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NYC Pride announces 2016 Grand Marshals

Jazz Jennings, Subhi Nahas, and Cecilia Chung to lead iconic LGBT Pride March

New York, NY, April 12, 2016 -- Heritage of Pride announced today three Grand Marshals for the 47th NYC Pride March on Sunday, June 26, 2016:

- **Jazz Jennings** is the 15-year-old honorary co-founder of the Transkids Purple Rainbow Foundation and the youngest Grand Marshal in NYC Pride history. Since her first appearance with her family at age 6 on *20/20*, Jazz has become one of the nation's best known voices on the experiences of trans young people. Jazz currently stars in the TLC docu-series *I Am Jazz*, returning on June 8. Her memoir, *Being Jazz: My Life as a (Transgender) Teen*, will be published by Random House Children's Books and hits bookstores on June 7.
- **Subhi Nahas** is a Syrian refugee who co-founded the first LGBT magazine in Syria, *Mawaleh*. In 2015, Subhi addressed the U.N. Security Council on the plight of LGBT people under persecution in his home country. He continues to advocate for LGBT refugees around the world and is currently working with a group of LGBT refugees in Turkey, called "Tea and Talk."
- **Cecilia Chung** is an internationally recognized leader who has been advocating for HIV/AIDS awareness and care, LGBT equality, and social justice, for more than 30 years. As a founding producer of the San Francisco Trans March, Cecilia helped organize one of the world's first and largest annual transgender events, which has since been replicated in cities across the U.S. Chung is a member of the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS and is a Senior Strategist for the Transgender Law Center.

"Our 2016 theme, 'Equality Needs You,' could not be better reflected than through Jazz, Subhi, and Cecilia," said Julian Sanjivan, NYC Pride March Director. "In a post-marriage equality America, these leaders are ensuring that the barriers to LGBT people achieving true legal, health, and social equality are being broken down."

The 47th NYC Pride March will step off at noon on June 26, at 5th Avenue and 36th Street in Manhattan. The route proceeds through Midtown down 5th Avenue, before heading west into Greenwich Village, ending at Christopher and Greenwich Streets. In 2015, an estimated 2 million spectators lined the two-mile route.

The first NYC Pride March took place in 1970, on the anniversary of the 1969 Stonewall Riots, considered the birthplace of the modern LGBT liberation movement. In 2019, New York City welcomes the world to celebrate Stonewall 50 and the first WorldPride in the United States.

Registration for marching contingents is open until June 7 at www.nycpride.org, with more than 340 groups expected to participate this year.

Full biographies and photos of the Grand Marshals can be found at <http://bit.ly/1Wnn7T3>.

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ABOUT HERITAGE OF PRIDE

Heritage of Pride, Inc. is the volunteer-managed organization behind the official NYC Pride roster of events. The 2016 roster includes 11 different events for LGBT and allied people of all ages, taking place from June 19 to June 26 throughout Manhattan.

For more information about NYC Pride 2016, please visit www.nycpride.org.

Members of the media interested in covering the March or other NYC Pride events can request press credentials starting May 2, 2016 at presspasses-2016.eventbrite.com.