

2013 Annual Newsletter

About Us

The Orlando Youth Alliance (OYA) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization founded in 1990 which provides a safe space for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered and Questioning (GLBTQ) youth to gather, talk about issues and concerns that are important in their lives, as well as meet other gay youth. OYA is a peer based youth group with members ranging from the ages of 13 to 24.



OYA at Come Out With Pride 2013

<u>History</u>

The Orlando Youth Alliance was first formed in 1990 as a support group to assist at-risk gay, lesbian, bi-sexual and transgendered youth under the moniker "Delta Youth Alliance". The group evolved into "GALIXY", Gay and Lesbian Idea eX- change for Youth. The group exists to- day as the Orlando Youth Alliance, Inc., (OYA) but maintains the same mission statement. Through the years, OYA has provided support to hundreds of Central Florida youth. Be- yond weekly meetings, the group has expanded its out-reach into the Orlando community. Even though the name has changed over the years, the mission has not. We are committed to providing a safe place for GLBTQ youth to gather and be them-selves in the self discovery and development phase of their teen years.

2013 Board Members Michael Slaymaker Andrea Sheldon Floyd Benfield Nay Burton Tim Stahl David Swanson Patrick Howell Roger Watkins Russ Kasim Ginger Malcom Thomas Jacobson Kimberly Bowles

Our Program

We provide three weekly support groups (Orlando, Lakeland, Casselberry), LGBT history & cultural education, recreation and socialization activities to help the youth get their questions answered in a safe environment, develop a network of people who they can trust, and discover that they are not alone.

Some of the Activities & Events

- Friday Night Drop Ins
- AIDS Walk Orlando
- Babes in Bonnets at The Parliament House
- Orlando Gay Chorus concerts
- OYA Family Reunion at Gay Days
- Be The Change 5K
- Come Out With Pride
- Gary Lambert's 60th Birthday Bash
- Annual Holiday Party



Seminole Youth Alliance member appears on the front page of the Watermark

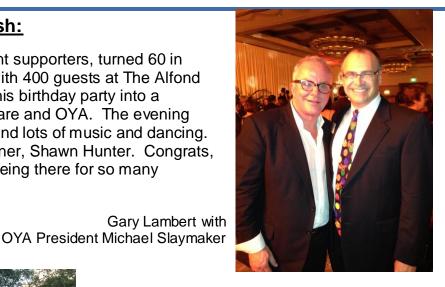
OYA Family Reunion at Gay Days 2013

Each year members from the three chapters attend Gay Day at the Magic Kingdom. Members of Walt Disney World PRIDE are there to greet us and to make sure the youth members have a magical day. With tens of thousands of other LGBT guests it is a fun, exciting and affirming day for our youth.



Gary Lambert's B-Day Bash:

Gary Lambert, one of OYA ardent supporters, turned 60 in November. He partied in style with 400 guests at The Alfond Inn in Winter Park. Gary made his birthday party into a fundraiser helping Bears Who Care and OYA. The evening was filled with food, an auction and lots of music and dancing. He even got engaged to his partner, Shawn Hunter. Congrats, Gary and thank you for always being there for so many causes.





Above: Runners participating in the 1st Annual Be The Change 5K at Come Out With Pride benefiting Reeves United Methodist Church and OYA.

Below: OYA Board Members Roger Watkins, Ginger Malcom, and Michael Slaymaker at the Be The Change 5K finish line.



Babes in Bonnets benefits OYA

Darcel Stevens, Don Granatstein & Susan Unger, Michael Wanzie and Danielle Hunter truly out did themselves in putting together this year's Easter bonnet fundraiser. Over \$8,000 was generated to support the Orlando Youth Alliance.



Nay Burton and youth members thank the Parliament House and present flowers.

LGBT teens are 3 times more likely to commit suicide than their heterosexual classmates. OYA has helped over 1,200 youth and not a single one has committed suicide.

<u>Donors</u>

<u>Over \$5000</u>

Gary Lambert & Shawn Hunt

Walt Disney World

<u>\$2,500 - \$4,999</u>

Disney EARS to You Fund

Let's Go Play

Billy Looper & Tim Christ

<u>\$1,000 - \$2,499</u>

Gary Lambert Salon

Sandy Neubarth

The Parliament House

<u> \$500 - \$999</u>

John Best CBS Outdoor Michael Dwulit Embassy Suites Hotel Harriet Lake Family Trust Ron Legler Jason Marks Matt McKnight Orlando Gay Chorus Ranger's Pet Outpost and Retreat Michael Slaymaker & George Bridges Universal Orlando Foundation

A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE 1-800-435-7352 WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

<u> \$250 - \$499</u>

Paula Alda Wayne Barham Jim Bowden **Century Costumes** Club Orlando **D'Squared Productions Jill Douglas** Funkey Monkey Wine Company Joel Gran Hamburger Mary's Hank's **Tim Huskins** JM Best Productions Ben Johnson Greg Keen **NV Design** Pulse Nightclub Patrick Razo **Revolutions Nightclub** Savoy Orlando Sawmill Ron Scorsch & Bernd Hilbert Wilfred Souchereau & Patrick Caraher **Darcel Stevens** Stonewall Bar The Diamond Divas The Venue Universal Orlando Resort – StudiOUT **Douglas White**



Orlando Youth Alliance PO. Box 536944 Orlando, FL 32853-6944 Phone: 407-244-1222 info@orlandoyouthalliance.org

orlandoyouthalliance.org lakelandyouthalliance.org seminoleyouthalliance.org

<u> \$100 - \$249</u>

Aetna Foundation Jim Brower Amy Cantley Diego daSilva David Dean Brett R. Harvey Jeff Henderson iFly Orlando Larry Irons Thomas Jacobson Kevin Jaxon & Daniel Lavertv Bob Kiley **Ginger Malcom Orlando Fringe Festival** Ranger's Pet Outpost and Retreat Jeff Speicher **Kevin Stewart** The Orlando sisters George Wallace **Richard Zajac**

<u>Up to \$99</u>

Louise Bassett Floyd Benfield & Wayne Barham Melanie Campbell Darden Daniel Enea Donna Golub Chris Harvey Jeff Horn & Ray Liauw Russ Kasim Robert Kinney Kres Eva Krzewinski Pamela Leonard Sarah & Andrew Miller Michael Moriarty Shannon Myers Chris Nault Eric Patterson & Todd Simon Herb Pleiman Andrea Sheldon Roberta Thomas Patrick Vanderwyden Max Watzman D.O. Scott Will Jessica Wilson Judy & Phillip Wood Scott Woodrick Julie & Cliff Wright