



Heritage of Pride, Inc., 154 Christopher St., #1D, New York, NY 10014 •

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PrideWeek: June 17 – 24, 2007

ACTION ALERT

Contact:

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LGBT Protest on Gracie Mansion!

June 12, 2007

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

*Gracie Mansion is located in Carl Schurz Park
East End Avenue and 88th Street in Manhattan*

This is a crucial moment. Don't let it go by without taking action...

Heritage of Pride, the producers of New York City's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Events will be protesting in front of Gracie Mansion during Mayor Bloomberg's annual LGBT reception on Tuesday, June 12, at 5:30 p.m. This action is to voice the disappointment and outrage felt by the LGBT Community because of the permit denial by the Mayor's Office for the re-envisioned Pride street festival, know as PRIDEfest. All are encouraged to join us.

For more information on this matter, please see attached press release, or visit our website, HOPinc.org.

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Heritage of Pride is the wholly volunteer-managed, non-partisan, tax-exempt, not-for-profit corporation that organizes Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Pride events in New York City to commemorate and celebrate the Stonewall Riots. These events are organized on behalf of all lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals and groups, and all others who support the struggle for the liberation of these communities. In the Spirit of Stonewall, Heritage of Pride welcomes participation of all, regardless of age, creed, gender, gender identification, HIV status, national origin, physical or mental developmental ability, race, religion or sexual orientation.

Organizer & Producer of New York City's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered
Pride March, Rally, Dance on the Pier, PrideFest & Rapture on the River.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Updated: May 11, 2007

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Heritage of Pride Forced to Cancel PRIDEFest 2007

New York City's Mayor's Office and the Community Assistance Unit, denied a permit for Heritage of Pride's 15th annual PRIDEfest street festival, which was to be held in Chelsea on June 23, 2007.

The General Membership of Heritage of Pride (HOP), the producer of New York City's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Events, had decided on a May 11 deadline for the city to reverse its decision. This date was chosen in order to give the organization enough time to produce the event as it had been planned. HOP received a formal notification for the denied permit on Thursday, May 10, and is in the process of filing an appeal for symbolic purposes.

PRIDEfest has most recently been held in the West Village on Washington and Greenwich Streets, a venue that has major safety issues due to the narrowness of the street, potholes, and other logistical problems. The area also offers few amenities to the hundreds of thousands of LGBT residents and international tourists who attend this annual Pride event. After serious consideration, HOP determined to move both the location and date of PRIDEfest to better serve the community.

PRIDEfest filed the necessary permit for the Chelsea location and date with the Community Assistance Unit of the Mayor's Office on December 20, 2006. During a meeting with the NYPD on April 27, HOP organizers were told by representatives of the Community Assistance Unit that their permit would not be approved. Despite several meetings and phone calls with various City agencies, the Mayor's Office continues to ignore the community's need for a safer, more accessible event. In addition the Mayor's Office is insisting on labeling this 15-year-old event a new event and denying the permit on these grounds as well.

HOP remains firm in its stance that holding PRIDEfest at its former location is not safe, not accessible, and not acceptable.

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