

# Proclamation

By the Mayors of The Cities  
Of Champaign and Urbana, Illinois  
and the County Executive of Champaign County

**WHEREAS,** In 1969, an event referred to as the Stonewall Uprising began the national movement and the modern fight for LGBTQ+ rights; and

**WHEREAS,** In 1971, a group of LGBTQ+ University of Illinois students formed the organization The Gay Liberation Front, now known as the Gender and Sexuality Resource Center; and

**WHEREAS,** Since 1972, the cities of Urbana and Champaign have been at the forefront - both in the State of Illinois and nationwide - of protecting the rights of LGBTQ+ individuals by prohibiting the discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity ; and

**WHEREAS,** The cities of Champaign and Urbana and the County of Champaign have a rich and diverse history of LGBTQ+ representation in our government leaders, staff and citizens; and

**WHEREAS,** The Uniting Pride (UP) Center of Champaign County, was founded in 2009 as an organization to advocate for the equality, wellness, advocacy, and visibility of the LGBTQ+ communities of all ages in Champaign County; and

**WHEREAS,** From September 15 through September 22, 2024, Champaign-Urbana's annual Pride Fest Week will host events throughout our community, offering opportunities to learn, engage, and show support for our loved ones, friends, and neighbors.

**WHEREAS,** The centerpiece of this eight days of social and educational events is the community's participation in the Pride Fest and Parade in Downtown Urbana on Saturday, September 21.

**NOW, THEREFORE, WE,** Deborah Frank Feinen and Diane Wolfe Marlin, Mayors of the cities of Champaign and Urbana, Illinois, Steve Summers, Champaign County Executive, and Samantha Carter, Champaign County Board Chair do hereby proclaim the week of September 15 through September 22, 2024 as

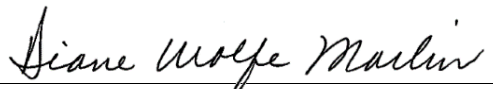
## **Champaign-Urbana Pride Fest Week 2024**

In the Cities of Champaign and Urbana, Illinois and the County of Champaign, Illinois

**In Witness Whereof,** we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Seals of the Cities of Champaign and Urbana and the County of Champaign to be affixed this 19<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2024.



Deborah Frank Feinen, MAYOR OF CHAMPAIGN



Diane Wolfe Marlin, MAYOR OF URBANA



Steve Summers, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY EXECUTIVE



Samantha Carter, CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD CHAIR