



# Press Release

[www.ukblackpride.org](http://www.ukblackpride.org)

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UK Black Pride (UKBP) hosts its first annual Black Pride Festival on Saturday August 19, 2006 at Shoeburyness, Southend-On-Sea.

UK Black Pride was created out of the need to build awareness of and pride in the diversity of the Black lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community as well as to create a safe space for the BME community to celebrate their achievements and take pride in who they are.

When we think gay or lesbian we tend to think of gay and lesbian people as a whole and not the diverse cultures within it. But, since gay and lesbian people come from a variety of backgrounds and ethnic groups, being gay or lesbian is like being a part of a culture within a culture. These differences can pose unique challenges when addressing individual needs. And often times, gay and lesbian people feel they can better relate to other gays and lesbians in their ethnic groups.

Through empowerment workshops, social functions, community education and mobilization, advocacy, and other activities - UKBP fosters pride, empowerment, and a positive presence resulting in a strong community bond.

This enhances UKBP's ability to serve the needs of the community which includes elders, youth, young adults, allies, organisations and businesses affiliated with our community.

The festival will be a fun-filled and informative day on the beach front and will include Music, Dancers, Drag Artists, Beach Volleyball, Raffles, Steel Pan, an Exhibition, Mr & Miss Beach Competition, and more.

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