



Bi+ Collective Australia

Media Release: For immediate release

8 September 2021

Largest Bisexual Event to be Held for Bi+ Visibility Day

Leading bi+ organisations around Australia will come together to launch this year's Stand Bi Us Forum. The forum runs from September 23-26 and builds on the success of the inaugural event last year.

Stand Bi Us celebrates Bi+ Visibility Day, which falls on September 23 each year.

'Visibility is important for raising awareness of the unique challenges bi+ people face and for dispelling harmful myths and stereotypes', said a spokesperson.

'We might be the often-erased "silent B" in the LGBTIQ+ acronym, but we are everywhere'.

The forum also provides a valuable opportunity for the bi+ community to build connections, share stories, and learn from one another.

The forum is free, almost entirely online, and open to bi+ people, wider LGBTIQ+ communities, and allies. Employees of LGBTIQ+ organisations or organisations working with bi+ people are encouraged to attend.

Sessions cover a range of topics, including a First Nations keynote, bi+ HIV prevention and healthcare, non-binary experiences, bi+ polyamory, bi+ erasure and self-care, bi+ writers, being older and bi+, intergenerational differences, bi+ inclusion, discussion groups on topics such as pets and games, bi+ nightlife, and a host of musical, storytelling, and poetry performances. There will also be online morning yoga sessions, a dinner, and a cocktail soirée. The final day includes an in-person picnic in Perth.

These sessions speak to the diversity within the bi+ community, which is growing in social recognition. However, the bi+ community remains relatively invisible compared to the gay and lesbian communities.

'We have more sponsors this year, demonstrating a greater awareness and real support for the bi+ community', said a spokesperson.

'This change has come about through years of incredible work by bi+ activists around the country, many of whom have helped organised this event'.

The forum has been organised by Bi+ Collective Australia, made up of BiCONIC, Bisexual Alliance Victoria (BAV), Bi+ Community Perth, Bi+SA, Bi Tasmania, Bi & Prejudice, Brisbane Bi+ Network, Melbourne Bisexual Network, and Sydney Bi+ Network.

Further details can be found on the event website: www.standbius.com

Contact: standbius@gmail.com | Phone: Anthony Lekkas on 0406 827 772.

Attachments: 1. Media release (PDF), 2. Dr Mandy Henningham (University of Sydney) – First Nations Keynote Speaker, 3. Dr Todd Fernando (Acting Victorian Commissioner for LGBTIQ+ Communities) – First Nations Keynote Speaker