

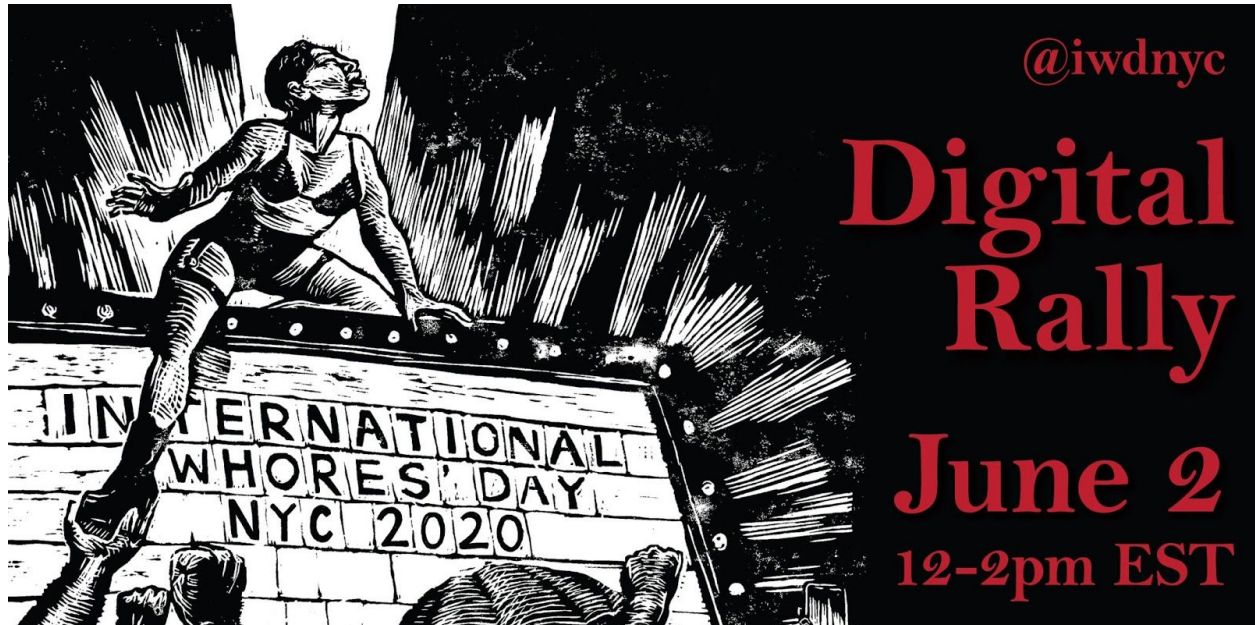
**** FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE ****

IWD NYC 2020 COALITION PRESENTS
INTERNATIONAL WHORES' DAY NYC DIGITAL RALLY

A DAY OF ACTION FOR SEX WORKERS' RIGHTS

internationalwhoresday.com

JUNE 2, 12-2PM EST



To mark the 45th anniversary of International Whores' Day (IWD), NYC-based sex worker rights activists are staging an online rally and social media takeover on June 2, 2020, honoring the global protests taking place annually. The **IWD NYC Digital Rally** is a celebration of the resilience of sex working communities and a call to action in their fight for human rights.

EVENT INFO:

TITLE: International Whores' Day NYC Digital Rally

WHAT: Live-stream event, social media rally, and zine launch honoring the 45th International Whores' Day

WHEN: June 2, 2020 12pm-2pm ET

WHERE: internationalwhoresday.com

WHO: IWD NYC 2020 Coalition and Kink Out

RSVP + INFO: tinyurl.com/IWDNYC2020

EVENT DESCRIPTION:

June 2, 2020 marks the 45th International Whores' Day (IWD), a global event that started in Lyon, France in 1975 when [over 100 sex workers protested](#) the violence and police brutality targeting their livelihood. Every year on June 2, sex workers around the world honor IWD by protesting the injustices they face, organizing community celebrations, and educating the public on the harmful policies affecting their survival and the need for the decriminalization of sex work.

On June 2, 2020, New York City-based sex workers are hosting the [IWD NYC Digital Rally](#), where sex worker organizers will speak on how they are surviving and caring for their communities. As a form of direct action, sex workers, sex work adjacent organizations, and allies worldwide will flood social media with graphics, art, and selfies featuring red, the color of sex work pride and protest.

Recognizing the importance of art and storytelling in sex worker organizing, the **IWD NYC 2020 Coalition** is also launching the [IWD NYC 2020 Zine](#), a collaboration between 20 sex workers and co-strugglers documenting their experiences, art, and forms of resistance under the current racist, anti-immigrant, classist, homophobic, transphobic, and misogynistic U.S. laws.

Sex workers cannot survive in the age of COVID-19 if they cannot work online. In 2018, [FOSTA/SESTA devastated](#) the sex industry by penalizing third-party online platforms for facilitating sexual commerce. COVID-19 related social distancing guidelines have forced sex workers to transition online, in spite of the risk of deplatforming, censorship, and surveillance. The recently proposed EARN IT act only further threatens sex workers' precarious existence online. The **IWD NYC Digital Rally** will highlight sex workers' stories of COVID-19 survival, the urgent need for the decarceration of sex workers, the impact of government legislation like [FOSTA/SESTA](#) and [EARN IT](#) on sex workers' livelihoods, and the need for the immediate decriminalization of sex work.

The [IWD NYC Digital Rally](#) lineup includes: Aneesha Andrews and Alisha King ([SWOP Bronx](#)), Ceyenne Doroshov ([G.L.I.T.S](#)), Esther K ([Red Canary Song](#)), Giselle Marie ([#NYCStripperStrike](#)), Jennifer ([Organización Latina Trans New York](#)), Leila Raven ([DecrimNY](#)), Lorelei Lee ([Hacking//Hustling](#) and [Red Canary Song](#)), Molly Simmons ([SWOP Brooklyn](#)), Raani Begum and Eve ([Philadelphia Red Umbrella Alliance](#)), Red ([Support Ho\(s\)e](#)) on behalf of Alisha Walker, RJ Thompson ([Sex Workers Project at the Urban Justive Center](#)), TS Candii (Black Trans News), Yuliana ([Make the Road NY](#)), and a statement from [Colectivo Intercultural TRANSgrediendo](#). The event is hosted by [Ashley Paige](#).

ABOUT IWD NYC 2020 COALITION

The IWD NYC 2020 Coalition is comprised of NYC-based Sex Worker Rights organizers and supported by allies. The IWD NYC 2020 Coalition calls for an end to state violence, the decriminalization of sex work, the decriminalization of survival, and safety for people who trade sex. Member organizations include: Black Trans News, [Bluestockings Bookstore, Cafe, & Activist Center](#), [Black Trans News](#), [Colectivo Intercultural TRANSgrediendo](#), [DecrimNY](#), [G.L.I.T.S.](#), [Hacking//Hustling](#), [Kink Out](#), [Make the Road NY](#), [#NYCStripperStrike](#), [Organización](#)

[Trans Latina New York](#), [Philadelphia Red Umbrella Alliance](#), [Red Canary Song](#), [Support Ho\(s\)e](#), [Support Ho\(s\)e](#), [SWOP Bronx](#), and [SWOP Brooklyn](#). More: internationalwhoresday.com | Follow: [@iwdnyc](https://twitter.com/iwdnyc)

ABOUT KINK OUT

Kink Out produces empowering events that bring people of intersectional identities with lived experience in BDSM culture and sex work together to share art, activism, work, and conversation. More: kinkoutevents.com | Follow: [@kinkoutevents](https://twitter.com/kinkoutevents)

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PROMO GRAPHICS:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Mxhq3to5b9EUFfYtQ9aV6qaluWKV9Yb?usp=sharing>

PHOTOGRAPHS:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1nBUiXBm_rx8gjnPTSuXVIBZ8t9RbZchm?usp=sharing

FOLLOW:

IWD NYC 2020 Coalition -- www.instagram.com/iwdnyc
Bluestockings Bookstore, Cafe, & Activist Center -- www.instagram.com/bluestockingsnyc
Colectivo Intercultural TRANSgrediendo -- www.instagram.com/citgny
DecrimNY -- www.instagram.com/decrimny
G.L.I.T.S. -- www.instagram.com/glits_inc
Hacking//Hustling -- www.instagram.com/hackinghustling
Kink Out -- www.instagram.com/kinkoutevents
Make the Road NY -- www.instagram.com/maketheroadny
Organización Trans Latina New York -- www.instagram.com/oltny/
Philadelphia Red Umbrella Alliance -- <https://twitter.com/phillyrua>
Red Canary Song -- www.instagram.com/redcanarysong
Sex Workers Project -- www.instagram.com/sexworkersproject/
Support Ho(s)e Collective -- www.twitter.com/supportthosechi
SWOP Brooklyn -- www.instagram.com/swopbrooklyn
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