

Southern Arizona's Lesbian,
Gay, Bisexual & Transgender
Community Center

300 East 6th Street
Tucson Arizona 85705
Telephone 520-624-1779

wingspan.org

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Easy Information and Referral Now Available Online

InfoLink, the much-anticipated information and referral online database, is up and running on the Wingspan website, www.wingspan.org. InfoLink brings together a wealth of information about local LGBT-owned and LGBT-friendly businesses, resources, services, clubs, programs, organizations, professionals, and social groups in Southern Arizona. It replaces an outdated and cumbersome system of recordkeeping that was difficult to keep current, and that was accessible only on-site at Wingspan or by phone through Wingspan volunteers.

The database is divided into three main categories: Health, Business, and Community. Within each of these categories, more specific headings sort and organize the information. Looking for a LGBT-owned or LGBT-friendly Feng Shui consultant? Just look under Home Services & Products on the Business page. Interested in joining an LGBT softball team? Go to the Sports & Recreation Groups section on the Community page.

InfoLink will make information available to people who may not be in a position to call or stop by Wingspan. Kirsten Larsen, a volunteer on the InfoLink committee, remarked that this new resource provides "24-hour access to information once only available during [Wingspan] business hours." Another volunteer, Fran Braverman, adds, "It's a central place to have information that people can access from anywhere." Wingspan will also continue to have Front Desk volunteers who answer our phones and greet visitors every day.

When asked how it feels to finally have InfoLink up and running, Mark English says, "Great! A lot of people have worked very hard on this project. We're happy to have this database in place now as a tangible resource for our volunteers and for the community." Perry Higgins, lead volunteer for the InfoLink Committee, remarks, "I personally have learned a lot about the community working on it."

Work on InfoLink began last October under the leadership of Mark English, Volunteer Programs Coordinator. Wingspan volunteer Matt Lynn worked with Godat Design to build a "shell" for the database that would later be filled in with the information and referral resources. In February, a team of volunteers began going through the old I&R rolodexes, notebooks, and



Mark English, Perry Higgins and Kirsten Larsen at work on InfoLink.

files, weeding out duplicate and outdated information, updating as they went along. Next, the records were entered into the database. After some finishing touches, streamlining, and troubleshooting, the database was ready to go online.

Wingspan will be constantly updating and adding to InfoLink. To report any problems using the database, inaccurate information, or if you have a resource that you wish to list on the database, contact Wingspan through the website, in person, or by phone. **by Greg Reiter**

9th Wingspan FilmFest Begins March 5, 2004

Save the date for the Wingspan FilmFest, Southern Arizona's 9th annual LGBT film festival. The three-day event, which is produced by Pan Left Productions, begins on Friday, March 5. All films will be screened at the Loft Cinema on Speedway Blvd. Liz Burden, Executive Director of Pan Left and last year's FilmFest coordinator, will be at the helm once again, and Jay Moman and Linda Dols will continue to co-chair the steering committee. In the next few months, the screening and steering committees will be selecting the films for the festival. In the past this festival has presented Tucson premieres of films that later became nationally known. The FilmFest mixes short films, animated films and documentaries with feature length films. Last year, the fifty-plus films were categorized by genres and themes such as Religion, Coupling, Family and Grrls & Bois, making it (*Continues on page 6*)

02

Wingspan

Southern Arizona's Lesbian,
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Wingspan publishes *The Center* quarterly. Notices of events, news entries, and articles must include the name of the contact person or writer, telephone number and/or email address and may be sent to: Newsletter/Wingspan 300 East 6th Street Tucson, Arizona 85705-8426 or wingspan@wingspan.org Please email text as a Microsoft Word attachment.

Sex, Race, and Globalization Seminar Series 11/19/03

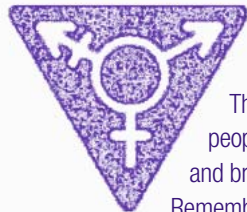
On Wednesday, November 19 from noon–2pm, The University of Arizona Committee on LGBT Studies will present *Feminism's Rendezvous with Melodrama* or "*fue en un cabaret*": *Nation, Gender, and Sexuality in Contemporary Mexican Performance*. This presentation, by Laura G. Gutierrez from the University of Iowa, is part of a larger project by Gutierrez that views sexuality as a social and cultural construct and examines the political, economic, and sexual discourse in the work of "Mexican queer performance artists who deploy *cabaret politico*." The seminar will be held at the University of Arizona in the Douglass Building, Room 102. Lunch will be provided. Visit <http://w3.arizona.edu/~lgbcom> for further information.



Gay American Smoke Out 11/20/03

Get healthy with all your LGBT friends. Thursday, November 20 is the Gay American Smoke Out. The purpose of this day is to quit smoking and have fun doing it. Wingspan will be hosting a special event to encourage those who want to make the commitment to a tobacco-free lifestyle. Check the website for further details, www.wingspan.org.

Transgender Day of Remembrance 11/20/03



SAGA is sponsoring Tucson's observance of the National Transgender Day of Remembrance on Thursday, November 20 at Catalina Park (N. 4th Avenue) at 7pm. A candlelight ceremony at the park will be followed by a march down 4th Avenue and a reception at Wingspan. The Day of Remembrance is an annual event commemorating the violent deaths of transgender people over the past year. This year we have already recorded the murders of 29 of our sisters and brothers across the U.S. – a dramatic increase over the 18 we mourned at last year's Day of Remembrance. See www.gender.org/remember/day for more information.

Festival For Life 11/23/03

This year marks the 15th anniversary of the Jérôme Beillard Festival for Life, an auction fundraiser and celebration to benefit the programs and services of the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF). Festival for Life will be on Sunday, November 23 from 4–7pm, and is moving to a new venue this year, the Hilton Tucson El Conquistador Resort at 10000 N. Oracle Rd. The festivities include a champagne toast, hors d'oeuvres buffet, entertainment, no-host bar and the fabulous artwork, holiday items and gifts in the live and silent auctions. Tickets are \$45 in advance; \$50 at the door. Please call Amy at 520-628-7223 for more information.



Gross Indecency – Wilde Trials 11/28/03-12/21/03



The Wilde Playhouse presents its season premiere, *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde*, by Moises Kaufman. This play is based on the sensational transcripts of Oscar Wilde's actual trials. Performances run November 28 to December 21 at the Wilde Playhouse, 135 E. Congress. Please see www.wildeplayhouse.com or call 520-770-1000 for more information.

World AIDS Day 12/01/03

World AIDS Day is Monday, December 1. The day will open with a rally at the University of Arizona Mall, followed by a march to the Muse at 516 N. 5th Ave. At the Muse, names of community and family members lost to the epidemic will be read, and an interfaith memorial service will be held. There will also be information booths, entertainment, food, a presentation by a physician on HIV treatments, and a call to action for the next steps needed in fighting HIV/AIDS in Tucson. Visit the Wingspan website, www.wingspan.org, for more information. Volunteers are needed to help with the day's events. Please call Harold Lackey at 520-918-6558.



The holidays will be filled with concerts and performances by local LGBT choirs and choruses, and a Chanukah party held by the Gertrude Stein Salon

Domestic Partnership Registry Celebration 12/02/03

Tucson will celebrate its new Domestic Partnership Registry on December 2 from 4–6pm at Sunset Park outside City Hall, 255 W. Alameda St. (home of the Richard Heakin Memorial). Couples are invited to register during this time – light refreshments will be served. Visit the Wingspan website, www.wingspan.org, for more information.

Desert Voices Concert 12/06/03-12/07/03



Desert Voices, Tucson's LGBT chorus, presents *Home (OH!) For the Holidays!* exploring holiday celebrations with friends and family. Songs from holiday TV shows such as *The Grinch*, *Charlie Brown*, and *Rudolph* will be featured, along with Desert Voices' own take on *The Nutcracker Suite*, including a very special appearance from Desert Voices' own Sugar Plum Fairy-Bear. Performances are Saturday, December 6, 7:30pm and Sunday, December 7, 3pm at Muse, across from Wingspan. Tickets are available at Antigone's, www.DoTucson.com, and by contacting Desert Voices at 520-791-9662 or at info@desertvoices.org. Cost is \$15 at the door, \$12 in advance and \$10 for seniors and students.

Reveille Holiday Concert 12/12/03-12/13/03

Reveille, Tucson's Gay Men's Chorus, is proud to present *Peace on Earth*, a holiday concert: Friday, December 12, and Saturday, December 13 at 8pm, at Grace St. Paul's Episcopal Church. This year's exciting program will include favorites as well as world and classical music. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. Season tickets for both *Peace on Earth* and Reveille's May concert, *All about Love*, are available for \$20. Please visit www.azstarnet.com/nonprofit/reveille to purchase tickets or for additional information. As always, Reveille is actively recruiting singers. Contact Linus Lerner, Reveille's Artistic Director, at 520-360-5400 or linuslerner@yahoo.com.



Gertrude Stein Salon Chanukah Party 12/20/03



The Gertrude Stein Salon, Tucson's group for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender Jews and their allies, will host its second annual Chanukah Party on Saturday, December 20 at 8pm at 4481 N. Cerritos Drive. Join the Salon as it celebrates the Festival of Lights with latkes, jelly donuts, rainbow candles, a white elephant exchange and dreidel Twister. To RSVP or to join the Gertrude Stein Salon mailing list, contact Meredith Trauner at 520-405-4841 or mhtrauner@yahoo.com.

Fiesta de Los Osos 01/16/04-01/19/04

Bears gather to celebrate once again in Tucson. The weekend of January 16–19 will be the eighth annual La Fiesta de Los Osos, a party and gathering for those who are bears or are friends of bears. La Fiesta de Los Osos has become one of the premiere events for the Bear community. This year's theme is Mardi Gras. Activities include day trips to nearby attractions, a Saturday evening banquet, bear contests, and a Sunday afternoon cookout. You can find more information and register for the festival at www.botop.com.



Men4Men Health Expo 02/07/04



On Saturday, February 7, the Gay Men's Health Project will present the second annual Men4Men Health Expo. The Expo will focus on raising awareness of issues related to all areas of men's health and wellness: physical, mental, spiritual and sexual. This year's event promises to be even bigger and better than last year's, with the cooperation of other programs at SAAF including Salud es Poder, HIP/AZ and Eon. These programs are all combining efforts to bring even more knowledge, information, experience and fun to this year's Expo. Watch for more details in the coming months at www.gmhp.org on just what exciting events this year's Men4Men Health Expo has to offer!

GMHP joins forces with HIP/AZ, Salud es Poder, and Eon, to present the Men4Men Health Expo >>

04

Wingspan's 6th Benefit Dinner Draws Record Crowd

880 people, dressed in their best, gathered to celebrate Wingspan's 15th Anniversary at the Wingspan Dinner on September 13. The event was a great success, grossing \$145,000 for Southern Arizona's LGBT community center. Highlights included a rousing speech by Lorri Jean, CEO of the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center and former Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and a comedic performance by Greg Walloch.

Several community members were honored at the event. The Godat Award for a lifetime of contributions to Southern Arizona's LGBT community was awarded posthumously to transgender activist Alexander John Goodrum. Goodrum was the founder of TGNNet Arizona, a statewide transgender advocacy group, and was instrumental in advocating for transgender rights in Tucson. Goodrum was one of the original members of the City of Tucson Task Force on GLBT Issues, and he later served as co-chair of the City of Tucson Commission on GLBT issues. The award was presented to Goodrum's mother, Patsy Brown.

The Hall Award for service to Wingspan was awarded to Lavina Tomer, who founded the Wingspan Domestic Violence Project in the mid-1990s. Through Lavina's determination and compassion, Southern Arizona gained one of the nation's first and best LGBT domestic violence projects.

The Community Ally Award went to Rev. David Wilkinson, Senior Minister at St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church. Because of Rev. Wilkinson's leadership, St. Francis has been a leader in welcoming and fully including LGBT people in its church community. Rev. Wilkinson was also instrumental early on in providing care to HIV positive people, contributing to the formation of TIHAN.

Tucson Domestic Partnership Registry Adopted

On September 15, 2003, the Tucson Mayor and Council unanimously adopted the Tucson Domestic Partnership Ordinance. The ordinance, which provides for the first domestic partner registry law in the state of Arizona, will go into effect on December 1, 2003. Registered domestic partners will be given visitation rights in medical or health care facilities and will be treated as spouses in relation to access to city facilities.

The ordinance is gender neutral and open to residents living outside the Tucson city limits, so any two people meeting the domestic partnership qualifications may register. Registrants will be required to submit a signed and notarized declaration form and a payment of \$50 to City Hall. Upon receipt, the domestic partnership will be registered and a keepsake certificate of domestic partnership will be issued. Couples wishing to register may do so in person at City Hall or may download the forms online and register by mail.

Online registration forms, the text of the Tucson Domestic Partnership Ordinance, and answers to frequently asked questions are all available on the Tucson GLBT Commission website, www.tucsonglbtcommission.org.

Festivities are scheduled for Tuesday, December 2, the day after the ordinance takes effect. See page 3 of this newsletter for more details. **by Greg Reiter**

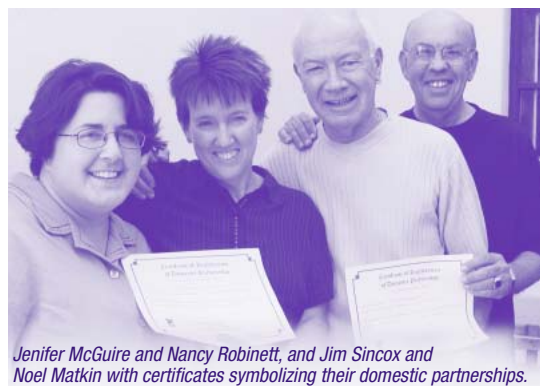


Patsy Brown



Lorri Jean

Arizona's first city-wide Domestic Partner Registry will go into effect December 1 >>



Jenifer McGuire and Nancy Robinett, and Jim Sincox and Noel Matkin with certificates symbolizing their domestic partnerships.

05

The U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum's traveling exhibit documenting Nazi persecution of homosexuals will be showing here >>

Holocaust Museum Exhibit



Richard Grune's lithographs are part of the exhibit visiting Tucson.

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's latest exhibition, *Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933-1945*, has been touring the country. Wingspan is co-sponsoring the exhibition's appearance in Tucson from Monday, April 18 to Saturday, May 15.

The exhibition will be housed at the Jewish Community Center. Many other community organizations are also involved in bringing the exhibition to Tucson including Tucson-Pima Public Libraries, the University of Arizona's LGBT Studies, Judaic Studies, Hillel Foundation, and Bookstore, the Tucson YWCA, Desert Voices, the Arizona Human Rights Fund, UAPresents, Invisible Theatre, Tucson Pima Arts Council, Tucson Hebrew High, the Historic Stone Avenue Temple, the Jewish Community Relations Council and the Jewish Federation of Southern Arizona. Each of these organizations also will be sponsoring ancillary events which complement the main exhibition while it is in Tucson.

The exhibition includes some 250 historic photographs and documents that examine the rationale, means and impact of the Nazis' efforts to eliminate homosexuals, whom they considered a threat to Germany's "disciplined masculinity." It is a moving exhibition, and Wingspan is proud to be working with a diverse coalition to bring it to Tucson. **by Michael Callahan**

KUAT Airing *In The Life*

In the May-June 2003 issue of *The Center*, Wingspan encouraged its readers to ask local media to begin carrying some national LGBT programs. We are pleased to report that KUAT-TV, Channel 6 has responded positively to our community's needs by beginning to air *In the Life*, a national television series reporting on gay and lesbian issues and culture. The series will air on the last Friday of each month at 11pm.

Since its breakthrough debut in 1992 and subsequent national syndication, *In The Life* has been dedicated to presenting the LGBT community in a positive and accurate light, chronicling the history and contemporary experiences of the LGBT community through their own perspectives. **by Michael Callahan**



Puertas Abiertas

In an effort to better serve the Latino community and provide a safe space where Latino lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people can meet, Wingspan and SAAF have started a social group called Puertas Abiertas. The group has been meeting every other Wednesday since early spring. Since its inception, Puertas Abiertas has been bringing Latinos together to celebrate their heritage and LGBT pride, while creating a sense of community. Please come out and join us at SAAFito, 1200 East Ajo Way. For more information on Puertas Abiertas please call Wingspan at 520-624-1779.

*Con el deseo de servir a la comunidad latina y proveer un lugar seguro donde las personas lesbiana, gay, bisexual y transgénero puedan reunirse, Wingspan y SAAF han organizado un grupo social llamado Puertas Abiertas. Este grupo se ha venido reuniendo desde la primavera los miércoles cada dos semanas. Desde su creación, Puertas Abiertas ha reunido a gente latina para celebrar su herencia cultural y su orgullo gay, a la vez que ha ayudado a fortalecer el espíritu comunitario. Por favor, participe y reúnanse con nosotros en SAAFito, 1200 Ajo Way. Para más información, comuníquese a Wingspan al 520-624-1779. **by Daphne Arango***

A new group has been formed to serve and support the Hispanic LGBT community >>

Give the LGBT Community Your Business

Dana Young and Kim Muell are the new proprietors of Desert Pride, Tucson's primary source for rainbow stickers and other LGBT pride paraphernalia. Dana says, "We started by looking at the cost of pride products – it was outrageous. We wanted to make something that's affordable." In order to accomplish this, Dana and Kim make many of the products at Desert Pride themselves. They are proud to be out business owners. Both Dana and Kim have also supported the community by serving on the board of Tucson Pride, Inc., the organization that produces OUToberFEST and Gay West, for several years.



Dana Young and Kim Muell at Desert Pride



Antigone Books

LGBT businesses like Antigone Books and Desert Pride support and provide services to our community >>

Kate Randall and Trudy Mills, who co-own feminist bookstore Antigone Books, are also members and supporters of the LGBT community. Kate comments that Antigone tries "to have the latest LGBT books available, plus plenty of fun items that celebrate the LGBT experience. We also try to support LGBT organizations through donations whenever possible." Also, the bookstore opens people's minds: "Many tourists who wander in while visiting Tucson end up experiencing something they didn't expect – a positive, fun look at LGBT life."

There are several resources for community members who want to return the support of LGBT-owned businesses like Desert Pride and Antigone Books. The Community Business Association (CBA) is a 200-member organization that allows the Tucson LGBT business community to network and increase its visibility in the Tucson area. Members meet monthly to exchange ideas on strengthening their businesses and to provide mutual support and encouragement for their endeavors. The CBA publishes the Directory4Us, a gay yellow pages with listings of LGBT-friendly businesses. The CBA's website, www.cbatuson.org, has links to these businesses and other LGBT organizations. The entries are listed by classification, so it is easy to search for auto repair, financial services or household needs, among other categories.

Another resource for LGBT businesses and services is Wingspan's own Information & Referral program. See cover story for more details and visit www.wingspan.org. **by Michael Callahan and Meredith Trauner**

Wingspan's 9th Annual FilmFest Is on Its Way



Wingspan's FilmFest will take place at the Loft Cinema.

(from page 1) easier for moviegoers to select according to their interests. This year there will be an assortment of films that will appeal to all demographics of the LGBT community. There is still time to get involved and volunteer for the festival. Contact Mark English at Wingspan, 520-624-1779 or mark@wingspan.org, for further information. You can also check out www.wingspan.org/filmfest for the latest information and film selections as they are posted. This spring is the perfect time to show your support, meet up with friends and see some great films. **by Louis Tancredi**

07

Wingspan thanks its corporate sponsors for their support.

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 Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network
 (TIHAN)
 Tucson Pride, Inc.

Wingspan also acknowledges the contributions of its funders.

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Volunteer Profile



Mark Zepezauer, Iris Anne (holding "Red Bear"), and Nan Lagemann

Nan Lagemann and **Mark Zepezauer** first met in Tucson through a singles ad over 8 years ago. They have been married for almost 7 years and have a two-year-old daughter, **Iris Anne**, who is looking forward to being a sister by the time this hits print. Nan coordinates domestic violence services for seniors at the Administration of Resources and Choices (ARC), and Mark is a freelance author, cartoonist, and illustrator. His books include *The Nixon Saga*, *Take The Rich Off Welfare*, *The CIA's Greatest Hits* ("Which is interesting," says Mark, "since Nan's father was a CIA agent..."), *Boomerang*, and the forthcoming *Bi Men's Lives*.

When looking for a volunteer opportunity that allowed them to reconnect with the LGBT community ("GBLT? BLTG? It's so confusing," jokes Mark), the couple found Wingspan to be a natural choice – especially since Mark is bisexual, Nan was a self-described "total fag hag in college," and both wanted to make a difference in the community. They joined the first group of volunteers that trained for the Wingspan Domestic Violence Project over two years ago. Now that WDVP has evolved into the Anti-Violence Project, they continue to help staff the crisis hotline on a regular basis.

Nan considers Wingspan's major strengths to be visibility and its connections with the community at large. She particularly enjoyed the experience of "doing those two presentations using the *Tough Guise* video [about the roots of violence]. There were people here who'd never been to Wingspan before, and it was great for Wingspan to sponsor that."

Mark adds that the community forum last January on bisexuality had a great audience, panel, and discussion. He is also impressed by Wingspan's

library every time he comes in. "I also like the parties." Both Mark and Nan are very proud to volunteer for Wingspan, wish they could do more, and feel that "everyone doing a little bit would add up to a lot."

Although they enjoy the Wingspan space, both cite the need for more of it. "That whole 'you-can't-run-the-microwave-in-the-office-storage-closet-without-unplugging-the-copier-first' thing really has to change," says Nan. **by Mark English**

End of Year Giving

The end of the year is a time when people review their giving for the year and decide what adjustments need to be made, particularly in light of tax needs.

Taxpayers who file the long form showing deductions are generally better off to accelerate deductions through 2003 and defer income until 2004. Generally speaking, you're better off making gifts during years when your income is higher. You should always consult with your accountant, attorney, or personal financial planner before making any major gift with tax implications.

To be eligible for tax-deductibility for the 2003 tax year, gifts must be received or postmarked no later than December 31, 2003.

No matter what the stock market is doing this week, the odds are still high that any stocks you currently have are worth more than when you bought them. If so, by gifting the stock directly to us, you can avoid capital gains taxation on the appreciation. It's easy to make a stock gift. Call Tim at 520-624-1779 x 13, and he can walk you through the process.

Also, don't forget to designate Wingspan if you participate in your workplace giving campaign. For most campaigns, you only need to write Wingspan's name into the blank. Others, such as the Combined Federal Campaign and the City and County ECAPs, require a code number. If your workplace can't provide you with our number, just call Tim at 520-624-1779, extension 13. **by Tim A. Janes**



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Use InfoLink, Wingspan's New Online Information and Referral Database!

To reach InfoLink, Wingspan's Information and Referral database, just go online to www.wingspan.org and click on the link at the top of the home page.

Contact Wingspan to inquire about adding your business, service, organization or group to InfoLink. Call 520-624-1779.

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Please do not include my name in Wingspan's donor recognition materials.

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