



Friday - Pride Weekend Surprise! Rainbow Pride flag flying proudly over Seattle's Space Needle



Today was a historical day in Seattle's history and Seattle's LGBT history. For the first time, the iconic symbol of Seattle, and one of the most identifiable structures in the world, the Space Needle, is now flying proudly above it, the Rainbow Pride Flag in celebration of Gay Pride.

I think this is going to be something that people will remember for a very long time and is a very proud moment for many people here in Seattle and around the world.

Approximately forty Seattle LGBT Leaders & Community Members partook in a Pride Flag Raising Ceremony atop the Space Needle, 605 feet above the city on the roof of the Space Needle. Today I had honor of being one of the LGBT Community Leaders

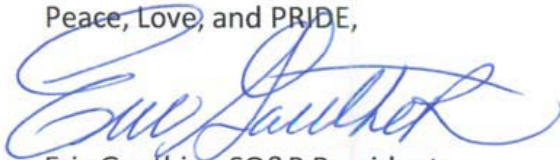
that partook in the actual raising of the flag. This was a very proud moment in my life and as a leader in the Seattle LGBT community.

On behalf of the Seattle Out and Proud (SO&P) Board of Directors and Seattle Pride volunteers, I want to thank the Space Needle for flying the Pride Flag in celebration of Seattle Pride and joining us in celebrating the diversity in Seattle – one of the most fantastic cities in the world. Thank you to everyone that had a part in making this momentous occasion possible.



We've come a long way - but we're not done yet! We have a lot to celebrate. This has been a truly historic year for the LGBT community. Let's celebrate everything we've accomplished and our ongoing work in support of LGBT civil rights! Let's envision an America where LGBT people are ensured of their basic equal rights, and can be open, honest and safe at home, at work and in the community.

Dream and dream big, be proud of who you are! Thank you for celebrating with us!

Peace, Love, and PRIDE,

Eric Gauthier, SO&P President



Joe McDermott, Sally Clark, Eric Gauthier, Anne Levinson and Jamie Pedersen on the roof of the Space Needle.