City of Chicago
Commission on Human Relations

Richard M. Daley
Mayor

Dana V. Starks
Chairman and Commissioner

Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues

William W. Greaves, Ph.D.
Director/Community Liaison
In Memoriam

Robert Maddox

Tony Midnite
Greetings!

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to welcome everyone gathered for the 2009 induction ceremony for the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

Today’s event serves as a wonderful opportunity to honor outstanding Chicagoans for their terrific accomplishments. The lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities of Chicago have made wonderful contributions to the growth and wellbeing of the city and state, and they deserve our utmost respect and commendation for the great work they have done. Human rights are basic rights — not special rights. All Illinoisans should be proud of the efforts of these individuals and organizations to promote fairness and equality.

I am honored to congratulate each individual and organization being inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame in 2009. I know that each of you has worked hard for the success that you enjoy today, and I applaud your constant diligence and dedication. I am pleased to join with your family and friends in honoring you on this special occasion.

On behalf of the people of Illinois, I offer my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable event.

Sincerely,

Pat Quinn
Governor
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 2009 Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

The lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities have made many valuable contributions to our city, and they will continue to play an important role in Chicago’s bright future. The Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame offers a place where all Chicagoans can learn of the many ways that individuals and organizations within the LGBT communities, and their friends, have been at the forefront of efforts to unify and enrich our city.

I commend the Hall of Fame for creating a forum to discuss human rights issues and appreciate its role in highlighting the contributions of our LGBT residents. I look forward to continued 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,

[Signature]

Mayor
November 12, 2009

Dear Friends,

Please join me in congratulating the 2009 inductees to the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame. Their accomplishments and contributions to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities and this city are worthy of our recognition and give us reason to celebrate.

There are now more than 240 inductees in the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame, the only such government-sponsored endeavor in the nation. Each member represents the best in business, community organizing, the arts, government and a host of other fields. We have been enriched by their lives and their commitment to improving the quality of life for the LGBT communities of Chicago.

As a city, we must continue to appreciate and respect difference and stand together against discrimination and hate. Each one of our diverse and exciting communities adds its own unique qualities, which makes the city vibrant and alive. This is why we pause now to celebrate the important contributions of this year’s inductees.

I extend my congratulations and gratitude to the Hall of Fame Committee and the Chicago Commission on Human Relations’ Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues for another great year and a tremendous group of inductees.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Dana V. Starks
Chairman and Commissioner
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 the world 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.

A 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.

www.GLHallofFame.org
2009 PLANNING COMMITTEE
CHICAGO GAY AND LESBIAN HALL OF FAME

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2009 INDUCTEES
CHICAGO GAY AND LESBIAN HALL OF FAME

Paula Basta
Lou Conte
Lori A. Cooper
Marcia J. Lipetz, Ph.D.
Amy Maggio
Joey McDonald
Frank M. Robinson
Jane M. Hussein Saks
Zaida Sanabia
Patrick Sinozich
Jorge Valdivia

AIDS Foundation of Chicago

Mike Quigley
Friend of the Community

Marilyn Urso, R.N.
Friend of the Community

In the text of the following brief biographies of inductees, the abbreviation LGBT repeatedly appears. It is currently a widely accepted term and stands for “lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender.” Its use and the occasional use of “queer” are intended as a reminder of Chicago’s diversity.
Paula Basta has embraced a passion for social justice since she moved to Chicago in 1979, working to alleviate loneliness and poverty in the lives of seniors and for LGBT and women’s rights. She currently serves as director of the Chicago Department of Family and Support Services’ Northeast (Levy) Regional Senior Center.

After joining the Chicago Task Force on LGBT Aging in 2001, she worked to bridge traditional aging-network and LGBT organizations, consistently demonstrating a deep understanding of the intricacies of aging-services provision and a unique gift for coalition building.

Basta’s accomplishments in her field are broad. Among other things, she has worked to set new standards for support of LGBT aging work at the Northeast (Levy) Regional Senior Center, providing meeting space for the Task Force and the community as well as a safe space for LGBT seniors at the center. She has shared her expertise with both the Center on Halsted and Howard Brown Health Center, helping them to become congregate meal sites and enabling more LGBT seniors to receive hot lunches during the week, along with safe places to socialize. She has facilitated the provision of crucial testimony before the Chicago Department on Aging (now the Department of Family and Support Services) over the past five years, ensuring that LGBT voices will be heard in public hearings and paying particular attention to the needs of transgender elders.

Basta has also broadened the discussion of LGBT aging issues through Providers Council meetings, which feature honest conversations about how service organizations can make their facilities safer and more welcoming for LGBT seniors. She was recently appointed to Cook County State’s Attorney Anita Alvarez’s LGBT Advisory Council.

She also served as president of the Equality Illinois board of directors in 2005–06, at a time when new Illinois human rights legislation was enacted and signed into law. She continued to serve on the Equality Illinois board until June 2009. Her leadership meant that the number of women actively involved in the organization’s work increased substantially, creating a broader tent under which more members of Illinois’s LGBT communities can participate and make a significant difference in Illinoisans’ lives.
In 1977, Lou Conte—dancer, choreographer, and teacher—founded Hubbard Street Dance Chicago, an internationally acclaimed troupe that combines balletic strength and discipline with jazz drive and showmanship. The company began when a group of four women got together under Conte’s direction for a series of performances at senior citizens centers. At that time, Chicago’s dance scene was much less developed than today, and Hubbard Street quickly captured the hearts of local audiences.

Recently, Conte reflected on the troupe’s early days. “I really had no grand plan,” he said. “I just wanted to provide work for some very good dancers.” Today, Hubbard Street Dance Chicago is a proud symbol of Chicago’s international cultural profiles. It has become one of the most prominent American dance companies, producing bold, passionate, and impressive performances. As The Washington Post’s Pam Squires once wrote, “Take a deep breath, because Hubbard Street Dance Chicago is going to take your breath away.”

Conte grew up in downstate Du Quoin and Taylorville. He began tap-dancing at the age of 7 and went on to study ballet and jazz from age 12. In 1959 he saw a production of The Music Man at Chicago’s Shubert Theatre (now the Bank of America Theater), and the experience was life-changing. He recalled: “I had no idea such things went on. It was truly magical.” While studying zoology at Southern Illinois University, he kept dancing and eventually decided to postpone his scientific studies and pursue a career in dance. He moved to New York City, becoming first a dancer on Broadway and landing, at the age of only 21, a chorus job in the original How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying. He toured the United States, Europe, and the Middle East with musicals and eventually moved toward choreography. In 1972 he returned to the Midwest, establishing the Lou Conte Dance Studio on Chicago’s Hubbard Street and, five years later, bringing the Hubbard Street Dance company to life. Since then, the touring company has defined “Chicago dance” to the rest of the world.

In the summer of 2000, Conte resigned as artistic director of the troupe. By then, Hubbard Street had a roster of more than 20 dancers and a broad repertoire that included works by a number of major choreographers. It also had a second company, Hubbard Street 2, with its own repertoire, and a busy school, which Conte continues to operate. The company has a budget of more than $5 million; a recently opened, state-of-the-art studio complex downtown; and a top-notch staff and board. It continues to garner strong reviews in the United States and internationally.

Conte received the Sidney R. Yates Arts Advocacy Award in 1995. He was named a Chicagoan of the Year by Chicago magazine in 1999, and in 2001 he was one of six individuals to be named laureates of the Lincoln Academy of Illinois, receiving the highest honor bestowed by the state on Illinois citizens.
A native of Evergreen Park, Lori Cooper joined the Chicago Police Department in 1992. After the academy, she was assigned to the 23rd District in the Lake View neighborhood, and by 1994 she was working as a beat officer in the North Halsted Street bar area.

Cooper was always “out” as a lesbian police officer, and she quickly established herself as the go-to person when incidents involved the LGBT community. She worked with upper management at district and city levels to advocate for both LGBT issues and the Police Department. Most notably, she advocated for and won official support for the first open recruitment of lesbian and gay individuals by the 23rd District. She was soon appointed as a Police Ambassador on the city recruitment team to specifically bring LGBT candidates to work within the Police Department.

Officer Cooper recognized when hate crimes occurred and ensured that such cases were appropriately referred. She served at the inception of the Cook County State’s Attorney’s hate crimes advisory group and continues to serve today. Her focus on the needs of LGBT communities has led to significant policy changes within the Police Department. She has worked tirelessly to promote fair and unbiased reporting of incidents involving LGBT victims and to educate responding officers on the warning signs of domestic violence in same-sex households. She has advocated in courtrooms throughout Chicago for the upgrading of charges in cases where homophobic hatred was a motivating factor. Perhaps her most important Police Department contribution was the 1996 creation of the position of district LGBT liaison and of LGBT district advisory councils, which continue to serve vital functions for Chicagoans.

Cooper’s work with police officials—insisting on a police presence at “Dyke March” events even when there was no permit, for example—has been groundbreaking. She trained marshals, recruited off-duty police officers as volunteers, and effectively proved to the Police Department that the “Dyke March” was peaceful and deserving of protection.

In 1998, Cooper became the citywide LGBT police liaison and continued to advocate for equal treatment of LGBT individuals. Since then, she has been recognized nationally as an educator, focusing on the importance of positive relationships between LGBT residents and the police. She has also continued to investigate hate crimes for the State's Attorney’s office, resulting in many successful prosecutions.

Cooper was promoted to sergeant in 2005. Since then, she has continued to serve as an advocate, educator, and friend of the community. She is the escort for the Police Superintendent in the annual Pride Parade and continues to maintain open dialogue between the Chicago Police Department and the city’s LGBT population.
Marcia Lipetz has a long history of exemplary service to Chicago’s LGBT communities and their organizations, causes, and institutions. In both personal and professional capacities, she has provided leadership, energy, passion, and vision for important issues and projects.

Her dedication over more than 30 years was exemplified by the opening of the Center on Halsted, where she served as vice chair of the board of directors and serves on the Board Governance Committee. Beyond her leadership role at the center, Lipetz was a key player in developing its vision and then raising funds for its construction and opening in 2007.

As president and CEO of the Executive Service Corps of Chicago, Lipetz has brought the expertise and skills gained from her decades of community-building and nonprofit-sector leadership to benefit the entire spectrum of Chicago’s nonprofit community. Her work at the Executive Service Corps also reflects her years of working with two organizations that have been benefactors of Chicago’s LGBT communities: the AIDS Foundation of Chicago and the WPWR-TV Channel 50 Foundation (now the Alphawood Foundation).

As the AIDS Foundation’s first full-time executive director, she was instrumental in building consensus, securing funding, and developing a communitywide response to the pandemic at a vital stage in that organization’s existence. At the WPWR-TV Channel 50 Foundation, she provided crucial funding for a wide range of LGBT cultural, health, and other community-based organizations, many of which would not have survived otherwise.

She has also chaired the board of directors of the Donors Forum of Chicago, serves on the Illinois attorney general’s Charitable Advisory Council, and served on United Way of Metropolitan Chicago’s board of directors and on the United Way/Crusade of Mercy Chicago Council.

Lipetz was born in Louisville, Kentucky, in 1947. She graduated from Douglass College of Rutgers University and went on to earn a master’s degree in sociology from the Ohio State University and a Ph.D. degree in sociology from Northwestern University. She has taught at the University of Illinois at Chicago, Northwestern University, and Spertus College. She has made her home in greater Chicago for more than 30 years and in Chicago for the past 13 years.
AMY MAGGIO

For more than two decades, Amy Maggio has been a leader in Chicago’s HIV/AIDS and LGBT communities. Her work with the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, STOP AIDS/Chicago, the National Leadership Coalition on AIDS, Chicago’s HIV/AIDS Prevention and Planning Council, as IMPACT board chair, and as a Test Positive Aware Network board member has established her as a well-recognized figure. In 2005 alone, she co-chaired the Equality Illinois gala, About Face Theatre’s Wonka Ball, and Lambda Legal’s “Into the Woods” benefit.

In her various affiliations with LGBT political and community groups and HIV/AIDS service organizations, she has consistently displayed an ability to mobilize community support through increasing donor and volunteer involvement. She has also been instrumental in raising millions of dollars over the years for LGBT and HIV/AIDS organizations.

As a marketing, public relations, and development professional in a variety of positions in the field of health care, Maggio has worked in both for-profit and nonprofit sectors. Notably, she worked closely with several large corporations to develop and expand their clinical HIV/AIDS products. She has also devoted a substantial portion of her career to developing HIV/AIDS programs and national protocols for service delivery. As a member of the National Leadership Coalition on AIDS, she provided assistance, training support, and “AIDS in the Workplace” programs throughout the United States.

In the early 1990s, Maggio chaired Chicago’s HIV/AIDS Prevention and Planning Council and served on the steering committee for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s national HIV/AIDS Prevention Marketing Initiative. She served as the director of development and acting executive director for the AIDS Foundation of Chicago from 1987 to 1992 and as executive director for STOP AIDS/Chicago from 1992 to 1996. Recently, she has been a national trainer for HIV/AIDS service organizations through the National Minority AIDS Council.

Maggio brings passion, commitment, and creativity to her health-care practice and community service. Many members of Chicago’s LGBT communities have been touched in some way by the organizations she has helped to build, strengthen, and sustain.
JOEY McDonald

Joey McDonald’s community service dates back to 1974, when the Chicago native joined the U.S. Navy. As an out and proud gay sailor, he spent six years on active duty helping to break down his fellow crew members’ stereotypical attitudes toward gay men.

While on active-duty leave in Chicago in 1979, McDonald volunteered as a greeter at the first International Mr. Leather (IML) contest. What started as a serendipitous moment would lead to volunteer work that has consumed a large part of his life.

After his honorable discharge in 1980, McDonald began volunteering in Chicago’s LGBT communities in earnest: He spent many an evening at bars and social events, distributing fliers and talking to gay men about the hepatitis vaccine. As the AIDS crisis exploded, McDonald began cooking and delivering food to those in need. In 1985, he co-produced “BLOW-OUT,” an all-day entertainment extravaganza, working with the late Hall of Fame member Thom Dombkowski to present the first benefit for what would become Chicago House.

From 1985 to 1992, McDonald volunteered with the NAMES Project in Chicago, assisting families and friends of people who had died of AIDS-related complications. He also did community outreach with STOP AIDS/Chicago from 1993 to 1995, passing out safe-sex kits.

Since 1991, he has been active in Chicago’s LGBT recovery community, serving on the planning committee for Chicago's annual 12-Step Recovery Roundup from 1992 to 1995. In 1993 he became the first president of Sober, Safe, Sane and Consensual Club Chicago (SC3), a substance-free space for leather folk that he had helped to found with four friends. He was an IML staff volunteer for more than 10 years and became a departmental supervisor in 1993. Since 2001 he has been an active member of IML’s Executive Planning Committee and presently serves as the Den Daddy for IML contestants. In 2003 and 2004, he served as volunteer coordinator for Equality Illinois’s annual Justice for All gala. He now works as operations manager for that organization.

McDonald continues to be a mentor to others in the leather community and received the Pantheon of Leather Lifetime Achievement Award in May 2009. In his acceptance speech, he said that he had always merely done as he was told to do when he was young: “Give back to your community.” He remains visible and active in Chicago’s recovery community and, when time permits, is always ready to volunteer where there is a need.
The journalist, activist, and award-winning novelist Frank M. Robinson has made significant contributions to LGBT communities in Chicago and nationally. As a member of the Chicago Gay Alliance in the early 1970s, Robinson edited and produced the first gay tabloid-format newspaper in the city’s history, *Chicago Gay Pride*, which was published in June 1971 to promote that year’s Pride Parade and events.

The longtime Chicago activist and Hall of Fame member Marie Kuda recalled that the idea to publish “was entirely Frank’s; it was his money that fronted it, and he did all the prep work and layout including manually typing the entire issue.” Because Robinson was not publicly “out” at the time, his byline did not appear in the paper. However, as Kuda put it, “The ‘Editorial,’ while unsigned and suggesting ‘a committee,’ was Frank's and you can recognize his internal ‘signature’ in literary allusions to everyone from Shakespeare to Pogo.”

The following year, Robinson created *The Paper*, a second tabloid-format newspaper that featured coverage of the Pride Parade and rally, the Gay Book Awards at the American Library Association’s convention, testimony by Chicago activists at the Democratic National Convention platform hearings, and other local cultural, social, and political activities. The significance of both publications in solidifying the city’s nascent LGBT community was enormous. “By publicizing events and documenting a history,” Kuda said, they “gave a face to the growing community that was comparable to establishment media.” Robinson’s pioneering efforts paved the way for other LGBT publications in Chicago.

After moving to San Francisco, where he currently resides, Robinson wrote speeches for the campaigns that culminated in Harvey Milk's historic 1977 election to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. In a posthumously played tape-recorded statement, Milk named Robinson as one of his political heirs. Robinson had drafted Milk’s famous “Hope Speech,” featured in the 2008 biographical film *Milk*. In the film, Robinson had a cameo role portraying himself.

Born in Chicago in 1926 and raised in the city, Robinson attended Beloit College and earned a master’s degree in journalism at Northwestern University. He served two tours of duty in the U.S. Navy as a radar technician during World War II and the Korean War.

Robinson is also a prominent novelist and historian of popular culture, with many books, screenplays, and illustrated coffee-table volumes to his credit. Several of his novels have been adapted for television and for feature films, including 1974’s Hollywood blockbuster *The Towering Inferno*, based partly on *The Glass Inferno*, a novel of which Robinson and Thomas M. Scortia were co-authors. His novel *The Dark Beyond the Stars* received the 1991 Lambda Literary Award for Gay Men’s Science Fiction and Fantasy from the Lambda Literary Foundation.
JANE M. HUSSEIN SAKS

Jane Saks has dedicated her life to advancing human rights and social justice. Whether bringing together queer artists and activists to deepen understanding and appreciation of how gender and sexuality shape policy or theory, challenging academic and political institutions to accept queer people, or raising money for grassroots and mainstream LGBT organizations, Saks is present as a queer feminist 24/7.

She has served on or advised boards and committees of the Chicago Foundation for Women, National Public Radio’s Radio Diaries, the Chicago History Museum’s “Out at CHM” lecture series, Human Rights Watch Chicago, the Funding Lesbian & Gay Issues group of the Donors Forum of Chicago, and the Friends of South Africa’s Constitutional Court. She also participated in the planning and program committee for the national conference, “Race, Sex, and Power: New Movements in Black and Latina/o Sexualities,” which showcased Chicago’s LGBTQ communities.

As an out board member of the Chicago Foundation for Women, Saks brought a strong lesbian perspective to advocacy for the inclusion of lesbian and transgender issues in the foundation’s programs and grant making. As co-chair of its Lesbian Leadership Council, she helped to raise and distribute nearly $50,000 to lesbian-led nonprofit organizations in Chicago. She has worked to make the council a vehicle for educating lesbians on fundraising through programs such as “Queer Fundraising Strategies,” attended by individual donors and by representatives of 20 emerging or established LBGT service organizations. She has also been successful as co-chair of the Funding Lesbian & Gay Issues group of the Donors Forum, with a focus on increasing philanthropic support for Chicago’s LGBT communities.

As the first director of the Institute for the Study of Women and Gender in the Arts and Media at Chicago’s Columbia College, Saks has built an innovative center that embraces the full spectrum of gender and that showcases Chicago’s queer and transgender art and artists in innovative exhibits and programs. While serving as a planning committee member for the Chicago History Museum’s LGBTQ lecture series, she has developed programming that combines current and past LGBTQ cultures and scholarship reflecting the diverse histories of Chicago’s queer communities. She is also helping to plan the museum’s first exhibition of Chicago’s LGBTQ history, which is scheduled to open in 2010–11 and will be seen as a model for similar programs across the United States.

Noted lesbian feminist author Dorothy Allison speaks for many Chicagoans in saying, “I have taken a great deal of inspiration from Jane’s activism and willingness to sacrifice in order to make Chicago the kind of community where all of us can feel safe and welcome. Her personal, community and professional achievements embody what the Hall of Fame stands for—calling attention to the best of the LGBTQ community and advancing the goals of that community.”
Zaida Sanabia was an activist before she knew what the word meant. At the age of 14, she contacted Amigas Latinas, challenging the adults there to address the gap in services for young Latinas who, like herself, were facing issues connected with being gay. A year later, while participating in Horizons Community Services’ youth program, Sanabia became involved with Beyond Media Education and began documenting the struggles of starting a Gay-Straight Alliance, or GSA, at her school, Carl Schurz High School, on Chicago’s Northwest Side.

Sanabia’s video did not turn out quite as planned; it became a documentary of her struggle to complete the film. She had captured incriminating testimony of homophobia on video, and her principal demanded that she cease filming and turn over all existing footage. Despite harassment, threats, and being suspended from Carl Schurz High at the age of 17, she eventually completed her film, *A Fish Almost Eaten by a Shark*, and went on to graduate in 2003. The film has since been shown in several festivals and schools across the country, teaching students and educators about the challenges faced by queer youth and the need for GSAs. It won prizes at the Independent Film & Video Chicago Festival and the Chicago Youth Media Festival. Although initially shy, Sanabia became a dynamic speaker whose openness, humor, and courage have moved audiences of all ages and backgrounds. She had found her voice.

In 2004, Amigas Latinas recognized Sanabia for her work, awarding her an Aixa Diaz Latina Youth Scholarship. Sanabia went on to work with Amigas Latinas and was instrumental in creating the first queer Latina youth group in Chicago, named “Amiguitas” (“Little Amigas”). The group meets monthly, providing safe space, education, and access to resources; it is open to all ages, races, and genders. She summed up the importance of the group and her commitment, saying, “When we’re so young, we’re so vulnerable, and one way to help is to have a space to just say, ‘I’m gay!’ So, no matter what I do in life, with my career, whatever title I may have, I will always be involved with my community. I do the work unconditionally.”

Sanabia has also traveled throughout Illinois, donating her time, skills, and abilities to meet with youth and adults in support of GSA development across the state. Under the auspices of the Coalition for Education on Sexual Orientation (now the Illinois Safe Schools Alliance), her work has contributed to the founding of more than 20 GSAs in rural parts of the state. As part of a Beyond Media team, she played a significant role in producing the film *Can LGBTQ + School = Safe?*, which documents the LGBTQ safe-schools movement and provides young people and adults with a guide for creating change in their own schools.
For more than 20 years, Patrick Sinozich has been enriching Chicago’s LGBT communities through the gift of song, dance, and entertainment. He first became involved with the Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus, or CGMC, as an accompanist from 1988 to 1992. In 1992, he worked with Windy City Gay Chorus as an accompanist for two years; in 1994 he took over as its interim artistic director.

In 1997, CGMC had the good fortune to hire Sinozich as its artistic director. Under his gifted leadership, CGMC has grown into one of the largest and most highly respected gay choruses in the world. In 2003, he directed the first nationally televised performance of the national anthem by a gay chorus before a Chicago Cubs game at Wrigley Field. Besides its regular subscription concerts, Sinozich has led CGMC in special performances at the Chicago Cultural Center, Navy Pier, Daley Plaza, and the Harris Theater, as well as at the Capitol rotunda in Springfield, at GALA Choruses festivals in California and Quebec, and in cities across the Midwest.

Sinozich has written more than 200 arrangements and original works, which have been performed by choruses in New York; Washington, D.C.; Kansas City, Mo.; Cincinnati; Albuquerque, N.M.; and Palm Springs, Calif., as well as by CGMC. He was the recipient of a Gay Chicago Magazine After Dark Award for music direction of the chorus’s production of “Sidetrack III.” In April 2006, CGMC performed the critically acclaimed world premiere of The Ten Commandments: The Musical, written by Sinozich and Bill Larkin.

Since 2007, besides his chorus work, Sinozich has been music director of Chicago a cappella, a nine-member Chicago classical vocal ensemble with which he has been involved since its 1993 founding. He is an acclaimed pianist, vocal coach, and chamber musician and is on the musical staffs of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Grant Park Music Festival. He has produced three commercial CDs each for WCGC and for Chicago a cappella. His undergraduate work was at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music; he completed graduate studies at Northwestern University.

Sinozich has enriched the lives of many Chicagoans through his creative programming for both CGMC and Windy City Gay Chorus. His talent and dedication have been demonstrated by the high quality of CGMC performances. He continuously strives to make the chorus’s members work harder to learn more about music and to perform bigger and better productions. Without his creative and musical talents, CGMC would not be the strong and vibrant organization that it is today, and the cultural life of Chicago’s LGBT communities would not be as enriched as they have been by his presence, his work, and his inspiration.
JORGE VALDIVIA

A Chicago native, Jorge Valdivia grew up in Little Village, a Mexican American enclave on the city’s Southwest Side. There, he learned firsthand the unique cultural, social, and political obstacles that queer Latino youth can face in society.

He was only a young man when he came out to his family and friends. He had decided to forge his identity as a Latino activist by dedicating himself to creating safe spaces and building visibility for the Latino LGBT community through media, arts, and public service.

The quotation, “Do not follow where the path may lead. Go, instead, where there is no path and leave a trail,” embodies Valdivia's path-breaking spirit.

Valdivia made history in 2002, when he founded Homofrecuencia, the country’s first Spanish-language radio program to focus on LGBT issues. Two years later, Valdivia and the producers of Homofrecuencia continued to break new ground by organizing and sponsoring the first prom for queer Latino youth, creating a critical safe space for young people who have been routinely ostracized from “traditional” high school dances.

Today, Homofrecuencia continues to serve as a crucial community resource and beacon of information for LGBT Latino youth—as does the Latino Queer Prom, which has become an annual event at the National Museum of Mexican Art, serving more than 200 young people every year. Valdivia’s leadership and dedication to the launch of these initiatives have empowered a new generation of LGBT youth to define their own identities and to position themselves at the forefront of the LGBT rights movement.

In addition to his work with Homofrecuencia and Latino youth, Valdivia has been a dedicated public servant in a variety of venues. His work as performing arts director at the National Museum of Mexican Art has earned it a reputation as perhaps the most LGBT-friendly institution of its kind in the city. He has also served on the boards of several organizations, notably ALMA—The Association of Latino Men for Action, the Test Positive Aware Network, and Latino Arts, Inc.
The AIDS Foundation of Chicago was formed in 1985 by a group of dedicated community activists and physicians including Dr. Ron Sable, Dr. Renslow Sherer, Judy Carter, and William Young, who were attempting to respond to the emergent devastations of AIDS in Chicago’s LGBT communities. The organization’s mission is to lead the fight against HIV/AIDS and to improve the lives of those affected by the epidemic.

Known as AFC, the foundation is a local and national torchbearer in the HIV/AIDS struggle, collaborating with community organizations to develop and improve HIV/AIDS services; to fund and coordinate prevention, care, and advocacy projects; and to champion effective, compassionate HIV/AIDS policy.

Since its founding, AFC has made many significant, long-term contributions to the quality of life of Chicago’s LGBT communities. Beginning in 1986, its Service Providers Council has united agencies helping people with HIV/AIDS from the nine-county Chicago metropolitan area in an effort to share best practices and ensure efficient, consistent service delivery. The regional HIV/AIDS case management system, which AFC convenes, is a national model of service integration. The system serves HIV-positive individuals who struggle with homelessness, mental illness, addiction, poverty, and other health concerns. Every year, upwards of 5,000 people receive assistance from the system’s 165 case managers working at 49 agencies across metropolitan Chicago.

AFC’s grant-making program has distributed more than $15 million for HIV prevention, care, and advocacy projects since 1988. In 2005, for example, the program provided 50 local AIDS organizations with more than $1.4 million in grant funding, including many agencies serving LGBT communities.

Working with community partners, AFC has built a system of affordable housing that addresses the prevention and care needs of people with HIV/AIDS. Today, this housing network provides rental subsidies and permanent supportive housing to more than 630 low-income people with HIV/AIDS and their family members, including LGBT individuals, on whom the disease has had an impact.

AFC’s network includes thousands of activists who have fought throughout the foundation’s history for sound local, state, and federal HIV/AIDS policies. Disseminating accurate and timely information about trends in the epidemic is just one important way in which AFC has built public and private support for the fight against HIV/AIDS.

The contributions of the AIDS Foundation of Chicago to the city’s LGBT communities are truly incalculable. For all that it has done, and all that it continues to do, the organization is inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.
Congressman Mike Quigley is welcomed into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame as a Friend of the Community in recognition of his unwavering support and many efforts on behalf of Chicago’s LGBT population.

Born in 1959 in Carol Stream, Illinois, Quigley grew up in that suburb but began his political career in Chicago, where he worked as an aide to then-44th Ward Ald. Bernard Hansen while obtaining a master’s degree in public policy from the University of Chicago. He also earned a law degree from Loyola University Chicago.

For a decade, he served on the Cook County Board of Commissioners, representing the Chicago North Side’s 10th County Board District. There, he chaired the Human Relations Committee and oversaw the addition of gender-identity protection to the county Human Rights Ordinance, the provision of health insurance benefits for the same-sex domestic partners of county-government employees, and the creation of a registry for county residents and their same-sex domestic partners.

In 2009, Quigley won a special primary and then a special general election to succeed former U.S. Rep. Rahm Emanuel, who had resigned to become President Barack Obama’s chief of staff. Quigley resigned from the County Board on election to Congress, in which he represents the North Side’s 5th Congressional District.

In Congress, Quigley has publicly called for overturning the anti-LGBT “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” military policy and has co-sponsored legislation that would add gender identity and sexual orientation to the list of prohibited grounds for employment discrimination. He is a co-sponsor of measures to extend protections against hate crimes based on gender, sexual orientation, and gender identity, among other categories; to recognize the 40th anniversary of the “Stonewall Rebellion”; to provide same-sex domestic-partnership benefits to federal employees; to provide Medicaid coverage for low-income individuals with HIV; to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to include same-sex “permanent partners”; and to amend the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act to include bullying and harassment prevention programs.

He has worked closely with the AIDS Foundation of Chicago to urge the White House and the Department of Health and Human Services to eliminate the ban on travel by HIV-positive persons to the United States and has supported efforts to gain recognition for same-sex marriages and domestic partnerships in the 2010 census. He has also called on the State Department to intervene against the persecution and killing of LGBT Iraqis. Quigley is a member of the LGBT Congressional Equality Caucus, which seeks equal rights and fair treatment for the nation’s LGBT communities.
Marilyn Urso, R.N.

For 17 years from 1990 to 2007, Marilyn Urso, R.N., served as the Research Registered Nurse at Howard Brown Health Center, or HBHC, which hosts the Multi-Site AIDS Cohort Study under the auspices of the National Institutes of Health. She is welcomed into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame as a Friend of the Community in recognition of her unprecedented dedication to her job and to the clients of HBHC and the MACS participants. Urso recalled that, while being interviewed for the position, she was asked if she felt comfortable visiting the homes of gay men. A bit put off by the question, she replied that she had been very comfortable with gay men long before it was considered “fashionable.”

From 1990 on, Urso was a warm, welcoming, and supportive presence for those participating in the MACS (the largest epidemiological study in the world on sexual practices and how they relate to HIV transmission). At a time when gay men in Chicago were increasingly being diagnosed with HIV/AIDS and succumbing to disease, she treated everyone with dignity and respect. Urso led clients through extensive medical testing, regularly completing in-home assessments for those who were not well enough to visit the clinic. She held hands, wrote notes of thanks, and made volunteers feel important for their contributions to AIDS research.

Outside her MACS work, she performed STD testing, screening, and health assessments along with administering flu shots off-site. She made appropriate referrals when necessary, working evenings and weekends when needed. She became an important figure in the lives of many vulnerable individuals, and her nurturing presence helped to establish HBHC as a welcoming and safe place for LGBT people at the height of the AIDS epidemic.

Urso reflected upon a time she visited a patient in the hospital. “I saw a full tray of food sitting outside his door and brought it in to him. The hospital staff was afraid to bring the tray into his room,” she recounted angrily, remembering how this led her to realize just how much education about HIV/AIDS was needed. As a health advocate, her contributions to the important MACS work have resulted in the successful retention of participants, many for the unprecedented span of more than 25 years.

Urso’s unprecedented commitment to her job and to the clients of HBHC and the study participants have set her apart. Her smiling face, hopeful and encouraging attitude in a time of crisis, and crucial knowledge about HIV and its treatment, combined with bedrock sincerity, have symbolized hope, help, care, and respect to many men and their families facing difficult situations or end-of-life decisions. Fortunately, she has witnessed major strides in HIV/AIDS treatment and has seen that those living with HIV today can expect longer, healthier lives—in part, thanks to her dedication and efforts as a great and good friend to Chicago’s LGBT communities.
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 in 1993 to create positive gay and lesbian visibility in Chicago’s African American community and to march openly in the 65th annual Bud Billiken Parade. After filing and mediating a human rights charge, the group marched and was warmly received.


JANE ADDAMS (posthumous 2008): During her lifetime (1860–1935) she fought for rights of the disenfranchised here and elsewhere. Best-known for founding one of the nation’s first settlement houses, she was also the first woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize. She had at least two long-term same-sex relationships, one of which lasted 40 years. She is a true Chicago icon, and her passionate work on behalf of peace, justice, and equality makes her an exemplary role model.

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, networking and socialization, and social justice issues.

AIDS LEGAL COUNCIL OF CHICAGO (2003): Formed in 1988, the group has helped more than 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 what was the city’s oldest lesbian bar, Lost & Found, she 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.
AMERICAN VETERANS FOR EQUAL RIGHTS—CHICAGO CHAPTER (2007): Throughout its 18-year history, the group has served as a voice for LGBT veterans; provided them with moral, financial, and social support; and served as an effective advocate for them in the Chicago area.

JACQUELINE ANDERSON (1996): As educator and writer, she has contributed to academic discussion of lesbianism and feminism. She helped to launch 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.

MARGARET ANDERSON and JANE HEAP (posthumous 2006): This couple were key figures in Chicago’s literary renaissance of the early 20th century. Through their avant-garde journal The Little Review, they provided an early forum for some of the era’s greatest thinkers and writers. Born in 1883, Heap died in London in 1964; Anderson, born in 1886, died in France in 1973.

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.

SUZANNE ARNOLD (2008): A mainstay of local and national LGBT sports communities for more than two decades, she has served as female vice president of the Federation of Gay Games and as a co-chair of Team Chicago and Chicago 2006, Inc. She was sports co-director for Chicago’s Gay Games VII and has consistently worked to create safe spaces for LGBT athletes on all levels to compete proudly and openly.

ARTEMIS SINGERS (2008): Founded in 1979 as the first lesbian chorus in the United States, it continues to perform at lesbian, LGBT, and women’s events to the present. Artemis has been an important part of Chicago’s lesbian feminist cultural life through the years. It is composed of women from diverse backgrounds but with a common commitment to exposing audiences to music written by women and to sharing a sense of community.

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.

BAILIWICK REPERTORY’S PRIDE SERIES (1996): Starting in the late 1980s, the annual Pride Series 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 serving the lesbian and gay communities. The series also financially empowered nonprofit lesbian and gay organizations through benefit performances.
TRACY BAIM (1994): She has labored untiringly as publisher, reporter, editor, columnist, photographer, and advocate for more than 25 years in offering a voice to all. In 2000, her company bought the *Windy City Times* and merged her weekly *Outlines* into it, besides launching other media outlets. She co-founded the Chicago Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce as well as Chicago 2006, Inc., which produced the 2006 Gay Games. In 2008, she set up the chicagogayhistory.com Web site and edited a first-of-its-kind history book, *Out and Proud in Chicago.*

JOHN J. BAILESTER (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 co-founded 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 co-chaired large fundraisers 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 an activist for 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 two decades she has worked professionally and as a volunteer and political activist to improve Chicagans’ 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.

ALEXANDRA BILLINGS (2005): As a transgender actor, she has gained prominence both onstage and as a mentor, fundraiser, and educator on sexual-minority issues and the importance of living with AIDS.

DAVID BLATT, M.D., and DAVID MOORE, D.O. (2007): For more than 25 years, Drs. Blatt and Moore have been outstanding advocates and champions of the LGBT and HIV/AIDS communities, putting a human face on AIDS and offering compassionate and personal attention to patients at a difficult time.

KEVIN G. BOYER (2008): He served as president of Chicago’s Gerber/Hart Library and as a member of the original coordinating committee for the national Gay and Lesbian History Month. He was a co-founder of the Chicago Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce and has been an effective fundraiser for many organizations, including Chicago’s Gay Games VII in 2006. He has also been active in preparing for 2010’s Gay Games VIII in Cologne, Germany.
LORA BRANCH (2001): A public health professional, video producer, and community activist, she has directed Chicago’s Office of Lesbian and Gay Health and the city’s STD/HIV Prevention and Care Programs; produced an acclaimed HIV/AIDS video, *Kevin’s Room*; and co-chaired Chicago Black Lesbians and Gays.

CAROL MOSELEY BRAUN (2007): As the first African American woman elected to the U.S. Senate, and throughout her entire political career, she has been a staunch and outspoken supporter of LGBT rights and marriage equality. She opposed the U.S. military’s “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell” policy at a time when many others were willing to accept it as a compromise. For this, she was selected as a Friend of the Community.

MICHAL BRODY (2008): A Chicago native, she was a founding member of Chicago Gay Liberation in 1969, helped to found Chicago Lesbian Liberation, and belonged to the collective that produced the newspaper *Lavender Woman*. She also contributed to the early years of women’s music in Chicago at Mountain Moving Coffeehouse. In 1993 she co-founded the Institute of Lesbian Studies. She currently teaches in Mexico.

ROGER BROWN (posthumous 2004): Through his internationally known paintings 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.

ROBBIN BURR (2007): As a result of her efforts, American Airlines became the first major air carrier to implement domestic partnership benefits. She served as the first executive director of Center on Halsted, and her nationally recognized credibility and leadership were integral to completing construction and solidifying relationships with donors, community leaders, and community organizations.

GEORGE S. BUSE (1994, now deceased): As journalist, activist, actor, and minister, he made his mark on Chicago’s gay and lesbian communities. A subject of Studs Terkel’s *The Good War* and the video documentary *Before Stonewall*, he was a World War II Marine veteran (discharged from a later Navy chaplaincy for being gay) and a civil rights and anti–Vietnam War activist. 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 fundraising, 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. Born in 1952, she died in 2000.

LORI CANNON (1994): She was named a Friend of the Community for her work with Chicago House and the NAMES Project and for co-founding 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.

MEGAN CARNEY (2005): In About Face Youth Theatre and other theatrical work, she has changed the landscape of Chicago’s sexual-minority communities through her commitment to the healthy development of LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning, allied) youth. Her work has also addressed other social justice issues such as racism and homelessness.

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 fundraiser and board member, she has helped to sustain numerous groups.

ALDO CASTILLO (2005): A tireless fundraiser, an ardent and expert advocate of Latin American art, and a committed human-rights activist, this openly gay, openly HIV-positive, and award-winning gallery owner and curator has blazed trails of distinction since coming to Chicago from Nicaragua in 1985.

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 co-wrote 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, co-produced 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 co-founded and became first president of Asians and Friends Chicago, a group for gay Asians and non-Asians that is now 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.

CHICAGO 2006, INC./GAY GAMES VII (2007): The board and staff of Chicago 2006, Inc., brought a great gift of pride, athletic competition, and celebration to LGBT Chicagrans in the form of Gay Games VII, planning and coordinating a series of sporting events that encompassed Chicago and several suburban venues.

GARY G. CHICHESTER (1992): He has provided more than 35 years of commitment and work to the gay and lesbian communities. In 1971 he co-founded 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 (chairing or co-chairing 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. Born in 1937, she died in 1993.

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 also is 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 at age 45, the last nine of those years 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.
SAM COADY (2008): He has been a leader and supporter in Chicago’s LGBT athletic community since moving here in 1986, serving as a co-chair of Gay Games VII and on the boards of numerous organizations. He has also been a strong advocate for workplace equality. He is known for his passionate belief that the LGBT athletic community empowers and advances the whole range of LGBT communities here and nationally.

JERROLD E. COHEN (posthumous 1993): He helped to form more than a dozen groups, including 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.

CONGREGATION OR CHADASH (2006): Founded in 1975, in response to the prejudice and invisibility that LGBT Jews faced in mainstream synagogues, the congregation has provided a home where Chicago’s LGBT Jews can pursue religious, social, cultural, and educational interests.

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 COTHAN (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’ precursor entities. He died in 1996.

SARAH CRAIG (posthumous 1995): She joined GayLife’s staff in the late 1970s and rose to be co-editor. 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.

JACQUES CRISTION (posthumous 2006): A lifelong Chicagoan, he performed in, choreographed, and designed costumes for South Side drag balls and dance concerts. For several decades he hosted his own annual Halloween drag balls. He died in Chicago in 2003.

RICHARD M. DALEY (2006): His years in office as mayor of Chicago have marked the longest uninterrupted period of LGBT-inclusive policies in the city’s municipal history. Since his election in 1989, Daley has consistently been one of the LGBT communities’ most significant allies, for which he was inducted as a Friend of the Community.

JAMES C. DARBY (1997): After co-founding 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 co-founded were Dëeks, Pangea, and the Clubhouse. He also aided the Kupona Network, the Minority Outreach Intervention Project, and the Reimer Foundation. Born in 1958, he died in 1993.

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, co-chaired 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 PAC, and the Edgewater Community Council.

THE REV. GREGORY R. DELL (2008): Inducted as a Friend of the Community, he has served as an exemplary ally to LGBT communities in Chicago and beyond and as a model activist for social justice. He is a former pastor of Chicago’s Broadway United Methodist Church and is now retired. Involved for decades in issues of social change, he has been a pioneering and courageous supporter of same-sex unions in the face of opposition from his own church and elsewhere.

JOHN D’EMILIO (2005): His work in the field of LGBT history has had wide impact. He has published eight books and has been on the faculty of the University of Illinois at Chicago since 1999, where he is professor of history and of women’s and gender studies. His research was cited in the Supreme Court’s Lawrence v. Texas decision invalidating sodomy laws. He has lectured widely and served on numerous boards, including that of the Gerber/Hart Library for several years.

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.

TARRINA DIKES (2007): For many years, she has been a dynamic presence as one of the most dependable and committed lesbian members of Chicago’s LGBT communities. Her background in accounting and business operations was a significant asset to Gay Games VII, where she served as a member of the board’s executive committee and as board secretary.

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, now deceased): He was a leader in conceiving and organizing Chicago House and Social Service Agency, where he also was main fundraiser and then executive director. He also conceived the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame and brought it to fruition while a member of the city Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues. Born in 1950, he died in 2006 of complications from AIDS.
**KATHERINE “KIT” DUFFY (2008):** In 1984 she was appointed by then-Mayor Harold Washington as his liaison to Chicago’s gay and lesbian communities, the city’s first such position. Then she became the AIDS Foundation of Chicago’s first executive director. After Washington died in 1987, she took part in 1988’s successful effort to pass a historic city ordinance against sexual-orientation discrimination. Inducted as a Friend of the Community, she remains an ardent advocate.

**EDDIE DUGAN (EDWARD L. DAVISON, JR.) (posthumous 2008):** A brilliant showman and popularizer, Dugan (1944–1987) helped invent the 1970s disco phenomenon and helped break new ground by getting corporations to sponsor events at gay clubs. Dugan was an early supporter of many organizations, including the start-up of *Gay Chicago Magazine*. His legendary club, Dugan’s Bistro, still lives in the memories of many Chicagoans and their friends nationwide.

**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.

**MURRAY EDELMAN, Ph.D. (2008):** Born in Chicago and a founder and central figure in Chicago Gay Liberation, he worked to develop public, visible, and militant LGBT activism during the movement’s early years. He was later responsible for path-breaking work to have gay, lesbian, and bisexual self-identification made part of electoral exit polling.

**KEITH ELLIOTT (2001):** A dancer, choreographer, and producer, for more than 15 years he has organized “Dance for Life” fundraisers and ancillary events to benefit dancers and others coping with HIV/AIDS. He has also contributed to other activities such as Howard Brown Health Center fundraisers and the Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus.

**EQUALITY ILLINOIS (2005):** Formed in 1992 as the Illinois Federation for Human Rights, it joined in efforts to pass the Cook County Human Rights Ordinance in 1993 and then benefited all of Illinois in 2005 by leading to success a 31-year campaign for a statewide law against discrimination because of sexual orientation and, now, gender identity.

**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 Continental Pageant, a national contest for female impersonators, and owns the long-established Baton Show Lounge and other businesses. He has also been active in Democratic Party politics.


**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 BONVOULIOIR FOSTER (posthumous 2003): As an openly gay, high-achieving student and lawyer, he was 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 is also a professor emeritus at Northwestern University.

MARTIN GAPSHIS (2007): He is a leader and role model for Chicago’s LGBT communities, noted not only for a wide range of philanthropic and fundraising efforts—benefiting Center on Halsted, the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, and a range of other organizations—but also for his ever-present humility and the depth of his kind and generous spirit.

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): 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 communities.

CHICAGO CHAPTER OF THE GAY, LESBIAN, AND STRAIGHT EDUCATION NETWORK (2000): Beginning in 1994, through organizing, advocacy, and in-school programming, the group benefited youth, staff members, and the community by fostering nondiscrimination in school settings. It has now merged into the Illinois Safe Schools Alliance.
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. Born in 1892, he died in 1972.


RALPH PAUL GERNHARDT (2004, now deceased): Beginning in 1975, he brought news to Chicago through *Gay Chicago Magazine* and other media. He also launched and sponsored sports groups, organized fundraisers for a variety of causes, promoted safer sex, and raised thousands of dollars to fight HIV/AIDS. Born in 1934, he died of cancer in 2006.

FRANK GOLEY (posthumous) and ROBERT MADDOX (now deceased) (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. Goley died in 1994. Maddox later sold the business and lived in Chicago until his death on Oct. 25, 2009.

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 35 years in the Midwest and Chicago. He participated in the passage of human rights legislation, in the campaign to overcome the anti-gay and -lesbian efforts of Anita Bryant, and in 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 has also developed and presented educational programs for gay and lesbian youth dealing with sexuality and health, as well as an African American LGBT photo exhibit, “We Are Here!”

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. She has done much work in the Cook County state’s attorney’s office to aid crime victims and witnesses.

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, now deceased): She provided key leadership over two decades in building lesbian and gay athletic programs and organizations and in organizing lesbian and gay teachers, besides being a champion athlete herself. She died of multiple myeloma in 2007.

ARLENE HALKO (1996, now deceased): After joining Dignity/Chicago in 1975, she became its first lesbian president and was on its board for five years. She co-founded Chicago House in 1985 and tirelessly assisted it. As a medical physicist, she was a familiar face on Cook County Hospital’s AIDS ward until 1993. As owner of Piggens Pub from 1982 to 1989 she used the bar as a community support vehicle. Born in 1933, she died in 2007.

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 fundraiser, and constant donor. He celebrated his 80th birthday in 2006 and is still actively involved.

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 83.

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, co-founded 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): For more than 25 years, she has commented on gay- and lesbian-related topics in publications throughout the country. Her “Lesbomania” columns and performances have tackled homophobia and built community through humor. Books include *Lesbomania* and *Tales From the Dyke Side*. More recently, she has been a speaker and educator on lesbian and gay issues and history. She is also an accomplished painter.
GREGORY “GREG” HARRIS (1996): As an openly gay man living with AIDS, he was chief of staff for 48th Ward Alderman Mary Ann Smith from 1992 to 2006. He has given much volunteer time to AIDS-related causes and was co-founder and first president of AIDS Walk Chicago and of Open Hand Chicago. He was instrumental in securing same-sex domestic partnership benefits for Chicago city government employees. In 2006, he became state representative of the North Side’s 34th District, succeeding retired state Rep. Larry McKeon as the only openly gay Illinois state legislator then in office.

PEARL M. HART (posthumous 1992): She spent her entire legal career of 61 years defending the civil rights of all persons. Born in 1890, she died in 1975.

JANE HEAP (posthumous 2006): See MARGARET ANDERSON and JANE HEAP.

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.


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 professor of philosophy and women’s studies. Her work includes a 1988 book, Lesbian Ethics: Toward New Value. She is a collective member of the Institute of Lesbian Studies.

HORIZONS COMMUNITY SERVICES (1992): Established in 1973 as Gay Horizons, the organization 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 now form the core of programming at Center on Halsted.

HOUSTON COMMUNITY SERVICES (1992): Established in 1973 as Gay Horizons, the organization 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 now 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): She has made outstanding contributions to lesbian health. Besides innovative research, she has advised government and private health and social service agencies, led conferences, and made public educational presentations. She is a professor in the College of Nursing of the University of Illinois at Chicago, where she heads the Department of Health Systems Science.

CHUCK HYDE (2001): While working out of the limelight as businessman and fundraising adviser, 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 led workshops for lesbians, lobbied for legislation, and worked to institute public policies favorable to the lesbian and gay community.

ARTHUR L. JOHNSTON (1998): For more than 30 years, 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 Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association and was a lead organizer in passing 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 Episcopal 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. He died in 1986 of a heart attack.

STEPHEN (WANDA LUST) JONES (posthumous 2008): An entertainer and health advocate, he was known widely in Chicago’s gay communities in his 1970s drag persona, Nurse Wanda Lust. He served as the poster person for VD testing and is remembered by many for his tireless promotion of sexual health awareness. His life was cut tragically short in 1978, when he was murdered in Kansas City, where he had moved two years earlier.

RICK KARLIN (1997): During three decades, he has been a visible public figure in print and onstage. He has lent his talents to countless charitable events, co-founded 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. She was later elected to a full judgeship. 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 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 (in 1966) and later co-founding The Chicago Gay Crusader and Illinois Gays for Legislative Action, taking part in the first White House gay rights meeting, co-chairing the Illinois Gay Rights Task Force, and co-founding the National Lesbian and Gay Law Association. Now a lawyer, he chaired the Cook County Commission on Human Rights for its first 12 years until 2003 and is still a member.

NICK KELLY (1995): As an activist and a creative talent, he was a vibrant part of Chicago’s gay and lesbian communities for decades before moving to Wisconsin. He helped to organize Chicago 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 non-gay church, cultural, health, and environmental activities.

FRANKIE KNUCKLES (1996): As producer, mixer, 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 communities 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 is now a partner in a clinical and teaching practice in psychotherapy.

DANNY KOPELSON (2000): Since 1981, he has been a tireless arts and AIDS fundraiser and a mainstay of the Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus, of 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 Gay Chicago Magazine.

MARIE J. KUDA (1991): For 40 years, she has worked as activist, 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 articles.
JOE LA PAT (posthumous 2008): Born in 1943, he built a successful career restoring buildings in Chicago and, with his partner Dick Uyvari, supported many LGBT community organizations, as well as providing early seed money for Gay Games VII. He died unexpectedly on June 29, 2008, the day of the annual Pride Parade, but his impact on countless individuals and organizations lives on.

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, fundraiser, 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 and addressing concerns such as HIV/AIDS, lesbian health, youth work, and mass media.

LESBIAN COMMUNITY CANCER PROJECT (1999): Beginning in 1990 as the first effort of its kind in the Midwest, it provided one-on-one support, direct services, and peer support groups for women with cancer and their families of choice. It also educated medical providers about lesbian health needs. In 2007, it merged with Howard Brown Health Center to become the center’s Lesbian Community Care Project.

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 13 years since opening Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund’s Chicago office, she worked tirelessly for full recognition of the civil rights of LGBT persons and persons living with HIV disease, here and nationally. Cases in which she led, including Lawrence v. Texas, established important precedents. In 2007, she became an associate judge of the Cook County Circuit Court.
PATRICIA S. McCOMBS (2000): She is a veteran organizer and social service volunteer. Besides co-founding 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.

JEFFREY E. McCOURT (posthumous 2007): As founding publisher of *Windy City Times* newspaper, businessman, theater producer, and activist, he made significant contributions to Chicago and its LGBT communities during the 1980s and 1990s. Born in Newburgh, New York, in 1955, he died in Chicago in 2007 of complications from HIV.

MIKE McHALE (2005): During law school and as an assistant Cook County state’s attorney since 1991, as a leader of Equality Illinois, and as a neighborhood activist, he distinguished himself by professional excellence, personal openness, and mentorship. In 2006, he was elected a judge of the Cook County Circuit Court.

LARRY McKEON (1997, now deceased): He made a historic 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. Later he became known as openly HIV-positive and then a cancer survivor. In earlier life, he directed Chicago’s Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues, worked in social service administration, and was a police officer. Born in 1944, he retired at the end of his term in January 2007 and died suddenly four months later in Springfield after a stroke.

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

MARIGOLD BOWL (2006): From its opening in 1941 to its closing in 2004, Lake View’s Marigold Bowl, owned and operated by members of the Fagenholz family, was a vital neighborhood meeting place and charity outlet for gay and lesbian Chicagoans, standing as a beacon of inclusiveness in that neighborhood.

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.

MERRY MARY (2005): She was inducted as a Friend of the Community for her countless volunteer contributions since 1979 to Howard Brown Health Center, local choruses and Roman Catholic groups, Chi-Town Squares, Vital Bridges, and other community efforts.

METROPOLITAN SPORTS ASSOCIATION (1992): Now known as the Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association, this group is a recognized leader in the Midwest and the nation in providing organized athletic activities, including local, national, and international athletic events.
JILL M. METZ (2006): Since the 1970s she has served Chicago’s LGBT communities through her law practice, civic activities, and personal commitment. She helped to found Tortoiseshell Productions and Footsteps Theater Company and has been involved with numerous legal and activist groups.

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.

CHARLES R. MIDDLETON, Ph.D. (2006): As president of Chicago’s Roosevelt University since 2002, he is the first openly gay man to serve as a major U.S. university president. He has been active in national education and civic boards and serves on the boards of several Chicago nonprofit and activist organizations.

TONY MIDNITE (1996, now deceased): 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. Born in 1926, he died Aug. 31, 2009, in Las Vegas, where he had moved in 2000.

CARLOS T. MOCK, M.D. (2007): He has provided years of dedicated service to Chicago’s LGBT communities as physician, activist, and author. He has been active in many organizations, including Orgullo en Acción, Equality Illinois, and Howard Brown Health Center.

The 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. As president of Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights, he continues to be a prominent leader in Chicago’s nonprofit 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.


MOUNTAIN MOVING COFFEEHOUSE FOR WOMYN AND CHILDREN (1993): It was the longest-lived, continuously-running, women-only space in the nation. For more than 30 years, it presented lesbian-feminist—oriented culture and music. The collective was operated totally by volunteers and was open to all “womyn-born womyn” who wished to participate. It presented the final performances of its final season in 2005.

MULRYAN AND YORK, ATTORNEYS AT LAW (2004): Starting in 1989, this professional partnership formed by 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. York died of renal cancer in 2008; Mulryan continues in practice.
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 co-founded Sangat/Chicago and has been president of the South Asian Performing Arts Council of America.

EDWARD NEGRON (2006): He has provided years of dedicated service to Chicago’s LGBT, Latino/a, and recovering communities, promoting social welfare, justice, and LBGT health while speaking publicly about his life as a former addict, gang member, and drug dealer.

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 and distinguished career of public service as Illinois 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 increased city AIDS budgets. 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 co-chaired the original 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 has been a health care activist, a professional youth services executive, and a public schools official. She co-founded and has co-chaired 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. In 2002, it merged into the new Vital Bridges organization.

DOM OREJUDOS (posthumous 1992): He was a dancer and choreographer with the Illinois Ballet 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.


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 co-founder of Howard Brown Health Center, has 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.

JOSÉ (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, Arthur L. Johnston, 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.

CHILLI PEPPER (2007): For more than three decades, Chilli Pepper has entertained thousands of people as a female impersonator, serving as an ambassador for LGBT communities, building bridges with other communities, and gaining media exposure in the days when people barely acknowledged drag, drag queens, or HIV/AIDS.

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 fundraisers, worked with other business owners, and helped to start and supported Chicago House. Born in 1935, she died in 2000.
LAIRD PETERSEN (2006): A Chicago native, he has contributed more than 25 years of service to LGBT communities, helping to raise more than $12 million for community-based organizations, working with Center on Halsted, on HIV/AIDS issues, and with Equality Illinois, and volunteering for numerous other organizations.

RICHARD W. PFEIFFER (1993): For more than 35 years he has been an activist and an organizational volunteer. He headed the Chicago Gay Alliance (which ran the city’s first sexual-minority 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.

JIM PICKETT (2005): As writer, activist, openly HIV-positive gay man, and policy leader, he has played a community role for more than a decade. He has worked to empower those in the LGBT and the HIV/AIDS populations to take responsibility for their health. He is now director of advocacy at the AIDS Foundation of Chicago.

MARY D. POWERS (1992): She was recognized as a Friend of the Community for what is now more than 35 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 anti-violence march.

A REAL READ (2007): From 1996 to 2001, people from all over the city flocked to the performances of this African American LGBT performance ensemble. Through original poetry, prose, and plays, it gave voice to a community and issues that had often been silenced. Even after the ensemble dissolved, its impact continued to have a ripple effect.

The Rev. JUAN REED (2005): Since his 1991 arrival at St. Martin’s Episcopal Church as an out and affirming vicar, this ex—social worker has made a once-declining parish into a place where progressive LGBT persons can share worship openly with their fellow heterosexual Christians.

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 co-founded the International Mr. Leather contest and set up the Leather Museum and Archives.

LINDA S. RODGERS (1993): As a successful businesswoman, fundraiser, 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 some 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 co-founded ALMA, the city’s first group for gay and bisexual Latinos. He has aided Center on Halsted, the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, and philanthropic and youth substance abuse programs.
CAROL RONEN (2005): She was inducted as a Friend of the Community for more than 10 years as a state legislator who worked tirelessly for a law against sexual-orientation and gender-identity discrimination and for greater HIV/AIDS funding, as well as a variety of other progressive goals including children’s development, health care, violence prevention, women’s rights, education, nurse utilization, and economic justice.

RON SABLE, M.D. (1993, now deceased): As an openly gay physician he co-founded 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.

JESUS SALGUEIRO and ART SMITH (2008): The openly gay celebrity chef Art Smith and his life partner, the artist Jesus Salgueiro, founded Common Threads, a charity that fosters familial environments where children learn to value each other and discover universal understanding and mutual acceptance. The two have contributed to charitable fundraisers within and outside LGBT communities, including the Center on Halsted, and their philanthropy extends worldwide.

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 co-founded Gay and Lesbian Building and Trade Professionals.

NORMAN L. SANDFIELD (1999): For more than 30 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 co-founded the Jewish AIDS Network Chicago and has worked on interfaith relations.

MIKE SAVAGE (posthumous 2005): A social-service activist, he led in building a 41-clinic network for medically underserved persons. He also worked to help persons with addictions and AIDS, the homeless and poor, immigrants, and women with cervical cancer, and he was active in LGBT civil rights and Roman Catholic groups. He was born in 1952 and died in a 2004 rafting accident.

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 three decades. 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.
KAREN C. SENDZIAK (2007): She has served the Gerber/Hart Library for over 20 years with intense devotion. In a variety of positions, most recently as president of the library’s board of directors, she has been one of the key individuals responsible for nourishing and protecting that important resource for all Chicagoans.

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.

PATRICK SHEAHAN (2007): He has compiled a record of civic, business, banking, educational, and LGBT community leadership in Chicago since 1995, most notably as a prime mover behind the 2007 opening of Center on Halsted, the most comprehensive LGBT community center in the world.

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.

SIDETRACK (2006): Since opening in April 1982, Sidetrack, its owners, and its staff have been indispensable elements of LGBT campaigns, hosting countless activist events and making untold donations of goods, services, and money to a broad range of organizations, groups, and political figures.

CATHERINE SIKORA (2005): She has successfully campaigned for sexual-orientation and gender-identity legal protection at city, county, and state levels; has documented Chicago LGBT life and activism through skilled photography, including permanently exhibited works depicting the transgender community; and has served in numerous organizational board seats and volunteer roles.

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.

LAWRENCE E. SLOAN (posthumous 2005): He was an innovative Chicago director, producer, and playwright who attracted new, broader audiences to Remains Theatre. He was also the first executive director of Season of Concern, an AIDS fundraising organization in the theater community. Born in 1959, he died of AIDS complications in 1995.

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.

ART SMITH (2008): See JESUS SALGUEIRO and ART SMITH.

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.


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): This lifelong political and cultural activist has resided in Chicago since 1976. He was treasurer of the Illinois Gay Rights Task Force; founder of the Chicago chapter of the National Coalition of Black Gays; an organizer of United Faith Affinitas Church; a member of Adodi Chicago; a columnist for BLACKlines and Identity magazines; and editor of a book on black men's same-gender–loving relationships, Staying Power!


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 has also been active in a range of community service activities and now resides in California.

GREGORY A. SPRAGUE (posthumous 1994): Nationally known for research in Chicago lesbian and gay history, he co-founded 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. He died of AIDS-related tuberculosis in 1987.

STAR GAZE (2006): The bar became a contributing and supportive member of Chicago's LGBT communities from its opening in 1998. Owners Mamie Lake and Dustin Fermin earned a well-deserved reputation as selfless public citizens who embody outstanding community spirit.
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 co-founded 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, now deceased): The renowned author and oral historian, broadcast host, commentator, arts supporter, and activist was chosen as a Friend of the Community for more than half a century of social-justice championship, which was consistently 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. Born in 1912, he died in 2008 at age 96.

TEST POSITIVE AWARE NETWORK (2005): Founded in 1987 by the Hall of Fame inductee Christopher Clason and 16 others, TPAN has enabled HIV-positive persons to share experiences and information in order to combat isolation and fear. It publishes a renowned national magazine, Positively Aware, and has touched and saved many lives.

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 has been 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 activism, she co-chaired the Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force for several terms and has served as liaison to state and local governments and agencies. In 1997 she joined the Oak Park village board as the first open lesbian elected to office in Illinois, and in 2001 village voters elected her as board president. She retired from that board in 2005 and now chairs Elmwood Park’s Board of Fire and Police Commissioners.

THOMAS M. TUNNEY (1995): In 1981, in his early 20s, he bought Lake View’s venerable Ann Sather Restaurant and built it into a virtual community center for lesbian and gay Chicagoans and for older adults. He has been active in 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, representing the 44th Ward.

RICHARD B. TURNER (1991): As a senior philanthropic administrator, he was co-founder and national president of Funders Concerned About AIDS. He is now manager of corporate contributions for Peoples Energy Corporation. He has led in numerous civic, cultural, and charitable groups and is on Hubbard Street Dance Chicago’s advisory board.
DICK UYVARI (2006): Since 1979, he has been a major force in Chicago’s organized LGBT sports world, serving as an officer or on the board of numerous sports-based organizations and as a major philanthropist and fundraiser, much of that time with his late partner, the Hall of Fame inductee Joe La Pat.

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 executive director of the Center on Halsted.

RENE A. VAN HULLE, JR. (2000, now deceased): Since the 1970s, he was vigorously active in community organizations and instrumental in many of their fundraising projects. He co-founded the Tavern Guild of Chicago and for years helped to raise community center funds, sponsored sports teams, and supported Chicago House. He died in 2007 at age 53.

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 lesbigay-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 works in community education for an HIV vaccine trials program.


GUY WARNER (2008): His activism began in the 1970s with Mattachine Midwest, when he revived its telephone referral hotline. In 1975, he became its sixth president. Under his leadership, the newsletter was reinstated, debt reduced, and a gay AA group founded. He was a founder of an early group for parents and friends of gays, a volunteer in the AIDS ward of Illinois Masonic Hospital, and co-chairperson of the Gay and Lesbian Coalition of Metropolitan Chicago, among other activist engagements.

HAROLD WASHINGTON (posthumous 2007): As mayor of Chicago from 1983 to 1987, he promoted and facilitated LGBT political participation and empowerment, helping to pave the way for eventual passage of the city’s 1988 ordinance banning discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. He had also supported LGBT rights as a state legislator. Born in 1922, he died in office in 1987. For this record, he was selected as a Friend of the Community.

VERA WASHINGTON (2007): For more than 25 years, she has served Chicago’s LGBT communities as an organizer, promoter, youth community activist, social service volunteer, STD and HIV/AIDS counselor, and youth services coordinator. She co-founded Executive Sweet, a social and networking club for women of color.
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 is also a senior lecturer in theater 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 co-chaired 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 co-chaired 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. He currently serves on Team Chicago’s board and is the Federation of Gay Games’ technology officer.

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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