Star-Studded Song “Hands” Honors Orlando Shooting Victims

The song’s proceeds will benefit Equality Florida Pulse Victims Fund, the GLBT Community Center of Central Florida and GLAAD.

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Performing artists raised their voices and symbolically joined hands to honor the 49 victims of the recent Orlando tragedy. The song “Hands,” which features Britney Spears, Imagine Dragons, the Trans Chorus of Los Angeles, Selena Gomez, Troye Sivan, Jennifer Lopez, RuPaul and more than a dozen other performers, was released on iTunes Wednesday to raise awareness and support for those who died at the nightclub Pulse.

After volunteering in Orlando after the shooting, songwriter Justin Tranter (he cowrote DNCE’s “Cake by the Ocean” and Justin Bieber’s “Sorry”) wanted to do more for the victims. Penning a charity song was the logical next step.

“Hands” starts with Spears and Gwen Stefani singing an emotional verse, “Can hold a gun / And hold your heart / Can put out fires / And make ’em start” and builds with more touching lyrics to a rousing chorus.

The proceeds from “Hands,” which was released by GLAAD and Interscope Records, will go toward Equality Florida Pulse Victims Fund, the GLBT Community Center of Central Florida and GLAAD.

Because the shooting victims were largely LGBT people and people of color, mainly Latinos, Interscope Records worked to choose artists that would represent diverse backgrounds and musical genres.

Purchase the song, here.

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