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Pride Western Australia Inc.
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Thank you Paul.

Everyone, thank you for coming and welcome to PRIDEFEST.

PRIDEFEST 2012 is the newest addition to the ever growing Australian LGBTI+ arts and culture sector. Presented by Pride WA, PRIDEFEST will reinvent what our community knows as the Pride Festival.

It's a festival about something that right is at the centre of our core values: inclusivity. It's aimed at everyone, whether they're gay, transsexual, heterosexual or however they identify. It will test the boundaries, make people talk and make the community think.

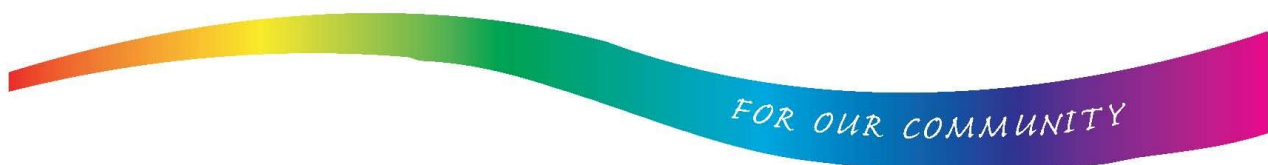
Over the years we have been defined by many things, both positive and negative and this year is just about that.

PRIDEFEST is a combination of community events, comedy, music, performance and visual entertainment and is aimed at every aspect of the community. This is the first year in which the Pride festival has been able to engage regional communities within the program with this year two significant events being held outside of the metropolitan area, one in Bunbury and one in Geraldton.

Let PRIDEFEST take you on a journey of laughter, entertainment and music and community where you can see how we define ourselves as an organisation and as people.

DEFINITIONS is the perfect theme for this year's festival as we develop and create something new.

Whether definitions are a good thing that enhance us, or a negative thing that limit us, this is no denying that they are a part of everyday life. And that is what we're going to explore. How is Pride been defined? How are we defined? What is the definition of comedy, of art, or of a good performance, of a strong conversation? What is the definition of a good party? Is a definition a good thing? Is a definition necessary?



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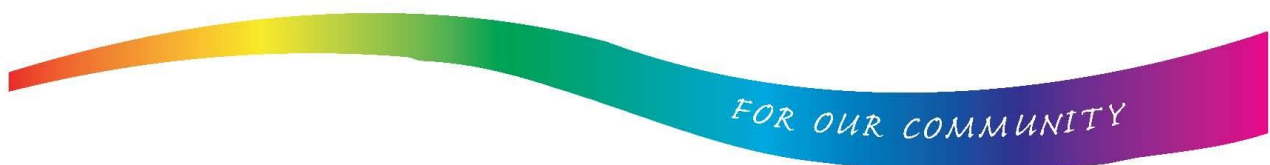
Definitions are often received as being negative and what we want to do is break through those barriers. The words on this year's poster are shocking, and some are offensive and may upset people. What we are trying to show is that while some definitions can add value to our lives, we are bigger than the labels and definitions we are given.

Each word is accompanied by its original Oxford English Dictionary definition. As you can see, some have limited relevance to their meaning today but the majority's meanings have been distorted and are completely unrelated.

This year's festival is about asking the hard questions, looking for the real answers and showing what really matters.

Each event throughout this year's program is an experience, a journey to work out why we're there, and what helped us get there along the way.

What we want to enable people to do is to see beyond the label, to see and know the person behind the definition they've been given.



Pride WA Inc. aims to encourage the cultural expression and celebrate, champion and support the rights and freedoms of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer and other same sex attracted people living in Western Australia.