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## **RAISE YOUR HAND: Perform for the world at 2014 Gay Games** *Musicians, artists and other talent invited to apply*

CLEVELAND+AKRON, Ohio (14 January 2014) – The Gay Games invites performing artists to submit an application to entertain at the world’s largest sporting event open to all – the 2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation, 9-16 August 2014.

The Gay Games further its mission of inclusion on the performance stages as well as the playing fields. Organizers seek musicians, comedians, DJs and other talented entertainers to be part of the Opening Ceremony, Festival Village, Closing Ceremony and other events during the Games Week. Local, regional, national and international performers are encouraged to apply.

An estimated 10,000 participants and another 20,000 visitors are expected to join in the celebration of sport and culture from throughout the United States and more than 50 countries.

Selected entertainers will have the opportunity to perform in front of thousands of attendees at venues including Quicken Loans Arena (Opening Ceremony), the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum (Closing Ceremony), Mall C (a public park hosting Festival Village) and Lock 3 in Akron. Applications, requirements and details are available at: [www.gg9cle.com/participate/raise-your-hand](http://www.gg9cle.com/participate/raise-your-hand).

Performer applications are due 31 January 14. Entertainers who are selected will be contacted by April 1 to finalize details of where and when they will perform.

### **QUOTABLE:**

#### **TOM NOBBE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR:**

“We are eager to share with the world the great talent locally, regionally, nationally and globally. These performers will have their chance to shine in front of thousands of visitors and help make this one of the most thrilling Gay Games weeks in the event’s history.”

### **About the Gay Games**

The Gay Games is an international sporting and cultural event held every four years under the founding principles of Participation, Inclusion and Personal Best™. Launched in 1982, the Games invite participation from everybody, regardless of sexual orientation, race, gender, religion, nationality, ethnic origin, political beliefs, athletic or artistic ability, age, physical challenge or health status.

The Games are intended to bring a global community together in friendship, to experience participation, to elevate consciousness and self-esteem, and to achieve a form of cultural and intellectual synergy. The Gay



Games is open to anyone 18 years or older. About 10 percent of participants are from outside the LGBT community.

The 2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation will be August 9-16, 2014, in venues around Cleveland and Akron, Ohio, in the United States. More than 35 sports and culture events will be held, with more than 10,000 people from more than 60 countries expected to participate.

For more information, connect with the 2014 Gay Games presented by the Cleveland Foundation:

[GG9CLE.com](http://GG9CLE.com) | [@GG9Cleveland](https://twitter.com/GG9Cleveland) | [Facebook.com/GayGamesCleveland](https://www.facebook.com/GayGamesCleveland)

### **About the Cleveland Foundation**

The Cleveland Foundation is the world's first community foundation and one of the largest today, with assets of \$1.86 billion and 2012 grants of \$91 million. Through the generosity of donors, the foundation improves the lives of Greater Clevelanders by building community endowment, addressing needs through grantmaking and providing leadership on vital issues.

As part of its centennial year in 2014, the Cleveland Foundation is proud to be the first presenting sponsor in Gay Games history. The foundation's support of the Games continues its long-standing commitment to social justice and inclusion.

For more information on the Cleveland Foundation:

[ClevelandFoundation.org](http://ClevelandFoundation.org) | [@CleveFoundation](https://twitter.com/CleveFoundation) | [Facebook.com/ClevelandFoundation](https://www.facebook.com/ClevelandFoundation)