



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

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

MARCH 21ST-24TH 2019

Celebrating the Light

PLEASE NOTE: All information contained in this program is subject to change without notification.

**Emanuel Synagogue Campus : 7 Ocean St. Woollahra
Sydney Jewish Museum Complex : 148 Darlinghurst Rd. Darlinghurst**

Wednesday 20 March 2019 - Erev Purim

6.15pm 9.00pm Purim Shpiel Emanuel Synagogue Campus

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.

Thursday, 21 March 2019 Day One : Purim - a Celebration

9:00am 10:00am Greeting the Day: Stretch & Meditation Emanuel

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

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

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. [email organisers with your suggestions: worldcongress2019@gmail.com]

9.00am 10.00am Prayer Service and Reading of Megilat Esther Emanuel

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 (including lunch)* Emanuel

* 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

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

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. A Traditional Indigenous "*Welcome to Country*" will be followed by a Menorah lighting ceremony.

Friday, 22 March 2019 Day Two : The Light In Me - A Personal Perspective

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

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

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

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

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
A Panel Presentation followed by facilitated small group discussion

LGBT+ CAN MEAN: LESBIAN GAY BISEXUAL TRANSGENDER INTERSEX QUEER ASEXUAL GENDER-FLUID NON-BINARY GENDER NON-CONFORMING YOUNG MATURE HIV+ ON PREP JEWISH RELIGIOUS OBSERVANT PROGRESSIVE ORTHODOX SECULAR SINGLE PARTNERED MARRIED PARENT TOP BOTTOM VERSATILE MASTER SLAVE OUT CLOSETED AND SO MUCH MORE...

There is so much diversity within the umbrella of "Jewish LGBT+". Some of us may never consider it, but every day we make choices around which aspects of our identity we disclose and to whom. This session provides a framework to reflect on this, to deepen our awareness of ourselves, as well as opening to the experience of others.

1.00pm 2:30pm Picnic Lunch Centennial Park

2.30pm 4.00pm Kol Koleinu: An International Perspective Emanuel

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 activities: 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

4:30pm 6:00pm CyberConference: Presentations (via Internet) Emanuel

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

9.00am 12.00pm Shabbaton - Concurrent sessions Emanuel

A range of diverse, engaging, creative, contemplative and informative sessions addressing issues of interest to the Jewish LGBT+ Perspective : We will have 4 venues, running concurrent sessions of 50 minutes duration.

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. [Email organisers if you have a suggestion]

Synagogue Services (optional) Emanuel

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 options are also nearby.

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

2.00pm 4.00pm L'Dor V'Dor Redefined : Generational Narratives Emanuel

Rather than a top down approach, we seek to redefine the top-down model informed by patriarchy. Eldership can emerge from a person of any age and maturity is defined by our actions. 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 another? 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

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
5.45pm	6.45pm	Israeli Dancing	Emanuel
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

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

Sunday, 24 March 2019

Day Four: Sharing Our Light With Others

Tikkun Olam (Repair of the World)

9:00am	10:00am	Greeting the Day: Stretch & Meditation	Green Park
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9:00am 10:00am Interest Group Meeting Green Park

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10.00am 11.30pm Queer Tour of Jewish Museum Sydney Jewish Museum
including Human Rights exhibition

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 Museum Complex

12.00pm 1.00pm Homophobia & Antisemitism : Personal Reflections Museum Complex

Small groups sharing personal reactions, stories, thoughts, feelings or insights that may have emerged from our visit to the museum. Consider 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 Shoar Memorial & Jacob Gubbay Remembrance Green Park

Green Park, next door to the Jewish Museum has a monument commemorating LGBT victims of the Shoar. 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 Museum Complex

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 Museum Complex

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 Museum Complex

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6.30pm 7.30pm Informal dinner Museum Complex
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7.30pm 10pm Community Event: Panel & Discussion Museum Complex

Sharing the ruach (spirit) of the Conference with the broader Jewish & LGBT+ communities. ALL WELCOME including non-delegates