

TOMSRIVERPRIDE IMPACT

Since 2019, **Toms River Pride** and host organization **Exit 82 Theatre** have brought more than 10,000 people to the Downtown District to **recognize and celebrate** Ocean County's growing LGBTQIA2S+ community.

Nonprofit organizations, businesses, entertainers, media, and government officials come together in solidarity to showcase Toms River and the Jersey Shore as a **vibrant**, **safe space** for the LGBTQ+ community.

The festival allows participants to **celebrate and connect** with folks in the community, while stimulating the Downtown Business District year after year.

'TR' Pride has quickly been embraced as a **new**, **inclusive tradition** in which all can partake, reaching audiences across New Jersey and the Tri-state area and showcasing live entertainment, food and drinks, art, nonprofit resources, and community honorees.











Toms River Pride is proud to have **B98.5** as our Presenting Partner, and featured speakers have included **Congressman Andy Kim** and **NJ DEP Commissioner Shawn LaTourette**, among other community honorees.



POLITICO

New Jersey Playbook

WHILE YOU'RE CELEBRATING PRIDE,
DO YOU FEEL SHAME FOR THE PAST? —
"It's one of the biggest, most conservative
towns in N.J. And now, it's embracing
Pride," by NJ Advance Media



Ocean County welcomes first Pride festival a decade after it was battleground for gay rights



It's one of the biggest, most conservative towns in N.J. And now, it's embracing Pride.





So great to be back in Toms River for #Pride this year. We have some incredible advocates for equality right here in New Jersey!



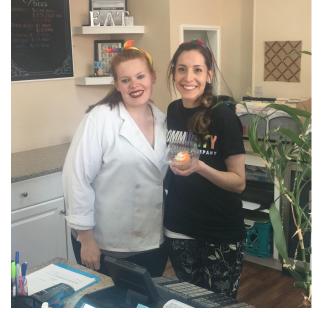


OD You, Kate Arencibia and 572 others

Pride Partners **PFLAG** Jersey Shore and Ocean Partnership for Children engaged with local residents about their LGBTQ+ programming, Mandoli's Bakery had their "best sales to date," and proceeds from the **Greater Toms River Chamber of Commerce**'s Pride t-shirts benefitted Exit 82 Theatre.

















































































"[Toms River Pride] set the example with a mix of families and friends, adults and children. The event was emotional for many in attendance, because of the historic change it represented in the town. Older residents wiped away tears as they listened to the speakers. Younger ones cheered."

Toms River Patch









Ways to participate: Attend TR Pride with friends & family, become an official Pride Partner, Vendor or Sponsor by June 1st, nominate Pride Advocate Award honorees, decorate homes, outfits, vehicles & businesses in rainbow for a Pride Month Visibility Campaign, host a fundraiser or volunteer, follow the @TomsRiverPride Facebook page, and make a donation to 501C3 host organization Exit 82 Theatre.





