



GLBT
Historical
Society
museum & archives

2018 Annual Report

About the GLBT Historical Society

Founded in 1985, the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Historical Society is recognized internationally as a leader in the field of queer public history. Our operations are centered around two sites: The GLBT Historical Society Museum, located since 2011 in the heart of San Francisco's Castro neighborhood; and our Archives and Research Center, open to researchers in the Mid-Market District.

Our Mission

The GLBT Historical Society collects, preserves, exhibits and makes accessible to the public materials and knowledge to support and promote understanding of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer history, culture and arts in all their diversity.

Our Vision

We envision a world in which LGBTQ people are appreciated and celebrated by one another in all their diversity and by all people for their contributions to history and culture.

We envision a world in which everyone can learn about LGBTQ history as a vital means for promoting civic engagement, social justice and political change.

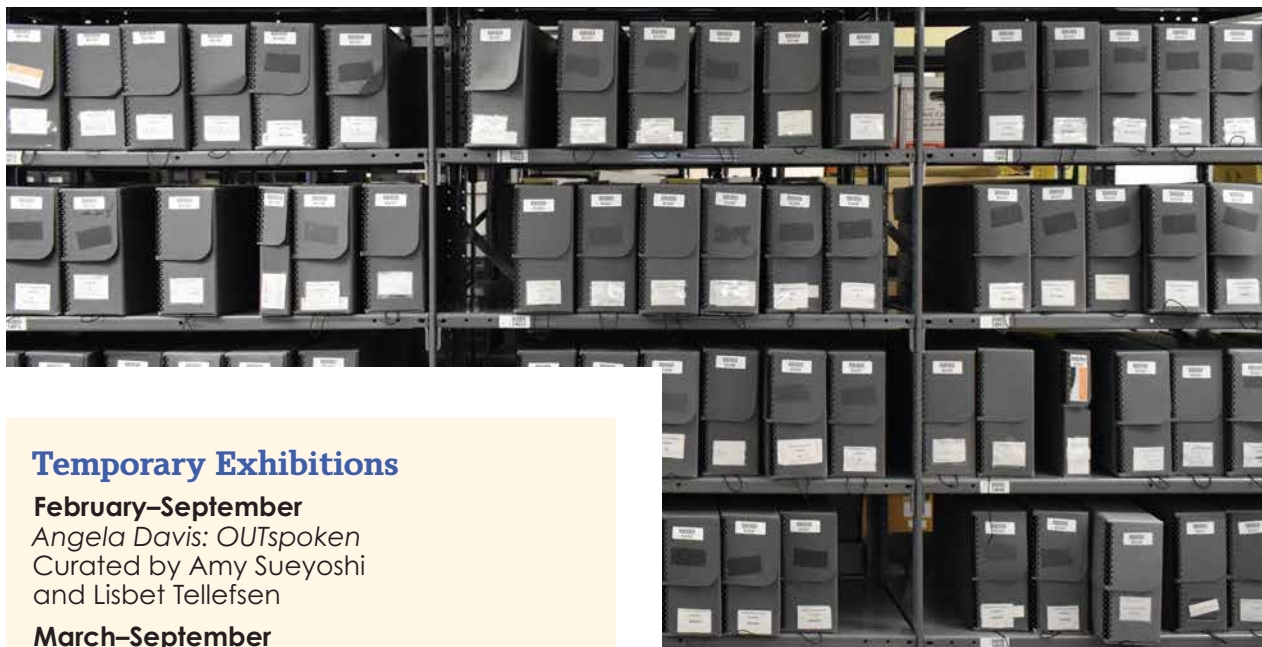
We envision a world in which LGBTQ people find acceptance, strength and pride in acknowledging their heritage and in sharing it with society as a whole.

Our Values

We believe that knowledge of our diverse LGBTQ past is an invaluable resource for understanding the challenges of the present and inspiring dreams for a future of greater social justice.

We appreciate the importance of LGBTQ history for building community and promoting connection.

We support debate, dialogue and discussion about the LGBTQ past as a way to educate, inspire and empower LGBTQ people and our allies in building our future.



Stacks of the GLBT Historical Society archives; photo by Jeremy Prince.

Temporary Exhibitions

February–September

Angela Davis: OUTspoken
Curated by Amy Sueyoshi
and Lisbet Tellefsen

March–September

Empowerment in Print: LGBTQ Activism, Pride and Lust
Curated by Joanna Black
and Jeremy Prince

September 2018–January 2019

The Briggs Initiative: A Scary Proposition
Curated by Susan Englander, Paula
Lichtenberg and Glenne McElhinney

October 2018–February 2019

*A Picture Is A Word: The Posters of
Rex Ray*
Curated by Cydney Payton
and Amy Scholder

Selected Educational Forums

Disability and the LGBTQ Community

Queers and the Class Divide

Sex in the Streets: Akimbo, AIDS and
Cultural Activism, 1989–1992

Latinx Queerness: LGBTQ Visibility
in Bay Area Latinx Arts

We'wha: The Life and Times of a
Traditional Two Spirit

Selected Accessions: 2018

The 15 Association Collection

Bear Ephemera and Archival
Repository Collection

June Campbell Photographs

Woods Ervin Collection of Transgender
Gendervariant Intersex Justice
Project Records

Lorraine Hurdle Papers

Lesbian Archives of Sonoma
County Collection

Martin Jones Collection

Nob Hill Theatre Collection

Frank Pietronigro Papers

Gayle Reichert Collection of Martha
Courtot Papers

Philip Zimmerman Papers

Jan Zobel Papers



Thank you for your support!

Spurred on by growing public and scholarly interest in LGBTQ history, in 2018 we invested in our strengths—the unparalleled scope of our archives and the powerful impact of our museum—to ensure the GLBT Historical Society's long-term capacity to preserve, document and disseminate our diverse and inspiring histories.

We are particularly pleased that even as the society has grown into one of the world's foremost queer history institutions, we continue to honor our roots as a community-based organization with deep representation of the full spectrum of Northern California's LGBTQ people and cultures.

The dynamism of our activities is reflected in the diversity of our museum exhibitions and the growing interest in our educational programs and archives. In 2018 we organized four major exhibitions drawing on our rich archival holdings. Visitors from all over the world have made our jewel-box museum in the Castro a must-see

destination on their itineraries; in fact, the majority of guests every year hail from outside California.

Our archives staff were busy accessioning new collections in 2018, receiving three times more donations than in 2017. To meet this growing demand, we have hired new staff, developed and launched a new, user-friendly website and redoubled our digitization efforts to make a significant selection of our archival holdings available online.

In 2018, the first year in our Five Year Strategic Plan: 2018–2022, we laid the groundwork for establishing a permanent home for our archives and museum. We focused on building our capacity for growth, strengthening our financial and governance systems and developing a conceptual plan for a new museum and archives—key steps in our multiyear planning process.

Of course, everything we do is on behalf of the LGBTQ community and is made possible by our members, donors and supporters who share our passion for queer history. Whether you donate to our annual fund or become a member, whether you contribute to the archives or include us in your planned giving, whether you volunteer at the museum or simply bring a friend for a visit, you are helping us keep our LGBTQ history alive.

In pursuit of knowledge and understanding through our shared history.

Two handwritten signatures in black ink. The first signature is 'Terry Beswick' and the second is 'Tina Valentin Aguirre'.

Terry Beswick
Executive Director

Tina Valentin Aguirre
Chair, Board of Directors

Left: "Free Angela and All Political Prisoners" poster, artist and publisher unknown (Oakland, California, 1971); collection of Lisbet Tellefsen.
Center: Photo by Crawford Wayne Barton; collection of the GLBT Historical Society.
Right: Cover of XY Magazine, No. 12 (April-May 1998); collection of the GLBT Historical Society.

Museum

In the Castro

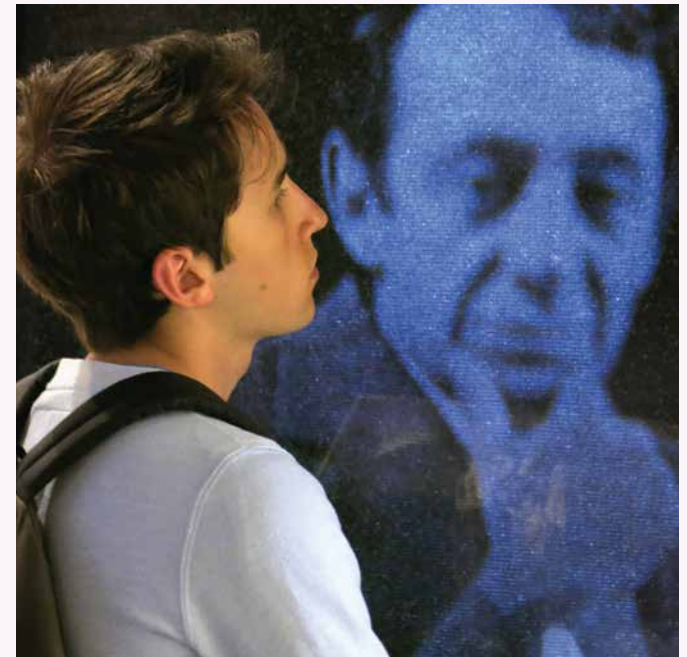
Seven Years of Education and Outreach

Anchoring our presence in the Castro district since 2011, the GLBT Historical Society Museum continues to attract visitors from down the street and around the globe, serving as a space for learning, social engagement and community-building through new exhibitions and powerful programming.

In 2018 we mounted four temporary exhibitions on topics ranging from grassroots queer political activism to graphic arts. Drawing on rare posters and ephemera from a private collection, *Angela Davis: OUTspoken* depicted the journey of Angela Davis from radical scholar to political prisoner to revolutionary icon to public intellectual to out lesbian. The society's expansive periodicals collection formed the basis of *Empowerment in Print: LGBTQ Activism, Pride and Lust*. The exhibition displayed one title drawn from the society's archives for every letter of the alphabet, illustrating how queer people have used periodicals to form social networks, share culture, express desire and inspire activism.

In the autumn, *The Briggs Initiative: A Scary Proposition* commemorated the 40th anniversary of the defeat of a California ballot measure that would have banned lesbian and gay people and supporters of lesbian and gay rights from teaching in public schools. We closed out the year with *A Picture is a Word: The Posters of Rex Ray*, surveying the graphic work of an internationally renowned San Francisco queer artist and designer who used repeating symbols and iconography appropriated from sources as varied as Warhol, mid-century typography and design, and everyday objects.

Our wide-ranging public program series attracted growing audiences over the course of the year, with the museum hosting four dozen programs and events. To develop the content and promote attendance, we partnered with numerous LGBTQ history, arts, culture and educational organizations, including Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits, the Our Family Coalition, the James C. Hormel LGBTQIA Center at the San Francisco Public Library and the Mission Cultural Center for Latino Arts. In addition, our enthusiastic volunteer docents gave nearly 80 guided tours of the museum to student groups, community organizations, professional groups and other visitors.



Top: "Never Again! Fight Back!" silk-screened poster sold as a fundraiser for the No on Six campaign (San Francisco: Too Much Graphics, 1978); collection of the GLBT Historical Society.

Bottom: A visitor to the museum listens intently to the recorded will of Harvey Milk; photo by Gerard Koskovich.

Archives

Market Street Downtown

Expanding Our Collections

The GLBT Historical Society's archives had a successful and growth-filled 2018. We welcomed additional staff members, acquired a number of important new collections and made a variety of digital resources available to researchers. In October, in recognition of a major bequest from the estate of Dr. John P. De Cecco (1925–2017), a professor of psychology at San Francisco State University, we formally renamed our archives the Dr. John P. de Cecco Archives and Special Collections.

Robust collection development remains one of the key priorities for the archives. In 2018, we accessioned an impressive 61 new collections, a nearly threefold increase over the previous year, and made publicly available over 80 updated collection catalog records. Among the exciting new collections we received were the Lorraine Hurdle Papers, documenting the life of an African American lesbian who served in the United States Women's Army Corps in Germany during World War II. Our already extensive repository of LGBTQ organizational records was joined by The 15 Association Records, detailing the activities of a longstanding San Francisco-based men's BDSM club, and the Woods Ervin Collection of Transgender Gendervariant Intersex Justice Project Records. We also received objects, signs and ephemera from the Nob Hill Theatre, a long-running San Francisco gay male erotic entertainment venue that closed in August 2018.

Another priority in 2018 was the expansion of our digital collections, making content more readily discoverable and accessible. Wrapping up a project begun in 2017, we successfully completed the digitization of the *Bay Area Reporter*, the longest-running continuously published LGBTQ newspaper in the United States; all issues of the publication from its founding in 1971 to the launch of the BAR website in 2005 are now posted online and are keyword searchable. In addition, an ongoing National Endowment for the Humanities grant shared with the San Francisco Public Library and the University of California at San Francisco enabled us to digitize and post online three significant collections related to the early years of the AIDS epidemic.

In partnership with DIVA, a web platform supported by San Francisco State University, we have made available over 4,000 images from three of our most frequently used photographic collections: the Crawford Wayne Barton Papers, the Robert Pruzan Papers and the Henri Leleu Papers. Finally, a grant from the City of San Francisco's Historic Preservation Fund Committee enabled us to begin work on a processing project that will describe, photograph and make digitally available materials from our extensive Art and Artifacts Collection. This project will continue through 2019.



Top: Lorraine Hurdle playing pool (circa 1950); photographer unknown, collection of the GLBT Historical Society.
Bottom: Fe-Be's bar, photograph by Henri Leleu (ca. 1970); collection of the GLBT Historical Society.

By The Numbers 2018

4 Exhibitions Mounted

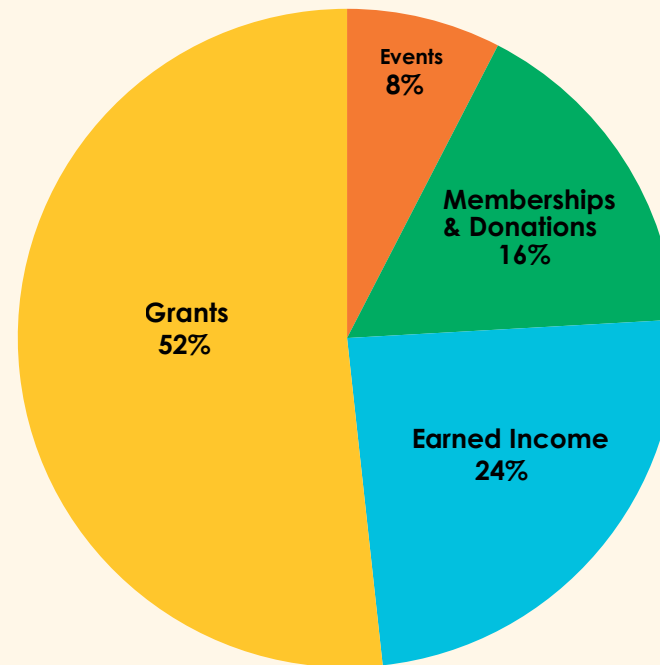
**61 New Archival Collections
Accessioned**

**4,000 Digital Images Made
Available**

26,000 Museum Visitors

45 Educational Forums

80 Group Tours of Museum



Revenue

Events

\$84,559

Memberships & Donations

\$184,500

Earned income

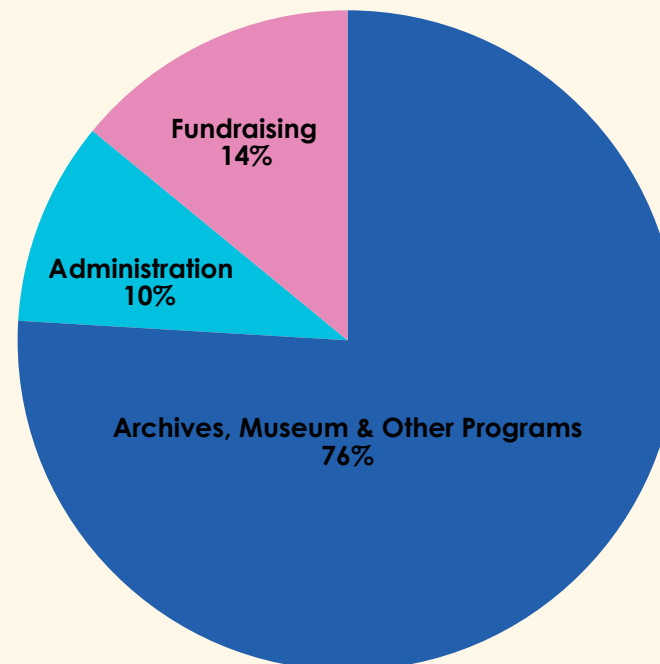
\$269,619

Grants

\$577,237

Total Revenue:

\$1,115,915



Expenses

Archives, Museum & Other Programs

\$857,234

Administration

\$112,887

Fundraising

\$158,651

Total Expenses:

\$1,128,772

For full financials,
please visit our website:
glbthistory.org/reports

Making History

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board officers as of June 30, 2019

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Tina Valentin Aguirre

Treasurer

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Secretary

Nick Large

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Rigoberto Marquez
Lito Sandoval
Marc Stein
Miko Thomas

Executive Director

Terry Beswick

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Steven Correll
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Alicia Garza
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Jordy Jones
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Julia Serano
Sarah Schulman
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Marc Stein

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Joanna Black

Exhibitions

Elisabeth Cornu

Historic Places

Shayne Watson

Programming & Education

Lito Sandoval

SUPPORTERS

City & County of San Francisco

Grants for the Arts | Hotel Tax Fund
Mayor's Office of Economic
& Workforce Development
Mayor's Office of Housing
& Community Development
San Francisco Arts Commission

State of California

The California Natural Resources Agency

Presenting (\$20,000 or more)

The Bob Ross Foundation
Darlene deManincor & Emily Rosenberg

Platinum (\$10,000 or more)

AT&T California
Al Baum & Robert Holgate
Excelerate Foundation
Google Inc.
Wells Fargo Foundation

Gold (\$5,000 or more)

Sasha Aickin & Jason Tester
Elisabeth Cornu
The James Irvine Foundation
David Kessler, M.D.

Silver (\$2,500 or more)

The 15 Association
Tina Valentin Aguirre & Bill Jennings
Randy Alfred
Anonymous
Another Planet Entertainment
Bill Graham Memorial Foundation
Paul Chin
Dropbox
Folsom Street Events
Gary Garrels & Richard Hoblock
Rex Ray Inc.
Lito Sandoval
Chris Verdugo

Bronze (\$1,000 or more)

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Zane Blaney & John Caldwell
Paul Christensen
Community Thrift Store
CSAA Insurance Group
Kevin Cureton & Alex Lemberg
Calvin Doucet
Trent Dunphy & Robert Mainardi
Kevin Gerber

Susan Goldstein & Andrew Kivel
Peter Groom
Richard Hoffman & Harry Todd
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The PG&E Corporation Foundation
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Jeffrey Robinson & Cornelis Van Aalst
Donna Sachet
Mark Sawchuk
Andrew Sweeney
Brian Turner
Scott R. Vandenberg

In-Kind Donors

Ace Hotel & Swim Club
American Conservatory Theater
Anchor Oyster Bar
AsiaSF
Beach Blanket Babylon
Berkeley Symphony
Ken Bukowski
Chez Panisse
Cliff's Variety
The Commonwealth Club
Ed Conley
The Contemporary Jewish Museum
Creatis Group Inc.
Carl Croft & Steve Fletcher
Bobbie Davis
Delfina
DiPietro Todd Salon
Dogpatch Boulders
Emmy's Spaghetti Shack
Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco
Foreign Cinema
Good Vibrations
Dave Hendrickson
Heron Lake Vineyard & Winery
Hotel Kabuki
The Hyatt Palm Springs
Jardinière
Gerard Koskovich
The Laurel Inn
Nancy Boy
New Conservatory Theatre Center
Daniel Nicoletta
Cydney Payton
The Progress
Purple Palm Restaurant
The Queer Gym
The Saguaro Palm Springs
San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus

San Francisco Wine Group

Amy Scholder
SFMOMA
SHN Theatres
Marc Stein
Taj Campton Place
Theatre Rhinoceros
Urban Putt
Virgil's Sea Room
Waterfront Hotel

Legacy Circle

Randy Alfred
William Alverson
Daniel Bao
Neil Austin & Tom Burtch
Frederick J. Baumer
Tomlinson Holman & Friederich Koenig
Larry Lare Nelson
Brian Turner
Andreas Weigend

We also thank our many members who support the GLBT Historical Society's museum and archives.

VISION2020

HONORING OUR HERITAGE
& BUILDING OUR FUTURE



Donate to our annual fund, **Vision 2020**, to help create the LGBTQ Museum and Research Center in San Francisco. Vision 2020 is a multiyear capacity-building campaign to prepare for a comprehensive center for LGBTQ public history. This world-class facility with galleries, events space and archives is expected to be much larger than our current museum and will allow us to do justice to our richly diverse community's past. All funds will help the GLBT Historical Society build its development capacity in preparation for a capital campaign.

To join in this vital work, please make a tax-deductible donation today:

glbthistory.org/donate

Five-Year Strategic Plan 2018–2022

The strategic plan provides a framework to guide the further growth and evolution of the society over the next few years. The plan is structured around the following five goals:

Goal 1: Continue to build our archival collections, while improving access to the collections and the diversity of communities and individuals they represent.

Goal 2: Establish a permanent home for exhibitions, archives, and programs where the stories and cultures of our diverse LGBTQ communities can be shared.

Goal 3: Develop collaborations with other institutions to reach young people and other diverse audiences with the lessons of LGBTQ history and culture.

Goal 4: Communicate effectively who we are and what we have to offer.

Goal 5: Develop organizational structures and policies to increase stability and ensure sustainable growth.

The entire plan is available on the society's website:
glbthistory.org/reports

Dr. John P. De Cecco Archives & Special Collections

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San Francisco, CA 94103
415-777-5455

GLBT Historical Society Museum


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San Francisco, CA 94114
415-621-1107

The GLBT Historical Society is a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.
Tax ID #94-2989004



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