

ROBYN KENNEDY (She/her) – Associate Producer

Robyn Kennedy has been fortunate enough to combine her passion for human rights with her love of performance arts. Robyn has a long history of involvement in LGBTIQ+ activism and broader social justice and human rights issues. She has held senior management roles in government and the not-for-profit sectors where she has provided advisory services aimed at addressing social inequity and disadvantage.

Robyn is the founder of Oceania Pride Organisers and past Vice President Global Outreach and Partnerships with InterPride, the international organisation of Pride organisations. InterPride supports the growth and development of Pride to achieve the rights of LGBTQI+ people, particularly in those locations where such rights are abused.

During the 1970s, Robyn was Secretary of CAMP NSW (Campaign Against Moral Persecution) which spearheaded Australia's national LGBTQI+ rights movement. She is a 78er and a former member of the Board of Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras. During 2019, Robyn led Sydney's successful bid to host WorldPride 2023. She is a current committee member of First Mardi Gras Inc., a community organisation for 78ers.

Robyn's contribution to advancing the rights of LGBTQI+ communities was recognised in 2018 when she was awarded ACON's prestigious Community Hero Award. She has also been recognised for her contribution to LGBTQI+ and women's rights by the National Library of Australia and the State Library of NSW in their collections of audio oral histories of distinguished Australians.

Robyn holds a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Studies from the University of NSW and has completed training in scriptwriting, directing and documentary at the Australian Film, Television and Radio School. She has also completed short courses in video production and directing. She continued acting training as a member of a touring theatre company and has performed in and directed amateur theatre.

With funding secured from Screen NSW, Robyn directed and edited a feature length documentary on human rights abuses in war zones, which has been screened at international film festivals and events. She made a documentary on the First Mardi Gras Parade (*Riot for our rights*) which has also screened widely to local and international audiences. She has written and directed several short films and educational videos.

Robyn has a strong track record in fund raising. For the CAMP book she secured grants from ACON, Sydney WorldPride and Sydney Gay and Lesbian Mardi Gras as well as in kind support from the NSW State Library and the Australian Queer Archives. She has previously raised funds for films, productions and events including as part of the annual Mardi Gras season.

Robyn was prompted to write CAMP: Australia's pioneer homosexual rights activists because the story of the origins of the Pride movement in Australia and the individuals who fuelled that movement is untold. Robyn also recognises the important role our community history plays in shaping our present and future. Robyn's lived experience as a lesbian activist during decades of oppression and discrimination, as well as her ongoing commitment to LGBTQI+ rights, will lend the play inspired by CAMP's history unique authenticity. Robyn's experience in the performing arts also enables her to act as a key creative collaborator in the play's development.