern Equality will hold a workshop, "What Amendment One Means for You and Your Family," on dealing with legal issues in a post-Amendment One world on Sept. 15, 1-2:30 p.m. at Green Street United Methodist Church, 639 S. Green St.

Led by Attorneys Bradley J. Wiedeman and Diane Walton, the presenters will focus on the information specific to in-depth analysis of Amendment One. Attendees will be able to engage in a Q&A during the workshop.

Free childcare is provided.

Sponsors are Green Street, Equality Winston-Salem and Equality NC.

Co-sponsors are: Center for Participatory Change; Western NC Citizens to End Institutional Bigotry; Cogburn & Brazil, P.A.; Walton Law Office; National Center for Lesbian Rights; Southern Poverty Law Center; Lambda Legal; and ACLU of North Carolina.

Plans for a live online workshop are in the works on a future undetermined date.

Similar workshops were held in July at Charlotte and Asheville.

For more information, visit southernequality.org.

— L.M.

Triangle

Conference registration open

RALEIGH — Gay Christian Network has announced that early-bird registration is now available for its 2013 "Oasis" conference slated for Jan. 10-13, 2013, in Phoenix, Az.

Deadline is Aug. 7 for their "super early bird special." Cost is \$99. Early bird registration is \$120 until Sept. 30; online, \$135, Dec. 9; onsite, \$160; and women's retreat, \$25.

Rejuvenate, refresh and revitalize during

this three-day event that allows participants to renew themselves, away from the day-to-day grind and worry. Examine the love of God through the promise of reaching the Oasis.

In addition to the conference, for the first time a Women's Retreat will take place on Jan. 10, just prior to the opening of Oasis that evening. Enjoy worship, Bible study and fellowship.

The Pointe Hilton Squaw Peak Resort, 7677 N. 16th St., will serve as host hotel and conference site. Room rates are \$139 per room with TGC or The Gay Christian Network Conference code. Rates are also the same for three days prior to or afterward for those who



want to explore the area. Cut-off date for booking at the conference rate is Dec. 9.

Speakers (pictured) so far are Rev. Dr. Lillian Daniel, a senior minister at First Congregational Church of Glen Ellyn in Illinois, also serves as an editor-at-large for *Christian Century Magazine* among others, as well as authoring books on spirituality. In addition to Daniel, GCN Founder and Executive Director Justin Lee will be



on hand as well. He has been an avid bridge builder between opposing factions and has also been seen in print, on radio and television through "Dr. Phil," "Anderson Cooper 360," *OUT* magazine, and more.

Guests slated are Jennifeer Knapp, a Christian musician, and Namoli Brennet, a transgender singer/songwriter.

Scholarships are also available for the conference. Requests must meet the Sept. 30 deadline to be considered.

Food and lodging are not included in the registration costs.

For more information or to register, visit gaychristian.net.

In other news, GCN's newly hired web developer has left the organization and they are in urgent need of someone to take over the reigns. Lee has stepped in temporarily until the position is filled. Those who are highly skilled in PHP development, either part-time, full-time or on a volunteer basis should send their intent to gaychristian.net/jobs/webdev.php.

— L.M.

Project shares stories

RALEIGH — The Know + Love project is a collaborative initiative between the ACLU of North Carolina Legal Foundation and Equality NC. Since its inception in the wake of passage of anti-gay Amendment One, it is encouraging North Carolina LGBT families to share their stories as a way to raise awareness and increase public support for equal rights for LGBT people.

The ACLU has acknowledged the support of Stiefel Freethought Foundation that helped with Know + Love website creation. Its founder and president, Todd Stiefel, is a freethought activist. The Freethought Movement challenges the status quo through knowledge and reason. It has associations with the Humanist and atheist ideologies.

Triangle Community Foundation, Durham, also supports the work through video stories that bring to light the effects of discrimination

against LGBT Triangle Tar Heel citizens.

For more information or to share family stories, visit knowandlove.org.

— L.M.

Western

Church to publish cookbook

HENDERSONVILLE — MCC Sacred Journey is in the process of producing its first-ever cookbook as a way to raise funds for its annual operating budget. Project planning began last January.

They have been collecting recipes since June and continue to find advertising supporters who will help offset the book's publishing costs. Ad size and pricing is: full page, \$75; half page, \$45; \$15, patron ad; and business card, \$35. Payments can be made online via PayPal through the church website. Due date for ads is Aug. 8.

Pre-orders for the cookbooks are being taken up until Labor Day weekend and make a great gift. Cost is \$12 for one or \$20 for two. The expect to have about 250 recipes when the project is complete. Delivery is slated for early December.

The church began in 2008 and has continued to grow. It now has 61 members, plus friends and guests. Attendance from singles and families crosses the spectrum from those of the LGBTQ and straight communities. Participants come from Western North Carolina and Upstate South Carolina.

A two-year MCC affiliation anniversary will be celebrated on Aug. 12 with Rev. Brendan Y. Boone, St. John's MCC, Raleigh, as guest speaker.

For advertising and ad placement technical information or to order a cookbook, email mccsjcookbook@yahoo.com or visit mccsacredjourney.org. Checks can be sent to the church at P.O. Box 2356, Hendersonville, NC 28793.

— L.M.

Pros host extravaganza

ASHEVILLE — The Association of Lesbian Professionals (ALPS) will hold its First Annual ALPS Extravaganza dance on Aug. 18, 7:30-11 p.m. at 11 on Grove, 11 Grove St.

A host of door prizes will be up for grabs for those attending this soirée, as well as participation in a silent auction including a night's stay at Mountain Laurel B&B, gift certificates from Lowe's, chiropractic services and more.

ALPS is a Western North Carolina social group that focuses on community understanding and enjoyment. They are entertaining ways to fundraise to support its work.

Membership is \$15 per year which nets attendance at monthly meetings, receipt of monthly newsletter, free announcements in the newsletter, free listing on the website, access to ALPS activities and entrance to two annual ALPS-sponsored dance parties.

For more information, visit alpsfasheville.net.

— L.M.

National/Global

Black MSM 'bearing the brunt' of HIV

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Study results released at the recent 19th International AIDS Conference show disturbing rates of new HIV infections occurring among black gay and bisexual men in the U.S. (also known as men who have sex with men, or MSM), particularly young black MSM. The HPTN 061 study showed that the overall rate of new HIV infections among black MSM in the study was