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For Immediate Release

Pride Toronto named Best Festival in Canada

TORONTO, April 12, 2005 — Pride Toronto was awarded the Best Festival in Canada title at the 8th Annual Canadian Event Industry Star Awards (CEIA), held on April 1, 2005. CEIA, a national award program, recognizes outstanding achievements in Canadian special events, meeting management, conference planning and exhibition management.

“This honour is a result of the leadership and teamwork of Pride Toronto’s staff, its partners and its sponsors. Above all, it’s a reflection of the dedicated energy and enthusiasm of the hundreds of volunteers who make Pride Week successful year after year,” said Pride Co-chair Natasha Garda, who accepted the award.

A national advisory council, made up of event industry members from across Canada, gave Pride Week Toronto 2004 the top honour in the Best Festival category. Other nominees included the Celebrate Toronto Street Festival, Toronto’s WinterCity festival and Vancouver’s Taiwanese Cultural Festival.

The award-winning Pride Week is also designated one of eight official “Signature Events” by the City of Toronto and one of the “Top 50 Festivals in Ontario” by Festivals & Events Ontario.

“Over the past 25 years, Pride Week has grown into a spectacular cultural celebration of our diverse communities,” said Garda. “Pride Week 2005 marks our silver anniversary. I hope that people from across the country and around the world come to Toronto in June to experience for themselves Canada’s best festival!”

About Pride Toronto

Pride Toronto (www.pridetoronto.com) is the not-for-profit organization that hosts Pride Week, an annual festival held during the last week of June in downtown Toronto. Pride Week is Canada’s largest celebration of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transsexual, transgender, intersex and queer people, and is one of the leading cultural events of its kind in the world.

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