

September 11, 2012

Buck Cooke
Managing Director
Atlanta Pride

Dear Mr. Cooke,

Greetings! I hope you are well. I know that you are probably swamped because Pride is coming up in October, but I hope you'll spare a few moments to consider a suggestion for the opening-night party.

I heard from my friends at PETA, a longtime local Pride sponsor, that Atlanta throws one of the best Pride celebrations but that the kickoff party is at the Georgia Aquarium again this year. I'm hoping that you can choose an alternative venue. These parties are supposed to be loud and boisterous—it's a celebration! However, animals shouldn't have to suffer for the sake of a party. Many of the marine mammals at the aquarium are extremely sensitive to sound, and large parties create an even more stressful environment than they already endure in captivity. Animals such as beluga whales and dolphins communicate with one another by means of an intricate sonar system. The excess noise disorients them, thwarts their ability to communicate, and sometimes causes them to attack one another—as [employees of the Georgia Aquarium have revealed](#). Given the animals' extreme sensitivity to noise, the aquarium does not seem like an appropriate venue for such a large and festive gathering.

Since the kickoff party sets the tone for all of Pride, will you please consider moving it to one of the many alternative venues that Atlanta has to offer? Thank you so much for your consideration. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,

Jane Lynch

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jane Lynch', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.