

The Center Project Update (TCP) - April & May 2007

Update highlights ...

1. Little Mama's Burly-Q Revue
2. ADP II
3. We Want YOU! To become a TCP Board Member
4. Inch by Inch...Help Build Our Resource Library!
5. Out and About
6. Join a committee!

Monthly Features:

7. Spark Story: Meet Volunteer Aaron Perkins!
8. Did you know? *NEW!*

Please read more about these activities below and find out how you can get involved! If you are a member our list serve, you can also download board meeting minutes and our approved business plan for review--look for these under the "files" section at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/thecenterproject/files/>.

1. Little Mama's Burly-Q Revue presents:

WHAT: READY or NOT, Here we come! -A fiery-hot radical revolution, burlesque+drag+performance art featuring: Little Mama's Burly-Q Review, Rey Gay, Billy "Crash" Gates, Hucklefairy Ben of the Como Homos, and other very special guests.

WHEN: Wednesday, April 25th 8:00 pm - 10:00pm (doors open at 7:00)

WHERE: The Blue Note, 17 N 9th St, Columbia

COST: \$5 - \$10 sliding scale at the door, proceeds benefit The Center Project!

WHY: Do you really need to ask?

2. ADP II

The temperature is rising...just in time for **the hottest summer dance party in mid-Missouri** ...with video production and dance music that will inspire you to shake your groove thing all night long...you know you want to...and don't forget about our fabulous raffle and door prizes!

WHAT: **2nd Annual Atomic Dance Party: Community Fusion!**

WHEN: Saturday, June 9th, 8:00 -1:00 a.m. (after PrideFest <http://www.midmopride.org/>)

WHERE: The Blue Note, Downtown Columbia (17 N 9th St, Columbia, 65201)

COST: \$5-10 (Sliding Scale)

RAFFLE: Beginning April 22nd at Earth Day, raffle tickets will be available!! You can also see TCP Board members and our

regular volunteers for tickets OR email Debbie at centerproject@hotmail.com \$1 each, 6 for \$5 (suggested

donation) Email us and/or look for our booth at Earth Day!

GRAND PRIZE: Wellness Package- Personal Trainer, Massage, Acupuncture, Yoga Equipment, & Sparky's Ice Cream!

SECOND PRIZE: Mini Home Remodel- Handyperson Services, Interior Design Consultant, Floral Arrangement & more!

THIRD PRIZE: Rocheport Getaway for 2- Stay at a B&B, Picnic for 2, & Bike Ride!

FOURTH PRIZE: iPod Nano & Music Download Gift Card!

For a complete prize list of each package, please see our website: www.thecenterproject.org

3. We want YOU! To Become a TCP Board Member

We're beginning to search for people who would like to run for a Board position in June 2007 for the 2007-2008 fiscal year. Elections will take place at our Annual Meeting on **Wednesday, June 27th, 7:00-9:00 p.m.** *People of color, trans and gender non-conforming adults and youth are strongly encouraged to apply.* Please see our website for the "TCP Board Member Position Description" for more information: http://www.thecenterproject.org/bod_position_description.pdf

4. Inch by Inch...Help Build Our Resource Library!

Calling all bookworms...The Center Project is now gathering donated materials for our resource library. We are requesting donations of social justice and diversity related books, movies, and music, especially those emphasizing LGBTQQA experiences and issues. We are also looking for an LP record player. Do you have some items to donate? If so, please contact Hilary at: librarian_tcp@hotmail.com

5. Out and About Visit TCP at the following upcoming events:

- **Columbia Rotaract Meeting**, April 19th
- **Earth Day** (<http://columbiaearthday.org/index.html>) in Downtown Columbia THIS Sunday, April 22! We will have our scrumptious dog and cat treats available for a small donation along with Atomic Dance Party raffle tickets and other fun pet items.
- **PrideFest** (<http://www.midmopride.org/>) Stephens Lake Park on Saturday, June 9.
- **Twilight Festival** (<http://www.discoverthedistrict.com/>) in Downtown Columbia, Thursdays in June. We'll have an informational table on 10th Street – June 7, 14, 21 and 28.

6. Join a committee! TCP committees need YOUR help to accomplish our goals! Committee meeting date & times are posted on our web site calendar at: <http://www.thecenterproject.org>

- **Fundraising – Donors Committee:** This committee is working to develop the donor program for TCP. Some of the activities that will be worked on include performing various forms of donor solicitation, creating media (handouts and web) to educate potential donors, and maintaining the TCP donor database. For information about this committee, email: CarolS_tcp@hotmail.com
- **Fundraising – Events Committee:** This committee plans fundraising events for TCP, including: carwashes, dog/cat treat sales, and special events such as the Atomic Dance Party and Raffle. For information about this committee, email: centerproject@hotmail.com **Note: we really need volunteers to start coming forward for the Atomic Dance Party planning process!**
- **Grants Committee:** This committee researches, writes and submits grants that will support starting costs and fund programs provided by the center. For information about this committee, email: centerproject@hotmail.com
- **Outreach & Education Committee:** This committee educates the general community about TCP and its mission. They organize the TCP informational

booth for events like the Twilight Festival, the Jefferson City Multicultural Festival, Earth Day and Pride Festival. Other activities for this committee include participating in the Speakers Bureau, organizing coverage for attendance at community meetings with ally groups, and creating/maintaining the TCP Event Calendar web site. For information about this committee, email:

Julie_tcp@hotmail.com

- **Volunteer Coordination Committee:** This committee identifies and coordinates people who want to volunteer for The Center Project, whether it involves staffing a table at an event, doing behind the scenes work such as making dog and cat treats, or volunteering on TCP committees. Activities for this group include recruiting volunteers, tracking volunteer hours, creating volunteer appreciation communications and events, and creating/maintaining a volunteer database. For information about this committee, email: Kim_tcp@hotmail.com

Don't see a committee you want to join, but you KNOW you have ideas and talents to share? No problem! There are tasks that we will need help with that might not be assigned by a specific committee. For instance, we might need help gathering donations for the TCP library that will be housed within the Center. Or, we might need help posting fliers around town for an event, or even folding brochures for our community events in the spring. We have tasks of all kinds waiting for you if you'd like to help!

7. Spark Stories: Meet new volunteer Aaron Perkins! In 2006 we began sharing our "spark stories", personal accounts of what inspires board members and volunteers to dedicate their time, money and energies to opening an LGBTQQA community center. In past updates we have highlighted 5 board members and one long-time volunteer. This story is written by Aaron, a new TCP volunteer.

When I heard about TCP through my good friend Pam, I jumped at the opportunity to help wherever and whenever there is a need. I am excited to be associated with this group because it shows that as a community we're working together to achieve great things like the center. I want to be involved with TCP because I care about LGBTQQA issues and feel unity and acceptance for this great and mighty cause. I have totally come out to family and friends. It's been a rough road but I've found that through the coming out process I have gained self acceptance and love. Thank you for all your hard work! Let's rise to success together.

8. Did you know? There is a National Association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Community Centers (NALGBTCC). "Today, there are over 150 community centers throughout the country, with new centers forming on a regular basis...The Association offers technical assistance, leadership training, and networking opportunities to centers in all stages of formation, and is a national voice for the LGBT community centers movement." At two recent Creating Change conferences, our TCP board members participated in a workshop with other board members and Executive Directors of LGBT community centers from across the U.S. Read more at: <http://www.lgbtcenters.org>

9. Get Involved! There are lots of ways to get involved with TCP...we need and want your help! We need help staffing our booth at 2007 community events, cutting and folding brochures, and making our famous dog & cat treats. Don't worry! This is fun work and someone from the group will help guide you through your first volunteer experience. If you don't want to volunteer publicly we have other jobs that entail online research and writing. Just let us know what your interests are and we'll find the right job for you!

Join us at one of our upcoming meetings...

- **Thursday, April 19th & May 17th: Board Meeting:** 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church (2615 Shepard Blvd-Just off Old Hwy 63)
- Please visit us regularly at: www.thecenterproject.org to learn more about our progress in establishing a community center and to find a list of upcoming events.
- Keep up-to-date about The Center Project through our discussion list which you can join at: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/thecenterproject> . Don't worry, you won't get a lot of random messages, just great info about the progress we're making and notifications of upcoming events.