2019 Community Leadership Awards & Gala

JUNE 13TH, 2019

lgbtbrooklyn.org
HUMANITY.
IT TAKES ALL KINDS.
Support all expressions of gender identity.
June 13, 2019

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to join Brooklyn Community Pride Center in welcoming everyone to this year’s Community Leadership Awards & Gala.

New York City emerged as a cornerstone of the modern LGBTQ rights movement because strong coalitions of advocates and allies gave voice to our conviction that sexual orientation and gender identity should never limit someone’s ability to thrive. Few moments captured this activism so fully as June 28, 1969, when the Stonewall Riots announced the urgency of LGBTQ liberation to the world. Fifty years later, organizations like the Center continue to advance our city’s proud legacy of inclusion by empowering and uplifting LGBTQ residents of all backgrounds. Since 2008, the Center has provided a safe space and strong sense of solidarity to this diverse community, expanding to offer an increasingly wide array of educational, health, and social services and activities to its participants.

From ensuring equal bathroom access to establishing New York City’s first LGBTQ Healthcare Bill of Rights, my administration remains steadfast in our efforts to promote the health, safety, and wellbeing of LGBTQ residents throughout the five boroughs. As you come together in celebration of another successful year of programming, I am proud to applaud the Center’s staff and supporters for creating a safe and affirming space for LGBTQ New Yorkers and for their partnership in building a city where all people can rise together.

On behalf of the City of New York, I extend my warmest congratulations to this year’s honorees. Please accept my best wishes for a joyful celebration and continued success.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Bill de Blasio
Mayor
Dear Friends:

Good evening and welcome to the 2019 Community Leadership Awards and Gala. Being here tonight, sharing this celebratory evening with all of you is truly an honor. On behalf of our Board of Directors, our gala committee, and the entire staff and volunteers of the Brooklyn Community Pride Center, I would like to thank you for joining us as we commemorate our esteemed honorees.

This gala is a true celebration of our past, present, and future. It is an opportunity to honor those who have made contributions and commitments with their time and talent for the betterment of our community. This gives us the right to call them Community Leaders!

As we take a glimpse into the Brooklyn Community Pride Center’s future, notwithstanding the fact that we are fully settled into our home at Restoration Plaza, we are gearing up for an expansion to our permanent home at the Bedford Union Armory in 2021, making the Restoration Plaza location a satellite. We will occupy, alongside other community partners, over 6,000 square feet of space in the Armory.

Our FY19 budget suggests that we will reach our growth targets a year earlier than described in our 2020 vision. The door swings at the Brooklyn Center continue to be robust, hosting many community groups and keeping the calendar full for months in advance. Our future, our 2023 vision plan, another satellite office... Coney Island... youth homelessness... YES!! I said it!

We are so proud of the accomplishments of our organization and how we’ve grown over the past 10 years. We recognize that we could not have delivered our mission without the support of our donors, sponsors, Brooklyn Center family, and friends. We are grateful for the generosity and support of Eric Adams, Brooklyn Borough President, and the New York City Council. Again, I cannot thank you enough for investing in our shared vision of LGBTQ+ Brooklyn!

Have an amazing night and we look forward to our future with you.

Connect to Your Center!

[Signature]

Debbie Brennan, Chair, Board of Directors
Tonight’s Program

Thursday, June 13th at 26 Bridge Street

6:30 pm: Cocktails

8 pm: Dinner & Awards

9–11 pm: Dancing with DJ Craig Nice

Honorees

Abdul Muid
Founder of Ivey North

Ryann Holmes
bklyn boihood collective

dapperQ
Queer Fashion Revolutionaries

Gala Co-Creative Directors

Lisa Davis
Nicolas Gomez

Gala journal design by Stephen Rainforth
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All proceeds from the 2019 Community Leadership Awards & Gala directly support activities across the spectrum from young people to elders to actively participate in positive, life-affirming activities.
Abdul Muid
Founder and Principal of Ivey North

Abdul Muid is the founder and principal of Ivey North. A highly accomplished New York City real estate agent and native of New York City, Abdul has extensive, first-hand knowledge of the many neighborhoods comprising Brooklyn and Manhattan. He loves starting his day with a workout and ending it trying one of the city’s many new restaurants.

Abdul’s foundation in a tight-knit Brooklyn family imbued him with the characteristics that have ensured his success: uncompromising integrity, a strong work ethic and a commitment to strive for excellence in every facet of his business and life. Coupled with his energy and enthusiasm, these attributes have earned him deep loyalty from his clients and strong repeat and referral business. They are also the guiding principles upon which he is building Ivey North.

Those principles also led Abdul to supporting Brooklyn Community Pride Center. “I was connected to Brooklyn Community Pride Center through Board Chair Debbie Brennan and her wife, Lisa Davis. In 2013 Debbie asked if I wanted to participate on their real estate committee. I accepted, and I am grateful to say it’s been a pleasure getting to know some of the members and staff.”

When he’s not helping clients or the community, Abdul spends as much time as possible with his 13-year-old son, Noah, and 4-year-old daughter, Ava. He also loves to travel, particularly to his favorite cities outside of New York – Barcelona, Paris and Los Angeles.
Ryann Holmes
bklyn boihood

Ryann has worked and lived in Brooklyn since 2006, and has been creating pathways of creativity, expression, beloved community, and love as wealth.

Ryann has worked in every industry from retail to philanthropy, but found most happiness when creating cool things with talented friends. Ryann found joy and magic in being a part of queer, black culture in Brooklyn. So, in 2009, Ryann founded the bklyn boihood collective. As of today the collective has grown into a community staple. Currently BBH has five core members, over 50,000 online followers, six calendars, parties, monthly gatherings, a cycling series, and a published anthology called Outside the XY.

Ryann has also organized music festivals, live shows, conferences, film events, and more for communities of color in Brooklyn. For example, Ryann created and organized the Soul of BK Festival, a week long music and arts festival in Bed Stuy, Brooklyn. Ryann also worked on Harry Belafonte’s Many Rivers To Cross Festival in Atlanta, and managed the coordination of the Black Lesbian Conference in Harlem. In 2016, Ryann was voted one of Brooklyn Magazine’s top 100 cultural innovators.

Ryann is the co-founder of Lucid Haus, an indie music label based in Brooklyn, featuring artists like Nappy Nina, Theo Mode, & Ria Boss. Ryann was also the music supervisor for 195 Lewis, a boundary breaking web series that explores the lives of queer women of color in Brooklyn, New York. Ryann is also the General Manager for Flowergirls Flowershop: For Womxn Who Smoke, a cannabis company founded and run by queer women of color.
Ten years ago this year, dapperQ, one of the world’s most widely read queer style digital magazines, went live on the web.

Dubbed GQ for the “unconventionally masculine,” dapperQ was among the first digital spaces to champion “menswear” for those traditionally under-served by mainstream menswear media and designers, and has since expanded to celebrate the full spectrum of queer style with its sibling project Hi Femme!

dapperQ produces wide-ranging original content and events for which it has received media coverage in The New York Times, HBO, Vanity Fair, NBC News, Vice, Nylon, Refinery29, The Daily Beast, Teen Vogue, The Huffington Post, and The Washington Post, to name a few.

dapperQ’s fashion shows, which are some of the largest queer fashion shows in the United States, and panels have been showcased on world-renowned platforms, including at Brooklyn Museum, the Institute for Contemporary Art/Boston, California Academy of Sciences, The Museum of Fine Arts/Boston, South by Southwest, the Brooklyn Historical Society, the Museum of the City of New York, Oberlin College, and The International Center of Photography. For the past two years, dapperQ partnered with Target to produce a young adult (18-21 years of age) fashion show as part of NYC Pride’s official Youth Pride event. The shows featured 10 diverse LGBTQ+ youth who were each provided $100 Target gift cards to style a look that affirmed their identities and empowered them as the future leaders of our communities.
June 13, 2019

Dear Friends,

I am honored to extend my greetings to everyone in attendance at tonight’s Brooklyn Community Pride Center’s Community Leadership Awards & Gala. I would also like to extend my congratulations to tonight’s honorees: Abdul Muid of Ivey North, Ryann Holmes of bklyn boihood, and dapperQ.

For more than a decade, Brooklyn Community Pride Center (BCPC) has provided a wide range of invaluable services to the LGBTQ+ community, a population that has survived decades of discrimination and marginalization. As a longtime affordable housing advocate, I am particularly grateful that that BCPC is currently studying the LGBTQ+ homelessness crisis in New York City and planning new programs that will help address it. Whether their focus is on homelessness, public health, or other issues, BCPC's work has and continues to empower marginalized people to live healthy and fulfilling lives, serving as a shining example of inclusivity and public service in our community.

On behalf of the residents of Brooklyn’s 20th Senate District, I thank BCPC for the impactful work it does in our community and offer my congratulations on their continued success.

I wish everyone in attendance a wonderful evening and best of luck in your future endeavors.

In Solidarity,

Zellnor Y. Myrie
June 13, 2019

Brooklyn Community Pride Center
4 Metrotech Center
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to extend best wishes to all attending the Brooklyn Community Pride Center’s 2019 Community Leadership Awards & Gala.

For years, the Brooklyn Community Pride Center (BCPC) has been devoted to supporting Brooklyn’s LGBT+ community. BCPC served as an invaluable network for LGBT+ New Yorkers, providing a wide range of critical resources and engaging program. From its healthcare and counseling services to organizing community discussions and events, BCPC has done remarkable work to empowering its members. I am confident BCPC will continue to make a positive impact on LGBT+ communities in New York City for decades to come.

Thank you to the Brooklyn Community Pride Center for bringing us together to celebrate community and service. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

Scott M. Stringer
New York City Comptroller
June 13, 2019

Dear Friends:

As Speaker of the New York City Council and a proud gay man, I am very happy to welcome everyone gathered here tonight for the Brooklyn Community Pride Center’s (BCPC) 2019 Community Leadership Awards & Gala!

For over 10 years, BCPC’s programs and services have continued to raise the bar when it comes to meeting the diverse needs of Brooklyn’s growing LGBTQ+ community.

And their spirit of service and commitment to inclusion are truly something to be emulated and admired!

As they celebrate their annual Community Leadership Awards & Gala tonight, I would like to thank the entire BCPC team for the important work they are doing to help ensure that every LGBTQ+ person in Brooklyn and beyond has a welcoming space in which to connect, feel safe, grow and have fun.

Congratulations as well to this year’s honorees.

I hope everyone has a wonderful time tonight and wish all of you a Happy Pride Month!

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Corey Johnson
Speaker
June 13th, 2019

Dear Friends,

I send warm regards to the Brooklyn Community Pride Center and everyone in attendance at the 2019 Community Leadership Awards & Gala!

The Brooklyn Community Pride Center is a tremendous asset to the LGBTQ+ community and the borough of Brooklyn. As a safe space to come out and find community, feel safe and respected, and connect with health resources the Brooklyn Community Pride Center is a beacon for the borough’s LGBTQ+ youth and elders. I am grateful for its continued contributions to our City’s vibrant LGBTQ+ community and network of resources.

I wish to congratulate and thank tonight’s honorees; Abdul Muid of Ivey North, Ryann Holmes of bklyn boihood, and the fashion website DapperQ for their longstanding support of the Brooklyn Community Pride Center and LGBTQ+ Brooklynites. I commend the Brooklyn Community Pride Center for putting together this year’s Community Leadership Awards & Gala, and please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

JIMMY VAN BRAMER
DEPUTY LEADER
26TH DISTRICT, QUEENS

JIMMY VAN BRAMER
New York City Council Member
June 13, 2019

Dear Friends,

It is a pleasure to send my warmest greetings to all gathered to celebrate the Brooklyn Community Pride Center’s 2019 Community Leadership Awards and Gala. Whether helping to overcome the challenges of social isolation and homelessness, or through uplifting the community through workforce development and education, the Brooklyn Community Pride Center is an invaluable asset to the LGBTQ+ community, advocates, allies, and all New Yorkers.

Congratulations to the evening’s honorees, Abdul Muid of Ivey North, Ryann Holmes of bklyn boholld, and the entire team at DapperQ. It is my honor to join in celebrating your many achievements as entrepreneurs, as innovators, as creatives, and as civic-minded community members.

Thank you all for being champions of the vision that guides the work of the Brooklyn Community Pride Center – a vision of inclusion, people first, safety, respect, and transparency. By manifesting that vision in your daily work, you help countless New Yorkers. My best wishes for many more years of success.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.
Council Member, 36th District – Brooklyn
June 13, 2019

Dear Friends:

Allow me to extend my warmest wishes to the leadership and supporters of the Brooklyn Community Pride Center on the occasion of their 2019 Community Leadership Awards and Gala. It is my pleasure to join you all to recognize several individuals who have made significant contributions to Brooklyn’s LGBTQ+ community: Abdul Muid of Ivey North, Ryann Holmes of bklyn boihood, and the fashion website DapperQ.

The Brooklyn Community Pride Center provides services and support to the borough’s LGBTQ+ community through original programming and partnerships with other organizations. From young people to elders, the Brooklyn Community Pride Center empowers the community to actively participate in positive, life-affirming activities. They offer a distinctive choice for residents of NYC’s largest borough to celebrate, heal, learn, create, organize, relax, socialize, and play.

As chairperson of the NYC Council LGBT Caucus, I am grateful to the Brooklyn Community Pride Center for all that they do for LGBTQ+ Brookynites. Furthermore, I congratulate the Center for the growth they have made over the past year, and wish them much success in all of their future endeavors.

Sincerely,

Daniel Dromm
Chair, NYC Council LGBT Caucus
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2019 Community Leadership Awards & Gala
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Sincere gratitude is extended to our hard-working and dedicated volunteers who contributed their time and talent from July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018!

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Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of this list in our journal. Please email corrections to jkeys@lgbtbrooklyn.org.

Everyone in our community has a story about their first time experiencing Pride. We want to share those stories with...

MY FIRST PRIDE

Help support Brooklyn Community Pride Center programs in the coming fiscal year. Make a donation that celebrates your first Pride by converting the year of your first Pride experience to dollars and cents.

[ E.G. 1996 = $19.96 ]

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