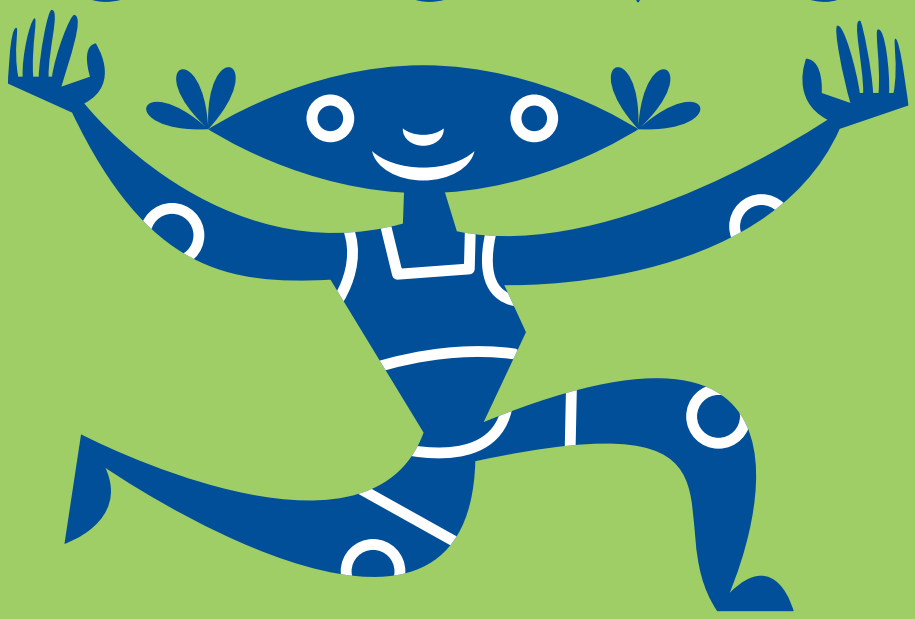
VII GAY GAMES



CHICAGO 2006

GGG®

WHERE THE WORLD MEETS!

OPENING CEREMONY

Soldier Field • July 15, 2006 • 8 p.m.

www.gaygameschicago.org

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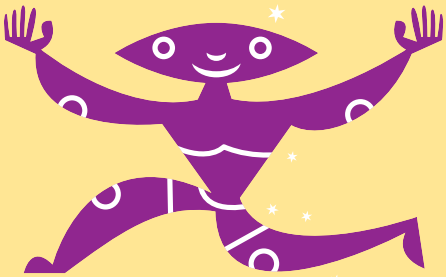
Prologue

- **Frankie Knuckles** - the Godfather of House will rock Soldier Field as we await the Procession
- **Ben Patrick Johnson** - The Voice of the Games
- **Drum and Choral Opening Salvo**
- **The Procession of Athletes and Participants of Gay Games VII**
  "Shoulder to Shoulder" (World Premiere)
  Composer – Steven Lutvak • Soloist – Billy Porter
- **Oath to the Athletes and Participants** - David Kopay
  "I Sing the Body Electric"
  By Michael Gore and Dean Pitchford • Arranged by Kathleen McGuire

  "Anthem" (from the musical Chess)
  By Benny Andersson and Bjorn Alvaeus • Arranged by Kathleen McGuire

  "Beotia"
  Written and performed by Matt Alber, this piece was created in tribute to the famed Greek Army of Lovers, the most fierce and feared in history, ultimately destroyed by Alexander the Great of Macedon – performed tonight in honor of this newest "army of lovers" in our stadium.
- **The National Anthem of the United States of America** - Christy Fairbairn, Windy City Gay Idol 2006
- **Oath to the Officials** - Billy Bean, Saskia Webber
- **Welcome by CGI** - Co & Vice Chairs: Sam Coady, Suzanne Arnold, Tracy Baim, Kevin Boyer
- **Responsibility for Change** - Megan Mullally
- **Welcome by Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley**



Act I "Exclusion"

- **Choreography by Iega Jeff**
- **Special appearance by Erasure's Andy Bell**
- **Kate Clinton**
- **Welcome** - Co-Presidents of the international Federation of Gay Games:
  Kathleen Webster and Roberto Mantaci
- **Legends of Women's Music**
  Holly Near • Barbara Higbie • Nedra Johnson • Teresa Trull

Act II "Oppression"

- **Choreography by Joel Hall**
- **Special Appearance by Erasure's Andy Bell**
- **Staceyann Chin, George Takei, Jorge Valencia**
- **Rainbow Run for the End of HIV and Cancer**
  Brent Nicholson Earle, Rob Hadley, Renae Ogletree, Modesto "Tico" Valle
- **Tribute to Tom Waddell,** founder of the Gay Games Movement
  Greg Louganis • Martje Hoekmeijer • Esera Tuaolo • David Kopay • Candi Orsini • Kathy Flores
  Saskia Webber • Karen Sanders • Gina Stewart • Courtney Yamada • Karla Thomas • Julio Cabrera
  Leigh-Ann Naidoo • Petra Roessner • B. Birgit Koebke • Kendall French • Graham Ackerman
  Matthew Cusick • Sara Waddell Lewinstein • Jim Graham • Roy "Sugar Bear" Simmons • Ryan Allen Carrillo

- **Tom Waddell Award** - Greg Louganis and Jessica Waddell Lewinstein

  Female Finalists:
  Cindy "Gert" McMullin - Atlanta, Georgia, U.S. • Rose Mary Mitchell - San Francisco, California, U.S.
  Lydia la Rivière-Zijdel - Amsterdam, Netherlands • Dr. Jessica Seaton - Los Angeles, California, U.S.

  Male Finalists:
  Gary Bath - Johannesburg, South Africa • Derek Liecty - Oakland, California, U.S.
  Jerry Lovell - Valley Village, California, U.S. • Peter Moews - Sofia, Bulgaria

- **Jody Watley**
- **United States Ambassador James Hormel** - Keynote
- **The Quilt** - Keith Boykin

  "My Brother Lived in San Francisco"
  Composed by Bill Russell • Performed by Shavonne Conroy

  "Exhortation to a Weary Army"
  Keith Boykin

  "Wishing You Were Somehow Here Again"
  Composed by Andrew Lloyd Webber • Performed by Jose Llana

  "Who You Are"
  Composed by Kim Kuzma • Performed by Kim Kuzma and the Gay Games VII Mixed Chorus

Act III "Expression"

- **Choreography by Michele Lynch**
  Assistant Choreographers: Jim Osorno & Connor Gallagher
- **"Avenue Q"**
- **David daSilva Cornell & Margaret Cho**
  Featuring -
  - Lesbian and Gay Marching Bands of America
  - National Drill Ensemble - hosted by The Righteously Outrageous Twirling Corps of Chicago
  - Nanae and the Maqam Dance Ensemble
- **Special Appearance by Erasure's Andy Bell**
- **"Proud" - Heather Small**
- **Presentation of the Federation of the Gay Games Flag**
  Eurika Otto, Kate Row, Manuel Picaud, Bruce Hayes, Dennis Sneyers, Tarrina Dykes, Kurt Dahl, Greg McNitt, Eric McCool, Christee Snell, Christopher Pries, Joe Cappalletti, Kyle Chang, Kathy Caldwell, David Woody and Ted Cappas
- **"Take the Flame" the Official Anthem of the Gay Games**
  Written by Henry Krieger and Bill Russell • Performed by Esera Tuaolo

Act IV "Ignition" and the Lighting of the Flame

- **Choreographed by Christopher Harrison** - founder of AntiGravity
  Featuring AntiGravity & The Ubaka Hill Drumsong Institute
- **Introduction by Suzanne Westenhoefer**
- **Ignition!**
- **Exit**
  "Akanamandla"
  Performed by the Gay Games VII Mixed Chorus

Lyrics

SHOULDER TO SHOULDER

(World Premiere: Special commission to the Gay Games)
Written by Steven Lutvak

Something tells me, everybody here
Has a story, different but the same
And so, we gather from far and near
To stand together and light the flame

Shoulder to shoulder, side by side
Against all odds, a million hearts are open wide
Nothing between us, nothing to hide
Shoulder to shoulder, side by side

Look beside you in every stranger's eyes
You see the story shining through
It's a story I'm sure you'll recognize
Something tells me it's in your eyes, too

Shoulder to shoulder, side by side
Against all odds, a million hearts are open wide
Nothing between us, nothing to hide
Shoulder to shoulder, side by side

There's no stopping us
No defeating us
There's no doubting us.
There's no beating us
No denying us
No defying us
Let the games begin

Shoulder to shoulder, side by side
Against all odds, a million hearts are open wide
Nothing between us, nothing to hide
Shoulder to shoulder, side by side

BEOTIA

M. Alber

The dawn whispers of blood today
a crimson star o'er Beotia
the fierce flames of a Roman son
shall burn forthright our chariots gold and grey.

And yet trembling beside me now
the bravest born of Beotia.
His thunderous heart resounds within
forever joined in valor by the sword.

And should rivals upon us tread
and spill our blood on Beotia
behold high o'er Chaeronea
your lover riding victorious
the fiercest flames now a fiery shield,
our steed and our chariot await...

Should death cleave unto destiny
remember us dear Beotia,
your loyal lover's Sacred Band
whose fate with courage laid
a force with which all earthly fear was stayed.

TAKE THE FLAME

Krieger/Russell

I was lost in dark confusion, and thought I'd have to stay
You had to fight for your own bit of light
But you held it high to light my way.
Now, thanks to you, my friend
I can see this tunnel's end
And I'll repeat 'til my dying day
What you're no longer here to say…

Take the flame and pass it on
Spread your light and share the dawn
Grab your chance before it's gone
Take the flame and pass it on

You lit up the night with a bold design
You set us ablaze and allowed us to shine
Your love left a spark to build upon
Take the flame and pass it on.

Our light will shine no matter who tries to extinguish the flame
This light of mine will burn for you so the world will remember your name
It's a whole new game, we'll stake our claim, the past is over and gone
Let's take the flame…take the flame…

Take the flame and pass it on…
Spread your light and share the dawn
Grab your chance before it's gone
Take the flame and pass it on
Take the flame and pass it on
All ya gotta do is
Take the flame and pass it on…

Credits

Ceremonies Committee
Greg McNitt – Co Chair
Tracy Baim – Co Chair
C.C. Carter
Brenda Schumacher

Jam Entertainment and Creative Services, LLC.
President & Executive Producer - Donna Sue Van Cleaf-Fish
Senior Producer - Matt McGinn
Ceremonies Director & Creative Director- Kile Ozier
Producer of the Opening Ceremony - Ric Kirby
Producer of the Closing Ceremony - John McCall
Technical Producer - Floyd Dillman
Production Stage Manager - Susan Green
Athlete's Processional Producer - Dave Brunetti
Associate Producer for Athlete's Procession - David Lueck
Opening Ceremony Production Manager - Geno Byrnes
Closing Ceremony Production Manager - Michael Piper
Director of Entertainment Services - Ron Pateras
Senior Production Coordinator - Jenni Azzanni
Talent Coordinator - Melissa Rofalikos
Talent Coordinator - Kelly Jo Percival
Associate Producer - Katie Henebry
Assistant to the Producer - Nathan Kras
Script Coordinator - Hillary A. Bean
Rehearsal Venue Manager - Ian Van Cleaf

Lighting Designer - John Featherstone – Lightswitch
Assistant Lighting Designer - Avraham 'Avi' Mor
Lighting Director - Troy Fujimura
Production Electricians - Mike Green, Jeff Johnson
Technology Electricians - Lacey Taylor, Jeffery Smith
Lighting Equipment - Upstaging, Syncrolite
Lighting Previsualization - Prelite
Audio Department - Todd Johnson, Harry Witz,
Jimi Iturrieta, Earl McCoy,
Brian Duffy, Craig Comte
Production Rigging - Reed Rigging, Inc.
Fireworks - Melrose Pyrotechnics
Cauldron Special Effects - Jauchem and Meech, Inc.
Bohdan Bushell & Greg Meeh

Music Producer - Gigi Grose
Act II Music Collaboration - Scott Sedlacek
Costume Design (Dancers) - Shelly Bomb
Chicago Costumer & Costume Production - Liz Schroeder
Show Graphics Design & Production - Scott Ihrig &
Red Thread Productions
Closed Captioning for the Hearing Impaired - Vicki Turner
Program Design - Jim Gelder

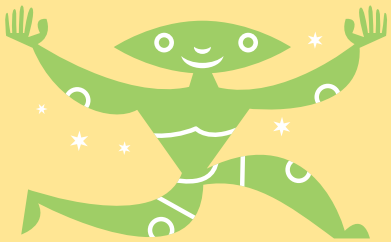
Opening Ceremony Choral Director - Kathleen McGuire
Opening Ceremony Band Director - Christy Zurcher
Closing Ceremony Choral Director - Joseph Nadeau
Closing Ceremony Band Director - Pam Wolfe

Choreographers
Opening Ceremony Act I "Exclusion" - Iega Jeff
Opening Ceremony Act II "Oppression" - Joel Hall
Opening Ceremony Act III "Expression" - Michele Lynch
Opening Ceremony Act IV "Ignition" - Christopher Harrison
Opening Ceremony Field Dance &
Movement Consultant - Jay Howarth
Opening Ceremony Flags - Phillip Bryan
Opening Ceremony Drill Choreographer - John Leonard
Closing Ceremony - Michael Schwandt

AntiGravity Management - Alex Schlempp
Assistant to Mr. Harrison - Christopher Mai
Wheel Choreography - Wolfgang Bientzle
AntiGravity Orlando Director - Daniel Stover
Fire Amazing Clowns, Las Vegas
AntiGravity Company Manager - Keith England
Assistant to Mr. Jeff & Mr. Hall - Gwenne Goodwin

Tom Waddell Tribute
Director - Kile Ozier
Producer - Tim Frick
Producer - Brenda Schumacher
Editor - Cara Meiselman
Director of Photography - Eric Olson
Teleprompter - Anne Maley
Script Coordinator - Stacy Jacobs
Associate Producer - Melissa Rofalikos

CGI wishes to recognize and thank the following contributors for their support in the production of the Opening & Closing Ceremonies of Gay Games VII....

The City of Chicago
The Office of The Mayor
The City of Chicago Fire Commissioner & Fire Department
The Office of Emergency Management & Communication
Tim LeFevour, SMG, & the fine management team of Soldier Field
Illinois State University's Big Red Marching Machine and Dr. Stephen Steele, Director of Bands, for support & use of musical equipment
Roosevelt University
The University of Illinois-Chicago Athletic Department & Associate Director Bill Bavirsha
Anne and Michael Connelly (Greenwich, CT)
Hutch Johnson (Portland, OR)
Jerry Mitchell (Manhattan, NY)
Telin W. Ozier (Boston, MA)
Karen Sundquist & Maureen Keenan
Hal Luftig (Manhattan, NY)
Jerry Suarez (Virgin Unite)
Les Brown

...and finally, the countless number of professionals and volunteers who gave so freely & generously to make this event possible.