

Media Release

The Hon Harriet Shing MP
Minister for Housing
Minister for Water
Minister for Equality



Tuesday, 19 November 2024

FUNDING FOR EVENTS CELEBRATING LGBTIQA+ COMMUNITIES

The Allan Labor Government is celebrating and connecting LGBTIQA+ Victorians, funding events across the state which honour their history and achievements.

Marking the end of Trans Awareness Week, Minister for Equality Harriet Shing today announced 29 recipients of this year's Pride Events and Festivals Fund (PEFF).

Successful organisations across the state will share in a total of \$400,000 in grants available across two funding streams, after applications closed in September.

Events designed to foster social connection and wellbeing among rainbow communities run until November 2025.

Transgender Victoria will deliver the Trans Book Festival, showcasing trans and gender diverse stories spanning fiction, memoir, poetry, non-fiction and graphic novels.

The Melbourne Trans and Gender Diverse Film Festival will put on the 10th annual Tilde Festival in 2025, bringing trans and gender diverse filmmakers and artists together.

Transcend will use its funding to deliver a Pathways to Thriving Conference, combatting stigma and discrimination which can contribute to poorer wellbeing and mental health outcomes for trans and gender diverse people.

The event brings together families and carers of trans and gender diverse youth, carers, community organisations, service providers, practitioners and experts to share their knowledge, best practice and make social connections.

Victorian Pride Centre, in partnership with Australian GLBTIQ Multicultural Council, will host the Queer Multicultural Carnival, a large full-day festival with multicultural LGBTIQA+ performances, cuisine and workshops.

The Pier Festival, organised by Auspicious Arts Projects, will host its annual music festival, highlighting the creativity and talent of queer women and gender-diverse artists in the music and arts sectors.

Investment in PEFF aligns with the Labor Government's first whole-of-government LGBTIQA+ strategy, *Pride in our future: Victoria's LGBTIQA+ strategy 2022-32*, to create safe, strong, and sustainable LGBTIQA+ communities.

The Labor Government leads the nation in its strategy to foster inclusive communities where everyone can live safely and authentically, appointing Australia's first Minister for Equality in 2014, and first Commissioner for LGBTIQA+ Communities in 2015.

To see the full list of PEFF 2024-25 events, visit vic.gov.au/pride-events-and-festivals-fund.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Equality, Harriet Shing

"Through our Pride and Events Festival Fund we are continuing to support a range of events and activities that encourage visibility, dignity and pride."

"Inclusion and safety for our LGBTIQA+ communities through events and festivals is so important in making sure that LGBTIQA+ people can live wholly and freely."

Media contact: Philip Ritchie 0430 336 243 | philip.ritchie@minstaff.vic.gov.au