



Contact: Colette Schabram  
Phone: 805.963.3636x109

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **Pacific Pride Foundation Unveils “With Pride We Rise”; Hosts 2018 Pacific Pride Festival at Chase Palm Park August 25**

**Santa Barbara, Calif., August 2, 2018** – Pacific Pride Foundation (PPF), providing programs and services to more than 10,000 people in Santa Barbara County, is the largest LGBTQ+ center between Los Angeles and San Francisco. PPF is excited to host the Pacific Pride Festival on August 25 at Chase Palm Park, this year themed “With Pride We Rise.” The event will be held from 12:00-7:00 p.m.

A diverse crowd of nearly 4,000 lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer (LGBTQ+) and ally supporters and their families from the Central and South Coast is expected to attend. The first 200 guests who go through the main entrance of the festival will receive a free rainbow flag.

A Pride Rally will kick things off from 12:00-1:00 p.m., with elected officials, local activists, and other community member speakers. Guests are encouraged to attend to engage with local representatives and hear about issues facing the local LGBTQ+ community.

From 1:00-2:00 p.m. Love.Period will be held on the main stage featuring a panel of speakers from the local spiritual and religious community. Afterward, hosts Alan Rose of KEYT and 2016 Queen of Pride Vivian Storm will emcee live entertainment, including music and performances by American Idol’s Ada Vox, Rainbow Girls, Dev, and Morgan McMichaels and Mayhem Miller of RuPaul’s Drag Race.

Throughout the festival, guests can choose from dozens of booths and activities for the whole family, including a bounce house, youth lounge, beer and wine garden, and food from Goa Taco, Flipside, and Kona Ice.

After the festival, the Pride After Party will be held at Matrix Santa Barbara starting at 9:00 p.m., with different levels and entertainment to choose from in the 3-story

nightclub. There will be a special performance by Ada Vox, music by DJs Zeke, Charlie Wood, and SuzanX, and a drag show at 10:00 p.m. on the main floor.

Community members can start celebrating the local Pride season throughout August by attending community events supporting the festival. Comedy is a DRAG, a comedy show with headliner Libbie Higgins, will be held on August 11 from 7:00-10:00 p.m. at Matrix Santa Barbara. On August 14 from 6:30-10:30 p.m., SoHo Restaurant & Music Club will host a Pride Kick-off Event, featuring dinner and a show full of LGBTQ+ artists including Lucy & La Mer, Ezra Michel, Melody Bird, and Bugsy. On August 18, join Pacific Pride Foundation at Martian Vineyard from 11:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. for wine tasting, picnic lunches, and entertainment on the gorgeous property in Los Alamos. On August 22, join PPF for one of the last installments of the Sunset at the Canary series, held on the rooftop of the Kimpton Canary Hotel with happy hour cocktails and entertainment from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Wildcat Lounge will also host a Pride Closing Party on August 26 at 9:30 p.m. featuring a drag show hosted by Echo with queens from Santa Barbara and Los Angeles, music by DJ Zeke and DJ Sparx, Absolut drink specials, and no cover charge.

PPF would like to thank Deckers Brands for being a presenting sponsor of this year's Pacific Pride Festival. PPF is now accepting individual and corporate sponsorships for this year's event. To learn more about the festival or how to get involved, contact Jackie VanLingen at [jackie@pacificpridefoundation.org](mailto:jackie@pacificpridefoundation.org).

*PPF is the largest LGBTQ+ center between Los Angeles and San Francisco, serving all of Santa Barbara County, and partnering with 35 other educational and nonprofit agencies to create a thriving and visible LGBTQ+ community and prevent the transmission of HIV and Hep C. PPF provides services and programs to more than 10,000 clients in the inclusive and diverse LGBTQ+ community including youth programs, elder programs, counseling services, LGBTQ+ competency training, community events, and advocacy on LGBTQ+ issues.*

*PPF directly prevents the transmission of disease through its HIV/AIDS and HEP-C testing and prevention outreach and education, delivering 1300 free tests in the past year. PPF is the leader in programs for LGBTQ+ youth, serving 200 kids with mental health, suicide prevention, and anti-bullying programs, while providing them with a safe place and leadership opportunities. PPF is addressing the opioid crisis through the only clean needle exchange program in the county, which collects about 100,000 used needles every year, and distributing Narcan kits, which have saved 90 people from potentially fatal overdoses in the past year.*

For more information or to make a donation please visit <https://pacificpridefoundation.org>