

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **25 Years of Pride: Celebrate at the 2025 Wilton Manors Stonewall Pride Parade and Street Festival**

**WILTON MANORS, FL – June 11, 2025** – The 25th Annual Wilton Manors Stonewall Pride Parade and Street Festival returns to the [City of Wilton Manors](#) on Saturday, June 14, 2025. This hallmark event is one of South Florida's largest LGBTQ+ celebrations. Beginning at 3 p.m. with the street festival, the Island City will welcome over 50,000 guests to a vibrant and safe space of pride and purpose, culminating with the highly anticipated glow night parade at 8 p.m.

"In the City of Wilton Manors, diversity isn't just welcomed, it's celebrated," said Wilton Manors Mayor Scott Newton. "We're proud to once again sponsor this tremendous annual event and welcome our friends and neighbors both near and far to join us in celebrating love, equality, and Pride."

The exciting street festival will feature more than 100 vendors, seven stages, lounges, food, and music. The glow night parade will electrify the night, with floats, dancers, and brightly lit displays illuminating Wilton Drive with unity and cheer.

This year's Grand Marshals reflect the rich mosaic of LGBTQ+ leadership across entertainment, advocacy, and community service:

- Velvet Lenore, South Florida drag icon, choreographer, and LGBTQ+ mother figure
- George Kessinger, nightlife legend and originator of Stonewall Pride in Wilton Manors
- Tristan Schukraft, award-winning producer, tech entrepreneur, owner of iconic LGBTQ+ venues including The Abby and DS Tequila, and founder of MISTR, the nation's largest HIV telehealth platform
- Kurt Kelly, co-owner of The Stonewall Inn and co-founder of the Stonewall Inn Gives Back Initiative.
- Stacy Lentz, LGBTQ+ activist, speaker, co-owner of The Stonewall Inn, and co-founder of the Stonewall Inn Gives Back Initiative.

Honoring the 56th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, this year's event commemorates the lives and voices that continue to shape the LGBTQ+ movement.

"When I took over producing the festival in 2015, we welcomed about 20,000 attendees. Now, we're expecting more than 50,000," said Jeff Sterling, Wilton

Manors Stonewall Pride Parade and Street Festival organizer. "That growth is a testament to the community's unwavering support and our shared commitment to making this celebration bigger, better, and more inclusive every year."

Attendees are encouraged to purchase tickets in advance to skip the line. Pre-sale tickets are available online through June 13, 2025, for \$10. Tickets at the gate will be \$13, and only credit or debit cards will be accepted. VIP tickets are also available and include entry, drinks, snacks, access to air-conditioned lounges, and luxury restrooms. [Click here to buy your tickets in advance.](#)

Event entrances are located at Wilton Drive and 20th Street (South), NE 23rd Street and NE 6th Avenue (Central), and Wilton Drive at 11th Avenue (North).

Due to limited parking, rideshare is strongly recommended. The city will offer 1,000 rideshare vouchers for \$5 off Uber or Lyft, which will be available on the city's website the week of the event. Designated rideshare drop-off zones include Justin Flippen Park (South), the Richard C. Sullivan Library (Central), and 1414 NE 26th Street/26th Street Plaza (North). [Click here to claim the rideshare voucher.](#)

Brightline riders traveling from Miami, Palm Beach, or Orlando to the Fort Lauderdale station can connect easily to Wilton Manors via Uber or Lyft.

Limited parking is available at Richardson Park (1937 Wilton Dr.), City Hall (2020 Wilton Dr.), the NE 8th Terrace & NE 26th St. Lot, and the 23rd Drive Lot (1008 NE 23rd Dr.). All parking is cashless and can be paid via app or QR code. Please note, parking in the swales is prohibited.

All guests must pass through security checkpoints. Clear bags may be no larger than 12" x 6" x 12", and non-clear bags may be no larger than 5" x 7."

For real-time public safety updates, text "Stonewall" to 888777. Suspicious activity can be reported via the SaferWatch App or by calling (954) 390-2150. In an emergency, dial 911. If you see something, say something.

Please note that street closures will be in effect:

- Wilton Drive from NE 20th Street through 5-points (Dixie Highway) from 4 a.m. June 15, 2024, through 4 a.m. June 16, 2024
- Restricted access on Wilton Drive/NE 4th Avenue between NE 16th Street in Fort Lauderdale and NE 20th St in Wilton Manors from 4 a.m. June 15, 2024, through 4 a.m. June 16, 2024

· Restricted access on NE 11th Avenue and NE 9th Avenue starting on June 14, 2024, for event setup

### **ABOUT STONEWALL PRIDE I Inc**

Stonewall Pride I Inc. is part of HOTspots! Happening Out which represents a dynamic alliance of 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations united in their commitment to enhancing the well-being of South Florida's LGBTQ+ community and its allies. Through a multifaceted approach encompassing events, television programming, print media, captivating video content, and engaging social media, we channel all resources and funding towards advancing the social, cultural, and educational facets of our mission, serving our wonderfully diverse community.

Our unified partnership of non-profits includes Stonewall Pride, HOTspots Magazine, Happening Out Television Network, Wilton Manors Entertainment Group - WMEG, Pride Fête, Art Walk Wilton Manors, Taste of the Island Wilton Manors, Black Pride Cookout, Queer News Tonight, Pride Skate Night, Happening Out Travel, Sculpture Walk Wilton Manors, The Fay What Show, Pride on the Drive, and Hotspots Happening Out Art Gallery with Dennis Dean.

### **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 which is 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](http://www.wiltonmanors.com).