

Pikes Peak Pride Interview Outline

When is the Parade?

- The parade will be held Sunday, June 15, 2025, at 11 a.m. We'll have a new route for 2025.
- Starting at America the Beautiful Park (Colorado Ave. & Cimino St.) eastbound on Colorado Ave. We'll then turn south onto Tejon St. to Vermijo St. (Alamo Square Park and Pikes Peak Pride).
- Expect floats, community groups, local leaders, and vibrant displays of Pride from across the region.

What other things are at the festival besides the parade?

- Pikes Peak Pride isn't just a parade, it's a two-day festival (June 14–15) in downtown Colorado Springs at Alamo Square Park.

Featuring:

- Live entertainment on the Main Stage, including 26 acts from across North America
 - 2025 Headliners
 - **Derrick Barry** is best known for his spot-on portrayal of pop icon Britney Spears. He first gained national attention as a Britney impersonator on *America's Got Talent* Season 3 in 2008, where he reached the quarterfinals. Barry further cemented his fame by competing on *RuPaul's Drag Race* Season 8, placing fifth, and later returned for *All Stars* Season 5.
 - **Judas Joe Manson** is a UK-based drag performer known for his dark, alternative aesthetic and theatrical performances. He gained prominence through his participation in the second season of *Dragula*, a reality competition that showcases horror, filth, and glamour in drag. Manson's style is characterized by gothic influences, elaborate costumes, and a penchant for pushing the boundaries of traditional drag performance. His unique approach has earned him a dedicated following and recognition within the alternative drag scene.

- **Lexxicon** is a trailblazing Dancehall/Hip-Hop artist currently living in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. He is renowned for his unique infusion of Moombahton, Dembow, Reggaeton and upbeat dancehall rhythms. Lexxicon stands as a pioneer, making history as the first openly gay musician to release a Reggae/Dancehall album.
- 165 Vendors, Nonprofit booths, and food trucks
 - making this the largest Pikes Peak Pride Festival ever.
 - Vendors include
 - Mechanical bull ride
 - Local artisans and makers
 - Corporate Sponsors like Xfinity, Keysight, USAA
 - Local businesses like The Black Sheep, Revolution Jewelry Works, and the Pikes Peak Bulletin
- A Kids & Family Zone Called Rainbow Youth Square
 - Includes Drag Story Time with local drag performers
 - Youth Open Mic contest, where the top 3 performers from each day will perform on the Main Stage.
 - Youth Art Contest - the top artist will have their posters printed and sold in 2026.
 - Petting Zoo
 - Mermaids
 - Scavenger Hunt & More
- ABSOLUT. Cocktail Lounge
 - Includes drinks by ABSOLUT & Red Bull
 - Check out the ABSOLUT Pride wall
- Sober Garden presented by Purple Mountain Recovery
 - Meet & Greets each day with the headlining drag queens
 - Silent Disco and water available
- Education Classes (Saturday June 14 only) offers free sessions on:
 - Parasol Power - Peace with Style presented by Eli Bazan with Parasol Patrol
 - The Resistance is Rainbow
 - Mental health in the LGBTQ+ community
 - Protest safety and knowing your rights
 - And much more
 - READ to elaborate more on Education:
https://docs.google.com/document/d/10e39DI4cKsh5Yr_gG_Om2GOsu5Z0gq2KmBvUMJY5BRVs/edit?tab=t.0

OTHER QUESTIONS:

Is this a family-friendly event?

- Absolutely! Pikes Peak Pride is designed to be inclusive for all ages.
- Our Rainbow Youth Square features activities, crafts, and age-appropriate entertainment (See above for more details).
- The event is about celebrating love, unity, and education, making it welcoming for everyone from toddlers to grandparents.
- Dogs are welcome, we do advise bringing water and other accessories to deal with heat and outside weather.

Will there be security there?

- Yes, safety is one of our top priorities at the festival. We've partnered with local law enforcement and have a dedicated security team in place to ensure a safe and enjoyable experience for everyone.
- With the large crowds we're expecting, we've made the necessary accommodations to support that volume, including appropriate staffing and safety protocols.
- We also encourage all attendees to follow the "See Something, Say Something" guideline. If you notice anything concerning, please report it immediately to a staff member, volunteer, or security personnel. And of course, in the event of an emergency, don't hesitate to call 911.

How has fundraising been going this year for Pikes Peak Pride?

- Fundraising has been strong, thanks to the support of our local sponsors like Absolute, UCHealth, Magic 98.9, and KKTU.
- We're a community-funded festival, so every sponsor, donation, and fundraiser helps keep the event free and accessible. And we have surpassed our fundraising goals from last year! This is very exciting and important to note during this year of changes as it shows that we have such an amazing, supportive community!
- There's still time to contribute, visit pikespeakpride.org to donate or get involved.

Does Pikes Peak Pride do anything after the festival?

- Yes! Pride doesn't end after the weekend, we host year-round events that uplift and support our LGBTQ+ community.
- This includes:
 - Community meetups
 - See You Next Tuesdays, an LGBTQ+ business networking event that's held on the second Tuesday of each month, normally at ICONS in downtown Colorado Springs.
 - Pride Night, an LGBTQ+ social meet-up that moves from venue to venue each month, where you can come hang out with your friends or make new ones.
 - Sunday FunGAY, one Sunday each month we'll meet up to do an activity. We'll do pre-show meet & greets, volleyball, craft brewing and more!
 - Advocacy efforts
- We're building momentum all year long, Pikes Peak Pride is a movement, not just a moment.

By The Numbers

- 35th year of pride events in the Pikes Peak Region
 - This Pikes Peak Pride's 4th year running Pride
- In 2024 we saw (conservatively) 25,000 unique attendees
 - Of the 25000 unique attendees, 13,000 attended the parade
 - We believe that it was more in the order of 100k over 2 days
- For 2025, we have 165 vendors signed up, the most ever (by at least 20)
- For 2025, we have 93 Parade Groups marching, which surpasses 2024 by 5 groups
- We'll have 27 acts on our Main Stage, including 3 headliners, 6 regional bands, and a whole lot of local talent
- Rainbow Youth Square sees hundreds of families coming through, with youth participating in a variety of activities that are age appropriate and leave space for all types of families.