

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oakland Pride Stands United Against Hate, Calls for Community Solidarity

Oakland, CA - August 21, 2023 - Oakland Pride, an organization dedicated to celebrating and advocating for the LGBTQ+ community, condemns the recent acts of violence, which details store owner Lauri Carleton, who was fatally shot over a Pride flag display in Lake Arrowhead, California and the murder of Oshea Sibley in Brooklyn, New York, who was killed for voguing.

In a statement released today, George Smith III, Vice President of Oakland Pride, expressed deep concern about the ongoing challenges faced by LGBTQ+ individuals and their allies across the nation.

"Our LGBTQ+ families, communities, and allies are facing violent attacks and legislative challenges throughout our country," Smith said. "We at Oakland Pride stand against hate, side by side with our communities everywhere, and will continue to stand in solidarity against any attack on our human rights. NEVER BACK DOWN AND STAND UP TO HATE!"

As we gear up to celebrate Oakland Pride this September, we reaffirm its commitment to fostering unity and resistance against all forms of discrimination. The organization is dedicated to working closely with federal, state, and local authorities to ensure the safety of all participants at the Oakland Pride event scheduled for September 9-10, 2023.

Oakland Pride is poised to make history by hosting one of the most significant expressions of LGBTQ+ Pride ever seen in the East Bay. This event will be a powerful testament to the resilience and strength of the LGBTQ+ community. Together, Oakland Pride invites everyone to join in the celebration, promoting a message of love, acceptance, and equality.

This year's event promises a vibrant and inclusive space where the LGBTQ+ community and its allies can come together to celebrate their identities, champion their rights, and raise their voices against hatred and discrimination.

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About Oakland Pride:

Oakland Pride is a nonprofit organization dedicated to celebrating and promoting the LGBTQ+ community in the East Bay and beyond. Through events, advocacy, and community engagement, Oakland Pride works tirelessly to create safe and inclusive spaces for all LGBTQ+ individuals and their allies. Join us in September for a momentous celebration of love, unity, and equality at Oakland Pride 2023.