

City of Richmond



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

RICHMOND, VIRGINIA USA 23219

Proclamation

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond recognizes the fight for dignity and equality for LGBTQ people is reflected in the tireless dedication of advocates and allies who strive to forge a more inclusive society; and

WHEREAS, Richmond has made great strides in both recognizing the struggle that the LGBTQ community has faced and pursuing restorative justice alongside Richmond's LGBTQ leaders; and

WHEREAS, the City of Richmond currently has the highest Municipal Equality Index score in the Commonwealth of Virginia due to unprecedented non-discrimination laws, health benefits inclusive of transgender individuals and the founding of the Human Rights Commission; and

WHEREAS, to celebrate this progress and the diverse LGBTQ community in our city, Richmond traditionally hosts Virginia PrideFest weekend — a family-friendly weekend of festivities that includes a variety of vendors, local eats, activities and entertainment; and

WHEREAS, this year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, holding the festival was not possible, but the City of Richmond still recognizes PrideFest weekend to honor and highlight the vital role LGBTQ residents and visitors play in creating a vibrant and diverse city; and

WHEREAS, the celebration and acceptance of LGBTQ residents and visitors to Richmond remain of the utmost importance and priority despite our community's current inability to gather in large numbers, as LGBTQ Richmond provides a powerful model of both an unceasing fight for progress and resilience in the face of hardship;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Levar M. Stoney, Mayor of the City of Richmond, Virginia do hereby proclaim September 25-27, 2020 as

“Virginia PrideFest Weekend”

in the City of Richmond and encourage Richmonders of all sexual orientations and gender identities to reflect on the vital role Pride plays in encouraging self-acceptance, promoting open-mindedness and building a stronger, more diverse city.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed, the seal of the City of Richmond, this 25th day of September, 2020.



Levar M. Stoney, Mayor
City of Richmond