President Bill Clinton declared June *Gay and Lesbian Pride Month* in 1999 and 2000. The month was chosen to remember the 1969 Stonewall riots in Manhattan, NY. Patrons of a gay bar, Stonewall Inn, fought back against a police raid, sparking three days of riots. It is considered to be the start of the gay liberation movement in the U.S. From 2009 to 2016, a yearly Presidential Proclamation designating June as LGBT Pride Month was issued. In 2021, President Biden issued a proclamation designating June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ+) month.

**NOAA’S LGBTQ+ Employee Resource Group (ERG): NOAA PRIDE**

*What is NOAA Pride?* NOAA Pride is an ERG focused on supporting the needs of the NOAA Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer or Questioning (LGBTQ+) community and its allies. NOAA Pride promotes the employment, advancement and retention of persons with differing sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression at NOAA. NOAA Pride serves as a resource to assist managers and staff in identifying and resolving employment, retention, and work environment issues affecting LGBTQ+ employees.

*Mission Statement:* NOAA Pride strives to be a strategic partner with the Agency to promote a cultural awareness and inclusion for LGBTQ+ employees through continual learning, networking and developmental opportunities, advocacy efforts, and knowledge sharing among its members.

For More Information: [NOAA staff can click here to access the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Emphasis Program internal group resources.](#)