

December 14, 2009

[addressee]

Re: Oklahomans for Equality (OkEq) Annual Gala and Awards Program, Saturday, April 24, 2010

Dear [addressee]:

On Saturday, April 24, 2010, Oklahomans for Equality will hold its annual Gala and Awards Program at the new Tulsa Ballroom of the Tulsa Convention Center. This is our principle fundraising event of the year. Proceeds help support OkEq's numerous programs benefiting our lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender citizens in Northeast Oklahoma and the operation of the Dennis R. Neill Equality Center in downtown Tulsa (the 6th largest such center in the U.S.).

OkEq is the oldest, continuously operating LGBT advocacy organization in this part of the country and will serve 40,000 clients and visitors in 2009. It is the largest such organization in the 4 state area (Oklahoma, Arkansas, Kansas, Texas). Please see the enclosure or www.okeq.org for more information on OkEq's services and outreach.

Please consider being a named Sponsor of this important event. The 2010 Gala is especially meaningful as it represents our 30th year of service to the community! Recognizing how special the 30th Anniversary is, we have made several exciting changes for the 2010 Gala, including:

- **Stunning new venue – the new Tulsa Ballroom and Glass Lobby of the remodeled Tulsa Convention Center!**
- **New format – Several of Tulsa's leading restaurants will be providing food at locations throughout the venue**
- **Great entertainment, the award winning Ann Hampton Callaway from New York City and the Frank Brown Trio!**
- **Exciting auction items**

As a Sponsor, you will receive patron tickets which include; (i) Sponsor champagne reception from 6:00 to 7:00 pm; (ii) reserve table(s) in the Ballroom; (iii) 2 drink tickets per attendee; (iv) sponsorship publicity (invitations, program, and at the venue); and (v) valet parking. In addition, the Presenting and Platinum Sponsors will be our special guests at a Sunday Brunch on April 25th for Ms. Callaway.

Events on Saturday, April 24, 2010

6:00-7:00 pm: Champagne reception for Sponsors - Foyer, Tulsa Convention Center, Frank Brown Trio will provide entertainment.

7:00-8:30 pm: Food, beverage service, entertainment and silent auction – Tulsa Ballroom and Foyer.

8:30 – 9:15 pm: Program, entertainment by Ms. Callaway, and live auction.

9:15 – 10:00 pm: Desserts and Coffee Bar, after-dinner drinks, entertainment.

During the program, we will honor our "Community Heroes," those individuals and entities who have made significant contributions to our community. We will also pay tribute to our volunteers and those who have led our organization over the past 30 years.

We are delighted to announce that Ann Hampton Callaway of New York City will perform at this special Gala! Ms. Callaway is known as "a champion of the Great American Songbook". Among her numerous credits is her Tony-nominated performance in the hit Broadway musical "Swing", a Platinum Award-winning writer whose songs are featured on five of Barbara Streisand's recent CDs. She has performed with Wynton Marsalis at Lincoln Center, with Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops, and has been featured at Carnegie Hall many times. She has performed for President Clinton in Washington D.C., and President Gorbachev's Youth Peace Summit in Moscow. She has also performed with



2010 Gala Committee
Gala2010@okeq.org
Kirk Holt
Dennis Neill
John Southard
Co-Chairs

Honorary Co-Chairs:
Kim and Rob Coretz

Oklahomans for Equality
PO Box 2687
Tulsa OK 74101
918.743.4297

www.okeq.org

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her good friend Liza Minnelli on many occasions. Her most recent CD, "At Last" was named one of the top five Jazz albums of the year by National Public Radio.

Sponsorship Levels

- \$10,000 – **Presenting Sponsor.** Includes reserved table and tickets for 10 for the Patron Reception and Event, Sunday Brunch with Ms. Callaway, appropriate recognition.
- \$7,500 – **Platinum Sponsor.** Includes reserved table and tickets for 10 for the Patron Reception and Event, Sunday Brunch with Ms. Callaway, appropriate recognition.
- \$5,000 – **Gold Sponsor.** Includes reserved table and tickets for 8 for the Patron Reception and Event, appropriate recognition.
- \$2,500 – **Silver Sponsor.** Includes reserved table and tickets for 8 for the Patron Reception and Event, appropriate recognition.
- \$1,000 – **Bronze Sponsor.** Includes reserved seating and tickets for 4 for the Patron Reception and Event, appropriate recognition.

(Regular ticket prices with no reserved seating will be: Patron Reception and Event - \$140 (\$130 for OkEq members); Event only - \$100, (\$90 for OkEq members).

We very much appreciate your consideration of this sponsorship. You may use the enclosed form for you sponsorship. If you have any questions, please contact Dennis Neill at 918.808.1010.

Sincerely,

Kirk A. B. Holt

Dennis Neill

John Southard

Co-
Chairs

(Oklahomans for Equality is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Sponsorships are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law. The non-deductible value of a Sponsor ticket is \$75 each.)

Sponsorship Form for 2010 OkEq Gala

Please return this form in the enclosed self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Oklahomans for Equality
P.O. Box 2687
Tulsa, OK 74101
Gala2010@okeq.org

www.okeq.org



Sponsoring entity or person: _____

Contact information:

Name: _____
Title: _____
Mailing Address: _____
Telephone: _____
Email: _____
Date: _____

- ____ Yes, we want to be a sponsor of your 30th Anniversary Gala! Our level of sponsorship is:
- ____ \$10,000 – **Presenting Sponsor.** We will provide a list of the up to 10 attendees by April 20.
 - ____ \$7,500 – **Platinum Sponsor.** We will provide a list of the up to 10 attendees by April 20.
 - ____ \$5,000 – **Gold Sponsor.** We will provide a list of the up to 8 attendees by April 20.
 - ____ \$2,500 – **Silver Sponsor.** We will provide a list of the up to 8 attendees by April 20.
 - ____ \$1,000 – **Bronze Sponsor.** We will provide a list of the up to 4 attendees by April 20.

Payment Arrangements (please select one):

- ____ Enclosed is our check for the Sponsorship, or
- ____ Please bill the Sponsorship to this Credit Card:
- ____ Visa ____ MasterCard ____ AMEX
- Card Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____
- Name on Card: _____ Billing Address for Card: _____
- Signature for Card Charge: _____
- Or:
- ____ Please invoice us in:
- ____ December 2009
 - ____ January 2010
 - ____ February 2010
 - ____ March 2010
 - ____ April 2010

____ Sorry, we are not able to sponsor the 2010 OkEq Gala. In recognition of your important work for the community, we wish to make a contribution of \$ _____.

Thank you! The 2010 Gala Committee and the Board of Directors, Oklahomans for Equality.

SNAPSHOT - OKLAHOMANS FOR EQUALITY

DECEMBER 2009

Mission Statement: Oklahomans for Equality (OkEq) seeks equal rights for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) individuals and families through advocacy, education, programs, alliances, and the operation of the Dennis R. Neill Equality Center in downtown Tulsa.

History: Oklahomans for Equality, a 501(c)3 not-for-profit, has been serving northeastern Oklahoma and surrounding areas for 30 years. Previously known as Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights, it is the oldest and the largest organization of its kind in a 4-state area. The Equality Center, purchased in 2005 and located at 621 East 4th Street, Tulsa, is the 6th largest community center in the United States. The Center is solely owed by OkEq, which previously operated out of leased space in various locations.

Programs and Services: In the last 12 months, some 40,000 individuals have attended events sponsored by OkEq or accessed information provided through our information line, which has been serving the area since 1981. OkEq and the Equality Center offer more than 40 different programs and services, such as:

- Free Medical Clinic
- Free Legal Clinic
- Nancy and Joe McDonald Rainbow Library – one of the largest lending libraries of its kind in the U.S.
- The David Bohnett CyberCenter – 10 free internet/computer work stations
- Rotating Art Shows in our Art Gallery and merchandise in our Pride Store
- Jobs Skills Workshops
- Free HIV Testing
- Zumba and other physical fitness activities
- Gender Outreach and Coming Out Groups
- Advocacy and corporate diversity outreach
- Grief and other counseling services
- Sponsor of the annual Pride Festival and Gala Dinner/Program

In 2009, OkEq partnered with 13 other area non-profits on special events, press conferences and projects for the benefit of our community and its citizens. As one recognition of our efforts, this year representatives from various organizations or agencies in 14 other cities visited the Equality Center to learn more about our outreach and operations.

Support: OkEq relies solely on the generosity of its donors and members, corporate and foundation grants, and fundraising events to support its many services, programs and the operation and maintenance of the Equality Center. It receives no federal, state or city financial support. Its largest fundraiser is the annual Gala Dinner and Program, held in the spring of each year. Donations to OkEq are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

Currently, Oklahomans for Equality is an all volunteer agency, with more than 100 community volunteers providing thousands of hours of service to our community.

