



MEDIA ALERT — FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 18, 2018

EVENT INFORMATION 2018

GENERAL INFORMATION

This is the **48th Annual** San Francisco LGBT Pride Parade and Celebration. The theme for 2018 is *Generations of Strength*.

Over the course of the week leading up to Pride Sunday, San Francisco Pride welcomes approximately one million people to enjoy the diversity of events and experiences for Pride week.

SAN FRANCISCO LGBT PRIDE PARADE and MARCH

Sunday, June 24, starting at 10:30 AM

Along Market Street, from Embarcadero to Civic Center

Over 270 contingents, including community groups, affinity organizations, elected officials, city agencies, local businesses, and corporate groups will comprise the annual procession down Market Street, from Beale to Eighth Streets. A list of Parade contingents, listed alphabetically, is available at sfpride.org/parade.

Crowds estimated at 100,000 will be on hand to cheer on 50,000+ marchers as well as dozens of floats.

The parade will be livestreamed online at kpix.com/live, beginning at 10:30am Sunday June 24. A highlights show will air on Saturday June 30 on KPIX and KBCW. More information at sfpride.org/broadcast.

GRANDSTAND TICKETS & ACCESSIBILITY SEATING

The grandstands, located at United Nations Plaza, are the perfect place to enjoy the parade. The Civic Center Muni/BART station is right next to the entrance to the grandstands. Tickets are \$40 in advance at sfpride.org or \$45 at the entrance on the morning of the parade. Tickets are provided on a sliding scale to those with accessibility needs and their partners. Accessibility seating is also provided for the deaf and hard-of-hearing and the differently-abled at the grandstands. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis and begins at 9:30 a.m.

SAN FRANCISCO LGBT PRIDE CELEBRATION and RALLY

Saturday, June 23, 12:00 Noon to 6:00 PM

Sunday, June 24, 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Civic Center Plaza and surrounding neighborhood





The **Main Stage** sits at the steps of majestic City Hall in Civic Center Plaza. Over two exciting days, June 23 and 24, San Francisco Pride will feature local, national and international touring acts, community organizations, and engaging thought leaders.

Main Stage Performers include: Main Stage Headliner **Kehlani**, presented by Alaska Airlines, **Yaeji**, **Le1f**, **Evelyn "Champagne" King**, **Our Lady J**, **Shopping**, **Hector Fonseca**, **Natascha Bessez**, and many more.

The full and updated lineup can be found at www.sfpride.org/main-stage.

Main Stage Speakers include: **Kate Kendell** of the National Center for Lesbian Rights; **Dr. Cynthia Gomez** of Planned Parenthood, **Rev. Annie Steinberg-Behrman** of Metropolitan Community Church, and representatives from **Rafiki Coalition**, and **Equality California**.

In addition, the Celebration and Rally features over twenty **community-produced stages** and gathering venues, such as **Seniors Tell All**, a space for intergenerational conversations, the **Women's Stage**, the **Soul of Pride Urban Global Village**, **Our Family Coalition's LGBTQ Family Garden**, **Indie Oasis**, the **Don Julio Latin Stage**, the **Latino Wellness Pavilion**, **Leather Alley**, and **Faerie Freedom Village**. A full listing can be found at www.sfpride.org/stages.

\$1 -5 DONATION AT THE GATE

San Francisco Pride is a 501c3 non-profit organization. We ask everyone to make a \$1 to \$5 donation at the entry gate. These generous donations from the general public and the investment of our Membership assist SF Pride in partially funding over 20 community-produced stages and venues at the Celebration.

ENTRY SCREENING

Everyone entering the Celebration will be subject to screening. Details and restrictions can be found at www.sfpride.org/celebration.

EXHIBITORS & FOOD

Over 200 exhibitors feature a wide variety of artists, local and national businesses, nonprofits, artisans, and food and beverage vendors.

BEVERAGES

Throughout the site, you'll find a variety of **Official Beverage Booths** featuring water, and soda for all attendees, as well as beer, wine and cocktails for those over 21 years of age. Alcohol not purchased from one of our Official Beverage Booths is not permitted on the Celebration site. We encourage everyone to drink responsibly and remember to stay hydrated. The Castro Country Club Sober Stage, located on United Nations Plaza, offers a drug and alcohol-free zone on Sunday June 24.

ACCESSIBILITY

Accessibility seating and ASL interpretation are provided at the Main Stage and other stages throughout the event. More information can be found at the SF Pride Information Booth, in Civic Center Plaza.

SMOKE-FREE EVENT

The San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration and Parade is a smoke-free event per San Francisco Health Code, Article 19L.



TRANSPORTATION

We strongly recommend that attendees take advantage of the Bay Area's robust public transit system when coming to our event.

PARADE

The Embarcadero, Montgomery, Powell, and Civic Center Muni/BART stations all serve the parade route. Use Civic Center Station for closest access to the Grandstands.

CELEBRATION

Use the Civic Center Muni/BART stop to access the Celebration. Bicycle valet is also available at McAllister and Hyde.

SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

San Francisco Pride is able to produce this annual event thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and partners along with donations from the general public and the investment of our Membership. Principal sponsors for 2018 are Alaska Airlines and Kaiser Permanente. Grand sponsors include Anheuser Busch and local CBS affiliates KPIX and KBCW. Major sponsors for 2018 include Blue Shield of California, Hilton San Francisco Union Square, Parc 55 San Francisco, Smirnoff, T-Mobile, and Xfinity. San Francisco Pride is supported in part by funding from San Francisco Grants for the Arts. For a full list of sponsors, visit www.sfpride.org/sponsor.

The cost to produce the annual event is upwards of \$3 million. Over 500 volunteers assist in making this world-class destination event a reality. San Francisco Pride works with over sixty Bay Area nonprofit organizations to supply volunteer power.

Additionally, it is to these Community Partner organizations that San Francisco Pride has given back more than \$2.9 million in direct grants over the last 20 years. These organizations' missions involve service to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender communities, seniors, youth, bullying, housing advocacy, animal welfare/rights, people living with HIV/AIDS, cancer, or homelessness.

Media Contacts:

Fred Lopez | Communications Manager
fred@sfpride.org | 415-508-5538

About the San Francisco Pride Celebration Committee

The San Francisco Pride Celebration Committee is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded to produce the SF Pride Celebration and Parade. The mission of the organization is to educate the world on LGBTQ issues, as well as commemorate the heritage, celebrate the culture, and liberate the people of all LGBTQ communities. A world leader in the Pride movement, SF Pride is also a grant-giving organization through its Community Partners Program. Since 1997, SF Pride has granted over \$2.9 million dollars in proceeds to local nonprofit LGBTQIA organizations and organizations working on issues related to HIV/AIDS, cancer, homelessness, housing rights, and animal welfare.

For More Information or to Become a Member

Visit sfpride.org | Email media@sfpride.org | Telephone (415) 864-0831

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SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE®

MEDIA ALERT:
June 15, 2018

CONTACT:
media@sfpride.org | (415) 508-5538

48TH ANNUAL SAN FRANCISCO LGBT PRIDE CELEBRATION AND PARADE GENERATIONS OF STRENGTH STREET CLOSURES JUNE 21 THROUGH JUNE 25, 2018

June 2018, San Francisco, CA – The 48th Annual San Francisco Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Pride Celebration and Parade will take place on Saturday and Sunday, June 23 and 24. The Celebration at Civic Center Plaza is from Noon to 6:00 PM on Saturday, June 23 and from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM on Sunday, June 24. The Parade begins at 10:30 AM on Sunday, June 24 and marches along Market Street from Beale to 8th Streets. The following streets will be closed:

Celebration Site Street Closures: THURSDAY, JUNE 21 THROUGH MONDAY JUNE 25, 2018

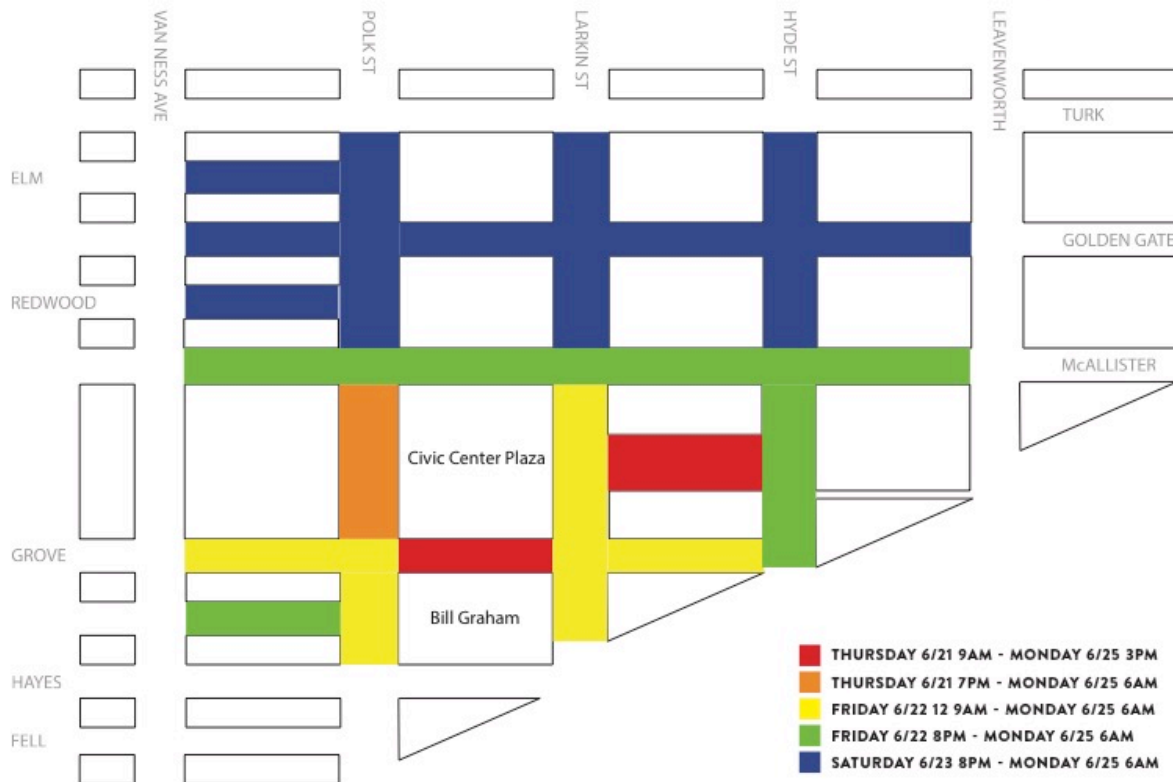
Location	Day	Time Closed	Day/Time Reopened
Fulton between Hyde and Larkin	Thursday	9 AM	Monday 3 PM
Grove between Polk and Larkin	Thursday	9 AM	Monday 3 PM
Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett between McAllister and Grove	Thursday	7 PM	Monday 6 AM
Grove between Hyde and Larkin	Friday	9 AM	Monday 6 AM
Grove between Polk and Van Ness	Friday	9 AM	Monday 6 AM
Larkin between McAllister and Market	Friday	9 AM	Monday 6 AM
Polk between Grove and Market	Friday	9 AM	Monday 6 AM
McAllister between Van Ness and Leavenworth	Friday	8 PM	Monday 6 AM
Lech Walesa between Polk and Van Ness	Friday	8 PM	Monday 6 AM
Hyde between McAllister and Grove	Friday	8 PM	Monday 6 AM
Continuum Place (all)	Saturday	8 PM	Monday 6 AM
Elm between Polk and Van Ness	Saturday	8 PM	Monday 6 AM
Golden Gate between Leavenworth and Van Ness	Saturday	8 PM	Monday 6 AM
Hyde between Turk and McAllister	Saturday	8 PM	Monday 6 AM
Larkin between Turk and McAllister	Saturday	8 PM	Monday 6 AM
Polk between Turk and McAllister	Saturday	8 PM	Monday 6 AM
Redwood between Polk and Van Ness	Saturday	8 PM	Monday 6 AM

Parade Street Closures: SUNDAY, JUNE 24

Location	Day	Time Closed	Day/Time Reopened
Sutter between Market and Sansome	Sunday	12:01 AM	Sunday 5 PM
Sansome (northbound) between Sutter and Bush	Sunday	12:01 AM	Sunday 5 PM
Market between Beale and Steuart	Sunday	6 AM	Sunday 5 PM
Steuart between Market and End	Sunday	6 AM	Sunday 5 PM
Spear between Market and Folsom	Sunday	6 AM	Sunday 5 PM
Main between Market and Folsom	Sunday	6 AM	Sunday 5 PM
Beale between Market and Folsom	Sunday	6 AM	Sunday 5 PM
Fremont between Market and Folsom	Sunday	6 AM	Sunday 5 PM
Market between Beale and Ninth St	Sunday	9 AM	Sunday 5 PM
Eighth St between Market and Howard	Sunday	9 AM	Sunday 5 PM

SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE®

2018 SF PRIDE STREET CLOSURES



Media Contacts:

Fred Lopez | Communications Manager
fred@sfpride.org | 415-508-5538

EVENT CALENDAR

San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration and Parade
 Generations of Strength | June 23-24, 2018

Celebration/Rally

Civic Center Plaza Park
 Saturday, June 23, 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM
 Sunday, June 24, 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Parade/March

Along Market Street,
 from Embarcadero to Civic Center
 Sunday, June 24, beginning at 10:30 AM

About the San Francisco Pride Celebration Committee

The San Francisco Pride Celebration Committee is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded to produce the SF Pride Celebration and Parade. The mission of the organization is to educate the world on LGBTQ issues, as well as commemorate the heritage, celebrate the culture, and liberate the people of all LGBTQ communities. A world leader in the Pride movement, SF Pride is also a grant-giving organization through its Community Partners Program. Since 1997, SF Pride has granted over \$2.5 million dollars in proceeds to local nonprofit LGBTQIA organizations and organizations working on issues related to HIV/AIDS, cancer, homelessness, housing rights, and animal welfare.

For More Information or to Become a Member

Visit sfpride.org | Email media@sfpride.org | Telephone (415) 864-0831

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MEDIA ALERT — FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 8, 2018

**San Francisco Pride Announces
Main Stage Headliner Kehlani, Presented by Alaska Airlines**

Kehlani will perform Sunday, June 24th

San Francisco, CA – San Francisco Pride is pleased to announce an addition to the lineup for the Main Stage of the 2018 Celebration and Rally. R&B singer and songwriter Kehlani will electrify audiences with her radiant talent. Kehlani's performance is proudly presented by Principal Sponsor Alaska Airlines.

Kehlani tells it like it is. Whether in conversation or on stage, the Oakland-born singer gives the straight truth about her life, pain, passion, love, triumph, and everything in between with collected calm and confidence. It's that type of honesty that makes her music resonate with the depth of classic Motown and a vividly confessional lyricism reminiscent of Neo Soul. Her mixtape, *You Should Be Here*, tells a story that distinctly belongs to her. Upon its release Billboard immediately called this project "The year's first great R&B album". Aside from being the top R&B debut of the week, it also came in at #1 on the iTunes R&B/Soul chart and #2 on both the Overall R&B Albums and Current R&B Albums chart.

Kehlani will perform at 5:30 PM Sunday June 24th, on the Main Stage, which sits at the steps of majestic City Hall in Civic Center Plaza. She joins a star-studded lineup of performers including Yaeji, Shopping, Le1f, Evelyn "Champagne" King, Hector Fonseca, Natascha Bessez, Femme Deadly Venoms, Our Lady J, and more.

Prior to her appearance on the Main Stage, Kehlani will appear in the San Francisco LGBT Pride Parade and March, as a participant on the Alaska Airlines float. The Parade and March begins at 10:30 AM on Sunday June 24th, and travels up Market Street from Embarcadero to Civic Center.

Images and full descriptions of each Main Stage artist and speaker are available at www.sfpd.org/main-stage. Over two exciting days, June 23 and 24, San Francisco Pride will feature local, national and international touring acts, community organizations, and engaging thought leaders. The Celebration and Rally is a free community event, and a \$1-\$5 donation is requested at the gates.

Media Contacts:

Fred Lopez | Communications Manager
fred@sfpd.org | 415-508-5538

EVENT CALENDAR

San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration and Parade
Generations of Strength | June 23-24, 2018

Celebration/Rally

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Sunday, June 24, 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Parade/March

Along Market Street, Embarcadero to Civic Center

Sunday, June 24, beginning at 10:30 AM

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For More Information or to Become a Member

Visit sfpd.org | Email media@sfpd.org | Telephone (415) 864-0831

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MEDIA ALERT — FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: June 1, 2018

**San Francisco Pride Announces
Entertainers and Speakers at 2018 Celebration**

Among Luminaries on the Main Stage are Evelyn “Champagne” King, Yaeji, Shopping

San Francisco, CA – San Francisco Pride is pleased to announce entertainment and speakers for the 2018 Celebration and Rally, on the Main Stage. The Main Stage sits at the steps of majestic City Hall in Civic Center Plaza. Over two exciting days, June 23 and 24, San Francisco Pride will feature local, national and international touring acts, community organizations, and engaging thought leaders. The Celebration and Rally is a free community event, and a \$1-\$5 donation is requested at the gates.

SATURDAY, JUNE 23:

HOSTS:

Persia
Yves Saint Croissant

SPEAKERS:

The Tenderloin Museum’s *Compton’s Cafeteria Riot*
Children’s After School Arts (CASA)
Rafiki Coalition
Equality California

PERFORMERS:

International DJ/Producer Hector Fonseca
Natascha Bessez
The Stud with DJ set by Siobhan Aluvalot
Femme Deadly Venoms
Ms. Nzuri Soul
JMxJM
CHEER SF
Trangela Lansbury
ieuan
SUMif
Noctuary SF

SUNDAY, JUNE 24:

HOSTS:

Sister Roma
Honey Mahogany

SPEAKERS:

Dr. Karyn Skultety, Openhouse
Kate Kendall, NCLR, Women’s Rights
Ivy B, HeadCount
Gavin Grimm, Transgender Rights
Dr. Cynthia Gomez, Planned Parenthood
Bay Area American Indian Two-Spirits (BAAIT-S)
Annie Steinberg, Metropolitan Community Church
A tribute to Community Grand Marshal Soni Wolf

PERFORMERS:

Yaeji
Le1f
Evelyn “Champagne” King
Our Lady J
Shopping
Ada VOX *Presented by Salesforce*
Alphabet Rockers
CHEER SF
Midtown Social
Glamamore
House of PRIDE
BOIGRL
Thrillhammer

On Saturday, June 23rd, the first day of the Celebration will culminate with a set from international DJ and producer Hector Fonseca, featuring Natascha Bessez. The majority of the day on the Main Stage will



highlight the great talent found in the Bay Area. Hosted by local luminary drag queens Persia and Yves Saint Croissant, the Stage will feature a DJ Set by Stud Collective Member Siobhan Aluvalot and a performance by powerhouse singer Ms. Nzuri Soul, named Northern California's Entertainer of the Year. Saturday will also welcome local 19-year old gay singer-songwriter ieuau, the drag art of Trangela Lansbury, and the hip-hop fierceness of Femme Deadly Venoms.

Sunday, June 24th, the Celebration begins as the Parade marches its way up Market Street from the Embarcadero to Civic Center. The day will be chock full of memorable moments such as a tribute to Community Grand Marshal Soni Wolf, a founding member of Dykes on Bikes, whom San Francisco lost in April at the age of 69. In addition, the stage will light up with performances from great talent such as living legend Evelyn "Champagne" King, who will grace San Francisco with her classic hits and bubbly personality. Yaeji merges club influences with songwriting and hazy raps, flitting between Korean and English. When one considers performances from boundary-pushing Manhattan-based rapper Le1f, and London-based Shopping, who are influenced by 70s post-punk, and more – San Francisco Pride is honored to showcase some of the best talent found anywhere at the 2018 Celebration.

The Main Stage will also highlight some of the incredible work being done within and on behalf of our communities. Leaders such as Kate Kendell, who is celebrating 22 years at the helm of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, and who has been awarded the Teddy Witherington Award by San Francisco Pride, will take the stage and engage the crowds with inspiring words. Among other speakers who are scheduled to appear are Dr. Cynthia Gomez of Planned Parenthood and Dr. Karyn Skultety of San Francisco nonprofit Openhouse. Special Guest, Gavin Grimm, will speak of his experience as plaintiff in the ongoing and groundbreaking case with ACLU fighting for transgender rights.

Images and full descriptions of each artist and speaker are available at www.sfpride.org/main-stage. More performers may be announced soon. The community is encouraged to follow SF Pride's social media channels for the latest news.

Media Contacts:

Fred Lopez | Communications Manager
fred@sfpride.org | 415-508-5538

EVENT CALENDAR

San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration and Parade
Generations of Strength | June 23-24, 2018

Celebration/Rally

Civic Center Plaza Park
Saturday, June 23, 12:00 PM to 6:00 PM
Sunday, June 24, 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Parade/March

Along Market Street, from Beale to 8th Street
Sunday, June 24, beginning at 10:30 AM

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SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE®

SAN FRANCISCO LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER
PRIDE PARADE AND CELEBRATION COMMITTEE, INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 11, 2018

CONTACT:

media@sfpride.org | (415) 508-5538

SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE ANNOUNCES CELEBRITY GRAND MARSHALS AND SPECIAL GUESTS

Trans Entertainer Our Lady J, House of Xtravaganza Vogue Legends Jose Gutierrez & Luis Camacho, Activist Gavin Grimm to be Highlighted at 48th Annual SF Pride Festivities

San Francisco, CA – San Francisco Pride will welcome Our Lady J and Jose & Luis as Celebrity Grand Marshals for the 48th Annual LGBT Pride Parade and March. In addition, inspiring activist Gavin Grimm will be a Special Guest in the Parade, as well as one of the speakers on the Main Stage of the Celebration and Rally in Civic Center Plaza.

Our Lady J is a writer and producer on Ryan Murphy's dance-musical TV series *POSE*, which will premiere next month on FX. After a career of making music in both the pop and classical worlds (Sia, American Ballet Theatre, Mark Morris Dance Group), Our Lady J transitioned to writing and producing on the Golden Globe®- and Emmy®-winning series *Transparent*. Our Lady J holds the honor of being the first out trans woman to perform at Carnegie Hall, as well as the first out trans writer to be nominated for a Writers Guild Award. She has been featured on Out Magazine's "Out 100," and the Huffington Post's list of "transgender icons." After her appearance in the Parade and March, Our Lady J will perform a selection of songs on the Main Stage, at the steps of majestic City Hall.

Members of the legendary House of Xtravaganza, Jose Gutierrez and Luis Camacho, will also be featured as Celebrity Grand Marshals. Together, Gutierrez and Camacho choreographed the video for worldwide number one hit "Vogue," which earned them a nomination for Best Choreography in a Video at the 1990 MTV Video Music Awards. They were both dancers in Madonna's Blonde Ambition World Tour. Shortly after their appearances in the film *Madonna: Truth or Dare*, the duo was signed to a record deal as "Jose & Luis." Their single "Queen's English" was widely known on dance floors and on the Billboard dance charts. Gutierrez and Camacho were featured in the 2016 film *Strike A Pose*, which followed up on the dancers of *Truth or Dare*. The critically-acclaimed documentary is a dramatic tale about overcoming shame and finding the courage to be who you are.

Jose Xtravaganza, the artistic name of Jose Gutierrez, began his dance career at New York's famed La Guardia High School of Music and Arts. As a performer, Jose Xtravaganza began perfecting the craft of vogue as a member of The Legendary House of Xtravaganza, where he elevated this once underground and obscure dance to new heights, making it an art form. In 1990, after auditioning along with 7,000 other dancers, Gutierrez was chosen to be a member of Madonna's Blonde Ambition World Tour. As a choreographer, Jose has worked with such artists as Tony Bennet, Aretha Franklin, Lisa Lisa & Cult Jam, and the Rolling Stones. In addition to *Madonna: Truth or Dare*, Jose is featured in the documentary *Paris Is Burning* by Jenny Livingston. Jose Xtravaganza is the current Father of the House of Xtravaganza, based in New York City, which he rules with an iron fist under a soft glove.

Luis Camacho made a name for himself in the New York City ballroom scene, where he won several trophies at vogue balls in the 1980s. As a member of the legendary House of Xtravaganza, he was in the pulse of dance, music, visual arts, nightlife, fashion, and community activism way before he caught the eye of superstar Madonna. His talent landed him a lead dancing position in the Blond Ambition World Tour. He played a part in MTV Video Music Awards history when he choreographed and danced in Madonna's now-infamous Marie Antoinette *Vogue* number. Camacho's main passion continues to be dance, and he uses his talents to give back to the community. He has either produced, choreographed or performed in a long list of charity events, and he contributes top-notch entertainment for several fundraising shows. Luis Camacho is also the recipient of the 2017 Entertainment AIDS Alliance Vanguard Award.

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PRIDE PARADE AND CELEBRATION COMMITTEE, INC.

Gavin Grimm is an 18-year-old recent high school graduate from Gloucester, Virginia. He is transgender. Gavin and his mother notified administrators of his male gender identity at the beginning of his sophomore year so that he could socially transition in all aspects of his life. With permission from school administrators, Gavin used the boys' restroom for almost two months without any incident. But after receiving complaints from some parents and residents of Gloucester County, the school board adopted a new policy banning Gavin from using the boys' restrooms on December 9, 2014, by a vote of 6-1, despite warnings from the ACLU. The ACLU filed a federal lawsuit on Gavin's behalf. The lawsuit argues the bathroom policy is unconstitutional under the Fourteenth Amendment and violates Title IX of the U.S. Education Amendments of 1972, a federal law prohibiting sex discrimination by schools. After a progressive series of court appearances, Gavin's case was set to be heard by the Supreme Court. But the Supreme Court announced that it is sending Gavin's case back to the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals to be reconsidered. Gavin graduated high school in June 2017—still unable to use the same restroom as other boys.

"We are thrilled to welcome these talented and inspiring individuals into our extended Pride family," said George F. Ridgely, Jr., San Francisco Pride Executive Director. "Our theme this year, Generations of Strength, encourages us to celebrate not only the decades of art and activism that have led up to present day, but to showcase the brave work of today and tomorrow. Jose & Luis provided a breakthrough window into the world of ballroom culture. Their work resonated with many LGBTQ people, of all ages, and remains a cultural touchstone. Our Lady J's artistic contributions in music and television have touched the hearts of audiences around the world, and her work continues to increase the visibility of those who tend to go underacknowledged. Of course, when we speak of the future, Gavin Grimm is an inspiring young activist. Gavin was thrust into the national spotlight and valiantly brought attention to what we know are inalienable human rights that cross the boundaries of sexual identity, race, gender, class, and sexual orientation."

Our Lady J, Jose & Luis, and Gavin Grimm are the first special guests to join six Community Grand Marshals and eight Honorees, announced by San Francisco Pride last month. The estimable contributions of these individuals and organizations have bettered the LGBTQ community and movement. More Special Guests and Celebrities will be announced as the event approaches. The full list of Community Grand Marshals and Honorees, with bios, can be found at www.sfproud.org/grand-marshals.

The 48th Annual San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration and Parade will be held on June 23 and 24, 2018. The Parade/March is Sunday, June 24th in the heart of downtown San Francisco beginning at 10:30 AM. A two-day Celebration and Rally is scheduled from Noon to 6:00PM on Saturday, June 23rd, and from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM on Sunday, June 24th at San Francisco's Civic Center Plaza and surrounding neighborhood.

CALENDAR INFORMATION

Celebration and Rally

Civic Center Plaza Park

Saturday, June 23 | Noon to 6:00 PM

Sunday, June 24 | 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

48th Annual SF Pride Parade and March

Sunday, June 24 | Starting at 10:30 AM

Along Market Street, from Beale to 8th Street

Information regarding registration, event tickets; sponsor, exhibitor, advertising, membership and donor opportunities may be found at www.sfproud.org or by calling (415) 864-0831.

ABOUT SF PRIDE

The San Francisco Pride Celebration Committee is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded to produce the SF Pride Celebration and Parade. The mission of the organization is to educate the world on LGBTQ issues, as well as commemorate the heritage, celebrate the culture, and liberate the people of all LGBTQ communities. A world leader in the Pride movement, SF Pride is also a grant-giving organization through its Community Partners Program. Since 1997, SF Pride has granted nearly \$3 million dollars in proceeds to local nonprofit LGBTQIA organizations and organizations working on issues related to HIV/AIDS, cancer, homelessness, housing rights, and animal welfare.

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SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE®

SAN FRANCISCO LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER
PRIDE PARADE AND CELEBRATION COMMITTEE, INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 10, 2018

CONTACT:

media@sfpride.org | (415) 508-5538

SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE ANNOUNCES 2018 COMMUNITY GRAND MARSHALS AND HONOREES

Six Community Grand Marshals and Eight Awardees to be honored at the 48th Annual Event

San Francisco, CA – The 48th Annual San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration and Parade will be held on June 23 and 24, 2018. The Parade/March is Sunday, June 24th in the heart of downtown San Francisco beginning at 10:30 AM. A two-day Celebration and Rally is scheduled from Noon to 6:00PM on Saturday, June 23rd, and from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM on Sunday, June 24th at San Francisco's Civic Center Plaza and surrounding neighborhood.

"Every year, Pride brings almost a million people to San Francisco in celebration. Pride is also an opportunity for our LGBTQ+ communities to reflect on our past and look to the future," according to San Francisco Pride Executive Director, George Ridgely, Jr. "The 2018 theme for Pride, *Generations of Strength*, encourages us to express our gratitude to those before us who organized against and stood up to injustice, recognize those among us who advocate tirelessly for our progress, and lend our support to those who will lead us into the future. In this spirit of solidarity and strength, San Francisco Pride is pleased to be honoring this exemplary collection of individuals and organizations. Our communities are, have been, and will be better for their contributions."

"Our communities have a rich history of resilience, and it is from that deep well of strength we will gather our momentum forward," said Michelle Meow, President of the San Francisco Pride Board of Directors. "We are living in a monumental time of tumult, especially in our country, and we have the crucial choice of how to respond. We will raise our voices in solidarity with all of the communities under fire. We will march to demonstrate our determination. We will offer compassion in the face of animosity. Through unity, acceptance, and might, we will prevent the further erosion of our hard-won civil rights, and work to liberate our people."

San Francisco Pride honors and applauds this year's Community Grand Marshals and Honorees, in recognition of their contributions to the LGBTQ community and movement. "We are inspired by the accomplishments and aspirations of these individuals and organizations, and we are glad Pride can be a part of their recognition," said Ridgely.

Congratulations to the 2018 San Francisco Pride Community Grand Marshals and Awardees:

Brian "Chickpea" Busta
Billy Curtis
FAIR Education Act Implementation Coalition
Kin Folkz
Jewelle Gomez
Shaun Haines
Kate Kendall

Ali Marrero-Calderon
Jen Orthwein
Pamela Peniston
Aria Sa'id
San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band
Soni Wolf
Carolyn Wysinger

Designations and short bios follow below.

SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE®

SAN FRANCISCO LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER
PRIDE PARADE AND CELEBRATION COMMITTEE, INC.

COMMUNITY GRAND MARSHALS

Kin Folkz - Community Grand Marshal, Selected by Public Vote

Kin Folkz is an award-winning educator, human rights activist, author, community catalyst, founder of the Oakland Pride Creative Arts & Film Fest, the founder of the Oakland Queer +Trans Open Mic, a BiNet USA National Board Member, Oakland LGBTQ Center's Healing Arts Director, a member of Black Lives Matter Bay Area and Queer Black Lives Matter. Kin's work has been lauded by the Huffington Post and presented within and outside of the US including Japan, South Africa, and Jamaica. Kin is the CEO and co-founder of Spectrum Queer Media, an internationally recognized LGBTQIA rights, media and creative arts advocacy organization.

San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band -Community Grand Marshal, Organization, Selected by Public Vote

The San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band is the first openly gay musical organization in the world, inspiring the formation of all other LGBTQ bands, choruses, and other groups around the globe. Locally, SFLGFB is the Official Band of San Francisco, having been given that honor by two different mayors. Founded in 1978 by Jon Sims at the height of Anita Bryant's anti-gay crusade, the Band first appeared when it marched up Market Street behind Harvey Milk's car in that year's San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Parade. The Band meets their mission of community service through 40+ performances every year, from LGBT Pride events to civic events around the Bay Area and beyond.

Brian "Chickpea" Busta - Community Grand Marshal, Selected by the San Francisco Pride Membership

Brian "Chickpea" Busta has been bringing light, laughter, art, and music to San Francisco's LGBTQ* community since 1989. Brian has helped to raise tens of thousands of dollars for the community, and brought beauty, joy, and levity during some of its darkest hours, and nurtured and inspired generations of young queer artists. He founded Gay Glow Street Theater, the Temple Whores drumming troupe, was Grand Duke of the Ducal Court, inspires audiences as the comic figure 'Amber Alert,' and is the current Creative Director of Comfort & Joy.

Billy Curtis – Community Grand Marshal, Selected by the SF Pride Board of Directors

Billy Curtis is a committed community activist and advocate. In 1999, Billy was hired as UC Berkeley's first full time Director for LGBT Resources and is currently the Director of the university's Gender Equity Resource Center. During his tenure Billy has evolved campus resources for LGBTQ students, faculty and staff and mentored a host of LGBTQ leaders. He has volunteered his time on a number of boards of directors, including Vitality, a network of LGBT business professionals, and the SF LGBT Center. He also served on the LGBT Advisory Committee of the SF Human Rights Commission, volunteered with Project Open Hand and is a past AIDS Lifecycle Rider.

Soni Wolf – Community Grand Marshal, Selected by the SF Pride Board of Directors

Soni Wolf is a founding member of Dykes on Bikes® (DOB). She began riding with them in the late 1970s, shortly after the movement for women's empowerment and visibility brought the DOB to the front of the San Francisco Pride Parade. During her forty years of service, Soni helped DOB evolve into a 501(c)3 non-profit, spearheading the group's mission to create a national and international community of women motorcyclists supporting philanthropic endeavors in LGBTQ communities. Her commitment to the LGBTQ community has never wavered and the legacy of Dykes on Bikes would not be what it is today without Soni.

Jewelle Gomez – Lifetime Achievement Grand Marshal, Selected by the SF Pride Board of Directors

Jewelle Gomez is the author of seven books including the double Lambda Literary Award-Winning vampire novel, The Gilda Stories. She has taught creative writing and popular culture at institutions of higher learning from San Francisco State University to Hunter College (NYC). She's written for numerous publications and is playwright in residence at New Conservatory Theatre Center. She was the recipient of a National Endowment on the Arts Fellowship in Literature and two California Arts Council Artist in Residence grants. In 2017, Jewelle received the Barbary Coast Trailblazer Award from LitQuake. She was on the founding boards of GLAAD, The Astraea Lesbian Foundation, and the Open Meadows Foundation.

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HERITAGE OF PRIDE AWARDS

Aria Sa'id – Heritage of Pride – 10 Years of Service Award

For those organizations, individuals, or other entities that have contributed at least ten years of consecutive service to the LGBTQ community.
Aria Sa'id is a writer, cultural icon, policy strategist and the Founder/Director of the Kween Culture Initiative. As an award winning public policy advocate, she co-founded the world's first transgender cultural district, the Compton's Cultural District. She is a 2016-2017 Policy Fellow Alum of the Women's Foundation of California's Women's Policy Institute; and Sojourner Truth Fellow Alum of Auburn Theological Seminary in New York. She is featured in numerous media platforms for her advocacy including *SF Weekly*, *Buzzfeed*, *Huffington Post*, *Vice*, *San Francisco Examiner*, and *The Advocate*. She currently serves as the LGBT Policy Advisor for the San Francisco Human Rights Commission.

Jen Orthwein - Heritage of Pride – Pride Freedom Award

For outstanding contributions to advancing civil rights and freedom for LGBTQ people.
Jen Orthwein is a fierce advocate for racial and gender justice. She began her career in SF in the late 1990s advocating for people living with HIV transitioning out of homelessness. She then pursued a law degree and a Ph.D. in clinical psychology to expand her advocacy. Jennifer helped launch the Detention Project at Transgender Law Center, leading the way to access to gender affirming surgery and gender expression for transgender prisoners in California. Jennifer co-founded Medina Orthwein LLP, a queer-owned, civil rights law firm that focuses on employment discrimination and transgender prisoner rights.

Shaun Haines – Heritage of Pride – Pride Community Award

For outstanding service to LGBTQ communities.
Shaun Haines is a native of San Francisco and the founder of San Francisco Impact Partners. Shaun works to produce events to support and provide resources for our community. He serves on the LGBT Cultural Heritage Strategy and Economic Development Committee, the Police Chief's LGBT Forum, Castro Community on Patrol, and the Stop the Violence Campaign. He is supporting our Trans, Leather, and Castro cultural districts to preserve our communities and commemorate the heritage of our people. Shaun believes that working together to fight injustices, our efforts will preserve our city's vibrant LGBT heritage, culture, diversity, and spaces.

Carolyn Wysinger – Heritage of Pride – Pride Creativity Award

For outstanding artistic contribution to the LGBTQ community.
Carolyn Wysinger is an author, blogger, speaker, high school educator, and the host of the podcast "The C-Dubb Show". Her work has appeared in *Everyday Feminism*, *Elixher*, *Black Girl Dangerous Autostraddle*, and *Sinister Wisdom*. Her first book, *Knockturnal Emissions: Thoughts on #race #sexuality #gender #community* was released in 2013. She is a former Human Rights Commissioner for the City of Richmond. She has served on the steering committee for Black Lesbians United and the board for the NIA Gathering for Same Gender Loving Women of African Descent. She currently serves on the boards for BUTCHVoices and Lambda Democrats of Contra Costa County.

COMMEMORATION AWARDS

Ali Marrero-Calderon – Gilbert Baker Pride Founder's Award

For those who have made a significant and historical impact on the LGBTQ community and the movement for LGBTQ rights.
Ali Marrero-Calderon began working for gay rights in the 1970s, fighting against the Briggs Initiative. In 1974, Ali joined GENTE, the first Lesbian of Color Organization in California. Ali belonged to Gay Latino Alliance (GALA) and Mujerio (a Latina lesbian organization,) and worked with Shanti Project in the early days of the AIDS epidemic. Ali has belonged to Dykes on Bikes since 1976 and was their first Emeritus member. Today, as part of the National Steering Committee of OLOC (Old Lesbians Organizing for Change), Ali fights for the rights of Old Lesbians, especially Old Lesbians of Color.

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FAIR Education Implementation Act - José Julio Sarria History Maker Award

Awarded to Bay Area people who make extraordinary changes in the way society views the LGBTQ community.

Convened in 2014 by Our Family Coalition, over half a dozen organizations comprise the FAIR Education Act Implementation Coalition, and work to see this historic education reform thoroughly implemented across California. The FAIR Education Act, SB 48 (Leno), was signed into law on July 14, 2011, and went into effect on January 1, 2012. It amends California Education Code to include the Fair, Accurate, Inclusive and Respectful reference to contributions by people with disabilities and members of the LGBT community in history and social studies curriculum. California is the only state in the nation to have such LGBT-inclusive legislation in place.

Kate Kendell – Teddy Witherington Award

Recognizing those individuals who have contributed a longstanding, large body of work to the LGBTQ community.

Kate Kendell leads the National Center for Lesbian Rights, a national legal organization committed to advancing the civil and human rights of LGBTQ people and their families through litigation, public policy advocacy, and public education. Under Kate's leadership of twenty-four years, NCLR won the California marriage equality case in 2008 and was later part of the team of attorneys to secure national marriage equality in 2015. And together with GLAD, Kate led NCLR to file a federal lawsuit challenging Trump's transgender military ban in August 2017, which secured a nationwide preliminary injunction stopping the ban from moving forward.

Pamela Peniston – The Audrey Joseph LGBTQ Entertainment Award

For those who have made a significant and historical impact or left an indelible impression on the LGBTQ community and the movement for LGBTQ rights, through their artistic expression, or through their contribution within the entertainment industry.

Pamela Peniston is a founding member and Artistic Director of the Queer Cultural Center (Qcc). Since 1998, Pamela has provided visionary leadership for Queer Cultural Center's iconic program, the National Queer Arts Festival—now celebrating its 21st year—commissioned generations of LGBTQI artists & artists of color and provided opportunities for them to discover their voices and connect with their communities. Pamela and Qcc have mentored and inspired queer artists who have become leaders and changed the cultural landscape of queer arts across the nation.

More comprehensive biographies, photos and information about San Francisco Pride's Community Grand Marshals and Honorees can be found at sfpride.org/grand-marshals.

CALENDAR INFORMATION

Celebration and Rally

Civic Center Plaza Park

Saturday, June 23 | Noon to 6:00 PM

Sunday, June 24 | 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

48th Annual SF Pride Parade and March

Sunday, June 24 | Starting at 10:30 AM

Along Market Street, from Beale to 8th Street

Information regarding registration, event tickets, and the complimentary SF Pride Community Calendar; as well as sponsor, exhibitor, advertising, membership and donor opportunities may be found at www.sfpride.org or by calling (415) 864-0831.

ABOUT SF PRIDE

The San Francisco Pride Celebration Committee is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded to produce the SF Pride Celebration and Parade. The mission of the organization is to educate the world on LGBTQ issues, as well as commemorate the heritage, celebrate the culture, and liberate the people of all LGBTQ communities. A world leader in the Pride movement, SF Pride is also a grant-giving organization through its Community Partners Program. Since 1997, SF Pride has granted nearly \$3 million dollars in proceeds to local nonprofit LGBTQIA organizations and organizations working on issues related to HIV/AIDS, cancer, homelessness, housing rights, and animal welfare.

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MEDIA ALERT — FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: March 5, 2018

**San Francisco Pride Announces
CBS Bay Area as 2018 Broadcast/Digital Partner**

San Francisco, CA – San Francisco Pride has announced a three-year partnership with CBS Bay Area for the production and distribution of the annual San Francisco Pride Parade Broadcast. A livestream of the Parade will be available as it happens at cbsSF.com, followed by a two-hour highlight show televised on both KPIX 5 and KBCW 44 Cable 12 the week after the Parade. The 48th Annual LGBT Pride Parade and March will take place on Sunday, June 24th, 2018.

Over 250 contingents, including community groups, affinity organizations, city agencies, local businesses, and corporate groups will comprise the annual procession down Market Street, from Beale to Eighth Streets. Crowds estimated at 100,000 will be on hand to cheer on 50,000+ marchers as well as dozens of floats.

“San Francisco Pride is excited to partner with CBS to continue the tradition of airing our annual Parade broadcast,” said Executive Director George F. Ridgely, Jr. San Francisco Pride was the first Pride parade in the nation to have live broadcast coverage, starting in 1995. “Over the years we have had the good fortune to work with some of the finest Bay Area broadcasters, and we are grateful to have the prestige of CBS to continue this legacy. We look forward to working together to continue providing a hometown broadcast, while delivering a heightened profile for viewers.”

The theme for this year’s Pride event is *Generations of Strength*. “Our theme for 2018 exemplifies our core mission,” according to Ridgely. “For almost fifty years, San Francisco Pride has created the space for multiple generations to lift their collective voices in celebration and in resistance, highlighting a rich history of activism in the LGBTQI movement.”

“We’re honored to showcase Pride’s vibrant parade for the next three years on all of our broadcast and digital platforms,” said KPIX/KBCW President and General Manager Kevin Walsh. “KPIX 5 has a proud legacy of covering the LGBTQ community. Now we look forward to bringing this 21st century celebration to multiple screens, and building on their very successful tradition.”

Media Contacts:

Fred Lopez | Communications Manager
fred@sfpride.org | 415-508-5538

EVENT CALENDAR

San Francisco LGBT Pride Celebration and Parade
Generations of Strength | June 23-24, 2018

Celebration/Rally

Civic Center Plaza Park
Saturday, June 23, 12:00 N to 6:00 PM
Sunday, June 24, 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

Parade/March

Along Market Street, from Beale to 8th Street
Sunday, June 24, beginning at 10:30 AM



About the San Francisco Pride Celebration Committee

The San Francisco Pride Celebration Committee is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization founded to produce the SF Pride Celebration and Parade. The mission of the organization is to educate the world on LGBTQ issues, as well as commemorate the heritage, celebrate the culture, and liberate the people of all LGBTQ communities. A world leader in the Pride movement, SF Pride is also a grant-giving organization through its Community Partners Program. Since 1997, SF Pride has granted over \$2.5 million dollars in proceeds to local nonprofit LGBTQIA organizations and organizations working on issues related to HIV/AIDS, cancer, homelessness, housing rights, and animal welfare.

For More Information or to Become a Member

Visit sfpride.org | Email media@sfpride.org | Telephone (415) 864-0831

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June 21, 2018

SAN FRANCISCO PRIDE ANNOUNCES PARTNERSHIP WITH MANCHESTER, UK

Team from Manchester to Attend Upcoming SF Pride Parade and Festivities

San Francisco, CA – San Francisco Pride announced today that the city of Manchester, UK has joined as a sponsor, and senior representatives from the city will be attending the Pride Parade and festivities.

Manchester is one of the UK's most exciting and diverse growing cities. Known as a thriving hub of LGBT+ culture, Manchester is also recognized around the world for its contributions to music, art, science and athletics. Thanks to a growing tourism industry, today Manchester is home to a thriving dining scene; some unique hotels and attractions; and a host of original festivals and events.

Manchester UK is an Associate Partner and will be represented at SF Pride by **Nick Brooks-Sykes, Director of Tourism at Marketing Manchester** and **Mark Fletcher, CEO of Manchester Pride**.

Nick Brooks-Sykes said: "Manchester is delighted to be partnering with San Francisco for this unique opportunity to celebrate the life, love and resilience that the two cities share. Manchester, like San Francisco, is home to a proud and welcoming LGBT+ community, and a hotbed of LGBT+ culture. We're also an exciting growing destination for arts, music and theatre; for incredible dining and nightlife; and for a year-round calendar of unforgettable events."

"Thanks to our location in the heart of the North of England, Manchester's also the ideal starting point to discover this diverse region, with Wales, Scotland and London within easy access via train or car. With nonstop flights from San Francisco, visitors from San Francisco can easily discover all that Manchester and the UK have to offer. We look forward to sharing this message with the people of San Francisco when we join SF Pride later this month."

Mark Fletcher said: "It's a great pleasure to join forces with San Francisco Pride this year in championing acceptance and equality across our two continents. Manchester Pride is not only a celebration of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender life – it's also one of the largest LGBT+ charities in the UK. Through working together with partners like San Francisco Pride we look forward to continuing our work to enrich LGBT+ lives across the globe"

CALENDAR INFORMATION

Celebration and Rally Civic Center Plaza Park Saturday, June 23 | Noon to 6:00 PM
Sunday, June 24 | 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM

48th Annual SF Pride Parade and March Sunday, June 24 | Starting at 10:30 AM Along Market Street, from Beale to 8th Street Information regarding registration, event tickets; sponsor, exhibitor, advertising, membership and donor opportunities may be found at www.sfpride.org or by calling (415) 864-0831.

-Ends-

Notes to editors

For press enquiries please contact:

Daniel.norton@marketingmanchester.com

0161 237 1010

About Manchester, UK

Youthful, diverse, energetic and bursting with character; Manchester is one of the most exciting places to visit in the UK right now where everybody and anybody is very warmly welcomed. Known throughout the world as the birthplace of the industrial revolution, Manchester has a proud history in science, politics, music, arts and sport. Today the city combines this heritage with a progressive vision to be a city that delivers surprise and delight in equal measures.

For more information, please visit: www.marketingmanchester.com and www.visitmanchester.com

About SF Pride

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About Manchester Pride

Manchester Pride is a charity which campaigns for equality; challenges discrimination; creates opportunity for engagement and participation; celebrates lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender life; and fundraises to enrich and empower LGBT organisations, charities and communities in Greater Manchester. The charity delivers an annual programme of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans (LGBT+) events in Greater Manchester.



CONTACT: Jessica Shih
Corporate Communications
415-229-6319
media@blueshieldca.com

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Blue Shield of California supports San Francisco Pride, champions diversity and inclusion in the workplace and community

SAN FRANCISCO (June 14, 2018) – For the fourth year in a row, Blue Shield of California (BSC) is proud to participate in and be a major sponsor of the 2018 San Francisco Pride Celebration and Parade. As a nonprofit health plan with 4 million members across California, Blue Shield is dedicated to supporting workplace and community initiatives that promote diversity and inclusiveness.

“Our sponsorship and active participation in the Pride parades of San Francisco, Sacramento and San Diego, not only emphasize our commitment to a workforce that reflects the diversity of our members but further send a strong message of support to LGBTQ+ communities everywhere” said Mary O’Hara, Blue Shield of California’s Chief Human Resources Officer and Senior Vice President of Internal Communications, who is a recipient of the 2018 Out and Equal Champion Award.

Blue Shield strives to create a workplace culture that reflects the diverse communities it serves. The company has six – and growing – Employee Resource Groups (ERGs) that are open to all employees in support of LGBTQ+, veterans, women, African Americans, Asian Americans and Hispanic Americans. These groups provide networking and development opportunities and help create an environment where all employees feel safe, welcome and free to be their authentic selves.

“As a gay African-American man, I’m hyper sensitive and hyper aware of my surroundings. Throughout my career journey, I’ve longed to land someplace I felt I could *truly* call ‘home;’ somewhere I could show up as my authentic self without thinking twice” says Robert Birks, co-chair of the Shield Pride ERG at Blue Shield of California. “Every morning I walk through those doors at Blue Shield, I *know* I’m going to do my best, and *then* some, because the best of me comes out every day.”

Blue Shield’s Pride ERG, which is about 350 members strong, works year round in support of its members in the workplace and the community. Among its many 2018 programs, the Shield Pride ERG has started two conversation series for Blue Shield employees. *Out Talk!* is an in-depth and intimate series where “out” BSC LGBTQ+ employees and allies share their personal life journey stories. It also launched an ally workshop series to educate employees on speaking up to support LGBTQ+ workplace equality and becoming advocates on LGBTQ+ issues.

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About Blue Shield of California

Founded in 1939, Blue Shield of California, an independent member of the Blue Cross Blue Shield Association, is a nonprofit health plan with 4 million members, 6,800 employees and more than \$17 billion in annual revenue. The company's mission is to ensure all Californians have access to high-quality care at an affordable price. Blue Shield has contributed more than \$500 million to Blue Shield of California Foundation. Learn more at www.blueshieldca.com.