

# WELCOME TO YOUR 2019 MEMPHIS PRIDE FEST

## MESSAGE FROM MID-SOUTH PRIDE PRESIDENT VANESSA RODLEY



On behalf of the Board of Directors, I want to welcome you to your 2019 Memphis Pride Fest! Last year as we celebrated our 15th Anniversary with a new home and record-breaking attendance, we started on what we knew would be another transformative year for Pride, and Memphis as a whole. While we as a community commemorated the 50th Anniversary of the Stonewall Riots - with record breaking crowds across the country, the city of Memphis celebrated its Bicentennial with plans to completely transform the Riverfront. These plans challenged the Board to think outside the box, but ultimately lead to us returning to our Downtown roots - Robert Church Park.

While we may have stepped away (temporarily) from the grandeur of the riverfront, this year is still expected to be biggest Pride Memphis has ever seen. From our Nike Stage headliner, Frenchie Davis, to the larger REDZone (our 18+ area), we're preparing Memphis for the Pride it deserves, which includes two stages of live entertainment, a wrestling ring, tons of vendors, and so much more. To visualize our rich history, we're even dedicating a portion of the festival to honoring our Grand Marshals and Community Heroes.

None of this would be possible without the determination of our year-round, all volunteer Board. I could not have done this without you, and am so proud of what we have accomplished as a team. It

truly takes a village, and I thank you.

To our festival-weekend volunteers, proud sponsors, partners, and most importantly - our community, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your support. Mid-South Pride wants our community to know that we believe in unity in the face of adversity, and one of our many goals is to build relationships that help raise the status of our community in a positive way; to always provide a safe, inclusive, and loving environment for all to feel PROUD of who they are.

I am pleased to present the most colorful weekend of the year - YOUR Memphis Pride Fest.



## YOUR COURAGE INSPIRES OUR PRIDE

At T-Mobile, we're proud to celebrate Memphis Pride Fest and the 50th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, when the LGBTQ community bravely stood up to injustice. Because of the risks taken in the name of equality, we can now celebrate our true selves with unlimited Pride.

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# GRAND MARSHALS

## JONATHAN EALY

Mid-South Pride is proud to announce that Jonathan Ealy will serve as a Grand Marshal for the 2019 Memphis Pride Fest Parade on Historic Beale Street. A native Memphian, Jonathan hosts a profound record of leading local organizations to thrive in their visions, while dedicating himself to make the world around him a better place. For the LGBTQ+ community, this is most evident in his role as the Chairman of the Board of Directors of OUTMemphis: The LGBTQIA+ Center of the Mid-South, and in his former role as Interim Executive Director of OUTMemphis. Jonathan further drives the voice of our community as a member of Shelby County Mayor Lee Harris' Young Professionals Council, where he advocates for greater inclusion in county government.

Along with his roles within our direct LGBTQ+ community, Jonathan is the Director of Special Events and Venue Director of Opera Memphis, Inc and the Clark Opera Memphis Center. In his spare time, Jonathan enjoys quality time with his partner, David, and their three dogs.



## AUBREY DEPEW

Aubrey DePew is a community activist and founder of QCG Productions here in Memphis. After spending 10 years in Los Angeles and New York City, she moved back to Memphis where she set out to create an arts culture based around queer self expression, including, but not limited to drag. She took her passion for the circus arts and created QCG, an artist collective made up entirely of queer identifying performers and allies. You can catch them performing around various parts of the Mid-South or even competing in national competitions, bringing queer artistry to the forefront of the arts and entertainment worlds.



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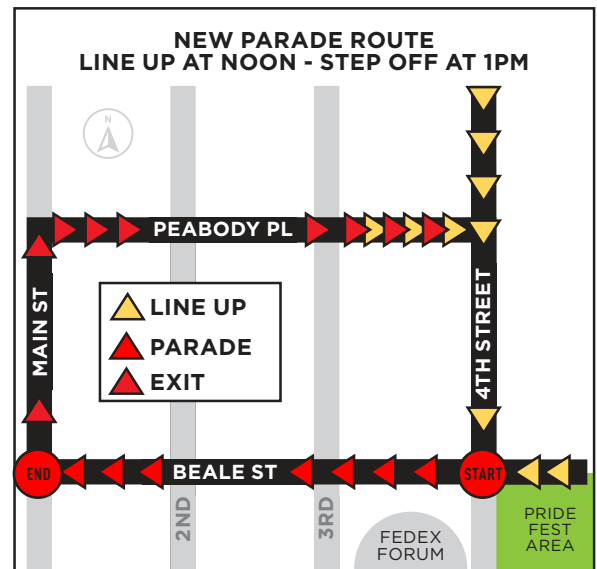
## Nike Stage

- 10:20a Harley Quinn & The Quinn Effects
- 11a Meet Grand Marshal Jonathan Ealy
- 11:15a Nefarious Damn Thing
- 11:55a Meet Grand Marshal Aubrey DePew
- 12:10p Dance Party
- 2p Dance Party
- 2:30p Awards
- 3:15p Frenchie Davis
- 4p Drag Show

## Stonewall Stage

- 10:30a - 12:30p Drag Show
- 2:30p - 4:30p Wrestling

\*\*Please visit our website for details about the entertainment [midsouthpride.org](http://midsouthpride.org)



## MEMPHIS PRIDE FEST BOARD MEMBERS

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A background image showing several hands of different skin tones clasped together in a supportive grip.

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**Raymond James and the Pride Network are proud  
to support Mid-South Pride.**

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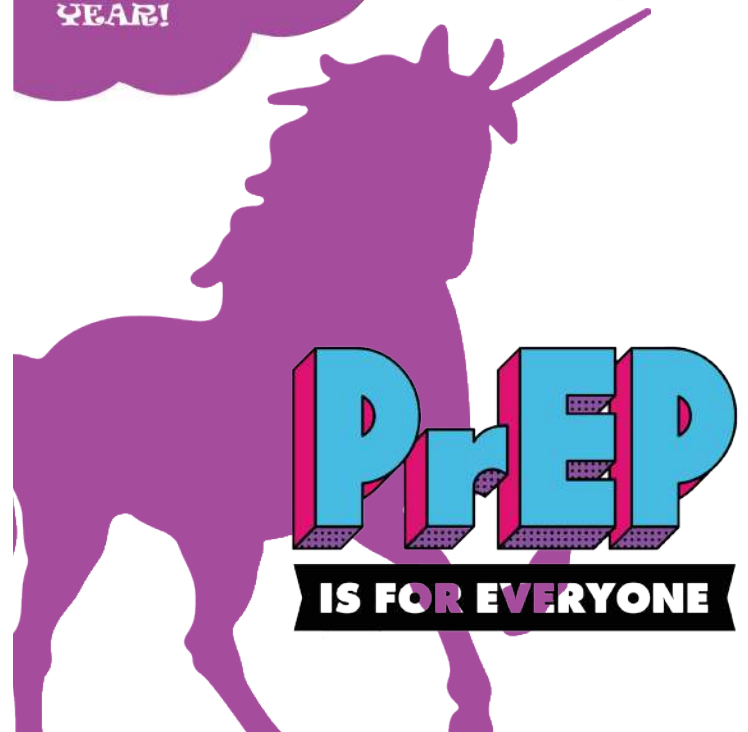
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