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For Immediate Release
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New Macomb County Pride Initiative Undertaking Plans for 2020

A group of community members is undertaking efforts to plan a Macomb County Pride event in downtown Mount Clemens, tentatively set for June 27, 2020. With a goal to develop an annual event, Macomb County Pride will celebrate and empower the region's LGBTQ+ community through a June Pride Festival featuring a family- and pet-friendly parade and resource fair, and by offering participatory opportunities to local groups and organizations to highlight their support and resources available to the LGBTQ+ community in Macomb County.

While plans for the June event are under way, Macomb County Pride presents *DRAG-ing in the New Year*, a fundraiser featuring a professional drag show at The Emerald Theatre on New Year's Eve (December 31, 2019). Showcasing local drag performers and with entertainment by DJ Marquis, food, activities, and specialty cocktails, the event will raise funds for the June 27 parade and resource fair. Performers include Kourtney Breeze, Bentley James, Perry Dox, Kendyll Harding, Malibu, and Jacqueline Frost. Tickets \$69/general admission and \$99/VIP, and are on sale now at www.theemeraldtheatre.com. VIP experience includes a meet and greet with the evening's performers.

Additionally, Macomb County Pride is sponsoring a wedding giveaway during DRAG-ing in the New Year, with the winning couple announced that night. February 14, 2020 has been reserved for the winning couple's nuptials with an exclusive wedding package from The Emerald Theatre (www.theemeraldtheatre.com), including a private consultation with a wedding coordinator to plan the big day! Entries must be received no later than November 29, 2019. Interested contestants should review the contest guidelines and application available on macombcountypride.com.

Mount Clemens Mayor Laura Kropp shares that "Mount Clemens is striving to be an inclusive community, who is proud of our diversity. Our city wants to be a leader in celebrating Pride this upcoming June in Mount Clemens, a first for Macomb County."

"It's exciting to see pride festivities expand into Macomb County and it's a vital step in building a welcoming metro Detroit community," says Grace Wojcik, Coordinator of Oakland University's Gender and Sexuality Center.

"Working to plan these events has illustrated that there is a supportive community for LGBTQ+ folks in Macomb County, and we're excited to share the June festival and New Year's Eve fundraiser as opportunities to coalesce that support. Volunteers are needed, as are sponsors and other donations. Visit macombcountypride.com for more information on how to participate," shares Phil Gilchrist, one of the event organizers.

For information about the events, including for volunteers, donations, and sponsorships, visit macombcountypride.com or email macombcountypride@gmail.com.

About Macomb County Pride

Macomb County Pride has a mission to acknowledge and create a supportive environment for the LGBTQ+ community in Macomb County, which we work to accomplish through an annual pride event. Visit us at macombcountypride.com, on Facebook or Instagram, or email macombcountypride@gmail.com for more information.

Featured Performers, DRAG-ing in the New Year, December 31, 2019



Malibu



Perry Dox



Bentley James



Kourtney Breeze