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## It's the Gay Games 9 medal ... unveiled digitally today!

All registrants for the [2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation](#) will receive the unique beautifully designed, well-crafted 3-inch participant medal to wear around their necks.

First, second and third-place finishers in the various divisions and categories of the 35+ sports happening 9-16 August will take home gold, silver and bronze versions.

Graphic designer Jamey Christoph created the winning entry with his depiction combining memorable attributes of both Cleveland and Akron.

The front portrays Cleveland's iconic skyscrapers, including the Terminal Tower, lift bridge and smokestacks. The medal incorporates Akron's viaduct bridge and blimp on the front, while tire treads circle the back (Akron is a giant in the tire industry.)

Jamey was honored at a reception this fall with the Federation of Gay Games. And Gay Games participants will be honored to wear one of the medals he designed.



November 2013

Gay Games 9:  
9-16 August 2014

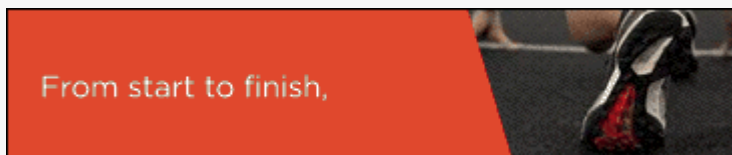


### SPORTS & CULTURE

Click on event for more information.

- [Badminton](#)
- [Band](#)
- [Basketball](#)
- [Beach Volleyball](#)
- [Bodybuilding](#)
- [Bowling](#)
- [Cheer](#)
- [Chorus](#)
- [Cycling](#)
- [DanceSport](#)
- [Darts](#)
- [Diving](#)
- [Figure Skating](#)
- [Flag Football](#)
- [Golf](#)

For more information on Jamey or to share see a larger version of the medal, click [here](#).



## Register for your event(s) before fees increase 8 January

Make sure to register soon for the sport or cultural event(s) in which you plan to participate during the 2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation.

**Event-specific fees increase 8 January 2014.** For a complete list of event fees, visit the [registration page](#).

Events with current fees between \$50 and \$100 will be \$10 more and with current fees between \$101 and \$150 will be \$20 more beginning 8 January 2014. Sailing and golf will have additional fee increases.

*NOTE: Participants must complete general registration before or at the same time they register for their event(s).*

## Event Spotlight: Volleyball

[North American Gay Volleyball Association](#) (NAGVA) recently sanctioned [volleyball at the 2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation](#). NAGVA leadership will serve as the tournament directors.

The sets, spikes and plenty of digs will happen at the new Cleveland Convention Center. Opened in summer 2013, one of the center's first events was a volleyball competition as part of the U.S. National Senior Games.

The convention center is conveniently located across from the Gay Games Festival Village on Mall C and two blocks from Public Square in downtown



- [Ice Hockey](#)
- [Marathon/Half-Marathon](#)
- [Martial Arts](#)
- [Open Water Swim](#)
- [Pool \(Billiards\)](#)
- [Powerlifting](#)
- [Racquetball](#)
- [Road Races \(5K & 10K\)](#)
- [Rowing](#)
- [Sailing](#)
- [Soccer \(Football\)](#)
- [Softball](#)
- [Squash](#)
- [Swimming](#)
- [Synchronized Swimming](#)
- [Table Tennis](#)
- [Tennis](#)
- [Track and Field](#)
- [Triathlon](#)
- [Volleyball](#)
- [Water Polo](#)
- [Wrestling](#)

[Games Week Schedule](#)

### Share Your Event

Have a sporting, fundraising or other event to share with Gay Games supporters? Email us [here](#). Please send by 15th of month for inclusion in the next e-newsletter (publishes early month.)

Cleveland.

[Gay Games volleyball](#) will run 10-15 August 2014.

Players have a range of divisions in which to compete based on their skill level - from top competitive to recreational, as well as a master's division for both women and men/mixed categories.

To learn more about [volleyball](#), visit [here](#).

To register to play volleyball, go to [www.GG9CLE.com/registration](http://www.GG9CLE.com/registration).

Want to play in the sand? [Beach volleyball](#) is another event at the 2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation.

## Give the Gift of the Games

Give the Games to yourself (register today [here](#)) or give the gift of the Games to someone else.

You can order a Gay Games 9 gift certificate, which the recipient can use later to complete his or her general registration - and/or event-specific registration. Contact us at [info@GG9CLE.com](mailto:info@GG9CLE.com) or call +1.216.479.6470 to order one or for more information.

## Participant Spotlight: Sonya Jaquez Lewis

Sonya Jaquez Lewis hit her first Gay Games (1994) as a percussionist, today she hits the court with her tennis racquet and will continue to do so at the 2014 Gay Games.



Active in the LGBT community, she helped organize Colorado's first statewide LGBT sporting event in 2009. Sonya is the co-president of Team Colorado and says she expects the group to have one of the biggest contingents in 2014.

Read her full question-and-answer profile [here](#).

**SHARE YOUR STORY**

Whether you're a first-time participant or someone who's competed in every Gay Games, we want to share your story and inspire others. Use the "Share Your Story" tab on our [Facebook page](#) or email us at [info@GG9CLE.com](mailto:info@GG9CLE.com).

## Spotlight on Cleveland+Akron

### **CLEVELAND - Did you ever want a Red Rider?**

Fans of the movie, "A Christmas Story," know the most desired gift sought by Ralphie was a Red Rider BB gun. What you may not know is that the movie was filmed on location in Cleveland 30 years ago. Even in the summer, you can visit Ralphie's home (complete with leg lamp) and the department store where Santa wasn't so nice (it's now the Horseshoe Casino). For more information on A Christmas Story house and more, click [here](#).



For more information on Cleveland-area attractions, visit [www.positivelycleveland.com](http://www.positivelycleveland.com).

### **AKRON - It's a Sugar Plum time for the Gay Games**

The annual [Sugar Plum Tour of Gracious Holiday Homes](#) happens 8 December in Akron. This year, the event organized by the Gay Community Endowment Fund of Akron Community Foundation will benefit the 2014 Gay Games.



The [Gay Community Endowment Fund](#) has committed \$100,000 to supporting the Games, and money raised through the home tour will support that pledge.

For more information on Akron-area attractions visit [www.visitakron-summit.org](http://www.visitakron-summit.org).

## Sponsor Spotlight:

## Cleveland Foundation

### Turning Passion into Purpose

The Cleveland Foundation is the first presenting sponsor in Gay Games history. But it's not the first time the foundation has worked to address critical community needs and provide leadership on vital issues. Established in 1914, the Cleveland Foundation is the world's first community foundation and one of the largest today. From the fight for women's political rights to the desegregation of schools to historic funding of early AIDS research, the foundation has championed diversity and equality since its inception.

The foundation was appointed to the Community Foundation Hall of Fame for its sponsorship of Gay Games 9 as a grantmaking strategy grounded in social justice and courage.

Following the foundation on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

## Plan Your Visit: Register, reserve lodging and more

### REGISTER TODAY

Have you registered to participate in the [2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation](#)? Register [here](#).

General registration is required of all participants and enables you to march in opening and closing ceremony, receive the Official 2014 Gay Games Program, access to public and GG9-provided transportation and a participant medal.

Once you have completed general registration, you can complete registration for your particular event(s).

Click [here](#) to register today. **NOTE: Event-specific fees increase 8 January 2014.**

### BOOK A ROOM

Have you reserved your lodging? Special Gay Games rates are available at more than 30 hotels in the Cleveland+Akron area. Make your reservations (no payment needed today) through

this [exclusive Gay Games lodging site](#).

The [Gay Games website](#) also has a helpful drop-down menu so you can pick your event and see the distance of each hotel to your event venue (some event venues have not been finalized but all are expected to be completed this fall.)

Please note that payment is not due for your hotel reservation through this site until July 2014.

[Marriott](#) is the official lodging sponsor of the 2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation. The [Renaissance Cleveland](#) is the official host hotel.



Hosted housing and dormitory lodging options are expected to be available in January. Visit [Plan Your Visit](#) at [www.GG9CLE.com](http://www.GG9CLE.com) for the latest information.

#### **PLAN AIR TRAVEL**

Cleveland+Akron offers two destination airports ([Cleveland Hopkins International](#) and [Akron-Canton Regional Airport](#)) with easy and affordable access from hundreds of cities in the United States and one-stop connections for international travelers.

[UNITED](#) is the exclusive airline partner for [the 2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation](#). It serves both airports in the region. It offers a discount code to Gay Games registrants. The code is emailed to all participants upon completion of general registration.



## **Support the Games**

It takes the world to put on the Gay Games. And the Gay Games show the world the true value of LGBT participants and their allies competing on an open and inclusive playing field.

Individual donors, business sponsors and others are encouraged to support the 2014 Gay Games through financial contributions as well as show their appreciation to the sponsors who already have stepped up to the plate.

To donate, click [here](#).

To learn more about sponsorship opportunities, visit this [page](#).

And please support and say thanks to all sponsors of the 2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation, including the following platinum-level and higher supporters:

[City of Cleveland](#)

[Cleveland Foundation](#)

[Gay Community Endowment Fund of Akron Community Foundation](#)

[EY](#)

**Law Office of Alfred Cowger, Jr.**

[Marriott](#)

To see all our sponsors, click [here](#).

## Volunteer: Now and/or Later

No matter where you live, you can volunteer now to help the 2014 Gay Games. Be a Gay Games Champion, an advocate in your city, region or event who promotes and helps get the word out about the Gay Games. To join the program, which includes some nice thank-you's, visit [here](#).

To volunteer during Games Week, click [here](#) to register. The Gay Games expects to post the schedules so you can sign up in the first quarter of 2014. You will receive an email when that time comes. (Participants in the Games also can be volunteers at the Games ... volunteers can select their own schedules.)

## Social Talk

Be part of the Gay Games buzz on social media. Special opportunities to save, engage and connect with your fellow Gay Games participants are posted weekly.

Like the 2014 Gay Games

on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/GayGamesCleveland](http://www.facebook.com/GayGamesCleveland) and follow us on Twitter [@GG9Cleveland](https://twitter.com/GG9Cleveland).

**On Your Mark ... Get Set ... Games**

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