

Pride Festival Workshops September 17th, 2011 in Bushnell Park

For the first time, Connecticut Pride Hartford Rally and Festival, Inc. will be offering workshops during the day at this year's Pride Celebration. Education is a major component to most Pride events throughout the world. We must not only educate mainstream society, but those within our own community as well. Workshops are being conducted and facilitated by a number of groups. These groups and their particular offerings are listed below. Scheduled workshop times and tent locations will be posted at Pride and announced throughout the day from the stage. Signing up in advance is highly recommended as some workshops may fill up quickly and space will be limited. Contact us at info@connecticutpride.org to secure your reserved space.

TD Bank

Title: Corporate Diversity Initiatives - This workshop will cover TD Bank, America's Most Convenient Bank Corporate Diversity Initiatives and how we have incorporated these into our culture. This workshop will include a description of the philosophy, approach, areas of concentration, business case for diversity, and the types of activities we promote. It is a "how to" for launching diversity initiatives and outcomes, and will include a live slide presentation.

Title: Strategies for Creating Inclusion in the Workplace - This workshop is a diversity and inclusion training session. Facilitators will demo several modules online and lead group discussion to follow. You can expect to learn business case for diversity, about the changing demographics in the U.S., how LGBT issues can play out in a work environment, and strategies for creating inclusion vs. exclusion at work.

Facilitators: TBD

Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective

Title: Oral Health

This is a short refresher on the importance of optimum oral health. The healthier your mouth is, the more attractive you are and your body will be. Find out what causes "bad Breath, bleeding gums, and cavities.

Presented by **Patricia Mille**, who is the Health Collective's Dental Program Coordinator

Title: Breast Health

"Whether you call them boobies, breasts, boobs or chests, join the Hartford Gay and Lesbian Health Collective for Breast/Chest Bingo! Participants will learn how breast cancer disproportionately affects the LGBTQ community and what steps you can take to keep yourself and your loved ones healthy. The group will take the breast/chest self-exam challenge and have the opportunity to win prizes!"

Presented by **Rachel Pryzby**, a Breast Cancer Educator for the Health Collective.

Title: Tobacco Cessation

“Taking Control: Why Quitting Smoking is a Queer Priority- Learn how tobacco companies have been targeting the LGBTQ community and how the individual decision to quit smoking is key to personal health and justice for our community.”

Presented by **Cassidy Weyel**, the Health Collective’s Tobacco Cessation Program Coordinator

GLSEN Connecticut Jump-Start Student Leadership Team Workshop

Title: Get Ready to Jump!: The 411 on GLSEN Connecticut’s Jump-Start Student Leadership Team

Want to learn how to become a more effective student leader and network with other Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs) across the state? We’ll introduce you to our creative and energetic team of student leaders who will share their exciting new plans, including facilitating a state-wide GSA Summit in late May 2012. Please join us for some enlightening discussion, fun activities, and awesome new student leadership connections!

Facilitated by:

Julian Arias is the Student Coordinator of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network of Connecticut’s (GLSEN Connecticut) Jump-Start Team. He is a Junior at Stamford High School in Stamford, CT, and an active member of his school’s GSA. kyetra1@gmail.com

Alberto Cifuentes, Jr., is the Adult Coordinator of GLSEN Connecticut’s Jump-Start Team and an active Board Member of GLSEN Connecticut. He has a B.A. in Media Studies and English from Southern Connecticut State University. He has also facilitated educational workshops on anti-bullying/harassment awareness and advocacy as well as queer representation in the media for six years. albertocj@studentorganizing.org

Mara Skowronek is a Senior at East Hartford High School in East Hartford, CT, and Vice-President of her school’s GSA. She co-founded her school’s Animal Rights Club and has made social activism her joie de vivre. mara8248@aol.com

Skylar Liam Spear is a Junior at Amity High School in Amity, CT, and an active member of his school’s GSA. He enjoys participating in social activism and recently helped organize his school’s Day of Silence. skylarliam@gmail.com

True Colors, Inc.

When you see Mean, Intervene! Being an Ally to your LGBT Brothers and Sisters!

Title: Support all the Colors of the Rainbow: Being a True Ally to all L’s T’s, B’s, G’s and I’s

Despite the fact that more and more people are openly identifying as trans or intersex, these communities continue to simply be tacked on to pre-existing initiatives for gay, lesbian and bisexual communities. In addition, there are different orientation prejudices based on race, gender and gender presentation (to name a few). LGBT I people need to learn how to effectively ally for the entire community. This interactive workshop will help individuals and organizations begin to examine how they define diversity inside of the LGBTI community, examine their values around diversity (orientation, gender, color, religion etc.) and take concrete steps to truly be inclusive and effective.

Participants will know that diversity in the LGBTI community includes more than orientation.

Participants will learn that in order to be an ally to the *entire* LGBTI community, they will need to learn about and be respectful of the intersectionalities of race, class, culture, orientation, gender etc.

Participants will be aware of the different levels of privilege that exist inside of the LGBTI community.

Facilitated by **Kamora Herrington**

Kamora Le'Ella Herrington is the Mentoring Program Coordinator for True Colors, Inc., a support and advocacy organization for sexual minority youth based in Hartford, Connecticut. She has had several television appearances advocating for LGBT youth including the Tyra Banks Show and CNN. She has also participated in the "Out on the Hill LGBT Leadership Summit" in Washington, D.C. working with other leaders, philanthropists and activists who are organizing to empower their communities while educating Congressional leaders, the Obama Administration and federal agencies about Black LGBT public policy concerns

Title: **Healthy Relationships**

Facilitated by **Alison Berk**, Group Activities Coordinator for True Colors, Inc..

Planned Parenthood of Southern New England (PPSNE)

Workshop 1: Safe is Sexy- Safer Sex Workshop

[This workshop will be offered twice during the day. One will be for youth only.]

1 in 2 sexually active people will get an STI by age 25 and most won't know it. In this workshop, participants will learn about to protect themselves from a sexually transmitted infection (STI), including information on how to get tested. This workshop will discuss the different types of infections and methods of prevention.

Workshop 2: Planned Parenthood Services

Ever wondered where someone can get sexual health services? Heard of Planned Parenthood, but aren't sure what they do? In this workshop, participants will learn about the different services Planned Parenthood of Southern New England (PPSNE) provides and how to find out where your closest PPSNE health center is. Come learn how you can take care of your sexual health!

Facilitated by: **Liana Brown**

Liana Brown is a Community Educator for Planned Parenthood of Southern New England (PPSNE). She provides sexuality education to those in the greater Hartford area. Liana began with Planned Parenthood at the age of 16 as a peer educator. Upon graduating from Trinity College, Liana was hired at PPSNE as the Public Affairs Fellow and helped supervise the college internship program, *Campus Action*. In June of 2010, Liana started her current position as Community Educator. She also supervises PPSNE's STARS (Students Teaching About Responsible Sexuality) Peer Education Program at its Hartford site.

Center for Advanced Reproductive Services - UCONN Health Center

Title: **Family Building for Gays and Lesbians**

At the Center for Advanced Reproductive Services we understand that there are many different paths to parenthood. We also know that the fertility options and issues facing gays and lesbians are different from others wishing to become parents.

The fertility options for third party reproduction have grown over the years. Gay and lesbian individuals and couples now have choices that include not only adopted children, but genetically related children, as well. Females, depending on their health and age, can use advanced technologies such as sperm donation with intrauterine insemination (IUI), in vitro fertilization (IVF), shared conception, egg donation and egg or embryo freezing to achieve a pregnancy. Males, depending on their sperm quality and gestational options, can use technologies like [IVF](#), [egg donation](#), and [gestational carrier](#). This workshop will focus on the clinical, emotional and legal components of these clinical options with plenty of time for Q&A.

Facilitated by: Center medical and psychiatric staff TBD and a lawyer specializing in Reproductive Law and the LGBT community.

InterPride, the International Association of Pride Coordinators

Title: **The Pride Movement and Human Rights: A Global Perspective**

In Nepal, an Asian elephant is decorated and serves as a float in Katmandu's Pride Parade. Sao Paulo has the largest Pride in the world with over 3 million people attending, while in Moscow, Pride has been labeled "satanic" by the mayor and banned since the first attempt in 2006. Bratislava, Belgrade, Chiang Mai, Split and many other cities' Pride events are met with property destruction and personal violence spurred on by religious leaders and conservative protesters. In 7 countries, people are executed for being gay. In nearly 80 more we are fined, tortured and imprisoned from several years to life.

Enjoying your Connecticut Pride celebration? Come and learn what our international brothers and sisters experience around the world and how they show *their* Pride.

Facilitated by: **William Urich**

In addition to serving on the Connecticut Pride committee, Billy is Vice President of InterPride and Chair of InterPride's Committee on International LGBTI Human and Civil Rights.

PRIDE Institute

Title: **Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Concerns Within the LGBT Community.**

This workshop is designed to help those within the LGBT community and professionals who work closely with the community understand the intricate dynamics of being LGBT. Through workshop presentation and group discussion we will open up a dialogue regarding the terminology used to describe the community, possible concerns that the LGBT community faces when dealing with the coming out process, and the difference between heterosexism and homophobia. We will also address mental health concerns that can lead to substance abuse and chemical dependency within the community.

Presented by: **Scottie Gage**

Scottie Gage is the East Coast Director of Clinical Outreach for PRIDE Institute. With 25 years of excellence, PRIDE Institute is the nation's first and leading provider of residential and out-patient programs devoted exclusively to treating the chemical dependency and mental health needs of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community. PRIDE Institute specializes in the treatment of drug and alcohol addiction, sexual compulsivity, depression, anxiety and HIV/AIDS-related stress and grief.

Pending Workshop

Title: **Depression and Suicide**

The subject of Bullying and resulting loss of life has been at the forefront of all LGBTI groups, particularly since the drastic rise in both attempted and completed suicides. A number of initiatives have been instituted including the “It Gets Better” campaign. However, our kids can no longer wait for this to happen. We have to make it better NOW! Information on this session and its facilitator(s) will be disseminated as it becomes available.

Contact info@connecticutpride.org to reserve a seat at the various workshops as space may be limited.

Programming depends on facilitator availability and therefore subject to change if necessary.