Fantasia Fair '97

Participant's Guide

Give Yourself a Gift You Will Remember Forever

October 19-26, 1997

Provincetown, Cape Cod

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The Pilgrim House

The Vixen Lounge-

Lobby Bar
Dance Bar
Show Bar

Open All Year

All rooms have private baths

In the Center of Town

336 Commercial St.
Provincetown, MA 02657
508-487-6424

Directions:Follow Rt. 6 to the second Provincetown exit at the light. This is Cromwell St., turn left and follow to a stop at Bradford St. Turn right on Bradford and take a quick left onto Center St. Go Straight to Commercial St. and turn right. Take the next right onto Freeman and bear right up a grade to our parking area. The Inn is on your right as you drive in.

WELCOME FROM THE FAIR DIRECTOR

The magic of Fantasia Fair is soon to happen once again. We are excited that you will be there to share it with us. Our staff has been working very diligently throughout the year to ensure that this will be the best event you attend this year. We've gathered some of the most intelligent and influential gender professionals and specialists to assist in enhancing your gender journey.

If this is your first event, or first time venturing out in public, it may be a little bewildering to see so many TG people strolling about town. You will be awestruck by the way your inhibitions naturally deminish from being in such a comfortable setting, and soon you will be one of those individuals strolling about town as well. You will then realize that this is the beginning of something wonderful.

If you are returning to the Fair, we thank you for joining us once again and making the magic happen. It is our returning participants that bring continuity and a genuine sense of sisterhood to the Fair. Your continued support allows FanFair and the Outreach Institute to reach those who may be reluctant to reach out. We truly thank you for your dedication!

In recent years, Fantasia Fair has undergone many changes to respond to the everchanging community. Without your input, we would not know how these changes affect your needs as an individual. So please, take the time to speak with our professional and administrative staff. Your input is of the utmost importance to ensure that FanFair and the Outreach Institute remain relevant and successful.

On behalf of the staff of Fantasia Fair '97 and the board of the Outreach Institute of Gender Studies, I'd like to welcome each and every one of you and wish you a most exciting and pleasant week at Fantasia Fair. Enjoy... It's all for you!

Sincerely,

Weslee

Ms. Weslee Avery, Director

PROVINCETOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Box 1017 • Provincetown • MA 02657 (508) 487-3424

Welcome To Provincetown

Provincetown - a unique place at the very tip of Cape Cod, welcomes you to the 1997 Fantasia Fair. We have a long tradition of welcoming a diverse group of visitors which began in 1650 when the Pilgrims first landed here.

In the town there are many fine shops, restaurants and galleries, all of which will be glad to see and serve you. And around us there are 30 miles of National Seashore with great beaches and glorious dunes. Walking and biking trails make these easily accessible.

You will find Provincetown a friendly place where you will be welcome and comfortable. If the Chamber of Commerce can assist you in any way, please feel free to call on us.

Robert Harrison
President
Provincetown Chamber of Commerce,Inc.

Fantasia Fair

23 years old and blossoming forever young!

Celebrating the union of mind, body and spirit for an enlightened life.

Friends await you at Fantasia Fair. Old friends, for many; new friends, for everyone... because each Fair is a discovery. We'd like to share some thoughts with you about Fantasia Fair—what it is, what it's been, and where it's going in the future.

FanFair Moments That Have Made A Difference

•Coming to the only CD gathering that uses a whole town as its meeting room.

•Stepping out of the front door of an inn and walking down the street in the bright Cape Cod sunlight, as a woman. The first time - afraid, yes, but so proud. And then...the fear goes away.

•Sitting in the warm glow of the bar at the Pilgrim House, laughing with friends till your cheekbones start to ache.

•Attending a session with Niela Miller, a therapist who matches her deep knowledge of gender diversity with her affection for Fair participants. And, you accomplish more in an hour than in a week full of hours with other therapists.

•Sharing the difficulties a new friend is having at home as you talk and stroll the beach front, accompanied by the tiny, rippling waves from the ocean, past the balconies of the Watermark where other participants wave right back.

•Buttering an oven-warm muffin in The Chicago House dining room early one morning, reluctant to release your white coffee mug, and discussing with bleary-eyed

The Patrician

Neighborhood Convenience Store
U.S. Post Office Annex

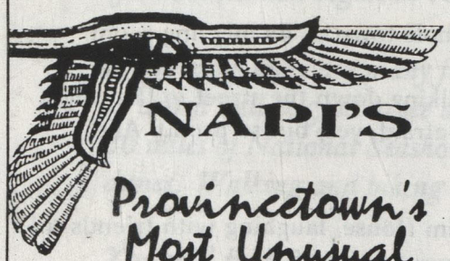
Groceries, Beer & Wine, Books & Magazines
Health & Beauty Aid, Hot Coffee, Newspapers
VCR Repair & Fax Service, Film Processing
Lottery, Video & Equipment Rental

Open Year Round
Parking Available

212 Bradford St.,
Provincetown, MA 02657
508-487-2339 Tel. 508-487-6015 Fax

The Tip of the Cape for Tops in Service

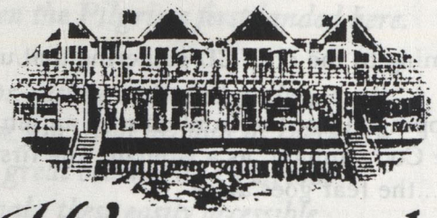
CARRERIO'S
TIP - FOR - TOPS'N, Inc.
RESTAURANT
BREAKFAST - LUNCH - DINNER
PORTUGUESE SPECIALITIES
3 GENERATIONS OF CARREIROS
31 BRADFORD ST., PROVINCETOWN, MA
TELEPHONE: 487-1811



NAPI'S
Provincetown's Most Unusual Restaurant

7 Freeman Street
Provincetown, MA 02657
508-487-1145

"One Of Cape Cod's Six Best Restaurants"
—says Boston Magazine



Watermark Inn

Located in Provincetown's quiet east end, we have created the ultimate vacation place. Outside, the Watermark Inn retains the charm of traditional New England architecture, but on the inside you'll find ten magnificent contemporary styled suites. Watermark Inn is right on the beach, with more than 80 feet of private deck for lounging or sunning.
603 Commercial Street
Provincetown MA 02657
For Reservations: Please Write or Call

508-487-0165

housemates only two topics: gender issues and everything else in the world.

•Shopping (window or otherwise) for one-of-a-kind items up and down narrow, cozy Commercial Street: leather and lace, fisherman's sweaters and sequined vests; artist-designed jewelry priced from just two dollars to far too much.

•Dining at a Luncheon Seminar where a speaker you never heard of offers thoughts about gender life you never encountered before.

•Breathing the cool breeze that comes in saltwater fresh and all yours.

•Bowing your head in the Unitarian Church, Fair participants and townspeople together, gay and straight, gentle people all. But people who stand up strong for their right—and each other's right—to exist without excuse or apology.

•Decorating the wee hours with conversation at Roomers, the inn that never sleeps.

•Taking the stage in the FanFair Follies, in the spotlight and performing to volleys of applause and yelps of appreciation. And leaving the stage with a layer of confidence you didn't have before.

•Bumping into an old friend who is also out on the long pier, taking pictures of the fishing trawlers and the Provincetown buildings, arrayed tightly along the oceanfront.

•Climbing the dunes that cushion the opposite coastline only five minutes away, finding a time to be by yourself, peaceful, and at rest.

•Hugging the friend you met the first day and haven't seen since.
Looking back on five days of joy and realizing there are still three days to go.

•Exploring new issues and discovering different paths at the seminars you attend, feeling your mind, perhaps long-shuttered and locked, begin to reach out and open.

•Dancing "till you drop" on the wavy floor of the A-House, in a spill of spinning lights and sound, followed by late-night pizza at Spiritus with a friend.

The West End of P-Town Begins Here

BUBALA'S BY THE BAY RESTAURANT

BREAKFAST 8-NOON
LUNCH 11:30-5
DINNER 5-11
BAR TIL 1:00 AM

FREE ON-SITE PARKING

FULL VIEW OF
P-TOWN HARBOR

EXCELLENT FOOD ALL DAY

183-185 Commercial Street, Provincetown
on the water
487-0773

SPIRITUS

PIZZA

Ice Cream

Haagan Daz
Emack & Bolio's
Coconut Joe's Frozen Yogurt

Gourmet Coffee

Featuring
the Best Buzz
in Town:

Espresso Shake

open noon-2:00 am daily

190 Commercial Street, Provincetown
dining in or out

487-2808

•Having your photo taken by Mariette Pathy-Allen, letting her bring out an image of you that you might not have imagined.

•Learning makeup tips and hair care secrets that make everything more fun while enjoying the natural blush applied to your face by the Provincetown air.

•Striding out on the "runway" in the Fashion Show, as part of a glossy tribute to the fun and fantasy of clothing styles.

•Noticing a freedom of self even to those who are free to dress full time that no other place offers. It's captured and saved for you here in Provincetown, so you can return and reenergize in this place of simple and unquestioning acceptance.

•Living every day as you wish instead of as you must, and allowing the luxury of these days, these eight magical days, to wash over you as a balm.

•And This Year. . . The Fair is 22 years old, but newer than it has ever been, and more dedicated than ever to your complete enjoyment.

Gifford House INN

Welcomes
FANTASIA FAIR

Spacious Rooms, Private Baths,
Porchside Bar with Fireplace Open Daily 6pm-1 am
Friendly Staff!

800-434-0130 508-487-0688

9-11 CARVER STREET PROVINCETOWN, MA 02657

Planning for a Magical Week

"Being well dressed is not a question of having expensive clothes or the 'right' clothes– I don't care if you're wearing rags–but they must suit you."
—Louise Nevelson

We'd like to share some tips with you about packing and preparing for Fantasia Fair. For many newcomers, this is the first time you have dressed completely as a woman for an extended period of time. As a result, a little more planning may be in order. We hope this advice makes your trip a little easier and a lot more enjoyable. The most important tip of all?
Be yourself and have fun!

Wardrobe Planning

What to wear, what to wear? It's an eternal question which becomes even more challenging when packing for the fickle weather of Cape Cod in October. Be sure to stick in a raincoat and umbrella and some flats for the rough pavement. However, there are some basic guidelines that can help as you assemble your week's attire.

How Are You Traveling?

If you're arriving by personal vehicle, you can obviously bring as much as you can stuff into your car, van or eighteen-wheeler. However, if you're coming in via airplane or carpooling, you may need to conserve space and make some critical decisions.

Color Theme Approach

Coordinate your basic dress/skirt/blouse/slacks/sweater wardrobe around one or two basic color ranges (earth tones, jewel tones, pastels, etc.), colors that make you look terrific! Then, you can mix and match those items for day and evening wear as you wish, using layering to adjust to whatever temperature Provincetown gives us. Most of all, bring clothes you love to wear, because this is your week!

Bring Something Dressy

You should have two cocktail dresses (or plan to accessorize one differently), as well as one formal gown for the Awards Banquet. Remember to bring all the jewelry, shoes and accessories those outfits require.

Bring Something Casual

Not grungy... but relaxed and comfortable. You may decide to go whale watching or hiking on the dunes, and you wouldn't want to do those things in an organza sheath and stiletto pumps (or would you?). In any case, jeans, flats or sneakers, a sweatshirt and a warm jacket will prove invaluable.

Bring Something Frivolous

If you plan to take part in the FanFair Follies and/or the Fantasy Ball (costume party anything goes), don't forget to bring everything you'll need. there are marvelous clothing stores in P'town, but not much in the way of stage or costume apparel. . . unless you want to dress up as a Portuguese fisherman!

Odds & Ends

Remember to pack all those little things: cosmetics and beauty products, jewelry and scarves, pantyhose and socks, shoes for all occasions (four to six pairs should do it), underwear and foundation garments, gloves and umbrella, etc. And you'll want a couple nice nightgowns, robe and slippers for your inn's pajama parties.

Happy Packing!

Paul Richards
HAIR SALON
"Stylist to the Stars"
The Best Professionals in the Beauty Industry

We can create a look for you from soft day's to glamorous nights

Full Nail Services
Make up Applications
Wig Styling

Open 7 days/eves
182 Commercial St., Provincetown
508-487-3500 Visa/ Master Card

Provincetown's
Italian Restaurant By The Sea

99 Commercial Street, in the West End
Reservations Suggested 487-1279
Open 7 Days a Week in Season
Master Card/ Visa

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Have a Happy
23rd Fantasia Fair
With Lot's of Love,
Jack Lawton & Dana Noble

****

Special Offers

The Journal of Gender Studies, current and back issue copies are available for only $ 7.00 each, a 50% savings, for some great reading and gender issue discussions.
Please include $ 2.00 for shipping and handling.

Video Tapes from Fantasia Fair:

An Overview of Fantasia Fair $ 12.00
(refundable with Fair Registration for 1997)

The FF Fashion Show and Follies 1994, 1995, 1996
$ 30.00 each (all are two tapes)

Educational Videos, 30 to 50 minutes long.

Pathway to Gender Happiness	$ 17.00
Panel Presentation on TG Issues	$ 17.00
Sex Reassignment Surgical Procedures	$ 20.00
Relationship Issues for Wives and Partners	$ 17.00
Senior Crossdressers and Lifestyle in Retirement	$ 20.00
Crossgender Issues and Coping Strategies	$ 17.00

add $ 4.00 per tape for shipping and handling

You may send cash, check, or money order to,
O.I.G.S.
126 Western Ave, Suite 246,
Augusta, ME 04330.

Please return following form with remittance in U.S. funds to:

OIGS , 126 Western Ave., Suite 246 Augusta, ME, 04330

Check ____; Money order ____; VISA ____; M/C ____;
Name on Card: _____
Credit Card Number: _____ **Exp. Date:** _____
Ship to: Name _____
Street: _____ **Apt;** _____
Town _____ **State** _____ **Zip** _____ **Country** _____

Evening Activities

Sunday, Oct. 19

7:00 pm Welcome Buffet & Reception – It's a come-as-you-are party to meet other Fair participants and some of our dear friends from Provincetown. It is a delightful occasion to unwind. Old timers will introduce you around to help get to know everybody. Who knows, you may even join a few friends to go out on the town afterwards for a bit of dancing. As an added treat this year, we will be entertained by some of our very talented sisters to start the week off right.

Monday, Oct. 20

6:60 pm Diversity Dinner – (formerly known as the Town & Country Supper) Come to a "church supper" and join the local Folk for an evening of food fun and fellowship. This is not a "fashion" show but an opportunity to be casual and mingle with loving and interesting people.

10:00 House Party's – On several nights during the fair, your House Mother will have a House Party. You will get to know your sisters a little better at each one. Feel free to pop into a party other than your own.

Tuesday, Oct. 21

8:30pm FanFair Fashion Show – The FanFair Fashion Show is "the" fashion event of the year. Folks from all over the Cape will gather to watch this wondrous display of fashion on the cutting edge. The show features casual, sports and day-wear during the first half. After-5 outfits (cocktail and evening dresses) and special occasion ensembles (wedding gowns) are featured in the second half.

Wednesday, Oct. 22

6:30pm Outreach Institute Awards Reception and 8:00 Banquet

The festivities will recognize some special people from Provincetown who support the Fair and the Outreach Institute. Ariadne Kane, Executive Director of the Institute, will present a report of Institute activities for the past year. The prestigious Outreach Award will be giving to an individual who has demonstrated special effort in educating people about gender issues.

Thursday, Oct. 23

8:30pm Fanfair Follies – This is it! The event everyone has been waiting for. Presenting the 1997 FanFair Follies. You name it; we got it! Live music, lip-synch, comedy, drama, magic, and lots of just plain fun. And, believe it or not, they're all amateurs. Curtain goes up at 8:30pm sharp!

11:00 PM Apres Follies Party - Join the cast and crew and townies for a super celebration.

Friday, Oct. 24

5:30pm Poetry & wine Bistro – "A book verse, a jug of wine and..." all we are missing "thou." Pleas join local resi ents and Fair attendees at the lov ly Provincetown Museum of Art for a late afternoon gathering of artistic souls. We will be sharing poetry and songs; and sipping wine and light libations. While it is free to registered Fair attendees, your donation will help defray expenses, and support both the Provincetown Museum and the Outreach Institute.

9:00pm FanFair Fantasy Ball – Welcome to Mardi Gras and Halloween all rolled into one great event. Here's your chance to really cut loose and become the fantasy of your dreams. Be Barbarella, Scarlet O'Hara, Madonna, Sally Ride or your favorite heroine of hero! There will be raffles, door prizes, costume prizes, dancing, and party-party-party. A panel of judges will award prizes for best costumes and more.

Saturday, Oct. 25

6:30pm Fantasia Fair Awards Reception and 8:00 Banquet - Put on your prettiest ballgown and celebrate with all your new and old friends. Awards are given to those who have contributed to the success of the Fair. Four are chosen by secret ballots turned in by all the registrants, and one is chosen by Fair Officials. The categories are: Ms. Most Helpful, Ms. Cinderella, Ms. Congeniality, Ms. Femininity,and Ms. Best Dressed.

FanFair Resources

FanFair Gazette

This daily newsletter will keep you informed of changes to Programs and locations of activities, as well as contain "newsy" articles about the Fair and its participants. It is an indispensable part of your Fair experience. The Gazette is delivered to each house on the evening preceding the day's activities. Look for it or ask your House Mother for a copy.

FanFair Book/Video Store

IFGE will bring it's Traveling Book Store to FanFair on Friday & Saturday. Books and videos of interest to transgendered persons, their spouses and professionals, will be available. The Bookstore will be located at the Gifford House. Hours will vary, so watch for the listed times of operation in the daily FanFair Gazette.

The Elite Repeat Boutique

In addition to the Bookstore there is the Elite Repeat Boutique featuring quality used clothing. This clothing has been donated to the Boutique which is operated as a fundraising activity for the Outreach Institute. Please consider donating that beautiful gown that no longer fits (or never did), or other quality clothing to the Boutique. Who knows? You may find something that is really you!

Some Advice

Please leave your macho hangups and attitudes at home. Get to know your sisters and realize the process of bonding is different for men and women. While men usually want to know if the other guy is "tough enough," a woman wants to know if the other woman is "sensitive enough." Women don't hide their emotions behind a facade of calm or anger. Women share their troubles with one another. When they feel close enough to cry with each other it usually leads to serious bonding.

One of the big problems most of us face in life is being defined by others. Often when we meet we exchange some form of credential. In casual encounters, women are far more apt to greet each other with some small compliment rather than a business card. Pay that little compliment; say something nice.

Be sensitive to the needs of your sisters, especially in matters of privacy. We come from all walks of life. Some of us have legitimate need for privacy and guard it jealously. That is each person's right.

We don't need credentials here or checkable references. Realize not everyone will be as "out" in their everyday life as you might be. Especially among first-timers, there is a certain amount of fear. Respect the person who does not wish to answer personal questions. "Judge Not, Lest Ye Be Judged."

The Town

Shopping Heaven

Unique jewelry, superb leather clothing, special fashions, arts and crafts, collectables... you can find it all along Commercial Street that runs the length of Provincetown. Clear the decks (and your credit cards) for some serious shopping, or just window shop with a friend. It's a shopping experience you'll remember.

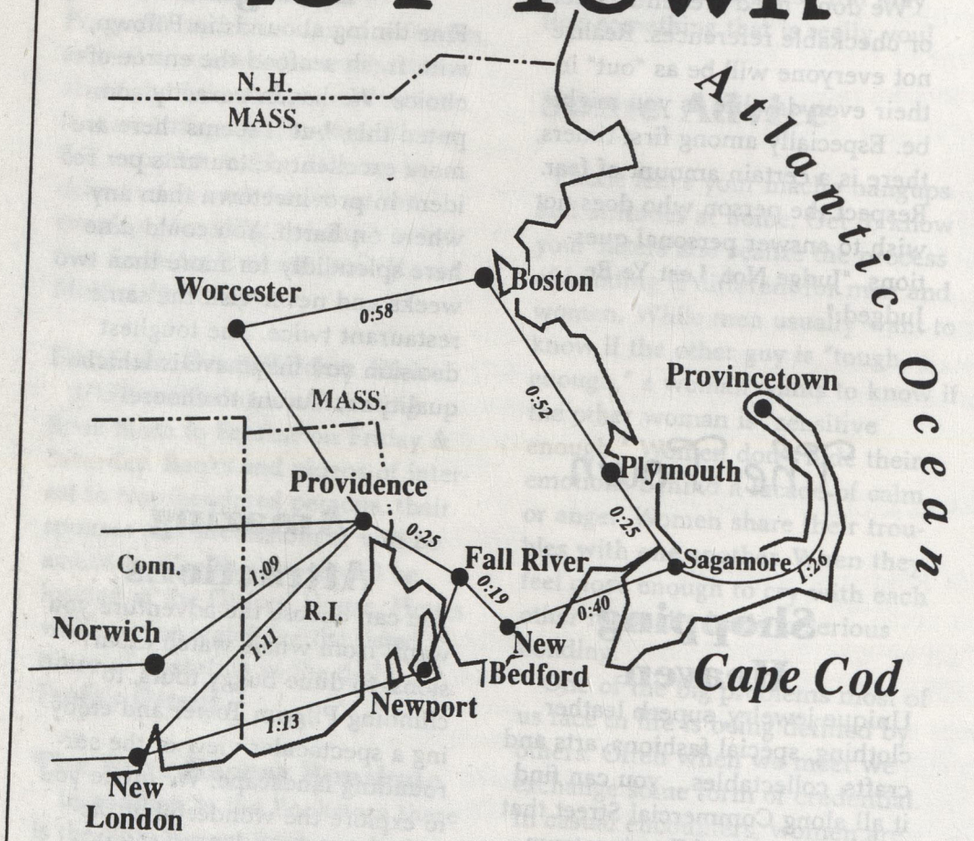
Dining Delights

Fine dining abounds in P'Town, with fresh seafood the entree-of-choice. We haven't exactly computed this, but it seems there are more excellent restaurants per resident in provincetown than anywhere on Earth. You could dine here splendidly for more than two weeks and never visit the same restaurant twice. The toughest decision you may have is which quality restaurant to choose.

Amazing Attractions

You can choose the adventure you want: from whale watch excursions, to dune buggy tours, to climbing Pilgrim Tower and enjoying a spectacular view of the surrounding landscape. We invite you to explore the wonderful attractions that are only found in this special community.

Driving Times to P'Town



Note: Once you get on the Cape, you still have a 90 minute drive to Provincetown

How to Get to Provincetown

Travel to Provincetown

If you usually travel "en femme" then by all means come as your femme self. Otherwise, we suggest you come as yourself and make a changeover in P'town.

By Car

From Boston: Take Rt. 3 south to Cape Cod. Cross the Sagamore Bridge to Rt. 6, and continue on 6 all the way to P'town. (NOTE: Don't be confused by Routes 6 East and West. These run next to the canal, and you should not use them.)

From The West: Take the Mass. Pike to I-495 South (at Westborough). Take I-495 to Rt. 25 South (just past Wareham). Get on Route 6 East and follow it to the Sagamore Bridge. Then follow Route 6 to Provincetown.

From The south: Take I-95 to Providence, then I-195 to Route 25 South (near Wareham). The super highway ends very quickly. Get on Route 6 East and follow it to the Sagamore Bridge. Then follow Route 6 to P'town.

By Plane

Fly to Logan Airport in Boston. Contact CAPE AIR for flight times and reservations to P'town. CAPE AIR is at the Logan Airport, Terminal A, near American Airlines. Their phone number CAPE AIR, Toll Free, 800-352-0714. CAPE AIR has limited flights to Provincetown, so please make your reservations as soon as possible. (See flight schedule on page 19') When you arrive at Provincetown, take a taxi to your Inn, or the Fair's HQ at the Pilgrim House

Allow at least 1 hour in Boston for changing planes to Cape Air.

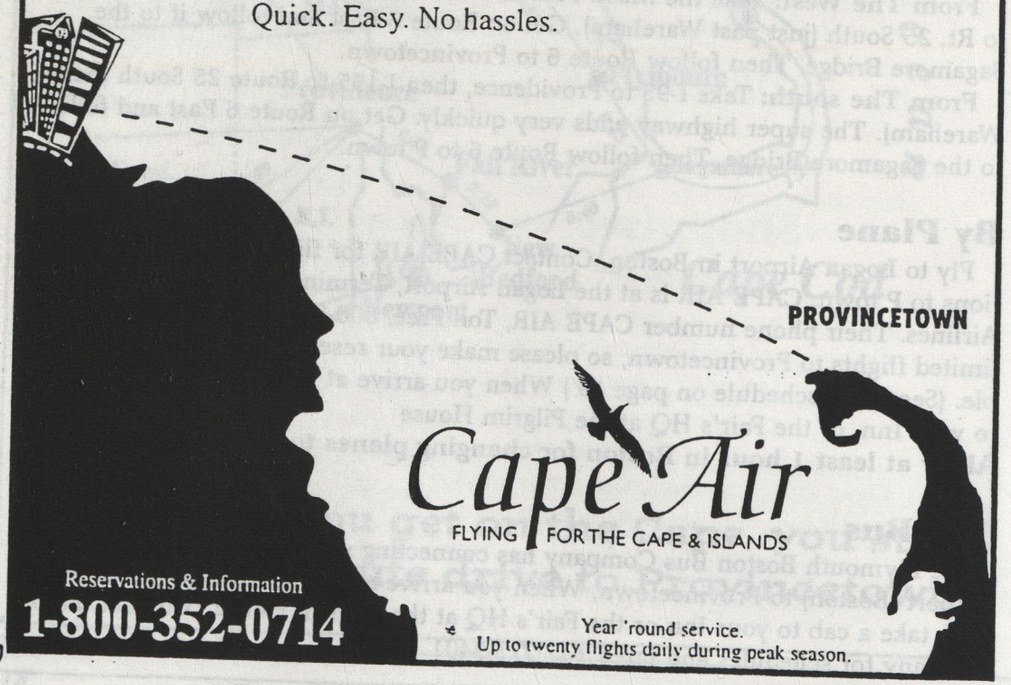
The Bus

The Plymouth Boston Bus Company has connecting services from Logan Airport (Boston) to Provincetown. When you arrive at the Provincetown bus station, take a cab to your Inn or the Fair's HQ at the Pilgrim House. Contact the bus company for schedules and fares. 617-773-9401

Cape Air.

The Official Airline of Fantasia Fair.

Traveling between Provincetown and Boston?
Fly Cape Air.
Just a twenty minute flight.
Quick. Easy. No hassles.



Reservations & Information
1-800-352-0714

Year 'round service.
Up to twenty flights daily during peak season.

By train (to Boston then take a bus)

Amtrack services Boston, and the train arrives at South Station. Trailways is located adjacent to the South Station Complex. Take a bus from Boston to Provincetown.

Getting to know your new "hometown."

For many of us who have been to the Fair before, Provincetown has become a special kind of "hometown," a place where we first remember being totally accepted as who we are. So we'd like you to know a little bit about your new hometown.

Provincetown, located inside the sheltering curl of Cape Cod, was the first landing of the Pilgrims on November 21, 1620. Shortly after landing, the Pilgrims gathered on the Mayflower and drew up the Mayflower Contract, which is considered to be a root document of our Constitution.

Growing to become a major fishing seaport by the mid 1800's Provincetown boasted over 50 wharfs jutting out into the bay. The white wood frame New England sea coast homes, built for the captains and crews of those tall ships, established the flavor of the town you will live in for a week.

Provincetown was discovered by imaginative explorers and has been inhabited from the beginning by people clearly focused on living as they wished. The town also has a storied heritage involving the visual, theatrical and written arts. Perhaps it is this history that has made Provincetown both a symbol and an embodiment of the respect for individual human rights. Its large gay population is active in all aspects of the municipality, and lives side-by-side with others in friendship and cooperation.

Over the years many of our friends from Provincetown have worked hard to make the Fair possible. Fantasia Fair has found a home in Provincetown, and we want you to share it with us and the remarkable, caring people of this wonderful place.

Your Automobile & Provincetown

Provincetown and the Commonwealth have no regulations concerning the manner of dress while operating a motor vehicle. If you choose to drive, carry legal identification, a valid driver's license, and obey all traffic laws. If you are stopped for an infraction, remain calm and show the officer your legal identification. This is not the time to pull out the $5 fake ID. Treat the officer as a lady or gentleman and you will be treated as such. We do not have legal jurisdiction to enforce any parking privileges. The short term parking near the Hospitality Center is available only during Registration. Your lodging site should provide you with a parking space. There are five Public parking areas. The one on Commercial Street (by the wharf) is lighted and patrolled by the police

PLEASE OBSERVE ALL TOWN REGULATIONS CONCERNING STREET/CURB PARKING.

The Fair is not responsible for any tickets received in violation of city ordinance.

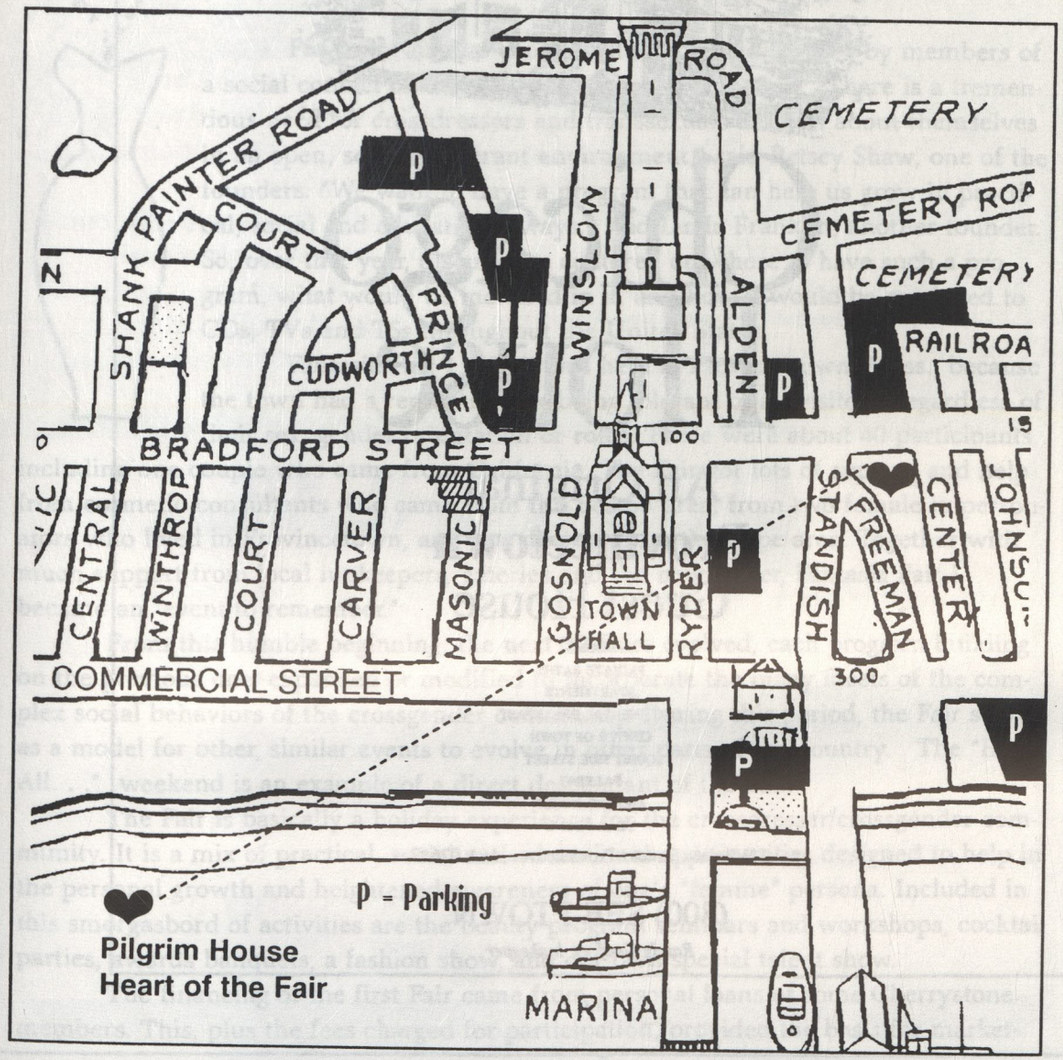
508•487•3532

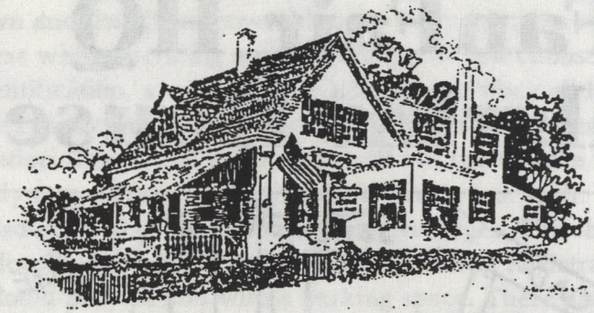
Roomers

Guest House

8 Carver Street, Provincetown, Mass. 02657

FanFair HQ
Pilgrim House





Chicago House

An Original
Provincetown
Guest House

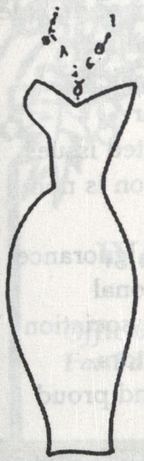
ROOMS
PRIVATE BATHS
APARTMENTS
CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
CENTER OF TOWN
QUIET SIDE STREET
PARKING
AIRPORT PICKUP
YEAR ROUND

6 Winslow Street • Provincetown, MA 02657

(800) SEE-PTOWN

Randy Godfrey, Innkeeper

A Brief History of Fantasia Fair



Fantasia Fair was conceived and created in 1974 by members of a social contact club called Cherrystones of Boston. "There is a tremendous need for crossdressers and transsexuals to learn about themselves in an open, socially tolerant environment," said Betsey Shaw, one of the founders. "We want to have a program that can help us grow in practical, social and educational ways," said Linda Franklin, another founder. So, over that year, discussions centered on where to have such a program, what would be included in it, and how it would be marketed to CDs, TVs and TSs throughout the United States.

Fantasia Fair 1 (1974) was held in Provincetown, Mass., because the town had a reputation for being tolerant of all visitors, regardless of their sex, gender orientation or roles. There were about 40 participants, including one couple who came from California. The Fair got lots of support and help from cosmetic consultants who came from the Boston area, from two female impersonators who lived in Provincetown, and two doctors from the Cape area. Together with much support from local innkeepers, eateries and the newspaper, Fantasia Fair I became an "event to remember."

From this humble beginning, the next 22 Fairs evolved, each program building on the previous one, expanded or modified to incorporate the many facets of the complex social behaviors of the crossgender community. During this period, the Fair served as a model for other, similar events to evolve in other parts of the country. The "Be All. . ." weekend is an example of a direct descendant of the Fair.

The Fair is basically a holiday experience for the crossdresser/crossgender community. It is a mix of practical, social and educational opportunities designed to help in the personal growth and heightened awareness of one's "femme" persona. Included in this smorgasbord of activities are the beauty program seminars and workshops, cocktail parties, awards banquets, a fashion show, and our own special talent show.

The financing of the first Fair came from personal loans of some Cherrystone members. This, plus the fees charged for participation, provided the basis for market-

ing and developing the programs. It continues to serve as the means by which Fantasia Fair happens. Over the years, we have relied on the generosity of Fair administrators, individual participants and professional health care-givers to financially support both this and other Outreach Institute programs. It is our firm belief that we need to provide broad based educational programs not just for our community, but also to the helping professionals who work with us. These include M.D.s, psychologists, social workers, lawyers, nurses, judges and the military.

The Outreach Institute of Gender Studies is committed to programs which broaden understanding of our community, offer resources to Health Care Professionals, further personal growth of individuals facing gender related issues and inform the public of the diversity of gender. The current organization is non-profit with all proceeds dedicated to supporting the above goals.

Over the past 22 years, the Institute has "pushed back the frontiers of ignorance and bigotry" by representing our gender concerns to important professional organizations such as the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality, Association for Humanistic Psychology, and the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors and Therapists. Fantasia Fair and the Outreach Institute stand proud of their small, but important, achievements.

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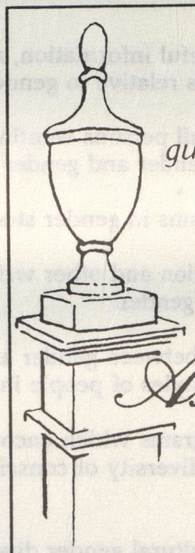

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The Outreach Institute of Gender Studies

Statement of Purpose

It is the purpose of OIGS to educate and conduct research in all aspects related to the phenomenon of gender, as it interfaces with human sexuality. As a social construct, gender phenomena includes a unique and a variable set of attributes that communicate and identify to all, who a person is, what a person does and how a person acts. It is the basis by which societies and cultures structure themselves. To achieve these goals this Institute will:

- Provide programs which broaden understanding about diversity of the gender experience, expression, and perception in daily life.
- Create and implement research projects and studies designed to further the understanding about gender as a social phenomenon.
- Publish relevant and useful information, research results, new ideas and paradigms relative to gender.
- Serve as a resource for all persons wanting information about topics related to gender and gender studies.
- Develop graduate programs in gender studies.
- Make available information and other written materials on various topics related to gender.
- Clarify the relationship between gender and sexual orientations and the lifestyles of people in society.
- Create and sponsor programs which encourage personal growth and explore the diversity of conscious gender communities.
- Promote the idea that cultural gender diversity is a positive human expression, and conscious gender communities exist in all societies

Fantasia Fair is sponsored by the Outreach Institute of Gender Studies

For more information contact:
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