

PRESS RELEASE Brussels, 6 May 2024

Brussels Pride unveils its diverse programme

On Saturday 18 May, Brussels Pride will once again honour the LGBTQIA+ community by painting the streets of Brussels in the colours of the rainbow. This year's theme is 'Safe Everyday Everywhere', advocates a society where everyone can feel free and serene every day and everywhere. With the Pride Parade to the Pride Village and the Rainbow Village, it will be the perfect opportunity to celebrate diversity and love freely and safely.

Brussels, the capital of Belgium and Europe, kicks off European Pride season. The organisers are expecting no fewer than 250,000 people to take to the streets of the capital to defend their rights and celebrate diversity. This year, more than ever, Brussels Pride is keen to emphasise the significance of this event for ensuring a society that is inclusive, safer and fairer for everyone, every day.

Safe Everyday, Everywhere

This year, the theme chosen by Brussels Pride is "Safe Everyday Everywhere". This is a strong call from the entire LGBTQIA+ community to mobilise all citizens. An invitation to take concrete, daily actions against any form of discrimination, violence or hate crime, anywhere in the world. The community is calling for strong, sustainable action to ensure that everyone can feel free and live in peace. Whether you're a young person, an adult or a senior citizen. Today and tomorrow. In Belgium, in Europe and around the world.

Pride Week - 8 to 18 May 2024

Wednesday 8 May will mark the start of Brussels Pride Week with an intersectional and activist event at the Maison des Cultures in Molenbeek from 15:00 and around the Suzan Daniel Bridge from 17:30. During Pride Week, Rainbow Corporate & Pride and other activist and artistic collectives will present a rich programme of events across a dozen venues such as Les Grands Carmes, RainbowHouse Brussels and many others in the city. For ten days, concerts, screenings, performances and workshops will be on offer to the public. This year, various meetings with European delegations will also be held during Pride Week. On Thursday 16 May, the Mini-Pride procession will take to the streets of the Saint-Jacques district to mark the start of the Brussels Pride weekend festivities. It will pass by Manneken-Pis, who will be dressed in a costume designed especially for the occasion. All the participants will join several European delegations at the The Meaning of Prides conference. This will highlight other Prides in Europe and discuss the impact of such events on society.

Brussels Pride – Saturday, 18 May 2024 Pride March

Starting at 14:30, the **Pride March**, the highlight of Brussels Pride, will set off from the Mont des Arts and take over the streets of the city centre, passing close by the unmissable Saint-Jacques district. **Its aim is to celebrate diversity, tolerance and acceptance of all, regardless of sexual**





orientation or gender identity. This year, the March will be chanting the Brussels Pride theme "Safe Everyday Everywhere" loud and clear, promoting a society where everyone can feel free and at peace, every day and everywhere. As part of the presidency of the Council of the European Union, Brussels Pride has, this year, invited the organisers of EuroPride in Thessaloniki to take part in the March. Several European delegations will also be represented alongside the EuroPride float.

Pride Village

Numerous **associations and institutions** will be present, as they are every year. Associations will be informing the public about their **battles and the current challenges** facing the community's rights at both the national and international level, while institutions will be demonstrating their **support for the community** and their initiatives in favour of a **more inclusive and safe society for everyone**.

Concerts and DJ sets

Belgian LGBTQIA+ and ally artists will be performing on **the stage set up on Mont des Arts**. The line-up includes the unmissable MUSTII, the divine Drag Race Belgium contestants, Alice on the Roof, Gustaph, famous dance trio Trinxx, AZO, RAQL and many more. The performances are already shaping up to be unforgettable, with the programme benefiting from Tipik's extensive support.

<u>The Rainbow Village</u> and its LGBTQIA+ establishments in the **Saint-Jacques district**, in the heart of the capital, will again be partnering the event and ensuring that the streets of the city centre are buzzing with life throughout the weekend. **DJs and artists** will also be performing to jubilant crowds in the city centre at La Bourse and on rue du Marché au Charbon.

In all, some one hundred partners, associations and artists will be playing their part in the fight for a more open and tolerant society.

Lastly, during the week leading up to Brussels Pride, many buildings across the Brussels-Capital Region will be illuminated and decorated in the colours of the rainbow flag.

Brussels Pride is an opportunity to celebrate diversity but also to defend and demand LGBTQIA+ rights, all with a view to making society more inclusive and just. Beyond its festive dimension, Brussels Pride is, more than ever, an opportunity to promote the rights of the community and initiate policy ideas.

More information at https://brusselspride.eu/

Press contact: Noémie Wibail: +32 (0)490 49 43 84 - n.wibail@visit.brussels

