

PARTICIPATE!

the Newsletter of the Gay Games



Final call for registrations!

With just **6 weeks to go** before the Opening Ceremonies of the Gay Games 11, this is your final call to register to participate in this year's celebrations.

The entire team here at the Federation of Gay Games, alongside our two incredible host city teams in Hong Kong and Guadalajara, have been working incredibly hard to prepare **10 days of events, races, tournaments and play-offs.**

Add to that a fantastic range of **cultural events, ceremonies, gallery exhibitions, street parties and concerts**, making the most of local and national artists and musicians.

We've **minted the medals, printed the programs, choreographed the concerts** and **manifested the mascots**. All that's left to do is welcome you to one of our two hosts cities for another unforgettable and emblematic Gay Games experience.

Whether you are coming to participate in your chosen sport(s), or coming along to soak up **the powerful energy of LGBTQ+ sports**, we want to let you know that we are incredibly excited to see you in just **six weeks!**





Join us in Hong Kong

The Gay Games Hong Kong will officially close registrations on October 3, 2023, at midnight local time. Now is your chance to secure a place competing at the event.

Join us to participate in, or just to watch and enjoy, any of the 16 sports being competed at the Games, including new editions like **Dragon Boat Racing** and **Mahjong**.

We also invite you to join our Gala Concert Series - a two night extravaganza of talent showcasing vocal, orchestral, dance, and performance art talent, with acts including Australian drag queen **Courtney Act**, non-binary multi-disciplinary artist **Darkwah Kyei-Darkwah**, and many more. Tickets on sale next week, with 50% off for participants and supporters.



Courtney Act and Darkwah Kyei-Darkwah

Our team in Hong Kong are also **looking for volunteers** to help us provide a a welcoming and enjoyable experience for our participants, and we are looking to fill over 2000 volunteer shifts. If you are intersted in helping us, you can [sign up here](#), but please note that we

can only use volunteers who may legally work in HK.

All that is left to say is, **get registered** and get yourselves over to Hong Kong for an inaugural Gay Games in Asia!

[Register now](#)





Villa Paraíso - "Here we celebrate diversity", designed by Claudio Limón

Guadalajara ready for the Gay Games

The Gay Games Guadalajara will officially close registrations on **October 8**, 2023. Make sure you register your interest with your chosen sport(s) before then to take part.

As we put the finishing touches to an **incredible lineup of competitions** covering over 20 sports, we are also excited to announce one special development from our Mexican host city.

Villa Paraíso, situated in the trendy Colonia Americana neighbourhood, will become a focal meeting point of the Games, with a wide range of social and cultural activities, including art exhibitions, musical performances, workshops and other leisure and recreational activities.

It will also be a space to provide tourist information and information about the Games themselves to visitors, as well as the place where the **official parties** will take place (some of which will be free access for people who have paid for their general registration).





The **commemorative medal** for the 11th edition of the Gay Games Guadalajara 2023 was designed by the Guadalajaran artist Ricardo Luévanos.

Luévanos took inspiration from the act of **flying from our nest to form new families**. It is these new families that will embrace us, and in whom we will find inspiration and where we can show the best of ourselves and achieve our goals.

The analogy of showing hummingbirds is because they are birds that can be seen as delicate, whilst at the same time they **strongly defend their space** and what is theirs.

“It doesn't matter if you feel small, you can become the biggest.”, says Luévanos.

[Register now](#)





Tom Waddell - Olympian and founder of the Gay Games

Finalists announced for the Tom Waddell Award

The 2023 finalists for the prestigious Tom Waddell Award have been announced. They are:

Annette Wachter, Cologne Germany

Emy Ritt, Paris France

Kurt Dahl, Ft. Lauderdale USA

Laura Moore, New York City USA

Roger Brigham, Oakland USA

Shamey Cramer, Los Angeles USA

Of the six finalists, two people of different genders will be selected by a special sub-committee to receive the award, and they will be announced at the Gay Games in November.





Gay Games co-president Joanie Evans talks to DIVA magazine

This month our co-president Joanie Evans has shared her story of being a lesbian World Champion footballer with DIVA magazine.

"Being out and authentic ourselves meant that we played better football, which resulted in many wins, putting the team on the map for women's football.", she says.

[Read the article](#)



Stonewall Performance's retrospective of Gay Games

David Smith and the team at Stonewall Performance have created a retrospective video of Gay Games footage from the last 30 years.

"The LGBTQ+ sport community, and the Gay Games itself both have served as an important platform to advocate for diversity, equality, inclusion and social justice.", says Smith

[Watch the video](#)



Roger Brigham (left) with husband Eduardo Guardarramas

Wrestling coach Roger Brigham ready for the Games

Former Board member, retired journalist, and Honorary Life Member Roger Brigham shares some thoughts on the upcoming Games in Guadalajara, where he will be coaching a group of wrestlers.

"There have been pockets of growth in LGBTQ+ sports in many parts of Latin America and the Games being hosted in Guadalajara will be the best opportunity to bring them together in the Gay Games Movement.", says Brigham.

[Read the article](#)





See you very soon!

As we draw our many preparations to a close, we would like to invite you one last time to register now, and be a part of the most exciting and influential LGBTQ+ sports event on the planet.

And of course, for those of you who can't make it, we'll be keeping you up to date on all our developments on our social media channels throughout the Games.

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Twitter • X

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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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