Your Source for Drag in Arizona

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Kings Korner

KINGS KORNER

Mister Rainbow Cactus 1st Alternate 2012 Jensen Dean presents Scholarship Funds Need Love Too! A show benefiting Phoenix Pride Scholarship Fund.



Tabatha Lovall Miss Pumphouse II

2011





Freddy Prnize Charming Mister Phoenix Pride 2011



Olivia Gardens Miss Phoenix Pride 2011



Ayden Layne Mister King Of The Desert 2009





Eddie **Broadway**



Hosted by: Miss Rainbow Cactus 2011 **Kedence McKenize**





15615 N. Cavecreek Rd. Phx, AZ. 85032

KING OF THE MONTH

FREDDY PRINZE CHARMING



What was your first experience with the art of Male Impersonation?

My first experience was very different than most people's. It was in my high school years in Thailand and liquor laws etc were pretty lax (I never got ID'd at bars/clubs). I got to see a fantastic show in Pattaya called "Alcazar", it was some of the best female impersonators I've ever seen.

Following the first experience, what made you want to become a Male Impersonator?

It was after seeing the movie "Tipping the Velvet, which happened after I saw a king at Tucson Pride and I thought, "Hey, I could do that!" It was the movie that helped get Freddy into his signature tail-coats, also when I realized it was a great way to give back to the community, that clinched it.

How did you get your drag name?

I hate it when people ask me this (LOL) I don't really have a good story for this. I was throwing a bunch of names out there, trying to find one that was just right. I didn't really want one that was a sexual innuendo, because that's just not who Freddy is. A bunch of people in my life at the time always called me a "real gentleman" and a real "prince charming", that's when the light bulb went on.

How long have you been performing in drag?

Professionally, since 2005. I made my drag debut at the ripe old age of 5 as Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer in my kindergarten Christmas concert (Rudolph is a male reindeer) I also played various male roles in my high school theater.

Who inspired you to do drag?

Good Question, I don't know that there's one specific person. I decided it was something I definitely wanted to do, I found the support to do it in the original members of Dragstar Cabaret, in Tucson.

How long does it take you to go through a full transformation...from shower to stage?

It depends on what sort of facial hair I'm rocking that night, what my hair is doing, and how difficult the "girls" are being. It can take anywhere from half an hour to an hour.

Who are some of your drag inspirations?

I think for me the question would be better asked as WHAT are some of my drag inspirations, not so much whom. I'm inspired by a lot of things. There are movies and tv shows that give me inspirations for costumes and songs, there are people in my life who inspire certain numbers, there are performers who I consider family who are constantly inspiring me to keep raising the bar, there are songs that inspire me.

Where do you find your inspirations for the songs you perform?

My friends and fans help me out on this a lot. A good majority of the songs I do have been suggested by others I come across accidentally, either by browsing YouTube or Itunes.

What is your style of drag?

Classy! You will never find Freddy being raunchy or rude on stage, even when I push the envelope and bring out the floggers (ha!) I still try to keep it classy. It's what has gotten me this far, and it's what people have come to expect from me.

In March of 2011 you won the title of Mister Phoenix Gay Pride, describe the experience?

Nuts! The whole process was nuts, from people who agreed to help who didn't, to staying up

until 4am the day of the pageant to finish costumes. I pulled out a number and set in the last 10 days before the pageant, thanks to the help of great friends. The pageant itself was great I knew it was going to be close, whatever the results, which kept me on my toes the whole night, it was an especially special night fro me because my partner's kids got to see their "step-Freddy" take the crown.

With that title, what do you hope to achieve throughout your reign?

I hope to start a couple new events that could become annual events, bring the kings and queens closer together, and be a voice for everyone in the community.

What is one thing people may not know about you?

I've lived in 5 different countries, and can get by in 3 other languages besides English, and I hate peas.

Besides winning Mister Phoenix Gay Pride, what has been your biggest accomplishment as an entertainer?

I feel being able to help out numerous organizations and individuals as Freddy.

What does doing Male Impersonation mean to you?

It's the easiest way to use our talents as entertainers to do something good and give back to the community that supports us and our craft.

Where do you see yourself in five years?

Freddy: King of the World! (LOL) Just Kidding. With luck, I'll still be doing drag. I'll still be with the incredible woman I'm with now, we'll have a house with a room just for Freddy (trust me, he needs it) and we'll be getting ready to go to the oldest child's graduation from high school. Basically, I see myself as happy.

What is one thing you want to change about the LGBTQ community as Mister Phoenix Gay Pride?

This is a tough one. I think generally, we're a good community. I would like to see less of the "cliqiness" that occurs so often. It puts a wedge between all of us, and creates dissent within the community.

What advice would you give somebody interested in becoming a Male Impersonator?

Ask for help! There are plenty of kings and queens who can and will help you get started, and it's always good to have someone in your corner.

Do you think Drag Kings are as welcomed in the community like Drag Queens are? What needs to change so that both get the same respect?

Ha! This is actually something that comes up quite a bit. No, I don't think we are. All you have to do is pick up any magazine and the proof is there. All the bars have queen shows, and very few of those shows ever really involve kings. Kings have never really received show pay for shows that we do, even if the queens in the show do. We get told we can keep our tips, but there's no show-pay. There are so many kings in town that are fantastic entertainers, who don't bring drama, and people need to recognize this. We can be just as fabulous as queens, we can bring just as big of a crowd, and we can work the audience just as we'll. We just need to be seen on the same level as the queen, and it's up to the bar owners and show organizers to do that.

Anything else you like to say to the readers of ArizonaDrag.com?

I'm thrilled to be able to represent the Phoenix LGBTQ community this year, especially along side someone as fantastic as Olivia. I hope to do Brandi and the entire Pride Organization proud.

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