The Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame

2026

INDUCTION CEREMONY

Friends of the
Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame

Kathern Caldwell
Co-Chair

In Partnership with the City of Chicago
Commission of Human Relations

Brandon Johnson
Mayor

Kenneth Gunn
Chairman and Commissioner

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IN MEMORIAM

LORRAINNE SADE BASKERVILLE

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NAN SCHAEFFER

ChicagoLGBTHallofFame.org

2026 INDUCTEES
CHICAGO LGBT HALL OF FAME

INDIVIDUALS

BRADLEY BALOF

PAT CUMMINGS

DAVID DODD

MAYA DOUGLAS

COQUIE HUGHES

SAUNDRA DEANNE JOHNSON
(inducted posthumously)

SIMONE KOEHLINGER

RAY KOENIG III

MIMI MARKS

ANGELIQUE MUNRO

LAMONT J. ROBINSON

MARSHALL TITUS

MICHELLE WETZEL

ORGANIZATIONS

ADODI CHICAGO

HELL IN A HANDBAG PRODUCTIONS

FRIENDS OF THE COMMUNITY

BRAD CUMMINGS
(inducted posthumously)

SHARYL HOLTZMAN

REV. DR. L. BERNARD JAKES

ChicagoLGBTHallofFame.org

THE CHICAGO LGBT HALL OF FAME

The Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame is both a historic event and an exhibit. Through the Hall of Fame, residents of Chicago and the world are made aware of the contributions of Chicago's LGBT community and the community's efforts to eradicate bias and discrimination.

With the support of the City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations, its Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues (later the Advisory Council on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues) established the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame (changed to the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame in 2015) in June 1991. The inaugural induction ceremony took place during Pride Week at City Hall, hosted by then-Mayor Richard M. Daley. This was the first event of its kind in the country.

Today, after the advisory council's abolition and in partnership with the city, the Hall of Fame is overseen by Friends of the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame, an Illinois not-for-profit corporation with a recognized charitable tax-deductible status under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3).

The Hall of Fame honors the volunteer and professional achievements of LGBT individuals, their organizations, and their allies, as well as their contributions to the LGBT community and the city of Chicago. This is a unique tribute to dedicated people and organizations whose services have improved the quality of life for all of Chicago's citizens.

A nominee must have made either a single, far-reaching contribution or significant, long-term contributions to the quality of life of Chicago's LGBT community and/or the city of Chicago.

The Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame is privately funded through generous donations from individuals, businesses, and organizations. Staff support is provided by volunteers associated with Friends of the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame.

The selection of inductees for the Hall of Fame is made by former recipients of the award in the individual category based on nominations from the general public.

CEREMONY PRESENTERS

Gary Chichester (Board Member, 1992 Individual Inductee)

Kathern Caldwell (Board Co-Chair, 2017 Individual Inductee)

David Cerda (2016 Individual Inductee)

Antonio King (2024 Individual Inductee)

Milon V. Parker (2025 Individual Inductee)

Keith C. Butler (2017 Individual Inductee)

SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETATION

Jose Rios (2010 Individual Inductee)

Elizabeth Luscczyk

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ChicagoLGBTHallofFame.org

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

October 26, 2026

Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame
2318 W Melrose St
Chicago, IL 60618

Greetings!

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to welcome everyone gathered for the induction of the 35th Class of Inductees into the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame. This occasion offers an exciting opportunity for everyone in attendance to strengthen connections and collaboration amongst those who have made significant contributions to the LGBT community and the City of Chicago. I commend the work you all have done to help make Illinois a stronger and more enjoyable state.

With this year's class having 13 individuals, two organizations, and three LGBT allies as inductees, it further adds to the venerable list of people and entities to hold such an honor. Illinois is proud to have enjoyed your service to our state, and as you reflect on your accomplishments, I urge you to make plans that will continue to build on your past successes. I am grateful for all the ways you have supported a strong, and diverse, future for Illinois.

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

Sincerely,

Governor JB Pritzker

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

BRANDON JOHNSON
MAYOR

November 5, 2026

Dear Friends:

As Mayor, and on behalf of the City of Chicago, I am honored to welcome all those gathered for the 2026 Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony.

For more than three decades, the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame has served as an important institution in recognizing and safeguarding the history, achievements, and contributions of LGBTQ+ activists, leaders, and allies. Through its continued work, the Hall of Fame honors those whose leadership, advocacy, and dedication have helped advance equality, challenge discrimination, and strengthen the visibility and acceptance of LGBTQ+ communities across Chicago.

This year's ceremony celebrates the extraordinary individuals, businesses, and organizations whose commitment to advocacy, service, and social progress has helped shape a more equitable and inclusive city. Their accomplishments remind us that meaningful change is achieved through courage, collaboration, and the determination of those willing to stand up for the rights and dignity of others.

As we recognize this year's honorees, we also acknowledge the responsibility to preserve their stories, build upon their achievements, and inspire future generations to continue the work toward equality and inclusion. May their contributions serve as a lasting reminder of how far we have come and the continued importance of ensuring that every person is respected, valued, and afforded the opportunity to thrive.

I hope you have an enjoyable event and best wishes for continued success!

Sincerely,

Mayor



November 5, 2026

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, we proudly extend our heartfelt congratulations to the 2026 Inductees to the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame. With this honor, they join an esteemed group of past honorees, whose legacy will continue to inspire future generations to strive for inclusion and equality. We honor them for their outstanding contributions to Chicago's vibrant LGBTQIA+ community and commitment to creating a more equitable and inclusive city for all. Because of their dedication and leadership, countless individuals are inspired and the spirit of unity across Chicago thrives.

By demonstrating exemplary leadership, advocacy, and dedication, this year's inductees have not only enriched our city's cultural fabric but have also advanced the causes of equality and justice. The actions and contributions of these inductees have made an impact and will influence generations to come. Our city is better because of them, and we thank them. Their achievements embody the values of diversity, equity, and respect that define Chicago's ongoing pursuit of justice for all its residents.

The Commission on Human Relations stands with you and pledges to continue to fight discrimination, hate, and inequity in our city. We commend tonight's inductees for their achievements and the lasting impact they have made and are proud to stand alongside you in the ongoing fight for civil rights and social justice.

We are deeply grateful to our friends of the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame for their unwavering commitment to sustaining the significance of this cherished event and institution. The history of the LGBTQIA+ community is a vital part of Chicago's story and must continue to radiate strength and unity. We once again congratulate all the newest members of the LGBT Hall of Fame. May their legacy of leadership provide hope and inspiration for generations to come.

Very truly yours,

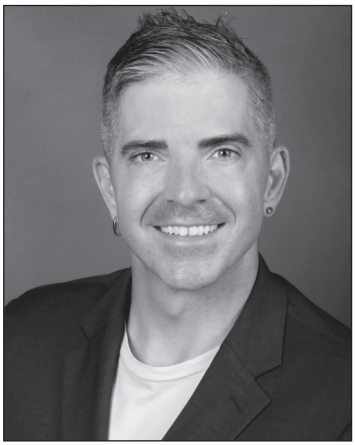
Kenneth Gunn

Kenneth Gunn

Chairman and Commissioner

740 N. Sedgwick Street, Suite 400, Chicago, Illinois 60654
Chicago.gov/cchr

BRADLEY BALOF



Since moving to Chicago in 2001, Bradley Balof has built a career and record of volunteer service focused on strengthening the city's LGBTQ+ community. He began working at Sidetrack more than 24 years ago and has served in a range of roles, including mistress of ceremonies for *Night of 100 Drag Queens*, an annual fundraiser for Equality Illinois, and master of ceremonies for the *International Mr. Leather Contest*. He is now Sidetrack's general manager and a member of its ownership group.

Balof has helped sustain Sidetrack as a place where LGBTQ+ people celebrate milestones, find community, organize for change, and experience a sense of belonging. He has helped produce hundreds of events focused on LGBTQ+ history and culture, charitable causes, and community organizations. For Balof, entertainment also provides an opportunity to educate, commemorate, and unite. His work to establish, cultivate, and stage-manage Sidetrack's Monthly Storytelling event reflects an ongoing effort to celebrate and support identities across the LGBTQ+ spectrum.

As General Manager, Balof has helped to strengthen their Community Partnerships, including keystone organizations like Center on Halsted. Through Balof's leadership, Sidetrack has aided Center on Halsted to raise more than $1 million for programs and services benefiting LGBTQ+ individuals and families throughout the Chicago area.

Balof has also served for more than 10 years on the Board of Directors of the Northalsted Business Alliance. As treasurer, he provides financial stewardship for the organization responsible for promoting and strengthening Chicago's historic LGBTQ+ neighborhood. He has chaired the Haunted Halsted Halloween Committee, overseeing one of the nation's largest LGBTQ+ Halloween celebrations. During his tenure, the event has continued to grow, drawing tens of thousands of attendees, generating economic activity, and reinforcing Northalsted's role as an LGBTQ+ destination.

Through his work at Sidetrack, Northalsted organizations and community partners, Balof has combined event production, fundraising, financial stewardship, and civic engagement to support Chicago's LGBTQ+ institutions and public life.

PAT CUMMINGS



In the late 1970's, while living in Alabama and attending the University of South Alabama in Mobile, Pat Cummings developed her passion for LGBTQ activism when she helped co-found Gulf Alliance for Equality, participated in the Mobile Area Student Society (MASS), and debated antigay activist Phyllis Schlafly, founder of Eagle Forum. She moved to Chicago in 1982 at the insistence of her gay brother, who regularly sent her copies of Chicago's *"GAYLife"*.

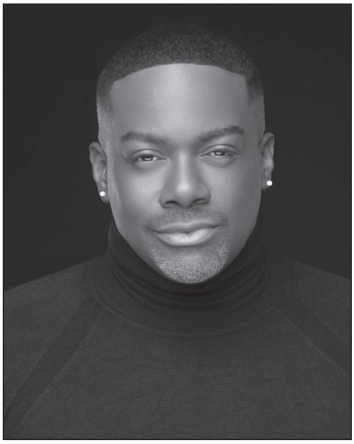
In Chicago, Cummings continued that passion through volunteer service and photography. From 1984 to 1987, she served as a youth group counselor with Horizons Community Services. She performed intake at Howard Brown Health Center when its clinic was located on George Street and volunteered with Open Hand, Vital Bridges, and Groceryland. Cummings was the first walk winner of Proud to Run/Walk.

Her volunteer work has also included service for Representative Larry McKeon, Ron Sable's campaign for the 44th Ward, State Senator Sara Feigenholtz, Alder Helen Shiller, and J.B. Pritzker when he was a candidate for state representative in the 1990s. She helped connect the Frank M. Rodde Center with Toys for Tots.

An accomplished photographer, Cummings photographed for Team Chicago at the Gay Games in Amsterdam. She has donated photography to the Names Project and to the first three AIDS Walk Chicago events, for which she additionally performed office and press work. She has attended protests, rallies, and demonstrations with ACT UP Chicago and photographed the Radical Faeries. She has contributed photographs to the documentary *"Art & Pep"*, appeared on the cover of and in Owen Keehnen's book *"We're Here; We're Queer"*, and her photographs were used in the documentary *"Getting to Zero."*

Cummings is currently a member of AVER Chicago and operates a dog-walking business. She lives at the Town Hall Apartments in Lakeview, which provides housing for LGBTQ+ seniors. Through sustained volunteer work and photography, she contributed to organizations, events, publications, and films documenting Chicago's LGBTQ+ communities.

DAVID DODD



For more than two decades, David Dodd has contributed to Chicago's LGBTQ+ community through advocacy, cultural programming, professional communications, and mentorship, with particular attention to Black LGBTQ+ life. An award-winning marketing and communications executive, community advocate, and event producer, Dodd has used his professional expertise and public platform to increase visibility, create opportunities, and build community.

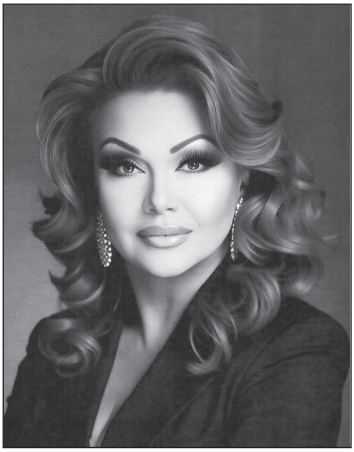
Dodd has helped produce events associated with Chicago Black Pride for more than 20 years. In 2010, he co-founded K Dock Media and later established David Dodd Events. Through these ventures, he has produced more than 500 events intended to provide affirming spaces where LGBTQ+ people can connect, celebrate, and experience community. His contributions to Black LGBTQ+ cultural life were recognized through his induction into the Chicago Black Gay Hall of Fame.

His service also includes more than two decades of involvement in HIV/AIDS education, awareness, and advocacy through organizations including National Youth Pride Services and the AIDS Foundation of Chicago. He has served on the boards of Windy City Black Pride and the Black Alphabet Film Festival. Dodd also dedicated more than 12 years to the Chicago Black Gay Men's Caucus, including four years as board chair. Through these roles, he supported organizations addressing health disparities, representation, advocacy, and the needs of Black gay men.

Dodd has more than 20 years of experience in marketing and communications. He currently serves as Director of Marketing and Communications at The Night Ministry and has developed communications strategies for Howard Brown Health and the University of Chicago Medicine. His professional work has also included leading agencies, Fortune 500 companies, and nationally recognized brands.

For four years, Dodd was executive producer and host of the award-winning podcast *"The Sip"*, which highlighted perspectives from African American and LGBTQ+ communities. His story was included in Dan Savage's "*New York Times*" bestseller *"It Gets Better"*, which addressed LGBTQ+ youth facing bullying. A graduate of Chicago State University, Dodd's work encompasses mentoring youth, event production, communications, health advocacy, organizational service, and the creation of spaces for Black LGBTQ+ communities to gather and be represented.

MAYA DOUGLAS



Maya Douglas began her career in the pageant and performance world through the *Miss Continental Pageant*, to which she traveled from Rochester, New York, in 1984. On her second attempt, she won the *Miss Continental* title in 1985 at age 23. Encouraged by "Shante", also known as actress Alexandra Billings, Douglas moved to Chicago in 1987 and began performing at the Baton Show Lounge.

At the Baton, Douglas quickly became an audience favorite, appearing in three shows a night, five nights a week. She also created outfits and costumes for cast production numbers, work that enabled her to travel and perform nationally. Over the following decade, she contributed her time and skills to the Baton's fundraisers and benefits, assisting with makeup, hair, and costuming. She formed close friendships with Ginger Grant and Chilli Pepper and credits performers Leslie Rejeanne, Dina Jacobs with her own formative guidance. Douglas later spoke at both Ginger Grant and Chilli Pepper's funerals.

Douglas began her transition in 1987. During her career, she won *Miss Gay USofA* in 1995, *National Entertainer of the Year* in 1997, *Universal Show Queen* in 1999, and *Miss Continental Elite* in 2006, completing a return to the pageant system where her career had begun. She judged *Miss Gay USofA* for nine years beginning in 1997 and has more recently served as a regular judge for the Continental system for seven years. Beyond her live performances, Douglas has appeared on the television programs *"Jerry Springer"*, *"Sally Jessy Raphael"*, and "*Maury Povich"*, bringing drag and trans performance to national audiences. Her work is included in the picture books *"D.R.A.G."* and *"Legends of Drag"*.

As an established performer, Douglas became a mentor to many emerging entertainers, offering guidance, advice, and creative critiques. Since 2008, Douglas has provided hair and makeup services for *"Dance Divas,"* a fundraiser for the Chicago Dance Health Fund. She has donated her time and talent to the event every year, supporting fundraising for financial and medical assistance for those needing support to become and live their authentic selves.

COQUIE HUGHES



Coquie Hughes is an award-winning independent filmmaker, writer, and director born and raised on Chicago's West Side. For more than three decades, Coquie has produced projects spanning across film, theater, education, technology, and community engagement. Each of these creative genres provided opportunities for community members to participate in storytelling as creators rather than only as isolated subjects of interest. Her body of work includes twenty-four feature films, web series, and short films.

Hughes was recently selected as one of five recipients nationwide for the Anarchists United Writers Discovery Fellowship, founded by filmmaker Lilly Wachowski. Through the fellowship, she is developing her award-winning television pilot, *"Load It Cock It Aim Shoot,"* with mentorship from television industry professionals. She has also been selected as a presenter at South by Southwest and is a member of the 12-person Digital Storytelling Initiative cohort at the University of Chicago, presented in partnership with Community Film Workshop.

In addition to her filmmaking, Hughes founded Lights Camera Youth Action, a nonprofit organization that trains and empowers young people to work behind the scenes in film and television. She is also developing Pocket Set Studios, a media-technology startup focused on tools, accessories, and educational experiences for smartphone filmmakers. Through her collaboration with Sisters in Cinema, she has taught *"Smartphone Camera Filmmaking,"* offering accessible approaches to filmmaking. She has volunteered her talents at the Beverly Arts Center and secures funding to help nonprofit organizations provide arts-based programming for underserved youth.

Hughes is developing her next feature film, *"She Too Bad for History,"* a historical drama about four formerly incarcerated West Side Chicago women in the late 1960s who are assigned to community service with the Black Panther Party. The film explores justice, sisterhood, political awakening, and liberation. She is also workshopping for her first musical stage play, *"Granny Ballers."*

Her work with new arts technologies focuses on reducing barriers and expanding opportunities for members of the LGBTQ+ community, people of color, emerging artists, and residents of underserved communities to shape the future of storytelling.

SAUNDRA DEANNE JOHNSON *Inducted Posthumously*



Saundra DeAnne Johnson (October 13, 1960–January 21, 2026) devoted her life to advancing the dignity, health, and human rights of LGBTQ people, women, and people living with HIV/AIDS. Born at Cook County Hospital, she was a proud queer woman and a member of the now-defunct Ad Hoc Committee of Proud Black Lesbians and Gays. In 1993, she was instrumental in the committee's inclusion in Chicago's Bud Billiken Parade.

Johnson was a core member of ACT UP Chicago and a founding member of its Women's Caucus. During the AIDS crisis, she advocated for women living with HIV/AIDS and their children, whose experiences were often overlooked. As one of the few African American women in ACT UP Chicago, she worked to bring issues affecting Black communities to the forefront of the organization's priorities. Fellow activists valued her wisdom, compassion, and ability to build bridges among people from diverse backgrounds.

Her activism included numerous acts of civil disobedience. During the 1990 National AIDS Actions for Healthcare, Johnson operated a community soup kitchen during ACT UP's 24-hour vigil outside Cook County Hospital. At the time, fifteen empty beds designated for women with AIDS remained unused because the County said it lacked the funds to build a separate bathroom. The following day, Johnson, along with the PISD and Women's Caucus, helped lead a direct action in the street, blocking the intersection in front of the County building. Her effort helped to create an AIDS Ward that opened to women days later.

Johnson also served as a case manager at the Chicago Women's AIDS Project and volunteered with Open Hand Chicago, helping people access food-support services. She offered companionship and practical support to people living with AIDS during the most difficult years of the epidemic. Friends and colleagues remembered her as someone who did not seek recognition and consistently placed the needs of others first.

Johnson died on January 21, 2026, from complications related to congestive heart and kidney failure. Her work with ACT UP Chicago, the Chicago Women's AIDS Project, Open Hand Chicago, and the Ad Hoc Committee of Proud Black Lesbians and Gays strengthened support for LGBTQ people and people living with HIV/AIDS across Chicago.

SIMONE KOEHLINGER



Simone Koehlinger has worked for more than 30 years to improve the health of LGBTQ+ Chicagoans through public health research, program development, and service delivery. Her early work included clinical training in Psychology and research roles at Howard Brown Health, where she collaborated with national partners on an NIH-funded study of HIV prevention intervention. She also contributed to research on a smoking-cessation campaign tailored to the LGBTQ+ community.

As Bureau Chief at the Chicago Department of Public Health, Koehlinger led the development and implementation of LGBTQ+ cultural competency best practices, improving the department's provision of public health services. During her tenure, she co-founded the Chicago Black Gay Men's Caucus and co-led the citywide Crystal Breaks methamphetamine abuse awareness campaign. She also served as associate producer of *"Kevin's Room: Together",* the third film in the *"Kevin's Room"* series, which aimed to increase awareness and dialogue about HIV and other pressing issues in Black communities.

At the Public Health Institute of Metropolitan Chicago, Koehlinger managed the Suburban Cook County HIV Regional Implementation Group and the Minority AIDS Initiative Targeted Capacity Expansion project. In that role, she worked to expand access to HIV and STI testing and prevention, HIV care, mental health care, and supportive services.

Koehlinger served for 13 years as Chief Programs Officer of AIDS Foundation Chicago, where she was a driving force behind Getting to Zero Illinois, the launch of Chicago's HIV Resource Hub, the redesign of AFC's coordinated HIV case management system, and an increase of more than 1,000 housing units for low-income people. She has also been a critical leader of the HIV Service Providers Council, a coalition of local care, prevention, and housing leaders. In addition, she has served on the Protecting Immigrant Families Illinois steering committee and two nonprofit boards.

Known for a collaborative approach, centered on consensus-building, shared power, and teamwork, Koehlinger's leadership bridges partnership and helps build institutional infrastructures that enable thousands of people to access prevention and care. Her human-centered philosophy to HIV and LGBTQ+ health services has contributed to increased and successful engagement in Chicago and inspired similar work and successes nationwide.

RAY KOENIG III



Ray J. Koenig III has spent more than two decades advancing LGBTQ+ equality, visibility, and leadership in Chicago through legal work, public service, and community advocacy. An openly gay attorney and civic leader, he has contributed to initiatives addressing marriage equality, human rights, LGBTQ+ services, and inclusion within the legal profession.

Koenig was an active advocate with Illinois Unites for Marriage, the coalition that led the successful effort to pass marriage equality legislation in Illinois. He received the coalition's Outstanding Leadership Award in 2013 in recognition of his contributions to the campaign.

His community service has included leadership with Chicago House and Social Service Agency, an organization providing housing, healthcare, and support services for people living with HIV/AIDS and other marginalized populations. Koenig has served as chair of Chicago House and as a board member and donor. His advocacy on behalf of the organization was recognized with its Service Award for Advocacy in 2019.

Koenig has also served through multiple mayoral appointments to the Chicago Commission on Human Relations under three separate mayors. In that role, he helped advance enforcement of the city's anti-discrimination protections and promote equal treatment for Chicago residents.

His work in the legal profession has expanded LGBTQ+ visibility within one of Chicago's major civic institutions. In 2023, Koenig was elected president of The Chicago Bar Association, becoming the first openly LGBTQ+ person to lead the organization in its 150-year history.

Koenig's honors include the Gay & Lesbian Victory Fund's Out to Win recognition, the Vernita Gray Lifetime Achievement Award, the Diversity Scholarship Foundation's Advocate for Diversity Award, and leadership awards from legal and civic organizations. Together, his professional, civic, and community service have included advocacy for marriage equality, support for LGBTQ+ social services, enforcement of human rights protections, and historic leadership of The Chicago Bar Association.

MIMI MARKS



Mimi Marks has spent more than three decades as a Chicago entertainer, advocate, and community figure, with a career spanning local performance, international pageantry, and HIV/AIDS fundraising. For approximately 25 years, she performed at the Baton Show Lounge, a significant Chicago LGBTQ+ venue. Her performances there made her one of the most recognized and strongly associated entertainers with the club, while solidifying its role as a place where performers developed their artistry and audiences celebrated LGBTQ+ culture.

Marks's pageantry career brought Chicago representation to international audiences. She was crowned *Miss Continental* in 1992, won the World's Most Beautiful Transsexual Pageant in 2004, and in 2005 was crowned *Miss International Queen* in Thailand. These titles recognized her work as a performer and established her as an internationally known representative of Chicago's LGBTQ+ entertainment community.

She has also used her public visibility to advocate for transgender equality and rights. Through her platform, Marks promotes acceptance and dignity for transgender people and challenges discrimination. Her career has provided a visible example of a transgender woman achieving recognition while living authentically, at a time when transgender visibility was less common, according to the nomination materials.

Marks has devoted performances, appearances, and fundraising efforts to HIV/AIDS awareness and support for people living with HIV. These activities helped raise funds and bring community members together around an issue that deeply affected LGBTQ+ communities. Her community involvement has extended beyond formal advocacy: she has used her celebrity and talents to support causes affecting the people she represented.

As an entertainer, she appeared in Janet Jackson's *"Rock With U"* music video and performed with such renowned artists as Madonna. Despite that broader recognition, Marks remains connected to Chicago and its LGBTQ+ community. Mimi Marks' career combines entertainment, transgender advocacy, HIV/AIDS service, and public representation, with accomplishments that include three major pageant titles and a quarter-century as a performer in some of Chicago's premiere cabaret venues.

ANGELIQUE MUNRO



For more than 30 years, Angelique Munro has contributed her time, talent, and visibility to Chicago's LGBTQ+ communities and to organizations serving people in need. An entertainer since 1995, she has supported numerous fundraisers through donated performances, volunteer work, and, often, her tips.

Munro participated in six annual AIDS Walk and Run events and spent 16 years as a host, event coordinator, and entertainer for the annual Turkey Trot fundraiser benefiting GroceryLand Food Pantry, alongside the late Lori Cannon. She performed for five consecutive years in *"Who Is That Girl?"*, a fundraiser benefiting Howard Brown Health, and served for more than five years as a celebrity judge for *Windy City Gay Idol* with the *"Windy City Times"*. She performed at the Chicago House Spring Brunch for one year and volunteered at the event for six years. Her other fundraising efforts have supported HIV and AIDS organizations and people in need.

Since 2009, Munro has spoken at colleges and universities about her lived experience as a transgender woman. Through these presentations, she has helped future doctors, nurses, and other professionals better understand transgender people and the importance of respectful, competent care. Her media appearances have included *"The Tyra Banks Show", "The Ricki Lake Show", "Empire",* and the pilot *"Transformative The Talk Show",* where she moderated an all-transgender panel.

Munro has also advocated for fairness and dignity in the workplace, drawing on discrimination she experienced in her own career. She built a professional career in human resources and payroll and has worked for organizations including Chicago House and Howard Brown Health. She currently works as a Payroll Manager for Encyclopedia Britannica.

Across her professional, artistic, and volunteer work, Munro has used her platform to support LGBTQ+ performers, raise funds for community organizations, educate future professionals, and maintain a visible presence as a transgender woman. Her longstanding commitments include fundraising, event production, performance, public education, and direct service to Chicago-area communities.

LAMONT J. ROBINSON



Lamont J. Robinson serves as alderman of Chicago's 4th Ward and formerly served as a member of the Illinois House of Representatives. A Black gay elected official, he has brought LGBTQ+ visibility to public service while advocating for policies intended to expand economic opportunity, strengthen neighborhoods, improve public safety, and increase access to health care, education, and affordable housing.

Robinson's public work reflects an intersectional approach to equity. He has supported equitable health care, violence prevention, small businesses, affordable housing, and protections for marginalized communities. His efforts address issues he regards as interconnected, including race, sexual orientation, economic opportunity, public health, education, housing, and neighborhood investment. In state and municipal government, he has worked with faith leaders, neighborhood organizations, and community advocates, and is described as a public servant who listens, values partnerships, and builds coalitions.

As an openly gay public official, Robinson has advocated for LGBTQ+ equality and expanded LGBTQ+ representation in government. His visibility has particular significance for Black LGBTQ+ Chicagoans, demonstrating that LGBTQ+ leaders belong in every arena of civic life and that personal authenticity and public service can coexist. His election has also helped broaden the possibilities of representation for people who have often been underrepresented in government.

Mentorship is another important part of Robinson's community involvement. He has given his time and experience to young professionals, aspiring public servants, and emerging leaders, helping prepare them to serve their own communities. Many people he has mentored now hold community-serving roles, extending the reach of that investment.

Through his work in the 4th Ward and his earlier service in the Illinois House, Robinson has focused on public policy and civic relationships that support opportunity, safety, health, education, housing, and neighborhood development. His advocacy for LGBTQ+ equality, commitment to mentoring, and presence as a Black gay elected official have made his public service significant to Chicago's LGBTQ+ communities.

MARSHALL TITUS



Marshall Titus is a Chicago-born singer, songwriter, producer, and actor whose career has encompassed recording, live performance, theater, film, commercial music, and advocacy. He began performing in local bands and vocal groups while in high school and later became a finalist in the male vocalist category on the television program "Star Search". He also appeared in a cameo in the film "Barbershop".

Titus received Chicago's Jeff Award for his performance as James "Thunder" Early in Marriott's Lincolnshire Theatre production of *"Dreamgirls"*. He developed his stage experience with Free Street Theater. At age 21, he sang his first national advertising jingle, Coca-Cola's *"Have a Coke and a Smile,"* and subsequently provided vocals for campaigns for McDonald's, Kentucky Fried Chicken, and Schlitz.

As a songwriter and producer, Titus co-wrote *"Sweet Melodies"* for Linda Clifford and wrote and produced *"Naturally"* for Dennis Edwards. Walt Whitman and the Soul Children of Chicago performed his anthem *"Stop the Tears."* Across four decades, he has continued to record and tour in Europe and is now based in Hamburg, Germany.

Titus has also used his music to address issues affecting LGBTQ+ communities. His video *"I Will"* was created for TPAN's A Day with HIV campaign, a Chicago-born effort focused on ending the stigma surrounding HIV testing, disclosure, and relationships. Directed by John Gress, the video placed Titus, a Black gay soul singer, at the center of a conversation about HIV that many of his peers were still avoiding.

Titus describes his music as a reflection of his artistic identity rather than of current trends or tradition, and views music to communicate with audiences around the world. His releases include the EP *"Marshall Titus V: Songs for Humanity",* which combines classic soul with modern soul and pop.

MICHELLE WETZEL



Michelle Wetzel's advocacy for LGBTQI communities began after she left her path to become a Catholic nun, disillusioned by Vatican inaction during the 1980s HIV/AIDS epidemic and by injustice toward the Queer community. Identifying as a lesbian, she volunteered in 1989 at Chicago's Bonaventure House, an AIDS hospice now operated as part of Alexian Brothers Housing & Health Alliance. After relocating to Holland, Michigan, she co-founded the AIDS Pastoral Care Network of the West Michigan Lakeshore. Under her leadership, the organization established a food pantry and buddy program, provided in-school HIV 101 education, and organized Holland's first AIDS Walk.

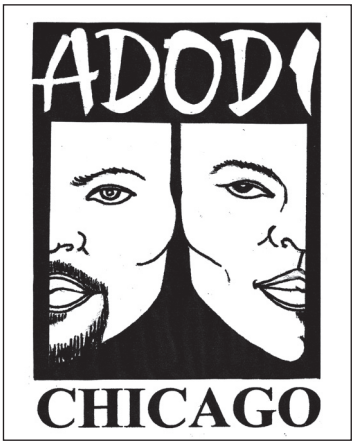
Concerned about systemic discrimination against people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWA), Wetzel attended DePaul University College of Law beginning in 1996 and clerked with the Legal Assistance Foundation's HIV/AIDS Project, now Legal Aid Chicago. After graduating in 1999 and briefly working at Prairie State Legal Services, she returned to the Legal Assistance Foundation as a staff attorney. For a decade, she represented PLWA in disability, Social Security, employment, consumer, and eviction cases. The AIDS Foundation of Chicago recognized her housing advocacy with a leadership award in 2006. She also sued Bonaventure House over resident lockouts that violated HUD requirements.

In 2009, Wetzel became CEO of Bonaventure House. Through the Alexian Brothers AIDS Ministry, which operated sites in Lakeview and Waukegan, she oversaw the opening of Bettendorf Place on Chicago's South Side. The facilities provided supportive housing, addiction support, and life-skills coaching for PLWA navigating addiction and mental health challenges.

From 2012 to 2019, Wetzel served as Howard Brown Health's inaugural general counsel, defending the Broadway Youth Center against opposition before the City Zoning Commission and establishing a medical-legal partnership for patients with the AIDS Legal Counsel, now Council for Health Justice. Since 2019, she has served as general counsel at Planned Parenthood of Illinois, supporting its Gender Affirming Hormone Therapy program for transgender adults and minors.

Wetzel's love of music has provided her joy, having spent 30 years with the Lakeside Pride Music Ensembles, serving as its first board chair in the early 2000s, and becoming the first lesbian drum major of the Lakeside Pride Freedom Band.

ADODI CHICAGO



ADODI Chicago was organized on August 17, 1996, more than a decade after Clifford Rawlins founded ADODI's first chapter in Philadelphia in May 1986. Its roots can be traced to Ado Alden Bell's involvement with Group Dialogue and Book Forum, two Chicago discussion groups that shared ADODI's goal of raising the social consciousness of Black same-gender-loving (SGL) men.

Through Group Dialogue, Bell met Barry Martin, the only Chicagoan who attended ADODI's first retreat. In 1991, after losing his partner, Roderick Wilbanks, during the HIV/AIDS crisis, Bell attended his first ADODI retreat in search of clarity and connection with other Black gay men facing loss. He returned each summer and brought additional members of Chicago's Black SGL community, including Marcus Murphy, Shelton Watson, Nsilo Ward, and Jim Smoote.

By 1996, enough Chicagoans were attending the retreats that Bell persuaded ADODI's New York leadership to hold a summer retreat in the Midwest. The event took place at Camp Ronora and drew support from across Chicago's SGL community, including lesbians, transgender people, Group Dialogue members, local HIV/AIDS organizations, and BLACKlines, a Black gay publication of Windy City Media Group. That fall, the Chicago attendees met at the home of Rev. Juan Reed and decided to establish a local chapter with monthly meetings. Bell became ADODI Chicago's first president.

The chapter continues to follow ADODI National's mission of supporting the emotional, physical, and spiritual well-being of same-gender-loving men of African descent through connection and mutual support. Its activities include monthly discussion groups, social programs, and SGL artistic events addressing mental and physical health. ADODI Chicago also provides sexual-health education and support for SGL men living with HIV while addressing the invisibility experienced by Black men who love men.

The HABARI GANI discussion group meets on the first Saturday of each month at the Jamii Center for Arts & Media. The KUNDI MLO / EGBE ONJE potluck is held on the third Saturday at a member's home. Seven ADODI National brothers are members of the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame, including John Ademola Adewoye, Sanford E. Gaylord, Rev. Juan I. Reed, Charles Edward Nelson II, Israel Wright, Ernest E. Hite Jr., and Maxsonn Smith.

HELL IN A HANDBAG PRODUCTIONS



Hell in a Handbag Productions was founded in 2001 to provide a safe, inclusive creative home for artists who did not fit the gender roles and expectations of a heteronormative society. Over 25 years, the Chicago theater company has created opportunities for LGBTQ+ performers and other theater professionals through productions centered on camp, drag, gender-fluid expression, larger-than-life characters, and queer voices.

Led by co-founder, Artistic Director, and playwright David Cerda, Handbag has presented more than eighty-seven productions and created over 2,000 opportunities for actors, designers, playwrights, stage managers, technicians, and other theater professionals. Many of these opportunities have benefited LGBTQ+ artists. Many graduates of DePaul University, Columbia College Chicago, Roosevelt University, and other Illinois theater programs received their first professional theater experience with the company.

Although Cerda serves as Handbag's primary playwright, the company's ensemble has remained central to its creative process. Workshops, table readings, and improvisation allow company members to contribute ideas, characters, humor, and lived experiences that become part of each production.

Among the company's productions are *"The Golden Girls: The Lost Episodes"* parody series, with original scripts by Cerda; *"The Birds",* which transformed the Berger Park Coach House into a theater for the first time; *"POSEIDON! An Upside-Down Musical",* produced in Chicago and at the New York City Fringe Festival, where it won Best Ensemble; and *"The Drag Seed",* presented in Chicago and at New York's La MaMa Experimental Theatre Club. Actress Tippi Hedren attended *"The Birds"* twice.

In December 2024, Handbag welcomed its 100,000th ticket buyer. The company has also used its productions to support Chicago LGBTQ+ nonprofits, helping raise more than $100,000 as of late 2025, including over $60,000 for GroceryLand and significant support for Gerber/Hart Library and Archives, the Legacy Project, Center on Halsted, and the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame.

Handbag's work is dedicated to preserving, celebrating, and expanding queer camp, using comedy to address exclusion, challenge rigid gender roles, and affirm individuality and self-expression. Today, Handbag is a working ensemble of twenty-three theater professionals.

BRAD CUMMINGS



Brad Cummings served as editor of the Austin Voice, where he used the publication to raise awareness of HIV/AIDS and provide a platform for individuals and organizations serving Chicago's West Side. His work connected community journalism with public health advocacy and support for people affected by HIV/AIDS and the LGBTQ+ community.

Cummings helped publicize a screening of *"Kevin's Room"* at Third Unitarian Church on Chicago's West Side, co-sponsored by the Chicago Department of Public Health and Pathfinders Prevention and Education Fund. He provided free advertising for the event in the Austin Voice, reflecting his willingness to support organizations addressing HIV/AIDS and related community concerns.

He also helped start the Austin AIDS Planning Coalition, which later became WHARP. In addition, he was involved with Pathfinders Prevention & Education Fund and attended its events over the years. Through these activities, he maintained a sustained commitment to HIV/AIDS awareness and to the Austin community.

Cummings was recognized for supporting both individuals and organizations collaborating with people affected by HIV/AIDS and members of the LGBTQ+ community. His stewardship of the Austin Voice gave many people and groups a means of sharing information and reaching residents of Austin and the broader West Side. His community involvement extended over 40 years and included advocacy, communications, and practical support for local public health efforts.

Cummings died in 2025 because of an arson attack. His death was mourned as a loss to the Austin community and to those committed to social justice. His work through the Austin Voice, the Austin AIDS Planning Coalition, and Pathfinders Prevention & Education Fund made him a committed ally and a longtime supporter of Chicago's HIV/AIDS and LGBTQ+ communities.

SHARYL HOLTZMAN



Sharyl Holtzman is an event producer, fundraiser, communications professional, and freelance writer who began working in Chicago's AIDS service community in 1985. After reading a newspaper article about Chicago House, a newly opened residence for people with AIDS, she contacted founding Executive Director Thom Domkowski and attended a residents' meeting at the organization's 13-bedroom mansion on Malden Street. She soon began volunteering with Chicago House and other charities serving Chicago's LGBTQ+ community.

At Chicago House, Holtzman met Lori Cannon during a weekend volunteer training camp. The two became lifelong friends. Holtzman also served with the Chicago chapter of the NAMES Project, which created and displayed quilts commemorating people who died of AIDS. She participated in the project's work in Chicago and Washington, D.C., which was documented in the Academy Award-winning film *"Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt"*.

Holtzman supported Open Hand Chicago, the meals-on-wheels program for people with AIDS and took part in its first deliveries on Christmas Eve in 1987 from the kitchen of Ann Sather on Belmont Avenue. She later produced Open Hand's annual croquet tournament, which raised hundreds of thousands of dollars over the years.

Seeking an outlet for her anger and helplessness about the AIDS crisis, Holtzman joined the Chicago chapter of ACT UP. Her arrest during the group's 1990 protest of the American Medical Association and insurance companies in the Loop was the first of several. She also served as the volunteer backstage manager for the AIDS Walk, including its 1995 event, which drew 50,000 participants.

Holtzman continued supporting Chicago's AIDS and LGBTQ+ communities through Open Hand as it became Groceryland, the development of the Legacy Project, and Cannon's annual Jon-Henri Damski Award presentation. She appeared in "*Short Fuse*" and *"The Outrage of Danny Sotomayor"*, documentaries about her late friend and fellow ACT UP activist.

After Cannon's death in 2025, Holtzman worked with Groceryland volunteers and Heartland Health to continue her friend's work. She co-produced Cannon's celebration of life at Sidetrack and helped coordinate the dedication of a Chicago street in her name. Although Holtzman later relocated to Los Angeles, leaders of charities in Chicago and Los Angeles continue to seek her event-production and fundraising expertise.

REV. DR. L. BERNARD JAKES



Rev. Dr. L. Bernard Jakes promotes acceptance and inclusion of LGBTQIA people through his ministry at West Point Missionary Baptist Church. He welcomes LGBTQIA congregants openly, honoring them from the pulpit, embracing them publicly, and recognizing their gifts and talents within the church community. Under his pastoral leadership, the church provides a place where LGBTQIA people are welcomed as they are and supported in expressing their faith.

Jakes has also addressed HIV/AIDS stigma, particularly within the Black community. Through West Point's HIV/AIDS Ministry, he volunteers to be tested every year, encouraging others to know their status. He approaches HIV/AIDS as a matter requiring compassion and support rather than shame or exclusion. The church prays with people living with HIV/AIDS and works to ensure that they do not feel isolated or rejected from the faith community.

His community service includes support for displaced and unhoused LGBTQIA youth. West Point Missionary Baptist Church has conducted clothing drives to assist people seeking services, and its food pantry is available to displaced LGBTQIA teens and adults. Jakes has emphasized that meeting basic needs is part of the church's responsibility, stating, "If any person in our community is hungry, we are not doing what God called us to do."

Jakes is often credited as an example for shaping the broader congregation's response to LGBTQIA people. Through worship, HIV/AIDS outreach, food assistance, and clothing drives, Jakes has helped make West Point Missionary Baptist Church a supportive faith community for LGBTQIA people, including those facing housing instability and the stigma associated with HIV/AIDS.

A REAL READ (2007)
ANGEL ABCEDE (2003)
ABOUT FACE THEATRE (2003)
ACT UP/CHICAGO (2000)
AD HOC COMMITTEE OF PROUD BLACK LESBIANS AND GAYS (1993)
PAUL ADAMS (2011, posthumous)
ROBERT J. ADAMS (1994, now deceased)
JANE ADDAMS (2008, posthumous)
JOHN ADEMOLA ADEWOYE (2020)
AFFINITY COMMUNITY SERVICES (2002)
RICK AGUILAR (2022)
MAHER AHMAD (2025)
AIDS FOUNDATION OF CHICAGO (2009)
AIDS LEGAL COUNCIL OF CHICAGO (2003)
JEAN ALBRIGHT (2015)
GAYLON ALCARAZ (2013)
ORTEZ ALDERSON (1991, posthumous)
JAMES L. ALEXANDER (2013)
AVA ALLEN (1999)
CLAUDIA ALLEN (2010)
'MAMA' GLORIA ALLEN (2024, posthumous)
ROBERT HENRY ALLERTON (2016, posthumous)
ALPHAWOOD FOUNDATION (2017)
LATONY ALVARADO-RIVERA (2024)
AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION OF ILLINOIS (2010)
AMERICAN VETERANS FOR EQUAL RIGHTS–CHICAGO CHAPTER (2007)
AMIGAS LATINAS (2016)
JACQUELINE ANDERSON (1996, now deceased)
MARGARET ANDERSON (2006, posthumous)
ANN & ROBERT H. LURIE CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL GENDER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (2023)
TONI ARMSTRONG JR (1997)
SUZANNE ARNOLD (2008)
GERALD ARPINO (2014, posthumous)
ARTEMIS SINGERS (2008)
ASIANS AND FRIENDS CHICAGO (2010)
ASSOCIATION OF LATIN MEN FOR ACTION (2000)
MIGUEL AYALA (1997)
JUDY BAAR TOPINKA (2020, posthumous)
TOM BACHTELL (2016)
BAILIWICK REPERTORY'S PRIDE SERIES (1996)
TRACY BAIM (1994)
JOHN J. BALESTER (1999)
BRENETTA HOWELL BARRETT (2020)
CARRIE BARNETT (1998)
ROBERT SLOANE BASKER (1993, now deceased)
LORRAINNE SADE BASKERVILLE (2000, now deceased)
ZAHARA MONIQUE BASSETT (2022)
PAULA BASTA (2009)
LOIS BATES (2012, posthumous)
TRACI P. BECK (2025)
DAVID BRIAN BELL (1999, posthumous)
DR. DANIEL S. BERGER (2024)
JAN BERGER (2025)
JAMES L. BENNETT (2013)
CARYN BERMAN (1995, now deceased)
BONSAI BERMÚDEZ, MSW (2024)
BIG CHICKS (2016)
ALEXANDRA BILLINGS (2005)
AMAILIA BLACK (2024)
BLACK ALPHABET (2023)
DAVID BLATT (2007)
RONALD E. BOGAN (2016)
KEVIN G. BOYER (2008)
PRECIOUS BRADY-DAVIS (2025)
LORA BRANCH (2001)
CAROL MOSELEY BRAUN (2007)
JENNIFER BRIER (2014)
MICHAL BRODY (2008)

ROGER BROWN (2004, posthumous)
LINDA BUBON (2023)
ARICK BUCKLES (2025, posthumous)
BUDDIES' RESTAURANT & BAR (2003)
ROMÁN BUENROSTRO (2016, now deceased)
ROBBIN BURR (2007)
GEORGE S. BUSE (1994, now deceased)
JAMES A. BUSSEN (1994, now deceased)
KEITH C. BUTLER (2017)
KATHY CALDWELL (2017)
CHEF TANIA CALLAWAY (2003, posthumous)
GREG CAMERON (2011)
LORI CANNON (1994, now deceased)
EVETTE CARDONA (2002)
MEGAN CARNEY (2005)
C. C. CARTER (2002)
CAPRICE CARTHANS (2020)
KELLY CASSIDY (2014)
ALDO CASTILLO (2005)
ROBERT CASTILLO (2001)
ARMAND R. CERBONE, Ph.D. (2003)
DAVID CERDA (2016)
JORGE CESTOU (2013)
ROGER "RJ" CHAFFIN (1997, now deceased)
SAMSON CHAN (1995, posthumous)
JOHN CHESTER (1994, now deceased)
CHI-TOWN SQUARES (2012)
CHICAGO BLACK GAY MEN'S CAUCUS (2012)
CHICAGO BLACK LESBIANS AND GAYS (2003)
CHICAGO GAY MEN'S CHORUS (2001)
CHICAGO HISTORY MUSEUM (2010)
CHICAGO HOUSE AND SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY, INC. (1994)
CHICAGO 2006, INC./ GAY GAMES VII (2007)
CHICAGO PRIDE LEAGUE (2025)
CHICAGO PRIMETIMERS (2025)
GARY G. CHICHESTER (1992)
E. KITCH CHILDS (1993, posthumous)
THOMAS R. CHIOLA (1998)
ANN CHRISTOPHERSEN (1992)
ROCCO J. CLAPS (2013)
CHRISTOPHER CLASON (2004, posthumous)
LUCRETIA CLAY-WARD (2014)
GINNI CLEMMENS (2021, posthumous)
CHARLES E. CLIFTON (2004, posthumous)
SAM COADY (2008)
JERROLD E. COHEN (1993, posthumous)
CONGREGATION OR CHADASH (2006)
R. SUE CONNOLLY (2003)
LOU CONTE (2009)
LORI A. COOPER (2009)
TERRY COSGROVE (2014)
T. CHRIS COTHRAN (1995, now deceased)
SARAH CRAIG (1995, posthumous)
JACQUES CRISTION (2006, posthumous)
RAYMOND CROSSMAN (2020)
LISA ISADORA CRUZ (2021)
DAVID LEE CSICSKO (2016)
RICHARD M. DALEY (2006)
JON-HENRI DAMSKI (1991, now deceased)
JAMES C. DARBY (1997)
ANDREW DAVIS (2023)
SAMUEL F. DAVIS, JR. (1994, posthumous)
ST. SUKIE DE LA CROIX (2012)
JAN DEE (2023)
JACK DELANEY (1996)
GREGORY R. DELL (2008, now deceased)
TOMMY DELORENZO (2025)
JOHN D'EMILIO (2005)
DANIEL DEVER (2024)
PATRICK DENNIS (2016, posthumous)
JAY PAUL DERATANY (2020)
ANNA DESHAWN (2023)
DAN DI LEO (2010, posthumous)

DIGNITY/CHICAGO (1997)
TARRINA DIKES (2007)
LAURIE J. DITTMAN (1998)
THOM DOMBKOWSKI (1992, now deceased)
KATHERINE "KIT" DUFFY (2008, now deceased)
EDDIE DUGAN (EDWARD L. DAVISON, JR.) (2008, posthumous)
RANDY DUNCAN (1999)
MURRAY EDELMAN (2008)
RONALD J. EHEMANN (2020, now deceased)
KEITH ELLIOTT (2001)
EQUALITY ILLINOIS (2005)
FRED EYCHANER (2015)
MERRY MARY FEATHERSON (2005, now deceased)
SARA FEIGENHOLTZ (2001)
JAMES W. FLINT (1991)
JOHN 'MISS FOOZIE' FOOS (2024)
ANTONIA "TATA" FLORES (2011, posthumous)
SOL FLORES (2024)
GRANT LYNN FORD (2011, now deceased)
ROBERT T. FORD (1993, now deceased)
JEANNETTE HOWARD FOSTER (1998, posthumous)
ROBERT BONVOULOIR FOSTER (2003, posthumous)
DENISE FOY (2020)
SCOTT FREE (2010)
DALILA FRIDI (2020)
FRONTRUNNERS/FRONTWALKERS CHICAGO (1995)
TIMOTHY K. FRYE (2024)
HENRY BLAKE FULLER (2000, posthumous)
FRANK GALATI (2004, now deceased)
BOB GAMMIE (2010, now deceased)
MARTIN GAPSHIS (2007, now deceased)
EMMANUEL GARCIA (2015)
RICK GARCIA (1999, now deceased)
ROBERT GAROFALO (2011)
RICHARD GARRIN (1993)
TERRY GASKINS (2020)
JIM GATES (2002)
GAY CHICAGO MAGAZINE (1991)
CHICAGO CHAPTER OF THE GAY, LESBIAN, AND STRAIGHT EDUCATION NETWORK (2000)
SANFORD E. GAYLORD (2012)
HENRY GERBER (1992, posthumous)
GERBER/HART LIBRARY (1996)
RALPH PAUL GERNHARDT (2004, now deceased)
FRANK GOLEY (2001, posthumous)
GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH (2011)
ADRIENNE J. GOODMAN (1994, now deceased)
TED GRADY (2011)
THE GRAHAM FAMILY (2003)
JEFF GRAUBART (1993)
RICHARD LEE GRAY (1992)
VERNITA GRAY (1992, now deceased)
IDA GREATHOUSE (1997, posthumous)
WILLIAM W. GREAVES (2012)
JACOB CHRISTOPHER GREEN (2025)
KEITH GREEN (2012)
MAYA GREEN (2022)
PEG GREY (1992, now deceased)
ARLENE HALKO (1996, now deceased)
JOEL HALL (1993)
SAM HAMILTON (2025, posthumous)
JOHN R. HAMMELL (1997, posthumous)
PHILIP A. HANNEMA (2000, now deceased)
RENEE C. HANOVER (1991, now deceased)
LORRAINE HANSBERRY (1999, posthumous)
JEAN V. HARDISTY (1995, now deceased)
JORJET HARPER (1998)
GREGORY "GREG" HARRIS (1996)

PEARL M. HART (1992, posthumous)
MATTHEW HARVAT (2022)
JANE HEAP (2006, posthumous)
DERRICK ALLEN HICKS (1999, now deceased)
PAUL HIGHFIELD (2022)
MARCIA HILL (2011)
MARGARET HILLIS (2023, posthumous)
EARNEST E. HITE, JR. (1994, now deceased)
SARAH LUCIA HOAGLAND (2000)
HOMOCORE CHICAGO (2022)
DEMETRIUS 'DEM' HOPKINS (2024, posthumous)
HORIZONS COMMUNITY SERVICES (1992)
LANA HOSTETLER (2021, posthumous)
HOWARD BROWN HEALTH CENTER (1991)
TONDA L. HUGHES (2003)
KIM L. HUNT (2016)
CHUCK HYDE (2001, now deceased)
ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM & EDUCATION CENTER (2022)
INTERNATIONAL MR. LEATHER (2010)
MARK ISHAUG (2012)
TONY JACKSON (2011, posthumous)
STANLEY JENCZYK (2015)
JENNER & BLOCK (2011)
ANTONIO DAVID JIMENEZ (2001)
THE JOHN MARSHALL LAW SCHOOL (2016)
JUDITH S. JOHNS (1991)
CAROL A. JOHNSON (1991)
E. PATRICK JOHNSON (2010)
JOEL DRAKE JOHNSON (2020, posthumous)
RUDOLPH JOHNSON, JR. (2013, posthumous)
WAYNE JOHNSON (2021)
ARTHUR L. JOHNSTON (1998)
IRA H. JONES (1998, posthumous)
STEPHEN (WANDA LUST) JONES (2008, posthumous)
CHRISTINA KAHRL (2014)
RICK KARLIN (1997)
NANCY J. KATZ (2000)
CORINNE KAWECKI (1997)
OWEN KEEHNEN (2011)
CLIFFORD P. KELLEY (1998)
WILLIAM B. KELLEY (1991, now deceased)
NICK KELLY (1995)
ANTONIO KING (2024)
BILLIE JEAN KING (1999)
DOROTHY KLEFSTAD (1998)
THOMAS KLEIN (2016)
RALLA KLEPAK (2017, now deceased)
RICHARD KNIGHT, JR. (2025)
FRANKIE KNUCKLES (1996, now deceased)
BRUCE KOFF (1994)
DANNY KOPELSON (2000)
SUZANNE MARIE KRAUS (2004)
MARIE J. KUDA (1991, now deceased)
STEVE KULIEKE (2020)
JOE LA PAT (2008, posthumous)
LAKESIDE PRIDE MUSIC ENSEMBLES (2011)
LAMBDA LEGAL—MIDWEST REGIONAL OFFICE (2013)
LOUIS I. LANG (2002)
GREER LANKTON (2017, posthumous)
NANCY LANOUE (1993)
PATRICIA 'THE PIN LADY' LATHAM (2022, posthumous)
LAVENDER WOMAN (2017)
LEATHER ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM (2017)
THE LEGACY PROJECT (2020)
MICHAEL A. LEPPEN (2001)
LESBIAN AND GAY POLICE ASSOCIATION — GAY OFFICERS ACTION LEAGUE (2015)

LESBIAN COMMUNITY CANCER PROJECT (1999)
LESBIGAY RADIO (1998)
ELLIS B. LEVIN (1994)
SEAN LEWIS (2024)
LORI LIGHTFOOT (2024)
LINCOLN PARK LAGOONERS (2004)
LIONHEART GAY THEATRE COMPANY (1994)
MARCIA J. LIPETZ (2009, now deceased)
PATRICIA M. LOGUE (2003, now deceased)
JOSEPH LOUNDY (2023)
OTIS MACK (2021)
MIKE A. MACHARELLO (2025)
ROBERT MADDOX (2001, now deceased)
AMY MAGGIO (2009)
MARIGOLD BOWL (2006)
KENNETH MARTÍN-OCASIO (2024)
MATTACHINE MIDWEST (2002)
PHOENIX MATTHEWS (2015)
PATRICIA S. McCOMBS (2000)
JEFFREY E. McCOURT (2007, posthumous)
JOEY McDONALD (2009)
MIKE McHALE (2005)
LARRY McKEON (1997, now deceased)
ADAM L. McMATH (2025)
HARLEY McMILLEN (1992, now deceased)
SCOTT McPHERSON (1992, now deceased)
KEN MEJIA-BEAL (2024)
METROPOLITAN SPORTS ASSOCIATION (1992)
JILL M. METZ (2006)
ELLEN A. MEYERS (2001)
CHARLES R. MIDDLETON (2006)
TONY MIDNITE (1996, now deceased)
CARLOS T. MOCK (2007)
EDWARD MOGUL (2014)
SID L. MOHN (1993)
DAVID MOORE (2007)
GAIL MORSE (2015)
MARY F. MORTEN (1996)
CLAUDIA MOSIER (2021)
MOUNTAIN MOVING COFFEEHOUSE FOR WOMYN AND CHILDREN (1993)
MULRYAN AND YORK, ATTORNEYS AT LAW (2004)
DAVID ERNESTO MUNAR (2010)
KATHRYN MUNZER (2001)
NAMES PROJECT CHICAGO CHAPTER (2002)
MARK NAGEL (2017, now deceased)
IFTI NASIM (1996, now deceased)
THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MEXICAN ART (2020)
EDWARD NEGRON (2006, now deceased)
CHARLES EDWARD NELSON II (2002)
DAWN CLARK NETSCH (1995, now deceased)
ROBERT NEUBERT (2023)
LEE A. NEWELL II (2013)
CHARLOTTE NEWFELD (1996, now deceased)
THE NIGHT MINISTRY (2011)
TOMMY (T.L.) NOBLE (2022)
MONA NORIEGA (2002)
JERRY NUNN (2025)
ACHY OBEJAS (2010)
MICHAEL O'CONNOR (2015)
RENAE OGLETREE (1998, now deceased)
DEAN ROBERT OGREN (1998)
PAUL G. OOSTENBRUG (2010)
ONYX MIDWEST (2025)
OPEN HAND CHICAGO (1994)
DOM 'ETIENNE' OREJUDOS (1992, posthumous)
DAVID ORR (2012)
REYNA ORTIZ (2025)
KATHY OSTERMAN (1993, posthumous)
DAVID G. OSTROW (1997, now deceased)
OUT & PROUD IN CHICAGO (2014)

OUTSPOKEN (2022)
CHANNYN LYNNE PARKER (2024)
MILON V. PARKER (2025)
PATÉ (2013)
ANDREW PATNER (2013, now deceased)
PEOPLE LIKE US BOOKSTORE (2017)
JOHN PELLER (2024)
JOSÉ (PEPIN) PENA (1995)
JOHN PENNYCUFF (2003, now deceased)
CHILLI PEPPER (2007, now deceased)
ADRENE PEROM (1999, now deceased)
ALEX PEREZ (2025)
LAIRD PETERSEN (2006, now deceased)
RICHARD W. PFEIFFER (1993, now deceased)
PFLAG/CHICAGO (2004)
LISA MARIE PICKENS (2014)
JIM PICKETT (2005)
GLEN PIETRANDONI (2017)
DR. MARIO PIERCE (2025)
JONATHAN 'YONI' PIZER (2025)
POW-WOW (2013)
MARY D. POWERS (1992, now deceased)
PRIDE CHICAGO (2021)
COL. JENNIFER N. PRITZKER (2023)
PROUD TO RUN (2012)
BILL PRY (2012)
QUEER NATION CHICAGO (1995)
MIKE QUIGLEY (2009)
PATRICK QUINN (2016)
DULCE QUINTERO (2017)
JUAN REED (2005)
CHARLES "CHUCK" RENSLOW (1991, now deceased)
LAURA RICKETTS (2013)
JOSE RIOS (2010)
JIM RINNERT (2025, posthumous)
FRANK M. ROBINSON (2009, now deceased)
LINDA S. RODGERS (1993)
CHUCK RODOCKER (2012)
JULIO RODRIGUEZ (2004)
CAROL RONEN (2005)
RALPHI ROSARIO (2021)
BETTY LARK ROSS (2021)
RON SABLE (1993, now deceased)
TIFFANI ST. CLOUD (1996)
JANE M. HUSSEIN SAKS (2009)
JESUS SALGUEIRO (2008)
VICTOR A. SALVO, JR. (1998)
ZAIDA SANABIA (2009)
NORMAN L. SANDFIELD (1999, now deceased)
MIKE SAVAGE (2005, posthumous)
HEATHER C. SAWYER (2012)
NAN SCHAEFFER (2004, now deceased)
JAN SCHAKOWSKY (2015)
W. ROBERT SCHULTZ III (2024)
BRUCE C. SCOTT (1993, now deceased)
SEASON OF CONCERN CHICAGO (2022)
NORMA SELEDON (2016)
KAREN C. SENDZIAK (2007)
GREGG SHAPIRO (1999)
PATRICK SHEAHAN (2007)
HELEN SHILLER (2000)
BRETT SHINGLEDECKER (2011)
DEBRA SHORE (2014)
SIDETRACK (2006)
CATHERINE SIKORA (2005)
SILK ROAD RISING (2014)
JOHN SIMMONS (2011, posthumous)
DAVID B. SINDT (1995, posthumous)
PATRICK SINOZICH (2009)
LAWRENCE E. SLOAN (2005, posthumous)
NORM SLOAN (1996)
STAN SLOAN (2010)
ROSS A. SLOTTEN (2014)
ADRIENNE J. SMITH (1991, now deceased)
ARMANDO L. SMITH (1995)

ART SMITH (2008)
BARBARA SMITH (2015, posthumous)
CHRISTINA SMITH (2002)
JAMES MONROE SMITH (1995, now deceased)
MARY ANN SMITH (1997, now deceased)
MAXSONN "MAX" C. SMITH (1991, now deceased)
TERENCE ALAN SMITH (Joan Jett-Blakk) (2023)
JOEY SOLOWAY (2022)
DANIEL SOTOMAYOR (1992, posthumous)
LAURENCE E. SPANG, DDS (2003)
GREGORY A. SPRAGUE (1994, posthumous)
STAR GAZE (2006)
HEATHER STEANS (2014)
NEIL STEINBERG (2013)
TIMOTHY STEWART-WINTER (2017)
REV. CHARLES STRAIGHT (2024)
MATT STUCZYNSKI (2020)
STUD4LIFE (2024)
LAUREN SUGERMAN (2002)
MARGE SUMMIT (1993, now deceased)
CAMILLA B. TAYLOR (2015)
VALERIE TAYLOR (1992, now deceased)
KETTY TEANGA/MISS KETTY (2017, posthumous)
STUDS TERKEL (2001, now deceased)
TEST POSITIVE AWARE NETWORK (2005)
BURR TILLSTROM (2013, posthumous)
ELIZABETH E. TOCCI (1994, now deceased)
JOANNE E. TRAPANI (1993, now deceased)
MARIO TRETO JR. (2025)
THOMAS M. TUNNEY (1995)
RICHARD B. TURNER (1991)
URBAN PRIDE (2021)
MARILYN URSO (2009, now deceased)
DICK UYVARI (2006, now deceased)
JORGE VALDIVIA (2009)
MODESTO "TICO" VALLE (1998)
RENE A. VAN HULLE, JR. (2000, now deceased)
ALICIA T. VEGA (2017)
LAUREN VERDICH (2015, now deceased)
LUULE VESS (1998)
MARITXA VIDAL (2016, now deceased)
JOHN VON RHEIN (2024)
STEVEN F. WAKEFIELD (1994)
AL WARDELL (1993, now deceased)
GUY WARNER (2008)
HAROLD WASHINGTON (2007, posthumous)
LAURA S. WASHINGTON (2012)
VERA WASHINGTON (2007)
BRENDA WEBB (2013)
DJ SHERON DENISE WEBB (2003)
DR. YVONNE WELBON (2016)
HONEY WEST (2012)
JESSE WHITE (1999)
WINDY CITY PERFORMING ARTS (2022)
WINDY CITY TIMES (2020)
ALBERT N. WILLIAMS (2003)
BENNET WILLIAMS (2014, posthumous)
KIRK WILLIAMSON (2021)
PHILL WILSON (1999)
MARK E. WOJCIK (2010)
DAN WOLF (2022, posthumous)
WOMEN & CHILDREN FIRST BOOKSTORE (2020)
WOMYN OF ALL CULTURES TOGETHER (2024)
CLARENCE N. WOOD (2014, now deceased)
TERRI WORMAN (2004)
ISRAEL WRIGHT (2000)
AVERY R. YOUNG (2023)
MICHELLE ZACARIAS (2020)
DAVID ZAK (2013)
YVONNE ZIPTER (1995, now deceased)

THIS YEAR WE PAUSE TO CELEBRATE THESE INDUCTEES WHOSE MILESTONE INDUCTION ANNIVERSARY IS UPON US. WE ARE LUCKY ENOUGH TO HAVE A FEW OF THEM HERE WITH US TODAY. CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF THEM ON THEIR INDUCTION ANNIVERSARY, AND THANK YOU FOR ALL YOU HAVE DONE FOR OUR COMMUNITY!

1996 - 30 YEARS

Jackie Anderson *(now deceased)*
Bailiwick Repertory Pride Series
Jack Delaney
Gerber/Hart Library & Archives
Arlene Halko *(now deceased)*
Rep. Gregory Harris
Frankie Knuckles *(now deceased)*
Tony Midnite *(now deceased)*
Mary Morten
Ifti Nasim *(now deceased)*
Charlotte Newfeld *(now deceased)*
Norm Sloan
Tiffani St. Cloud

2006 - 20 YEARS

Margaret Anderson *(posthumous)*
Congregation Or Chadash
Jacques Cristion *(posthumous)*
Hon. Richard M. Daley
(Friend of the Community)
Fred Fagenholz
Howard Fagenholz
Robert Fagenholz
Jane Heap *(posthumous)*
Jill M. Metz
Dr. Charles R. Middleton
Ed Negron *(now deceased)*
Laird Petersen *(now deceased)*
Sidetrack
Star Gaze
Dick Uyvari *(now deceased)*

2016 - 10 YEARS

Robert Henry Allerton *(posthumous)*
Amigas Latinas
Tom Bachtell
Big Chicks
Ronald Bogan
Román Buenrostro
David A. Cerda
David Lee Csicsko
Patrick Dennis *(posthumous)*
Kim L. Hunt
Thomas Klein
Patrick Quinn
Norma Seledon
The John Marshall Law School
Maritxa Vidal *(now deceased)*
Dr. Yvonne Welbon

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ALPHAWOOD FOUNDATION
SIDETRACK

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LAKESIDE PRIDE
MUSIC ENSEMBLES

SPECIAL THANK YOU

The Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame would like to thank and to recognize the contribution of the Lakeside Pride Music Ensemble for the beautiful music we have all enjoyed tonight.

Lakeside Pride Music Ensembles was inducted into The Hall of Fame in 2011, and is the umbrella group for a succession of instrumental ensembles that began in 1979 with the Chicago Gay Pride Band. Its four major components help to promote LGBT equality and social acceptance through music, frequently appearing in parades and concerts.

From its inception, Lakeside Pride and its legacy ensembles have welcomed members of all playing abilities, from those who have not played since high school to skilled musicians. The organization strives to foster a collaborative and supportive environment that helps all members represent the LGBT communities while expressing themselves through music.

LAKESIDEPRIDE.ORG

FRIENDS OF THE CHICAGO LGBT HALL OF FAME

Friends of the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame is an Illinois not-for-profit corporation formed in late 2009 to raise and provide financial subsistence to the Hall of Fame since it is no longer funded by the City of Chicago. Pro bono assistance in creating the corporation was provided by the Chicago law firm of Jenner & Block.

After the new not-for-profit corporation was formed, a partnership was entered into by the Friends of the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame, the City of Chicago, and the Chicago Commission on Human Relations. The partnership ensured the Hall of Fame's continuation as the only known municipally sponsored institution of its kind in the nation. Contributions to it are tax-deductible to the fullest extent provided by law.

Friends of the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame is recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a qualified organization under Internal Revenue Code section 501(c)(3).

For additional information, please contact:
Friends of the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame
3712 North Broadway, # 637
Chicago, Illinois 60613-4235
773-281-5095
inquiry@ChicagoLGBTHallofFame.org

You may make a donation by going to our website:
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