



**Louisville |
YouthGroup**

2023

Annual Report



we are

LYG

History

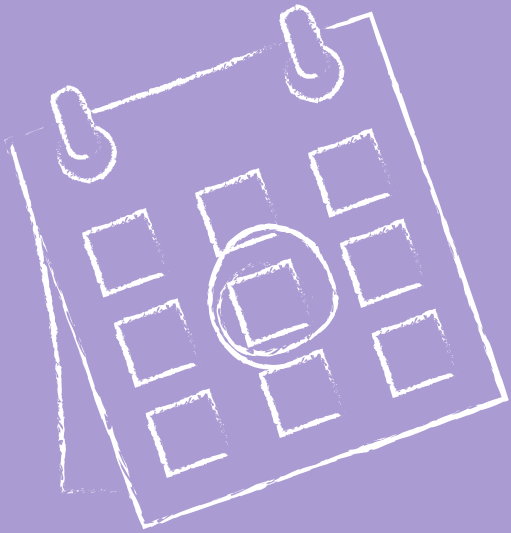
Louisville Youth Group (LYG) was established in 1990 by PFLAG and local community members who recognized the need to provide safe and affirming space for Kentuckiana's LGBTQIA+ youth. Since then, YG has served thousands of young people throughout Kentuckiana and the surrounding area. Today, nearly 400 LGBTQIA+ and allied young adults attend our weekly programming every year! Over its 30 years of service, YG has expanded in both numbers and mission.

Mission and Vision

Louisville Youth Group's mission is to empower QTBIPOC/LGBTQIA+ youth to grow into healthy and resilient leaders through community connection, life skills education, and social advocacy. We envision a community where youth of all genders and sexualities thrive. We strive to:

- Be a Brave Space - Create a transformative community of courageous growth, encouraging our youth to expand self-awareness, develop new perspectives, increase empathy, and cultivate hope.
- Be Youth Centered - Rooted in the needs and interests of our youth and lead by their experience and direction.
- Be Community Minded - Instill a sense of respect and responsibility for our world and fellow humankind through service, advocacy and activism.
- Be Anti-Racist – Actively dismantle racism within ourselves, our organization, and our community.





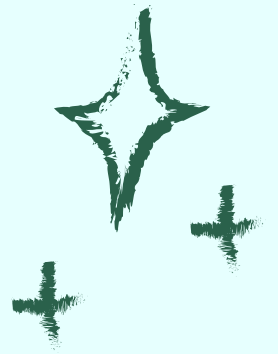
2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

- [Achievements and Initiatives](#)
- [Ongoing Programs](#)
- [Special Events](#)
- [Financials, Grants & Gifts](#)
- [Community Champions](#)
- [Staff & Board](#)

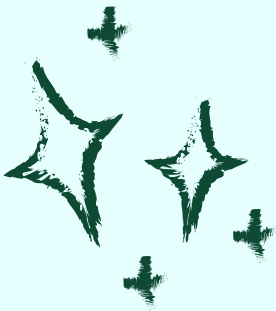


Achievements & Initiatives in 2023

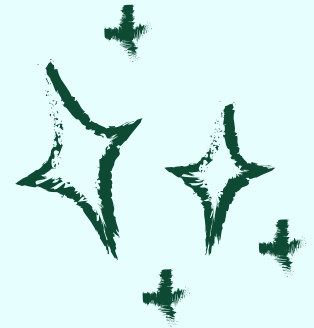
- Served over 330 individual youth through in-house programs, with more than 950 overall attendees at all programs and activities.
- Continued development of new programs: Junior Group, Melanin MagiQ, and LYG Rising.
- Added support for parents and caregivers, including a Facebook group for ongoing connections.
- Trained and supported approximately 30 mentors, to model healthy behaviors, support growth, and demonstrate possibilities for LGBTQIA+ and allied adults.



- Fought against the passage of SB150 and other harmful legislation in Frankfort.
- Engaged in education through workshops and panels.
- Increased our participation in Pride parades and festivals.
- Collaborated to host a Transgender Day of Remembrance Service, recognizing the persecution and resilience of the LGBTQ+ community.



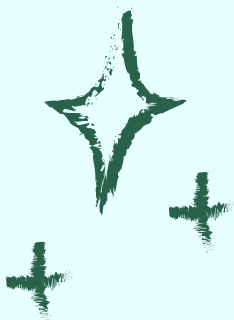
- Added new shelving and a dressing area to the Beyond Labels Resource Closet.
- Expanded stock with more gender-affirming products than ever, providing a crucial resource for youth facing restrictions on gender expression.
- Added many new books to the ever-growing Rainbow Lending Library, most of which were donated by community members or purchased through the wish list at Carmichael's Bookstore.



This year, we added more events open to families and community members, such as:

- Back-to-school pool party.
- Pal-entines rollerskate event.
- Community service with Trees Louisville and Change Today, Change Tomorrow.
- Clothing swap
- Name change clinic
- Free haircuts

And more!



Ongoing Programs

- LYG provides a brave and affirming space for youth, ages 5-24, to explore their gender and sexuality, learn life and leadership skills, build community and develop the skills they need to act as agents of change.
- LYG accomplishes these goals through our weekly program groups, monthly community events, and annual leadership development opportunities.
- All programs and services are provided to the youth at no cost, and offer an affirming and supportive space for social growth, leadership development, and community connection.



Junior Group:

Junior group is for LGBTQIA+ youth between the ages of 5-12 and their caregivers. This group creates a welcoming space for youth and their family members to explore their identities, make friends, and build a supportive community. Adult mentors help bridge the gap between the newly identifying LGBTQIA+ young people and their families by providing insight, wisdom, and resources in a fun and engaging environment.



Teen Group:

Teen Group brings together LGBTQIA+ youth between the ages of 13-19 in an affirming, fun and relaxing setting. Youth build self-worth and healthy relationships. This group is driven by the needs and suggestions of the youth involved, and facilitated by Adult Mentors and members of our Youth Leadership Council. Activities & Topics Include: Game night, Queer Hxtory, Arts & Crafts, Mental Health First-aid, Gender Expression & Euphoria, Healthy Relationships and Comprehensive Health Education (just to name a few!)



Melanin MagiQ Group:

Melanin MagiQ is a group for LGBTQIA+ Youth (ages 13-20) of the Global Majority. This group is specifically for Black, Indigenous, Latiné, Asian, Multi-Racial, and other Melanated youth, and is led by Mentors who also represent these racial & ethnic identities. The Melanin MagiQ group provides a brave and affirming space for young people to discuss the unique ways that their identities intersect, build self-worth and healthy relationships, and grow into joyful and connected young adults.



Trans & Non-Binary Group:

LYG's Trans & Non-Binary Group is focused on the social, emotional, legal, and medical needs of transgender and non-binary youth of all ages. Trans and NB mentors provide support and help guide youth through the complexities of their own self-discovery and the practical steps toward realizing and affirming their gender identity and expression.



LYG Rising:

LYG Rising is a monthly meetup for LGBTQIA+ Young Adults (ages 18-24) to socialize, learn life skills, and to develop the tools needed to build community and act as agents of change. LYG Rising is held at The Louisville Pride Center, to help participants connect to other age appropriate community resources and opportunities.



Youth Leadership Council (YLC):

YLC provides an opportunity for youth to develop advocacy and leadership skills through collaborative organizing, peer education and support, and community service opportunities. YLC members help guide the vision and youth experience of LYG by working with adult staff and mentors to plan programs and events and to identify the needs of their community that could be addressed through LYG programs and services.



Queer Prom:

Each spring, LYG hosts a 'Queer Prom' as an alternative for youth who may not feel safe or welcome attending their school prom as their full self, or who would prefer a more queer prom experience. We provide a safe and celebratory space for LGBTQIA+ and allied youth (ages 14-20) to enjoy a fun evening with friends, old and new.



Empowerment Camp:

Every fall, LYG youth go on a weekend-long Empowerment Camp at YMCA's Camp Piomingo. Participants get outside of their comfort zones in a safe and affirming environment. For some youth, it is their first experience away from home, their first time at a camp, or their first time connecting with other LGBTQIA+ youth and adults. Camp is an opportunity for youth who may not be able to get to LYG after school, to participate in an LYG youth activity.



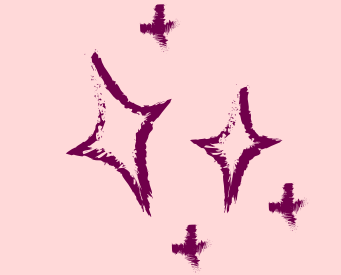
NYE Lock In:

LYG provides a safe and sober slumber party for youth to celebrate New Year's with friends. We provide meals, movies, games, and New Year's rituals as a way to relieve stress from the holidays, to reduce the potential of high-risk behavior and events. and to celebrate the exploration and growth to come.

Special Events

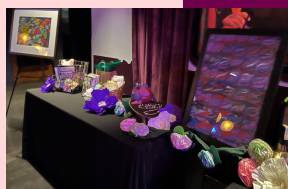
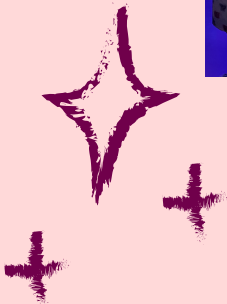
Friends and Family Pasta Dinner

- Held at Highlands Community Ministries on April 14
- EmCeed by Cadillac Seville and attended by more than 170 guests.
- Guests enjoyed performances from Cadillac Seville, Three Witches Shakespeare and DJ SYIMONE.
- We honored volunteers who've gone above and beyond in service to LYG: Beth Kerr, Candy Fishbach, Debra Mumford, Kevin Rasp, Phil Aldridge, & Zanne Koehne.
- The evening would not have been a success without the crucial support of UPS volunteers, who's help from setup to breakdown and everything in between, made it all possible.



The Glitter Gala, A Garden of Glitter

- Held at the Mercury Ballroom on Friday, October 13
- EmCeed by AJ Allen Montrese, additional entertainment included the vocal stylings of Kiana Del and soulful guitar by Taylor Thomas, along with many captivating drag performances.
- VIP guests enjoyed access to a Patio Magic: Readers, healers, and a unique interactive installation by Rhythm Science Sound.
- Once again the dedicated UPS Volunteers helped ensure every detail glittered, reflecting their commitment to empowering LGBTQIA+youth.





Hats Against Hate, April - Derby Day

With the aim of raising awareness, created by community members, gave Kentuckians the opportunity to purchase a hand made Derby hat or fascinator, in the colors of the trans Flag, Sold at locations across the city, including The Nitty Gritty, Fleur de Flea, and Music City Prep Clinic, all proceeds went directly to LYG programs and services.



After Derby Hangover Party, April 7

The annual event at Big Bar pulsated with post-Derby revelry as the "After Derby Hangover T-Dance" powered by Caperton Realty became a fundraising highlight, helping to ensure that LYG can keep galloping towards our goals!



Fringe Fest, August 17-26

Two shows featuring Trans and Gender-nonconforming actors, themes, and plots were hosted by Drag Daddy Productions and Derby City Playwrights during Fringe Fest. This initiative raised donations for LYG, while promoting inclusivity and creativity within the LGBTQ+ community.



Give for Good, September 14

Hosted by the Community Foundation of Louisville, Give For Good Louisville is the city's biggest day of local giving! For 24-hours, our community comes together with gifts big and small to give back to the nonprofits which are helping change the world around us. This year, LYG received gifts from over 100 supporters.

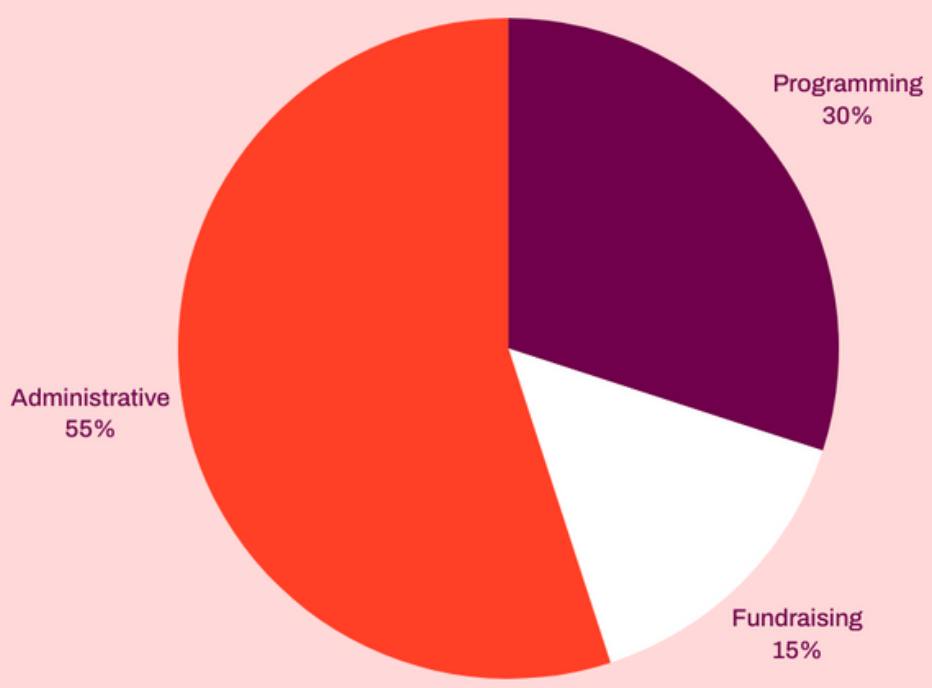


Funk-O-Ween, October 27

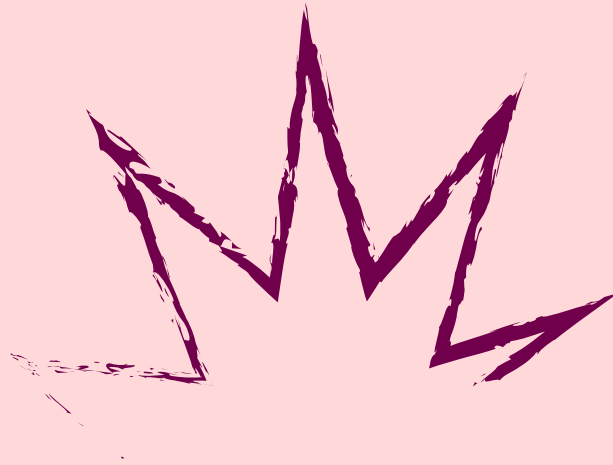
Funk-O-Ween, presented by WFPK and held at Zanzabar, truly grooved for the cause. The night featured live music from local bands Insatiable Digs, The Low Glow, and Kenfunkiana, with all proceeds benefiting the Louisville Youth Group. Attendees donned their funkier costumes and danced the night away under the disco ball, making it a truly stellar time!

Financials, Grants & Gifts

EXPENSES



Revenue	\$435,487
Program Expense	\$133,595
Fundraising Expense	\$65,292
Net Ending Assets	\$140,331




AWARDED GRANTS

Amgen Foundation	\$10,000
Brown Forman Foundation	\$40,000
Born This Way Foundation	\$6,125
Can't Cancel Pride	\$1,500
Kentucky Colonels Good Works Program	\$1,219
Louisville Metro Dept. of Health & Wellness	\$16,333
McReynolds Foundation	\$100,000
Meijer Foundation	\$25,000
Metro Louisville Women in Business for Good	\$7,000
Starbucks Neighborhood Grants Fund	\$1,000

EVENT SPONSORS

Brown Forman
Bourke Accounting
Dinsmore & Shohl
General Electric
Louisville Pride Foundation
Metro United Way
UPS


2023 COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS



21st Amendment
Agatha Critchfield
Amy Parish
Andrew Douds
Andrew Preston
Anne Dawson
Beargrass Thunder
Bellarmine University
Beth Giesel
Beth Snowden
Betsy Hamburg
Big Bar
Bobbie Glass
Bourke Accounting
Brandon Jones
Brenda Morris-Huntoon
Brian McLean
Brittany Cook
Byron Todd Rogers
Candy Fischbach
Caperton Realty
Casey Wagner
Carmichael's Bookstore
Carol Pye
Change Today, Change Tomorrow
Charles Hendrix
Cori Renee & Alec Vivian
Creighton Mershon
Dallas Jewelers, Inc
Derby City Playwrights
Douglass Blvd Christian Church
Eli Pendleton
Fairness Campaign
First Lutheran Church of Louisville
First Unitarian Church
Fleur De Flea Vintage Market

General Electric
Gerald Tyrrell & Kevin Reuther
Gina Loeffler
Gregory Pettaway
Highland Baptist Church
Highland Community Ministries
Highland Presbyterian Church
Holly Knight
Jane Pfeiffer
Jane VanMeter
Jason Snyder
John Michael Alderson
John and Mary Reisert
Justin Kinser
Kathryn Mershon
Kory Wallinga
Kroger
Leah H Fischbach
Louis Nuss
Louisville Ballet
Louisville City FC
Louisville Cooper's Union
Louisville Metro Government
Louisville Performing Arts
Louisville Presbyterian Seminary
Louisville Pride Foundation
Louisville Science Center
Mama Bee Arthur
Maria Chapman
Mary Nuss
Mathew Alan & Carielee Koole
Matthew Mueller
Metro Louisville Women in-
Business for Good
Nannette Mershon
Nearly New Shop

Nicholas York
Number 15
Old Louisville Coffee Co-op
Pandora Productions
Peter Raymond
Play Bar
Preston Arts Center
Pretty Good Concerts LLC
Racing Louisville
Ray Fehr
Rhonda Roos
Ricky Case, Autoglass Rehab
Robert German
Robert Walker
Roger Hoffman
Ryan Case
Sarabande Books
Sis Got Tea
Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence
Sparkling Generosity For a Decade
Spelling Bee Arthur
St. Francis School
Stage One Theater
Stiletto and Oxford
Sweet Evening Breeze
Taylor Thomas
The Satanic Temple of Louisville
Thomas Jones
Theresa and Tom Spalding
Three Witches Shakespeare
Tressa Whittington
Trans Wellness Coalition
UPS
Uffda Hospitality
Unorthodox
Wel at Humana
Whytne Sullivan



Thank you for your support!

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