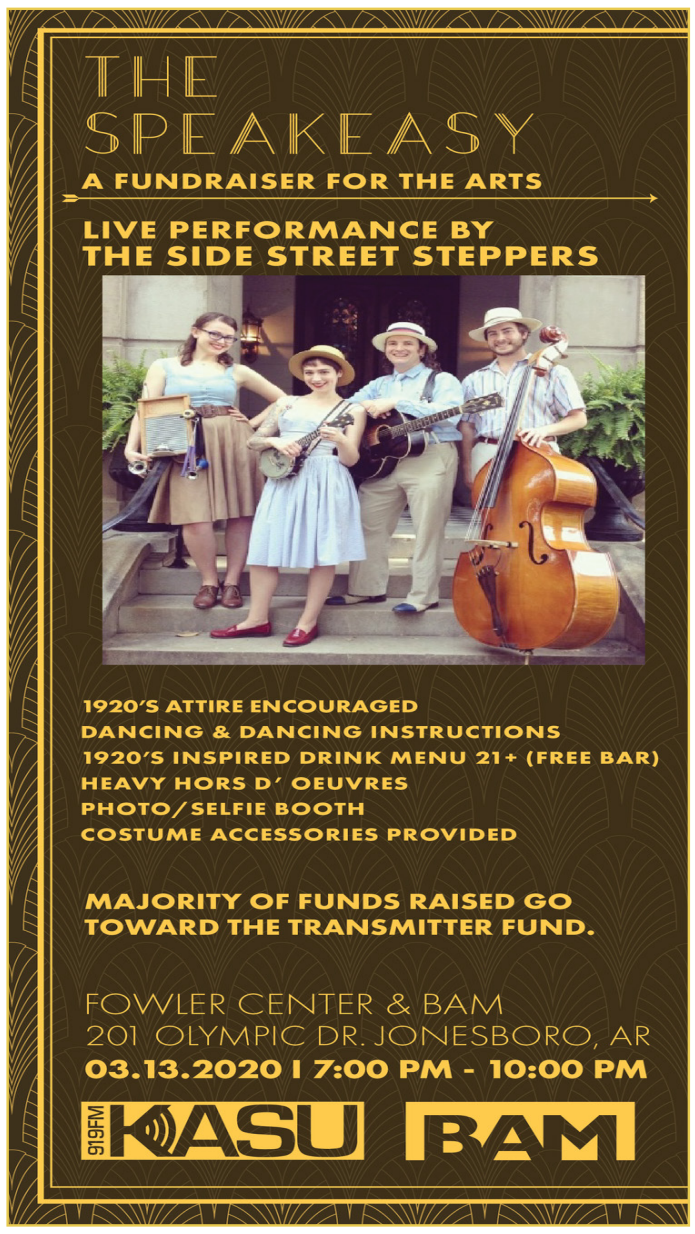
The Roaring '20s Come to A-State



The year 2020 brought the opportunity to revive a Roaring '20s-esque party scene. A-State is taking advantage of this theme.

A-State organizations are hosting events with the Roaring '20s theme, featuring jazz and art deco.

Some events being hosted are:

- The Speakeasy: A Fundraiser for the Arts
- Howling '20s Gala
- The Gay Gatsby

Check out these fliers for info on how to be involved with these events if you'd like to participate in the fun!

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF BRADBURY ART MUSEUM

Individual tickets to The Speakeasy are $125 and a majority of the funds go to the Transmitter Fund, a fundraiser to replace the transmitter for KASU.

GRAPHIC COURTESY OF FACEBOOK (@HOWLTP)

The Howlin' '20s Gala will take place March 7 at 5:30 p.m. in Centennial Hall. Tickets are $60 and benefit the A-State H.O.W.L. (Helping Our Wolves Learn) Transition Program. The event will feature Karen Gaffney, the president of the Karen Gaffney Foundation. Gaffney has Down Syndrome, and the non-profit is dedicated to championing the journey to full inclusion for people with disabilities. The event will also have a silent auction and live music from NBC The Voice's Cory Jackson and jazz performances by Jazz Extraordinaire.

GRAPHIC COURTESY OFINSTAGRAM (@ASTATEGSA)

Missouri Republican Retaliates Against "Drag Queen Storytime"

ALEX CLARK

LIFE EDITOR

PHOTO COURTESY OF MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Rep. Ben Baker of Missouri

A Missouri lawmaker introduced a bill in January that could imprison librarians for allowing minors to access "age-inappropriate" materials.

Rep. Ben Baker proposed the "Parental Oversight of Public Libraries Act," which would require libraries to establish a five-person board of community members to determine what is and isn't appropriate for minors to access. This bill came in response to "Drag Queen Storytime" events, where libraries invite drag queens to read books to children.

The bill wouldn't necessarily ban the determined age-inappropriate books, but would remove them from public access by minors. Specifically, the bill refers to "sexual material," and states that the board would be determining what of this is age appropriate and inappropriate.

"The main thing is, I want to be able to take my kids to a library and make sure they're in a safe environment, and that they're not gonna be exposed to something that is objectionable material," Baker said to KOAM News Now. "Unfortunately, there are some libraries in the state of Missouri that have done this. And that's a problem."

The bill upset both librarians and drag queens. Carrie Cline, director of the Neosho Newton County Library, shared with KOAM that the American Library Association is aware of the bill on a federal level.

Drag queens are planning a protest to be held at the Missouri state capitol in Jefferson City at noon on March 7. The goal is to show lawmakers that drag queens aren't monsters. The protest calls for drag queens and their supporters to participate.

"You're talking about people in big, poofy dresses telling stories in funny voices and trying to get kids interested in reading, which I think we should all want," Tanner Rambo of Ultimate Entertainers LLC said to Springfield News-Leader.

Photo ID Should Not Be Required to Vote

COLUMN BY TUCKER PHILLIPS

NEWS EDITOR

Throughout history, the people in power have tried to prevent certain types of people from voting. After the Civil War, this involved poll taxes and literacy exams. While many people think voter suppression has ended, this is unfortunately false. Voter suppression exists in the south, and it should be fixed.

Voter IDs were first required in 1950. At the time, a photograph was not necessary. Any document with the name of the voter was adequate. In the '70s, Hawaii, Texas and Florida began requiring IDs, and Alaska joined this in 1980.

Jim Gilmore, former governor of Virginia, attempted to start a program that required voters to show ID in 1999. Democrats and the NAACP blocked the initiative, which was also stopped by a court order.

Republican-dominated states continue to push for voter ID laws, despite the fact that this plague of "voter fraud" is incredibly rare.

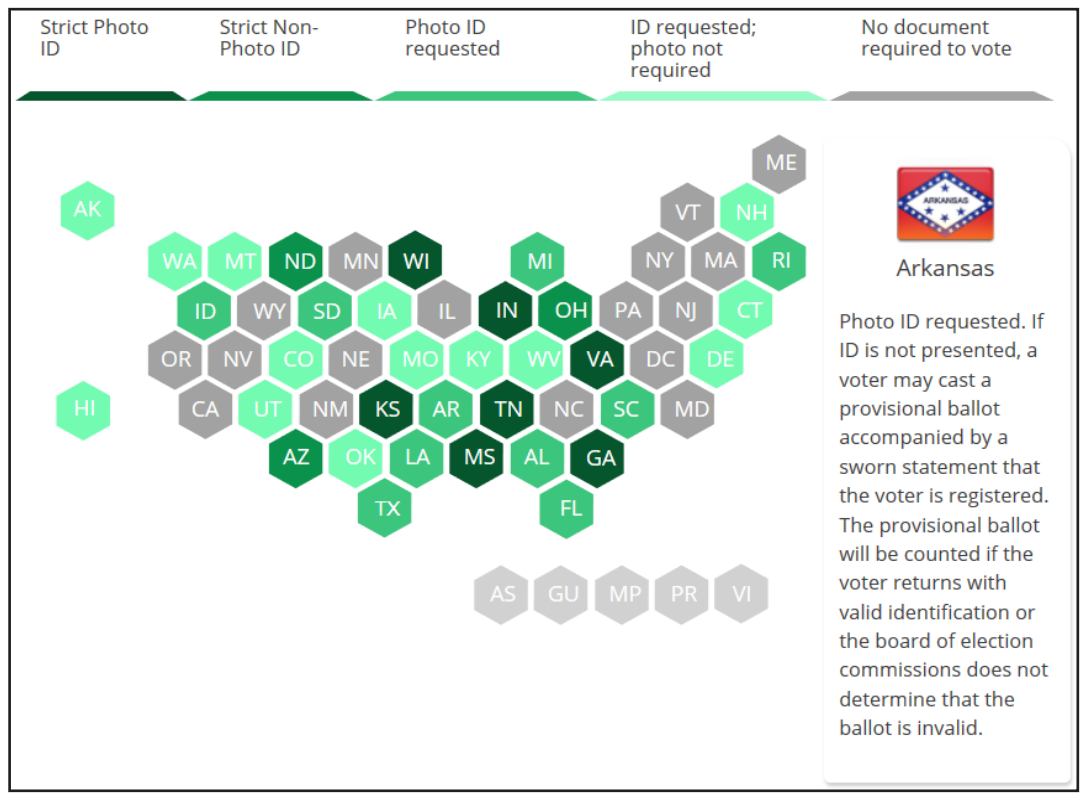
"But Tucker," you may say, *"how do we prevent voter fraud without Photo ID laws?"*

Excellent question. In the more northern states, voter fraud is prevented through the use of fingerprints. When a person turns in their ballot, they are fingerprinted to confirm your identity. Seems pretty simple, doesn't it?

This also makes voter fraud much harder to commit. If you see someone come in and they already have ink on their thumb, you don't let them vote.

Another question you may ask is why someone wouldn't have a photo ID. People who don't drive may not have a photo ID. You can get a photo ID that isn't a driver's license through the government, but it costs money. A student ID is a photo ID, but not everyone has the money to go to college.

So how cool are we with being the state on the wrong side of history? We got through the Jim Crow laws, the poll tax, how long will we let this version stand? How long until equality actually means something? Sure, the state said no more. But not everyone agreed. Do you?



INFOGRAPHIC COURTESY OF NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES

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