

NC Pridefest to include Atlanta Freedom Marching Band

The Atlanta Freedom Marching Band (AFMB), an all volunteer community organization of nearly 40 lesbians and gays from the Greater Atlanta area will be a featured performance at the North Carolina Pridefest on Saturday, September 29, 2001. North Carolina's 16th Annual Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgendered parade and festival will be led by the North Carolina Pride Band (NC Pride Band) and held on Main Street in Durham on Duke East Campus.

Both the NC Pride Band and AFMB are members of the Lesbian and Gay Bands of America, [Lesbian and Gay Bands of America <http://www.gaybands.org/>](http://www.gaybands.org/), the national musical organization comprised of concert and marching bands from cities in the U.S., Canada, and Australia. LGBA provides a national network of lesbian and gay bands at all stages of development, promotes music as a medium of communication among people, improves the quality of artistic and organizational aspects of member bands, and stimulates public interest in the unique art form of community bands in our culture.

The Atlanta Freedom Marching Band is Atlanta's gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered marching band. In its eight-year history, it has grown to become one of the nation's largest and most active marching bands of its type. Performances in the Atlanta area include the Inman Park Festival, the Atlanta Pride celebration, the AIDS Walk, Sunday in the Park with the Arts, the Ansley Arts Festival and Christmas concerts at

hospice and nursing homes. In addition, the band travels to Pride celebrations across the Southeast such as Birmingham, AL, Knoxville, TN, Nashville, TN and Greenville, SC.

“Having the Atlanta Freedom Marching Band at our Pride was fabulous” commented Savannah Pride organizer Carol Riels. AFMB also led the Birmingham parade on Saturday, June 10, the first night parade performance for the band. In October the band will be making it’s first appearance at Macon Pride.

“We play music to entertain the crowd”, says director Eddie Young. This years feature tunes include “These Boots Are Made for Walking”, “We Are Family”, and “Malagueña”. The Atlanta Freedom Marching Band, wearing rainbow colors, is out, proud and entertaining through the universal language of music. Marching in unity, playing in harmony, we work to inspire all Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender people to be proud of who they are.

For more information: <http://www.ncpride.org>
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