

# Entertainers raise funds to combat HIV

By Tammy McMahan  
Sentinel-Voice

The modern day plague of AIDS is twenty years old. Golden Rainbow's "Ribbon of Life" program, an entertainment spectacular that raises funds to assist HIV-positive and AIDS-afflicted individuals, is fifteen years old. Throughout those fifteen years, Ribbon of Life has been a celebration of triumph in the midst of the AIDS tragedy.

Golden Rainbow is a nonprofit organization that provides housing and financial help to men, women and children affected by the, as yet, incurable disease. The organization's Ribbon of Life benefit was held in the Mandalay Bay Theater on June 16 and 17.

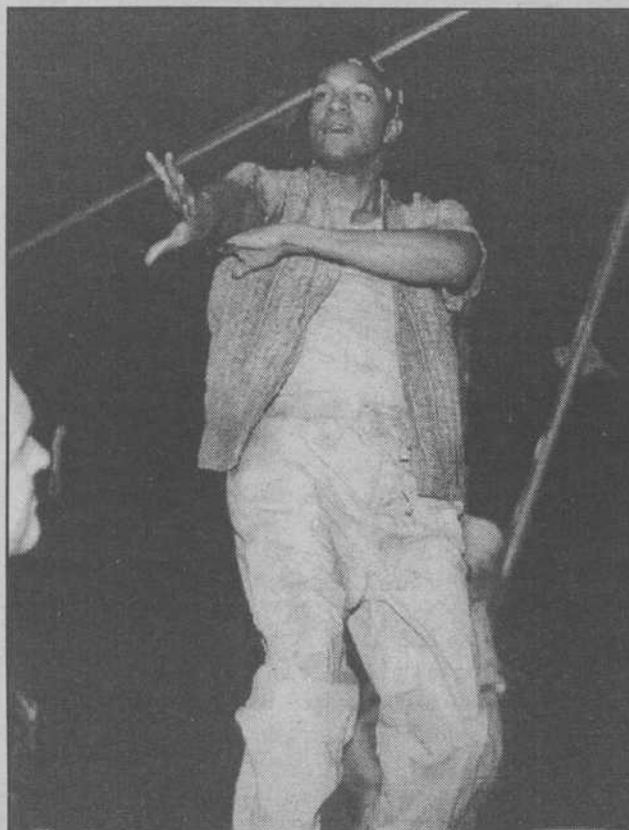
Through song, dance and words of encouragement, the production sent a message of hope to the HIV/AIDS community. The uplifting, entertaining and educational show is the product of the efforts of

Golden Rainbow officials, local entertainers and stage technicians, and media personalities. The creative forces behind the show looked to Broadway, modern music, and to the Strip for inspiration.

This year, scene reenactments from such Broadway favorites as *The Wiz*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Heat Wave*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Les Miserables*, *Nunsense* and *Kiss of the Spider Woman* were featured.

In recognition of the fifteenth anniversary milestone, reenactments of these musicals were preceded by brief broadcasts of past Ribbon of Life performances of these works.

*Heat Wave*, and *The Gay 90's Musical*, *Looking Back...Moving On*, offered two standout performances. *Heat Wave's* gender switcheroo and *The Gay 90's Musical's* song about the modern woman's man problems made the audience howl



Dancers from the strip performed to help raise funds for needed programs.

Sentinel-Voice photo by Joyce H. Hudson

with laughter. However, Broadway didn't completely steal the

From the opening sensual, spiritual rendition of "Purple Rain" to the naughty strains of "Darling Nikki" to the high-energy, "Let's Go Crazy," the audience cheered and barely stayed in their seats.

Whether acting out Broadway hits or dramatic interpretations of Prince's music, cast members from various Strip productions- including Storm, Cirque Du Soleil, EFX: Jubilee!, and Men Are From Mars, Women are From Venus, captivated audiences with their range of talents, from soulful singing to graceful moves to comic antics. Strip notables Clint Holmes, Rick Springfield and Jimmy Hopper also showed their support in song.

Amidst the "showbizness," Golden Rainbow's mission of helping the HIV/AIDS community was made clear.

During the show, news personalities Nancy Byrne and Jon Summers mentioned

that the nonprofit group operates eight apartments and a 3-bedroom home, to house people who would likely otherwise be homeless. They also stated that Golden Rainbow helps with payments for utilities, groceries, child care, transportation, health-related costs and other expenses.

During the post-show reception, Golden Rainbow's Interim Executive Director, Arlene Cooper, stated, "What we do is a wonderful thing. The money we're raising will help people have some quality of life. We're here to make their lives easier-that's the bottom line."

Golden Rainbow President Lee Plotkin added, "Golden Rainbow is aware of the dramatic rise of HIV/AIDS in the minority community. We're committed to serve whatever community is affected by this disease."

For more information on Golden Rainbow, call 384-2899 or visit their website at [www.goldenrainbow.org](http://www.goldenrainbow.org).

## Foundation for student scholarships receives additional \$5,000

Household Credit Services (HCS), recognized for consumer finance, recently donated \$5,000 to the Community College of Southern Nevada Foundation, Inc.

The funds will be used to provide scholarships for needy students majoring in business, said Helen Clougherty, foundation executive director.

"We deeply appreciate the continuing generosity of Household Credit Services, one of

Southern Nevada's tremendous corporate citizens," said Clougherty. Hailed as a "wonderful educational partner with CCSN," the Fortune 500 subsidiary of Household International has provided similar scholarship grants since 1996.

The grant was made as a part of Household's Support of Higher Education program to U.S. colleges and universities for scholarships, career development centers,

diversity initiatives and minority assistance. "Household is committed to many educational efforts," said Pearl Tao, manager of

HCS human resources, "and we hope our contributions can assist CCSN students to pursue an education and career in business."

## Administrator

(Continued from Page 1) NAACP Tuesday evening with several strong warnings to the audience regarding their behavior and the purpose of the meeting.

While he exhorted them to look to the future and leave behind negativity and the many problems of the past, he also said that anyone who disrupted the meeting would be removed.

The Las Vegas Branch's Charter was formally suspended April 21, by a unanimous vote of the NAACP National Board of Directors. The action came after hear-

ings were held in Las Vegas regarding the branch's election violations and several other infractions. Results of the election were also nullified by the suspension.

The suspension is the second action taken by the NAACP's National Board toward the Las Vegas Branch within the past three years.

Suspension of the Las Vegas Branch Charter means that there is no official NAACP activity taking place. The general members are "at-large," members. There are no NAACP officers, no executive committee. There is

not even a Las Vegas NAACP office.

Tuesday night's meeting was called by Nelson Rivers III, director NAACP's National Field Operations, to discuss the status of operations and to give the membership a national office update.

Much work lies ahead for Frank A. Humphrey, the man appointed as Branch Administrator for the reorganization. His job is to rebuild the organization and make sure everyone plays by the rules of the NAACP.

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## Churches

(Continued from Page 1) has taught herself html (the computer language for making websites), has taken advance courses in computer technology at the community college and specializes in web designing.


Churches In Las Vegas utilize the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority website; KCEP-FM, "Power 88"; KVBC-TV; Tourist Guide Publications and local church flyers to boast about the numerous churches in Vegas.

Live audio of local pastors, a business resource center, legal resource center and a church directory, employment job listings and website links are all just a click away on this first for Las Vegas.


As an added bonus, there is a 24-hour live gospel media center available when you surf the site.

"Whatever questions you have, we can help, nine times out of ten," said Heard of the website. "I want to see every church on the net...a global church network."

**"...for those that count on you to stay healthy!"**



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Most insurances are accepted. To schedule an appointment, please call one of our convenient locations listed to the right. Walk-ins are welcome.

*Follow the Rainbow to Good Health!*