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A Multitude of Messages at CSW/L.A. Pride

Christopher Street West/L.A. Pride President Rodney Scott thinks roughly 400,000 people attended L.A. Pride last weekend. The fire marshals report this was the largest parade crowd they have ever seen. Additionally, there was a considerable diversity with people of all ages and ethnicities, clusters of groups and families, straight and LGBT. ?I?m thrilled, honored and humbled,? said Scott, ?and I was so moved.?

Additionally, there were new groups. ?Bank of American showed up in a big way,? said Scott. ?The employees said, ?We want to be part of this,? not the corporation. ?We want people to know we work here.?

While the huge contingents were hard to miss, there might have been some contingents and moments you might have missed. For instance, this year?s Moment of Silence at noon was dedicated to beloved straight ally Lt. James ?Jimmy? Farrell of the West Hollywood Sheriff?s Department. Farrell, who passed away on May 23 from leukemia, had managed Special Events in the city.

But riding in our midst was a true hero of the international fight for LGBTI rights, Julius Kaggwa of Uganda, who has been fighting the ?Kill the Gays? bill since 2010. He?s in the U.S. as part of his work with the American Jewish World Service. He is also attending the Trans-Health Conference in Philadelphia. It is also the 45th anniversary of the Metropolitan Community Church!

This year?s biggest expression of marriage equality featured straight ally Gloria Allred in a bridal gown with a drag queen friend?also in a bridal gown?as well as maids of honor and a cute little flower girl leading the way. While trans 11-year-old Zoey was honored with the Outstanding Youth Leader Award and more than 300 young people turned out for the GSA Network contingent!

Read the full article and see pictures of GSA Network at the parade:

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News Article
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