



2025 LGBT History Month Kickoff: Let's Have a Ball

When: Thursday, October 2nd, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM EST

Where: Walgreen Drama Center, Towley Studio (1st Floor)

1226 Murfin Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48109

Navigation / Table of Contents

[Event Summary](#)

[Spectrum Center Event Accessibility Statement](#)

[Photography](#)

[Getting to the Event](#)

- [Location and Address](#)
- [Bus Routes](#)
- [Parking](#)
- [Building exterior](#)

[Walgreen Drama Center glass exterior: Stamps Auditorium doors at right, Miller Theatre at far left](#)

[Building & Space Information](#)

- [Physical Accessibility](#)
- [Description of the Towsley Studio](#)
- [Seating Accessibility](#)
- [Restrooms](#)

[Event Expectations](#)

- [Dress expectations](#)
- [Expected activities](#)
- [Beverages](#)
- [Food](#)
- [Jerusalem Garden](#)

Event Summary

Ballroom culture, drag ball culture, and the house ballroom community is described as an underground queer subculture in which people "walk" (compete), perform, dance, lip-sync, and model in different categories. The categories were designed to epitomize and satirize gender constructs, occupations, and social class. Connected through hardships, resistance, strength, and joyfulness, Kiki ballroom scene was created for the youth as a sub-scene of main scene ballroom culture. Representation of ballroom can be seen in shows like Pose, Legendary, and other historical documentaries that showcases life as ballroom participants and their legacies.

Spectrum Center Event Accessibility Statement

The Spectrum Center is dedicated to working towards offering equitable access to all of the events we organize. If you have a need you feel may not be automatically met at this event, please feel free to reach out and let us know. You do not need to have a registered disability with the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) or identify as disabled. Any questions about accessibility at Spectrum Center events can be directed to spectrumcenter@umich.edu.

Photography

We may be photographing this event to commemorate the occasion and the joy of artistic expression. We may publish these photos for educational, academic, research, support, or historical archival purposes, or use them in any other professional manner that the center believes is proper, including, but not limited to: print publications, social media, video, U-M websites, podcasting, and/or other broadcast media. **You may opt out** of being published in photos by wearing an identifier available at the event check-in table upon your arrival.

Getting to the Event

- Location and Address
 - The event is located at the Walgreen Drama Center. The address is 226 Murfin Ave, Ann Arbor, MI 48109.
- Bus Routes
 - There are several bus routes that stop at Pierpont Commons, which is located south of the Walgreens Drama Center.
 - The free bus routes that run to Pierpont Commons can be seen [here](#).
- Parking
 - Visitor parking is available on North campus.
 - Visitor spaces are marked with [yellow signs titled "Pay from Your Phone"](#).
 - Payment is required for visitor spaces during enforced hours.
 - [Lot NC27](#) (limited): located behind the Walgreen Drama Center
 - [Lot NC10](#): located at the Moore Building and Dance Building (13 minute walk to Walgreen)
 - [Lot NC43](#): located at the Art and Architecture Building
 - For more information about parking on North Campus, you can see it [here](#).

- Building exterior



Walgreen Drama Center glass exterior; Stamps Auditorium doors at right, Miller Theatre at far left

Building & Space Information

- Physical Accessibility
 - The Walgreen Drama Center has **two** main public entrances:
 - The **front (or south) entrance** faces Pierpont Commons.
 - There is a short, concrete staircase approximately 20 ft. away to the front entrance
 - This entrance is wheelchair accessible via a concrete ramp by the Arthur Miller Theatre, facing Murfin Avenue.
 - The **north entrance faces** the parking lot behind the Walgreen Drama Center and is wheelchair accessible. This entrance enters the building on the first floor of the Walgreen Drama Center.

- The north entrance is right by the first floor bathrooms.
 - There are **additional, wheelchair-accessible entrances** along the hallway with Towsley Studio leading to the Stamps Auditorium. The entrances face Pierpont Commons and a small courtyard (see building exterior image above)
 - All of the hallways throughout the Walgreen Drama Center are a hard surface, with cement floors.
- Description of the Towsley Studio
 - Towsley Studio has grey walls, cement floors and no windows. Black curtains cover the back half of the studio.
 - The ceiling has hanging theatre lighting and sound equipment.
 - The entrance to Towsley has a small vestibule that leads directly to the studio.
 - There are bleachers with individual seats along the right side of the room against the wall connected to the hallway outside of Towsley.
- Seating Accessibility
 - During the event, guests will be seated directly in front of the stage in bleachers-style seating. Seating space for wheelchairs is available at the bottom of the bleachers.
 - Seating will not be assigned for guests. If you have any specific seating needs, including being close to the ASL interpreter for the event, please contact spectrumcenter@umich.edu or let an event staff member know when you arrive.
- Restrooms
 - There are single-gender restrooms located at either end of the 1st floor main hallway, near each building entrance. There are also restrooms near the 2nd floor office, and in the basement near the dressing rooms.

- All-gender restrooms can be found on the 1st floor, room 1236T directly facing the north entrance. Additionally, there are all-gender restrooms in the basement, rooms B201 and B203.

Event Expectations

- Dress expectations
 - We encourage you to dress as your authentic self. You should dress however you feel most confident while keeping in mind this is a University-sponsored event.
- Expected activities
 - Dinner will be served
 - Welcome remarks
 - Ballroom Presentation: A Journey into Identity, Community, and Impact
 - Writing Activity
 - Following the Ballroom Presentation: A Journey into Identity, Community, and Impact, there will be a “free walk” for any guests
 - Closing Remarks

Food & Allergens

- Beverages
 - Water (vegan, gluten-free)
- Food
 - Jerusalem Garden
 - Chicken Shawarma Sandwich: marinated, charbroiled halal chicken wrapped in pita with romaine, tomato, yogurt garlic sauce, toum, turnips, pickles (halal, contains soy)
 - Beef Shawarma Sandwich: marinated, charbroiled beef strip wrapped in pita with romaine, tomato, yogurt garlic sauce, toum, turnips, pickles (contains soy)
 - Falafel with Hummus Sandwich: wrapped in pita with romaine, tomato, tahini sauce (vegan, contains soy)

- Falafel: soaked garbanzo beans ground with onion, parsley, jalapeños, spices and salt. Cooked in soybean oil.
- Veggie Grape Leaves Sandwich: 3 veggie grape leaves wrapped in pita with romaine, tomato, and hummus (vegan, contains soy)
- Chicken Kabob (halal, gluten-free)
- Mjaddara Sandwiches: Brown rice, green lentils, spices, topped with fried onions (vegan, gluten-free, contains soy)