



Greater Palm Springs Pride

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Phone: 760-416-8711

Fax: 760-323-8704

Email: info@pspride.org

Web site: www.pspride.org

Greater Palm Springs Pride Week Official Event Schedule

(Palm Springs, CA – October 29, 2012) Greater Palm Springs Pride today released the schedule of official events that are expected to attract 75,000 – 100,000 people to the Coachella Valley November 2 – 4, 2012. Considered to be one of the most scenic pride parades in the world, the Greater Palm Springs Pride Festival celebrates its 26th Anniversary, October 29 – November 4, 2012, with multiple block parties, a two-day festival and parade in Palm Springs, California. The 2012 theme, "Long May it Wave!" is a salute to the worldwide symbol of equality whose rainbow stripes have led a fight for equality while embracing our diversity and celebrating the unity of our community. Intended to celebrate the past and future progress toward equality, the theme also celebrates the profound sense of pride that the rainbow flag brings to individuals around the world.

Official events and programs of Pride Week 2012 include:

Carter / Johnson Leather Library exhibit to be featured at Pride Festival

Palm Spring Pride will host a portion of the Carter-Johnson Leather Library, a traveling exhibit featuring artwork, books, DVDs, magazines, newsletters, newspapers, pamphlets, photographs, club and event pins, posters and various other materials that explore the world of alternative sexuality from the 1700s to today. The collection covers everything from 18th century writings on the intersection of pain and pleasure to pulp erotica from the 1930s and 1940s, on up to complete series runs of LGBTQ and kinky pansexual magazines like Bizarre, Drummer, Cuir Underground, and Black Leather in Color. The full traveling exhibit includes more than 10,000 items. Several hundred items will be on display in Palm Springs.

The exhibit will be a part of the Fetish in the Outfield leather area within the Pride Festival. Admission is included with the purchase of a festival ticket. Exhibit hours are 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m. November 3-4.

AIDS Walk to be recognized as the 2012 Spirit of Stonewall Advocate of the Year, honoring the AIDS Walk legacy in Palm Springs

This year's Pride parade will make history as Palm Springs Pride recognizes the **Palm Springs AIDS Walk** as the 2012 Advocate of the Year. This will be the first time an AIDS Walk and Pride Parade have walked together. AIDS Walk will present a very special parade contingent that reflects on 25 years of care, prevention and advocacy. Walkers can expect plenty of entertaining surprises

along this year's parade route as well as a day of remembrance, HIV/AIDS education & awareness and community festivities. Timothy Brown "The Berlin Patient" will be an honored guest.

26th Anniversary Pride Parade: November 4

Known for its crystal blue skies and year-round sunshine, the City of Palm Springs comes alive during the annual pride celebration. Thousands of spectators will gather along palm tree lined streets to cheer and support local organizations, activists and themed floats along historic Palm Canyon Drive. The parade is scheduled for Sunday, November 4 at 10 a.m. starting at E. Ramon Rd. and travels north on S. Palm Canyon Drive to Tamarisk.

Retired Staff Sergeant Eric Alva, the first American soldier wounded in the Iraq War, will be honored as the 2012 Grand Marshal. Alva is recognized as a LGBT civil rights activist and a national spokesman for the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell." Community Grand Marshals will be an original member of Dykes on Bikes, director, producer and historian Glenne McElhinney along with one of the first out gay reporters in the country Hank Plante. Celebrity Grand Marshals will be television, radio and stage performer Joey English and fashion designer Michael Costello.

Two-Day Pride Festival: November 3 and 4 (10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.)

Pride Park is only a rainbow mile from downtown! The pride festival is held at Palm Springs Stadium. 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 Headquarters (CHQ), Youth Xone and gourmet food trucks. Over 150 exhibitors and non-profit organizations, Vons Farmer's Market, 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 available at festival gates or online at www.pspride.org.

Arenas Rd. Block Party '12: November 3, 2012 (6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.)

This street festival is a free community event. Join guest Emcee's for live music, guest DJs Justin Ryan and DJ Wong along with featured performers Hi-Fashion (*San Francisco*), AB Soto (*Los Angeles*), American Idol Kimberly Caldwell, and Cherie Lily w/ her special guest DJ Andrew W.K. (*New York*). Street performers and drag queens will keep thousands entertained as they celebrate Pride Weekend on Arenas Road, home to a large collection of gay bars, restaurants and local businesses. This is a twenty-one years and older event.

Miss Broadway in Drag: November 2 (8:00 p.m.)

Kicking off Pride festivities, the Palm Springs Canyon Theater will raise the curtain for beautiful female impersonators who will entertain spectators as they are judged on evening gown, talent and swimsuit. The Palm Canyon Theater is located at 538 N. Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs. Admission is \$35.00; \$50 VIP Seats/Voter's Circle. For tickets, call 760-323-5123. <http://pspride.org/2011-events/drag-pageant/>

Pride Honors Awards: November 2 (6:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.)

The prestigious Palm Springs Pride Honors Awards are presented annually to individuals to honor the work they have put into furthering the causes of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals and their allies. The awards will be presented at a reception at the Hyatt Regency Suites in Palm Springs located at 285 N. Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs. Admission is \$15, includes complimentary beer, wine and appetizers. For tickets visit bit.ly/honor2012.

Lifetime Achievement Awards will be presented to the LGBT rights pioneer and founder of the Metropolitan Community Church, Troy Perry, and Viola Johnson, recognizing her four decades of activism and leadership in the leather community. Masen Davis will be recognized as 2012 Spirit of Stonewall Special Guest for his activism and service on behalf of the transgender community; and a life-long feminist and activist, Ruth Debra, along with trio Gary Moline, Dean McDowell and the Desert Winds Freedom Band will be recognized with Spirit of Stonewall Community Service Awards. AIDS Walk Palm Springs is the 2012 Advocate of the Year and Arlene Rosenthal, Doug Hairgrove and Woody Wood will be honored as Volunteers of the Year.

Front Runners & Walkers Run/Walk: November 3 (8:00 a.m.)

10K Run, 5K Run, and 5K Walk. Course is flat and fast. All participants receive a race t-shirt and goodie bag. Awards will be presented to top male and female finishers in various age categories. Raffle prizes and refreshments are served after the race. Race day registration starting at 6:00 a.m or online registration is available at www.active.com. Palm Springs High School athletic stadium (Baristo Road and Farrell Way). \$25 entry for 5K Run and 5K Walk. \$30 entry for 10K Run. Discounted entry is available for students and current members of Palm Springs Front Runners and Walkers. Additional information at www.psfr.org.

LGBT Center Concert: November 1 (7:00 p.m.)

The LGBT Center of the Desert presents Center Stage, a benefit concert headlined by Megan Mullally & Supreme Music with special guest emcee Ross Mathews at the Palm Springs Convention Center on Thursday, November 1, 2012. No host cocktails and silent auction at 5:30 p.m. Concert starts at 7:00 p.m. Admission is \$100. For ticket information visit www.thecenterps.org or call 760-416-7790.

Hot Wet & Proud Pool Party: November 3 (Noon to 11:00 p.m.)

Join us for a day of sunshine at the clothing optional weekend pool party featuring live DJ's, drag show and a nude contest along with a free BBQ and no host cocktails at the CCBC Resort. Admission is \$25.00 in advance; \$30 at the door. (*Advance tickets include Single-day Pride Festival admission*). For tickets visit bit.ly/pool12. CCBC Resort is located at 68300 Gay Resort Drive, Cathedral City, CA 92234. 760-324-1350.

Hands On: Pride at Ace Hotel & Swim Club: November 3 (Saturday afternoon)

Gay-owned Ace Hotel is the place to celebrate Pride with a massage, amazing food and cocktail in hand, poolside, drenched in sunshine and good music. Join a big, gay roster of DJs and performers with a killer view of the San Jacintos from your deck chair. Part of Ace's five-day music and arts festival during pride, Hands On is also a benefit for the Palm Springs Pride fund to support Coachella Valley Gay-Straight Alliance organizations — \$5 of each ticket supports LGBTQ high school events and programs. Admission is \$20 at the door. Poolside Patio, Ace Hotel & Swim Club, 701 E. Palm Canyon Dr., Palm Springs, CA 92264. [760.325.9900](tel:760.325.9900)

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.

This year's Pride celebration theme is: "Long May it Wave!" For information about upcoming events visit the web site at: PSPride.org.

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