



WIGS & Waffles

presented by

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surgeonista
GINA MACCARONE, MD

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JUNE 8, 2025



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charities

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER

Welcome to the fifth annual Wigs & Waffles!

Can you believe it's been five years? From a simple idea to one of Cincinnati's most beloved events, Wigs & Waffles has grown into something truly special—and that's all because of you.

This year has brought its fair share of challenges. Fundraising hasn't been easy, and the need to stand with our LGBTQ+ community is more important than ever. But through it all, one thing has stayed constant: our commitment to making a real difference.

Last year, thanks to your generosity, we awarded \$43,000 in grants—funds that went straight to supporting incredible local organizations. That's more than just a number—it's hope, opportunity, and the power of community.

As we head into this milestone year, I'm excited about what's ahead. We're focusing on fresh ideas, building new partnerships, and finding even more ways to make an impact. Wigs & Waffles has always been about bringing people together, having fun, and giving back—and that's not changing anytime soon.

To our volunteers, sponsors, donors, auction contributors, and every single person who shows up for this event—thank you for being part of this journey. Your support means the world to me and to Queen City Charities.

Today, let's celebrate five years of community, love, and giving back. United, we will continue to support one another and build a future of hope and belonging. Here's to the next chapter—together.

Love you brunches,



Justin Hucker
Founder and Board President
Queen City Charities





FROM SMALL IDEA TO BIG IMPACT

What started as an idea for a laid-back, do-good happy hour in 2021 quickly evolved into Wigs & Waffles, our signature annual event—and the largest drag brunch in the region—and even better, it's all for charity. Now, we host numerous events throughout the year, each one to give back to the LGBTQ+ community in Greater Cincinnati.

Queen City Charities is committed to celebrating the broad diversity of our LGBTQ+ family and friends through the arts of storytelling and drag. With our amazing network of local and regional partnerships, we raise funds in order to award grants to local organizations that are actively working to provide support and overcome some of the greatest challenges facing Greater Cincinnati's LGBTQ+ population today.

OUR MISSION

Queen City Charities partners with community and business leaders to raise funds and provide grants for local organizations that seek to build bridges and offer solutions to some of the most significant challenges facing Greater Cincinnati's LGBTQ+ population.

OUR VISION

We aspire to cultivate a more inclusive and compassionate world where diversity is celebrated and every voice is heard.

OUR VALUES

We celebrate diverse experiences, perspectives, and aspirations. We serve others, connect communities, and create safe spaces for all. We engage in conversations that foster compassion, respect, and inclusivity. We honor queer identities and empower their voices.



OUR BOARD

Our all-volunteer Board of Directors is the heart of Queen City Charities. This passionate group of individuals leads the charge for our organization, bringing dynamic ideas and a dedication to creating positive change. They help guide our work—from Wigs & Waffles to every initiative—making connections and providing solutions that strengthen Greater Cincinnati's LGBTQ+ community. We're so grateful for their commitment, leadership, and the countless hours they invest to make a difference.



Justin Huckle
President



Michael Wilson
Treasurer



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Patrick Carnes
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Board Member



Stephanie Meinberg
Board Member



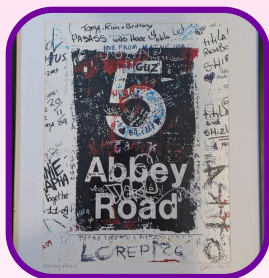
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2:30 PM - 4:00 PM**



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2025 eAST



Brock Leah Spears

Brock Leah Spears is a true force—the queen of cartwheels, splits, jumps, and high kicks. Originally from Dayton, Brock Leah's been a Cincy icon since 2004, flexing her impressive professional dancing background with the Cincinnati Ballet and Les Ballet Trockadero de Monte Carlo before discovering a passion for drag. In 2023, she won the Cincinnati Arts Association's "Dancing for the Stars" competition, and is currently on the board of directors for QCC. Brock Leah consistently dazzles with her agility and allure, her infectious wit and seriously stunning style.

Johnny Justice brings the creativity and charisma of a king to every performance. He's got the moves, the charm, and a deep repertoire of signature flair—known as "the (spooky) lil daddy of the Nati." A seasoned performer of 11 years, Johnny's added producing and co-hosting to his arsenal, and recently placed 1st Alternate at the Mx Cincinnati Pride Pageant 2025. When it comes to diversity—from character drag to alternative to draglesque—he's got it all, served with a side of golden retriever boy charm.



Johnny Justice



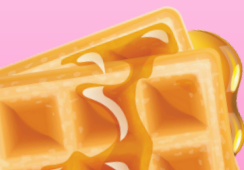
Molly Mormon

Molly Mormon is queen, empress, sister—known for her quick wit, powerful performances, and passion for giving back. Growing up Mormon in Utah fostered a passion for helping others to live, laugh and love—no surprise, she's equal parts camp and kindness, with an undeniable spirit that's made her a Cincy staple and North American fave. Her feel-good shows will bless your life (and your heart) and leave you wanting more. She serves on multiple nonprofit boards (including QCC), raising countless dollars for local LGBTQ+ communities.

The Lady Phaedra is all about elegance, humor, and heart—with a résumé as long as her legs, and a heart as big as her brassiere. She's a local legend, darling, known as Cincinnati's "Statuesque Moose." Her easy-going charm, keen wit, and bawdy humor place her firmly atop the list of sought-after entertainers, while her devotion to important causes earned her The Lydia Grant Humanitarian Award, ISQCCBE's 2021 Entertainer of the Year, and the title "Saint Phaedra the Defender" from The Cincinnati Sisters. Naturally, she's a QCC board member.



The Lady Phaedra





Penny Tration

Penny Tration delivers star power, sparkle, and nonstop entertainment to our Wigs & Waffles stage—not to mention at private parties, community celebrations, and Season Five of RuPaul's Drag Race. This queen does it all. Of course, she keeps herself busy between the family restaurant, her drag studio, plus drag brunches and shows across the Midwest. And her list of talents? Both stunning and abundant—including drag entertainment, emcee, DH, show hostess, booking agent, recording artist, VJ, and all-around hilarious queen.

P.H. Dee blends fierce talent with flawless energy, alongside years of experience and a flair for producing unforgettable shows. She's been a staple of the Cincinnati drag scene for more than 6 years, boasting work at every drag venue in the city—including winning an artist residency at the former Cabaret and serving as cast and/or co-show director at Birdcage and e19. She now freelances and produces her own pop-up performances, delivering the divine with a clever dose of her signature shenanigans.



P.H. Dee



Sasha Grant

Sasha Grant brings a trifecta of talent to our stage—mixing Southern Midwest charm, undeniable creativity, and classic Kentucky glam. This queen has deep roots in Frankfort and performances that slay across the state—you know she's primed to bring down the house for her first appearance at this year's Wigs & Waffles. Back in her home state, you can find her as a staple on the rotating cast of Le Moo's regular weekend drag brunches, and is also the creator of Sasha's SaturSLAY at Crossings Lexington.

Umi Naughty comes to us from Louisville, bringing dazzling outfits, high energy, and campy performances—both here and throughout the South and Midwest. With more than eight years of experience, Umi has delighted crowds with her fierce looks as a former cast member of the Cabaret in Cincinnati, and currently performs as one of the hosts at the renowned Le Moo Drag Brunch. Loving the creative challenge of themed events, she delivers a stunning repertoire of characters—think Lady Gaga to Chewbacca and beyond.



Umi Naughty



DJ Matthew Kroeger

DJ Matthew Kroeger is the mastermind behind the sounds and vibes at this year's brunch, an event where his creative edge and technical expertise can both stun and shine. Immersed in the audiovisual field since 2011, he launched his own company, Queen City Productions, in 2016—his focus is comprehensive lighting design, projection mapping, and stage set creation. Whether he's lighting up a corporate event, energizing a campground party, or setting the scene at your favorite bar, Matthew's always where the good times are happening.

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Wigs & Waffles After Party

June 8, 2025

Rhinegeist Rooftop | 2:30pm–6:00pm

KARAOKE-.BE

June 14, 2025

Wyoming Village Green Pavilion | 4:30pm–6:30pm

Drag Bingo

June 20, 2025

Braxton Factory 52 | 7:00pm–10:00pm

Fueled Collective Happy Hour

June 25, 2025

Fueled Collective | 4:30pm–6:30pm

Cincinnati Magazine Pride Block Party

June 27, 2025

Court Street Downtown | 5:00pm–8:00pm

QCC EVENTS COMING SOON!

Boos & Bacon

October 2025

The Return of this QCC Fave | Date/Details SOON

Sip & Slay

December 2025

Holiday MUST | Date/Details SOON

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TO DATE!**



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LOCAL DOLLARS. LOCAL IMPACT.

In 2024, **Queen City Charities** awarded **\$43,000 to 12 organizations** creating meaningful change within the Greater Cincinnati LGBTQ+ community. As we expand our grantmaking efforts, we aim to increase our impact by driving measurable results and empowering our partners to build a stronger, healthier, and more inclusive LGBTQ+ community.

It's through events like Wigs & Waffles that allow Queen City Charities to help fund critical projects in the LGBTQ+ community here in Greater Cincinnati.



Are you an organization making an impact in the Greater Cincinnati LGBTQ+ community?

If you're interested in learning more about Queen City Charities' grantmaking process—or if you have a question—please fill out the interest form on our website or email us at **grants@queencitycharities.com**. We'd love to hear from you!

OUR GRANTMAKING

MAKING AN IMPACT ONE DOLLAR AT A TIME

Queen City Charities supports impactful organizations in the Greater Cincinnati LGBTQ+ community through financial grants. **Our mission is to facilitate positive change in our hometown by directing funds where they can make the most significant impact.**

We believe in simplicity—recognizing that impactful work often happens without a paid staff or grant application experience. Our straightforward and transparent process aims to ensure diligence and responsible stewardship of donor funds.

Further information may be found at queencitycharities.com/grantmaking



BASIC REQUIREMENTS

- Must be a 501(c)(3) organization in good standing or have a fiscal sponsor who is a 501(c)(3) in good standing
- Operate in the Greater Cincinnati area
- Provide at least two years of financial statements (if a newer organization, available past financial information and two years of financial projections)
- Completed application by the provided deadline
- Provide the Grant Screening Committee with any requested information or an interview, if requested



WHAT WE FUND

- Queen City Charities directs grants exclusively toward programming, projects, or initiatives benefiting the Greater Cincinnati LGBTQ+ community.
- These funds cannot be allocated for general administrative costs within the recipient organization.
- Our focus is on fostering direct impact and supporting tangible efforts that enhance the well-being and inclusivity of the LGBTQ+ community in our area.



2025 IMPORTANT DATES

Below are our anticipated dates for our 2025 grant cycle. These dates are subject to change until the applications become publicly available.

April 14, 2025: Grant Application Available

July 1, 2025: Grant reporting for 2024 grant recipients due.

July 1, 2025: Grant Applications Due

July-August 2025: Grant Screening Committee convenes. Additional information may be requested from the applicant.

September 15, 2025: Grant Letters Awarded

October 1, 2025: Funds Disbursed

A COMMUNITY IN NEED

2 IN 3

LGBTQ+ people have experienced anti-LGBTQ+ violence or abuse (Stonewall)

60%

of LGBTQ+ youth who want mental health care are not able to get it (The Trevor Project)

18%

of youth in foster care in Hamilton County, OH, identify as LGBTQ (Safe and Supported Community Plan)

40%

of the homeless youth population identify as LGBTQ, while only 7% of the overall population identifies as LGBTQ (University of Chicago)

28%

of LGBTQ youth reported experiencing homelessness or housing instability at some point in their lives (The Trevor Project)

41%

of transgender individuals have experienced a hate crime or incident because of their gender identity (Stonewall)

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