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## PRIDE GUIDE



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#### Letter from the Board

Dear Friends, Family, and Allies,

As we celebrate another year of Pride, I want to take a moment to extend my deepest gratitude to each of you—our attendees, VIPs, sponsors, volunteers, and supporters. Your presence and contribution make this festival a beacon of love, unity, and empowerment for our community.

When MS Capital City Pride first began, it was more than just an event—it was the beginning of a movement. Our founders dreamed of creating a space where the LGBTQ+ community in Mississippi could gather safely and proudly, where everyone could be themselves without fear of judgment or rejection. From those humble beginnings, we've grown into a powerful voice for equality, inclusion, and celebration in the heart of our capital city.

This journey has been nothing short of extraordinary, but we have never walked it alone. Each of you, whether a long-time ally or new to our Pride family, plays an essential role in building this legacy. Together, we've turned a vision into a reality, making a lasting impact in Mississippi.

To our VIPs and sponsors—thank you for believing in our mission and helping us take this festival to new heights. Your support is more than financial; it's a commitment to inclusivity and a brighter future for the LGBTQ+ community. To our attendees—thank you for showing up, for celebrating with us, and for making this movement your own. Pride exists because of you.

As we look to the future, I invite you to consider becoming even more involved in the mission of MS Capital City Pride by applying to join our board of directors. We are always looking for passionate, dedicated individuals to help guide our organization, shape the future of Pride, and continue the work of making Mississippi a more inclusive and accepting place for all. Whether you have a talent for event planning, advocacy, or community outreach, there's a place for you in this movement.



#### 2024 Board of Directors



**WILEY SMITH** he/him/his **Board Chair** 



**CHRIS ELLIS** he/him/his Board Chair-Elect



BRANDI WESTBROOK she/her/hers **Board Treasurer** 



**RYAN UPSHAW** he/him/his **Board Secretary** 



TYLER GRIFFING he/him/his **Emeritus Director** 



**ASHLEE PITTS** she/her/hers **Emeritus Director** 



**LUCAS POSEY** he/they/theirs **Emeritus Director** 



**MERRY BARNES** she/her/hers



KIM LEWIS she/her/hers



KAM'RY MOORE she/her/hers



STAN NICHOLS he/him/his



she/her/hers



GENETRA ROBINSON CHRISTINA SPANN she/her/hers



**DANNY TOVAR** he/him/his





#### It's Pride Yall 2024 Schedule

#### Friday, September 27

7:00 pm VIP KICK-OFF GALA

featuring DJ CITIZEN JANE with LOVE LATONIA, MIA CHAMBERS, and SASHA LEIGH CHAMBERS

Rooftop The Faulkner

Main Stage Capitol Street

First Floor

The Faulkner

Main Stage Capitol Street

#### Saturday, September 28

9:00 am MENTAL HEALTH & LEGISLATION PANEL

First Floor 10:00 am LGBTQ+ HISTORY IN MISSISSIPPI PANEL The Faulkner

11:00 am DRAG 101 PANEL

12:00 pm IT'S PRIDE Y'ALL 2024 WELCOME

12:15 pm KICKING

1:30 pm SWEETIE!

2:15 pm BRANDON ANDREWS

2:45 pm

MEET & GREET with Latrice Royale

3:15 pm **ANTHONY HALE** 

4:00 pm LATRICE ROYALE

with PENNY NICKELS, SERAPHINA and WILL RYDER

First Floor MEET & GREET with Shea Couleé 4:45 pm The Faulkner

5:15 pm POP FICTION

6:45 pm SHEA COULEÉ

with KA'MIYAH L. TYMES, DE'BRONSKI,

and IVY WHITE

7:30 pm DJ CITIZEN JANE **NEON DANCE PARTY** 

10:00 pm OFFICIAL AFTER PARTY

Shade Pub and Nightclub

Main Stage Capitol Street

### Vendors

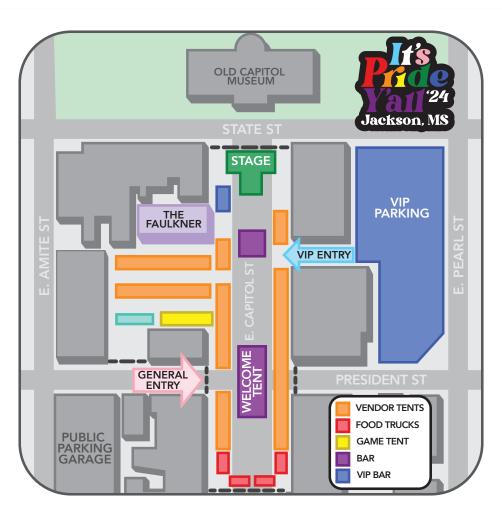
**Absolut ACLU** Fine and Fiber Fur On My Shirt G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery **VA Medical Center** Gilead **Grace House Services HRC IDEMIA** Institute for Advancement of Minority Health **Jack Myers House** JXN Roller Derby **JXNology** Klassy Krafts **Local Real Estate** Lucky Fish Ms. T's Sweets and Treats MS Harm Reduction **MS Votes** 

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#### 2024 Grand Marshals

#### KATHY CLEM

Kathy Clem, executive director of The Good Samaritan Center since 1999, works tirelessly to make sure struggling Jackson families receive year-round services such as case management, financial and job assistance, counseling services, clothing, and food, as well as a soup kitchen to address food insecurities in Laurel. Kathy volunteered at Good Sam when her mother was executive director, who encouraged her to get more involved, said "You love people." When the COVID-19 pandemic hit, Kathy realized food insecurity would grow while farmers and closed restaurants turned away fresh food orders they were unable to sell. Good Sam rescued this food to give to food pantries and soup kitchens throughout the state. Kathy joined Capital City Pride, first as a volunteer, and then in 2020 as a committee member. Her extensive knowledge and leadership of planning fundraising races throughout the Capital City region led her to excel in coordinating the annual Rainbow Run 5k, which also includes a children's fun run. Creating safe places for all queer individuals and their allies, especially youth, is a huge passion for Kathy.





#### TEMICA "TUTT" MORTON

Temica "Tutt" Morton is a dedicated LGBTQIA+ advocate and entrepreneur based in Jackson, MS, whose efforts have made a significant impact on her community. Witnessing firsthand the stories and struggles of those around her, she created L.I.F.E., Inc. in 2018 to fill the gaps in services and resources. L.I.F.E., Inc. offers HIV rapid testing, advocacy training, and a community food pantry, all designed to meet the diverse needs of the community. Despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Tutt and her team continued to support the community through phone calls, medication deliveries, and transportation assistance for essential workers. Tutt is also the owner of Metro 2.0, a nightclub that has served as a vital gathering place for LGBTQIA+ people of color in Jackson since the late 1990s. Tutt's leadership has culminated in the establishment of Metro Reunion Weekend, an annual family reunion event that promotes health awareness, testing, and education. Through her work with L.I.F.E., Inc. and Metro 2.0, she continues to inspire and uplift the LGBTQIA+ community in Jackson, MS, making a lasting impact on the lives of those she serves.



### **Pride Always**



Pride always has a place
Celebrating & Supporting the Community

Not just a slogan. #PrideAlways is a reminder to lead with love.

Proud Sponsor of It's Pride Y'all.

### 2024 It's Pride Yall Planning Committee



LAURA HELLER 2025 Co-Chair



**JERRY HAND** 2024 Co-Chair



JOSEPH SUMMERS 2024 Co-Chair



LAUREN NG 2025 Co-Chair



**BAILEY BIBLE** 



**GEORGE BUTLER** 



KATHY CLEM



JULIE CRAFT



SHELLY COOK



**CHRIS ELLIS** 



MARY ELLEN **FOSTER** 



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### **Local Drag Stars**







FRIDAY • 8PM • THE FAULKNER







SATURDAY • 4PM • MAIN STAGE







SATURDAY • 6:45PM • MAIN STAGE

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  - © 601-707-9660 877-449-5124

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Dear Friends & Family,

Robin Morgan Financial, an LGBTQ+ owned financial services business welcomes you to It's Pride Y'all 2024! It is an honor and a privilege to be part of this great event.

I have been a financial advisor for 33 years. The LGBTQ+ community is diverse, and everyone's situation is unique. Our office is a safe space where you are welcome to come as your authentic self and freely talk about your family's financial goals and dreams.

Please stop by our booth and say hello, ask a question, sign up for a complimentary financial review, or join our mailing list for LGBTQ+ topics. We love what we do, and we love our community. We look forward to meeting you!

Enjoy Pride.



Hope to See You Soon.

#### 2024 It's Pride Y'all Panel Discussions

#### **MENTAL HEALTH & LEGISLATION PANEL**

Join us at 9:00 AM at the Faulkner



DR. NANCY **KEYS** 



THOMAS



JUSTIN LOFTON



**REPRESENTATIVE** FABIAN NELSON

The Mental Health and Legislation Panel will bring together influential speakers who will share their resources unique to the mental health needs of LGBTQ+ people and talk about Mississippi's recent anti-LGBTQ+ legislation and what we can do for the upcoming legislative session.

#### LGBTQ+ HISTORY IN MISSISSIPPI PANEL Join us at 10:00 AM at the Faulkner



JACK MYERS



**GUS DANIELS-**WASHINGTON



CHARLENE BARKER

The LGBTQ+ History in Mississippi Panel will bring together three individuals who have made and are making history in Mississippi and share their stories about early LGBTQ+ rights and activism as well as how we continue to make history.

#### **DRAG 101 PANEL** Join us at 11:00 AM at the Faulkner





PENNY NICKELS WILL RYDER



**SERAPHINA** 

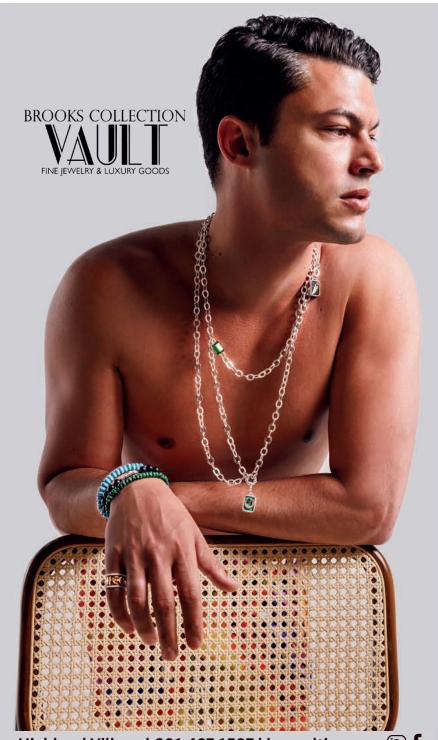
The Drag 101 Panel will bring together three talented drag artists - Jackson's own Penny Nickels and Seraphina along with Mr. Will Ryder from Memphis. Penny Nickels will host this panel where we will learn the behind the scenes art of performing drag and proper etiquette at drag performances.

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We are pleased to again be among the sponsors of the MS Capital City Pride "It's Pride Y'all" 2024 Festival and salute all of today's participants!

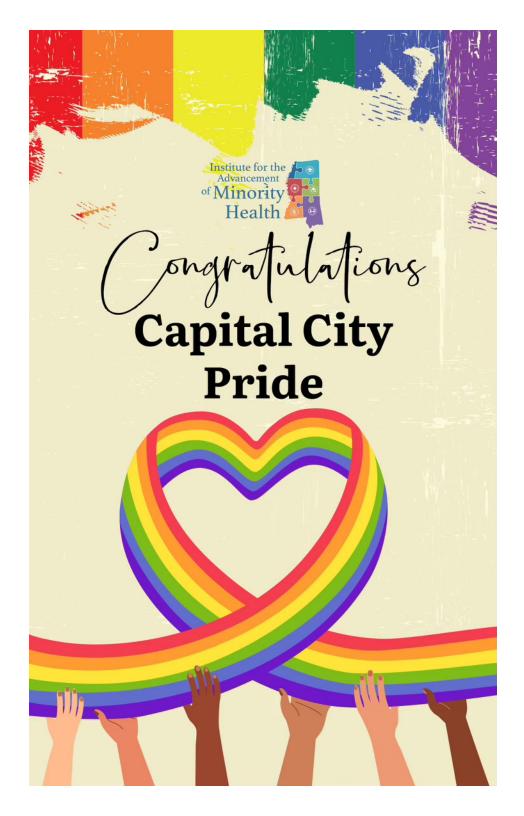
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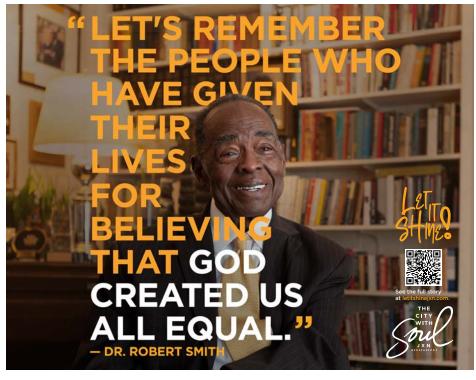
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