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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Atlanta Pride Announces 2026
“Pride Across the Peach State” Grant Recipients

ATLANTA (MAY 2026) — [Atlanta Pride](#), the largest free Pride festival in the United States, is proud to announce the recipients of the 2026 Pride Across the Peach State grant cycle, supporting Pride festivals in communities across Georgia. Since launching in 2024, the initiative has helped expand the reach and impact of local Pride celebrations throughout the state, empowering organizers to create spaces where LGBTQ+ people and allies can connect, celebrate diversity, build resilience, and foster inclusion. The 2026 grantees will each host a Pride festival this year, continuing to grow visibility, community, and affirmation for LGBTQ+ Georgians from every corner of the Peach State.

Atlanta Pride’s philanthropic initiative, “Pride Across the Peach State,” will continue its focus on uplifting, supporting, and amplifying the efforts of Georgia-based Pride organizations. To date, the Pride Across the Peach State grant initiative has awarded \$130,000 in grants to 17 different Pride organizations across the State of Georgia. In 2025, it supported 11 organizations. This year, Atlanta Pride is awarding an additional \$40,000 in grant funding to twelve community organizations. To Atlanta Pride’s knowledge, no other Pride organization is reinvesting locally at this same level.

“Pride Across the Peach State is about ensuring LGBTQ+ communities across every part of Georgia have the support and visibility they deserve,” said Chris McCain. “Over the past two grant cycles, we’ve seen these investments help local Pride organizations create incredible programming, expand outreach efforts, and build stronger, more connected communities throughout the state. This initiative continues to demonstrate the power of supporting grassroots Pride celebrations and organizations beyond metro Atlanta, and we’re proud to stand alongside this year’s grantees as they continue that

important work across Georgia.”

In 2026, Atlanta Pride is proud to award grants to the following organizations:

[Athens Pride](#) (Athens, GA)

Athens Pride & Queer Collective is dedicated to the advancement of equity, affirmation, diversity, and wellness of queer populations in the greater Athens area by working with historically marginalized communities through outreach, social connection, education, and events. ***The 2026 Athens Pride Festival will be held on June 6.***

[Atlanta Black Pride](#) (Atlanta, GA)

Atlanta Black Pride, Inc. exists to celebrate, empower, and advocate for BIPOC LGBTQ+ individuals and families through year-round programming that promotes community leadership, education, healthy living, self-empowerment, economic growth, and political involvement. We provide safe, affirming spaces while advancing social justice, health equity, and economic opportunity for all members of our diverse community. ***The annual Atlanta Black Pride Weekend takes place over Labor Day Weekend, with its signature Pride events scheduled for September 2-7, 2026.***

[Boro Pride Festival](#) (Statesboro, GA)

Boro Pride is a nonprofit organization founded in 2019 to build a stronger, more visible, and more connected LGBTQ+ community in Statesboro-Bulloch County and the surrounding areas. Through inclusive programming, advocacy, and community partnerships, Boro Pride works to ensure LGBTQ+ people are seen, supported, and celebrated in every space. The annual Boro Pride Festival serves as a cornerstone event, bringing together community members, allies, and local leaders for a day of visibility, joy, and connection. ***The 2026 Boro Pride Festival will be held on October 3, 2026.***

[Carrollton Pride](#) (Carrollton, GA)

Carrollton Rainbow Inc. is a 501(c)3 non-profit with a mission to create a safe, supportive and inclusive environment for the LGBTQIA+ community and allies in the Carrollton, GA & West Georgia area through community outreach, education, advocacy, and engagement. ***Carrollton Pride 2026 will take place on October 3 at the University of West Georgia Campus Center.***

[Equality Fest](#) (Gainesville, GA)

Equality Fest is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to celebrating diversity and promoting inclusivity, with a special focus on the LGBT community and other marginalized groups. We believe that every individual is unique and inherently equal, deserving of respect, dignity, and opportunity. Through community events, advocacy, and education, Equality Fest aims to create a more just and vibrant society where

differences are not just acknowledged but embraced, fostering a culture of unity and acceptance in Gainesville and beyond. ***The 2026 Equality Fest will be held on September 12.***

[Gwinnett Pride Festival](#) (Norcross, GA)

Before 2018, there were no signs of an LGBTQIA+ community in Gwinnett County. Visibility Club changed that by building a thriving LGBTQIA+ network to ensure our community is seen, heard, and represented across Gwinnett. ***The 2026 Gwinnett Pride Festival will be held on June 13.***

[Macon Pride Festival](#) (Macon, GA)

The purpose of Macon Pride is to advance unity, visibility, and self-esteem among LGBTQIA+ persons and our allies and to promote a positive image in the Middle Georgia area through community activities and service. ***The 2026 Macon Pride Festival will be held on September 25-28.***

[PrideLake Festival](#) (Pine Lake, GA)

The PrideLake Festival is a small “by the community, for the community” event focused on building relationships around the tiny city of Pine Lake (population: 800). Taking place in the smallest city in Dekalb County, this year they celebrate their fifth Annual Pride, proving that even the smallest of us can make a lasting impact! ***The 2026 Pride Lake Festival will be held on September 12.***

[Rome Georgia Pride Festival](#) (Rome, GA)

Rome Pride is about community, inclusion, and diversity. We celebrate our LGBTQ+ siblings, business owners, community leaders, and family. The Rome Georgia Pride Festival is a free-admission LGBTQ+ pride festival that takes place in downtown Rome, Georgia. ***The 2026 Rome Georgia Pride weekend runs June 26-28, with the march and festival taking place on Saturday, June 27th.***

[Savannah Pride Festival](#) (Savannah, GA)

Marking its 27th year as the premier event for the Savannah and Coastal Georgia LGBTQIA+ community and allies, Savannah Pride serves as a vital reminder of hope and unity, offering a platform for expression and connection. The festival kicks off with an innovative Neuro-sensitive market, designed to cater to diverse sensory needs, ensuring an inclusive experience for all attendees. Throughout the day, festivalgoers can enjoy the dynamic performances of local drag artists and DJs, enjoy a variety of games and crafts, and savor culinary delights from an array of food trucks. With drinks flowing and plenty of unique vendors, there's something for everyone! The festivities close the night with a glow and foam Party followed by the Official After-Party at Club One! ***The 2026 Savannah Pride Festival will be held on October 24.***

Smyrna Pride Festival (Smyrna, GA)

Smyrna Pride welcomes and celebrates its LGBTQ+ Residents and Allies by creating community and building partnerships founded in social equality. Smyrna Pride believes that everyone should feel welcome, respected, and appreciated. We imagine a city where no one has to wonder if they will be rejected as a neighbor because of who they love. ***The 2026 Smyrna Pride Festival will be held on June 13.***

Southern Fried Queer Pride Festival (Atlanta, GA)

Southern Fried Queer Pride (SFQP) was born out of a lack of space for Black and brown queer folks to build community, a lack of queer art, and in opposition of the established narrative of Southern queers. The South is home to the country's largest population of LGBTQIQAP2+ individuals, yet we're confined to a narrative of stigma, statistics, and struggle. SFQP fights that notion, and is aiding in uplifting an honest narrative of resilience, rich history, and vibrance. ***The 2026 Southern Fried Queer Pride Festival takes place June 22nd through June 28th in Little 5 Points in Atlanta, GA.***

These grants will support each organization's work, enabling them to continue building strong, supportive, and inclusive LGBTQ+ communities across Georgia. For more information about the "Pride Across the Peach State" grant initiative and Atlanta Pride's ongoing work, please visit atlantapride.org.

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About Atlanta Pride

Founded in 1970, Atlanta Pride is Georgia's oldest nonprofit organization serving the LGBTQ+ community in metro Atlanta and across the Southeast. The organization produces the annual Atlanta Pride Festival and Parade in October and leads year-round community programming and philanthropic initiatives. In recent years, Atlanta Pride has welcomed more than 350,000 attendees during festival weekend, generating an estimated annual economic impact of more than \$86 million for the region. For more information about Atlanta Pride, visit atlantapride.org. Stay connected with Atlanta Pride on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).