When did the first Pride marches take place?
The first Pride marches, parades, and celebrations were held in June 1970 to mark the one-year anniversary of the 1969 uprising at the Stonewall Inn gay bar in Greenwich Village. They have been held annually ever since.

Where was the first Pride march held?
Contrary to popular belief, the first Pride march did not take place in New York City, but in Chicago. The Chicago march took place on Saturday, June 27, 1970, with between 150 and 200 people marching from the city’s Washington Square Park to Daley Plaza. New York City was second on Sunday, June 28, along with Los Angeles, where 1,200 marched down Hollywood Boulevard, and San Francisco, where approximately 30 people marched down Polk Street and a “Gay-In” gathering held in Golden Gate Park.

Who marched?
In addition to the individual LGBTQ people who had traveled from across the northeastern United States to participate, more than 20 organizations were represented at the march, including the Gay Activists Alliance, the Gay Liberation Front, the Mattachine Society of New York, the Daughters of Bilitis, the Lavender Menace, the Church of the Beloved Disciple, as well as student organizations from Yale. Rutgers, New York University, and Columbia University’s Student Homophile League, which was the first gay student organization in the U.S., founded in 1966.

How was the march documented?
The march attracted national media attention. It was recorded in numerous articles and photos, as well as in a short film by Lilli Vincenz and on an audio documentary record by Breek Ardrey. Both works are titled Gay and Proud and are available online.

How many Pride marches, parades, and other celebrations are now held each year?
Millions of LGBTQ people participate in more than 300 parades, protest marches, and celebrations to mark the anniversary of the Stonewall uprising in towns and cities in over 60 countries around the world, from New York City and Sarajevo to Mumbai and Mexico City.

When did the resolution say?
No, there had been several protests, both organized and spontaneous, in the decade prior to Stonewall. These included a 1966 uprising by drag queens and trans women against the police at Compton’s Cafeteria in San Francisco and the Annual Reminders, a series of demonstrations held every July 4 from 1965 through 1969 at Independence Hall in Philadelphia. During these pickets, a few dozen well-dressed gay and lesbian protestors carried signs with messages that were meant to remind the American people that homosexuals still lacked basic rights.

Who marched?
Gay rights activist Craig Rodwell came up with the idea for the march while he was a student at the University of Michigan, where he became active in New York City’s “homophile” movement in the 1960s. Craig originated the idea for the Annual Reminders, and in 1967 he opened the Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop, the first gay and lesbian-focused bookstore in the world, in Greenwich Village.

What did the resolution say?
Gay rights activist Craig Rodwell came up with the idea for the first Pride march in 1969 while he was a student at the University of Michigan. After attending the Annual Reminder on July 4, 1969, just a few days after the Stonewall uprising—in which Craig had participated—he began thinking about organizing a “gay holiday” as a way to channel the explosive energy released at Stonewall. He shared the idea with his boyfriend, Fred Sargeant, and together they shared it with their friends Ellen Broidy, Arlene Kushner, and Linda Rhodes, members of the University Lesbian and Gay Student Union.

How was the march documented?

Through thousands of photographs, letters, interviews, and recorded audio and video documentation, this oral history project captures the centennial of the Stonewall uprising. The Stonewall Project, a collaboration of historians, archivists, artists, performance makers, and educators, preserves these stories and artifacts for posterity.

Thousands of Homosexuals Hold A Protest Rally in Central Park

Lacey Foburg

Thousands of gay men and Sheridan Square before marches
women homosexuals from all over the Northeast marched from Greenwich Village to the park, described as a “gay-in,” Sheep Meadow in Central Park yesterday, proclaiming equal rights to hold the pickets described as a “gay-in,” Sheep Meadow in Central Park one of yesterday’s picketing. Alderman Rodwell, who is in the group of the organizers added a new militancy in the fight for gay rights. The organizers added a new militancy of the fight for gay rights.

What did the resolution say?
What the resolution said, in order to be more relevant, reach a greater number of people, and encompass the ideas and ideals of the groups, it’s clear that the resolution for the right to assemble in public places and the right to march in public places and the right to be heard and be seen, and the right to be free from discrimination based on sexual orientation, shall be protected by law.

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Why was the march called the Christopher Street Liberation Day March rather than the Stonewall Anniversary March?
The organizers chose to leave “Stonewall” out of the name and how many participated?
On the morning of Sunday, June 28, 1970, hundreds of protestors carried signs with messages that were meant to remind the American people that homosexuals still lacked basic rights.

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