

PRESS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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World AIDS Day Honored at the DeFrank Center

Rock for AIDS Awareness Aims to Educate College Age Youth about HIV

(San Jose, December 1, 2005). The Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center recognized December 1st as World AIDS Day by hosting the Rock for AIDS Awareness concert in the grand ballroom on Wednesday, November 30, 2005. Over 200 people, mostly youth ages 16 to 25, came out to listen to four local bands and learn more about HIV prevention.

“While tremendous strides have been made in the battle against HIV and AIDS in recent years, there is still so much more that needs to be done,” said Clark Williams, the DeFrank Center’s interim executive director. “The DeFrank Center is committed and dedicated to preventing the spread of this horrific disease, and I’m excited to host the Rock for AIDS Awareness concert this year. We know that in combination with the DeFrank Center’s AIDSNet Sentry program, this concert will provide incredibly valuable educational opportunities to members of our community and Silicon Valley as a whole.”

Funded by Santa Clara County, the AIDSnet Sentry project is an internet-based prevention program designed to reach men who identify as gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning, curious, or on the “down-low” and use internet-based chat rooms to meet people and engage in high-risk behaviors. Recently the program received extra funding to add a peer to peer component and train additional volunteers to increase outreach potential. To learn more about the program, visit www.aidsnetsentry.org.

Representatives from the DeFrank Center will be attending the World AIDS Day Civic Ceremony in the Rotunda at San Jose City Hall at 200 E. Santa Clara Street on Thursday, December 1, 2005.

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December 1, 2005 Press Release, Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center

About The Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center:

Founded in 1981, the Billy DeFrank LGBT Community Center addresses the needs and rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender people of all ages and backgrounds in Silicon Valley. The DeFrank Center provides a broad range of wellness, social and recreational activities, and emotional support services to approximately 400 visitors each week. The DeFrank Center is a 501(c)3, federally registered, tax-exempt organization, and receives over 21,000 contacts and requests for service a year (either in-person, via phone or on-line). To learn more, visit www.defrank.org.

About Rock for AIDS Awareness:

Created by San Jose State University alumnus Vanae Tran, Rock for AIDS Awareness seeks to unite musicians, college-age youth and the community at large to increase HIV/AIDS awareness, connect people to community resources and raise money for local AIDS service programs. The mission of Rock for AIDS Awareness is to reduce new cases of STD/HIV/AIDS among the college population and provide young adults with the resources needed for sexual health education and support those who are affected. While currently based in the Bay Area, Rock for AIDS Awareness hopes to develop into a nationwide college campaign. To learn more, visit www.rockforaids.org.

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