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**50 YEARS OF PRIDE**  
FROM STONEWALL TO KINGSFORT



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**SEPTEMBER 7, 2019**

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# Welcome To TriPride!

**We would like to thank everyone** supporting the festivities today: the city of Kingsport for hosting our event, and the long list of regional businesses, institutions, and private donors for their generosity and for making this event possible.

The year 2019 marks the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Stonewall and the birth of the modern LGBTQ+ civil rights movement. Pride events are an annual milestone for the LGBTQ+ community. **Pride is an occasion that promotes the visibility** of a group of people who have historically felt the need to remain invisible. As we reflect on the past to appreciate how far we have come, we acknowledge the many challenges that remain. As we look to the future, the monumental progress we have made gives us the courage and conviction to continue moving forward. We celebrate Pride today with the aspiration that LGBTQ+ individuals get to live with honesty and dignity as everyone else does. Pride is the hope that LGBTQ+ persons will one day feel fully accepted and comfortable in their homes, at work, and in their communities.

The TriPride team's core **mission is to build bridges of understanding across the Tri-Cities to create a more inclusive and welcoming community for LGBTQ+ persons and their allies.** We thank allies, supportive nonprofit organizations, faith congregations, and local businesses for joining us on this journey. A city where LGBTQ+ persons feel safe enough to be visible, to be their authentic selves, is one that they are proud to call home.

We hope that you enjoy today's festivities and that you depart with good memories and a few new friendships.

Kenn Lyon

*President*

George Chamoun

*Founder, Vice President*

## TriPride Schedule

11:00.....	PARADE	2:30.....	PORCH 40
12:00 .....	DRAG PERFORMANCE	4:15.....	EUREKA O'HARA
12:20 .....	WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS	5:00 .....	CHALK ART WINNERS
1:00 .....	KNOXVILLE GAY MEN'S CHORUS	6:00 .....	LADYBIRDS
1:45.....	DRAG PERFORMANCE	6:30.....	CLOSING REMARKS



# MAYOR PAT SHULL



## Welcome To The Model City!

**On behalf of the Board of Mayor and Alderman, it is my pleasure to welcome you to our city.** Kingsport is known for its hospitality, better known as the “Kingsport Spirit,” and we hope you enjoy your time in downtown Kingsport and throughout our community.

The TriPride Parade and Festival is a family-friendly event with kid’s activities, music, giveaways and more. This year, there is a new event – a sidewalk chalk art contest – open to all ages! Check it out!

We would like to extend a special thank you to the TriPride organization for their diligence in ensuring a safe, fun and welcoming event.

Sincerely,

Pat Shull  
Mayor



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## OFFICIAL 2019 TRIPRIDE SHIRT

ONLY \$20 WHILE SUPPLIES LAST AVAILABLE AT THE TRIPRIDE MERCH & INFO BOOTH

Our 2019 TriPride shirts are a celebration of the 50 years of LGBTQ+ rights progress since the 1969 Stonewall Riots. While the riots were full of clinched fists, we're fortunate that today, in many cases, we have an opportunity to release our fingers and make a peace sign. It also happens to be TriPride's second year! And while we know the battle for LGBTQ+ rights and equality isn't over, we're happy to celebrate how far we've come!



# Grand Marshal Skip Norrell

Although Skip Norrell has been a Kingsport fixture for many decades, he did not originally call the Tri-Cities home. A native of Alabama, he moved here shortly after college to become a Chemical Engineer at Eastman Chemical Company and raise a family with two children.

After a divorce Skip found himself a bachelor with options that he had not previously been exposed to—or even considered—growing up. He began to build a life for himself.



Part of Skip's passion played out in community service for the town he had adopted—including lending many years of service to the Keep Kingsport Beautiful campaign. In addition to working to strengthen his Kingsport community, he has also worked to support and build our local queer community. For over 30 years, he has opened his home every Friday night **to provide a safe and social space for LGBTQ+ people and their allies to meet, laugh, and share each others' company.** As much as his gatherings benefited his community, he, too, benefited, making life-long connections with many who crossed his threshold. **Skip says that the most enjoyable part of his life is how many people he can count as friends.**

It was through these connections that Skip found himself involved with TriPride. In fact, one of the very first meetings was held at his house. When asked why he became involved in the organization, he expressed it was “partly out of a sense of responsibility but also in the belief that our area was ready to understand that we [LGBTQ+ people] were a large part of the community and **we are here to stay.**”

He believes that “TriPride is committed to showing the area a positive image” of an often misunderstood community and “has the organizational skills to build a movement that will last.” Ever the community activist, Skip says that TriPride serves “a vital function” in our area by showing “other LGBTQs that they are not alone and they can stand proud in the Tri-Cities.”

Skip looks forward to a future where “our world will not find it necessary to differentiate people based on race, gender, age, or sexual orientation.” Still, he recognizes that until that day arrives, **“we’ll continue to do the work.”**

TriPride honors Skip's legacy and endeavors to create the future he envisions. It is our proud honor to name him Grand Marshall of the Second Annual TriPride Parade and Festival.

# The TriPride Parade

In 2019 we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots in New York City, an event which is viewed as the formal launch of the modern LGBTQ+ civil rights movement. The riots galvanized our LGBTQ+ community and the following year Pride parades began in large cities across the country. The parades are a time to be out and proud, to celebrate who we are, and share that beautiful uniqueness with the world in a fun and unapologetic way.

Our theme this year for the TriPride Parade and Festival is “Look How Far We’ve Come” bringing focus to the progress we have made, and to encourage and bolster ourselves for the changes still needed for us to achieve equality in our society.

The TriPride Parade in downtown Kingsport is a historic event for this city. **It is the first LGBTQ+ Pride Parade in Kingsport.** Traditionally, the Pride Parade is the kick off for the Pride Day celebrations and it ends at the Festival location.

This proud celebration of our unique diversity in a public setting assists in **breaking down barriers of prejudice and discrimination.** Pride parades are an empowering event, especially for those who have been forced to hide their true selves. It is an opportunity to identify with a larger community and to be nurtured by that inclusion. **You make a difference in your participation** either through marching in the parade or cheering on your friends from the sidelines.



Our second annual TriPride parade is composed of multiple contingencies including floats, decorated cars, and hundreds of walkers. 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 LGBTQ+ equality and empowerment through advocacy for our community. We are grateful to have Skip Norrell as our Grand Marshal.

Thank you to all who were a part of the parade this year! Happy Pride!





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A word cloud visualization of terms related to diversity, inclusion, and equality. The words are arranged in a circular pattern, with 'equality' and 'inclusion' being the largest and most prominent. Other visible words include 'diversity', 'often', 'including', 'referring', 'use', 'talk', 'things', 'awards', 'areas', 'people', 'clarify', 'Diversity', 'deal', 'great', 'definitions', 'start', 'variety', 'orientation', 'culture', 'Edition', 'group', 'action', 'distinct', 'identity', 'interpreted', 'qualifiers', 'limited', 'included', 'rights', 'Yet', 'groups', 'defines', 'family', 'status', 'Even', 'socio-economic', 'revised', 'children', 'qualifier', 'talk', 'things', 'awards', 'areas', 'people', 'clarify', 'Diversity', 'deal', 'great', 'definitions', 'start', 'variety', 'orientation', 'culture', 'Edition', 'group', 'action', 'distinct', 'identity', 'interpreted', 'qualifiers', 'limited', 'included'.



## Eureka O'Hara

TriPride is proud to welcome our hometown diva, the Elephant Queen herself, Eureka O'Hara!

Standing 6'4" without heels, Eureka **represents for all the big girls** as the **PLUS SIZE DRAG SUPER MODEL OF THE WORLD!** Her passion has led her to compete on 9 national stages before the age of 26. One of Eureka's goals is to give bigger people around the world the confidence to go out and live their dreams. With her live action, plus size, fun-loving, Barbie-style, high energy, nothing-but-smiles spirit, working or simply being in the company of Eureka is a roller coaster of uplifting confidence and discovery of self joy.

Eureka's passion for elephants is a reflection of how she perceives herself and wants to see the world! She regards them as a representation of size-positivity, kindness, and family. This is her fight for those traits to never go extinct.





## Porch 40

**Porch 40 delivers a hip take on modern Rock & Pop with funky undertones that highlight their clever arrangements.** The band formed in 2012 at Western Carolina University in Cullowhee, NC. Word of their unforgettable live performances quickly attracted regional attention and a loyal, growing following.

In 2014 Porch 40 recorded their first album “Spread It Heavy” at Reflection Sound Studios in Charlotte, North Carolina, with Mark Williams (Southern Culture On The Skids) engineering, Jamie Hoover of the legendary Spongetones producing, and the renowned Dan Millice mastering. They were the last band to record in that historic studio.

Most recently, Porch 40 wrapped up the recording of their highly anticipated sophomore album, with a release date yet to be set. This album showcases a diversely talented band always pushing their boundaries. The album is produced by Robert Mercurio from Galactic; mixed/mastered by Count aka Mikael Eldridge (Radiohead, Blink 182, The Revivalists, Portugal the Man) and was tracked at Parlor Recording Studio in New Orleans, LA.

**Porch 40 is especially known for their extraordinarily intense live shows and high level of musicianship.** They have shared the stage and performed with Blues Traveler, Galactic, The Doobie Brothers, The Marshall Tucker Band, REO Speedwagon, Leftover Salmon, Jackie Greene, Tauk, Big Something, Lukas Nelson and Promise of the Real, The Suffers, Dirty Dozen Brass Band and more.

**Scott Burr - Vocals/Saxophone, Andrew Duncan -Vocals/Rhythm Guitar, Carter McDevitt -Vocals/Bass, Mitchell Metz - Vocals/Violin and Brett Wilson - Drums.**



## Ladybirds

Ladybirds present a trio of resonant sound layers that lend a **uniquely arranged rebirth to old school vibes of traditional singer-songwriter arrangements**. The vibrant energy of these surging harmonies leave your palette with a little Americana, and a whole lotta soul. With Sarah lending her multi-instrumental knack, to Khia's multi layers of harmony, to Niki's ear for the arrangements and beats, Ladybirds are just scratching the surface of their element.



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ENVY



The Knoxville Gay Men's Chorus was founded in 2012 to be a visible presence for LGBTQ+ persons in Knoxville and the East Tennessee region. **Our mission is to use our voices, strengths, and individual gifts to create enriching musical experiences that**

**promote inclusion, equality, and empathy for all minority populations.** KGMC is proud to partner with many community organizations, including KnoxPride, Blount Pride, TriPride, Positively Living, and more. More information about KGMC, including upcoming concerts, can be found at [KnoxGMC.org](http://KnoxGMC.org)





# Free & Confidential HIV & STI Testing

TriPride is proud to offer free HIV & STI testing at the TriPride 2019 Festival made possible through our health partners: Sullivan County Health Department and ETSU Infectious Disease (in partnership with Cempa Community Care). In addition to testing, each organization will also be providing an assortment of educational information regarding local health programs accessible to the local community - please visit each vendor to see what programs are available. **We at TriPride encourage 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 to Sullivan County Health Department and ETSU Infectious Disease (in partnership with Cempa Community Care) for joining us today and being TriPride Health Partners.**



## LGBTQ+ Support Groups

TriPride was made possible, in part, by the hard work that other LGBTQ+ organizations have done over the years before us. 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. TriPride hopes you'll visit their tents today and learn more about them, and in the process, make new friends.

### PFLAG Tri-Cities

[www.pflagtricity.org](http://www.pflagtricity.org)

PFLAG Tri-Cities TN provides support, advocacy, and education for the LGBTQ+ community and their allies. They hold monthly meetings and periodic events celebrating individuals of various sexual and gender identities.

### Tri-Cities Transgender

[www.facebook.com/3CitiesTrans](https://www.facebook.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.

### Tennessee Equality Project

[www.tnep.org](http://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.

### Pride Community Center

[www.pridetricities.com](http://www.pridetricities.com)

The PCC's dream is to create a positive visible presence for the LGBTQ+ community in the Tri-Cities by opening a community center in Johnson City.



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**RESTROOMS**



**FREE HIV & STI  
TESTING**



**FESTIVAL  
PERIMETER**





# TriPride Festival In Downtown Kingsport

Welcome to the second annual TriPride Festival! Being the first ever LGBTQ+ celebration in Kingsport, it is a historic occasion for our region. The festival is free and open to everyone thanks to our many generous sponsors and private donors. Please stop by our sponsors' booths and thank them!

One goal of the festival is to showcase many features that make the Tri-Cities a truly special and attractive place to live, including local musicians, artists, regional beer and ciders, food trucks, and craft-persons. Everyone participating at the event is enthusiastic to support inclusion of LGBTQ+ persons in the community.

This year's festival marks the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. TriPride team members created educational posters about the history of the LGBTQ+ civil rights movement. They are located throughout the festival grounds. Stroll through the festival and visit over 100 vendors. Local artists will be bringing color and creativity to the festival grounds with chalk art. The kids' zone offers hands-on activities. Enjoy local craft beer from one of our beverage stations. Visit one of the local food trucks stationed on Market and Clinchfield streets. All of our bathrooms are handicap-accessible and are located on Clinchfield street.

**Thank you for coming and helping to make the Tri-Cities a more welcoming and inclusive community!**

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See more about our mission at  
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# Look How Far We've Come

The 2019 TriPride theme is "Look How Far We've Come." Our theme was chosen to emphasize the progress of LGBTQ+ rights and inclusion since the **1969 Stonewall Riots of New York City**. The Stonewall Riots are widely considered to be the beginning of the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement.

Throughout the festival grounds, you're sure to notice our History Exhibit. While this is not the full scope of queer history, we have selected 28 moments that have **defined the modern queer experience**. We invite you to read them, scan the QR codes, and know our history. We hope to expand this collection of history signs over the coming years.

As we celebrate our community's progress, we also acknowledge the weight of our journey and the work to still be done. But **it's a fight worth fighting**, and we will continue that hard work with **courage, conviction, and pride**.

**Together, we can do this.**



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# TriPride Sidewalk Chalk Art Event

The event is free to competing artists, those who want to express themselves and kids of all ages who would like to have fun drawing with chalk.

Three categories of artists were invited to participate. Professional artists will compete for a top prize of \$350.00. Student artists will have a chance to win up to \$150.00. The third category is open drawing for anyone to join in and have fun.

**Stick around to see some great work and who the winner is!**

## Featured Drinks

**Cherry Coke** - 360 Bing Cherry Vodka, Grenadine, and your choice of Coke or Diet Coke

**360 Cherry Cooler** - 360 Vodka, Lemon Lime Soda, Lemonade, and Grenadine

**Blueberry-Cran** - 360 Huckleberry Vodka and Cranberry

**360 Fizzy Apple** - 360 Red Delicious Apple Vodka and Ginger Ale

**360 Pineapple Sunset** - 360 Pineapple Vodka, OJ, Lime Juice, and Grenadine

**Black and Stormy** - Hook's Black Spiced Rum and Ginger Ale

### Spiked Lemonade Express Lane

**Huckleberry Lemonade** - 360 Huckleberry Vodka and Lemonade

**360 Cherry Lemonade** - 360 Cherry Vodka, 360 Sorrento Lemon Vodka, Grenadine, and Lemonade

**360 Limeade** - 360 Lime Vodka, Lemon Lime Soda, and Lime Juice

## OLE SMOKEY Moonshine Experience

You will get to taste a selection of moonshines and then get a drink made with your favorite one from the tasting. Enjoy!

### Beers

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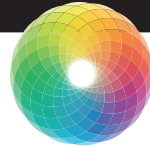
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**Community is  
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WE'VE CREATED.**



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# Your 2019 TriPride Board

TriPride is lead by our 15-member board, from which five are the Executive Committee. Additionally, our Planning Committee members are an invaluable resource.



## **Kenn Lyon - President**

What TriPride means to me: Love. Acceptance. Fun. Playfulness. Empowerment. Healing. Gratitude. Inclusion. Collaboration. Community. Impactful. Freedom. Positive social change. Transformation. Visibility. Celebration of Diversity. A brighter future for all LGBTQ+ people.



## **George Chamoun - Founder & Vice President**

The LGBTQ+ community is a spectrum of diverse individuals who aspire to live authentically and to write their own life stories. Like the rainbow flag's many colors, pride events bring a community's diversity together, creating a beautiful display.



## **James Michalski - Marketing Director**

I credit last year's success to the collaboration and commitment of the planning committee. Dozens stepped up to organize and deliver the parade and festival for 10,000 people. The team is grateful for the trust and support that sponsors and nonprofit organizations afford us.



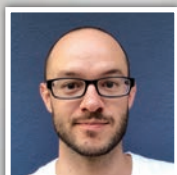
## **Sandra Hagen - Treasurer**

I love seeing the collaboration of individuals and organizations to advance the inclusion of the LGBTQ community, and that TriPride plays a role in this. We still have a long way to go, but there are indications we are making progress



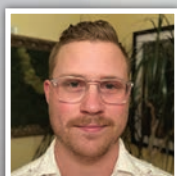
## **Ron Adkins - Secretary & Fundraising**

Pride coming to the Tri-Cities has been such a breathtaking event. I'm so thankful that I have been front and center to watch this unfold and happen so seamlessly. The community's enthusiasm has proven that it was past time for this to occur. I'm grateful to serve on the board.



## **Jason Willis - Marketing & Communications**

I'm consistently amazed at the passion and talent within our community, and how our community has supported TriPride the last two years. I'm proud to be a member of TriPride's board and the great community work the organization is doing.



## **Mason Myers - Outreach**

I'm truly honored to serve on the TriPride Board and help plan another historic pride for our region! This experience brings joy to my heart and I'm excited to see smiling faces this year at the event!



### **Delanna Reed - Pride Week Coordinator**

The enthusiasm, dedication, and good-natured camaraderie among the TriPride fellow board members inspire me. Already, we see positive results in building understanding and acceptance for LGBTQ+ people in the Tri-Cities community.



### **Chris Dagenhart - Business Liaison**

I am proud that TriPride is helping our region to put its best foot forward so that everyone feels welcome in our communities. I'm growing ever more proud to call this part of the country "home."



### **Rob Batot - Marketing & Entertainment**

The amount of love and support TriPride has received from the community has been overwhelming. It's been amazing to witness our region come together for inclusion, love and acceptance.



### **Aislinn Bailey - Volunteer Coordinator**

I want to thank everyone who has helped to make TriPride's event outstanding and enriching: the vendors, planning committee, and especially the attendees. As we continue to create an atmosphere of love and acceptance, I believe the future is bright!



### **Christy Oaks - Volunteer Coordinator**

I joined the TriPride board to give back to my community. I hope that by unapologetically being my authentic self, I can inspire others to embrace their truth rather than trying to fit into others' boxes.



### **Alan Stevens - Entertainment**

This is my first year serving on the TriPride Board. I'm thrilled to be a part of this amazing group of people and to serve as the Co-Chair of Entertainment. I'm also honored to lead the Knoxville Gay Men's Chorus as its Artistic Director.



### **Melissa Dixon - Food Services**

These two years with TriPride have been truly one of my proudest experiences. I am blessed to work with amazing individuals who love where they live and want inclusion of our LGBTQ+ community. Kerstin and I are honored to share our wedding reception with our community.



### **Mike Metcalf - Festival & Entertainment**

From TriPride's inception, I have been amazed by the love and support the community has shown. It has been a pleasure to serve you as a board member, and I look forward to continuing my work to help bring diversity and inclusion to our region.



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# Get Involved With TriPride!

TriPride is celebrating its second year of coming together as a community to create a local Pride Parade & Festival. It has taken the talents of many individuals to accomplish this feat: the TriPride board and our amazing planning committee who all volunteer their time and effort attending monthly planning meetings, serving on committees, and reaching out to local resources to provide entertainment, food and beverages, general information, and health services. These wonderful people give of their time to provide input on the needs of our community. Lastly, we are blessed with many local businesses who give donations, support, and exposure, as well as affirming diversity and inclusion. If not for all of these various components, TriPride would not be a reality, nor the success we have seen so far. If you have ever wanted to be a part of something bigger than yourself that can influence, uplift, and enlighten thousands, consider joining our team so that we can make our third year bigger and better than ever. It is so easy to do. Just go to [www.tripridetn.org/contact](http://www.tripridetn.org/contact) and send us a message.

**Thank you to everyone who has supported and encouraged us this year and to all who will join us in the future. Happy PRIDE!**

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**PETSMART**

A vibrant stage scene with a dark blue background filled with sparkling light effects. At the top, a black truss holds five stage lights, each casting a beam of light downwards. A central, brighter spotlight illuminates the middle of the stage. The overall color palette is dominated by deep blues, purples, and magentas, with bright white and yellow light accents from the spotlights.

**DRAG DANCE DRINKS**

NEW BEGINNINGS PRESENTS

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# Thank you

## To our generous supporters...

TriPride's Board and Planning Committee would like to thank you for your generous support. Being our second year, the positive community reception and response has been phenomenal, supporting our goal to establish our region as an open and welcoming community that everyone can be even more proud to call home.

Every donation, whether time, products, or money, sends a strong message of inclusion. Countless volunteer hours and

donations have culminated in the second event – TriPride's 2nd Annual Parade and Festival! TriPride 2019 would not have been possible without you.

We would like to thank the City of Kingsport and Kingsport Chamber of Commerce for all of their support and working with us as we planned the second parade and festival as well as the listed individuals and organizations, among others unlisted, for their generous support and for believing in TriPride!

## A Special Thank You to the following individuals for their significant contributions...

Eliza Walbridge

Miles Burdine

Lucy Fleming

Reagan Streetman

Michael Trivette

Randy Sermons & Haralambos Symeonidis

Skip Norrell

John & Kathy Singleton

Teri Doshier

Ryan Elswick & Colby Hurd

Lee Blackwell

The Men of Timberfell

TJ Mitchell

Samantha Allen

Professional Theatre in Abingdon Employees

Unnamed Friends & Allies!

## And lastly...

Thank you to the hard work and dedication of our Planning Committee members and our other volunteers. TriPride is so much bigger than just our 15 board members. We are a community of passionate individuals that strive to make Pride possible in our little neck of the woods. Thank you all for the countless hours, drive, creativity, and passion you've shown this year. Now, **let's get started on TriPride in Bristol 2020!** See you there!