

Pride Month 2026

Source: [Pride Month 2026](#)



Pride Month is an annual celebration of the many contributions made by the LGBTQ+ community to history, society and cultures worldwide. In most places, Pride is celebrated throughout the month of June each year in commemoration of its roots in the Stonewall Riots of June 1969. However, in some areas, especially in the Southern Hemisphere—pride events occur at other times of the year.

Origins of Pride Month

The roots of the gay rights movement go back to the early 1900s, when a handful of individuals in North America and Europe created gay and lesbian organizations such as the Society for Human Rights, founded by Henry Gerber in Chicago in the 1920s.

Following World War II, a small number of groups like the Mattachine Society and the daughters of Bilitis published gay- and lesbian-positive newsletters and grew more vocal in demanding recognition for, and protesting discrimination against, gays and lesbians. In 1966, for example, members of the Mattachine Society held a “sip-in” protest at Julius, a bar in New York City, where they demanded drinks after announcing that they were gay, in violation of local laws against serving alcohol to gays and lesbians.

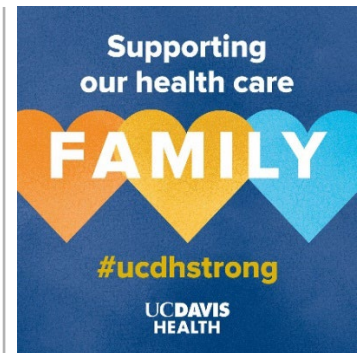
Despite some progress in the postwar era, basic civil rights were largely denied to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people—until one night in June 1969, when the gay rights movement took a furious step forward with a series of violent riots in New York City.

Stonewall Riots

As was common practice in many cities, the New York Police Department would occasionally raid bars and restaurants where gays and lesbians were known to gather. This occurred on June 28, 1969, when the NYPD raided the Stonewall Inn, a bar in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of Manhattan.

When the police aggressively dragged patrons and employees out of the bar, several people fought back against the NYPD, and a growing crowd of angry locals gathered in the streets. The confrontations quickly escalated and sparked six days of protests and violent clashes with the NYPD outside the Stonewall Inn on Christopher Street and throughout the neighborhood.

By the time the Stonewall Riots ended on July 2, 1969, the gay rights movement went from being a fringe issue largely ignored by politicians and the media to front-page news worldwide.



**BLACK LIVES
MATTER**



June 2026 Calendar

*Black Lives Matter Month
Alzheimer's and Brain Awareness Month*

- 1 – International Children's Day
- 7 - Corpus Christi (Christianity)
- 8 – World Brain Tumor Day
- 12 – World Day Against Child Labor
- 16-17 – Islamic New Year (Islam)
- 17 – Maharana Pratap Jayanti (Hinduism)
- 19 – Juneteenth (US)
- 20 – World Refugee Day
- 20 – Litha/Summer Solstice
(Pagan/Wiccan)
- 21 - Father's Day (US)
- 22-28 – Deafblind Awareness Week (US)
- 25 – Ashura (Islam)

First Gay Pride Parade

One year later, during the anniversary of the Stonewall Riots, activists in New York City marched through the streets of Manhattan in commemoration of the uprising. The march, organized by the Eastern Regional Conference of Homophile Organizations (ERCHO) and the Christopher Street Liberation Day Umbrella Committee, was named the Christopher Street Liberation Day March.

In time, that celebration came to be simply known as the Gay Pride Parade. According to activist Craig Schoonmaker, "I authored the word 'pride' for gay pride ... [my] first thought was 'Gay Power.' I didn't like that, so proposed gay pride. There's very little chance for people in the world to have power. People did not have power then; even now, we only have some. But anyone can have pride in themselves, and that would make them happier as people, and produce the movement likely to produce change."

The march, which took place on June 28, 1970, is now considered the country's first gay pride parade. By all accounts, the New York City event was a stunning success, with an estimated 3,000 to 5,000 participants in the march, which stretched 51 blocks from Greenwich Village to Central Park. Marches and parades also took place that June in Chicago, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Gay Pride Month

Over the years, gay pride events have spread from large cities to smaller towns and villages worldwide—even in places where repression and violence against gays and lesbians are commonplace. The atmosphere at these events can range from raucous, carnivalesque celebrations to strident political protest to solemn memorials for those lost to AIDS or homophobic violence.

In June 2000, President Bill Clinton officially designated June as Gay and Lesbian Pride Month, in recognition of the Stonewall Riots and gay activism throughout the years. A more-inclusive name was chosen in 2009 by President Barack Obama: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month.

The origins of Gay Pride Month were also honored by Obama when, in 2016, he created the Stonewall National Monument, a 7.7-acre around the Stonewall Inn where the modern gay rights movement began.

What Does LGBTQ+ Stand For?

According to the Human Rights Campaign, LGBTQ+ is an acronym that stands for "lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (or "questioning"), with a "+" sign to recognize limitless sexual orientations and gender identities.

Best Practices for Virtual Interpreting: What Clients and Language Service Users Should Know

Source: [Best Practices for Virtual Interpreting](#)

Thanks to rapid technological shifts and the global landscape of recent years, the demand for virtual interpreting services has increased. Virtual interpreting is a linguistic solution that allows people in different locations to connect with professional interpreters who help break down language barriers.

Virtual interpreting is used in a wide range of settings, the most common being healthcare, but also including education, business, and legal forums as well as conferences. Virtual interpreting can also be used under different modalities including over-the-phone interpreting (OPI), video-remote interpreting (VRI), or remote-simultaneous interpreting (RSI). Learn about the differences between VRI and VSI at the American Translators Association website.



Successful virtual interpreting is a shared responsibility between interpreters and the users of language services. This article will explore how interpreters prepare for their assignments, their requirements to be able to provide high quality interpreting, what clients and language service users should be aware of during interpreting sessions, and what both can do to get maximum benefit from the interpreting experience.

What is Required on the Part of the Interpreter?

Professional interpreters are ready to meet defined standards and are prepared to work remotely. When working for interpreting agencies or

companies, interpreting professionals are required to comply with the following standards:

- **Professional qualifications and training:** This includes formal education or proven technical knowledge in interpreting, specialized training (the most common specializations being medical and legal), and familiarity with interpreting protocols and relevant professional standards.
- **Ethical and legal compliance:** Interpreters must adhere to confidentiality and privacy obligations, HIPAA training and compliance for medical settings, professional conduct, respect, and neutrality.
- **Technical readiness for virtual interpreting:** Interpreters must be equipped with a reliable computer or device, a headset with an incorporated microphone and noise-cancelling feature and possess a reliable and steady Internet connection.
- **Professionalism in the work environment:** Interpreters must provide services in a quiet and private space that protects client privacy. They should display a neutral background for remote work, and the interpreter must have a professional appearance for VRI and RSI by wearing appropriate clothing consistent with professional settings.

Whether hiring a professional interpreter through an agency or privately, it's important to make sure that the professional selected meets the above-mentioned standards.

What Should Clients Be Aware of During Interpreting Sessions?

Understanding what happens during a virtual interpreting session helps clients work more effectively with the professional interpreters on their projects. The following information about what is expected during VRI, OPI and RSI is useful for successful interpreting:

- **Communication dynamics in virtual interpreting:** It is essential for clients and language service users to understand what kind of interpreting technique will be used. During a consecutive interpreting session, interpreters take notes and reflect before rendering a message after quickly analyzing it. It is of paramount importance to respect each speaker's turn during the interpreting session.
- **Interpreting protocols and interventions:** During interpreting sessions, language professionals make use of specific protocols to decide when to intervene and ask for clarification or repetition, for example. The interpreter may also ask clients to speak more slowly or in shorter sentences. These interventions are normal and necessary for accurate interpretation. Being familiar with these protocols and interventions fosters smooth communication.
- **Linguistic and cultural factors:** Language professionals interpret for people who often come from different countries and, therefore, interpreters must process differences in accents, regional vocabulary, and country-specific expressions. Because of this, interpreters may pause to verify terminology, ask for words to be spelled out, or use a brief explanation when interpreting to navigate cultural nuances.

What Can I Do as a Language Service User to Improve the Interpreting Experience?

For Scheduled Interpreting Sessions:

- Share relevant materials in advance (glossaries, industry terminology, presentations)
- Provide context about the interpreting session's purpose and setting

These additional steps allow interpreters to prepare in advance and be ready to face any challenges that may arise during the actual session. Communication will be much smoother if the interpreter is already familiar with the technical terminology that may appear during the session and if the professional language provider knows who will be present.

For On-Demand Interpreting Sessions:

- Offer a brief overview of what the session will address
- Identify the subject matter and participants when beginning

For All Virtual Interpreting Sessions:

- Be familiar with basic interpreting protocols
- Speak clearly and at a moderate pace
- Practice patience and allow time for interpretation
- Be aware of the type of interpreting being used (consecutive vs. simultaneous)
- Minimize background noise and interruptions

Conclusion

Effective virtual interpreting is a collaborative process. Preparation and awareness improve outcomes for everyone involved in interpreting sessions. Next time you are hiring an interpreter, remember to take into account that as a client, you have an active role in boosting the interpreting experience and can do so by following the tips presented in this article.

New Staff Profile: Maria Martin

Maria Martin is the newest addition to our Spanish team. Originally from Jalisco, Mexico, she developed an early passion for languages through her studies in English and etymology during high school—an experience that helped shape her future career.

Maria moved to California in 1990, where she continued building her language skills through daily life, relationships, and community involvement. Her interest in interpreting grew organically as she supported communication within her church and local community, often assisting with informal interpretation and written translations.

After relocating to Sacramento in 1996, Maria became fully immersed in English, which accelerated her language development. She later pursued formal training through the Medical Interpreting Program at American River College and began working as a Mental Health Interpreter, gaining foundational experience and completing over 120 hours of interpreter training.

Maria went on to build a diverse career as a freelance interpreter, working across a wide range of settings including healthcare, mental health, workers' compensation, court proceedings, school meetings, and government services. During the COVID-19 pandemic, she expanded her expertise in video remote interpreting, supporting both consecutive and simultaneous sessions for medical visits, conferences, and professional meetings.

In 2024, Maria earned her national certification as a medical interpreter through the National Board of Certification for Medical Interpreters. She was drawn to UC Davis Health for its reputation for excellence and the opportunity to continue growing professionally while contributing to high-quality patient care. Maria is committed to delivering compassionate, culturally responsive service and brings extensive experience to the interpreting department.

Welcome aboard, Maria! We are excited to have you here!

