5. Gay Travel and Entertainment

This grouping of endorsements represents the businesses, organizations, associations, and reoccurring events that are part of the vast category of the travel and entertainment industry that serves the Gay Community.

As an important extension to the area of business and commerce, tourism and entertainment targeting the Gay Community has made a huge impact on local and national economies around the world, while offering unique opportunities for the community to be united and celebrated. The International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association (IGLTA) serves as a focal point for the gay travel industry with chapters in 87 countries worldwide, while national organizations including Travel Gay Canada, Brazilian Gay & Lesbian Travel Association, Tagum City Gay Association, Netherlands Board of Tourism & Conventions and VisitSweden work to promote domestic tourism.

InterPride is the international association of over 170 pride events working to eradicate homophobia at the local and national level, and the World Outgames is one of the largest international sporting events for the Gay Community, taking place every four years in different countries.

As of this writing, dotgay LLC has received 31 endorsements from the gay travel and entertainment segment, which represents community members identifying as male or female homosexuals, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex and ally.
January 24, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration of the application by dotgay LLC to secure and create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

The International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association (IGLTA) is the leading global organization dedicated to connecting businesses in the LGBT tourism industry. Founded in 1983, IGLTA members are in 87 countries and include all areas of travel/tourism as well as media outlets. We are uniquely qualified to address this proposed TLD because of our global reach with staff & representatives in 18 countries, and partnerships with other international organizations, reaching the gay consumer.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

IGLTA supports the community based model presented by dotgay LLC. IGLTA acknowledges dotgay LLC’s CEO SPI Marketing’s Scott Seitz for their abilities and over 15 years of experience in the LGBT community. We support SPI/dotgay LLC in creating a business model with the community in mind. We believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals. We firmly believe and trust that dotgay LLC will contribute 67% of any potential profits back into the LGBT community, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

John Tanzella
President/CEO

1201 NE 26th Street; Suite 103; Fort Lauderdale, FL (USA) 33305   www.iglta.org
Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

InterPride is the international association of over 170 organizations that produce Pride Events around the world. Our member organizations are dedicated to producing Pride events for the global Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex (LGBTI) community.

Any initiative therefore that has the potential of eradicating homophobia and showing that the LGBTI community is a real and integral part of all communities world-wide is important to us and will always gain our total support. We believe this initiative certainly fall into this category.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow.

As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

On behalf of our member organizations we ask you give this proposal serious consideration.

Sincerely,

Mark Frederick Chapman  
Co-President

Trisha Clymore  
Co-President

Mark Frederick Chapman  
Co-President

Trisha Clymore  
Co-President
July 8, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Travel Gay Canada (TGC) is a membership based not-for-profit association of tourism-related businesses and organizations. TGC works with the community, destinations, government and the tourism industry across Canada to develop a sustainable network of tourism products and services to meet the demands and expectations of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) travel market. Our membership, comprised of travel-related businesses from coast to coast, look to TGC as the LGBT travel industry association for Canada.

TGC believes that the .gay TLD will assist in creating a network that will provide improved access to support and ability to share information. This will benefit TGC’s members as it will give them greater reach not only nationally but internationally. The .gay TDL will enhance our abilities to serve the LGBT market more effectively and efficiently. We are confident that the model presented by dotgay LLC will also greatly strengthen the LGBT community by contributing 67% of profits back into the community.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,

Darrell Schuurman
President, Travel Gay Canada
Sao Paulo, 4 July 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

The Brazilian Gay & Lesbian Travel Association (ABRAT GLS) was founded in June 2004 with the main objective to promote commercial exchanges, tourism and leisure for the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender in Brazil as a means of deepening social inclusion and fighting prejudice and discrimination. Our association offers all assistance needed to those interested in providing services to LGBT tourists, especially through the organization of conferences, fairs, meetings, and workshops, as well through the exchange of experiences and information between the associates. ABRAT GLS is a non-profit organization aware of its role in society, promoting benefit events and organizing a food bank. The association also contributes financial and logistically to the organization of foreign journalist and LGBT tourist professional delegations when visiting Brazil.

Nowadays our membership has grown to more than 140 members from all sectors of the tourism trade, from Brazil and neighboring countries.

We believe that .gay would be of great help for those working with the LGBT segment, be it commercial enterprises or non-profit organizations like ours, as it will give our community a greater visibility.

ABRAT GLS supports the community-based model presented by dotgay LLC, including the commitment to contribute 67% of any potential domain sale profits back into the LGBT community.

ABRAT GLS acknowledges dotgay LLC’s CEO Scott Seitz for his abilities and over 15 years of experience in the LGBT community. We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

Marta Dalla Chiesa
Director for International Relations
Brazilian Gay & Lesbian Travel Association (ABRAT GLS)

ABRAT GLS
Confederação Nacional do Turismo
Largo do Arouche, 290 - 9ºandar -República
CEP: 01219-000 - São Paulo/SP
18 October 2011

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

This is to inform you that our organization is very eager to extend its support for dotgay LLC to create the proposed .gay top-level domain (TLD).

Our association is duly registered under the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission and we are also an attached organization with the Tagum City Tourism Council in the promotion and marketing of tourism products in Southern Philippines.

One of the featured programs we have implemented is the festival celebration of freedom and choice through the BINUHAT Festival, Philippines’ Biggest Gay Festival celebrated the whole of week every 3rd week of July of each year.

Also the association implemented a community service program such as free hair-cutting, literacy program and HIV campaign for a healthy community.

These are few of the programs that had been done by the association.

We hope this endorsement for dotgay LLC may serve favorable to your support to your undertakings. Mabuhay!

Sincerely yours,

LUCIO B. JAMERO, JR. (Jun)
Executive Director
Tagum City Gay Association

Noted:

DARWIN F. SUYAT, MA
President & Chief Executive Officer
Tagum City Gay Association
Antwerp, 16th November 2011.

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .GAY top-level-domain (TLD).

As organizers of the World Outgames 2013 we believe truly that quality in life and within organizations in general is essential. Especially regarding the GLBT-community, which is still in a lot of countries not accepted.

Negative use of the .GAY TLD emphasises the existing prejudice. This we want to avoid by supporting the fact that .GAY stands for quality and honesty.

The used term for our community at our organization in GLBT. Why then do we support .GAY? One of the mean reasons is the fact that the word gay is generally known to the majority of people. Gay could serve as an umbrella term for the GLBT community.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .GAY with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Best regards,

Jeroen C.F. van Bergen

CEO worldOutgames 2013

World Outgames Antwerpen 2013 vzw
Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

We are pleased to write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration for promoting the .gay top-level domain (TLD).

The Netherlands Board of Tourism & Conventions (NBTC) is the organization responsible for promoting the Netherlands abroad as a destination for leisure travel, corporate meetings and conventions. Part of our activities in North America are directed towards the LGBT community.

For gays and lesbians, Amsterdam is one of the most attractive cities in Europe. Nowhere in the world you will find so many gay attractions per square meter as in the city centre of Amsterdam. The street parties, club events and exhibitions of the Amsterdam Pride, draw more than 350,000 participants and visitors each year.

Being able to incorporate the .gay domain into our online portfolio will not only enhance our efforts to reach and inform the LGBT community worldwide, but it will also put our stamp on The Netherlands being a destination that welcomes the LGBT community.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

We would like to express our support to ICANN.

Sincerely yours,
Netherlands Board of Tourism & Conventions

Conrad van Tiggelen
Director North America
May 17, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

VisitSweden.com is Sweden’s official travel and tourist information web site. VisitSweden.com is part of Sweden.se - the official portal for general information about Sweden. VisitSweden is one of five Swedish organizations with overall responsibility for providing information about Sweden to other countries. The other organizations are Invest in Sweden Agency, the Swedish Government Offices including the Foreign Ministry, the Swedish Institute and the Swedish Trade Council.

The gay and lesbian scene in Stockholm is like the city itself: warm, open-minded and welcoming, easily accessible and fun. The Pride festival, held every year in July, is the highlight of the year in the gay calendar and although there is no center of gay life in Stockholm there are many gay and gay-friendly clubs, bars, restaurants and other establishments to enjoy. Being able to incorporate the .gay domain into our online portfolio will not only enhance our efforts to reach and inform the LGBT community worldwide, but it will also put our stamp on Sweden being a destination that welcomes the LGBT community.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN's insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,

Magnus Lindbergh
Head of LGBT Marketing USA
VisitSweden USA
655 Third Avenue
New York NY, 10017
www.visitsweden.com/gaytravel
April 2, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush and Members of the ICANN Board,

GALA Choruses wishes to indicate its strongest support of ICANN’S consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD). GALA is an international association of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender choruses with over 170 member choruses comprising over 8,000 singers. GALA member choruses can be found in the U.S., Canada, Europe, South America and Australia. Through our concert performances and recordings we reach millions of individuals each year.

One of the most valuable services GALA Choruses provides to its members is a sense of belonging to a worldwide choral movement committed to using music to promote social change. Nothing could be more helpful in this effort than to have a visible symbol of that connection through the availability of a .gay TLD.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. Our movement, which began in the 1980’s continues to grow and thrive and has grown from having choruses in a handful major metropolitan areas to today where there is at least one chorus in nearly every state in the U.S. and many more in most. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Jeffrey A. Ayres

President, GALA Choruses

PO Box 99998, Pittsburgh, PA 15233

www.galachoruses.org
Prague, 30 May 2012

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Prague Pride is a non-profit organisation, which last year organized the very first Pride event in the Czech capital. It was a full week event attended by over 25,000 people. Currently we are busy organising this year’s event, which is expected to be the largest human rights manifestation in the Czech Republic for the second year in a row.

We support the .gay TLD, as it will increase the visibility of the gay community on the internet, just like the rainbow flag is doing all over the world. Our organisation could benefit from its use, making our website even more recognisable and a part of a worldwide community.

The term GAY is the most recognisable option, used in frases like “gay pride,” “gay marriage”, “gay rights,” “gay media,” “openly gay”. It is a term which is understood all over the world, whereas LGBT+ often needs explanation.

Sincerely,

Willem van der Bas

Foreign Affairs
Prague Pride 2012

willem@praguepride.com
tel. +420 73 22 77 104

Prubezna 4
100 00 Praha 10
The Czech Republic
15 April 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we of the Singapore Pride Season write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Since British colonisation, homosexuality remains illegal in Singapore. IndigNation is the LGBT Pride season in Singapore, reaffirming our participation in the intellectual and cultural life of this country, reminding all that we are as much a part of Singapore as anyone else. The organisers are motivated by a belief that however difficult, progress is possible. We are not passive victims of ignorance and prejudice in an unchanging landscape. We are active citizens playing our part in making Singapore a better place.

The first season was in 2005. This year, 2011, will be our seventh annual season.

Each event is separately organised by different people, who as a gesture of solidarity, are contributing their events to the joint calendar.

It is never easy organising gay-related events in Singapore. Many kinds of events require licences from various government departments, which tend to react with suspicion towards anything that is gay-themed. Even when licences are given, past experience has shown that intimidatory tactics from the police can still be expected.

Outdoor events such as parades, a common feature of pride festivals in other countries, are virtually impossible since the authorities have a habit of refusing to issue licences.

Funding is another area affected by the political climate; hence the organisers are particularly grateful to those who have bravely stepped forward with sponsorships.

Similarly, as others have contributed to our cause, it is our duty to return to the international communities of LGBT people, especially the people of different colours and creeds, that this initiative of securing a .gay TLD would enhance the knowledge and lives of LGBT people worldwide.

Not only will this little pledge of your commitment allow international communities to be aware of the struggles and pride we have in this country, but it will also change the lives of people in achieving security and equality for our gay brothers in prison and our sisters without wedlock.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Yours sincerely,

Jun Zubillaga-Pow
Director of IndigNation: Singapore Pride Season
www.indignationsg.wordpress.com
junzpow@gmail.com
04 September 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Dr. Crocker and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level domain (TLD).

SGRainbow is an activities-based organisation for young gay and bisexual men in Singapore. Our website is currently hosted on Blogspot and we have about 1,000 unique views per day. This number is crucial to us as we are still in our 3rd year and are looking for possible ways to develop the website’s potential as much as possible.

With the introduction of .gay TLD, it will be clear to our audience that the website has its exclusivity and relevance to the community. Ultimately, this will benefit SGRainbow in the long run.

The term GAY is the most accepted amongst all other possible terms hence the suitability for a TLD. It will also avoid any unnecessary confusion with mainstream Internet users. With the growth of the LGBT community locally and internationally, it will definitely be a milestone worth looking forward to.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

May the rainbow be with us!

Yours Sincerely,

Muhammad Hafiz
Marketing & Creative Senior Executive
SGRainbow
hafiz.sgrainbow@gmail.com
8th of September 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN's consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

PRANA Tourism is a travel and tourism agency that from its beginnings has been dedicated to the growth of the emissive and receptive market. Developing networks and promoting Argentina as a destination in which international markets can find diversity in tourist, cultural and recreational activities, among others. Content, quality and attention are key elements which we manage to offer with our services. Our clients are not only Argentinean, but North American, British, French, Icelandic, German, Dutch, among others.

We believe that we will be greatly advantaged by .gay by reaching a wider scope of clientele, introducing the LGBT community to a reliable source, which strengthens the growth of the community on an international level. The LGBT community is a strong market in Argentina which requires genuine attention in which we are confident in providing and in turn allows us to amplify on our membership of clientele.

Community is defined as a body of persons having a common history or common social, economic, and political interests and it is our belief that .gay will serve and benefit the LGBT community. As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. ICANN's insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

Mabel Rodríguez
CEO, Founder & Partner
Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Dr. Crocker and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed dot-gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Excellent-Journey Bhutan is a registered tour operator in the tiny Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan. We are considered the premier provider of travel services to our landlocked state, situated between China and India, with a deep tradition that has guided LGBT travellers throughout the rugged terrain of Bhutan for many years. Services offered included organized and educational tours, treks, hikes, pilgrimage of Buddhism and bird watching, as well as the growing demand for Eco-tourism. Excellent-Journey Bhutan is registered under the Tourism Council Board, Government of Bhutan in South Asia.

There is still much taboo around homosexuality in Bhutan; however the good natured, friendly and fun loving people of our country have welcomed our LGBT tourist groups. As tourism to the wide variety of geographical offerings in our country expands, so are the attitudes and acceptance of the LGBT. As our business grows, so does awareness. We believe that dot-gay will not only create a platform to help tourism in Bhutan grow, but it will also help the global LGBT community to have an organized voice.

We support dot-gay LLC in creating a business model for dot-.gay with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD. My tour web site is: www.ejourneybhutan.com and details are there.

Sincerely,

Nar Bahadur Rai,
Chief Executive Officer,
Excellent-Journey Bhutan,
Norzin Lam, Po Box. 407,
GPO: THIMPHU,
Himalayan Kingdom of Bhutan,
South Asia.
3/25/11

To Whom It May Concern:

It's my pleasure to send you this letter of endorsement for dotgay LLC on behalf of Outfest.

Outfest has been a leader in capturing LGBT film history and in showcasing filmmakers who internationally often do not have the ability to bring their creations to the screen. We are excited to present this letter of support of ICANN's consideration of the application by dotgay LLC to secure and create the proposed .GAY Top-Level-Domain (TLD).

Outfest stewards the largest collection of LGBT media in the world, through our Legacy Project...a collaboration with the UCLA Film & Television Archive. We communicate with hundreds of LGBT artists and festivals worldwide who would someday be interested in using this TLD to promote their work.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD's like .GAY will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN's insight to the importance of the .GAY TLD is a valuable one. .GAY will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Outfest supports the community based model presented by dotgay LLC as an important step in networking our community art, history, business and social resources. Outfest has had the opportunity to work with the owners of dotgay LLC and acknowledges their abilities and over 15 years of experience in the LGBT community. We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model with the community in mind. We believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals. We firmly believe and trust that dotgay LLC will contribute 67% of any potential profits back into the LGBT community, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

Kevin Connell
Director of Corporate Relations and Strategic Partnerships
Sunday, June 5, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board:

Reel Affirmations, Washington, DC’s International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival is pleased to offer its enthusiastic support of the creation of the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD) and we strongly encourage ICANN’s consideration and support of this.

Reel Affirmations is among the top gay and lesbian film festivals in the world and we regularly rank among the top five festivals in the USA. Our patrons and supporters, who number more than 30,000 are primarily located throughout Metropolitan Washington, DC and up and down the East Coast of the USA. In addition to the 30 day film festival which we conduct each October, Reel Affirmations is also responsible for a monthly screening series called RA Xtra, as well as collaborative film programs conducted with the DC Shorts Film Festival, the Atlas Center for the Arts and Hillwood Museum and Gardens.

We are excited about the prospects of having .gay TLD created as it will certainly assist in our ability to market to an audience that actively seeks out programs for a gay and lesbian audience. It will allow us to identify Reel Affirmations as a significant event in within the gay culture and be easy to find with search engines. It will allow the LGBT community which we serve to have an significant portion of the web dedicated to their needs and resources. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of LGBT service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

The opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only the history of our community alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the technological landscapes change so quickly and continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight and support of the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one.

We appreciate your time and consideration and hope that we can count on your support of this important new TLD for the LGBT community around the world.

Sincerely,

Larry Guillemette
Chairman
Reel Affirmations – Washington, DC’s International LGBT Film Festival

Join us October 13 – 22, 2011 for our 20th Anniversary Film Festival
www.reelaffirmations.org
Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

BUEGay Argentina was founded in 2001 with a staff of experienced tourism professionals in the local and the international tourism market, in order to complete our tourism services and packages with this “Gay Argentina Added Value”. BUEGay Argentina goal is to promote tourism and culture for GAYs and LESBIANs that day after day need more benefits and better services. We have developed a Gay Data Base that meet all your requirements including different tourist circuits and itineraries in Argentina and in Latin America. All our services includes a GAY or LESBIAN escort. Finally, BUEGay Argentina offers its customers all the information, about the local gay life in all destinations in order to cover their needs. We have joined the IGLTA, the International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association, in 2002 and in 2007 we were named as IGLTA Representative to Argentina and Uruguay.

The possibility of having a .gay TLD will let us increase all GLBT business and identify them it among other business companies. Not only our Company will be benefit, but all related organizations and associations in Argentina or Uruguay will have the same benefit. We strongly support .gay TLD as we understand that the GLBT business is increasing all over the world and this is being recognized by the most prestigious financial reporters.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,

Alfredo Ferreyra
Lcdo. Alfredo H. C. Ferreyra
BUEGay Argentina - Gay Argentina
BUERental Argentina - Vacation Apartments Rental
IGLTA Representative to Argentina and Uruguay
Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Exclusively Pride is a recently established company specialising in tailor made travel for the gay and lesbian market to world wide destinations. Our clients are predominantly gay professionals in the 40+ segment.

We are very excited hearing about the initiative of ICANN applying for the .gay top-level-domain. The gay market is not just a segment, but a market on itself. Companies operating in this field, would highly benefit from having a .gay domain name as this would strengthen their product and attract much easier the target group. Exclusively Pride is a luxury brand and we have chosen not to add the word Gay to our name, which makes marketing to the gay community much more of a challenge. It would be much easier if we could have a .gay domain name so our target market would notice straight away.

We are supporting the ICANN’s initiative as with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,

Gerla Pusey-de Boer

Exclusively Pride
June 20, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Axel Hotels belongs to the Axel Corp., a business group whose activities are focused on companies with gay interests and the gay community itself. Axel Hotels are urban design hotels with a focus on the gay community, where we create a free and tolerant society, where diversity and respect are valued. Axel Hotels’ uniqueness and heterofriendly philosophy represents our liberal, tolerant and cosmopolitan atmosphere. Axel Hotels have properties in Argentina, Germany and Spain, with an expansion phase currently underway in major cities on five continents.

The objective of Axel Corp. is to become the global leader in business groups providing specifically for the gay community, with a range of high-quality services and products that are designed, developed and tailored to this group, always maintaining a sense of diversity and respect towards the community to which we belong. We believe that .gay will be a vehicle for development in the gay community and guide development under principles consistent with diversity and respect.

Axel Hotels supports the community-based model presented by dotgay LLC, including the commitment to contribute 67% of any potential domain sale profits back into the LGBT community. Axel Hotels acknowledges dotgay LLC’s CEO Scott Seitz for his abilities and over 15 years of experience in the LGBT community.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

Silvia Pérez – Marketing Manager
AXEL HOTELS
June 3rd, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Alpenglow Production produces a variety of festivals and special events throughout the year primarily in Western Canada as well as abroad. Each year we attract over 3,000 participants from all over the world and our eNews reaches an audience of approximately 10,000.

Having a TLD .gay would make it more intuitive to some of our special events, festivals and projects. It would also allow us align some of our existing mainstream URL’s that have LGBT content specific to the company’s URL but with the TLD .gay as part of our overall diversity strategy.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Warm regards,

[Signature]
Dean Nelson
CEO, Executive Producer
Alpenglow Productions dba GayWhistler’s WinterPRIDE
Cancún Mexico May 18, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

GaytoursMexico by MMT is a gay-owned Tour Operator catering to the gay and lesbian clientele in the famous Maya region of Mexico and Central America. We are specialized in custom made tours and beach vacations along the Mexican Caribbean Coast. We were the first IGLTA member in Mexico and since 2007 we are the national IGLTA representative in Mexico.

Openly support this project, since it allow us to market directly to our customers, possess and to dignify this niche market in our country, Mexico, the couple can be closer to the location in social networks, alternative browsers, etc...

For us it represents hope, dignity, opportunities to be valued not only as part of economic development, chambers of commerce of our country would openly gay community is organized, highly productive, is worthy of equal treatment, allow the opening commercial awareness, approach and business growth would be significant, that is why for us this project is much more than a hope.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

Francisco Aguilera
Product Manager
Gaytoursmexico by MMT
April 27, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

I am the president of Out on the Water Sailing, Inc., an LGBT friendly sailing company that is based in NYC and sails in the Hudson River, New England, and does adventure destination charters throughout the world. We are gay owned and operated.

I believe that .gay TLD could help support our enterprise, distinguish its gay affiliation, and more easily bring gay sailors of all levels together. While right now there are search tags that help gay owned businesses and organizations gain the traffic that they need to stay alive, having a .gay domain would certainly help increase their strength and continue to unite this very strong community.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,

Chris Bartick
President
Out on the Water Sailing, Inc.
March 28, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,
RE: Letter of Support

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

The Cabbagetown Group Softball League (CGSL) is the longest running gay organized sporting group in Toronto. We have a membership with over 350 players consisting of LGBT and straight since we do not discriminate. We reach across all of Toronto and surrounding cities. In 2011 CGSL will be hosting our 30th Annual Canada Cup Tournament. City’s that have previously attended Canada Cup were: Montreal, Vancouver, Ottawa, New York, Pittsburg, Florida, Portland, Seattle, San Francisco, Milwaukee, Memphis, Houston, Boston and Atlanta and anywhere in between.

The .gay TLD shows strength and support not only in our own cities and States/Provinces but across borders and countries as well. The CGSL feels that .gay TLD and any sports or community related programs show support to young people who are finding themselves, that they do belong in this world and that they do have a purpose. With .gay TLD it strengthens this statement.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,

John Hunking
Commissioner - CGSL

617 Yonge Street, P.O. Box 50 Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1Z5
www.cglssoftball.com
March 30, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Gay Days, Inc. is one of the top GLBT vacation planners in the world. We produce Gay Days Orlando each June and starting in September of 2012, we will produce an annual Gay Days Las Vegas.

Having a .com web address will only increase the exposure of companies such as mine.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even businesses grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,

Chris Alexander-Manley, President
GAY DAYS®, Inc.
d.b.a. GayDayS.com, GirlsAtGayDayS.com, GayOrlando.com, GayFlorida.com
P.O. Box 796
Gotha, FL 34734
407.896.8431 • fax 407.897.1187
chris@GayDayS.com

“GAY DAYS® is the registered trademark of Gay Days, Inc. Use only under license and with permission. All rights reserved.”
March 4, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that I write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

I am Co-Founder of OUT Adventures, an industry leading, award winning Tour Operator specializing in adventure travel within the lgbt market. We currently operate in 18 countries around the world with clients in over 20. This makes the .gay TLD of significant interest to us. With this unique TLD we will be able to reach out to our community on a global level and become part of a resource base which will surely be used by men and women around the world.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,

Robert Sharp
Founder
OUT Adventures Inc.
Monday March 28, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board:

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Since 1998, I have run Mark Nelson Enterprises LLC & created Out In Events LLC in 2008 to coordinate national and international events for the LGBTI Community

As a business, .gay will index us in a way where individuals can find us easier and clarify we represent business opportunities for the LGBTI.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,

Mark E. Nelson
Mark Nelson Enterprises Inc.
237 West 20th Street
NYC NY 10011
April 15, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

I am the founder and president of 14 Stories, the first company in the U.S. specializing in planning legal same-sex weddings. We have worked with hundreds of couples from 29 states to plan amazing weddings. I am the author of the book *Gay Wedding Confidential* as well as the app of the same name. The app is the nation’s first app specifically for gay wedding planning. My company routinely trains wedding professionals from around the world on the nuances of same-sex weddings.

I am wholeheartedly in support of the .gay TLD. The world is a very heterosexual place and members of the LGBT community largely prefer to support gay-owned businesses and businesses that market specifically to them and understand their unique needs. The .gay TLD allows for LGBT individuals and couples to feel supported and to build community.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Very truly yours,

Bernadette Coveney Smith
President
14 Stories
Scott Seitz  
SPI Marketing LLC

Philly Pride Presents, Inc., is the gay pride organization for Philadelphia and the Delaware Valley area. We produce two yearly events: PrideDay, the gay pride parade and festival the second Sunday of June, and Outfest, the National Coming Out Day Blockparty, the Sunday before Columbus Day. These are the two biggest events of the year for the Philadelphia gay community, and are its premier networking days. As a matter of fact, Outfest is the largest NCOD event in the world.

We are thrilled that SPI Marketing will be taking a leadership role in dotGAY LLC and we are thrilled with the prospect of a creation of a .gay domain name. We heartedly endorse your efforts in this regard. How exciting that a gay owned and operated business will be doing this! We look forward to being the FIRST to change our domain name from phillypride.org to phillypride.gay. The Philadelphia gay pride organization has a string of "firsts" to our credit and we are proud of our innovations in many areas of the Philadelphia gay community and our fellow gay pride organizations. This would be another tremendous achievement. Make sure we are the first!

Good luck in all your endeavors. And thank you from the Philadelphia gay pride organization.

Charles Volz  
Senior Advisor  
Philly Pride Presents, Inc.
April 20, 2011

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .gay top-level-domain (TLD).

Queertrip.com is an online LGBT travel agency. We are a small business with very few employees, but hope to grow as the world becomes more familiar with the LGBT community.

Queertrip.com is gay owned and operated and gives back a portion of every booking made online to LGBT charities in the Los Angeles community.

We strongly support the .GAY proposal as we feel this would help create an organized community for the LGBT internet user.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .gay will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .gay TLD is a valuable one. .gay will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

Sincerely,

Jeremy Bryant
CEO
Queertrip.com
March 3, 2010

Dear Mr. Beckstrom, Mr. Dengate-Thrush, and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration of the application by dotGAY LLC and SPI Marketing LLC to secure and create the proposed .GAY Top-Level-Domain (TLD).

Since the Imperial Court of New York has been dedicated to raising money for LGBT direct service groups and HIV/AIDS direct service groups for over 24 years, we are uniquely qualified to address this proposed TLD. We are part of the International Court System, the second largest LGBT fundraising organization in the United States.

As with many communities, the opportunity to share information is critical to keeping not only our history alive, but also in assisting individuals, cities and even countries grow. As the media landscape changes and technologies continue to amaze us, the Internet and new TLD’s like .GAY will lend strong support to link LGBT people and resources. ICANN’s insight to the importance of the .GAY TLD is a valuable one. .GAY will help integrate our community building and networking and will provide strong support of our service organizations and businesses through a common platform.

The Imperial Court of New York supports the community based model presented by dotGAY LLC and SPI Marketing/PRIDELife. This year we are honoring SPI Marketing with our Community Spirit Award for their years of loyalty and support to our mission as a 501(c) 3 non-profit organization and we acknowledge SPI Marketing for their abilities and over 15 years of experience in the LGBT community. We support SPI in creating a business model with the community in mind. We believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals. We firmly believe and trust that dotGAY LLC and SPI Marketing will contribute 67% of any potential profits back into the LGBT community, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

Gary F. Cosgrove
President, Board of Directors,
Imperial Court of New York, Inc.
A 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization
Home: (973) 458-1640
Cell: (201) 486-0626
visit our website: www.icny.org
May 29, 2012

Dear Dr. Crocker, Mr. Beckstrom and Members of the ICANN Board,

It is with great enthusiasm that we write this note in support of ICANN’s consideration to create the proposed .GAY top-level-domain (TLD) under the dotgay LLC model.

mygayxperience.com is one of the largest tour operators in Greece catering to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community. Our mission is to make every visitor’s holiday experience unique so that it can be shared with the world as “my gay xperience,” wherever that destination may be. mygayxperience.com provides travel services for LGBT community worldwide, starting with the research process through until your safe return back home.

The LGBT travel industry attracts approximately 1.6 billion and 1.8 million visitors to our country on a yearly basis (based on a study of Greek Tourism Basics Figures 2011) and we are very excited about the new possibilities and tourism revenue that the .GAY domain will create. Our position is that a .GAY TLD could greatly enhance and improve our country’s existing LGBT travel and tourism marketing efforts and continue to highlight our countries efforts to support LGBT rights and equality.

It is also important to reinforce that the word GAY is the most suitable choice for the TLD that will represent our community, as it is the most globally accepted, acknowledged and understood term.

We support dotgay LLC in creating a business model for .GAY with the community in mind and believe this model will receive strong support of the LGBT service and non-profit community, business community, advertisers and media, and many individuals, thus creating a strong new TLD.

Sincerely,

Orhideea Rosu
Contracting, Sales & Operations Manager
mygayxperience.com
orhideea@mygayxperience.com
26, Chomatianou Street | Athens Greece 10439