





**HERE TO  
STAY!**

**EQUALITY**

**EQUALITY TEXAS' FIFTH ANNUAL GALA**

**HILTON AUSTIN**  
**GOVERNOR'S BALLROOM**

*Austin, Texas*  
*Saturday, November 11*  
*6:00 ~ 9:00pm*





Dear Friend,

Equality Texas has been fighting to secure full and lived equality for LGBTQ+ Texans in all areas of the law for nearly 35 years. We have been committed to this work despite a hostile landscape because we have the power of our community—a community that shows up, speaks out, and pushes back no matter how hard things can be.

Since 2020, anti-LGBTQ+ extremists have pursued a nationally coordinated strategy to spread disinformation and fear about LGBTQ+ people, particularly transgender youth and adults, culminating in a cruel and sophisticated layered attack we have not seen in decades.

As we've seen in past sessions, our community continues to be targeted by representatives who are trying their best to eradicate the existence of LGBTQ+ Texans. Time and time again our supporters have shown up to demand the privacy, dignity, and respect all Texans deserve.

Every time we are knocked down, we get back up and create new plans, new ways to fight. This year we want all Texans to know that Texas has always been queer. And that won't ever change.

### ***WE ARE HERE TO STAY.***

Your sponsorship of our 5th Annual Gala: “Here to Stay” enables programs that engage, educate, and mobilize equality-minded Texans to exist. These programs empower activists in their advocacy journeys, providing them with the issue education and skills necessary to exercise their individual and collective power.

During the 88th Texas Legislative Session, Equality Texas worked to fend off more than 130 anti-LGBTQ+ attacks at the State Capitol. Defeating 95% of attacks has only been possible in partnership with you—Equality Texans—and pro-equality community partners, who courageously showed up to defend our community's dignity and humanity.

The support from last year's gala allowed us to collect written and video testimony, train activists, organize rallies and protests, and coordinate visits between LGBTQ+ families and allies with their legislators during the Legislative Session.

Now more than ever, it is time to tap into our courage as we continue to fight for equality. Only with your help can we reach our goal of \$375,000 to support the programs that grow the equality movement in Texas.

From San Antonio's thriving drag scene in the 1930s to Dallas' AIDS activist group GUTS in the 1980s, queer people are deeply intertwined with the history of Texas. We have always been here. We will always be here. We are here to stay.

Sylvia Rivera once said, “I'm not missing a minute of this. It's the revolution!” And the revolution begins with queer joy. To sponsor “Here to Stay” and join fellow Equality Texans for a night celebrating courage, hope, and a vision of a Texas for all Texans, **sign up here** or contact us directly at [donate@equalitytexas.org](mailto:donate@equalitytexas.org).

We look forward to seeing you at the Gala this year,

A handwritten signature in white ink, appearing to read 'Justin McCormick', set against a dark blue background.

Justin McCormick



# SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

## CHAMPION: \$50,000+

- Two tables at the gala with priority seating (20 tickets in total)
- Customized presentation for company/individual provided by Equality Texas staff
- Most prominent acknowledgment on signage at event
- Name/logo on hotel lobby video wall on day of event.
- Customized volunteer opportunity for company staff
- Prominent placement of company name/logo in event program slide
- Recognition on the Equality Texas website, social media, and in the Annual Report
- Recognition in event program and invitation
- Opportunity to provide a company banner to place in a prominent site at the event
- 20 VIP passes to lounge

## LEADER: \$25,000

- One table at the gala with prominent seating (10 tickets in total)
- Customized presentation for company/individual provided with Equality Texas staff
- Prominent acknowledgment on signage at event
- Name/logo on hotel lobby video wall on day of event.
- Prominent placement of company name/logo in event program slide
- Recognition on the Equality Texas website, social media, and in the Annual Report
- Recognition in event program and invitation
- 10 VIP passes to lounge

## ALLY: \$10,000

- One table at the gala (10 tickets in total)
- Placement of company name/logo during event program
- Name/logo on hotel lobby video wall on day of event.
- Recognition on the Equality Texas website, social media, and in the Annual Report
- Name recognition in printed event program
- Recognition in invitation
- 10 VIP passes to lounge

## SUPPORTER: \$5,000

- One table at the gala (10 tickets in total)
- Placement of company/individual name during event program
- Recognition on the Equality Texas website, social media, and in the Annual Report
- Name recognition in printed event program and invitation
- 8 VIP passes to lounge

## ACTIVIST: \$2,500

- One table at the gala (10 tickets in total)
- Placement of company/individual name during event program
- Recognition on the Equality Texas website, social media, and in the Annual Report
- Name recognition in printed event program and invitation
- 4 VIP passes to lounge

## DEFENDER: \$1,000

- 2 tickets in total located together at a table
- Placement of company/individual name during event program
- Recognition on the Equality Texas website, social media, and in the Annual Report
- Name recognition in printed event program and invitation
- 2 VIP passes to lounge





## HOST COMMITTEE

Erin Gurak & Steve Harrison

Hindatu Mohammed & Mike Siegel

Jo & Jon Ivester

Brad Stuver

Anne & John McKinnerney

Matthew & Jess Worthington

Matt & Julie Oliver

**More Information & Sponsorship Sign-up:**

**[WWW.EQUALITYTEXAS.ORG/ANNUAL-GALA](http://WWW.EQUALITYTEXAS.ORG/ANNUAL-GALA)**



All event sponsorships and contributions will fund the work of Equality Texas Foundation, a 501(c)(3) non-profit, and can be considered tax-deductible to the highest extent of the law. Tax EIN: 74-2569542

Equality Texas | PO Box 2340 Austin, TX 78768 | [donate@equalitytexas.org](mailto:donate@equalitytexas.org)