

PINK

MAGAZINE

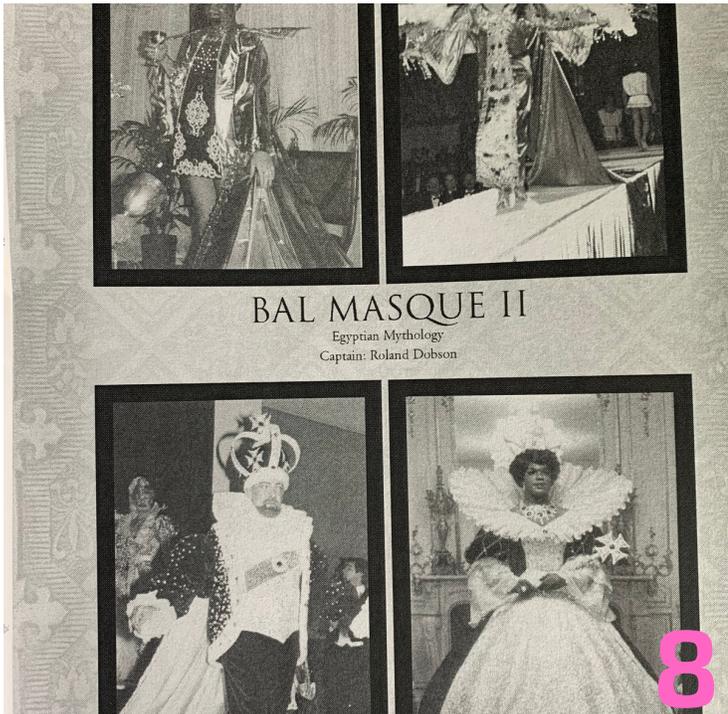
THE HISTORY ISSUE

**HEALTHY COOKING
INVISIBLE HISTORIES
PROJECT
HISTORY OF APOLLO
ARTY PARTY**

BOUTWELL MUNICIPAL AUDITORIUM BIRMINGHAM | AUGUST/SEPT 2020 | ISSUE 5
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 2017

PINK

MAGAZINE



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DO YOU HAVE AN IDEA FOR A STORY YOU WOULD LIKE US TO FEATURE? EMAIL [KYLE@MCWC-BAO.ORG](mailto:kyle@mcwc-bao.org)



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Learn more about the Invisible Histories Project and how you can help.



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MISSING ARTY PARTY

Learn about how Arty Party was started for BAO and how it has become such a large fundraiser supporting our agency.

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MAGAZINE



SWANN BUILDING
205 32ND STREET SOUTH
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35233



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MAGIC CITY
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HEALTHY COOKING

Joshua Glenn, BAO Food and Nutrition Educator

ITS THE PERFECT TIME OF YEAR TO VISIT THE FARMERS MARKET. WITH THE CURRENT HARVESTING SEASON YOU CAN FIND AMAZING PRODUCE LIKE WATERMELONS, TOMATOES, CUCUMBERS, AND SWEET POTATOES AMONG OTHERS. EVEN BETTER, MORE OFTEN THAN NOT IT IS LOCALLY GROWN AND AVAILABLE AT PRICES BETTER THAN TRADITIONAL GROCERY STORES. THIS MONTH, LETS DISCUSS HOW TO PICK OUT THE PERFECT HAUL FROM THE FARMERS MARKET.

CORN: When picking out corn, make sure to look at the husk to ensure it is still moist and that none of them have started to dry out. Next, be sure to look at the "tassel" (silks) coming from the top. You want to ensure it is golden to brownish. Do not buy it if it is black. Also, gently squeeze the cob to ensure it isn't soft. Once you get it home, place in plastic wrap or a zip top bag and refrigerate if you don't plan to cook it immediately.

PEACHES: Look at the color of your peaches. Many people think the red/peach color means it is ripe. You should actually look at the yellow area for a golden hue. Fresh peaches should have a nice smell in the summer. You can also gently squeeze the peach to test for ripeness. Once home, remove the peaches from the bag or basket and separate them on the counter where they don't touch until you are ready to eat them. A great tip is that if fully ripened peaches aren't available you can place one in a brown paper bag with a banana and it will ripen it within 24 hours. Likewise, if your peaches are becoming too ripe before you can eat them you can store them in the refrigerator to slow down the ripening process.

CUCUMBERS: No matter which variety you get they should have a nice dark green color and they are firm to the touch. Eat these quickly. Cucumbers can be refrigerated but should be consumed within 5-7 of purchase as they do not maintain a long shelf life of freshness.

TOMATOES: When buying a tomato you should first check where it was grown. Many grocery store tomatoes are often shipped before they are ripe so that they can ripen during the shipping process. A good tomato should have consistent coloring and should feel heavier than it appears. Tomatoes should also have a sweet earthy smell. The stronger the scent the more robust the taste will be. You should also avoid purchasing a tomato that has been refrigerated. Tomato season lasts until around October in Alabama so anything purchased beyond then was most likely shipped in from Mexico or Florida

PEAS: Peas can be purchased already shelled or still in the shell. Peas are a great source of folate and calcium. Once shelled you can freeze them in a freezer bag for 6-12 months. Make sure the peas are not too dry if you are purchasing them still in the shell.

SHOPPING AT A FARMERS MARKET IS A GREAT WAY TO SAVE MONEY. WE PURCHASED PEACHES, CORN, PEAS, TOMATOES AND CUCUMBERS AND SPENT LESS THAN \$20!

YOU CAN VISIT THE FARMERS MARKET ON FINLEY AVENUE 7 DAYS A WEEK. DON'T FORGET TO FOLLOW OUR COOKING DEMOS ON THE BAO FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM AND YOUTUBE EVERY FRIDAY FOR MORE RECIPES AND TIPS.



RESTAURANT STYLE

TOMATO SALSA

FAST and EASY salsa recipe made with canned diced tomatoes! Follow this simple recipe and you'll have a delicious salsa ready to serve in minutes! 12 Servings

INGREDIENTS

- 1 (14.5 oz) cans of diced tomatoes
- 1/2 white onion
- 1/4 cup green bell pepper
- 1 teaspoon minced garlic
- 1 tablespoon lime juice
- salt and pepper to taste
- 3 tablespoons fresh cilantro (stems included)
- 1 jalapeno seeded and chopped

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Put all ingredients in food processor and pulse a few times. Start out with 3 pulses and decide what consistency you want from there. Pulse more for a wet salsa, pulse less for a thick salsa. Yields 32oz of salsa.



BEST EVER

GUACAMOLE

INGREDIENTS

- 3 avocados (ripe)
- 1/2 small red onion, diced
- 2 Roma tomatoes (or any tomato), diced
- 3 tbsp. fresh cilantro, chopped
- 1 jalapeno pepper, seeds removed and finely diced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 1 lime, juiced
- 1/2 tsp. sea salt
- 1/2 tsp. black pepper

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Slice avocados in half, remove the pit and skin and place in a mixing bowl. Mash the avocado with a fork and make it as chunky or smooth as you like.
2. Add remaining ingredients and stir together

*Use fresh limes rather than lime juice in a bottle. The flavor difference is worth it

**When storing guacamole, put in an air tight container and place plastic wrap directly on the guacamole and press down to ensure all air bubbles are released to keep guacamole from browning



**2ND WEDNESDAY
OF EACH MONTH**

5:30-7:00 PM
3130 3rd AVENUE SOUTH
B'HAM, AL 35233

EMAIL: LAUREN@MCAC-BAO.ORG



**& QUEER
TRANS
PEOPLE
OF
COLOR**

SPEAK OUT!

3RD WEDNESDAYS @ 6 PM



3130 3RD AVENUE SOUTH, BIRMINGHAM, AL 35233



Speak OUT offers an inclusive space for LGBTQ adults, ages 25+ to build community, discuss common issues, seek resources, and support.

**JOIN US AT BAO AT 6PM
ON THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH!**

book

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queer

205 32ND STREET SOUTH | BIRMINGHAM, AL 35233
BIRMINGHAM AIDS OUTREACH.ORG

45 YEARS IN THE MAGIC CITY

A BRIEF HISTORY OF APOLLO

THE MYSTIC KREWE OF APOLLO HAS BEEN A STAPLE IN THE GAY COMMUNITY OF BIRMINGHAM FOR 45 YEARS. MKAB FIRST MET ON AUGUST 28, 1976 AND HAS BEEN GOING STRONG SINCE. THIS MONTH WE WANTED TO HIGHLIGHT THEIR ANNIVERSARY BY SPEAKING WITH CONTESSA TAWANNA FAYE HERSHEY, QUEEN APOLLO BIRMINGHAM III TO LEARN ABOUT THE EARLY DAYS OF THE ORGANIZATION AND THE AMAZING EXPERIENCE SHE HAD AS QUEEN ALONG WITH THE BARRIERS SHE BROKE AS QUEEN.

The history of Apollo Birmingham could not begin without first visiting a brief history of Mardi Gras and the gay Krewes in New Orleans. The following recollection is told by Contessa Tawana Faye Hershey as she recounts the first 4 years of the formation of the krewes of Apollo Birmingham and the groundbreaking strides the krewes has made since its very early days.

First, a brief history of Mardi Gras in general. Mardi Gras is French for "Fat Tuesday". This particular Tuesday is the day before Ash Wednesday. The date is dependent upon the date of Easter each year and consequently varies from year to year. Mardi Gras or Carnivale as it is sometimes called is a season which begins each year on Twelfth Night and culminates on Fat Tuesday and is filled with parties or "bal masques" as well as parades and a multitude of other events and traditions.

At the start, the gay community celebrated Mardi Gras by getting together with numerous friends for drag dress up parties, or to go parade watching in drag. Once groups were formed they began having parties at someones home each year and were referred to as a "social and pleasure" club. When they grew, tableaux were staged. The first known gay carnival group was known as the Krewe of Yuga and held its first ball in New Orleans in 1958. In 1962, they held their annual ball in a hall in Jefferson Parish and were raided by the police as a result....causing the Maids of the Court to run for cover jumping into bushes and garbage cans to hide. 96 people were arrested and their names published in the local newspapers. The incident resulted in lost jobs, broken marriages, and many stories of the event. Ironically, the Krewe of Petronius (which still exists today) held their first ball in the same hall the week before without incident.

By the late 1960's, a number of groups were ready to officially charter a krewes, rent an auditorium, distribute tickets, and have a ball. In 1966, the Krewe of Amon-Ra debuted, the Krewe of Armenius followed in 1969. Also in 1969, Roland Dobson chartered and formed the Mystic Krewe of Apollo-a gay carnival krewes....not to be confused with the Krewe of Apollo-a straight carnival krewes which he also owned at the time. As the years passed, an all women krewes, the Krewe of Ishtar was formed in 1981 and the Lords of Leather debuted in 1984....resulting in 11 gay balls being held by then. By 1992 only four remained and in 1999 the Krewe of Mwindo, an African American krewes was formed.

In 1970, the Mystic Krewe of Apollo debuted their first ball at the Monteleone Hotel in the French Quarter of New Orleans. The event was the talk of the town but, in 1972 Roland created even more controversy when he moved the ball to the Municipal Auditorium. At the auditorium, only older and straight krewes could reserve the nights closer to Mardi Gras so Roland bought the charter to the Krewe of Altheus, a straight club that was fading, retained their night at the auditorium and replaced it with Apollo. This move not only put a gay krewes in the auditorium but on the Thursday night before Mardi Gras which is considered a prime night.



By 1977, there were 6 Apollo organizations-Birmingham, Lafayette, Memphis, Dallas, Biloxi and New Orleans. For a short time there was also a krewe in Washington D.C. but it along with Memphis, Dallas, and Biloxi were short lived and in the late 1980's the New Orleans chapter was also defunct. A chapter in Shreveport was also added and survived several years before ceasing operations. Today the Birmingham, Lafayette, Baton Rouge and the re-formed New Orleans chapters are alive and well.

The first unofficial meeting of the Birmingham chapter of the Mystic Krewe of Apollo convened on August 28, 1976 at 12:30PM. The meeting welcomed 8 potential krewe members from Birmingham as well as Apollo founder Roland Dobson and one other NOLA member. After discussing the rules and bylaws the meeting was adjourned.

On September 2, 1976, an organizational meeting was held. Prospective member names were introduced and it was decided to hold a cocktail party to acquaint those proposed to the club with its purpose and rules. On September 12, 1976 the party was held and on September 16, 1976 the first Board meeting was held to discuss finances, prospective members, and the first Apollo Birmingham Ball which would be held on January 22, 1977.

The first general membership meeting was held on Sunday October 3, 1976. The second was on November 7, 1976 where plans were discussed to hold the first Mr Apollo Birmingham pageant at "The Gizmo" as well as a rummage sale fundraiser in the Winn Dixie parking lot. Because of the privacy of the club, the rummage sale was being held by SAMBO (Southside Area Men's Business Organization) should anyone ask. Medallions were available to all club members with two still in existence one of which is still passed down to the current Member of the Year.



COLLECTION OF BIRMINGHAM APOLLO PROGRAMS THROUGH THE YEARS

At the third general membership meeting on November 21, 1976 it was discussed that the club needed a Miss Apollo to reign with the Mr. Apollo. Since there was not time for a pageant before the ball the club decided to select Tina Louise Montclieff III as the first Miss Apollo Birmingham.

The first Birmingham Apollo Ball was held on Saturday, January 22, 1977 at the Roma Country Club in Homewood. Roland Dobson, founder of the franchise served as National Captain. The theme of the first ball was Shady Ladies. The Gentlemen of the Court were the Dukes of Apollo...One for each Maid of the Court which included "Baby Jane", "Lulu White", "Jezebel", "Anne Palmer", "Belle Watling", and "Sweet Charlotte". A King and Queen were also selected and they reigned in traditional Mardi Gras royalty costumes of white on white with rhinestone appliques and crowns and scepters. Gifts were of engraved silver or pewter.



BAL MASQUE II

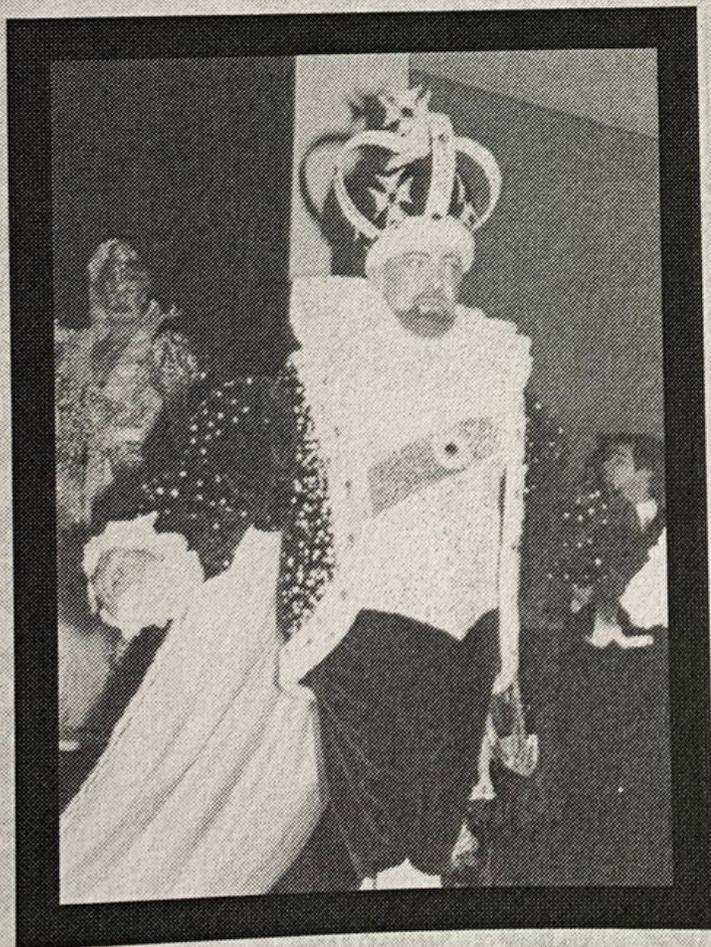
Egyptian Mythology
Captain: Roland Dobson

Years passed and traditions were formed as the club continued to quickly grow. On February 20, 1977, Roland Dobson held the 8th Apollo Bal Masque at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans. This was the ball where all sister clubs were represented. Many of the guests and employees of the hotel were stopped in their tracks as feathers, furs, headpieces and mantles paraded through the cathedral lobby. NBC covered portions of the ball with Penny Marshall and Cindy Williams (Laverne and Shirley) present to narrate the pick-up of Saturday Night Live. Two segments of the ball were covered live and included the entrance of the debutantes which included 2 representatives from Birmingham as well as the royalty of New Orleans. Earlier in the day a club member even helped Cindy Williams with her nails after she and Penny Marshall were introduced to the club members.

On June 3, 1977, the first Miss Apollo pageant was held at Focus Phase II (also known in later years as Club 21, The Casbah, After Dark, etc..). Rashawn Marzette won the crown. The next night the Mr. Apollo contest was held at the Gizmo Lounge. The two would go on to represent the krewe at the annual Apollo Convention held in Biloxi with events including the Mr. Apollo USA Pageant on July 1, and the National Miss Apollo Pageant on July 2. Birmingham was represented with 2 Mr and 2 Miss contestants.

The second Birmingham ball was also held at the Roma Country Club on January 14, 1978 with a theme of Egyptian Mythology. The following morning members were invited to a send off brunch at a home overlooking Birmingham. This would later morph into what is now known as the King and Queens brunch. Shortly after the ball, Roland alerted the krewe that they were well on their way and could begin selecting their own Captain each year and he would retain the honorary title of National Captain.

The year passed quickly and it was time for the third annual Bal Masque. The event also occurred at the Roma Country Club on February 10, 1979. The theme was "A Night at the Opera". Rehearsal was held early in the day with part of the New Orleans delegation in attendance...Roland Dobson the National Captain was on a later flight. When it was discovered during rehearsal that Contessa Tawana Faye Hershey would be coronated Queen, the New Orleans delegation was astounded. They were already trying to overcome the thought of her being a member of the krewe and had been in previous balls but now she was to become Queen. The delegation decided not to tell Roland and instead to let him discover himself during the ball. Contessa Tawana Faye Hershey was unaware of the situation or that she was about to make Apollo history as the first black royalty of any Apollo club. Before Tawana, no other Apollo chapter had any non-white members let alone royalty.



BAL MASQUE III

A Night at the Opera

Captain: Jim Rawls

At the time, the identity of the King and Queen was only known by the Captain. Club members helped decorate the King and Queens train not knowing who it was for. The King and Queen of Bal Masque III wore garmets of purple velvet with white brocade and lace with burgundy trains. Contessa Tawana Faye Hershey chose Michael Devidts as Royalty Entertainment for the evening. As it turns out, Michael would be named the next King of Amon-Ra in New Orleans a few weeks later...but more on this later. Following their coronation the King and Queen took for a first dance and later held a champagne reception at Belle's. Contessas dress was too large to fit in any car so she had to be sat in the back of a van with only her crown visible for the ride! A brunch was held at a home in Pelham the following morning.

The next stop for the royal couple was New Orleans! The NOLA chapter held their ball on Sunday January 12, 1977. The Apollo Extravaganza, which was the ball for the royal courts of Apollo was held the Sunday before Mardi Gras on February 24, 1979 at the Monteleone Hotel in the Queen Anne Room. Each chapters royalty were presented including Birmingham. Birmingham's court was presented last making the Contessa Tawanna Faye Hershey the last Queen to be announced and completely upstaging the other Queens so much so that the New Orleans chapter Queen left the ball abruptly. The ball was filmed for a documentary but no record of the film exists today.

Completing the weekend, the Birmingham delegation attended the Krewe of Amon-Ras ball. When King Michael received his guests after coronation, he insisted that Queen Apollo Birmingham be presented...which was a big deal, especially since Amon-Ra took issue with both Roland Dobson and the entire Apollo franchise. However, due to his "royal command" Contessa Tawanna Faye Hershey was presented and thus became the first Birmingham Apollo Royalty to be presented at another krewe ball!

The following year the krewe set their sights on the Boutwell Auditorium as a new venue for the event. The annual Apollo convention was moved to the famous Bourbon Orleans Hotel. Many other traditional events were also started including the Miss Vulcan Camp Pageant and the R'emmy Awards (a spoof on the Emmy's). As the year came to a close, the 4th Apollo Bal Masque was held at the Boutwell Auditorium. This was also the first time the returning royalty opened the ball and reigned over the evening...although they didn't sit on stage for the duration of the evening as has become custom and instead mingled with guests throughout the evening as they enjoyed the theme "World's Greatest Lovers." The evening culminated with the coronation of King and Queen IV both bedecked and bedazzled in shiny gold costumes with magnificent plumes.

Now in their 45th year and with chapters in Birmingham, Lafayette, Baton Rouge, and New Orleans, MKA continues to thrive and grow. Although they are taking a break in 2021 from their annual ball they continue to support the community through their charitable arm, Apollo Cares as well as other give back strategies to ensure they support the communities that have always supported them. Visit Apollo on Facebook @mkabirmingham and on their website mka-birmingham.com for more information.



"THE NAME GAME" AND "ROULETTE" FROM BAL MASQUE XLIV AND "HOUSE OF MIRRORS" FROM BAL MASQUE XLI

19-24 DISCORD*

MAGIC CITY ACCEPTANCE CENTER

TUESDAY
& THURSDAY
3:00 PM TO 5:00PM

*NEW DISCORD CHANNEL -
MESSAGE FOR THE INVITE LINK!

MAGIC CITY ACCEPTANCE CENTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST 2020

05
AUG

WEEKLY SPEAK OUT MEETUP

DISCORD SERVER | 6:00 PM

12
AUG

WEEKLY SPEAK OUT MEETUP

DISCORD SERVER | 6:00 PM

15
AUG

SPACE TO BE ME PARENT MEETING

ZOOM | 11:00 AM

19
AUG

WEEKLY SPEAK OUT MEETUP

DISCORD SERVER | 6:00 PM

19
AUG

LGBTQ BOOK CLUB

SOCIALLY DISTANT @ TRIANGLE PARK | 6:00 PM

19
AUG

WEEKLY SPEAK OUT MEETUP

DISCORD SERVER | 6:00 PM

26
AUG

WEEKLY SPEAK OUT MEETUP

DISCORD SERVER | 6:00 PM

26
AUG

LOVE TRANSFORMED

ZOOM | 6:00 PM

27
AUG

LIFE AFTER LOSS SUPPORT GROUP

ZOOM | 6:00 PM

FREE AND OPEN TO LGBTQ ADULTS.

VISIT MAGIC CITY ACCEPTANCE CENTER ON FACEBOOK OR EMAIL
KELLER@MCAC-BAO.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

INVISIBLE HISTORIES

IN GENERAL, WHAT IS INVISIBLE HISTORIES PROJECT?

The Invisible Histories Project is a community driven project whose goal is the collection and preservation of the complex LGBTQ history of the South. This project strives to provide the South (starting with Alabama) with a connection to its Queer past with an eye on the present and future. We work as the go between for donors with materials and archival repositories to help make sure that our history is preserved and accessible to the public. We have lost so much of our history already that IHP is committed to making sure that we never lose anything again. IHP's co-directors Maigen Sullivan and Joshua Burford are currently working in Alabama, Mississippi, and Georgia to make sure that these records, materials, and memories are safe and accessible.

WHEN DID THE PROJECT BEGIN?

The work to start IHP began in the Fall of 2016 when Josh Burford and Maigen Sullivan started talking about a statewide project to see if it would be possible to preserve our history. Maigen and Josh spent 2 years doing research, meeting with local community members, and possible partners in order to get the project ready to start. In February of 2018 IHP picked up its 1st collection and we have been working ever since.

WHAT IS THE GOAL OF IHP?

In addition to preserving the rich history of LGBTQ Southerners, the project's goals are to: Develop a timeline of LGBTQ history in each state and across the South along with community/academic programming to highlight our findings, create experiential learning experiences for students in archives, history, preservation and research, and establish an off campus, centrally located museum to display these histories as part of a larger Queer History South. Additionally, IHP seeks to create a counter narrative to the "lacking South" and provide a sense of community and heritage for LGBTQ people.

HOW CAN THE COMMUNITY HELP?

Right now we need help to make connections with LGBTQ people in Alabama, Mississippi, and Georgia. Making these personal connections are how we connect the dots, locate materials, and make sure that we are telling the most complete story we can about the Queer and Trans South. Everyone has a story to tell and we need to connect with these people to make sure we understand it. As we move forward we will have opportunities for people to help us through volunteer opportunities. People who are interested can reach us at contact@invisiblehistory.org.

WHAT GEOGRAPHICAL AREA DOES IHP SERVE?

Currently we are collecting materials in Alabama, Mississippi, and Georgia. Our home base is here in Birmingham and we started collecting in Mississippi in 2019 and Georgia in 2020.

DOES THE PUBLIC HAVE ACCESS TO THE MATERIALS?

Yes! All of our materials are accessible to the public and ready for research or just to look through amazing items. We have archival materials in Special Collections at Birmingham Public Library, the State Department of Archives and History in Montgomery, and UAB Special Collections. After items are processed the public can go to any of the repositories and ask to see materials. We are also working to make our digital documents more accessible to the public. We have currently digitized all 3 LGBTQ newspapers that were published in Alabama along with a growing collection of pictures and documents.



INVISIBLE HISTORIES

ARE THERE FUTURE PLANS FOR AN EXHIBIT OF ANY KIND?

IHP has as one of its goals the exhibiting of materials that we are collecting. Covid 19 has thrown off our plans a bit but people should follow us on Facebook and Instagram to be notified of 2 upcoming exhibits that we are working on.

WHAT IS A FAVORITE PIECE THAT YOU HAVE COLLECTED?

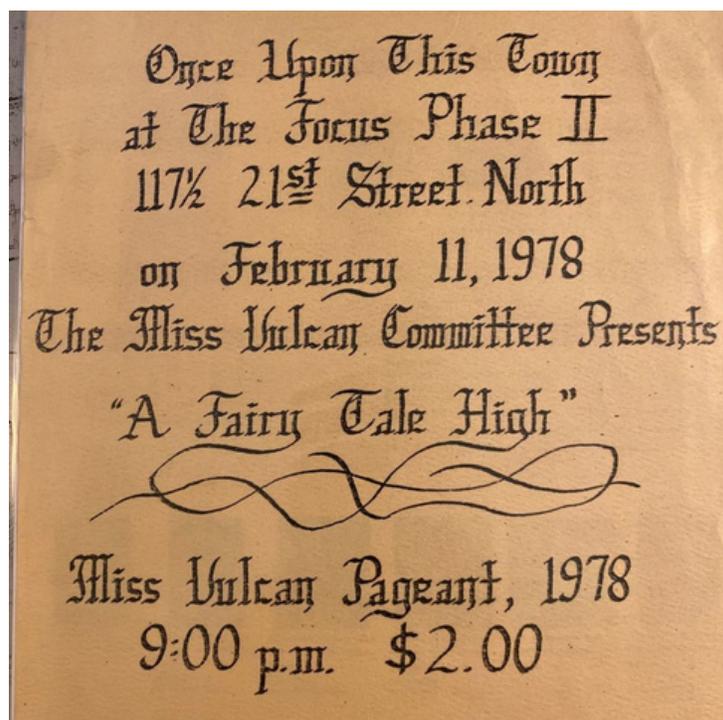
This is a tough thing for me to answer to be honest. Josh is obsessed with locating and digitizing LGBTQ newsletters and newspapers. They are such a great way to see what the community was up to and all the bits and pieces of our shared history. Maigen is excited by the growing textile collections we are putting together including t-shirts, drag dresses, Mardi Gras gowns, and banners from Pride and other festivals.

ARE THERE ANY PARTICULAR ITEMS YOU ARE CURRENTLY SEARCHING FOR?

We are always on the lookout for pictures, publications, and other items. WE are working hard to put together items from Gay bars from across the decades. If people have any materials related to Gay bars (membership cards, t-shirts, pictures, newsletters) we would love to have those.



MAIGEN AND JOSHUA OF IHP.



INVITATION/FLIER FOR THE FIRST MISS VULCAN PAGEANT

ARE THERE ITEMS YOU CANNOT ACCEPT OR THAT ARE GENERALLY DIFFICULT TO PRESERVE?

There are a lot of things that are tough to preserve long term, but we are so motivated to make sure that we are telling the fullest story of the community we are willing to work with people. We try to be open to what people have held onto, and if people would love to see a list of what we are looking for they can check out our "Archiving From Home" section of our website. It really breaks everything down!

IF AN ORGANIZATION IS INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE OR A SEMINAR, ARE THERE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCH AN EVENT?

We love to work with our partners and community groups. If people would like to schedule a talk or a lecture they can reach out to us at contact@invisiblehistory.org

IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD LIKE FOR EVERYONE TO KNOW?

To stay in touch with us and what we are doing please check out our website at www.invisiblehistory.org, follow us on Facebook and Instagram, and reach out to us with any questions you have. Everyone has an important part of our story so we need everyone to help us fill in the gaps.



@invisiblehistoriesproject

Don't gamble with your health...

Your source for LGBTQ Healthcare and Wellness

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Transgender Healthcare Services
Counseling and Support Groups
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MAGIC CITY
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A BAO Affiliated Program

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magiccitywellnesscenter.org



**RAIN OR SHINE!
FREE DRIVE-THRU
HIV/STD TESTING**

**MONDAY
AND
TUESDAY**

12-6

Follow the green
arrows in the parking
lot across from BAO



AUGUST YOUTH

MICAC

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2020

DAILY DISCORD:
MONDAY-THURSDAY 10-11 AM

VIRTUAL DROP-IN HOURS:
TUESDAY & THURSDAY 3-5 PM

SELF-CARE WORKSHOP WITH ACE:
TUESDAY, 8/11 @ 3:30 PM

HEALING SPACES:
THURSDAY, 8/6 @ 3:30 PM
THURSDAY, 8/27 @ 4 PM

KNOW YOUR RIGHTS- GSA NETWORK:
INSTAGRAM LIVE 8/10 @ 4:30 PM



LGBTQ LEGAL @BAO

NEW!

PRO-BONO
LEGAL SERVICES
FOR THE LGBTQ
COMMUNITY

PROBATE LAW

WILLS AND ESTATE PLANNING

PRE-NUPTIALS EMPLOYMENT ISSUES

TRANS NAME CHANGE SERVICES

ADOPTION FAMILY LAW DIVORCE

ELIGIBLE TO INDIVIDUALS WHO QUALIFY BENEATH 200% FEDERAL POVERTY RATE



For more information visit
www.baobhm.org/lgbtq-legal-services
or email
Sydney@birminghamaidsoutreach.org

MISSING ARTY

PARTY

COVID HAS THROWN CURVE BALLS AT EVERYONE THIS YEAR. ONE OF THE BIGGEST LOSSES FOR BAO HAS BEEN THE INABILITY TO HOST OUR ANNUAL ARTY PARTY TO RAISE FUNDING FOR OUR AGENCY. SINCE ARTY PARTY IN ITS NORMAL FORM ISN'T ABLE TO HAPPEN THIS YEAR, WE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE FUN TO LOOK BACK AT THE HISTORY OF BIRMINGHAM'S LONGEST RUNNING NON-PROFIT ART AUCTION FUNDRAISER.

BAO's Arty Party actually began with a fundraising concert at the Alabama Theatre in 1991. The staging of that event, ONE NIGHT STAND UP, was greatly enhanced by huge beautiful backdrops painted-at Bob Burns' request-by beloved Birmingham artist, the late Toni Tully.

After the show, rather than toss or store these hand-painted canvases, Toni suggested to BAO that they should use them to make even more money for the organization by selling them. As Toni's art was in great demand, everyone involved quickly agreed to her generous offer. Birmingham's McCluskey family stepped up to offer a venue for the sale: their Birmingham Frame & Art Gallery space. There, on November 17, 1991, BAO began a 27-year art tradition with a "Frame Your Own Art" party. Supporters came to the gallery, picked out sections of the backdrop they liked, and then those sections were cut. Toni was on hand to sign the individual pieces. This successful "happening" created such a buzz for BAO in the local creative and cultural circles that the organizers decided to hold something similar the following year. The 1992 event featured about 30 local artists and individual artworks-all of them available at auction. This time around, John McClusky served as auctioneer. Other than Bob, John and Toni, some of the dedicated folks involved in the early BAO art events were Pam Packer, Jennifer Packer, Billy Cox, Adrian Daniels, Bob Axelton, Patricia Todd, Charles Collins, Eileen Kunzman, Anne Arrasmith and Patrick Cather, among others.



FEATURED ARTWORK FROM JOHN LYTLE WILSON FOR ARTY PARTY 2018



BAO STAFF AFTER ARTY PARTY 2019

The second sale was held in December 1993, at Anne Arrasmith's SPACE ONE ELEVEN GALLERY downtown and named YOU GOTTA HAVE ART. There were about 70 pieces in the 1993 auction. YOU GOTTA HAVE ART continued to grow and prosper as an important fundraiser for BAO. In November 1995, Patrick Cather was chairperson of the sixth auction and, thanks to the generosity of Cathy Crenshaw and Carl Stewart, they were back at Pepper Place with lots of space at their disposal-including Terrific New Theatre as the live auction setting. Architect Fritz Woehle was the auctioneer that year and for the first time they also had an honorary chair, Bryding Adams, who was then curator at the Birmingham Art Museum. In many ways, that auction was successful beyond dreams.

Over the years there have been many favorite Arty Party memories including buying the shirt of Nall's back in 1999 when Scot Ford was chair. In later years Patrick Cather and Phillip Butler teamed up to serve as two fun and hilarious auctioneers. There have also been a slew of amazing artists featured throughout the years including recent favorites like John Lytle Wilson, Gay Dyar Shorr and Chris Davis.

We at BAO raise our glasses to the wonderful and giving community of artists and collectors who donate over 200 pieces of art each year and the volunteers who make it all happen. Although Arty Party had to take a year hiatus in 2020, we appreciate your continued support of the event and our agency as we work through these difficult and ever changing times and continue to support our community and those we serve with our critical and essential services.



LIVE AUCTION PIECE FEATURED IN ARTY PARTY 2019 BY GAY DYAR SHORR



LIFE AFTER LOSS

LGBTQ GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

Life After Loss is an ongoing monthly support group to help LGBTQ individuals who have lost a loved one cope with personal experiences of grief in a safe, affirming, and caring environment.

***To participate in this group, individuals must contact Katie Reese at katie@mcwc-bao.org or (205) 877-8677 for a brief intake interview to ensure this is an appropriate group for your needs.**



MAGIC CITY
Acceptance Center
A BAO Affiliated Program

CURBSIDE

CARE

**NOW OFFERING PERSONAL
HYGIENE BAGS TO-GO!**



(205) 774-1173



Magic City Acceptance
Center



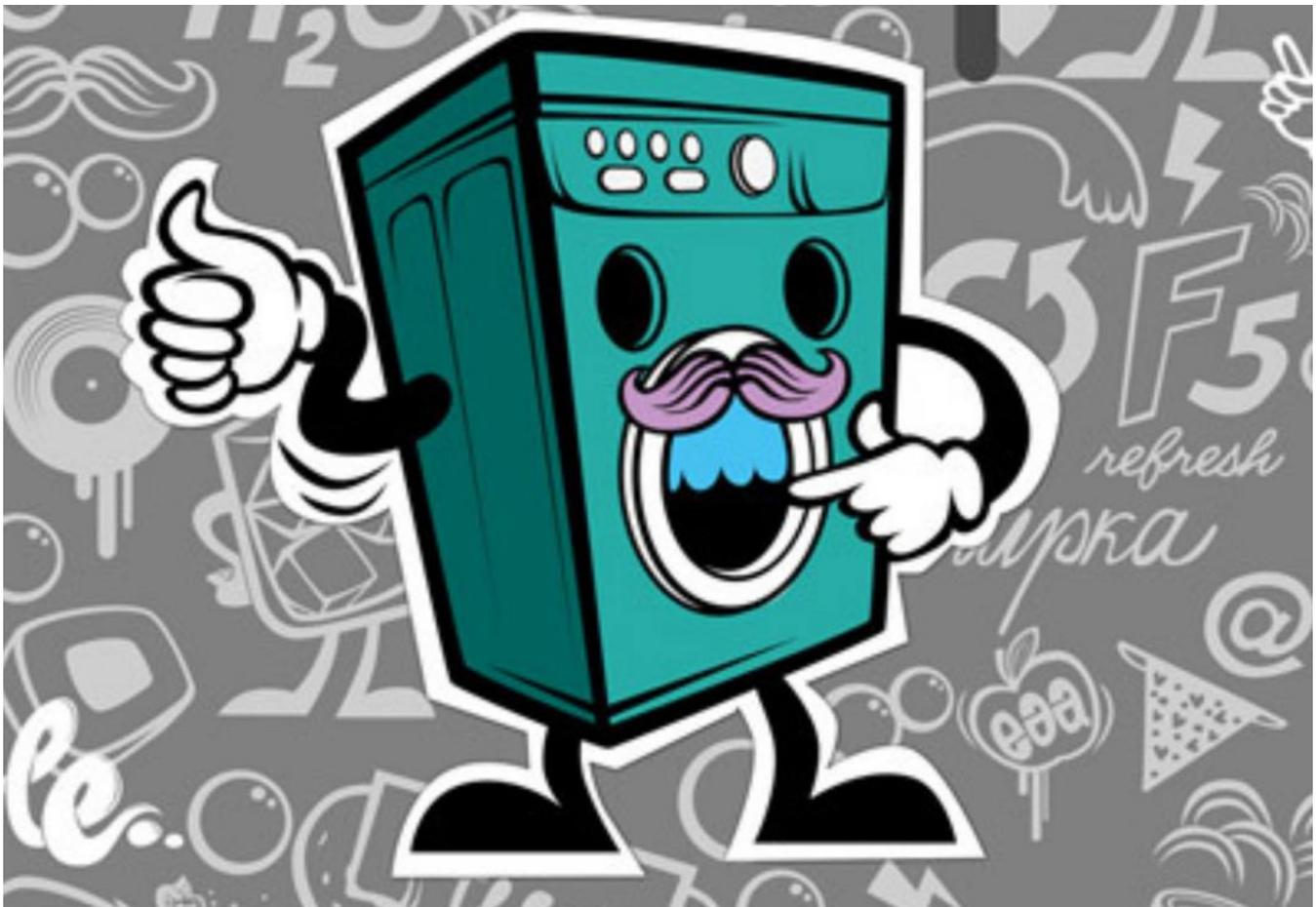
@MCACBham



MAGIC CITY ACCEPTANCE
ACADEMY

**CHARTER APPLICATION
CONSIDERATION**

Sept 10, 2020 | 10:00AM



TIRED OF FEEDING COINS INTO A MACHINE?

WE HAVE FREE LAUNDRY

SOCIALLY DISTANT AND COMPLETELY FREE, BEGINNING JUNE 1ST!

TO SAY THE LAST FEW MONTHS HAVE BEEN EASY FOR ANYONE WOULD BE A LIE. AS OUR WORLD HAS BEEN TURNED UPSIDEDOWN BY THE "NEW NORMAL" OF SOCIAL DISTANCING AND MASKS, WE HAVE ALL HAD TO ADJUST.

As a development professional, my focus is on fundraising and special events in order to help financially sustain the programs of the agency. In addition, I also maintain donor relations and recruit new donors to help support our agency's mission.

We have all watched as friends and loved ones have been laid off or furloughed as we all work together to try to figure out how to navigate this pandemic. Many of the things we love most about Birmingham like festivals, theater, and live music events have also been shuttered. Even our favorite BAO events like BINGO and Arty Party have had to be postponed. As Development Director, it has been a challenge to find a way to balance the need for fundraising with the safety of everyone involved while still providing genuine and impactful support to the communities we serve and compassion to individuals who may have been impacted by the pandemic.

Understandably, it is a difficult time to solicit funding from individuals and corporations. Non-profits have taken huge hits throughout this process and many have not survived. If there is one thing that never gets easier in my role it is asking people to support our mission through financial contributions. Many pockets are shallow right now. I understand that, but I would also be missing an opportunity if I didn't use this page to brag about the amazing work done by my co-workers as well as the fantastic attitudes and spirit they have maintained throughout all of these adjustments. I am also asking that you support them in the process if you are able. If you are unable to donate during this time, please reach out to our staff and let them know you appreciate their hard work.

SO WHAT DO WE DO AS NON-PROFITS IN THE COMMUNITY TO ENSURE THAT WE NOT ONLY SURVIVE BUT CONTINUE TO THRIVE?

The answer is we adjust and continue doing what BAO has always done...provide critical services to our community without interruption...we find a way.

BAO has remained open, fully staffed, and with zero gaps in service since March 16, 2020. We adjusted programs to be virtual, incorporated tele-legal, tele-medicine, and tele-counseling, cross trained the staff to assist with client services after testing events had to be cancelled, started drive-thru and curbside services, created a YouTube channel to continue HIV education, created virtual cooking demonstration videos, started distributing the produce boxes featured earlier in *PINK*, and there are more new programs on the horizon.

WE ADJUSTED - WE NEVER STOPPED.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT AND ENCOURAGEMENT AS WE CELEBRATE 35 YEARS OF BAO. TO DONATE PLEASE VISIT [BAOBHM.ORG/DONATE](https://baobhm.org/donate)



Kyle Pugh
BAO Development Director



915
LEGAL SERVICE HOURS



03/16/20 - 07/01/20

1,019
MCWC VISITS



MCAC



BAO



MCWC

501
TELE-COUNSELING VISITS



9,260
HOME DELIVERED MEALS



900
LGBTQ 20LB PRODUCE
BOXES



2,437
FOOD BOXES

