

Disability Pride Perth: Festival Guide

Festival Guide

This page shows the event list for the Festival. The information given is the time, the event, location and accessibility.

10.00am

Event: Festival Open: Acknowledgement of Country and Welcome

Location: Panel Theatre

Accessibility: Mobility-aid access, T-switch hearing loop, Auslan interpreted, open captions (online participants), bright lights, visual elements.

10.15am

Event: Disabled Joy Art Exhibition Opening: with artist chat featuring children's book author Sarah Pollard

Location: Art Exhibition

Accessibility: Wheelchair access, busy area, bright lights, visual elements.

Event: Market Hall Opens (Low Sensory until 12pm)

Location: Market Hall

Accessibility: Mobility-aid access, busy area, bright lights, loud noises, visual elements.

11.00am

Event: Disability Justice Panel

Location: Panel Theatre & Online

Accessibility: Mobility-aid access, T-switch hearing loop, Auslan interpreted, open captions (online participants), bright lights, visual elements.

12.00pm

Event: Communal Zine Making, Facilitated by Ez

Location: Panel Theatre & Online

Accessibility: Mobility-aid access, visual elements

1.00pm

Event: Intergenerational Advocacy Panel

Location: Panel Theatre & Online

Accessibility: Mobility-aid access, T-switch hearing loop, Auslan interpreted, open captions (online participants), bright lights, visual elements.

2.30pm

Event: Exploring Interdependence Panel

Location: Panel Theatre & Online

Accessibility: Mobility-aid access, T-switch hearing loop, Auslan interpreted, open captions (online participants), bright lights, visual elements.

3.30pm

Event: Grounding Dance Session facilitated by Patrick Gunasekera

Location: Panel Theatre & Online

Accessibility: Mobility-aid accessibility, visual elements, open captions (online participants) and T-switch loop.

After Dark Guide

This page shows the event list for the After Dark (18 years+) part of the Festival. The information given is the time, the event, location and accessibility.

4.00pm

Event: After Dark Registration Open: For visitors 18 years+ & accompanied minors

Location: Access Support Desk

Accessibility: Mobility-aid access, information area and busy area.

4.30pm

Event: Disability, Sex & Sexuality Panel

Location: Panel Theatre & Online

Accessibility: Mobility-aid access, T-switch hearing loop, Auslan interpreted, open captions (online participants), bright lights, visual elements.

5.00pm

Event: Drag Performances: Rita Lynne and Miss Phoria

Location: Panel Theatre & Online

Accessibility: Mobility-aid access, T-switch hearing loop, Auslan interpreted, open captions (online participants), bright lights, visual elements.

Disabled Joy Art Exhibition

About the exhibition

"Disabled Joy," an innovative art exhibition that highlights the unique perspectives and diverse talents of disabled artists. Featuring a wide array of mediums including painting, sculpture, digital art, mixed media and music, "Disabled Joy" invites viewers to experience the rich tapestry of disabled lives through the lens of joy and empowerment.

Content warnings

Visitors are advised that some artworks contain content warnings for frightening imagery, nudity, coarse language, and depictions of animal death.

Accessibility

Wheelchair access, busy area, bright lights, visual elements.

Contributors

- Ayesha Patterson
- Students at Edith Cowan University
- Sarah Pollard
- Jessica Denning
- Esa Nykanen
- Loahna Brophy
- Dwayne Curnow
- Adam Kelly
- Hannah Stobie
- Kellee Mitchell
- M Baker
- Samantha Jenkinson
- Emma Conway
- Asher
- Hayley
- Sandii Rogers

Community Activities

About the Community Activities

Join us in celebrating Disability Pride with a series of relaxed festival events throughout the day. These events are designed to foster community connections, celebrate our identities, and amplify our voices through creativity.

Community Zine Workshop with Ez Murphy (12.00pm Yarning Circle & Online)

Discover the vibrant world of zines! Zines are self-published, small-circulation booklets or magazines that provide a platform for personal expression, creativity, and grassroots communication. They have a rich history in DIY culture, activism, and subcultures, allowing diverse voices to share their stories, ideas, and art in an accessible and empowering way.

In this workshop, Ez will guide you through the process of creating your own zine, from brainstorming ideas and gathering materials to designing layouts and assembling the final product. Those joining in-person and online will have a selection of pages to create in, with pre-made/downloaded content, stickers, and other paper-based mediums.

Accessibility

Mobility-aid accessibility and visual elements.

Grounding Dance Session with Patrick Gunasekera (3.30pm Panel Theatre & Online)

This Grounding Dance Session is designed to help you connect deeply with your body and the earth. In this session, you'll explore how to ground yourself through slow, deliberate motions and guided exercises. Whether you use a wheelchair, mobility aid, or prefer seated or standing positions, Patrick's adaptable approach ensures everyone can participate comfortably and meaningfully. This inclusive class welcomes participants of all movement experiences, focusing on gentle, mindful movements that promote a sense of stability and presence.

Join us to experience the calming effects of grounding dance and leave feeling more centered and connected. No prior dance experience is required. Spaces are limited, please sign-in for this session at the Access Support Desk.

Accessibility

Mobility-aid accessibility, visual elements, open captions (online participants) and T-switch loop.

Market Hall

About the Market Hall

Get ready to explore the incredible Market Hall at the Disability Pride Festival Perth, showcasing dynamic disabled and ally-owned businesses! We've given priority to disability community members, ensuring a vibrant and diverse marketplace that's bursting with creativity, passion, and pride.

Accessibility

Mobility-aid accessibility, visual elements, busy area, loud noises and bright lights.

Market Stall Holders

- Annabel, Thriving Minds Education
- Poonam, PS Creatables
- Let's Celebrate AUSLAN
- Brenton, Cripple Contra Colonialism

- Hayley, Death and Delicacy
- Evie, Evie's Emporium
- Carla, Carla Adams Shop
- Amber, Reminders by Amber
- Eli, Eli Stardust
- Sage, Junibub
- Luana, Nutmeg's Garden
- Nat, Rabble Books & Games
- C, KingyoCo
- Nikki, Nyx Apothecary
- Fable, Stop Being Boring Shop
- Sarah, Outback Bush Buddies Shop
- Clare, Passing Time
- Bunny, Cryptid Designs
- Kate, Strawberries and Bunnies
- Jackie, Healing Journey Gems
- Kelly, Dear Daisy Earrings
- Adrijan, Dance The Grape

Disability Justice Panel (Panel Theatre & Online. 11.00am)

About the Panel

Join us for an impactful panel discussion that brings together voices from law, politics, and journalism to explore the multifaceted concept of Disability Justice. Practicing disability justice involves actively challenging societal norms, advocating for inclusive policies, and creating environments where disabled individuals can thrive.

This panel will platform experiences, challenges, and strategies for advancing disability justice and will unpack the principles of justice. Disability Justice is facilitated by Steering Committee member, Isabella Choate.

Accessibility

Mobility-aid access, T-switch loop, Auslan interpreted, open captions (online participants), visual and bright lights.

Speakers

Catia Malaquias OAM

Catia is a lawyer, board director, and mother of three young children, committed to human rights and the inclusion of people with disabilities, particularly in media, cultural representation, and education. As the Founder and Director of Starting With Julius, she promotes equal representation of people with disabilities in advertising and media.

She co-founded All Means All – The Australian Alliance for Inclusive Education and the Global Alliance for Disability in Media and Entertainment (GADIM). She serves as a Director of Down Syndrome Australia and has held roles with the Attitude Foundation and Down Syndrome WA. Currently, she is pursuing a doctoral degree with the Centre for Human Rights Education at Curtin University and is an External Affiliate Member of the Centre for Inclusive Education at QUT. She is the recipient of the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) for her service to people with disabilities.

Jordon Steele-John

Jordon Steele-John is a Greens Senator for WA and a proud disabled person. He advocates disability rights, a fair and fully-funded NDIS, and equitable healthcare for all Australians. Jordon's goal is to challenge the boundaries of political norms – both in the Senate and the community and create a more accessible and inclusive society for all.

Vanessa Vlajkovic

Vanessa is 27 years old, and holds a Master's degree in writing, editing and publishing. She is currently employed by ABC News as a subeditor on the national team. She is also a Project Officer at Deafblind Australia. In her free time, she plays blind AFL, blind basketball, does competitive ballroom dancing and plays blind soccer. Vanessa has one cat and two dogs. When she is not working, she loves to visit the beach and theme parks. Before Covid, she travelled extensively, presenting at international conferences in Europe.

Intergenerational Advocacy (Panel Theatre & Online. 1.00pm)

About the Panel

Join us for an engaging panel discussion where we explore the vital role of sharing experiences, knowledge, and connections within the disability community. This event will bring together advocates from different generations to share their insights and stories on how intergenerational collaboration and advocacy strengthens our collective voice and advances disability rights. Attendees will gain valuable perspectives on mentorship, community building, and the power of unity across ages. This panel is facilitated by Steering Committee member, Kay Barnard.

Accessibility

Mobility-aid access, T-switch loop, Auslan interpreted, open captions (online participants), visual and bright lights.

Speakers

Samantha Jenkinson

Since the early 1990s, Samantha has advocated for the rights of people with disabilities. Her passion for inclusion has driven her work in disability with organisations like Women with Disabilities Australia and the Ministerial Advisory Council on Disability in Western Australia.

As CEO of People with Disabilities WA, she championed co-design of the WA State Disability Strategy, and inclusion of people with disability in employment, housing, and policy development. She established the WA office of the NDIS Quality and Safeguards Commission and now provides strategic advice to the NDIS Independent Advisory Council.

Marziya Mohammedali

Marziya is a photographer, designer, artist, educator, and researcher. They document activism movements and work for social justice, through a multidisciplinary creative practice. They are the Deputy Editor (and previous Arts Editor/Creative Director) of Jalada Africa: A Pan-African Writers Collective and have performed and exhibited their work internationally.

They have extensive experience in the tertiary education sector, teaching undergraduate, postgraduate coursework and research students. They are currently undertaking a PhD focusing on identity, activism and photography, at Edith Cowan University.

Lily Gaulton

Lily is ten years old and has cerebral palsy, autism, allergies, EOE, and ARFID and a few other medical conditions. Her family includes her parents and her brother (who can sometimes be annoying), and all her pets. She especially loves her Paula, who is her best friend. Lily is highly smart and loves to read, play Nintendo switch and iPad, play Pokémon cards, write creepy interesting narratives/stories, and cuddle in bed or on the couch with her cat Paula.

Oliver Lim

Ollie is an advocate for youth with differences, speaking at schools and other events to inform and educate people about how living with Lupus affects him. He has been widely involved in advocacy and is a recent addition to the Youth Disability Advocacy Network Board. Last year, Ollie's advocacy efforts were acknowledged with a philanthropy award for uplifting others at school and in the community. He chose to donate his prize money to Camp Freedom, benefiting children aged 7-17 living with Juvenile Arthritis-related conditions. He was also a finalist for the Young Leader of the Year in the Next Gen Award 2023.

Exploring Interdependence (Panel Theatre & Online. 2.30pm - 3.30pm)

About the Panel

In a world that places a high value on individuality and self-sufficiency, disabled people often face a complicated relationship with the concept of interdependence. Join us for an empowering panel discussion that delves into the concept of interdependence and aims to unpack these complexities and how the concept of interdependence interacts with disabled ways of being. This panel is facilitated by Festival volunteer, Poppy Sloan.

Accessibility

Mobility-aid access, T-switch loop, Auslan interpreted, open captions (online participants), visual and bright lights.

Speakers

Patrick Gunasekera

Patrick Gunasekera (he/him) is an artist and systemic advocate based on Noongar Boodjar. His theatre, dance, music and award-winning writing explore the power of everyday people to create harm or healing through their actions toward others and themselves. His work has been presented widely across professional and artist-run settings, connecting audiences and readers with honest, transformative narratives inspired by his intersectional experiences. He's also a producer, often developing new work with all-disabled creative teams.

Julia Rose Bak

Julia Rose Bak is a queer, Māori-Polish writer, researcher and organiser whose work centres around themes such as access, interdependence, collective care, collective liberation, and their personal experiences growing up disabled. Julia's writing has been published in *Overland*, *Bitch*, *Archer* and *Cordite Poetry Review*, among others, and in 2022 they were awarded a Wheeler Centre Hot Desk Fellowship. Outside of this work, Julia spends their time reading, tending to their indoor plants, and loving their two cats.

Dureshawar Khan

Dureshawar Khan is an award-winning theatre maker, poet, and Neuroaccessibility activist. Her creative work reflects her intersectional identities as a neurodivergent woman, sovereign tribal person, and feminist of faith. Dureshawar is a board member for the Perth Festival Access, Inclusion, and Equity Board. With an academic background in criminology and legal studies, Khan advocates for neuroaccessibility in the legal profession and justice system, serving as a neuroaccess advisor and consultant in both the law and arts fields. Khan is also the host of *Masala Minded*, a brand new Podcast that explores life with ADHD from a South Asian perspective.

Jordan Alice Fyfe

Jordan is a Disabled/Chronically Ill Academic, Artist, and PhD Student at Curtin University. Her academic work focuses on Disability Pride and Disability Arts in Western Australia, as well as Disability representation in Australian Media. She also works as an Artist and Illustrator for Open Hands Creative, an organisation she co-founded that focuses on sustainability in artmaking.

Disability and Sexuality (Panel Theatre & Online. 4.30pm - 5.30pm)

About the Panel

Join us for a thought-provoking and dynamic panel discussion that delves into the often overlooked and misunderstood intersections of disability and sexuality. This panel will bring together voices from diverse backgrounds, including individuals from the kink community, accessibility advocates, sexuality educators, sex workers, and performers. Our aim is to challenge stereotypes, spark meaningful dialogue, and advocate for a more inclusive understanding of sexuality within the disabled community.

Accessibility

Mobility-aid access, T-switch loop, Auslan interpreted, open captions (online participants), visual and bright lights.

Speakers

Rosy

Rosy is a Queer, Neurodivergent person with Anxiety. She is passionate about mental health, advocacy, kink, and being an ally to these communities. Rosy has experience offering various body work & personal care services to these communities and has always had a strong passion for incorporating accessibility for neurodivergent and disabled people among other minorities.

Tyr

Tyr is a queer person, who manages OCD & ADHD with co-existing chronic pain & health challenges. Tyr has provided support within the care sector over the last 9 years, and is a strong advocate for community care & wellbeing. Tyr is the founder of Birch Community Care, which launched earlier this year.

MJ

MJ is a Trans Non-Binary, Queer, Aboriginal and proudly Disabled performer and s*x worker. They have been doing s*x work for 6+ years as "Velvet Velma", in many sectors of the industry. They have been a performer for 4+ years as "Miss Phoria" and incorporate a lot of their lived experience into their craft. They are a staunch advocate for diversity, inclusivity, representation and safety/accessibility in all their work and the spaces that they are a part of.

Georgi

Georgi is a multimedia artist and performer whose practice spans video, photography, theatre, arts education and stripping. She lives with Fibromyalgia, Ankylosing Spondylitis and Crohn's disease. Her work pushes the intersection of live and digital forms, and monetises s**uality in a body that rails against the capitalist grind. Recent projects include Grin & Bare It by Two Hot Heathens (Strange Festival), You're So Brave (Blue Room Theatre) and arts/peer-support program, SWEr Community Arts Meetups (SCAM). Her work is a love letter to humour, self-compassion and listening to your body when the world is yelling at you to close your f**king legs and sleep when you're dead.

Festival Performers (Music performances outside of the Panel Theatre) Accessibility

Mobility-aid access, visual, busy area, loud noises and bright lights.

Music Performers

Rachel Hull

2.00pm - 2.30pm

Rachel is a singer/songwriter, pianist, visual artist, poet and music teacher from Boorloo. Their Instagram handle is @rachelhull.music

deadname: girlwonder

12.00pm - 12.30pm

deadname:girlwonder is a emo-folk musician, story-teller and poet on Whadjuk Noongar Boodja

Their Instagram handle is @deadname.girlwonder

DJ Rescue Dog

4.00pm - 4.30pm

DJ rescue dog is an artist, queer thinker and DJ based from Boorloo, Whadjuk Noongar boodja.

Their Instagram handle is @djrescuedog

Miss Phoria

5.30pm - 6.00pm

Miss Phoria is a trans-nonbinary and queer performer, artist, s*x worker and advocate. They are Kabi Kabu/Noongar. Their Instagram handle is @missphoria_

Rita Lynne

5.30pm - 6.00pm

Rita (Miss Dexanphetamine Sparkles) Lynne is a chronically ill and chronically sexy artist. Their Instagram handle is @ritalynnequeen

Thank you for your support!

Thank you for attending and supporting Disability Pride Festival Perth and our mission to create a genuinely accessible and inclusive space for community to come together and celebrate their disabled identities.

Disability Pride Perth would not be possible without the dedicated efforts of our volunteers. Thank you to the following festival volunteers for their efforts bringing Disability Pride to Whadjuk Noongar Boodja.

Steering Committee Members

- Isabella Choate (Founder)
- Sophie Aylmore
- Kay Barnard
- Nikki Vera
- Rhiannon De Cinque
- Anneka Bodt

Festival Volunteers

- Jack Meakins
- Crystal Nguyen
- Arye Thompson
- Madi Ross
- Bee

- Billie/Claire Bushby
- Layne Dixon
- Lauren May
- Josh Oldershaw
- Sam
- Ez Murphy
- Rachel Burns
- Ashleigh Gatehouse
- Sam Holland
- Lila Rauben Heimer
- Rachel Hull
- Poppy Sloan
- Julia Rose Bak
- Spencer English

Panel Members

- Lily Gaulton
- Senator Jordon Steele-John
- Catia Malaquias OAM
- Patrick Gunasekera
- Jordan Alice Fyfe
- Samantha Jenkinson
- Marziya Mohammedali
- Julia Bak
- Georgi
- Vanessa Vlajkovic
- Dureshawar Khan
- Rosy
- Tyr
- MJ
- Oliver Lim

Performers

- DJ Rescue Dog
- Rachel Hull
- deadname: girlwonder
- Miss Phoria
- Rita Lynne