

# THE CENTER

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **NYC's LGBT Community Center Unveils *Visions of Pride: Paris Is Still Burning***

*New photo exhibition at the High Line depicts the grandeur and multifaceted nature of the ballroom community.*

**Tuesday, June 22, 2021 — New York, NY** — New York City's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center ("The Center") will today unveil a new exhibition of vibrant, personal photos that provide an in-depth look into the ballroom community, entitled *Visions of Pride: Paris Is Still Burning*. It will be on view in the High Line's 14<sup>th</sup> Street Passage, on the High Line at 14th Street, from June 22-July 11, 2021. The exhibition will be free and open to the public.

"Ballroom is a historic, thriving part of the LGBTQ community, and it is a pleasure to be able to help bring it greater visibility through this exhibition," said Richard Morales, Manager of Community Partnerships at The Center. "While awareness of and appreciation for ballroom is growing thanks to shows like 'Pose' and 'Legendary,' it was important to us to find a way to lift up the real-life aspects of this culture, from the fashion and competition to activism and chosen family bonds."

"Visions of Pride" features photographs by Anja Matthes, Damien Armstrong, and William Isaac Lockhart. Images of community members embracing, protesting, rehearsing, dancing, and simply going about their daily lives accompany explanations of ballroom's history and evolution into the cultural phenomenon it is today.

"We're thrilled to partner with The Center to present the *Visions of Pride* installation, and provide a glimpse into the vibrant ballroom scene and its historical significance to NYC's LGBTQ+ community," said Mauricio Garcia, Chief Program and Engagement Officer of the High Line. "The Center is a long-standing neighborhood institution whose work is critical to our neighborhood. We celebrate The Center's work year-round, but are especially honored to showcase this exhibition of LGBTQ+ New Yorkers' creativity and vitality during Pride."

With interview and photo requests for The Center, please contact Helen Buse at [hbuse@gaycenter.org](mailto:hbuse@gaycenter.org). With requests for the High Line, please contact Janelle Grace at [janelle.grace@thehighline.org](mailto:janelle.grace@thehighline.org).

#### **About The Center**

Established in 1983 as a result of the AIDS crisis, New York City's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Community Center has grown and evolved over the last four decades, creating and

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delivering services that empower people to lead healthy, successful lives. The Center continues to serve the LGBTQ community through virtual support services, launched almost immediately after our building closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. We offer a wide range of services including virtual one-on-one counseling; substance use treatment and support groups; virtual youth drop-in space; online arts and culture programming; health insurance navigation; and a virtual “front desk” to respond to community inquiries. To learn more about how The Center is serving the community during this time, please visit [gaycenter.org](http://gaycenter.org).

## **About the High Line**

The High Line is both a nonprofit organization and a public park on the West Side of Manhattan. Through our work with communities on and off the High Line, we’re devoted to reimagining public spaces to create connected, healthy neighborhoods and cities.

Built on a historic, elevated rail line, the High Line was always intended to be more than a park. You can walk through the gardens, view art, experience a performance, enjoy food or beverage, or connect with friends and neighbors—all while enjoying a unique perspective of New York City.

Nearly 100% of our annual budget comes through donations. The High Line is owned by the City of New York and we operate under a license agreement with NYC Parks.

[thehighline.org](http://thehighline.org)

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