

## **Carolina Pride Alum Network (CPAN) to Host Intergenerational LGBTQ+ Storytelling Event in Chapel Hill, April 13, 2024**

March 24, 2024 (Chapel Hill, NC) – The Chapel Hill/Carrboro communities are proud to welcome CPAN, the LGBTQ UNC Alumni group to town as they host their annual Spring Reunion weekend April 12-14, 2024.

“The theme of the weekend is storytelling,” says Shelby Bass, Chair of the 2024 events. “The only way we can keep our history alive and grow our community is through sharing our stories.”



*Shelby Bass (they/them) is an award-winning queer activist and art director who believes in the power of media to tell influential stories and transform society's perception of marginalized groups. After graduating summa cum laude from UNC-Chapel Hill, Shelby worked in advertising while volunteering their design expertise for organizations such as the Carolina Abortion Fund, various progressive political organizations, and SparkCon (a NC-based arts organization). They had the privilege to design CPAN's brand identity and logo. Shelby received their master's from Virginia Commonwealth University and currently lives in Brooklyn.*

For the April weekend, CPAN has outlined an exciting itinerary: a reception on Friday, a panel and meet-and-greet on Saturday, and a brunch on Sunday.

“The centerpiece of our April weekend will be the panel discussion. We're bringing together LGBTQ alumni spanning from the 1960s to the 2020s for what I believe will be a rich and insightful conversation. Here's the [one-pager](#) for that discussion.”

Witness the power of story as LGBTQ+ alumni, each a chapter in our shared history, take the stage. From the trailblazers of the 1960s to the young leaders of the 2020s, these alumni will share their stories about their experiences at Carolina.

“We'll explore the challenges of being LGBTQ+ in the south, how Carolina shaped them personally and professionally, how they found community both on and off campus—and how these experiences have evolved through the decades. What's changed? What's stayed the same?” says Bass.

Following these narratives, join us for a reception where our guests will be invited to engage with the storytellers and connect with fellow alums. By the end of the event, our goal is for every alum to have made a connection with someone from every other decade.

*Generations of Pride: Stories of LGBTQ life at Carolina* will let attendees connect on a deeper level and gain insights into the diverse experiences within the LGBTQ+ community at Carolina, building connections across generations.

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