



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Third Annual Navy Pier Pride Presented by American Airlines Celebrates LGBTQ+ Community and Culture with Fun, Family-Friendly Festivities

Free event includes Storytime with Drag Queens, live performances, special film presentations, new "Queer the Pier" fashion and music show headlined by special guest CeCe Peniston, and more

CHICAGO – Navy Pier Pride Presented by American Airlines is coming through with flying colors this year! Kicking off Monday, June 18, the third annual free event will consist of a full week of family-friendly festivities in honor of the LGBTQ+ community, culminating in a daylong grand celebration on Saturday, June 23 from 11 a.m. to midnight. As part of its Pride Month tribute, the Pier will also be decked out with Pride flags all month and feature the symbolic rainbow colors in the center digital screen of the iconic *Centennial Wheel* in celebration of diversity and inclusion, two essential tenants of Navy Pier's mission and values.

On Monday, June 18, catch a special film presentation of *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* as part of *Water Flicks*, Navy Pier's free, 10-week movie series offered every Monday at 7 p.m. at the Lake Stage in *Polk Bros Park*. The 1994 comedy follows two drag performers and a transgender woman as they travel across the desert to perform their unique style of cabaret. As part of this year's "sing-along summer" movies theme, guests are encouraged to sing and dance to the famous tunes featured within the flicks. Free popcorn will be available to guests on a first-come-first-served basis, courtesy of Navy Pier IMAX at AMC.

On Thursday, June 21, enjoy live instructional dance by **Tina Go-Go** and musical performances by **Little Queens** as part of *Live on the Lake!*, Navy Pier's free concert series held in the *Miller Lite Beer Garden* every Wednesday through Sunday from Memorial Day weekend to Labor Day weekend. First, learn to Go-Go dance with local instructor Tina Stasny. Then, apply the new moves to the upbeat music of Little Queens, featuring Aerin Tedesco, Andrea Bunch, Janet Cramer and Greg Nergaard.

The main event on Saturday, June 23 will lead with the opening of the **Chicago Children's Museum's Family Resource and Activity Station** from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the South Dock. The station gives guests the opportunity to learn about the Museum's resources for LGBTQ+ families and participate in pride-themed arts and crafts activities. At noon, catch **Storytime with Drag Queens**, presented in partnership with Chicago Children's Museum, at the West Platform on the South Dock. Enjoy a special reading of classic children's books by a few of Chicago's fun and fabulous drag queens.

From 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., guests are welcome to browse the **Resource Village** along the South Dock, which offers information and resources from LGBTQ+ organizations, such as Howard Brown Health, PFLAG and more. At 1:30 p.m. join the **Lakeside Pride Marching Band** for a festive musical procession down the South Dock, followed by music by **DJ Rae Chardonnay** from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. at the Wave Wall Platform as part of *Wave Wall Wax*, a free live DJ series presented every Saturday through Labor Day weekend. At 3 p.m., enjoy a special performance by **Chicago Gay Men's Choir** in the *Fifth Third Bank Family Pavilion*. From 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., head to the Lake Stage in *Polk Bros Park* to catch a special screening of the 2017 indie comedy-drama, *Signature Move*, presented in partnership with New City. The film's star and screenwriter, **Fawzia Mirza**, is scheduled to be in attendance.

New to the lineup this year, Navy Pier teamed up with No Small Plans' queer party impresario Kristen Kaza to produce **Queer the Pier**, a special program that travels sonically and visually throughout the history of queer club culture. **Audio Jack** – resident DJ of Slo 'Mo: Slow Jams for Queer Fam, one of Chicago's longest running LGBTQ+ dance parties – kicks off the festivities in the *Miller Lite Beer Garden* at 5 p.m. with R&B, disco and house favorites. Other artists include Puerto Rican vocalist, songwriter, musical theater composer and actor, **MICHA**, at 7 p.m., followed by local R&B vocalist, **Adam Ness**, and special guests performing “queer club anthems” with a live band. The program also features a fashion show highlighting queer club looks through the decades, modeled by Chicago nightlife personalities, emceed by bearded beauty **Lucy Stoodle** and devised by vintage shop **Kokorokoko**, with additional creative direction by performer and choreographer **Darling Shear**. Special guest **Cece Peniston**, celebrating 20 years of the LGBTQ+ anthem, “Finally,” headlines the program ahead of Navy Pier’s signature *Aon Summer Fireworks* – synchronized specially to house music – to end the evening with a bang!

See below for the full schedule for *Navy Pier Pride Presented by American Airlines*:

Monday, June 18

7 p.m. to 9 p.m.	<i>Water Flicks: The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert</i>	Lake Stage in <i>Polk Bros Park</i>
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Thursday, June 21

6 p.m. and 7:15 p.m.	<i>Live on the Lake!: Tina Go-Go</i>	<i>Miller Lite Beer Garden</i>
6:30 p.m. and 7:45 p.m.	<i>Live on the Lake!: Little Queens</i>	<i>Miller Lite Beer Garden</i>

Saturday, June 23

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.	Chicago Children’s Museum Family Resource and Activity Station	South Dock (outside of Chicago Children’s Museum)
11 a.m. to 10:15 p.m.	Who Gave You Wings to Fly? <i>in partnership with American Airlines</i>	<i>Polk Bros Park</i>
12 p.m. to 1 p.m.	Storytime with Drag Queens <i>in partnership with Chicago Children’s Museum</i>	South Dock (West Platform)
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.	Resource Village	South Dock
1:30 p.m.	Lakeside Pride Marching Band	South Dock
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.	<i>Wave Wall Wax: DJ Rae Chardonnay</i>	South Dock (Wave Wall Platform)
3 p.m. to 4 p.m.	Chicago Gay Men’s Choir Performance	<i>Fifth Third Bank Family Pavilion</i> (staircase)
5 p.m. to 12 a.m.	Queer the Pier	<i>Miller Lite Beer Garden</i>
7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.	Signature Move	Lake Stage in <i>Polk Bros Park</i>
10:15 p.m.	<i>Aon Summer Fireworks</i>	Pierwide

While at *Navy Pier Pride*, guests are encouraged to take advantage of the many other Pier-wide experiences in dining, retail, boats and other activities and attractions – many of which are available within the newly renovated *Fifth Third Bank Family Pavilion*, which opened Memorial Day weekend.

Navy Pier Pride is part of the Pier’s ongoing commitment to offer guests free, one-of-a kind arts and culture programming, designed to inspire, educate and connect communities and guests across the city and globe. For more information, visit www.navy Pier.org or download the Navy Pier app on any Android or iOS device.

PHOTOS: [Navy Pier Pride Presented by American Airlines](#) | Credit: Heidi Zeiger Photography / Navy Pier

About Navy Pier

Located on Lake Michigan, Navy Pier is one of the top-attended nonprofit cultural destinations in the Midwest, stretching more than six city blocks and welcoming more than 9 million guests annually. Originally opened in 1916 as a shipping and recreation facility, this Chicago landmark showcases more than 50 acres of parks, restaurants, attractions, retail shops, sightseeing and dining cruise boats, exposition facilities and more. In 2018, Navy Pier continues to usher in its second century with ongoing pier-wide redevelopment efforts – including the *Fifth Third Bank Family Pavilion*, *Peoples Energy Welcome Pavilion*, 220-room hotel and more – in addition to free, year-round arts and cultural programming designed to inspire, educate and connect communities across the city and globe. For more information, visit www.navy Pier.org or download the free Navy Pier app for Android and iOS device users.

Navy Pier Mission Statement

Navy Pier is the People’s Pier, Chicago’s lakefront treasure, welcoming all and offering dynamic and eclectic experiences through partnerships and programs that inspire discovery and wonder.