

MEDIA RELEASE: Mr Leather SA a huge success

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Mr Leather SA a huge success

More than 200 people turned up to the Garage Bar on the long weekend to cheer for the inaugural Mr Leather SA contest.

The AIDS Council of SA (ACSA) today hailed the event a huge success, due largely to the dedicated efforts of a small but committed group of men who generated support for the event. "ACSA would like to thank Alex Schoeffel from Melbourne Leather Pride, who was able to pull the event together in a few weeks" said Shane Dinnison, ACSA Executive Director. "Our thanks also go to Wayne and Tania from the Garage Bar, Damien from WhipU2 Leather and the Order of Perpetual Indulgence for their support on the night"

"The event would not have been such a success without the support of community members who turned up on the night" said Mr Dinnison. "As well as a bevy of outstanding contestants - Bryan, Tarquin, David, Ben, Garry, Steven and Peter, more than \$3400 was raised for the Red Ribbon Bobby Goldsmith Fund, which supports the health and wellbeing of people living with HIV/AIDS. The worldwide leather community has a long term commitment to supporting positive people, and this local event was an outstanding example of that commitment."

"The support from the community continues to demonstrate the need for more diverse social spaces for gay men in Adelaide and ACSA will continue to support events which provide those opportunities" said Mr Dinnison.

Garry Morrison was named Mr Leather SA 2009 and will go on to represent SA at the national titles in Melbourne in September.

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Our vision is **A FUTURE FREE OF HIV**