



Reclaim Pride Coalition Demands to Heritage of Pride

Whereas the NYC Pride March emerged out of a LGBTQ community tradition of mutual support and resistance against state, police, and societal oppression epitomized and symbolized by the 1969 Stonewall Riots; and

Whereas the ascent of the Trump Administration underscores the ongoing oppression of members of our community, particularly the most vulnerable members, including people of color, those who are transgender and/or gender nonconforming, disabled people, and immigrants; and

Whereas the members of this Coalition condemn all instances of police excessive force, the over policing of our community, and police militarization;

The Reclaim Pride Coalition (“RPC”), currently composed primarily of groups and individuals who marched together in the 2017 NYC Pride March as members of the Resistance Contingent, makes the following Demands to Heritage of Pride (“HOP”) as to the 2018 NYC Pride March and future NYC Pride Marches:

1. Police Presence in March

- a. This Coalition demands that HOP joins in our Demand for a public apology from the NYPD for the part it played at Stonewall and for historic and ongoing violence by the NYPD against members of the LGBTQ community, particularly the most vulnerable members of our community

- b. There are to be no uniformed or visibly armed police officers, or their vehicles, within the March, nor shall any police be afforded a place of pride near the front of the March, nor shall there be a police band.
- c. This prohibition extends to ICE and corrections officers and vehicles

2. Police Engagement at March

- a. This Coalition demands Police Free Zones at Christopher Street, the Pier, and the NYC AIDS Memorial. Security will be provided by trained members of our community, and this Coalition will provide a detailed plan for the training and implementation of our community security group.
- b. HOP must insist to the NYPD that there will be no police barricades along the March route and in the assembly areas for the March.
- c. HOP must call on the NYPD to not arrest people engaged in direct action protests including but not limited to, die-ins or brief sit-ins, within the March. HOP should not serve as a de facto extension of the NYPD.
- d. There shall be no cooperation between HOP nor the NYPD with ICE during NYC Pride.

3. Community Group Participation Versus Commercial and Political Contingent Participation

- a. This Coalition demands that no limits be placed as to the numbers of participants in the March in community, activist, and not-for-profit group contingents. More specifically, we reject the limit of 200 people in these contingents.
- b. This Coalition demands that no wristbands be required of participants in these contingents.
- c. This Coalition demands that the March contingents of Corporate and for-profit entities be limited to 200 participants.

d. This same restriction should be applied to community groups that join with or are sponsored by corporate or for-profit entities, i.e., hybrid contingents with explicit corporate branding.

e. Contingents representing or including political parties, elected officials, and political candidates shall also be limited to 200 participants and should not march in a place of pride near the front of the Pride March

4. Resistance Contingent

a. The members of this Coalition demand to march in the 2018 NYC Pride March as a unified group, as we did in the 2017 Pride March.

b. This group will again be called the Resistance Contingent, in recognition of the ongoing and unique oppression enacted upon our community by the Trump Administration.

5. Pride March Route

a. This Coalition demands an honest and transparent explanation for the dramatic route change enacted by Heritage of Pride to the 2018 Pride March route.

b. This Coalition also demands representation in the logistical planning of the March moving forward.

c. This Coalition demands that issues of accessibility for the disabled members of our community during the March be satisfactorily accommodated, including but not limited to, issues such as how people with disabilities will travel to the Pride Festival after the March.

In closing, in addition to the above Demands to HOP the Reclaim Pride Coalition believes that HOP's management of the annual NYC Pride March, resulting in commercial and police saturation of the March among other unacceptable characteristics, has led to decades long conflict with and the alienation of many individuals and groups within the NYC LGBTQ community. The Reclaim Pride Coalition calls on HOP to relinquish control of the management of the Pride March following the 2018 Pride March and engage in a process of opening up the organizing and control of this important event to the community the Pride March grew out of and should continue to represent.