

PARTICIPATE!

the Newsletter of the Gay Games



The Gay Games celebrate queer athleticism on a global stage

Rachel Brady, reporting for Canada's [Globe and Mail](#), has collected the viewpoints of 5 participants and organisers of this year's Gay Games.



Carlos Delgado is set to attend his first Gay Games and commented “Competition matters,” he said. “But having that **sense of unity and acceptance** is what I’m looking forward to, and continuing to build those support systems that we all need.”

Catherine Meade, a lesbian and a woman of colour, said "This was my first inclusive sport experience, and it was **life altering, life affirming.**"

Kimberly Hadley of Edmonton, an officer of sport on the FGG’s board and an organizer at the 2023 Gay Games said “I think it’s vital for us to hold the games in places like this, because **we’re reaching people that we haven’t been able to reach before.**”



Sean Fitzgerald, co-president for the Federation of Gay Games (FGG), said “**To suddenly have a place where you can go be yourself and participate**, to see what’s out there, and what other cities and clubs do. At that event my two worlds merged for the first time. To have the camaraderie of that many people was incredible.”

Vong Sho, who will make the trip to Hong Kong to compete at badminton and volleyball, said “I use the Gay Games and other sporting events as an excuse to go somewhere I’ve never been before. A common activity is sort of how I bond with people. So the first time I really felt like, ‘**Oh, now I feel like I belong**,’ was playing gay sports.”

[Read the article](#)





Zander Murray in Hong Kong for the Games

We were proud to host LGBTQ+ role model Zander Murray - **Scotland's first openly gay senior footballer** - in Hong Kong at the Diversity In Sports conference, where he has shared his deeply personal **coming out story**.

Thank you for the **inspiration** Zander!





Guadalajara announce their mascots for the Games

Designed by Álex Siordia, these 3 characters represent Guadalajara - in **strength, skill, art, design and inclusion** - and they will accompany us throughout the sporting and cultural events at the Games in the city.

The **lion** is a character present in the shield of the city, and will be responsible for opening the doors of the city to visitors.

Guadalajara is known as the city of the roses, and the **rose** mascot represents art and design, which are part core of the city's community.

And the **cloud and rainbow** represents diversity within our community; the different celebrations and fights; the storm that keeps us motivated to keep celebrating and fighting; and the light after the storm.

Over the next few weeks we will be asking you to help us name these awesome mascots, and we look forward to you meeting them in the city in November.





Follow Gay Games Guadalajara



Register for Gay Games Hong Kong for almost 60% off on 30th June

For one day only, on 30 June, you can register for Gay Games Hong Kong for just **HK\$630**, plus sports fees for individual sports! That's a huge saving of almost **60% off the regular price!**

We will publish the promo code on social media on 30th June at midnight HKST (GMT+8) so follow our social media channels to get this amazing deal.

So stay tuned and don't miss this chance to join the **world's largest LGBTQ+ sports and cultural event!**

Follow GGHK on social media for promo code





GAY GAMES 11
HONG KONG 2023
UNITY IN DIVERSITY
在多元中團結

GAY GAMES HONG KONG 2023

GGHK PUBLIC STATEMENT

@gaygameshk2023

We are ready, committed and 100% certain that the Games in Hong Kong will go ahead

Gay Games Hong Kong **stands firm in the face of challenges
and attacks.**

Despite recent unfounded slurs and attempts to undermine our
mission, **we are determined to create a powerful impact for
LGBTQ+ inclusion.**

[Read our official statement](#)





Alex Newell, first non-binary actor to win a Tony award

Congratulations to Alex Newell who has made history by being the **first non-binary actor to win a Tony award** alongside J Harrison Ghee.

Here is Alex performing at the **Cleveland Gay Games Opening Ceremony** back in **2014**.





Purchase a commemorative 40th anniversary Gay Games pin badge and puzzle

This pin celebrates the 40th Anniversary with the **designs from all 11 of the Gay Games** cleverly arranged in the shape of the iconic FGG logo. The logo designs for both Hong Kong and Guadalajara are represented on these pins.

The individually-packaged pins measure 2" or 5cm across and has a gold border and back. There are two posts to hold this pin to any shirt, jacket, hat, or elsewhere.



This limited-edition collectible "**Pin Puzzle**" features 12 individual pins cleverly arranged in the shape of the iconic FGG logo. The

pins cleverly arranged in the shape of the iconic FGA logo. The pins may be removed from the "puzzle" and worn however you like. **Only 500 of these individually-numbered "Pin Puzzles" have been produced.**

[Buy now](#)



Join the Gay Games Board

Are you looking for a volunteering opportunity? Would you like to join the dynamic, energetic Board of the Federation of Gay Games to work with us to prepare for the Gay Games in 2023 in Hong Kong and Guadalajara, and in 2026 in Valencia. We are currently recruiting to **three vacancies** and would love to hear from you if you think your skills and experience match our needs.

The **Officer of Ceremonies** will lead and manage all aspects of the Federation's Ceremonies, such as the Opening and Closing ceremonies, Excellence Awards presentation, the Memorial Moment.

The **Officer of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion** will develop a strategic plan to ensure that the Federation is playing a leading role in ED&I in the world of sport and culture.

The **Officer of Human Resources and Nominations** will help us to attract and retain great volunteers to take the Gay Games message out around the world.

If you are interested in joining our board, please complete an application form by following the link below.

[Apply now](#)



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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