

OCTOBER 12, 2024

POSTATE STREET

JUNEOU SQUARE PARK



#### OFFICIAL HOST HOTEL

(AND WONDERFUL COMMUNITY PARTNER!)

The Bristol Hotel has been an invaluable partner as we bring TriPride to downtown Bristol for the second time in 2024. We are beyond grateful to our regional partners like The Bristol Hotel for supporting pride in Appalachia. The Bristol Hotel has been generous enough to donate their space and their time to our organization. They host both our TriPride Board and Planning Committee for monthly meetings, hosted our 2024 We Are Family Adult Prom, and continue to go above and beyond supporting our mission of creating a more inclusive Tri-Cities.

In a city straddling two Southern states, The Bristol Hotel does them both proud--offering up barrel-aged Tennessee whiskeys and Virginia regional fare against the scenic backdrop of the Appalachian mountains. Here, in the birthplace of country music, past and present connect in a striking 1925 architectural landmark turned first-ever boutique hotel. Ready to welcome guests who believe that blurring the line inspires the soul. Their 65-room boutique hotel in Bristol, Virginia features a rooftop bar with sweeping views of the Appalachian Mountains, street-front dining with family-style regional fare, and a historic ballroom for unforgettable social gatherings and special events.

#### **WELCOME TO TRIPRIDE!**

On behalf of TriPride's Board of Directors, we would like to first say: we're so thrilled to be back in Bristol!

We wouldn't be here without the support of local small businesses, national companies, institutions, private donors, and our community – not to mention our fabulous volunteers and board members. Pride is not cheap concerning time or dollars. Thank you all for contributing however, whenever you can. The community and this organization give our heartfelt gratitude.

Thank you also to our wonderful host cities: Bristol, Virginia and Bristol, Tennessee. Our organization has been incredibly fortunate that the cities have been so amazing to work with. From city planning to police, traffic and maintenance – you all have been wonderful, and we thank you!

TriPride's underlying mission is to build bridges of understanding between communities in the Appalachian Highlands. We celebrate our LGBTQ+ community. We thank all our allies – community and equity focused nonprofit organizations, affirming and welcoming faith congregations, supportive and inclusive businesses, and individuals – for joining us as we work to make our home better and more inclusive.

We hope that all of you enjoy today's event. It's been a long time in the making, and we're thrilled to share it with you.

Make friends. Make memories.

Color Appalachia with Pride, y'all!



#### **Schedule of Events**

Check our online schedule of events for parade, entertainment, and announcement timing throughout our festival tripridetn.org/schedule

#### **Welcome to Bristol!**



On behalf of the city of Bristol Virginia, I'm excited to welcome you to the 5th TriPride festival! This festival rotates between the Tri-Cities and we're so excited and proud to host it in Bristol this year.

Our city is fully committed to creating an environment full of diversity and inclusion, and events like TriPride are so important to that effort. Regardless of who you are or who you love, you are welcomed and appreciated here.

Enjoy the festivities, and take some time to explore Bristol and see what we have to offer. We're glad you're here!

#### **NEAL OSBORNE**

Bristol Virginia City Councilman Former Mayor

#### **OUR TRIPRIDE GUIDEBOOK**

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## OFFICIAL 2024 TRIPRIDE SHIRT ONLY\$25 WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

The official TriPride 2024 t-shirt logo showcases this year's vibrant theme, "Color Appalachia with Pride," set against a lively green tshirt. The design features two people holding a paintbrush and a pride flag, with the colors of the rainbow beautifully sweeping across a picturesque Appalachian landscape. Above the scene, TriPride is nestled among rolling hills, symbolizing the celebration of both community and inclusivity. This t-shirt is not only a stylish keepsake but a wearable symbol

AVAILABLE AT THE TRRIPRIDE MERCH & INFO BOOTH

of unity, diversity, and pride!



#### Grand Marshal Olivia Hill

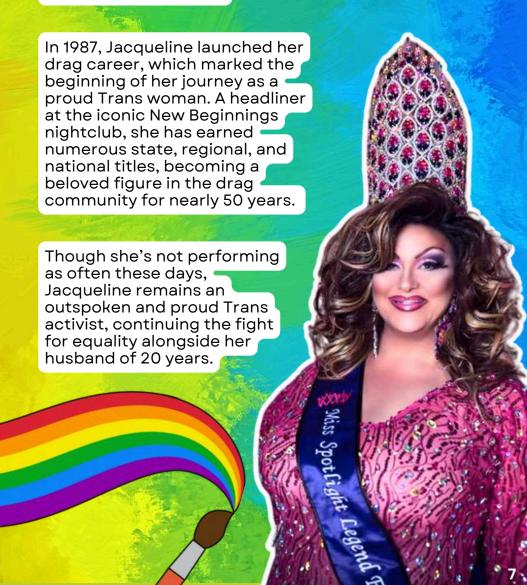
Olivia Hill made history as the first openly Transgender person elected in the state of Tennessee, where she now represents the city of Nashville with 750,000 people. Olivia's journey into public service comes after 40 years in the utilities industry including a distinguished career in the U.S. Navy, where she saw combat in Desert Storm. Her tireless dedication to advocating for equality and the rights of the LGBTQ+ community is rooted in her own experiences as a Trans woman, and she remains committed to uplifting and empowering others in their personal journeys.



In addition to her political work, Olivia is a soughtafter public speaker, sharing her story across the country through her business, Olivia Speaks. She educates others on topics ranging from Trans rights to women's rights, all while working on her upcoming book and potential movie deal. Olivia's leadership, resilience, and passion for justice make her a powerful voice and role model, not just for the LGBTQ+ community but for all those fighting for equal rights.

### Grand Marshal Jacqueline St. James

Jacqueline St. James began her journey with the LGBTQ+ community in Johnson City in 1985. While attending college at ETSU, she quickly found her place within the community and came out as part of it.



#### The TriPride Parade

The TriPride parade in Bristol is making history...again! This is the second time we've hosted TriPride in two states at once, and we couldn't be more thankful to the City of Bristol, TN and the City of Bristol, VA for helping us to make it happen!

Pride parades are an empowering event that break down barriers of prejudice and discrimination. It is an opportunity to be seen and to identify with a larger community. You make a difference by participating, whether you're watching and cheering or marching alongside us.

Our fifth annual TriPride parade is composed of multiple contingencies including floats, decorated cars, hundreds of walkers, and our 2024 TriPride Color Guard and Musician ensemble! Each group is encouraged to take this opportunity to be creative, self-expressive, and to celebrate our diversity!

Pride parades have a Grand Marshal near the beginning of the parade. This person is someone who has contributed to our community through advocacy and support. This year, we're fortunate to have two individuals who have made a great impact for LGBTQ+ people in Appalachia, Olivia Hill and Jacqueline St. James. Read on to learn more about their incredible contributions to our community.



#### **TriPride Festival in Downtown Bristol**

Dear TriPride Festival Guests,

On behalf of the TriPride Board, we are thrilled to welcome you to this year's festival at **Cumberland Square Park in Bristol, VA!** As a free, ticketed event, we are proud to host a celebration that brings our community together in a joyful, inclusive space where love and diversity are embraced by all.

This year marks our **fifth anniversary**, and we are beyond excited to celebrate the incredible growth of TriPride over the years. Our goal for this festival is to create an environment that fosters unity, celebrates our vibrant LGBTQ+ community, and showcases the rich culture of Appalachia. We're also proud to feature **local vendors and services** that support the LGBTQ+ community, connecting attendees with important people who are working to improve inclusivity and celebrate LGBTQ+ individuals.

By offering a closed, ticketed event, we are able to enhance both security and the overall experience for everyone attending, ensuring a safe and memorable time for all.

We are so excited to share this day with you–let's color Appalachia with pride together!

Happy Pride!



OFFICIAL FESTIVAL SPONSOR

#### EASTMAN

## Y'all means all — every single person.

We thrive when we live and work in a place where people are free to be their authentic selves. We believe the strongest team is one with a rich variety of viewpoints representing multiple backgrounds, cultures and experiences. Building a more inclusive society where we celebrate our differences and build understanding will make our region, our communities and our businesses stronger.

Come join us. Visit jobs.eastman.com.







#### **Color Appalachia With Pride!**

This year's theme, "Color Appalachia with Pride," symbolizes a vibrant celebration of diversity in the heart of a region rich in tradition. It reflects our mission to uplift and honor the LGBTQ+ community while embracing the unique culture of Appalachia.

future for all.

By filling State Street and
Cumberland Square Park with
the colors of pride, we're
fostering an inclusive space
where everyone's identity is
celebrated.

It's a reminder that pride knows no borders, and even in rural communities, love and acceptance can flourish.

Through this theme, we aim to paint a brighter, more inclusive

Together, we are bringing Appalachia's spirit to life with color, unity, and pride!

#### Official TriPride 2024 Coloring Book

(While supplies last)

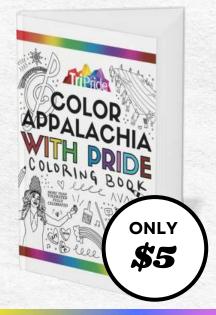
Bring this year's theme to life with our special edition Coloring Book, available at this year's festival!

Each page is filled with fun, creative designs (including crowd favorites!) that celebrate diversity, love, and pride across Appalachia.

By purchasing this coloring book, you're not only expressing your creativity but also supporting TriPride's mission of fostering inclusivity and uplifting the LGBTQ+ community in the Tri-Cities region.

Be sure to grab your copy at the festival and share your artwork with us online using the hashtag

#colorappalachiawithpride



#### Free and Confidential HIV and STI Testing, and other Health Services

TriPride is proud to offer free and confidential HIV and STI testing at our festival, as well as other health services, made possible by Va. Dept of Health-Lenowisco District, Sullivan Co. Health Dept., TN Dept. of Health, Sullivan Co. Regional Health Dept., and CEMPA Community Care.

In addition to testing, each health organization will also provide an assortment of educational information regarding local health programs accessible to the community. Please visit each booth to see what programs are available. TriPride encourages all festival goers to visit our health service providers. Peace of mind and knowing your status is worth a few minutes of your time.

Thank you TriPride Health Partners!



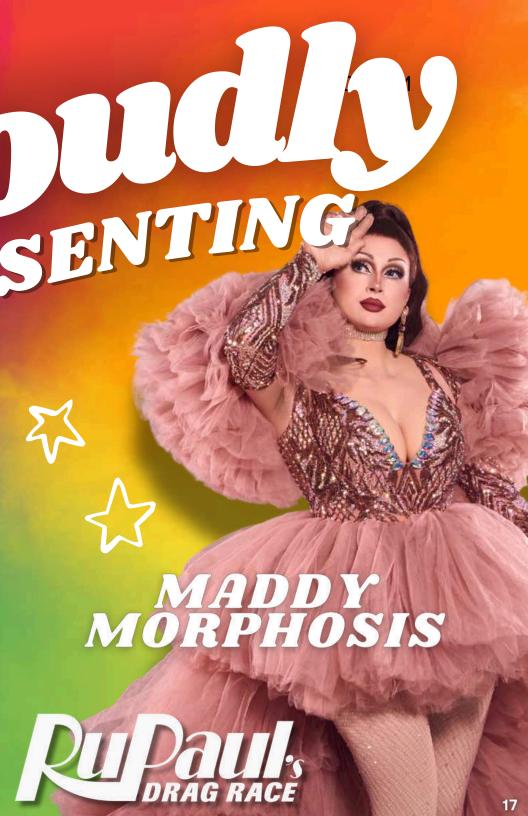
#### **Vendor Directory**

Stay in touch with our amazing group of vendors by checking out our online vendor directory!

tripridetn.org/festival-vendors













#### THE SOULAMANDERS







PLEASE TIP YOUR ENTERTAINERS





















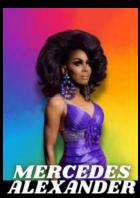


























## Pride



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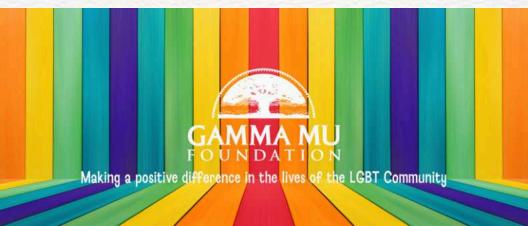




#### CHANGE, NOT CHARITY

ACF funds and encourages grassroots social change in Central Appalachia. ACF works to build a sustainable base of resources to support community-led organizations seeking to overcome and address issues of race, economic status, gender, sexual identity, and disability.

www.appalachiancommunityfund.org



The Gamma Mu Foundation was established to provide financial support to non-profit organizations that serve clients and communities primarily in the rural and/or underserved areas of the United States. The Foundation awards direct financial grants to support HIV/AIDS services, community services, or research and public education that benefits the LGBT community.

The Foundation also awards financial support in the form of academic scholarships to members of the LGBT community who demonstrate financial need and the desire to pursue additional training through academic or vocational education.



#### **ELECTION DAY IS NOVEMBER 5**

Voting is your chance to help shape the future—and it's a big deal, especially for the LGBTQ+ community in Appalachia.

From protecting marriage equality to ensuring non-discrimination laws, your vote puts leaders in place who can keep moving us toward a more inclusive world.

Here in Appalachia, voting matters more than ever. By casting your ballot, you're helping to create a region where everyone can live authentically, celebrate their identity, and thrive.



CHECK YOUR REGISTRATION SEE WHAT'S ON THE BALLOT GET ELECTION REMINDERS AT VOTE.ORG

While TriPride, as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, can't endorse any candidates, we can cheer you on to get informed and get to the polls! Your vote is your voice—use it to color Appalachia with pride and equality for all.

# second chances

@ The Bristol Hotel

WE ARE FAMILY

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our Second Chances Prom this past June! It was an incredible night filled with joy, celebration, and unforgettable memories. For many, this event was more than just a dance—it was a long-awaited opportunity to experience prom as their authentic selves, something they may not have been able to do in the past.

Whether you missed prom the first time or didn't feel free to express your true self, this event offered a beautiful moment of belonging and acceptance.

Your support and presence helped create a space where everyone could embrace their true identity and be celebrated for who they are. Through these year-round events, we're making sure the LGBTQ+ community in Appalachia is more than tolerated—we are fully celebrated.

We're already excited for the next one!



BRISTOL

#### **OPENING 2024**

**OVER 300 HOTEL ROOMS BODY ROCK & ROCK SPA OVER 1,500 SLOTS 75 TABLE GAMES 6 RESTAURANTS** 

**OVER 2,000 SEAT ENTERTAINMENT VENUE** HARD ROCK SPORTSBOOK **ROCK SHOP** 



#### **NOW OPEN**

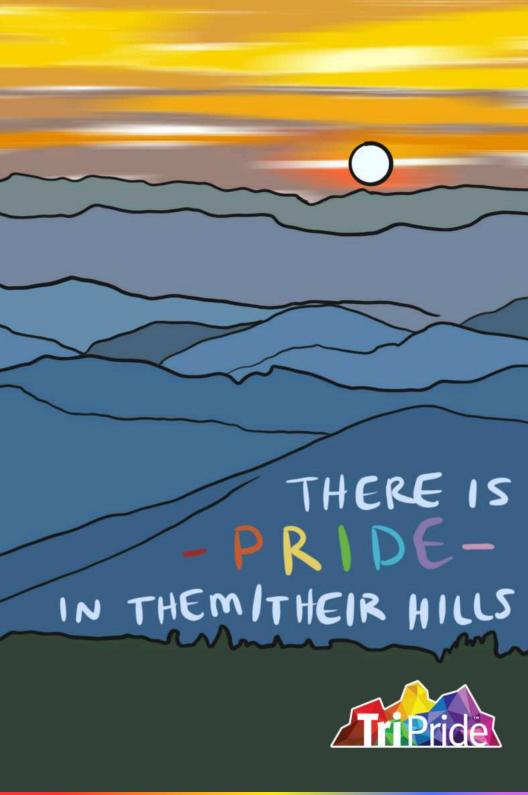
**OVER 900 SLOTS 29 TABLE GAMES 5 RESTAURANTS** HARD ROCK SPORTSBOOK **ROCK SHOP** 









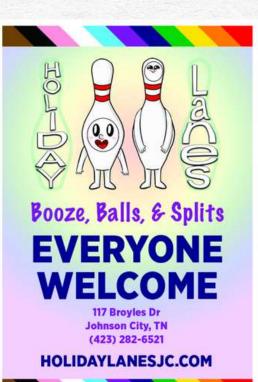






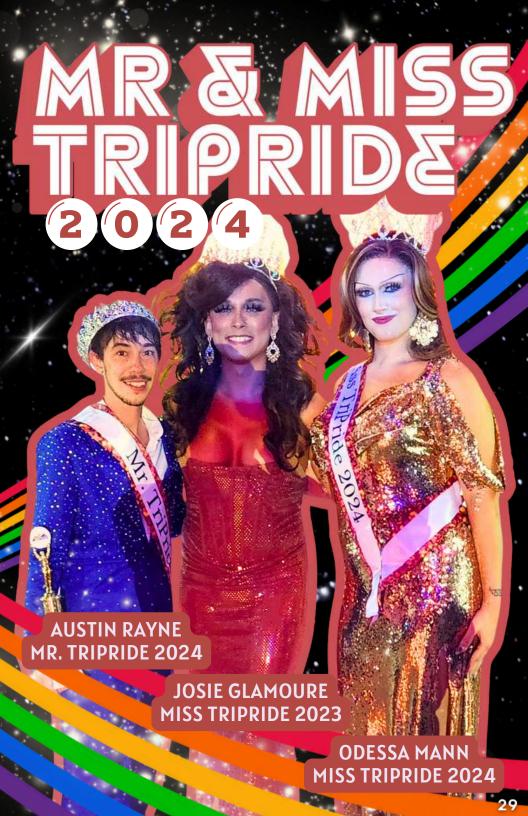














**FUN FOR ALL AGES!** 

Bring the little ones to our fun-filled Kids Zone, where they can enjoy crafts, stories, and a variety of playful

activities all day long!

#### APPALACHIAN sustaïnable DEVELOPMENT













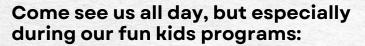












1:30 p.m..... Magic Show 2:30 p.m..... Drag Story Time

3:30 p.m..... Magic Show

4:30 p.m...... Drag Story Time















Aetna Better Health' of Virginia





#### Your 2024 TriPride Board

TriPride is lead by our board of directors, five of whom serve as the Executive Committee. These folks bring everything they can to produce Pride to the Tri-Cities!



#### Justin Hall - President

As a fellow Bristolian, I am beyond excited and proud to help bring TriPride back to my hometown. I'm grateful for all the love and support the Bristol community has shown TriPride over the last few years. I genuinely hope you all enjoy the event! Now go Color Appalachia with Pride!



#### **Terry Marek - Vice President**

Being an active member of the LGBTQ+ Community means being visible and helping others in our area to understand and love diversity as a strength. Actively working with fellow TriPride Board Members allows me the strength to know we are trying to make living, loving and learning an inclusive and common priority in N. E. Tennessee. Won't you join us?



#### **Autumn Baggett-Griggs - Marketing Director**

I'm so thrilled to be a part of this group and event! TriPride has been such a beautiful way for our community to come together through and celebrate each other. I'm so thankful to serve as Marketing Director, and I hope you've enjoyed seeing our growth this year! Cheers to being a resilient group of (fun!) people. Happy Pride!



#### **Ritchie Roark - Treasurer**

I am currently serving as the Treasurer for TriPride. I live in Johnson City with my husband Robbie and our fur baby Carson. I have been involved with the LGBTQIA+ family for 30+ years & being involved with TriPride for the last 2 years and helping to make this parade and festival happen in Applachia is one of those times in my life that I am most proud of. My hope for 2024 Pride is that everyone is kind to one another and enjoys the festivities!



#### Jacob Besseck - Secretary

This is my second year working work TriPride and I'm proud to serve as Secretary. It's rewarding to work with so many amazing souls that want to enrich our community. Thanks to everyone who helped make this Pride season unforgettable.



#### Khalid El-Shabazz

As a queer person of color, I wanted to make it my mission to make sure TriPride continues to have the most diverse and eclectic artists performing. I'm proud of what we've accomplished! I hope you enjoy all the amazing entertainers this year!



#### **Lori Suttles**

I've been participating with TriPride since 2018 as a co-founder of our local Free Mom Hugs chapter. The more I become involved, the more my passion to create safe spaces and community where diversity, inclusion, and equality are welcomed and celebrated. I'm excited for this year's festival and can't wait to see what the future holds for TriPride.



#### **Carrie Holt**

I'm truly honored to serve on the TriPride Board and help plan another exciting pride event in our region! I love seeing the collaboration of individuals and organizations to advance the inclusion of the LGBTQ+ community and that TriPride plays a huge role in this!



#### **Greg Griffey**

I love my home region of the Appalachian Highlands and feel privileged to work to make it stronger and more inclusive for LGBTQ+ people and allies. Our beautiful region is special for it's mountain cultures and values, and queer people have always been part of it, coloring Appalachia with Pride!



#### Sarah Rovere

I love being a TriPride board member. This is important work and I am grateful for the opportunity to be a part of it. It is so important that individuals can be the most authentic expression of themselves. I am looking for to celebrating this beautiful community in Bristol this year!



#### Indya Scalf

I am thrilled to serve on the Tripride Board of Directors, where I have the opportunity to contribute to the organization's mission of promoting diversity and inclusion in the transportation industry. It's an honor to work alongside dedicated individuals who are passionate about making a positive impact on our community.



#### Jeremy White

I am so excited about this year's parade and festival. It has been an honor to serve our community through my involvement with the TriPride Board of Directors. Growing up in this area, I understand the value of being seen and belong to a community. I am excited for the chance to celebrate with our community today. Enjoy and live in your authenticity.



#### **Steven Reeves**

Originally from North Carolina, he has lived in Bristol since 2003. His entire life revolves around the creative arts, education, and directing a nonprofit organization. Being in the arena of life making a positive impact for LGBTQ+people is where it counts. Actions speak louder than words.



#### **Kate Tilley**

I have had the privilege of being on the Board of Directors for TriPride.
These hills have Pride and I have been welcomed by an amazing group and hope to pay that forward for generations to come! The work we do is incredible for the community and so thankful to be a part of the TriPride board as co-chair for Entertainment.



#### **Noel Wilson**

I am Noel Wilson, the chair for volunteers on the board for TriPride and this has been the most rewarding experience of my life. I love being apart of the community and making extreme strides for change.

#### **LGBTQ+ Support Groups**

The groups listed below are not the only LGBTQ+ support and social groups in our area. However, they are four passionate, dedicated organizations serving our community.

#### **PRISM**

www.fb.com/prismteensjc

PRISM is a teen LGBTQ+ support and empowerment group for the Tri-Cities. Monthly meetings and events, hosted by the Pride Community & Education Center in Johnson City, are arranged by trained, professional counselors. These meetings facilitate an environment where teens can support and empower each other.

#### **Tri-Cities Transgender**

www.fb.com/3CitiesTrans

TCT is a local trans-led organization whose mission is to support and empower the local trans and gender independent community through visibility and developing/maintaining area resources.

#### **Pride Community & Education Center**

www.pridetricities.com

PCEC is a non-profit community center established to nurture and empower LGBTQIA+ community. Hosted in the King Center in downtown Johnson City, PCEC hosts events and a meeting space for the community. They also support the Johnson City Rainbows, the Tri-Cities LGBTQ+ softball team.

#### **Tennessee Equality Project**

www.tnep.org

TEP was founded in 2004 as a statewide LGBTQ+ rights and public policy organization. We help fight discriminatory state legislation and work to create a more accepting climate in the state.



#### **Get Involved With TriPride**

Want to be more involved in your local LGBTQ+ community? You've already taken a great first step by attending our festival!

If you want to dive deeper into the action, there are plenty of ways to get involved. Consider signing up to volunteer, where you can help with everything from event setup to assisting attendees.

Stay connected with us through social media for the latest updates and additional opportunities to contribute.

If you're interested in exploring other ways to participate, feel free to reach out—we'd love to have you on board as we work together to make future festivals a success!

#### **How to Get Involved**

Attend a TriPride Parade or Festival: You already did it, so we marked this one off for you!
<b>Volunteer:</b> Assist with setup, activities, or operations during one of our events.
<b>Spread the word:</b> Share TriPride information on social media and with your friends.
<b>Donate:</b> Contribute to our fundraising efforts, make a direct donation, or host a TriPride event.
<b>Get involved:</b> Share your ideas or help with planning and organizing a TriPride event.

#### **PRIDE Flags**

Since the original 8-striped Pride flag was debuted in 1978, there have been several variations, the most common being the six-striped flag seen below. As our LGBTQ+ movement has become more inclusive and aware of itself, various segments have created their own flags to fly alongside the Pride flag. Below are 12 flags you may or may not know. We invite you to learn more about each, plus more, at www.tripridetn.org/pride-flags





PROGRESS PRIDE FLAG



GENDERQUEER PRIDE FLAG



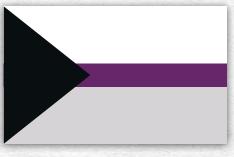
BISEXUAL PRIDE FLAG



LESBIAN PRIDE FLAG



NONBINARY PRIDE FLAG



DEMISEXUAL PRIDE FLAG



BEAR PRIDE FLAG



ALLY PRIDE FLAG



## TRIPRIDE AFTER PARTY HOSTED BY NEW BEGINNINGS

DOORS OPEN 8PM SHOWS @ 11 & 1:30 DOORS OPEN 8PM SHOWS @ 11 & 1:30



#### HOW DID WE DO?



Please consider filling out our anonymous feedback form for this year's parade and festival. We use your feedback to continue improving our events, year after year.

## Thank your

To our community, we want to share our sincere gratitude for your support, whether it's from volunteering, donations, passion, talent, or all the above! We are forever grateful!

TriPride is a community-focused, volunteer-led organization. Without the support of you-our community- we would not be able to do this work and bring this Pride Celebration to Southwest Virginia and Northeast Tennessee every year! TriPride is now one of the largest single day festivals in the area and that's all because of you!

The positive community reception and response has been phenomenal and heartwarming. You support our goal to establish our region as an open and welcoming community that everyone can be even more proud of to call home.

Every donation, whether it's time, products, or money, sends a strong message of inclusion. Countless volunteer hours and donations have culminated in this year's events. Thank you for supporting TriPride and our mission.

There are so many individuals and businesses that deserve special recognition for helping this year. Some of those amazing folks are:

THE BRISTOL HOTEL & STAFF CITIES OF BRISTOL, VA/TN **AXE AND ALE HOUSE** KINGSPORT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PROJECT ACCESS **JASON WILLIS** RITCHIE ROARK & ROBBIE DAVIS MICHAEL TRIVETTE **TIFFANY WALLING** DANA WOLFE **GREAT WHITE GRAPHICS** JOHNSON CITY AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY FLOYDIANS PHOTOGRAPHY REBECCA JONES **OLIVIA HILL** SEN. DANICA ROEM **CHEF T & UNION 41** UNNAMED FRIENDS AND ALLIES!

