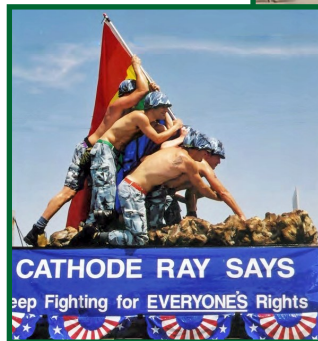


Upcoming 24th Year of the *Wilton Manors Stonewall Pride Parade and Street Festival*

So what are the roots of this event? The first Pride celebration held in South Florida took place in June of 1978; organized by **Pride South Florida**. The parade that year went down Las Olas Boulevard. The event then took place at different locations each year and was moved to winter in 1998. A group wishing to return the event to June soon formed **Pride of Greater Ft. Lauderdale**; which held its inaugural event in Wilton Manors in 2000. It was unexpectedly successful; with all available vendor booths filled and some 7,500 in attendance (*Buzz Magazine*, June 2007). The following year there were 10,000 visitors, 110 vendor booths and 43 floats in the parade.

The event remained in Wilton Manors, and while participation continued to grow, in 2010 Pride of Greater Ft. Lauderdale lost \$30,000 on the event and closed its doors (*The Agenda*, June 2011). The City of Wilton Manors, determined to keep the event alive, began contracting with various other organizations to promote the event. Since 2015 the City has partnered with the **Wilton Manors Entertainment Group** (WMEG), now **Hotspots Events**, to produce our parade and street festival.

Hope to see you there for the 24th Anniversary Edition on June 17th!



Rare images of the 2000 event
©Wilton Manors Historical Society
Digital Collection



Vintage pictures or documents to donate? [Contact Ron and Mary Ulm at wmhs@WMHistory.org](mailto:wmhs@WMHistory.org)

©Wilton Manors Historical Society Digital Collection

all rights reserved