

SDOPERA

October 30, 2020

Gerard J Buckley / Co-Chair
Gay Games San Diego 2026 Task Force

Dear Jerry,

It is with great pleasure that I write to you with my strong endorsement of San Diego as the location of the 2026 Gay Games.

I am the General Director (CEO) of San Diego Opera, one of the largest and most important arts institutions in San Diego. I was recruited here from New York City in 2015, and the reasons that make San Diego the ideal location for the Gay Games are the same that convinced me to move here as an openly-gay executive.

San Diego has a deep commitment to its LGBTQ community, which is strong, diverse, connected, and growing. This commitment comes from the highest levels of city government, and extends downwards through all civic institutions. Great commitment is being made here to increase equity, diversity, and inclusion for all residents and visitors.

Of course, the climate is ideal, which was another reason I moved here, and is another reason San Diego should be the host city for the Gay Games. A perfect climate encourages outdoor activity, and sport is enjoyed by many here.

Finally, San Diego is very experienced in hosting large conventions, and is well equipped to handle all of the necessary logistics, so the experience of participants and visitors of the Gay Games in San Diego will be wonderful.

If I can be of further help, don't hesitate to have the Federation of Gay Games contact me at david.bennett@sdopera.org.

Sincerely,



David Bennett
General Director

SAN DIEGO OPERA
233 A Street, Suite 500
San Diego, CA 92101
T 619.232.7636
F 619.231.6915
sdopera.org