

The Official Guide to

AMANDAPALOOZA

A 40th Birthday Weekend



Cake + Cake + Cake + Cake + Cocktail = AMANDAPALOOZA

March 17 - 20, 2017
Atlanta, Georgia

Friday, March 17

Welcome Dinner & Games Argosy (and then Amanda's) 7:00 pm

For folks traveling from out of town and their hosts, a chance to meet each other and reconnect.

We'll meet for dinner in East Atlanta Village (most likely Argosy), before heading to my place to play The Hat Game. Kids are welcome, though it may be a little late for them.



Saturday, March 18

Morning Walk/Jog Constitution Lakes & Doll's Head Trail 8:00 am Carpools meet at Amanda's (1264 McPherson Ave) 8:15 am meet at Constitution Lakes (S River Industrial Blvd SE)

Pepper wants to show you her favorite place in the city. Every morning she and I go for a little jog at Constitution Lakes. On the boardwalk over the lake, you'll see ducks and maybe a blue heron. We'll explore Doll's Head Trail, a Blaire Witchy folk art installation that's off the main trail.

Meet at my place at 8am to carpool over or meet there around 8:15am
(Yes, I know it's early. Feel free to skip if you're not a morning person.)

Walk or jog.
Kids and dogs welcome.
(Technically, dogs should be on leash, but Pepper never is.)



Saturday, March 18 (continued)

Crepe Breakfast 1264 McPherson Ave. SE 10am - noon

Who doesn't love crepes? Especially when they're made with love by **Mathilde Piard**, **Jennifer Marusek** and **Kristi Elizabeth Swartz**. Customize your crepes with a sweet topping bar.



RSVP on Facebook. Children welcome. Gluten-free crepes available.



AMANDAPALOOZA BINGO

AMANDAPALOOZA attracts amazing people from all over Atlanta and the country! But maybe you're shy and you don't know how to talk to such amazingness... whatcha gonna do? Play Get-To-Know-You BINGO!!! Throughout the weekend, find folks to sign your BINGO card. Each person can sign only once. You don't have to write down the answers to the questions, but they are fun conversation starters. Once you complete the WHOLE CARD, give it to Amanda. Winner gets a cool prize from the American Visionary Arts Museum in Baltimore.

Oakland Cemetery Scavenger Hunt 248 Oakland Ave 2-4pm

One of Amanda's favorite places in the city is Historic Oakland Cemetery. You'll get to explore this beautiful Victorian cemetery while competing in teams to complete this scavenger hunt!

Dogs and kids welcome!
There will be prizes!
Weather permitting.



Saturday, March 18 (continued)

Aww Shucks.... A Birthday Oyster Roast!

1264 McPherson Ave SE

7pm

Who has two thumbs and loves oysters? This girl! And I'm excited to host my first oyster roast! Don't like oysters? Come anyway! We'll have potluck sides. Big shout out to **Catie Leary** and **Matthew Walenciak**, oyster roast pros who have offered to show us the ropes.



And how else do you celebrate turning 40 than with **FOUR** birthday cakes!

- French Almond Cake with Lavender and Lemon Glaze, by **Britnay Ferguson**
- Gluten-Free Chocolate Torte, by **Kate Juergens**
- Chocolate Pistachio Bundt Cake, by **Stacey Beth Schulman**
- Strawberry Cake with Strawberry Balsamic Cream Cheese Frosting, by **Leslie Swiedom**

If you're local, please bring a side dish and/or drinks to share.

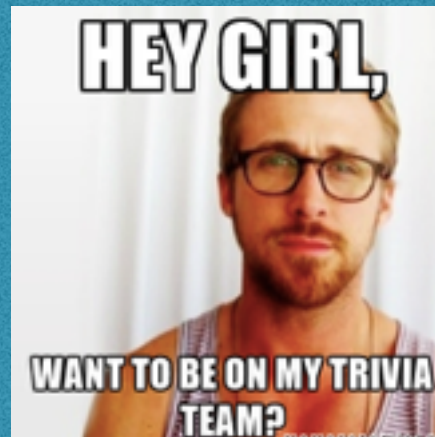
if you have an oyster knife and/or gloves, bring them, but we'll have some as well.

Kids are welcome. Parents are responsible for keeping them away from knives.

Well-behaved dogs welcome, too. Check with me first so we don't have too many.

AMANDAPALOOZA TEAM TRIVIA **during the Oyster Roast** **9ish**

Think you know Amanda? Find out at team trivia!
Hosted by North Avenue Lounge co-hosts
Shannon Turner and **Cris Gray**.



Step 1: Form a team of four (Tip: find folks that know me from different aspects of my life).

Step 2: Put your heads together to answer questions about the birthday girl.

Step 3: Win Prizes!

Sunday, March 19



Breakfast Hike at Arabia Mountain

9:30am Meet at Amanda's (1264 McPherson Ave SE)

10am Meet at Arabia Mountain (3787 Klondike Road, Lithonia, GA 30038)

Atlanta's favorite ranger, **Ranger Robby Astrove**, will lead us on a morning hike at the beautiful Arabia Mountain. More beautiful and much less racist than it's better known sister, Stone Mountain, Arabia is one of three monadnocks in the area. It's flat surface gives Arabia an otherworldly feel, and it's home to two endangered species and many unique plants, including the star of the show, the bright red diamorpha plant that lives in vernal pools.

Homemade breakfast muffins provided by **Lori Anderson** and **Susan Hagood**

- A light breakfast will be provided. Bring a travel mug.
- Children and dogs welcome.
- The hike will be moderate yet relaxed. Wear comfortable shoes and appropriate clothing.

What? Free time? No way!

Check out page 7 for fun ideas of things to do in Atlanta!
And let me know what what you're up to — I may want to hang out.

Karaoke @ Southern Comfort
1383 Cedar Grove Road, Conley
10pm-1am

I know it's a school night, but it's also the end of my 30s! Help me ring in a new decade with cheap drinks and off key karaoke!

So start practicing your Paula Abdul. Put on your dancing shoes! Bring some friends!



Monday, March 20 (the big day)

Jeju: Get Naked with the Birthday Girl

3555 Gwinnett Place Drive, Duluth, GA 30096

I I am

I know most folks will be back at work on Monday, but it's my actual birthday and I want to start my year off by getting a super painful scrub, wearing an ugly oversized gym outfit that reminds me of gym class, and hanging out with YOU in a hot tub.

Adults \$25

Kids \$15

Body Massage \$100

Acupressure Massage \$100

Foot Reflexology \$60

Hip Bath \$30

Korean Demadi (Body
Shampoo) \$40

Yummy Korean cafe for lunch.

We will be separated by sex
for part of the time.



Stuff to Do in the ATL



Phoenix Flies (March 4-26)

Each year, Atlanta Preservation Center opens the door to historic buildings, landscapes and neighborhoods across the city. And all the tours are free! A complete schedule is online at atlantapreservationcenter.com. RSVPs are needed for some tours.

Atlanta Science Festival (March 14 -27)

There are tons of events every day. I recommend the Zombie Outbreak Game on Sunday at 2pm. You get to pretend you're Julie Harris and investigate a mock outbreak in this team challenge! Check out atlantasciencefestival.org for a full schedule!



Georgia Aquarium: Visit with bottlenose dolphins, manta rays, beluga whales, whale sharks and over 100,000 animals at the Georgia Aquarium.



Sweet Auburn: Pay homage to Atlanta's favorite son at the Martin Luther King Jr. National Historic Site and the King Center (right across the street from each other). You can also visit the house where Martin grew up, and Ebenezer Baptist Church (where MLK Sr. and Jr. preached). And it's all free!

Center for Civil and Human Rights: Atlanta's newest museum, celebrates the Civil Rights and Human Rights movements.

World of Coke: 'Cause who doesn't want to pay to walk through a Coke ad? Plus, you can sample over 100 different sodas from all over the world (don't miss the Beverly!).

High Museum of Art: In addition to the High's permanent collection, you can see *Cross Country: The Power of Place in American Art, 1915–1950*, and Daniel Arhman's *Hourglass*.



Little Five Points: A funky neighborhood with vintage clothing stores, record shops, bars and restaurants. Our own piece of Portland, right here in Atlanta. Check out The Porter for great food and a huge beer selection or Vortex for huge burgers.

Downtown Decatur: Walk to dozens of shops, restaurants and bars that line the Decatur Square.



Where to Eat

East Atlanta Village

(walking distance from Amanda's)

Holy Taco: My dad loves this place because they have so many gluten-free options. The tacos are super popular, but I love their brunch, tortas and entrees. Good drink menu. Great patio.

Soba: Yum. Vietnamese food. I'm a fan of the #34 (bun with shrimp, pork and egg roll) and #5 (salt and pepper fried tofu). At 10:30pm Soba closes and Octopus Bar opens featuring fancy cocktails and a high end menu (I love the salt and pepper shrimp, served with the shell on)

We Suki Suki: You never know what you'll find at We Suki Suki, because there are rotating vendors. My dear friend Yohana cooks Ethiopian dishes with love (be sure to tell her "hi" for me!). Q serves bahn mi (I like the BBQ pork) and pho. And the sushi burritos are pretty rad.

Gaja: Hipster Korean, because that's a thing. Fun cocktails like the Gurt Sugarcane (soju, Biofuel yogurt, simple syrup and soda for just \$7). Love the Spicy Gochujang wings.

The Earl: Though I wouldn't recommend taking your mom there for Mother's Day (like I once did), this smokey dive bar has pretty good food. Sit outside if you don't want to smell like smoke. Everyone likes their burger and the Irish Nachos are served on tater tots instead of chips.

Elsewhere

Sweet Auburn Curb Market: Near Auburn Avenue and Oakland Cemetery, the Curb Market was the municipal market where farmers could sale their crops. Now, there are a bunch of little stands including Arepa Mia, Bell Street Burritos and Grindhouse Burgers. Parking validation.

Nick's Food To Go: Nick is known to be quite ornery, but everyone still loves his food. There's no dining room, but there are picnic tables outside and it's only a block away from Oakland Cemetery — a great place for a picnic. The lamb and grilled chicken gyro are both great.

Chai Pani: Casual Indian street food in Decatur. Skip the thali and stick to the chaat (street snacks). You must order the okra fries and kale pakora. I'm also a fan of the Bombay chili cheese fries (with spiced lamb hash) and the grilled paneer salad. Interesting cocktail menu.

Bell Street Burrito: Who doesn't like a good burrito? Several locations around the city. I tend to get a bean burrito and add the free cilantro and jalepenos. Their green salsa is the best.

Krog Street Market: A swanky food court with something for everyone: bao, a bakery, BBQ, ramen, dumplings, ice cream and sandwiches. Around the outside, there are several sit-down restaurants. If you're hungry try the laffa at Yalla. If you're not, try a bad from Suzy Siu's.

Ponce City Market: An even swankier food court surrounded by overpriced stores. I'm a huge fan of Hector Santiago's Super Pan. The H&F Burgers are pretty famous and Hop's is good for a fried chicken sandwich. Sit-down places include Ton Ton (ramen) and Jia (Szechuan).