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**FIFTH ANNUAL ANNAPOLIS PRIDE PARADE AND FESTIVAL
RESCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, OCT. 18**

"October was previously designated as LGBTQIA+ History Month because it closely aligned with other important celebrations in the queer community"

ANNAPOLIS, MD (July 21, 2025) — The 2025 Annapolis Pride Parade and Festival has been rescheduled for Saturday, Oct. 18, Annapolis Pride Board Chair Joe Toolan announced today. Originally set for May 31, the increasingly popular event was postponed due to forecasted severe weather and thunderstorms which could have potentially put participants and attendees at risk.

"We are very excited to hold this event in October," Toolan said today. "October was previously designated as LGBTQIA+ History Month because it closely aligned with other important celebrations in the queer community, including National 'Coming Out' day on Oct. 11.

"Additionally," Toolan added, "the first march on Washington for lesbian and gay rights was held in October 1979."

Recently retired U.S. Space Force colonel Bree Fram will serve as this year's parade Grand Marshal.

Toolan also announced that the parade will begin at 10 a.m. at Calvert and Bladen Streets, go around Church Circle and up West Street, to end at Amos Garrett Blvd.

The festival will take place outside of the Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts and the Bates Athletic Complex between 11 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The theme of this year's Annapolis Pride Parade and Festival celebration will be "Growing in Pride, Growing in Community."

"This year's theme celebrates the vibrant, evolving strength of our LGBTQIA+ community and reflects how Pride is not only personal — a journey of self-acceptance and authenticity — but also collective, rooted in connection, community support, and shared progress," Toolan said.

"As we grow in pride, we build stronger, more inclusive communities where everyone can live openly, safely, and joyfully," Toolan added.

A specially designed logo for the 2025 Parade and Festival was inspired by work from Pride Board Member Jayne Walters and was created by local graphic designer Deirdre Tanton.

The Pride Parade and Festival were postponed this past May due to forecasted severe weather and thunderstorms — which potentially could have put participants and attendees at risk — along with recommendations the Annapolis Pride board received from the Annapolis Office of Emergency Management and Annapolis Police Department.

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