

q forum: **BISEXUAL COMMUNITY**

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 LGBTQIA+ 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 LGBTQIA+ communities, and allies. Employees of LGBTQIA+ 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 soiree. 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