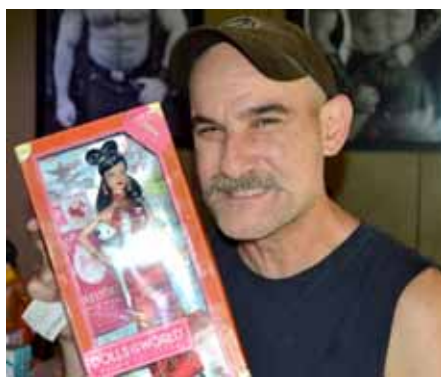




Catherine Gaither and partner, Lesbian of the Year Misti Ates present Lady Magic, Necha Beniot the 1st ICON Tribute Honor with the assistance of Samiel Kalin at Johnny Passion's 4th Annual Winter Wonderland hosted at Cafe Istanbul in New Orleans. Sponsored by **Ambush Magazine**, the event raised a whopping \$5,615 for Food For Friends, as well as items for the program's food pantry. It was an amazing evening with a VIP dinner, music, auction, and raffles, concluding with a variety drag show with some of the area's top celebrities and performers. (Photo by Rip Naquin)



Renowned photographer Larry L. Graham of www.GrahamStudioOne.com has done an incredible job on the official portraits of King Cake Queen XXII-Elect of Gay Mardi Gras Aubrey Synclaire. One of the pre-coronation portraits is featured here. The official coronation portraits will be unveiled at the 22nd Annual King Cake Queen Coronation on January 18, 2015. Synclaire will reign as "Queen of the Opera" over the Krewe of Queenateenas "Vienna: Beautiful, Gay & Gemuthlich" culminating with the 28th Official Gay Mardi Gras Bead Toss on Fat Tuesday, February 17, 2015. Graham has been the Official Photographer of the King Cake Queen Royalty Club since 2002. (www.GayMardiGras.com/KCQ)



Bartender Wayne Hendon hosted his annual Phoenix Toy Drive at the Phoenix New Orleans which was a huge success for St. Anna's Arts Program. Donors enjoyed a great afternoon with food and friends. (Photo by Charles Jenkins, Paul Melancon)



Hubert S Monkeys' life-size monkey helps Captain Gary Vandeventer with his hilarious performance in Lords of Leather's annual American Bandstand as the krewe donned their finest as "Glamazons" raising funds for the krewe's 32nd ball on February 15, 2015. (Photo by Hubert S Monkeys)



The Bourbon Pub & Parade hosted their annual Customer Appreciation & Toys for Tots Holiday Extravaganza presenting \$2,500 to NO/AIDS Task Force. Funds were raised at the annual Oh What A Drag staff turnabout earlier this year. Guests were asked to bring an unwrapped toy for admittance, all going to Toys for Tots. The party boasted complimentary cocktails, a delicious culinary presentation by Praline Connection, and a special Holiday Lipstixx "Under the Mistletoe" show starring King Cake Queen-Elect Aubrey Synclaire, Nicole Dubois, Paris Manchester and Sarina Styles. (Photo by Rip Naquin: Bourbon Pub & Parade entertainment director Matthew Birkhoff, operations manager Carla Rabasca, proprietor Sandy Sachs, NO/AIDS Task Force's Rodney Thoulion, Bourbon Pub & Parade tech director Scott Bearden & office manager Chuck Kee)



Left: Reigning King Cake Queen XXI Barbara Ella joins special guest star Varla Jean Merman, and King Cake Queen XXII-Elect Aubrey Synclaire at the 28th Annual Art Against AIDS Gala benefiting NO/AIDS Task Force where Varla performed live. Hosted at the swanky Club XLIV adjacent to the Super Dome, the festive evening kicked off the holiday season in style with a spectacular auction, entertainment, and culinary delights from some of New Orleans best restaurants. **Ambush Magazine** is a proud sponsor of this event for all 28 years. (Photo by Rip Naquin)

Right: Corner Pocket dancers Leon and Dylan help hostess and krewe president Opal Masters for a hysterical naughty talent presentation during the Krewe of Amon-Ra's 1st Meat & Greet hosted at The Corner Pocket in New Orleans. Funds raised benefits the krewe's 50th ball on January 24, 2015. (Photo by Rip Naquin)

