**CU Pride Announces LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference, 2nd Annual Virtual CU Pride Event**

***Credit Unions Get Inclusive for Pride Month***

CU Pride, the LGBTQ+ association for the credit union industry, announces its first CU Pride Leadership Conference in June. The Conference will explore the essential topics for credit unions surrounding the LGBTQ+ community and allies and bring together subject matter experts to support credit unions and their teams. The conference will continue to highlight CU Pride’s purpose to provide education, networking and safe discussions. “The pandemic inspired CU Pride to embrace the virtual world and what better time to build leadership on LGBTQ+ topics for credit union professionals than Pride Month,” said Zach Christensen CU Pride co-founder and director at Mitchell, Stankovic & Associates.

The CU Pride Leadership 2021 conference will cover topics about Mental Health, HR & Governance, Inclusive Marketing & Member Engagement and Living Your Authentic Self with experts from the LGBTQ+ credit union community and its allies to include:

* Liz Garster, VP of Marketing & Client Services at Two Score
* Zach Garster, Design Maestro at gira{ph}
* Sam Jensen, Organizational Development Trainer at Blue FCU
* Monica Jayne, Trailblazer at Unabashed Badassery
* Jackie Martinez-Vasquez, VP of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion at BECU
* Richard Cooper, EVP at Santa Cruz Community CU

“A driving force and one of CU Pride’s tenets is education. This conference will give individuals and organizations tactical skills to build inclusion for both their employees and their members,” CU Solutions Group CSO/COO Brandi Stankovic said. The conference sessions will be held live the first four Wednesdays of June from 9-10 am PT. Registration for the conference includes organizational access and will be available for registered attendees to view post-conference. [Click here to register today!](https://cusolutionsgroup.podia.com/cupride-lgbtq-leadership)

The conference will conclude with the 2nd Annual Virtual CU Pride Event, a mix of learning, camaraderie and celebration on Friday, June 25th at 11:00 am PT. “We officially launched with our Virtual CU Pride Event last year and are excited to have a 2nd Annual event in 2021. We hope all can join us to celebrate,” said Linda Bodie, CEO of Element FCU. Registration for the Virtual CU Pride Event is free, [click here to sign up.](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZ0od-mrrDstGtx1H2QyAp-59wjN6J4vFaWj)

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Originally launched in Washington DC on February 25th as a #MeetUp of Mitchell Stankovic’s Underground Collision RAW, CU Pride has become a formal association focused on driving vulnerable collaboration and inclusion of the credit union LGBTQ+ community and the LGBTQ+ members they serve. CU Pride is an important component of all diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives and sits on the governing board of the CU DEI Collective.

Realizing the unique challenges of the LGBTQ+ community and the need to provide a voice for acceptance, inclusion and conversation, CU Pride was founded with diversity in mind, by Linda Bodie, Element FCU CEO, Mitchell Stankovic Communications Director, Zach Christensen, Corelation Conversion Strategist, Daniel Marquez and CU Solutions Group Chief Strategy Officer and COO Brandi Stankovic, with Mitchell Stankovic CEO Sue Mitchell advising.

To get involved and stay up to date with CU Pride, [click here and learn more](https://www.cupride.org/).