



Office of Children and Family Services

LGBTQ

PRIDE

CELEBRATION TOOLKIT

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What is Pride?

- A feeling or deep pleasure or satisfaction derived from one's own achievements, the achievements of those with whom one is closely associated or from qualities or possessions that are widely admired.
- Confidence and self-respect as expressed by members of a group, typically one that has been socially marginalized, on the basis of their shared identity, culture and experience.

[Source: <https://www.lexico.com/en/definition/pride>]

What is Pride* to You?



* In this toolkit, when you see the word PRIDE capitalized, it means LGBTQ Pride.

Who Celebrates Pride?

The LGBTQ Community

- **LGBTQ:** An acronym for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer and/or questioning. It denotes a community or coalition of people with diverse gender identities and sexual orientations not limited to those specified in the acronym itself.

Allies to the LGBTQ Community

- **LGBTQ Ally:** A heterosexual, cisgender person who supports and celebrates the LGBTQ community. These people can be friends, siblings, parents, children, spouses or anyone else who supports the LGBTQ people in their lives and celebrates LGBTQ Pride.

Who do we celebrate from history?

See the Resources section for specific LGBTQ heroes from history.

“ You write in order to change the world ... if you alter, even by a millimeter, the way people look at reality, then you can change it.”

– James Baldwin

Why Celebrate Pride?

Did You Know...

- the Marriage Equality Act went into effect in New York on June 24, 2011, granting LGBTQ New Yorkers marriage rights four years before it was federally granted?
- New York has passed both SONDA (2002) and GENDA (2019), which protect all New Yorkers from discrimination due to their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression?
- the Stonewall Uprising, an event seen as the beginning of the
- LGBTQ rights movement, happened in downtown New York City in June of 1969?

Other Reasons to Celebrate:

- Visibility is important in the LGBTQ community. LGBTQ youth are at higher risk for depression, anxiety and suicide. Being in an affirming environment can reduce that risk. In the Resources section you will find a poster from the Trevor Project with information for anyone in need of support for their LGBTQ identity. Parents of LGBTQ youth also need support in order to best support their child(ren). Two handouts from PFLAG are in the Resources section that can be printed and left in common areas to support LGBTQ youth and their parents/guardians.

Why is celebrating Pride important?

See the Resources section for a timeline of LGBTQ history starting in the 17th century, as well as profiles and a coloring book featuring important figures in LGBTQ history.

When to Celebrate Pride?

It Started in New York...

- Early in the morning on June 28, 1969, police raided the Stonewall Inn, a Greenwich Village bar that had become a staple of New York City's underground gay community. But this time, tired of the ongoing raids, community members fought back, striking what would become known as The Stonewall Riots.
- A year after Stonewall, on June 28, 1970, the first Gay Pride March was held by the Christopher Street Liberation Day Committee to commemorate the riots. The New York Times reported that the marchers took up the entire street for about 15 city blocks.
- There are even more events in upstate New York, and they're all summer long. Check out the list of events in your area on the Pride Events Calendar in the Resources section.

When did it all begin?

Go to <https://www.stonewallforever.org> to see images and hear stories from the people who were at the Stonewall Uprising.

Where to Celebrate Pride?

Across All of New York State!

- An excellent resource to find your local LGBTQ center is a directory called [CenterLink](#). Discover what programs are held in your area. Check their website or Facebook page.
- These are excellent opportunities to connect with the LGBTQ community and provide much-needed visibility for LGBTQ youth and families in need of affirming environments.
- Don't see an event near you? Plan your own! The next section of this toolkit is a guide to how you can create your own Pride celebration.

Where do you show Pride?

Cities across the United States celebrate Pride with marches, parades, bowling, karaoke, 5K runs, concerts, shows and much more.

How Can You Celebrate Pride?

How to Get Started

- You can celebrate Pride and the LGBTQ community in many ways; there is no one right way. For some people, showing Pride is wearing a rainbow pin or having a "safe zone" poster in their office. Some may attend marches or volunteer for LGBTQ organizations, and others just feel proud every day without needing a flag or event.
- Do you want to have your own Pride event? This toolkit can help:
 - Download and print posters from the resources section to hang on your office walls or use them to decorate a bulletin board in your common area(s) at work. (Please send photos for us to showcase to LGBTQ@ocfs.ny.gov)
 - Print the LGBTQ Hero Profiles and have staff/youth/parents read them aloud at a meeting to discuss the important role these heroes have played in the LGBTQ rights movement.
 - Hand out the [LGBTQ History Coloring Book](#) and have a coloring contest. This activity provides excellent visibility for families with younger LGBTQ children in particular. (Please send photos for us to showcase to LGBTQ@ocfs.ny.gov)
 - Speak with your local officials about leading a Pride march through town, or dedicate a day to LGBTQ Pride by handing out the [Safe Space posters](#) in the Resources section to community partners.
 - Wear and hand out pins/stickers with colors from the Pride flag(s) described in the Resources section.

How will you show Pride?

Resources

Tools Index:

- [The Gender Unicorn \[TSER\]](#)
- [LGBTQ Heroes from History \[GLSEN\]](#)
- [Historical Timeline of LGBTQ Events \[GLSEN\]](#)
- [LGBTQ History Coloring Book \[GLSEN\]](#)
- [Trevor Project Suicide Prevention Poster \[Trevor Project\]](#)
- [Be Yourself Handout \[PFLAG\]](#)
- [Our Children Handout \[PFLAG\]](#)
- [Safe Space Poster \[True Colors Fund\]](#)
- [Queer Umbrella Poster \[Safe Zone Project\]](#)
- [Pride Flags and Their History \[Refinery29\]](#)

The Gender Unicorn

What is the Gender Unicorn?

How this tool can be used:

- The Gender Unicorn is a graphic that breaks down how people can identify their sexual orientation, gender identity and/or gender expression (SOGIE).
- Research shows as young as two-year-old children are aware of physical differences between each other and those as young as four years old are also aware of their own identity and of gender stereotypes. ¹ This tool is meant to show that there is a range of SOGIE identities, not just female or male, straight or gay.
- The graphic on the next page shows that gender identity and the pronouns people identify with are separate from their sex assigned at birth. It also shows a person's physical attraction to others can be measured differently than emotional attraction. Finally, it provides a visual on how people may show their gender expression through clothing, hairstyle, behavior, etc.

Purpose:

- To explain that the sex assigned at birth does not determine your gender
- To explain that gender identity is separate from sexual orientation
- To explain that gender identity and sexual orientation are fluid

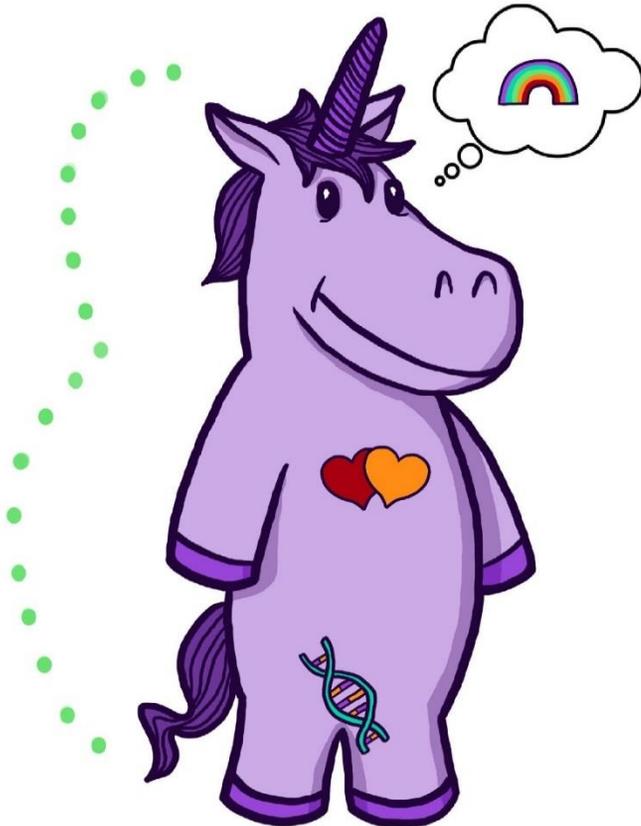
Professional Development on Diversity and Inclusion

- There is diversity in the way different cultures express their gender. For example, in India, there is an acknowledgement of a third gender.
- Western cultures have established norms and binaries (boys vs. girls) that are hard to unlearn.
- This is included in this Pride toolkit because it is important to use affirming and inclusive language with people of all SOGIE. This tool can help create an affirming workplace for all staff regardless of SOGIE who might experience exclusion, marginalization, oppression or micro-aggressions.

¹ <https://www.caringforkids.cps.ca/handouts/gender-identity>

The Gender Unicorn

Graphic by:
TSER
Trans Student Educational Resources



Gender Identity

-  Female/Woman/Girl
-  Male/Man/Boy
-  Other Gender(s)

Gender Expression

-  Feminine
-  Masculine
-  Other

Sex Assigned at Birth

-  Female
-  Male
-  Other/Intersex

Physically Attracted to

-  Women
-  Men
-  Other Gender(s)

Emotionally Attracted to

-  Women
-  Men
-  Other Gender(s)

To learn more, go to:
www.transstudent.org/gender

Design by Landyn Pan and Anna Moore

*other languages are also available on <https://www.transstudent.org/gender>

LGBTQ Heroes from History



Kim Coco Iwamoto

At the time of her board of education election, Kim Coco Iwamoto was the highest-ranking elected official in the United States who openly identified as transgender. Born and raised in Hawai'i, she left the island for school in New York City, where she began to volunteer and become aware of social justice issues. After this life-altering experience, she moved to New Mexico for law school, and returned home to Hawaii after graduation. She continued to volunteer while she worked as a civil rights attorney. She became a foster parent to several children in Hawaii, which led to her involvement with the board of education. Feeling like a new perspective and ideas were needed, she ran for and was elected to the board in 2006. She has also participated in Hawaii DOE's Safe School Community Advisory Committee, the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board, and the Career and Technical Education Coordinating Advisory Council. Kim Coco has attempted to focus the conversation not on her gender identity, but on Hawaii's keiki (youth) and ensuring the safety of all students.

Disclaimer: Content from GLSEN.org (These heroes were chosen from multiple GLSEN profiles and reflects a diversity of changemakers from different gender identities, sexual orientations and racial backgrounds.)

LGBTQ Heroes from History



Marsha P. Johnson

Marsha P. Johnson was a transgender rights activist and has been designated by some as a queer saint. She was a loud and colorful personality who was popular in New York City's gay, art, transgender and activist communities from the 1960s until the '90s. Marsha took part in Andy Warhol's "ladies and gentlemen" series of photographs and in the flamboyant theatrical troupe, Hot Peaches. She was one of the first people to fight back against the police at the Stonewall Inn in 1969, screaming for her civil rights. Marsha told the judge during a court case that the P. in her name stood for "Pay it No Mind," which became her trademark. She, along with Sylvia Rivera, founded Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries (STAR) in the early '70s, and they were the mothers of STAR House, which provided food, clothing and housing to transgender and non-gender-conforming youth in New York City, one of the first organizations to advocate for and support this population.

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LGBTQ Heroes from History



Tammy Baldwin

Tammy Baldwin is the first openly LGBT Senator in United States history and one of the most progressive members of Congress. Tammy was born and raised in Madison, WI. She earned her J.D. degree from the University of Wisconsin in 1989 and practiced law for three years. In 1986, she joined the Dane County Board of Supervisors, where she served for eight years. In 1992, she was elected to her first of three terms on Wisconsin's 78th Assembly District. In 1999, Tammy won a seat in the United States Congress: the first woman to do so in Wisconsin and the first openly gay nonincumbent to be elected to the House of Representatives. She served for seven terms, fighting for Wisconsin families, women, the middle class, veterans, affordable education, the environment and affordable health care. In 2012, Tammy became the highest-ranking incoming senator to the U.S. Senate, due to her 14 years in the House.

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LGBTQ Heroes from History



Bayard Rustin

Bayard Rustin began his career in activism when he was just a child by protesting segregation alongside the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Throughout his life, Rustin was involved in countless boycotts, protests and initiatives aimed at protecting the civil rights of all minority groups. He was an expert in non-violent resistance, having studied in India with leaders of their independence movement, and organized many demonstrations of his own. Bayard played a pivotal role in the Black Civil Rights movement as an advisor to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Leaders of the movement asked Bayard to stay out of the public spotlight, for fear of being associated with what was at the time his “illegal” life as a gay man. Rustin continued to advocate for civil rights until his death in 1987, including LGBT rights, a cause he adopted in the later part of his life.

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LGBTQ Heroes from History



James Baldwin

James Baldwin was an author, activist, playwright and essayist and was one of the first people to explore the intersections of race, class and sexuality in fiction. He was a noted public speaker, who provided a voice for black men and wrote about their struggles in highly acclaimed essays and speeches. James was highly active in the civil rights movement, taking part in marches and helping to mobilize and motivate African Americans to fight for their civil rights in the South.

He was a Guggenheim Fellow, and his works of fiction and his essays are still regarded as essential reading in the modern literary canon. Books such as *Giovanni's Room* and *Another Country* are his best works of fiction and some of the first pieces of literature with clear and outright examination of same-sex relationships. He has left a lasting mark on American literature, society and politics.

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LGBTQ Heroes from History



Harvey Milk

Harvey Milk was the first openly gay elected official in the state of California. As a young man, he served in the Navy and later got involved in the LGBTQ rights movement. Like other civil rights heroes, Harvey used his knack for grassroots organizing, his deep dedication to the cause and his charisma to rally support. In addition to fighting legal battles, Milk encouraged members of the LGBTQ community to take pride in their identity and diversity, and to stand up for their rights.

His successes changed the landscape of American politics, but they also made him a target. Soon after his election, one of the board members resigned and then shot and killed both Harvey Milk and the mayor, George Moscone. Milk's legacy lives on, though, and in 2016, the Navy announced that a tanker ship would be named in his honor, the USNS Harvey Milk. While he didn't live to see the full impact of his efforts, his story inspired generations of activists to come out of the shadows and fight for equality and respect—for the LGBTQ community and for everyone.

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LGBTQ Heroes from History



Jason Collins

Jason Paul Collins is a retired professional basketball player who played 13 seasons in the NBA. A center, Collins played college basketball for Stanford University, where he was an All-American in 2000–01. Collins was selected by the Houston Rockets in the 2001 NBA draft. He went on to play for the New Jersey Nets, Memphis Grizzlies, Minnesota Timberwolves, Atlanta Hawks, Boston Celtics, Washington Wizards and Brooklyn Nets.

After the 2012–13 NBA season concluded, Collins publicly came out as gay. He became a free agent and signed with the Nets to become the first openly gay athlete to play in any of four major North American professional sports leagues. Collins said a "notorious antigay hate crime," the murder of Matthew Shepard in 1998, led him to choose "98" for his jersey number, in Shepard's honor. Collins called the number "a statement to myself, my family and my friends."

Fellow NBA star Kobe Bryant praised his decision, as did others from around the league, including NBA commissioner David Stern, President Barack Obama, First Lady Michelle Obama and former president Bill Clinton. Collins' corporate sponsor Nike was also among those offering their praise and support for Collins.

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LGBTQ Heroes from History



Billie Jean King

Billie Jean King is a former World No. 1 professional tennis player. King won 39 Grand Slam titles: 12 in singles, 16 in women's doubles and 11 in mixed doubles. She won the singles title at the inaugural WTA Tour Championships. She often represented the United States in the Federation Cup and the Wightman Cup. She was a member of the victorious United States team in seven Federation Cups and nine Wightman Cups. For three years, she was the United States' captain in the Federation Cup.

King is an advocate for gender equality and has long been a pioneer for equality and social justice. In 1973, at age 29, she won the "Battle of the Sexes" tennis match against the 55-year-old Bobby Riggs. King came out as lesbian in 1981 and had this to say about the process in a 2007 interview: "I wanted to tell the truth, but my parents were homophobic, and I was in the closet. As well as that, I had people tell me that if I talked about what I was going through, it would be the end of [my career]. I couldn't get a closet deep enough. At the age of 51, I was finally able to talk about it properly with my parents and no longer did I have to measure my words with them. That was a turning point for me as it meant I didn't have regrets anymore."

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LGBTQ Historical Timeline:

We start nearly 400 years ago...

- In 1623 Francis Bacon, a noted gay man who coined the term “masculine love,” publishes “The Advancement of Learning—an argument for empirical research and against superstition.” This deductive system for empirical research earned him the title “the Father of Modern Science.”
- In 1649 the first known conviction for lesbian activity in North America occurs in March when Sarah White Norman is charged with “lewd behavior” with Mary Vincent Hammon in Plymouth, Massachusetts.
- In 1886 We’wha, a Zuni Native American from New Mexico, is received by U.S. President Grover Cleveland as a “Zuni Princess.” They are an accomplished weaver, potter and the most famous lhamana, a traditional Zuni gender role, now described as mixed-gender or Two-Spirit. In 1924 Henry Gerber forms the Society for Human Rights, the first gay group in the United States, but the group is quickly shut down.
- In 1952 Christine Jorgensen is the first American who comes forward publicly about being transgender and speaks openly about her experiences with gender confirmation surgery and hormone replacement therapy. Her transition causes an international sensation, and for many, she is the first visible transgender person in media.
- In 1956 James Baldwin, African American novelist and intellectual, publishes his first novel, Giovanni’s Room, a critically acclaimed work that explores bisexuality, as well as intimate relationships between men.
- In 1963 Bayard Rustin, noted civil rights activist and gay man, is the chief organizer behind the historic March on Washington, which culminates with Dr. Martin Luther King’s famous “I Have a Dream” speech.
- Also in 1963, the first gay rights demonstration in the United States takes place on September 19 at the Whitehall Induction Center in New York City, protesting discrimination in the military.

[Content from GLSEN.org]

LGBTQ Historical Timeline:

continued

- In 1969 police raid the Stonewall Inn in New York City in the early hours of June 28, which leads to four days of conflict between police and LGBTQ people. Transgender people, LGBTQ people of color and youth are a major part of these “riots” that mark the birth of the modern LGBTQ movement. In 1970 the first “Gay Liberation Day March” is held in New York City, beginning the tradition of LGBTQ Pride Marches in the city on the last Sunday in June.
- In 1973 the board of the American Psychiatric Association votes 13-0 to remove homosexuality from its official list of psychiatric disorders, the DSM-II. The resolution also urges an end to private and public discrimination and repeal of laws discriminating against homosexuals. However, homosexuality continues to be pathologized by appearing as Sexual Orientation Disturbance in the DSM-II, and then as Egodystonic Homosexuality in the DSM-III. Sexual orientation is finally removed in the revised version of the DSM-III 1987.

[Content from GLSEN.org]

LGBTQ Historical Timeline:

continued

- In 1977 Harvey Milk becomes the first openly gay person to be elected to public office in California when he wins a seat on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Milk was assassinated along with the mayor of San Francisco on November 27, 1978, less than a year after Milk took office. In 1980 Democrats are the first political party to add “gay rights” to their platform during the Democratic National Convention.
- In 1982 nearly 800 people are infected with GRID (Gay-Related Immunodeficiency Disorder). The name is changed to AIDS by the year’s end.
- In 1987 ACT UP, a direct-action activist group, is founded in the LGBT Community Center in New York City to bring attention to AIDS-related issues using civil disobedience.
- In 1991 Audre Lorde is named State Poet of New York. She is a critically acclaimed novelist, poet and essayist who was also politically active in the social justice movements, a cofounder of The Kitchen Table Women of Color Press and an editor of the lesbian journal “Chrysalis.”
- In 1997 Ellen DeGeneres and her television character, Ellen Morgan, come out. Ellen becomes the first television show to feature a lesbian or gay lead character. The show is cancelled the following year.
- In 1998 Matthew Shepard, a gay Wyoming college student, is brutally beaten by two young men, tied to a fence and left overnight. He dies six days later.

[Content from GLSEN.org]

LGBTQ Historical Timeline:

continued

- Also in 1998, Tammy Baldwin became the first openly lesbian candidate ever elected to Congress, winning Wisconsin's second congressional district seat over Josephine Musser.
- In 2002 New York City expands the definition of "gender" to include protections for transgender and gender non-conforming people in employment, housing and public accommodations in the New York City Human Rights Law.
- In 2003 the U.S. Supreme Court overturns sodomy laws, proclaiming rights to privacy and decriminalizing "homosexual" behavior.
- In 2004 Massachusetts becomes the first U.S. state to legally recognize same-sex marriage.
- In 2005 Brokeback Mountain becomes one of the first major motion pictures to focus on a same-sex relationship.
- In 2009 President Obama signs the Matthew Shepard Act into law. The law expands the 1969 U.S. federal hate-crime law to include crimes motivated by a victim's actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity or disability, and becomes the first federal law to include legal protections for transgender people.
- In 2011 the U.S. military policy "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" officially ends. This allows lesbian, gay and bisexual people to serve openly in the military. The repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" does not lift regulations barring many transgender people from serving.

[Content from GLSEN.org]

LGBTQ Historical Timeline:

continued

- Also in 2011, United States Department of Education Secretary Arne Duncan issues a statement clarifying that students have the right to form gay-straight alliances (GSAs) under the Equal Access Act of 1984 in any public school that allows noncurricular student groups to form. Schools must also provide GSAs with the same opportunities as other groups to convene and access resources.
- In 2013 the United States federally recognizes same-sex marriages, extending federal benefits to couples in states that allow same-sex marriage.
- Then in 2015, the Supreme Court rules that states are constitutionally required to issue marriage licenses to same- sex couples, legalizing marriage equality in all 50 states.
- Also in 2015, MTV's critically acclaimed series True Life airs an episode covering the topic of living and being genderqueer, bringing to light for many viewers at home (beyond the introduction to the world outside of the gender binary) how to properly use the singular "they" and other neo-pronouns.
- In 2016 President Obama dedicated the new Stonewall National Monument in Greenwich Village, Lower Manhattan, as the first U.S. National Monument to honor the LGBTQ rights movement.

For more LGBTQ history events and icons, go to <https://www.glsen.org/lgbtqhistory>

Pride Events by Region

Capital District

- 6/13/20 at 12-5 p.m.: 2020 Black & Latino Gay Pride Celebration in Washington Park, Albany, NY. For more info please visit: <https://blackandlatinogaypride.com/>
- 6/14/20 at 12-5 p.m.: Capital Pride Parade and Festival 2020 in Washington Park, Albany, NY. For more info please visit: <https://www.518capitalpride.com/>

Hudson Valley

- 6/20/20 at 2 p.m.: Out Hudson Pride Parade
- 6/2/20 at 12 p.m.: Westchester Pride in Renaissance Plaza, White Plains, NY
- 6/14/20 at 12 p.m.: Rockland Pride in Nyack, NY

Western New York

- 6/7/20 at 1-7 p.m.: Buffalo Pride Festival at Canalside in Buffalo, NY
- 7/11/20 at 1-7 p.m.: ROC Pride 2020 at Cobbs Hill Park in Rochester, NY

Pride Events by Region

Continued

Finger Lakes

- 6/13/20 at 1-9 p.m.: FLX Pride Festival at the Seneca Lakefront in Geneva, NY

Southern Tier

- 6/6/20 at 12 p.m.: Pride Flag Raising at Binghamton City Hall, Binghamton, NY. For more info please visit: <https://www.binghamtonpride.org/pride-month-2020/>
- 6/13/20 at 2-10 p.m.: Binghamton Pride Palooza at waterfront in Binghamton, NY. For more info please visit: <https://www.binghamtonpride.org/pride-month-2020/>
- 6/19/20-6/21/20: Corning Pride Festivities 2020 at Riverfront Centennial Park in Corning, NY

Long Island

- 6/14/20 at 1-4 p.m.: 30th Annual LI Pride Parade at Jones Beach, NY
- 6/14/20 at 9 a.m.: Long Island Pride 5K Run at Jones Beach State Park. For more info please visit: <https://localraces.com/events/long-beach-ny/long-island-pride-5k>

Central New York

- 6/20/20 at 12 p.m.: Central NY Pride Parade and Festival at Syracuse Inner Harbor in Syracuse, NY

Pride Events by Region

Continued

Mohawk Valley

- 6/6/20 at 2-8 p.m.: Oneonta PrideFest in Neahwa Park, Oneonta, NY
New York City
- 5/2/20 at 9 a.m.: 5K Pride Fun Run at Snug Harbor Cultural Center and Botanical Gardens, Staten Island, NY
- 5/6/20 at 7-10 p.m.: Spectrum - Transgender Open Mic at Flagship Brewery, Staten Island, NY
- 5/8/20 at 7-10 p.m.: PrideFest Bowling Night at Rab's Country Lanes, Staten Island, NY
- 5/9/20 at 12-5 p.m.: Staten Island PrideFest at Snug Harbor Cultural Center and Botanical Gardens, Staten Island, NY
- 5/16/20 at 7-10 p.m.: Youth Prom
- 6/1/20 at 4 p.m.: Bronx LGBTQ Flag Raising at Bronx County Courthouse in Bronx, NY
- 6/7/20 at 12 p.m.: Queens Pride Parade at 37th Ave. and 89th St. in Queens, NY
- 6/13/20 at 7:30 p.m.: Brooklyn Pride Parade
- 6/21/20 at 12-6 p.m.: Bronx Pride Festival at E 149 St. in Bronx, NY