

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Another large-scale citywide Pride weekend in Seattle
Two-days of events feature a political march, rally, festival and parade

SEATTLE – May 04, 2007 – Representatives from the Seattle LGBT Community Center (The Center) and Seattle Out & Proud (SOAP) presented Friday to Seattle City Councilmembers Tom Rasmussen and Sally Clark a plan to co-promote a large-scale citywide Pride weekend in Seattle.

“This year’s Pride Celebration will encompass the depth and breadth of the city’s (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender) LGBT community.” Councilmember Tom Rasmussen said, “Celebrating the diversity of the LGBT community is always a central part of Pride weekend.”

Pride events will include the “Raise Your Voice” political march, rally and Pride Festival on Capitol Hill Saturday, June 23 as well as the Seattle Pride Parade Downtown Sunday, June 24. Various activities and parties put on by other groups and private individuals will also be happening in and around Seattle during the weekend as well.

“Pride is all about a coming together of our LGBT community to celebrate the forward strides we have made politically,” The Center Executive Director Shannon Thomas said. “Our community is proud of its most recent statewide victory, the passage of the domestic partnership bill in Olympia. The Center and SOAP have a duty to produce events for Pride weekend that will make our community proud, and do it as much justice as our legislators have this year.”

Both groups produced similar, paired events last year, and are enthusiastic about the continued grand scale of this year’s Pride celebration.

“Our groups are supporting each other’s efforts for a weekend of citywide Pride events,” SOAP Board Vice President Weston Sprigg said. “The diversity of Pride events is a reflection of the community’s broad interests. Having activities throughout the city expands opportunity for businesses as well as sponsor and LGBT community visibility.”

The Center and SOAP have scheduled weekly meetings to collaborate on logistics with a strong emphasis on cross promoting their paired events. Both groups have identified joint advertising and promotional opportunities, aimed at curbing costs for producing events as well as to better inform the public of what is happening and when.

The Center and SOAP have already begun preliminary discussions around future Pride planning, including the formation of a community oversight board.

For more information about how to get involved and for a schedule of events, visit www.seattlelgbt.org and www.seattlepride.org.

MORE

Pride Event Schedule:

Saturday, June 23, 2007

11:00 am – 1:00 pm Raise Your Voice March on Broadway
Noon – Dark Rally & Pride Festival in Volunteer Park
After Dark Three Dollar Bill Cinema Film Screening in Volunteer Park

Sunday, June 24, 2007

11:00 am – 2:00 pm Seattle Pride Parade on 4th Avenue Downtown

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