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herland VOICE

VOLUME 33 No 2 SUMMER 2015

Herland Retreat Brings in Spring

The Herland Spring Retreat this May 1st-3rd will usher in Spring as we journey to the Eastern part of Oklahoma for a 3 day, 2 night stay at Roman Nose State park.

Our private campgrounds offer a great time to kick back, relax and let this last hard winter melt away as spring begins to bloom all around. One of the country's longest running women only Retreats, Herland is thrilled this Spring we'll be Drumming the magical experience and you won't be able to resist the pulsating passion and energy on our Saturday night with the talent of our amazing Sisters! For what could be more than a weekend spent in the company of your Sisters, relaxing from the world and taking in new energy as spring vitalizes around you. Come Join us!

Food

This years fundraising Retreat carries all of the usuals; Friday night's hot dog cookout, and Pam is back this year to delight our

palates with her amazing quiche for Saturday's brunch.



Saturday evenings Potluck is that special time to come show some creative skills and let the feasting begin with some long time favorites and some new creations. Herland this year will also offer a special treat to our Potluck. Sunday morning brings a choice brunch and coffee to start the day.

Workshops

Saturday's activities include some special workshops, one of which has Paula showing us the basics of self-defense; others are The Health Initiative, and the Create your Drum for the drumming circle—and be prepared to spend the evening with that dynamic beat. A complete list of supplies will be sent out shortly.

Our Retreats are truly a special place to make ourselves be more, to take the time to get to know one another and come move freely through a weekend meeting new Sisters and sharing.

Payment

Payment for the 3 days/2 nights is based on a sliding scale and your contribution to the potluck dinner helps us keep the cost down. We are so lucky to have such wonderful volunteers and are thankful to all of the women who come and work together bring the Herland Retreats our own Oklahoma Heart. Payment can go through our website using Paypal. We ask that you

(Continued page 2)

Herland Sister Resources 2312 NW 39th St Oklahoma City 73112
405.521.9696 www.herlandsisters.org herland@herlandsisters.org
Regular hours 2nd and 4th Saturdays from 1-5 pm

Spring Retreat

(Continued from page 1)

do this so that we bring plenty of food for everyone.

About the Retreats

Herland holds two fundraising retreats a year for our Sisters. One in Spring and one in the Fall for us to have a weekend free from the constraints of the world. They are 'women only' and we ask no male children be brought over the age of 10 .

Pets (dogs) are allowed but must be on a leash & attended to at all times with no exceptions. They are not allowed in the main dining hall/kitchen per Health Regulations. By bringing your dog, you are responsible for any injury your dog might cause to a person or another dog and will have to sign a waiver stating you are responsible for your dogs' behavior. Do not bring your dog if it is at all aggressive, does not get along well with other dogs or people, or if you are going to leave it tied up all day whining. It is not fair to the dog nor the other women.

We are lucky to have private camp grounds with a kitchen, dining hall, bathrooms and cabins which can hold up to 12 women. There are plenty of spaces to also pitch a tent and sleep with Mother Nature all around you.

A complete agenda will be emailed out one week before the May 1st date so make sure you either send us your email or check on FB!

A complete listing of sessions and activities will be supplied and the best part is this is the one time you get to come help a little, and get a lot in return.

The end is always sad but after we wake up Sunday and enjoy a brunch before the Raffle and then it is time to clean up, sweep the cabins and wipe down the bathrooms and the kitchens. A lot of hands make for light work and it is great when everyone pitches in to the community effort. Feel free to ask any questions and see you May 1st!!

Herland Retreat Registration Roman Nose State Park, Watonga, OK—May 1-3, 2015

Please return registration form and check to:
Herland Sister Resources, 2312 NW 39th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73112

Name(s): _____

E-Mail: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phones: _____

Total Registration Fee \$ _____ enclosed.

I'm enclosing an additional \$ _____ to help provide scholarships.

I'm bringing _____ children (Girls of all ages and boys age 10 and under are welcome).

I'm bringing _____ dogs that will be kept on leashes at all times, and I will sign a waiver stating I am completely responsible for any injury or damage caused by my dog(s).

I have a disability and need the following if possible:

Sliding Scale Registration Fee (for each person)

Annual Income **PER PERSON:**

- under \$13,300 - \$45
- \$13,300-\$30,000 - \$60
- over \$30,000 - \$75
- Saturday only - \$30
- Saturday Evening (only) - \$15



The Netherlands became the first country to legalize same-sex marriage in 2001. As of 2014, 13 more countries have legalized same-sex marriage. South Africa, Belgium, Denmark, Sweden, Canada, and Spain are a few of these countries. Massachusetts was the first US state to legalize same-sex marriage in 2004. In 2012, President Obama made US History when he told ABC News, "I think same-sex couples should be able to get married." Ask your friends and other social influencers to show their support for LGBTQ rights. Sign up for [Love It Forward](#).

The Herland Voice is a publication of Herland Sister Resources, 2312 NW 39th, OKC, OK 73112. Our center is open the second and fourth Saturdays from 1-5 pm. Call us at (405) 521-9696 or email us at herland@herlandsisters.org. Visit us on the web at www.herlandsisters.org.

What's Happening at Herland

THE BIG EVENT

10 am, Saturday, Apr 11
OU students will paint trim at Herland.

HEALTH INITIATIVE

4 pm, Saturday, Apr 11

SUPPER CLUB

5:30 pm, Saturday, Apr 11
Iron Starr BBQ, 3700 N Shartel.

HEALTH INITIATIVE

4 pm, Saturday, Apr 25

HERLAND RETREAT

May 1-3, Roman Nose State Park

HEALTH INITIATIVE

3 pm, Saturday, May 9 (bike ride on river trail, see web for details)

SUPPER CLUB

5:30 pm, Saturday, May 9
Golden Palace, 1500 S Meridian.

HEALTH INITIATIVE

4 pm, Saturday, May 23

HEALTH INITIATIVE

Goes on summer break starting in June. Watch our website for outdoor activity meetups!

PRIDE PICNIC

5:30 pm, Saturday, June 20th,
Herland Backyard

SUPPER CLUB

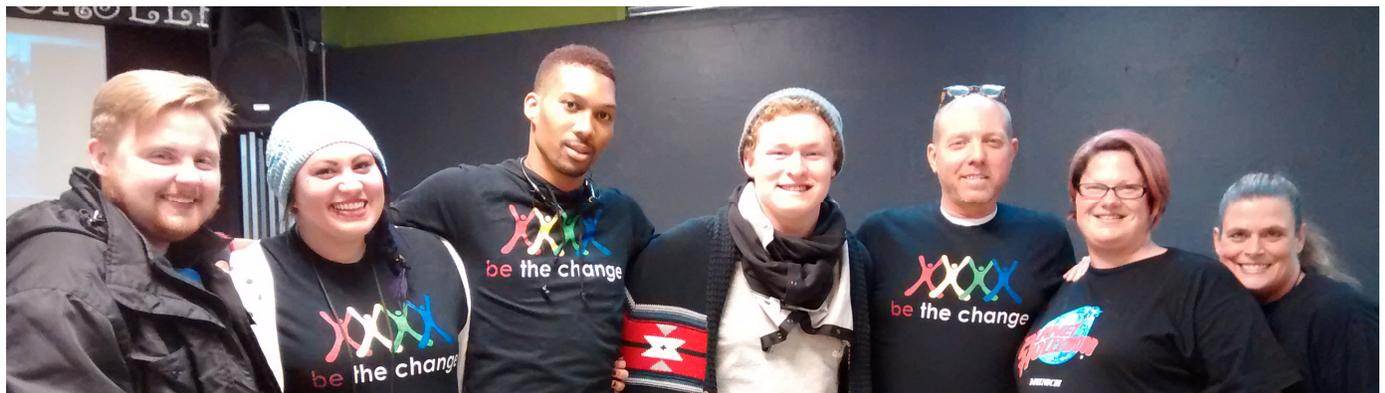
5:30 pm, Saturday, July 11
The Big Easy, 359 E Main St, Yukon



Lobby Day
Thursday, April 9



Thursday, April 9, 2015
8:30 a.m. - 11 a.m. Prevention First Lobby Seminar
11 a.m. - 2 p.m. Women's Health Day
Oklahoma State Capitol
2300 North Lincoln Blvd.
Oklahoma City, OK

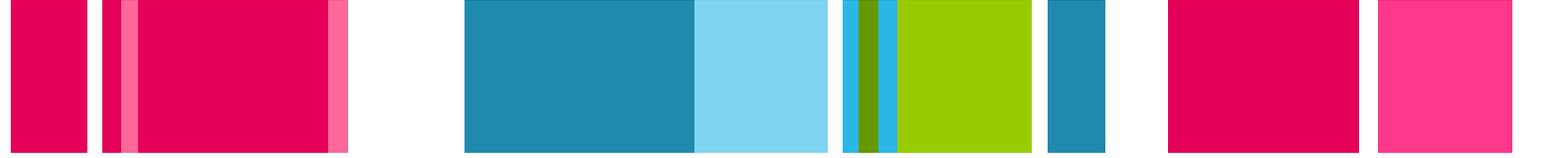


YES! Be the Change!

Eleven years ago, Miss Brown to You performed a benefit concert in the Herland backyard for Diversity House, a group trying to provide housing for homeless LGBT youth. The Womyn of Color group also produced a 2005 calendar with proceeds benefitting Diversity House. A lot has changed since then but the problem of homelessness among our youth persists. This month we highlight YES!, a program of Be The Change that is meeting this need on NW 39th Street.

Walk into the Common Grounds at Expressions on any weekday and you will likely see 10-15 youth hanging out, working on donated computers, interacting with YES staff, getting a hot meal, and finding a safe place off the streets. These kids have a variety of stories, but ones that have a common and familiar thread—parents who can't accept that their child is LGBT. Youth Equality Services, or YES!, is a youth led, adult-supported and supervised group that pro-

vides community support to LGBT and marginalized youth, ages 13 to 20. YES provides a safe, affirming, alcohol/drug free environment and models positive adult behaviors to foster healthy development in our youth. A YES group for homeless youth that meets every Monday from 3:30 to 6:00 pm at Expressions Community Center, 2245 NW 39th St. For more information, please contact Jonathan Roberts at 405-415-8449.



JAZZY FEST



39th Street Jazzy Fest **SATURDAY, MAY 16, 2015** **11 A.M. – 8 P.M.**

The 39th Street Jazzy Fest is a free, one-day music festival and street party featuring some of the hottest local performers in jazz, rock, hip hop, electro, indie, and Americana music. This event serves to celebrate the festival's entertainment district setting while raising awareness of the commercial revitalization efforts underway in the district.

"We've heard many times from the community what a unique place 39th Street is," says 39th Street District Association President, Craig Poos. "As a result, we're challenging ourselves to provide a mix of new music and exciting festival activities that will highlight the potential we have here in the district. With this event, we're hoping to raise awareness of the district to new heights."

The 2015 festival line-up includes top caliber Oklahoma perform-

ers, featuring Aaron Newman and the OK Caravan, NICNōS, The Wurlly Birds, Native Lights, Jabee, Idabel, Elms, Miss Brown to You, Kingfish, Juke Engine, Hoganson Trio, The Smooth Soulful Sax & Axe, Gregory Jerome's Elemental Hip Hop, and more.

With live music on two stages, there is also lots to enjoy away from the stages. Emphasizing the district's ties to historic Route 66, some of the coolest motorcycles around will be on display at the east end of the festival. Tombo Racing, Ray's Custom Cycles, and Indian Motorcycles of Oklahoma will all have bikes on display. At the west end of the festival is KidsZone, an attraction geared toward our youngest fans. Food, art, and merchandise vendors are conveniently located in between. There is something for everyone at the 39th Street Jazzy Fest where everyone is encouraged to be themselves.

For additional information, visit the 39th Street Jazzy Fest on the following platforms:

Web: www.JazzyFest.com

FB: www.facebook.com/39thStreetJazzyFest

Why Do We Need A Pride Parade?

By Scott Hamilton, Cimarron Alliance Equality Center, OKC June 22, 2014

Today culminates LGBT Pride Month for those of us in central Oklahoma. It is a time when lesbians, gay men, bisexual and transgender Oklahomans celebrate with allies in a public display of community. When asked, "Why do we need an LGBT pride parade?" I frequently answer, "Because there is much of which to be proud." I'm no more proud of my sexual orientation than of my hair color or my height. It is just a part of who I am. But I have tremendous pride in the women and men, youth and seniors who have made and are making positive advances toward equality for all people.

As a community, we are proud of those gay men and women who served their country, all while knowing they could be dishonorably discharged just for who they were. We are proud of the clergy, across denominational and faith lines, who embrace love for all people, knowing they could lose their position for espousing their core ideals. We are proud of the children who endured taunts and bullying to become strong adults, and proud of the educators who refused to allow bullying of any child. We are proud of our LGBT elected officials and those allies in office who believe that every American deserves the same treatment as every other American. We are proud of the LGBT writers and actors, architects and artists who have created books and characters, designs, music, and art that will impact generations for centuries.

We are proud of LGBT couples who have become role-model parents and the straight parents who support, love, and encourage their gay children just as they are. We are proud of Oklahoma employers who celebrate inclusivity and provide same-gender partner benefits to their employees. And we take pride in the work of our many LGBT small-business owners. We are proud that the US government recognizes our legal marriages and treats same-gender couples with equity. And we are especially proud of those couples in Oklahoma and every other state

who have risked their savings and, in some cases, their safety to secure marriage equality.

We are proud of our lawyers and doctors, accountants and police officers. We are proud of our hairdressers and interior designers and our landscape crews. We take pride in our fabulous drag queens and macho leather kings, our motorcycle mamas and club kids, especially when standing side-by-side with our PTA moms and the quiet couple from

down the block. We are proud that our history of struggle, defeat, and accomplishments is not forgotten and that it will serve as a model for others in their quest for freedom and equality.

We are proud of the advancements we have made in equality in Oklahoma and in our nation. And we are proud in the knowledge that we will not slow down, not give up until equality is a reality for all people. That's why we need an LGBT Pride Parade. Because there is much of which to be proud.

TOGETHER, EQUAL, PROUD!



OKC Pride - June 15 - 21, 2015

Concert/Block Party June 19th

Festival June 20-21st

OKC Pride Parade June 21st

www.okcpride.org

Disabilities Awareness Day at Capitol

Did you know that 75% of Americans will be classified as having a disability at some point in his or her life? Most people don't think about having a physical or mental impairment until either they or someone they love faces one. Despite the great strides in education, advocacy and assistive technology, barriers continue to exist in areas of equal public access, transportation, health care and employment.

With this in mind, the Oklahoma Department of Rehabilitation Services is once again sponsoring "People with Disabilities Awareness Day" at the State Capitol on April 21 from 12 p.m. until 4 p.m. This is a time when individuals from all over

the state gather to speak to legislators about issues important to people with disabilities and to advocate for bills supporting this growing population. There will also be vendors with information, products and resources for people with disabilities and their friends and families. If you have a question about any disability, someone there will be able to answer your question or find someone who can.

For more information about "People With Disabilities Awareness Day" please visit www.okdrs.gov.

Herland Sister Resources

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