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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Monterey Peninsula Pride Celebration And Parade Returns To Seaside

Monterey, California (June 18, 2018) — The Monterey Peninsula Pride Celebration and Parade is coming back to Seaside on Saturday, June 30, 2018. The parade will kick off at 11 a.m. from Monterey County Social Services on Broadway Ave. in Seaside and continue down Fremont Blvd. towards Hilby Ave.

This year's pride theme is "Celebrating Generations Of Pride." Steven "Quazar" Goings, president of the board of directors, said the committee picked the theme for two main reasons. "First, we simply want to applaud the contributions of past, present and future generations of LGBTQ+ people and their allies," Goings said. "Second, we recognize that for every community the beginning and ending stages of life are often marked by heightened dependence. And for members of the LGBTQ community, these can be especially difficult stages of life to manage, too often characterized by increased isolation. We want to signal right from the start that Monterey Peninsula Pride is devoted to improving the lives of all LGBTQ+ people throughout the entire length of precious lives."

Following the parade, the celebration will take place at 12:00 p.m. at the Oldemeyer Center. "The Pride Planning committee has worked tirelessly to create an event that is fun, accessible, and truly welcoming to anyone who would like to celebrate with us, including families and the greater Monterey Peninsula community," said Rachel Henry, co-chair of the board of directors.

Congressman Jimmy Panetta, Jane Parker, Mark Stone, Luis Alejo and Mary Adams are all confirmed to attend. Music and entertainment will be provided by drag DJ and performer Ayumi Winehouse. Local food trucks will provide meals and refreshments. All are welcome to this family-friendly event.

Event participants will include the American Civil Liberties Union Monterey County Chapter, Breakthrough Men's Community, California Rural Legal assistance, Carmel Youth Center, Central Coast Nurses, Community Foundation, Community Human Services, Conexiones LGBTQ, Deaf & Hard of Hearing Service Center, Emerging Artists Alliance, Epiphany Lutheran & Episcopal Church, Interim Inc. Pajaro Street Wellness Center, Medicare for All - Santa Cruz, ACUL, NAACP, Monterey County Health Department, Monterey County Rape Crisis Center, Monterey County Theatre Alliance, Monterey LGBTQ & Friends Meetup, Monterey Peace and Justice Center, Monterey Public Library, MY Museum, NAMI Monterey, National Association of Social Workers Central Coast Unit, National Coalition Building Institute, Monterey County & CSUMB Chapters, Otter Cross Cultural Center at CSUMB, Pacific Grove Police Department, Pacific Repertory

Theater, Pajaro Valley Pride, Paper Wing Theatre, Peace & Justice Center, Planned Parenthood Mar Monte, Pride Club at CSUMB, Public Water Now, Rainbow Brigade, Rainbow Speakers and Friends, Salinas Valley Pride, San Benito LGBTQ+ Youth Space, Santa Cruz Pride and Diversity Center, Seaside Voter Registration, Silicon Valley Pride, Suicide Prevention Service, Swing Left and Resister Sisters, The Epicenter , The SPCA for Monterey County, The Village Project, Unitarian Universalist Church of the Monterey Peninsula, Whites for Racial Equity, Women's March at CSUMB and more.

After the pride event, Monterey Peninsula Pride plans to continue education and outreach in the community. "Monterey Peninsula Pride is now non-profit organization with a clear sense of its mission and vision," said Goings. "Most simply put, we are dedicated to expanding and enhancing the sense of connection of all members of the LGBTQ+ with each other and mainstream communities."

Visit www.montereypeninsulapride.org for more information.

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The purpose of Monterey Peninsula Pride and Celebration is to unite and serve local LGBTQ+ communities by celebrating our histories, pursuing multicultural equity, developing LGBTQ+ leadership, educating ourselves and others, and cultivating alliances. For more information visit www.montereypeninsulapride.org or follow us on Facebook at Monterey Peninsula Pride.