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Gay Games 9 Financial and Survey Success, 2015 Annual General Assembly  
in Limerick, Paris 2018, One World Event

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**March 2015**



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

On behalf of the Federation of Gay Games Board and Honorary Life Members, we send heartfelt appreciation for an incredibly historic 2014 and continued best wishes for an amazing 2015.

In 2014 the world witnessed the glow and excellence of thousands of artists and athletes in the cities of Cleveland + Akron, and we are excited to share some of the incredible successes and legacies of Gay Games 9 in this issue of Participate! Also, Paris continues its vital steps and monumental journey towards 2018 for Gay Games 10, and below you'll learn of their latest news.

Cheers for your countless hours, and passion for Participation, Inclusion, and Personal Best™.

**Joanie Evans**, Female co-president

**Kurt Dahl**, Male co-president

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## Successes, Lessons & Legacies

On 19 February 2015, Gay Games 9 released its final numbers at the "2014 Gay Games Lessons and Legacies" panel discussion. The ninth Gay Games were the most profitable in our 32-year history, generated \$120,000 US for the Gay Games LGBT Legacy Fund at the Cleveland Foundation and \$27,000 for the Gay Community Endowment Fund of Akron Community Foundation. The donations represent the net profit from the Games.



The games generated \$6.8 million in revenue — \$2.36 million from sponsors and donors, \$2.64 million from registrations and civic contributions, and \$1.8 million in in-kind contributions. Gay Games 9 had an estimated economic impact of \$52.1 million on Northeast Ohio. [Click here for the full Kent State Economic Impact Study.](#)

"The ability to give back to the community is a testament to the Gay Games 9 board's leadership, which placed importance on operating in a fiscally responsible manner, as well as the tremendous corporate and individual donor support," said Gay Games 9 Executive Director Tom Nobbe.

The Gay Games LGBT Legacy Fund of the Cleveland Foundation will help extend the environment of inclusion and diversity created as a result of the hard work these past four years to build a welcome community for thousands of LGBT athletes, allies and supporters who came to the region for this significant global event. The permanent endowment will support grantmaking, in combination with other available funds at the Cleveland Foundation, to organizations, programs and services that positively

impact and support the LGBT community. People can contribute to the fund at any time by donating online at [www.clevelandfoundation.org/gaygames](http://www.clevelandfoundation.org/gaygames)

## Gay Games 9 participant satisfaction levels at all-time high levels



As it has done following each Gay Games starting in 2002, the international Federation of Gay Games conducted a comprehensive survey among its artist and athlete participants. 1,452 participants responded to the survey, more than for any other post-Gay Games survey.

Overall, satisfaction ratings on a number of key questions were at an all-time high. Coupled with the news reported in December 2014 by Kent State University about Gay Games 9 having an economic impact of \$52.1 million on the Cleveland + Akron economy, the only conclusion that can be drawn is that this was the best event in the history of the Gay Games since they began in 1982. The most important four measures on this survey were the satisfaction with the Opening Ceremony, the Closing Ceremony, the Sports Program, and the Culture Program. On three of these measures, Gay Games 9 had the highest ratings ever measured. The Sports Program at Gay Games VIII in Cologne (2010) was ranked slightly higher than in Cleveland + Akron.

Other key findings in this survey include:

- 92% were satisfied or very satisfied with the Gay Games 9 accreditation process
- 88% were satisfied or very satisfied with the Gay Games 9 Opening Ceremony
- 74% were satisfied or very satisfied with the Gay Games 9 Closing Ceremony
- 87% were satisfied or very satisfied with their Gay Games 9 sports experience
- 88% were satisfied or very satisfied with the conditions at their Gay Games 9 sports venue
- 91% were satisfied or very satisfied with the Gay Games 9 volunteers at sports venues
- 86% were satisfied or very satisfied with their Gay Games 9 culture experience
- 89% were satisfied or very satisfied with the conditions at their Gay Games 9 culture venue
- 92% were satisfied or very satisfied with the Gay Games 9 volunteers at culture venues
- 77% stated they intend to attend Gay Games 10 in Paris in 2018

Some other interesting demographics were revealed in this survey:

- 74% identified as male, 25% identified as female
- 6% of respondents received some sort of scholarship assistance to attend Gay Games 9
- 88% identified as gay or lesbian, 6% as straight, 4% as bisexual, and 2% as "other"
- 10% identified as a person of color, 88% did not, and 2% did not answer
- 82% reported having a college or post-graduate degree

According to Federation of Gay Games co-president Joanie Evans (London), "these overwhelmingly positive results are proof that our host partners in Cleveland + Akron did an amazing job. Anyone who experienced these Gay Games will not be surprised to read these results."

## 2015 Annual General Assembly: 16-18 October

16-18 October 2015  
Limerick, Ireland  
Castletroy Park Hotel

The Federation of Gay Games Annual General Assembly (AGA) brings together delegates from its members, associate members and board members. Its institutional role is to elect the Federation's Board of Directors, to amend the FGG's bylaws, and in its Site Selection configuration (full members plus board), choose the hosts of the Gay Games.

The FGG Board of Directors will also meet twice: Thursday, October 15 and newly elected board members will join the board meeting to be held Monday, October 19, 2015.



Additional information will follow soon regarding travel planning, agenda and more. Members are welcomed to login to the FGG's Google Drive to view Limerick's official bid to host the 2015 AGA. Thank you to the other cities that submitted AGA host bids: Berlin, Santiago and Sydney.

JOIN US! <http://gaygames.org/wp/about-the-fgg/join-us/>



**We are looking forward to seeing you in Paris!**  
Registration Opens June 2016: [www.Paris2018.com](http://www.Paris2018.com)

4-12 August 2018  
15,000 participants from 70+ countries  
Open to All - Prestigious Venues  
36 Sports - 14 Cultural Events - 1 Academic Conference

VALUES:  
Diversity, Respect, Equality, Solidarity, and Sharing (our 'DRESS code')

**Paris 2018 held its Annual Meeting on 7 Feb 2015, and the new board has been elected:**

Co-Presidents: Evelyne Chenoun & Manuel Picaud	Participant Services: Amar Boudi
General Secretary: Pascale Reinteu	Sports : Alain Perié
Treasurer: Sandrine Fruchart	Culture: Cyril Belier
Communications: Dominique de Souza Pinto	Ceremonies: Bruno Ferré
Development: Christian Camus	Inclusion: Isabelle Thézé
Quality: Stephanie Peccia	Participation & International Relations: Emy Ritt
Operations: Yohann Nicolas	FSGI Liaison: Olivier Garcia Adan

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### **GLISA and FGG announce framework for One World Event**

*Site Selection Commission to begin 4<sup>th</sup> quarter 2015*

The joint Working Group (WG) of the Gay and Lesbian International Sports Association (GLISA) and the Federation of Gay Games (FGG) announces the creation of a framework for a quadrennial One World Event (1WE). The Working Group will work to perpetuate the history of FGG and GLISA, while also working to bring the LGBTQI community together.

The WG recently convened in Cologne, Germany and reports conclusions from a widely distributed online survey:

1. **According to the survey findings, there is overwhelming support for having one world quadrennial event.** 88.7% of the 1,705 respondents support having one world quadrennial event: very important (46.5%), somewhat important (26.1%), or important (16.1%).
2. The event should have three components: Sport, Culture, and Human Rights Conference.
3. The event must be inclusive of all elements of the community, i.e. youth, trans, women, elders, disabled, etc.
4. The event should remove any barriers to participation, such as cost of registration while offering increased scholarship opportunities.

Building on the recommendations of the membership, the survey and the Cologne discussions, the 1WE WG has created a framework report for a quadrennial 1WE to be produced in 2022 and what will be required to achieve this goal.

This report, known as the 1WE Cologne Report, will address the needs for both organizations to sign off on a Memo of Understanding (MOU) that includes the creation of a Transition Commission, and the production of a World Congress to take place in third quarter of 2015 with representation from all parties with a vested interest in promoting a One World Event consisting of Sport, Culture, and Human Rights.

Simultaneously, a Site Selection Commission will be created following the ratification of the MOU with a Site Selection process commencing in fourth quarter of 2015.

“GLISA is excited on the progress of this vital collaboration that benefits the worldwide LGBT sporting community”, states Tamara Adrian, GLISA co-president. “All of us at the FGG are extremely thrilled to see things moving forward in a positive manner”, states FGG co-president Kurt Dahl.

The WG presented the 1WE Cologne Report to the FGG and GLISA Boards in January 2015 with ratification of the Memo of Understanding expected by 15 April 2015.



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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 has promoted equality in and by 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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