

A large, diverse crowd of people is gathered outdoors, likely at a protest or rally. In the foreground, many individuals are seen from behind, holding up handmade protest signs. One prominent sign reads "BLACK LIVES MATTER" with a stylized fist logo. Another sign nearby says "NO FREEDOM TIL WE'RE EQUAL". Other visible signs include "ALL LIVES MATTER" and "FIGHT FOR". Above the crowd, a massive rainbow flag is being held aloft, its colors flowing across the sky. In the background, a large, classical-style building with columns is visible, suggesting the event is taking place in front of a significant government or historical structure.

PASPDI June Newsletter

Celebrating: Juneteenth & Pride Month

What is Juneteenth?



Juneteenth (short for June Nineteenth) marks the day in 1865 when troops arrived in Galveston, Texas to take control of the state and ensure that all enslaved people were freed. These troops arrived two and a half years after the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation, which stated that all enslaved people in the states currently engaged in rebellion against the Union “shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free.” In Texas, slavery had continued and many slave owners from outside the state relocated there because they viewed it as a “safe haven” for slavery. The arrival of the troops in 1865 signaled freedom for the over 250,000 enslaved people, and Juneteenth was born.

LGBTQ+ Pride Month History

LGBTQ Pride Month is celebrated each year in June to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan, which occurred on June 28, 1969. This was a series of events between police and LGBTQ+ protestors that stretched over six days. In 1969, homosexuality was still considered a criminal offense, and the police were conducting a raid on the Stonewall Inn, one of the most popular gay bars in the city. This raid was not routine however, as resistance continued through the night and as word spread throughout the city, thousands of protestors arrived at the inn and continued into the next week. The first pride march was held on June 28, 1970 on the one year anniversary, and since then, the “day” grew to become a month of celebratory events in major cities across the country.

Pittsburgh Events Calendar



June 2:

- Too Hot for July
 - AIDS Free Pittsburgh presents this event in order to increase HIV awareness. There will be a dance party and dance off competition. They will also provide free HIV and STD testing. Happening at KLVN Coffee Lab

June 3:

- Ball on the Bridge
 - Local drag artists performing on Andy Warhol Bridge
- Pride on the Shore
 - Music Festival at Stage AE

June 4:

- Pittsburgh Pride Revolution: Stand Up, Fight Back March
 - Starts at City Council Building at 11 a.m.

June 11-12:

- Juneteenth Youth Festival and African American Heritage Day
 - Various sports tournaments for city youth at Mellon Park

June 17-19:

- Juneteenth Festival
 - Featuring minority vendors, dance performances, and live bands
- June 18:
 - Voting rights parade starting at Freedom Square