



NEWSLETTER

May 2025 EDITION

May is Mental Health Awareness Month: Supporting Nashville's Hospitality Community

May marks Mental Health Awareness Month, a time to shine a light on the importance of mental well-being especially in industries that work tirelessly behind the scenes. In Nashville, our vibrant hospitality community is the heartbeat of the city, creating unforgettable experiences for locals and visitors alike. Yet, the demands of late nights, high energy, and constant service can take a toll on mental health.

The Office of Nightlife recognizes these unique challenges and is committed to supporting our hospitality professionals. Our goal is to ensure everyone in the industry feels seen, heard, and supported.

If you or someone you know is struggling, remember you're not alone. Reach out to our team and we will help connect you with resources tailored for nightlife and hospitality workers. Together, we can break the stigma and foster a healthier, more resilient community.

Listed are a couple of mental health resources in Nashville accessible to the hospitality community:

NAMI Davidson County (National Alliance on Mental Illness) offers peer-led support groups, education and advocacy. www.Namidavidson.org

Tennessee Statewide Crisis Line 24/7 supports anyone experiencing a mental health emergency. Call or text: 988

Centerstone affordable counseling, therapy, and psychiatric services www.centerstone.org

Porter's Call Free counseling and support for musicians and their families, including those in the nightlife scene. www.porterscall.com

Let's make mental health a priority.

SPOTLIGHT: Gary Stevens – Curating Nashville's Next-Level Nightlife for Black Professionals



In the heart of Nashville's ever-evolving social scene, one name is quickly becoming synonymous with sophistication, style, and authentic Black nightlife: Gary Stevens. As a DJ, curator, and cultural connector, Gary has carved out his own lane, creating spaces where the city's best and brightest professionals can unwind, connect and celebrate their successes.

Gary's events are more than just parties- they're intentional gatherings designed to foster community and inspire collaboration. With a keen ear for music and an eye for ambiance, Gary transforms venues into vibrant hubs where ambition and artistry collide. His playlists blend classic R&B, hip hop, and soulful house, paying homage to Black musical traditions while keeping the energy fresh and forward-thinking.

What sets Gary apart is his unwavering commitment to authenticity. In a city often known for its country roots, he champions the richness of Black nightlife culture, ensuring his events reflect the diversity and dynamism of Nashville's professional scene. From up-and-coming entrepreneurs to creatives and tech innovators, his parties draw a crowd that's as inspiring as the music itself.

For Gary Stevens, it's not just about spinning tracks-it's about setting the tone for a new era of networking and nightlife. By staying true to his roots and curating spaces where excellence is the standard, he's helping to shape the future of Nashville's social landscape, one unforgettable night at a time.

To stay in the know, you can follow Gary on Instagram @the_g2experience or visit his website at www.theg2experience.com

June

Saturday, June 14th - Second Saturday @ Soho House (RSVP ONLY) | 8pm

Dj Gary Steven | DeeJayQ!

Thursday, June 12th - Vibes & Vino @ Sauced | 8pm

Dj Gary Steven

Tuesday, June 17th - Cigar Launch Party @ soho house

Dj Gary Steven

Juneteenth Holiday Weekend

Friday, June 20th - Clique @ STILL G.I.N. | 8pm

Dj Gary Steven | Dj CLo

Sunday, June 22nd - Welcome to the Good Life Brunch & Day Party @ Harriet's | 12pm

Dj Gary Steven | The Whooligan

SPOTLIGHT: Colin Lukasik – Building Community, One Volleyball Game at a Time



As we celebrate Mental Health Awareness Month, we're shining a light on one of Broadway's own: Colin Lukasik. A familiar face behind the bar for over a decade, Colin is more than just a skilled bartender – he's a community builder with a passion for bringing people together.

Eight years ago, Colin noticed that while Nashville's nightlife staff worked side by side, there were few opportunities for real connections outside of work. Determined to change that, he launched the annual Bar vs Bar volleyball tournament- a friendly competition designed to unite hospitality workers from all corners of the city. What started as a small gathering has grown into a beloved tradition, with dozens of teams and hundreds of participants.

This year's tournament runs from May 13 to June 24, every Tuesday from 1-7 PM at Sandbar. It's more than just a game; it's a chance to unwind, meet new friends, and support each other in an industry that thrives on teamwork. Colin's vision has created a space where everyone – servers, bartenders, barbacks, and managers – can come together, build lasting relationships, and remind each other that they're not alone.

Thank you, Colin, for your dedication to fostering togetherness and making Nashville's nightlife community stronger every year. If you'd like to join or cheer on your favorite team, head down to Sandbar located at 3 City Ave Suite 500, Nashville, TN 37209, and experience the camaraderie for yourself!

Live Music Venue Event: Tiera Kennedy Shines at The Basement East

Nashville's beloved Basement East played host to a truly unforgettable performance by rising star Tiera Kennedy. As one of the city's most respected live music venues, The Basement East has seen its fair share of trailblazers-and Kennedy's show proved she's well on her way to joining their ranks.



Hailing from Alabama, Tiera Kennedy is making waves as a Black country artist in a genre that's only recently begun to open its doors to more diverse voices. Her set was a powerful testament to both her roots and her future. With a voice that's as warm as a Southern summer night, Kennedy captivated the crowd from the first note, blending classic country storytelling with a modern soulful edge.

Kennedy was featured on "Blackbird," a standout track on Beyonce's chart-topping, groundbreaking Cowboy Carter album. The crowd's response was electric, a mix of reverence and excitement for the doors Kennedy is helping to open.

The Basement East with its storied history and reputation for showcasing both legends and legends-in-the-making, was the perfect backdrop for Kennedy's set. The intimate space allowed her to connect deeply with the audience, who sang along,

danced, and cheered her on every step of the way.

Tiera Kennedy's performance was more than just a concert-it was a celebration of country music's evolving landscape and a powerful reminder of the stories still waiting to be told. If you haven't seen her live yet, make sure you don't miss the next chance. She's not just one to watch-she's one to remember.

You can follow Tiera on Instagram [@Tieramusic](#)

Be sure to follow us on our social media platforms:

FB: [@Nashville Mayor's Office of Nightlife](#)

IG: [@Nashvnightlife](#)

The Office of Nightlife was created to act as a liaison between residents, business owners, employees, visitors, and Metro-Nashville government. We focus on issues of noise, cleanliness, public safety, and quality of life.