



Education Guide June 2023

# **Pride Month**

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Flag Raising Ceremony:

City Hall Courtyard Thursday, June 15, 2023 3 – 5 pm

#### **About the Exhibition:**

Pride Month holds great significance in the <u>LGBTQ+</u> community and society at large. It is a time to celebrate, honor, and acknowledge the struggles, achievements, and diversity within the community. This education guide provides an overview of the importance and history of Pride Month to supplement the exhibition completed in collaboration between the LGBTQ+ Affairs by the City of Atlantic City, Miko Beach, and the Noyes Arts Garage of Stockton University.



Above: Artist Miko Beach installing the exhibition

### The Importance of Pride Month:

Pride Month serves several important purposes: Pride Month provides an opportunity for LGBTQ+ individuals to be visible and proud of their identities. It helps create a supportive and inclusive environment that encourages people to embrace their authentic selves. It allows individuals to express their identities without fear of discrimination or prejudice.

During Pride Month, people can learn more about the LGBTQ+ community, its history, and the difficulties it now faces. It offers a chance to dispel misconceptions, fight stereotypes, and promote empathy and understanding among a larger community. Pride Month frequently provides a forum for promoting laws, regulations, and other initiatives that advance equality and LGBTQ+ rights. To provide <a href="equal rights">equal rights</a>, protection against discrimination, and access to healthcare, education, and work opportunities for all, it helps advocate for changes in legislation, policies, and societal attitudes.

Pride Month has become an international movement, with celebrations and events taking place worldwide. It serves as a reminder that the fight for LGBTQ+ rights are not limited to any one country or region. Pride Month showcases the global LGBTQ+ community's strength, resilience, and commitment to equality.

### The History of Pride Month:

The origins of Pride Month can be traced back to the <u>Stonewall Uprising</u>, a pivotal event in LGBTQ+ history. On June 28, 1969, the patrons of the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in New York City, fought back against a police raid, sparking days of protests and resistance. This event marked a turning point in the LGBTQ+ rights movement and became a catalyst for organizing and activism. In commemoration of the Stonewall Uprising, the first Pride March was held in New York City on June 28, 1970, marking the one-year anniversary of the event. This march aimed to demand equal rights and visibility for the LGBTQ+ community.

Over the years, Pride marches and events spread across the United States and internationally, becoming larger and more inclusive. Pride Month expanded beyond a single day or week to encompass the entire month of June, providing a dedicated time to celebrate and advocate for LGBTQ+ rights. The rainbow flag, created by artist and activist Gilbert Baker in 1978, became an iconic symbol of LGBTQ+ pride and solidarity. Each color of the flag represents a different aspect of the community, emphasizing unity, diversity, and resilience. Pride Month has witnessed significant milestones and achievements in the LGBTQ+ rights movement, including advancements in anti-discrimination laws, same-sex marriage legalization in various countries, and increased visibility and representation of LGBTQ+ individuals in media, politics, and other fields.

The continuous fight for LGBTQ+ rights and the significance of promoting an inclusive and welcoming society are powerfully brought to light during Pride Month. To bring about constructive change and assure equality for all, it promotes conversation, celebration, and advocacy.

For more information on the Mayor's Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ+) Affairs of the City of Atlantic City, please visit the following:

Website: https://www.acnj.gov/Pages/lgbtq-affairs

**Phone:** 609-347-5300

For more information on artist Miko Beach, please visit the following:

Website: <a href="www.heartxbonestudio.com">www.heartxbonestudio.com</a>
Instagram: <a href="mailto:@heartxbonestudio">@heartxbonestudio</a>

The Noyes Museum of Art of Stockton University · <a href="http://www.noyesmuseum.org">http://www.noyesmuseum.org</a> · (609) 626-3420

The Noyes Arts Garage of Stockton University · <a href="https://www.artsgarageac.com">www.artsgarageac.com</a> · (609) 626-3805

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