

Pride House-Paris 2024 announces the first four members of the "Ambassadors team"

Paris – April 5th, 2024

Today, Pride House - Paris 2024 is proud to announce the first four members of its "Ambassadors Team." These individuals will embody the Pride House values of inclusion, fairness, and respect for diversity, each bringing their unique voice to help promote an inclusive and safe space for all participants and spectators.

The first of these ambassadors is **Louïz**, a transgender artist and activist from Reunion Island. A singer, dancer, and actress, she uses her art to bring visibility to the LGBTIQ+ community. Her documentary film "Louïz de l'Évolution à la [R]Évolution" is available for streaming on MYCANAL, the CANAL+ platform. Her book "PAPILLON," published by City Éditions, has been available in bookshops since November 2023.

"As an artist, I've always been committed to the LGBTI+ community. To be able to be an ambassador for Pride House is an honor for me because it's important that our community can be represented and have an inclusive and safe space during the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the highlight of 2024 in France."

Next up is **Michael Gunning**, a retired international swimmer and the first openly gay, mixed-race swimmer in the UK. He has represented both Jamaica and the UK throughout his 16-year, medal-winning career, which includes 8 national records, 3 British titles, and 2 world swimming championships.

"I'm thrilled to be a Pride House France Ambassador in the lead up to the 2024 Paris Olympic Games. Sport is all about equality, and I'm excited to show everyone around the world that anything is possible"

Followed by **Amazin LeThi**, long-time LGBTIQ+ activist and Asian queer athlete, She has over 7 international LGBTIQ+ sports ambassador roles to her name, is recognized by over 30 international organizations, including the Human Rights Campaign and GLAAD, and was highlighted by Forbes magazine as one of six Asian women to watch.

"Thrilled to blaze trails as the first Asian athlete ambassador for Pride House Paris 2024 Olympics, my commitment is unwavering in championing diversity, equity, and inclusion. Partnering with Pride House, I'll fiercely advocate for LGBTIQ+ equality at the Olympic Games. As a proud visible, queer, Asian athlete, I aspire to ignite a spark in fellow Asian athletes, urging them to embrace authenticity both on and off the playing field"

Finally **Nikki Ayers**, an Australian Paralympic rower who overcame a severe rugby injury to shine in her sport, winning gold medals and breaking world records, rounds out this inspiring team. She also managed to balance her demanding career as a nurse and midwife with rigorous training, demonstrating remarkable resilience. As a positive role model for the LGBTI+ community, she participates in the Australian Institute of Sport's "Thrive with Pride" program.

"My journey has not always been positive and easy. As a child being very active I had no high profile out sporting role models to look up to and know it was ok to be gay, play sport and be successful. I commit to raising awareness and providing education on why inclusion of the rainbow community is vital for all. I commit to being a positive Pride House Ambassador for the rainbow community striving for inclusion."

The Pride House - Paris 2024 team is thrilled to welcome the first additions to the "Ambassadors team" and is excited to collaborate with them to promote this great event.

What is Pride House?

Operating under the name of Pride House International, Pride House is an open and inclusive venue present at major global sporting events. Its aim is to combat discrimination and elevate the profile of LGBTIQ+ people in sport. It plays host to a festive assortment of cultural, sports-related, and educational programs, all with the goal of making sport universal and accessible to all without any discrimination.

For more information on Pride House International, visit <http://www.pridehouseinternational.org/>

What are Pride House's objectives?

- To **create a unique event** that both celebrates the Olympic Games and encourages interactions with our athletes and allies.
- **Educate and train** the general public with educational tools, tips, recommendations, and a universal framework for embracing the sports moving through the lens of LGBTIQ+.
- **Raise awareness and visibility** of LGBTIQ+ people in sport while making a rallying cry for the universal decriminalization of homosexuality.

What will Pride House-Paris 2024 look like?

- **Pride House Central**, a "home base in the heart of the Olympic Village, where a festive assortment of cultural, sport-related and educational programs will be hosted throughout the Olympic Games.
- **Pride House Mobile** will be a "pop-up" version of Pride House Central that travels to different venues to greet spectators and the general public throughout the Olympic Games, both in central Paris and in the surrounding suburbs where many of the events will take place.
- **Pride House Digital**, a fully-digital experience, accessible via all mobile devices, that will not only make Pride House accessible to all, but it will also continue to live in perpetuity as a legacy well after the closing ceremony of the Olympics Games.

ABOUT FIER-PLAY

A non-profit organization, as defined under the 1901 French law, created in 2022 by the FIER foundation. The organization's aim is to promote fair play, inclusion, equity, and respect for people in sport, regardless of their sex, sexual orientation, gender expression, or identity.

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