

Third annual BCDPC pride fest

Continued from page 1

Free craft stations and face painting run by the Brevard College Fine Arts Club added to the already vibrant atmosphere.

"It was really colorful," said Sidney Robinson, a freshman at BC.

Inside the lobby of Dunham was a wall of pictures, each dedicated to prominent LGBTQ figures. Underneath each image was an informational brief explaining their role as a member of the LGBTQ community.

Gerald Vega of Arden, NC traveled to Brevard for his first ever BCDPC pride festival. Vega said he enjoyed the "small town atmosphere" and

that it was "more informational" than any other pride fest that he had experienced.

Following the outdoor festivities was a drag show held in Ingram Auditorium. BC Students Dal Davis as "Jada Queens" and Carolina Vargas as "Cherry Wine" performed alongside professional drag queens from Scandals Nightclub in Asheville.

Arianna Ruiz, president of the BC Fine Arts Club and member of BCDPC, said that this was the festival's largest turnout yet and hopes that next year will be even bigger.

"We could always use more student participation, but we had great support from the community," said Ruiz.



Photo Courtesy of CAB

Sidney Robinson blows bubbles in rainbow attire.

Mini LINC practice protest *Souls of Black Folk Freedom Songs*

By Kenny Cheek
Staff Writer

Classes all over Brevard are always finding new ways to implement experiential education into their course, and what better way to experience something than hands on activities?

Mel Bringle, a professor of religious studies, found an interesting way to teach her Souls of Black Folk mini link about some of the freedom songs from the past civil rights movements in the sixties.

By taking her class of a little more than 20 students to the Bell Tower, and walking around campus singing those songs, she found that it offered them multiple experiences.

"The best part was having students get real life experience with how songs can rally a group and the way that lyrics can be improvised on the spot. It is still relevant to current event protests," she said.

The comparison to the problems that faced people in the past to current problems that many people want to protest was an important part of

the whole idea.

While the practicing of songs was not necessarily a protest, it was still an important part of the class. The class itself teaches about African American literature and religion, and gives people the chance to have their voices heard on an issue that was once extremely prevalent.

"The challenge was, as a culture, we don't sing in groups anymore, which is why I wanted the experience. People who don't sing think it's weird or embarrassing," she said. "but the purpose of singing is to be heard and for the message to be heard, and not for you to have a beautiful singing voice, but to be a part of something bigger than yourself."

The success of the practice protest was a success, and is something that Bringle hopes to continue in the following semesters.

"I would love for this to become a more regular occurrence. People assume we know how to protest, but we can learn from the past for the future. Songs are a great part of heritage," she said.

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The Clarion, Brevard College, One Brevard College Drive, Brevard, NC 28712, or send E-mail to clarion@brevard.edu
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