

Open Call Pride 2026



The London Festival of Architecture (LFA) and Architecture LGBT+ invite you to design and deliver an uplifting installation to increase the visibility of LGBTQIA+ Architects in the parade. The installation is for the Pride in London Parade on **July 4, 2026**.

Like our 2024 '[Homes in every Hue](#)' we are seeking a creative, portable installation that can be carried, worn, pushed, pulled, cycled or inflated by participants as they walk the parade route.

We are inviting architecture students, recent graduates, emerging practices, as well as representatives from more established practices (collaborations of individuals and practices are also welcome) across London to submit a design proposal for a scheme to represent LGBTQIA+ architects in this year's Pride in London Parade.

Following the competition process, the winning team will be awarded £5,000 + VAT to develop and deliver their design. This will be a chance to participate in a unique project and showcase your imaginative design to the public.

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The Context

The London Festival of Architecture (LFA) is a month-long celebration of architecture and city-making, taking place every June across London. All Festival activity for 2026 will be focusing on the theme of 'Belonging'.

With activity happening across London, the Festival will once again be a platform for conversation, testing new ideas, promoting emerging talent, and helping shift us towards a more equitable, sustainable city.

Architecture LGBT+ is a not-for-profit grassroots organisation run by volunteers, who aim to provide a safe, inclusive & prejudice-free environment for LGBTQIA+ Architects and those working and studying within the profession through networking events, learning, mentoring and role models.

Our Pride presence has evolved over time:

- 2018-2019: Truck-based floats by Hawkins Brown (London Pride) and RAW Architecture (London & Manchester Pride)
- 2021: Foster+Partners pavilion installed in Soho for a month
- 2022: JCB in the parade
- 2024: Walking float collaboration with designer Andre Kong, bringing a fresh new format
- 2025: oo Office's Proudspeaker as a sculptural megaphone serving as a mobile monument

These competitions have received wide press coverage including Dezeen and the Architects' Journal. We continue our work to promote equality and diversity across the built environment professions.

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The Site

Pride in London is an annual event celebrating the LGBTQIA+ community, promoting diversity, and fostering inclusion. It includes a parade, performances, events, and various activities across the city, aimed at celebrating love, acceptance, and unity.

London Pride 2026 has been announced for **Saturday 4 July 2026**.

The parade route runs through central London with start/finish arches that are 4.5m high × 3m wide, your installation must fit through these constraints.

Design Requirements

The key objectives of the project are to deliver a design that:

- Celebrates LGBTQIA+ architects
- Offers a sustainable and creative design
- Responds to the LFA 2026 theme of 'Belonging'
- Give the Architects section of the parade an identity

Logos will need to be added in the design development stage, including but not limited to: LFA, Architecture LGBT+ and the Winning team's logo.

Design guidance:

- The design is to uplift the parade, and it is up to the teams what their approach is: it can be something that can be carried, inflated, pushed, pulled, cycled, worn etc.
- We will have around 150 people in our group
- The installation will be viewed from both sides, the front and the back, with the Architects walking alongside/amongst/behind/below depending on the design proposal
- The total dimensions of any installation must be suitable for the roads of the parade, and it must fit within the Pride in London arches at the start and end of the parade route which are 4.5m high and 3m wide. The proposal could be temporarily expanded during the parade but must fit within the stated dimensions of the Pride in London arch positioned at the start and end of the parade.
- The proposal could include Placards (25) and T-shirts (50)
- The design will need to incorporate speakers for music. These could be integrated within a carried or wheeled structure, or they could be pulled along separately. There will be two speakers, the dimensions are: 450 wide, 700mm tall and 400mm deep and can either be upright or laid down
- The entry needs to be robust to last the duration of the parade

Access and sustainability

Concepts should be developed with an understanding of how public space is interpreted and used by different groups, and how proposed interventions could contribute to the happiness, safety, and well-being of the wide-ranging individuals and groups participating in the parade.

Although temporary, we encourage and support our designers and partners to plan for the afterlife of these projects which go on to be re-homed or recycled. We are interested in seeing proposals which explore principles of the circular economy, either by thinking about the longevity of the design and materials, flexibility of purpose and plans for disassembly (and reassembly).

Further guidance

- Health & safety: The installation needs to be stable and structurally sound. No petrol generators are allowed. If the input of a structural specialist is required, it will be the responsibility of the winning team to provide this.
- Construction: The winning team will need to deliver their design, this can be by building in-house, commissioning or by seeking volunteers and this needs to be costed into the budget.
- Durability: The design needs to be suitable for heavy rain or sunshine and will need to survive the duration of the parade.
- Availability: The winning team will need to be available prior to and after the parade to ensure the scheme is set up and ready for the parade and dismantled after.
- The winning team will be responsible for the re-use / recycling of the design after Pride
- Approvals: The winning team will be expected to provide measured plan and elevation drawings for Pride in London's approval maximum 1 week after they are announced as winners.
- Architecture LGBT+ will be the main point of contact for the design team

Budget

The total budget available for delivery of this project is £5,000 + VAT.*

The £5,000 + VAT budget outlined includes all costs including a design honoaraium.

This £5,000 + VAT includes all costs:

- Design honorarium
- Materials and fabrication
- Construction/assembly (in-house, commissioned or volunteer-led)
- Optional accessories (placards, T-shirts, etc)
- Delivery, setup and dismantling

The speakers will be provided, so this does not need to be factored into the budget.

The budget outlined includes a 12.5% design honorarium for the appointed team to cover on-going design fees and other costs required to deliver the concept.

NLA is hosting this competition pro bono in support of Architecture LGBT+. Members of the winning design team will also be awarded a 12-month personal membership to NLA, which includes access to free event tickets and networking opportunities.

*If your practice is not VAT registered, you will need to consider this when preparing your budget.

Submission

This is a one-stage competition. Entries must be submitted through zealous.co before the deadline closes.

We ask that applicants prepare one A1 board (pdf) for submission that include:

- Hand or computer drawn 3D design visualisation
- Construction details and methodology drawn to scale with key dimensions noted, outline all materials, budget and costings, production process and disposal/re-use
- Proposals for how the scheme will be delivered

Do not include identifying information on the boards as the competition is to be judged anonymously.

Eligibility

The competition is open to architects, landscape architects, designers and artists. We welcome collaborations.

The judges encourage entries from architecture students, recent graduates and emerging architects. Judges also encourage collaborations with groups who are underrepresented in architecture and design.

Deadline and submission details

- Deadline for submission is Thursday 4 June
- Submissions received after this time will not be considered.
- For competition enquires please contact: info@londonfestivalofarchitecture.org and hello@architecturelgbt.com
- We use zealous to administrate our application process. To submit your expression of interest for this competition, you will need to set up a free login on zealous which will enable you to begin your submission as a Draft and save it as you go. You can find information about [how to submit via zealous here](#).
- To submit your entry please go here: zealous.co

Schedule outline

Submissions open: Thursday 7 May

Submissions close: Thursday 4 June

Winner notified: w/c 8 June

London Pride: 4 July 2026

Judging panel

- **Karl Mok**, Pride Float 2025 Winner
- **Lucy Millichamp**, Programme Manager, NLA and LFA
- **Sarah Habershon**, Architecture LGBT+
- **Thomas Bryans**, LFA Curation Panel 2026 and Architecture LGBT+
- **Tom Guy**, Architecture LGBT+

Further information

- Submissions will be judged on originality, demonstration of creativity, relevance to the brief, as well as feasibility and how the proposal works in the context of the site.
- To process entries to this competition we will share your application, and any associated personal data provided on the application, with our jury and competition partners.
- All applicants will be notified of the outcome of their application, but due to the volume of submissions we may not be able to provide individual feedback to entrants.
- Applicants may not be assisted in any way in their submission by members of the judging panel, the client body, organisers, members of their family, close business associates or employees.
- The ownership of Copyright of the design will be in accordance with the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, that is Copyright rests with the author of the submitted design.
- All designs remain the intellectual property of the designer: however, the winning design, once built, will itself be the property of the client.
- Please bear in mind that the project requires a fast turn around and may have peak moments when your practice will need to dedicate sufficient staff to deliver the project on time, to budget, and to the high standard expected by all stakeholders.
- Significant efforts are made by all stakeholders of the project to ensure wide media coverage.
- LFA reserve the right to use images from the submissions for promotional purposes in press, social media and publications. All endeavours will be made to ensure accurate accreditation.
- Digital and physical images of the submission may be used for marketing and promotional purposes in perpetuity. The Artist will be credited whenever their work is featured. These images will be utilised solely for marketing collateral, PR campaigns.

Access

Accessibility, diversity and inclusion are core values of the LFA at all levels of our organisation, and we are committed to delivering projects that are representative of the whole city and can be enjoyed by everyone. At the same time, we recognise that there are still significant barriers for groups in our society to be able to enjoy and participate in festival activity.

We are happy to provide extra support for those who need it with any resources or adjustments necessary, e.g. alternative document formats, interpreters, hybrid meetings. In the application form you will be asked how we can support you throughout the process; this will not influence your application.

Useful links

London Festival of Architecture

www.londonfestivalofarchitecture.org

Architecture LGBT+

www.architecturelgbt.com

Pride in London

www.prideinlondon.org

Contact

To submit your entry please go here; zealous.co

For general enquiries please contact: info@londonfestivalofarchitecture.org

Disclaimer

The competition organisers are not liable for lost, misdirected, or late entries. Decisions of the jury represent their professional judgments and all decisions are final. While it is the intent to construct the winning scheme, the organisers reserve the right to not proceed with construction for any reason. Material submitted by you shall be your sole responsibility, shall not infringe or violate the rights of any other party or violate any laws, contribute to or encourage infringing or otherwise unlawful conduct, or otherwise be obscene, objectionable, or in poor taste. By submitting such material, you are representing that you are the owner of such material and/or have all necessary rights, licenses, and authorization to distribute it.

Commissioning organisations



The London Festival of Architecture (LFA) is a month-long celebration of architecture and city-making, taking place every June across London. LFA's mission is to open up discussions around architecture, test new ideas and promote emerging talent. LFA brings together the public and built environment professionals for the whole month of June and seeks to inspire and engage our audience with a programme that showcases London as a global architecture hub. LFA is run by NLA, London's built environment community.

londonfestivalofarchitecture.org

Instagram: [@londonfestivalofarchitecture](https://www.instagram.com/londonfestivalofarchitecture)

X: [@LFArchitecture](https://twitter.com/LFArchitecture)

LinkedIn: [@LondonFestivalofArchitecture](https://www.linkedin.com/company/LondonFestivalofArchitecture)



Architecture LGBT+ is a UK-wide network for LGBTQIA+ people working and studying within the architecture profession. We build visibility, belonging and peer support, and advocate for a profession where LGBTQIA+ people can thrive at every stage of their careers. Volunteer-run and community-led, we work towards meaningful change in practice, education and professional life through networking events, learning, mentoring and role models.

architecturelgbt.com

Instagram: [@architecturelgbt](https://www.instagram.com/architecturelgbt)