

connections

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF THE CENTRAL CALIFORNIA ALLIANCE

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FEBRUARY 2004

Mission Statement:

The Central California Alliance is a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting positive change, equal rights, social and networking opportunities for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people through programs of community service and philanthropy.

Purpose & Objectives:

- To provide quality social events and educational activities for the lesbian/gay community and to promote the positive images and aspects of lesbian/gay culture throughout Central California.
- To provide a resourceful arena for professional and business networking within the lesbian/gay community.
- To provide and promote programs for community education, for all persons of Central California, which will project positive, healthy and inclusive images of lesbian and gay life.
- To provide a forum for social and political advocacy which shall assure full civil rights, access and equal opportunity.

MOULIN ROUGE PARTY!



4th Annual CCA TALENT NIGHT A SOLD-OUT SUCCESS!

More than 175 people attended CCA's fourth annual Talent Night at Roger Rocha's Music Hall. The event included a buffet dinner with prime rib, as well as a fun-filled evening of talent, including appearances by the gang from "Queer Eye For the Straight Guy," plus "Sonny and Cher."

Performers from a wide-range of backgrounds and talent included John Kozak, Blackberry Jam, Abbey Avery and Sean Tomerlin of the Fresno Ballet, Tracy Jones, Jeannette Calip, Tomas Fitzgerald, Matthew Mazzei, Robin McGeehee, Amy Shuklian, the Rainbow Singers, Three From the Heart, Mike Garcia, Justin Weatherby and Joanna Lee.

The event was coordinated by Dennis Potts and John Beacham, with assistance from Fred Bologna, Todd Wolfe and Lee Halkias, as well as Ron Wilson, Gary Mykins and Helen Garcia McNary.

MOULIN ROUGE PARTY

**Saturday,
February 21st; 7 PM
Scream If You Can,
Clovis**

Join CCA and IDC members and friends for a fun-filled evening of entertainment.

Enjoy entertainment from Imperial Dove Court de Fresno's Empress 30 Heaven Nicole and Emperor 30 Johnny O, followed by dancing.

See the enclosed flyer for more details.



Central California Alliance
1 9 9 3 - 2 0 0 3
Celebrating 10 Years of Pride & Service
www.ccafresno.org

About CCA:

Founded in 1993, the Central California Alliance [CCA] is a Fresno-based community-service organization supported through membership dues, as well as fundraising events. CCA is registered as a 501[c]4 non-profit organization with the IRS.

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Opinions expressed in "Connections" do not necessarily represent the views of CCA, its Board of Directors, nor its membership.



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Please Welcome New and Re-Newing Members of CCA

Student

Joshua Barnes

Janet Moradian

Single

Ellen Blalack

Gary Edde

Dennis Shafer

Sherri Wiggins

Joey Zayas

Household

Steve Johnson and Jeff Thomas

"Jimmer" Helen Jones and Joy Lang

Angela Pettit and Household

President's Club: Single

Wayne Franklin

Roslyn Jordan

President's Club: Household

Daniel Guerrero and Nicholas Otschkal

Reconciliation Weekend Celebration: Wesley United Methodist Church March 12-14, 2004

In 1984, Wesley United Methodist Church began welcoming and including gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people into the life of the church.

The Reconciliation Weekend Celebration marks the 20th anniversary of this milestone.

For details, please call [559] 224-1947. Information is also online @ <http://wesleyfresno.org/>.

CCPN Seeks Volunteers for Rainbow Haven

The Central California Pride Network [CCPN] is seeking volunteers to staff the Rainbow Haven, a LGBT domestic violence shelter. Currently, the Rainbow Haven is not funded and has no paid staff.

CCPN needs volunteers for day, evenings and weekends. Volunteers will be given the State Mandated 40 hour training for Domestic Violence Workers and will receive a certificate on completion.

Please call [559] 486-2216 and ask for Charlotte or Gail.

Photos from CCA's 4th Annual TALENT NIGHT



The Rainbow Singers



Amy Shuklian



Blackberry Jam



Matt and Reba



Justin Weatherby



Three From the Heart



John Kozak and Jeannette Calip

CCA TALENT NIGHT PHOTOS BY
Ray Fugendes and Peter Robertson

Stay informed!
Call **CCA's Hotline**
for information:
[559] 265-7117.
www.ccafresno.org



CCA Events & Meetings

February:

- 21 - CCA/IDC: 1st Ever
MOULIN ROUGE DANCE PARTY
Scream If You Can, Clovis
Buy your tickets today!
CCA Hotline: 265-7117
Online @ www.ccafresno.org

Community Events

February:

- 10 - Stonewall Democrats:
Speaker: Jim Costa
Details: 292-4905
- 13 - Fresno Filmworks:
"To Be and To Have"
Tower Theatre, Fresno
Details: 221-0755/485-9050.
Online @ www.fresnofilmworks.org
- 14 - IDC: Mr./Ms./Miss Gay
Fresno Pageant
Details: 299-0640/251-9589
- 22 - Fresno Ballet: "The Winter Series"
Veteran's Memorial Auditorium
Details: 23-DANCE
Online @ www.fresnoballet.org

March:

- 1 - "In the Life"
Valley Public Television
KVPT Channel 18
- 12-14 - Wesley United
Methodist Church:
Reconciliation
Weekend Celebration
Featuring Dr. Jan Everhart
Details: 224-1941
Online @ <http://wesleyfresno.org/>
- 19 - Fresno REEL Pride: "Camp"
Tower Theatre, Fresno
Details: 488-6562
Online @ www.reelpride.com

Community Meetings:

Ellos Latinos:

1st Wednesdays, Details: 229-2561

Fresno Stonewall Democrats:

2nd Tuesdays, Details: 292-4905

Imperial Dove Court:

1st Mondays, Details: 222-4056

PFLAG [Fresno Chapter]:

2nd Sundays, Details: 434-6540



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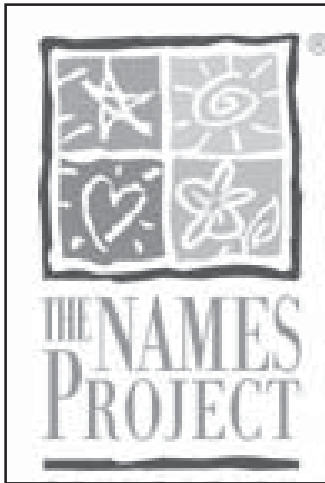
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Founder Sues NAMES Project AIDS Mem. Quilt

Cleve Jones, the gay activist who created the AIDS Memorial Quilt, has filed suit against the foundation that currently owns the 40,000-panel tribute, citing disputes over his employment and plans to display the quilt.

Jones claims that he was fired from the Atlanta-based NAMES Project Foundation because he wanted to take the 50-ton quilt on a multi-city tour during this election year, "The San Francisco Chronicle" has reported.

The lawsuit also charges the NAMES Project board of directors with financial negligence and threatening to break a contract.

Jones says he was fired from his \$41,500 a year job as the foundation's spokesman, which could cost the HIV-positive quilt founder his health insurance.



"Angels in America" Wins Golden Globes

The HBO film of Tony Kushner's play "Angels in America" — an epic exploring AIDS, homosexuality, history and religion — earned five Golden Globe awards winning every television category in which it was nominated.

Directed by Mike Nichols, the adaptation of the two-part, Pulitzer Prize-winning play was named the best miniseries or film made for television. It also won four acting awards for various cast members.

The six-hour film won more awards than any other nominated film or television show.

Presented by the Hollywood Foreign Press, the Golden Globes recognize artistic achievement in film and television categories. Many consider them a warm-up for the Academy Awards.



Massachusetts Democrats Affirm G/L Marriage

Leaders of the Massachusetts Democratic Party have given a show of support for the historic steps the state is taking toward legalizing same-sex marriage.

Approximately 200 members of the state committee voted in favor of a nonbinding resolution supporting same-sex civil marriage.

The vote has come two weeks before lawmakers are scheduled to debate on a constitutional amendment that would define marriage as a union between a man and a woman. The amendment would overturn a decision by the Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts that ruled it unconstitutional to bar gay couples from marriage.

The court instructed the Legislature to comply by May 18 of this year.



Agency Cites Cirque for Illegal HIV Bias

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission [EEOC] has released a decision that has found that the Montreal-based performance troupe Cirque du Soleil engaged in illegal discrimination when it fired an HIV-positive gymnast.

Matthew Cusick, who was fired last spring from Cirque du Soleil's Las Vegas-based show "Mystere" after he voluntarily told company doctors he was HIV positive, filed a complaint with the EEOC in July 2003 with the help of gay rights group Lambda Legal Defense Fund.

Cusick's firing led to protests at Cirque shows in San Francisco and Los Angeles, as well as Orange County.

Cirque du Soleil has now stated that it will re-integrate Matthew Cusick as a performer.


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- Hate Crimes Program
- General Counseling
- Food Pantry
- Homeless Services & Shelter
- LGBT Cultural Competency Workshops
- Community Education
- 24Hour Hotline (559)907-4473 or (559)486-2216

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