

# PARTICIPATE!

the Newsletter of the Gay Games





## Just 10 weeks to go

With just 10 weeks to go before the opening ceremonies of Gay Games XI, final preparations are being put in place for another **ground-breaking Games**.

**Hong Kong now boasts over 1000 participants** and this week has revealed the design of their mascot Sunny and their medal designs.

Guadalajara continue to **finalise details** around their many sporting and cultural events happening through the first half of November.

If you haven't yet, now is the time to **register** for the another historic Gay Games





## Introducing Sunny 神奇小獅

Gay Games Hong Kong have unveiled their official mascot for the event - **Sunny the Lion** - 神奇小獅

Sunny is inspired by Hong Kong's iconic Lion Rock, which symbolizes the city's **spirit of resilience and determination** and the **ability to rise above difficulties** and stand strong.

Sunny is a lion that leads the Games, **blessing all with good fortune and success**, inspiring Gay Games participants to never give up and strive together for greatness in the name of **sports, friendship and inclusion**.



**GGHK2023** OFFICIAL MEDALS

# Hong Kong medal designs are ready

We are very excited to present to you the designs for the **official medals** for this year's Gay Games

For Hong Kong's medals the outer ring consists of Bauhinia petals - a prominent feature of the GGHK logo - which form a circular shape that resembles a crown, a lion's mane, or rays of light, **symbolizing glory, courage, and vitality.**

The inner ring of the medals features a more traditional motif of Bauhinia petals arranged as a laurel wreath, which represents **honor, victory and peace.**

The inner ring also bears the official slogan of GGHK in both English and Chinese: **Unity in Diversity.**







## 25 years since Gay Games V in Amsterdam

This month we look back at the incredible **Gay Games V**, hosted in Amsterdam in 1998.

The Games coincided with the third Amsterdam Pride festival and attracted **thousands of competitors and spectators** who watched events in **29 sport categories**.

The Games were a celebration of our **diversity** as a community, particularly in the light of the continuing existence of **prejudice and persecution** at the time.

**Thank you for the memories Amsterdam!**





# Introducing Sophie Cook - Officer of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

This month, the Federation of Gay Games is proud to welcome **Sophie Cook** to our board. After an impressive career working in sports for over 20 years, Sophie boasts a huge range of skills on her resume, from business owner, politician, TED talker, campaigner, business culture consultant, magazine editor, charity ambassador, tv broadcaster, sports photographer and many more.

Joining the Gay Games board as the new **Officer of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion**, Sophie sat down with Duncan Campbell to share her story with us, charting her journey from an AFC Bournemouth photographer through to the present day.

[Read the article](#)







# Coffee Talk - Gay Games History

The team at Gay Games Hong Kong are thrilled to have the opportunity to interview **Joanie Evans, co-president of the Federation of Gay Games**, and **Robert Wintemute, a longtime participant** who has been to almost every single Gay Games since 1982.

In the interview the panel talk about the history of the Games, the controversy around Hong Kong as a host city, and the **true meaning of the Games** for every participant.

[Watch the video](#)



*Award winners Gert McMullin and Paul Oostenbrug*

# Tom Waddell Award

## nominations close next week

This is your **last chance** to nominate someone for the prestigious Tom Waddell Award. This is the **highest recognition** offered by the FGG and is presented at the Opening Ceremony of each Gay Games to two people of differing genders, one announced in Hong Kong and the other in Guadalajara.

**Nominations close on the 31 August**

We are looking for nominees who **inspire pride through leadership** and excellence in sports, culture, or volunteerism. They should devote their energies to the success of the Gay Games and **participate at their personal best**, as well as personify standards of **commitment, selflessness, and love of humanity**.

Nominate somebody 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*.

*Copyright © 2018 Federation of Gay Games, All rights reserved.*

*Address: 584 Castro Street Suite #343 • San Francisco, CA 94114 • Phone: +1-866-459-1261*

You have received this email newsletter because you agreed to receive communications from the Federation of Gay Games or subscribed to the Participate! newsletter.

[Unsubscribe](#) • [Past Newsletters & Press](#) • [Email us](#)

