



## HRC and Gay Games team up

The [Human Rights Campaign](#) and the [2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation](#) have united to promote equality in sports overall and support athletes in the Russian LGBT Sport Federation.

[Register](#) to participate in 2014's most INCLUSIVE multi-sport event - use the code "HRC SOCHI" - save \$10 for you and the Gay Games will donate \$20 to the Russia LGBT Sport Federation for its work, including the upcoming Open Games in Moscow.

Read all in this [HRC blog post](#), which shares the news of its Platinum sponsorship of the 2014 Gay Games. An added bonus? The next 1,000 Gay Games registrant will receive 15 percent discount on HRC online store merchandise. [Register now](#) and don't forget to use the code, "HRC SOCHI" to save and donate with your Gay Games registration.



HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN®

## We need your help to promote LGBT sports during Olympics

As the world's focus turns to the Winter Olympics in Sochi (starting 7 February), Gay Games and others will use the time to tell the stories of LGBT athletes and promote the need for welcoming playing fields around the world. You can get involved too:

- **Tell us your story and let us share.** Each day, the 2014 Gay Games will share the story of a unique participant competing this August. Complete [this form on Facebook](#) or send an email to [info@GG9CLE.com](mailto:info@GG9CLE.com).
- Watch your inbox and [Gay Games on Facebook](#) late next week for news about a **special 2014 Gay Games-focused commercial** to be aired in some markets during



31 January 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 \(5K & 10K\)](#)
- [Rock Climbing \(Sport Climbing\)](#)
- [Rowing](#)
- [Sailing](#)
- [Soccer \(Football\)](#)

- the Opening Ceremony of the Winter Olympics. You share the spot online and help us inspire the world.
- Participate or host your own **remote Pride House event** during the Olympics. Click [here](#) for more information. [Team NY has planned a celebration on 7 February](#) (GG9 will be there too.) In Cleveland, the local Gay Games folks will have a [special event on 21 February featuring Gay Games medalist Franklyn Singley skating](#).

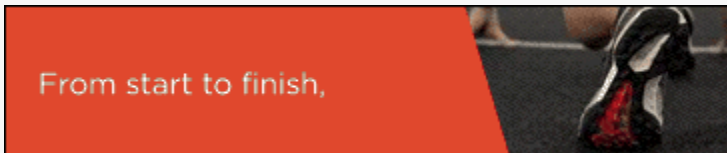
- [Softball](#)
- [Squash](#)
- [Swimming](#)
- [Synchronized Swimming](#)
- [Table Tennis](#)
- [Tennis](#)
- [Track and Field](#)
- [Triathlon](#)
- [Volleyball](#)
- [Water Polo](#)
- [Wrestling](#)

## Entertain at the Gay Games

The 2014 Gay Games "[Raise Your Hand](#)" campaign is soliciting applications and responses from entertainers who want to be a part of the 2014 Gay Games.

We are beginning to review submissions now and encourage all entertainers (singers, comedians, plate spinners and others) to share their interest as soon as possible. Submission evaluations will be ongoing until all slots and opportunities are complete. For more information and an application form, click [here](#).

## [Games Week Schedule](#)



## Event Spotlight: Figure Skating

If you're inspired to take to the ice, the 2014 Gay Games is eager to welcome you. Whether you're a newcomer or have years of figure skating experience, you will compete at [Serpentini Ice Rink](#), a training facility where Olympians have trained. (1960 Olympic gold medalist Carol Heiss-Jenkins has been coaching elite skaters for more than 30 years there.)



[Figure skating](#) includes singles and pairs (same-sex and mixed-sex) divisions with freestyle, artistic, dancing and more categories.

Read more about [figure skating](#) at the 2014 Gay Games.



## Participant Spotlight: John Andrew Gallery

[John Andrew Gallery](#) of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, played

tennis in New York '94 (tore a tendon and had to default) and **billiards** in Chicago '06 and Cologne '10. "I'll be 74 at the Gay Games in Cleveland (God willing)," he says. "Thus I probably won't be competing in many more. So I'm really working hard this year to improve my game and my chances of a medal." To read more about John's story and his jovial "warning" to younger prospects, click [here](#).

#### **SHARE YOUR STORY**

Whether you're a first-time participant or someone who's been 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**

We'll let Ali at Autostraddle share her Northeast Ohio experience in this month's [regional spotlight](#). Among a few of our favorite quotes:

"When I bit into this beet burger, a choir of gay angels serenaded me and I heard nothing but their angelic, crystalline voices."

"I did find it weird that it seemed totally cool at (nightclub) Bounce to reach out and touch the queens? Like, that was super never the case at any drag show I've attended in New Jersey or New York. And even if the club policy said it was cool ... this is my tiny little vote for "please don't reach out and touch drag performers ... without being explicitly invited by them to do so."

"The Cleveland Museum of Art ... Yup. Free. It's one of the only major museums in the country to still do that. They're also crazy tech savvy, so you know I was really into it."

"OMG, Shut Up, Let's All Go To Cleveland."

We couldn't agree more. To read Ali's complete article, click [here](#).

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

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



## **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. General Registration is open through 31 May 2014.

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

Click [here](#) to register today.

#### **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 will be posted in February. 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.

## **Volunteer Spotlight: ISATU KABBA**

**Isatu Kabba** will travel from **Sierra Leone** to volunteer at the 2014 Gay Games. "I am also looking forward to meet with other volunteer workers wherein we can share ideas where the world should know more about LGBT people around the world," she says. Read what else Isatu has to say in her Q&A [here](#).

**HOW TO VOLUNTEER:** Click [here](#) to sign up to volunteer before or during Game Week.

The Gay Games expects to post the Games Week volunteer schedules beginning this February and March so you can sign up for specific shifts and sports. Volunteers who have completed the online signup 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.)

## **Sponsor Spotlight: Cleveland Foundation**

**The 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 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.

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

## 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 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, including the following platinum-level and higher supporters:

[Cleveland Foundation](#)

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

[Eaton](#)

[Ernst & Young](#)

[Human Rights Campaign](#)

[Marriott](#)

[Renaissance Hotel Cleveland](#)

[University Hospitals](#)

To see all our sponsors, 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](http://www.facebook.com/GayGamesCleveland) and follow us on **Twitter** [@GG9Cleveland](#).

#Go All Out.

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