

## SUSSEX PRIDE WWW.SUSSEXPRIDE.ORG 302 | 265 | 4165

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rehoboth Beach Gears up to Celebrate Pride with a Fun-Filled Weekend The weekend will also offer safe spaces to have important community conversations, and raise money to support unhoused LGBTQ+ youth in Delaware

Rehoboth Beach, Delaware - Rehoboth Beach Pride Weekend is set to explode onto the Delaware coast this summer from July 18-21. As part of this vibrant celebration of love and inclusivity, the Rehoboth Beach Pride Festival promises a day of revelry, awareness, and unity for the LGBTQ+ community and its allies.

Pride festivals are a critical platform for the LGBTQ+ community, providing a space to celebrate identity, promote acceptance, and address issues that affect the community. Rehoboth Beach Pride Festival seeks to reinforce these values by hosting an inclusive and exciting event that combines entertainment, education, and community support.

Taking place on Saturday July 20, the festival will be hosted by the vivacious Roxy Overbrooke, delivering an electrifying atmosphere for attendees. Roxy's infectious energy will engage and inspire festival-goers, setting the stage for an unforgettable day of celebration.

The festival is also an opportunity for the LGBTQ+ community to come together and discuss topics that are important to our progress. With a variety of workshops and panel discussions, participants will engage in meaningful conversations on critical issues such as aging in the LGBTQ+ community, addressing intimate partner violence in the LGBTQ+ community, and a thought-provoking panel featuring LGBTQ+ faith leaders.

50 Vendors will be exhibiting at the Rehoboth Beach Pride Festival. The event will also feature live performances, a photo exhibit of the Rehoboth Beach LGBTQ+ community, health screenings, giveaways, and more.

The festival will also feature a raffle, with all proceeds going to benefit unhoused LGBTQ+ Youth in Delaware. This charitable initiative reflects the community's commitment to supporting and uplifting the next generation, ensuring their well-being, and empowering them to face the challenges they may encounter. All money from the raffle will go to the Safeguards Housing Committee, a statewide initiative to support unhoused LGBTQ+ Youth. The committee is a program of PFLAG Wilmington.

Nationwide an estimated 40% of unhoused youth, and 30% of youth in foster care identify as LGBTQ+.

"Sussex Pride is proud to be a member of the Safeguards Housing Committee and to be able to support homeless LGBTQ+ youth in our state" stated David Mariner, Executive Director of Sussex Pride.

Workshops begin at 9:30 AM and the festival takes place from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. The festival is free and open to all. Later that evening there will be a comedy show featuring the Funny Girlz (Roxanna Ward, Vickie Shaw, and Lisa Koch) followed by a dance with DJ Sue P. These are both ticketed events.

Rehoboth Beach Pride Festival emphasizes the importance of providing safe spaces for LGBTQ+ individuals to come together, celebrate their identities, and address the unique challenges they face. Through entertainment, education, and community support, this event aims to foster unity and resilience within the community, while also promoting diversity and acceptance among allies.

David Mariner, Executive Director of Sussex Pride, expressed his enthusiasm, stating, "We are excited to bring the Rehoboth Beach Pride Festival to our community. It is a time for us to come together, celebrate our identities, and address important issues facing our LGBTQ+ community. We encourage everyone to join us for a day filled with laughter, learning, and love."

For more information about the Rehoboth Beach Pride Festival, visit our website at sussexpride.org/rehobothbeach

For information about other events taking place during Rehoboth Beach Pride Weekend, follow Rehoboth Beach Pride on instagram at <a href="instagram.com/rehobothbeachpride">instagram.com/rehobothbeachpride</a>

## **About Rehoboth Beach Pride:**

Rehoboth Beach Pride is an annual celebration in Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, that seeks to promote acceptance, unity, and inclusivity within the LGBTQ+ community and its allies. Through a variety of events, including the Rehoboth Beach Pride Festival, Rehoboth Beach Pride Weekend aims to celebrate love, foster understanding, and address the unique issues faced by the LGBTQ+ community.

## **About Sussex Pride:**

Sussex Pride works to celebrate, strengthen, and support the LGBTQ+ community in Sussex County and the state of Delaware, working through a social justice lens. We focus on arts & culture, health & wellness, social and support groups, and advocacy for our community.