



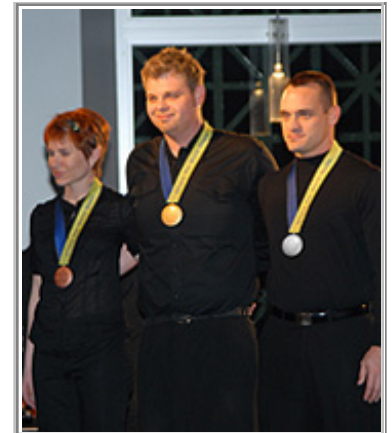
Chicago Unveils Medals for 2006 Gay Games

Official line of Gay Games fine jewelry now available online

Chicago, IL - The organizers of the 2006 Gay Games unveiled the gold, silver and bronze medals in a special ceremony in front of more than 1,000 people during the "Night of 100 Champions" gala held 22 April 2006 at Chicago's Soldier Field. Modeled by representatives of the Chicago Spirit Brigade, the medals were created by nationally acclaimed jewelry designer Lester Lampert Corporate, the official medallion creator and jeweler of the 2006 Gay Games.

In conjunction with the unveiling of the medals, Lester Lampert Corporate launched its exclusive line of official fine jewelry to commemorate the 2006 Gay Games. "With designs in silver and gold, many embellished with diamonds, these exclusive keepsakes will remind people of how the 2006 Gay Games were the experience of a lifetime," said Greg McNitt, Gay Games Board member and chair of the Ceremonies Committee.

The Lampert commemorative fine jewelry line is now available online. Visit <http://store.gaygameschicago.org> to purchase these designs and other commemorative Gay Games merchandise.



Gold, silver and bronze medals are awarded to Gay Games participants who perform best in their sports.

"We honor top achievement at the Gay Games," said McNitt. "However, the Gay Games was founded on the principles of participation, inclusion and personal best. Medals are also provided to every participant in our 30 sports and 4 core cultural events. In this way we honor all participants who will strive to do their personal best, even if they do not achieve one of the top spots in their event." Participant medals will feature the same design as the gold, silver and bronze medals but in a dark pewter color. An estimated 12,000 Participant Medals will be awarded to registered participants.

Lampert has created a custom display case to hold the Gay Games competition and participant medals. Those who pre-order the display case online can pick it up at participant accreditation starting 14 July 2006.

About Lester Lampert Corporate

Lester Lampert Corporate is a Chicago born and bred company with deep roots in serving the business community. The Lampert jewelry design firm began as a small manufacturing shop run by Lester Lampert's grandfather in 1920. One of the key elements that sets Lampert apart is their passion for design. Visit them online at www.llcd.com.

About Gay Games VII

Gay Games VII Sports and Cultural Festival will take place 15-22 July 2006. Over 12,000 athletes from more than 100 countries will compete in 30 sports ranging from softball to dancsport, swimming to tennis. The weeklong event will include band, cheerleading and color guard performances, chorus, an ancillary arts festival, and a series of community-organized social events and parties. The opening ceremony is scheduled for 15 July at Soldier Field, the lakefront home stadium of American-style football's Chicago Bears. Closing ceremony will be 22 July at Wrigley Field, the home of Major League Baseball's Chicago Cubs, located in the heart of Chicago's largest LGBT neighborhood.

Global sponsors of Gay Games VII include Lexiva; PlanetOut/Gay.com; Walgreen's; Q Television Network; Centaur Entertainment; Fleishman Hillard International Communications; Orbitz; McKnight Kurland Baccelli; The New York Times; Olivia Cruises & Resorts; Windy City Media Group; American Airlines; Athleticco; Chicago Free Press; Chicago Sun-Times; Genre; Girlfriends; Human Rights Campaign; Lambda Legal Defense; Sydney New Mardi Gras; Mate Magazine; Pink Magazine; and more than 180 business sponsors.

ChicagoPride.com is a proud All-Star Sponsor of the Chicago Gay Games.