



**25<sup>th</sup> WORLD CONGRESS  
JEWISH LGBT+ CONFERENCE**  
*Keshet Ga'avah Rainbow of Pride*

**SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA**

**MARCH 21<sup>ST</sup>-24<sup>TH</sup> 2019**

# *Celebrating the Light*

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PLEASE NOTE: All events, dates, times and venues are subject to change without notification.

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**Emanuel Synagogue Campus : 7 Ocean St. Woollahra**

**Sydney Jewish Museum : 148 Darlinghurst Rd. Darlinghurst**

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## **Wednesday 20 March, 2019 - Erev Purim**

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**6.15pm 9.00pm**

**Purim Shpiel**

**Emanuel Synagogue**

A soft unofficial opening to the Conference, for those able to attend Emanuel Synagogue's famous all-singing, all-dancing, musical, entertaining, zany Purim shpiel produced by Rabbi Jacqueline Ninio. World Congress delegates are warmly invited join the festivities as well as enjoying "synagogue-made" hamentaschen.

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**Thursday, 21 March 2019**

**Day One : Purim - a Celebration**

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**9:00am 10:00am**

**Greeting the Day: Stretch & Meditation**

**Emanuel Synagogue**

A variety of stretch, exercise, yoga, and/or meditation practises will be offered on each morning.

**9:00am 10:00am Interest Group Meeting Emanuel Synagogue**

Each morning there is an opportunity for any specific interest group, based on a subject, identity or interest to get together for an hour to network, explore, strategise, discuss, argue, create. Some meetings will be set up before the Conference - others will emerge as the Conference unfolds.

**9.00am 10.30am Prayer Service and Reading of Megilat Esther Emanuel Synagogue**

Emanuel Synagogue has its traditional Purim service which is a combined Progressive/Masorti Minyan and Conference delegates are warmly invited to participate.

**10.00am 12.30pm World Congress Board Meeting \* Emanuel Synagogue**

\* option to join afternoon section of sightseeing.

All conference delegates are welcome to attend, but will not have voting rights

**10.00am 4.00pm Sydney Sightseeing**

Sydney is one of the world's most beautiful cities with its glorious harbour, iconic Opera House and Harbour Bridge. We will also visit the historic Rocks area, and relate with various Aboriginal features. Our famous Bondi

Beach is a “must see” with time for a dip in the ocean. We will also visit the gay area of Oxford St, including many areas of interest from an LGBT+ historic and activist perspective.

**4.00pm 6.30pm Arrival and Registration Emanuel Synagogue**

Registration is available from 4pm. Come early to explore a range of options to create a profile, decorate your name tag, network and shmooze.

**6.30pm 9.00pm Opening Reception, Queer Shpiel & Kol Koleinu Launch Emanuel Synagogue**

Following the Purim theme, we will present a rainbow-coloured celebration, bringing together a range of talents, including “**The Queerest Gender-Bending Purim Shpiel Play on the Planet**”. Lots of opportunities to get to know other delegates and have some fun. Kol Koleinu, the recently published book about the work of the World Congress will get a Downunder “Ozzie” launch. “Welcome to Country” and Menorah lighting ceremony.

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**Friday, 22 March 2019**

**Day Two : The Light In Me - A Personal Perspective**

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**9:00am 10.00am Greeting the Day: Stretch & Meditation Emanuel Synagogue**

A variety of stretch, exercise, yoga, and/or meditation practices will be offered on each morning.

**9:00am 10:00am Interest Group Meeting Emanuel Synagogue**

Each morning there is an opportunity for any specific interest group, based on a subject, identity or interest to get together for an hour to network, explore, strategise, discuss, argue, create. Some meetings will be set up before the Conference - others will emerge as the Conference unfolds.

**10.00am 11.00am Introduction to Conference: Who's in the Room? Emanuel Synagogue**

An overview of the Conference Program followed by a collection of fun and creative ice breaker activities.

**11.00am 1.00pm**

**Shining My Light : Grappling With Identity Dynamics**

**Emanuel Synagogue**

A Panel Presentation followed by facilitated small group discussion

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LGBT+ MEANS : LESBIAN GAY BISEXUAL TRANSGENDER INTERSEX QUEER INTERSEX CURIOUS ASEXUAL GENDER-FLUID NON-BINARY GENDER NON-CONFORMING YOUNG MATURE HIV+ JEWISH RELIGIOUS OBSERVANT PROGRESSIVE ORTHODOX SECULAR SINGLE PARTNERED MARRIED PARENT TOP BOTTOM VERSATILE DOMINANT SUBMISSIVE MASTER SLAVE OUT CLOSETED

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There is so much diversity within the umbrella of “LGBT+ Jews”. We may not think about it consciously, but every day we make choices around which aspects of our identity we disclose and to whom. This session will explore this process, so that we can learn more about ourselves as well as expanding our awareness of other peoples’ approaches to the same issues.

**1.00pm 2:30pm**

**Picnic Lunch**

**Centennial Park**

**2.30pm 4.00pm**

**Kol Koleinu: An International Perspective**

**Emanuel Synagogue**

Drawing from the recently published book from the World Congress, **Kol Koleinu**, we will hear from delegates from around the globe in relation to the interface between LGBT+ and Jewish aspects: successes, strategies, disappointments, failures, support and stories that can benefit us all. There is always at least a hint of resonance with peoples’ stories, wherever we live and whatever our level of engagement in these issues. Followed by a discussion around the themes addressed, issues raised and how they resonate for each of us.

**4.00pm 4:30pm Afternoon Tea/Break Emanuel Synagogue**

**4:30pm 6:00pm CyberConference: Presentations (via Internet)  
from Luminaries at the leading of the International Jewish LGBT+ activity**

Brief inspiring messages and insight which speak to the core of the Jewish/LGBT+ identity and activism, beamed in from the around the globe.

**6.15pm 7.30pm Queer Kabbalat Shabbat Service Emanuel Synagogue**

An inspirational, musical, queer-infused Kabbalat Shabbat experience which also welcomes non-delegate friends from LGBT+ religious groups and peak body organisations.

**7.45pm 10pm Shabbat Dinner Emanuel Synagogue**

An opportunity for the World Congress & Emanuel Synagogue to welcome members of other LGBT+ faith groups as well as representatives of a range of gay organisations. There will be speakers from Jewish/ LGBT+ as well as representatives of the broader LGBT+ community as well as some entertainment.

**10pm>>>**

**Exploring Oxford St Nightlife**

Oxford Street is one of Sydney's most famous streets, running through the vibrant inner Sydney suburbs of Darlinghurst and Paddington. The street is known for its strong cultural and creative scene, colourful nightlife, and the heart of Sydney's LGBT+ culture. Don't forget we have a FULL DAY'S PROGRAM tomorrow!!

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**Saturday, 23 March 2019    Day Three: The Light In Us – Sense of Community**

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**9:00am**

**10:00am**

**Greeting the Day: Stretch & Meditation**

**Emanuel Synagogue**

A variety of stretch, exercise, yoga, and/or meditation practices will be offered on each morning.



**9.00am 12.00pm Shabbaton – Concurrent sessions Emanuel Synagogue**

A range of diverse, engaging, creative, contemplative and informative sessions addressing issues of interest to the Jewish LGBT+ Perspective : 50 min duration per session

Topics under consideration include: Queer-lensed Jewish text study : 6 Genders in Talmud : Singles : Gay Men & Sex (male only space): Transgender 101 : Drugs & Caring for Friends : Singing : Renewal-style Shabbat service : Israeli surrogacy issue : Sexual/Physical Abuse : Youth : Lesbians : Parents : Documentary “It’s Who we Are” screening plus options for other presentations. [Please email organisers if you have a suggestion]

**Synagogue Services (optional) Emanuel Synagogue**

**9.00am 12.00pm** Masorti/Conservative Minyan in New Synagogue at Emanuel

**10.00am 12.00pm** Progressive/Reform Minyan in Main Sanctuary at Emanuel

Orthodox Central Synagogue, Sephardi Synagogue & Chabad are also nearby.

**12.30pm 2.00pm Lunch (self-organised e.g. Queen St cafes)**

**2.00pm 4.00pm L’Dor V’Dor: Generational Narratives Emanuel Synagogue**

From 8 to 80 and beyond, each stage in our lives as LGBT+ folk holds its own stories and insight, challenges and delight. The experience of these stages also shifts, depending on our birth - from decade to decade, century to

century. What are the differences and similarities? What does each unique narrative have to offer to the other? Is there value in exploring outside the comfort of our peers? How do the differing cultures of repression and acceptance through the years, influence our experience of being Jewish & LGBT+?

**4.00pm 5:30pm Open Space – Anyone can set the agenda on what to discuss Emanuel Synagogue**

A facilitated process for large groups in which anyone can propose a topic, and where there is interest, that group meets for a brief discussion. This process is repeated several times to create a dynamic and stimulating way to address a range of ideas in a short period of time.

**5.30pm 5.45pm Afternoon Tea/Break Emanuel Synagogue**

**5.45pm 6.45pm Israeli Dancing Emanuel Synagogue**

**6.45pm 7.30pm Bus to cruise**

**7.30pm 10pm \*\*Sydney Harbour Cruise and Dinner**

**[\*\*Cost: \$65 - NOT INCLUDED in CONFERENCE FEE]**

A visit to Sydney is not complete without a Harbour Cruise. Enjoy a night of fun, entertainment, the Opera House, Harbour Bridge, city lights and everything that makes Sydney Harbour the magical place it is.

**Alternate activity for those not joining the cruise**

<b>6.45pm</b>	<b>7.45pm</b>	<b>Dinner at local cafes/restaurants (self-organised)</b>	<b>Emanuel Synagogue</b>
<b>8.00pm</b>	<b>10.00pm</b>	<b>Movie Night at Emanuel</b>	

**Sunday, 24 March 2019      Day Four: Sharing Our Light With Others**  
**Tikkun Olam (Repair of the World)**

<b>9:00am</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Greeting the Day: Stretch &amp; Meditation</b>	<b>Jewish Museum</b>
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A variety of stretch, exercise, yoga, and/or meditation practices will be offered on each morning.

<b>9:00am</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Interest Group Meeting</b>	<b>Jewish Museum</b>
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**10.00am 11.30pm      Queer Tour of Jewish Museum plus Human Rights exhibition      Jewish Museum Complex**

For more than 25 years, the Sydney Jewish Museum has been in the forefront of Holocaust commemoration and of treasuring the story of Australian Jewry. We will also visit the recently opened exhibition focusing on Human Rights which highlights Indigenous, Refugees and Asylum seekers, People with Disabilities and the LGBT+ community.

**11.30am 12.00pm      Morning Tea      Jewish Museum**

**12.00pm 1.00pm      Homophobia & Antisemitism : Personal Reflections      Jewish Museum**

Small groups sharing personal reactions, stories, thoughts, feelings or insights that may have emerged from our visit to the museum, or beyond to the bigger picture of our personal, cultural or communal experience. We will create an art installation to give expression to what unfolds.

**1.00pm 1.30pm      LGBT Shoah Memorial & Jacob Gubbay Remembrance      Green Park**

Green Park, next door to the Jewish Museum has a monument commemorating LGBT victims of the Shoah. We will take a moment to honour them as well as remembering Jacob Gubbay, who died in 2018 in Sydney. He is best known as the founder of CBST, Congregation Beit Simchat Torah in New York. In Sydney, he continued to work with Jewish LGBT+ activism.

**1.30pm 2.30pm PICNIC LUNCH Green Park**

**2.30pm 4pm World Congress Presentation: How to get involved Jewish Museum**

A presentation by the World Congress Steering Committee about the organisation and ways folk can join, as well as opportunities to volunteer and work together on future activities and development.

**4pm 5.30pm Jewish LGBT+ and the way forward Jewish Museum**

As the World Congress Conference comes to a close, it is time to reflect on this experience and ask ourselves how we can use our personal knowledge, experiences and passion to impact our local communities and others around us. How can we utilise the global resources, networks, ruach and relationships to forge a path forward into the future?

**5.30pm 6.30pm Official Closing & Reflections Jewish Museum**

**6.30pm 7.30pm Informal dinner Jewish Museum**

**7.30pm 10pm Community Event: Panel & Discussion Jewish Museum**

Sharing the ruach (spirit) of the Conference with the broader Jewish & LGBT+ communities.

ALL WELCOME including non-delegates