

## NYC Pride Releases 2018 “Defiantly Different” Theme

*“It is not our differences that divide us. It is our inability to recognize, accept, and celebrate those differences.” – Audre Lorde, Our Dead Behind Us: Poems*

New York, NY (February 21, 2018) – NYC Pride announces 2018’s official theme, “Defiantly Different” as part of this year’s brand elements. “Defiantly Different” speaks to the breadth of the LGBTQ+ community as a unified people and our tenacious individuality.

“This year’s theme is about showing our power, squaring our shoulders in the face of adversity, and continuing to sculpt that magnetic bond within the LGBTQ+ community and our allies,” said **David Studinski**, NYC Pride Co-Chair. “The corresponding creative showcases a wide selection of defiantly different community members - from performance artists to mental health advocates. We are standing defiantly – defiantly different and defiantly as one.”

Photographed by portrait photographer, **Danielle Levitt**, “Defiantly Different” features members of the LGBTQ+ community, including 10-year-old drag kid **Desmond Napoles** “**Desmond is Amazing**,” curator **Kiyanna Stewart**, transgender model **Pêche Di**, and 94-year-old community activist, **Frances Goldin**, famously-known for her “I Love My Lesbian Daughters” sign at the annual NYC Pride March.

“Defiantly Different” celebrates the rallying cry of generations who laid the groundwork for equality, the next wave of creative thinkers prepared to score their own trails, and each distinctive individual in between. The theme also takes an unflinching stance in response to the Trump administration’s substandard position on the LGBTQ+ community.

NYC Pride 2018 will take place from June 14 to June 24. This year’s roster will include the NYC Pride March, PrideFest, Pride Island, along with a robust list of new events such as the Human Rights Conference, GameChangers, and our new culinary event, Savor Pride.

Each year, NYC Pride gives back to the local community through volunteering and awarding grants to local LGBTQ-serving organizations.

For a full calendar of NYC Pride events or to learn more about community grants, visit:  
<http://www.nycpride.org/>.

# NYC PRIDE

June 14-24  
2018

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Heritage of Pride, Inc. is the volunteer-directed organization behind the official NYC Pride roster of events. The 2018 roster will include more than 15 different Pride events for LGBT and allied people of all ages, taking place during the last two weeks of June. Heritage of Pride's mission is to work toward a future without discrimination where all people have equal rights under the law. We do this by producing LGBT Pride events that inspire, educate, commemorate and celebrate our diverse community.

For more information about Heritage of Pride and NYC Pride, including opportunities to volunteer, sponsor, or purchase tickets, visit <http://www.nycpride.org/>.