



AMPLIFYING LGBTQ+ VOICES SINCE 1978

QAS

NOVEMBER 13-19, 2024

**JAMIE MORRIS BRINGS
PRADA PARODY TO LIFE
CATCH MIRANDA PRIESTLY IN BUDGET
SHOES AT MAJESTIC REPERTORY**



Photos: Michael Todd

Whether you're a local or tourist, we always feature our favorite spots along with all the new and exciting things our city has to offer.

Playwright Jamie Morris brings *"The Devil Wears Payless"*, a parody of *"The Devil Wears Prada"*, to Las Vegas. Featuring original Provincetown cast, this comedic twist imagines Miranda Priestly navigating fashion faux pas—like Payless shoes—in a laugh-filled, must-see show.

Creating Change 2025 in Las Vegas addresses the recent election's impact on LGBTQ+ rights and democracy, gathering advocates to strategize, empower, and counter divisive challenges facing marginalized communities across the country.

Mel Cole's legacy shines through heartfelt memories, capturing his warmth, advocacy, and love for the Las Vegas LGBTQ+ community. He leaves behind countless friends and a community deeply touched by his kindness.



Russ White & Garrett Pattiani
Publishers, QVegas & QLife Media



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View this week's horoscopes at qvegas.com/horoscopes-are-a-drag.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 2024



Honey, listen up 'cause Miss November's got some cosmic tea for all you fabulous Sagittarius stars out there! This month, the universe is gonna serve you LIFE on a glittering platter. You're about to embark on a gorge journey filled with major growth, fierce opportunities, and might I say, some juicy romantic endeavors that'll have your heart doing the cha-cha. So, darlings, put on those sparkling stilettos of bravery and strut into your destiny because, hunty, you're gonna light up the sky brighter than a disco ball at Studio 54! Now, let the world be your runway and sashay away into your most fabulous month yet!



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LUXOR



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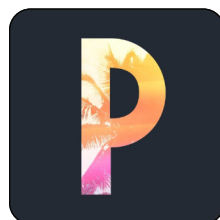
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VIRGIN HOTELS
LAS VEGAS



THE VENETIAN RESORT
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Hotels

These hotels have a current HRC Corporate Equality Index score of 100.

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The Cromwell
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Harrah's
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These hotels have actively demonstrated support for the LGBTQ+ community but do not have a current HRC CEI of 100

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10PM: HOT MIC KARAOKE



FRI | NOV 15

11:30PM & 1AM: BRONWYN NEWPORT

**11:45PM | 12:30AM | 1:20AM:
LIVE MUSIC WITH ESTEVAN +
CIERRA BLISS AND THE GLITZ BAND**



SAT | NOV 16

**11:30PM: ELISHALY D'WITSHES
SOUNDS BY: DJ ALEXANDER**



SUN | NOV 17





Democracy TBD...

Will you attend Creating Change as the second Trump administration begins?

More days after the (hopefully) peaceful transfer of power and the inauguration of Donald Trump for the second time, thousands of LGBTQ+ advocates and our allies will descend on Las Vegas for the National LGBTQ Task Force's annual Creating Change conference.

In case you missed the cover story in QVegas this Summer here is the context and the information that I hope will convince you to join thousands of LGBTQ+ and allied people to help write the next chapter in our movement's history.

Creating Change was founded in 1988, a year after the 1987 National March on Washington, which drew hundreds of thousands of LGBTQ+ people to Washington. AIDS was ravaging our community while the government ignored us, our civil rights were few and far between and visibility mattered for so many LGBTQ+ people who were isolated and alone.

The message of the 1987 March was clear: go home and get to work. And we did – in droves – and the idea of creating an annual gathering where queer advocates could gather, network, share and plan was born shortly after by the National LGBTQ Task Force staff Urvashi Vaid and Sue Hyde.

Creating Change has always been a unique and extraordinary space to gather, strategize and learn. The upcoming conference will be one of the most important ones ever for the National LGBTQ Task Force and for the LGBTQ+

movement. We hope it is one of the largest, because we will need every one of us in the days and months ahead. It will be a space for both processing and planning our movement's future but also a time to lean into our joy and diversity as queer people. Either way it is not to be missed.

For the first time, it will be held in Las Vegas, and the city has welcomed us with open arms and rolled up sleeves.

Why is Creating Change 2025 so important?

You know why. We are all reeling from the recent election results and need to get to work.

First, it is important to take in the victories and bright spots, here in Nevada and across the country, from the election of Sarah McBride in Delaware to the three states that affirmed marriage equality - California Colorado, and Hawaii - and the seven states that passed measure to protect reproductive rights.

But we know that the reality is that we live in a country where the divisions are real, as are our concerns and fears. We are witnessing explicit, planned threats to our democracy and all marginalized communities. We are at risk of losing ground on the progress we have made and the rescinding of hard-fought rights. We have seen our trans siblings scapegoated and LGBTQ+ people blamed for the loss in the so-called "culture wars." Many are now locked in challenging, seemingly impossible conversations with family, friends, co-workers and more. Want the tools, the motivation and the support to

take on what is before us?

We must face these challenges head on – together. And we want YOU to be a part of it. From the hundreds of Las Vegas locals who joined our kick-off reception to the scores helping as Ambassadors and partners – we are thrilled that this historic event will happen here and want everyone to be a part of it.

I could never quantify how much I have learned, how many amazing people I have met or the life-changing experiences I have had thanks to Creating Change. As a new activist in the early 1990's I attended my first media training and was moved to begin a journey of a lifetime. It is now an annual pilgrimage, one that has continued for decades. And every year I walk away inspired, energized and more ready to do the work.

As Las Vegas to Creating Change, January 22-26, 2025, at The Rio Hotel & Casino you can join us and be part of a movement that builds on decades of activism and sets the stage for a more just and inclusive future. Whether you're a seasoned activist, a community leader, or a newcomer, your voice matters here and welcome.

I have a colleague who wears a shirt that says "busy making my ancestors proud." Whether you are new to activism or have been active for decades, bring your voice, your energy and your spirit to Creating Change and be part of an experience that is bigger than all of us and will change you. Let's get busy.

To learn more about the conference and register head to CreatingChange.org



Registration is open!

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ADAM CAROLLA
OCTOBER 31

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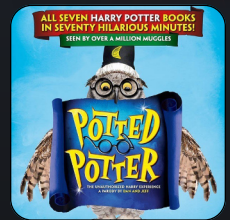
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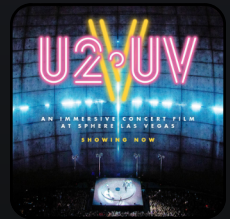
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LADY LIKE



The Devil Wears Payless: Jamie Morris' Latest Parody Brings a Fashion Faux Pas to Las Vegas

Playwright Jamie Morris, the comedic mastermind behind such beloved parody productions as *Mommie Queerest*, *The Facts of Life: The Lost Episode*, and *The Silence of the Clams*, is back with his seventh venture into satire—*The Devil Wears Payless*. After a stellar, extended four-month debut in Provincetown, Massachusetts, the show will make its Las Vegas debut at the Majestic Repertory Theatre, running November 21-23.

This latest project playfully reimagines *The Devil Wears Prada*, the 2006 film that captivated audiences with its biting humor and unforgettable performances by Meryl Streep, Anne Hathaway, and Emily Blunt. Morris' *Payless* version asks a hilariously absurd question: what would happen if Miranda Priestly, the ultimate fashion icon and boss from hell, were caught dead in a pair of budget-friendly shoes from Payless? "I always say you can't really parody something unless you love it," Morris explains, "and I've loved *The Devil Wears Prada* since it came out. It's in our cultural DNA now." With this love comes a satirical twist that taps into both the movie's famous one-liners and the nostalgia of an era when Payless' BOGO sales were a major draw.

The show's enthusiastic reception in Provincetown surprised even Morris. With Provincetown's famously packed entertainment scene, carving out a space is a feat in itself, but *Payless* garnered a loyal following, leading to a packed summer schedule at the Post Office Cabaret, affectionately nicknamed the

"postage stamp theater" for its compact space. The show's success exceeded expectations, earning two extensions. "We had great audiences all summer for four months," Morris reflects. "It was well received, and we were very grateful to see people connecting with it."

Las Vegas audiences are in for a treat with the original Provincetown cast reprising their roles. Jonathan Joseph Peters, a former Project Runway contestant and Morris' previous collaborator, will star as Emily Charlton, while also lending his design talents as the show's costume and wig designer. Eden Allegretti takes on the role of the wide-eyed Andy Sachs, and Harrison Fish rounds out the cast as Nigel Kipling, Andy's reluctant but supportive mentor.

For Morris, the magic of this production goes beyond his love for the movie—it's also about the chemistry among the cast. "I call it lightning in a bottle. We just love each other on stage and off," he says. "It all just came together magically." When the opportunity arose to bring his "little Provincetown family" to Vegas, Morris knew he couldn't pass it up. He's excited for his cast to experience Vegas' own unique energy and see how the city's audiences respond to their performances.

The Majestic Repertory Theatre's space offers a unique twist for the Las Vegas run, compared to Provincetown's cozy, tech-heavy setup. "In Provincetown, the stage is tiny with an LED wall as the backdrop, which gives us flexibility to use digital projections and videos instead of physical sets," explains Morris. In Vegas, the team

will "up the game" with a larger set, hoping to immerse audiences in the world of Runway Magazine. Morris describes the look he's going for as a space that, even at first glance, captures the essence of the magazine's luxe offices.

As a parody playwright, Morris thrives on connecting audiences to pop culture classics. For him, the fun lies in revisiting iconic scenes and characters and adding fresh, unexpected layers. "The Devil Wears Prada is so close to my heart, and who doesn't quote it?" Yet Morris knows the material needs to be handled with a balance of homage and humor. "I keep as many of the iconic lines and scenes in there as I can because the audience would eviscerate me if they weren't there," he laughs.

But despite the faithfulness to its source material, *The Devil Wears Payless* is no word-for-word reenactment. Morris' adaptation has cut out several characters to focus on the relationships between Miranda, Andy, Emily, and Nigel. And for those who've long found Andy's boyfriend Nate to be an unsupportive partner, Morris shares your views. "I think he's the true villain of the piece," Morris says. "He's upset she missed his birthday...you're a grown man! Calm down."

One of the most enjoyable elements of the show, both for the actors and the audience, is the interactive nature of the performance. "The audience knows the lines before we say them. In the famous Cerulean monologue, I never have to say the word Cerulean; the audience does it for me," Morris explains. This camaraderie



between the cast and the crowd elevates the experience, making it feel as if viewers are sharing inside jokes with the characters.

As much as Morris enjoys bringing his audiences a faithful re-imagining of beloved scenes, he's equally invested in keeping things fresh. "Meryl Streep made this brilliant choice never to yell in the movie; it's just disappointment and looks," he says. "It's what I call a lot of eye acting." He recreates this with his own twist, aiming for the same quietly withering effect that fans of Streep's Miranda would expect.

Morris' dedication to keeping his parodies grounded in affection is at the heart of his success. "Everything that I've parodied—this is my seventh one—is something that's been really close to my heart," he shares. "As a writer, I've got to say, it's a little easier when half the work is done for you. The characters are already so vivid in our minds. All I have to do is add a little twist."

And just what is that twist? Morris keeps it under wraps, encouraging curious viewers to come and see the play for themselves. "Miranda in Payless shoes—she'd rather die!" he laughs, hinting at the absurdity awaiting audiences.

As a veteran of parody theater, Morris knows how to tap into the pulse of the moment. With his prior works, including Gilligan's Fire Island and Schartt\$ Creek, Morris has honed his ability to make audiences laugh while offering fresh takes on familiar narratives. But in *The Devil Wears Payless*, he aims for more than just laughs. Given recent world events, Morris sees comedy as an essential reprieve, a chance for everyone to come together and laugh. "If you're feeling down, come and escape for an hour," he suggests. "Hopefully we'll spread some love and joy and help you forget about things for a while. Let's all laugh together—I think we need it now more than ever."

For those intrigued by the premise but unsure about what to expect, Morris has a simple message: "If you love the movie, come on down and see what we've done with it. It's an hour of pure silliness." With the Majestic Repertory Theatre show just two weeks away, *The Devil Wears Payless* is poised to give Las Vegas audiences a much-needed dose of lighthearted entertainment.

About the Show

The Devil Wears Payless runs from November 21-23 at the Majestic Repertory Theatre in downtown Las Vegas. With a mix of iconic lines, unexpected twists, and a playful homage to fashion's elite, this production promises fans of *The Devil Wears Prada* a fresh take on the story they know and love. For ticketing and information, check out the Majestic Repertory Theatre's website at majesticrepertory.com





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At QVegas, we focus on the celebration of Vegas. The people, businesses, and organizations that bring light, life, and love to our community. Mel Cole was one of those people.

On November 10, 2024, Mel Cole passed away. He had been undergoing several months of treatment for cancer, and a procedure that would prohibit him from ever talking again. As we mourn his loss, we also celebrate the legacy he leaves behind—a legacy of love, advocacy, and unwavering support for the LGBTQ+ community. Mel's spirit will continue to inspire and guide us as we strive to uphold the values he championed.

Mel's contributions to the LGBTQ+ community in Las Vegas are profound. He worked tirelessly to create spaces where everyone felt seen and heard, fostering a sense of belonging and acceptance. His efforts have paved the way for future generations to continue the fight for equality and understanding.

As our masthead says, QVegas amplifies the voices of the LGBTQ+ community, and our commitment to that remains in the good days and the sad ones. These are some of those voices.

Rest in peace, Mel. Your voice may be silent, but your impact resonates loudly within us all.

Te voy amar por siempre , bunches and bunches , en mi siguiente vida te volveré a escoger, te llevas mi corazón y siempre serás mi todo. ♥Mel Cole.

I will love you forever, bunches and bunches, in my next life I will choose you again, you have my heart and you will always be my everything. ♥Mel Cole.
- Mario Huerta

Our lives are now far less interesting with "The Most Interesting Man" having left us. Rest now...until we meet again at "The Garage" in heaven. Gone...but never forgotten. Love you Mel! You will be missed!- Mike EL

Now I understand why my heart was so heavy yesterday into the night and early morning hours. R I P Mel Cole. I will save your voicemail forever my dear friend Watch over us all and fly high cancer free brother. - Justin Tyme

There aren't very many pictures we have together but we'll miss your infectious smile, wry wit and friendly nature. You leave behind a large and loving group of friends Mel - Erik Molzen

Mel Cole your friendship we all found in you was different from all the rest. You meant the world to us all and my kids and the time has come for you to leave us. All your friends will hold you memories of you now close to our hearts 💕 You were the best friend to all of us, im sure you know how much you were loved and how much

we will all miss you 🥺 Mel even though you have left the family tree you always be in our HEARTS 💕 and will remain our dearest friend and can not express how much you will be missed. A day will never go by that we all will wish you with us even tho we all have shedded the tears of LOVE ♥ you have been one of the best friend anybody could've asked for and your friendship was truly genuine and can't be forgotten. - Richard Hawthorne

Mel Cole you were such a light, a welcoming face to everyone entering the community of Las Vegas, and the lgbt community. You fought constantly for our equality, and I thank you for your voice and kind heart. You will be missed. - Justin Gagliardi

All your friends will hold you memories of you now close to our hearts 💕 You were the best friend to all of us, im sure you know how much you were loved and how much we will all miss you 🥺

Just found out that my friend Mel Cole passed away, he was such a kind soul and will greatly be miss in the Vegas gay community - Kyle Asplund

So sad to hear of your passing buddy... but I love seeing everyone speak up for you. I know your soul is full today. You fought so hard.... Rest in peace the most interesting man😭😭😭 - Dani Fuego

Mel, you made a difference In so many

lives. You made things better. RIP my friend, and condolences to your loved ones. - Tim Olson

Tonight, our hearts are heavier than words can say. We've lost Mel-a friend, a light, a true soul who brought warmth and joy to everyone lucky enough to know him. His laughter, his kindness, and his strength were a gift to all of us, and his absence is already felt deeply. Mel was more than just a friend, he was family, and his spirit left an indelible mark on each of our lives. He lived with a courage that inspired us all, even through the hardest times. Losing him has left an ache that seems to stop the breath, but in this heartbreak, I find comfort in the memories, the laughter, and the moments we were all blessed to share with him. Thank you, Mel, for being a part of our lives, for teaching us resilience, and for leaving us with a legacy of love that will live on in our hearts. Rest easy, my friend. You will be missed beyond measure, but your memory and spirit will remain with us always. I will love you always Godfather 💛
- Nikki Murdock

Papa Mel, You were the first person to ever make me feel at home in Vegas and welcome me to this new city over ten years ago. The world is less without your smile, wit, and gigantic heart. Rest in power, my friend. 💙💙💙 - Zachary James

Rest in Peace dear Mel Cole. I can't believe that you are gone. In all the years I have



known you, you were always kind, friendly and a strong force in our community. You will be sorely missed. - Wuicho Luigi Orso

Mel Cole, may your spirit shine as brightly and beautifully as ever. You always lit up every room with that radiant smile and had the perfect, charming words to share. May you rest in peace. Love ♥ - Jennifer Warner

You treated me with such respect and love when I lived in Vegas. This has taken me completely by surprise. May the gates of heaven part and the angels greet you with open arms. - Brandon Michael

Farewell, friend. May your passage over the rainbow be filled with love, comfort, ease and a scream out loud from that beautiful voice you always had and never lost. We are all better for knowing you and your light will be missed, but never forgotten! - Rik Holman

You are my friend! We shared such great memories. I'll miss you dearly r.i.p. - Desarae Pendavis

Mel - May you rest in peace, and know you fought bravely until the end. Your spirit of a fighter will always live on in my heart. XOXO - Michael Johnson

My heart and the hearts of many in our community are broken tonight as one of the most dynamic and supportive members of our community has passed. Thank you for everything you accomplished and the gift of your time and influence to make the world a better place. You were a light in all our lives and all of us are changed for the better just by knowing you. See you on the other side. I will miss you so much. Sleep well, to the most interesting man in Las Vegas. - Chuck Stutz

You brought unparalleled joy to every celebration and were admired by so many. I'm so glad to have known you. You will be profoundly missed. ♥ Rest in paradise my friend. ♥ - Christopher Matthew

I'm at a complete loss for words, my friend. I will miss you greatly. You'll always have a place in my heart. Hope you get the party started for us. 🙏🏻💜 - Lucas Rangel

I'm saddened to find out this evening that my friend Mel Cole lost his battle with cancer today. I'm so honored to have known him for over 12 years. He was an



amazing man of generosity, kindness and genuineness. He was a pillar and huge supporter in our community. I will miss his smile, laughter and our conversations. I will cherish all the memories of the times spent together. Rest in Peace Mel. I will always love you and I will always be grateful for your friendship.

Me entristece enterarme esta tarde de que mi amigo Mel Cole perdió su batalla contra el cáncer. Me siento muy honrada de haberlo conocido durante más de 12 años. Era un hombre increíble, generoso, amable y genuino. Era un pilar y un gran apoyo en nuestra comunidad. Extrañaré su sonrisa, su risa y nuestras conversaciones. Apremiaré todos los recuerdos de los momentos que pasamos juntos. Descansa en paz, Mel. Siempre te amaré y siempre estaré agradecida por tu amistad. - Larry Coffey

U always will be the Most Interesting Man Alive...♥♥♥ - Toshia Marvin

Mel Cole thank you for always being the kindest soul... Norma Llyaman is heartbroken. Still in disbelief... - Jim McCoy

This is a rough one. My Uncle Mel. He was the youngest out of seven and my mom was the oldest. Both gone now. Always more of an older brother than an uncle. He had such an incredible warm, caring personality, booming voice, impeccable dress. Always the best with Mel. A rare and high quality human being who I will miss like crazy. Rest easy Mel. Love you always. - Jason Thierbach

Sunday Las Vegas lost one of its legends, Mel Cole. He was a huge giver to the community and all his friends. Mel made such a positive impact on so many of us. Mel's passing leaves behind his loving husband Mario Huerta. We miss and love you Mel Cole - James Healey

My heart is heavy for all your family and friends, I am so sorry. You are at peace now - Suzanne Miele

The world lost a great person yesterday with the passing of Mel Cole. Mel was known as a well-dressed, cigar smoking man around town who knew everyone and could always tell you a good story. Mel was also known for bringing people



together through organized events as well as making everyone feel comfortable.

Through his concern for all of us, we felt united and we felt a great sense of community. Hopefully not for a long time, but when our time ends, Mel will be there to greet us, tell us a wonderful story about the afterlife, then introduce us to some of our favorite celebrities who are there too. We will miss you Mel Cole! - Tony Lynch

The Sin City Sisters are deeply saddened by the loss of our beloved community member, Mel Cole. His warmth, kindness, and unwavering spirit touched so many lives here in Las Vegas. Rest in power, Mel—you will be greatly missed, but your light lives on in all of us.

Mel Cole, a true Cadillac gentleman, always dignified, spreads love. Respected and cherished memories of our shared laughter and shots remain with me for all eternity. Mel Cole you will be missed by many. - Lady Fabiella DeLa O'My Goch

Good morning, thank you everyone for all the thoughts and concerns, I'm not one for a lot of words but I am doing fine listening to music and reading all the great words about our Mel Cole and seeing the pictures I don't have that you all share. Keep it coming, it gets me/us through, it gives light, Mel's star will shine the brightest. Love you all - Phillip Pineda

Another close friend has passed. Mel Cole, you will forever be in my heart. Thank you for being a friend to me during my time in Vegas, and always being such an encouragement and support. My heart aches that you are no longer here with us. I love you, my friend. - Mike O'Brien

By now most have heard the devastating news of the passing of our friend Mel Cole. Please take the time and some of your hard earned dollars to help his husband left behind. Mel Cole never asked anything of anyone but gave so much, please give. - Kelly Smith

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ADL
lasvegas.adl.org

ALCOHOLICS TOGETHER
alcoholics-together-lasvegas.com

BEARS LAS VEGAS
bears-lv.org

COMMUNITY COUNSELING CENTER OF SOUTHERN NEVADA
ccc-fsn.org

HENDERSON PRIDE
hhendersonpride.org

HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN
hrc.org

IMPERIAL ROYALE SOVEREIGN COURT OF THE DESERT EMPIRE
desertempire.org

LAMBDA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
lambdalv.com

LAS VEGAS MEN'S CHORUS
lvmenschorus.org

LAS VEGAS PRIME TIMERS
lasvegasprimetimers.com

LEATHER UNIFORM CLUB OF LAS VEGAS (LUC OF LV)
lucoflv.com

LEGACY COUNSELING
legacycounselingandworkforceconnections.com

MAMA DRAGONS
mamadragons.org

NEVADA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION
ngra.com

THE PRIDE TREE
thepridetree.lv.com

SILVER STATE EQUALITY
silverstateequality.org

SOUTHERN NEVADA ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER QUEER SOCIETY
snapiqs.org

YOUNG: EQUAL
youngequal.org



AID FOR AIDS OF NEVADA (AFAN)
afanlv.org

AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION (AHF)
aidshealth.org

FARABI WELLNESS CENTER
hplv.com

GOLDEN RAINBOW
goldenrainbow.org

HORIZON RIDGE WELLNESS CLINIC
hrc.lv

SIN SITY SISTERS OF PERPETUAL INDULGENCE
sinsitysisters.org



THE ARLENE COOPER COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER
thecenterlv.org

AIDS HEALTHCARE FOUNDATION (AHF)
aidshealth.org

SOUTHERN NEVADA HEALTH DISTRICT
southernnevadahealthdistrict.org

UMC
umcsn.com

Email info@qvegas.com to add your organization to our directory.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

THIRD THURSDAY

PLAYGROUND
AT LUXOR HOTEL & CASINO
3900 S LAS VEGAS BLVD
NOVEMBER 21, 2024 | 5:30PM

SIN SITY SISTERS

INK NIGHT

SAT NO SEXY LEATHER DADDY CONTEST

BEER BUST
RAFFLE PRIZES
CHERRY POPPERS

MONTHLY SODAP LUNCHEON

10 PM - 1 AM

MONDAYS DARK

11 Years OF GIVING BACK!

DECEMBER 9
DOORS 7pm - SHOW 8pm

PALMS ticketmaster

MONDAYS.DARK.COM

ARBARC PRESENTS: SUNDAYS DUST PUP OUT

4TH SUNDAY OF EVERY MONTH

JELLO SHOTS
PUP MOSH
PUP GOGOS
GIVEAWAYS
\$5 LONG ISLANDS

BEER BUST \$20
\$1 SODAS
4PM-8PM!

DUSTLASVEGASNV 855 E TWAIN AVE

Q VEGAS BAR & NIGHTCLUB GUIDE

Download on the
App Store

