Pride Month 2022: A Look at HIV Advocacy Amid LGBTQ Liberation

Whether it was to raise awareness, raise hell or raise funds, LGBTQ people showed up for Pride Month in full force this year.

September 26, 2022 By Joe Mejía

June, aka Pride Month, most notably marks an occasion to honor the pioneers who kicked off the 1969 Stonewall riots that ushered in an era of LGBTQ liberation. But Pride Month also serves as an opportunity for queer people to raise their voices regarding numerous intersecting issues, including health care, HIV and, this year, thanks to the Supreme Court's June 24 overturning of Roe v. Wade, the right of pregnant people to have an abortion.

Whether it was to raise awareness, raise hell or raise funds, LGBTQ people showed up for Pride Month in full force this year—in the streets, on sidewalks and onstage—proving that where there is community, there is power.

At New York City's Queer Liberation March on June 26, Housing Works protested the Supreme Court's overruling of Roe v. Wade, which triggered laws banning abortion in 13 states.

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In observance of National HIV Testing Day (NHTD), June 27, the GMHC testing team did what it does best offsite at a Walgreens store. The pharmacy chain partnered with Greater Than AIDS to offer free testing nationwide.

In observance of National HIV Testing Day (NHTD), June 27, the GMHC testing team did what it does best offsite at a Walgreens store GMHC Testing Center/ Instagram

San Diego’s Christie’s Place, which serves women, children and families affected by HIV, set up shop outside the Malcom X Library to let folks know that HIV testing equals self-care.

San Diego’s Christie’s Place set up shop outside the Malcom X Library to let folks know that HIV testing equals self-careChristie’s Place/Instagram

The Galveston County Health District promoted the healthy concept of HIV testing with its mobile health site and welcoming smiles.

The Galveston County Health District team with its mobile health site Galveston County Health District/Twitter

The opening number of Broadway Bares XXX, featured (left to right) performers Jason Tam, Timothy Hughes and Bonnie Milligan. After a three-year hiatus due to COVID-19, the 30th iteration of the modern-day burlesque revue featuring Broadway's brightest stars took place live and in person on June 26 at New York City's Hammerstein Ballroom. The benefit, whose theme this year was "Community, Unity and Nudity," raised a record $1.89 million for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS (BC/EFA). Founded in 1988, BC/EFA has raised over $300 million over the years for HIV and AIDS organization's and is the biggest financial supporter of the social services programs of The Actors Fund.

The opening number of Broadway Bares XXX, featured (left to right) performers Jason Tam, Timothy Hughes and Bonnie MilliganCourtesy of Broadway Bares xxx/Jonathan Tichler

Maulik Pancholy, best known for his role on TV's 30 Rock, made his Broadway debut alongside Bares veteran and recent Oscar winner (for West Side Story) Ariana DeBose at the BC/EFA benefit.

Maulik Pancholy and Ariana DeBose at the BC/EFA benefitCourtesy of Broadway Bares xxx/Jonathan Tichler

Broadway Bares creator and producer Jerry Mitchell is on hand to very happily accept a $200,000 donation to BC/EFA from the MAC Viva Glam Fund, a longtime supporter of HIV and AIDS causes.

Broadway Bares creator and producer Jerry Mitchell accepts a $200,000 donation to BC/EFA from the MAC Viva Glam FundCourtesy of Broadway Bares xxx/Evan Zimmerman

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