

hello@albanypride.com.au

(tel) 0400 063 169

albanypride.com.au

fb.com/albanywapride

# ALBANY PRIDE ANNOUNCES PRIDE FESTIVAL 2022

# Release Date: Sunday, 14th February 2022

ALBANY PRIDE is pleased to announce the return of Western Australia's biggest regional Pride Festival, bringing together the Queer community and their allies from Albany/Kinjarling and beyond. ALBANY PRIDE FESTIVAL 2022 will run from Friday 18" - Sunday 27" February, featuring an impressive lineup of events that provides 'something fun for everyone'.

Seeking to cater for all demographics and interests within the LGBTQIA+ and Ally community, ALBANY PRIDE have been working with local venues and businesses, as well as sports groups from Perth, to bring to Albany their most diverse lineup yet.

"I am delighted we are once again in a position to be bringing so much fun and diversity to town, but this year, we are really pulling out all the stops!", said ALBANY PRIDE's President, Annie Arnold, "Our festival committee has worked tirelessly all year getting this programme together, ensuring we are catering to all demographics and making sure that, at least for this short period of time, Albany will be the most fun and most accepting place for Queer people in WA!".

The ALBANY PRIDE FESTIVAL gives the Queer & Ally community of Albany/Kinjarling region a time of celebration and visibility. This year, ALBANY PRIDE have been keen to provide events that will attract visitors from outside of the region, to provide them with a funfilled, Queer-themed holiday that will showcase the vibrancy and size of Albany's LGBTQIA+ community, and to demonstrate everything the region has to offer as a tourist destination, by giving visitors a taste of the region's food, fun, and exceptional natural beauty - and a reason to visit the region again in the future.



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"We have been working to provide events that showcase the best of Albany, so that visitors to the region can fall in love with Albany and want to return," said Lupo Prenzato, Executive Committee Member, "We want the Albany Pride Festival to be an annual tourist event, that brings visitors the region year after year, so we've worked with local businesses that rely on tourism to make that happen - we want people to come to Albany and to look forward to returning again."

## What's On Offer

Over the past few years, ALBANY PRIDE has been keen to incorporate the Arts as much as possible, by working with local Arts stakeholders to bring theatre shows, music acts, and other performances to Albany. This year will see Perth queerelectro band Alter Boy perform at the Albany Entertainment Centre, as well as the return of Kinetica to perform their new show *Circus After Dark*.

ALBANY PRIDE FESTIVAL will see fun, performance, and the very best of local cuisine come together, with Queer femme burlesque performers Burlezque will showcase their amazing talent at the *BoyLEZque Gala Dinner* which will invite attendees to dress-up, and a *Comedy for Lunch* event that will see top-rated Perth comedians come to Albany.

The Pride Festival will open with the *Retravision Drag Bingo & Games* which will give everybody in Albany the chance to participate in some outrageous fun, games and performances, hosted by Drag Royalty BarbieQ and Veronica Jean Jones.

"DJ, cabaret crooner and idiot" Tomás Ford and BarbieQ will be putting on an unforgettable show at Albany Entertainment Centre's Kalyenup Studio for the *Albany Pride Mardi Gras Party*, which promises to be a disco soirée of comedy, acrobatics, debauchery and boogieliciousness.

This year has also seen a bigger inclusion of events designed to incorporate sports, fitness, and wellbeing, including an Albany Sports Gay that will see a wide array of sporting activities at different locations, specifically tailored for the local Queer community.



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Returning again for 2022 will be the Pride Festival Fair Day, which will bring entertainment, stalls, food, and kids activities together for a fun, family-friendly day out for all ages, including an epic scavenger hunt arranged by our youth group, Spectrum.

Of course, no Pride Festival would be complete without a fair amount of socialising and partying, and we promise to deliver parties of epic proportions this year - and there's still much more to be announced!

"The excitement is real for Albany Pride's 2022 Pride Festival," said Damien Watts, Event Co-Ordinator of the Festival, "With events and celebrations catering to everyone within the LGBTQIA+ community far and wide, we are excited to celebrating visibility, diversity and acceptance in the community for all, whilst having fun, smiles and importantly - a bloody good time!

"I am so grateful to have an amazing bunch of volunteers who share the same vision and love to bring it to life. Albany Pride has been blessed and are extremely grateful for the amazing support from WA businesses and organisations we have received."

A complete list of events, dates, prices and tickets, can be accessed at <a href="https://albanypridefestival.com.au">https://albanypridefestival.com.au</a>.

To find out more about ALBANY PRIDE and the ALBANY PRIDE FESTIVAL, please visit: <a href="https://albanypridefestival.com.au/about/">https://albanypridefestival.com.au/about/</a>

You can find a copy of our print programme, and related images including for individual events by accessing

http://link.albanypridefestival.com.au/pridefest22/PressPack/

## PRESS CONTACT:

Email: media@albanypridefestival.com.au

# **Lupo Prenzato**

Tel: 0499 801 929

