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PRIDE MONTH

JUNE



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WHAT IS PRIDE MONTH?

From June 1 to June 30, Pride Month spotlights LGBTIQA+ voices and celebrates LGBTIQA+ culture, achievements and activism through a series of organised activities, including film festivals, art exhibits, marches, concerts and other programs throughout the month.

Through these efforts, the LGBTIQA+ community and its allies aim to spotlight LGBTIQA+ voices, increase awareness and knowledge on issues of inequality, as well as commemorate the lives lost to violence and the AIDS crisis.



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WHY IS PRIDE MONTH IN JUNE?

Pride Month, observed in June, honours the anniversary of the Stonewall Uprising, a pivotal event in LGBTIQA+ history. In the late 1960s, openly being gay was largely prohibited, with New York considering the presence of gay or genderqueer individuals as disorderly conduct, effectively outlawing gay bars.

On June 28, 1969, patrons of the Stonewall Inn, a popular LGBTIQA+ bar, resisted a police raid, leading to days of riots and protests known as the Stonewall Uprising.

One year later, on the uprising's anniversary, thousands marched in Manhattan's Christopher Street Gay Liberation Day March, recognized as the first gay pride event.



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HOW DID PRIDE MONTH BEGIN?

Before becoming a month-long celebration, Pride was initially recognised as Gay Pride Day, observed annually on the last Sunday in June.

As awareness increased and more activities and events were planned spanning the entire month, the event evolved into a month-long recognition.

In 1999, President Bill Clinton officially declared June as Gay and Lesbian Pride Month, recognising the LGBTIQA+ community's achievements and offering support.



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WHAT IS THE SYMBOL OF PRIDE MONTH?

The rainbow flag, created by renowned San Francisco activist Gilbert Baker, is a universal symbol of LGBTIQA+ pride which represents "the rainbow of humanity," symbolising all genders and races. Each of the six rainbow flag colours represents an aspect of the LGBTIQA+ movement: life, healing, sunlight, nature, serenity, and spirit.

In 2017, Philadelphia added black and brown stripes to represent LGBTIQA+ people of colour who have often felt marginalised. Today, many organisations have adopted the flag, with some incorporating the baby blue and light pink colours of the transgender pride flag.



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HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE IN PRIDE MONTH?

Attend Events: Participate in local Pride parades, festivals, and events to show your support and solidarity with the LGBTIQA+ community.

Educate Yourself: Learn about LGBTIQA+ history, issues, and contributions. Reading books, watching documentaries, and following LGBTIQA+ activists can deepen your understanding.

Support LGBTIQA+ Organisations: Donate to or volunteer with organisations that support LGBTIQA+ rights and welfare.

Be an Ally: Show support by speaking out against discrimination and prejudice. Use inclusive language and support LGBTIQA+ friends, family, and colleagues.

