

Extras

Nashville Black Pride celebrates 22 years

By Logan Langlois

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - Nashville Black Pride enters its 22nd annual celebration which continues through Oct. 27. According to Founder and President Dwyane Jenkins, the theme for this year's festival is "runaway to freedom," which symbolizes journey. The celebration will include entertainment, public health education and the awarding of student scholarships.

"I am excited along with our small and mighty board and planning team," Jenkins said. "We are happy to embark on a wonderful celebration."

Jenkins said many of the celebration's past attendees have described the event as an opportunity to connect with others within their community. He said community connection has been consistently difficult for people since 2020 when the world experienced a lockdown due to COVID-19. The festive vibe and environment around Nashville Black Pride helps people get to know each other better.

Jenkins added that the celebration will feature the Brothers and Sisters United Legacy Award Dinner and Scholarship event at the Millenium Maxwell House Hotel, located at 2025 Rosa Parks Boulevard, on Oct. 27, where five scholarships will be presented.

"We heard [from students] that many times it's really hard to get through their semesters and years financially," Jenkins said. "Being able to support Black and Brown students is really a big part of what we try to do with student scholarship; and we give that money directly to the actual student."

He said the event, presented by Nashville Cares, will also be honoring community members and organizations that have been working with and supporting Nashville Black Pride for a minimum of 10 years with Legacy's plaques and "showing them some love," to celebrate their decade-long contribution to the 22-year-old organization. Jenkins added that the performances of the weekend are powered by GLAAD.



Nashville Black Pride Founder and President Dwyane Jenkins at the NBP Step and Repeat. (Photo courtesy of Jenkins)

Other events during the celebration include a Unity Market & Day Party Oct. 26, noon-4 p.m. at the Millenium Maxwell House, where different types of vendors will be features as well as free HIV and STI testing. Additionally, in the spirit of the Halloween season, Jenkins said Nashville Black Pride will be featuring their Runway to Freedom Costume Party, 9 p.m.-1 a.m., complete with live performances from GLAAD.

On Oct. 27, a MashUp Wholeness Project Brunch, 1-3:30 p.m., will be held just in time for the TEACollective Final Day Party, located at 1249 Martian Street, 4-10 p.m. Also, late-nighters looking to conclude their weekend with a relaxing event can attend Kickback Sundays at 407 Murfreesboro Pike, 10 p.m. - 2 a.m.

Jenkins said before the festival officially begins, he and his team will be doing campus work at Fisk University supporting Out Loud, a group focused on supporting LGBTQ+ people and allyship. He said that night at Metropolitan Interdenominational Church, Nashville Black Pride will be co-hosting "Same Sex in the Bible," with New Wines Skins Fellowship and Mass Shop, 7-9 p.m. For more information on events, visit nashvilleblackpride.org.



Celebrate Día De Muertos with TPAC's Marigold Family Festival

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - The Tennessee Performing Arts Center® announces the Marigold Family Festival, a lively colorful celebration in honor of Día De Muertos. The free festival will take place on Sunday, Oct. 27, 3-5 p.m. on Deaderick Street, outside of TPAC, offering a perfect afternoon for families to gather and celebrate this cherished cultural tradition.

The Marigold Family Festival will feature a vibrant array of activities, including folkloric dancers, music, candy stations, food vendors and engaging crafts and activations where children and families can immerse themselves in the rich heritage of Día De Muertos. A highlight of the event will be TPAC's community ofrenda, where attendees are encouraged to bring photos, offerings and tributes to honor their loved ones.

Immediately following the festival, those attending are invited to experience "Sugar Skull! A Día de Muertos Musical Adventure," a bilingual musical performance that brings the spirit and meaning of the holiday to life. The heartwarming story follows 12-year-old Vita Flores as she embarks on a magical journey filled with traditional Mexican music and dance, learning the true significance of Día De Muertos through her interactions with the charming Sugar Skull and other mystical characters.

The show is for audiences of all ages featuring lively music, colorful storytelling and deep cultural significance.

"Sugar Skull!" begins at 5:30 p.m. in TPAC's Polk Theater. Tickets to this performance are available for purchase at TPAC.org, by phone at (615) 782-4040 and in person at the TPAC Box Office, located at 505 Deaderick Street, Nashville. For groups of 10 or more, call (615) 782-4060. Patrons are encouraged to have tickets delivered to the TPAC Concierge App. Tickets start at \$25 with promo code "MARIGOLD."

"The Marigold Family Festival, along with our performance of 'Sugar Skull!,' allows our community to experience the beauty and meaning of this important cultural tradition while enjoying music, dance and storytelling," said Jennifer Turner, TPAC president and CEO. "It's a perfect way to bring people together and create lasting memories." Institutional partners for Tennessee Performing Arts Center for this event are Amazon, Nissan North America, Bank of America, Wellpoint and Comcast Business. Their contributions help TPAC bring this cultural celebration to life, providing a fun and educational experience for families across Nashville. TPAC is funded in part by support from the Tennessee Arts Commission and the Metropolitan Nashville Arts Commission.

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SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION

ADJOURNED SALE DATE

October 24, 2024 at 1 p.m. (local time)

Sale to be held at the north entrance to the
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