



Heritage of Pride
2026 NYC Pride March
Sunday, June 28, 2026

NYC Pride March

Frequently Asked Questions

How can I participate in The March? Can I just show up that day and join somewhere?

As a permitted event, all participants in The March must be a part of a registered group. Due to safety reasons, we cannot allow people to simply drop in. To participate in The March you must form your own registered group.

Each year we make space for individual marchers to participate. If you would like to know how to join as an individual, please contact march-help@nycpride.org or (212) 807-6327.

If you are a Nonprofit Organization, Community Group, College / University, or Student Group - [CLICK HERE to REGISTER](#).

We ask SMALL BUSINESSES, CORPORATIONS, AND/OR CO-SPONSORED GROUPS to please complete [THIS RATE REQUEST FORM](#) in order to request a registration rate. Rates are determined by many factors including size of company, annual budget, and more. If you have questions about Registration or Sponsorship opportunities, please contact us.

How do we know where we will appear in The March?

Short Answer: It depends, check in with us later this Spring.

Long Answer: The process of assigning The March order is handled by Heritage of Pride over the course of several weeks. We have many factors to balance in making this decision including tradition, special needs groups such as families with small children, seniors, and people with disabilities, avoiding conflicting sound systems, previous year placements, and more. Our primary goal is to make sure that The March remains a wonderful experience for everyone who participates and an exciting, worthwhile experience to our millions of spectators from beginning to end.

Are Masks and/or Vaccines Required to participate in the event?

We will continue to adhere to all current city and state guidelines. At this time we are not requiring vaccines, and are recommending mask usage for unvaccinated individuals within Formation and along the route. Be sure to keep your eyes on any updates to the COVID-19 policy!

How long is The March?

That's a tough question.

In 2019, we began step-off at noon (12PM) and the last group reached dispersal at 12:32AM. But that was because of our WorldPride/Stonewall50 March! In 2025, we began step-off at 11:00AM ET with our participating elected officials, and the last group reached dispersal at 6:15PM!



This year we anticipate the duration for marchers to take 60-90 minutes (one to one and a half hours) to travel the route from formation to dispersal. *Wait times and march times may vary based on step-off time, March route delays, and other day of snafus.*

How many marchers can I have in my contingent?

We ask that you limit your group size to no more than 100 marchers.

Yes, 100 marchers.

We know that might not sound like enough but to keep the March moving efficiently and to keep all marchers safe we need to limit the number of marchers in any given group.

But on March day, it looks like that group has more than 100 marchers, what gives?

That group broke the rules and will be dealt with by our March Operations Team.

Do you offer Training?

Yes! We offer mandatory Group Leader Training online and in person to go over important information and key facts about the March and what happens on March day. Exact dates and times, locations, and formats TBD.

I've been a Group Leader in the past/I have a busy schedule/I have been to the March 100 times, is it really 'mandatory'?

Yup! We wouldn't call it mandatory if it wasn't.

The March changes every year with new regulations from the city and things we have learned at the March from year to year. It is imperative that all Group Leaders come to the trainings or participate in the virtual trainings and then share that information with their marchers.

How long will our marching group wait in our designated staging spot in the formation area?

That depends on where you are placed in The March order, which will be announced later this Spring.

Please note, your appointed Arrival Time (when your group should meet and assemble at the designated formation area) and your Step Off Time (when your group actually begins Marching) will be different. Based on past experiences, it could be anywhere from 45 min - 3 hours before your group officially enters The March. We encourage you to plan ahead for food, water, sunscreen, and other necessities. We will have port-a-potties and water refilling stations are set up at several points within the formation area.

In the past few years, The March has grown to include over 700 groups, attracting millions of spectators. While this is great news, it means that we have a very long event. Our desire to make sure The March is exciting for spectators and participants alike must be balanced against the need for public safety and organization. Each year we work with the NYPD to examine the rules and attempt to find a compromise that meets all of our goals.



Where do we get a float?

Heritage of Pride **does not provide float design or float rentals**, however, we work with amazing partners who create and produce floats for The March. We recommend that you contract with our preferred float partner:

Bond Floats

(973) 778-3333

<http://www.bondparadefloats.com>

bondfloats@aol.com

Why do you call it a March and not a parade?

The first LGBT Pride was held on the first anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. It was an unpermitted, explicitly political protest of anti-LGBT policies and attitudes. Our commitment at Heritage of Pride is to continue recognizing our Pride event as a March until complete and full equality has been achieved for all LGBT people.

Where does the money from registration fees and March donations go?

It goes to help bring the Pride March to life every year.

Between supplies, equipment rental, insurance, security, and overhead, the cost of the annual event has risen dramatically from our early days. We're happy to report that for the last few years, after all costs and overhead were accounted for, HOP was able to provide hundreds of thousands of dollars in community grants to LGBT groups.

Who can you recommend to produce a Certificate of Insurance (COI)?

In the event your organization needs to purchase coverage as a "one-off," we recommend contacting our carrier [Vantage Point](#), or your preferred agency for support.

When completing the COI, please name Heritage of Price, Inc. dba NYC Pride as an Additional Insured.

My group is unable to participate like we have in years past. Can we volunteer?

Yes! We would love to have you join our amazing volunteer team. [Click here to sign up!](#)

What accommodations are available for accessibility needs within The March?

We have a number of accessible portable bathrooms set up in formation and along the route. We will waive the vehicle fee if the *primary* use of the vehicle is for transporting seniors or people with disabilities. Since we March in the street, those in wheelchairs or motorized scooters should be vigilant of cracks and potholes in the street.

Please contact march-help@nycpride.org or (212) 807-6327 to request accommodation or with additional concerns or questions.



What do I do if, after registration, we decide to change our plans (e.g. adding a sound system, adding a vehicle, more marchers than anticipated, etc.)?

You will have opportunities to update some information, such as the number of marchers and your group description, at Group Leader training.

For changes such as adding vehicles or a sound system, please contact march-help@nycpride.org or (212) 807-6327 **as soon as possible**. Vehicle permits are distributed at Group Leader trainings, and we cannot guarantee that we can add on additional vehicles or floats.

How much room will we have for our banner/float/equipment, etc.?

Short Answer: Try to keep things tall-ish and not wide. You will be driving up and down streets that have stop lights and street signs, and making turns on streets that go from four lanes to one.

Long Answer: There are a handful of turns along the route where you will encounter narrower streets, overhead hazards, and other obstacles. We recommend that you keep your banners and vehicles less than 16 feet wide and **no more than 14 feet high**. Floats, including towed objects, must be less than 40 feet long, from front bumper to back bumper, to successfully navigate the turn at 8th Street. Please note, we consider a float/large vehicle anything over the size of a full-size long bed truck. Anything over 39 feet in length must be registered under the float or large vehicle category.

Also keep in mind that the formation area will be very crowded during set-up. Care should be taken with banners, signs, musical instruments, props, etc., to ensure that they don't get stepped on or take up excessive space while waiting to begin The March.

What are the main rules of the March?

Solicitation of funds: NYC Law prohibits the solicitation of funds during any parade.

If your organization is found soliciting funds, you will not be permitted to participate in next year's March.

Weapons: No weapons of any kind are permitted at the NYC Pride March. This includes, but is not limited to, firearms, knives, pepper spray, and any other items that could be used as a weapon. This policy is in place to protect the safety and well-being of all individuals involved.

Animals: The March strongly suggests that you do **NOT** bring pets. It is a long day on hard, hot asphalt. Although our pets are part of our families, it seems more loving to leave them home, where they can be comfortable and secure. For the same reasons, we prefer that people not ride horses in The March.

For horses and other Beasts of Burden please contact march-help@nycpride.org.

Movement & Performance: To avoid the creation of gaps, groups are expected to be moving forward along the route at all times unless stopped by a March volunteer or NYPD. If your group will be performing choreographed maneuvers or other exhibitions, please plan ahead to ensure that the routine incorporates forward movement. Groups are **NOT** permitted to pause at the Grandstand or



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Broadcast Booth to perform. Please pay attention to instructions from March volunteers about moving along and closing any gaps.

Balloons: Due to the height restriction, balloon installations must be approved directly with the Event Organizers. If you intend to have balloons within your group, please reach out to march-help@nycpride.org.

Nudity: The law prohibits nudity below the waist. Police will be present at The March and it is assumed that they will enforce this law.

Alcohol and Drugs: Alcohol and Drugs are not permitted at The March. NYPD/Police will be present at The March and will enforce all New York City and State laws.

Throwing Objects: OBJECTS MAY NOT BE THROWN OR TOSSED FROM VEHICLES TO OR AT THE PARTICIPANTS OR SPECTATORS. Heritage of Pride, Inc. assumes no responsibility or liability for injuries caused by such actions.

Campaigning: As a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Heritage of Pride, Inc., does not endorse political candidates or parties. The March welcomes elected officials and candidates for office every year regardless of party affiliation. **POLITICAL FUNDRAISING DURING ANY HOP EVENT IS ABSOLUTELY PROHIBITED.** Heritage of Pride asks that candidates refrain from campaigning during The March.

Litter: Heritage of Pride, Inc. is not responsible for litter generated during The March. If large amounts of your organization's literature are found on or near The March route, formation area, or dispersal area, Heritage of Pride, Inc. will forward bills for sanitation to your organization.

Heritage of Pride is not responsible for damage to any personal property during The March.