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In this issue you'll find: Over 700 PARIS 2018 registrations since opening May 2016, Gay Games 9 Sculpture, 2022 Site Selection, Profile: Paris volunteer, FGG sponsors STRAITS Games, 2016 EuroGames in Helsinki, SportsFestival, IGLFA Portland

June 2016

Welcome to Participate!, the newsletter of the Federation of Gay Games.

On behalf of the Federation of Gay Games (FGG) Board and Honorary Life Members, thank you for your support of our mission to promote equality in sport and culture and to produce the premiere international LGBT and gay-friendly event known as the Gay Games.

Registration opened 13 May 2016 for Gay Games 10 Paris 2018 with incredible fanfare and sign-ups exceeded 500 people in just over one week. We are also very pleased about our 2022 site selection process and the incredible number of cities worldwide interested in hosting Gay Games XI.

As we enter the month of LGBT Pride around the world, we encourage all to participate in festivities and to "Seize the Day" in all ways. Please help us send more athletes than ever to Paris in 2018. Learn more here and [SEIZE THE DAY](#).

Happy Pride everyone,



Joanie Evans, Female co-president



Kurt Dahl, Male co-president

GAY GAMES 10 PARIS 2018

Registration Opened 13 May 2016 www.Paris2018.com



4-12 August 2018

Over 700 participants have already signed up from many different countries. The Gay Games 10 Scholarship Program will be launched in late July.

The 'Very Early Bird' registration fee is still available for the first 1,000 registrants. Don't wait!

Rendezvous with Paris in 2018!

36 [sports](#), 14 [cultural events](#), and multiple [conferences](#), 15,000 participants will celebrate for 12 days in the City of Light together - ALL EQUAL

All Paris 2018 Newsletters are available at GayGames.org:

[July 2014](#), [June 2015](#), [September 2015](#), [April 2016](#)

LEARN more with the Paris 2018 [Brochure](#), [Presentation](#) and [Video](#)

BECOME a [Corporate Partner](#), [Volunteer](#), **SIGN UP** for the Paris 2018 [Newsletter](#)

FOLLOW on [Facebook](#), **CONTACT** via email: contact@paris2018.com



GAY GAMES 9 SCULPTURE DEDICATION

Unveiling of [Gay Games Cleveland](#) sculpture by [Don Drumm Studios & Gallery](#). Article and video below, commemorating the legacy of the 2014 Gay Games 9 in Cleveland+Akron. Sincere gratitude to [Equality Ohio](#) and [Akron Community Foundation's Gay Community Endowment Fund](#).

Thank you to all that made this historic sculpture a reality and for all of the worldwide and ongoing support of the Federation of Gay Games mission of promoting equality through sport and culture.

[Full story and video here](#)

Pictured: Co-President Kurt Dahl and partner Jeff Clark at dedication 15 May 2016

2022 GAY GAMES XI TIMELINE

The Federation of Gay Games announced the 2022 Gay Games XI [host city selection process 3 March](#), followed by the [long list announcement 19 April](#). Next on the timeline is for host organizations to submit a Letter of Intent by **30 June**; full timeline and process is available [HERE](#).



ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

21-26 October 2016, Sydney, Australia

Team Sydney reaches out

On 27 July, FGG member [Team Sydney](#) in partnership with Kate Rowe and Paul White, the organisers of the Annual General Assembly (AGA), are holding a launch of Team Sydney Sport Strategic Overview, and to announce the opening of registrations for the AGA and the tickets for the Gala Dinner which will be held on Monday 24 October. Their will also be information on the latest updates of Gay Games 10 Paris 2018.

The invite list will include the local community, Government and Corporate Sector, Team Sydney Clubs and selected guests from within the LGBTIQ sphere, with the aim of engaging with our LGBTI friendly corporate organisations and encouraging them to support both events.

The night will be held at the major sponsor of Team Sydney – ALL SORTS FITNESS in Alexandria who are being offered exclusive hosting rights for this great event. If you are from Sydney and interested in this event, please email events@teamsydney.org.au.

REMINDER: Legacy Awards nominations close June 19; information and nominations [HERE](#).

[FGG's AGA Website](#) [Facebook Event](#)

A BIG YEAR FOR CHEER!

Charitable Cheerleaders, who have supported every Gay Games and countless LGBTQ events worldwide, have something new to celebrate: The multi-city affiliation of teams, Pride Cheerleading Association (PCA), conceived in 2004, will announce its incorporation as a 501c3 nonprofit this year, strengthening its philanthropic potential. PCA's 2016 Pride Season began at Long Beach Lesbian & Gay Pride on 5/22/16, where PCA raised \$2,140 for the local Comprehensive AIDS Research & Education (C.A.R.E.) Program. Look for PCA at Pride events from coast to coast in the USA and come support our cheerleaders at GG10!



Website: www.facebook.com/PrideCheerleadingAssociation

Follow:

@PrideCheerleadingAssociation

#PrideCheerleadingAssociation

Photo courtesy of Cheer LA

SEIZE THE DAY CAMPAIGN

FGG's Scholarship and Education Program**[Seize The Day to help bring athletes and artists to Gay Games 10 Paris 2018!](#)**

Our goal is to raise \$100,000 for Gay Games scholarships in the days leading to Paris between now and August 2018. All donation levels are welcome, but each \$100 donation allows you to help the Federation of Gay Games "Change The World!" The Federation of Gay Games is a 501c3 non-profit organization, and all donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law.



100% of your donation supports the Federation of Gay Games mission of "Participation, Inclusion, Personal Best" through targeted outreach and grassroots community development projects in Latin America (Pride House: Rio Olympics 2016); in Asia-Pacific (Annual General Assembly: Sydney 2016); and other underserved regions and constituents through our Annual General Assembly in Paris (Fall 2017); culminating in the largest gathering of global LGBT+ athletes, artists, advocates and allies for Gay Games 10: Paris 2018.

For the 2014 Gay Games 9, the FGG provided scholarship support to 47 scholarship recipients from the countries of Croatia, Russia, South Africa, Macedonia, Nepal, Sri Lanka, China, Kazakhstan, Argentina, Brazil, Slovenia, Philippines and Chile. The FGG scholarship program is funded in part by the Roy M. Coe Scholarship Fund, helping bring athletes to the Gay Games since 2002.

[CLICK HERE](#) to help change the world, and see you at Gay Games 10 Paris 2018!

**PARIS 2018: A Volunteer Profile: Christelle Méha**

Christelle Méha, 31 years old, is a teacher and researcher in geography, and is interested in the study and spatial implications of LGBTI sport as a means of expression and statement against discrimination based on sexual orientation and sexual identity.

Aware of these issues following her engagement and militancy as a member of the Pink Panthers, Christelle is also an accomplished athlete in racquet and board sports. Christelle takes part regularly in badminton, roller-derby, golf, cycling, tennis and rowing – in both competitive and recreational events.

So it was a natural fit that Christelle became a member of the Paris 2018 team, and she has quickly taken on responsibilities in her committee. Since the month of April, Christelle has been responsible for the management and organization of Paris 2018 stands at various events in France and beyond, including the coordination of volunteers, and the management and setup of logistical equipment and merchandising materials.

This is a valuable strategic role that Christelle plays, which enables her to be in constant contact with the different committees and helps to increase interactions between the teams.

This flexibility amongst the various teams is essential to the preparation of Paris 2018's promotional actions and helps to integrate fully the requirements of each team following a defined list of needs.

Christelle invites all interested persons to join this great adventure of bringing the next Gay Games to Paris for an unforgettable week, and she is looking forward to welcoming participants from around the world to Paris 2018-Gay Games 10.

Sign up to volunteer for Gay Games 10 here: Paris2018.com/Volunteer

GAY GAMES SUPPORTS STRAITS GAMES

The FGG is extremely pleased to announce our sponsorship of the [2016 Straits Games](#) (so named for the Straits of Malacca between the Malay Peninsula and the Indonesian island of Sumatra), a regional LGBT multi-sport event which began in Malaysia in 2002. The Straits Games (TSG) has been hosted in Thailand, the Philippines, China, Singapore, Taiwan and Malaysia. Participants have come from those countries as well as Japan, Indonesia, Vietnam, Australia, the Netherlands, and the USA to take part in competitions in badminton, basketball, beach volleyball, bowling, squash, swimming, table tennis, tennis, track & field, and volleyball. Past editions have attracted up to 300 participants. The four day programme typically includes a human rights forum as well as a gala dinner and other parties. Organising Chairperson Ivan Yap says: "TSG2016KL is thrilled to have garnered the support of the FGG. With their contribution, it allows us to step-up our process to make our 15th Anniversary another memorable event."

Leviathen Hendricks, FGG Officer for International Development, who negotiated the agreement said: "This partnership sets an interesting template for future collaboration with organisations and regional sporting events around the globe. Through this new status as official *Global Sports Event Partner* of TSG2016, we hope that even more people will enjoy the benefit of participating in sports in a safe LGBT+ environment. And, of course, we hope that all TSG participants will join us in Paris in 2018 for an unforgettable experience!"

Historically an annual event, TSG will move to a biannual schedule after next year's edition (2017, 2019, etc.) in response to the increasing number of LGBT+ sports tournaments taking place across Asia.

The Straits Games 2016 takes place in Kuala Lumpur from 1-4 September. [REGISTER HERE](#)



[EuroGames 2016 in Helsinki: June 29 - July 2](#)



Finland's capital, Helsinki, welcomes you to this year's EuroGames, Europe's high sporting event.

Helsinki offers itself as the ideal venue for this event this year. It is a cool and trendy city, filled with design, art, and culture. Ever heard of Tom of Finland and Marimekko? Yes, Jackie O' and Pablo Picasso already wore their fabrics, not to mention Michelle Obama! So it is no wonder that we are proud to have the support from many homegrown corporate partners and international sports stars to make this year's event so special.

Coinciding with Helsinki PRIDE week, we are currently expecting around 3,000 participants to compete in 14 different disciplines. An attractive range from Track & Field over Badminton and Dance competitions to team sports, such as Football, Basketball and Volleyball are sure to draw a lot of attention at a competitive level.

In addition, Helsinki is bracing itself for over 2000 visitors associated with this event, which will have the city quite literally overflow with all the colours of the rainbow.

The EuroGames Village is situated in the heart of the city and offers literally hundreds of attractions from open air clubbing to getting a taste of the Finnish sauna culture. Afterhours therefore promise to get really hot with food, bars and entertainment to experience the nightless nights.

Join us this summer, when the sun (almost) doesn't set on our city by the sea and enjoy the splendour Helsinki has to offer. Registration links can be found on our website together with information on travel and accommodation arrangements. [Follow us on Facebook!](#)

[Munich SportFestival 2016: 29-31 July](#)

[Team Munich](#), the German Gay and Lesbian sports club and member of the FGG, invites you to SportFestival 2016.

Competitions and Workshops: Badminton, Bowling, Soccer men & women - 7x7, Golf, Kettlebell – Workshop, Ballroom Dancing - Workshop, Table tennis, Volleyball men, Yoga - Workshop



[IGLFA World Championship XXII: Portland, Oregon, USA](#)

6-13 August 2016



[2016 IGLFA World Championship XXII](#)

Equality Through Football: The International Gay & Lesbian Football Association (IGLFA) was founded in 1992 in order to help promote and foster the growth of LGBTQ football world wide. Since IGLFA's creation, more than 100 teams/clubs representing over 30 countries have joined and participated at IGLFA competitions. Each of these teams/clubs have played a vital role in helping IGLFA accomplish its goals and uphold its mission. Learn more at IGLFA.org and [Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)[Facebook](#)[Instagram](#)[forward to a friend](#)

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 has promoted equality in sport and culture and ensured 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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