

## Top 10 Reasons to Attend the 2023 Annapolis Pride Parade & Festival

- 1. *Express Yourself: Protecting LGBTQIA+ Youth.* The theme of this year's parade and festival centers on protecting the tens of thousands of local young people who face increasing hate and assaults to their mental health.
- 2. Celebrate with thousands of LGBTQ+ folx and allies. Last year's parade and festival were wildly successful! Nearly 10,000 attendees came out to show support for our LGBTQ+ community.
- **3. LGBTQ+ Visibility and Inclusion Matter!** Support and uplift LGBTQ+ youth and help to create and patronize safe spaces. Join us for this family-friendly event to show your support.
- **4. Free PRIDE Swag!** Many of the marching groups and vendors will be giving out Pride swag, resources and product samples.
- **5.** Over 200 Festival Vendors! With over 200 vendors expected there's something for everyone! Tons of community resources, faith groups, food, local artisans and businesses.
- 6. Music & Entertainment! Don't miss our entertainment line up on two stages at the festival featuring Bryce Brown, L.Rodgers, Honey Sol, C. Rafter, Ronshaye Clark, M.E.G.A. YOUTH, Priddy Music Academy and more! Nationally-renowned indie artist whatever mike will headline the music portion of the festival.
- **7. More Amazing Food!** Thirty-five food trucks and local restaurants will be selling food at this year's event.
- 8. You Can Get Married! The Anne Arundel County Clerk of the Court will be performing marriages (for those with a valid marriage license) and vow renewals at the event!
- Celebrate Early! Annapolis has one of the earliest June Pride celebrations around the mid-Atlantic. This means you can kick off Pride month in Annapolis on June 4 – then head to DC on June 10, Delmarva Pride on June 17 or Salisbury, Baltimore and Frederick on June 24.
- **10. There's an app for real-time information.** Annapolis Pride has collaborated with <u>Where in Annapolis</u> to provide real-time parade and festival information through their app which is available to download for free from Apple's App Store or Google's Play Store.