CHICAGO GAY AND LESBIAN HALL OF FAME

2011

City of Chicago
Commission on Human Relations

Rahm Emanuel
Mayor

Mona Noriega
Chairman and Commissioner

Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues

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

Roger “RJ” Chaffin

Renee C. Hanover

Ifti Nasim

Elizabeth E. Tocci
Greetings!

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to welcome everyone gathered for the 2011 induction ceremony for the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

Today’s event serves as a wonderful opportunity to honor outstanding Chicagovans for their 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 respect and commendation for the work they have done. 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 this year. 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 citizens of the State of Illinois, I offer my best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable event.

Sincerely,

Pat Quinn
Governor
Ms. Lourdes Rodriguez and Mr. Gary Chichester
Co-Chairpersons
Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame
3712 N. Broadway, Suite 637
Chicago, Illinois 60613-4235

Dear Ms. Rodriguez and Mr. Chichester,

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 2011 Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame
induction ceremony.

The lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities have made many
valuable contributions to Chicago, and they will continue to play an important role in our
city’s bright future. The Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame offers a means for
Chicagoans to learn about how individuals and organizations within LGBT and LGBT-
friendly communities have been at the forefront of efforts to unify and enrich our city.

I commend the Hall of Fame on its 20th anniversary. It has created an enduring
institution that highlights human rights issues and the accomplishments 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 event.

Sincerely,

Rahm Emanuel
Mayor
November 9, 2011

Dear Friends,

Please join me in congratulating the 2011 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.

At this its 20th anniversary, the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame now includes 276 inductees. 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 in 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 Chicago Commission on Human Relations’ Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues, its Hall of Fame Committee, and the Friends of the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame for another great year and a tremendous group of inductees.

Sincerely,

Mona Noriega
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
Lora Branch
Selection Subcommittee Facilitator

Gary G. Chichester
Co-Chairperson

Alexander deHilster

Tarrina Dikes

William W. Greaves, Ph.D.

Philip A. Hannema

Chuck Hyde

William B. Kelley

Beth Kelly

Dean Ogren

Bryan Portman

Lourdes Rodriguez
Co-Chairperson

David St. Martin

Norman L. Sandfield

Dick Uyvari

Vera Washington

Israel Wright
Associate Director
2011 INDuctees
Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame

Paul Adams
Greg Cameron
Antonia “Tata” Flores
Grant Lynn Ford
Robert Garofalo, M.D.
Ted Grady
Marcia Hill
Tony Jackson
Owen Keehnen
Brett Shingledecker
Jon Simmons

Good Shepherd Parish
Metropolitan Community Church

Lakeside Pride Music Ensembles

Jenner & Block LLP
Friend of the Community

The Night Ministry
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 is intended as a reminder of Chicago’s diversity.
Paul Adams
[posthumous]

Named Mr. Windy City in 1987, Paul Adams was more than just a pretty face: Unlike many of the young men who won the contest, he turned what was essentially a beauty pageant into a platform for politics.

Adams and several others formed C-FAR (Chicago for AIDS Rights), which evolved into ACT UP/Chicago following 1987’s Second National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. From his first arrest for civil disobedience during that historic march, Adams became one of the new Chicago organization’s key members.

He took an active role, participating in (and often organizing) dozens of demonstrations, protests, and zaps. Adams was the man who orchestrated the dramatic takeover of the County Building balcony during ACT UP’s national health-care demonstration in 1990.

Adams was also involved with the NAMES Project and with Open Hand Chicago, volunteering as well as designing the logo for that PWA meals-on-wheels organization. He also designed the original logo for The Oprah Winfrey Show that depicted the TV host pulling a wagon.

Adams participated in the gay anti-crime group called the Pink Angels, and in 1998 he co-founded the Chicago Anti-Bashing Network in response to a rise in local hate crimes against LGBT individuals. Adams also took part in P.A.W.S. (Pets Are Wonderful Support) and volunteered for Howard Brown Health Center and for Chicago House.

In addition, Adams was a talented writer, with regular columns in Gay Chicago as well as Nightlines and Outlines. Another passion was his work at the Field Museum, where he did extensive research on Native Americans’ two-spirit people and met with tribe leaders to explore that mixed-gender culture. In 1996 he even took several months off to drive to various reservations to deepen his understanding.

After a long, valiant struggle, Adams succumbed to the effects of HIV/AIDS and died on November 10, 2000.
Greg Cameron has been an important part of Chicago’s civic life for more than 30 years. He has spent much of his professional life as a key player in Chicago’s cultural and arts communities and has taken every opportunity to bring LGBT rights and concerns to the forefront.

At the Museum of Contemporary Art, Cameron served as deputy director and chief development officer. During his years there, he worked tirelessly to incorporate gay- and lesbian-related topics into museum programming. He encouraged LGBT community voices on the board of trustees as well as in the MCA’s audience development and diversity activities (he helped to start the latter in 2001). Cameron also rallied MCA staff to display the AIDS Memorial Quilt for an annual Day Without Art and also made gay pride the annual focus of each June’s First Friday event. As chief development officer, he helped bring the art of AA Bronson, Jim Hodges, and Gregg Bordowitz to the MCA, providing a platform for discussing HIV and its impact upon the community.

Cameron was also a force in partnering the MCA with About Face Theatre. Serving on the About Face board, on gala committees, and in an advisory mode, he helped the MCA and About Face to co-produce an ambitious new musical about Gertrude Stein, *Loving Repeating*, as well as *I Am My Own Wife*, which eventually went to Broadway and won a Tony Award for Best Play.

On leaving the MCA in 2008, Cameron was honored with an annual internship scholarship in his name in recognition of his support of emerging talent.

He has supported Center on Halsted and Chicago House, and he brought his star-studded address file and connections to the table for fundraising. His involvement with the HIV/AIDS communities has included board membership on the University of Chicago Comer Children’s Hospital’s Friends Against AIDS. Cameron also served on the board of the AIDS Legal Council of Chicago, where he excelled at fundraising.

Since moving in 2008 to Window to the World Communication, Inc., which runs television station WTTW and radio station WFMT, Cameron has helped with strategic positioning of the acclaimed WTTW film *Out & Proud in Chicago* and has gone from executive vice president and chief development officer to become chief operating officer.

Greg Cameron has been an exemplary leader who has made a difference. With his connections, position, and passion, he has had a powerful and positive impact on Chicago's GLBT communities.
Antonia “Tata” Flores [posthumous]

Antonia “Tata” Flores was a great asset to the visibility and pride of Chicago’s LGBT communities. Flores was born in 1958 and raised in Chicago’s Wicker Park neighborhood. She worked for the Chicago Transit Authority as a bus driver for 20 years before retiring because of illness.

In 1987, Flores and two friends rode their Harley-Davidson motorcycles in Chicago’s Pride Parade. Flores came that day to ride because she deeply enjoyed participating in the event, which brought all segments of LGBT communities together. That day, the crowd labeled the three as Dykes on Bikes, and the name stuck.

As the years passed, the group became a Pride Parade tradition, and the number of Dykes on Bikes expanded. What was originally only a handful soon became 25 or 30. Flores always told the riders, “Just bring your bike, and I’ll take care of the fees and paperwork.” After every parade, Flores would invite all the women to a club and provide the food, or else invite them to her house for a cookout and pool party.

Always concerned about the lack of nightclubs and other places for lesbians to socialize, Flores took part in establishing several bars, such as Condo Club in 1997 and Faces in 1999, and she was always there to greet patrons at the door.

Diagnosed with breast cancer in 2002, Flores was saddened in June 2007 by the thought that, because of chemotherapy, her body would be too weak for her to take part in the parade. For three days before the parade, she rested as much as possible. On the morning of June 24, she asked her brother to follow her in a car while she rode his motorcycle. Thirty minutes before the parade began, Flores arrived to join the group with her partner of 24 years, Blanca “Ma” Ortiz, as her passenger. With a glowing smile, Flores took the lead in the lineup and said, “This will be my last parade.” All the riders wore pink bandannas and dedicated the ride to her.

Flores was always passionate about unity in the LGBT communities and about coming together to celebrate diversity. She attended countless fundraisers and events because she believed participation was important.

Flores died at age 50 in February 2008. In the Pride Parade the next June, Dykes on Bikes reached a total of 50 bikers, the largest ever. Flores leaves a strong legacy behind. Dykes on Bikes will continue to ride in her memory.
Grant Lynn Ford was the founding publisher of the weekly (at first, fortnightly) *GayLife*, the city’s first regularly scheduled community-based newspaper, which began in 1975. The paper eventually was distributed in several Midwestern cities. For several years *GayLife* also operated a telephone news line for late-breaking news and developing events.

Through *GayLife*, Ford was a founding member of the Gay and Lesbian Coalition of Metropolitan Chicago and of the Metropolitan Business Association. He was also a member of such organizations as Integrity/Chicago (an Episcopal LGBT group), Mattachine Midwest, and Together, an organization representing all alternative lifestyles.

In the late 1970s, Ford, along with community leader Chuck Renslow, sponsored Orange Balls I and II, which were Chicago benefits to raise funds to combat the Anita Bryant–backed anti-gay referendum in Dade County, Florida. Many community groups joined in a large demonstration during the singer’s appearance at Chicago’s Medinah Temple.

In 1978, Ford took a leave of absence from *GayLife* to run for 44th Ward alderman as an independent Democrat. He was one of the candidates endorsed by the Independent Voters of Illinois. When asked, “As a gay candidate, what will be your main concerns for Chicago?” he responded, “Garbage pickup, snow removal, and street repair. I’m running for City Council, just like everyone else.” Gay rights were indeed an issue, but Ford made it clear he was not a one-issue candidate. Unfortunately, because of financial problems that arose during his absence from *GayLife*, Ford was forced to withdraw from the race weeks before the election in order to deal with them, after which Renslow bailed out the newspaper and assumed ownership.

A year later, Ford became pastor of Holy Covenant Metropolitan Community Church in Hinsdale, where he served until 1986. From 1981 to 1986, he was abbot of the Poor Servants of Jesus, described as an ecumenical servite order. He served in consulting or supervising roles with MCC churches in Chicago and Evanston and was founding pastor of Church of the Resurrection MCC in Chicago’s Hyde Park neighborhood. During that time, he was also interim pastor of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in the Wicker Park neighborhood. In 1986, Ford became pastor of Florida’s MCC Fort Lauderdale, which became Sunshine Cathedral and went on to become the MCC denomination’s largest congregation. He ultimately served as dean of the cathedral until 2010.

Ford’s compassion and community spirit were instrumental in the political, social, and spiritual development and visibility of Chicago’s LGBT communities during the 1970s and 1980s.
Robert Garofalo, M.D., M.P.H., is the director of Children’s Memorial Hospital’s Center for Gender, Sexuality and HIV Prevention. He is an associate professor in pediatrics and preventive medicine at Northwestern University’s Feinberg School of Medicine and an attending physician at Children’s Memorial Hospital, where he also directs the Adolescent/Young Adult HIV Program.

Before moving to Chicago in 2001, Garofalo helped to establish one of the nation’s first specialized clinics for marginalized youth populations. In Chicago, he created an innovative partnership between Children’s Memorial and Howard Brown Health Center designed to provide better access to health care for LGBT youth. At Howard Brown, as a part-time physician and ultimately as the agency’s director of youth services and deputy director, he led the development of a comprehensive program caring for HIV-positive and at-risk LGBT youth across the Chicago area.

In 2004, Garofalo envisioned and spearheaded development of the Broadway Youth Center. As a collaborative model among several agencies serving at-risk youth, it became the first Chicago-based comprehensive center of its kind and has received accolades for its innovative approach to overcoming barriers and serving youth who often fall through the cracks of traditional health-care systems.

He has been lead and co-investigator on several National Institutes of Health and Centers for Disease Control grants. Each project was designed to provide youth with novel strategies not only for improving their health or for helping to prevent HIV but also for gaining access to cutting-edge LGBT research. Garofalo has published extensively on LGBT health, including the first population-based studies examining health-risk behaviors of LGBT youth. He has written more than 20 peer-reviewed articles on LGBT youth suicide risk and HIV prevention, has contributed numerous book chapters on LGBT health, and is a frequent speaker at local and national conferences on the subject.

Garofalo is the only Chicagoan to serve as president of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association. In 2010, he served on the National Academy of Sciences’ Institute of Medicine’s Committee on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Health Issues and Research Gaps and Opportunities.

Garofalo has devoted his professional and academic career to promoting the health and well-being of LGBT youth, youth affected by HIV/AIDS, and transgender youth. He is a national authority on LGBT health issues, adolescent sexuality, and HIV clinical care and prevention. His contributions are seen in his commitment to program development and clinical care; to academic research, including development of novel HIV/AIDS prevention strategies for youth; and to advocacy work at local and national levels.
TED GRADY

Since moving to Chicago from St. Louis in the early 1990s, Ted Grady’s true passion has been to improve the lives of the underserved and marginalized members of Chicago’s LGBT communities, and toward that end he has worked with tireless devotion.

In his capacity as co-owner of J&L Catering, he has helped to underwrite and sponsor numerous not-for-profit organizations, both within the LGBT communities and beyond. The list of organizations he has served in this way is as extensive as it is diverse: Equality Illinois, About Face Theatre, Chicago House, Howard Brown Health Center, Center on Halsted, Dance for Life, the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, Lambda Legal, Designs for Dignity, TPAN (Test Positive Aware Network), BEHIV (Better Existence with HIV), the Zacharias Sexual Abuse Center in Lake County, and many others. Providing food, beverages, and services for thousands of people is costly. Hundreds of thousands of dollars that might have been spent by organizations to cover those services over the years have instead been channeled to direct care and to other services for those in need.

Grady’s generosity has not only been financial. He has also given a considerable amount of personal time to many LGBT organizations. In the past, he has co-chaired Equality Illinois’ Justice for All Gala. In addition, he has served for more than 10 years on the board of directors of About Face Theatre. Grady is also a co-sponsor of the Wonka Ball, an annual gala that began in 1999 and has grown to be one of the most successful LGBT fundraisers in Chicago. Grady is now involved in the Heartland Alliance for Human Needs & Human Rights on its LGBT-supportive Global Equality Network committee, and he serves as an advisory committee member for the Adler School of Professional Psychology.

Grady has also helped to secure bakery space for Sweet Miss Giving’s and continues to partner with it. The Chicago House-affiliated bakery has helped the underprivileged, including previously homeless and HIV-affected men and women, to gain skills needed to return to the workplace through culinary education and on-the-job training.

Since his arrival in Chicago, Ted Grady has proved himself an impassioned, reliable, and tireless contributor to LGBT communities through both the donation of catering services and resources and through donation of time and efforts. His commitment and vision have been of immeasurable help to Chicago’s LGBT cultural, social, and health-care organizations.
For nearly three decades, Marcia Hill has been a driving force in promoting the LGBT sports scene in Chicago as a member of the Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association. As an athlete, coach, manager, league commander, sports official, and board member, she has taught, inspired, recruited, and created new leagues—activities that have enriched the lives of many individuals within the LGBT communities.

Hill moved to Chicago in 1983. Upon her arrival she joined the Gay Athletic Association. The GAA, later the Metropolitan Sports Association and now the CMSA, is said to be the largest not-for-profit, all-volunteer sports association in the Midwest. Hill has been a leader in the organization, which provides positive role models, healthy social outlets, and a sense of camaraderie while allowing participants to enjoy recreational or competitive sports activities.

In various capacities, Hill dedicated herself completely to promoting the sports program and benefits of the GAA, MSA, and CMSA. Through her consistent efforts, she helped to increase the association’s membership from a couple of hundred in 1983 to almost 4,000 in 2011. The impact of that level of growth, community involvement, and social interaction cannot be overestimated.

Besides increasing membership, Hill has been dedicated to promoting goodwill within the organization while finding ways to improve it. For 15 years she has served on the CMSA board and was its president from 2007 until 2010. During her tenure, badminton, dodgeball, soccer, and kickball were added as new sports, helping to attract additional community interest and involvement. Hill was officially inducted into CMSA’s inaugural Hall of Fame in 2007. Over the years, she has been involved in every aspect of the association, from rules to finances to field conditions.

In 1988, Hill established women’s flag football and remained its commissioner until 1992. She was also chosen as head referee in Gay Bowl VI. In 2006, Hill was director of women’s flag football for the Gay Games VII held in Chicago and was helpful in the Gay Games organizing group, providing expertise to display the strength of Chicago’s LGBT sports scene. Since 2001, she has been a well-respected sports official for men’s and women’s softball, volleyball, flag football, and basketball.

Hill continues to reach out to individuals interested in sports as a healthful outlet and a means to socialize and build friendships. Her contributions to the athletic and social fabric of Chicago’s LGBT communities have shown enthusiasm and passion. As a result of her energy and commitment, those communities have been made stronger.
Tony Jackson [posthumous]

Ragtime legend Tony Jackson was born into poverty in New Orleans on June 5, 1876. At age 10, he constructed a kind of harpsichord out of backyard junk, tuned it, and used it to reproduce hymns he heard in church. At 13, he got his first job playing piano off-hours at a honky-tonk. By 15, he was considered one of the best musicians in town and soon was one of the most sought-after entertainers in Storyville, yet he continued to face serious challenges in New Orleans both as an African American and as a gay man.

Seeking greater freedom, he came to Chicago in 1912. His influence on Chicago’s music scene was immense. Jackson helped to lay the foundation for Chicago’s reputation as a jazz capital, bringing the musical culture of his birthplace to nightspots and cabarets throughout Chicago’s South Side. Jackson found acceptance along the Stroll, the African American nightclub district around the intersection of State and 35th streets. Jackson was part of the vibrant subculture of Chicago’s Bronzeville neighborhood, where LGBT communities flourished in the early 1900s and aided in making it in many ways Chicago’s version of the Harlem Renaissance.

Jackson’s profound musical talent was matched by his skills as a showman. He is remembered for dancing an impressive high-kicking cakewalk while playing. His voice was also exceptional: He could sing ballads, blues, and even opera from soprano to baritone. Jackson wrote many tunes but sold most of the rights for a minimal amount, and many were stolen outright from him. Indeed, some well-known Tin Pan Alley tunes were actually written by Jackson. Songs that have been attributed to him include “Michigan Water Blues” and “The Naked Dance.” One song published under his own name was “Pretty Baby” (1916), which was reportedly written in its original form as a tribute to his male companion with suggestive double-entendres. Eventually, the song was rewritten with lyrics suitable to general audiences.

Jackson’s influence extended beyond his skills as musician and showman. Even his personal sartorial style came to define the archetypical image of the ragtime pianist: gray derby, ascot with diamond stickpin, a checkered vest, and sleeve garters. However, in his later Chicago years, Jackson often performed in an immaculately tailored tuxedo.

Sadly, Jackson’s musical virtuosity was never recorded, but his influence may be discernible in recordings by younger musicians he inspired, such as Jelly Roll Morton, Clarence Williams, and Steve Lewis.

He continued to perform at South Side cabarets until his early death on April 20, 1921, at age 44.
OWEN KEEHNEN

As a writer, interviewer, activist, and historian, Owen Keehnen has helped create and nurture the vibrant cultural landscape of Chicago’s LGBT communities. From 1988 to 2004, he worked at Unabridged Bookstore, where he coordinated the gay men’s reading group and recommended thousands of LGBT titles to readers. Keehnen began interviewing authors, activists, and artists in the darkest part of the AIDS era. He felt compelled to record the LGBT experience of the time with more than 200 interviews. A compilation of more than 100 of his interviews is the basis of his book *We’re Here, We’re Queer: The Gay ’90s and Beyond.*

Dedicated to the preservation of LGBT history, Keehnen contributed 10 articles to the 2008 book *Out and Proud in Chicago* and co-edited *Nothing Personal: Chronicles of Chicago’s LGBTQ Community 1977–1997*, a compilation of the columns of the late Jon-Henri Damski. With Tracy Baim, Keehnen was co-author of two extensive biographies of Chicago LGBT legends, *Leatherman: The Legend of Chuck Renslow* and *Jim Flint: The Boy From Peoria*. Both works help to preserve and chronicle the rich cultural, social, and political development of Chicago LGBT life from the 1950s to the present.

Keehnen was on the founding committee of The Legacy Project, an organization dedicated to installing bronze plaques along the North Halsted Street corridor to honor notable LGBT historical figures as well as to educate the public. He is the project’s board secretary and wrote many of the nominee biographies on its website. In 2009–10 he served on the board of Gerber/Hart Library and Archives as chair of programming.

Keehnen’s work has been published in newspapers, periodicals, and anthologies worldwide, including *The Harvard Gay & Lesbian Review* and the *New York Native*, and was often in the iconic gay literary magazine *Christopher Street*. He was also co-editor of the *Windy City Pride Literary Supplement* for several years. His novel *The Sand Bar* will appear in 2012, and his humorous coming-out novel *I May Not Be Much But I’m All I Think About* is at e-gaymag.com

He served as monitor for several NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt displays, worked as a massage therapist for AIDS Care Chicago, delivered meals for Open Hand Chicago, stocked shelves for its GroceryLand, volunteered for Howard Brown Health Center, was a team captain of the first AIDS Walk in Chicago in 1990, and participated in various ACT UP/Chicago demonstrations.

Owen Keehnen has used his gifts as a writer to help foster LGBT literary culture and preserve the rich LGBT past, and he has used his heart to make life better for those in need.
After reading *And the Band Played On*, Brett Shingledecker was moved enough to commit to being an active participant in LGBT communities. He suggested to Carrie Barnett that they open a gay and lesbian bookstore. Soon after, Shingledecker constructed the business plan. When he and Barnett went to the bank for a loan, Shingledecker said to Barnett, “Don't say it quietly. Don't say it with shame. Simply look them in the eye and say, ‘It’s a gay and lesbian bookstore.’ If you’re proud and sure, they won’t have any choice but to take you seriously and treat you with respect.” They got the loan.

Located at first on North Clark Street near West Buckingham Place, People Like Us opened in 1988 and soon became more than a place of business. To them, it became a sacred trust. Shingledecker was adamant that the store provide a place where anybody and everybody would feel safe to come and explore ideas and literature about gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people. As a result of his and Barnett’s commitment, it was often the first stop many people made when visiting Chicago.

Shingledecker also believed deeply that communities are stronger together than apart, and to that end the store’s inventory mixed lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender literature in an unprecedented way. Instead of Lesbian Fiction and Gay Fiction, People Like Us had Fiction. Instead of designating Poetry by sexual orientation or gender, there was merely a Poetry section.

As Shingledecker’s brainchild, the popular store was an integral part of emerging LGBT communities from 1988 to 1997. The two owners soon found themselves becoming activists as well as booksellers. Shingledecker spent much time suggesting titles to their patrons, but, more than that, he spent hours talking to people about community and building bridges of understanding between people.

People Like Us also provided a meeting place for various organizations and a popular venue for book signings, lectures, and discussions. The list of groups that benefited from People Like Us donations and raffles is long. Under its owners’ guidance, the store also served as a ticket outlet and a retail space for non-print pride-promoting merchandise such as T-shirts, buttons, pins, and flags.

Because of Shingledecker’s unique and passionate vision, the landscape of Chicago’s LGBT communities became richer, and the sense of unity during a crucial period of history was strengthened.
Jon Simmons [posthumous]

Jon A. Simmons described himself as a “gay Everyman,” but his accomplishments and civic dedication were nothing short of extraordinary.

He was born February 15, 1955, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The resident of Chicago’s Lakeview neighborhood received his bachelor’s degree in English and writing from Columbia College in 1983 and served on the Illinois State Scholarship Commission as a student member from 1983 to 1985. From 1985 to 1988 he was executive director of Chicago’s Joseph Holmes Dance Theatre. He was also a freelance writer for Windy City Times.

Simmons went on to have an enduring influence on the city’s LGBT communities by building ties between them and a succession of Chicago mayors: Harold Washington, Eugene Sawyer, and Richard M. Daley. In 1985, he was tapped by Mayor Washington to serve on his groundbreaking Committee on Gay and Lesbian Issues and was subsequently elected to chair the committee. In 1988, after Mayor Sawyer had succeeded Washington in 1987, the new mayor named Simmons as his coordinator for gay and lesbian issues.

The influence that Simmons developed became even greater during the early years of the Richard M. Daley administration. Two years after his 1989 election, Mayor Daley reorganized the Commission on Human Relations, creating the Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues, and the mayor picked Simmons to serve as its director. The advisory council sponsored, among other things, the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame, which was also created in 1991.

Simmons’s earlier role had helped to lay a foundation, by providing a link between LGBT Chicagoans and the mayor’s office, that aided eventual passage of the historic 1988 measure popularly called the Human Rights Ordinance. The ordinance added sexual orientation to the categories of discrimination explicitly prohibited by city law.

He stepped down from his advisory council post in 1991 to pursue a law degree at IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law. By mid-1994, the 39-year-old had graduated and was preparing to take the Illinois bar examination, but first he decided to take a well-earned vacation. On the night of October 1, 1994, while spending a few days in Los Angeles, where he had been joined by his San Francisco brother before continuing on an intended visit to Hawaii, Simmons was shot to death during a night out. His body was found early the next morning in a Beverly Hills alley. His murder remains unsolved.

Chicago government subsequently honored Simmons with a commemorative street designation. Signs reading “Honorary Jon Simmons Parade” mark each end of West Cornelia Avenue between North Halsted Street and North Broadway in recognition of his legacy.
GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH

Good Shepherd Parish Metropolitan Community Church served Chicago’s gay communities for 37 years before congregants gathered for final services on July 8, 2007. As the first church for LGBT communities in the Midwest, Good Shepherd Parish helped to pave the way for other gay churches and for the many gay-friendly churches Chicago now enjoys. In addition, the church’s early ministries and outreach programs assisted many local service organizations, including the Open Hand food pantry and the Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

When Los Angeles gay activist Troy Perry announced in 1968 that he was starting a gay denomination (the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches), gay Christians in Chicago were eager to participate. Perry, an ex-Pentecostal minister who was defrocked because of his sexual orientation, gave his blessing to a start-up church in Chicago, making Good Shepherd the fourth congregation in the new denomination.

What began as a handful of gay men who worshipped in a living room on Lake Shore Drive soon became a strong and active church, providing one of Chicago’s first gay meeting places that was not a bar, and participating in the earliest Pride Parades and gay-rights demonstrations.

Professing the sanctity of committed same-sex relationships, Good Shepherd Parish performed “blessed unions” (or “holy unions”) long before most of the rest of America ever talked about gay marriage. Knowing the difficulty of “coming out” in a society that often feared and despised LGBT persons, as well as recognizing the problems such persons can face while simply living their lives in the larger culture, Good Shepherd Parish established a 24-hour telephone hotline for people who just needed to talk.

Good Shepherd Parish was also on the front lines during the darkest days of the AIDS crisis. Responding to the desperate spiritual needs of many AIDS patients when other members of the clergy often were afraid to get involved, Good Shepherd Parish provided pastoral care, worship, and sacraments to the old “AIDS Ward” at Illinois Masonic Hospital. Providing solace and spiritual reassurance to the afflicted and their loved ones was one of Good Shepherd Parish’s greatest contributions.

In an era when most established religious denominations were actively hostile toward gay people, Good Shepherd Parish stood as a beacon to those whose faith was stronger than hatred, deeper than fear, and broader than any narrow definition of “Christian.” The church’s ministry changed lives, and its mission changed countless minds, many churches, and Chicago itself.
Lakeside Pride Music Ensembles reflects a legacy of Chicago LGBT musical groups that spans more than 30 years. Though the organization has had several names, starting with the Chicago Gay Pride Band in 1979, its mission to bring friends and members of the LGBT communities together through the celebration of music has remained constant.

Over the years, hundreds of members have contributed to a long tradition of musical excellence. Currently, Lakeside Pride features performances by four major ensembles. The Freedom Band & Color Guard (a marching band), Shhh...OUT Jazz Ensemble, Symphonic Band, and Symphony Orchestra help foster goodwill and promote social acceptance through music.

The marching band entertains nearly a million spectators annually at the Chicago Disability Pride Parade, the Chicago Memorial Day Parade, and the Chicago Pride Parade, among others. Every year thousands of audience members also experience the other three Lakeside Pride ensembles at venues such as the Center on Halsted, the Chicago Cultural Center, the Chicago History Museum, and the Preston Bradley Center.

The original Chicago Gay Pride Band grew out of a desire to have a marching band in the Pride parades and was one of the first gay marching bands in the world. It introduced the Windy City Gay Chorus in 1979 and the Artemis Singers the following year. The organization also hosted the first national conference of LGBT bands in 1982. Out of the seven independent bands that came to the conference, the Lesbian and Gay Bands of America was formed.

The national group later became the Lesbian and Gay Band Association (LGBA). Today, LGBA represents more than 30 musical organizations worldwide. Lakeside Pride members regularly participate and help organize LGBA-sponsored performances, including performances at the Gay Games in Sydney, Chicago, and Cologne. The LGBA also performed at the inauguration of President Obama in 2009 and was the first LGBT organization to march in an inaugural parade.

Acting as ambassadors for Chicago and Illinois, Lakeside Pride members appear at Midwestern events to heighten community acceptance. In addition, Lakeside Pride has helped other LGBT organizations, such as the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, AIDS Walk Chicago, and American Veterans for Equal Rights, to raise awareness of their issues.

From its inception, Lakeside Pride and its legacy ensembles have welcomed members of all playing abilities, from those who have not played since high school to skilled musicians. The organization strives to foster a collaborative and supportive environment that helps all members represent the LGBT communities while expressing themselves through music.
Jenner & Block, a Chicago-headquartered law firm, has long been a leader in advocating for LGBT communities, locally and nationally, in the courtroom and in society. Its work makes the quality of life appreciably better for LGBT individuals in Chicago and the nation.

The firm’s most publicized advocacy was its successful attack against discrimination in arguing Lawrence v. Texas before the U.S. Supreme Court—the most important civil-rights victory of the 21st century in striking down the criminalization of private homosexual acts and paving the way for dismantling other forms of anti-LGBT discrimination.

Well before Lawrence, the firm was a leader in Chicago and among Chicago law firms in supporting LGBT rights. Jenner & Block was the first Chicago law firm voluntarily to submit to the Human Rights Campaign’s Corporate Equality Index and the first to receive a 100 percent score.

Jenner & Block has been and is a constant and generous supporter of many Chicago LGBT charitable and community organizations through its pro bono program and its sponsorship of events. Numerous such organizations have written in support of recognizing the firm’s contributions.

Among other efforts: • Jenner & Block successfully represented challengers of petition signatures for an Illinois ballot initiative against marriage equality. • It was the first major Illinois law firm to give public support to the Illinois civil-unions bill that later became law, with effect from June 1, 2011. • It was co-counsel with the ACLU of Illinois for transsexual persons seeking new birth certificates reflecting their correct genders. • It joined in challenging a Wisconsin statute that prevents mental-health professionals from prescribing hormone therapy and sex-reassignment surgery for inmates diagnosed with gender identity disorder. The 7th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Chicago decided August 5, 2011, that the statute is unconstitutional. • The firm successfully argued in the U.S. Supreme Court for a public university’s right to deny funding to a religious student group that excluded LGBT students from members. • It collaborated on a U.S. Supreme Court brief that led to a decision against keeping secret the identities of those who sign ballot-initiative petitions. • It helped to secure a Massachusetts federal judicial decision that Section 3 of the so-called federal Defense of Marriage Act unconstitutionally denies equality to same-sex couples, taking a major step toward what is hoped will be that law’s ultimate invalidation.

Jenner & Block’s years of exemplifying LGBT equality and advocating for it have earned it a permanent place of honor among LGBT Chicagoans.
S
ince its founding in Chicago’s
Lakeview neighborhood in
1976, The Night Ministry has
built relationships with vulnerable
youths and adults on the city’s
nighttime streets. The Night Ministry’s
social-service model celebrates the diversity, uniqueness, and dignity of each
person. It provides a range of services for homeless adults and youths with
programs that value nonjudgmental listening, caring, and compassionate
support, with a focus on connecting people to the resources that can make their
lives better.

The Night Ministry, a nonprofit group, is Chicago’s leading provider of
emergency housing to runaway and homeless youths between ages 14 and 24.
LGBT youths make up 5 to 10 percent of the nation’s youth, but 20 to 40 percent
of the nation’s homeless-youth population. Because of this, The Night Ministry’s
services are essential and lifesaving for these individuals.

Family conflicts, abuse, and problems at school all contribute to the
homelessness epidemic, and these factors dramatically affect LGBT youths.
Some find themselves thrown out, disowned, aging out of foster care, or leaving
the juvenile justice system with nowhere to go. Because of these and other issues,
the risks for LGBT youths of suicide, contracting HIV, and drug abuse are
extremely high.

The Night Ministry works to alleviate some of these grim realities, serving
youths through outreach, a 120-day housing program for pregnant and parenting
teens, an interim shelter and support-service program for youths between 14 and
20, and a Transitional Living Program that transitions youths between 16 and 20
to independent living within two years.

In 2010 alone, The Night Ministry tested 722 people for HIV from its Health
Outreach Bus, which has provided HIV testing, counseling, and referrals on the
street since the late 1980s, when the organization began its HIV testing program.

Because housing options for homeless youths are limited and dangerous, The
The overnight shelter serves a meal when it opens at 9 p.m., and the youths must
leave in the morning. It has become the only overnight shelter in the Midwest for
youths between 18 and 24. During the first four months in operation, The Crib
served 140 youths, almost three-quarters of whom were LGBT, and almost one-
third of whom were transgender.

For 35 years, The Night Ministry has provided compassionate service to the
homeless, and especially to homeless youth. Its counselors and programs have
helped change the course of countless lives, LGBT and otherwise.
PREVIOUS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

ANGEL ABCEDE (2003): To help prevent more AIDS deaths, he drew on experience as a dancer, choreographer, and writer 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 FOUNDATION OF CHICAGO (2009): Since 1985, it has been an invaluable leader in the fight against HIV/AIDS and in improving the lives of those affected by the epidemic. It funds, coordinates, and collaborates with service programs, besides conducting public-policy advocacy. It has distributed more than $15 million for HIV prevention, care, and advocacy.

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.

CLAUDIA ALLEN (2010): She is a nationally recognized playwright, has won two Joseph Jefferson Awards, and was selected by Chicago magazine in 1999 as Best Playwright. Almost half of her repertoire of produced plays, including Fossils, Hannah Free, and Xena Lives!, have focused on lesbian relationships or have incorporated lesbian or bisexual characters.

AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF ILLINOIS (2010): It is a Friend of the Community for its decades of fighting for LGBT rights and the rights of persons with AIDS through litigation and legislation, as part of its historic larger mission of fostering civil liberties for all.

AMERICAN VETERANS FOR EQUAL RIGHTS—CHICAGO CHAPTER (2007): Throughout its 19-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 Topeka, Kansas, in 1883, Heap died in London in 1964. Anderson, born in Indianapolis in 1886, died in Le Cannet, France, in 1973.

TONI ARMSTRONG JR (1997): A leader since the 1970s in documenting, producing, and performing lesbian and feminist music, she has also been an openly lesbian high school teacher 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.

ASIANS AND FRIENDS CHICAGO (2010): Since 1984, it has provided an opportunity for gay men of Asian descent to engage in social interaction more confidently with the larger community. It sponsors numerous social, cultural, and fundraising activities, and it helped to found and regularly participates in annual international gatherings of similar organizations.
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. He now lives in Washington, D.C.

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, which she had helped to found in 1985. She co-founded the Chicago Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce as well as Chicago 2006, Inc. In 2008, she set up the chicagogayhistory.com website and edited a first-of-its-kind history book, Out and Proud in Chicago. She has produced two other books since, on President Obama and leatherman Chuck Renslow, and a biography of entrepreneur and activist Jim Flint will appear in late 2011.

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

CARRIE BARNETT (1998): She 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 in New York, he remained an activist for a variety of causes until his death in San Francisco in 2001.

LORRAINNE SADE BASKERVILLE (2000): She founded transGenesis in 1995 as an agency to 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. She served on several Chicago organizational boards and later moved to Thailand.

PAULA BASTA (2009): She has set new standards for supporting the needs of aging LGBT persons by both government and private sectors. Besides this, as a former Equality Illinois board president, she has helped to widen the base of LGBT activism through involving more women and encouraging attention to women’s rights.
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 more than two decades she has worked professionally and as a volunteer and political activist to improve Chicagoleans’ lives. Focusing on the health and civil rights of lesbians and gay men, she has also 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 was a leader in preparing for Chicago’s Gay Games VII in 2006 and Cologne’s Gay Games VIII in 2010.

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 helped to produce 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 has later taught Mayan linguistics in Yucatán, Mexico.

ROGER BROWN (posthumous 2004): Through his internationally known paintings as a leader of the movement called Chicago Imagism, he commented pointedly on social issues, urban infrastructure, nature, history, and events both personal and societal. He also was a noted collector. Born in Hamilton, Alabama, in 1941, he died in Atlanta of complications from AIDS in 1997. Two of his mural locations are the Howard Brown Health Center and the façade of 120 North LaSalle Street.

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 U.S. air carrier to implement domestic partnership benefits. She served as the first executive director of Center on Halsted, where her nationally recognized credibility and leadership were integral to completing its 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 LGBTQIA (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 blazed trails of distinction since coming to Chicago from Nicaragua in 1985. In 2010, he moved to Florida to become associate director of the Miami International Art Fair.

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, now deceased): 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 produced numerous large charitable and special events, raised thousands of dollars for local organizations, gave his own money as well, co-produced a hate crimes documentary film, and was an active member of business groups. Born in Ohio in 1952, he died in Chicago on June 17, 2011.

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 Albuquerque, New Mexico, in 2004, where he is still involved in gay and electoral organizing.

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 HISTORY MUSEUM (2010): It is a Friend of the Community for its commitment to preserving sexual-minority history as part of its larger Chicago history mission. Since 2004, its Out at CHM series has featured thought-provoking presentations and discussions of LGBT experiences in Chicago and nationwide. In 2011, it opened its major “Out in Chicago” exhibition, drawing on its own and others’ resources to document some 150 years of Chicago sexual-minority crises, accomplishments, and contributions.

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 HIV diagnosis to those with late-stage 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 Chicagoans 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 40 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. Since retiring from the bench, he has performed in Chicago theatrical productions.

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.

LOU CONTE (2009): A dancer, choreographer, and teacher, he founded Hubbard Street Dance Chicago in 1977 and led it to earn international acclaim. Its fusion of ballet and jazz styles has made it one of the most prominent U.S. dance companies and a worldwide cultural symbol of Chicago.

LORI A. COOPER (2009): As an out lesbian in the Chicago Police Department since 1992, she has been a pioneer in promoting liaison between police and LGBT Chicagoans, recruiting them for the force, fostering equal opportunity there, and heightening efforts against hate crimes and domestic violence.

T. CHRIS COTHран (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 marked the longest uninterrupted period of LGBT-inclusive policies in the city’s municipal history. From his election in 1989 to his retirement in 2011, Daley was consistently 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 that continues today. 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 was 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 sat 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.

DAN DI LEO (posthumous 2010): A professional journalist, he was co-founder of Gay Chicago Magazine with Ralph Paul Gernhardt. He also helped to found Strike Against AIDS and the Mr. Windy City contest and was one of the original contributors to Howard Brown Memorial Clinic. Born in Chicago in 1938, he died here from AIDS complications in 1989.

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, he helped invent the 1970s disco phenomenon and helped break new ground by getting corporations to sponsor events at gay clubs. He 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. Born in 1944, he died in 1987.

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. He currently chairs the Chicago Academy for the Arts’ dance department.

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, since 1992 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 in what is now Oak Park, 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 in Pocahontas, Arkansas.

ROBERT BONVOULOIR 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.
SCOTT FREE (2010): He is one of the leading openly gay male musical artists in the nation. In addition, he founded the long-running queer performance series Homolatte, has produced the annual fundraising Alt Q music festival, is active in Chicago’s Gay Liberation Network, and has organized against homophobia in popular music.

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 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. He has also been a Goodman Theatre associate director and is a professor emeritus at Northwestern University.

BOB GAMMIE (2010): He has been an activity organizer and fundraiser in Chicago’s gay communities since he moved here in 1949. He organized some of the first large social events outside bar settings, including barbecues, softball and volleyball games, and the long-running Lincoln Park Lagooners club—as well as fundraising parties for AIDS charities and other groups that attracted thousands of people.

MARTIN GAPSHIS (2007, now deceased): He was 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. Born in Chicago in 1946, he died here of a heart attack on Aug. 30, 2010.

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 continued to publish up-to-date information on lifestyle, entertainment, bar, and organization events in Chicago’s gay and lesbian communities until it ceased print publication in 2011.

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 non-gay, for their originality and craftsmanship. Born in 1943, Goley died in 1994. Maddox, who was born in 1935, later sold the business and lived in Chicago until his death in 2009. Both of them were buried in Pineville, Kentucky.

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 40 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): A professional social worker, 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): 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. Born in 1952, 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 helped in creating the annual Proud To Run race against AIDS, in forming Frontrunners Chicago, and in organizing Team Chicago. Born in 1945 in Chicago, she died in Hinsdale of complications from 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 85th birthday in 2011 and is still actively involved.

RENEE C. HANOVER (1991, now deceased): A well-known attorney who often provided her services pro bono, she was long a high-visibility advocate for lesbian and gay rights. She worked for civil rights legislation of all kinds and vigorously opposed all forms of discrimination in the law and in society. Born in 1926 in New York City, she died on January 5, 2011, in Los Angeles, where she had retired in 2000.

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, editor, and educator in 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 and helped to secure same-sex domestic partnership benefits for Chicago city government employees. 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. In 2007, he succeeded retired state Rep. Larry McKeon of the North Side’s 34th District as the only openly gay Illinois state legislator then in office. He has been re-elected twice.

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 a collective member of the Institute of Lesbian Studies and 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*.

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.

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., M.S.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 away from 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.

INTERNATIONAL MR. LEATHER (2010): Founded in 1979 by Chuck Renslow and Dom Orejudos, it is one of the oldest LGBT institutions in the United States and has made far-reaching contributions in Chicago’s gay business, entertainment, health, and tourism arenas. It brings thousands of gay men and an increasing number of others to Chicago each Memorial Day weekend for a leather pageant that also addresses community social issues, supports the Leather Archives & Museum, and encourages sexual health and camaraderie.

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. A former executive director of Howard Brown Memorial Clinic and assistant commissioner at the Chicago Department of Health for HIV/AIDS policies and programs, she is now a fitness instructor at the University of Notre Dame.

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.

E. PATRICK JOHNSON (2010): An award-winning author, nationally touring performer of the spoken word, recognized scholar, and fundraiser, he has published several books centering on African American LGBT life. One, Sweet Tea, was the basis for his similarly titled one-man play. He teaches at Northwestern University.

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 activist and business communities, involved in Episcopal religious circles as an openly gay advocate, committed to racial justice, and a worker in Regular Democratic organizations. Born in Portland, Oregon, in 1925, he died in Chicago of a heart attack in 1986.
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 named in 1999 as an associate judge of the Cook County Circuit Court. Her community and professional work dates to the 1970s in lesbian feminist, domestic violence, political, legal assistance, and family welfare settings.

CORINNE KAWECKI (1997): Beginning in 1985, she became a quiet but indefatigable volunteer and ultimately a 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 Chicago City Council member, now a WVON radio host and an American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois board member, he is a Friend of the Community for becoming 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.


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, remixer, and DJ, he is the inventor and popularizer of “house” music, known worldwide as “Chicago house” and named after Chicago’s Warehouse nightclub, where he drew huge crowds between 1977 and 1982. He is now a DJ and 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 chief operating officer and 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 the annual 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 is a member of the Lesbian Leadership Council of the Chicago Foundation for Women.

MARIE J. KUDA (1991): For more than 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 in 2008 on the day of the annual Pride Parade, but his impact on countless individuals and organizations lives on.

LOUIS I. LANG (2002): As the state representative of Cook County’s 16th District, 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): A state representative of Chicago’s North Side 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.

MARcia J. LIPETZ, Ph.D. (2009): Trained as a sociologist, for more than 30 years she has put her professional and leadership skills to work for Chicago nonprofit groups, among them the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, Center on Halsted, Donors Forum of Chicago, WPWR-TV Channel 50 Foundation, and the Executive Service Corps of Chicago.

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 cofounding Executive Sweet, a “traveling club” for women of color, she has assisted the Michigan Womyn’s Music Festival for decades and has helped to lead several lesbian and African American organizations.

JEFFREY E. McCOURT (posthumous 2007): As founding publisher of Windy City Times newspaper, businessperson, 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.

JOEY McDONALD (2009): He has moved from being an openly gay and honorably discharged sailor in the 1970s to years of involvement with the International Mr. Leather organization, assistance to Equality Illinois, and a long list of volunteer achievements in helping leathermen and other gay men cope with hepatitis, HIV/AIDS, and substance abuse, all in the unselfish name of “giving back to your community.”

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

AMY MAGGIO (2009): She is widely known as a leader in many HIV/AIDS and LGBT organizations, for which she has increased donor and volunteer involvement and has helped to raise millions of dollars during more than two decades. Her marketing and development skills have been deployed in both for-profit and nonprofit health-care sectors, where she has focused on HIV/AIDS needs.

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. For this, it was inducted as a Friend of the Community.

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. She has served as board president of the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois.
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 in 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.


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

MOUNTAIN MOVING COFFEEHOUSE FOR WOMYN AND CHILDREN (1993): It 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, who was born in 1955, died of renal cancer in 2008; Mulryan continues in practice.

DAVID ERNESTO MUNAR (2010): A community organizer and AIDS activist, he headed the Association of Latin Men for Action (ALMA) and is now president and chief executive officer of the AIDS Foundation of Chicago, where he has worked since 1991. He is a nationally known advocate on AIDS issues and has served on numerous local and national boards and scientific committees.
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, now deceased): Born in 1946 in what is now Faisalabad, 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 came to this country in 1971, co-founded Sangat/Chicago, and was president of the South Asian Performing Arts Council of America. He died in Chicago on July 22, 2011.

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

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 inducted 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 some 40 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. In 2011, Mayor Rahm Emanuel appointed her to head the Chicago Commission on Human Relations.

ACHY OBEJAS (2010): An author, journalist, and political activist, she began her journalism career at the Chicago Sun-Times in 1981. Mayor Harold Washington appointed her to the city’s first Committee on Gay and Lesbian Issues. Her books of fiction and nonfiction have received awards and presented her as an out lesbian. She has taught writing at several Chicago-area universities.
RENAE OGLETREE (1998, now deceased): She engaged in wide-ranging volunteer and professional activities that brought people together around issues of diversity, development, and health care within Chicago’s gay and lesbian communities. Besides activity in several LGBT groups, she was a health care activist, a professional youth services executive, and a public schools official. She co-founded and co-chaired Chicago Black Lesbians and Gays. Born in 1950 in Passaic, New Jersey, she died in Chicago in 2010 of complications from lung cancer.

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.

PAUL G. OOSTENBRUG (2010): He has been a quietly effective, exemplary volunteer organizer and fundraiser in Chicago for more than a decade. Beginning in 1998, he has helped to lead Team Chicago in local and international sports activities, including Gay Games in Sydney, Chicago, and Cologne. He also has been a board member and treasurer of Chicago House and Social Service Agency.

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): Inducted as a Friend of the Community, 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 Chicagans and visitors to enjoy as they grow communally. With his business and domestic partner, Arthur L. Johnston, he has also helped make 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 the United Methodist Church. 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, now deceased): A Chicago native, he 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. He had been diagnosed with HIV for more than 27 years and died in 2010 at age 53 in Richmond, Virginia, where he had moved with his partner of 16 years and became director of social services for the Fan Free Clinic.

RICHARD W. PFEIFFER (1993): For some 40 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 prominent 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 40 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.

MIKE QUIGLEY (2009): During his decade on the Cook County Board, this Friend of the Community oversaw adding gender-identity protection to county law, providing health insurance for county government employees’ same-sex partners, and creating a same-sex domestic partnership registry for county residents. As a U.S. House member since 2009, he has been a prominent sponsor of LGBT legislative efforts.
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): After his 1991 arrival at St. Martin’s Episcopal Church as an out and affirming vicar, this ex–social worker made a once-declining parish into a place where progressive LGBT persons could 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 1958. 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 annual International Mr. Leather contest and established the Leather Archives & Museum.

JOSE RIOS (2010): Since 2001, as an openly gay police officer and the 23rd Police District’s LGBT liaison, he has helped to break down barriers that historically have compromised access to police services for sexual-minority Chicagoans. He has also helped to train police officers and has served on the boards of the Association of Latin Men for Action and the Lesbian and Gay Police Association/Gay Officers Action League.

FRANK M. ROBINSON (2009): This journalist, activist, and award-winning novelist gave crucial help to early-1970s Chicago LGBT groups in publicizing and memorializing their work. Later, in San Francisco, he wrote speeches for Harvey Milk and has produced numerous individual works and anthologies of fiction, including science fiction.

LINDA S. RODGERS (1993): As a successful businesswoman, fundraiser, and activist, she combined her entrepreneurial skills 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 more than 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 was a chief organizer of the Pride group at Chicago’s Whitney Young High School. It soon became the school’s second-largest organization, despite some initial student resistance. It aimed to support the self-esteem and rights of students, including gay, lesbian, and bisexual students. She now works for the Association of American Medical Colleges in Washington, D.C.

JANE M. HUSSEIN SAKS (2009): She has consistently been a social change activist on a variety of fronts, has led numerous institutions in responding to LGBT issues in programming and grantmaking, and is the first director of the Institute for the Study of Women and Gender in the Arts and Media at Chicago’s Columbia College.

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.

ZAIDA SANABIA (2009): In her teens, she became an advocate for LGBT youth and made a prize-winning video on forming a high school Gay-Straight Alliance. The video resulted in her own suspension from school, but she graduated; formed Amiguitas, the first queer Latina youth group in Chicago; fostered high school organizing throughout Illinois; and has put her documentary skills to work for the LGBTQ safe-schools movement.

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 GLBT 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 more than 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 that time, she often advocated for sexual-minority communities and for persons living with HIV and AIDS. She retired from office in 2011.

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 residence owned by Chicago House.

PATRICK SINOZICH (2009): For more than 20 years, this pianist, choral director, arranger, composer, and accompanist has been a leader in Chicago LGBT musical organizations, including Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus and Windy City Chorus. He has also been music director of a vocal ensemble, Chicago a cappella, and a member of the music staffs of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and the Grant Park Music Festival.

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.
THE REV. STAN SLOAN (2010): He is the longest-serving CEO in the history of Chicago House and Social Service Agency, doubling its services and revenue and opening its Sweet Miss Giving’s bakery as a funding and job-training vehicle. An Episcopal priest, he has led in the homeless and AIDS service communities for more than 15 years and was founding president of the Chicago Alliance to End Homelessness.

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.

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

MARY ANN SMITH (1997): As alderman of Chicago’s diverse 48th Ward, this Friend of the Community 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. She retired from office in 2011.

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!

DANIEL SOTOMAYOR (posthumous 1992): He was an openly gay, nationally syndicated political cartoonist and prominent Chicago AIDS activist, notably as part of ACT UP/Chicago. His creativity heightened visibility for anti-AIDS efforts. He died of AIDS complications in 1992.

LAURENCE E. SPANG, D.D.S. (2003): After losing his job as a federal prison dentist in 1991 because of his HIV status, he led in organizing a Chicago dental clinic for low-income HIV-positive persons, persons with tuberculosis, and those of advanced age. He 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, now deceased): 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 was active in local business circles and long provided financial aid and a supportive environment to lesbian and gay persons. Born in Chicago in 1935, she died in Calumet City on December 5, 2010.

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. He has been re-elected twice.

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.

MARILYN URSO, R.N. (2009): For 17 years she was Howard Brown Health Center’s research registered nurse and is a Friend of the Community for her unprecedented dedication to her job and to clients. For them, frequently in times of crisis, she was a warm, welcoming, and supportive presence, nurturing both clinic and clients with professionalism and encouragement.

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.

JORGE VALDIVIA (2009): Through media, arts, and public service, he has sought to create safe spaces and build visibility for the Latino LGBT community. He founded Homofrecuencia, the country’s first Spanish-language radio program on LGBT issues; helped organize the first annual prom for queer Latino youth; and served as performing arts director for the National Museum of Mexican Art.

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 chief executive officer of 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.
MARK E. WOJCIK (2010): He has inspired and mentored students since 1992 as a professor at John Marshall Law School, where he formed the Gay and Lesbian Law Association earlier while still a student. He founded and headed the Chicago Bar Association’s Committee on Legal Rights of Lesbians and Gay Men, has headed the Lesbian and Gay Bar Association of Chicago, was co-author of the first casebook on AIDS law, has written numerous articles on sexual-minority legal issues, is an international law expert, and has lobbied for pro-LGBT legislation.

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’ vice president for membership.

YVONNE ZIPTER (1995): As 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. She is now an editor at the University of Chicago Press.
MAJOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Gold Sponsor
Phil Hannema

Grand Sponsor
Absolut Vodka • BBJ Linen • BOI Magazine
Center on Halsted • Circuit Nightclub • Chicago History Museum
Hall’s Rental • Harris Bank • House of Blues
International Mr. Leather • J&L Catering • Miller Lite
Napleton’s Northwestern Chrysler Jeep Dodge
Rick Aguilar Studios • Sidetrack
supergurl images • Treasure Island Foods

Sponsor
Hamburger Mary’s • Michael A. Leppen
Minibar • Paul Oostenbrug
Richard W. Pfeiffer and Timothy K. Frye
Bryan Portman and Tommy O’Connell

Supporter
Ricky D. Harris and Gregory R. Smith
Jill M. Metz, J.D. • Vetricity Metropolis
William L. Pry • Richard Turner
Stonewall Investments

Friend
John “Jack” Delaney • Susan O’Dell, Ph.D.
Dean Ogren • Mark Alan Smithe
Test Positive Aware Network

In Memoriam
RJ Chaffin - Chicago Tourism and Convention Bureau, Phil Hannema
Renee C. Hanover - Phil Hannema

and the many individuals who attended
the Pride and Joy Reception and the Celebrity Auction
SPECIAL THANKS

Angel Abcede • Tony Abruscato • Absolut Vodka
Acorn Theater • agencyEA • Rick Aguilar
Alexian Brothers Bonaventure House
Allan Grant and Associates • Allen Brothers, Inc.
Steven J. Alter • Associated Attractions • Jill Austin • Tracy Baim
Carrie Barnett • BBJ Linen • Bijou Theater • Blue Man Group

BOI Magazine • Patrick Bova • Aaron Bowen • David Boyer
Kevin Boyer • Lora Branch • Ambassador Carol Moseley Braun
Stacy Bridges • Anthony Brizgys, D.V.D. • Katherine Broderick
Joel Cabrera • Greg Cameron • Michael Cansfield
Lori Cannon • Evette Cardona • Robert Castillo
Center on Halsted • David Cerda • RJ Chaffin
Chestnut Cleaning Service • Chicago Bulls
Chicago Commission on Human Relations
Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau
Chicago Filmmakers, Reeling 30:
The Chicago Lesbian & Gay International Film Festival
Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus • Chicago History Museum
Chicago Opera Theatre • Chicago Police - 23rd District
Gary G. Chichester • Chick-Fil-A Chicago • Circuit Nightclub
Richard Clough • Sebastian Cock, The Chicago Boi Toiz
David Cohen • Brent Conn • Conn’s Catering • Lou Conte
Continuum Studio • Lori Cooper • Chuck Cox • Erin Dalton
James Darby • Alexander deHilster • Tarrina Dikes
El Mariachi Tequila Bar & Grill • Mayor Rahm Emanuel
Equality Illinois • Dr. Richard Ezgur • David Fink
Flower Show Productions • Scott Freeman • Timothy K. Frye
Jack Gallagher • Robert Garofalo, M.D. • Gay Chicago Magazine
Gernhardt Publications • Allen Glater, D.V.M. • Chase Gooch
SPECIAL THANKS

Grab Magazine • Ted Grady • Allan J. Grant • Vernita Gray
Greater Giving, Inc. • William W. Greaves, Ph.D. • Ethel Green
Johnnie Grozenski • David Hackett • Hall’s Rental
Philip A. Hannema • Roger Harlin • Patrick Harms • Jorjet Harper
Harris Bank • Rep. Gregory Harris • Paul Hasenwinkel
Ted Hatoff • Hell in a Handbag Productions • Jason Hendrix
Brian Herb • Sarah Hoagland • Tonda Hughes • Chuck Hyde
International Mr. Leather, Inc. • Jonathan Israel • Dave Jennings
J&L Catering • Gary T. Johnson • Josh Johnson • Wayne Johnson
Arthur Johnston • Charles L. Katzenmeyer • Rick Karlin
Owen Keehnen • William B. Kelley • Beth Kelly
Jeremiah Kelly • Ralla Klepak • Danny Kopelson
Suzanne Kraus • David Kurland • Ralph Lampkin
Leroy Larson • Leather Archives and Museum
The Legacy Project • Jean Leigh • The Leigh Gallery
Michael Leppen • Mike Macharello • Amy Maggio
Merry Mary • Andy Masterson • MB Financial Bank
Patricia S. McCombs • Joey McDonald • Kevin McDonald
Raymond McGuire • McKillip Animal Hospital
Deborah L. Mell • Velicity Metropolis • Jill M. Metz, J.D.
Miller Lite • Minibar • Carlos T. Mock, M.D. • Kevin Mork
Gail Morse • Mary Morten • David Munar • Erica Munoz
Kathryn Munzer • Music Box Theater • Mark Nagel
Napleton’s Northwestern Chrysler Jeep Dodge
Ifti Nasim • Edward Negron • Dawn Clark Netsch
Charlotte Newfeld • Nightspots • T.L. Noble
Chairman and Commissioner Mona Noriega • Nova Printing
Wendy Novak • Sunda Obendorf • Tommy O’Connell
Susan O’Dell • Dean Ogren • Paul Oostenbrug
SPECIAL THANKS

Jerry Pagorek • Palmer House Hotel
Pastoral Artisan Cheese, Bread & Wine • Sam Pearson
Pepe Peña • Peppermill Resort Spa Casino - Reno
Lawrence Perea • Michael Perdue • Mark Peurye
Richard W. Pfeiffer • Jim Pickett • Philip Pitluck
Bryan Portman • Ken Price • Progressive Chiropractic
William Pry • Arturo Quitevis • Ravinia Festival
Scott Reichelsdorf • Chuck Renslow • Timothy Rey
Sheila Richards • Rick Aguilar Studios • José Rios
Mike Roche • José Rodriguez • Lourdes Rodriguez
Becky Rowan • Nimalpal Sachdev • David St. Martin
Victor A. Salvo • Norman L. Sandfield • Robert Scarano
Karen Sendziak • Gregg Shapiro • Sidetrack • Catherine Sikora
Scott Silverman • Miss Paula Sinclaire • Barbara Siska
The Rev. Stan Sloan • Kevin Smith • Max Smith
Mark Smithe • Bill Stadt • Kevin Stankewicz
Steamworks Chicago • Stonewall Investments
Rick Storer • Billy Suber • Paul Sullenger
supergurl images • Sweet Miss Givings
Target - Wilson Yard • Test Positive Aware Network
The Rev. Kevin Tindell • Richard Turner
ULTA Beauty Products • UPS Store (3712 N. Broadway)
Dick Uyvari • Virginia Wolff Inc. - Event Florist
Vera Washington • Angus Watson • Brenda Webb
DJ Sharon Webb • Jackie Weinberg • Wet International
Norbert White • Windy City Media Group
Windy City Queercast • Windy City Radio • Windy City Times
Clint Withers • Israel Wright • WTTW/WFMT • Bill Zerial
Yvonne Zipter • Zoom Vacations • Robert G. Zuley
SPECIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THIS EVENING WAS PROVIDED BY

agencyEA
Steve Alter
BBJ Linen
Aaron Bowen
David Boyer
Chicago Commission on Human Relations
Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus
Gary G. Chichester
Lori Cooper
Chuck Cox
Alexander deHilster
Mayor Rahm Emanuel
William W. Greaves, Ph.D.
Ethel Green
David Hackett
Hall’s Rental
Philip A. Hannema
Jason Hendrix
Chuck Hyde
J&L Catering
Owen Keehnem
William B. Kelley
Beth Kelly
David Munar
Dawn Clark Netsch
Nova Printing
Chairman and Commissioner Mona Noriega
Wendy Novak
Lawrence Perea
Philip Pitluck
William Pry
Scott Reichelsdorf
Sheila Richards
Sound Investment
Rick Aguilar Studios
Lourdes Rodriguez
Becky Rowan
David St. Martin
Norman L. Sandfield
Sidetrack
Barbara Siska
Kevin Smith
Paul Sullenger
Dick Uyvari
Virginia Wolff Inc. - Event Florist
Israel Wright
and the staff of the
Chicago History Museum
Friends of the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame is an Illinois not-for-profit corporation formed in late 2009 to raise funds for financially assisting the Hall of Fame in a time of diminished support by the City of Chicago. Pro bono assistance in creating the corporation was provided by the Chicago law firm of Jenner & Block.

After the new Friends corporation was formed, the Hall of Fame lost all of its remaining City of Chicago funding. This development makes the Friends’ existence even more critical to the Hall of Fame’s continuation as the only known municipally sponsored institution of its kind in the nation.

Friends of the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a qualified organization under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3). Contributions to it are tax-deductible to the fullest extent provided by law.

For additional information, please contact:

Friends of the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame
3712 North Broadway, Box 637
Chicago, Illinois 60613-4235
(773) 281-5095
CITY OF CHICAGO
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RELATIONS
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON LESBIAN, GAY,
BISEXUAL AND TRANSGENDER ISSUES

Members as of October 2011

Gaylon B. Alcaraz
Aaron G. Bowen
Robert Castillo
Gary G. Chichester
William B. Kelley
Elizabeth A. Kelly, Ph.D.  
Chairperson
Deborah L. Mell
Lawrence Perea
Lourdes Rodriguez
Catherine Sikora
Kevin Smith
The Rev. Kevin Tindell
Robert Zuley

William W. Greaves, Ph.D.
Director