

# COLUMBIA SPECTATOR

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Columbia Daily Spectator, Volume CXVIII, Number 100, 10 October 1994 — BGLAD kicks off on Low Plaza  
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## BGLAD kicks off on Low Plaza

By **BRITTANY CADY**

*Contributing Writer*

New York City residents joined campus groups in kicking off the second annual Bisexual Gay Lesbian Awareness Days (BGLAD) with Saturday's Queer Carnival on Low Plaza.

The carnival, which was organized by a steering group comprised of Lesbian Bisexual Gay Coalition (LBGC) and Gay, Bisexual, and Lesbian Employees and Supporters (GABLES) members, is part

of a week-long series of events centered around National Coming-Out Day, which is tomorrow.

LBGC Treasurer Jason Klein, CC '96, who organized the carnival, said the primary purpose of the event was to give people a chance to see many of the gay advocacy groups on campus.

"It's a big visibility event," Klein said.

Among the groups represented were Queers of Color, the Gay and Lesbian Law Students Association

(GALLSA), LBGC, the Columbia Gay Health Advocacy Project, GABLES, and God's Love We Deliver, a Manhattan organization that delivers hot meals to homebound people with AIDS.

The campus groups ran booth with games like "Shoot the homophobe," featuring pictures of former U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, North Carolina Senator Jesse Helms, and Beverly LeHaye, president of Concerned Women for America and the author of "The Hidden Homosexual Agenda."

Queers of Color, a campus group that is seeking Earl Hall recognition, had a face-painting booth.

"Rarely do [members of the gay community] take a look at racism in the gay community and homophobia in minority groups," said Kathy Gomez, CC '96. "[They are] trying to do things for the community that has been historically overlooked."

LBGC, which Klein said is the "oldest queer organization in the world, run by students or non-students" and the only pre-Stonewall gay advocacy group, sold "Queer [Hershey's] Kisses" for a dollar.

Some groups also had booths where visitors could get pamphlets and information sheets about issues concerning gays.

The Columbia Gay Health Advocacy Project (GHAP) "provides free and anonymous HIV antibody testing to all members of the Columbia community," said Alan Yang, a student in the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences.

Kurt Reighley, a New York area volunteer, who joined GHAP after seeing members at a public event, said the group's purpose for coming to the BGLAD event was exposure.

"Visibility is very important to us," Reighley said.



ASSOCIATE PHOTO EDITOR—SHIREEN DEEN

**Kathy Gomez, CC '96, at Saturday's BGLAD carnival on Low Plaza.**