



BEAR CAFE's (BC) New "First-Time Visitor Admission Fee/Work Exchange Policy".

1. Because of increased space rental costs of 35% at The LGBT Community Center, Bear Cafe has had to raise our Non-Member Door Fees from \$7 to \$10.
2. With this rise to \$10, Bear Cafe understands that this fee may be especially prohibitive to some FIRST-TIME Visitors at Bear Cafe who have a limited income. (FIRST-TIME Visitors being those individuals who have never before attended a Bear Cafe or Mates event, but who would like to visit, meet our men, and enjoy our activities.)
3. In order to try to accommodate these FIRST-TIME Visitors in a manner that is cost-effective to Bear Cafe in light of our increased expenses, BC has instituted our new "First-Time Visitor Admission Fee/Work Exchange Policy".
4. A limited number (1 or 2) FIRST-TIME Visitors will be able to attend a Bear Cafe event for FREE in exchange for working the entire event as an unpaid 'Worker'.
5. Because Bear Cafe has both "New Members" and "Renewal Members" who will be seeking to put in their now required 2 hours of 'service-work' at an event, this unpaid 'Worker' (FIRST-TIME Visitor(s) will be chosen A) On an 'as needed' basis, AND B) In advance of a Bear Cafe event (or possibly at the very last minute before an event begins).
6. This unpaid 'Worker' (FIRST-TIME Visitor) will work from 3 p.m. to approximately 6:30-7 p.m. Cleanup-Breakdown will be part of his/her duties day-of. Other duties will be rotated each hour and may include Front Desk Greeting; Hospitality; Coat Check/Clothes Check; and other duties as assigned. All of these duties will allow this FIRST-TIME Visitor to interact to a great degree with other BC members, attendees and especially other volunteers (the life blood of BC). Working will (we hope) easily allow you to meet, talk to, and start to become friends with other BC folk. We aim to make this a pleasant and worthwhile experience for you!
7. A BC Boardmember or Deputy Director will be assigned to a 'Working' FIRST-TIME Visitor to insure that he/she will understand his/her duties and have this pleasant and worthwhile experience!
8. This 'Working' FIRST-TIME Visitor WILL be allowed, AND is strongly encouraged to attend the short 'Bear Cafe Membership Orientation' held that day, and at that BC event. We hope you will seek to become a member of BC!
9. Working the entire event is in lieu of not paying the \$10 Non-Member Door Fee, and so these hours do not count towards BC's new 2-hour 'service-work' requirement for membership. But this FIRST-TIME Visitor (who has completed his membership application and paid his membership dues) will be allowed to fulfill his 'service-work' requirement throughout the coming year. (Note: Working this event does not count towards BC's "Pay 6 times, get in for free your 7th time" Policy, as you are not a member and haven't paid to attend this event.)
10. The above policy will be allowed one time only per 'Working' FIRST-TIME Visitor.
11. For more information about applying for a 'Working' FIRST-TIME Visitor position, please contact Richard Spector, Director of Membership, at: membership@bearcafe.org in advance of an upcoming Bear Cafe event.