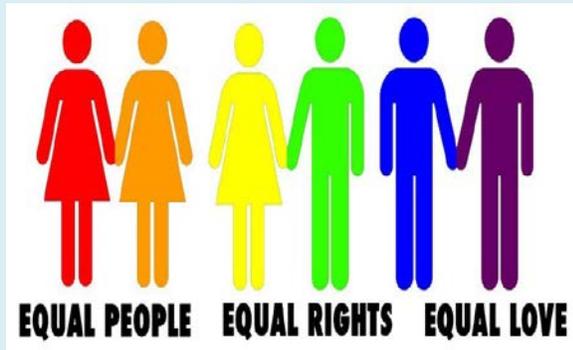


(LGBT) LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, AND TRANSGENDER MONTH



The last Sunday in June is Gay Pride Day, established to recognize the impact that gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals have had on the world. LGBT groups celebrate this special time with pride parades, picnics, parties, and memorials for those who were lost to hate crimes, HIV/AIDS, and other group gatherings.

On June 28, 1969, a group of gay customers at a popular gay bar in Greenwich Village called the Stonewall Inn began to protest because they began to grow angry at the police harassments. The group took a stand against the police causing a riot to break out. As word spread throughout New York City about the demonstration, other gay men and women joined the customers of the Inn and started throwing objects at the policemen, shouting "gay power."

The Stonewall riots were the events largely regarded as a catalyst for the LGBT movement for civil rights in the United States. The riots inspired LGBT people throughout the country to organize in support of gay rights, and within two years after the riots, gay rights groups had been started in nearly every major city in the United States.

Did you know?

The "Gateway City" is famous in the Midwest for its diversity and relative gay-friendliness in America's heartland. Gregory Kompes named St. Louis one of the "50 Fabulous Gay-Friendly Places to Live" for its live-and-let-live attitude, extensive cultural attractions, and flourishing nightlife.

In 2017, PrideFest STL drew an estimated 300,000 and is one of the largest LGBT events in the Midwest region.

"[Gay and Lesbian St. Louis](#)", published in 2016, was the first book on the history of St. Louis' LGBTQ communities.

Pride Fest 2018 will be held from June 23rd-24th, 2018 at Soldiers Memorial Park in Downtown St. Louis.



Sources:

Photo from Drkarileavell.

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Stonewall Riots. In The Leadership Conference. <http://www.civilrights.org/archives/2009/06/449-stonewall.html>

STL Pride. In Pride STL.
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Explore St. Louis
<https://explorestlouis.com/event/pridefest-2018/>