



PRIDE PRESS

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Pride Bag Ladies Plan Events

Indianapolis – The Pride Bag Ladies have a busy month of May planned. On Sunday, May 13, several Pride Bag Ladies will be performing at the Miss Hoosier 250 Pageant at Talbott Street. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. The pageant will be held from 7:00 – 10:00 p.m. followed by the Ladies of Legend show at 10:00 p.m. Cover charge is \$5.00. Pageant entry fee is \$25.00. All proceeds will benefit the Indiana AIDS Fund. The pageant is held in conjunction with Miss Gay Indiana and Great Lakes Production. Sponsors are Asia LaBouche, Indy Pride and *The Word*.

On Thursday, May 17, the Ladies will hold a special fundraising event – *Nothing But Dames!* at Talbott Street. Cover charge is a \$5.00 donation. The cover charge and all performer tips will be donated to the Indy Choruses. So, come out and help raise money to support the terrific organizations.

Finally, Pride Bag Ladies will have a team in the Hoosier 250 Tricycle Race on Sunday, May 20. (See related article in this issue.)

PRIDE OF INDY BAND AND COLOR GUARD

PRESENTS “PRIDE KICK-OFF CONCERT” ON JUNE 5th!

INDIANAPOLIS – The Pride of Indy Band and Color Guard will kick off the 2007 Indy Pride Week by holding a second anniversary concert in the out-of-doors on Tuesday, June 5th at 7:00 pm as part of the band’s free concert series. The event will be held at the Old Firehouse, 748 Massachusetts Avenue (Grassy Point at corner of College and Massachusetts Avenue). Attendees are encouraged to bring a lawn chair and picnic basket and enjoy a leisurely evening of great entertainment!

The performance will feature two groups within the Pride of Indy family – the concert band, and 17-piece jazz ensemble.

“This very special group of musicians has prepared an exciting musical program that is sure to delight music lovers of every kind,” commented Eric Munsch, President of the Pride of Indy Band and Color Guard. He added “moving this year’s kick-off concert to Massachusetts Avenue is very symbolic since many think of that area as the heart of the LGBT community in Indianapolis.”

Free parking is available in and around the Old Firehouse along Massachusetts Avenue and on the adjacent side streets.

For a complete concert schedule and more information, including how to join or volunteer, please visit www.prideofindy.org. Music lovers can support this group of talented musicians by

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GLBT HISTORY

Part of the mission and purpose of Indy Pride, Inc. is "to educate the GLBT Community about GLBT history, of the issues which affect it, both social and political and of the resources which are available to its members within the community."



Cole Porter

Cole Porter's name derives from the surnames of his parents, Kate Cole and Sam Porter. Kate's father, James Omar (known as J. O.), was an influential man both in the community and in Cole's early life. J.O. started from humble beginnings as son of a shoemaker, but his business savvy and strong work ethic made him the richest man in Indiana. Despite J.O.'s obsessive drive for making money, he took time off to marry Rachel Henton, who had several children with him.

Kate Cole was born in 1862, and was spoiled during her youth as she was throughout her life. Kate always had the best clothes, the best education, and the best training in dancing and music. Kate's father expected to marry her off to a man with a strong business background, a strong personality, and the potential for a good career. As it is for many filial presumptions and expectations, Kate married someone who was quite the opposite -- a shy druggist from their small town of Peru, Indiana. The couple married without the full consent of J.O., but he financially supported their wedding and subsidized the couple. As one of the richest men in Indiana, he thought his daughter should be seen doing and wearing the right things without financial fears. These subsidies from J.O. financed the rest of Sam and Kate's life, as well as that of their son born on June 9th, 1891: Cole Porter.

The American composer and songwriter learned the violin and the piano at age 6. When he was fourteen, his mother falsified his school records so it appeared that he was extra bright "for his age" because his age was falsely decremented one year. The power J. O. Cole wielded within the small town of Peru, Indiana allowed Kate many such unusual favors by community officials. For instance, Kate financed student orchestras in exchange for guarantees of Cole Porter violin solos and apparently influenced the media's reviews or billing surrounding such concerts. She also subsidized the publishing of Cole's early compositions.

Cole composed songs as early as 1901 (when he was ten) with a song dedicated to his mother, a piano piece called *Song of the Birds*, separated into six sections with titles

like *The Young Ones Leaning to Sing* and *The Cuckoo Tells the Mother Where the Bird Is*. His mother ensured that one hundred copies were published so that the song could be sent to friends and relatives.

He enrolled in the Worcester Academy in 1905, where he was lauded as the precocious youngster who became class valedictorian. There Cole met an important influence in his musicianship, Dr. Abercrombie. His teacher taught him about the relationship between words and meter, and between words and music in songs. Cole later quoted from Abercrombie's lessons: "Words and music must be so inseparably wedded to each other that they are like one."

In 1909 Porter enrolled at Yale University, where he was a part of the secret society Scroll and Key and Delta Kappa Epsilon fraternity. Porter was also an original member of the Yale University glee club, Whiffenpoofs. While at Yale he wrote the football fight songs "Yale Bulldog" and "Bingo Eli Yale" (or "Bingo, That's The Lingo!"). Porter attended only a year of law school at Harvard before focusing on his music career full time.

By 1919, Cole was spending time with the American divorcee Linda Thomas. The two became close friends quickly. Their financial status and social standing also made them ideal candidates for marriage -- as a business contract, not for passion. The fact that Linda's ex-husband was abusive and Cole was gay made the arrangement even more palatable. Linda was always one of Cole's best supporters and being married increased his chance of success, and Cole allowed Linda to keep high social status for the rest of her life. They married on December 19, 1919 and lived a happy friendship, a mostly successful public relationship, but a sexless marriage until Linda's death in 1954. Porter and Thomas did, however, separate in the 1930's after Porter's affairs with Boris Kochno, Howard Sturges, architect Ed Tauch (for whom Porter wrote "Easy to Love"), choreographer Nelson Barclift (who inspired "Night and Day"), director John Wilson, and Ray Kelly.

Porter is best known for his songs "Night and Day", "I Get a Kick Out of You" and "I've Got You Under My Skin." Porter also wrote the musicals *Kiss Me, Kate*, *Fifty Million Frenchmen* and *Anything Goes*. A tragic 1937 riding accident crushed Porter's legs. His right leg was finally amputated after 34 operations. At age 73, he died of kidney failure. Doctors amputated Cole's injured right leg in 1958. After the amputation, Cole's creative productivity, his social power, and his happiness plummeted. He died on October 15, 1964. In accordance with his wishes, official reports say that he was buried between his wife Linda and his father Sam Porter. However, perhaps because of his father's trivial role in Cole's upbringing, other reports circled that he was actually buried between his mother Kate and his wife Linda. Porter's remains rest at Mount Hope Cemetery in Peru, Indiana.

Information obtained from various websites.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Listed below are upcoming Indy Pride Events. Mark your calendars to come out and join the fun!

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

INDY PRIDE BOARD MEETING

PLACE: CONFERENCE ROOM – GREGS

TIME: 7:00 – 8:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 13

MISS HOOSIER 250 PAGEANT

PLACE: TALBOTT STREET

DOORS OPEN: 6:00 P.M.

PAGEANT: 7:00 – 10:00 P.M.

ENTRY FEE: \$25.00

THURSDAY, MAY 17

PRIDE BAG LADIES SHOW

***NOTHING BUT DAMES* – A FUNDRAISING
EVENT FOR INDY CHORUSES**

PLACE: TALBOTT STREET

DOORS OPEN: 7:00 P.M.

SHOWTIME: 8:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, MAY 20

HOOSIER 250 TRICYCLE RACES & SILENT AUCTION

PLACE: SCHOLAR'S PARKING LOT – CORNER OF
COLLEGE & MASS AVENUE

TIME: 12:00 NOON – 4:00 P.M.

TEAM ENTRY FEE: \$25.00 (2 PERSON TEAMS)

THURSDAY, MAY 24

INDY PRIDE MEMBERSHIP MIXER

PLACE: AGIO RESTAURANT

TIME: 6:00 -8:00 P.M.

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donating an instrument or by making a charitable contribution to the 501(c)3 organization.

The Pride of Indy Band and Color Guard serves as a musical and educational resource to the Central Indiana community and is comprised of gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and LGBT-friendly musicians. Activities are conducted in a supportive, accepting and affirming atmosphere. The Pride of Indy Band and Color Guard is an educational and artistic division of Indy Pride, Inc.

Check out Indy Pride's MySpace Site!

Be sure to visit Indy Pride's MySpace page:

www.myspace.com/indyprideinc to keep up on all the latest news about Pride



The theme for this year's Pride Celebration is *The Power of Pride*. This year's entertainers will be Ultra Nate, Amuka, Frederick Ford, Cynthia Lane, Cathy Morris, Indianapolis Men's Chorus, Indianapolis Women's Chorus, Chicago Men's Chorus, the Pride of Indy Marching Band & Color Guard, and the Pride of Indy Band Jazz Ensemble.

Quote of the Month:

"In olden days a glimpse of stocking was looked on as something shocking but now, God knows, anything goes." ~ Cole Porter

IN Pride 2007 – Power of Pride – Schedule of Events!

- **Sunday, June 3** – 12:30 – 3:00 p.m.
Indy Pride Skaing Party – Skateland (3902 N. Glen Arm Road) - \$7.00 per person!
- **Tuesday, June 7** - 7:00 p.m.
Pride of Indy Band Concert – Firehouse Museum – Corner of College & Mass Avenue
- **Friday, June 8** - 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
IN Pride Health Education Seminars – Phoenix Theatre
Seminars will feature information about heart disease & HIV/AIDS services. Location to be determined.
- **Saturday, June 9** - 10:00 a.m.
IN Pride 2007 Parade
Parade will step off at the corner of Mass Avenue & College and proceed down Mass Avenue to Vermont Street. The parade will turn right onto Vermont and end at University Park
11:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.
IN Pride 2007 Festival
This year's festival will feature over 150 informational booths and vendors, a food court, alcohol/beverage tent and local, regional and national entertainers.
- **Sunday, June 10** - 12:00 noon – 4:00 p.m.
IN Pride 2007 Picnic - Pagoda @ Garfield Park
This year's picnic will once again be at the Pagoda at Garfield Park. The picnic will be co-sponsored by Indiana Black Pride. This is a family event featuring food, games & fun!
4:00 – 7:00 p.m.
IN Pride 2007 Back Alley T-Dance – Metro
Cover Charge \$5.00 donation to Pride



The annual Hoosier 250 Tricycle Race & Silent Auction will be held on Sunday, May 20. Registration begins at 12:00 noon. The first race will start at 12:30 p.m. Registration forms are available on the Indy Pride website. Registration is \$25.00 for a team of two. Prizes will be awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place Teams. The event will be held at the Scholar's Inn parking lot (corner of College and Mass Avenue). Metro will feature a cookout immediately following the races. Come out and watch the races and bid on Silent Auction items! The event is sponsored by Indy Pride, Metro and *The Word*.