



## **Stuart Ayres**

Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade  
Minister for Tourism and Sport  
Minister for Western Sydney

## **Matt Kean**

Treasurer  
Minister for Energy

## **Ben Franklin**

Minister for Aboriginal Affairs  
Minister for the Arts  
Minister for Regional Youth

# **MEDIA RELEASE**

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## **SYDNEY TO SHINE EVEN BRIGHTER FOR WORLDPRIDE 2023**

As Sydney gets set to shine for Mardi Gras 2022, the NSW Government has announced next year will be even brighter when WorldPride comes to town with a commitment of \$3.5 million to create 'Pride Villages' during a ten day festival.

Minister for Enterprise, Investment and Trade, Minister for Tourism and Sport and Minister for Western Sydney Stuart Ayres said the Sydney 'Pride Villages' would activate Oxford Street in a way that's never been done before.

"WorldPride 2023 will showcase Sydney's strengths to a global audience and creating temporary villages in Taylor Square, Crown Street and Riley Street will further enhance the experience for the more than 500,000 attendees," Mr Ayres said.

"The Oxford St 'Pride Villages' will build on a global event, which celebrates LGBTQIA+ communities through arts, culture, and discussion and truly invites the whole world to feel a part of Sydney's spirit of diversity and inclusion."

NSW Treasurer Matt Kean said Sydney was a natural home for WorldPride 2023.

"It's both a special gathering for Australian LGBTQIA+ communities, and for all of us who value diversity and harmony," Mr Kean said.

"The event will be good for both the heart and the economy, with the opening and closing ceremonies, Mardi Gras party, human rights conference and First Nations gathering sure to provide a financial boost."

Minister for the Arts Ben Franklin said the temporary villages would create a dynamic atmosphere for participants.

"These villages will keep people coming back to the precinct as an entertainment and dining destination and will give more than 78,000 visitors a welcoming 'hub' in Sydney."

Member for Sydney Alex Greenwich said the activation of Oxford St and 'Pride Villages' would build on a proud 45 year tradition in Darlinghurst and Surry Hills.

“This \$3.5 million funding will ensure the LGBTIQIA+ heart of Sydney will be beating during WorldPride with what will be one of the biggest street parties in Sydney’s history”

In 2023, Sydney will celebrate the 50th Australian Gay Pride Week, 45th Sydney Gay & Lesbian Mardi Gras, and the first WorldPride in the southern hemisphere. For more information, visit <http://www.sydneyworldpride.com>

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