

PARIS 2018-GAY GAMES 10

CELEBRATE DIVERSITY

Press Conference - 2 October 2017



Press Release – 2 October 2017



Press Conference D-300

On 2 October 2017, the organizing committee of Paris 2018-Gay Games 10 brought together more than 50 journalists representing the national, specialized, and sports media in France. Just 300 days before the opening ceremony of Paris 2018-Gay Games 10, this event was a unique opportunity to take stock with the Paris 2018 Co-Presidents, surrounded by the Minister of Sports, the Secretary of State for Equality between the Men and Women, the Mayor of Paris, and the Vice-President of the Ile-de-France Region.

Pascale Reinteu, Co-President, reaffirmed the objective of these next Gay Games: "Our watchword is equality: All Equal". The Gay Games are international and open to all adults, without discrimination or stigmatization. I insist, we insist, that everyone is welcome, homo or straight, women, men, or trans, young or old, amateur or professional ... Here, all couples can skate or dance. And all can participate without any selection or requirements. In this sense, the Gay Games are the most inclusive games in the world. "

Manuel Picaud, Co-President, also stated, "The selection of Paris to host the tenth edition of the Gay Games were announced five years ago. We are very pleased that Paris has also been selected to organize the 2024 Olympic and Paralympic Games, with whom we will build together a new chapter of sport and cultural history in our country. As we fully embrace the fight against discrimination and the promotion of sport for all participants and spectators, we will work with Paris 2024 to further our values of Diversity, Respect, Equality, Solidarity and Sharing."

During this press conference, the potential economic impact and tourism benefits for Paris, the region, and France were shared with all. The participant fee is 175 €, which is 30% of the total budget for Paris 2018-Gay Games 10. The Co-Presidents also thanked private donors and supporters, as well as all the public and associative partners. The success of this event is, of course, due to the commitment of the 800 volunteers who are already engaged in the project, with support from partners, patrons, and ambassadors, and also from all of you: future volunteers, future participants and future spectators - it is your actions that will ensure the success of this 10th edition of the Gay Games, and your participation will help Paris influence the entire world. Join us !

ABOUT PARIS 2018 - GAY GAMES 10: From 4 to 12 August 2018, the 10th edition of the Gay Games will be held in Paris. Created in 1982 and organized every four years, the Gay Games are the largest sporting and cultural event open to everyone over 18 years of age, regardless of gender identity, sexual orientation, ethnic origin, or disability, and also without any selection or requirements. The next Gay Games will bring together up to 15,000 participants and 300,000 spectators under three guiding principles: Participation, Inclusion and Personal Best™, with 36 sports, 14 cultural events, 2 ceremonies, 1 village, and a sports conference.

Paris 2018, Games for Respect

Changing society through sport



In August 2018, the 10th edition of the Gay Games will be held in France, the largest cultural, festive, and especially, sporting event in the world, open to all! Our motto for these games is "All Equal" because this event is organized with strong values of respect, sharing, and fighting against discrimination, against ALL kinds of discrimination.

Sport competition can, at times, be seen as discriminating because sport celebrates "perfect" health, because sport puts in opposition participants and nationalities, because sport distinguishes genders in a binary and rigid manner, because sport focuses on age and performance ... In 1980, when the Gay Games were first conceived, discrimination also existed in relation to sexual orientation and gender identity. The founder of the Gay Games, Dr. Tom Waddell, regretted that an athlete could be thought of only within a system of macho and patriarchal values. At that time, it was not possible to be an athlete AND lesbian, or gay, or bisexual, or trans, or queer. The only options were one or the other!

In 1982, at the first games in San Francisco, the participants refused this limiting approach, and used sport as a means of asserting themselves with their sexuality, their gender, their life. For Tom Waddell, these games had as much to do to "bringing together a diverse community around the same goals, to raise consciousness, strengthen self-esteem" and "deconstruct representations based on ignorance." To accomplish this, the Gay Games was open to all adults, without any criterion or selection.

Since 1982, these objectives have never waived. With Paris 2018, this tradition that has been rooted in the LGBT movement will expand to include the fight against all discrimination!

The nine previous editions of the Gay Games have contributed to the deconstruction of existing discrimination and oppressive social practices to enable all people to be able to assert themselves as they participate in their sporting and cultural activity and in daily life. The Gay Games have given an international resonance to a way of seeing the world, based on living together and celebrating diversity and equality for all.

But much remains to be done. Even today, sport remains discriminating, coming out in sport is too rare and requires tremendous courage, the performances of athletes and former trans athletes are mocked or even prevented. Still today, we must fight to advance equality, we must fight to prevent the reduction of our rights as our lives are mocked and even threatened.

« The nine previous editions of the Gay Games have contributed to the deconstruction of existing discrimination and oppressive social practices »

Paris 2018-Gay Games 10 is a large part of this story, in these demands! In 2018, sport can and must always contribute to changing society; this event, by its very existence, is political. Paris 2018 will bring together up to 15,000 participants from more than 70 countries in dozens of competitions and events to proudly claim the ideal: "All Equal!"

Pascale Reinteu
Co-President

Manuel Picaud
Co-President

Paris 2018-Gay Games 10 in numbers

**4 to 12
August
2018**

**36
sports**

**14
cultural
events**

**10th
edition of the
Gay Games**

**1
sports
conference**

**55
venues**



**15 000
participants**



**70
countries**

**40 000
visitors**



PARIS 2018, ALL EQUAL



From August 4 to 12, 2018, it's Paris's turn to host the 10th edition of the Gay Games and be the world capital of diversity in sport and culture.

Since 1982, every 4 years, thousands of people participate together in the largest international sport and cultural event, without discrimination and really open to all: the Gay Games.

The Gay Games were conceived as early as 1980 by Doctor Tom Waddell as a means to support legal, cultural, social and political changes for LGBT people around the world. The Gay Games are a moment of self-affirmation and of pride! The Gay Games can and must break down stereotypes to deconstruct a vision that is often macho and restrictive in sport and culture, a vision that also prevents the possibility of being an athlete or artist while also being lesbian, trans, bisexual, or gay.

For Tom Waddell, "The Gay Games are not separatist, they are not exclusive, they are not oriented to victory, and they are not for commercial gain. They ARE however, intended to bring a global community together in friendship, to experience participation, to elevate consciousness and self-esteem — and to achieve a form of cultural and intellectual synergy."

Tom Waddell wanted these games to be part of a "process of deconstruction of representations based on ignorance," and in particular of the "ageist, sexist, racist ... and nationalist" representations that are often too active in sport.

The Gay Games are a part of the history in the fight against discrimination and in promoting the rights of LGBT people. The Gay Games have contributed immensely to the affirmation of LGBT participants in sport and culture.

The Gay Games are very committed to the fight against HIV, especially given that Dr. Tom Waddell lived and died with this virus. The Gay Games have taken on the fight against the AIDS epidemic and the fight against serophobia. With their objectives and values, the Gay Games make it possible to welcome and honor people living with HIV in sport and culture, while refusing to discriminate because of a person's health status. When the Gay Games were first organized in the United States, the event was faced with a travel ban against the entry of HIV-positive people. Twice, this "travel ban" was removed especially for the Gay Games, and was permanently removed by President Obama in 2009.

PARIS 2018 AND UNIVERSAL VALUES



Paris 2018-Gay Games 10 - sport, culture, and festivities – a Celebration of Diversity with important values and principals:

Participation

Inclusion

Personal Best

Diversity

Respect

Equality

Solidarity

Sharing

Gay Games use sport and culture to build inclusion, to combat discrimination, to promote diversity, and to live together. All of the cultural, sporting and festive events will be accessible to all, without barriers related to disability, age or gender ...

The accessibility of all our events is essential and not just a challenge or objective.

3-Day Conference On Sport and Diversity



**3 days of
conférences**

**50 presenters and
experts**

200 participants

1 Aug 2018 : Sport Against Discrimination

2 Aug 2018 : Sport For Well-being and Health

3 Aug 2018 : Sport For Accessibility and Equality

Organized by Paris 2018 and in partnership with the organization known as Sport & Citizenship, these conferences are built in conjunction with other civil society partners involved in the fight against discrimination and for access to rights: The French Union of Secular Physical Education, the International League Against Racism and Anti-Semitism, the League of Human Rights, the French Anti-Doping Agency ...

These three days will serve to validate a series of conclusions gathered under the name of "PARIS 2018 Call for Sport for All". These conclusions will include 18 concrete proposals that will be announced to the public on Saturday, 11 August 2018, during the GAY GAMES 10 Closing Ceremony.

The published conclusions will serve as a legacy of Paris 2018-GAY GAMES 10 promoting Sport for All.

Practical Information

Auditorium de l'Hôtel de Ville de Paris
Rue Lobau, 75004 Paris

Places are limited to 150 people. Register at paris2018.com



A Day of Festivities to Launch Paris 2018-Gay Games 10 Gay Games Opening Ceremony and Opening Soirée



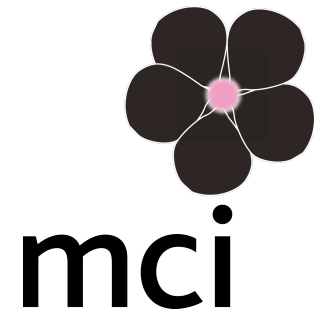
The opening ceremony will mark the official opening of the Gay Games at the Jean Bouin Stadium on August 4, 2018. To ensure the level of professionalism and grandeur required by this event, MCI France has been selected to create and produce the fabulous ceremony.

The Opening Ceremony is one of the most important moments of the Gay Games, with a procession of athletes and artists into the stadium, with a series of tableaux illustrating Paris, and accompanied by a succession of performers and public figures, this ceremony will bring together all participants to share in an unforgettable experience.

Just after the Opening Ceremony, the Grand Palais will host the Opening Soiree of the 10th edition of the Gay Games.

For this unprecedented event, the evening organizer, Redwolf, was selected by Paris 2018. On this occasion, the Grand Palais will host the renown DJ, remixer and music producer, Offer Nissim, one of the most recognized DJs on the international gay scene.

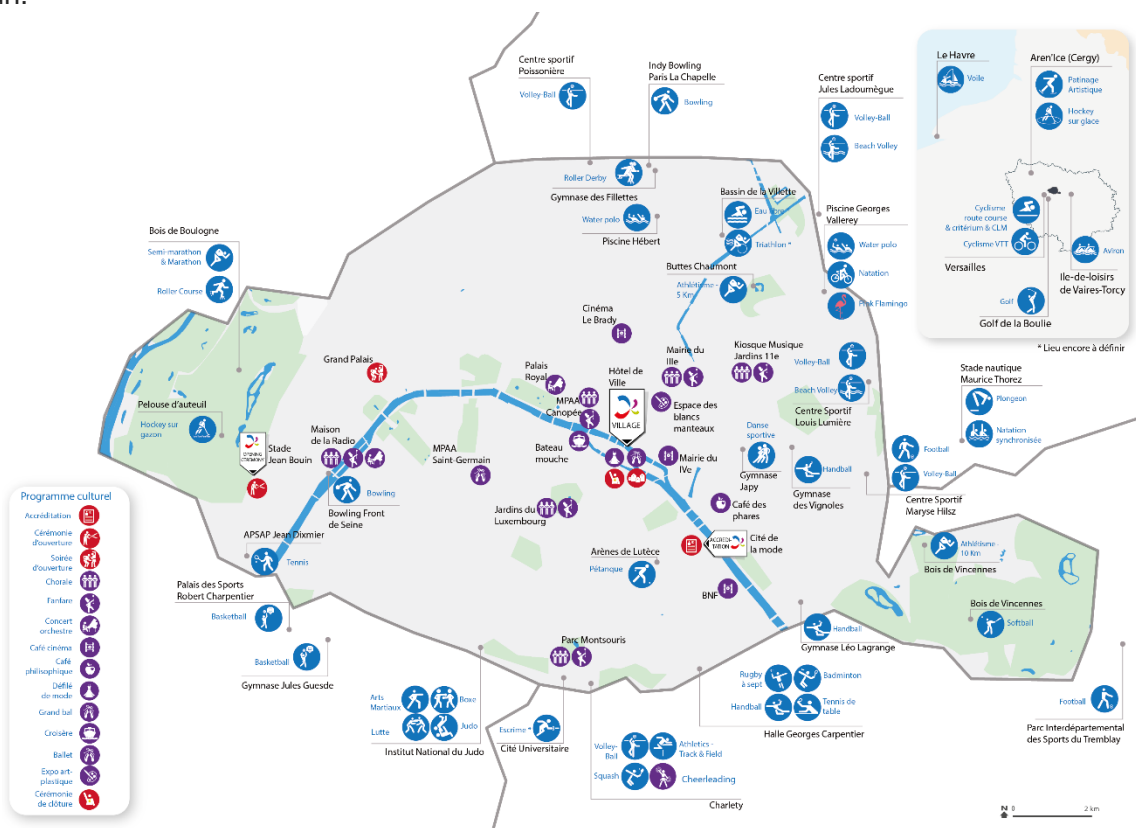
The Grand Palais venue has a maximum capacity of 5600 people, and will house an immense stage with more than 100m2 of screens, with the best sound systems, an impressive light show, a VIP area, and facilities for serving drinks and food.



Many Sports and Competitions

More than 36 sports will be included in this 10th edition of the Gay Games. With its specialty sport, such as petanque, and the long-time tradition of the aquatic event, Pink Flamingo, the program will be rich in choice in order to please the greatest number of participants. The complete list of sport is available on our website <https://www.paris2018.com/fr/sports-list/>

One of the specific features of Gay Games is sports competitions that are open to all, without criterion or selection! The Gay Games are adapted to suit the competitors so that everyone can find their place and have the opportunity to attain their personal best while having fun.



Several categories are defined according to participants' age and level of experience, with some competitions that are traditionally for mixed couples, such as dance, that will also include same-sex couples.
















On the other hand, some of the competitions, especially in team sports, such as softball are mixed; women and men play together, out of love for the sport, for the pleasure of the game. Also, able and disabled participants will be able to play together in the same event, with final rosters that will be confirmed when registrations have been closed.

Cultural and Festive Events

14 cultural events, individual and group performances !

Paris 2018 - Gay Games 10 has proposed a wide and varied program of events aimed at bringing together the a variety of participants and audiences from around the world, following the values and history of the Gay Games in particular, and LGBT movements in general.

Many cultural associations are involved in the implementation of this fabulous cultural and festival program.

Arts		Ciné-Club le 7ème genre		Courts sur cour		Exposition Arts Visuels
		Le parcours cinéma				
Mémoire		International Rainbow Memorial Run		Cafés Philosophiques		Exposition Internationale de Patchworks de Noms
Musique		Cheerleading		Chorales		Concerts d'Orchestre
		Fanfares		Kiosques en Musique		
Paris		Défilé des Créateurs		Grand Bal		Randonnées
		Visite croisière sur la Seine		Visites guidées		

Paris 2018 Objectives



The Gay Games help to make society more open to others, to promote a life based on respect.

Impact on Sport

Paris 2018 insists on inclusion and diversity by and in sport. The Gay Games allow LGBT people to affirm themselves, and strengthens their legitimacy and visibility of LGBT sports and cultural associations. In particular, Paris 2018 wants to break down barriers and stereotypes related to gender identity, sexual orientation, health status, disability ... Participant categories are based on age or level of experience. Some events also include same-sex couples, such as dance or figure skating, which are traditionally reserved for mixed couples. Other events in the Gay Games have expanded participation to include both genders, such as synchronized swimming.

Impact on Culture

Paris 2018-Gay Games 10 aims to shine a light on the talents and richness of culture in Paris and the Ile-de-France region. Everyone will be able to find an activity combining history, heritage, discovery ... within the framework of the Gay Games program and with values supported by Paris 2018.

Impact on Society

Paris 2018-Gay Games 10 promotes a positive image of LGBT people. This Celebration of Diversity contributes to the fight against homophobia, lesbophobia, biphobia and transphobia, in France and around the world. The Gay Games must always strive to overcome discrimination due to gender identity or any other form of discrimination.

Paris 2018-Gay Games 10 invites all sports and cultural organizations and all public and political institutions to seize the opportunity to promote a proactive policy of openness and integration while promoting the values of respect, inclusion, and celebration of diversity.

Impact on the Environment

Paris 2018-Gay Games 10 is a sustainable and eco-responsible event. Paris 2018 is part of the Agenda 21 for French sport and culture, notably through the use of existing infrastructures, the promotion of public transport, the use of non-polluting vehicles ...

Paris 2018 is a signatory of the Charter of 15 eco-responsible commitments, a charter signed by all future major sporting events taking place in France.

[https://www.paris2018.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Charte-des-15-engagements-%C3%A9co-responsables.p](https://www.paris2018.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Charte-des-15-engagements-%C3%A9co-responsables.pdf)

Paris 2018, an economic and tourism opportunity for France and the Paris region



For 10 days with up to 15,000 people and 40,000 visitors, Paris 2018 will shine a light on Paris, its region, and all of France. Paris 2018-Gay Games 10 will have important and immediate touristic and economic benefits, and also medium and long term effects.

Impact on Tourism

The organizers of Paris 2018-Gay Games 10 have estimated the immediate impact of the Gay Games based on **100,000 overnight stays and 500,000 meals needed in the first half of August 2018**, not to mention travel in France and Europe.

Organizing the Gay Games in Paris will give a dynamic, open and welcoming image of France. Communication will be supported through partnerships with the Paris Convention and Tourism Office, the Regional Tourism Office, and Atout France, with support from the International Gay and Lesbian Tourism Association.

Impact on the Economy

Based on previous studies, the Paris 2018 organizing committee estimates **the economic impact of Gay Games 10 to be at least 58 million euros in the short term, and 78 million euros of economic impact** due to the attractiveness of France, especially for LGBT tourism.

The overall economic impact of these games is estimated at **nearly 136 million euros**.

Paris 2018, Solidarity in action with 500 scholarships



Created in 2002 by the Federation of Gay Games, the Scholarship and Outreach program encourages the participation of people for whom registration and participation are financially challenging. More than 800 people have been helped in previous editions. The aim is to increase the diversity of participants in the Gay Games, and to encourage participation from cultures or regions where people may face discrimination or even threats because of their sexual orientation or gender identity.

With the Foundation Inclusion Paris 2018, under the aegis of the Foundation Against Exclusion (FACE), and in conjunction with the Federation of Gay Games, PARIS 2018 intends to continue and intensify this program of solidarity. The aim is to raise more than € 200,000 from private sponsors in order to award 500 scholarships.

What type of scholarships are offered ?

Depending on personal circumstances, the scholarship program covers all or part of the following:

- Base registration (ceremonies, transport pass, participation medal ...)
- Registration for one sport or cultural event
- Accommodation (private, shared hotel)
- Round-trip or one-way (plane, train, bus)

How can you help this scholarship program ?

When registering for Paris 2018-Gay Games 10, participants can show solidarity and make a complementary donation to enable the participation of people from all over the world. It is also possible to make donations directly to Paris 2018 or the Foundation Inclusion Paris 2018, which are tax-deductible for French residents.

**1 Foundation
Inclusion Paris 2018**

500 Scholarships

**Fundraising
200 000 €**

Institutional Support



MINISTÈRE
DES SPORTS

MINISTÈRE
DES SOLIDARITÉS
ET DE LA SANTÉ

Ministère
**Culture
Communication**

MINISTÈRE
DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT
SUPÉRIEUR,
DE LA RECHERCHE
ET DE L'INNOVATION

Secrétariat d'Etat en
charge de l'égalité entre
les femmes et les hommes

DIGES
DÉLÉGUÉ
INTERMINISTÉRIEL
AUX GRANDS
ÉVÉNEMENTS SPORTIFS

CNDS
CENTRE NATIONAL
POUR LE
DÉVELOPPEMENT
DU SPORT



MAIRIE DE PARIS



 **île de France**

Paris 2018-Gay Games 10 Partners

The following organizations are helping to make Paris 2018 possible:



Business Partners



Media Partners



Official Service Providers



Paris 2018-Gay Games 10 Partners

The following supporting organizations are helping to make Paris 2018 possible.



Federations and Sport Clubs



Affiliated Federations



Regional Promotion



Partner Organizations



Paris 2018 – Gay Games 10 Ambassadors



Isabelle
LAMOUR



Lilian THURAM



Jean-Paul
GAULTIER



Ryadh SALLEM



Jean-Paul
CLUZEL



Roselyne
BACHELOT



Ophélie DAVID



Emmeline
NDONGUE



Maguy
NESTORET-
ONTANON



John MUMBA



Yoann LEMAIRE



Jean-Marie
SIFRE



Corinne
MEADMORE



Gilles RONDY

Homage to Pierre Bergé



" With his decision to support Paris 2018's bid for Gay Games 10, Pierre Bergé accepted for the first time in his long philanthropic and activist life to lend his support to a primarily sports event.

His presence in our bid team was decisive to being selected to host Gay Games 10.

Pierre Bergé's commitment to equality and respect for LGBT people and his fight against AIDS have been an inspiration for the last 20 years. "

Pascale Reinteau & Manuel Picaud
Paris 2018 Co-Presidents



Jérémie Goupille

Head of Communication

communication@paris2018.com

Tel : +33 (0)6 68 64 28 01

Press Contacts

Elvis NOURDJAHANE

elvis@frenchcancans.com

Tel : +33 (0)1 84 17 45 69

Mobile : +33 (0)7 62 57 80 70

Elissa BALTI

elissa@frenchcancans.com

Mobile : +33 (0)6 75 46 78 60



@Paris 2018