

50 YEARS IN THE MAKING:

WORLD GAY RODEO
FINALS[®]
and IGRA Royalty Competition

Reno'25

🐾 **RODEO**
👑 **ROYALTY**
🐾 **REUNION**

OCTOBER 9-12, 2025

RENO NEVADA

Reno-Sparks Livestock Event Center
1350 N Wells Ave, Reno, NV 89512



visit gay-rodeo.net



#AlwaysAParty®



Charlie's®
DENVER | PHOENIX | CHICAGO

Charlie's is proud
to support
Gay Rodeo since 1981!
Come party with us
under the disco boots!

CharliesDenver.com • CharliesPhoenix.com • CharliesChicago.com



CONTENTS

Welcome Letter By IGRA President	4
Welcome Letters	6
List of Officers and Board Of Trustees	12
Rodeo Director and Assistant Directors	13
2025 Royalty	14
2026 Royalty Candidates	15
Rodeo Grand Marshall	16
Rodeo Schedule of Events	18
Rodeo Event Descriptions	20
Running order	26
2025 WGRF Rodeo Production Team	28
IGRA Statement on Animal Welfare	32
WGRF Buckle Sponsors	35

© Copyright 2025
Media Out Loud, LLC
All Rights Reserved



International Gay Rodeo Association, Inc.
PO Box 460504
Aurora, CO 80046
www.gay-rodeo.net

COMPETE
SPORTS NETWORK

Compete Sports Network
PO Box 2756
Scottsdale, AZ 85252
www.competenetwork.com

WELCOME LETTER BY IGRA PRESIDENT

Brian Helander

Dear Competitors, Royalty, Rodeo Friends, Volunteers, Officials, and Rodeo Fans,

It is with great pride and heartfelt joy that I welcome you to the World Gay Rodeo Finals and IGRA Royalty Competition 2025, a truly historic celebration as we also mark 50 Years of Gay Rodeo in the USA and Canada. This year's event is so much more than the culmination of a season—it is a milestone honoring half a century of courage, community, and competition.

Fifty years ago, a group of gay rodeo pioneers saddled up—against all odds—not just to compete, but to create a resilient, safe, and inclusive space where LGBTQ+ cowboys and cowgirls could live authentically and ride proudly for generations to come. A decade later, those humble beginnings gave rise to the International Gay Rodeo Association, which has grown into a vibrant, international family celebrating diversity, sportsmanship, and the Western way of life.

This weekend, we celebrate our Royalty Teams past and present, thank our tireless volunteers and officials, cheer on our outstanding competitors, and honor the remarkable resiliency that has carried us through the decades. We'll share stories, rekindle friendships, and make new memories at our Reunion activities.

Our arena dirt has seen grit, glory, and unforgettable camaraderie. We've competed fiercely, danced freely, and stood shoulder-to-shoulder through many challenges. Today, as we crown our WGRF 2025 Champions, and our 2026 Royalty Team, we honor the founders, leaders, sponsors, fans, and every member of our rodeo family who has helped to build this incredible legacy.

The World Gay Rodeo Finals is where skill meets heart, where tradition meets progress, and where everyone is welcome to be exactly who they are. Whether you are here to compete, cheer, or simply celebrate, you are part of this living history.

On behalf of the IGRA leadership and our member associations—thank you for being part of this golden milestone. Let's honor our past, embrace our present, and ride boldly into the future—together.

I would like to express a huge thank you for the amazing collaboration with the Sundance Association for bringing a wonderful western dance element to the celebration.

Thank you to Reno's Silver Dollar Court, which is celebrating its 50th year as a member of The International Imperial Court System, for all the support, and many years of amazing charitable work.

Here's to 50 years of gay rodeo... 40 years of the International Gay Rodeo Association and to the next 50 years!

With pride and gratitude,



Brian Helander

Brian Helander
President
International Gay Rodeo Association





PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, The International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) was officially founded in 1985 but traces its roots back to the very first Gay Rodeo held in 1976 at the Washoe County Fairgrounds in Reno, Nevada, where LGBTQ cowboys and cowgirls gathered not only to compete but to build community, challenge stereotypes, and raise funds for those in need; and

WHEREAS, The IGRA has grown to encompass over 25 regional associations throughout the United States and Canada, welcoming more than 10,000 members of all gender identities and sexual orientations to participate in inclusive, affirming, and spirited rodeo competition; and

WHEREAS, The IGRA World Gay Rodeo Finals represents the pinnacle of LGBTQ rodeo, gathering top competitors to showcase skill, sportsmanship, and pride in 13 dynamic events—including traditional rodeo challenges and uniquely IGRA camp events such as the Wild Drag Race and Goat Dressing; and

WHEREAS, The IGRA has remained steadfast in its commitment to inclusion and equity, having long recognized and affirmed each individual's right to compete under the gender with which they identify, and encouraging full participation regardless of race, age, ability, or orientation; and

WHEREAS, Beyond the arena, IGRA member associations have collectively raised and donated millions of dollars to causes including HIV/AIDS support services, LGBTQ youth outreach, and other vital charitable efforts, demonstrating rodeo's power not only as a sport, but as a force for compassion and community impact; and

WHEREAS, IGRA rodeos serve as vibrant cultural events that promote and preserve the LGBTQ Western lifestyle, support amateur sportsmanship, offer rodeo schools and dance competitions, and foster an intergenerational community that uplifts tradition, education, and celebration alike; and

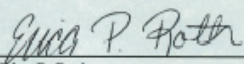
WHEREAS, The 2025 World Gay Rodeo Finals in Reno marks the 50th year of gay rodeos, a movement that began in Nevada—a powerful milestone that reminds us of the progress hard-won in the face of exclusion, and the resilience of a community that refused to be left out of the American rodeo story; and

WHEREAS, Nevada Assembly District 24, the birthplace of the National Reno Gay Rodeo, honors the legacy of those who dared to saddle up and ride out despite discrimination, and proudly celebrates IGRA's ongoing contributions to inclusion, education, animal welfare, and LGBTQ visibility;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Assemblymember Erica P. Roth, do hereby commend the IGRA's contributions to the Silver State and the ongoing fight for LGBTQ acceptance, and encourage all Nevadans to join in honoring the pioneers, athletes, volunteers, and allies who make this vibrant tradition possible—and to say loudly and proudly: *Let's Rodeo!*

DATED this 9th day of October, 2025.




Erica P. Roth
Nevada State Assemblymember

Mayor Hillary Schieve

(775) 334-2001
schieveh@reno.gov
Website: reno.gov



*"The most livable of Nevada cities;
the focus of culture, commerce and
tourism in Northern Nevada."*

GREETINGS FROM THE CITY OF RENO!

On behalf of the "Biggest Little City in the World," it gives me great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to the International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) and the 2025 World Gay Rodeo Finals. We are very proud and honored to welcome you as you celebrate the historic milestone of 50 years of gay rodeo.

Your history is trailblazing and impressive. The first gay rodeo was celebrated Oct. 2, 1976 and it was the impetus for the formation of IGRA nine years later. IGRA strives to build an inclusive and affirming space within the world of rodeo that welcomes LGBTQ+ athletes, performers, fans and friends from across North America.

Reno is truly honored to host the 2025 World Gay Rodeo Finals that will feature top competitors in rodeo sports from across the United States and Canada. We are excited for the esteemed IGRA Royalty Competition as well as a series of community events that honor your history and culture. We hope your attendees and participants will take some time to enjoy our progressive community with its fine dining, entertainment, arts, parks and the incomparable beauty of the Sierras and Lake Tahoe.

Good luck and best wishes for an outstanding rodeo. We hope to see you again soon in Reno.

Enthusiastically,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Hillary Schieve".

Hillary Schieve

WELCOME LETTER FROM THE RODEO DIRECTOR

Sammy Van Galder

Dear Rodeo Friends,

It is my distinct honor to welcome you all to the 2025 World Gay Rodeo Finals—an event that promises not only the thrill of top-tier rodeo competition, but also the warmth of community, the sparkle of royalty, and the joyful reflection of half a century of trailblazing history. The WGRF is not just about competition; it's a celebration of diversity, courage, and the unshakable pride that runs as deep as our Western roots.

I am thrilled to welcome contestants, volunteers, fans, and honored guests from across the globe, each bringing their own stories, talents, and rodeo spirit. Whether you're drawn by the thunder of hooves in the arena, the dazzling energy of our royalty competition, or the chance to reunite with legends and newcomers alike, you are essential to the heart of this celebration.

Our 50-year reunion is a testament to what we can accomplish together. As we reflect on our history, let us honor those who paved the way and remember the laughter, resilience, and love that have shaped our journey. This anniversary is not just a look back, but a call to keep riding forward—together.

Thank you to everyone who has worked tirelessly to make this milestone event possible—our sponsors, volunteers, rodeo staff, competitors, and fans. Your support and passion are the heartbeat of the World Gay Rodeo Finals.

On behalf of the entire organizing committee, welcome to a weekend of unforgettable competition, pageantry, and connection. May these Finals fill you with pride, joy, and memories to last a lifetime.

With gratitude and excitement,



Sammy Van Galder

Sammy Van Galder

Rodeo Director

2025 World Gay Rodeo Finals

WELCOME LETTER FROM THE IGRA VICE-PRESIDENT

Michael Vrooman

Welcome to Reno, Nevada as we kick off the start of the 50th year of Gay Rodeo with a Rodeo - Royalty - Reunion Weekend Celebration you are bound to enjoy.

As you join the IGRA for World Gay Rodeo Finals 2025 for your daytime entertainment, we invite you to take part and share in the evening's excitement of the 2026 IGRA Royalty Competition in the Grand Exposition Hall at the ROW Casinos; Thursday October 9th through Saturday, October 11 at 7pm.

Often a starting ground for involvement within the IGRA, the IGRA Royalty Program is a strong cornerstone of our organization that has proven to produce long standing service from its alumni across all aspects of the IGRA.

16 Contestants representing member associations from across the IGRA circuit will compete in the categories of Interview, Western Wear, Public Presentation, Horsemanship and Entertainment for the coveted titles of Mr, Ms, Miss, MsTer and Mx. International Gay Rodeo Association 2026. We wish these local "champions" great success as they showcase their very best.

Saturday evening we look forward to a historic moment as we take a Royalty Family Reunion Portrait representing 38 years of IGRA Royalty involvement.

Thank you to the outstanding 2025 IGRA Royalty Team as they celebrate and share with us the finale of their year's work this weekend. Congratulations on your excellent representation and fundraising accomplishments on behalf of the IGRA and your local charities.

Remember, it's not the crown and sash awarded that make one "royal" but the lives you touch through kindness and noble deeds you share... that's your "royal" reward.

With Gratitude,



Michael Vrooman

Michael Vrooman

Vice President

International Gay Rodeo Association



WELCOME LETTER FROM THE GLRHF

The Gay and Lesbian Rodeo Heritage Foundation (GLRHF or Foundation) was incorporated in 2009, so it has only been in existence for 16 years. But the importance of GLRHF is not its own history, but the history of all gay rodeos!

The mission of GLRHF is to preserve and restore, as well as promote and communicate the history of all gay rodeos. The Foundation was established after talks between the IGRA President and the Autry Museum of the American West resulted in the International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) donating many boxes of archives that included 25 years of IGRA's history. It didn't happen right away, but in 2022, The Autry, which is in Los Angeles, received a grant enabling it to get some of those gay rodeo archives into a long-term display which began in June 2023.

This year alone the GLRHF has provided funding to restore several framed posters and other items, as well as to transport and display gay rodeo archives at 13 different locations around the United States. From San Diego to Washington, D.C, Phoenix to Denver, and points in between. Since 2019, every gay rodeo where we have had an archive display has resulted in more items being donated to the collection. Every display is slightly different to place more emphasis on items that originated near that location. In 2025, the archive displays will have traveled over 19,000 miles by car, and approximately 73,610 miles since 2019.

This weekend's exhibit is the largest to date, and we hope that you will spend some time between rodeo events to view and read some of the history of gay rodeo, which began right here in Reno on October 2, 1976. The Foundation is a non-profit IRS recognized charitable 501(c)(3) organization, and donations are tax deductible for the donor.

Enjoy your day at the rodeo!

Roger Bergmann
GLRHF President



Scan the QR Code below to Donate! And Thank You!



WELCOME LETTER FROM THE IGRA ALUMNI

Welcome Rodeo Fans, Contestants, Royalty, and Volunteers,

The Fifty Years of Gay Rodeo celebration is here! Each of these fifty remarkable years represents the resilience, unity, and pride we share as a gay rodeo community—a family that continues to break barriers and shatter stereotypes.

Today, rodeo athletes and royalty members gather at World Gay Rodeo Finals 2025 to compete for the highest honors bestowed by IGRA. In the festive spirit of our community, many special events are planned to coincide with this monumental milestone.

IGRA Golden Alumni donors have made this celebration possible by supporting three critical elements for a first-class World Gay Rodeo Finals 2025:

The rodeo facility

Rodeo stock

The IGRA Royalty Competition

For many of our participants, today represents a meaningful “first time”—your first competition in the arena, your first time on the entertainment stage, your first time volunteering as a rodeo timer, or perhaps the first time you’ve experienced the welcoming spirit of IGRA. Most importantly, it may be the first time you feel part of this incredible legacy. That’s what IGRA is all about—creating space for everyone to belong!

We are grateful for the continued support of our Alumni program and all who make IGRA possible. The work of IGRA holds a dear place in our hearts. As we celebrate Fifty Years of Gay Rodeo in 2025, we renew our commitment to creating inclusive spaces built upon respect, equality, and love.

Whether you’re competing, cheering, or volunteering, you’re a part of our journey toward a future where we all can feel proud, accepted, and celebrated.

Welcome to the rodeo!

Sincerely,

Mark Arnold
Alumni Chair



LIST OF OFFICERS AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES

OFFICERS

Brian Helander - **President**

Michael Vrooman - **Vice President**

Gene Fraikes - **Secretary**

David Hill - **Treasurer**

EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers plus following Trustees

Candy Pratt - **RRRA Trustee**

Guy Puglisi - **NGRA Trustee**

Chris Tobin - **NSGRA Trustee**

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Candy Pratt(RRRA) - **Trustee Chair**

Guy Puglisi(NGRA) - **Trustee Vice Chair**

Chris Tobin(NSGRA) - **Trustee Vice Chair**

Sherry Mullin - **AGRA Trustee**

Michael Lentz - **ASGRA Trustee**

Robert Thurtell - **CGRA Trustee**

Chuck Browning - **CRGRA Trustee**

Daniel Brison - **DSRA Trustee**

Mary Arbuckle - **GPRA Trustee**

David Lawson - **GSGRA Trustee**

Scott Korff - **MIGRA Trustee**

Kenneth Hall - **MGRA Trustee**

David Heznel - **NMGRA Trustee**

Tim Smith - **TGRA Trustee**

Kevin Hillman - **UGRA Trustee**



RODEO DIRECTOR AND ASSISTANT DIRECTORS



WGRF COMMITTEE CHAIR



Mark Christensen

RODEO DIRECTOR



Sammy Van Galder

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS



Jorge Sanchez



Nicole Reighlie



Marcus "Boogie" Hood



Weston Crow-Tucker

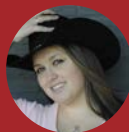
2025 ROYALTY



Mr. IGRA 2025
Brandon Bays



Miss IGRA 2025
Tequila Mockingbird



Ms. IGRA 2025
Kami Boles



MsTer IGRA 2025
Kaven O'Neil



Mx. IGRA 2025
Tink



Mr. IGRA 2025 1st Runner-Up
Jay R. Gayheart



Miss IGRA 2025 1st Runner-Up
Seliah DeLeon



Ms. IGRA 2025 1st Runner-Up
Jennifer Vrana



Mx. IGRA 2025 1st Runner-Up
Pup Mystic



Mr. IGRA 2025 2nd Runner-Up
Kirk Wyllie



Miss IGRA 2025 2nd Runner-Up
Celebrity Starr



Ms. IGRA 2025 2nd Runner-Up
Kim Mann



2026 ROYALTY CANDIDATES

Miss Anna Konda Williams - **NMGRA**

Miss Becky Bocky - **NGRA**

Ms. Bobbie Rene Cat - **AGRA**

Mx. Daddy Duchess - **ASGRA**

MsTer Dakota Yeates - **UGRA**

Miss Devina Ross - **AGRA**

Mx. Felinda Bush - **NGRA**

Miss Jazz-Men Gayle - **UGRA**

Mr. Kody Kay - **CGRA**

Mr. Kyle McCann - **TGRA**

Mr. Landon J. Fatale - **TGRA**

Mx. Opa Leez - **NMGRA**

Mr. Ryder Gently - **NMGRA**

Miss Southryn St. John Comfort - **TGRA**

Ms. Tanya Owen Standars - **TGRA**

MsTer Buck Sallday - **ILGRA**



RODEO GRAND MARSHALL

Tommy Channel



Tommy Channel was born in 1955 in Cushing, Texas, to parents Betty and Tom Jack. After graduating from high school and Massey Business College, he moved to Houston in the mid-1970s, where he discovered gay rodeo at the Brazos River Bottom. He attended the first TGRA event in 1984, sparking a lifelong relationship with the International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA).

In 1985, Tommy moved to Denver, Colorado, where he met Wayne Jakino and his life partner, David Hill, with whom he still resides. He joined the Colorado Gay Rodeo Association (CGRA), competed with his horse Sassy, and later transitioned to event production and direction, working alongside rodeo legends.

Crowned Mr. CGRA in 1996 and Mr. IGRA in 1997, Tommy has remained active in the IGRA Royalty Program. He has held nearly every CGRA leadership role—Membership Chair, Treasurer, Trustee, Fundraising Chair, and four-time President, including his current term—and served five times as Rocky Mountain Regional Rodeo Director.

He directed the World Gay Rodeo Finals in 2006 (Reno) and 2011 (Dallas/Fort Worth), chaired the 2012 Finals Committee, and was Assistant Rodeo Director at the 2014 World Gay Games in Akron. His accolades include the IGRA Director's Award (2001), President's Award (2009), and IGRA Hall of Fame induction (2017). He serves on both the IGRA Hall of Fame and Alumni Committees.

Since 2004, Tommy has been IGRA's Administrative Assistant and is now Executive Director. He also co-chaired the IGRA Conventions in 2019, 2024, and 2025. With nearly 40 years of service, Tommy remains a dedicated pillar of IGRA, grateful for a community that celebrates authenticity, resilience, and pride.



The Silver Dollar Court, Nevada's oldest LGBTQ+ organization, held its first Coronation in March 1976 and by the summer, its Emperor Phil Ragsdale and his Empress Keith Ann decided that they wanted to do a fund raiser that would show the community, gay and lesbians are no different. They came up with the idea of hosting a "Gay" rodeo.

The earliest they could arrange for the Nevada State Fairgrounds Rodeo arena was October 1976. It wasn't an easy chore to produce the first gay rodeo.

With the help of those involved in the Silver Dollar Court, members created a successful rodeo after Keith Ann managed to get a rag tag rodeo stock from a Native American (Paiute) rancher. The rodeo was a fund raiser for the local Muscular Dystrophy chapter.

The second year, 1977, the rodeo debuted its logo as the Comstock Gay Rodeo Association (CGRA) and its unique caricature of a broken-down horse drawn by Empress II Rusty (Dick Wells).

The Silver Dollar Court was fully involved in the Rodeo from its inception through its last in 1984., either as the Court or members of the CGRA.

Reno's efforts of establishing gay rodeo as an event and making it popular in the LGBTQ+ community was noticeable by drawing nearly 40,000 to the National Reno Gay Rodeo at its height, making it the second largest event in the area.

The Silver Dollar Court is celebrat-

ing its 50th year in service to the community, having donated over \$2 million dollars, for hundreds of groups and organizations, continues that mission today of being dedicated to the community, raising money for charity, **one dollar at a time.**

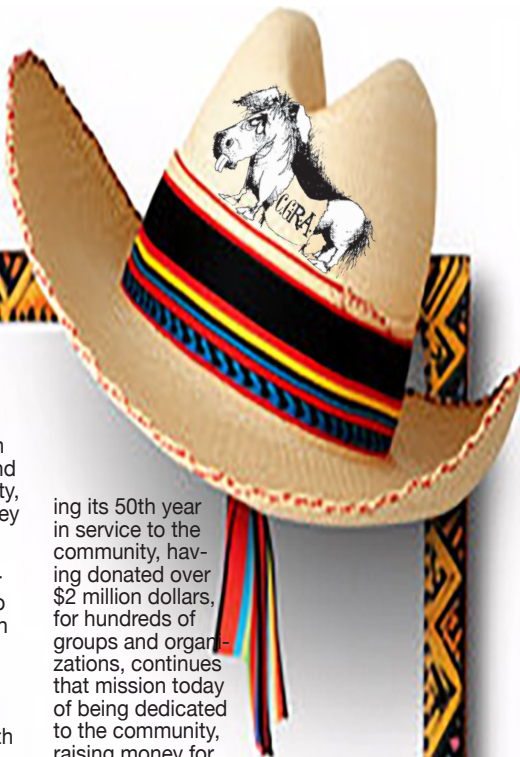
The Silver Dollar Court is honored in having created an event that lead to the creation of the International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) in 1985, by the Arizona, California, Colorado and Texas Gay Rodeo Associations.

It is an honor to be part of the history that keeps alive the traditions, the culture and uniqueness that is Rodeo and the American West.

**Happy 40th Anniversary
to IGRA**

**Happy 50 Years of
Gay Rodeo**
created right here in the
Biggest Little City.

renosdc.org



World Gay Rodeo Finals 2025

Rodeo - Royalty - Reunion

Weekend Schedule of Events

Thursday, October 9, 2025

IGRA Rodeo History Bus Tour

Leaving Silver Legacy Resort & Casino at 12PM (Noon) to Churchill County Museum in Fallon, NV, then visiting the 1988 IGRA Finals Rodeo Site at 2:45PM, returning to the Silver Legacy & Resort Casino by 5PM.

IGRA Royalty Competition

Western Wear and Public Presentation Competition

7PM – Grand Exposition Hall, Lower Level-Silver Legacy

IGRA and IAGLCWDC Kick-off Dance

7PM – Grand Exposition Hall, Lower Level-Silver Legacy

Friday, October 10, 2025

IAGLCWDC Dance Workshops

10AM – 5PM Grand Exposition Hall, Lower Level-Silver Legacy

WGRF Contestant Registration

5PM – 7PM - Grand Exposition Hall, Lower Level-Silver Legacy

IGRA Royalty Competition

Entertainment Competition

7PM – Grand Exposition Hall, Lower Level-Silver Legacy

IGRA and IAGLCWDC Dances

7PM – Grand Exposition Hall, Lower Level-Silver Legacy

1976-2025

World Gay Rodeo Finals 2025

Rodeo - Royalty - Reunion

Weekend Schedule of Events

Saturday, October 11, 2025

World Gay Rodeo Finals #37

Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center, 1350 N. Wells Ave., Reno, NV 89512

Doors open at 10AM - Events begin at 11AM - Grand Entry 12PM-NOON

IAGLCWDC Dance Workshops

10AM – 5PM Grand Exposition Hall, Lower Level-Silver Legacy

IGRA Royalty Competition

2025 IGRA Royalty Farewell

2026 IGRA Royalty Coronation

Past IGRA Royalty Reunion

7PM – Grand Exposition Hall, Lower Level-Silver Legacy

IGRA Reunion and Cocktail Party

7PM – Grand Exposition Hall, Lower Level-Silver Legacy

IAGLCWDC Dances

7PM – Grand Exposition Hall, Lower Level-Silver Legacy

Sunday, October 12, 2025

World Gay Rodeo Finals #37

Reno-Sparks Livestock Events Center, 1350 N. Wells Ave., Reno, NV 89512

Doors open at 10AM - Events begin at 11AM - Grand Entry 12PM-NOON

IAGLCWDC Dance Workshops

10AM – Grand Exposition Hall, Lower Level-Silver Legacy

IGRA and IAGLCWDC Farewell Dance

7PM – Grand Exposition Hall, Lower Level-Silver Legacy

WGRF Awards Ceremony

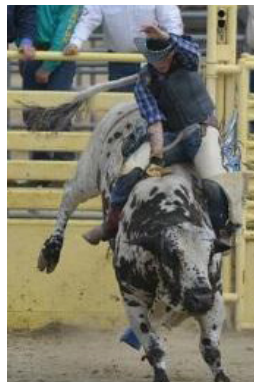
Rodeo – Royalty – Reunion

8PM – Grand Exposition Hall, Lower Level-Silver Legacy

RODEO EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

Rough Stock Events - Bull Riding

Historically the most dangerous event in Rodeo and is open to Men and Women contestants. The contestant uses an approved rigging with a flat braided rope and braided hand grip, a loop and a bell. This is wrapped around the chest of the bull and the rider's hand is tied into the hand grip. The rope can be worked with rosin and saddle soap to provide a very sticky grip to assist with their hold. The Stock Contractor flanks the bull with a soft cotton rope around the back end that signals the bull to buck when released from the chute. When the contestant is tied in and ready, they signal for the chute gate to open. The rider must stay mounted and in control for six (6) seconds, may only use one hand to hold on, and the other hand must not touch the animal or themselves. The Rider is scored 50% on their ability and skill, and 50% on the skill of the bull.



Rough Stock Events - Steer Riding

An entry level event for new Cowboys and Cowgirls. A steer is a less aggressive animal with a different skill set. The contestant uses an approved rigging with a flat braided rope and braided hand grip, a loop and a bell. This is wrapped around the chest of the steer and the rider's hand is tied into the hand grip. The rope can be worked with rosin and saddle soap to provide a very sticky grip to assist with their hold. The Stock Contractor flanks the steer with a soft cotton rope around the back end that signals the steer to buck when released from the chute. When the contestant is tied in and ready, they signal for the chute gate to open.



The rider must stay mounted and in control for six (6) seconds, may only use one hand to hold on, and the other hand must not touch the animal or themselves. The Rider is scored 50% on their ability and skill, and 50% on the skill of the steer.

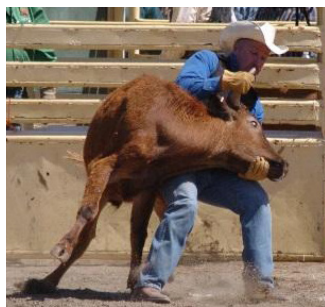
Rough Stock Events – Ranch Saddle Bronc Riding

Beginning with the 2017 rodeo season, Ranch Saddle Bronc Riding (sometimes abbreviated to Ranch Bronc Riding) was added to the list of optional events. In this event, the horse is fitted with a full saddle. The rider holds onto a soft rope which is fastened to the horse's head with a special halter. The rider can use their free hand to hold onto the saddle, unlike the regular saddle bronc ride where the rider must not touch the horse or rider's body with his or her free hand.

All other rules generally follow those of bareback Bronc Riding.



Rough Stock Events - Chute Dogging



A fast and skillful event of a Steer versus a Cowboy or Cowgirl. This event is designed to give even the novice a chance to compete in rough stock events. The steer and the contestant both start in the chute and face a 60-second time limit. The contestant will call for the chute gate to be opened and must lead the steer out into the arena to a 10-foot line in front of the chute gate, and then attempt to wrestle or "dog" the steer to the ground. The contestant will turn the steer's head up and

toward the steer's shoulder, hoping it will fall over on its other shoulder, causing all four feet to point in the same direction as the head. If the steer falls the other way (dog-fall), the contestant may let the steer up and start over. This is a timed event with the fastest time winning.

RODEO EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

Roping Events - Calf Roping on Foot

A great event for new Cowboys and Cowgirls. The contestant stands in the roping box behind a designated line and attempts to rope a calf as it leaves the roping chute. The contestant is not allowed to “snare” the calf and must throw the loop over the calf’s head. Once the loop passes over the calf’s head, the contestant must pull the slack and release the rope.



Roping Events – Mounted Break-Away Roping



Cowboys and Cowgirls compete in this event with their trained horse and a calf. The contestant will tie the end of their rope to the saddle horn with a thin piece of string. The contestant will ride their horse out of the roping box and must throw their loop over the calf’s head. Once the loop passes over the calf’s head, slack in the rope is pulled which breaks the string and releases the rope from the saddle horn and signals the judge to stop

the time. Fastest time wins in this event.

Roping Events - Team Roping

A traditional event composed of a team of two contestants (Cowboys and/or Cowgirls) on their trained horses and a roping steer. A roping steer has special equipment placed on their head around their horns for protection. The contestants ride their horses out of the roping boxes as the steer is released.

The “header” will throw their rope’s loop at the horns of the steer and once caught, dally their rope to their saddle horn. They will turn their horse and the steer in a counterclockwise motion causing the steer’s hind end to swing out so the “heeler” can throw their loop at the hind legs of the steer. When both ropers have been successful in their tasks, they must turn their horses to face the steer and pull their ropes taut.



Speed Events – Barrel Race



A horse and rider compete for the fastest time running a cloverleaf pattern around three barrels. A running start is allowed. A five second penalty is assessed for each barrel that is knocked over during the run. Disqualification will take place if the horse and rider break the required pattern.

Speed Events – Pole Bending

A horse and rider compete for the fastest time working a zig-zag pattern through six equally spaced poles. A running start is allowed. A five second penalty is assessed for knocking a pole down. Disqualification will take place if the horse and rider break the required pattern. The pattern must still be maintained, even if a pole has been knocked down.



Speed Events – Flag Race



A horse and rider compete for the fastest time running a triangular pattern similar to the Barrel Race. A pole is exchanged for the 3rd barrel. A flag is placed in a bucket on the first barrel. A running start is allowed.

RODEO EVENT DESCRIPTIONS

The horse and rider must run the pattern past the first barrel and pick up the flag. Continue the pattern around the pole and to the second barrel to stick the flag in the empty bucket and continue to the finish line.

Camp Events

Whenever a group of cowhands get together for a good time, hell is going to be raised! Cowhands generally have their own definition of fun and challenge. After a few beers and some serious ego pumping, it is amazing what a group of cowhands can come up with! Prerequisites for participation are a willingness to eat dirt and the ability to hold your own with an ornery steer or goat. Sixty percent of contestants at a gay rodeo get their start in these three "camp events" and the old-timers stay in because the payoffs (or winnings) are the best of all events.

Camp Events - Goat Dressing

An athletic event composed of a team of two (cowboys and/or cowgirls), a goat, and a pair of briefs style underwear. The contestants must run to a goat (one contestant carries the underwear), catch the goat, put the underwear on the goat (over the tail), and run back to the finish line. Fastest time wins.



Camp Events - Steer Decorating



A fast event composed of a team of two (cowboys and/or cowgirls) and one steer. One contestant starts at a line 10-foot from the chute gate and holds the end of a 25-foot rope that is looped around the horns of a steer in the chute.

The second contestant starts at a line 40-foot from the chute and has a ribbon for tying on the tail of the steer. The team can work together to get the steer out of the chute and across the 10-foot line.

Once across the 10-foot line, the contestant with the ribbon will tie it on the tail of the steer. Once tied, the contestant with the rope can remove the rope from the horns of the steer while the ribbon-tying contestant runs back to the open chute that their steer came out of and tag the timer to end the event. They cannot tag the timer until the rope is removed from the horns of the steer. Fastest time wins.

Camp Events - Wild Drag Race

An exciting, yet dangerous event composed of a team of three contestants and a steer with a halter and lead rope.

One contest International Gay Rodeo Association, Inc.

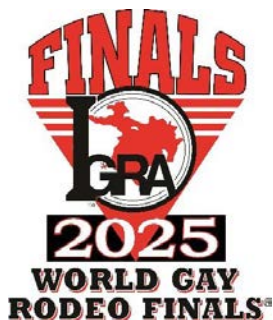
PO Box 460504

Aurora, CO 80046

<https://www.gay-rodeo.net> ant must be male, one contestant must be female, and the third contestant can be either a male or female, but must be "in drag"

(wig & dress). The team members work together to lead the steer to the "finish line" while one team member assists, and the team member in drag readies to mount the steer near the finish line. The steer is led across the line and stopped for the drag to mount and ride back across the finish line. Fastest time wins.





October 11 - 12, 2025

Reno-Sparks Livestock Equestrian Center
1350 N. Wells Ave., Reno, NV 89512

RUNNING ORDER

Men First on Saturday 11AM

Women First on Sunday 11AM

Calf Roping on Foot

Grand Entry – Noon

Ranch Saddle Bronc Riding

Break Away Roping

Team Roping

Pole Bending

Steer Decorating

Chute Dogging

Steer Riding

Goat Dressing

Barrel Race

Flag Race

Wild Drag Race

Bull Riding



Awards 8PM Sunday

Silver Legacy

Grand Exposition Hall



Northern Nevada's LGBTQ+ Community Center

Our mission is to maintain a safe, empowering, and supportive center for the LGBTQ+ community and allies that addresses advocacy, education, and services. We seek to build, connect, and strengthen the LGBTQ+ community through community building, arts and culture programming, and inclusive activities.



@OurCenterReno



775-624-3720



OurCenterReno.org



VACAYA

open sea. open mind.

Support WGRF by Booking Your Next VACAYA Cruise. Every VACAYA Cruise booked with our link sends a donation to WGRF.

2025 WGRF RODEO PRODUCTION TEAM

ARENA

Arena Director: Denise Reinhart

Assistant Arena Director: Travis James

Arena Crew Coordinator: Stefanie Garber

Arena Crew: Eric Nicols, Kurt Harrison-Garcia, Tink, Tori, Andrew McKown, Tanya Owen, Ruban Lawrence, Troy A. Peter, Bobbie Jo Hague

CHUTE

Chute Coordinator: Carl Schmidt II

Assistants: Timothy Miller, Devon Garcia

Chute Crew: Jamie Gail Light, Jeff Lowe, Ken Hogg, Russell Ellenberger, Dave Henzel, Andrew Joseph Miller, Greg Tinsley, Caleb Mills, Dean Galloway, Lisa Smith, Sandy Bidwell

STAFF

Judges: Randy Edlin, Jody Harvey, Michael Lentz, Jack Morgan, Tom Sheridan.

Rodeo Secretary: Guy Puglisi

Assistant Rodeo Secretary: Sherry Mullen

Scorekeeper: Dwayne Rennels

Timers: Ed Thompson, Monique Zimbelman, Sylvia Mower, Michael Martinez, Alex Stokes

IGRA Auditors: David Hill, Bruce Roby

Rodeo Treasurer: Tom Truitt

STAFF

Announcer: David J. Smith

Assistant Announcers: Lewis Sanders, Anthony "Chili Pepper" Valdez

Rodeo Clown: Jerry Cunningham

Grand Entry Vocalists

US: J.G. Avila

Canada: Michael Vrooman

Stock Contractor: Richie Griffith - Griffith Feed and Livestock

Veterinarian: Dr. Elizabeth Schilling, DVM

Farrier: Katie Shaw, Michael Potter, Kevin Cole

Emergency Medical Response: REMSA Health - Special Events
Reno, NV.

Security Coordinator: ESI Security Company - Reno, NV

Grand Entry Coordinator: Weston Crow-Tucker

Grand Marshals

Rodeo: Tommy Channel

Community Hero: The Silver Dollar Court of Reno, NV

Volunteer Coordinator: Michael Butts

Assistants: Roger Bergmann, Sundance Association

Rodeo Program Editors: Compete Sports Network

Vendor Coordinator: Jorge Sanchez

Awards Coordinator: Robert Thurtell

Merchandise Coordinators: Tommy Channel, Mark Arnold, Sebastian Matthews, Chuck Browning, Sammy Van Galder

STAFF

Sponsorship Committee: Brian Helander, Chuck Browning, Robert Thurtell

Tickets Coordinator Nicole Reighlie

IGRA Reunion Coordinator: Judy Munson

IGRA History/Remembrance Tour: Brian Rogers

IGRA Alumni Area Attendants: Mark Arnold, Tommy Channel, Andrew Goodman.

IGRA Royalty Competition

Coordinator: Michael Vrooman

Production Staff: Andrew Goodman, James Jenkins, Jay Carlson, Tommy Channel, Mark Arnold, Michael Brent, Michael Butts, Emaly Allison, David Hering, Shawn Shaffer.

WGRF 2025 Dance & Workshops: Sundance Association for Country-Western Dancing (www.sundancesaloon.org)

WGRF COMMITTEE

WGRF Committee: Andy Siekkinen, Anthony Lumpkins, Brian Helander, Brian Rogers, Chris Tobin, Chuck Browning, David Hill, Emaly Allison, Frank Harrell, Jorge Sanchez, Judy Munson, Marcus "Boogie" Hood, Mark Arnold, Mark Christensen, Michael Butts, Michael Vrooman, Nicole Reighlie, Patrick Terry, Robert Thurtell, Roger Bergmann, Roger Courtemanche, Sammy Van Galder, Sebastian Matthews, Tommy Channel, Tonja Alves, Weston Crow-Tucker.

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS



A HEARTFUL THANK YOU

To all our volunteers:
your generosity, spirit,
and hard work made
this event a success.

We are grateful for
each of you!

PLAY STRONG. STAY COVERED.



HEALTH INSURANCE ENROLLMENT SUPPORT FOR LGBTQ+ ATHLETES

NO MATTER HOW YOU IDENTIFY OR COMPETE — WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK.

Whether you're on the field, in the gym, or
training for your next big win — your health
should always be protected.

That's where **American
Exchange** steps to the plate.

GET COVERED WITH CONFIDENCE.

Call - 888.995.1674 M-F

Hours - 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. EST

email - info@americanexchange.com

OPEN ENROLLMENT AND SPECIAL ENROLLMENT PERIODS AVAILABLE NOW.

We help LGBTQ+ athletes get enrolled in affordable, inclusive health
coverage through the ACA Marketplace, so you can focus on your
performance — not paperwork.

- One-on-one enrollment help
- Plans that include your doctors and prescriptions
- Confidential support tailored to LGBTQ+ needs
- Coverage for mental health, PrEP, gender-affirming care, and more



AMERICAN EXCHANGE

INCLUSIVE. AFFORDABLE. HERE FOR YOU.



June 10-12, 2026
Corpus Christi, TX

COMPETE
SPORTS NETWORK
2026 SUMMER
SPORTS BUSINESS
CONFERENCE
Sports For All™

EVENT SCHEDULE

(Tentative Schedule Subject to Change)

DMO Registration

(\$3495) \$2795*

*Special Early Bird Pricing

DMO Sponsorships Available

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10

All Day Arrivals

1:00 PM | Corpus Christi FAM

6:30 PM | Welcome Party

THURSDAY, JUNE 11

9:00 AM | Conference Day 1

1:00 PM | Tradeshow Meetings

6:30 PM | 2027 Host City Event

FRIDAY, JUNE 12

9:30 | Conference Day 2

1:00 | Open Afternoon

Afternoon Departures

SATURDAY, JUNE 11

Optional Activity

All Day Departures

GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES

- Collaborate and do business together in an intimate setting
- Walk away with new partners, proposals, RFPS, and business insights
- Participate in business and community building education and training
- Demonstrate your commitment to opening the doors to Sports For All
- Earn your SDL or SDLT designation (separate registration required)

To register or for additional information:

Trayer Martinez, SDLT
Vice President of Sports | Sports Advocate
trayer.martinez@competenetwork.com
(505) 801-4440



JUSTIN GREEN

RENO



Available Now!



RENO

IGRA Statement of Position on Animal Welfare

The International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) hereby endorses and adopts the promotion of animal welfare and the humane, responsible treatment of animals in their housing, feeding, training, exercising, and competition.

We strive to ensure that our events are purposefully tailored and executed to provide animal and human participants the safest environment possible. We shall act to immediately disqualify or reprimand any contestant, official, or contracted personnel found to be treating animals in an inhumane manner.



We Support Animal Welfare

Rodeo events sanctioned by the International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA) operate under modified rules of professional and non-gay rodeo while preserving GLBT participation in this North American tradition. Although consisting of traditional rodeo events such as bull riding and bronc riding, gay rodeo activities have purposefully been tailored to provide both animal and human participants with the safest environment possible, while still demonstrating the skill of the contestant.

IGRA uses stock animals in the sport of rodeo. Our position is that this responsible use of stock does not rise to the level of abuse. IGRA does not abuse animals, nor does it condone animal abuse at any time, in any way, by anyone.

The IGRA imposes specified rules related to animal welfare which are strictly enforced. The Association penalizes any contestant, official, or contractor found to be treating any animals inhumanely. The minimum penalty for contestants is immediate disqualification from further competition.

IGRA Certified Officials are routinely evaluated by IGRA committee chairs and educated regarding IGRA animal use policies. Stock Contractors are informed of our policies and bylaws related to animal welfare and may suffer financial penalties for failure to comply.

Specific IGRA animal use guidelines include:

- IGRA prohibits the use of electric prods in bucking chutes.
- Spur rowels in riding events have event-specific requirements.
- A fleece flank strap is used for bucking events and is not painful to animals in any way.
- Goats participating in the "Goat Dressing" event are required to be between 25 and 30 inches in height and are rested after every eight "dressings."
- Arenas are groomed and leveled for maximum horse safety during speed events.
- The use of lame, sore, sick, or undersized stock in any event at any time is prohibited.
- A large animal veterinarian must be on site from the start to the finish of every rodeo.
- IGRA directs the removal of any animal from competition that appears to be in danger of injuring itself.

Our association has an international-level Animal Issues Committee of LGBT cowboys and cowgirls that tracks issues related to animal use, annually reviews our animal use and welfare policies, and reports directly to the annual convention.

All IGRA members, contestants, certified officials, and volunteers are educated on, and responsible for, the implementation of these animal welfare policies at our member association rodeos and at the IGRA-produced World Gay Rodeo Finals®.



**PROUD
SPONSOR
OF THE
IGRA**

**Come grab your caffeine fix
before the rodeo kicks off!**





Life's Too Short For Bad Coffee

   @theroostcoffee

<https://www.theroostreno.com/> 775-399-3855



The Sundance Association for Country-Western Dancing extends a hearty welcome to all! ★ We're delighted and honored to bring back huge country-western dance parties to the World Gay Rodeo Finals, kicking off 50 years of gay rodeo. ★ If you don't know how to dance, we'll have multiple opportunities for you to learn over the weekend. ★ For details about this weekend's dancing and lessons, check out our Sundance Reno Round-Up webpage: sundancesaloon.org/reno.html. ★ And if you are ever in San Francisco, be sure to visit us at Sundance Saloon on Sunday and Thursday evenings.



Welcome to J Resort

Unleash your sense of adventure at J Resort, where every detail is designed to dazzle. Nestled in the heart of Reno's vibrant Neon Line District, J Resort is more than a getaway — it's your new favorite playground. With three hotel towers and more on the way — including new gaming, luxury restaurants, a full-service spa, indoor/outdoor pool, and immersive art experiences.



Stay. Play. Experience What's Next.



775.348.2200 | JRESORTRENO.COM
345 N. Arlington Ave., Reno, NV 89501



WGRF Buckle Sponsors

All Around Cowboy

BUCKLE SPONSORED BY:
IGRA ALUMNI COMMITTEE



All Around Cowgirl

BUCKLE SPONSORED BY:
IGRA ALUMNI COMMITTEE

Rookie Cowboy

BUCKLE SPONSORED BY:
SAM CALANDRA

Rookie Cowgirl

BUCKLE SPONSORED BY:
JENNIFER VRANA

WGRF Buckle Sponsors Camp Events

Goat Dressing

BUCKLES SPONSORED BY:
DR. RYAN ALDER &
KEVIN HILLMAN



Steer Decorating

BUCKLES SPONSORED BY:
THE J RESORT · RENO, NV

Wild Drag Race

BUCKLES SPONSORED BY:
AGRA
ARIZONA GAY
RODEO ASSOCIATION

WGRF Buckle Sponsors

Rough Stock Events

MEN'S BUCKLES SPONSORED BY:

Bull Riding

DAVID HARTWELL - IN MEMORY OF
PAUL BOYD

Steer Riding

TOM SHERIDAN

Ranch Saddle Bonc

COWBOY CHRIS TRUCKING COMPANY

Chute Dogging

GREG TINSLEY



WOMEN'S BUCKLES SPONSORED BY:

Bull Riding

NORTH STAR GAY RODEO
ASSOCIATION - NSGRA

Steer Riding

SCOTT KORFF

Ranch Saddle Bronc

COWBOY CHRIS TRUCKING COMPANY

Chute Dogging

LISA SMITH & SANDY BIDWELL
DIAMOND STATE RODEO ASSOCIATION
DSRA

WGRF Buckle Sponsors

Roping Events

Team Roping

BUCKLES SPONSORED BY:

Calf Roping

on Foot

BUCKLES SPONSORED BY:

Breakaway

Roping

BUCKLES SPONSORED BY:



HIGHPOINT PERFORMANCE

HORSES &

KEVIN MC CARY

NORTH TEXAS TRUCK STOP

MEN - ED THOMPSON

WOMEN - PAULA SCOUGAL

MEN - KEVIN MC CARY

NORTH TEXAS TRUCK STOP

WOMEN - CHRISTY COTTON

IN MEMORY OF FIREWATER

VANILLA

WGRF Buckle Sponsors

Speed Events

Barrel Race

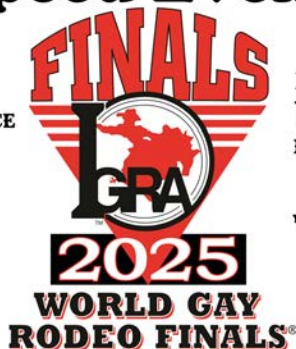
MEN & WOMEN BUCKLES

SPONSORED BY:
HIGHPOINT PERFORMANCE
HORSES

Flag Race

MEN & WOMEN BUCKLES

SPONSORED BY:
THE DISTRICT HOTEL
& THE COUNTY LINE



Pole Bending

BUCKLES SPONSORED BY:
MEN - ROBERT THURTELL
THURTELL, INC.

WOMEN - CHRISTY COTTON
IN MEMORY OF CISCO

WGRF Buckle Sponsors

Grand Marshal

SPONSORED BY: MICHIGAN INTERNATIONAL GAY
RODEO ASSOCIATION - MIGRA

Community Hero

SPONSORED BY: NV STATE ASSEMBLY MEMBER
ERICA ROTH

Wayne Jakino Western Lifestyle Award

SPONSORED BY: COLORADO GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION
CGRA

Chute Hero

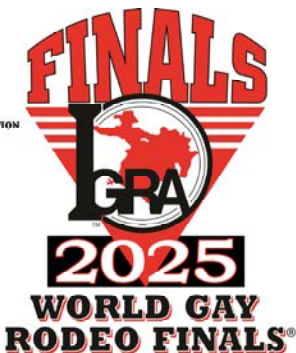
SPONSORED BY: CARL S. SCHMIDT II

WGRF Rodeo Chair

SPONSORED BY: JACK MORGAN

Rodeo Director & Assistants

SPONSORED BY:
BRIAN HELANDER
ROGER BERGMANN
MIPSY MIKELS
GREAT PLAINS RODEO ASSOCIATION - GPRA



Mr. IGRA 2026

SPONSORED BY:
TOMMY CHANNEL & DAVID HILL

Miss IGRA 2026

SPONSORED BY:
THE GAYHEART FAMILY

Ms. IGRA 2026

SPONSORED BY:
THE GAYHEART FAMILY

MsTer IGRA 2026

SPONSORED BY:
THE GAYHEART FAMILY

Mx. IGRA 2026

SPONSORED BY:
THE GAYHEART FAMILY



THANK YOU PARTNERS

Your support made this event possible.

Together, we created opportunities, built community, and inspired lasting impact.



* A big thank-you to Charlie's Phoenix for sponsoring our Roping Boxes!



VALÈNCIA
GAY GAMES XII
2026

27 JUNE - 4 JULY

**MANY SPORTS,
ONE COMMUNITY.
LET'S PLAY
TOGETHER!**



I'M ALL IN!

Scan this *Queer* code and register
soon for the Gay Games 2026

gaygamesvalencia2026.com



MEDITERRANEAN
ATTITUDE



VALÈNCIA



Proud supporters of the WGRF

Happy Hour

12:00–5:00 PM | 7 days a week

Live music Fridays and
Saturdays from 3 – 5 PM




1401 S Virginia St Ste
175, Reno, NV
(775) 622-3488

INCLINED
burgers and brews

(775) 298-7909

Reno: 1650 Robb Dr. Suite B1
North Star: 5001 Northstar drive
Midtown: 760 S. Virginia St
Inclined Village Lake Tahoe: 991 Tahoe Blvd





Climb higher.
Go farther.
See what's out there.

PALM SPRINGS AERIAL
Tramway®

760.325.1391

pstramway.com



50

FIFTY YEARS OF

GAY

RODEO

RODEO – ROYALTY – REUNION
RENO, NV 2025

