Inaugural LGBTQ Summit Held in Baton Rouge

Representatives from a wide variety of LGBTQ organizations from around the state of Louisiana recently gathered in Baton Rouge for the first LGBTQ Statewide Summit. The Summit was sponsored by the Foundation for Louisiana, the Greater New Orleans Foundation, the Funders for LGBTQ Issues, and the Greater Baton Rouge Area Foundation, and was attended by leaders of the state’s LGBTQ communities, promote equity, and advance racial, economic and gender justice. The Foundation for Louisiana recently gathered in Baton Rouge for the first LGBTQ Statewide Summit. The Summit was sponsored by the Foundation for Louisiana, the Greater New Orleans Foundation, the Funders for LGBTQ Issues, and the Greater Baton Rouge Area Foundation, and was attended by leaders of the state’s LGBTQ communities, promote equity, and advance racial, economic and gender justice.

The meeting was part of a larger project called “Out in the South,” an initiative of Funders for LGBTQ Issues. Founded in 1982, Funders for LGBTQ Issues seeks to mobilize philanthropic resources that enhance the well-being of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer communities, promote equity, and advance racial, economic and gender justice.

2016 Election Guide by Frank Perez

It is safe to say that everyone will rejoice when this election is over. The campaign for President has been ugly and disgusting. In the rare event there are any undecided voters remaining, please know there are 13 candidates for President on the Louisiana ballot. They are listed below in alphabetical order along with their Vice Presidential running mates and party affiliations:

- Darrell Castle, Scott Bradley (Constitutional Workers)
- Hillary Clinton, Timothy Kaine (Democratic)
- Tom Hoefling, Steve Schulin (Liberal, Family, Constitution)
- Princess Jacob, Milton Fambro (Loyal Trustworthy Compassion)
- Gary Johnson, Bill Weld (Libertarian)
- Alyson Kennedy, Osborne Hart (Socialist Workers)
- Chris Keniston, Deacon Taylor (Veterans)
- Laurence Kotlikoff, Edward Lea (It’s Our Children)
- Gloria La Riva, Eugene Puryear (Socialism and Liberation)
- Evan McMillin, Nathan Johnson (Courage Character Service)
- Jill Stein, Ajamu Baraka (Green)
- Donald Trump, Michael Pence (Republican)
- Jerry White, Niles Niemuth (Socialism=Equal Pay=War)

It is safe to assume based on previous voting patterns and current polling data that Trump will win Louisiana. The sad reality is that Louisiana, and the South in general (i.e-the old Confederacy), is filled with ignorant, racist, homophobic, misogynistic, xenophobic morons. Personally, I am following Bernie Sanders’ advice and voting for Hillary, though the Socialist Workers Party is also appealing to me.

What really matters is the U.S. Senate race. The Democrats have a very good chance of recapturing the Senate, including the Louisiana Senate Seat up for grabs. For LGBTQ folks, this is very important as the Republican Party has consistently voted against our rights and interests.

There are 24 candidates in the Senate race:

- Ben Bilkic (No Party)
- Charles Boustany (Republican)
- Foster Campbell (Democrat)
- Joseph Capo (Republican)
- Thomas P. Clements (Libertarian)
- Donald "Crawdaddy" Crawford (Republican)
- David Duke (Republican)
- Derrick Edwards (Democrat)
- Caroline Fayard (Democrat)
- John Fleming (Republican)
- Le Roy Guillory (Liberarian)
- Troy Hebert (No Party)
- John Kennedy (Republican)
- Gary Landrieu (Democrat)
- William "Rob" Lang Jr. (Other)
- "Rio" Maness (Republican)
- Katie Maroney (No Party)
- Charles Marsala (Republican)
- MV "Vinnie" Mendoza (Democrat)
- Abby Patel (Republican)
- Joshua Pellerin (Democratic)
- Gregory Taylor Jr. (Other)
- Arden Wells (No Party)
- Peter Williams (Democrat)

A recent poll conducted by JMC Analytics between October 11—15 has Foster Campbell (D) leading the pack with 23.4% and Sanders (R) in second place with 15.5% and Fleming (R) and Boustany (R) following with 14.5% and 14.4% respectively. Fayard is further behind with 9.4%. These numbers suggest that Democrat Foster Campbell will face either Kennedy or Fleming or Boustany (all Republicans) in the run-off.

Foster Campbell is a moderate populist from North Louisiana and currently serves on the Public Service Commission. He has proven cross-over appeal to conservative Republican voters and has been endorsed by Governor John Bell Edwards (D), strong ally of LGBTQ folks. Campbell represents the LGBTQ+ community’s best chance of having a friendly U.S. Senator.

Also on the statewide ballot are six proposed Constitutional Amendments. The following information is adapted from The Public Affairs Research Council of Louisiana:

Amendment 1 - Establishes new requirements for local registrars of voters. A vote FOR would require standards of professional and educational experience for local registrars of voters and more public disclosure in their hiring process. A vote AGAINST would leave the existing job requirements in place and allow local governing authorities greater discretion when filling registrar vacancies.

Amendment 2 - Tuition and fee autonomy for college management boards. A vote FOR would higher education management boards set annual tuition rates and fee amounts for colleges and universities without legislative approval. A vote AGAINST would preserve the state Legislature’s authority over tuition and fee levels.

Amendment 3 - Eliminates federal income tax deduction for corporations on state tax returns and sets a flat rate. A vote AGAINST would eliminate the deduction for federal income taxes paid by corporations when calculating state income taxes while triggering a flat corporate tax rate of 6.5%.

A vote AGAINST would allow corporations to continue receiving a state income tax deduction for federal income taxes paid and allow the existing corporate tax rates and brackets to remain.

Amendment 4 - Property tax exemption for surviving spouses of persons killed in the line of duty. A vote FOR would give surviving spouses of military, fire protection officers and law enforcement personnel who died while on duty full property tax exemption on their home.

A vote AGAINST would leave existing ad valorem property tax exemption levels and eligibility requirements in place.

Amendment 5 - Creates a Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund. A vote FOR would create the Revenue Stabilization Trust Fund to receive a portion of revenues from corporate and mineral taxes and to spend the money on infrastructure and pension liabilities.

A vote AGAINST would continue to allow corporate tax and mineral revenue above a certain threshold to flow into the state general fund for appropriation by the legislature.

Amendment 6 - Adjusts threshold for tapping subjective funds. A vote FOR would provide legislators a new way to tap into constitutionally protected funds during revenue downturns and also extends protection to five existing funds.

A vote AGAINST would keep in place the existing trigger which allows the Legislature to tap into otherwise protected funds.
THURSDAY
"MONSTER KARAOKE" 11PM
DJ J ROCK

FRIDAY
ILLUSIONS "HALLOWEEN REVIEW" 10PM
"BOYS ON PARADE" AMATEUR STRIP OFF
DJ/PRODUCER MANNY LEHMAN

SATURDAY NIGHT
BELLAS BLUE BOOK CABARET 10PM
DJ MIKE BRYANT

SUNDAY "T" "BACK TO THE DISCO"
DJ ROBBIE LESLIE 3PM TO 8PM

SUNDAY NIGHT
DRINK AND DROWN 6-8PM
LIPSTIXX "LADIES ON PARADE" HALLOWEEN SHOW 8PM
DJ SEAN MICHAEL

HALLOWEEN NIGHT
MONDAY OCTOBER 31ST
DJ WHITNEY DAY
COSTUME CONTEST AT MIDNIGHT
1st. Place $300 CASH
2nd Place $150.00 CASH
3rd. Place $50 BAR TAB

DOWNSTAIRS IN THE PUB ALL WEEKEND LONG. VJS CHRIS ALLEN & BRENDAN THOMPSON

801 BOURBON STREET NEW ORLEANS
WWW.BOURBONPUB.COM INFO 504 529 2107

24 HOURS
7 DAYS A WEEK
PIRATE’S REVENGE
The Curse of Jean Lafitte
Presented by SKYY VODKA • A Benefit for Project Lazarus
OCTOBER 27-30, 2016

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27TH
THE LAZARUS BALL
il Mercato • 1911 Magazine Street
Silent Auction • Wine Raffle • Music • Food
Open Bar • Black Tie Preferred

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28TH
HNO GLO NEON PARTY
The Civic Theatre • 510 O’Keefe Ave
MUSIC BY DJ JOE ROSS • Wear your best neon attire!
Cash Bar • Open Bar for Hosts • Student discount at door with valid ID. 21+

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29TH
THE MAIN EVENT
Contemporary Arts Center • 900 Camp St.
MUSIC BY DJ GRIND • Costume Contest, Stage Parade & VIP Host Lounge
Open Bar • Costumes required to enter • Student discount at door with valid ID. 21+

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30TH
THE QUEENS’ TEA
DANCE, BRUNCH & SECOND LÍNE
The Paddlewheeler Creole Queen • 1 Poydras St.
MUSIC BY JOE GAUTHREAU
Open Bar

HalloweenNewOrleans.com
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#SKYYVODKA

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