

SOUVENIR PROGRAMME



#ShadesOfTheDiaspora

“NO MATTER FROM WHICH DIASPORA YOU DESCEND, YOU ARE WELCOME, LOVED AND FOUGHT FOR AT UK BLACK PRIDE”

**VAUXHALL PLEASURE GARDENS,
LONDON
8 JULY 12:00 - 21:00**



WELCOME TO UK BLACK PRIDE 2018

UK Black Pride began 14 years ago when a group of friends helped me to organise a coach trip for Black lesbian, bisexual and trans women to spend a day by the sea. What was meant to be a way to escape the strains Black LBT women face, quickly caught the attention of other sections of the Black LGBT family who described their experiences of being marginalised and ignored by mainstream and LGBT support groups. The more widely we opened-up the event, the greater the scale of problems began to emerge. Testimonies from entire sub-groups described devastating effects on health and life chances.

Black LGBT+ understand the burden of our intersectional lives, and the struggles we overcome each day, so we knew that we had to act. We took inspiration from workers in the trade unions. We drew up plans for a community-based movement, rooted in the principles of equality, solidarity, and unity. As we organised our community and built our numbers, our voices were amplified, and our right to be seen and heard, to be celebrated and represented, could no longer be ignored. It was from this beginning that UK Black Pride became an annual celebration for the Black LGBT+ family and our allies.

So much effort goes into organising UK Black Pride. The work is done by teams of volunteers who work long hours with the aim of building

pride and unity among African, Arab, Asian and Caribbean LGBT+ people in Britain and beyond. I thank the UK Black Pride team – the long serving members and our new recruits who've brought fresh ideas and energy – for strengthening our movement; for inspiring Black LGBT+ people to know there is pride in who we are; for affirming we are a family that must be recognised and valued, and that when we work together to raise our voice as one, we win rights for everyone.

I want to thank our sponsors for their unconditional support that allows us to offer this free event for all. Thank you to our media partners for turning up the noise on the work we do and helping ensure UK Black Pride's message reaches the widest audience. Thank you to our Black and LGBT+ community groups and charity partners who have shown up; booked stalls or run workshops. Thank you to our Black and LGBT+ entrepreneurs, business leaders and political allies, UK Black Pride

wouldn't be able to do this every year without each of you playing your part.

Finally, I want to thank you: our guests. You should remember that this space is yours. This day is yours. UK Black Pride is yours. So, whether you've travelled a few minutes or many miles, whether this is your first UK Black Pride or 14th, thank you for being here, for making the effort, for getting dressed up, for turning out with your friends to be here. In this space. Your space. Where you are loved. Where you are valued. And where you are seen. Enjoy!

In pride and unity,

Phyll Opoku-Gyimah
Co-founder and Executive Director,
UK Black Pride

AN OPEN LETTER TO BLACK LGBT+ PEOPLE IN BRITAIN AND BEYOND



By Phyll Opoku-Gyimah,
Executive Director, UK Black Pride

On any given day we experience any number of microaggressions. You're a little brown boy in Birmingham who doesn't walk like the other boys on the way to school. You're a Black woman in your workplace in London being told to calm down. You're a Black man in Bradford walking into a bar and getting that look you know so well; the one that says, "Why are you here?" You're an Arab-looking man with a beard in Glasgow, and people won't sit next to you on public transport. You're a woman wearing a hijab in Belfast and you're getting cat calls as you're trying to make it from point A to B.

On any given day, a group of people are debating your existence on the evening news. They're talking about crimes that no one you know was involved in, in places you've never stepped foot in. They're looking

to you apologise for lives you never helped to break and will never be able to fix. You're being judged because you look like what society thinks is a man, but you're wearing pink lipstick. You're being ravaged by words designed to wound from the mouths of people too scared, too ignorant, and too self-absorbed to understand the harm they inflict.

On any given day, someone is telling you: "stand up straight and smile", "all eyes are on you", "don't embarrass your family", "no one will take you seriously if you talk like that", "yeah, but you don't need to flaunt in our faces, do you?", "you were born with a dick, so you'll never be a real woman", "go back home", "let me check your pockets", and "you should be grateful we even allowed you in this country". Someone is trying to

free you from the oppression of Islam, save you from the savages who sit in their own shit, or mansplain what feminism means to you: a woman. Someone who's never read Bell Hooks or Kimberlé Crenshaw Williams is telling you that intersectionality isn't a thing and that "this isn't the Oppression Olympics".

A momentary reprieve from the assault course of life that we know so intimately is the reason we set up UK Black Pride. We need spaces for ourselves. Spaces in which we can let out a collective sigh of relief. Spaces in which we're free from 'the gaze'. Spaces in which the only version of ourselves that will do, the only version of ourselves that is allowed, is the truest. Spaces in which we are protected, fought for, and celebrated. But the continued growth of UK Black Pride isn't only because it's a space away from danger. As we come together, and our histories and cultures collide, we learn that we are not alone. That in our pain is also our joy. You'll know that to be true today.

Our theme this year, #ShadesoftheDiaspora, speaks to our mission to unite Black LGBT+ people in Britain whose global roots shoot from Africa to Asia, the Caribbean to the Middle East, and the United States or Latin America. It speaks to the growing number

of our diasporic community who show up to UK Black Pride each year. It speaks to the shades of our experiences. It speaks to the complex and interwoven experiences of our asylum-seeking and refugee family. It speaks to the unique hurdles of our gay Black brothers, the infuriating oppression of queer Black sisters around the world, and the relentless attacks on our trans siblings. It speaks to the experiences of our Intersex community, whose voices are finally rising in a beautiful chorus. It speaks to experiences that can't be named, those who suffer in silence, those who cannot come out. It acknowledges that all our experiences are not the same, but that we will fight together for a future rooted in freedom and equality.

So today, we come together to celebrate, to fight, to show solidarity and to keep the noise up. And we come together to exhale. When we do, out will tumble every microaggression, frustration, and every unspoken word. And when we breathe in, and our lungs and bellies fill with the smell of freedom and happiness, you'll be reminded that here, in this space, for this moment, on this day, the things that make you other to everyone else, make you perfect to us.

COME OUT LOVING.

The fight for equality is far from over.
Whatever you do and however you do it, it's time to come out in
support of LGBT. Join us. Search #ComeOutForLGBT.



 **Stonewall**
Acceptance without exception

RUNNING ORDER

At the heart of UK Black Pride's entertainment line-up is a desire to create a space in which you can submerge yourself completely in a reality where love and hope combine, where all are welcome and none are judged. Delve into our pool of Black LGBT talent, soak up the atmosphere of acceptance, and feel the creativity our community has nurtured.

12:00	DJ Gen
12:45	DJ Kasper
13:15	DJ Gloria
13:45	DJ Kartel
14:30	Hosts
14:45	Guest Speakers
15:00	DJ Kartel / DJ Sensi
15:45	One minute silence & Choir
15:50	Nawi Collective
16:00	DJ Traxx & Smoochie
16:45	King Dee
17:00	StaceyAnn Chin
17:10	FKA
17:15	BISHI
17:30	DJ Big John
18:00	Afro Swagg
18:10	Jessbelle Thunder
18:15	PJ Samuels
18:25	Saffron
18:30	Toya Delazy
18:45	Roxxxvn
19:10	Alacai Hartley
19:30	Beyonce Expose
19:50	UK Black Pride Team
20:00	DJ Calvin
21:00	End

SPEAKERS

Gizden Akdur - Kurdish, Turkish, Cypriot LGBTQ Group
Jaevion Nelson - Jamaican Federation of Lesbians and Gays
Jason Jones - Decriminalising Homosexuality in Trinidad campaign
Ruth Hunt - Stonewall, Headline Sponsor
Linda Riley - DIVA, Headline Sponsor
Deepak Kashyap - Gayasian
Rt. Hon. Dawn Butler MP - Shadow Minister for Women & Equalities
Albert Kennedy Trust - Speaker
Lady Phyll & the UKBP Team

ONE MINUTE SILENCE LED BY:

Jide Macaulay - House of Rainbow
Frankie - Imaan (Muslim LGBT+ organisation)
Donya - Barbados Activist
Reeta Loi - Gayasians/Burnt Roti
Symeon Brown - Buddhist SGI

HOSTS

Moud Goba & Pav Akhtar - UKBP Directors
Travis Alabanza - Performer & Trans Activist / Campaigner
Rikki Beadle-Blair - Writer / Performer & Eductaor

DJ LINE UP

DJ Gen, DJ Kasper, DJ Gloria, DJ Sensi
DJ Traxx & Smoochie, DJ Big John
DJ Calvin, DJ Kartel

The running order is correct at the time of going to press. The organisers reserve the right to make changes to the line up.

PANELS, WORKSHOPS AND PRESENTATIONS

Come along to one of these engaging workshops being held in the Welfare and Wellbeing tent, to hear from expert speakers to get all the know-how you need about the topic

HOW TO BE A GOOD TRANS ALLY: 12:45 - 13:45

hosted by Unison

A panel discussion on the forthcoming changes to the Gender Recognition Act and what you can do to do become a better trans ally! (Panel)

EDUCATE OUT PREJUDICE: 13:45 - 14:00

with Schools OUT UK

Discover how education can be used to 'Usualise and Actualise' LGBT+ experiences in the classroom and beyond. (Presentation)

WHITE PRIVILEGE: HOW WE SHOULD DISMANTLE IT: 14:00 - 15:15

hosted by Jane Czyzyselska

Join speakers from different backgrounds for an interactive debate on how white privilege operates, exists and how we can begin to dismantle it in order to breakdown racism in our society. (Panel)

LET'S TALK ABOUT MENTAL HEALTH IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY: 15:15 - 15:30

with Black Thrive

Come and learn about addressing the systemic issues that contribute to mental ill health for black people and how together, we can work towards better outcomes

LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL WOMEN ASYLUM SEEKERS: 15:45 - 15:50

with Rainbow Sisters

Find out more about the powerful work being done to support women who are seeking asylum based on their sexuality. (Presentation)

LGBTI REFUGEES - RIGHTS AND REALITIES: 15:50 - 16:50

with Amnesty International

Hear the lived experience of members from the LGBTIQ community who seek asylum based on their identity and how you can support them and ensure their human rights are protected. (Panel)

LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL WOMEN ASYLUM SEEKERS: 15:45 - 15:50

with Rainbow Sisters

Find out more about the powerful work being done to support women who are seeking asylum based on their sexuality. (Presentation)

FAITH AND SEXUALITY: 17:05 - 17:35

with House of Rainbow

A workshop to address, understand and reconcile the challenges for faith communities and members of the BAME LGBTIQ community. (Workshop)

HIV IS A BAME ISSUE! 17:40 - 17:50

with #AidsMemoryUK

Discover the important work being done to reduce the stigma and support our positive BAME brothers and sisters. (Presentation)

HOW TO CREATE AN INCLUSIVE SAFE SPACE: 17:50 - 18:20

with Black Femmes Film

Q+A covering how an indie film club for black women has helped to create a safer and more inclusive space for black femmes and the LGBTQ community. (Workshop)



UK
BLACK
PRIDE



ENTRY/EXIT

Classhouse Walk

Godling St

Godling St

Albert Embankment

A3036



Metropolis Motorcycles

TOILETS

VIP MAIN

FOOD

**B
A
R**

FOOD

COMMUNITY STALLS

Royal Vauxhall Tavern

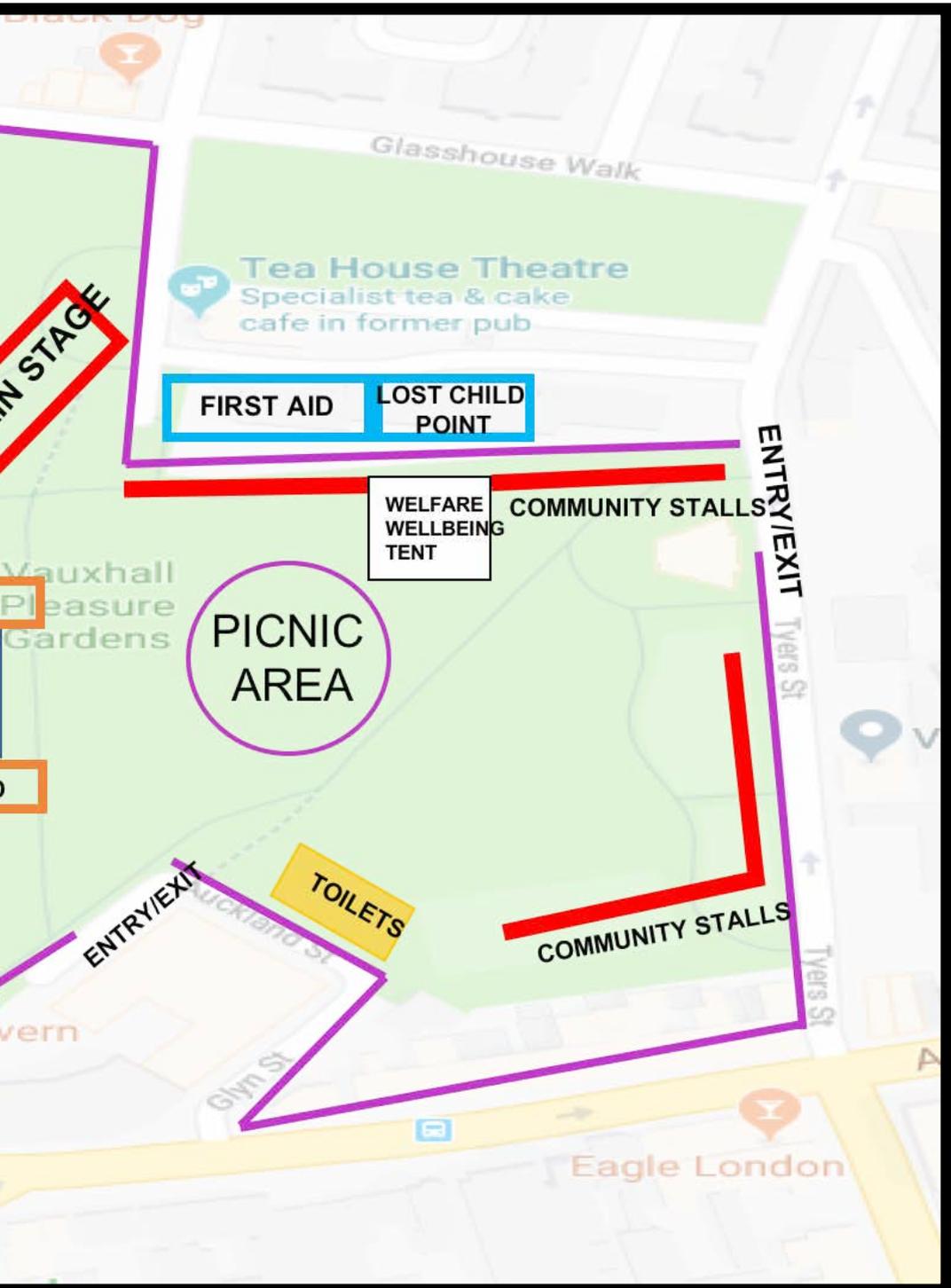
UNDERGROUND

Nando's

Vauxhall

Winter Village

Har...



MAIN STAGE

FIRST AID

LOST CHILD POINT

WELFARE WELLBEING TENT

COMMUNITY STALLS

PICNIC AREA

ENTRY/EXIT Tyers St

COMMUNITY STALLS Tyers St

TOILETS

ENTRY/EXIT

Glyn St

Eagle London

Tea House Theatre
Specialist tea & cake
cafe in former pub

Glasshouse Walk

Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens

Black Dog

STYLE WITH

NE

ST

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www.NestE10.co.uk

SUBSTANCE



Computer Generated Image

MORE THAN 50% OF BLACK LGBT PEOPLE FACE RACISM - IT'S TIME TO ACT



By Pav Akhtar,
Director of Strategy, UK Black Pride

On 28 June 2018, Stonewall released research which showed the scale of racism that exists within the LGBT community in Britain. Just over half of all Black, Asian and minority ethnic LGBT people (51 per cent) had reported experiencing discrimination or poor treatment within their local LGBT network because of their ethnicity. This number rose to three in five Black African or Caribbean LGBT people (61 per cent).

Even though UK Black Pride – a community-led support group for African, Asian, Arab and Caribbean heritage LGBT people – recognises the fact that these experiences are a harsh and unacceptable reality for too many Black LGBT people, the scale of everyday racism problem revealed in the report is still shocking. It is part of complicated picture if you happen to be LGBT as well as Black or Asian. The discriminatory behavior presents itself

within Black and Asian communities as well as in LGBT communities. For instance, in the 2010 National Survey of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles, acceptance levels of homosexuality among the general Black and Asian population in the UK stood at 42 per cent, as compared to 88 per cent acceptance among white respondents. No-one knows the reality of this better than Black and Asian LGBT people.

However, while there is an active conversation happening about how wider society needs to move further away from homophobia, the prevalence of racist attitudes within gay sub-culture is often pushed under the carpet. For instance, some weeks ago I was called a 'Paki' and told to 'go back home'. This abuse took place in a street in broad day light in an LGBT area of my city. It was in response to me politely declining an uninvited advance

from a gay white male. I have no doubt the perpetrator felt some entitlement over my body and sexuality. It was one of three racist experiences I had to contend with on that day.

In another example, whilst using a gay dating app – side stepping the issue of casual ‘no Blacks, no Asians’ racism in some profiles – I was propositioned by a man who told me I ‘cannot be Asian because’, he claimed, I was ‘too cute to be Asian.’ The stupefying arrogance of the man meant that he failed to understand how offensive his remark was, but his efforts to deny me agency did not end there. Even after I pointed out to him that my profile clearly states I am Asian because ‘it is who I am’, he persisted in explaining to me that I must be ‘Latino or mixed’ and ‘should look into it’. The only thing I was prepared to look into was finding the ‘block’ button. There are countless anecdotes like these, and worse, that many Black LGBT people can share about their negative experiences within the LGBT community. There are other examples relating to life within our diverse Black communities.

Being exposed to bigotry from all sides is

exhausting and it leaves many Black LGBT people seeking a retreat in safe spaces where we can just be. Without everyday judgements or micro-aggressions. As a non-white LGBT person it can feel like, in the LGBT movement, we have lost some of the kindness and solidarity that characterised the origins of our Pride movement. It takes great effort to recover it bit by bit.

That’s why UK Black Pride is making an important demand to the LGBT community at large: just as the LGBT minority fought hard for its inclusion in wider society, the LGBT community must now take responsibility to help include and value a sub-minority – Black and Asian LGBT people – towards full liberation based on one’s sexuality. It is time to tackle this problem head on.

You can read the full report from Stonewall, including the data analysis and recommendations, online at: <https://www.stonewall.org.uk/lgbt-britain-home-and-communities/>

Join us and make a commitment to stand up as a visible ally for everyone in our diverse community.



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THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

UK Black Pride would not be possible if it was not for the generous support of our sponsors. We are extremely grateful for their help in making this festival possible and for helping to ensure that it is inclusive and accessible to everyone as only a free event can be. Please join us in thanking the following public, private and community sector organisations (click on their website to learn more about them):

HEADLINE SPONSORS

Stonewall

stonewall.org.uk

DIVA

divamag.co.uk

PLATINUM SPONSORS

Greater London Authority

london.gov.uk

Lloyds Bank

lloydsbank.com

GOLD SPONSOR

BNP PARIBAS

bnpparibas.co.uk

Ernst & Young (EY)

ey.com

SILVER SPONSORS

Unite the Union

unitetheunion.org

BRONZE SPONSORS

Trade Union Congress (TUC)

tuc.org.uk

Public & Commercial Services Union (PCS)

pcs.org.uk

UNISON

unison.org.uk

Teachers' Union (NASUWT)

nasuwt.org.uk

National Education Union (NEU)

neu.org.uk

Rail, Maritime & Transport Workers' Union (RMT)

rmt.org.uk

MEDIA PARTNERS

Gay Times

gaytimes.co.uk

Gay Star News

gaystarnews.com

Proximity

proximitylondon.com

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Amnesty International

amnesty.org.uk

Imaan (Muslim LGBT+ organisation)

imaanlondon.wordpress.com

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

UK Black Pride is run by a team of volunteers from across the communities we seek to represent, and we're always looking for more people and more ideas to help us grow and meet future demands. If you can assist with administrative functions; with communication and campaigns function; or with logistical detail in piecing together organisation of the festival, our satellite events, or volunteering at UK Black Pride, you can:

- Help shape the future of UK Black Pride;
- Support the ethno-cultural diversity of Black LGBT+ communities in Britain and beyond;
- Learn more about the needs of Black LGBT+ communities;
- Build new networks and develop life-long friendships;
- Learn new skills and pursue your passions.

Your skills and talents can help us to ensure we produce a well-organised and safe UK Black Pride for all. What's more, roles can be shaped around your experience or areas in which you'd like grow. From opportunities in communications, operations and administration, there is a role for you and your passion at UK Black Pride.

Find out more by visiting ukblackpride.org.uk/get-involved or email: volunteers@ukblackpride.org.uk with your CV and a brief covering letter about why you'd like to get involved in the UK Black Pride movement.



DID YOU KNOW?



ONE IN THREE people live in a country where LGBTIQ individuals can be arrested and jailed, just for being who they are.

Nearly **3 BILLION** human beings live in places where the human rights of LGBTIQ people are abused.



That is **9 times** the US population... and **twice** the population of China.



These injustices occur in nearly **80** countries around the world.



DOCUMENTATION

ACTIVISM

TRAINING

We empower people on the front lines with our model for change.

We strive for a world in which LGBTIQ people experience freedom and justice, live in dignity and can pursue their ambitions, regardless of where they live.

We monitor human rights conditions, spur action against violations and hold governments accountable.



OUTRIGHT
ACTION INTERNATIONAL

Human Rights for LGBTIQ People Everywhere.

DIVA MUSIC FESTIVAL



KT TUNSTALL



GABRIELLE

OTHER CONFIRMED ACTS INCLUDE

Heather Peace | Caitlyn Scarlett | Red Sky July | Sarah Walk

Lots Holloway | The Coaltown Daisies | Fuzzy Jones | MIRI
Lucy Whittaker | Jess Kemp | Mary Spender

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Visit divamusicfestival.com for more information