LGBT Youth North West presents the 2014 “Pink Box” Competition:

ur own vision

www.lgbtyouthnorthwest.org.uk
This year we are drawing on a variety of significant events and themes to encourage you to develop an entry into this year’s competition…

**LGBT History Month**

Celebrated in February of each year, LGBT History Month was founded by Sue Sanders, chair of the national organisation Schools Out who have been working for visibility, safety and equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans young people for 40 years!

The first LGBT History Month took place in 2005 to mark the abolition of Section 28, the law that forbade the “promotion of teaching in any maintained school of the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship”.

LGBT History Month is a chance to recognise and celebrate the achievements of lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans people who have made a difference.

Each year LGBT History Month takes on a theme, this year the theme is **MUSIC!**

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International Day Against Homophobia, (Biphobia and Transphobia) – IDAHO(BIT)

In 2014, the 17 May will be recognised as International Day Against Homophobia for the tenth time.

This year’s theme is a response to countries such as Turkey, Russia and Armenia where there is a highlighted need to challenge anti-‘propaganda’, ‘obscenity’ and ‘public morality’ laws which, in practice, are being used to close down spaces for public assembly, shut down LGBT community websites, justify police actions targeting vulnerable communities, and to silence journalists and human rights defenders who speak out in favour of LGBT rights.

And even in countries where freedom of expression is legally guaranteed, and politically defended, LGBT people encounter everyday limits on what they can, or feel able to express about who they really are, or to articulate their visions for social change.

This year the IDAHO campaign – after much consultation – will take on the theme

**FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION**
**Eurovision Song Contest**

This is an annual song competition held between many of the countries in the European Broadcasting Union.

The 59th annual competition will be held in Copenhagen on Saturday 10 May 2014 following Denmark’s win in 2013, expecting a viewing audience in excess of 125 million people. You are invited to watch too:

![Eurovision Logo](image1)

The Eurovision Song Contest has always had a significant LGBT following, more recently the show has been used as a platform for LGBT rights. When Russia hosted in 2009, gay rights activist Nikolai Alekseev attempted to raise awareness of the countries stance on LGBT rights by organising a Pride march to coincide with the contest – the application for this was denied by Moscow officials on the grounds that it would “destroy morals in society”.

In 2013, the Finnish performance with a song called “Marry Me” included a same-sex kiss between the singer and a female dancer. The singer Krista Siegfrids stated that this was to encourage Finland to legalise same-sex marriage.

![Krista Siegfrids](image2)

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We invite you to present

**our own vision**

We invite you to join us in combining all these significant dates and events!

1. LGBT History Month (February) – themed Music
2. The Eurovision Song Contest (10 May 2014) - #JoinUs
3. IDAHO (17 May 2014) – Freedom of Expression

We challenge you and your groups to create a musical entry into a regional competition with a **winning prize of £100** for your group!

You are invited to present your musical creation at an event to be held

**6.30 – 9.00pm on Friday 16 May 2014**

at

**Knotty Ash Youth and Community Centre**

251 East Prescott Road

Liverpool

L14 5NA

**Book your places via the link on page 19**

Use the activities in this pack to inspire you and help you get creative!

You may sing, dance, mime your favourite song, write a completely new song, whatever you like!

- What is **our own vision** of what life is like for an LGBT young person?
- What is **our own vision** for the future?

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Activities

1. LGBT Artists
   See how much you know about LGBT artists past and present using this mix and match activity!

   Instructions – print out pages 7 - 10. Note that in this booklet the artists are matched correctly to their descriptions – this will need cutting up ready for your groups to take part. Can they match the artist to their description?

   What other LGBT musicians do your group know?

2. Gay Anthems
   Have a look at the song lyrics on pages 11 – 15 that are largely considered to be “gay anthems”. Explore with your group what this means and why these songs have become important to the community.

   What other “gay anthems” do your group know? Which is the best?

3. Discussion Points
   Print out the discussion points on pages 16-17 and explore with your group!

   Hopefully by now your group will be inspired to develop their own musical performance and share it with us all at the event in Liverpool on Friday 16 May 2014! Book places on page 19.

   See you there!

   www.lgbtyouthnorthwest.org.uk
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Beth Ditto</td>
<td>Born 1981, American, Lesbian, Lead singer in Gossip, Most successful single in the UK was “Standing in the Way of Control” in 2006</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Freddie Mercury</td>
<td>Born 5 November 1946, Died 24 November 1991 of AIDS, British, Lead singer of Queen, Had been married to a woman but spent his last years with male long-term partner</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>5.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Born 21 July 1991</td>
<td>British</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Singer songwriter</td>
<td>Lesbian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>X Factor contestant 2012</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucy Spraggan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td><strong>6.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Born 25 March 1947</td>
<td>Singer songwriter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Gay man</td>
<td>With partner, first to form a civil partnership in UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Father of two</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elton John</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Born 16 May 1966</td>
<td>Singer songwriter and record producer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Bisexual</td>
<td>Lead singer in electro-pop band (same as their last name)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Video for “Annabel” depicts a child exploring gender identity</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alison Goldfrapp</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>8.</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Born 8 November 1980</td>
<td>American</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Trans woman</td>
<td>Lead singer in Against Me!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Album “Transgender Dysphoria Blues” released January 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Jayne Grace</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|   |   | 9. Born 6 April 1939  
Dusty Springfield  
Died 2 March 1999  
British singer songwriter  
Had many relationships with women  
Singles include “I Only Want to be With You” and “Son of a Preacher Man”   |
|---|---|---|
Will Young  
Gay man  
British singer songwriter and actor  
Won “Pop Idol” in 2002  
2011 video for “Jealousy” depicts him lusting after a man   |
|   |   | 11. Born 3 August 1967  
Skin  
Bisexual  
Real name Deborah Anne Dyer  
Lead singer in Skunk Anansie  
Singles include “Weak”, “Hedonism” and “Charity”   |
|   |   | 12. Born 17 November 1960  
RuPaul  
Drag Queen  
Recorded “Don’t Go Breaking My Heart” in 1994 with Elton John  
Hosts TV show “Drag Race” where contestants “Lip Sync for their Life” to avoid elimination   |

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<table>
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</table>
| 13. | Born 23 April 1858  
Died 8 May 1944  
Composer  
Part of the UK Suffragette Movement  
"I wonder why it is so much easier for me to love my own sex passionately than [men]. I can't make it out for I am a very healthy-minded person." |
| Ethel Smyth OBE |   |
| 14. | Born 16 May 1919  
Died 4 February 1987  
Pianist and vocalist  
Never publically acknowledged being gay  
Life depicted in film “Behind the Candelabra” in 2013 |
| Liberace |   |
| 15 | Born 28 March 1986  
Real name Stefani Germanotta  
American recording artist  
Outspoken activist for LGBT rights  
Bisexual  
Set up the Born This Way Foundation in 2011 |
| Lady Gaga |   |
| 16. | Canadian  
Trans Man  
Guitarist in The Cliks  
Has been named in Huffington Post as one of the most influential trans people |
| Lucas Silveira |   |
Gay Anthem #1 – “I Am What I Am” by Gloria Gaynor (1983), originally from the musical La Cage Aux Folles.

I am what I am
I am my own special creation
So come take a look
Give me the hook or the ovation

It's my world that I want to have a little pride in
My world and it's not a place I have to hide in
Life's not worth a dam
Till you can say, hey world, I am what I am

I am what I am
I don't want praise, I don't want pity
I bang my own drum
Some think it's noise, I think it's pretty

And so what if I love each feather and each bangle
Why not try to see things from a different angle
Your life is a sham
Till you can shout out loud, I am what I am

I am what I am
And what I am needs no excuses
I deal my own deck
Sometimes the ace, sometimes the deuces

There's one life and there's no return and no deposit
One life so it's time to open up your closet
Life's not worth a dam
Till you can say, hey world, I am what I am

Click to watch:

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Gay Anthem #2 – “Go West” by the Pet Shop Boys (1992)

(Together) We will go our way
(Together) We will leave someday
(Together) Your hand in my hand
(Together) We will make our plans
(Together) We will fly so high
(Together) Tell all our friends good-bye
(Together) We will start life new
(Together) This is what we'll do

(Together) We will go our way
(Together) We will leave someday
(Together) Your hand in my hand
(Together) We will make our plans
(Together) We will fly so high
(Together) Tell all our friends good-bye
(Together) We will start life new
(Together) This is what we'll do

(Go West) Life is peaceful there
(Go West) In the open air
(Go West) Where the skies are blue
(Go West) This is what we're gonna do

(Together) We will love the beach
(Together) We will learn and teach
(Together) Change our pace of life
(Together) We will work and strive
(I love you) I know you love me
(I want you) How could I disagree?
(When you say) You will do the rest
(I know that) There are many ways
(To live there) In the sun or shade
(Together) We will find a place
(To settle) Where there's so much space
(Without rush) And the pace back East
(The hustling) Rustling just to feed
(I know I'm) Ready to leave too
(So that's what) We are gonna do

(What we're gonna do is
Go West) Life is peaceful there
(Go West) In the open air
(Go West) Where the skies are blue
(Go West) This is what we're gonna do
(Life is peaceful there) Go West
(In the open air) Go West
(Baby, you and me) Go West
(This is our destiny)
Come on, come on, come on, come on

(Go West) Sun in wintertime
(Go West) We will feel just fine
(Go West) Where the skies are blue
(Go West) This is what we're gonna do
(Come on, come on, come on, come on)
(Go West)

There where the air is free
we'll be (We'll be) what we want to be
Now if we make a stand
we'll find (We'll find) our promised land

Click to watch:

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Your disco, your disco, your disco needs you
Your disco, your disco, your disco needs you

Desperately seeking someone, willing to travel
You're lost in conversation and useless at Scrabble
Happiness will never last
Darkness comes to kick your ass

So let's dance through all our fears
War is over for a bit
The whole world should be moving, do your part
Cure a lonely heart

Your disco, your disco, your disco needs you
Your disco, your disco, your disco needs you

We're sold on vanity, but that's so see through
Take your body to the floor, your disco needs you
From Soho to Singapore
From the mainland to the shore

So let's dance through all our fears
War is over for a bit
You're a slave to the rhythm, do your part
Cure a lonely heart

Vous etes jamais seuls
Vous savez ce qu'il faut faire
Ne laissez pas tomber votre nation
La disco a besoin de vous

So let's dance through all our fears
War is over for a bit
The whole world should be moving, do your part
Cure a lonely heart

Your disco, your disco, your disco needs you
Your disco, your disco, your disco needs you

Click to watch:

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Gay Anthem #4 – “Born This Way” by Lady Gaga (2011).

It doesn't matter if you love him or capital H-I-M
Just put your paws up
'Cause you were born this way, baby

My mama told me when I was young
We are all born superstars
She rolled my hair and put my lipstick on
In the glass of her boudoir

There's nothin' wrong with lovin' who you are
She said, 'cause He made you perfect, babe
So hold your head up, girl and you'll go far
Listen to me when I say

I'm beautiful in my way
'Cause God makes no mistakes
I'm on the right track, baby
I was born this way

Don't hide yourself in regret
Just love yourself and you're set
I'm on the right track, baby
I was born this way, born this way

Ooh, there ain't no other way, baby, I was born this way
Baby, I was born this way
Ooh, there ain't no other way, baby, I was born this way
I'm on the right track, baby, I was born this way

Don't be a drag, just be a queen
Don't be a drag, just be a queen
Don't be a drag, just be a queen
Don't be

Give yourself prudence and love your friends
Subway kid, rejoice of truth
In the religion of the insecure
I must be myself, respect my youth

A different lover is not a sin
Believe capital H-I-M
I love my life, I love this record and
Mi amore vole fe yah

I'm beautiful in my way,
'Cause God makes no mistakes
I'm on the right track, baby
I was born this way

Don't hide yourself in regret,
Just love yourself and you're set
I'm on the right track, baby
I was born this way

Ooh, there ain't no other way, baby, I was born this way
Baby, I was born this way
Ooh, there ain't no other way, baby, I was born this way
I'm on the right track, baby, I was born this way

Don't be drag, just be a queen
Whether you're broke or evergreen
You're black, white, beige, chola descent
You're Lebanese, you're orient

Whether life's disabilities
Left you outcast, bullied or teased
Rejoice and love yourself today
'Cause baby, you were born this way

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No matter gay, straight or bi
Lesbian, transgendered life
I'm on the right track, baby
I was born to survive

No matter black, white or beige
Chola or orient made
I'm on the right track, baby
I was born to be brave

I'm beautiful in my way
'Cause God makes no mistakes
I'm on the right track, baby
I was born this way

Don't hide yourself in regret,
Just love yourself and you're set
I'm on the right track, baby
I was born this way, yeah

Ooh, there ain't no other way, baby, I
was born this way
Baby, I was born this way
Ooh, there ain't no other way, baby, I
was born this way
I'm on the right track, baby, I was born
this way
I was born this way, hey

Click to watch:

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What song – if any helped you come out or understand yourself?</td>
<td>Which musician has done the most for LGBT rights?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What does “drag” as performance mean to the LGB community?</td>
<td>What does “drag” as performance mean to the Trans community?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Which musicians are considered to be “gay icons”? Why?</td>
<td>Who is your favourite musician? Why?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What is your favourite genre of music?</th>
<th>Is there such a thing as “bad taste” in music?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Is it easy for LGBT musicians to be “out”?</td>
<td>What are the components that make up a good song?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What message would you want to tell to LGBT young people in a song?</td>
<td>Explore with your group how musical you all are and in what ways</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Being Proud Awards 2014

Our Being Proud Awards take place each year as part of our Pink Box celebrations!

Categories for nomination are:

- Young Person to be Proud of
- Family, Friend or Supporter to be Proud of (The Jaye Bloomfield Award)
- Youth Worker to be Proud of (The Jan Bridget Award)
- Youth Group to be Proud of

Nominations are now open for a person or group who has done something amazing in the last year!

Nominate here:

Winners of awards will be presented at the event on Friday 16 May 2014 at Knotty Ash Youth and Community Centre.

Book your places for this event on the next page:

www.lgbtyouthnorthwest.org.uk
ur own vision

Friday 16 May 2014

at
6.30 – 9.00pm

at
Knotty Ash Youth and Community Centre
251 Prescott Road
Liverpool
L14 5NA

Book your places and performance spaces now!

Hosted by
 gyro
 gay youth ‘r’ out

Supported by
 Liverpool Integrated Youth and Play Service

www.lgbtyouthnorthwest.org.uk
For further information:

strategic@lgbtynw.org.uk

07813 981338

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