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BACK!



A GREAT PLACE
FOR PRIDE!



 [TRIPRIDETN.ORG](https://tripridetn.org)

AUG. 27, 2022

@   /TRIPRIDETN



OFFICIAL HOST HOTEL

(AND WONDERFUL COMMUNITY PARTNER!)

The Bristol Hotel has been an invaluable partner as we bring TriPride to downtown Bristol for the first time in 2022. 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, 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 lines 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 In Bristol, Baby!

On behalf of TriPride’s Board of Directors, we would like to first say: **we’re so thrilled to FINALLY be in Bristol.** These last two years haven’t been easy for any of us – organizations, businesses, and individuals alike. However, **here we are celebrating LGBTQ+ Pride in Bristol, and that’s worth being proud.**

We wouldn’t be here though without the support of local small businesses, national companies, institutions, private donors, and our community – not to mention our fabulous board members. Pride is not cheap concerning time or dollars. Thank you all for contributing however you can, 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 to maintenance – you all have been wonderful, and we thank you.

TriPride’s underlying mission is to build bridges of understanding between communities in the Tri-Cities and beyond. We celebrate our LGBTQ+ community. We thank all of 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.

Happy Pride, y’all.

Jason Willis
President

Melody Taylor
Vice President

TriPride Schedule

11:00.....PARADE	2:40 DRAG PERFORMANCE
12:25..... WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS	3:10 T J DARNELL & BAND
12:35.....BETH SNAPP	3:45MISS TRIPRIDE & DRAG PERFORMANCE
1:05 DRAG PERFORMANCE	4:25.....DEMON WAFFLE
1:15.....U.S. SENATOR TIM KAINE	5:15.....TYLER HUGHES
1:30 DRAG PERFORMANCE	5:45.....TYLER STEPHENS
1:55KNOXVILLE GAY MEN’S CHORUS	6:45CLOSING STATEMENTS

Welcome To Bristol!



**ANTHONY
FARNUM**

BRISTOL, VA MAYOR

On behalf of the Bristol, Virginia City Council, it is my pleasure to welcome TriPride to Bristol.

The TriPride Parade and Festival is a great event with music, activities, and more! We are a strong and inclusive community and we celebrate our diversity together.

We thank TriPride for their work organizing this fun, safe, and welcoming event. We look forward to many more events in the future.



**MAHLON
LUTTRELL**

BRISTOL, TN MAYOR

Bristol is a community that encourages diversity, equality, and inclusion.

**HAPPY
PRIDE!**

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OFFICIAL 2022 TRIPRIDE SHIRT
ONLY \$25 WHILE SUPPLIES LAST
AVAILABLE AT THE TRIPRIDE MERCH & INFO BOOTH

Our 2022 TriPride shirts are a celebration of FINALLY bringing pride to Bristol. The third time really is the charm! Bristol is a great place for pride, and we can't wait to celebrate with you! **Our 2022 design is inspired by the rich heritage and continued influence of music in Bristol.** It was created in collaboration with local queer artist Suzie Kelly.



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these mountains were never
meant to be inhabited."*

OLDGODSOFAPPALACHIA.COM

A Great Place For Pride

The 2022 TriPride theme is "A Great Place for Pride." This is an homage to the historic and iconic Bristol sign that towers over State Street. Local artist Suzie Kelly worked with TriPride to produce our beautiful guitar artwork that celebrates Bristol's musical heritage and focus, but also the bright diversity of our Tri-Cities community, LGBTQ+ and allies alike.

Our theme also serves as a reminder that any community who can come together to celebrate Pride is a great place for Pride. Pride celebrations, big and small, have been popping all over our region.

Recently, a community in Big Stone Gap, Virginia joined together to celebrate their first Pride at Breaks Interstate Park. We were honored to be invited to join and celebrate with them.

Thank you to everyone who came together to make this day possible, a day where we celebrate the LGBTQ+ community with our friends, family and allies. And thank you to all the people who came before us to make Bristol "A Great Place For Pride."

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The TriPride Parade

The TriPride parade in Bristol is making history! Not only is it the first Pride parade in Bristol, but, to our knowledge, it's the **first time in our nation's history a Pride parade has been in two states at once!** That's right! As the parade is going down State Street, we're in two states at once. How cool is that?

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 with your participation,** whether you're watching and cheering or participating in the parade.

Our third 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 the community through advocacy for and support of our community.

This year we're fortunate to have two individuals, one representing Bristol, Virginia and one representing Bristol, Tennessee. We are grateful for the work Abby Powers and Brad "Hutch" Hutchinson have done, and continue to do, for our community.

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



Grand Marshal Brad "Hutch" Hutchinson

Wheeling, West Virginia native, Brad Hutchinson, attended West Virginia University, earning a degree in English and a certificate in Women's Studies, and then a Masters in English Education.

Brad has lived in the Tri-Cities area since 1989 and is starting his 32nd year teaching for Bristol Virginia City Schools as a middle school and high school teacher. He also taught at Virginia Intermont College for over 20 years.

Brad currently serves as the co-president of the Bristol Virginia Education Association and serves on the Fitz Turner Commission for Human and Civil Rights as vice chair (Virginia Education Association). The Commission crafts civil rights statements for the Association and reviews all statements from other parts of the association concerning human and civil rights. He is also currently the commissioner for District A. As commissioner, he is charged with being the person members in our area come to with issues of civil rights. In turn, he makes recommendations regarding these concerns to the VEA Human and Civil Rights office in Richmond. Additionally, as the local Fitz Turner commissioner, Brad went to speak at several school boards in support of the Virginia Department of Education's transgender rights policy.

Brad has served on the LGBTQ+ committee for the Virginia Education Association since 2017, providing workshops and producing two LGBTQ+ toolkits for educators.

Brad married his husband, Joe Stone in 2015, as soon as it was legal, and has a daughter, Zoe Hutchinson, who is also involved in LGBTQ+ advocacy in the region.

Grand Marshal Abby Powers

Abby Powers is a Bristol, TN native and a graduate of Tennessee High School's class of 2013. She completed a double major in History and English Literature at Western Carolina University.

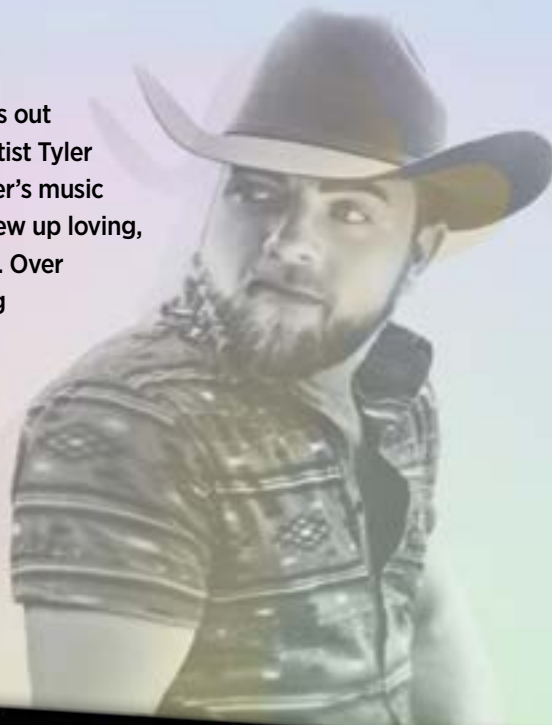
Abby serves as the teen librarian at the Bristol Public Library. She is grateful to work in a profession where the diversity of our community is a top priority. She feels providing an inclusive space for everyone from all walks of life is critical to her success. Abby is honored to have a vital role at the Bristol Public Library and throughout the Bristol community. She says, "sadly I did not discover my own identity in the LGBTQIA+ community until later in life, and I want to ensure that our younger generations can learn to love themselves WAY earlier than I did. This is why I do what I do, and why I always promote the Bristol Public Library Teen Space as a comforting and inviting space for ALL."





Tyler Stephens

TriPride's 2022 headlining performer is out and proud, Nashville Country Music artist Tyler Stephens. From Eastern Kentucky, Tyler's music is a blend of the 90's Country Tyler grew up loving, mixed with just a taste of new country. Over the past 5 years Tyler has been touring extensively and playing some of the most popular country night clubs and casinos across the U.S. He strives to create music that the listener can relate to and live by and songs that speak the truth and tell the listener what he stands for and believes in.



Demon Waffle

This energetic group provides a fun, high-energy live set that is matched by very few bands. Blending reggae, rock, punk, soul, funk and ska to make a sound that is easy to love and hard to duplicate, Demon Waffle is sure to get you moving as you're listening! Hailing from Johnson City, Demon Waffle is bustin' down the doors with their energetic music. Formed in late 2009, this 7-piece ensemble brings back a unique style of music to the area called ska: a blend of reggae, rock, and punk music. Popular in the late 90's, it never left the hearts and minds of a faithful few.

Beth Snapp

Singer-songwriter Beth Snapp might be considered to have pop infused roots, but her appeal has little to do with the box of a genre. It's a connection. She flits around and between folk, bluegrass, pop, early R&B and jazz to create a unique sound with one purpose – to serve a story. Beth hovers where modern meets tradition, to create an experience that speaks to the listener. In 2020, she partnered with TriPride to produce a heartfelt cover of "Higher Love".



T J Darnell

T J is a local performer with a focus on heart, soul, blues and everything in between.



Tyler Hughes

Tyler is an award-winning old time musician performing and preserving the musical traditions of Appalachia.



AB Farrelly : MC & Host

AB is a trans actor, writer and comedian seen on "Netflix is a Joke" Comedy festival and on NBC's "This is Us."





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 that represent 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.

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TriPride Festival In Downtown Bristol

It is our sincere pleasure to finally be able to say, “**Welcome to the third annual TriPride Festival!**” This has literally been years in the making. Originally scheduled for 2020, TriPride and city planning partners had to postpone until now due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But we’re back, and we’re thrilled to finally be able to share this with you all.

Like the parade, the festival marks a historic occasion for Bristol as it’s the first large pride event to be held in downtown. **We’re happy to be trailblazers for our community.** It also marks a completion of TriPride’s city circuit. Each year, we rotate through the Tri-Cities: first in Johnson City in 2018, then in Kingsport in 2019, and now in Bristol.

One goal of the festival is to showcase the many features that make the Tri-Cities a truly special and attractive place to live, including local musicians, artists, businesses, food trucks, and craft-persons.

The festival is a free event for the community. Due to changing legal landscapes, organizers made this year’s festival a ticketed event. Although still free, making the event a ticketed, private event allowed organizers greater planning flexibility. The TriPride festival is free thanks to the generous support of our sponsors and private donors. Please stop by our sponsors’ booths and thank them!

A lot of hard work has gone into making this event possible. **Our gratitude goes to everyone who has volunteered countless hours and for those who have provided financial support.** And thank you to all of you who have come out to enjoy the day with us. Happy Pride!

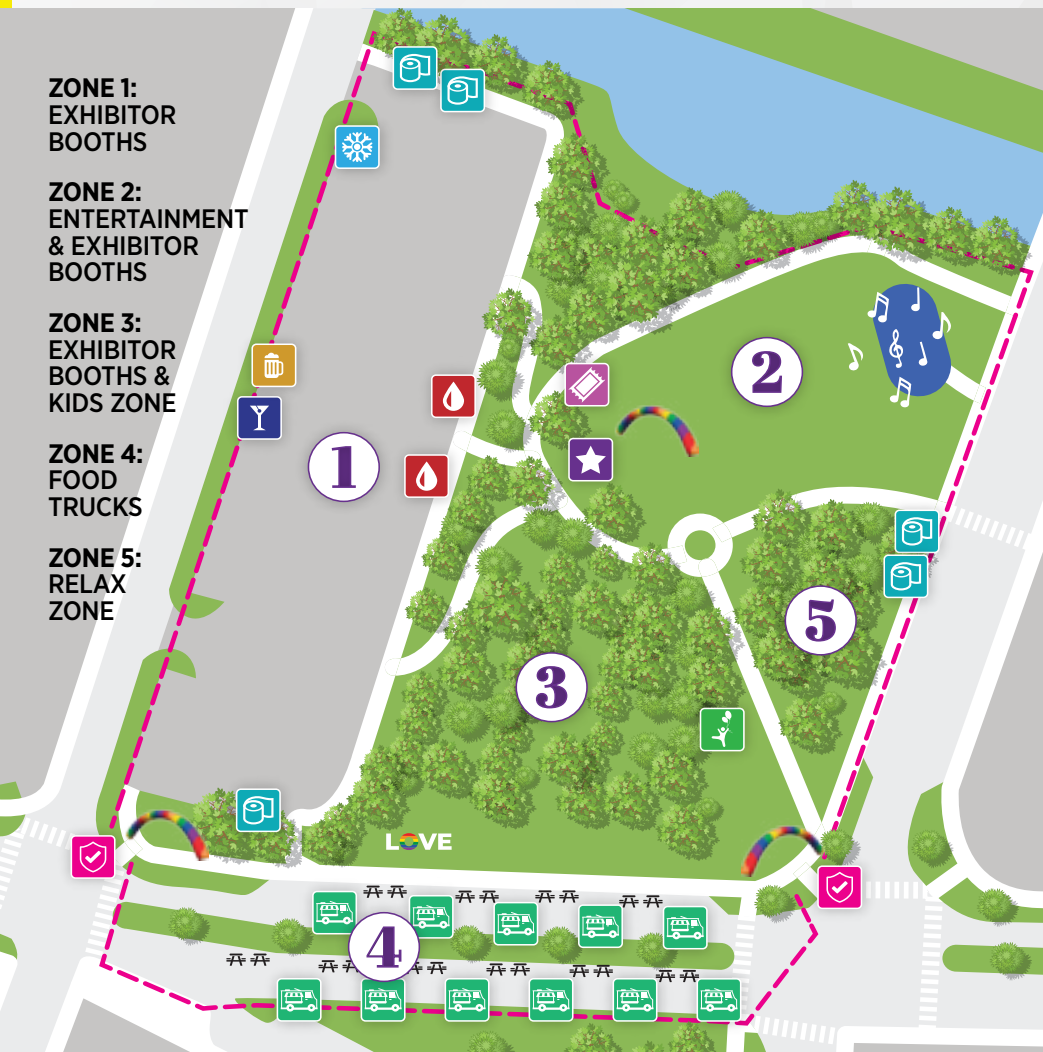
ZONE 1:
EXHIBITOR
BOOTHS

ZONE 2:
ENTERTAINMENT
& EXHIBITOR
BOOTHS

ZONE 3:
EXHIBITOR
BOOTHS &
KIDS ZONE

ZONE 4:
FOOD
TRUCKS

ZONE 5:
RELAX
ZONE



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August 27, 2022



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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 through our health partners.

Special thanks to the Virginia Department of Health - Mount Rogers District, Virginia Department of Health - LENOWISCO District, and the Sullivan County Health Department.

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!



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Fun for all ages!

Our friends at Appalachian Sustainable Development and Downtown Plant Bar present The Kids Zone!

Who doesn't love playing? ASD will have plants to pot, terrariums, coloring sheets, bubbles and more activities! Make sure and swing by for some FREE fun for all ages! Plus, Butterfly the Clown will be back for face painting and more fun!



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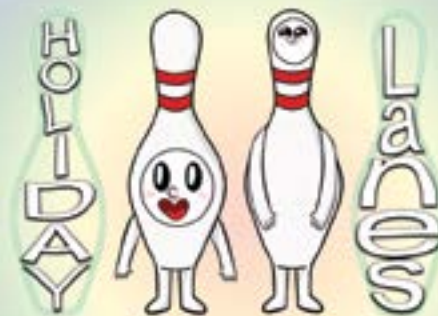
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Drinks For Adults

Thank you to Tito's Handmade Vodka for being TriPride's **2022 Drink Sponsor**. We will have a full range of spirits including Tito's Vodka, gin, rum, tequila, whiskey and amaretto. Mixers include Coke and Diet Coke, Sprite, ginger ale, soda water, tonic water, sour mix, cranberry juice, orange juice, and pineapple juice. The options are limitless!

We will have a range of beer options available to quench your thirst as well, including local cider and staples like Bud and Bud Light, Michelob Ultra, and more! **Have fun. Drink responsibly.**

Alcohol tickets may be purchased in Zone 2 near the TriPride tent. \$1 ID verification bracelet is required. Beer tickets are \$5 each. Liquor tickets are \$6 each. Cash and card are accepted. Alcohol drinks are available in Zone 1 in the parking lot. Remember to tip your bar tenders! You may drink everywhere within the fenced park perimeter.



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

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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.

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.

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.

Your 2022 TriPride Board

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



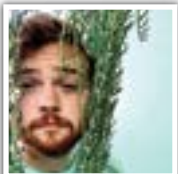
Jason Willis - President, Festival Chair

I have the great fortune of being on TriPride's board since our founding. I am amazed at the talent and passion of our organizers, volunteers, partners, and community as a whole. I am also amazed at what TriPride has been able to accomplish since we formed in 2017. I believe in the hard work we do to make the Tri-Cities a great place for members of the LGBTQ+ community. It's work worth doing, and I'm proud to do my part.



Melody Taylor - Vice President, Parade Chair

TriPride finally making it to Bristol is a dream come true! We've now brought our message of diversity and inclusion to each of the Tri-Cities. I am so proud to be a part of this organization and showing people in our area that you are not alone and you are worthy of everything great!



Chase Pannell - Marketing Director, Social Media

I continue to be amazed by the love and support expressed throughout our region. I hope to continue the TriPride mission of creating a more inclusive community throughout the Appalachian Highlands, and can't wait to bring TriPride back to Johnson City in 2023!



Mark McDavid - Treasurer, Decorations

I enjoy seeing the growth of our community and works to increase inclusion of the LGBTQ+ community throughout our region. Our continues to work to advance support for LGBTQ+ rights. I can always be found spending time in nature when not serving our community.



Justin Hall - Secretary, Kids Zone, Pride Week, Fundraising

As a fellow Bristolian, I am beyond excited and proud to help bring the very first TriPride Parade and Festival to my hometown. I'm beyond grateful for all the love and support the Bristol community has shown me and TriPride. This is a history-making event by being the first ever pride parade in two states at once and being the first pride festival in the heart of the Birthplace of Country Music. Thank you for being part of history. Enjoy the event!



Ron Adkins - Food & Beverage

I grew up in Southwest Virginia and moved to the Tri-Cities in 2010. Born and raised in Grundy Virginia, I moved to Johnson city in 2010.. You can also catch me bartending on the weekends at New Beginnings. I've been involved with TriPride since it was created. In my free time, I love to travel to new places.



Lori Suttle - Health Services

As a founding member of our local Free Mom Hugs group, I love celebrating Pride with my community. I knew I wanted to be more involved with TriPride after the first event, and I wanted to bring our region together as an inclusive community, where all are not only welcomed but celebrated! It has been a blessing working with TriPride, and I look forward to continuing to serve our LGBTQIA+ community.



Carrie Holt - Volunteer Coordinator

I love the community I have found serving on the TriPride board. I am always impressed by the amount of love and compassion we receive everyday. I can't wait to continue serving our community and marking Pride better and better!



Terry Marek - Entertainment

Giving back to the LGBTQ+ community can mean donating time, money, love and energy. Being involved as a member of the TriPride Board of Directors as Entertainment Chair has meant all of the above. It takes a ton of effort, support, patience, laughter and kindness. Hopefully there will be many more individuals who believe in our mission and want to share the love. Come and give back however you can.



Jaime Songer -Technology

After being on the planning committee and volunteering for the 2018 and 2019 events, I joined the board to manage technology and help make the best festival possible. Having the opportunity to represent the trans community on the board is one of my greatest honors. The passion and pride of everyone at this event makes it so worthwhile.



Gerome Morrison - Vendor Relations

I've been active in the community the since middle 1980's at the beginning of the HIV crisis where I served as an AIDs Atlanta volunteer for 8 years. I've always been in the fight to ensure Queer America has the right be loved as we are. Besides my advocacy work, I love classic cars and you'll often find me behind the steering wheel of my 1974 Cadillac Coupe de Ville.

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



LGBTQ+ PRIDE FLAG



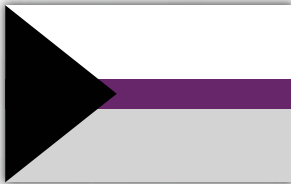
POLYSEXUAL PRIDE FLAG



BISEXUAL PRIDE FLAG



ASEXUAL PRIDE FLAG



DEMISEXUAL PRIDE FLAG



PANSEXUAL PRIDE FLAG



TRANSGENDER PRIDE FLAG



INTERSEX PRIDE FLAG



GENDERQUEER PRIDE FLAG



NONBINARY PRIDE FLAG



LESBIAN PRIDE FLAG



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FREE MOM HUGS

A Special Shout Out...

Since our first TriPride event in 2018, we've always asked our community for feedback. The aspect that consistently ranks as the Tri-Cities' favorite aspect of Pride is getting a hug by the wonderful women (and men too!) that make up the Free Mom Hugs group. So we say thank you to these individuals — for their love, their passion, their commitment, and those incredible hugs. If you see someone with a Free Mom Hug shirt, or Free Dad Hug, Free Uncle or Auntie Hug... take advantage of it. It truly is a special moment, and I'm so proud of them for doing what they do. Thank you to our Free Mom Hugs group!



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A Message Of Gratitude

To our community, we want to share our sincere gratitude for your support, whether that's time, money, passion, talent, or all of the above!

We are 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 event to the Tri-Cities. However you're able to show that support, you have this board and your community's gratitude. Thank you.

The positive community reception and response has been phenomenal. You support 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 today's event. Thank you for supporting TriPride and our mission.

This year is also special in another way: we've had to cancel the last two years due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We value our community's health and well-being above everything else. The decision, while heavy, was easy to make. Like so many organizations though, that left our sails without any wind, so to speak. Through your support, however, we're back! Better than ever!

There are so many individuals and businesses that deserve special recognition for helping us get here after this two year hiatus. Some of those amazing folks are:

**Bristol, Virginia and Bristol, Tennessee
City Employees**

The Kingsport Chamber of Commerce

Ryan Elswick & Colby Hurd

Michael Trivette

The Bristol Hotel

Skip Norrell

The Sessions Hotel

Beth Snapp

Demon Waffle

The Men of Timberfell

Aryn King

Bristol Chamber of Commerce

Ken Monyak (Bristol Station Brews)

U.S. Senator Tim Kaine

The Bristol Library

Six Rivers Media, LLC.

Unnamed Friends & Allies!

Thank you everyone! Now let's get TriPride in Johnson City 2023 started. See you there!