

FLAME

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Brian, Kent, Jack and Tom at OLIC Pride Prom 1999.

Family Reunion '99

With over 100 students in attendance, Family Reunion '99 was a huge success. Six schools from Oklahoma were represented as well as a contingent from Hendrix College in Conway AR. Workshops were hosted by Norman PFLAG, Planned Parenthood, and Church of the Open Arms.

After a wonderfully inspiring address by Paul Barby and Peggy Johnson, Reunion attendees rallied at the steps of the OK state capitol in support of the Equality Begins at Home national movement. Seeing 1/4 of the supporter unified by a student/youth movement was a powerful sign of the strength of our young people.

The intense day of learning and growing was finished with the OLIC Pride Prom. With our favorite DJ and his crew of OSU boys, OLIC students danced into the wee hours of the morning.

Marching to the Beat of a Different Drummer

This summer, OLIC participated in the Tulsa and Oklahoma City Gay Pride Parades. After some friction with the Tulsa City Council, Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights was able to host the first ever Tulsa Pride Parade. With 35 enthusiastic marchers in Tulsa, it's no wonder that OLIC won the award for the most spirited marching brigade. The trophy will tour from school to school for the next year.



OLIC marches in Oklahoma City Pride Parade 1999

OLIC Mission

Oklahoma Lambda Intercollegiate Coalition is an umbrella network of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender student groups from Oklahoma schools united for the purpose of

- I. Raising awareness of GLBT youth issues within our community, schools, and society
- II. Sharing information and resources in an effort to provide the best possible programming for sponsoring organizations
- III. Supporting a Queer youth movement to impact the politics of our state and nation
- IV. Providing resources to the Oklahoma GLBT youth community including, political and health education, a safe social environment, and an opportunity to cultivate leadership skills
- V. Fostering the conception and growth of new GLBT student groups across Oklahoma

Turning a New Leaf

In an effort to promote continuity and stability, OLIC has begun the process of creating a formalized leadership structure. So far, we have created a Board of Directors comprised of one student to

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represent each of OLIC contingent schools. We hope that you get a chance to meet each of us; and our geographical spread across the state should make us available for any needs or questions you might have.

Be on the Look OUT!

OLIC has planned some exciting upcoming events for the following year. OU's GLBA and OSU's SODA will be having a joint tailgate party for the OU - OSU football game in Norman on November 27th. Everyone is invited to come cheer on your favorite team or just hang out with some friends.

There are also plans underway for another benefit concert at Diversity Coffee Shoppe in OKC. A date has not yet been set, but if you have a special request for local bands or performers please call an OLIC officer. In addition to our OKC benefit, OLIC will branch out to the Tulsa community this year with a black tie benefit to raise funds for the Family Reunion 2000.

To kick off this years conference, Kevin Jennings, the Executive Direcotr of GLSEN will be coming to speak on the evening of March 24th. Following the address, there will be a reception for teachers and allies interested in starting an Oklahoma chapter of the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Educators' Network.

This year's Family Reunion conference will be held at OU in

Norman. Some of the workshop titles are: A GLBT History of Oklahoma, Students' Rights and the Law - Issues of Discrimination, Cyberactivism 101, PFLAG Caucus - Allies in Discussion, Current GLBT Issues in the OK Legislature, and many more. If you are interested in presenting a workshop, or have a topic that you think should be covered, please contact us ASAP. Get ready for the conference of the year to be held here in your home state.

OLIC Education Project:

There is currently a curriculum being compiled to provide teachers in the state with tools to deal with queer issues in their schools. This is an ongoing long term project headed by Kent Doss in response to a commitment made to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. Support in research or connections to the education department are vital to these efforts. If you would like to be involved this project, please contact an OLIC Board Member.

OLIC may continue its efforts for education with a peer health education program. It is our goal to have a certified HIV/AIDS instructor at each of our supporting campuses throughout the state.

YOUR STORIES

As a part of the Education Project, OLIC is working in conjunction with Joyce Rock of Tulsa PFLAG to collect stories of GLBT youth. We would like personal stories, poems, and art of Oklahoma youh. A picture to accompany these

submissions is requested, but certainly not required. Anonymous contributions are also very welcome.

We are now looking for individuals who can share their stories and lives to help OLIC reach out to the wider community. If you have qustions or sumbissions, please call 405-325-4452.



Mystic Forest Treasures

405-447-5111

323 White St. Norman

Diversity Coffee Shoppe

405-524-7375

1739 NW 16th St OKC

"The difficult I'll do right now. The impossible will take a little while."

-- Billie Holiday