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Participate! The Official Newsletter of the FGG. June 2021 Edition

1 message

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Tue, Jun 15, 2021 at 7:59 PM



Welcome to the June 2021 Edition of Participate!

Join us for Gay Games 11 Hong Kong 2022, 11-19 November!

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Joanie Evans, Co-President



Sean Fitzgerald, Co-President



It's Pride month...

...and a time to celebrate. Reflecting last year on the honour of having served as a Grand Marshall for the New York City pride March in 2018, Billie Jean King said:

“Pride isn’t just one day or month. It is living and loving authentically every single day, and it is using your voice to fight for equality, even when it’s hard.”

This is also a time to celebrate not just our individuality and our LGBTQ+ communities and

how far we have come but also to remember and thank the people who have made it possible for us to be where we are.

We hope you will allow us to dedicate this editorial to one of our own who passed away several weeks ago and who's life was dedicated to making change, promoting inclusion and celebrating diversity: Leviathen Hendricks.

Leviathen devoted much of his energy to supporting LGBTQ+ sports initiatives including the Gay Football Supporters Network and League, East End Phoenix FC, the European Gay & Lesbian Sports Federation, the London 2018 Gay Games bid, Out For Sport, and of course, The Federation of Gay Games as our Officer of International Development from 2014-2020.

He was very dedicated to ensuring that sport was available for all and worked tirelessly to make that possible for so many people around the world starting with his work in football, with East End Phoenix and the Justin Fashanu campaign, through his role as International Development Officer for FGG. Originally from the US, he lived in London, where he and Joanie, as well as other UK based board members, spent time together socially. He was great fun to be around but also infuriating with some of the many schemes he would be hatching but all being said he was greatly loved. He was a great guy with a big heart and always thought the best of everyone.

He will be missed but never forgotten.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light-colored, textured background. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style. The word "Joanie" is clearly legible in the upper part of the signature, followed by a large, stylized flourish that extends downwards and to the left, and another smaller flourish to the right.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Su' or 'Sue', written in a cursive style.

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Gay Games 11 Hong Kong 2022 Update



GAY GAMES 11
HONG KONG 2022
UNITY IN DIVERSITY
在多元中國團結 



[Pre-Register](#)



[Funding Support](#)



Become A Champion



Partner



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GGHK will take place from 11-19 November 2022 in Hong Kong and will be the first Gay Games in Asia. It will feature 36 Sports, Arts & Cultural events, Opening & Closing Ceremonies and a Festival Village for 12,000 participants and 75,000 spectators, and it's open for all!

Pre-registration is OPEN for GGHK! [Pre-register here](#) to participate in any of the sports or arts & culture events, and join us in Hong Kong.

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Celebrating our 5+ year GGHK volunteers!



Gay Games 11 Hong Kong 2022 relies on the skill and dedication of our over 200 professional volunteers. Some of whom have been with us from the very start. This month we want to give a special shout out to some of our longest serving volunteers who have devoted a milestone 5 years to bringing the Gay Games to Hong Kong. Thank you to Solomon, Nigel, Ray, Snow, Donald, Charlz, David, Jose, Siufung and Betty for your more than 5 years of passion and commitment on the GGHK team!

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Become a #GGHK2022 Champion

If you're passionate about supporting LGBTQ+ causes, make history with us by becoming

If you're passionate about supporting LGBTQ+ causes, make history with us by becoming a local Champion to promote #GGHK2022 within your city, region or country. We're especially seeking GGHK Champions from Belgium, Brazil, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, Spain and Switzerland.

From attending events and engaging in public dialogue to fostering partnerships with organisations within your community, you will play a pivotal role in spreading the message of 'Unity in Diversity' and the spirit of the Games.

Find out more and apply [here](#)!

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Gay Games 11 Hong Kong Hosts Soccer Tournament with the Federation of Gay Games in November 2022

Gay Games 11 Hong Kong 2022 (GGHK) together with the Federation of Gay Games (FGG), today announced that they will be hosting the Soccer (Football) tournaments along with 35 other planned sports events including Dragon Boat, Racing, Dodgeball, eSports, and Trail Running.

GGHK and its Soccer (Football) tournaments are open for all, and we look forward to welcoming IGLFA members to Hong Kong in November 2022. We cannot wait to unite in diversity together and make history in Asia.

Read our full statement [here](#).

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Show your support for Gay Games Hong Kong on Facebook!

Gay Games Hong Kong has just published two new Facebook banners (Cover Photos) and are asking for each of us to share them on our own pages. One of the new Facebook Cover Photos is for those who have already pre-registered (thank you); the other is for supporters of the Gay Games movement who haven't yet pre-registered. Please download them [HERE](#) and replace your current Cover Photo with one of these colorful new ones. If

you need instructions on how to do this, click [HERE](#).



Want to learn more about GGHK or have any questions?:

- Follow GGHK on social media:



[facebook](#) [Instagram](#) [Twitter](#) [YouTube](#) [LinkedIn](#)

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FGG Ambassador Profiles

In this month's newsletter, we are excited and honored to introduce you to one of our new FGG Ambassadors: Adam McCabe. We warmly welcome him to the Ambassador community.

Meet Adam McCabe





What's your story? (Who are you? Where are you based?)

My name is Adam McCabe and I currently live in Atlanta, Georgia with my boyfriend Cole and our furbaby (Lou). I grew up as an extremely competitive soccer player traveling across the United States and abroad playing. I eventually moved to the United Kingdom to pursue soccer at the professional level. I played soccer in the UK, Thailand and Slovakia at the semi-professional and professional level for 5 years before moving back home to Atlanta in 2015. I currently work in pharmaceutical sales, still play soccer for a semi-professional club in Atlanta and love to be active, outdoors and travel.

What does sport give you that nothing else does?

Sport gave me and continues to give me a way of expression. As a closeted athlete for so long it really felt like the only time for me to be free and share my true love to the world.

Soccer has given me a career path on and off the field and has been a pathway for me to connect with people all over the world.

What negative experiences did you have and how did you deal with them?

I have experienced homophobia from a very early age while playing soccer. From teammates, to coaches and fans I have seen and been subject to homophobia within the sport. Before coming out, I would shy away and just ignore the abuse. As I have come to accept myself and be authentically me, I have tried to speak up and be more vocal and educational in correcting these issues within the game.

What advice would you give to any LGBTQ+ athletes either professional or not?

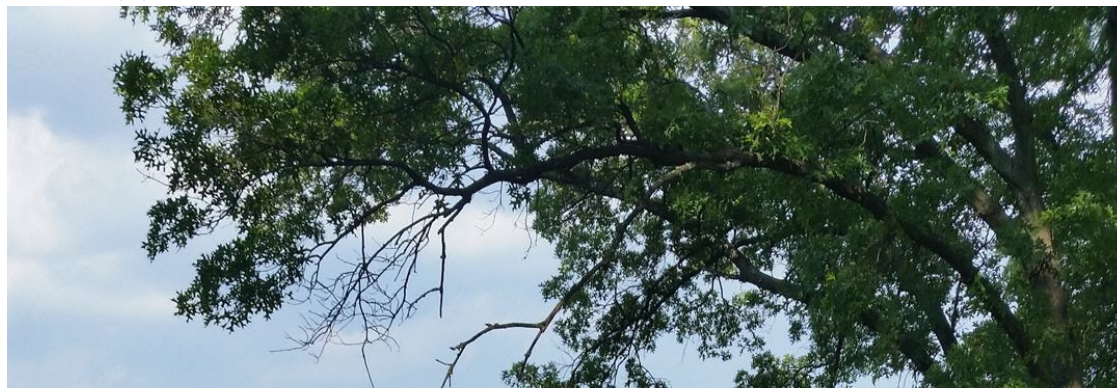
To be authentically yourself and truly love yourself. That you will be accepted for who you are and that your teammates and coaches will accept you. That there are plenty of other people like you out there and that there are a number of resources and groups to connect with like minded individuals.

Why do you want to be a Gay Games Ambassador?

Having participated in the Gay Games, I think it is an incredible platform to elevate and uplift LGBTQ+ athletes around the world. It is a fantastic event and really celebrates all kinds of individuals from the LGBTQ+ community. I want to be able to educate, promote and inspire other athletes to take part in an event like no other.

What else do you want us to know about you?

That I am thoroughly looking forward to connecting with you all and cannot wait for the upcoming games.







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SF Pride

San Francisco Giants show their pride like never before



On 4 June, professional baseball team San Francisco Giants held their 19th annual Pride Game. The Giants have been one of professional sports' longest-standing supporters of the LGBTQ+ community. The Federation of Gay Games and FGG member Team San Francisco have been financial beneficiaries of this game for many, many years and are grateful for the support from the Giants.

For 2021, the Giants broke new ground for their Pride Game against the Chicago Cubs. They became the first professional baseball team to wear rainbow-themed "SF" logos on their uniforms and on their caps. See the photos below plus images from previous Pride Games.

Giants President and CEO Larry Baer said "We are extremely proud to stand with the LGBTQ+ community as we kick off one of the best annual celebrations in San Francisco

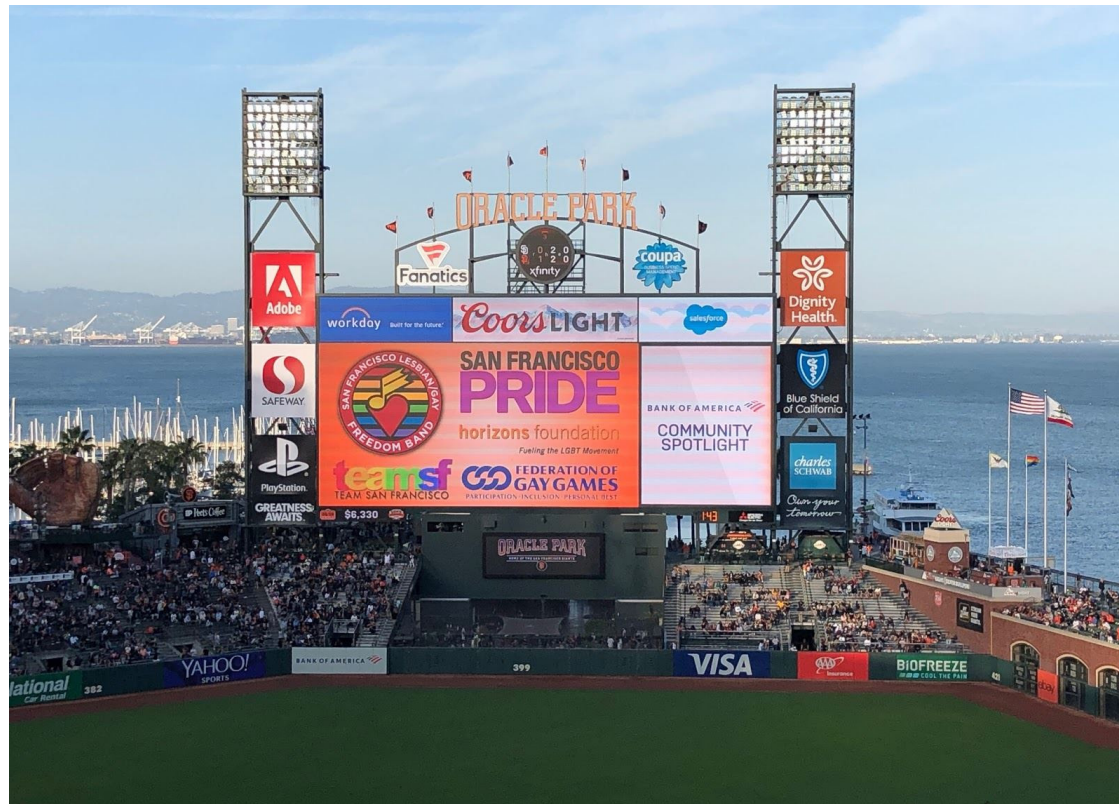
LGBTQ+ community as the kick-off to the 2021 annual celebrations in San Francisco by paying honor to the countless achievements and contributions of all those who identify as LGBTQ+ and are allies of the LGBTQ+ community.”

The 11 colors of the new Pride logo are emblematic of the Progress Pride Flag and signify inclusion and progression with the six pride colors – red (life); orange (healing); yellow (sunlight); green (nature); blue (serenity); purple (spirit); and black and brown to recognize LGBTQ+ people of color and light blue, pink and white to recognize people who are transgender.

Congratulations to the San Francisco Giants for being one of the country’s most supportive professional sports teams of the local LGBTQ+ community!



Bowlers from the San Francisco LGBT leagues enjoying the 2021 Pride Game (photo: Duane Flohra)



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Culture

Lesbian and Gay Band Association (LGBA) is now Pride Bands Alliance!

At a Special Assembly Meeting of LGBA member today, Delegates approved an organizational name change from Lesbian and Gay Band Association to Pride Bands Alliance.

The Board of Directors will work over the coming months to file all legal filings with the District of Columbia, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office and the Internal Revenue Service, to cause the name to be in full effect.

The Alliance was formed in 1982 as Lesbian and Gay Bands of America when seven

independent bands met formally in Chicago. In 2003, the Assembly of Delegates voted to use the name Lesbian and Gay Band Association to be more inclusive of our international members.

Today, Pride Bands Alliance is composed of 35 member organizations in the United States, Canada, England and Australia.

Pride Bands Alliance remains dedicated to its original goals of providing a network of LGBTQ+ community bands at all stages of development, promoting music as a medium of communication among people, improving the quality of artistic and organizational aspects of member bands, and stimulating public interest in the unique art form of community band music in our culture.

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Pride Cheerleading Association (PCA)

excerpt from April 2021 Newsletter

Feature PCA Member Team: CHEER Los Angeles

The Feature Member Team for May is Cheer Los Angeles! In past years, the #PCAPrideTour has kicked off with Long Beach Pride in mid-May, with Cheer LA hosting multiple PCA and Charitable Cheerleading teams for an oceanfront parade & festival in sunny So Cal (cue nostalgic Watch Party)! 2021 didn't allow us to be together with Cheer LA, but we did get personal with an interview with Kristen V., Events Manager for Cheer LA.

Why has Long Beach Pride always been so special to Cheer Los Angeles?

Long Beach Pride has been a premier event for Cheer LA since 2002. As our team has grown, so has our relationship with Long Beach Pride and particularly with the organizations we've had the honor of working with over the years. We've been able to touch many people within the Long Beach community - which is an extension of the Los Angeles LGBTQIA+ community. Several members of our team also call Long Beach home and travel to West LA for weekly practices, so it's important for us to have visibility in Long Beach and offer our support whenever possible.

What did Cheer LA do for Long Beach Pride 2021?

Cheer LA has had a long-standing relationship with local organization C.A.R.E., which offers comprehensive care, support, and housing assistance for those living with HIV and AIDS in Long Beach. We've partnered with C.A.R.E. since 2007 and couldn't go another year without offering some form of support to the patients who we've been able to help over the years. We are excited to share that Cheer LA is raising money virtually for C.A.R.E. this May!

Learn more about Cheer LA and C.A.R.E. here.

What can our networks of PCA volunCHEERleaders, fans & partners do to "be with you in spirit" this month since we can't be together in person?

Please share our fundraiser for C.A.R.E. with your teams and networks to help us reach our fundraising goal of \$750! Check out a fun virtual cheer that Cheer LA team members put together to celebrate Long Beach Pride month for C.A.R.E. and share, share, share.





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Proud Voices Asia

六月，同志驕傲月

與眾不同從來都需要極大的勇氣，

面對家人的質疑、社會的輿論、自己的壓力，

似乎有無數的原因阻止你繼續前行

我們想告訴你,

請不要忘記,

在「愛」前面人人平等,

每一個人都值得愛人與被愛!

在這個充滿彩虹的月份下,

The Harmonics Choir HK X Elements Choir 合作推出『海闊天空』Choir Cover版本,

希望透過這首充滿生命力的經典歌曲,

能將堅持自我的勇氣傳遞給你。

June, Pride Month

To be different has always required great courage.

In the face of doubts from family members and the public, as well as internalized negativity, it seems like there are countless things that prevent us from being our true selves.

We want to tell you,

Please do not forget,

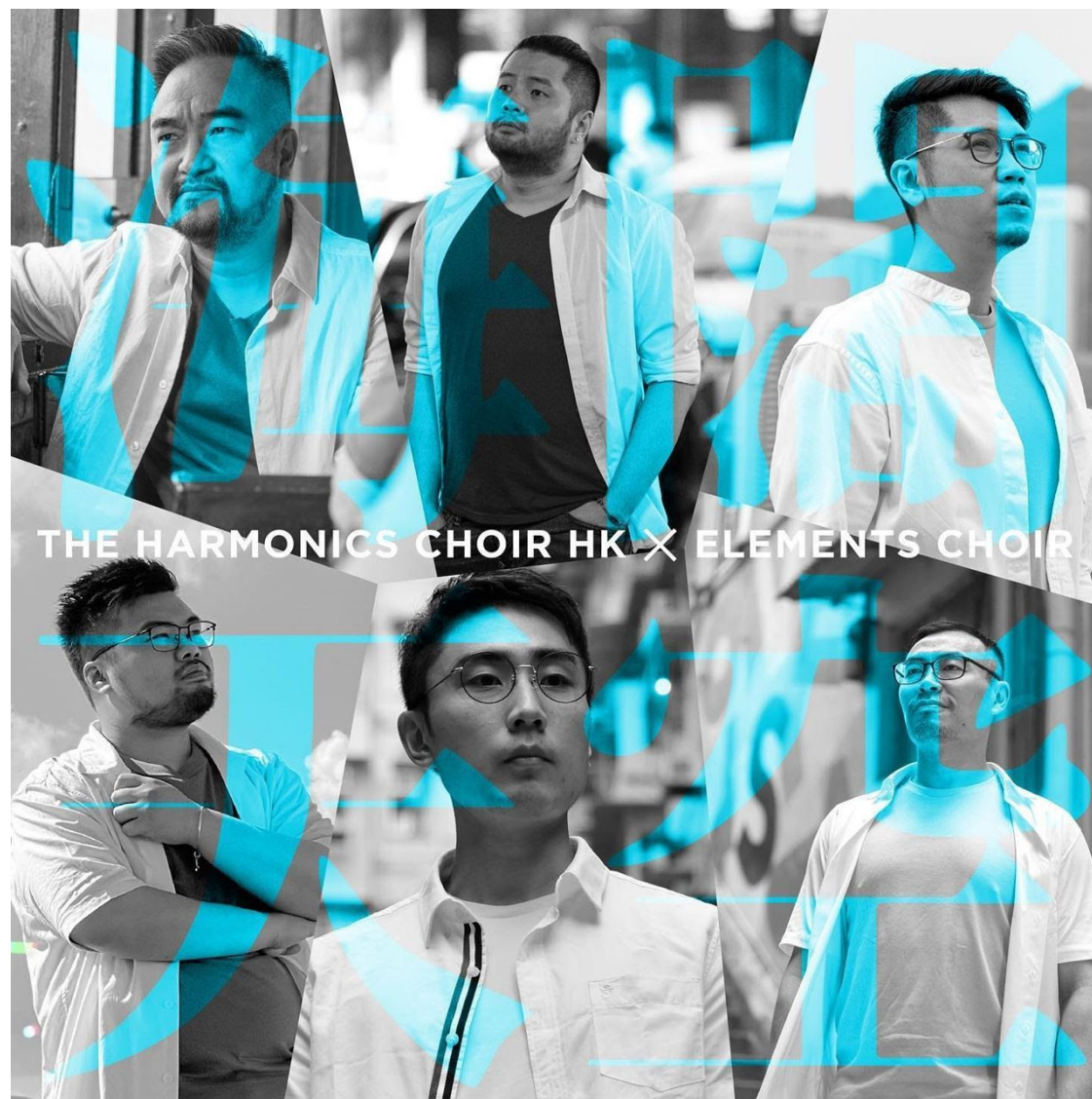
Everyone is equal when it comes to love.

Everyone deserves to be loved and to love!

In this rainbow-filled month, The Harmonics Choir HK X Elements Choir collaborated to launch the Choir Cover version of “Far Away”,

We hope that through this sprightly classic, we can pass on to you the courage to exist and to love yourself as you are.

#pride #pridemonth #June #classic #cantonese #seawildsky #theharmonicschoirhk #choir
#courage #LGBTQ #LGBT #Lovewins #loveislove #lgbtchoir #hk



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Human Resources - We Need Your Help!

The Federation of Gay Games runs entirely on volunteer effort. We are always delighted to hear from you if you have a couple of hours a month, consider volunteering with us.

We need lots of people with specific skills to support the work of our Board Members and the Committees. This month we are specifically looking for the following skills and expertise.

Our **Technology Committee** is looking for volunteers with website management and development skills, database management, or skills in using the Google Suite of programmes - email, docs and forms, file management. Apply [here](#)

The **Marketing Committee** is seeking experienced marketing professionals, and graphic designers to help us to drive our marketing strategy forward.

The **International Development Committee**

Current openings for 3-4 individuals who can commit at least 5 hours each month of productive and efficient engagement with the team. We want talented people who can think vertically in a broad landscape.

- Are you an "out" leader in your local sports community?
- Do you approach projects, partnerships and people with integrity and curiosity?
- Do you have strong written communication skills?
- Do you have working knowledge of local legislation?
- Do you speak multiple languages or engage regularly with embassies on development projects?

If you answered yes to ANY of these questions we would like to work with you to implement a comprehensive network of localized support around the globe to ensure current and potential FGG members have the tools, benefits and opportunities they need to have a sense of belonging and be their best!

Apply [here](#) for any of the above roles.

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SMILE... and help the Gay Games Change the World!

Do you shop Amazon.com? You can make a quick change to your account and every dollar you spend will support the Federation of Gay Games mission to promote equality in and through sport and culture!

On your first visit to AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), you are prompted to select a charitable organization from Amazon's list of eligible organizations. You can change your selection at any time.

To change your charitable organization:

- Sign in to smile.amazon.com on your desktop or mobile phone browser.
- From your desktop, go to Your Account from the navigation at the top of any page, and then select the option to Change your Charity. Or, from your mobile browser, select Change your Charity from the options at the bottom of the page.
- Search for Federation of Gay Games" to select the FGG as the charitable organization to support.

For more information about the AmazonSmile program, go to <http://smile.amazon.com/about>.

NOTE: This program may or may not be available when shopping from your country. Please check on your end.

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Share your stories of Participation, Inclusion and Personal Best™ with the hashtag #gaygames

Since the first Gay Games in 1982, the Federation of Gay Games mission promotes equality in and through sport and culture and ensures that the Gay Games, the world's largest sports and culture festival open to all, take place every four years under the founding principles of *Participation, Inclusion, and Personal Best™*.

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