Dispelling the Myths: Drag Kings and Drag Queens Event Report

Event: Date: Thursday, November 25, 3028
Time: 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Venue: FilmBar Phoenix
Facilitator: Marshall Shore
Performers/Panelists: Miss X with Kenny Thames, Mia Inez Adams, Astrid Aurelia, Gray Matter, Eddie Broadway, Melissa Bangzenblo
Total attendees: 70
Number of feedback cards: 35

1. What three words describe your experience from this event?
   Top responses: informative, educated, enlightened, fun

   - Delightful, informative, loving
   - Interested, educated, entertained
   - Entertained, educated, enlightened
   - Eye-opening, informative, personal
   - Informative, fun, worthwhile
   - Informative, awareness, lovely
   - Honored, educated, loved
   - Enlightenment, refreshing, powerful
   - Enlightenment, intensive, important
   - Fluidity, performance, identity
   - Informative, fun, community-based
   - Incredible, eye-opening, grateful
   - First, fun, sincere
   - Enlightenment, resourceful, experience
   - Mind-opening, freeing, different
   - Enlightenment, innovative, inclusive
   - Educational, fun, organized
   - Artistic, passionate, exciting
   - Enlightenment, empowering, emotional
   - Enlightenment, engaging, fun
   - Informative, amazing, magical
   - Educational, fun
   - Informative, fun, local
   - Interesting, fun, different
   - Fun, informative, uplifting
   - Delight, discovery, humanity
● Entertain, educated, enlightened
● Enlightening, intimate, progressive
● Informed, personal, emotional
● Informative, entertaining, opened
● Informational, fun, Interactive
● Enlightenment, interactive, welcoming
● Eye-opening experience
● Education

2. What new awareness did you gain or what is your takeaway from this experience?
Top responses: Transgender culture is unknown and misunderstood. The drag world has depth.

● I felt like I got to know more about those individuals that were speaking.
● There is more to the Phoenix LGBTQ Community than I had known.
● Trans community in the drag community
● “Drag” isn’t gender-specific. “Drag” is what you want to be as long as you are happy with yourself.
● I learned about issues for Trans people and what “drag” covers.
● Trans as a spectrum
● Love
● Culture and age mixtures and perspectives not known
● I have almost no experience with anything drag related so everything was new to me, but I think this helped me understand a lot about Drag and gender identity.
● Fact that trans can be shunned by gay community. We still need a lot to change
● The stigmatization of Trans performers within the larger gay and drag community
● Drag is not about gender.
● Gender, genitalia, identity
● My takeaway is that transgender people are discriminated against which I had no clue about.
● The connection between queer history and current trans rimes
● There is only two people of color in the panel!
● People Are People. Art is art.
● I got to see the world of drag Kings, a world I wasn’t familiar with.
● Drag as more than entertainment. It’s politics.
● I wasn’t aware of all the aspects and wide spectrum of drag.
● A respect for drag performers and an understanding of why drag is so empowering for spectators and performers
● Drag can be whatever you want it to be.
● I gained more knowledge on drag Kings
● The trans experience in Drag and personal experiences
● Seeing young people perform and speak
● Gender F*ck = new awareness
● There are many schools of drag ideology
• What drag has done for our own community and how we can become more open-minded and accepting of everyone
• *Labels hurt all of us.*
• *I am more aware of violence and discrimination of trans people in the community.*
• *There is a world out there I haven’t experienced.*
• New ideas and thoughts were expressed.

3. **How might this impact your life or work?**

*Top responses: How to be more accepting, supportive, and respectful*

• Love and treat one another with respect regardless of gender, orientation, race, etc.
• More understanding
• Awareness is always something that impacts life/work, and I’ve taken that from this event
• Help me understand the spectrum of drag history
• I’d like to work with trans people and issues more
• Acceptance
• *I will be a more aware professionally what and how to ask questions and address people. I’m in healthcare.*
• *I think this event helped me introspect about the biases I have because the culture is new and it made me more aware.*
• Positive and educational
• *I think hearing others’ stories helps build compassion and empathy*
• *This event did impact my life because I now view life as how it’s viewed through a different lens.*
• It’ll impact how I think about who does drag
• Respect for the community
• This could impact me because it shows how one needs to ask and be open.
• *I am considering asking some of the panelists to come to speak to my class.*
• I’m with Trans Queer Pueblo so I am always inspired to see us in these spaces.
• New perspective
• I am going to take this knowledge and run with it. I am eager to learn more. Also, I will be using it to build my Drag Story Times.
• Generating activism!
• It was education and great entertainment.
• It’s propelling me further into exploring drag.
• It’s inspired me to explore being a drag king.
• Drag/trans has been part of my life for 25 years.
• I’ll support the Drag King community.
• I am better able to understand another segment of the LGBTQ community.
• Better insight as a trans person about drag and Performer insight.
• *It teaches me how to interact with others more on a respectful level.*
• Accept myself more. Be kinder to myself.
• *I’m more interested in drag/becoming a drag performer.*
● Not putting people into my boxes.
● It’s made me more aware.

4. What other topics would you be interested in learning about?
● Anything involving human connection and/or communication
● More about other artists in different mediums/genres
● Additional LGBTQ issues (local, national, historical)
● Other subcultures in Arizona and United States
● Healthcare needs of the immigrant, refugee, LGBTQ communities
● Immigrant culture, transgender awareness, other minority groups
● Everything!
● More drag and LGBTQ topics!
● Sex trafficking
● Racism in the LGBTQ+ community
● Sex trafficking
● I would like to hear more about the transgender community
● Community and love
● Older queer history
● History of drag and a deeper understanding of gay culture
● Intersection of minority identities and intersectional feminism
● History of AZ queens
● Any topic you come up with

ASU Staff: 4
ASU Student: 5
Community: 22
Other: 4