



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60601

**ROD R. BLAGOJEVICH**  
GOVERNOR

November 1, 2005

GREETINGS

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to welcome all in attendance to the **2005 Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame Ceremony.**

Illinois has truly come a long way since you last gathered for the 2004 Hall of Fame. Earlier this year, I signed Senate Bill 3186. This law, which will take effect on January 1, 2006, protects Illinoisans from discrimination based on sexual orientation, sending the strong message that discriminatory behaviors of any kind will never be tolerated in Illinois. I am proud that we are the 15<sup>th</sup> state in the nation to extend equal protection to LGBT citizens, and I know that this is a critical step forward in the continuing struggle for equality.

I am honored to congratulate each individual and organization being inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame for 2005. In your own unique endeavors, you have achieved terrific success while serving as an inspiration to the entire LGBT community. You have been outspoken advocates for equal rights and have worked hard time and again to serve the interests of all LGBT citizens. I thank you for your ongoing dedication - you are all very deserving of induction into this prestigious Hall of Fame.

On behalf of the citizens of Illinois, I offer my best wishes to all for an enjoyable and memorable event, and continued success in the years to come.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rod Blagojevich". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Rod" and last name "Blagojevich" clearly legible.

Rod R. Blagojevich  
Governor

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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
CITY OF CHICAGO  
November 1, 2005

RICHARD M. DALEY  
MAYOR

GREETINGS

As Mayor and on behalf of the City of Chicago, it is my pleasure to extend warmest greetings to the inductees, sponsors, and supporters of the 2005 Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

Over the years, our lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities have made many valuable contributions to our city, and will continue to play an important role in Chicago's future. The Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame highlights the many ways that individuals and organizations in the LGBT communities have unified and enriched our city.

I commend the Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame for creating a forum to discuss human rights issues and for honoring the contributions of our LGBT residents. I look forward to continuing to work with the LGBT communities to ensure that all Chicagoans are treated equally and with dignity.

Best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable event.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Richard M. Daley". The signature is stylized with a large initial "R" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mayor



City of Chicago  
Richard M. Daley, Mayor

Commission on Human Relations

Clarence N. Wood  
Chairman/Commissioner

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Chicago, Illinois 60610  
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Bernarda Wong

November 1, 2005

Dear Friends,

Chicago has something no other city in the country has: an established, city-sponsored Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame. On behalf of the City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations, I am honored that our Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues is in the vanguard of recognizing the achievements of its communities, because those achievements have contributed significantly to the City of Chicago.

The Commission and our Advisory Council represent a strong alliance for fairness, equality, and justice. Working together, and in collaboration with the leadership of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) communities, we are advocates for human rights and the fair treatment of all segments of our diverse city.

The LGBT communities have a well-deserved reputation for innovations and advancements in civic, cultural, and scientific endeavors. The Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame is a crucial reminder to the City of Chicago that while we rejoice in honoring the city's LGBT communities we are also singling out individuals and organizations committed to making Chicago a thriving and vital city for everyone.

The 2005 inductees of the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame have my admiration and support. I congratulate them for their achievements, which make Chicago a better city for all its residents.

Sincerely,

Clarence N. Wood  
Chairman



## **CHICAGO GAY AND LESBIAN HALL OF FAME**

The Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame is both a historic event and an exhibit. Through the Hall of Fame, residents of Chicago and our country are made aware of the contributions of Chicago's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities and the communities' efforts to eradicate bias and discrimination.

With the support of the City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations, the Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues (now the Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues) established the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame in June 1991. The inaugural induction ceremony took place during Pride Week at City Hall, hosted by Mayor Richard M. Daley. This was the first event of its kind in the country.

The Hall of Fame recognizes the volunteer and professional achievements of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender individuals, their organizations, and their friends, as well as their contributions to the LGBT communities and to the city of Chicago. This is a unique tribute to dedicated persons and organizations whose services have improved the quality of life for all of Chicago's citizens.

The nominee must have made either (1) a single, far-reaching contribution or (2) significant long-term contributions to the quality of life of Chicago's lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender communities or the city of Chicago.

The Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame is privately funded through generous donations from individuals, businesses, and organizations. Staff support is provided by the City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations, members of the Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues, and volunteers.

The selection of inductees for the Hall of Fame is made by former recipients of the award based on nominations from the general public. Planning is under way for a permanent location for the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame display.

**2005 PLANNING COMMITTEE  
CHICAGO GAY AND LESBIAN HALL OF FAME**

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Mike Tolentino

Modesto “Tico” Valle  
Selection Subcommittee Co-Chairperson

Adrian Williams

Israel Wright

**2005 INDUCTEES**  
**CHICAGO GAY AND LESBIAN HALL OF FAME**

Alexandra Billings

Megan Carney

Aldo Castillo

John D'Emilio

Mike McHale

Jim Pickett

The Rev. Juan Reed

Mike Savage

Catherine Sikora

Lawrence E. Sloan

Merry Mary  
Friend of the Community

Carol Ronen  
Friend of the Community

Equality Illinois

Test Positive Aware Network



## ALEXANDRA BILLINGS

Besides acting, Alexandra Billings serves as an educator, mentor, advisor, fund-raiser, and role model, especially for teenagers who are GLBT (gay, lesbian, bisexual, or transgender).

Through her stellar example and candid communication while associated with HealthWorks Theatre, which is an educational theater aimed at young persons, Billings educated youth through performance and discussions about AIDS-related issues and the importance of living with AIDS.

In her 18 years of teaching, Billings has served as a Viewpoints associate at Steppenwolf Theatre Company's school and an artistic associate and teacher at About Face Theatre. She also serves on the board of directors for Season of Concern, the Chicago theater community's AIDS fund-raising group.

Billings was featured on the cover of the *Advocate* in 2000, appeared in a "Spotlight" segment of the "Entertainment Tonight" television series in 2000, and has been the subject of several articles in *Poz* magazine.

Her peers in the GLBT communities have recognized Billings as an unofficial spokesperson for the transgender community on AIDS and life issues. Unabashedly proud of her own identity, she has served as a positive role model for silent transgender young persons in Chicago and elsewhere.

Since age 5, Billings has been involved with theater. Her father was a musical director. In her late teens, she embraced her transgender identity and began her career as Shanté, eventually landing a job at Chicago's famous Baton Show Lounge, where she was a "Baton Girl" for almost five years.

In 1987, she starred in Charles Busch's *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom* during its Chicago premiere at the Royal George Theatre. She also starred in several dramatic and comedic shows, eventually persuading critics and the public to embrace her talent rather than question her sex.

Prompted by a suggestion of David Zak, artistic director of Bailiwick Repertory Theatre, Billings wrote and starred in her one-woman autobiographical piece, *Before I Disappear*, in 1993. Revised four times and produced in Chicago, Boston, and New York, it offered a first-hand education to those living with HIV and AIDS. In late 1996, Billings crossed into "mainstream" theater by landing the pivotal role of Alejandra in Charles L. Mee's *Time To Burn*, which ran in February and March 1997 at Steppenwolf. The production won a Jeff Award for best ensemble from the Joseph Jefferson Awards Committee.

Billings filmed her first television movie in 2003, ABC's *Romy and Michele: In the Beginning*, which aired in February 2004. She recalls her role as being the first in which a transgender female played a transgender female character on television. Billings has also guest-starred in episodes of *ER* and *Karen Sisco*.

Billings lives on Chicago's North Side with her wife Chrisanne and their two cats.



## MEGAN CARNEY

Megan Carney has changed the landscape of Chicago's sexual-minority communities through her commitment to the healthy development of LGBTQA (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, allied) youth.

Since becoming a founding staff member at About Face Youth Theatre seven years ago, Carney has been in the forefront of creating programming for LGBTQ youth that validates their experiences, helps them to grow personally, and empowers them to create positive change within their communities.

The six shows that Carney has written, directed, and produced for About Face Youth Theatre not only have had an impact on the youth members of the ensemble. These poignant stories also have been shared across Illinois through the high-school outreach tour. The outreach shows, which have been seen by a total audience of about 10,000, are coupled with a post-performance dialogue about acceptance and have been very well received.

In 2005, Carney received the ToniArmstrong Jr. Pathfinder Award from GLSEN Chicago, the local chapter of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network.

Besides her history of examining LGBTQ youth issues through performance while artistic director at About Face, Carney has produced several other projects that address social justice questions, including *Turning CORners*, a play she created in 2002 that explores true experiences with race and racism. In addition to performances at other venues, *Turning CORners* was presented at Queen of Peace High School in the Chicago suburb of Burbank after the school encountered serious problems with race issues. The acronym COR in the play's title stands for Catholic Schools Opposing Racism, an organization that was founded by Queen of Peace in 1997. The play also toured to the Illinois High School Theatre Festival.

In addition to her About Face career, Carney has been on the faculty of the Urban Studies Program of the Associated Colleges of the Midwest and has taught for the Jane Addams Hull House Association's Uptown Center, the Chicago Park District, and Anixter Center.

Recently, Carney has been engaged in writing and producing *The Home Project*, a groundbreaking work that seeks to address the issue of LGBT youth homelessness in Chicago by raising awareness and creating dialogue within the LGBT and larger communities. She also plans to earn a degree of Master of Fine Arts in Theater, with a focus on directing and public dialogue.



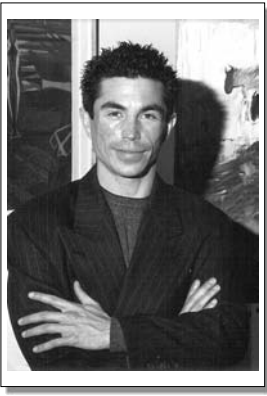


PHOTO: ALDO CASTILLO GALLERY

## ALDO CASTILLO

Since his arrival in Chicago, Aldo Castillo has been a tireless charitable fund-raiser, an ardent advocate of Latin American art, and a committed human rights activist.

Castillo was born in Nicaragua amid a civil war. Instead of being caught up in it as a combatant, he was able to study architecture and graphic design at Rafael Landívar University in Guatemala City. There, he had the opportunity to learn from several famous artists, including the late Dagoberto Vásquez. He also studied with other artists in Lima, Peru, and is himself a gifted sculptor.

From 1982 to 1985 in Guatemala City, Castillo was a curator and graphic designer at Francisco Marroquín University's Popol Vuh Museum, which specializes in Mayan art, colonial art, and folklore. While there, he organized numerous important exhibitions.

In 1985, Castillo came to the United States on a scholarship to the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. After being granted political asylum in 1986 and completing studies, he worked for the publishers Scott, Foresman & Company and HarperCollins.

As art dealer and curator, Castillo has mounted more than 200 exhibitions and has worked with the art programs of several corporations. In 1993, he opened Chicago's well-known Aldo Castillo Gallery. It specializes in Latin American art, promotes both established masters and emerging talent, and fosters an appreciation of cultural history through lectures, performances, classes, and other events both in and outside the gallery. The gallery has received many artistic and business awards.

As fund-raiser and donor, he has assisted such institutions as Chicago House, River North Dance Company, the Joffrey Ballet of Chicago, NAMES Project, the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, museums of Latin American art, and parks and disaster relief organizations.

As activist, besides AIDS Foundation of Chicago board membership, he volunteered in the Latino program for STOP AIDS Chicago and worked on projects with IMPACT, the early gay and lesbian political action committee.

In 2005, Castillo formed the Aldo Castillo Arts Foundation, a recognized section 501(c)(3) organization to which tax-deductible contributions are sought. Its aim is to promote emerging and established worldwide artists and to foster education about the diversity of art. The foundation and gallery artists are currently collaborating with the long-established Neumann Association on a mural project that will focus on mental illness and those who live with it. The mural will be unveiled in April 2006 as part of the Chicago Festival of Disability Arts and Culture.

As an openly gay and openly HIV-positive human rights activist and artist, Castillo has blazed trails of distinction.



PHOTO: JIM OLESON

## JOHN D'EMILIO

John D'Emilio's work in the field of GLBT (gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender) history has had far-reaching impact.

He earned his Ph.D. in 1982 from Columbia University as well as earlier degrees there and was one of the first academics and activists in the country to begin work on gay scholarship. This is reflected in his numerous essays published in the *Harvard Gay and Lesbian Review*, *Journal of Sex Research*, and *New York University Review of Law & Social Change*; in contributions to anthologies;

and in eight books, which include *Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities: The Making of a Homosexual Minority in the United States, 1940–1970* (published in 1983); *Intimate Matters: A History of Sexuality in America*, co-written with Estelle B. Freedman (1988); *The World Turned: Essays on Gay History, Politics, and Culture* (2002); and his latest, *Lost Prophet: The Life and Times of Bayard Rustin* (2003), a biography of the noted U.S. civil rights leader who was also gay.

D'Emilio has taught at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and the University of Illinois at Chicago. He has been on the UIC faculty since 1999. He is a former director of the UIC Gender and Women's Studies Program and serves as professor of history and gender and women's studies.

In addition, he was responsible for writing, researching, lecturing, and planning as the founding director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Policy Institute from 1995 to 1997. From 1988 to 1993 he was a member of the NGLTF board of directors, which he co-chaired for two years.

D'Emilio's activism and scholarship have been recognized by grants, awards, lecture invitations, and fellowships from many institutions, including the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies (CLAGS) at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York, and the Lambda Literary Foundation.

He has worked as a member of the UIC Chancellor's Committee on the Status of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Issues; as a member of the CLAGS advisory board; and as a member of several other boards, including the editorial board of the *Journal of Homosexuality*. He currently serves on the board of directors of Chicago's Gerber/Hart Library.

In the 1980s and 1990s, D'Emilio submitted affidavits in support of litigants challenging the constitutionality of sodomy statutes. In the most significant such case, D'Emilio and Freedman's *Intimate Matters* was cited by the landmark U.S. Supreme Court majority opinion in *Lawrence v. Texas*, 539 U.S. 558 (2003), which declared consensual "sodomy" laws to be unconstitutional. D'Emilio was also a co-author of a historians' brief, which the Court cited as well.

His professional career has helped to inspire our future while reflecting our past and enriching our present.



## MIKE MCHALE

Ever since law school, Mike McHale has worked to better Chicagoans' lives through political activism, neighborhood organizing, and professional achievement.

He has had a productive career since 1991 as a Cook County assistant state's attorney, prosecuting numerous high-profile murder and other felony cases as well as hundreds of misdemeanor and domestic violence cases, and always conducting himself within the state's attorney's office as an openly gay man.

He now supervises and trains assistant state's attorneys in criminal law and procedure, assesses and prepares cases for preliminary hearings and grand jury indictments, and is a murder trial specialist in the office's Cold Case Homicide Unit.

Because of his honesty, McHale has been a role model for new lawyers who otherwise might doubt whether they could succeed without concealing their sexuality.

In the Uptown neighborhood, besides involvement with his block club, with ward Democratic politics, and with the police C.A.P.S. program, McHale was president of the Margate Park Advisory Council from 2000 to 2004. That role involved public safety, traffic, and park issues and included supervising a two-year community input and design process that resulted in opening a new Margate Park playlot in 2004.

For the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) communities of Chicago, McHale has been a leader in the Metropolitan Sports Association, the Midwest's largest LGBT sports organization. He has been a softball player in the group since 1989 and for years has coached teams, run leagues, provided legal assistance, and served on its board.

His LGBT activism experience has occupied most of his adult life, beginning while he was still studying at DePaul University College of Law, where he founded and chaired an LGBT law student organization.

He has been continually involved in Equality Illinois (formerly the Illinois Federation for Human Rights) as a steadfast volunteer worker since it was organized in 1991, as a board member since 1995, and later, since 2003, as president. He even spent his vacation time lobbying in Springfield for what in 2005 became passage of an LGBT rights bill by the Illinois General Assembly, culminating three decades of activists' efforts.

McHale's dedication to public service and his professional achievements have already marked him as one of Chicago's leading community figures. On October 19, he announced his candidacy for the Democratic nomination to be a judge of the Cook County Circuit Court.



PHOTO: RUSSELL MCGONAGLE

## JIM PICKETT

As a writer, activist, openly HIV-positive gay man, and now a policy leader, Jim Pickett has played a role in the Chicago LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) community that spans more than a decade.

In 1993, his career started at *Babble* (later *Gab*), a pioneering community weekly magazine that turned a satirical eye on the city's gay nightlife and political scene.

After five years consulting with the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH), he is now director of public policy at the AIDS Foundation of Chicago.

An overarching theme of Pickett's activist career has been empowering individuals in the LGBT and the HIV/AIDS communities to take responsibility for their health.

He led a groundbreaking project at CDPH titled "Faces of AIDS: Living in the Heartland." The project put a human face on the HIV epidemic and helped people with HIV/AIDS in the Midwest to speak out against discrimination and fear.

He also led the city's Syphilis Elimination Task Force, a social marketing campaign launched in 2001 and aimed at encouraging gay men to be tested routinely for syphilis. Reported syphilis infections later dropped after an alarming rise in 2000.

One of his ongoing causes has been activism on microbicide research. He has raised awareness in Chicago and nationally about the need for a new tool for women and gay men to protect themselves against HIV transmission.

This year, Pickett led 150 activists to Springfield, and one activist from each of the state's 19 congressional districts to Washington, D.C., in order to lobby for measures against HIV/AIDS.

He has written articles for several local and national publications on topics related to civil rights, HIV/AIDS programs and policy, LGBT health, and progressive politics. He also edited a national listserv that reached thousands of subscribers internationally.

Beginning in 2002, Pickett and colleagues in the Chicago Task Force on LGBT Substance Use and Abuse wrote *Abuse?*, a road map for Chicago toward reducing harm from substance abuse among LGBT persons, which was published by city government in early 2005. Today, he is spearheading a social marketing campaign against crystal methamphetamine.

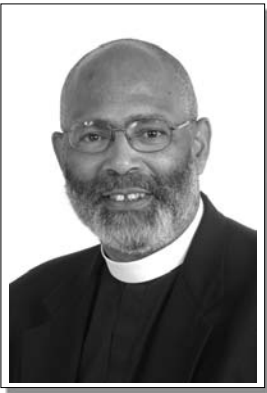


PHOTO: ISRAELWRIGHTPHOTOGRAPHS.COM

## THE REV. JUAN REED

From 1991 to the present, Father Juan Reed has been vicar of St. Martin's Episcopal Church, at 5710 West Midway Park on Chicago's West Side. When he arrived, St. Martin's was coping with shifting demographics because of white flight, with threats of urban blight, with a neglected physical plant, with a liturgy that had not been revised, and with dissension when changes were proposed.

According to its current mission statement, St. Martin's is committed to dismantling racism and working for social justice; welcomes those who are unchurched or whose needs and aspirations are unfulfilled by traditional churches; welcomes and affirms African American LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) people and the unique contributions they bring to the church; and welcomes and affirms multiple types of families.

In the words of his nominator, "It seems as if Rev. Reed has always been here. He is a man who has taken the meaning of the Scriptures' call to 'love thy neighbor' and made it whole and real for everyday life." In contrast to members of the clergy who cite religious books as the basis for antigay teachings, Reed has been a visible, openly gay, and committed Christian minister within the West Side's African American population. Reed has said, "At St. Martin's we break the tradition open, not destroy it. To be Anglican does not mean to be Anglo. Our Anglicanism does not have to be expressed in a Eurocentric way. At St. Martin's it's done in a very black way. . . . What we decided and discerned was that God is calling us to do what those other black churches are not doing, like teaching ministries to address ex-offenders and persons with HIV and AIDS, tackling African American lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender issues, linking issues of social justice to spiritual transformation." St. Martin's has been called the last survivor of what were once 10 Episcopal churches serving the West Side.

Reed received a master's degree in social work from Loyola University Chicago's School of Social Work in 1981, later a master's degree in divinity from Seabury-Western Theological Seminary, and in 2004 a doctor's degree in ministry from the Catholic Theological Union. From 1978 to 1980 he was a psychiatric technician at Illinois Masonic Medical Center in Chicago. He was a clinical social worker from 1981 to 1984 for the Chicago Child Care Society and from 1984 to 1989 for Lawrence Hall Youth Services. In 1989 and 1990 he served as diagnostic treatment program director for Episcopal Charities and Community Services. He also conducted a private clinical social work practice from 1983 to 1990. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1991.

Since arriving at St. Martin's, he has made the church into a place where progressive GLBT persons can share worship with their heterosexual fellow Christians. He invites the congregation through his sermons and teaching to participate in a theology of liberation.

Reed's stance as an out and affirming African American Episcopal priest is a brave act in a community where the church has been viewed by many as an "open closet." He has been in the forefront of pastoral AIDS care, helping African American gay and bisexual men with HIV and AIDS to make a link between themselves and the God in which they believe—a link that often goes unfostered for same-gender-loving persons.



## **MIKE SAVAGE**

*[deceased]*

The life work of Mike Savage covered multiple areas of relevance to Hall of Fame criteria: advocacy, civic involvement, education, health, labor, medicine, religion, and social services.

Savage was a graduate of St. Louis University and began his career of service working on behalf of lower-income neighborhoods in St. Louis and of migrant farm workers throughout the country.

His activities included serving as chief operating officer of Travelers and Immigrants Aid in Chicago (now Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights), executive director of Fenway Community Health Center in Boston and of United Neighborhood Organization of Chicago (UNO) on the Southwest Side, and since 1994 as chief executive officer of Access Community Health Network, which expanded from nine facilities to become a 41-clinic organization serving 160,000 medically underserved patients in the Chicago area, including many underinsured sexual-minority clients and persons with HIV/AIDS.

Savage was deeply involved in many sectors of the LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) communities and many of its organizations, including DignityUSA, the first AIDS Walk, Horizons Community Services, and Equality Illinois.

He was a leader in fighting for oppressed people's rights at United Power for Action and Justice and for persons in recovery in many settings, such as the National Association of Community Health Centers' HIV/Substance Abuse Committee. He was a tireless advocate for providing residential and outpatient services for LGBT persons with addictions.

At Heartland Alliance, Savage helped to expand services to homeless and low-income persons living with HIV/AIDS. He also worked to ensure that LGBT immigrants had access to immigration services and that LGBT survivors of domestic violence had access to counseling support.

He was instrumental in persuading Illinois lawmakers to expand the KidCare child health insurance program to cover parents. He also took part in Stand Against Cancer, which helped to organize a campaign to enable poor Illinois women to obtain cervical cancer screening. The program screened more than 6,000 women in its first six months.

Born in 1952 in Fairfield, Illinois, Clarence Michael Savage died on June 24, 2004, in a whitewater rafting accident while in Alaska attending a conference on behalf of Access.



PHOTO: KATHLEEN SIKORA

## CATHERINE SIKORA

The civil rights of LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender) persons have been the focus of long-time and relentless advocacy by Catherine Sikora.

After campaigning for expansion of Chicago human rights laws to include gender identity as a specific category for protection, she went on to fight for the successful passage of similar legislation by Cook County.

As a board member and volunteer activist for Equality Illinois, she was also at the center of the successful passage in 2005 of a statewide bill to add sexual orientation (defined as including gender identity) to the Illinois Human Rights Act's protected categories.

A very different but equally substantial commitment on Sikora's part has been to document LGBT life in Chicago over the years.

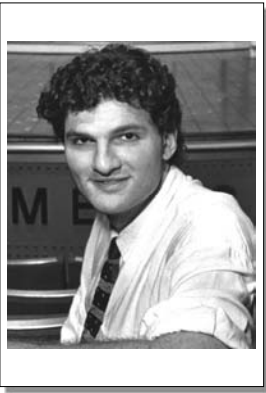
Her photographs of members of the Chicago area's transgender community were the only LGBT-related works in the CITY2000 photographic documentary of life in Chicago at the start of the new millennium, now housed by the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Her work as a documentary photographer has been conducted on behalf of numerous LGBT and community organizations and has been published extensively. Beneficiaries of such documentation have included Equality Illinois, the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, Test Positive Aware Network, the Jane Addams Resource Corporation, annual *Vagina Monologues* projects, and various events sponsored by the 48th Ward Democratic Organization.

As a small-business owner, Sikora has also donated time and materials related to teaching job skills needed in the manufacturing industry for the nonprofit Jane Addams Resource Corporation. She has aggressively fought job bias in her own property development business by immediately dismissing subcontractors who displayed any discrimination against her being transgender.

She now serves as secretary of the Equality Illinois board of directors and is a member of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations' Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues.

She has also served on an advisory council of the Chicago Department of Public Health's Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Health and on the board of the Chicago Gender Society, of which she was vice president for three years.



## LAWRENCE E. SLOAN

*[deceased]*

Lawrence Sloan fell in love with Chicago as a student at Northwestern University and never left. His energy, creativity, generosity, and passion for the city made him an influential leader in Chicago's worlds of art and advocacy.

At Northwestern, Sloan distinguished himself as a director, actor, and writer. He received the school's prestigious Agnes Nixon Award for an original play, *Oedipus Wrecked*. In his senior year, he began work as an artistic intern at the Goodman Theatre. During the next five years, Sloan moved up the ranks, eventually becoming associate director.

From 1986 to 1993, Sloan was the indefatigable artistic director of Remains Theatre. He worked fervently to establish Remains as an innovative force in the American theater. Productions he mounted and his entrepreneurial ideas made Remains a creative haven for Chicago artists and audiences. While at Remains, Sloan spearheaded the slashing of ticket prices, a far-reaching commitment to accessibility, the development of talented young artists, and other memorable initiatives. Such exciting but risky ideas are testaments to his personal philosophy. He wanted to build a theater that was inclusive, one that was inviting and vital to a new, broader audience.

During his seven years with Remains, Sloan produced and directed more than 25 shows, including such hits as *Puntilla and His Hired Man*, *Road*, *Big Time*, and *The Chicago Conspiracy Trial*.

In 1991, Sloan took on additional responsibility as the first executive director of Season of Concern, the Chicago theater community's fund-raising effort to provide direct care to persons living with AIDS. Typically, he found inspiration in his own HIV-positive diagnosis and found a way to use his personal energy, anger, and compassion to help others. Under his leadership, Season of Concern doubled its annual budget and raised more than \$500,000 for local AIDS service agencies. His work there earned him a special humanitarian award at the November 1994 Jeff Awards, which he accepted with the observation that "the more I live with AIDS, the more I am amazed not by how much it attacks the body, but by how much it frees the mind." Born in 1959, he died of complications from AIDS on January 19, 1995.

Sloan was a person of humor, dignity, and especially generosity. He changed the lives of many with whom he worked and, through his artistic and charitable work, the lives of many who never knew him. His passionate commitment to Chicago is still remembered.





PHOTO: ISRAELWRIGHTPHOTOGRAPHS.COM

## MERRY MARY

As long ago as 1979, Merry Mary was one of a group of volunteers from Howard Brown Memorial Clinic who gathered on Tuesday nights at the Touché bar's old location on Lincoln Avenue after their volunteer time at the clinic. In a day when men and women did not mix in Chicago gay bars, Merry Mary was an exception.

Perhaps because so many of the customers had seen or spoken with her at the clinic, no one commented on the woman in "their" bar. Perhaps it

was because of Merry Mary herself, regarded as a genuinely caring and nonjudgmental person.

To this day, Merry Mary continues volunteering every Tuesday night at Howard Brown Health Center. She was selected among the first group of "Friends for Life" by the clinic in 1987 and was honored for her 25 years of volunteering in February 2005.

When AIDS struck the gay community, Merry Mary stood by it, offering love and compassion to several gay men who died quickly in the epidemic's early days. She personally made three panels honoring lost friends for the AIDS Memorial Quilt and then volunteered to help with the Quilt's first Chicago display at Navy Pier.

Besides her Tuesday nights at Howard Brown, Merry Mary has also volunteered to help all three community choruses: the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus for 23 years, the Windy City Gay Chorus for 25 years, and Unison for the past six years.

Merry Mary was an early member of Dignity/Chicago and is now a member of Archdiocesan Gay and Lesbian Outreach (AGLO Chicago).

As a member of Chi-Town Squares for the past 15 years, she assists in staffing the check-in table at the club's square-dancing classes.

For the past three years, Merry Mary has taken on the added task of helping Vital Bridges' GroceryLand program by collecting plastic bags from friends, neighbors, and area businesses.

She is a lifelong Chicago resident. She grew up, was married, and reared three daughters and one son in the Lakeview neighborhood. Along with her many commitments to LGBT organizations, she still finds energy to work part-time and bake delicious fruitcakes.

She is known to hundreds of people as Merry Mary because she is just that. Always with a smile and warmth for everyone she meets, her friendliness is unsurpassed. Her willingness to lend time to others is without measure. If there has been a rally, walk, or march, her face was probably seen there, either in the midst of the action or, more likely, on the sidelines helping to make it happen.

For all of this and more, she was selected by the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame as a Friend of the Community.



## CAROL RONEN

As a state legislator known for being an “unapologetic liberal,” Carol Ronen has been a strong advocate for education and for the rights of children, women, immigrants, and sexual minorities. She has always stood firm for what she knew to be just, no matter the consequences. On this record, she is inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame as a Friend of the Community.

Ronen’s legislative priorities have been children’s Development, health care, violence prevention, and protecting human rights.

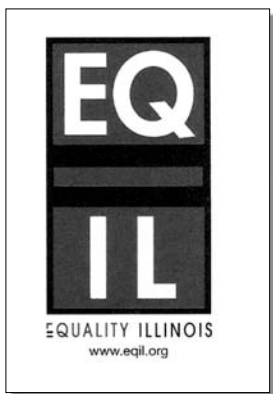
For more than 10 years as a state representative and then a state senator, Ronen supported the passage of legislation to prohibit sexual-orientation discrimination. It passed the state House of Representatives in 1993 during her first term there, and she was its lead Senate sponsor when it finally was enacted into law in January 2005. Passage fulfilled a personal commitment she made when she first ran for office. She worked ceaselessly in the bill’s behalf, enlisting powerful help from the Senate president, the governor, and all other statewide elected officials to win legislators’ votes. In the process, she resisted efforts to remove specific protection for gender identity from the bill’s definition of sexual orientation.

Ronen has also been a staunch supporter of increases in state HIV/AIDS funding and resources and of greater opportunities for nurses in the state’s health care system. While in the state House of Representatives, she was a leader on behalf of children and other underrepresented groups and was named to chair a then-new House Committee on Children and Youth in 1996.

Ronen has served in the state Senate since 2000 and is now in her second term there, representing one of the most ethnically and culturally diverse areas in the country, which includes much of Chicago’s North Side. She was named to chair the Senate Health and Human Services Committee in 2005 and also serves on the Senate’s Labor, Education, and Higher Education committees. She chaired the former Senate Labor and Commerce Committee, when she led a successful effort to increase the Illinois minimum wage and pass the Equal Pay Act of 2003, which increased the number of women covered by equal-pay protections and provided for strong enforcement.

Her work as a progressive leader was recognized when she received the 2004 Ethel Parker Award from the Independent Voters of Illinois–Independent Precinct Organization (IVI-IPO). The award was given to the legislator judged to have the best voting record on more than 55 issues. Her record (96%) was the highest achieved by any member of either chamber of the state legislature. In 2005, she was a co-recipient of the group’s Leon Despres Award

Ronen is on the Government Affairs Committee of the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago and a member of the Chicago Chapter of Hadassah. She is Democratic state central committeewoman for the 9th Congressional District; a member of the Democratic National Committee; a founder of the Illinois political action committee Women’s Voices–Women’s Votes; and a member of the board of Illinois Women in Leadership. She has a master’s degree in public administration from Roosevelt University and a bachelor’s degree in political science from Bradley University.



## EQUALITY ILLINOIS

Equality Illinois was formed in 1992 to “secure, protect and defend the basic civil rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender Illinoisans.” Its original name was Illinois Federation for Human Rights. Earlier, its founders had played a vital part in ultimate passage of a Chicago Municipal Code amendment—first proposed in 1973— that added sexual orientation to the list of categories in which discrimination is prohibited and that strengthened enforcement authority. The core of

the successful amendment is now often called the Chicago Human Rights Ordinance.

In January 2005, the organization scored an even bigger victory through passage by the Illinois legislature of a nondiscrimination bill (S.B. 3186), which amended the Illinois Human Rights Act and which was signed into law by Governor Rod Blagojevich on January 21. Illinois thus became one of only 14 states and the District of Columbia that legislatively prohibit discrimination in housing, employment, and public accommodations on the basis of sexual orientation. In its final version, the Illinois legislation specifically defines sexual orientation to include gender identity.

Equality Illinois had pushed for passage of such a statewide bill almost since its 1992 formation. This campaign was a heightened version of one that activists had first launched in Springfield 18 years earlier, in 1974. Now, 13 years later, Equality Illinois has succeeded in achieving enactment of the long-sought measure.

In the interim, the group registered thousands of Illinoisans to vote, lobbied lawmakers for the bill, and built an effective network of grassroots lobbyists throughout the state who could be mobilized in short order. In January 2005 during the bill’s final stage, Equality Illinois was responsible for originating more than 10,000 telephone calls and letters to Illinois legislators, calling for the bill’s passage. While doing all of this, Equality Illinois also helped to defeat homophobic legislation and is still working toward that end, including the defeat of promised attempts to gut the nondiscrimination bill that passed just last January.

In the interim as well, the group helped local activists to pass nondiscrimination ordinances in their own Illinois municipalities, including Bloomington, Decatur, Normal, Peoria, and Springfield. This was part of its strategy to build local support for eventual passage of the statewide bill. In addition, Equality Illinois encouraged corporations to adopt policies of nondiscrimination and domestic partnership employee benefit programs.

During its 13 years of existence, Equality Illinois has grown into one of the Midwest’s strongest sexual-minority civil rights organizations. Its Springfield success in 2005 is testament to that fact.



## TEST POSITIVE AWARE NETWORK

**T**est Positive Aware Network (TPAN) was founded in 1987 by Chris Clason (himself a 2004 Hall of Fame inductee) and 16 other HIV-positive Chicagoans.

Unable to find adequate support for HIV-positive individuals who were not diagnosed with AIDS, the agency aimed to enable HIV-positive persons to share personal experiences and information in order to combat isolation and to reduce fear.

TPAN's primary mission is to provide peer-led support group services (led chiefly by HIV-positive individuals instead of following a medical or mental-health support group model) and to provide up-to-date HIV treatment information and education, so as to help persons living with HIV toward a better understanding of their therapy and options and toward longer, more productive lives.

Today, TPAN is one of Chicago's oldest agencies devoted exclusively to HIV-related services. It is the oldest peer-led HIV service provider in Chicago, with over 65% of the staff and the majority of its volunteers being HIV-positive.

In its early days, TPAN produced a three-page HIV treatment newsletter that was distributed within Chicago at a time when there were no approved antiretroviral medications for treating HIV. Today, 18 years later, with more than 26 approved antiretroviral drugs, HIV treatment has become far more complex.

That three-page treatment newsletter has developed into a nationwide medium of communication. TPAN is the only AIDS service organization in the United States that publishes a nationally distributed, bimonthly HIV treatment magazine. The magazine, *Positively Aware*, is available free of charge to individual subscribers and is shipped free of charge to health organizations from coast to coast.

In addition to its treatment programs and support groups, TPAN offers free, anonymous, rapid oral HIV testing; prevention services; a buddy program; and a needle exchange program. A speakers bureau and community outreach activities are also conducted. Health care is available through the Access @ TPAN medical clinic, hosted by the TPAN office in collaboration with Access Community Health Network.

Test Positive Aware Network has been a strong, steady, and needed force in the fight against HIV, serving thousands of client members in metropolitan Chicago. It has brought Chicago and its AIDS treatment services to national acclaim through *Positively Aware*. The organization and its publications have touched and saved many lives.

## PREVIOUS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

**ANGEL ABCEDE (2003):** To help prevent more AIDS deaths, he drew on experience as a dancer, choreographer, and columnist to form the Sex Police in 1990. Its shows have brought anti-AIDS messages to high school students throughout the Chicago area. He is now president of Asians and Friends Chicago.

**ABOUT FACE THEATRE (2003):** It is a leading force in Chicago theater, an emerging national center for LGBT theater, and an important resource for education about sexual-minority issues in Chicago schools. Its Youth Theatre component is nationally recognized.

**ACT UP/CHICAGO (2000):** The group, which lasted until 1995, was the local chapter of the AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power, a national organization committed to using direct action and civil disobedience to fight AIDS. It challenged both institutional responses to AIDS and homophobic discrimination.

**AD HOC COMMITTEE OF PROUD BLACK LESBIANS AND GAYS (1993):** The committee was formed to create positive gay and lesbian visibility in Chicago's African American community and to march as open lesbians and gay men in the 64th annual Bud Billiken Parade. After filing and mediating a human rights charge, the group marched and was warmly received by the community.

**ROBERT J. ADAMS (1994, now deceased):** A practicing lawyer earlier, he led Chicago's NAMES Project chapter and from 1989 to 1991 was IMPACT's first full-time executive director. He then joined the staff of openly gay U. S. Rep. Gerry Studds; returned to Chicago in 1992 as development director for the Chicago Department of Health's AIDS programs; and resigned for health reasons in 1993. Born in 1952, he died in 1994.

**AFFINITY COMMUNITY SERVICES (2002):** Since 1994, the group has become a leading organization serving black lesbian and bisexual women by fostering visibility, empowerment, and leadership with programming that addresses health needs, networking and socialization, and social justice issues.

**AIDS LEGAL COUNCIL OF CHICAGO (2003):** Formed in 1988, the group has helped nearly 15,000 persons with free legal assistance, conducted educational outreach efforts, and engaged in public advocacy on behalf of persons affected by HIV.

**ORTEZ ALDERSON (posthumous 1991):** Born in 1952, he was an actor and activist who, among other achievements, helped to organize the People of Color AIDS Conference. He died of complications from AIDS in 1991.

**AVA ALLEN (1999):** Longtime owner of the city's oldest lesbian bar, Lost & Found, she has maintained it as a home away from home for generations of lesbians and, through it, helped to raise thousands of dollars to fight cancer and meet women's health needs.

**JACQUELINE ANDERSON (1996):** As educator and writer, she has contributed to academic discussion about lesbianism and feminism. She helped to establish a Lesbian Community Cancer Project clinic on Chicago's South Side; led Yahimba, which held citywide conferences on African American lesbians' needs; and has supported the Institute of Lesbian Studies, the Mountain Moving Coffeehouse, and Gerber/Hart Library.

**TONI ARMSTRONG JR (1997):** A leader since the 1970s in documenting, producing, and performing lesbian and feminist music, she is also an openly lesbian high school teacher who has been in the forefront of efforts to promote the welfare of lesbian and gay students and teachers.

**ASSOCIATION OF LATIN MEN FOR ACTION (2000):** Known as ALMA (Spanish for “soul”), it has offered a place for bisexual and gay Latinos to address their issues, both as sexual-minority members of Latino communities and as ethnic-minority members of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities.

**MIGUEL AYALA (1997):** He helped to start the first school-approved organization for lesbian, bisexual, and gay students in any Chicago public high school; helped to form and then led a national alliance of such groups; and was the first openly gay honorary student member of the Chicago School Reform Board of Trustees.

**BAILWICK REPERTORY’S PRIDE SERIES (1996):** Since 1989, the annual Pride Series has presented well over 100 gay and lesbian plays, musicals, and performance pieces as part of the only regional theater in America with an ongoing programming arm that serves the lesbian and gay community. The series has also financially empowered nonprofit lesbian and gay organizations through benefit performances.

**TRACY BAIM (1994):** She has labored untiringly since 1994 as publisher, reporter, editor, columnist, photographer, and advocate in offering a voice to all segments of the community. In 2000, her company bought the weekly *Windy City Times* and merged her weekly *Outlines* into it. She also publishes the weekly *Nightspots*, plus *Identity* and the *OUT! Resource Guide*, besides airing Windy City Radio. She helped to found and has cochaired the Chicago Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce as well as Chicago Games, Inc., which is bringing the 2006 Gay Games here.

**JOHN J. BALESTER (1999):** He was a leader of the Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force and in 1990 was appointed by Mayor Richard M. Daley to chair the city’s Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues. He worked to improve liaison between city government and activist organizations of all stripes.

**CARRIE BARNETT (1998):** She cofounded People Like Us Books, which at the time was Chicago’s only exclusively gay and lesbian bookstore and which helped to nurture the local literary community. She also headed the Gerber/Hart Library board and cochaired large fund-raisers for community organizations.

**ROBERT SLOANE BASKER (1993, now deceased):** He founded Mattachine Midwest in 1965, began Chicago’s first gay and lesbian telephone hotline, and started discussions with police amid arbitrary raids and arrests. He also took part in pre-Stonewall national organizing and in Dade County organizing during the Anita Bryant era. Born in 1918, he remained a social-change activist in a variety of causes until his death in 2001.

**LORRAINNE SADE BASKERVILLE (2000):** She founded transGenesis in 1995 as an agency to advocate for and address concerns of persons in the city’s transgender community, such as gender identity, substance abuse, HIV/AIDS, sex work, harm reduction, and self-empowerment.

**DAVID BRIAN BELL (posthumous 1999):** After being diagnosed with AIDS, he became a visible public advocate for persons with HIV/AIDS and helped to build support, information, and protest networks for use in their struggle.

CARYN BERMAN (1995): A psychotherapist and social worker, for some 20 years she has worked professionally and as a volunteer and political activist to improve Chicagoans' lives. She has focused on the health and civil rights of lesbians and gay men but has skillfully built coalitions and has been an influential HIV/AIDS educator and policymaker.

LORA BRANCH (2001): A public health professional, video producer, and African American lesbian and gay community activist, she quickly achieved visibility as the openly lesbian director of Chicago's Office of Lesbian and Gay Health. She produced an acclaimed HIV/AIDS video, *Kevin's Room*, and cochaired Chicago Black Lesbians and Gays.

ROGER BROWN (posthumous 2004): Through his internationally known works as a leader of the art movement called Chicago Imagism, he commented pointedly on social issues, urban infrastructure, nature, history, and events both personal and societal. Born in 1941, he died in 1997.

BUDDIES' RESTAURANT AND BAR (2003): From 1988 to its closing in 2004, it was a neighborhood business with a true sense of community, financially supporting innumerable good causes and encouraging its clientele to be themselves in a safe, supportive atmosphere.

GEORGE S. BUSE (1994, now deceased): As journalist, activist, actor, and minister, he made his mark on Chicago's gay and lesbian community. A subject of Studs Terkel's *The Good War* and of the video documentary *Before Stonewall*, he was a World War II Marine veteran (discharged from a later Navy chaplaincy for being gay). He was a civil rights and anti-Vietnam War activist in the 1960s. Born in 1924, he died in 2000.

JAMES A. BUSSEN (1994): Since 1973, his engaging personality and senses of humor and fairness have aided many Chicago gay and lesbian efforts. Besides much activity in gay rights lobbying and fund raising, he is a longtime leader of Dignity/Chicago, the organization for lesbian and gay Roman Catholics, and was president of Dignity/USA from 1985 to 1989.

CHEF TANIA CALLAWAY (posthumous 2003): As an out lesbian and organizer of community events, she ran house parties that were legendary in Chicago's African American lesbian community and beyond. She often donated services and was chef at the Heartland Cafe for some 10 years.

LORI CANNON (1994): She was named a "Friend of the Community" for her work with Chicago House and the NAMES Project and for cofounding ACT UP/Chicago and Open Hand Chicago. For Open Hand, she raised funds, handled public relations, and oversaw a food pantry's development.

EVETTE CARDONA (2002): As an organizer, she has helped to lead or found organizations such as Women of All Cultures Together, Amigas Latinas, the Lesbian Community Cancer Project, and the Center on Halsted Steering Committee. As a philanthropic administrator, she has helped to fund groups serving historically underrepresented community sectors.

C. C. CARTER (2002): Since her 1996 Chicago arrival, she has been a writer, poet, and performer and has helped to develop audiences for poetry, music by women of color, writing by women in prison, African American literature and art, and women's health awareness. As a fund-raiser and board member, she has helped to sustain numerous groups.

**ROBERT CASTILLO (2001):** An almost indefatigable organizer, when inducted into the Hall of Fame at age 33 he already had a decade's history of committed work in launching or supporting grassroots sexual-minority campaigns involving Latinas and Latinos, gender-identity bias, homophobic violence, neighborhood activism, history, human rights laws, and HIV/AIDS.

**ARMAND R. CERBONE, Ph.D. (2003):** He has applied psychological research to LGBT concerns and has worked to guide psychology toward an enlightened understanding of the lives of sexual minorities. He cowrote official guidelines on psychotherapy with lesbian, gay, and bisexual clients and has held leadership posts in state and national professional groups.

**ROGER "RJ" CHAFFIN (1997):** One of Chicago's most visible gay businesspersons for more than 25 years and a reliable volunteer for gay and lesbian and AIDS groups, he has produced numerous large charitable and special events, raised thousands of dollars for local organizations, given his own money as well, coproduced a hate crimes documentary film, and been an active member of business groups.

**SAMSON CHAN (posthumous 1995):** During a short, courageous life, he built a legacy of social change here and overseas. In 1984 at age 23 he cofounded and became first president of Asians and Friends Chicago, a group for gay Asians and non-Asians that has been replicated in other cities internationally. After failing to gain permanent U.S. residence in the face of exclusionary policies, he returned to Hong Kong in 1991, became a pioneering, visible gay and AIDS organizer there, but died of AIDS complications in 1995.

**JOHN CHESTER (1994):** He has been a leader in lesbian and gay rights efforts, philanthropic organizing, Chicago House development, and both gay and non-gay religious activism since 1971. At the same time, he has been much involved in political organizations and election campaigns. Since the late 1960s he has also aided programs for affordable housing and community development. He retired to New Mexico in 2004.

**CHICAGO BLACK LESBIANS AND GAYS (2003):** Since 1993, it has represented a citywide coalition of individuals and groups dedicated to social change and development through activism and visibility both in communities of color and in LGBT communities.

**CHICAGO GAY MEN'S CHORUS (2001):** Since 1983, it has offered audiences a mixture of choral ensemble and musical theater presented by more than 1,000 past and present members, who have also appeared at benefits and represented Chicago nationwide.

**CHICAGO HOUSE AND SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY, INC. (1994):** Opening its first facility in 1986, this was Chicago's first grassroots agency to respond to immediate housing needs of persons with HIV disease and AIDS. It established the Midwest's first "continuum of care" within supportive housing for such persons, accommodating residents ranging from those with an initial diagnosis of HIV to those with terminal AIDS.

**GARY G. CHICHESTER (1992):** He has provided more than 30 years of commitment and work to the gay and lesbian communities. In 1971 he cofounded the Chicago Gay Alliance, which created Chicago's first gay and lesbian community center. He has served on the Chicago Commission on Human Relations' Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues since 1989 and has sat on the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame Committee from its inception in 1991 (cochairing it since 1992).



E. KITCH CHILDS, Ph.D. (posthumous 1993): She was a prominent clinical psychologist and advocate of gay and lesbian human rights legislation since 1973 as a feminist, lesbian activist, and founding member of the Association for Women in Psychology. She worked to revise the American Psychological Association's attitudes toward homosexuality.

THOMAS R. CHIOLA (1998): He was the first openly gay candidate elected to public office in Illinois, winning a Cook County Circuit Court judgeship in 1994. While on IMPACT's board and as a state agency's general counsel, he lobbied to pass state and county sexual-orientation nondiscrimination laws. He is also a veteran leader in the gay sports movement and is a longtime AIDS volunteer.

ANN CHRISTOPHERSEN (1992): As a successful businesswoman (of Women & Children First bookstore), she has provided a positive role model and developed activities and programs to meet the needs of Chicago's gay and lesbian community.

CHRISTOPHER CLASON (posthumous 2004): After launching a career as a locally popular singer-comic and actor, he was diagnosed with HIV and soon led in creating Test Positive Aware Network (TPAN) in 1987, serving as its first executive director. Born in 1953, he died in 1991.

CHARLES E. CLIFTON (posthumous 2004): For nearly 15 years before his 2004 death, the last nine of them in Chicago, he advocated for the health of persons living with HIV/AIDS. He was Test Positive Aware Network's executive director and *Positively Aware* editor, directed the Men of Color HIV/AIDS Coalition, and assisted numerous other efforts to fight AIDS.

JERROLD E. COHEN (posthumous 1993): He helped to form more than a dozen groups, including University of Chicago Gay Liberation, Chicago Gay Alliance, Windy City Gay Chorus, and Chi-Town Squares. He played a key part in the NAMES Project's Chicago chapter and was a charter member of Test Positive Aware Network. Born in 1943, he died of AIDS complications in 1991.

R. SUE CONNOLLY (2003): As a bank officer, she has brought expertise, her employer's resources, and her own to help charities, especially those serving sexual-minority communities. She has been a leader in the Chicago House social service agency, the Gay Games efforts of Chicago 2006, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, and Center on Halsted.

T. CHRIS COTHRAN (1995, now deceased): He was a veteran member of PrideChicago, which plans the annual pride parade. He helped to lead local and national gay and lesbian business organizations; the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays; Kupona Network; and the current Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues' precursors. He died in 1996.

SARAH CRAIG (posthumous 1995): She joined *GayLife's* staff in the late 1970s and rose to become coeditor. Then she started a typesetting business that helped many gay and lesbian groups. She became heavily involved in gay and lesbian political efforts and, as journalist and colorful speaker, pushed for a city gay rights bill. In the late 1980s she was associate editor of *Windy City Times* for five years. She died in 1994.

JON-HENRI DAMSKI (1991, now deceased): He was an essayist and a columnist for *GayLife*, *Gay Chicago Magazine*, *Windy City Times*, and ultimately *Nightlines* and *Outlines*. His lobbying was important to the passage of a Chicago human rights law in 1989 and a Chicago hate crimes law in 1990. Born in 1937, he died of melanoma complications in 1997.

**JAMES C. DARBY (1997):** After cofounding the Chicago chapter of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Veterans of America (now American Veterans for Equal Rights), he tirelessly promoted it during a period of intense controversy over equal military service rights. He became recording secretary of the city's Advisory Council on Veterans Affairs and ultimately national president of GLBVA. He is also an inveterate photodocumentarian of gay and lesbian public events.

**SAMUEL F. DAVIS, JR. (posthumous 1994):** From 1987, as entrepreneur and attorney, he developed a nurturing environment particularly for Chicago's gay and lesbian African Americans. Bars he cofounded were Dēeks, Pangea, and the Clubhouse. He also aided the Kupona Network, the Minority Outreach Intervention Project, and the Reimer Foundation.

**JACK DELANEY (1996):** A supporter of many groups, he joined Dignity/Chicago in 1977 and later served as its president and a member of DignityUSA's board. He has chaired Chicago House's board, served as Windy City Athletic Association commissioner, cochaired the 48th Ward Gay and Lesbian Coalition, and served on the boards of the Frank M. Rodde III Memorial Building Fund, the Illinois Federation for Human Rights Political Action Committee, and the Edgewater Community Council.

**DIGNITY/CHICAGO (1997):** Since 1972, the local Dignity chapter has served the needs of gay and lesbian Roman Catholics and advocated for the full participation of sexual minorities in church life. It has also been outspoken on issues of lesbian and gay rights in civil society.

**LAURIE J. DITTMAN (1998):** She has been active in local independent politics and in gay and lesbian organizing. She was a chief lobbyist during passage of city and county laws against sexual-orientation discrimination. A former official of IVI-IPO, IMPACT, and the Human Rights Campaign Fund, she became a deputy city treasurer and the highest-ranking openly gay or lesbian Chicago city official at that time.

**THOM DOMBKOWSKI (1992):** He was a leader in conceiving and organizing Chicago House and Social Service Agency, where he also served as principal fund-raiser and eventually as executive director. He also conceived the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame and brought it to fruition during his tenure on the city Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues.

**RANDY DUNCAN (1999):** An internationally known choreographer, he has used his dance talents to raise funds to fight AIDS and to include gay and lesbian themes in his body of work. He was artistic director of Joseph Holmes Chicago Dance Theatre for seven years, and his works have been performed by other companies including the Joffrey Ballet of Chicago.

**KEITH ELLIOTT (2001):** A dancer, choreographer, and producer, he has spent more than 12 years in organizing annual "Dance for Life" fund-raisers and ancillary events benefiting dancers and others fighting HIV/AIDS. He has also contributed to other activities such as Howard Brown Health Center "Who's That Girl?" fund-raisers and the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus.

**SARA FEIGENHOLTZ (2001):** She was selected as a "Friend of the Community" for her service since 1995 as a state representative from the North Side's 12th District in supporting human rights protection and in helping to win funds to fight HIV/AIDS and assist other community projects.

**JAMES W. FLINT (1991):** A well-known businessman, he is founder and owner of the Miss Gay Continental Pageant, a national contest for female impersonators, and owns the long-established Baton Show Lounge and other businesses. He is also active in Democratic Party politics.

**ROBERT T. FORD (1993, now deceased):** He pioneered outreach of the gay cultural experience into the African American community through publication of the 'zine *Thing* and as writer for numerous publications. He died in 1994.

**JEANNETTE HOWARD FOSTER, Ph.D. (posthumous 1998):** Born in 1895, she was an educator, librarian, translator, poet, scholar, and author of the first critical study of lesbian literature, *Sex Variant Women in Literature* (1956). She was also the first librarian of Dr. Alfred Kinsey's Institute for Sex Research, and she influenced generations of librarians and gay and lesbian literary figures. She died in 1981.

**ROBERT BONVOULOIR FOSTER (posthumous 2003):** As an openly gay, high-achieving student and lawyer, he was the chief founder of the Lesbian and Gay Bar Association of Chicago and a volunteer attorney at Howard Brown Memorial Clinic. He died of AIDS complications in 1991. His bequest helped to open Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund's Chicago office.

**FRONTRUNNERS/FRONTWALKERS CHICAGO (1995):** Formed in 1982 as Frontrunners Chicago to promote running-related activities, the gay and lesbian club now has dozens of counterparts in this country and abroad. It is the largest walking and running club in Chicago and has raised thousands of dollars for lesbian and gay groups as well as AIDS, lesbian health, and general community charities.

**HENRY BLAKE FULLER (posthumous 2000):** Born in 1857, he was an author, poet, critic, and composer. He wrote novels and short-story collections that were set in Chicago. His 1896 play *At Saint Judas's* was effectively the first play on a homosexual theme published in America. In 1919, he courageously published a philosophic novel centered on homosexual characters, *Bertram Cope's Year*. He died in 1929.

**FRANK GALATI (2004):** An internationally known actor, director, screenwriter, and playwright, he has shed new light on the works of Gertrude Stein. He has been an ensemble member of the Steppenwolf Theatre Company since 1985 and Goodman Theatre associate director since 1986. He also teaches at Northwestern University.

**RICK GARCIA (1999):** After moving to Chicago in 1986, he continued as a high-profile activist and helped to lead the final stage of a 15-year struggle to pass a 1988 ordinance against sexual-orientation discrimination. He was the founding executive director of Equality Illinois. In Roman Catholic circles, he also has worked extensively in behalf of the church's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender adherents.

**RICHARD GARRIN (1993):** He was founding director of Windy City Gay Chorus and for more than 15 years brought musical excellence to local and national audiences, serving as an ambassador of goodwill for the gay and lesbian community.

**JIM GATES (2002):** Soon after his 1967 Chicago arrival, he was a leader in the early homophile organization known as ONE of Chicago. By 1975 he had opened Little Jim's, North Halsted Street's first gay bar, which helped to pave the way for the commercial district's revitalization. This pioneer has consistently supported community charities and encouraged his customers to do so.

**GAY CHICAGO MAGAZINE (1991):** Originally founded in 1976 as *Gay Chicago News*, the magazine has continued to publish up-to-date information on lifestyle, entertainment, bar, and organization events in Chicago's gay and lesbian community.

**CHICAGO CHAPTER OF THE GAY, LESBIAN, AND STRAIGHT EDUCATION NETWORK (2000):** Since 1994, through community organizing, advocacy, and in-school programming, the group has benefited youth, staff members, and the community by fostering nondiscrimination in school settings

**HENRY GERBER (posthumous 1992):** He was the founder of Chicago's Society for Human Rights in 1924, the first gay rights organization in the United States.

**GERBER/HART LIBRARY (1996):** Founded in 1981, Gerber/Hart Library is the Midwest's largest and most distinguished LGBT archives, library, and cultural center.

**RALPH PAUL GERNHARDT (2004):** Since 1975, he has brought news to Chicago through *Gay Chicago Magazine* and other media. He also has launched and sponsored gay sports groups, organized fundraisers for numerous causes, promoted safer sex, and raised thousands of dollars to fight HIV/AIDS.

**FRANK GOLEY (posthumous) and ROBERT MADDOX (2001):** They helped to pioneer openly gay businesses in Chicago beginning in 1972 with their Male Hide Leathers store. There, Goley created many designs that found favor with leather and motorcycle enthusiasts worldwide, gay and nongay, for their originality and craftsmanship.

**ADRIENNE J. GOODMAN (1994):** She was named a "Friend of the Community" for her commitment to lesbian and gay inclusion in politics. She chaired Grant L. Ford's openly gay 1975 campaign for 44th Ward alderman. As City Council staffer and Democratic Party activist, she advocated for gay and lesbian rights.

**THE GRAHAM FAMILY (2003):** William, Nannette, Will, and Amelia Graham received a "Friend of the Community" award for efforts against racism and homophobia within their United Methodist denomination, including their pursuit of a sexual-orientation discrimination claim against a campground in Des Plaines.

**JEFF GRAUBART-CERVONE (1993):** He has been an activist and advocate for gay and lesbian human rights for more than 25 years in the Midwest and Chicago. He participated in the passage of human rights legislation, the effort to overcome the anti-gay and -lesbian efforts of Anita Bryant, and 1970s demonstrations for same-sex marriage.

**RICHARD LEE GRAY (1992):** He has committed himself since the 1970s to serve the needs of the African American gay and lesbian community. He also developed and presented educational programs for gay and lesbian youth dealing with sexuality and health.

**VERNITA GRAY (1992):** She organized a gay and lesbian hotline in 1969 and hosted support groups in her home. She has published extensively in literary and poetry magazines and was an early leader in the Chicago gay liberation movement.

**IDA GREATHOUSE (posthumous 1997):** Born in 1952, as mother and activist she drew national attention to the needs of herself and of others living with AIDS. She advocated visibly for increased AIDS funding and for special programs for women and children with AIDS. For this, she was selected as a "Friend of the Community." She died in 1995.

**PEG GREY (1992):** She has provided key leadership over two decades in building lesbian and gay athletic programs and organizations and in organizing lesbian and gay teachers.

ARLENE HALKO (1996): After joining Dignity/Chicago in 1975, she became its first lesbian president and was on its board for five years. She was a cofounder of Chicago House in 1985 and has tirelessly assisted it. As a medical physicist, she was a familiar face on Cook County Hospital's AIDS ward until 1993, and as owner of Piggins Pub from 1982 to 1989 she used the bar as a community support vehicle.

JOEL HALL (1993): As impresario, choreographer, company founder, and dance instructor, he is one of Chicago's cultural treasures. With international credentials and recognition, he is committed to the art of dance and the training and presentation of Chicago's youth through the dance medium.

JOHN R. HAMMELL (posthumous 1997): As an American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois lawyer, he fought for gay and lesbian rights and for the rights of persons living with HIV and AIDS. He also helped to lead in other groups, including Howard Brown Health Center and the AIDS Foundation of Chicago. Born in 1957, he died of AIDS complications in 1995.

PHILIP A. HANNEMA (2000): For many years, he has provided ongoing and reliable volunteer support to a variety of Chicago gay and lesbian community organizations as staff member and officer, treasurer and photographer, cheerleader and fund-raiser, and constant donor.

RENEE C. HANOVER (1991): A well-known attorney who often provided her services pro bono, she was long a high-visibility advocate for lesbian and gay rights. She has worked for civil rights legislation of all kinds and has vigorously opposed all forms of discrimination in the law and in society. In 2000, she retired to Los Angeles, where she now lives at age 79.

LORRAINE HANSBERRY (posthumous 1999): Born in Chicago in 1930 and best known for *A Raisin in the Sun*, which in 1959 became the first play by an African American woman to open on Broadway, she was an early supporter of equal rights regardless of sexual orientation. Same-sex attraction figured in some of her work, and she is credited with writing two pro-lesbian 1957 letters in *The Ladder*, an early lesbian periodical. She died in 1965.

JEAN V. HARDISTY (1995): She helped to open Chicago's first shelter for battered women; has written and organized for women's social and health needs; and, besides private philanthropy, cofounded the Crossroads Fund, a nontraditional funder of many gay, lesbian, and AIDS groups. In 1981, she formed what is now Political Research Associates, of Cambridge, Mass., which educates the public on right-wing tactics.

JORJET HARPER (1998): She has been a journalist and columnist for more than 20 years, commenting on a panorama of gay- and lesbian-oriented topics in publications throughout the country. In addition, her "Lesbomania" columns and performances have tackled homophobia and built community through humor. More recently, she has been a speaker and educator on lesbian and gay issues and history.

GREGORY "GREG" HARRIS (1996): Since 1992, as an openly gay man living with AIDS, he has been chief of staff for 48th Ward Ald. Mary Ann Smith. He has devoted much volunteer time to AIDS-related causes and was cofounder and first president of AIDS Walk Chicago and of Open Hand Chicago. He was also instrumental in securing domestic partnership benefits for Chicago city government employees.

PEARL M. HART (posthumous 1992): She spent her entire legal career of 61 years defending the civil rights of all persons.

DERRICK ALLEN HICKS (1999, now deceased): He organized in the African American lesbian and gay communities of Chicago and Washington, D. C., for more than 20 years. He founded *Diplomat* magazine and helped to lead AIDS, political, and social service groups. Born in 1955, he died in 2002.

EARNEST E. HITE, JR. (1994): In 1987, he cofounded Image Plus to provide social support for young gay and bisexual males of African descent. As an HIV/AIDS health educator and youth worker who is openly HIV-positive and gay, he has assisted community-based groups, especially those serving African Americans.

SARAH LUCIA HOAGLAND (2000): She has been an influential exponent of lesbian feminist values during some 20 years on the faculty of Northeastern Illinois University, where she is a professor of philosophy. Her work includes a 1988 book, *Lesbian Ethics: Toward New Value*.

HORIZONS COMMUNITY SERVICES (1992): Established in 1973 as Gay Horizons, the organization has served as the Midwest's largest and most comprehensive social service agency meeting the needs of Chicago's diverse gay and lesbian community. The services traditionally provided by it will form the core of programming at Center on Halsted.

HOWARD BROWN HEALTH CENTER (1991): Founded in 1974 as Howard Brown Memorial Clinic, it has distinguished itself as the Midwest's leading provider of support services to and for people living with AIDS and HIV disease, and as an internationally recognized center for hepatitis and AIDS/HIV research.

TONDA L. HUGHES, Ph.D., R.N. (2003): As researcher, advocate, and educator, she has made outstanding contributions in the area of lesbian health. Besides innovative research projects, she has advised government and private health and social service agencies, organized conferences, and made many public educational presentations. She teaches at the College of Nursing in the University of Illinois at Chicago.

CHUCK HYDE (2001): While working out of the limelight as businessman and fund-raising advisor, he has helped sexual-minority community organizations since 1982 to produce successful benefits and has assiduously fostered relationships between them and underwriters in the business community.

ANTONIO DAVID JIMENEZ (2001): A social service administrator and HIV/AIDS educator, he conducted more than a decade of innovative risk-reduction activism among African American and Latino men who have sex with men, chiefly as leader of the Minority Outreach Intervention Project.

JUDITH S. JOHNS (1991): She was inducted as a "Friend of the Community" for her dedication to the gay and lesbian community in the development and promotion of programs and services in response to the AIDS pandemic.

CAROL A. JOHNSON (1991): She was the Midwest AIDS Project Coordinator at the Service Employees International Union in Chicago. She presented workshops for lesbians, lobbied for legislation, and worked to institute public policies favorable to the lesbian and gay community.

ARTHUR L. JOHNSTON (1998): During two decades, he has been a community activist. As partner in the innovative video bar Sidetrack, he aided gay and lesbian businesses' growth and made many contributions to charitable and political efforts. He was an early leader of what is now the Metropolitan Sports Association, and he was an important organizer in passage of Chicago, Cook County, and Illinois human rights legislation.

IRA H. JONES (posthumous 1998): In Mattachine Midwest and other venues, for well over 20 years he was one of Chicago's most visible, energetic spokespersons for sexual-minority rights. He was a leader in the gay and lesbian business community, active in religious circles as an openly gay advocate, committed to racial justice, a worker in Regular Democratic organizations, and a leader in many gay and lesbian groups.

RICK KARLIN (1997): For more than 20 years, he has been a visible public figure in print and onstage. He has lent his talents to countless charitable events, cofounded the city's first gay parents group, volunteered extensively for Horizons Community Services, been a leading advocate for gay and lesbian teachers, and contributed his writings to all the local gay and lesbian media.

NANCY J. KATZ (2000): She became the first self-identified lesbian judge in Illinois when she was appointed in 1999 as an associate judge of the Cook County Circuit Court. Her community and professional work dates to the 1970s in lesbian feminist, domestic violence, political, legal assistance, and family welfare settings.

CORINNE KAWECKI (1997): Beginning in 1985, she became a quiet but indefatigable volunteer and leader at Horizons Community Services. She has also been active in women's sports groups, the Chicago Abused Women's Coalition, and the Lesbian Community Cancer Project, serving as president of the latter.

CLIFFORD P. KELLEY (1998): A former member of the Chicago City Council, he is a "Friend of the Community" for having become in 1973, at some political risk, the pioneering lead sponsor of Chicago's first proposed ordinance to ban sexual-orientation discrimination. His perseverance helped to get it taken seriously. Though his Council tenure had already ended, a version of the proposal finally passed in 1988.

WILLIAM B. KELLEY (1991): Since 1965, he has led in many pioneering efforts—among them helping to organize the first national gay and lesbian conferences (1966), cofounding the *Chicago Gay Crusader* and Illinois Gays for Legislative Action (early 1970s), taking part in the first White House gay rights meeting (1977), cochairing the Illinois Gay Rights Task Force (late 1970s), and cofounding the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association (1988). Now a lawyer, he chaired the Cook County Commission on Human Rights for its first 10 years.

NICK KELLY (1995): As an activist and a creative talent, he was a vibrant part of Chicago's gay and lesbian community for decades before moving to Wisconsin. He helped to organize Gay Liberation and the Chicago Gay Alliance as the 1970s dawned. As a graphic designer, he produced much material for Chicago gay and lesbian organizations. He was founding president of Toddlin' Town Performing Arts, encompassing gay and lesbian band and choral groups, and later headed the Chicago Gay Men's Chorus.

BILLIE JEAN KING (1999): Building on her tennis stardom to create social change, she has elevated the self-esteem of girls and women through her lifelong struggle for equality in the sports world. She has also raised large sums to fight AIDS, has contributed funds to combat homophobia in schools, and has supported efforts to stem gay and lesbian teenage suicide rates.

DOROTHY KLEFSTAD (1998): She is a "Friend of the Community" for having begun a ceaseless career as a volunteer for lesbian, gay, and AIDS causes after learning that her daughter was a lesbian. This has been in addition to her ongoing volunteerism in nongay church, cultural, health, and environmental activities.

**FRANKIE KNUCKLES (1996):** As producer, remixer, and DJ, he is the inventor and popularizer of “house” music, known worldwide as “Chicago house” and named after Chicago’s Warehouse nightclub, where he drew huge crowds between 1977 and 1987. He is now a DJ and an album producer of international stature.

**BRUCE KOFF (1994):** He has significantly aided Chicago’s and the nation’s gay and lesbian community in social services and mental health, especially from 1984 to 1990 as executive director of Horizons Community Services after being on its staff since 1976. He now has a clinical and teaching practice in psychotherapy.

**DANNY KOPELSON (2000):** Since 1981, he has been an indefatigable arts and AIDS fund-raiser and a mainstay of the Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus, in which he is a founding member. He has produced special events, including “Dance for Life,” that have raised millions of dollars to fight AIDS.

**SUZANNE MARIE KRAUS (2004):** She has fostered social change through activism since 1977. She was a founder of the Lesbian Community Cancer Project, helped to promote the 1993 March on Washington, developed sexual-minority outreach by the Cook County state’s attorney’s office, and was a leader of the International Network of Lesbian and Gay Officials. She currently works for Windy City Media Group.

**MARIE J. KUDA (1991):** For nearly 40 years, she has worked as historian, archivist, writer, lecturer, and publisher to promote and preserve positive images of lesbians and gay men. She organized five national lesbian writers conferences, published the first annotated lesbian bibliography, *Women Loving Women*, and is still contributing to literary reference materials and writing columns.

**LOUIS I. LANG (2002):** As a state representative, he has distinguished himself by his attention and commitment to human rights and human welfare. For this and for his support of AIDS funding and of laws against hate crimes and sexual-orientation discrimination, he was chosen as a “Friend of the Community.”

**NANCY LANOUE (1993):** She is a leader in the movement to combat violence against women and to promote their self-defense. Herself a survivor, she has also been a major leader in education, outreach, and service delivery for survivors of breast cancer.

**MICHAEL A. LEPPEN (2001):** As philanthropist, fund-raiser, and board member, he has provided leadership and financial support for a large variety of nonprofit organizations in the Chicago area and elsewhere, many of them serving sexual-minority communities with regard to concerns such as HIV/AIDS, lesbian health, youth work, and mass media.

**LESBIAN COMMUNITY CANCER PROJECT (1999):** Since 1990 as the first effort of its kind in the Midwest, it has provided one-on-one support, direct services, and peer support groups for women with cancer and their families of choice. It has also educated medical providers about lesbian health needs.

**LESBiGAY RADIO (1998):** Founded by Alan Amberg, for more than five years it was unique for presenting a Chicago-area radio broadcast serving a lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender audience. It was the nation’s first such show in a daily drivetime slot. It launched many service projects, helped to publicize the activities of all community sectors, and achieved wide local and national recognition.



ELLIS B. LEVIN (1994): An Illinois state representative from 1977 to 1995, he was named a “Friend of the Community” for his longtime sponsorship of lesbian and gay rights bills, women’s rights measures, and other legislation addressing gay and lesbian, AIDS, and women’s health concerns.

LINCOLN PARK LAGOONERS (2004): This group, which developed from volleyball games regularly held in the park during the 1970s, is devoted to social interaction, organized activities, and charitable fundraising. It has contributed thousands of dollars over the years to groups fighting HIV/AIDS, cancer, and homophobia.

LIONHEART GAY THEATRE COMPANY (1994): It was the first Midwest performing arts organization to produce gay and lesbian works. This all-volunteer group under Rick Paul’s guidance mounted more than 40 original plays in more than 100 performances from the 1970s to 1994, often donating proceeds to lesbian and gay organizations.

PATRICIA M. LOGUE (2003): For more than 10 years since opening Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund’s Chicago office, she has worked tirelessly to achieve full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay males, bisexuals, transgender persons, and persons living with HIV disease, both here and nationally. Cases in which she has led, including *Lawrence v. Texas*, have established important national precedents.

PATRICIA S. McCOMBS (2000): She is a veteran organizer and social service volunteer. Besides cofounding Executive Sweet, a “traveling club” for women of color, she has assisted the Michigan Womyn’s Music Festival for decades and has helped to lead several lesbian and African American organizations.

LARRY McKEON (1997): He made a historic, indelible mark on Chicago politics in 1996 by winning an Illinois House of Representatives seat as the state’s first openly gay or lesbian state legislator. He is now seeking his sixth term, chairs the Labor Committee, and vice-chairs the Housing and Urban Development Committee. Earlier, he served effectively as director of Chicago’s Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues, held leading positions in social service administration, and was a police officer.

HARLEY McMILLEN (1992): He played an important role in formation of the Howard Brown Memorial Clinic, now known as the Howard Brown Health Center. He was instrumental in organizing the AIDS Action Project, which contributed in large part to development of the City of Chicago’s comprehensive AIDS Strategic Plan. He is now retired in Wisconsin.

SCOTT McPHERSON (1992, now deceased): He was one of the first openly gay, HIV-positive American artists, a renowned playwright and accomplished actor. He was the author of the critically acclaimed play *Marvin’s Room*, later made into a film. Born in 1959, he died of AIDS complications in 1992.

ROBERT MADDOX (2001): See FRANK GOLEY and ROBERT MADDOX.

MATTACHINE MIDWEST (2002): From 1965 to 1986, the group carved a permanent place for itself in Chicago history as the city’s first enduring gay rights organization. Formed in a period of repression, it pursued a course of political activity, education, and social service that blazed paths for successor organizations. Many of its members have already died, but their contributions remain.

METROPOLITAN SPORTS ASSOCIATION (1992): This group is a recognized leader in the Midwest and the nation in providing organized athletic activities, including local, national, and international athletic events.

ELLEN A. MEYERS (2001): As a lesbian and gay political organizer and now deputy director of intergovernmental affairs for Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White, she has spent more than 15 years in supporting human rights laws, persons affected by HIV/AIDS or aging, and electoral involvement.

TONY MIDNITE (1996): After coming to Chicago in 1951 as a female impersonator, he opened a costume design studio and eventually worked 16-hour days to meet worldwide demand. He defied police disapproval of such shows in the early 1950s by booking the Jewel Box Revue for a sold-out run, which set a precedent. In 2000, he moved to Las Vegas. His reminiscences span nearly 50 years of visible gay life.

Rev. SID L. MOHN, D. Min. (1993): He was the first openly gay individual ordained in the Illinois Conference of the United Church of Christ. He continues to be a prominent leader in Chicago's not-for-profit social service community, having major impact on policies and services to meet the needs of immigrants, refugees, homeless, youth, and persons living with HIV and AIDS.

MARY F. MORTEN (1996): The first African American president of the National Organization for Women's Chicago chapter, she contributed to books and created a video documentary on African American lesbians' experiences. She campaigned for a revised home-based-business ordinance, chaired the Chicago Abortion Fund and the city Advisory Council on Women, and directed the city Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues and the city Office of Violence Prevention. She now heads her own social-change consulting firm.

MOUNTAIN MOVING COFFEEHOUSE FOR WOMYN AND CHILDREN (1993): It is the oldest continuously-running, women-only space in the nation. For more than 30 years, it has presented lesbian-feminist-oriented culture and music. The collective is operated totally by volunteers and is open to "all womyn-born womyn" who wish to participate. It will present the final performances of its final season on November 5 and December 10.

MULRYAN AND YORK, ATTORNEYS AT LAW (2004): Since 1989, this professional partnership of Mary M. York and Rosemary Mulryan has been a resource for specialized legal representation as well as a contributor of leadership and expertise to numerous nonprofit organizations.

KATHRYN MUNZER (2001): As a social service professional and volunteer arts booker, she has spent more than 20 years in helping Chicago's Mountain Moving Coffeehouse, in developing lesbian musicians and other artists, and in fostering lesbian culture.

NAMES PROJECT CHICAGO CHAPTER (2002): Since being formed in the wake of Washington's 1987 AIDS Memorial Quilt display, Chicago's NAMES Project chapter has been a Quilt custodian and has brought its message to schools, churches, and other venues during the continuing battle to bring an end to AIDS.

IFTI NASIM (1996): Born in Pakistan, he wrote *Narman*, an award-winning book of Urdu poetry—said to be the first direct statement of "gay" longings and desires ever to appear in that language. Its courageous publication met with revilement but critical acclaim and inspired other Pakistani poets. He cofounded Sangat/Chicago and has been president of the South Asian Performing Arts Council of America.

CHARLES EDWARD NELSON II (2002): Since 1989, when he helped to found the Minority Outreach Intervention Project, he has worked on HIV-prevention programs for same-gender-loving men of color. Always self-identifying as gay, he developed a "down low" social categorization that has helped in devising new prevention programs for such men.

**DAWN CLARK NETSCH (1995):** She was selected as a “Friend of the Community” for her long career of public service as constitution writer, legislator, and state comptroller, especially her support of lesbian and gay rights and of efforts against HIV/AIDS.

**CHARLOTTE NEWFELD (1996):** A civic activist and tenacious advocate for gay and lesbian Chicagoans since the early 1970s, this “Friend of the Community” lobbied for human rights ordinances, for a mayoral liaison and committee on gay and lesbian issues, and for an increased city AIDS budget. She led the Lake View Citizens’ Council’s board in support of a domestic partnership ordinance in 1996. For more than 30 years she has urged and actively backed gay and lesbian political participation.

**MONA NORIEGA (2002):** As an activist since the 1970s, she has developed programs to serve lesbian mothers and their families, organized programs for Latina lesbians and other lesbians of color, helped to open Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund’s Midwest office, served as a business consultant, and cochaired an effort to bring the 2006 Gay Games to Chicago.

**RENAE OGLETREE (1998):** She has engaged in wide-ranging volunteer and professional activities that have brought people together around issues of diversity, development, and health care within Chicago’s gay and lesbian communities. She is a health care activist, a professional youth services executive, and cofounded and has cochaired Chicago Black Lesbians and Gays.

**DEAN ROBERT OGREN (1998):** He is an exemplar volunteer who has tirelessly shared his talents with many organizations, including the NAMES Project, Open Hand Chicago, AIDS Walk Chicago, Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, United Way, International Mr. Leather, and state Rep. Larry McKeon’s historic 1996 electoral campaign. He puts in more volunteer hours in a year than many do in a lifetime.

**OPEN HAND CHICAGO (1994):** Founded in 1988, it became Chicago’s only in-home meals program for persons living with AIDS and served more than 3 million meals. It expanded throughout the city, added other nutrition programs, and cooperated with other groups targeting specific ethnic populations.

**DOM OREJUDOS (posthumous 1992):** He was a dancer and choreographer with the Illinois Ballet Company for 15 years, a respected businessman, a major figure in founding the International Mr. Leather pageants, and an internationally known artist, famous for his male physique studies drawn under the name Etienne. Born in 1933, he died of AIDS complications in 1991.

**KATHY OSTERMAN (posthumous 1993):** As a “Friend of the Community,” 48th Ward alderman, city special events director, and longtime political activist, she helped to forge critical links between Chicago government and the lesbian and gay community. She played a crucial role in passage of the city’s human rights ordinance. Born in 1943, she died of cancer in 1992.

**DAVID G. OSTROW, M.D., Ph.D. (1997):** He has been a bold, innovative leader in addressing critical issues of gay men’s health for more than three decades. He was a cofounder of Howard Brown Health Center, inspired and helped to lead major national HIV/AIDS studies, and is an award-winning writer and teacher in psychiatry, biochemistry, and epidemiology.

**PFLAG/CHICAGO (2004):** This chapter of the national Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays traces its local origins to a group organized by Guy Warner in 1977 called Parents of Gays. For serving both parents and their children so devotedly over the years, this group consistently receives acclaim whenever it makes a public appearance.

**JOSE (PEPIN) PENA (1995):** As a pioneering video artist at Sidetrack, he has created a unique style of showtune entertainment in a bar environment for thousands of Chicagoans and visitors to enjoy as they grow communally. With his business and domestic partner, he has also made the bar into a source of political and financial support for AIDS work and lesbian and gay rights efforts.

**JOHN PENNYCUFF (2003):** On front lines, on sidelines, and behind the scenes, besides supporting reproductive choice and AIDS funding, he has been an outspoken, proud, and ceaseless activist since 1991 for sexual-minority rights in civil society and his United Methodist denomination. His commitment, courage, and energy have made him a model for direct-action, educational, and political work toward equality.

**ADRENE PEROM (1999, now deceased):** She was a "Friend of the Community" whose North Side gay bar, Big Red's, nurtured Chicago institutions in their growth during the 1970s and 1980s. She sponsored sports teams that were supportive social milieux for hundreds, held countless fund-raisers, worked with other business owners, and helped to start and supported Chicago House. Born in 1935, she died in 2000.

**RICHARD W. PFEIFFER (1993):** For more than 30 years he has been an activist and organizational volunteer. He headed the Chicago Gay Alliance (which ran the city's first community center) and founded the Gay Activists Coalition (the first gay and lesbian organization at a City Colleges of Chicago campus). He is best known for leading PrideChicago, which facilitates the annual pride parade.

**MARY D. POWERS (1992):** She was recognized as a "Friend of the Community" for what is now more than 30 years of commitment in addressing abusive police behavior and being a consistent advocate for gay and lesbian rights both in civil society and in her church as a Roman Catholic.

**QUEER NATION CHICAGO (1995):** As a direct-action group supporting those who are bisexual, gay, lesbian, or transgender (collectively, queer), it developed test cases under nondiscrimination ordinances, mounted public protests and commemorations, and sponsored an annual antiviolence march.

**CHARLES "CHUCK" RENSLow (1991):** An internationally known gay businessman and photographer, he opened the Gold Coast in the early 1960s. It was one of Chicago's first openly gay enterprises and one of the first leather bars in the world. He also published *GayLife*, has financially aided many gay rights efforts since the 1960s, and has been active in local and national Democratic Party politics. He cofounded the International Mr. Leather contest and set up the Leather Museum and Archives.

**LINDA S. RODGERS (1993):** As a successful businesswoman, fund-raiser, and activist, she combined her business acumen and community consciousness to promote projects and political actions in support of lesbian and gay human rights and community needs. She now lives in Florida.

**JULIO RODRIGUEZ (2004):** For nearly 20 years, he has been a tireless advocate for Latinos and Latinas among LGBT persons and for LGBT persons among Latinos and Latinas. In 1989, he cofounded ALMA, the city's first group for gay and bisexual Latinos. He has aided the Center on Halsted, the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, and philanthropic and youth substance abuse programs.

**RON SABLE, M.D. (1993, now deceased):** As an openly gay physician he cofounded the first comprehensive HIV/AIDS clinic at Cook County Hospital. He was active in local politics, running as an openly gay candidate for 44th Ward alderman and founding IMPACT, a gay and lesbian political action committee. Born in 1945, he died in 1993 of AIDS complications.

**TIFFANI ST. CLOUD (1996):** By age 18 in 1996, she had become a chief organizer of the Pride group at Chicago's Whitney Young High School. It quickly became the school's second-largest organization, despite some initial student resistance. Its goal was to support the self-esteem and rights of students, including those who are gay, lesbian, or bisexual.

**VICTOR A. SALVO, JR. (1998):** After chairing Chicago's 1987 National March on Washington Committee, he helped to found the Lesbian and Gay Progressive Democratic Organization and IMPACT, joined the NAMES Project's local host committee, helped to start Open Hand Chicago's meals-on-wheels and grocery programs, promoted the 1993 March, and cofounded Gay and Lesbian Building and Trade Professionals.

**NORMAN L. SANDFIELD (1999):** For more than 20 years, he has been an organizer of gay and lesbian Jewish activities and of Jewish AIDS programs in Chicago and internationally as part of his membership in Chicago's Congregation Or Chadash. He cofounded the Jewish AIDS Network—Chicago and has worked on interfaith relations.

**NAN SCHAFFER, D.V.M. (2004):** Having achieved distinction by both charitable and scientific contributions, she has donated hundreds of thousands of dollars and much time and wisdom to a wide range of Chicago organizations during the past 25 years. As a veterinary doctor, she is also an internationally known expert on rhinoceroses and their reproduction.

**BRUCE C. SCOTT (1993, now deceased):** A Chicago resident for more than 50 years, he successfully fought federal anti-gay employment policies in groundbreaking lawsuits. In a 1965 decision with far-reaching implications, the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, D. C., ruled that a vague charge of "homosexuality" could not disqualify one from federal government jobs. Scott was also a founding officer of Mattachine Midwest. Born in 1912, he died in 2001.

**GREGG SHAPIRO (1999):** He is both a literary figure and a music and literary critic. Besides writing his own poetry and fiction, he has fostered awareness of Chicago's gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender literary excellence. His expertise in popular music is widely recognized.

**HELEN SHILLER (2000):** She was inducted as a "Friend of the Community" for more than 30 years as a progressive activist and for service as 46th Ward alderman since 1987, during which periods she has often advocated for sexual-minority communities and for persons living with HIV and AIDS.

**DAVID B. SINDT (posthumous 1995):** In the 1970s and 1980s, he fought homophobia in civil and religious spheres. As a social worker, he advocated for gay parents and gay children. As a clergyman, he formed what became Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns but later had to leave the ministry because of gayness. Born in 1940, he died of AIDS complications in 1986. His house became the first Chicago House—owned residence.

**NORM SLOAN (1996):** Since 1988, as a volunteer registrar, he has registered at least 38,000 voters. In some weeks, he registered as many as 1,000 or 2,000. He helped to form the Lesbian and Gay Progressive Democratic Organization and later has worked through Equality Illinois. He also gives volunteer aid to Chicago dance and theater efforts.

**ADRIENNE J. SMITH, Ph.D. (1991, now deceased):** She was one of the first openly lesbian psychologists within the American Psychological Association. She wrote and edited several publications and appeared on local and national television and radio programs promoting gay and lesbian rights. Born in 1934, she died of cancer in 1992.

ARMANDO L. SMITH (1995): A licensed clinical social worker, he has worked in community-based organizations for more than 20 years and is a mainstay of Chicago lesbian, gay, and AIDS groups. He has led Horizons Community Services' telephone helpline, has headed the AIDS Foundation of Chicago's Service Providers Council, and has served on numerous boards including that of Kupona Network.

CHRISTINA SMITH (2002): Since at least 1994, when she joined efforts to set up a South Side community center for African American lesbian and bisexual women, she has worked to assist women of color. She helped to form Affinity Community Services and served it as board president.

JAMES MONROE SMITH (1995, now deceased): As a quietly persistent young lawyer, in 1988 he founded the AIDS Legal Council of Chicago, an unprecedented vehicle for involving the city's general legal community in helping persons with HIV/AIDS. Before leaving ALCC in 1993, he received the Chicago Bar Association's Maurice Weigle Award for his work. He published two textbooks on AIDS and health care and taught AIDS-related college and law school courses. Born in 1957, he died in 2003.

MARY ANN SMITH (1997): As alderman of Chicago's diverse 48th Ward, this "Friend of the Community" has encouraged gay and lesbian ward leadership and advocated for gay and lesbian rights. Despite opposition, she also firmly backed location of Chicago House's first facility and the San Miguel Apartments in the ward.

MAXSONN "MAX" C. SMITH (1991): He has been active in addressing political and social hostility toward the African American gay and lesbian community. He has been a contributor to numerous publications, including *BLK* and *Blacklight*.

DANIEL SOTOMAYOR (posthumous 1992): He was an openly gay, nationally syndicated political cartoonist and prominent Chicago AIDS activist. He died of AIDS complications in 1992.

LAURENCE E. SPANG, D.D.S. (2003): After losing his job as a federal prison dentist in 1991 because of his HIV status, he led in organizing a Chicago dental clinic for low-income HIV-positive persons, persons with tuberculosis, and those of advanced age. He is also active in a range of community service activities.

GREGORY A. SPRAGUE (posthumous 1994): Nationally known for research in Chicago lesbian and gay history, he cofounded the Committee on Lesbian and Gay History of the American Historical Association and was active in the Gay Academic Union. In 1978 he founded the Chicago Gay History Project, a precursor of the Gerber/Hart Library.

LAUREN SUGERMAN (2002): For more than 20 years, she has led as an out lesbian in improving economic status and working conditions for women in construction and manufacturing trades. In 1981, she cofounded Chicago Women in Trades, of which she has been director and president. She has served on state and federal boards and chaired the national group Tradeswomen Now and Tomorrow.

MARGE SUMMIT (1993): As a successful businesswoman, she has contributed time, energy, and resources to numerous community organizations. She was a founder of the Chicago chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), appeared in several video projects, and initiated the "Gay \$" project.

VALERIE TAYLOR (1992, now deceased): Born in 1913, she was an outspoken advocate of lesbian and gay concerns from the 1950s onward and wrote several lesbian-themed novels and poems. She edited the *Mattachine Midwest Newsletter* while in Chicago and was active in the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom. Retired in Tucson, she was writing and active in social change until her 1997 death.

**STUDS TERKEL (2001):** The renowned author and oral historian, broadcast host, commentator, arts supporter, and activist is a “Friend of the Community” because of more than half a century during which his championship of social justice has consistently been marked by support for sexual-minority rights., from backing Pearl M. Hart for alderman in the 1940s to including gay interview subjects in his books.

**ELIZABETH E. TOCCI (1994):** She opened her first gay bar in 1963 and, beginning in 1971, owned and ran The Patch in Calumet City, which became one of the oldest lesbian-owned establishments in the nation. She is active in local business circles and has long given financial aid and a supportive environment to lesbian and gay persons.

**JOANNE E. TRAPANI (1993):** After a decade of New York City political activism, she cochaired the Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force for several terms, and she has served as liaison to state and local governments and agencies. In 1997 she became a member of the Oak Park village board as the first open lesbian elected to office in Illinois, and in 2001 Oak Park voters elected her as village board president.

**THOMAS M. TUNNEY (1995):** In his early 20s he bought Lake View’s venerable Ann Sather Restaurant in 1981 and built it into a virtual community center for lesbian and gay Chicagoans and for older adults. He has been active in neighborhood business groups, IMPACT, Human Rights Campaign, and the Democratic Party. He backed Open Hand Chicago’s home-meals program, hosted countless gay and lesbian efforts and the White Crane Wellness Center, and in 2003 was elected Chicago’s first openly gay alderman.

**RICHARD B. TURNER (1991):** He was cofounder and national president of Funders Concerned About AIDS and later became director and senior program officer of the Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust. Previously he was director of development and communications for the Chicago Community Trust. He has led in numerous civic, cultural, and charitable groups and is on Hubbard Street Dance Chicago’s advisory board.

**MODESTO “TICO” VALLE (1998):** He founded the Chicago NAMES Project in 1989, helped to take the 1996 display of the entire AIDS Memorial Quilt to Washington, D.C., and helped to create a national high school Quilt curriculum. He was Open Hand Chicago’s first Volunteer Services Director, served on the Horizons Community Services board, and is now deputy executive director of the Center on Halsted.

**RENE A. VAN HULLE, JR. (2000):** Since the 1970s, he has been vigorously active in community organizations and instrumental in many of their fund-raising projects. He cofounded the Tavern Guild of Chicago and for years has helped to raise community center funds, sponsored sports teams, and supported Chicago House.

**LUULE VESS (1998):** By founding Project VIDA in 1992, she took the battle against HIV and AIDS far from the lakefront to the streets of Chicago’s low-income South Lawndale neighborhood. Project VIDA has won awards and has quickly grown into a major lesbian-friendly AIDS service provider. Earlier, she helped to develop a Cook County Hospital substance abuse program for homeless, HIV-positive injection drug users.

**STEVEN F. WAKEFIELD (1994):** He has held gay and lesbian executive positions since 1976, including leadership of Howard Brown Memorial Clinic until 1988. He later directed Test Positive Aware Network and the Night Ministry; was a leader in many social service and religious organizations, including several African American ones; and served on the Chicago Board of Health. In 2000, he moved to Seattle, where he directs community education worldwide for a major HIV vaccine trial program.

AL WARDELL (1993, now deceased): From 1978, he was a prominent Chicago gay and lesbian community leader and a mainstay of the Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force. He helped to initiate the first sensitivity training on gay and lesbian concerns for the Chicago Police Department and developed gay and lesbian counseling materials for Illinois public schools. Born in 1944, he died in 1995.

DJ SHERON DENISE WEBB (2003): She has been “playing music to suit any occasion” for more than 30 years. During that time, her contributions expanded from simply playing music to paving the way for African American lesbians to gather freely and safely. She has also organized large commercial social events.

JESSE WHITE (1999): This “Friend of the Community” is a longtime Chicago political figure and African American community leader whose support for lesbian and gay rights is part of supporting equal rights for all. In 1974, he became a state legislator and backed bills against sexual-orientation discrimination and hate crimes. He continued to uphold sexual-minority rights as Cook County recorder of deeds and now does so as Illinois secretary of state.

ALBERT N. WILLIAMS (2003): Since 1970, as journalist, theater artist, teacher, and activist, he has made important contributions to Chicago cultural life. His *Chicago Reader* theater reviews won a George Jean Nathan Award, and in the 1980s he was an award-winning editor of *GayLife* and *Windy City Times* newspapers. He has performed and written for musical theater and participated in activist groups. He also teaches at Columbia College.

PHILL WILSON (1999): A Chicago native, he has achieved national prominence as an advocate for persons with AIDS, particularly those of color. He has served as an innovative executive in Los Angeles AIDS agencies and has made many national media appearances. He also helped to found and cochaired the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum. He is now chief executive officer of the Black AIDS Institute.

TERRI WORMAN (2004): An openly lesbian community organizer for AARP, she has organized film festivals and senior health and benefits fairs, developed presentations on aging and job issues, and cochaired the Chicago Task Force on LGBT Aging.

ISRAEL WRIGHT (2000): For more than 20 years, he has held volunteer leadership posts in business, social service, cultural, AIDS, and African American organizations. His photographs of community life, including the lives of leathermen, African Americans, and persons with AIDS, have been widely published.

YVONNE ZIPTER (1995): A syndicated columnist, she has often documented the lives of Chicago lesbians and gay men. An award-winning poet, humorist, and essayist, she wrote a book on lesbian softball, *Diamonds Are a Dyke’s Best Friend*, as well as *The Patience of Metal* and *Ransacking the Closet*.



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