



25th JEWISH LGBT+ WORLD CONGRESS

Keshet Ga'avah Rainbow of Pride
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA MARCH 21ST-24TH 2019

PRESS RELEASE

Kol Koleinu בל קולנו All our voices

World Congress: Keshet Ga'avah is the peak body, whose mission is to be the worldwide voice of Jews of diverse sexual orientations and gender identities. They recently published a book, Kol Koleinu (All Our Voices) highlights the excellent work they do. Delegates will be attending from the United States, France, Amsterdam, Italy, Latin America, New Zealand, Israel and around the globe.

Dayenu-Sydney's Jewish LGBT+ Group is partnering with Emanuel Synagogue to host this event. This is the first time the World Congress has been held in the Asia/Pacific region and definitely a first for Sydney. We are delighted to welcome delegates to 4 days of International Speakers, engaging presentations around Jewish LGBT+ issues, entertainment, harbour cruise, Sydney Jewish Museum, leading-edge facilitation, panels and so much more.

Our theme Kol Koleinu : All Our Voices comes from the title of the World Congress book as well reflecting our vision to create a space where all voices can be heard, dialogue can emerge, and insight and understanding can be nourished.

The interface between Jewish and LGBT+ cultures is a complex one - minorities within minorities. We are grateful to have attracted leading edge facilitators who will present opportunities to get to know ourselves better and learn ways to get along with others with more understanding - building bridges, developing community and moving forward towards a better world. Tikkun Olam, "repair of the world" is a classic Jewish value which we uphold.

The World Congress also brings together youth and older, observant and secular Jews, lesbian, gay, transgender and all the other elements of queer culture and identity.

Abby Klein is one of our very special International Speakers. She is a transgender woman who grew up only speaking Yiddish in an ultra-Orthodox New York community. Her story of stepping out of that culture and addressing her transgender identity is powerful. Her passion and enthusiasm to make a difference in the world will be an inspiration.

25th Jewish LGBT+ World Congress is timed to co-incide with the Jewish festival of Purim, which is the queerest festival in the Jewish calendar. Traditionally people dress up and blur the gender divide, encouraging cross-dressing. We are creating our own Queerest Gender-Bending Purim Shpiel on the Planet, featuring our guest presenter, Abby Stein.

We also look forward to our PRIDE Kabbalat Shabbat on the evening of Friday 22 March, 2019. We will be taking over the Main Sanctuary of Emanuel Synagogue to create a moving musical queer Shabbat experience. The Jewish Board of Deputies have partnered with the World Congress to host a dinner which will invite members of other LGBT+ faith groups and LGBT+ peak bodies. Building bridges is an important principle underscoring our purpose.

Emanuel Synagogue has been extremely generous in supporting the Congress, by hosting this event. We are also grateful to the Sydney Jewish Museum which has also been very supportive.

Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras is launched with Fair Day on Sunday Feb 17, and Dayenu - Sydney's Jewish LGBT+ Group will be there promoting the World Congress. The following week on Sunday 24 February, we are co-hosting a forum at the Sydney Jewish Museum entitled: Homophobia, Antisemitism & the Politics of Othering. And then we have a float in Mardi Gras promoting the World Congress. We invite your participation. We welcome your interest.

Kol Koleinu : All Our Voices: Let's Hear Yours, too!

Check out details at: www.dayenu.org.au or www.lgbtjews.org
email: worldcongress2019@gmail.com
facebook: 25th Jewish LGBT+ World Congress



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DAYENU
Sydney's Jewish GLBT Group