City of Chicago
Commission on Human Relations

Richard M. Daley
Mayor

Clarence N. Wood
Chair/Commissioner

Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues

William W. Greaves
Director/Community Liaison

Laura A. Rissover
Chairperson
October 27, 2004

Greetings

As Governor of the State of Illinois, it is a pleasure to welcome everyone gathered for the 2004 Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame induction ceremony.

Today’s event affords an excellent opportunity to honor several outstanding Chicagoans for their terrific accomplishments. The gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities of Chicago have made wonderful contributions to the growth and well-being of this city and state, and they deserve our utmost respect and commendation for the great work they have done.

Congratulations to each individual and organization being inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame for 2004. I know that each inductee has worked hard for the success that you enjoy today and I applaud your constant diligence and dedication. The City of Chicago and the State of Illinois are proud of you. I join your family and friends in honoring each of you on this special occasion.

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

Sincerely,

Rod Blagojevich
Governor
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

RICHARD M. DALEY
MAYOR

October 27, 2004

GREETINGS

As Mayor and on behalf of the City of Chicago, it is my pleasure to extend warmest greetings to the inductees, sponsors, and supporters of the 2004 Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame. I am delighted to recognize the achievements of the 2004 inductees.

Chicago prides itself on the diversity of its population. In recognizing and appreciating our differences, we also find the bonds that unite us. Chicago’s lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) communities continue to make important contributions to our city, our nation and our world. Chicago’s rich mixture of individuals, organizations, and communities is a continuing source of our civic strength.

I commend the Hall of Fame for creating a forum to discuss human rights issues and appreciate its role promoting the contributions of our LGBT residents. I look forward to continued work with the LGBT communities to ensure that all Chicagoans are treated equally and with dignity.

Best wishes for an enjoyable and memorable event.

Sincerely,

Mayor

[Signature]
October 27, 2004

Dear Friends,

No other city in the country has an established, municipally sponsored Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame. On behalf of the City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations, I am honored that our Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues is in the forefront of recognizing the contributions that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) individuals and organizations have made to Chicago.

Our Council and the Hall of Fame belong to a larger family, the friends of human rights. The LGBT communities have a well-deserved and long-standing tradition of advocacy for fair treatment for all segments of our diverse city. We urge those communities to persevere in the fight against bias, discrimination, and prejudice.

The Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame is a crucial reminder to the City of Chicago that in honoring a specific community we are also singling out individuals and organizations that are committed to making Chicago everyone’s city and ultimately a “bias-free city.”

The 2004 inductees of the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame have my admiration and support. I congratulate them for their achievements, and I thank them for their dedication, personal sacrifice, and commitment to making Chicago a city that works for all of its residents.

Sincerely,

Clarence N. Wood
Chairman
CHICAGO GAY AND LESBIAN HALL OF FAME

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

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

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

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

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

The selection of inductees for the Hall of Fame is made by former recipients of the award based on nominations from the general public. Planning is under way for a permanent location for the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame display.
2004 PLANNING COMMITTEE
CHICAGO GAY AND LESBIAN HALL OF FAME

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Selection Subcommittee Co-Chairperson
2004 INDUCTEES
CHICAGO GAY AND LESBIAN HALL OF FAME

Roger Brown
Christopher Clason
Charles Clifton
Frank Galati
Ralph Paul Gernhardt
Suzanne Marie Kraus
Julio Rodriguez
Nan Schaffer, D.V.M.
Terri Worman
PFLAG/Chicago
*Friend of the Community*
Lincoln Park Lagooners
Mulryan and York, Attorneys at Law
Roger Brown achieved international recognition for innovations in American art. He developed a unique way of portraying and pointedly commenting on urban infrastructure, social issues, nature, history, and events both personal and societal.

Born in 1941 in Hamilton, Alabama, James Roger Brown came to Chicago in 1962 to study at the American Academy of Art and at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He finished a commercial design program at the Academy in 1964, then studied fine art for four years at the School, which granted him a bachelor’s degree in 1968 and a master’s in 1970. He then received a fellowship to travel through Europe and Egypt, where he began to collect objects and images that helped to make travel one of the recurring themes of his work.

Brown was a leader in the emerging movement known as Chicago Imagism, characterized not only by its artists’ own narrative, communicative originality but by the relations between their works and the objects that they collected and that surrounded them. Brown was also influenced by other ethnicities, self-taught artists, popular culture, politics, and religion. By 1972 Brown gained inclusion in Franz Schulze’s book on Chicago art since 1945, Fantastic Images. Brown’s relationship with architect George Veronda also began in 1972. Later, both architecture and landscape figured distinctively and prominently in Brown’s work, which traversed painting; printmaking; sculpture of found, painted, and assembled objects; stage sets; and mosaic murals (such as those over the entrance at 100 North LaSalle Street and at Howard Brown Health Center). For 27 years he was represented by Chicago’s Phyllis Kind Gallery, and his art has been exhibited nationally and abroad.

In 1979, Brown designed sets for a Chicago Opera Theater production of Mozart’s Così fan tutte. In that year he also began work on a residence and studio in New Buffalo, Michigan, which Veronda designed. Veronda died of lung cancer in 1984, but Brown continued to live in the Michigan residence while also maintaining his earlier home and studio in a Victorian storefront building at 1926 North Halsted Street. He eventually moved to La Conchita, California. Brown died in 1997 just short of his 56th birthday. He was buried in Opelika, Alabama, and a cenotaph for him is next to Veronda’s grave in Chicago’s Graceland Cemetery.

Before and after death, Brown gave the School of the Art Institute of Chicago his Michigan residence and studio, which serves as an artist’s retreat for faculty and staff; his collection of art, books, and archival materials, which inspired him and now is open to the public as a study collection in the Halsted Street building; and his California home and collection. He also gave the school many of his own paintings and prints in addition to the copyright on all his works.

Brown was both an amateur genealogist and a believer in leaving a legacy to future generations. Of his kaleidoscopic collection and its donation, Brown wrote: “I feel the things in the collection are of universal appeal to all artists and people with a sense of the spiritual & mystical nature that material things can evoke.” His visions as a Chicago artist have had worldwide appeal.
CHRISTOPHER CLASON
[posthumous]

For several years in the 1970s and 1980s, Chris Clason was a talented, entertaining figure as a singer-comic on local stages. He was also an Actors Equity member and worked onstage and backstage in community theater, children’s theater, and professional dinner theater as well as modeling. He had several other jobs in restaurants, catering, even the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

But Clason is best remembered as the chief founder of Test Positive Aware Network (TPAN), which in his nonbureaucratic, visionary, and proactive way he established in 1987 on the basis of responses to an ad he had placed in Gay Chicago Magazine. He then served as its first executive director for two years.

TPAN was the first support network organized to reach out to all people who have tested positive for HIV, providing a combination of information and moral support. After his TPAN tenure, Clason moved to Howard Brown Memorial Clinic (now Health Center), where he served as education manager for nine months.

Clason was also a three-year member of the WTTW community advisory board and a member of city and state AIDS advisory councils. He organized “The Word Is Thanks,” a fund-raiser in response to WTTW’s presentation of the historical documentary Word Is Out.

Born in 1953 in Detroit, Clason graduated from Kimball High School in Royal Oak, Michigan, and completed two years as a theater major at Eastern Michigan University before moving to Chicago in 1972. In March 1990, in declining health, he moved to his parents’ home in Oklahoma City. In Oklahoma, he sang in a gay chorus, took part in a bowling league, and helped plan the yearly gay and lesbian parade. He was also a speaker for the Regional AIDS Interfaith Network in Oklahoma City, where he died at age 38 in 1991 from complications of HIV infection.

Looking back in 1990 on his activist career during an interview with Bob Hultz, he characteristically spoke in favor of trying to maintain perspective as well as optimism: “I think our best focus for [TPAN] is to listen to the membership, to hear what people say. Look and see what draws people in, what satisfies them and provide that. . . . When everything about your life is attached to HIV and AIDS, it’s like wearing yellow sunglasses all the time. Your world starts to get colored. But there are other colors in the rainbow. . . .

“Death and dying issues are major issues; we have all had to deal with the death of more friends and acquaintances than any of our parents. My parents are in their late 70s but they have not been exposed to the kind of death that I’ve been exposed to. . . . It will not be the same for generations after us. . . . It will be better and it will be worse. Just try to maintain the flexibility to handle whatever is coming up. I think death and dying is an important issue, but I think health and living is a very important issue; both deserve equal focus, if not a little extra on health and living issues.”
Charles E. Clifton made significant contributions as a health advocate for nearly 15 years before his death at age 45 on August 15, 2004.

Since moving to Chicago in 1995, Clifton was involved in Test Positive Aware Network (TPAN), the Midwest’s oldest community-based HIV/AIDS treatment agency, where he was a program coordinator until 1997.

He was a member of the Men of Color HIV/AIDS Coalition and was its director in 1999 and 2000. In addition, he belonged to Chicago Black Lesbians and Gays, Brothers United in Support, the Chicago HIV Prevention Planning Group (where he co-chaired the needs assessment committee and served on the executive committee), and the AIDS Foundation of Chicago’s Service Providers Council and its executive and advocacy/public policy committees.

With the Chicago Department of Public Health’s Office of LGBT Health, Clifton served as a script consultant and agency partner on the Kevin’s Room project and provided ongoing counsel to the office about relevant, emerging health issues in Chicago.

In July 2003, Clifton was selected by Dr. David Ho to serve on the scientific program committee’s community liaison subcommittee for the 11th Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections. In addition, during his life he made important contributions to the National Minority AIDS Council, the National AIDS Treatment Action Forums, Positivewords.com, the AIDS Treatment Activists Coalition, the Black AIDS Institute, and the National Association of People With AIDS.

Clifton’s start in AIDS activism dates back to 1991, when he served as a health educator for a minority AIDS project in San Francisco and Oakland. In fact, it was in April 1986 that he first learned his own HIV status, before the death of his then-partner in October of that year as a result of AIDS complications.

In 2000, Clifton became the first African American editor of TPAN’s internationally distributed HIV/AIDS journals, Positively Aware and Positively Aware en Español. In 2002, he became the first person to serve simultaneously as executive director and editor at TPAN.

Clifton earned a bachelor’s degree in U.S. history from San Francisco State University in 1993 and master’s degrees from Dartmouth College in 1994 and the University of Chicago in 2002.

Clifton’s achievements in health and treatment education and HIV/AIDS awareness were unique and far-reaching, particularly among gay men of color. Until his death, he continued to work tirelessly on local and national levels as an AIDS advocate and to increase HIV knowledge and sensitivity in communities of color.
FRANK GALATI

As a professional actor, director, screenwriter, and playwright, Frank Galati has earned international praise for adapting and directing *The Grapes of Wrath*, which won him two Tony Awards in 1989. The play also won him an Outer Critics Circle Award and a Drama Desk Award. In 1997, he was nominated for a Tony Award for directing the musical *Ragtime*.

In 1989, he was nominated in the category of best-adapted screenplay for *The Accidental Tourist* by both the British Academy of Film and Television Arts and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He has also won nine Joseph Jefferson Awards for outstanding achievements in Chicago theater, as well as two directing awards from the Stage Directors and Choreographers Foundation, a League of Chicago Theatres Artistic Leadership Award, and an NAACP Theatre Award.

Born in Highland Park in 1943, Galati is now a professor of performance studies at Northwestern University, an ensemble member of the Steppenwolf Theatre Company (since 1985), and associate director of the Goodman Theatre (since 1986). He has directed 10 productions for Steppenwolf since joining its ensemble. His teaching and creative interests are in the area of presentational aesthetics, with special interests in modern literature. In 2001 he was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

One aspect of Galati’s achievements that particularly resonates with lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities is his exploration of the works of Gertrude Stein. His stagings and adaptations of her writing have led to a new view of the very beginnings of the modern gay community as we know it—Stein having been not only one of the first well-known openly lesbian women but also one of the first persons to use the word “gay” publicly as a synonym for “homosexual.”

Galati’s interest in Stein’s texts began in the 1970s when he put together an Evanston campus program for the Speech Communication Association to feature what the university’s department of performance studies is devoted to: the study of literature through performance. Since then he has returned to Stein’s work repeatedly and has staged other off-campus productions based on her texts. In 2003, to great acclaim, Galati staged the world premiere of *A Long Gay Book*, a chamber musical based on Stein’s writings. It was also adapted for the stage by Galati, with music by Tony Award winner Stephen Flaherty. Galati described the musical as “a play within a lecture” that Stein herself delivered in 1934 at age 60 at the University of Chicago. It gives audiences a glimpse of Stein’s life and that of American gay and lesbian expatriates in Paris, including Stein’s love for Alice B. Toklas.

Chicago is now an important center for LGBT scholarship, with highly respected researchers based at the University of Chicago, University of Illinois at Chicago, and Northwestern University. Galati’s pioneering and innovative work on Stein has played a role in this. But more than that, Galati’s work has elevated Chicago theater to new heights of excellence and renown.
RALPH PAUL GERNHARDT

Ralph Paul Gernhardt has fostered the development and cohesion of Chicago’s sexual-minority communities by helping to provide them for nearly three decades with the news and information vital to any community’s growth.

In 1975, building on his radio broadcasting background, Gernhardt launched a telephone information line that was updated daily. Then, in 1976, he took the next step and started publishing in print. This led to the birth of *Gay Chicago News*, the first weekly publication for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Chicagoans, for which Gernhardt hired Dan Di Leo, an experienced newspaperman, as writer and editor.

Six months later in 1977, Gernhardt and Di Leo (who died at age 51 in 1989) became business partners and co-publishers of *Gay Chicago Magazine*. It is still appearing weekly as Chicago’s longest-lived LGBT publication and itself entered the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame in 1989.

Gernhardt was born on Chicago’s North Side in 1934. After graduating from high school in Fox Lake, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force, serving as a special weapons technician and observer in post-war Korea. Finishing his four-year tour of duty in Wyoming, he returned to Chicago and completed training for a radio broadcasting career. His 17-year radio career included work in Michigan, Wyoming, Colorado, Louisiana, Texas, and Tennessee. In 1959 he married Marilyn Ridgedale, and the couple had two children, Craig and Christy. While working in Nashville, Tennessee, Gernhardt gained custody of the children and, in the early 1970s, moved back to Chicago to be near his family. Here, he taught radio broadcasting before starting his LGBT career.

During that career, besides publishing, Gernhardt became an organizer of the Gay Athletic Association, which preceded the current Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association. He and Di Leo also sponsored numerous bowling and softball teams. They were founding members of the Gay and Lesbian Press Association. Using *Gay Chicago* pages, they tirelessly promoted safer-sex practices, supported anonymous HIV testing programs, and distributed free condoms in addition to publishing a Safe Sex Calendar. With Robert Fagenholz and his son, Fred, of the recently closed Marigold Bowling Arcade, they formed “Strike Against AIDS,” a group that contributed tens of thousands of dollars to fight AIDS. Gernhardt’s support of AIDS work, athletics, and community events (such as an annual Gay Day at the Great America amusement park) continues today.

Gernhardt’s career has also included presenting the *Gay Chicago Magazine* Awards from 1977 to 1992, which honored outstanding achievements by community members in those years. He has aided fund-raising efforts for Center on Halsted activities and continues to be a productive, contributing Chicagoan.
SUZANNE MARIE KRAUS

Born in 1948, Suzanne Kraus had her initiation into activism after she came out in 1977 while in training as a group facilitator at Chicago’s Oasis Center for Human Potential. Upon finishing the training, she offered the first encounter groups ever presented there for “womyn-loving womyn.”

By its third cycle, the presentation was described as a lesbian group. As her politics grew, her workshop descriptions also became more pointed, until the Oasis board asked her to change the wording. She refused and moved on, but she had made a mark—as her optimism and cheerful demeanor always enable her to do.

During her first 10 years out, Kraus focused on the lesbian community—participating at women’s music events, camping, working at and raising funds for a women’s farm in Wisconsin, learning more about Goddess and Wicca traditions, celebrating the phases of the moon and women’s lives. She also became active with the Professional Women’s Network, a lesbian group that had separated from Gay Professionals and was led by the late Adrienne Smith, a noted psychologist who is also a Hall of Fame inductee.

In 1979 Kraus entered Mundelein College, where she quickly connected with lesbians and feminists on campus and found many ways to push boundaries even at that relatively liberal school. Later, while working in city government, Kraus took an interest in efforts to pass an ordinance on sexual-orientation nondiscrimination and tried to influence decisionmakers both on that issue and on South African divestment.

Kraus became a cancer survivor in 1986, which led to becoming a founder of the Lesbian Community Cancer Project and to becoming more involved in organized gay and lesbian activism, including congressional testimony on cancer at the time of the 1993 national gay and lesbian march on Washington. She was a Chicago promoter of the 1987 march, during which she met many gay men and started a transition toward more “co-ed” initiatives. She was then invited to join the IMPACT political action committee’s board, where she chaired the political committee and twice co-chaired (with Tom Tunney) its annual dinner. Later she took part in organizing L-GIG (Lesbians and Gays in Government) and in 1987 joined the National (now International) Network of Lesbian and Gay Officials, helping to host its 1993 annual conference in Chicago and co-chairing it for two years.

In 1989, Kraus was hired by the late Cook County State’s Attorney Cecil Partee and was instrumental in establishing the office’s first Advisory Council on Lesbian and Gay Rights and the Criminal Justice System and later an LGBT victim-and-witness assistance position. Her career has also included leadership in North Side neighborhood gay and lesbian organizations and, in recent years, working as a senior account manager and writer for Windy City Media Group.

To all of her work, she is known for bringing not only optimism but also inclusiveness and patience.
JULIO RODRIGUEZ

Julio Rodriguez has been active in Chicago’s lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities for 17 years and has been a tireless advocate for Latinos and Latinas among LGBT persons and for LGBT persons among Latinos and Latinas.

Rodriguez, who is of Puerto Rican descent, was born in Chicago and grew up in the Lakeview neighborhood. He has worked and volunteered with numerous local and national organizations, such as ALMA (Association of Latin Men for Action); Horizons Community Services; the Midwest Hispanic AIDS Coalition; the AIDS Foundation of Chicago; LLEGÓ, the National Latino/a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Organization; and Center on Halsted. As a resident of Washington, D.C., in the early 1990s, Rodriguez was active with ENLACE, a group for LGBT Latinos and Latinas, and served on its board.

Rodriguez has supported numerous other individuals and organizations with his time, resources, and commitment. Professionally, he works for the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and previously held a position with the Illinois Department of Human Services.

He was one of the first Latino members of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations’ Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian (now Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) Issues. In 1989, he cofounded ALMA, the city’s first organization for gay and bisexual Latinos, and he served as its president beginning in 1999. He participated in the first openly gay contingent of Latinos and Latinas to march in both the Puerto Rican Parade and the Mexican Independence Day Parade and has taken part in subsequent years. He served on the advisory board for the first Midwest Conference on Latinos and HIV/AIDS, organized in 1988 by the Midwest Hispanic AIDS Coalition. He served on the national board of LLEGÓ from 1990 to 1999, helping to represent Midwestern LGBT Latinos and Latinas. And he volunteered at Horizons Community Services from 1992 to 2000, where he became volunteer supervisor for group services and served on the group’s Community Leadership Council.

In 1996, Rodriguez was one of the planners of Chicago’s monthly En La Vida publication. He helped to bring LLEGÓ’s “El Sexto Encuentro” conference to Chicago in 1998, the first time an international Latino and Latina LGBT conference was held here. From 2001 to 2003, he chaired the AIDS Foundation of Chicago board’s grant-making committee. In 2000 he became a founding member of Center on Halsted’s outreach committee and now serves on the Center board and its nominating committee. Since 1997, he has belonged to the Illinois Association for Hispanic State Employees and has served on its conference planning committee.

Rodriguez has also received awards for his work on youth substance abuse and for his philanthropic work.
By her contributions of time and money to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities and by her contributions to science as a veterinarian and reproductive specialist, Nan Schaffer has distinguished herself.

Schaffer’s local LGBT philanthropy began when she moved to Chicago in 1981. In the years since, she has donated hundreds of thousands of dollars to causes, political candidates, and organizations such as IMPACT, Equality Illinois, Horizons Community Services, Center on Halsted, AIDS Foundation of Chicago, Open Hand Chicago, Lesbian Community Cancer Project, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, Howard Brown Health Center, About Face Theatre, Gerber/Hart Library, and Windy City Media Group.

Besides financial generosity, Schaffer has volunteered time and wisdom to countless individuals as well as to many of the organizations already mentioned. She was the first woman invited to join the IMPACT political action committee and was one of the founders of Outlines, which evolved into today’s Windy City Times. In 1995 she received Horizons Community Services’ Human First Award in recognition of her contributions.

As a veterinary doctor, Schaffer is internationally renowned as the foremost expert on rhinoceroses and reproduction. During more than two decades, she has published numerous articles in academic journals and has lectured around the world on dwindling rhinoceros and other mammalian populations and how to preserve them through reproductive management. To protect rhinoceroses and advance research on them, she has formed a nonprofit international foundation, SOS Rhino, headquartered in Chicago.

When asked during one interview, “Why are you so dedicated to your work for rhinos?” Schaffer answered: “One of the great tragedies of the 21st century will be humanity’s homogeneity. Everywhere, everything will be the same. That which we could not tame or imitate will be gone. No matter how hard we try, we cannot ‘build’ nature. We can build another bridge, paint another picture, but we cannot make another rhino. Look into a really wild animal’s eyes. When the wild things have gone, we will lose our place, our way; for whose eyes will we look into to find our humility, our humanity?”
TERRI WORMAN

Terri Worman has become a leader in the movement to make issues of aging that involve lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) persons more prominent in the agendas both of LGBT communities and of traditional aging services agencies.

Since her 1989 move to Chicago, where she is an openly lesbian community organizer for AARP, Worman has not been a stranger to innovating and organizing “first-ever” goals and events within the feminist and LGBT communities.

For three years, she organized a gay/lesbian film festival as part of the Silver Images Film Festival, working with LGBT organizations to give the public at large a firsthand look at positive images of LGBT aging. She presented an LGBT aging issues workshop in 2001 at the Governor’s Conference on Aging, and in 2003 she worked with Senior Action in a Gay Environment (SAGE) to bring a major LGBT workshop for the first time to AARP’s annual members event, held that year at McCormick Place.

Currently co-chairing the Chicago Task Force on LGBT Aging, Worman helps the task force create partnerships between traditional aging service agencies and LGBT Chicagoans. These have resulted in two citywide LGBT senior health and benefits fairs, which give senior citizens the chance to meet with agencies in a friendly, informational environment. The partnerships have also organized community roundtable discussions on issues identified in a task force survey, such as senior housing, which provide information for future program planning. The task force has also promoted sensitivity training for traditional aging service providers and has developed more visibility in LGBT community media for aging issues.

In 2004, Worman represented the task force and LGBT seniors by testifying at the Chicago Department on Aging’s public hearing regarding its five-year Area Plan on Aging, the first time that such testimony had been offered. Most recently, Worman has become part of the leadership team for a national GLBT employment resource project within AARP.

Worman received a bachelor’s degree in history and women’s studies from Indiana University. She has been a ranger at the Women’s Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls, New York, and a coordinator and trainer for the Illinois Pro-Choice Alliance’s Chicago escort program. She is also a classically trained violinist who has played for community theater and in backup for the Dolly Would cabaret show in Chicago.
In Chicago’s 1981 Pride Parade, the crowds cheered the first PFLAG banner, then standing for Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Every year since, the acclaim has been repeated. The national organization, which was formed in 1981 and grew from a New York group originally called Parents and Friends of Gays, has been known since 1993 as Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

The Chicago PFLAG chapter has its origins in a group formed by Guy Warner when he was looking for support for his mother after coming out to her. Under the auspices of Mattachine Midwest, Warner founded Chicago’s Parents of Gays in March 1977. Several years later, meeting at the Wellington Avenue United Church of Christ in the Lakeview neighborhood, the Chicago group became a PFLAG chapter and attracted parents from all over the city and suburbs.

The national PFLAG organization is a nonpartisan, grassroots organization dedicated to the well-being of all gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender (GLBT) persons. It is a nonprofit, tax-exempt, mostly volunteer organization unaffiliated with any ethnic, religious, economic, or political group. Today the national organization counts almost 500 chapter affiliates and has its headquarters in Washington, D.C.

A vital presence for more than 20 years, the Wellington Avenue PFLAG/Chicago lives on in its legacy: Thousands of families and individuals—gay and non-gay alike—have been supported at chapter meetings. New chapters formed over the years in Aurora and the Fox Valley, Elgin, Glenview, Hinsdale, the Loop, Oak Park, Palatine, the South Side, Streamwood, Wheaton, and Woodstock. The Northern Illinois PFLAG Council was created for advocacy and educational projects. Scholarships for GLBT youth have been awarded annually. Scores of politicians have been lobbied for GLBT civil rights. Schools and churches have been trained to become safe places for GLBT persons. PFLAG Live!—the first cable television chapter—was established to take PFLAG’s message into the media.

A strong and effective voice for GLBT persons and their families and friends, PFLAG continues its mission of support, education, and advocacy, standing as a bridge between the gay and non-gay worlds until fear and unawareness have been overcome. And this October, after a two-year hiatus, PFLAG/Chicago resumed its monthly meetings at Broadway United Methodist Church.

To the GLBT community, PFLAG offers a place where “you always have a home.”
LINCOLN PARK LAGOONERS

Lincoln Park Lagooners has been active for more than a quarter-century and has hosted many fund-raisers benefiting AIDS and other charitable organizations in the Chicago area.

The group is one of Chicago’s oldest, continually operating LGBT social organizations, counting a membership of nearly 300 today.

LPL was formed by a group of volleyball players who met regularly at Lincoln Park’s North Pond (“the lagoon”) and were committed to social interaction, organized activities, and charitable fund-raising.

It was incorporated in 1977 as a nonprofit social club, offering lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Chicagoans an alternative to commercial nightlife and an organization that promotes camaraderie and an opportunity to form lasting and meaningful relationships. For some, LPL became a surrogate family.

The group’s fund-raising record dates back to the 1970s with large social events at the Aragon Ballroom and the Broadway Armory. Thousands attended these events, which were the first of their kind locally and a precursor to large party benefits of today.

Over the years, LPL has contributed thousands of dollars to such organizations as Howard Brown Health Center; Test Positive Aware Network; Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Veterans of America; Stonewall Foundation; Open Hand Chicago; Lesbian Community Cancer Project; AIDS Living Remembrance Project; NAMES Project; Gerber/Hart Library; and Bonaventure House.

LPL continues to offer Chicagoans a variety of social activities, including several camping trips and a whitewater rafting trip each year, sponsorship of a softball team, its own bowling league, a winter ski trip, card and game nights, picnics, annual membership and holiday parties, and several others throughout the year. Charitable fund-raising is included in the social events, and the group welcomes “anyone with a positive attitude who enjoys a good time.”
In 1989, Mary M. York and Rosemary Mulryan formed one of the first lesbian-owned law firms in Chicago. Since then, it has become highly visible while the firm has continuously dedicated time, energy, and resources to serving the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) communities.

Chicagoans have benefited from having such an openly lesbian and expert resource available to handle the range of legal issues that sometimes confront them, especially those that may be specific to their sexual-minority identities.

The common thread in Mulryan and York’s history of service has been to protect the integrity of LGBT families, relationships, and institutions. In a seamless progression from professional to personal service, the two partners have donated time and expertise, speaking on topics ranging from estate planning to adoption before numerous community organizations, such as Affinity Community Services, Amigas Latinas, Dignity/Chicago, Kinheart Women’s Center, Howard Brown Health Center, and Rainbow Families of Illinois. Besides advocacy, the partners have served as role models for aspiring lawyers, speaking often to law students and recent graduates to help them in shaping their careers.

York serves on boards of the Heartland Alliance for Human Rights and Needs and the Lesbian Community Cancer Project. In September 2004, she was to become president of the LCCP board. For 15 years, she has provided legal services without charge to such organizations as Gerber/Hart Library, Horizons Community Services, Mountain Moving Coffeehouse, and LCCP.

Mulryan has focused much of her practice on developing legal protections for LGBT families. She was co-counsel with Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund in the precedent-setting case *In re K.M.*, 653 N.E.2d 888 (Ill. App. Ct. 1995), in which the court held that the state Adoption Act does not exclude unmarried individuals from adopting children together, thereby allowing same-sex couples to adopt.

Mulryan is a past board member and board president of Gerber/Hart Library. She is a past board member of Sarah’s Circle, a drop-in shelter for homeless women in Uptown. She has also co-chaired numerous benefits for community organizations such as Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and Equality Illinois.
PREVIOUS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

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

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

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

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


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

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

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

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

JACQUELINE ANDERSON (1996): As educator and writer, she has contributed to academic discussion about lesbianism and feminism. She helped to establish a Lesbian Community Cancer Project clinic on Chicago’s South Side; led Yahimba, which held citywide conferences on African American lesbians’ needs; and has supported the Institute of Lesbian Studies, the Mountain Moving Coffeehouse, and Gerber/Hart Library.
TONI ARMSTRONG JR (1997): A leader since the 1970s in documenting, producing, and performing lesbian and feminist music, she is also an openly lesbian high school teacher who has been in the forefront of efforts to promote the welfare of lesbian and gay students and teachers.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

DAVID BRIAN BELL (posthumous 1999): After being diagnosed with AIDS, he became a visible public advocate for persons with HIV/AIDS and helped to build support, information, and protest networks for use in their struggle.
CARYN BERNAN (1995): A psychotherapist and social worker, for some 20 years she has worked professionally and as a volunteer and political activist to improve Chicagoans’ lives. She has focused on the health and civil rights of lesbians and gay men but has skillfully built coalitions and has been an influential HIV/AIDS educator and policymaker.

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

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

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

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

CHEF TANIA CALLAWAY (posthumous 2003): As an out lesbian and a longtime promoter and caterer for community events, she hosted house parties that became legend in Chicago’s African American lesbian community and beyond. She often donated services and was chef at the Heartland Cafe for some 10 years.

LORI CANNON (1994): She was named a “Friend of the Community” for her work with Chicago House and the NAMES Project and for later cofounding ACT UP/Chicago and Open Hand Chicago. For Open Hand, she drew on her early organizing skills as a show-business bus driver and 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 several community groups, including 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 been especially helpful in funding organizations serving historically underrepresented community sectors.

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

ROBERT CASTILLO (2001): An almost indefatigable organizer, when inducted into the Hall of Fame at age 33 he already had a decade’s history of committed work in launching or supporting grassroots sexual-minority campaigns involving Latinas and Latinos, gender-identity bias, homophobic violence, neighborhood activism, history, human rights laws, and HIV/AIDS.
ARMAND R. CERBONE, Ph.D. (2003): He has applied psychological research to LGBT concerns and has worked to guide psychology toward an enlightened understanding of the lives of sexual minorities. He cowrote official guidelines on psychotherapy with lesbian, gay, and bisexual clients and has held leadership posts in state and national professional groups.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

E. KITCH CHILDS, Ph.D. (posthumous 1993): She was a prominent clinical psychologist and advocate of gay and lesbian human rights legislation since 1973 as a feminist, lesbian activist, and founding member of the Association for Women in Psychology. She worked to revise the American Psychological Association’s attitudes toward homosexuality.
THOMAS R. CHIOLA (1998): He is the first openly gay candidate to have been elected to public office in Illinois, winning a Cook County Circuit Court judgeship in 1994. While serving on IMPACT’s board and as a state agency’s general counsel, he lobbied to pass state and county sexual-orientation nondiscrimination laws. He was also an early leader in the gay sports movement and is a longtime AIDS volunteer.

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

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

T. CHRIS COTHran (1995, now deceased): He was a veteran member of PrideChicago, which plans the annual pride parade. He helped to lead local and national gay and lesbian business organizations; the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays; Kupona Network; and the Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues and its precursor committee. He died in 1996.

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.

SARAH CRAIG (posthumous 1995): She joined GayLife’s staff in the late 1970s and rose to become coeditor. Then she started a typesetting business that helped many gay and lesbian groups. She became heavily involved in gay and lesbian political efforts and, as journalist and dramatic 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.


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

SAMUEL F. DAVIS, JR. (posthumous 1994): From 1987, as entrepreneur and attorney, he developed a nurturing environment particularly for Chicago’s gay and lesbian African Americans. Bars he cofounded were Dëeks, Pangea, and the Clubhouse. He also aided the Kupona Network, the Minority Outreach Intervention Project, and the Reimer Foundation.
JACK DELANEY (1996): A supporter of many community groups, he joined Dignity/Chicago in 1977 and later served as its president and a member of Dignity/USA’s board. He has chaired Chicago House’s board, served as Windy City Athletic Association commissioner, cochaired the 48th Ward Gay and Lesbian Coalition, and served on the boards of the Frank M. Rodde III Memorial Building Fund, the Illinois Federation for Human Rights Political Action Committee, and the Edgewater Community Council.

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

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

THOM DOMBKOWSKI (1992): He was a leader in the development and formation of Chicago House and Social Service Agency, where he also served as principal fund-raiser and eventually as executive director. He also proposed establishment of the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame and brought this idea to fruition during his tenure on the Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues.

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

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

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

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

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

JEANNETTE HOWARD FOSTER, Ph.D. (posthumous 1998): Born in 1895, she was an educator, librarian, translator, poet, scholar, and author of the first critical study of lesbian literature, Sex Variant Women in Literature (1956). She was also the first librarian of Dr. Alfred Kinsey’s Institute for Sex Research, and she influenced generations of librarians and gay and lesbian literary figures. She died in 1981.
ROBERT BONVOULOIR FOSTER (posthumous 2003): As an openly gay, high-achieving student and lawyer, he was the chief founder of the Lesbian and Gay Bar Association of Chicago. He also volunteered as an attorney at Howard Brown Memorial Clinic. He died of AIDS complications in 1991. His bequest helped to open Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund’s Chicago office.

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

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

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 transgendered adherents.

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

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

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

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

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

GERBER/HART LIBRARY (1996): Founded in 1981, Gerber/Hart Library is the Midwest’s largest and most distinguished LGBT archives, library and cultural center.
FRANK GOLEY (posthumous) and ROBERT MADDOX (2001): They helped to pioneer openly gay businesses in Chicago beginning in 1972 with their Male Hide Leathers store. There, Goley created many designs that found favor with leather and motorcycle enthusiasts worldwide, gay and nongay, for their originality and craftsmanship.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

JOHN R. HAMMELL (posthumous 1997): As an American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois lawyer, he fought for gay and lesbian rights and for the rights of persons living with HIV and AIDS. He also helped to lead in other groups, including Howard Brown Health Center and the AIDS Foundation of Chicago. Born in 1957, he died of AIDS complications in 1995.
PHILIP A. HANNEMA (2000): For many years, he has provided ongoing and reliable volunteer support to a variety of Chicago gay and lesbian community organizations as staff member and officer, treasurer and photographer, cheerleader and fund-raiser, and constant donor.

RENEE C. HANOVER (1991): A well-known attorney who often provided her services pro bono, she has long been a high-visibility advocate for lesbian and gay rights. She has worked for civil rights legislation of all kinds and has vigorously opposed all forms of discrimination in the law and in the community. In 2000, she moved to Los Angeles, where she now lives at age 78.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SARAH LUCIA HOAGLAND (2000): She has been an influential exponent of lesbian feminist values during some 20 years on the faculty of Northeastern Illinois University, where she is a professor of philosophy. Her work includes a 1988 book, Lesbian Ethics: Toward New Value.
HORIZONS COMMUNITY SERVICES (1992): Established in 1973 as Gay Horizons, the organization continues to serve as the Midwest’s largest and most comprehensive social service agency meeting the needs of Chicago’s diverse gay and lesbian community.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RICK KARLIN (1997): For more than 20 years, he has been a visible public figure in print and onstage. He has lent his talents to countless charitable events, cofounded the city’s first gay parents group, volunteered extensively for Horizons Community Services, been a leading advocate for gay and lesbian teachers, and contributed his writings to all the local gay and lesbian media.
NANCY J. KATZ (2000): She became the first self-identified lesbian judge in Illinois when she was appointed in 1999 as an associate judge of the Cook County Circuit Court. Her community and professional work dates to the 1970s in lesbian feminist, domestic violence, political, legal assistance, and family welfare settings.

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

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


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

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

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

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

BRUCE KOFF (1994): He has significantly aided Chicago’s and the nation’s gay and lesbian community in social services and mental health, especially from 1984 to 1990 as executive director of Horizons Community Services after being on its staff since 1976. He now has a clinical and teaching practice in psychotherapy.
DANNY KOPELSON (2000): Since 1981, he has been an indefatigable arts and AIDS fund-raiser and a mainstay of the Chicago Gay Men’s Chorus, in which he is a founding member. He has produced special events, including “Dance for Life,” that have raised millions of dollars to fight AIDS.

MARIE J. KUDA (1991): For more than 30 years, she has worked as historian, archivist, writer, lecturer, and publisher to promote and preserve positive images of lesbians and gay men. She organized five national lesbian writers conferences, published the first annotated lesbian bibliography, *Women Loving Women*, and is still contributing to literary reference materials and writing columns.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

PATRICIA M. LOGUE (2003): In the 10 years since opening Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund’s Chicago office, she has worked tirelessly to achieve full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay males, bisexuals, transgender persons, and persons living with HIV disease, both here and nationally. Cases in which she has led, including *Lawrence v. Texas*, have established important national precedents.
PATRICIA S. McCOMBS (2000): She is a veteran organizer and social service volunteer. Besides cofounding Executive Sweet, a “traveling club” for women of color, she has assisted the Michigan Womyn’s Music Festival for decades and has helped to lead several lesbian and African American organizations.

LARRY McKEON (1997): He made a historic, indelible mark on Chicago politics in 1996 by winning an Illinois House of Representatives seat as the state’s first openly gay or lesbian state legislator. Before that, he served effectively as director of the city’s Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues, held leading positions in social service administration, and was a police officer.

HARLEY McMILLEN (1992): He played an important role in the 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.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

MOUNTAIN MOVING COFFEEHOUSE FOR WOMYN AND CHILDREN (1993): It is the oldest continuously-running, women-only space in the nation. For more than 25 years, it has presented lesbian-feminist-oriented culture and music. The collective is operated totally by volunteers and is open to any woman who wishes to participate.

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 for Womyn and Children, in developing lesbian musicians and other artists, and in fostering lesbian culture.

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

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

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

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

CHARLOTTE NEWFELD (1996): A civic activist and tenacious advocate for gay and lesbian Chicagoans since the early 1970s, this “Friend of the Community” lobbied for human rights ordinances, for a mayoral liaison and committee on gay and lesbian issues, and for an increased city AIDS budget. She led the Lake View Citizens’ Council’s board in support of a domestic partnership ordinance in 1996. For more than 20 years she has urged and actively backed gay and lesbian political participation.

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

RENAE OGLETREE (1998): She has engaged in wide-ranging volunteer and professional activities that have brought people together around issues of diversity, development, and health care within Chicago’s gay and lesbian communities. She is a health care activist, a professional youth services executive, and cofounded and has cochaired Chicago Black Lesbians and Gays.
DEAN ROBERT OGREN (1998): He is an exemplar volunteer who has tirelessly shared his talents with many organizations, including the NAMES Project, Open Hand Chicago, AIDS Walk Chicago, Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, United Way, International Mr. Leather, and state Rep. Larry McKeon’s historic 1996 electoral campaign. He puts in more volunteer hours in a year than many do in a lifetime.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RICHARD W. PFEIFFER (1993): For more than 30 years he has been an activist and organizational volunteer. He headed the Chicago Gay Alliance (which ran the city’s first community center) and founded the Gay Activists Coalition (the first gay and lesbian organization at a City Colleges of Chicago campus). He is best known for leading PrideChicago, which facilitates the annual gay and lesbian pride parade.
MARY D. POWERS (1992): She was recognized as a “Friend of the Community” for her 30 years of commitment in addressing abusive police behavior and being a consistent advocate for gay and lesbian rights both in civil society and in her church as a Roman Catholic.

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

CHARLES “CHUCK” RENSLOW (1991): In the early 1960s he opened the Gold Coast, one of the first openly gay businesses in Chicago and one of the first leather bars in the world. He also published GayLife, financially aided many gay rights efforts of the 1960s, 1970s, and 1980s, and has been active in city, state, and national Democratic Party politics. He cofounded the International Mr. Leather contest and set up the Leather Museum and Archives.

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

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

TIFFANI ST. CLOUD (1996): By age 18 in 1996, she had become a chief motivating force behind formation of the Pride group at Chicago’s Whitney Young High School. It quickly became the school’s second-largest organization, despite some initial student-body resistance. It was formed to bolster the self-esteem of students, including those who are gay, lesbian, or bisexual, and to advocate for their rights.


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

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 an early officer of Mattachine Midwest. Born in 1912, he died in 2001.
GREGG SHAPIRO (1999): He is both a literary figure and a music and literary critic. Besides writing his own poetry and fiction, he has fostered awareness of Chicago’s gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender literary excellence. His expertise in popular music is widely recognized.

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

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

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

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

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

CHRISTINA SMITH (2002): Since at least 1994, when she joined in efforts to set up a South Side community center for African American lesbian and bisexual women, she has pursued a vision of helping women of color. Her efforts led to creation of Affinity Community Services, which she has served as board president.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THOMAS M. TUNNEY (1995): In his early 20s he bought Lake View’s venerable Ann Sather Restaurant in 1981 and built it into a virtual community center for lesbian and gay Chicagoans and for older adults. He has been active in neighborhood business groups, IMPACT, Human Rights Campaign, and the Democratic Party. He backed Open Hand Chicago’s home-meals program, hosted countless gay and lesbian efforts and the White Crane Wellness Center, and in 2003 was elected Chicago’s first openly gay alderman.
RICHARD B. TURNER (1991): He was cofounder and national president of Funders Concerned About AIDS and later became director and senior program officer of the Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust. Previously he was director of development and communications for the Chicago Community Trust. He has led in numerous civic, cultural, and charitable groups and is on Hubbard Street Dance Chicago’s advisory board.

MODESTO “TICO” VALLE (1998): He founded the Chicago NAMES Project in 1989. While on the NAMES national board, he helped to take the 1996 display of the entire AIDS Memorial Quilt to Washington, D.C., and to create a national high school Quilt curriculum. He has led in other AIDS groups, was Open Hand Chicago’s first Volunteer Services Director, and served on the Horizons Community Services board.

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

LUULE VESS (1998): By founding Project VIDA in 1992, she took the battle against HIV and AIDS far from the lakefront to the streets of Chicago’s low-income South Lawndale neighborhood. Project VIDA has won awards and has quickly grown into a major 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 directs community education for an HIV vaccine trial program.


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

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

ALBERT N. WILLIAMS (2003): Since 1970, as journalist, theater artist, teacher, and activist, he has made important contributions to Chicago cultural life. His Chicago Reader theater reviews won a George Jean Nathan Award, and in the 1980s he was an award-winning editor of GayLife and Windy City Times newspapers. He has performed and written for musical theater and participated in activist groups. He also teaches at Columbia College.
PHILL WILSON (1999): A Chicago native, he has achieved national prominence as an advocate for persons with AIDS, particularly those of color. He has served as an innovative executive in Los Angeles AIDS agencies and has made many national media appearances. He also helped to found and cochaired the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum. He is now executive director of the Black AIDS Institute.

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

YVONNE ZIPTER (1995): A syndicated columnist, she has often documented the lives of Chicago lesbians and gay men. An award-winning poet, humorist, and essayist, she wrote a book on lesbian softball, *Diamonds Are a Dyke’s Best Friend*, as well as *The Patience of Metal* and *Ransacking the Closet*. 
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Paul Sullenger · supergurl images · Swissôtel Chicago
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Tatu Tattoo Inc. · Steve Tauschman · Tony n’ Tina’s Wedding
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University of Illinois at Chicago, Office of LGBT Concerns
UPS Store (3712 N. Broadway) · Modesto Valle
Rene Van Hulle, Jr. · Virginia Wolff, Inc.
Jackie Weinberg · Honey West · Wet International
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