



Greater Palm Springs Pride

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Unprecedented Palm Springs Pride Celebration Lineup Includes Karmin,
The Crystal Method, Martha Reeves, Erasure's Andy Bell, and The Limousines**

130 performers scheduled for November 3 and 4

(Palm Springs, CA – October 22, 2012) The Greater Palm Springs Pride celebration will feature an unprecedented number of performers and attractions with a phenomenal lineup of 130 artists gathered to celebrate equality, freedom and diversity in the LGBT community. Seven stages and three dance venues will be set up throughout the festival grounds at Sunrise Park and downtown Palm Springs, giving way to a wide range of musical genres that include rock, electronic pop, jazz, country, hip-hop and more.

Artists appearing live on the US Bank Stage include the pop sensation Karmin, electronic music duo The Crystal Method, lead singer of the acclaimed English “synthpop” band Erasure Andy Bell, Celesbian Performer and Pop-Diva Luciana Caporaso, the indietronica band based out of San Francisco, The Limousines, American Idol Kimberly Caldwell, Motown’s Martha Reeves and the last official member of The Supremes, Susaye Greene. The lineup includes much-loved Dance Diva Pepper MaShay, Country Rock Crooner Justin Utley and the chart topping “Ain’t No Mountain High Enough,” Diva Cynthia Manley. Another featured performance and local favorite is Joshua Tree based electro space rock band Gram Rabbit who will bring their psych-rock and electro pop music to the festival.

An eclectic mix of country rock, dance, pop, rap, violin, R&B, jazz, hip hop and rock performers will appear on the Rainbow Stage. Headliners include Raspin Stewart, No Angel and the all lesbian, Girls Gone Band. From tunes that advocate for improving transgender employment to the all male Go Go's tribute band the Gay Gay's, the Rainbow stage has something for everyone. A special pop performance by thirteen year old Ani Hesse will start the festival on Saturday and as the afternoon will make way for MikO Tolliver, a female electric guitarist in chiffon, fishnets, and corset accompanied by a live band of masked soldiers. Relax on the grass lawn and soak it all in.

Desert Radio Group Events Stage presents a roster of independent rock, pop, and alternative bands and musicians from Southern California including Culprit who is coming off their eleven cities West Coast Tour. The Los Angeles indie band Science Fiction Theatre and Palm Springs' favorite, The Morning After will bring their pop rock music to the Pride lineup. Other independent bands include That Art Thou, The Lunar Atlantic, The Brock Party, Arson & Co., HMWK, The Kyms, Kid Gramophon, and Sweet Company.

The Big TOP features the best and sometime unmentionable live entertainment in the signature themed cabaret and comedy stage. Sit back and enjoy a few hours of carousing and cocktails in the 60 foot shaded tent. Fifty entertainers who are passionate about supporting the LGBT civil rights movement will present a wide variety of music, comedy, song, and dance. Bella da Ballsm, Palm Springs' area social ambassador and hostess with the mostest, is the Big Top Cabaret ringmaster and emcee.

The lineup includes David Hirsch, who has toured with Eddie Money and Albert King, Cherilynn, a member of the drag comedy performance group, The Troupers, and Morganne, an international chanteuse. Claudia Sussman starred as Abbe Lane in Obie Winner Beverly Bremer's "A Night at the Copa" and had her own one woman showcase in Hollywood. Michael Holmes' The Judy Show mixes an internationally acclaimed impersonator with outrageous comedy, great standards and a bevy of icons. Joel Baker will play keyboard for the Les Michaels Cabaret Hour on Saturday and Cat Lyn Day will perform as Marilyn in a special tribute.

Vocalists Francesca Amari, Allison Annalora, Keisha D, Lili Rose, Dolores Ofria, Jean Sorf, Pat McCann, and Eve Holmes will be joined by Charles Herrera, Jerome Elliott, Jeremy Johnson, Fleet Easton, Roger Snofsky, Les Michael, Wayne Curtiss, Doug Graham, Alan Jon, Lindsay Ouellette, Chuck Wallace, Brian Damson, and Michael Scott Brooks. Drag personalities will include Czarina Liz Loren, Sassy Ross, Empress Lonnie, Melissa Stratman, Marina Mac, Michael Holmes/The Judy Show, Cherilynn, Ethylina Canne, Libra, Lola la showgirl, Anime Bright-eyes, Ashley Araya Sparks, and Pearl O'Wisdom.

Kick up your heels in Pride Park on the largest outdoor LGBT Country/Swing Dance floor in the desert, with live DJ's playing two steps, waltzes, swing and line dances. The Country Western Dance Tent will feature live DJs and free dance lessons on a real wood floor under a large tent. In addition to special performances by the L.A. Wranglers, featured DJs include Stephen Guerrero, Rick Dominguez, Ken Smith, Drew Johnson, Brett Coffey, and Greg Ogin. Dance instructors are Rick Dominguez, Bill Glover, DJ Ken Smith and Dev Edwards. The Country Dance Tent is presented by the Golden State Rodeo Association Greater Palm Springs Chapter, Oil Can Harry's, Digs Bar, and Pony Express.

The Karaoke Tent, hosted by Geoff Allan, will be open Noon to 5:30 pm daily. Festival attendees are invited to done a costume and sing for fun and compete with friends for a place in Pride's make believe Gay National Karaoke Championship.

The PNN.fm Dance Tent opens at 10 a.m. both days with guest DJs delivering a special blend of non-stop dance favorites, disco classics, hip-hop anthems and current chart toppers that are sure to keep everybody movin'. Los Angeles DJs featured over the weekend include DJ Lancia, VJ Galaxy and DJ Jiji. Playing from behind the decks, from New Jersey, is PNN.FM Radio's DJ Eddie Kay. Home-grown talent includes DJ Amrel and delivering a special blend of dance and electro music will be PNN.FM Radio's DJ Robb Roberts and DJ Corey D.

Arenas Rd. Block Party '12 will feature International DJ Justin Ryan and San Francisco's DJ Wong along with Hi-Fashion (*San Francisco*), AB Soto (*Los Angeles*), American Idol Kimberly Caldwell, and Cherie Lily with her special guest DJ Andrew W.K (*New York*). This street festival is a free, twenty-one years and older, community event. Join guest emcee's for live music on two stages, dancing, cocktails, beer, and food booths in the heart of the gayborhood. Arenas Road is home to a collection of gay bars, restaurants and local businesses. The Arenas Block Party is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. on November 3, 2012.

All performers are scheduled to appear and subject to change.

Free shuttle service is provided from several locations downtown to the festival from Noon to 6:30 p.m. daily. A Park-N-Ride shuttle is also available from the Palm Springs Mall to the festival from 7:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. daily. For updated schedules, performance details or event information please visit www.pspride.org.

About the Pride Festival:

Pride Park is only a rainbow mile from downtown! The Pride Festival is held at Palm Springs Stadium November 3 and 4 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Festival highlights include: US Bank, Desert Radio Group & Rainbow Pride stages, Big Top Cabaret Tent, Country Dance and PNN.fm HiNrg Dance Tents, featuring live entertainment and over ninety performances. New features include Fetish in the Outfield the Leather Realm, Karaoke Tent, Children's Cabana, Youth Xone and gourmet food trucks. Vons Farmer's Market, 150 exhibitors and non-profit organizations, food and beverage vendors, Bud Light 2nd base bar with multiple beer stations, Authors' Village, and HIV/AIDS testing by Desert Aids Project. The Palm Springs Stadium/Sunrise Park is located at 1901 E. Baristo Rd. Admission is \$15 daily; \$25 for a Weekend Pass; \$10 daily for Seniors (60+), Youth 12-18, and Students (19-24 w/current student ID); \$65 Premier Two-day Admission with hosted Bud Light and wine. Tickets at festival gates or online at www.bit.ly/PSPridetickets.

For information regarding Palm Springs Pride and Pride Week 2012 events, please visit our website at www.pspride.org. Follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/PalmSprings.Pride.

About Greater Palm Springs Pride:

Greater Palm Springs Pride (pspride.org) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit community enhancement organization founded to promote the public education and public awareness of individual rights and civil liberties of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community and to promote the history, diversity and future prosperity of the Greater Palm Springs LGBT community.

For twenty-six years, Palm Springs Pride has been a tireless advocate for equality and diversity. This year's Pride celebration theme is: "Long May it Wave!" For information about upcoming events and volunteer opportunities visit the web site at: PS Pride.org. The 2012 Palm Springs Pride Celebration is November 1 - 4.

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