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FOR HEALTHY LIVING
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NSYMCA Celebrates Pride During Month of June

Northbrook, IL; June, 2022- Throughout the U.S., Pride Month in June has become a time to celebrate, pay homage to, and honor the contributions of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, queer, and gender nonconforming communities. At the North Suburban YMCA, Pride month is also an opportunity for the Y to live its mission of providing a safe, welcoming, and inclusive community to all.

For over 50 years, Pride Month has been observed in June to honor the 1969 Stonewall riots which marked the beginning of the Pride Movement in the United States. After facing continued harassment from local police at the Stonewall Inn, a bar for the LGBTQ community in New York City, a group of LGBTQ patrons decided to march against discrimination. Today, Pride events are held across the country as an opportunity to celebrate progress in the LGBTQ movement.

In honor of the 2022 Pride month, the NSYMCA's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (DEI) is displaying the "Unapologetically US" exhibit featuring photos and quotes by current LGBTQ+ Athletes, Dancers, Gymnasts, and community members. In addition, the DEI Committee is also asking for personal coming out stories to share with the Y's members and guests. Earlier in June, the Y also supported pride activities by marching in the Buffalo Grove Pride Parade.

"At the Y, we honor Pride Month and how sharing the stories of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals can create a sense of belonging for all. It's a great time to learn more about the LGBTQIA+ community, celebrate diversity, and consider the ways that we can all contribute to creating a more inclusive society," said Megan Vazquez, Senior Director of

Wellness of the North Suburban YMCA, adding “No matter who you are, you are seen, appreciated and celebrated at the Y.”

The North Suburban YMCA’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee is committed to advancing, cultivating, and preserving a sense of culture, inclusion, and belonging by honoring stories, being present, and addressing issues that impact the deepest parts of humanity. For more information, visit nsymca.org.

About the [North Suburban YMCA](https://nsymca.org)

The North Suburban YMCA services Northbrook and 14 surrounding communities with programs and tools that help its residents become healthier, more connected, and confident, ensuring that everyone, regardless of age, income, or background, has the opportunity to learn, grow, and thrive. The NSYMCA focuses on Youth Development, Healthy Living, and Social Responsibility and is a charitable organization, inclusive and welcoming to all in our community. Learn more at [NSYMCA.org](https://nsymca.org).



PHOTO OF “Unapologetically US” EXHIBIT

Caption: To honor Pride Month, the NSYMCA is displaying the “Unapologetically US” exhibit featuring photos, quotes, and artwork by LGBTQ+ Athletes, Dancers, Gymnasts, historical figures, and community members.

