



## Blue Ridge Pride Community Events

\*CONTACT INFORMATION HERE\*

[www.blueridgepride.org](http://www.blueridgepride.org)

---

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Friday, August 19, 2022

## The Blue Ridge Pride Festival and Welcoming WNC Procession are Back!

### It's time for some Inclusion, Y'all!

That is the theme of this year's Blue Ridge Pride Festival, taking place at Asheville's Pack Square Park on Saturday, September 24. This is Western North Carolina's largest Pride event, a celebration of the estimated 75,000 LGBTQ+ people who make their home in Western North Carolina.



### Welcoming WNC Procession

The festival runs from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. However, many people arrive early to participate in the Welcoming WNC Procession. The procession is not your typical pride parade. It is a half-mile, family-friendly parade of people that is free to anyone who aspires to a vision of a WNC community that is welcoming to all. Companies, churches, organizations, groups, families, and individuals are all free to join. They need only [register](#) by September 20.



### A Day of Community Celebration, Education, Advocacy, and Service

The festival assembles what may be the largest, most diverse community of exhibitors and sponsors in Western North Carolina. It features over 100 organizations dedicated to social justice, community service, health care, faith, education, and the LGBTQ community. Another 100 local employers, merchants, artists, food caterers, and service providers join us to serve and support the community. Says Executive Director, Tina Madison White, "We try to create, if only for a day, a tiny city that models the society we hope to become. We want people to experience how wonderful it can be when an entire



community shares space and grows together. This is a celebration of both the LGBTQ+ community and all of our incredible allies.”

The festival’s two stages will feature some of Western North Carolina’s most talented local artists, Performers include Melissa McKinney, Kayla and the Change, Mar and Mermaladies, Fancy & the Gentlemen, Lo Wolf, Laura Blackley, Miriam Allen, David Zoll, and Kevin Evans. In the late afternoon, the main stage will feature the Rocky Horror Music Show and our famous DRAG showcase.

### Blue Ridge Pride Pageant / Festival Month

The festival will also introduce the newly crowned winner of the annual **Blue Ridge Pride Pageant**. The pageant will be held on September 4th at the Grey Eagle Music Hall [[Tickets](#)]. It celebrates gender expression and identity in all its forms and is open to all regional drag artists.

Venues all over the community will be featuring events around the time of the festival. Visit our festival month calendar to see the latest listings. Blue Ridge Pride is co-producing several events in particular:



- 9/4: **Blue Ridge Pride Pageant** @ Grey Eagle Music Hall (7:00 pm to 11:00 pm) [\$15-\$18 [Tickets](#)]
- 9/17: **The Love Boat- Generation Plus’ Senior Prom** (6:30 pm to 9:30 pm) [[Free – RSVP](#)]
- 9/22: **The Art of Pride** @ The Marquee @ 36 Foundy St (6:00 pm to 8:00 pm)
- 9/23: **Silent Disco Pride Party** @ Rabbit Rabbit, 75 Coxe Ave (7:30 pm to 11:00 pm) [Headphones \$5 rental]
- 9/24: **Midnight Madness with the Beer City Sisters** @ 27 Club Asheville, 180 Patton Avenue (9:00 pm to 11:30 pm) [\$5 at Door 21+]
- 9/25: **SPLASH Pool Party** @ Aloft Asheville 51 Biltmore Ave (1:00 pm to 5:00 pm) {\$10 at door]

### Seeking Volunteers

Blue Ridge Pride remains a volunteer-driven organization. We couldn’t produce this festival without the support of the community. Give us a few hours on festival day ([Festival Volunteer Page](#)). We also welcome applicants for some [key leadership roles](#) immediately before and during the festival.

---

### Media Inquiries

Contact

- [communications@blueridgepride.org](mailto:communications@blueridgepride.org) or
- Tina Madison White, Executive Director, [ExecutiveDirector@Blueridgepride.org](mailto:ExecutiveDirector@Blueridgepride.org) (917) 822-9085.

### Links Resources

- [Blue Ridge Pride Home Page](#)
- [Festival Home Page](#)

## Photos, Logos, Videos

- BRPC Festival Archives: [Photos](#) | [Videos](#) | [Logos](#)
- [\*\*Blue Ridge Pride Festival Promotional Video\*\*](#)

---

The Blue Ridge Pride Center is a 501©3 non-profit organization dedicated to promote equality, safety, and quality of life for Western North Carolina’s LGBTQIA and allied communities, working as a united community through advocacy, celebration, education, and service. Our vision is to promote and create an inclusive community, where people are embraced for who they are and welcome to engage and contribute.

---