Letter of Remembrance to the chapters of the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays by Angela Bowen

Angela Bowen
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NCBLG CALLS FOR NATIONAL DAY OF REMEMBRANCE ON FEBRUARY 25, 1990.

Last year, the National Coalition for Black Lesbians and Gays instituted a National Day of Remembrance for Black Gay men and Lesbians to take place on the last Sunday in February. When Joseph Beam, board member of NCBLG and the founding editor of Black/Out, died in December of 1988, the board called for a National Day of Remembrance to honor his life and that of all Black Gay men and Lesbians who have died.

Since that time, our community has lost many more of our friends, lovers and leaders, including Lesbian poet Pat Parker and D.C. activist Lawrence Washington, who served as board member of NCBLG for several years, the last two as co-chair. In addition, many closeted Black Gay men and Lesbians have also died, among them some very prominent people who were still unable to live an out life because of our homophobic society.

NCBLG and all chapters and affiliates invite any and all groups and individuals to participate in remembering and celebrating the lives of Black Gay men and Lesbians in whatever manner you consider appropriate, EXCEPT AS FUNDRAISERS.

Note: We would like to have a record of your celebration for our own information, so if you would like to share information about the event, please send it to: NCBLG, P.O. Box 19248, Washington, D.C., 20036. We expect to write up something later about the various Day of Remembrance celebrations from around the country in Black/Out, and other Gay/Lesbian publications. If you prefer to share information about your event only with NCBLG, please make a note of it when you send the information.