



Online Alternative Magazine for South Florida's GLBT Community Goes Live

GaySOFLA Magazine Online, September 03, 2007

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GaySOFLA, south Florida's newest alternative media outlet, launches with 21st Birthday Bash for young writer/photographer at downtown Miami's Club Discotekka. Event serves as benefit for The Trevor Project, the country's only national Gay youth suicide prevention helpline.

PR9.NET September 03, 2007 - Miami, FL - The staff of South Florida's newest alternative media venue were able to kill three birds with one stone this past week at downtown Miami's Club Discotekka. Over 200 friends and supporters and numerous local VIPs gathered on Thursday evening to launch GaySOFLA.com, an online magazine for the south Florida GLBT (Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, & transgender) community and to celebrate the 21st birthday of one of the magazine's founders, Geo Bustamante. The entire evening also served as a benefit for the country's only national gay youth suicide prevention helpline, The Trevor Project., garnering almost \$1000 in pledged donations for the non profit organization.

Accompanied by Miami Beach City Commissioner Michael Gongora, Bustamante arrived at the club in style via a pimped out luxury Cadillac Escalade, loaned by Make It Happen Exotic Car Rentals. Bustamante was greeted at the club entrance by scores of friends, VIPs, the entire GaySOFLA Magazine staff, and several photographers from various local media outlets. After posing for photos before a Hollywood red-carpet style backdrop, Bustamante and his guests proceeded to the club's VIP area to kick off the festivities.

GaySOFLA's Senior Editor David L.Wylie took the stage at midnight to explain the goals of the new media venture. "GaySOFLA purposes to entertain, encourage, and educate the south Florida GLBT community," Wylie said. "It's our goal to focus on all that is good in our community," he continued. Wylie then introduced each staff member individually. The GaySOFLA team is comprised of GLBT political activist Waymon Hudson, Barry University Psychologist Dr. James Scott, animal activist Dahlia Canes, humorist and satirical writer G P Harris, entertainment writer Vixen, photographers Julia McGuire & Lynette, online marketing & media consultant Manish Mehta, and Bustamante.

Following Wylie's introductions and a video dedication created by friends of Bustamante, Commissioner Gongora took the stage and explained that, though he normally doesn't present proclamations at birthday parties, he was pleased to commend Bustamante for his commitment to raise awareness of the plight of at-risk gay and lesbian youth. With Bustamante looking on, Gongora read the Certificate of Appreciation: The City of Miami Beach commends you for all your contributions to the Gay Youth Community of South Florida and your efforts in bringing awareness of The Trevor Project, the country's only National GLBT Suicide Prevention Hotline, to South Florida. You have contributed significantly to the betterment of this city and its people. The certificate was signed by Gongora and Miami Beach Mayor David Dermer.

Upon receiving the certificate, Bustamante thanked the crowd for supporting him and the magazine and he recognized the many individuals and sponsors who had made the evening possible. After a long struggle with depression due to questions regarding his sexual identify, Bustamante became estrange from his family after coming out. He took a moment to remember other gay youth who fight depression and suicidal thoughts. "I dedicate this proclamation to the young people out there who are fighting to survive and be themselves and I dedicate it to the memory of the many who gave up and are no longer with us," Bustamante told the crowd.

Among the VIP guests attending the event were Diego Cabral of Regal Home Lending, Ron Brenesky of Unity Coalition, George Maiko Coronado of Give Me a Beat Productions, renowned photographer Dale Stine, Latin singing duo Twin Soul, Latin solo artist Vermex Bilboat, writer Olympia R. Duhart, club owner Joe Marcella, and Miami Herald writer Steve Rothaus Special performances for the evening were presented by Vermex Bilboat & Gina DiAngelo. Event sponsors include Unity Coalotion, Ambiente Magazine, Boy Bar of North Miami, Make It Happen Exotic Rentals, Milancita, Edel Miedes, and Cobb Theatres.

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About GaySOFLA Magazine Online

GaySOFLA.com is South Florida's Premier Online Magazine for the GLBT Community. Our purpose is to entertain, encourage, and educate the GLBT community. Gaysofla.com-Focusing on all that's good within our community!

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