

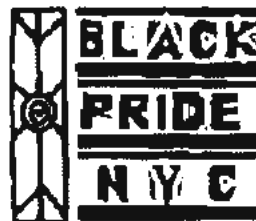
**THE 3RD ANNUAL CELEBRATION
OF BLACK LESBIAN, GAY, TRANSGENDER,
BISEXUAL & TWO-SPIRIT PRIDE!!**

AUG 2nd - 6th, 2000

NYCNYC

BOARD MEMBERS

1999 - 2000



CLAYTON [REDACTED]

CHAIR

G. [REDACTED]

SECRETARY

TRACEY [REDACTED]

TREASURER

RONALD K. [REDACTED]

SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR

GLIZA [REDACTED]

SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR

SAMIYA [REDACTED]

CHERYL-ANN [REDACTED]

DANA [REDACTED]

JAMES [REDACTED]

To the Black LGBT community and friends:

As one of the burgeoning number of "baby" Black Prides celebrations through out the United States, Black Pride New York City entered its third year brimming with the energy of a toddler, eager to expand its universe. For one, we decided to incorporate a number of activities throughout the year into our mission. A mailing during breast cancer awareness month, a dating game, a health and a wellness day, among others. And, like a young child, we stumbled time and time again, but through grace and determination, managed to pick ourselves up and focus on getting our bearings.

And we're back. Reveling in the richness and the awe-inspiring scope of Black culture; challenging power dynamics in our many communities; embracing our legacies; empowering ourselves and one another; and daring to improve our lives and our destinies.- maintaining - in the face of daunting attacks and dissension, which, in the words of James Baldwin, are "as real as an odor".

Even in a year which seen a plethora of positive advances in our lives: the passage of a hate crimes law in New York state which includes sexual orientation; the legalization of civil unions between homosexual couples in Vermont; and efforts to amend the New York City human rights law to expand protections to include "gender identity and expression", too many of us still remain unconnected to one another, harassed, unseen and unheard and unsafe, emotionally and physically.

It is in this recognition of the need to renew our collective spirit , that the folks who labor with love to bring "the community" together for several days, see our work as vital.

However, in closing, I feel compelled to remind myself and others that it takes dozens of folks to make this five-day array of activities and events happen, including people who may not identify as LGBT, or who may

be white or heterosexual or whatever, and that they do so in support.

Yet, in recognition of the heard work of so many people, I feel especially indebted to many individuals, among them former co-chair Keisha

Bell, and special events coordinators Gliza Mullen and Ronald K. Brown, tireless workers who went far beyond any expectations I entertained.

In the spirit of our ancestors, who made it possible for us to enjoy this

celebration, I am heartened by the smiles, the contemplation, the interaction of our family during these five days, and look forward to the continuation of that energy.

Yours in Blackness,

Clayton [REDACTED]
Chair,

Black Pride New York City