



Life's Just Better Here

MEDIA RELEASE

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**Grand Marshals Announced for the 2023 Stonewall Pride Parade
in the City of Wilton Manors, Florida**

Wilton Manors, Florida (June 15, 2023) – The Stonewall Pride Parade and Street Festival’s nominating committee recently announced the 2023 Pride Parade Grand Marshals - Real Housewives of Miami’s Julia Lemigova and HIV/AIDS Advocate Ederick Johnson.

On June 17, 2023, the City of Wilton Manors will host the much anticipated [Stonewall Pride Parade and Street Festival](#) to commemorate the 54th anniversary of the 1969 Stonewall Riots. The street festival will kick off at 3 p.m., followed by a twilight parade at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend this event in support of the LGBTQ+ community locally and across the globe. An ASL interpreter will be available on the 6th Street Black Pride stage, (located near Georgie’s Alibi) from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m.

“We're thrilled to have this year's parade Grand Marshals Julia Lemigova and Ederick Johnson on board as they're outstanding champions for the LGBTQ+ community,” said Mayor Scott Newton. “Their presence will undoubtedly amplify the prideful atmosphere throughout our city.”

Julia Lemigova made history as the first openly LGBTQIA+ housewife to be part of the Bravo franchise and is married to tennis royalty Martina Navratilova. Community hero Ederick Johnson is a powerful HIV/AIDS advocate and community champion who has dedicated his life to educating and bringing people with various backgrounds and interests together.

Approximately 50,000 people are expected to attend this year’s event and parking in the area will be limited. In the morning on Saturday, June 17, 2023, the City of Wilton Manors will post \$5 off Uber and Lyft promo codes to the City’s website at <https://bit.ly/WMRideSharing>. Attendees should also plan utilize the Circuit electric shuttles for \$2 per ride by downloading the app at <https://www.ridecircuit.com/ride>. Please note, the following street closures will be in effect:

- Wilton Drive from NE 20th Street through 5-points (Dixie Highway) from 4 a.m. June 17, 2023, through 6 a.m. June 18, 2023
- NE 16th Street east of NE 4th Avenue and west of NE 5th Terrace on June 17, 2023, from 4 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
- Restricted access on Wilton Drive/NE 4th Avenue between NE 16th Street in Fort Lauderdale and NE 20th St in Wilton Manors on June 17, 2023, from 4 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.

“The Wilton Manors Police Department and all our mutual aid partners are committed to ensuring this year’s festival is filled with love, inclusion, and most importantly, safety for all in attendance,” said Gary Blocker, Chief of the Wilton Manors Police Department. “If you see something suspicious,



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say something to an officer on-site or call 9-1-1. Given the heat advisory that will be in effect this weekend, free water stations will be available, and we urge everyone to stay hydrated throughout the event.”

General admission tickets for \$8 are available online through June 16, or \$10 tickets may be purchased at the gate. Tickets include festival entry at special pre-paid lines at main entrances, access to the street festival featuring more than 50 local vendors, performances on six stages, and entry to the parade. VIP packages including air-conditioned tents and exclusive premium lounge experiences are also available for purchase. Pre-purchase tickets at <https://bit.ly/WMStonewallTicket2023>.

To learn more about the Stonewall Pride Parade and Street Festival in Wilton Manors, Florida visit <https://bit.ly/WMStonewallFAQ>.

ABOUT WMEG Inc.

WMEG Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit partnership between the City of Wilton Manors, Hotspots! Happening Out! and the Wilton Manors Development Alliance, Inc., to provide resources, guidance, and continuity for city-sponsored cultural, social, and educational events, with all funds dedicated to its mission; to benefit the community of Greater Wilton Manors.

ABOUT THE CITY OF WILTON MANORS

Wilton Manors was laid out in 1925 by Edward John “Ned” Willingham, a land developer from Georgia, as an upscale residential community. It was recognized as a Village in 1947 and incorporated as a city in 1953. Today, the City of Wilton Manors offers all the benefits of a big city from shopping, to hip restaurants and bars, a burgeoning arts community and tons of community events, yet still maintains a cozy, community-feeling offering miles of natural waterways perfect for kayaking, paddle boarding and other outdoor activities. In 2018, Wilton Manors was named the “Second Gayest City” in the United States, celebrating a diverse population of approximately 12,000 residents. To learn more about the live, work and play opportunities in Wilton Manors call (954) 390-2100 or visit www.wiltonmanors.com.