



Miami-Dade Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce recognizes Miami Beach for its outstanding promotion and support of the LGBT community

Miami Beach Visitor and Convention Authority Named Non-Profit Organization of the Year

Miami Beach – June 20, 2012 – Long an advocate for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community, the Miami Beach Visitor and Convention Authority (MBVCA) is being recognized and rewarded for their advocacy and support by the ***Miami-Dade Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce*** (MDGLCC) on June 23rd with the Non-Profit Organization of the Year Award. Miami Beach, one of the most progressive cities for the LGBT community recently developed the [Pink Flamingo Program](#), a partnership between the MDGLCC and the LGBT Visitor Center on Miami Beach to educate area hoteliers, tour companies and other travel-related businesses on the needs of LGBT travelers and provide incentives to hoteliers who wish to offer LGBT travelers special deals. The MBVCA, via financial grants, also annually funds events that draw our very important LGBT audience to Miami beach, including the Winter Party and Miami Beach Gay Pride Festival, the Miami Gay and Lesbian Film Festival and Aqua Girl.

“The Miami Beach Visitor and Convention Authority's impact cannot be measured just in absolute dollars,” said Steve Adkins, President, *Miami-Dade Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce*. “For many LGBT organizations, whether or not their event will take place from year to year is a function of the grant money they receive from the MBVCA. Over the years, the many LGBT organizations hosting events on the beach, from White to Winter Party, Aqua Girl, Gay Pride and the Gay & Lesbian Film Festival are all examples that without the VCA, they would find it financially difficult to continue, let alone expand their offerings.”

On Saturday June 23 the MDGLCC will host its 11th Orange Gala in celebration of Miami Dade's thriving LGBT community. The event is dedicated to recognizing businesses, organizations and individuals who have made outstanding efforts to support and contribute to the advancement of the LGBT community. Honors are bestowed on organizations whose commitment to diversity are unwavering in their inclusion of the LGBT community. For more about the MBVCA visit: <http://www.miamibeachvca.com/>.

About Miami Beach

With an average year-round temperature of 75 degrees, Miami Beach has an unrivaled reputation for culinary offerings, nightlife, culture, fashion, and luxurious hotels. Also a popular destination among travelers, Miami Beach was recently ranked by [Trip Advisor](#) as number one on its [Top Winter Sun Vacation Rental Getaway Destinations for 2011](#) list and was included on both the [Top 25 Beaches in the World](#) and [Top 25 Destinations in the U.S.](#) lists. Boasting seven miles of breathtaking beaches, Miami Beach is easily accessible from the Port of Miami and Miami International Airport. The City of Miami Beach has just been named one of the top cities worldwide for 'walkability' and is equally easy to navigate by bike or by boat. Home to unique museums, to the New World Symphony and Miami City Ballet, to over 17,000 luxury, boutique and resort hotel rooms, 12 public parks and to the Miami Beach Convention Center, Miami Beach is a destination for all seasons. Miami Beach is like no other place in the world!

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