

***A Message About Pride From Our Executive Director***

***5/19/2020, White Plains, NY***



Dear Community,

As many of you know due to the COVID-19 Crisis and restrictions placed on large gatherings we are moving this year's Pride events to an online format. **Our kick-off will be JUNE 7, 2020.** This was not an easy decision, but a necessary one that would ensure the safety and well-being of our LGBTQ community.

We are going to use platforms like Zoom, Facebook, Instagram, and even Tik Tok! We hope that with this technology you'll discover that we can still connect, engage and have a lot of fun! **We are actively working to create a month long program of events and interactive activities that we will be sharing with you shortly.**

I also want to take a moment to acknowledge the passing of several members of our community. It's been a hard time for many of us. Perhaps you too are going through some kind of challenge. What's important to remember is that The LOFT is still here for you. Aside from Pride you can currently join us for a variety of support groups and classes. You are not alone.

This is why we decided to continue with Pride in June. We all need it. We need those moments to connect, to bond, to heal, and to celebrate! **You know we are the ultimate survivors and our resilience across generations is proven.** We also know that we will see this crisis through too. In the meantime, let's connect online.

You may remember last year's celebration; it was our biggest ever. Thousands of you celebrated with us in Downtown White Plains. There were performances, vendors, laughter, and memories that were made.

I believe that the magic and energy that made 2019 our best Pride ever is still here and with it we can make this year's Pride something special too!

Yours in Pride,

Judy Troilo