

AMPLIFY

SYDNEY WORLDPRIDE 2023

Human Rights Conference Report

GAATHA



**SYDNEY
WORLDPRIDE
2023**

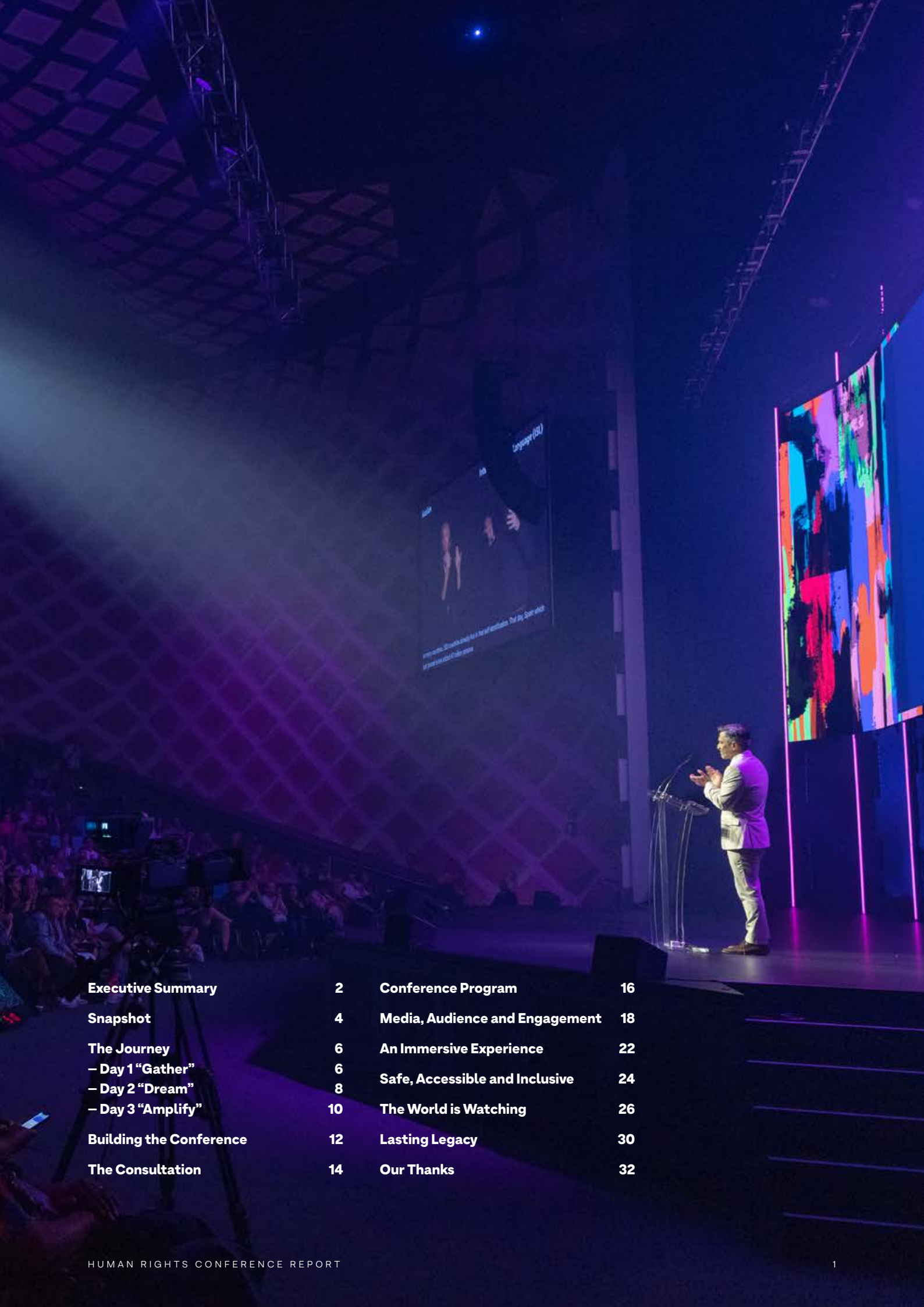




**GATHER
DREAM
AMPLIFY**

“When you leave this place and go back to your homes – whether that be across the bridge, across the country or across the seas – we want you to feel part of an unstoppable movement for change.”

– Anna Brown OAM, CEO of Equality Australia



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Executive Summary



The biggest LGBTQIA+ human rights conference the world has ever seen

Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras won the InterPride bid in 2019 and four years later WorldPride came to Australia on Gadigal country with a mission to GATHER, DREAM and AMPLIFY.

LGBTQIA+ communities and their allies staged a 17-day festival of pride, the centrepiece of which was the Human Rights Conference.

Over three days people heard from human rights defenders and activists at the coalface of making change, UN experts, First Nations elders, federal and state ministers and parliamentarians from around the world, academics, and community and business leaders on the key human rights issues facing LGBTQIA+ people.

Local and international press coverage brought the struggles faced by rainbow communities into people's homes in Australia and across the world.

Australian governments used the platform to make significant announcements that will drive change for LGBTQIA+ people on the ground both at home and in our region.

Caucuses, receptions and multi-lateral meetings connected policymakers and administrators with the leaders of our movement, building momentum for change the world over.

This landmark event set a new standard, particularly in its design and creation. During a six-month consultation process more than a thousand people from around the globe shared their ideas and insights to help shape the program.

Developed by a coalition of leading human rights and health groups, First Nations and Pacific leaders and an International Advisory Board, the Conference steered decision-makers, duty holders and changemakers into the same room and onto the same page.

Together, we elevated the voices that matter most and helped build our vision for the future while developing the strategies, skills and connections to realise it.



3 days

+ 3 days of pre-conference meetings and events



3,200

attendees
2,000 in person
and 1,200 online



106

sessions



227

presenters and facilitators
from 43 countries



150+

volunteers



1,195

media mentions



Announcements

Federal Government

Long-term strategy and a new dedicated fund to help LGBTQIA+ people in Asia Pacific and around the world.

Australia's first ever

Ten-year national action plan for LGBTQIA+ health and wellbeing and \$26 million for health research.

ACT Government

Committed to protect the rights of intersex people in medical settings.

NSW Government

Pledged to lobby the Federal Government for LGBTQIA+ inclusion in the Census.

Commitment to ban conversion practices.

Snapshot

The Conference was open to all: activists and academics, lawyers and law makers, as well as professionals, students and scholars.

But above all, it was for our community and our allies.

The Conference was immersive and fast-paced, taking place in multiple spaces across three levels of the International Convention Centre (ICC) from March 1 to 3. The program combined inspiring keynotes, panels and roundtables with interactive workshops, performances and facilitated networking events.

Collectively, we celebrated the wins, regenerated from the losses and organised for the challenges ahead.

Objectives

- Increase awareness of the human rights issues facing our communities
- Build partners and allies for change
- Grow support for LGBTQIA+ people in every corner of the globe
- Provide attendees with the skills, networks and experiences so they could return to their local communities better equipped to continue their work
- Government commitments to the human rights of LGBTQIA+ communities

Presenters

There were 227 local and international presenters, including LGBTQIA+ campaigners and activists, First Nations leaders and elders, policy and law makers, elected officials, lawyers and judges, philanthropists, researchers and academics.

Icons of our movements, pride leaders and advocates inspired and educated, including grass roots campaigners, trans and gender diverse advocates and clinicians, intersex activists, actors and performers, leaders from faith communities, the union movement and business.

They came from all corners of the globe, from the Caribbean and North America to Europe, Asia, the Middle East, Pacific and sub-Saharan Africa.

227
Presenters
and facilitators

43
Countries

6
Continents

85
Presenters from
Global North

41
Presenters from
Global South

26
Presenters
Asia Pacific

101
Presenters from
Australia





“A truly intersectional agenda.”

“Genuine attempt to cover and platform voices even when they were critical and constructive.”

“As a gay man living in one of the hostile countries in the world, Uganda, I was overwhelmed by the vibrant leaders of the LGBTIQ community across the globe. It was a whole new experience for me that allowed me to understand the world better.”

“Incredibly moving and powerful.”

“I felt like I was a part of something bigger than myself and at the same time, an active part of the whole experience.”

“Truly informative and thought provoking.”

“A phenomenal experience.”

“Informative and enabling.”



* survey responses

106
sessions

8
welcoming speeches,
remarks and addresses

12
regional spotlights

31
keynotes and other presentations

1
celebrity fireside chat

22
facilitated audience Q&A sessions

27
panels

15
lightning presentations

5
workshops

11
roundtables and
networking sessions

7
performances

5
short films

The Journey

DAY 1 "GATHER"

The world we want to create

Changemakers shared their vision for the future, unpacking experiences, comparing lived realities and identifying barriers, challenges and opportunities to realising a common dream of a better, more equal world.

The day opened with welcomes from traditional owners, our hosts and all levels of government, followed by leaders of our movement from across the globe, including a powerful keynote from UN expert Victor Madrigal-Borloz. Breakout sessions focussed on key areas such as the right to health, intersectionality and inclusion, rainbow families, digital security and First Nations justice.

The Commonwealth Attorney-General Mark Dreyfus MP KC, Foreign Affairs Minister Senator Penny Wong, Health Minister Mark Butler, Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearny, Indigenous Affairs Minister Linda Burney and ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr spoke of their support for LGBTQIA+ communities and made a number of ground-breaking announcements and commitments.

The afternoon plenary explored the struggle for decolonisation, the sexual and gender diversity of First Nations peoples in Asia Pacific and ended with a powerful call to action for justice, recognition and self-determination for Indigenous peoples.



First we change the laws, then the rest will follow

– Victor Madrigal-Borloz, UN Independent Expert on sexual orientation and gender identity

We are asking for the rights we already had to be restored to us

– Dr Elizabeth Kerekere, member of New Zealand Parliament and LGBTQ+ activist, on decolonisation in Aotearoa

Friends, history is calling us, and I hope the answer will be yes

– Australia's Indigenous Affairs Minister Linda Burney on the Uluru Statement from the Heart

We need to do better; recognising that all human beings are born free and equal

– Australia's Foreign Minister Penny Wong



This community knows better than any other the power of visibility and the impact of letting people know they are not alone

– Dr Michael Gardner, Head of the National Suicide Prevention Office

Algorithms cannot determine the gender of a person's nipples. It sounds obvious but you really have to spell it out for straight people – Dr Zahra Stardust, queer femme and socio-legal scholar

At the heart of the colonial project is to suppress identity and subjugate people of difference... that means that until all of us are free, none of us are free

– Tim Goodwin, member of the Yuin Peoples and Barrister, Victorian Bar

Athletics is a sport for everyone and there is a place in this sport for you

– Ricki Coughlan, Pride in Sport Ambassador and transgender athlete

I felt like I was the only asexual in my country, and now there are over 200 members – Dipa Yasmin Mahbuba, Cofounder Bangladeshi Asexual Association



DAY 2 "DREAM"

Case studies, skills and strategies for success

Panels centred on case studies and examples of best practice. Facilitated roundtables and networking sessions fostered knowledge, sharing and connection. Skills-based workshops equipped participants with the practical tools necessary to effect change.

EU Commissioner for Equality Helena Dali and Asian Development Bank representative Ambassador Chantale Wong opened the day with positive and practical examples of effecting change through regional institutions, followed by personal case studies and a panel discussion on the crucial issue of faith. Powerful performances and a panel discussion highlighted the progress made by the trans and intersex movements in their struggle for bodily autonomy.

Change makers were recruited to run facilitated roundtable discussions on diverse topics ranging from workers' rights, inclusive schools, domestic and sexual violence, to yarning about healthcare. Leaders in their fields delivered practical workshops in essential areas for activists such as messaging, movement building, strategic litigation and UN mechanisms.

In panels we heard from global leaders about examples of good practice and case studies to build a stronger pride movement, end HIV, protect our communities in times of conflict and avoid pinkwashing. Our afternoon closed with an address from leading jurist Edwin Cameron and an important discussion between our elected officials about achieving change from within.



We should gather power from those around us

– Edwin Cameron, Former Justice of the Constitutional Court of South Africa, openly living with HIV

Pride takes practice, and it takes effort

– Harriet Shing, the first openly lesbian Upper House MP in Victorian parliament and the Minister for Equality

The big fight was to get people to recognise that conversion practices still happen

– Dr Timothy Jones, Associate Professor History La Trobe University

Oftentimes you feel like you are the only one, up until you find people like you

– Crystal Hendricks, from Intersex South Africa

When I did come out, when I did embrace who I am, when I fell in love and my life turned into multi-colour, I found my God walking right with me

– Jayne Ozanne, Founder of Global Interfaith Commission on LGBT+ Lives

When the war comes to countries, the first on the streets is us, activists. We're the most visible on the streets of Ukraine

– Olena Shevchenko, human rights defender and educator from Ukraine

It's difficult to be what you can't see. When I was a young person the idea that someone like me could get elected to public office in the United States seemed so impossible that it was almost incomprehensible

– Senator Sarah McBride, the first openly transgender state senator in American history

Religious leaders will preach about kindness, about humanity, but to be honest it is our queer community who are standing for humanity, it is us who are fighting for love

– Amar Alfikar, an Indonesian trans man from the Global Interfaith Network

It is not important that I am the first, but that I am not the last

– Asian Development Bank representative Chantale Wong on being the first out lesbian Ambassador for the US



DAY 3 "AMPLIFY"

Legacy for the future

A call to action for participants to take what they learned over the course of the Conference and apply it in the real world, to reflect on the challenges ahead and how we build stronger and inclusive movements for change. We focused on reflections and insights that could be taken forward to build a better future for generations to come.

The last day of the conference featured voices at the intersection of politics and art. Singer, songwriter and sexual revolutionary Peaches, together with rising queer stars from TV, film and social media, brought new questions and fresh perspectives to the discussion.

The global challenge of finding safety and security for displaced people was front and centre, together with a world first panel discussion bringing together current special envoys or ambassadors promoting LGBTQIA+ human rights.

Breakouts focussed on emerging challenges such as building inclusive movements for gender equality, solidarity with other movements, economic empowerment and meeting the needs of our communities as they age.

The day came to a close with a panel focussed on future challenges and opportunities featuring key figures from our global movement, and a moving First Nations ceremony to handover to Washington DC for WorldPride 2025



The work is to keep it alive, to keep the fight, to keep the fire under everyone's butt – Feminist icon and musician, performance artist Peaches

Being queer and Muslim is no longer a contradiction. I am simply just an expression of divine intention – Imam Muhsin Hendricks

Yes, it's going to be won in courts, it's going to be won in parliament, it's going to be won on the streets, but it's also going to be won on small screens, and we have to be prepared for this – Matt Beard, Executive Director of global LGBTIQ+ non-profit All Out

It puts the autonomy, it puts the power, back into our hands – Rudy Jean-Rigg, non-binary transgender host and advocate on the role of social media

To speak about marriage when we still have buggery laws is shooting my foot off and trying to walk – Kenita Placide, Executive Director of the Eastern Caribbean Alliance for Diversity and Equality

Literally all the happiness, everything in my life that I cherish, have happened to me because I have found out I am intersex – Irene Kuzenko, co-founder of Intersex Russia

Less wealthy nations must be heard – Alba Rueda, Argentina's Special Envoy for sexual orientation and gender identity

This fabricated tension between trans rights and women's rights is being weaponized – Naomi Fontaos, from the Filipino Transgender, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, intersex, and Queer (TLGBIQ) community

There is a name for people like me in all 26 countries in the Pacific, and in Asia as well with the Katoys, Baklas, Hijras and so many others – Samoan Fa'afafine transwoman Ymania Brown, Co-Secretary General ILGA World, on cultural trans acceptance

If our movement is not intersectional, we have to question 'Why are we doing this?' – Lady Phil, Co-Founder UK Black Pride

In this conference, in this country, there are many brave people who are going to push forward this revolution – Hon Michael Kirby, international jurist, educator and former justice of the High Court of Australia

Start listening to us, seeing us, accepting us and including us – Sonny Jane, founder of the Drop In Care Space, on being disabled and queer

Building the Conference

From the outset, the vision for the Human Rights Conference was for the event to be the centrepiece of the festival and to bring together a multiplicity of voices to make lasting change.

Sydney WorldPride built on the success of the Copenhagen WorldPride Human Rights Conference in 2021 and amassed disparate parts of the global movement in the southern hemisphere for the first time.

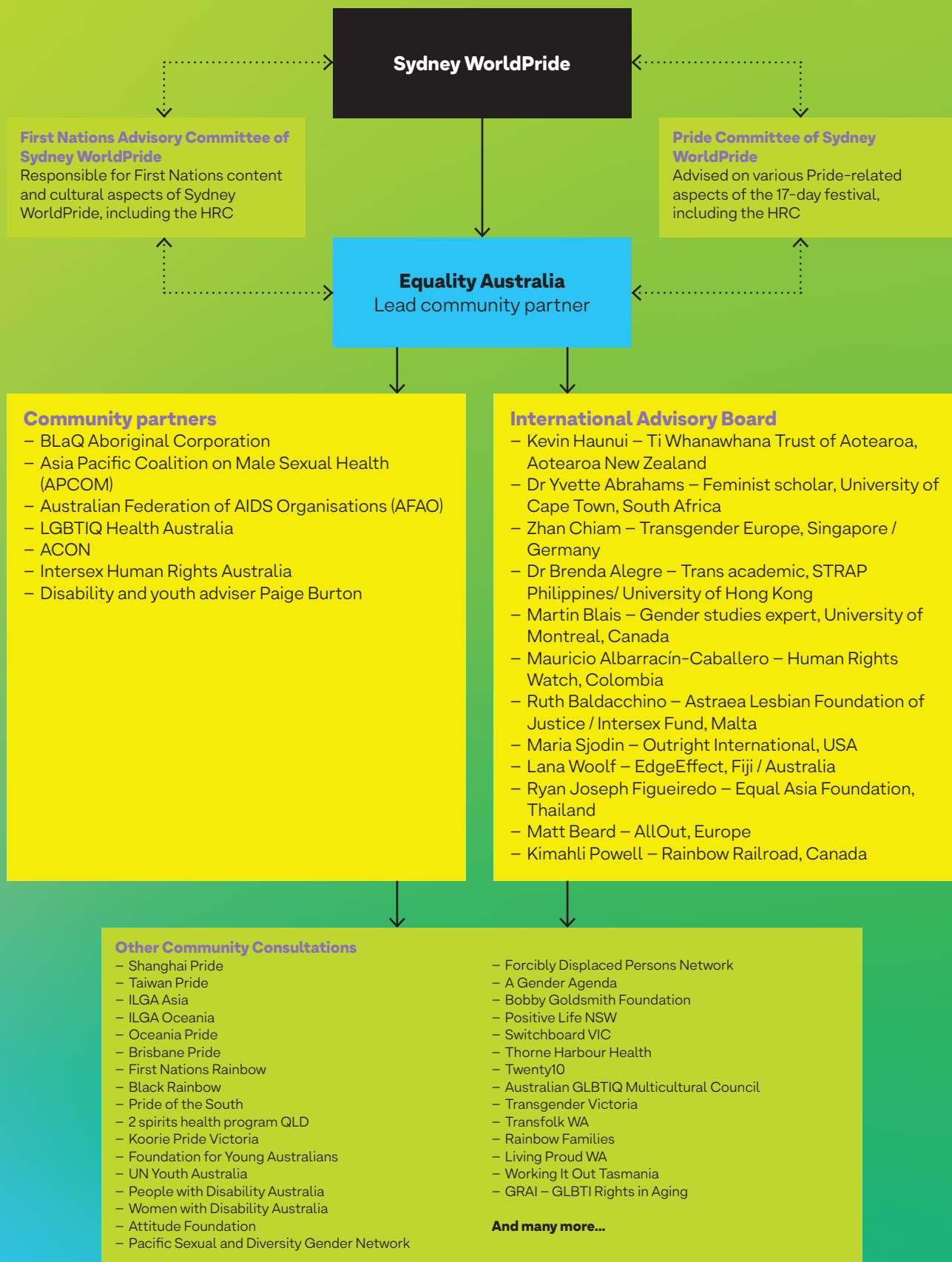
From the moment that Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras bid to host WorldPride in Athens in 2019, community organisations such as Equality Australia and ACON were already providing input and support to shape a bold vision for the conference – to shine a light on Asia Pacific and Australia’s First Nations community and culture.

After an open tender process Equality Australia was appointed to lead the curation and community engagement, working with a coalition of leading human rights and health groups sub-contracted to provide specialist advice and engage with specific sections of the community.

Equality Australia also assembled an International Advisory Board comprised of representatives from leading global LGBTQIA+ human rights organisations and representing a cross-section of geographic, disciplinary and subject matter expertise.

The Community Partners and International Advisory Board advised on the selection of speakers, topics and sessions, and assisted with the criteria and selection of scholars as well as appropriate language translations.





The Consultation

“Throughout this consultation process, we asked our communities, we listened to them, and we hope we provided an incredible opportunity for them to engage, to learn, to network and to take their activism to the next level.” – Kate Wickett, CEO of Sydney WorldPride



The conference set a new benchmark in its content curation, demonstrating the power of consultation and collaboration in promoting inclusivity and human rights. As a result, the content reflected the diverse needs of the LGBTQIA+ community and covered a wide range of perspectives.

The consultation process ran from December 2021 until April 2022, and consisted of:

Online community survey

1,334

Responses

55

Countries

Stakeholder workshops

23

Online and in person

- translated into French and Spanish to cover a global audience
- promoted through the SydneyWorldPride.com website, social media, an email newsletter and a range of LGBTQIA+ community stakeholders and networks nationally and internationally
- distributed at stalls in Melbourne’s Midsumma Carnival and Melbourne Pride, and at Sydney’s Fair Day Festival
- gathered community feedback about what would make the Human Rights Conference engaging and empowering, including themes, topics, speakers and experiences



The consultation process undertaken by Equality Australia was ground-breaking in its scope and implementation, resulting in a conference built *for community, by community*. The feedback was summarised in the **What We Heard Report**, in which community asked for:

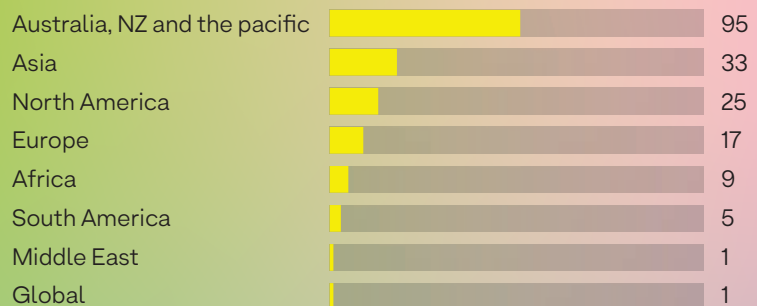
- Diverse delivery methods including panel discussions, roundtables, workshops, practical training and keynote presentations
- Diversity of speakers and representation
- Amplifying the voices of marginalised communities such as First Nations peoples and people with variations in sex characteristics
- Collaborative art pieces, installations and performances to enhance inclusion and connection
- Safe and accessible spaces such as chill out rooms, counselling and wellbeing services
- Live streaming and online access
- Facilitated networking, satellite events and pre-conference caucuses
- Capacity building and information sharing to build solidarity and grow the movement
- Skills development and access to tools and funding opportunities

EOIs (expressions of interest) were sought from individuals and organisations to contribute to the content and program:

- 186 applications were received from regions across the world, with strong representation from Asia Pacific.
- 20 applications were incorporated into the final conference program.
- In some cases, EOI submissions were integrated with existing sessions following community consultation.

Equality Australia also consulted with First Nations groups to ensure the inclusion and representation of Indigenous voices, including those from the Asia Pacific region.

Region



Following the consultation and EOI process, the topics most relevant to our communities became the framework for the conference program. They were distilled under the following themes:

Community and Culture: Building a powerful global movement by understanding our shared cultures and histories, current issues and trends, and the impact of culture on achieving human rights progress.

Health and Wellbeing: Working together to reduce the health disparities and systemic barriers faced by LGBTQIA+ people.

Visibility and Inclusion: Celebrating the contributions of LGBTQIA+ people and protecting LGBTQIA+ people within families, workplaces, schools, sporting and other communities.

Justice and Freedom: Realising the human rights of LGBTQIA+ people across the world by working together to replace unjust legislation with protective laws that uphold our fundamental rights and freedoms.

Development, Education and Digital: Delving into economic development, our education systems and technological and systemic barriers to achieving change.

Workshops and Networking: Skills based workshops and networking opportunities to allow participants to forge meaningful connections, share knowledge and build our movement.



Conference Program

Regional Spotlights

The right to health

Disparities in health outcomes

Barriers to gender affirming healthcare

Policing and First Nations justice

Protecting trans people in prison

Responding to asexual hate crimes

Embedding LGBTQIA+ rights in sustainable development

Equality in education

Digital security & LGBTQIA+ rights in Asia

Fabulousness as a political construct

Moderating LGBTQIA+ expression online

Beauty pageants achieving positive change in the Pacific

Threats to trans and gender diverse inclusion in sport

Human rights violations against athletes with variations of sex characteristics

Tackling homophobia and biphobia in sport

Recognition and support for rainbow families

Claiming our space: resisting racism, erasure and ableism in our movement

Community responses to mental health challenges

Resourcing LGBTQIA+ movements for success

Protecting the rights of intersex people in medical settings

De-colonisation, Sovereignty and First Nations Justice in Asia Pacific

Making regional institutions work for our communities

Keeping the faith: Creating an affirming future

Intergenerational learning

Working with National Human Rights institutions

Community responses to domestic and family violence

Building inclusive educational institutions

Protecting our rights at work

Neurodiversity

How can corporates move beyond pinkwashing?

Academics and researchers contributing to the movement

A collective response to sexual violence

Yarning about healthcare success stories

Pride across the globe: protest and international solidarity

People first: how community can accelerate the end of HIV transmission

Say What You're For: Messaging for Trans Equality in the Face of Right-Wing Attacks

Best practices in strategic litigation

Movement building across the globe

Leveraging the UN Human Rights system to effect positive change for LGBTQIA+ communities

Community wellbeing and trauma informed practice

Protecting LGBTQIA+ people in war zones and conflict situations

Beyond pinkwashing

Fireside Chat with Peaches

Representation and rights: achieving change from within

Failure to act: the impact of the global refugee crisis on displaced LGBTQIA+ people

What is a Special Envoy and why do we all need one?

Advancing laws for LGBTQIA+ equality in Asia Pacific

Strengthening our movements: solidarity and intersectionality

Ageing fabulously: meeting the needs of our ageing communities

Building an intersectional and inclusive movement for gender equality

Ending conversion practices: a global conversation

Workplace inclusion: threats and opportunities

Economic empowerment

Inclusion squared: breaking down barriers surrounding the LGBTQIA+ disability community

International human rights law: achieving outcomes for our communities

We are the rainbow: intersectionality and collaboration for LGBTQIA+ children's rights

LGBTQIA+ representation in popular culture and film/TV

Address on behalf of the 78'ers

The road ahead for our movements

NIDA choir performance

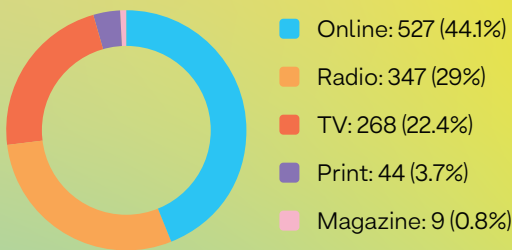
Media, Audience and Engagement

Media



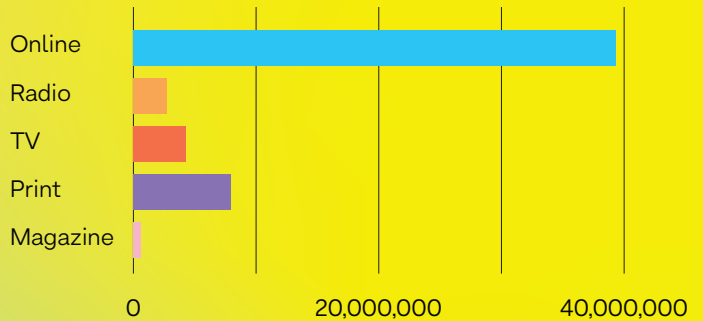
Coverage by Media Type

Total mentions by media type over the selected coverage period.



Potential Audience Reach

Cumulative potential audience reach by media type for the selected coverage period.



1,195 media mentions over 90 days
*from Stream report, Jan 1 to March 31, 2023

54,806,457 over 90 days

136

Media accredited for the event



Audience



2,000
In person



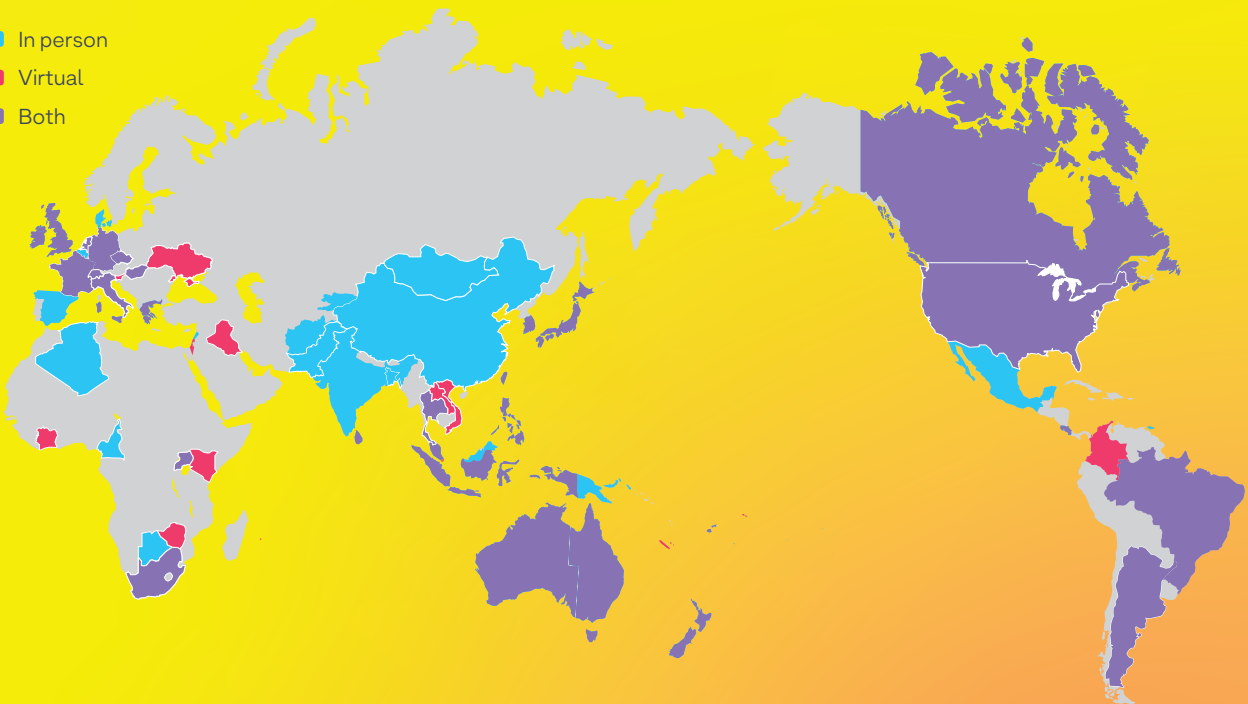
1,200
Online viewers on SWP livestream platform



3,510*
Views on ABC iview
* this continues to grow

Attendee countries of origin

- In person
- Virtual
- Both



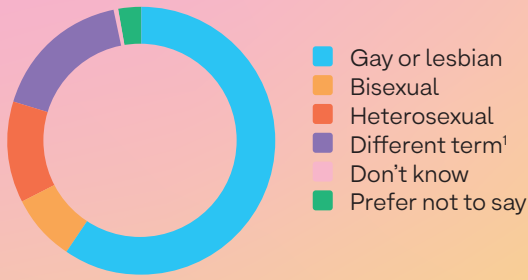
Capacity in which people attended the conference*



*data from post-conference survey

Audience

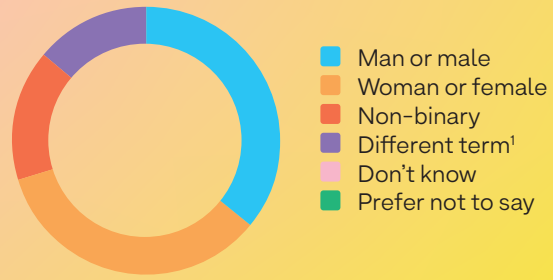
Sexual orientation*



1. Queer, Asexual, Trixix, Pansexual, Takatāpui, Omnisexual, Ace.

* data from post-conference survey

Gender*



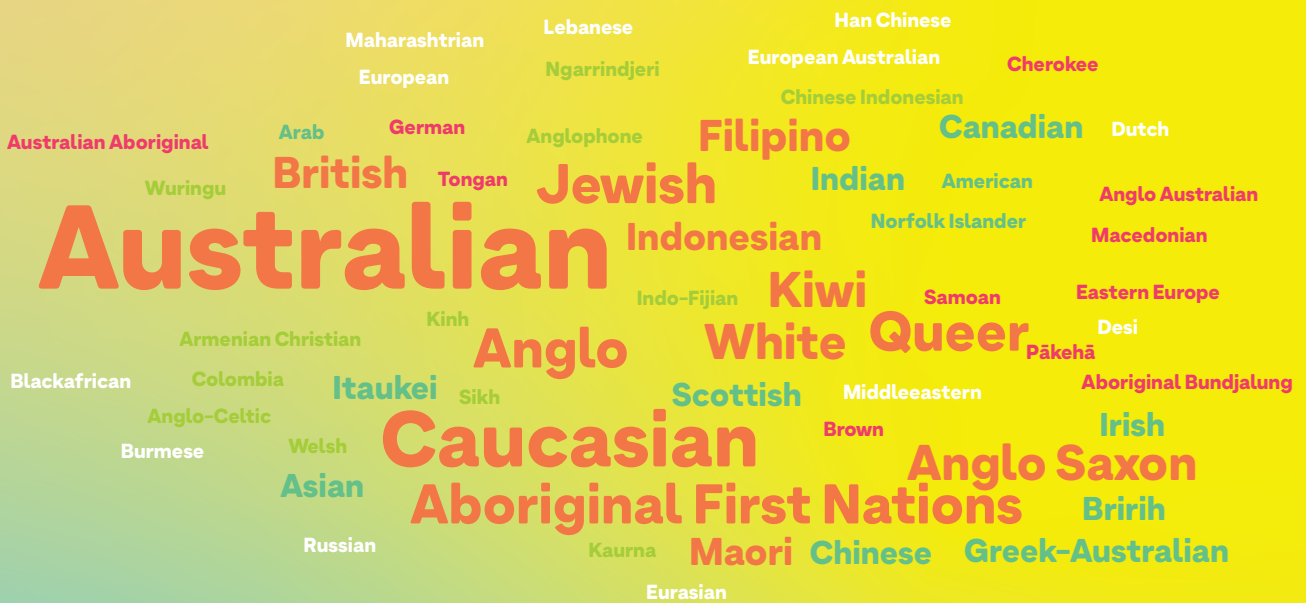
1. Faatama, Faafafine, Akava'ine, Agender, Polygender, Vakasalewalewa, Binabinaine, Fakafifine, GenderQueer, Takatāpui, Two-Spirit, Queer, Polygender, Vakasalewalewa.

* data from post-conference survey

Of the participants who completed the post-conference survey, almost 3% were born with a variation of sex characteristics and about 30%* of people identified as trans and gender diverse.

* This includes non-binary and different gender descriptors including cultural terms

Ethnic or cultural identity*



*data from post-conference survey

Attendees also identified as*



*data from post-conference survey

Engagement



1,110

Downloads of the Sydney WorldPride Human Rights Conference app



1,138

Participants used Slido to ask questions



Multiple

Viewing parties around the world including foreign embassies, law firms and remote First Nations communities

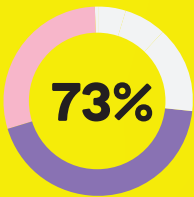
Satisfaction

90%

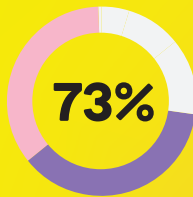
Of participants achieved some or all of their goals in attending the Conference.



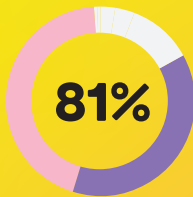
Attendees **agreed** or **strongly agreed** they left the Conference with:



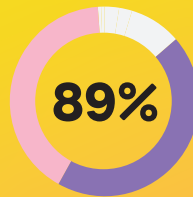
New skills or knowledge to use in their advocacy



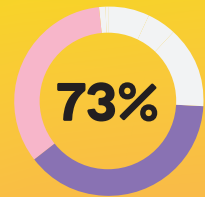
New connections



Better understanding of the challenges facing LGBTQIA+ people in Asia and the Pacific



Better understanding of the challenges facing LGBTQIA+ people globally



Better understanding of the experiences of First Nations peoples of diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and variations in sex characteristics

“Truly the best conference I have attended in my professional life. It was inspiring and informative and has changed both my work and personal engagement.”

“Speakers were elegant, expert and engaging”

“I accessed the conference online in another state and felt like I was there.”

* survey responses



An Immersive Experience

The Conference provided an opportunity for important discussion and organising at events around the main three-day program.

Funding our region

The first-ever convening on LGBTIQ+ funding in Australia, Asia and the Pacific was organised by Global Philanthropy Project, in partnership with Aurora and GiveOUT.

It brought together leading LGBTIQ+ foundations and donor governments focused on Asia and the Pacific with the Australian philanthropic community. The unique two-day program focused on developing strategies, sharing insights and inventing new ways to work together and respond to crises and opportunities across the regions.

A breakout panel discussion on Day 1 of the Human Rights Conference enabled the organisers to report back on key insights and developments from the donor pre-conference.

Connecting our region

In the days before and during the Conference, representatives from the Australian Government and other foreign governments, the United Nations and European Union met with representatives from civil society across Asia Pacific.

The Asia and Pacific pre-conference events enabled human rights defenders to present to senior UN representatives, national governments and the European Union about key priorities and challenges for their specific geographic areas.

Multilateral meetings

Multilateral meetings and dialogues also took place between government representatives, the UN and the EU. These representatives discussed how they could work together with civil society to support positive change and regional and global strategies.



In Australia, only 5 cents out of every \$100 of philanthropic funding goes to LGBTIQI organisations. – Georgia Matthews, founder of GiveOut, Day 1

Caucuses

Self-organised caucus meetings provided a safe space for attendees to gather and connect, build relationships and develop strategies for collective work. In total, 981 people registered for 15 caucuses:

A+

Bi+

Gay

People of Colour

Women's

Older People

Young People

Intersex

Trans & Gender Diverse

Interfaith

People with Disability

Refugee & Asylum Seeker

Pacific

Asia

Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander / Global First Nations



Donor pre-conference

Activations:

Foyer spaces and common areas across three levels of the ICC were animated with interactive, purpose-driven experiences for delegates selected after a competitive process to transform the space with exhibitions and activations.

Stats:

- 23 activators onsite from 5 countries, including Bangladesh, USA, Fiji, Australia and Canada.

The activations included:

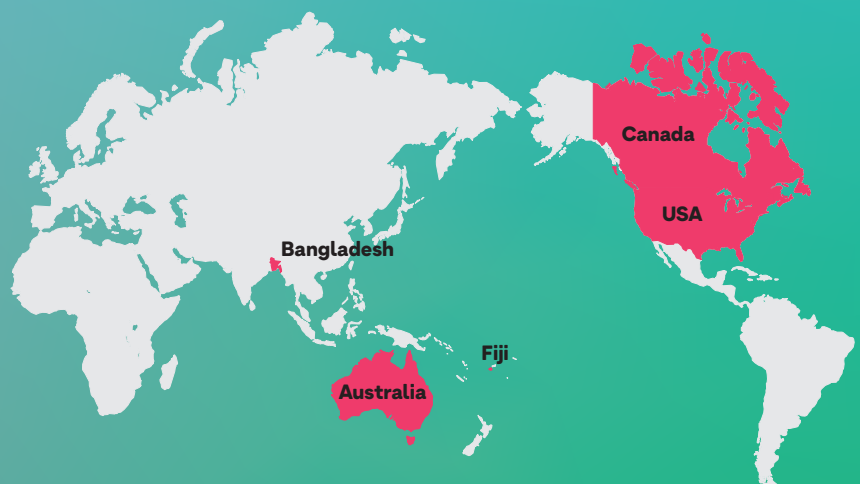
- Message walls
- Map plots
- Photo booths
- Time capsules
- Surveys
- Mind-art
- Creative activities
- Presenters corner

23

Activators onsite

5

Countries



Safe, Accessible and Inclusive

The Human Rights Conference was for everyone and the inclusion of a broad spectrum of voices and a diversity of experiences was vital to its success. This meant the conference had to be accessible, inclusive, safe and affordable.



56%

attended for free or at a discounted rate



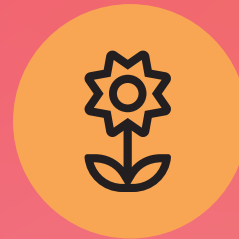
20%

accessed a support service
*from post-conference survey



114

scholarships



Sunflower Program

protecting attendees from hostile countries

REDUCED PRICE TICKETING MODEL

Scholars

100% subsidised ticket

Mobtix

90% discount for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islanders

Affordability

discounts for small and large community organisations, LGBTQIA+ change makers and InterPride Members.

Of the three day passes allocated:

29%

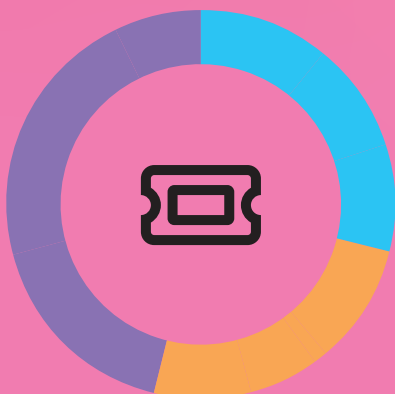
Free presenters, scholars, invitations

25%

Discounted rate Affordability, Mobtix

46%

Full price InterPride, individuals, partners, corporate, government



Scholarship Program for human rights defenders:

50

international

29

First Nations

35

domestic

International Scholars

Region	#
Indo-Pacific	35
Africa	5
Europe	6
North America	2
South America	1

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander & Domestic Scholars

State/Territory	#
New South Wales	31
Victoria	12
Northern Territory	17
South Australia	4
Western Australia	1

*Includes additional 14 Sister Girl and Brother Boys

“Absolutely encouraging and empowering.”

“I connected with activists from across the world and I learned different interventions on human rights and mental health.”

“I am deeply touched that you gave me a scholarship. I live in such a low income and have disabilities. I am usually kept out of almost everything that I am interested in... You’ve touched my heart and enriched my life.”

* scholar survey responses

Pathways to remote participation:

- Access to the Conference via online streaming with free VPN licences for people in low-bandwidth or hostile countries
- Grant schemes for viewing parties for remote First Nations rainbow mob
- Watch parties hosted by overseas embassies and safe havens in hostile countries

Support Services:

Sydney WorldPride was committed to access and inclusion for everyone, working with expert consultants, community organisations and community members to ensure the Conference was accessible and safe.

- A Code of Conduct was developed to ensure all attendees complied with expected standards of behaviour to create a space free of homophobia, biphobia, transphobia, or any kind of discrimination or violence.
- A Disability Inclusion Access Plan was created to ensure the Conference was accessible to those with specific needs.

“Extremely well produced, loved how inclusive it was, and that it really was both accessible and welcoming.”

“Accessibility options were incredible, speakers were world class, it had a friendly but informative atmosphere, and it was very inspiring!”

“The most inclusive conference I have ever attended.”

* conference survey

Accessible features included:



The World is Watching

Campaigning for positive change

In the months and years leading up to Sydney WorldPride, Equality Australia worked to ensure the festival and Conference were leveraged to achieve positive change at the state, federal and regional level.



Yes! What's Next?

The Equality Australia community came together to call for 'Yes! What's Next?' in the weeks before the Conference.

Five years after Australia said 'Yes' to marriage equality, thousands of people came together to call for law reform, government commitments to LGBTQIA+ health and wellbeing and increased support for LGBTQIA+ human rights across Asia Pacific. This mass mobilisation followed years of conversations and advocacy with the NSW and Federal governments by LGBTQIA+ community organisations.

Australia's first long-term strategy and dedicated fund to promote international LGBTQIA+ rights.

Sydney WorldPride provided a unique moment for Australia to demonstrate leadership on LGBTQIA+ human rights globally. Together, the Global Philanthropy Project (GPP) and Equality Australia engaged intensively with the Foreign Minister's Office and DFAT, developed a rapid brief with key asks and built a coalition of Asia and Pacific regional partner organisations to advocate for change. The coalition released a major report *Partnering with Pride: The case for Australian action on equality in our region*.





The Foreign Minister Senator Penny Wong announced a package of reforms to coincide with the Conference that responded to the calls to action in the report.

- A new dedicated Inclusion and Development Fund with an initial \$3.5 million in 2023 to support LGBTQIA+ civil society organisations and human rights defenders, international partnerships and networks in Asia Pacific.
- A dedicated LGBTQIA+ human rights engagement strategy for the region including bilateral and multilateral diplomacy, development and humanitarian assistance.
- While no dedicated LGBTQIA+ special envoy was announced, it was revealed that the newly appointed and first ever Human Rights Ambassador would lead Australia's advocacy for LGBTQIA+ equality, supported by the Ambassador for Gender Equality.
- a new LGBTIQ unit within the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Equality Australia will continue to work with LGBTQIA+ community organisations in the region and the GPP on the implementation of these initiatives and to increase support and funding over time.

“We need to deal with the world as it is, and we need to do what we can to shape it for the better.”

– Australia's Foreign Minister Senator Penny Wong, Day One

I am calling on the other states and territories to follow our path.

– ACT Chief Minister Andrew Barr, Day One



Ten-year plan and \$26 million in funding for LGBTQIA+ health research

After calls over many years by LGBTQIA+ organisations such as Conference Community Partners, LGBTIQ+ Health Australia and AFAO, Assistant Health Minister Ged Kearney announced a 10-year national LGBTQIA+ health plan and \$26 million in research grants. This represents the largest ever investment in LGBTQIA+ research by any government in Australia.

This announcement followed a federal election commitment to a national health consultation. Early work from the consultation underscored the urgent need for action to tackle the disparities in health outcomes experienced by LGBTQIA+ people and the system-wide challenges for our communities.

The ACT becomes the first place in Australia to protect the rights of intersex people in medical settings

The ACT Government announced it would introduce legislation to stop deferrable medical treatments on people with innate variations of sex characteristics until the person is old enough to decide for themselves. Chief Minister Andrew Barr told the Conference his government would also invest in support services, establish a dedicated unit at Canberra Hospital and provide training packages to compliment the law reform.

The announcement followed decades of advocacy and input from intersex activists and allies, particularly Conference Community Partner, Intersex Human Rights Australia. The Bill reflects many of the recommendations from Equality Australia’s report published to assist Victoria and the ACT to develop legislation, in which a legal model for reform was proposed after extensive consultation with intersex people and their families.

Work continues to ensure the passage of this legislation and the adoption of similar reforms in other states and territories.

Equality means giving everyone a service that meets their needs.

– Australia’s Health Minister Mark Butler, Day One



NSW Government commitments to ban conversion practices and lobby for Census reform

Sydney WorldPride also provided an important focal point for advocacy on issues impacting LGBTQIA+ communities in NSW.

Throughout 2022 and 2023, thousands of members of the Equality Australia community came together behind a call for the NSW parliament to 'Act for Equality'. Driven by LGBTQIA+ community organisations, the Act for Equality campaign calls for law, policy and funding commitments including ending conversion practices – one of the key topics at the Conference.

In the lead up to the Conference, former NSW Premier Dominic Perrotet announced the Coalition would support legal change to end so-called conversion therapy. This followed independent member for Sydney Alex Greenwich MP's announcement that he would introduce a Bill to parliament after the NSW election, and a commitment by NSW Labor that it would also legislate. This

multipartisan commitment was only made possible after concerted advocacy, particularly by survivors of conversion practices, and arguably due to the focus on LGBTQIA+ equality brought about by Sydney WorldPride.

At the Conference, former NSW Minister Ben Franklin reiterated the former Government's support for the ban and also pledged to lobby the Federal Government on LGBTQIA+ inclusion in the Census, backing change on another key issue of concern for LGBTQIA+ communities in Australia reflected in Equality Australia's 'Count Us In' campaign.

Building capacity, knowledge and relationships for change

The Conference provided crucial opportunities for civil society, funders and decision makers to gather, share priorities and strategise about opportunities to collaborate and effect change. Much of the value of the Conference was outside the formal program, found in the spaces for networking, introductions, private meetings and side events.

In the lead up to the Conference, Equality Australia and the Global Philanthropic Project were able to convene meetings and discussions between prospective funders – public and private – and civil society organisations. Given that Asia Pacific is the most underfunded region in the world, this was an important opportunity to build the knowledge and capacity of governments, regional institutions such as the European Union and private funders about the pressing issues and challenges facing civil society in Asia Pacific and how to play a constructive role in supporting positive change.

The donor pre-conference was the first of its kind and brought together Australian based philanthropic organisations to learn from their international counterparts, and an increased focus on Asia Pacific for philanthropic support. Over two days the attendees unpacked how to move the dial on the low levels of funding for LGBTQIA+ causes in Australia, relative to other causes, and in Asia Pacific, relative to other regions.

Lasting Legacy

Quotes from survey

“It helped me to take my advocacy and activism to the next level.”

“This experience made me realise where my passion really lies... I resigned from my job and am exploring opportunities to join the movement for equality and the betterment of queer people everywhere.”

“Such a special experience, one like no other, to come together and have a real talk about the issues impacting LGBTQIA+ people at home and abroad.”

“It was overwhelming... excellent sessions, very helpful volunteers, variety of entertainments, met diverse First Nation families.”

“Really well organised with an impressive array of speakers – truly inspiring.”

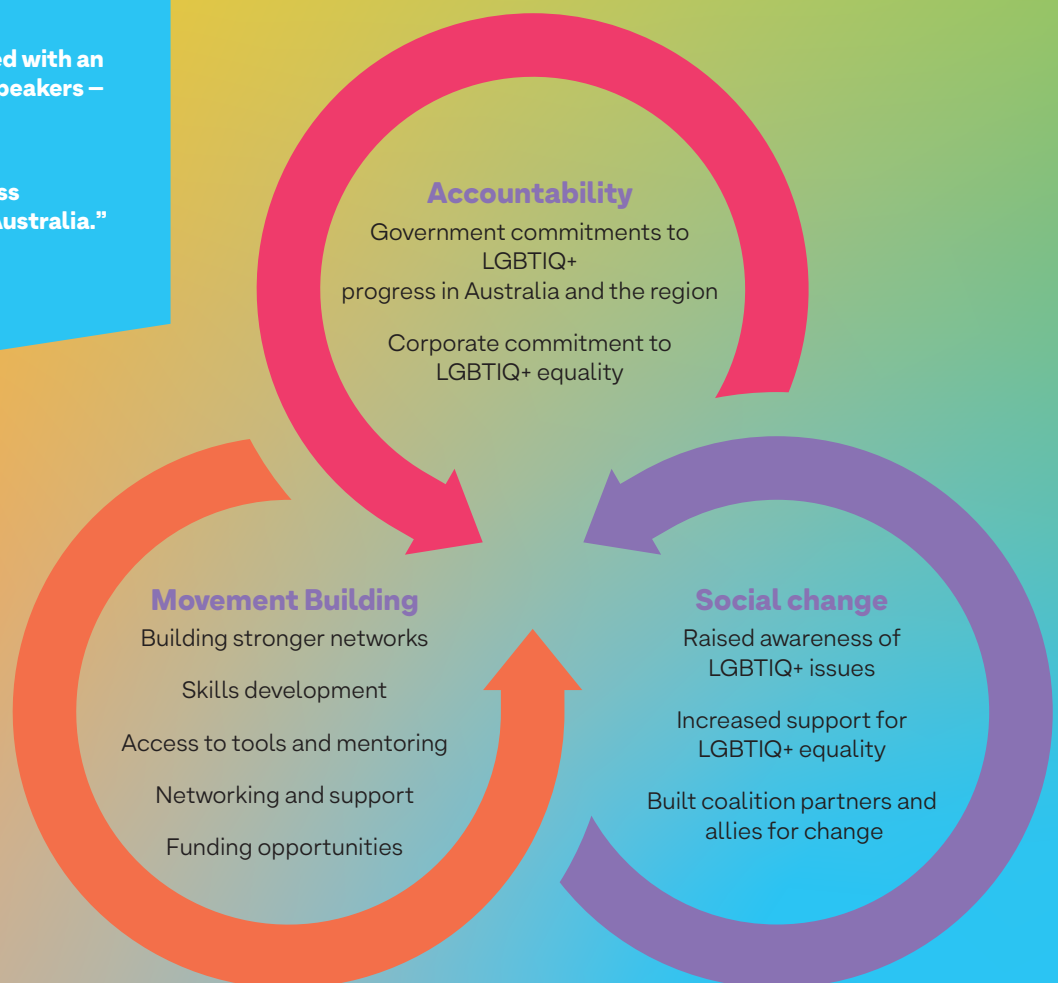
“Fabulous world-class landmark event for Australia.”

The Human Rights Conference secured its place in history as the centrepiece of the first WorldPride festival ever to be held in the Asia Pacific region.

Our communities came together and brought to the world’s attention vital LGBTQIA+ issues, shining a spotlight on injustices in every corner of the globe, hearing about lived experiences first-hand and giving a voice to the marginalised.

The format of the Conference was cutting edge, immersive and experiential whilst also being accessible, safe and inclusive. Using an intersectional lens, we concentrated on emerging issues such as trans rights, decolonisation and law reform and focused on important conversations like conversion practices, economic empowerment and workplace inclusion.

We listened and learned and left this landmark event informed, inspired and ready for the challenges ahead. Together, we laid new ground to help build a world where all of us are safe, free and equal.





Traditionally carried over sweeping distances, message sticks have been passed between Aboriginal communities for many thousands of years to reinforce oral messaging.

In recognition of this a glass message stick, handcrafted in remote communities by Queer First Nations people, was gifted to Washington DC Pride which will in turn hand it on to the next host city.

Our intention in passing on this piece of cultural significance from the First Peoples of these lands is to encourage each next host to acknowledge the First People of those lands. In doing so, it creates a lifelong legacy piece; amplifying the voices and stories of our Indigenous LGBTQIASB+ family

– Felix May

The message stick was designed by Felix, a trans, non-binary, First Nations community member and approved by the First Nations Advisory Committee and First Nations board members. It was handed over at the closing of the Human Rights Conference by three generations of Queer First Nations: a Gadigal Traditional Owner, an elder and Felix.

"A brilliant occasion."

– Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG

"So empowering with all the new and nuanced information on LGBTQI movement building and organising around the world while also recognising the need to decolonize our minds, our bodies, our practices in order to move forward. And to add icing on the cake, the government of Australia committed AU\$3.5 million to support LGBTQI Rights and Equality work done by the CSOs in Southeast Asia and the Pacific in its current financial year!"

– Isikeli Vulavou, Chief Executive Officer for the Pacific Sexual and Gender Diversity Network (PSGDN)

"A brilliant cross-section of LGBTQI+ activists, government officials, and media professionals to talk openly about the dangers facing LGBTQI+ people across the Pacific and in every region. That is exactly the kind of dialogue we need. When we know the problems, we can design solutions that lead to safety, inclusion and equality for LGBTQI+ persons everywhere."

– Jessica Stern, US Special Envoy to Advance the Rights of LGBTQI+ Persons

"This was a great opportunity not just to me but to the work that I do in Kenya: I was able to meet, interact and engage with more seasoned activists, I listened to amazing presentations and above all, I got a rare opportunity to not only present in the main plenary but also be in a team of well knowledgeable people. As I head back home, fully aware of the challenges ahead of me, I carry with me lessons." – Brian Okollan, Kenyan human rights defender

"I am very grateful for having me there, and as indigenous person I was super emotional about how you centred the First Nations and indigenous people. For once I didn't feel that indigenous folks are invited to be just a token. Thank you. You did amazing."

– Yahia Zaidi, The Global Interfaith Network GINSSOGIE

"I came away learning so much and even managed to make new contacts and networks."

– Dede Oetomo, Indonesian activist and founder of GAYa NUSANTARA Foundation

"It really was a triumph and such a valuable opportunity for the movement to take stock and learn from one another."

– Alistair Stewart, Head of Research and Advocacy, Human Dignity Trust

"DFAT valued and benefited immensely from hearing LGBTQIA+ perspectives directly from the region and world, including crucially from human rights defenders on the frontline...."

The testimonies and cultural performances were eloquent and powerful reminders of why we do the work we do. DFAT recognises that the Conference, and pre-conference events, are only the beginning of conversations that must continue with our multilateral, regional and country partners, placing CSOs and human rights defenders at the centre of the process." – Rod Brazier, a/g Deputy Secretary, Development and Multilateral Group DFAT

Our Thanks

Sincere thanks go to every one of the people who travelled, many from far-flung corners of the globe, to present at the Human Rights Conference.



Artemis Akbary (he/him), Founder and Director, Afghan LGBT

Yahia Zaidi (he/him), Senior Advocacy Manager, The Global Interfaith Network (GIN-SSOGIE) (Algeria)

Alba Rueda (she/her), Special Envoy LGBTIQ for Argentina

Fran Kelly (she/her), Radio Presenter, Current Affairs Journalist and Political Correspondent, Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)

Jeremy Fernandez (he/him), Journalist and Television News Presenter, Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)

Mon Schafter (they/them), Walkley Award winning journalist, producer and presenter, Australian Broadcasting Corporation

Jaleel Jarrett (she/her), proud Bundjalung and Gumbaynggirr woman and Communications Officer – Guunu-maana (Heal) Program, The George Institute for Global Health

Ross Fowler, Bidjagal Dharawal Nation
FlowerKid

Kaiit

Mama Alto (she/her), jazz singer, cabaret artiste and gender transcendent diva

Alex Greenwich MP (he/him), Member for Sydney, Parliament of New South Wales

Andrew Barr MLA (he/him), Chief Minister of the Australian Capital Territory

Clover Moore (she/her), Lord Mayor of Sydney, City of Sydney

Dr Michael Gardner (he/him), Head of the National Suicide Prevention Office, Mental Health Commission

The Hon Ben Franklin MLC, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs; Regional Youth; the Arts; Tourism, NSW Government

The Hon Linda Burney MP (she/her), Minister for Indigenous Australians, Parliament of Australia

The Hon Mark Butler MP, Minister for Health and Aged Care and Deputy Leader of the House, Australian Government

The Hon Harriet Shing (she/her), Minister for Water; Regional Development; Equality, Parliament of Victoria

Professor Dennis Altman AM FASSA (he/him), Writer and Academic, La Trobe University

Professor Paula Gerber (she/her), internationally renowned scholar, international human rights lawyer and Professor of Law at Monash University

Ro Allen (they/them), Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commissioner, Department of Premier and Cabinet of Victoria

The Hon Michael Kirby AC CMG (he/him), international jurist, educator and former justice of the High Court of Australia

Tina Dixon (she/her), Co-Founder, Forcibly Displaced People Network (FDPN)

Todd Fernando (he/him), Wiradjuri Person and Victorian Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ Communities

Tony Briffa (she/her), Mayor, City of Hobsons Bay

Tuisina Ymania Brown (she/her), Samoan Fa'afafine and Co-Secretary General, ILGA World

Adam Borne (he, him), Associate Profession of Public Health, La Trobe University

Akii Ngo (they/them), Accessibility Manager, Sydney WorldPride; Senior Co-Design Advisor, NDIA; Disability Consultant & Trainer, Councillor on Victorian Disability Council; UN IDPWd Ambassador

Andrew Purchas OAM (he/him), Cofounder, Pride in Sport Index

Anna Brown OAM (she/her), Chief Executive Officer, Equality Australia

Ash Barnes (they/she), PhD Candidate and Research Assistant, University of Tasmania

Aunty Crystal Love (she/her), Tiwi Islands Sistergirl (Tiwi Islands)

Aunty Sue Pinckham (she/her), Senior Cultural Advisor, Wuyagiba Bush Uni; Board Member, Sydney WorldPride

Dr Bianca Fileborn (she/her or they/them), Senior Lecturer in Criminology at University of Melbourne

Bonnie Hart (she/her), Artist, film maker, and intersex human rights activist, and president, Intersex Peer

Support Australia

Brenda Appleton (former President, Transgender Victoria & former Co-Chair of the Victorian LGBTIQ Taskforce)

Brett Atkinson (he/him), Senior Relationship Manager, ACON's Pride Inclusion Programs

Brooke Blurton (she/her), Noongar/Yamatji woman and first bisexual Bachelorette

Charlotte Coulthard-Dare (she/her) Adnyamathanha, Barnjarla and Yankunytjatjara transwoman

Clare Walsh (she/her), Deputy Secretary, Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Corey Irlam (he/him), Deputy Chief Executive, COTA Australia

Associate Professor Corrinne Sullivan (she/her), Associate Dean, Indigenous Education, and Associate Professor in Geography, Western Sydney University

Darren Dick (he/him), Senior Policy Executive – Human Rights and Strategy, Australian Human Rights Commission

Dave Scamell (he/him), Senior Consulting Advisor, Government Relations and Field Engagement, Global Philanthropy Project

Dr David Abello, First Mardi Gras Inc, not for profit community organisation for 78ers

Diane Minnis (she/her), Co-Chair, First Mardi Gras Inc

Dr Clara Tuck Meng Soo (she/her), public health advocate and General Practitioner to the LGBTQIA+ community

Dr Josephine Inkpin (she/her), Australia's first openly transgender priest, Sydney Uniting Church

Dr Timothy Jones (he/they), Associate Professor History, La Trobe University

Dr Zahra Stardust (she/her), queer femme socio-legal scholar

Ed Yap (he/him), Senior Industrial Officer, Unions NSW

Ellie Watts (she/they), Senior Relationship Manager, Pride in Diversity

Eloise Layard (she/her), Manager LGBTIQ+ Health Programs, ACON

Emily Dwyer (she/her), Founder and Co-Director, Edge Effect

Estelle Clarke (she/her), Yorta Yorta, Wemba Wemba Sistergirl, Programs and Training Coordinator at BlaQ Aboriginal Corporation

Felix May (they/them), First Nations Coordinator, Sydney WorldPride

Frances Gamble (TBA), CEO, Out for Australia

Gabriel Filpi (he/they), Senior Projects Officer (Health), IHRA

Hon Ged Kearney MP (she/her), Assistant Minister for Health and Aged Care, Australian Government

Genevieve Hawkins (she/her), General Manager – Transformation and Supply Chain, Coles Liquor Group

Geoff Donaghy (he/him), Chief Executive Officer, International Convention Centre Sydney

George Zhao (TBA), Out for Australia

Georgia Verry (she/her), Founder of the Conscious Combat Club

Gerard Abadines, Twenty10, community-based service for 12–25-year-olds

Ghassan Kassisieh (he/him), Legal Director, Equality Australia

Ian Seal (he/him), Director, Three for All

Ian Thorpe AM (he/him), five-time Australian Olympic gold medallist, mental health advocate and Equality Champion

Jaclyn Nasti (She/Her), Northcott customer and disability and LGBTQI+ advocate

Jacob White (he/him), Development & Partnerships Manager, Equality Australia

Jamie Hamilton-Smith (He/Him), Northcott customer and disability and LGBTQI+ advocate

Jade Parker (they/them), Community Health Promotion Officer (Sexual, Domestic and Family Violence), ACON

Jean Linis Dinco (she/her), Strategic Communications Fellow, ILGA Asia

Joe Ball (he/him), Chief Executive Officer, Switchboard Victoria

Dr John Rule, Senior Research Manager at National Association of People with HIV Australia

Kate Wickett (she/her), Chief Executive Officer, Sydney WorldPride

Kate Wood (she/her), Asexual Anti-Violence Researcher

Keith Quayle (he/him), Malyangapa and Barkindji man and Founder, NSW Community Advocates for People in Prisons

Ken Davis (he/him), First Mardi Gras Inc, not for profit community organisation for 78ers

Kristoff Adelbert (he/him), Campaign Lead: Primary Prevention of Sexual, Domestic and Family Violence

Laura Falkner (TBA), Out for Australia

Lil Gordan (she/her), First Assistant Secretary – First Nations Outcomes, Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts

Madi Day, Lecturer, Department of Indigenous Studies, Macquarie University

Manu Kailom (they/them), Peer Support and Community Development Officer, Three for All Foundation

Hon Mark Dreyfus KC, MP, Attorney-General and Cabinet Secretary, Australian Government

Matthew Phillips (he/him), Engagement Director, Equality Australia

Meredith Peace (she/her), President, AEU VIC & Deputy President Australia Education Union (AEU) (Australia)

Michele O'Neil (she/her), President of the Australian Council of Trade Unions

Mish Pony (they/them), CEO of Scarlet Alliance, Australian Sex Workers Association

Moo Baulch (she/her), Chair, Our Watch Board

Morgan Carpenter (he/him), Bioethicist and Executive Director, Intersex Human Rights Australia (IHRA)

Narelda Jacobs (she/her), Australian television journalist

Nathan Despott (he/them), Co-founder, Brave Network

Nevo Zisin (they/them), storyteller, poet and author

Nicholas Stewart (he/him), Partner, Downson Turco Lawyers

Nicky Bath (she/her), Chief Executive Officer, LGBTIQ+ Health Australia

Nyx Harris (they/them), LGBTQIA+ Inclusion Coordinator, Autism Spectrum Australia (Spectrum)

Paige Burton (she/her), Director of Civic and Cultural Engagement, Foundation for Young Australians

Penny McKay (she/they), Leader of People, Culture and Inclusion, Conscious Combat Club

Senator the Hon Penny Wong, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Australian Government

Pip Dargan, Principal Adviser, Capacity Assessments and International Engagement, Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions

Renee Shike (they/them), Queensland State Director, Out for Australia

Rachel Holt, Senior Executive, Australian Human Rights Commission

Ricki Coughlan (she/her), Pride in Sport Ambassador

Robyn Kennedy (she/her), 78er CAMP Inc. member and an LGBTQIA+ advocate

Emeritus Professor Rosalind Croucher AM (she/her), President of the Australian Human Rights Commission

Ruby Mountford (they/them), President, Melbourne Bisexual Network; LGBTIQ+ Inclusion Advisor, Your Community Health

Ruth McNair (she/her), Honorary Associate Professor, Department of General Practice, University of Melbourne

Ryan Phillips (he/him), Director, Equality Australia

Sian Harris (She/Her), Aunty – Team Family Queer Youth Voice; Interim President – Mallee Pride

Somali Cerise (she/her), Independent Consultant

Sonny Jane (they/them), public speaker, author, consultant, and founder of the Drop In Care Space

Sophie Cotton (she/her), NTEU Branch Committee Representative University of Sydney Branch

Steph Lum (they/them), Intersex advocate, researcher, poet and founder of YOUth&

Stephen Page (he/him), Family Law Accredited Specialist Lawyer & Director, Page Provan Pty Ltd

Susan Ardill, First Mardi Gras Inc, not for profit community organisation for 78ers

Taz Clay (he/him), Kalkadoon and Bwngcolman brotherboy

Teddy Cook (he/him), Director Community Health, ACON; Adjunct Lecturer Kirby Institute, UNSW

Tharani Jegatheeswaran (she/her), Partner, Social Impact Consulting, Deloitte

Tim Goodwin (he/him), member of the Yuin Peoples and Barrister, Victorian Bar

Tilly Lawless (she/her), queer, Sydney-based sex worker

Tony Petrin (he/him), Northcott support worker and passionate disability and LGBTQIA+ advocate

Ty Madden (he/him), Gadigal man and Research Associate, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program, The George Insitute

Wilhelmina Stracke (she/her), Assistant Secretary, Victorian Trades Hall Council

Zachary Borthwick (TBA), Out for Australia

Zoe Terakes (they/them), actor and activist

Rudy Jean-Rigg (they/he), autistic & non-binary transgender host, creator, advocate, educator and pop-culture fiend

Dipa Yasmin Mahbuba (she/her), Cofounder, Bangladeshi Asexual Association

Helena Dalli (she/her), Commissioner for Equality, European Union (EU)

Monica Tabengwa (she/her), LGBT Africa Researcher, Human Rights Watch (Botswana)

Danilo Manzano (he/him), Co-Founder & Director, Dialogo Diverso

Lucas Paoli Itaborahy (he/him), Project Manager, Micro Rainbow International Foundation

Peaches (she/her), feminist musician, producer, director and performance artist

André François Giroux (he/him), Canadian Consul General of Canada in Sydney

Kimahli Powell (he/him), Executive Director, Rainbow Railroad

Kim Vance-Mubanga (she/her), Director, International Programs and Partnerships, Egale Canada

Yanhui Peng (he/him), Executive Director of LGBT Rights Advocacy China

Tina Browne (she/her), Leader of the Office of the Leader of the Parliamentary Opposition, Cook Islands

Valentino (Valery) Wichman (she/her), Director, Cook Islands Central Policy and Planning

Victor Madrigal-Borloz (he/him), UN Independent Expert on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, United Nations (UN)

Noelene Nabulivou (she/her), activist and Executive Director at Diverse Voices and Action (DIVA) for Equality

Annet Negesa (she/her), former middle-distance runner and athlete

Dr Julia Ehrt (she/her) – LGBTQIA+ activist, community leader and Executive Director at The International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association, ILGA World (Germany)

Matt Beard (he/him), Executive Director, AllOut

Tina Breidenich, (they/them) teachers and queer committee members of Gewerkschaft Erziehung und Wissenschaft (GEW)/German Education and Sciences Union (Germany)

Zhan Chiam (he/him), Deputy Director, Transgender Europe (TGEU)

Irene (Rinio) Simeonidou (she/her), Founder, Intersex Greece

Brenda Alegre (she/her), Lecturer and Honorary Assistant Professor, University of Hong Kong (Hong Kong)

Peter Reading (he/him), International Human Rights Lawyer

Mariann Filo (she/her), Organiser, Budapest Pride; Member of the LGBTQ division, Hungarian Psychological Association

Amar Alfikar (he/him), Board Representative for East and Southeast Asia, Global Interfaith Network for People of All Sexes, Sexual Orientations, Gender Identities & Expressions (GIN-SSOGIE)

Dédé Oetomo (he/him) – Indonesian activist and Founder and Trustee of GAYa NUSANTARA Foundation

Edison (Ichon) Butar Butar (he/him), Program Manager, Crisis Response Mechanism (CRM) Consortium

Georgia Mathews (she/her), Director, GiveOUT; Director, Aurora

Jay Gilliam (he/him), Senior LGBTQI+ Coordinator, USAID

Matthew Hart (he/him), Director, Global Philanthropy Project

Michelle Reddy (she/her), Co-lead Consultant, Pacific Feminist Fund

Nicky McIntyre (she/her), Executive Director, Foundation for a Just Society

Paul Jansen (he/him), Senior Director of Global Programs and Grantmaking, Outright International

Rabbi Yitzhak Ajzner, member of the Beit Midrash for Halacha of Beit Hillel

Fabrizio Petri (he/him), President of the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Human Rights and Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBTQI+ Persons, Ministry of Foreign Affairs & International Co-operation of Italy

Gabriele Visentin (he/him), Ambassador to Australia, European Union (EU)

Brian Okollan (he/him), national activist supporting and advocating for LGBTI asylum seekers and refugees in the kenyan refugee camps

Amir Mukambetov (he/they), Chair, Kyrgyz Indigo

Kristina Garina (she/her), Chair, European Pride Organisers Association (EPOA)

Luz Aranda Arroyo (she/her), Director General of Las Reinas Chulas Cabaret y Derechos Humanos A.C and Co-Secretary General of International Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans and Intersex Association ILGA World and one of the founder of Bisexualas México (Mexico)

Morillio Williams (he/him), International Advocacy Advisor, COC Nederland

Dr Elizabeth Kerekere MP (she/her/ia), Member of New Zealand Parliament and LGBTQ+ activist and scholar

HE Ambassador Louisa Wall (she/her/ia), Ambassador for Gender Equality (Pacific)/Tuia Tāngata, Aotearoa New Zealand, Tuwharetoa, Hineuru and Waikato

Andre Afamasaga (he/him), NZ Human Rights Commission, ex-Pastor

Kevin Haunui (he/him), Indigenous Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights Research Investigator

Phylesha Brown-Acton (she/her), Fakaifine, MVPFAFF+, LGBTQ+ rights activist and Executive Director, F'INE Pasifika Aotearoa Trust

Jannat Ali (she/her), Executive Director, Track-T; Organiser, Trans Pride Pakistan

Naomi Fontanos (she/her), Filipina trans activist and Executive Director, Gender and Development Advocates (GANDA) Filipinas

Charlene Liu (she/her), Co-Founder, ShanghaiPRIDE China

Bryan Choong (he/him), Regional Advisory Group Chair, APCOM

Edwin Cameron (he/him), Former Justice, Constitutional Court of South Africa

Crystal Hendricks (she/her), Intersex Rights Officer, Iranti

Imam Muhsin Hendricks (he/him), Imam and Founder, The Inner Circle

Tlaleng Mofokeng (she/her), Special Rapporteur on the Right to Health, United Nations Human Rights Office

Rosanna Flamer-Caldera (she/her), Executive Director, Equal Ground

Kenita Placide (she/they), human rights, HIV and LGBT activist, the Founder and Executive Director of the Eastern Caribbean Alliance for Diversity & Equality (St Lucia)

Maria von Känel (she/her), Co-Founder and General Manager, Swiss Rainbow Families Association

Karel Teriihauroa Luciani (he/him), President, Association Cousins Cousines Tahiti (Tahiti)

Jennifer Lu (she/her), Director Asia Programs, Outright International; Executive Director, Equality Taiwan

Hiker Chiu (she/her), Founder, Oii-Chinese; Cofounder, Intersex Asia (Taiwan)

Midnight Poonkasetwattana (he/him), Executive Director, APCOM

Ajita Banerjee (she/her), Research and Policy Officer, ILGA Asia

Matcha Phorn-in, Founder and Director of Aangsan Anakot Yawachon Development Project (Thailand)

Ryan Joseph Figueiredo (he/him), Founder and Executive Director, Equal Asia Foundation

Thitiyanun Nakpor (she/her), Founder, Thai Transgender Alliance; President, Thai Foundation Board of Asia Pacific Transgender Network (APTN); Director, SISTERS Foundation

Joleen Mataele (she/her), Co-Founder, Tonga Leitis' Association (TLA)

Stephanie Leitch (she/her), Senior Officer, Decriminalisation Project and ILGA regions engagement

Aras Örgen (they/them), Advocacy and Well-being Program Coordinator, May 17 Association

Alistair Stewart (he/him), Head of Research and Advocacy, Human Dignity Trust

Jayne Ozanne (she/her), Founder, Global Interfaith Commission on LGBT+ Lives

Nancy Kelley (she/her), Chief Executive Officer of Stonewall UK, human rights advocate & policy adviser

Phyll Opoku-Gyimah (she/her), Co-Founder, UK Black Pride; Executive Director, Kaleidoscope Trust

Dr Senthorun Raj (he/him), Associate Professor in Human Rights Law (Manchester Law School) and Chair of Amnesty International UK

Nick Herbert (Lord Herbert of South Downs), UK Prime Minister's Special Envoy on LGBT+ Rights

Selma Augestad (she/her), National Officer – Equality, Educational Institute of Scotland (EIS)

Victoria Vasey (she/her) Head of Legal, Human Dignity Trust

Dr Payoshni Mitra (she/her), Appointed CEO, The Global Observatory for Women, Sport

Lenny Emson (he/him), Executive Director, KyivPride Ukraine

Olena Shevchenko (she/her), Founder, Marsh Zhinok

Malachi Garza (they/them), Activist and Organising Director, Solidaire (United States)

Ambassador Chantale Wong (she/her), U.S. Director, Asian Development Bank

Anat Shenker-Osorio (she/her), Principal and founder of ASO Communications

Ambassador Caroline Kennedy (she/her), U.S. Ambassador to Australia

Jessica Stern (she/her/they/them/he/him), U.S. Special Envoy to Advance the Human Rights of LGBTQI+ Persons, U.S. Department of State

Professor Lisa Davis (they/them), Associate Professor of Law; Special Advisor on Gender Persecution to the International Criminal Court Prosecutor; Co-director, Human Rights and Gender Justice Clinic; City University of New York (CUNY) School of Law

Senator Sarah McBride (she/her), State Senator – First Senate District, Delaware

Todd Sears (he/him), Chief Executive Officer, Out Leadership

Ashley Smith (he/him), President, Board of Directors, Capital Pride Alliance

Grace Poore (she/her), Regional Program Coordinator for Asia and the Pacific Islands, Outright Action International

Hilario Benzon (Él/ Siya/ He), Associate Director – Human and Civil Rights Department, Center for Racial and Social Justice, National Education Association (USA)

Jillian Appel Marcellus (they/them), Director of Narrative, ASO Communications

Maria Sjödin (they/she), Executive Director, Outright International

Mauricio Albarracín-Caballero (he/him),

Natalie Thompson (she/her), Co-President; VP of Global Outreach and Partnership, InterPride

Steve Roth (he/him), Executive Director, ORAM – Organization for Refuge, Asylum and Migration

Tiffany Lyn Royster (she/they), Events and Partnership Manager, Capital Pride Alliance

Tim Ehinger (he/him), Executive Vice President and Managing Counsel – International, AMEX

Cristyn Davies, Twenty10

Henry Koh, ILGA Asia

Imbi (they/them) Australian singer-songwriter, rapper and poet

Irene Kuzenko (she/her), Capacity & Community Building Officer, Organisation Intersex International Europe (OII Europe)

Anthony Venn-Brown OAM, CEO of Ambassadors and Bridge Builders International

Anthony Wood (he/him) Senior Partner, Employment, IR and Safety, Herbert Smith Freehills

Kirsty Albion, Executive Director Australian Progress

LEAD COMMUNITY PARTNER



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



STRATEGIC PARTNERS



GOVERNMENT PARTNERS



RESEARCH AND INSIGHTS PARTNERS



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VENUE PARTNERS



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P2: Welcome event – Mazz Images @mazzimages

P5: Darling Harbour Theatre – Maja Baska

P6: First Nations ceremony – Maja Baska

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P8: HRC attendees – Maja Baska

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P26: Banner at ICC, Partnering with Pride report launch – supplied by Equality Australia

P27: Australian Government keynote – Maja Baska

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P31: Handover ceremony – Mazz Images @mazzimages

P32: Team shot – supplied by Equality Australia



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