InterPride is committed to supporting the development and growth of Pride events around the world. One of the main ways we do this is through our Solidarity Fund.

Currently, injustice and inequality exist around the world for many LGBTI people and communities. In much of the world, accessing funding support for even the smallest public actions and events is an enormous challenge. InterPride’s Solidarity Fund is designed to address this gap.

The mission of InterPride’s Solidarity Committee is to distribute the voluntarily collected funds from our membership and sponsors, to organizations that are helping to create change and promote a better understanding of the LGBTI communities. The committee does this by awarding grants to community-based events around the world, with a focus on places where public LGBTI events face challenges and hostility.

In 2015, we expanded the Solidarity Fund. We issued a formal international call for applicants. We developed an international Advisory Group to guide our growth, evaluate our processes and provide valuable advice to our Solidarity Fund Committee. In 2015 we received 37 applications and made 9 grants totaling $US12,000. Grants were made to organizations running events in 8 countries/territories: Bulgaria, Hong Kong, India, Kenya, Latvia, Mongolia, Rwanda and South Africa.

This past year, we expanded the program even further and launched an online application form in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese. We received 101 applications and made 16 recommendations and 15 grants were made successfully.

This report summarizes our 2016 granting process, funding results and recommendations for future fund development. The report also acknowledges contributions of our fabulous volunteers and donors.
Funding Criteria & Process 2016

This year the Solidarity Fund used the following criteria:

• Projects must take place in the 2016 calendar year.
• Projects in the global south and east (outside the USA/Canada, western Europe and Australia/NZ) would be a priority for the fund.
• Projects must support specific local events and activities that support LGBTI communities, including local Pride events.
• Projects must be time-limited, such as political marches, parades, community gatherings, film festivals, special events, and celebrations.
• Project funding is allowed to cover costs such as staff time, advertising, space or equipment rentals, registration fees, purchase of materials.

What we will not fund:

• Individuals not connected to an organization
• Ongoing operating costs for organizations
• Ongoing program costs
• Capacity building or training
• Paying off organizational debt

These criteria were developed by the leadership of the Solidarity Fund Committee and reviewed by members of our Advisory Committee. Criteria were publicized on InterPride’s website throughout the application period in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.
The timelines for this year’s Solidarity Fund were as follows:

Jan. 2016 – Confirmation of International Advisory & Volunteer Review Committee

February 1 – Call for applications circulated through various international channels, including assistance from our Advisory Committee

March 8 – Deadline for filling out online application form

March – Translation of Spanish, French and Portuguese applications into English

May 9 – Shortlist Review & Decision Meeting by InterPride’s Solidarity Fund volunteers

May 11 - InterPride Board Approval and Funding decisions relayed to applicants

June-October - Funding wired to successful applicants (*Note: there were several delays wiring funds to a number of grantees. Details in the following section.)

All applicants were required to submit two letters of reference in addition to their online proposal.

“In my opinion, the Solidarity Fund is one of the strongest pieces of InterPride. As a global organization, it is essential to recognize that we are stronger together, and to ensure this we must assist those in need.” Dallas Barnes, Co-Chair of the Solidarity SubCommittee of InterPride
Application Results

Through our online application system, InterPride received the following applications.

By Language:
- English – 72
- Spanish – 26
- French – 2
- Portuguese - 1

By Region:
- Africa – 43
- Central and South America – 29
- Asia/Pacific – 13
- Caribbean - 8
- Eastern Europe – 7
- USA – 1

Total: 101 applications

The Committee was pleased to see applications from 55 countries around the world, including Ethiopia, Morocco, Kyrgyzstan, Malaysia, Nepal and many others. Sadly, due to limited funds, the committee was not able to fund all the applications that met criteria.

An initial review of the applications screened out all those who had incomplete applications including those without references.

The Co-Chairs reviewed all 101 applications and shortlisted 30 applications to be reviewed by the Volunteer Committee.

The final number of recommended applicants was 16 with a total grant amount of $US17,000. 14 applicants were recommended at $US1200 and 2 applicants at $US600. The successful grantees are listed on the following pages. We were unable to process one grant due to fund transfer issues.

“This year I was struck by the sheer diversity and scope of strong applications. Many Prides are emerging in various forms all over the world and it’s exciting to see their development. If we had the funds, we could have easily recommended 50 grants.”, Doug Kerr, Co-Chair of the Solidarity Subcommittee.
Grantees for 2016

The following are our 15 successful grantees for 2016

Arco-Iris Cabo Verde (Sao Vincete, Cabo Verde)
$1200 to cover costs related to the Week of Equality including social, arts and cultural activities.

Fundación Iguales (Santiago, Chile)
$1200 to support costs related to a march for human rights.

Colombia Diversa (Bogotá, Colombia)
$1200 to support costs related to Bogotá’s Pride March.

I-Change (Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire)
$1200 to support a day of advocacy related to human rights for LGBTI people, including dance, art and speakers.

Kouraj (Port-au-Prince, Haiti)
$1200 to cover costs related to Massimadi Port-au-Prince, a multi-day arts and cultural festival for LGBTI people.
Grantees for 2016 (continued)

Harmless Hugs (New Delhi, India)
$1200 to cover costs related to an LGBTI Pride flash mob event, plus a youth leadership summit and film festival.

JFLAG (Kingston, Jamaica)
$600 to cover costs of week long series of social, athletic and cultural activities for the LGBTI communities.

Montego Bay Pride (Montego Bay, Jamaica)
$600 to cover costs of Montego Bay’s Second Pride event, including discussions, films, beach socials and a pop-up protest.

Jinsiangu (Nairobi, Kenya)
$1200 to cover the costs of community gatherings on International Day Against Homophobia & Transphobia as well as the Trans Day of Remembrance.

Young Queer Alliance (Rose Hill, Mauritius)
$1200 to cover the costs of a one-day event and walk on the Trans Day of Remembrance.

Fundacja Wolontariat Równości (Warsaw, Poland)
$1200 to support Warsaw’s Equality Day Festival and Parade costs.
Continued 2016 Grantees

Eastern Caribbean Alliance for Diversity and Equality (St. Lucia)

$1200 to support the development of rainbow flag raisings and LGBTI Pride events in four countries: St Kitts, Grenada, St Vincent and St Martin.

Triangle Project (Cape Town, South Africa)

$1200 for special outreach costs to support the inclusion of participants from Cape Town's Coloured communities in Khumbulani Pride.

Queer Youth Uganda (Kampala, Uganda)

$1200 to support a coalition of organizations in Kampala with Pride Uganda, including a parade, social events, fashion show and other activities.

Gay Alliance Ukraine (Kyiv, Ukraine)

$1200 to support a ‘boot camp’ training program for security volunteers at KyivPride 2016. This Pride needs extra security because of anti-gay protests.
Challenges and Issues 2016

Grantee Challenges

This past year, two of the Solidarity Fund grantees faced challenges related to the running of their events.

- In Kampala, Uganda, police raided one of the Uganda Pride events, a fashion show and social event. A number of attendees were detained by police but later released. The Pride parade was rescheduled to a later date due a week later.

- In Port-au-Prince, Haiti, the Massimadi Arts Festival was postponed due to pressure from politicians and fundamentalist religious groups.

Funding Issues

This past year, the Solidarity Fund faced a number of challenges with making our grants to a number of organizations around the world. It took between 2 and 3 months for most organizations to receive their funding due to issues with wiring funds to organizations in several countries.

One of our original recommended grantees, Rainbow Sunrise Mapambazuko, located in Bukavu, Democratic Republic of Congo, was unable to receive their grant after multiple unsuccessful attempts to send the funds.

For 2017, we will be exploring ways to improve the transfer of funds, including looking at partnerships with established grantmakers to organizations in the global south.
Acknowledgements

We would acknowledge the contributions of the following volunteers:

**InterPride Solidarity Fund Advisory Committee:**

Namita Chad, Astrea Lesbian Foundation for Social Justice
Pascal Dessureault
Matthew Hart, The Lafayette Practice
Kent Klindera
Ilana Landsberg-Lewis, Stephen Lewis Foundation
Erica Lim, Arcus Foundation
Pedro Marcelino
Zohra Moosa, Mama Cash Foundation
Addison Smith, Wellspring Advisors

**InterPride Solidarity Fund Review Committee**

Dallas Barnes, Co-Chair
Doug Kerr, Co-Chair
J. Andrew Baker (Simcoe Pride)
Sue Doster (InterPride Co-President)
Heather Hay (Muskoka Pride)
Brett Hayhoe (InterPride Co-President)
Michele Irimia-Bernabe (Heritage of Pride NYC)
Frank Van Dalen (Pride United, Netherlands)
Jessie De Stefano (Boston Pride)
Linda DeMarco: InterPride Treasurer

Report from Dallas Barnes & Doug Kerr, Co-Chairs of the InterPride Solidarity Fund, January 2017
Financial Contributions

The Solidarity Fund would not be possible without the generous contributions of individual and organizational donors. A huge thank you to the following:

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