

Queer Soup

DOCUMENT: Booking Information for Queer Soup

To Whom It May Concern:

Are you looking for quality entertainment fit for your educational/community or theatrical event? Queer Soup would be delighted to arrange to meet with your event coordinators to discuss what we can bring to your function. "Citizen Queer: A Guide to Modern Living" is a traveling show that we have customized for arts festivals, fundraisers, college reunions and community outreach programs. Its highly adaptable format could be made to fit whatever your occasion requires. Just contact us to find out more!

As one of the Artistic Directors for Queer Soup, I wanted take this opportunity to introduce you to the four artists who would be bringing this production to participate in your event. Additionally, I have included feedback from two organizers who contracted Queer Soup to assist in their respective events. If you are interested in learning more from them about what Queer Soup brought to their events, I can certainly provide you with their contact information along with several others.

First off, I am **Jess Martin**, and I serve as the Artistic Director for Queer Soup. In June of 2005, I was awarded an Artist Grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council for my play, "My Yolanda Love." Previous productions of my work include "Lipstick Cigarette," "Girl Crazy," "Thursday Night Theory," and "Tomboy" (which was featured in the 2000 New York International Fringe Festival) as well I co-wrote productions with Queer Soup of last summer's 'racy, riotous' (according to the Boston Globe) hit "Invasion of Pleasure Valley" and the sold-out "Buffy the Vampire Slayer's High School Reunion."

Renée C. Farster serves as director-in-residence and performer. Renée has studied with a number of artists, including Lynda Hart, Alexandra Billings, Split Britches, Holly Hughes, Barbara Carrellas and Kate Bornstein. She formerly served as the Managing Director for The Theatre Offensive and has for the past three years been a key part of Queer Soup's success.

Karen 'Mal' Malme serves as our community liaison and as one of our core comic performers. Mal aspires to using her gift of humor to create a society free from homophobia and to make schools safer places for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered students. To that end, she performs an educational comedy show "That's So Gay!" in middle and high schools across Massachusetts. She has been performing in Boston for over ten years, and her latest review (featured in Theater Mirror in May, 2005) called her "one of the best unsung performers in Boston today!"

Kim Hoff is a graduate of Boston's New Theater Conservatory and has been performing in Boston area theater for over 10 years. Formerly a board member for

Boston's only women's theater group, Threshold Theater, Kim has produced, stage managed and performed in over a dozen productions in the last few years.

Since its creative inception, we have performed "Citizen Queer" over a dozen times in various incarnations. It is a production that has proven to meet the needs of the event or group that is sponsoring it. In October of 2003, "Citizen Queer" was launched at Wheaton College for their Gay and Lesbian Alumni Reunion and Homecoming. Becky Hemperly, Chair of the LGBTA of Wheaton College, had this to say about our production:

"The performance drew a crowd comprised of students, alumnae/i, guests, faculty, and staff that nearly filled the theater. Those attending were not disappointed. Given that the audience for this performance of 'Citizen Queer' at Wheaton was quite diverse, this mixed program worked well, offering sketches of interest to various factions and food for thought for everyone. Queer Soup's programs are a great way to get people talking and laughing about issues that have too often been surrounded by silence."

"Citizen Queer" has since been performed at Dartmouth College, Brandeis University (Leonard Bernstein Festival of the Arts), Wellesley College, the Fenway Community Health Center, Jimmy Tingle's Off-Broadway Theater, Yale University, and many more. One of our favorite supporters is Clinton McClung, Program Director, at the Coolidge Corner Theater in Brookline, MA who has collaborated with us twice in the past year for his program "Buffy the Vampire Slayer's Once More with Feeling" sing-a-long:

"The gang at Queer Soup were the perfect vampire companions for the Coolidge Corner Theatre's Buffy Sing-a-long event (which attracted over 600 people!). They put in so much work and the evening was such a fun time. Not only would I work with them again - but they are the first group I'll be turning to when I need some good, kitschy, well done entertainment for other programs!"

We have no doubt that we can bring an incredibly strong and funny show for your event, and we have a group of extremely qualified artists to bring our brand of original queer comedy to you! We look forward to talking to you further, and please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions or require more information.

Sincerely,

Jess Martin
Artistic Director
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