The Rochester Pride Parade on July 19th 2014 will celebrate the 45th anniversary of the Stonewall Riots which are credited with launching the movement to secure civil-rights protections for the LGBT community. The University of Rochester is an official sponsor of this year’s Pride Parade and as a way of celebrating our diversity; the University of Rochester plans to participate in the parade.

In a time when LGBT rights are increasingly becoming a reality in many states, LGBT Pride still matters because there is more work to be done. 31 States still ban same-sex marriage and currently in New York State, a person can lose their job, be refused service and even be evicted from their home simply because they are transgender. We must also remember places like Russia, India or the other 80 countries that have criminalized being gay or doing anything that publicizes the LGBT lifestyle.

Our area and institution have histories that are inextricably linked to the Civil Rights Movement. We often celebrate the great achievements of Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass. The University of Rochester also has strong ties to the LGBT community as the birthplace of the ‘Empty Closet’, the oldest LGBT newspaper in the country. With over 25,000 employees, 9,000 students and more than 103,000 alumni, and being the regions largest employer, we should be the biggest group marching in the parade. It is important that the University has a presence at this event and more importantly has a strong ally visibility. Please consider showing your support by joining us for this fun event.

Join members of the University of Rochester Community including:
- The Pride Alliance at the University of Rochester
- The Diversity and Inclusion Committee
- Rocky, the University mascot
- Executive Leaders
- The Pride Network
- Spectrum

Saturday July 19th 2014. Line-up from 2 to 3 pm on Brunswick/Argyle Streets. University of Rochester t-shirts are available for all participants.

To receive a t-shirt please RSVP including t-shirt size, by Friday July 11 to pridealliance@rochester.edu, otherwise, just join us on the day!

To learn more about the Pride Alliance at the University of Rochester, go to www.rochester.edu/diversity/affinity/pride/index.html; email at pridealliance@rochester.edu