



Volume 34 Issue 12 • June 7-20, 2016  
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Award Winning  
**AMBUSH**  
MAG.COM  
Official Pride Guide, GAA Ballot  
@AmbushMag  
Celebrating LGBT+ Life, Music & Culture!

**34th**  
ANNIVERSARY  
1982-2016

► 29th GAA  
~ pages 8,20

**29TH ANNUAL GAY APPRECIATION AWARDS**

Thursday, July 23rd • 7-10pm  
Halt the Hot June 7-10pm  
**29TH GAA GALA**  
in 10pm, honoring the winners  
of the 29th Annual Gay Appreciation Awards

**2016 Voting On-line ONLY!**  
Tuesday, June 7th-Monday, June 13th

**AmbushMag.COM/GAA**

**NEW ORLEANS PRIDE**  
THE OFFICIAL PRIDE OF NEW ORLEANS • JUNE 17-19 2016

**FRIDAY JUNE 17**  
**DJ GRIND**

**SATURDAY JUNE 18**  
**DJ TRACY YOUNG**

Plus a performance by  
Chris Harder's  
"BOYLESQUE" Show

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flavors  
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GIVEAWAYS FROM 5 TO 7  
AT FRIDAY'S KICKOFF PARTY

**\$10 beer busts**



FRIDAY: RENEGADE BEARS  
SATURDAY: LORDS OF LEATHER



# pride

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THE OFFICIAL NEW ORLEANS PRIDE

## block party

The pride parade begins and ends here!  
Come meet Chris Harder, Nigel March  
and Jon Pitcher before the parade rolls!



NEW ORLEANS  
**PRIDE**  
THE OFFICIAL PRIDE OF NEW ORLEANS



SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 3 TO 7 P.M.

**proud to be nola's  
home for leather  
and bears!**

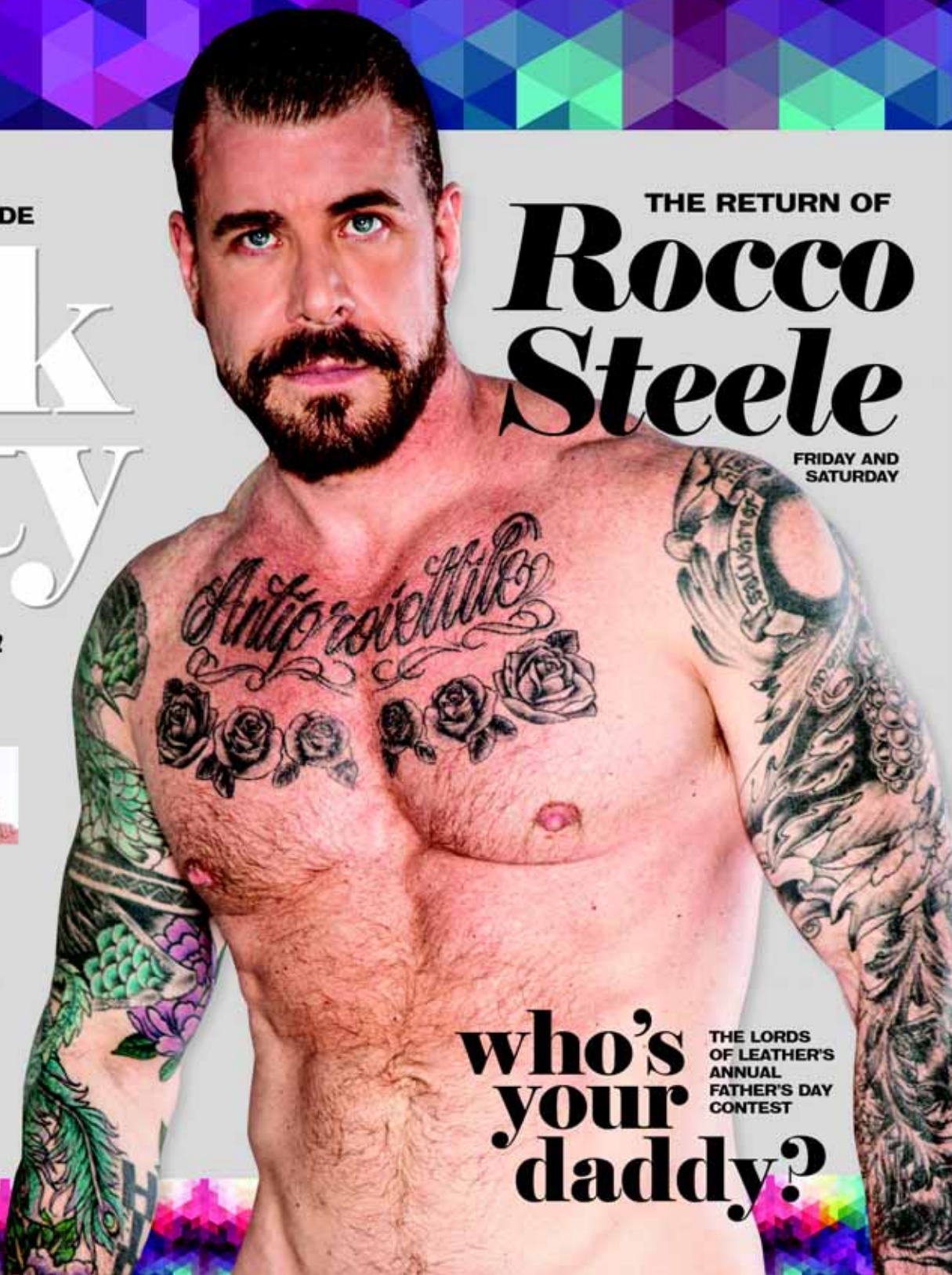


PHOTO CHANNEL 1 RELEASING

THE RETURN OF

## Rocco Steele

FRIDAY AND  
SATURDAY



**who's  
your  
daddy?**

THE LORDS  
OF LEATHER'S  
ANNUAL  
FATHER'S DAY  
CONTEST





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Rikki Gee and DJ Ping

Like Us On   FREE WIFI

**Celebrating Gay Pride**  
**June 17th - 19th**

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4pm til 9pm

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2 FOR ONE WELL OR DOMESTIC BEER  
AT HAPPY HOUR PRICES

**Monday Night Pool Tournament**  
9:35pm  
Winner gets \$50 Bar-Tab

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**Celebrating Pride**  
**June 17th - 19th**

**Black Out Party**  
Thursday June 9th  
9pm

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the "official" dish

by Rip & Marsha Naquin-Delain  
Email: ripna@ambushmag.com

Southern Decadence Grand Marshals Make it Official: "Decadence Takes The World"

The excitement was up to a fever pitch for the annual Southern Decadence Press Party and Sponsorship Drive hosted at the Bourbon Pub & Parade! Your Southern Decadence Grand Marshals XLII: Tony Leggio, Felicia Phillips, Jeffrey Palmquist and Derek Penton-Robicheaux made it "official" announcing the 2016 theme as "Decadence Takes The World" while unveiling the 2016 poster by Barrett DeLong-Church. This sets the tone for the 45th Southern Decadence Celebration of LGBT+ Life, Music and Culture Labor Day weekend in New Orleans. Now visitors and locals alike can plan their costumes for Louisiana's largest LGBT+ parade, the 42nd annual Southern Decadence Parade on Sunday, September 4, 2 pm sharp, at the Home of Southern Decadence: The Golden Lantern, 1239 Royal Street.

In addition to unveiling the poster, shot pool side at SDGM Jeffrey Palmquist's Bourbon Street home, "The Jewels of Decadence"" announced the "official" colors: amethyst (purple), ruby (red), sapphire (blue), and pearl (white).

The "official" song is a creative mix by DJ of the Year JRB of Ariana Grande's "Break Free", and the "official" charities are New Orleans Advocates for GLBT Elders (NOAGE) and Animal Rescue New Orleans (ARNO).

Each grand marshal also introduced their lieutenants and entourage, with Jeffrey Palmquist dubbing his the "Quistadors," and Felicia Phillips dubbing hers "Little Bit's Bitches."

The grand marshals would like to thank all of the official sponsors who have joined their efforts including *Ambush Magazine*, www.SouthernDecadence.com, Skyy Vodka, Bud Light, Mike's Hard Lemonade, Gay Appreciation Awards (GAA), Crescent City Tour Booking Agency, The Golden Lantern, Four Seasons Bar, Cafe Lafitte in Exile, New Orleans Tourism Marketing Corp., Dawn Leggio, SDGM XXVII Errol Rizzuto, June Pennick, and Alexis Grace.

There are several levels of sponsorship available including \$5,000 Presenting, \$2,500 Platinum, \$1,000 Gold, \$500 Silver, \$250 Bronze, and \$100 Pearl.

Sponsorship forms are available at [www.southerndecadence.com/2016/NOSouthernDecadenceSponsors.pdf](http://www.southerndecadence.com/2016/NOSouthernDecadenceSponsors.pdf).

More information is available at [www.SouthernDecadence.com](http://www.SouthernDecadence.com).

Upcoming Southern Decadence Events

Events continue to be added leading up to Southern Decadence, the largest LGBT+ weekend in Louisiana ranking 5th after Mardi Gras, Jazz Fest, Essence Fest, and French Quarter Fest in New Orleans. The event always falls on Labor Day Weekend, August 31-September 5 this year.

Fundraisers set include:

FRIDAY, June 10th...

7pm, Southern Decadence Dinner & A Show with dinner at 7pm & show at 9pm benefiting Southern Decadence 2016, \$10 donation @ Official Home of Southern Decadence: The Golden Lantern;

WEDNESDAY, June 15th...

6:30-9:30pm, Cocktails & Queer History: A Southern Decadence Fundraiser begins with a Southern Decadence Grand Marshals reception at the home of SDGM XLII Jeffrey Palmquist. After cocktails, local historian Frank Perez will conduct his internationally famous New Orleans LGBT+ History Walking Tour. This fascinating stroll around the French Quarter will end back at SDGM XLII Palmquist's Bourbon Street home, where hors d'ouvres and more cocktails will be served. Space is limited and the cost is \$75.00. All proceeds go to Southern Decadence and its official charities. Tickets may be purchased from Jeffrey Palmquist, Frank Perez, or Perez' business, the Crescent City Tour Booking Agency @ 638 St. Ann;

MONDAY, July 4th...

3pm, 3rd Annual Potato Salad Contest, \$10 to Taste & Judge includes Hot Dogs &

Baked Beans, winner receives trophy & 1/2 proceeds, 1/2 proceeds benefits Southern Decadence 2016, (register to enter contest @ GrandPre's, contestants bring 5 lbs. of their potato salad by 2pm) @ GrandPre's;

SATURDAY, July 9th...

10pm, 3rd Annual Johnny Passion's Snatch Game with local entertainers impersonating celebrities benefiting Southern Decadence 2016 with auctions, \$60 VIP Table's for 4, \$10 door donation @ Allways Lounge;

THURSDAY, July 14th...

7pm, Southern Charm Meets Southern Decadence: Enjoy an evening of open bar, passed hors d'oeuvres, live music, and of course, a group of very charming pool boys splashing about for your entertainment! Wear your finest linen and bring your swim suit (or not) and enjoy a fun filled evening of Southern Decadence in a private courtyard just off of Bourbon Street!!! Only 20 tickets will be offered at \$100.00 per person, first come, first served (contact Jeff Palmquist or Coca Mesa for tickets) @ The Southern Decadence Grand Marshal XLII Jeffrey Palmquist & Coca Mesa Residence;

WEDNESDAY, July 20th...

4pm, Southern Decadence Grill Off, Southern Decadence Grand Marshal XLII Jeffery Palmquist & The Page's Bar Baron Willie Mackie invite you to a dual of BBQ with SDGMs Tony Leggio, Felicia Phillips & Derek Penton-Robicheaux cheering on the grill masters, \$10 a plate to taste/judge including fixings (voting ballot with each plate) @ The Page

SATURDAY, July 23rd...

7pm, *Ambush Magazine* presents 29th Annual Gay Appreciation Awards Gala with "Walking the Red Carpet" with Southern Decadence Grand Marshals XLII Tony Leggio, Felicia Phillips, Jeffrey Palmquist & Derek Penton-Robicheaux 7-7:45pm, followed by the Gala 8-10pm announcing the Winners, benefiting Southern Decadence 2016, \$200 VIP Table's for 4, \$10 door donation @ Oz New Orleans.

Visit [www.SouthernDecadence.com](http://www.SouthernDecadence.com) for more information.

Largest Pride Celebration in Louisiana Slated for June 11 in Baton Rouge

The 2016 Baton Rouge Pride festival is set for 1 p.m. until 7 p.m. Saturday, June 11, at the Baton Rouge River Center Exhibition Halls, and the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary edition of the event promises to break records on many levels.

In addition to all new musical acts in its entertainment lineup, Baton Rouge Pride also will have a record number of more than 90 resource fair participants and will include a giant marriage equality celebration as part of its annual blessing of relationships.

"Each year we try to offer a family friendly event that promises something for almost everyone who wants to celebrate," said Tom Merrill, chairman of Baton Rouge Pride Inc. "This year, our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration should be even bigger and better than anything we've offered before."

The festival, which is the largest indoor family friendly GLBTQ pride celebration in the South (if not the world) kicks off with a free afternoon of fun from 1 p.m. until 7 p.m. on June 11.

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Official Gay Easter Parade Guide©  
Official Gay Mardi Gras Guide©  
Official Gay New Orleans Guide©  
Official Pride Guide©  
Official Southern Decadence Guide©

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Saints & Sinners Literary Festival Hall of Fame/2015, Louisiana Excellence Award: Media & Internet/2014, New Orleans Print Media Award/2014, 25th NO/AIDS Task Force Humanitas Award/2013, New Orleans Print Media Award/2013, Krewe of Mwindo Media Honoree/2009, Krewe of Petronius Carnival Spirit of Gay Mardi Gras XLVIII Award/2009, Forum For Equality Acclaim Awards X Media Recipient/2008, NO/AIDS Task Force Prometheus "Torch of Truth" [media] Award/2001

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The entertainment lineup includes a number of new acts this year, as well as favorites from year's past. Among them are the Austin Babtist Women, Krewe of Divas, Captain Green, Ms. Silky Sol "The Red Afro Queen," Jayce Guerin and the international hit duo Jason and deMarco.

In addition, the event will include its traditional blessing of relationships, along with a giant marriage equality victory celebration.

Organizers also will recognize Kayla Mulford of Capital City Alliance as the honorary grand marshal for the 10<sup>th</sup> annual BR Pride celebration and hope to bring back

[continued on 8]

GAA Top 5, 4th of July, Essence Fest issue due out June 21  
insideDEADLINE: Tues., June 14

45th southern decadence	6	book review	27
lez talk	10	classifieds	28-29
a community within communities	12	trodding the boards	30
big easy paparazzi/new orleans	12	the real cheese	32
moments in gay new orleans history	14	big easy paparazzi/new orleans	33
celebrazzi/new orleans, mobile	16	ambush, mobile paparazzi	34
snap paparazzi/new orleans	18	snap paparazzi/new orleans	36
29th gay appreciation awards	20	ambush paparazzi/new orleans	38
chop chop/restaurant guide	22		
spotlight feature, under the gaydar	24		

AD INFO: Call 504.522.8049  
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**//** A playful relationship can make routine tasks fun. From doing laundry to testing for HIV, we do it together. **//**

— Ben and Andrew

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