# **PRIDE LIVE**

# PRIDE LIVE AND THE NEW SCHOOL'S PARSONS SCHOOL OF DESIGN CREATE HISTORIC PARTNERSHIP TO IMPLEMENT STONEWALL LEGACY CLASSES INTO CURRICULUM

The new program will include a rotating exhibit at the Stonewall National Monument Visitor Center, showcasing student's designs stemming from the class

**New York, NY, June 13, 2023** – <u>Pride Live</u>, a social advocacy and community engagement organization for the LGBTQ+ community, is partnering with The New School's Parsons School of Design to implement Stonewall legacy classes into their overall curriculum offerings. The live project class, titled Live Project/Temp Environments, provided students with practical knowledge in design, while also introducing the history and theory of LGBTQ+ rights in New York City, including the impact of the Stonewall Rebellion.

Led by Alfred Zollinger and Ethan Philbrick, students were encouraged throughout the course to express individuality and co-creation in their designs, allowing them to explore their unique perspectives and ideas. Student's primary objective throughout the class was to design an exhibit for the Parsons School of Design galleries imitating what a student-led exhibit at the Stonewall National Monument Visitor Center (SNMVC) would entail.

"We're thrilled to collaborate with Pride Live and showcase the endless creativity and inquisitiveness of Parsons and New School students," said Cotter Christian, Associate Dean of the School of Constructed Environments at Parsons. "Parsons was founded upon the idea that design can create positive change, so we're proud to support this project that's crucial for our shared community."

This past year, the live project class provided 14 students with valuable experiences in designing for real-world settings, while exploring vital social and cultural issues related to LGBTQ rights and activism in New York City. The concept behind the inaugural exhibit focuses on manifold interpretations of the word Regeneration and seeks to create a space to reflect on what "regeneration" might mean to each person passing through.

The SNMVC will showcase students' work as part of a rotating exhibit at the Visitor Center upon its opening scheduled for June, 2024. Each semester, students will be given a theme and specific dimensions as a base to help start their creative process. Exhibits will rotate each year based on the class schedule, showing from June – May.

"With inspiration from the Stonewall Rebellion, the students at Parsons ignite a powerful beacon of remembrance, resilience, and revolution," said Ann Marie Gothard, President of the Pride Live Board of Directors. "This immersive experience serves as a testament to the enduring power of sparking conversations that can reshape society. The students exhibit truly reminds people of all generations that art has the transformative ability to educate and unite, propelling us towards a brighter, more inclusive future." The mission of the SNMVC is to preserve, advance, and celebrate the legacy of the Stonewall Rebellion. The SNMVC will serve as a beacon for generations to come, by providing the unique opportunity to visit the very site where history was made, and the fight for full LGBTQ+ equality began. The SNMVC will also be an educational resource and living and breathing experience that speaks to today's generations, encouraging them to carry forward the Stonewall legacy and the fight for full LGBTQ+ equality. A transformational experience for all who visit.

For more information, please visit https://stonewallvisitorcenter.org.

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## ABOUT PRIDE LIVE

Founded in 2012, Pride Live is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to accelerating awareness and support for the LGBTQ+ community via social advocacy and community engagement to advance the fight for full equality. From working with the most marginalized and underrepresented organizations, to supporting the effort leading up to the declaration of Stonewall National Monument, and to conceptualizing and developing Stonewall Day, a benefit concert to elevate and boost awareness of the Stonewall rebellion and LGBTQ+ activism – Pride Live works in service of the LGBTQ+ community. To learn more about Pride Live visit www.pridelive.org.

### About Parsons School of Design at The New School

**Parsons School of Design** at The New School is one of the leading institutions for art and design education in the world. Based in New York but active around the world, the school offers undergraduate and graduate programs in the full spectrum of art and design disciplines, as well as online courses, degree and certificate programs. Critical thinking and collaboration are at the heart of a Parsons education. Parsons graduates are leaders in their respective fields, with a shared commitment to creatively and critically addressing the complexities of life in the 21st century.

Media Contact: Stonewall@id-pr.com