

New Acts May Attract Larger Pride Audience

By Allan Pulga

The Hamilton Spectator

June 12, 2004

Pride Festival's entertainment co-ordinator says new acts on stage will be the key to drawing more visitors to the festival.

"It isn't the same old, same old. We've got some new people who will shake it up a bit," said Lyla Miklos.

Newcomers to the Hamilton Pride Festival's entertainment lineup include standup comedian Colette Kendall, singers Jude Johnson, Erin Smith and Janine Stoll, the Centenary United Church Choir, all-girl band Skarlet O'Hara, lesbian country band The Jayne Waynes, rockers Kelly and the Kelly Girls and Forte! -- The Toronto Men's Chorus.

Miklos said an overwhelming number of local artists, both gay and straight, applied on the festival website to perform. "There are always so many applicants that unfortunately we have to turn some away."

The performances are interspersed throughout the week's formal events.

Forte! performs at a Pride Choir Concert at Centenary United Church (24 Main St. W.) on Sunday, June 20, 7:30 p.m.

For more information, see the website <http://www.hamiltonpride.com> or call 905-528-0207, Ext.45.