



For Immediate Release

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**Denver PrideFest announces dynamic entertainment line-up
2019 festival celebrates historic Stonewall anniversary
June 15-16 at Civic Center Park: DenverPride.org**

DENVER, CO – The 2019 Denver PrideFest will commemorate the 1969 riots at the historic Stonewall Inn in New York City, regarded by many as the beginning of the contemporary LGBTQ civil rights movement, with an exciting line-up of entertainers on all three stages June 15-16 at Civic Center Park.

In the early hours of June 28, 1969, New York City police raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay club located in Greenwich Village in New York City. The raid sparked a riot among bar patrons and neighborhood residents as police roughly hauled employees and patrons out of the bar, leading to protests and violent clashes with law enforcement outside the bar on Christopher Street, in neighboring streets and in nearby Christopher Park. The Stonewall Riots served as a catalyst for the gay rights movement in the United States and around the world.

One year after the Stonewall riots, the first Christopher Street Liberation Day march was organized on June 28, 1970 to promote LGBTQ civil rights. The celebration was so popular that similar events began popping up as gay pride events in cities across the country. LGBTQ pride events have now become an annual June tradition for many cities across the globe and have led to increased visibility and acceptance for LGBTQ people everywhere. The first gay pride celebration took place in Denver in June 1975. This community gathering brought increased energy to the Denver LGBTQ community and one year later, activists moved to form what would become The Center on Colfax.

Denver PrideFest is a free two-day festival that features live entertainment on three stages. The annual event is produced by The Center on Colfax, one of the state's oldest LGBTQ organizations. In addition to entertainment, the festival features more than 200 exhibitors, food and drink. The Center on Colfax is a non-profit organization that serves more than 52,000 people annually at its facility in Denver's Capitol

Hill neighborhood with programs that serve LGBTQ youth, older adults, and the transgender community, as well as training and legal programs.

The PRIDE 5K kicks off the weekend on Saturday June 15 with a run/walk from the State Capitol to Cheesman Park and back. The 5K includes prizes for individual runners and teams. The centerpiece of the weekend is the Coors Light Denver Pride Parade on Sunday morning June 16. Stepping off at 9:30 am and attracting 100,000+ spectators, the Coors Light Denver Pride Parade marches from Cheesman Park to the festival at Civic Center Park via Colfax Avenue.

Complete entertainment and festival information is available at our website: DenverPride.org.

Center Stage Line-Up

Opening Act: Wheelchair Sports Camp

Saturday, June 15, 12:00 pm

Combining humor, playfulness, radical political perspectives, compassion and undeniable musical chops, Wheelchair Sports Camp is Denver's biggest smallest band. Fronted by the wheelchair using, rapping/beat-making, activist/educator/shit-talker Kalyn, the band is a combination of live and electronic instruments with a more noisy, jazzy, experimental combination to the traditional hip-hop group. The band has been featured on the cover of the *Village Voice* as well as in *SPIN Magazine*, *Huffington Post*, *High Times Magazine* and more.

Legendary Lady Bunny performs and DJs

Saturday, June 15 at 3:30 pm

With her glitzy outfits, sky-high wigs and false eyelashes long enough to embarrass Tammy Faye Baker, multi-talented drag artist Lady Bunny would turn heads even if looking glamorous was her only talent. Bunny is a successful comedienne, DJ, actress, singer/songwriter and most famously, the emcee and creator of Wigstock, the outrageous festival of drag and music which electrified New Yorkers every Labor Day for over 20 years. Bunny tours constantly, bringing houses down from Cincinnati to Tel Aviv with her bawdy mix of potty-mouthed humor, zany, Laugh-In-style joke routines and X-rated pop parodies. She will bring her stage act to the Denver PrideFest Center Stage and then moves to Smirnoff Dance World for an exciting DJ performance. <http://ladybunny.net/>

Hometown Girl Yvie Oddly

Sunday, June 16 at 2:00 pm

Born and raised in Denver Colorado, Yvie Oddly is a classically trained artist through Denver School of the Arts who has found an international audience through the art of drag. A leading contestant on the current season of "RuPaul's Drag Race," this queen likes to push the boundaries of drag and is known for

outrageous and unconventional looks – which can range from a pretty lady to terrifying alien creatures – and her signature loud cackle. <https://oddllyvie.com/>

Todrick Hall
Presented by Nissan
Sunday, June 16 at 3:00 pm

With more than three million subscribers on YouTube, Todrick Hall's talents include singing, acting, dance, choreography and directing. Todrick has made a huge splash in the industry, gaining recognition from USA Today and earning coveted spots on Business Insider's "Hottest YouTube Stars Alive" and Forbes "30 under 30 Entertainment" lists. His regular guest appearances on "RuPaul's Drag Race" as a choreographer and on the judging panel have made him a leading entertainer in the LGBTQ community and beyond. Hall starred as Lola in the Broadway cast of *Kinky Boots*. Last year, he released his visual LP *Forbidden* and tours internationally. Todrick Hall's appearance is sponsored by Nissan.

[Todrick Hall's YouTube Channel](#)

Drag Sensation Peppermint
Sunday, June 16 at 3:30 pm

Peppermint is an American actress, singer, and drag queen best known as a fixture in the New York City nightlife scene and contestant on the ninth season of "RuPaul's Drag Race." Peppermint was the first openly transgender woman to appear on the hit program. Peppermint was featured in the web series *Queens of Drag: NYC*. She has recorded songs as an independent artist and with dance recording artist Johnny McGovern. Last season she made her Broadway debut in the musical *Head Over Heels*, inspired by the music of the 80s supergroup The Go-Go's. She was the first trans woman to originate a principal role on Broadway.

U.S. Bank Latinx Stage Line-Up

Voice Finalist Lluvia Vega
Saturday, June 15

Mexican recording artist Lluvia Vega was a semifinalist on the Spanish-language version of "The Voice" that aired on the Telemundo network in the U.S. In addition, she was a finalist in the 2017 "La Reina de la Cancion" competition. She has multiple best-selling albums in Mexico.

“Miss Congeniality” Cynthia Lee Fontaine

Sunday, June 16

Cynthia Lee Fontaine has appeared on both Season 8 and Season 9 of “RuPaul’s Drag Race” and won the title of “Miss Congeniality” for her popular and engaging presence. A native of Puerto Rico who relocated to Texas, she has become a fixture of the Austin drag scene as well as performing internationally.

Smirnoff Dance World Line-Up

DJ Joe Gauthreaux

Sunday, June 16

As one of the most sought-after DJs and Producers in the industry, Joe Gauthreaux (pronounced GO TROW) has a resume full of club appearances and main events that spans the last 15 years – with the list ever growing. He has played almost every major circuit event all over the world, including Winter Party Festival, Black Party New York, White Party Miami, Song Kran Bangkok, New Year’s Rio at The Week, and Atlantis Cruises, among others. A staple at major clubs across North America, Brazil and Asia, while holding multi-year residencies in several key markets across the world, his name is synonymous with having a driving and unique musical experience.

More Denver PrideFest activities can be found at our website:

DenverPride.org

Find us on Facebook: [Facebook.com/DenverPrideFest](https://www.facebook.com/DenverPrideFest)

Follow us on Twitter: [@CenterOnColfax](https://twitter.com/CenterOnColfax)

Denver PrideFest thanks our Sponsors

Major Sponsors

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Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment

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About The Center on Colfax...

The Center on Colfax opened in 1976 and over the years has grown to become the largest LGBTQ community center in the Rocky Mountain region, giving voice to Colorado's LGBTQ community and playing a pivotal role in statewide initiatives to reduce harassment and discrimination. Today the Center is focused on fulfilling its mission – to engage, empower, enrich and advance the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community of Colorado – by ensuring that every member of the LGBTQ community has access to the programs and resources they need to live happy, healthy, and productive lives. The Center currently operates on an annual budget of \$2.3 million, employs 20 staff members and utilizes more than 500 community volunteers to serve more than 52,000 people each year. www.lgbtqcolorado.org

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