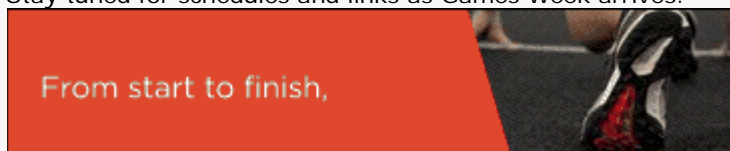




Games will go live online on CCE Sports Network

[CCE Sports Network](#) is going to the Gay Games. The team from CCE Sports Network will cover the Games from Opening to Closing ceremonies. While coverage plans are still be finalized, it will have daily live streaming of various Gay Games 9 sports plus interviews, recaps and more each night at [Festival Village](#). The nation's first LIVE web-streaming sports website dedicated to the LGBT sports community, CCE Sports Network already has aired more than 200 tournaments, matches and games in the United States.

Stay tuned for schedules and links as Games Week arrives.



Sponsor Spotlight: Cleveland Clinic

As a global healthcare provider and the largest employer in Northeast Ohio, diversity is inherent in our care of patients, employees and the community.

[Cleveland Clinic](#) is committed to cultivating a welcoming environment for people of all backgrounds within our organization and in the region.

We were one of the first local employers to offer benefits to same gender couples as a part of our mission to foster a culture of diversity and inclusion.

Our support for the Gay Games aligns our sports health expertise in caring for athletes of all levels with our commitment to promoting inclusion in the communities in which we work, live and play.

Cleveland Clinic is proud to be the medical provider and Platinum Sponsor of the 2014 Gay Games.

clevelandclinic.org/diversity



July 2014
GAMES WEEK:
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](#)
- [Ice Hockey](#)
- [Marathon/Half-Marathon](#)
- [Martial Arts](#)
- [Open Water Swim](#)
- [Pool \(Billiards\)](#)
- [Powerlifting](#)
- [Racquetball](#)
- [Road Races \(5K & 10K\)](#)
- [Rodeo \(Affiliated\)](#)
- [Rock Climbing \(Sport Climbing\)](#)
- [Rowing](#)



Participant Spotlight: Douglas Bates, Bodybuilding

[Douglas Bates](#) is "back from the dead" and ready to go for Gold at the 2014 Gay Games Cleveland+Akron. Douglas suffered from HIV/AIDS health complications, but was able to make a comeback and compete in the '06 Gay Games. He won a Silver medal in bodybuilding. Now, eight years later, Douglas is competing in Gay Games 9 at age 58. He wants to show "anyone can succeed and live a full life after any setback, illness or infirmity."



To read more of Douglas' inspirational story, click [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. If you are interested in sharing your story with the media, let us know. GLAAD, a national Gay Games 9 partner, is eager to help participants learn how to tell their story and work with the media.



Sponsor Spotlight: Marriott International

Proud supporters of the Gay Games, [Marriott International](#) believes that every guest, whoever they are, wherever they go, should feel comfortable and welcome the moment they walk through the doors of any of their 4,000 properties throughout the world.

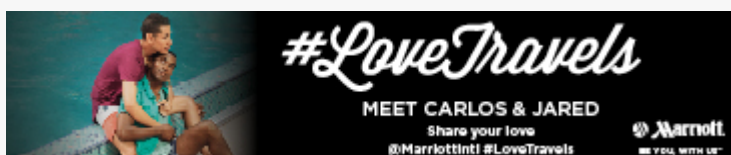
Together with acclaimed photographer, Braden Summers, Marriott is sharing their message of inclusion through beautiful portraits of gay couples, families and individuals that show the world how love travels. Check out their #LoveTravels campaign at [LoveTravels.Marriott.com](#) and share your love @MarriottIntl #LoveTravels. Better yet, let us show you by booking your stay with us at the Games, just go to: <http://www.gg9cle.com/plan-my-visit/lodging/>.



- [Sailing](#)
- [Soccer \(Football\)](#)
- [Softball](#)
- [Squash](#)
- [Swimming](#)
- [Synchronized Swimming](#)
- [Table Tennis](#)
- [Tennis](#)
- [Track and Field](#)
- [Triathlon](#)
- [Volleyball](#)
- [Water Polo](#)
- [Wrestling](#)

Games Week Schedule





5 DAYS LEFT TO GUARANTEE BEST LODGING RATES

The Gay Games has negotiated special rates that are the lowest available for 30-plus hotels in Cleveland+Akron. Make your reservations through this [exclusive Gay Games lodging site](#) by **Wednesday, 16 July**.

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.

Marriott is the official lodging sponsor of the 2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation. The **Renaissance Cleveland** is the official host hotel

and will be hosting Happy Hours and Late Night DJ parties every day during Games Week. Plus, it's hosting the free Betty Who concert on 10 August. Secure your tickets [here](#).

Limited campus housing is available. For more information or to reserve a bed, click [here](#).

Visit [Plan Your Visit](#) at 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 Airlines 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.



Entertainment options grow

Sports fun by day (and some nights), entertainment fun by night (and some days) -- that's Games Week. Check out the constantly growing Entertainment Calendar [here](#).

[Festival Village](#) opens 10 August for Dancin' and continues a strong entertainment lineup through 15 August in downtown Cleveland.

Other official Games events that are sure to entertain you include: [Night Before 9: Out in Art](#) (8 August), [Opening Ceremony](#) (9 August), [Official White Party](#) (11 August), [Official Rock the Block Street Fest](#) (12 August), [Cruise Cleveland](#) (13 August), [Official Female Pride Victory Party](#) (13 August), [Official Black Party](#) (13 August), [Official Gold Party](#) (14 August), [Flair Fest and Indigo Girls](#) (14 August), [Official](#)

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[Womyn's Party](#) (15 August), [Closing Ceremony](#) and [Official After Party](#) (16 August).

Don't forget the sports and choral events to watch your fellow participants. Most sporting events are free to spectators. Events where tickets need to be purchased include: [Rodeo](#) (10-11 August), [DanceSport](#) (12-15 August), [Figure Skating](#) (12-14 August), [Bodybuilding](#) (12 August), [Band](#) (12 August), [Choir](#) (13 August) and [Pink Flamingo](#) (13 August).

And those events are just a sampling of all that's happening. Click [here](#) for the full schedule, including daily entertainment at Renaissance Cleveland Hotel, and check back frequently for updates.

Follow us on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for the latest GG9 entertainment news.

(SPECIAL FOR OPENING CEREMONY TICKETS: Spectator tickets can be purchased [here](#); use code GOALLOUT and save 10%)

Day Tours: Take an in-town trip

[Discover My Cleveland](#) is offering exciting tours the week of the Gay Games. Click [here](#) for a list of all the offerings and read on for one of the many special tours.

Out on the Town Tour

Wednesday, August 13
7 p.m. - 2 a.m.

\$129

Enjoy an open bar on the open seas. Cruise up the Cuyahoga and onto Lake Erie aboard the Nautica Queen. Marvel at Cleveland's architecture as dinner is served and the sun sets over the skyline. Ah ... and the night is still young. Off to an after party at Bounce, the largest LGBT nightclub in Cleveland. Festivities begin with a signature cocktail created just for our group.

To order your tickets today, click [here](#). For more information, contact Lynde@discovermycleveland.com.

Rock and Roll Hall of Fame + Museum

Open daily 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.: Wednesdays & Saturdays until 9 p.m.

Tickets valid any day from 7-16 August 2014

\$21




Rock your way around the only Rock and Roll hall of fame in the world. Enjoy seven floors of interactive displays and four state-of-the-art theatres all situated along Cleveland's redeveloped North Coast Harbor. Just a ten-minute walk from Festival Village.

To order your tickets today, click [here](#). For more information, contact Lynde@discovermycleveland.com.

See all of the other tours available during the Gay Games [here](#).





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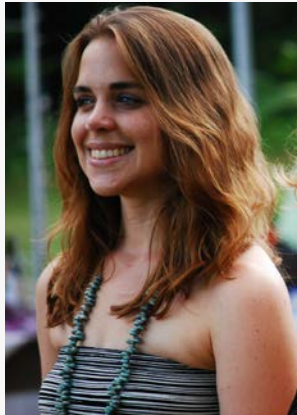
Volunteer Spotlight: Megan Sprecher

[Megan Sprecher](#) is ready to support the positive, inclusive environment the Gay Games will encourage throughout Northeast Ohio.

"I think the participants and spectators will thoroughly enjoy themselves in Cleveland+Akron and the residents will greet them with open arms," Megan says. She doesn't play a sport, but plans on walking to GG9 events from her home in Ohio City. In the past, Megan has volunteered with immigrant and refugee work.

To read more about Megan Sprecher, click [here](#).

To volunteer during Games Week, click [here](#) to sign up. Schedules have begun to be posted online so registered volunteers can start signing up for shifts. (Participants in the Games also can be volunteers at the Games ... volunteers can select their own schedules.) There is no charge for volunteering.



Buy your GG9 merchandise before Games Week

Want to purchase the cool blue Gay Games 9 shirt with each event listed to form the "9" on the back or one of the other great options? Pins and sweatshirts also available.

Visit www.GayGames9.com today.



LGBTQ Cultural Competence

Training from The Diversity Center

Northeast Ohio organizations have a unique opportunity to improve their awareness and sensitivity to LGBT issues through a new program developed by [The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio](#) and supported by the 2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation.

For more information on the program, please contact Christen DuVernay at The Diversity Center of Northeast Ohio at cduvernay@diversitycenterneo.org or +1.216.752.3000.

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Special appreciation for sponsors

Individual donors, business sponsors, and others are encouraged to support the 2014 Gay Games through financial contributions as well as their support of the 2014 sponsors and civic funders.

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 (listed at right), click [here](#).

CIVIC FUNDERS

A special acknowledgement and appreciation of the [civic funders](#) of the 2014 Gay Games, including:

[City of Cleveland](#)

[Positively Cleveland](#)

[Cuyahoga County](#)

[City of Akron](#)

[Akron/Summit Convention & Visitors Bureau](#)

[Summit County](#)

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 and follow us on **Twitter** [@GG9Cleveland](https://twitter.com/GG9Cleveland).

#Go All Out.



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