



Pride Edition July 19, 2023



Peavine Mountain Media



The local GLBT news and information source for northern Nevada and the eastern Sierra

therenogaypage is published as a community service by Peavine Mountain Media. Issues of the newspaper are published on an irregular basis depending on the activity in the LGBTIQ community and the need to disseminate information. Stories of crucial interest are released as need through our word-press blog, on twitter. The renogaypage can be reached at renogaypage@gmail.com. follow us online: Facebook: therenogaypage therenogaypage.wordpress.com

# Celebrating LGBTQ Pride the Reno Way 2023



Pride festival grew onto West First Street last year and again this



Glenn Little Amphitheater Main Stage, presented by Anthem

This Saturday, Northern Nevada Pride celebrates a decade of waving the rainbow proudly in downtown Reno celebrating the diversity of the community.

"We have so much planned this year," Yevonne Allen, marketing director for Northern Nevada Pride, recently said in a KOLO TV interview. "This is our biggest festival ever covering both sides of Wingfield Park, The Arlington Ave Bridge and Arlington to Ralston on First. There are three stages for entertainment along with the traditional vendor, businesses and organization booths."

Because of the expected 100 + degree temperatures, Northern Nevada Pride is providing hydration stations with free water during the festival. Attendees are asked to bring their own refillable water bottles with them to help reduce the carbon footprint of non reusable plastics and styrofoam.

Northern Nevada Pride kicks off the weekend on Friday Night at the Glow Plaza on



commUNITY Pride Parade marches under the Arch to the river Saturday

The festival opens at 11 am in Wingfield Park. Admission to the event is \$5 at the gate. There is increased security this year, as the Pride Committee wants to insure safety to all those attending the festivities.

The Glenn Little Amphitheater, presented by Anthem, will serve as the main stage for entertainment with Stephanie Nicole LaDream serving for the 10th year as the stage hostess for the day.

"Reno holds a special place in my heart, Stephanie told therenogaypage. "This is not an event I ever want to miss or not be part of."

Opening ceremonies begin at noon with the featured special guests at 4 pm Mo Heart; 5pm Jordi and 6 pm Wreck No. Entertainment will take to the stage all day. A second stage will be lo-

West Fourth Street (at the J Resort) with the return of Drag Wars and its special guest performer the Mother Pucking Queen of the World Ra'Jah Ohara, from the sixth season of RuPaul's Drag Race.

Tickets to the event are \$10 for those 21 and older and \$5 for those under 21. Gates open at 6 pm with the festivities kicking off the party at 7 pm. Following the entertainment, DJ Benazz will take over spinning dance music until 11 pm.

Saturday morning activities move to the heart of the Biggest Little City as the commUNITY Pride Parade marches down Virginia Street from Fourth Street to the Arch Bridge crossing the Truckee River. This event is free with the parade starting at 10 am.

"We have over 100 participants in this year's parade so about 2 hours in length," Meredith Tanzer, the parade co-coordinator, told KOLO in an interview. "We have so many new business expressing their support as allies this year. It has been amazing to see this event grow from our first parade that went from Ralston to Arlington."

cated on West First Street and a DJ Tent will be on the west end of Wingfield Park.

Vendor, information and organizations will fill the west and east sides of Wingfield Park. There will also be booths along West First Street.

Arlington Ave, through the park will be closed to traffic for the day. Most food vendors will be on Arlington. Do expect long lines at food vendors.

Entrances to the festival are at West Street Plaza, Arlington and First Streets and Arlington and Island.

Northern Nevada Pride weekend ends the Rainbow celebration with its After Party at the GSR Pool on Sunday starting at noon. The first 100 people get in for \$10. Northern Nevada Pride is an ALL volunteer group who exists as the primary fund raiser for the local LGBTQ Community Center, OUR Center.

OUR Center is located at 1745 So Wells Ave. in Reno.

A dance party has been added to the festivities Saturday evening at Cypress Reno, 21+ with a burlesque show and dance. Admission to the burlesque show 6 pm and dance is \$40. The dance party alone is \$30 starting in 8:30 pm. A portion of proceeds benefit Northern Nevada Pride.



Reno's favorite Northern Nevada stage hostess, Stephanie Nicole LaDream

## Call to Volunteer Many still needed

Over 100 volunteers are still needed to serve as festival support and bartenders for this Saturday's Northern Nevada Pride as of press time.

"Without volunteers putting on this event would be almost impossible," Jeromy Manke, chairman of Northern Nevada Pride told therenogaypage. "We are an ALL volunteer event."

Festival volunteers are needed. Shifts range from two hours to four, depending on duties. Volunteers get a t-shirt, festival admission and contribute to the success of the biggest fund raiser for the local LGBTQ Community Center.

Volunteer bartenders are also needed. Bartenders must have a valid Nevada Alcohol Training certificate (alcohol serving card).

To register as a volunteer simply visit [northernnevadapride.org](http://northernnevadapride.org) and click on the volunteer link.

## Pride is not new to Northern Nevada

People are always asking why Northern Nevada Pride is celebrated in July and not June which is recognized as "pride month".

The answer is simple. Northern Nevada Pride is part of the July Artown events. The Reno pride celebration is also always the fourth Saturday in July because of this.

Northern Nevada Pride is produced by a volunteer committee. It generates the operating revenue for OUR Center, the local LGBTQ Community Center opened in 2016.

Northern Nevada Pride is the

fifth incarnation for a local pride celebration founded in 2013 as the Pegasus Project and hosted its first event in 2014.

Wingfield Park is the site for Northern Nevada Pride. It was also the site for Reno Gay Pride which was the third week in August from 1997 to 2015. For two years, Reno had two prides three weeks apart.

The first local Pride was held in 1987 at Rock Park in Sparks. That celebration lasted three years. From 1985 to 1998, The Silver Dollar Court hosted the All Community Picnic, also in Rock Park. Not called "officially" a

Pride celebration that is what it actually was.

For several years there was also the Reno Rainbow Fest which was a series of pride parties.

OUR Center the beneficiary of Northern Nevada Pride started with an idea as Build OUR Center in 2009 and it took those volunteers on its board seven years to raise enough funds to create a sustainable organization.

OUR Center has proven its sustainability, now in its eight year serving the LGBTQ community.

### This year's Pride promo shirt something special

Northern Nevada Pride each year creates a unique t-shirt to promote the celebration of diversity in Northern Nevada. This year's unique shirt is the creation of local LGBTQ artist Kai Morikawa.

Northern Nevada Pride



reached out to them and asked if they could create something for this year's design. The fun little Pride parade shirt was the result. The unique creative design was handed out fast and furiously.

Today an extremely limited number of shirts exist and by Pride the supply will be gone, thanks to the talents of Morikawa.



Official Pride Events schedule

Friday, July 21 Pre Pride Party Drag Wars returns

The Glow Plaza at J Resort 7 pm admission: \$10

Saturday, July 22 COMMUNITY Pride Parade 4th and Virginia start to the Reno Arch Bridge 10 am

Northern Nevada Pride Festival

Wingfield Park 11 am to 7 pm \$5 at gate \$10 fast pass in advance

Sunday, July 22 After Pride Party

GSR Pool noon until admission \$20 first 100 \$10