

CHICAGO GAY AND LESBIAN HALL OF FAME 1998



City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations

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Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues

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City of Chicago
Commission on Human Relations
Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues
510 North Peshigo Court, Room 608
Chicago, Illinois 60611

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 and gay community and the community's efforts to eradicate homophobic bias and discrimination.

With the support of the City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations, the Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues established the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame in June 1991. The inaugural induction ceremony took place during Gay and Lesbian 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 lesbians and gay men, their organizations, and their friends, as well as their contributions to the lesbian and gay community and to the city of Chicago. This is a unique tribute to dedicated individuals and organizations whose services have improved the quality of life for all of Chicago's citizens.

Induction into the Hall of Fame symbolizes that the recipient either has made a contribution with far-reaching effects on the quality of life for Chicago's lesbian and gay community or the city of Chicago, or has made a significant long-term contribution to the well-being of Chicago's lesbian and gay community. The selection of inductees for the Hall of Fame is made by former recipients of the award based on nominations from the general public.

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 Gay and Lesbian Issues, and volunteers.

A site on the World Wide Web (www.GLHollofFame.org) has been established and maintained by the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

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City of Chicago
Commission on Human Relations
Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues
510 North Peshigo Court, Room 608
Chicago, Illinois 60611

312.744.1814 (VOICE) 312.744.1088 (CTT/TDD)
www.GLHollofFame.org



City of Chicago
Richard M. Daley, Mayor

Commission on Human Relations

Chairman/Commissioner
Clarence N. Wood

510 North Dearborn Court
Chicago, Illinois 60611

(312) 744-1111 (Voice)

(312) 744-1081 (Fax)

(312) 744-1088 (TTY)

<http://www.chi.il.us>

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October 21, 1998

Dear Friends:

Chicago has something that no other city in the country has: An established, city-sponsored Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame. On behalf of the City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations, I am honored that our Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues is in the vanguard of recognizing the achievements of gay men and lesbians as they have contributed significantly to the City of Chicago.

Both our Council and the Hall of Fame are part of a larger equation. The gay and lesbian community has a well-deserved reputation as advocates for human rights and the fair treatment of all segments of our diverse city. We invite the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community to persevere in the struggle against bias, discrimination, and prejudice.

The work of the Commission and its Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues represents a vital alliance for fairness, equality, and justice. By working together, and in collaboration with the leadership of the gay and lesbian community, we have made a difference within City government as well as on the policies of citywide organizations.

The Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame is a crucial reminder to the City of Chicago that while we rejoice in honoring the city's gay and lesbian community we are also singling out individuals and organizations committed to making Chicago everyone's city and ultimately a "bias-free city."

The 1998 inductees of the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame have my admiration and support. I congratulate them for their dedication, personal sacrifice, and commitment to making Chicago a city that works for all its citizens.

Sincerely,

Clarence N. Wood
Chairman



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

CITY OF CHICAGO

RICHARD M. DALEY
MAYOR

October 21, 1998

GREETINGS

As Mayor and on behalf of the City of Chicago, I extend my warmest greetings to the sponsors, supporters, attendees and all those participating in the 1998 Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame induction ceremonies.

Chicago's strength arises from its diversity. In recognizing and appreciating the differences between us, we also find the common bonds that unite us as a people.

Historically, countless members of the Gay and Lesbian communities have made important contributions to our city, nation and world. I am proud that my administration has played a positive and active role in helping to create greater harmony between all of our city's diverse communities.

I commend the Hall of Fame for offering an opportunity for learning and a forum for discussion in the field of human rights. I look forward to continued work with the Gay and Lesbian community to ensure that all of our citizens are treated with dignity and equality.

In addition, I am delighted to recognize the achievements of the 1998 Hall of Fame inductees. I join with the Commission on Human Relations and the Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues in congratulating each of them. They are part of a long tradition of those who seek to promote fairness and equality.

Best wishes for an exciting and memorable event.

Sincerely,

Mayor

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1998 INDUCTEES CHICAGO GAY AND LESBIAN HALL OF FAME

Carrie Barnett

Thomas R. Chiola

Laurie J. Dittman

Jeannette Howard Foster, Ph.D.

Jorjet Harper

Arthur L. Johnston

Ira H. Jones

Renaë Ogletree

Dean Robert Ogren

Victor A. Salvo, Jr.

Modesto "Tico" Valle

Luule Vess

Clifford P. Kelley
Friend of the Community

Dorothy Klefstad
Friend of the Community

LesBiGay Radio

CARRIE BARNETT



Carrie Barnett's most visible role in Chicago's lesbian and gay communities has been that of businesswoman, but her contributions extend beyond that role.

As cofounder of People Like Us Books, which was the city's only bookstore exclusively stocking gay and lesbian materials, Barnett helped to provide one of very few spaces in Chicago where lesbians and gay men routinely mingled.

The store gave lesbian authors a rare chance to reach a gay male audience, and vice versa. In addition, it gave gay and lesbian authors an opportunity to organize joint readings, also an uncommon occurrence.

Through the store, Barnett was a leader in the gay and lesbian business and literary communities. She has served as a judge for the Lambda Literary Awards; the store gave many organizations their first fundraising support for raffles, door prizes, and volunteer recognition; and it functioned as an information center and ticket outlet.

Barnett helped see to it that gay and lesbian youth at Horizons Community Services had access to used books. She and her business partner sponsored appearances not only by well-known writers but also by those with sometimes lesser resources, including authors of color and self-published authors. The bookstore was a founding member of the Chicago Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce.

Outside the shop, Barnett has served as a Horizons youth group adviser and on review panels for the Chicago Department of Public Health. She is a past president of the Gerber/Hart Library and Archives board of directors and has co-chaired fundraising events for such organizations as the Illinois Federation for Human Rights and the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.



THOMAS R. CHIOLA

Tom Chiola is best known for being the first openly gay candidate to be elected to public office in Illinois. In 1994, he won a judgeship on the Circuit Court of Cook County, becoming an example of achievement and an inspiration to others.

Chiola's judgeship race built partly on the efforts of other, earlier gay candidates, notably Ron Sable, and was augmented by success in attracting support from established Democratic Party organizations. With the

help of lobbying by a coalition of opinion leaders, he ultimately secured the support of nearly every Democratic ward committeeman in his constituency—a local political milestone.

During his campaign, Chiola spoke eloquently not only to gay and lesbian groups in his 8th Subcircuit but also to neighborhood associations, organizations serving the elderly, and African American and Asian American gatherings. He built bridges to many communities while inspiring confidence and projecting a competent, positive image of gay and lesbian citizens.

Before running for judge, Chiola had played other significant parts in local politics. He was among activists who successfully campaigned for passage of the Cook County Human Rights Ordinance in 1993, and he made valuable lobbying contacts with several of Cook County's governing commissioners from whom he gained support for the measure.

As a member of the IMPACT board of directors, and by using his state government contacts, Chiola and his supportive family also gave important testimony and other assistance in the still-ongoing campaign for adding "sexual orientation" to the Illinois Human Rights Act. He was then general counsel of the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation, and he helped persuade Governor Jim Edgar to attend an Illinois Federation for Human Rights cocktail reception on the eve of the bill's vote in the state House of Representatives. The next day, the bill passed the House for the first time.

In 1993, speaking as a former National Honor Society high school leader, Chiola made news in his native Springfield by coming out publicly as gay during a speech at an awards banquet, where he urged high school seniors to "be all you can be" and not give in to unfavorable assumptions about their backgrounds or abilities. Chiola is now part of a group working within the judiciary to see that judges and other court personnel are sensitive to gay and lesbian litigants and their issues.

A Chicagoan since 1978, Chiola has also had a high profile in local gay sports circles. He was an early member and is a past director and softball league commissioner of the Metropolitan Sports Association. He helped to organize numerous pioneer gay sporting events and organizations and is an active runner, swimmer, bowler, and volleyball player. He helped develop pro bono legal services for persons with AIDS and has actively aided programs of the NAMES Project and of Open Hand Chicago, for which he volunteers every week as one of its food pantry workers.

LAURIE J. DITTMAN



In Laurie Dittman's more than 17 years of service to Chicago's lesbian and gay communities, she has been a deeply committed and effective political activist, community organizer, and government official.

After receiving her 1979 degree in political science from Knox College in Galesburg, Dittman relocated to Chicago. Here she became a volunteer and later part-time administrative assistant at the Independent Voters of Illinois-Independent Precinct Organization (IVI-IPO).

She emerged politically and in other ways when she

organized the first independent gay and lesbian caucus of IVI-IPO and became a core member of Lesbians and Gays for Washington, working successfully both on Harold Washington's historic first mayoral campaign and on his second.

As executive director of IVI-IPO from 1981 to 1990, Dittman ensured the organization's active role in the struggle for lesbian and gay civil rights when she assumed a leadership role in Gay and Lesbian Town Meeting, the late-1980s organization that took over the long campaign to prohibit discrimination in Chicago because of sexual orientation. Dittman effectively used her contacts with a diverse range of public officials, as well as her involvement with such allies as the Chicago chapter of the National Organization for Women, to help develop winning strategies that led to passage of Chicago's expanded human rights law on December 21, 1988.

Later, Dittman was a key organizer for passage of Chicago's hate crimes ordinance in 1990, and she played a significant role in achieving passage of the Cook County Human Rights Ordinance in 1993.

Continuing her political work, Dittman served as Midwest regional coordinator for the Human Rights Campaign Fund in 1990 and 1991 and as executive director of IMPACT from 1991 to 1993. She then entered government service.

Under City Treasurer Miriam Santos, she served first as Special Assistant to the City Treasurer, a position from which she successfully fought for introduction and passage of a city ordinance requiring banks to pledge nondiscrimination in their lending practices in order to maintain their status as depositories of city funds. From 1994 until now, Dittman has served as Deputy City Treasurer and is the highest-ranking openly gay or lesbian person in Chicago city government.

In addition to being named as Organizer of the Year by *Gay Chicago Magazine*, Dittman has received the Liberty Bell Award from the Chicago Bar Association, an award of merit from the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, various IVI-IPO awards, and IMPACT's Alongi Award.

JEANNETTE HOWARD FOSTER, PH.D. [posthumous]



Jeannette Howard Foster was born in 1895 in the family home in what is now Oak Park, Illinois. Since the 1840s, her father's family had been merchants in Chicago. Her paternal grandfather, Addison Howard Foster, was a founder of Chicago Lying-In Hospital, the city's first maternity hospital.

Dr. Foster was an educator, librarian, translator, poet, scholar, and author of the first critical study of lesbian literature, *Sex Variant Women in Literature: A Historical and Quantitative Survey* (1956), which was her chief work and became the keystone for scholarship in the field with the campus eruption of women's studies in the 1970s. Foster was also Dr. Alfred Kinsey's first librarian at the Institute for Sex Research (1948-52).

As a University of Chicago undergraduate in 1914, Foster suffered what might today be considered a nervous breakdown after she realized that she loved another woman. In her book's introduction, Foster recounts a dormitory meeting that considered expelling two women students who had locked themselves in their room, engendering a "morals" issue. These events triggered her lifelong search in professional literature and belles lettres for an understanding of female homosexuality.

After 18 months of recovery, Foster entered the all-female Rockford College, from which she received a chemistry degree in 1918. Years later, she received her Ph.D. degree from the University of Chicago (1935), where she taught undergraduate English and had earlier received degrees of A.A. (1914) and A.M. in literature (1922). In 1932, she had also earned a bachelor's degree in library science from Emory University.

Her work as a teacher of library science influenced generations of librarians and nonprofessionals. Among the latter is Barbara Gittings, who pioneered the Task Force on Gay Liberation within the Chicago-based American Library Association. Foster's students included the late Joseph Gregg, who became a librarian at the University of Chicago and Northeastern Illinois University and eventually was founding librarian of Chicago's Gerber/Hart Library and Archives. Gregg attributed his Gerber/Hart activism to Foster, and Foster's bibliography is said to have been used by the library when securing its first major grant.

Foster was a friend of the late lesbian novelist Valerie Taylor, who introduced Foster to Chicago literary activist Marie Kuda. A direct result of the meeting was the founding by Taylor and Kuda of the nation's first lesbian writers conferences. The initial one, in 1974, was dedicated by Taylor to Foster and to her influence on the next generation of writers. The conference keynoter was Barbara Grier, a Naiad Press founder and former editor of the nation's first lesbian magazine, *The Ladder*. Grier acknowledged her indebtedness to Foster and noted that Foster had contributed reviews, criticism, and fiction to that magazine over 12 years under at least three names.

Foster died in 1981. A true pioneer, she created a body of work where nothing similar had existed.

JORJET HARPER



For almost two decades, Jorjet Harper has been writing for the gay and lesbian press in Chicago. As a journalist, columnist, performer, and speaker, she has contributed to Chicago's lesbian and gay communities.

Harper began writing for Chicago's lesbian-feminist newsletter *Blazing Star* shortly after moving here from her native New York City in 1979. When *Blazing Star* was incorporated into *GayLife* during Grant Ford's tenure as the latter's founding publisher, she became co-editor of *GayLife*'s "women's section." After several years as a

freelancer writing arts features and reviews for *GayLife*, she joined the original staff of *Windy City Times* as typesetter, proofreader, and contributing writer, later becoming the paper's books editor. Still later, Harper was on the founding staff of *Outlines*, serving as entertainment editor from 1987 to 1990. She has also contributed to *Outlines* and *Nightlines* as writer and photographer and was a regular columnist and contributor for the influential Chicago-based national lesbian magazine *Hot Wire: The Journal of Women's Music and Culture* during its 10-year history.

The growth of lesbian identity, gay and lesbian culture in a wider community context, and the illogic of homophobia have always been Harper's main themes. Through syndication of her writings to publishers in other cities, she has helped to forge ongoing links between Chicagoans and other gay and lesbian communities nationwide.

From her Chicago home base, Harper has written sparkling commentary on a panorama of gay-related subjects. Her 1989 cover story, "Lesbians in the Girl Scouts," appeared in the national magazine *OutWeek* and was the first article ever written on that previously silenced subject. She has also been published in mainstream newspapers and general-audience cultural publications.

Perhaps Harper's most influential contribution has been through the community-building and healing power of her humor. In 1990, she began writing a humor column, "Lesbomania"—first in *Nightlines*, then in *Outlines*, and now appearing also in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and Miami—which aims to serve positive social change and the struggle against homophobia. Two books of her columns have been published; a third, as well as a French edition of her second, is due in 1999; and she has contributed to anthologies of lesbian writing and women's humor.

Though she considers herself primarily a writer rather than performer, Harper has done staged versions of "Lesbomania" that include slides of her comic artwork at several Chicago venues. She has also been on programs at Women & Children First bookstore, has performed at New York's Gay and Lesbian Community Center, and has given talks and readings across the United States and Europe. In recent years, she has become a speaker and educator on lesbian and gay issues in the wider community and has given talks on Chicago gay and lesbian history for college students. She is a strong believer in strengthening links between lesbian and gay Chicagoans and the international lesbian and gay movement.

ARTHUR L. JOHNSTON



For some 20 years, Arthur Johnston has been making his mark in Chicago's organized gay and lesbian communities, especially in politics, business, and sports.

A native of North Tonawanda, New York, Johnston was the first member of his family to go to college. A scholarship student majoring in French, he was graduated from the State University of New York at Albany and became a teacher at a boys' boarding school. He also served as soccer coach, a prelude to his later involvement with gay and

lesbian sports. In 1972, he moved to the Chicago area to obtain a Master's of Fine Arts degree in directing from Northwestern University. There he met José "Pepe" Pena, his life partner.

Johnston became an early member of Chicago's Gay Athletic Association, which later became the Metropolitan Sports Association. Serving on its board of directors between 1978 and 1991, he helped to gain league acceptance by the National Association of Amateur Gay Athletes, and this served as a political primer for much of his later work.

When Pena began to make video magic at the fledgling bar, Sidetrack, Johnston was a suburban high school teacher. He signed on as a weekend bartender in April 1982, and when the original owner died Pena talked Johnston into joining with him to buy the bar. For 16 years, it has been one of the most popular in Chicago, and among the most innovative video bars nationwide.

Johnston was a pioneer in getting his suppliers to provide sponsorship for gay and lesbian athletic events, street fairs, community-based HIV and AIDS service providers, and other gay and lesbian organizations. He is a longtime member of the Northalsted Merchants Association.

The late Ron Sable persuaded Johnston to become a founding board member of IMPACT. This was a springboard for Johnston later to join with Jon-Henri Damski, Laurie Dittman, and Rick Garcia as the "Gang of Four" in organizing Gay and Lesbian Town Meeting, which was responsible for heightened lobbying efforts that in 1988 finally ushered in a historic Chicago ordinance banning discrimination because of sexual orientation. That is the accomplishment of which he is proudest. Later, he was highly instrumental in the 1993 passage of Cook County's human rights ordinance.

Thereafter, Johnston was a cofounder of the Illinois Federation for Human Rights. Its primary mission is passage of state-level human rights legislation that will include equal protection for lesbian and gay Illinoisans. Sidetrack has become a focal point for IFHR activism, often hosting events that attract a wide range of politicians. Johnston lobbies them all.

With Pena, Johnston has been a generous donor to countless community organizations, both mainstream and gay- and lesbian-specific, and to numerous political campaigns. His awards include recognition by the Chicago Bar Association and the Chicago Commission on Human Relations.



IRA H. JONES [posthumous]

For more than two decades, Ira Henry Hillyard Jones was one of Chicago's most visible, energetic spokespersons against discrimination because of sexual orientation. During his 20 years in Mattachine Midwest and in countless other venues, Jones was a larger-than-life figure who helped to pioneer local activism.

At the organization's first public meeting in 1965, Jones welcomed newcomers. In its last days, he was serving one of several terms as its president. In between, Jones spent thousands of his hours and dollars helping to maintain the group and, through it, to assist untold numbers of persons who called its hotline, wrote, or attended its meetings. In fact, Jones was also part of even-earlier efforts to establish a Mattachine unit in Chicago during the late 1950s and early 1960s.

Besides Mattachine Midwest, Jones's nonstop activism included involvement with the Gay and Lesbian Coalition of Metropolitan Chicago, Integrity/Chicago, the Metropolitan Business Association, the Prairie State Democratic Club, and Black and White Men Together. He was president and a board member of Chicago's Girth and Mirth social organization, and he served as national president of the Affiliated Big Men's Clubs of America. In addition, when he became a gay bar and arcade owner after working for several years in low-level state government jobs, he led numerous ad hoc efforts at combating the police harassment of his day and would often work around the clock to gather facts from his sources.

Born in Chehalis, Washington, in 1925, Jones grew up in Portland, Oregon, was a civil rights advocate, served as president of the Oregon Young Democrats, and became executive secretary of the Oregon Democratic Party. He moved to Chicago in the 1950s because he felt that his gayness was incompatible with political work and family ties there.

His magnetic personality and human relations skills enabled him to cultivate a wide range of acquaintances from street hustlers to bishops. His "Ira's Eye on Chicago" columns in *GayLife* newspaper occasionally drew mainstream attention. His experience in Oregon under Senator Wayne Morse, and later in Democratic organizations of Chicago's 42d Ward and then the 4th Ward, often gave him insight into whom to approach and why people were acting as they were when gay and lesbian rights became a political issue.

Both as an ardent Episcopalian and as a strong supporter of two predominantly African American independent churches on Chicago's South Side known for their hospitality to gay and lesbian worshippers, Jones was able to enlist religious allies in the fight against sexual-orientation and race discrimination. He was always a ready volunteer and a patient, thoughtful collaborator.

He maintained his social-justice commitments and activity until dying in 1986 from a heart attack.



RENAE OGLETTREE

Self-described as "a bridge person between groups and individuals," Renae Ogletree 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 recognized as a leader who can bring together disenfranchised groups with the goal of integrating their perspectives in those of the larger community—a recognition that is reflected by her 1997 award from the Chicago Commission on Human Relations.

Ogletree has demonstrated her leadership talents by identifying, confronting, and helping to resolve issues concerning diversity in the planning and execution of AIDS Walk Chicago, and she has organized educational conferences to create opportunities for others in her role as a board member of Yahimba, a networking organization for lesbians of African descent. She has also participated in the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum and on the Chicago Police Department's 23d District Gay and Lesbian Advisory Committee.

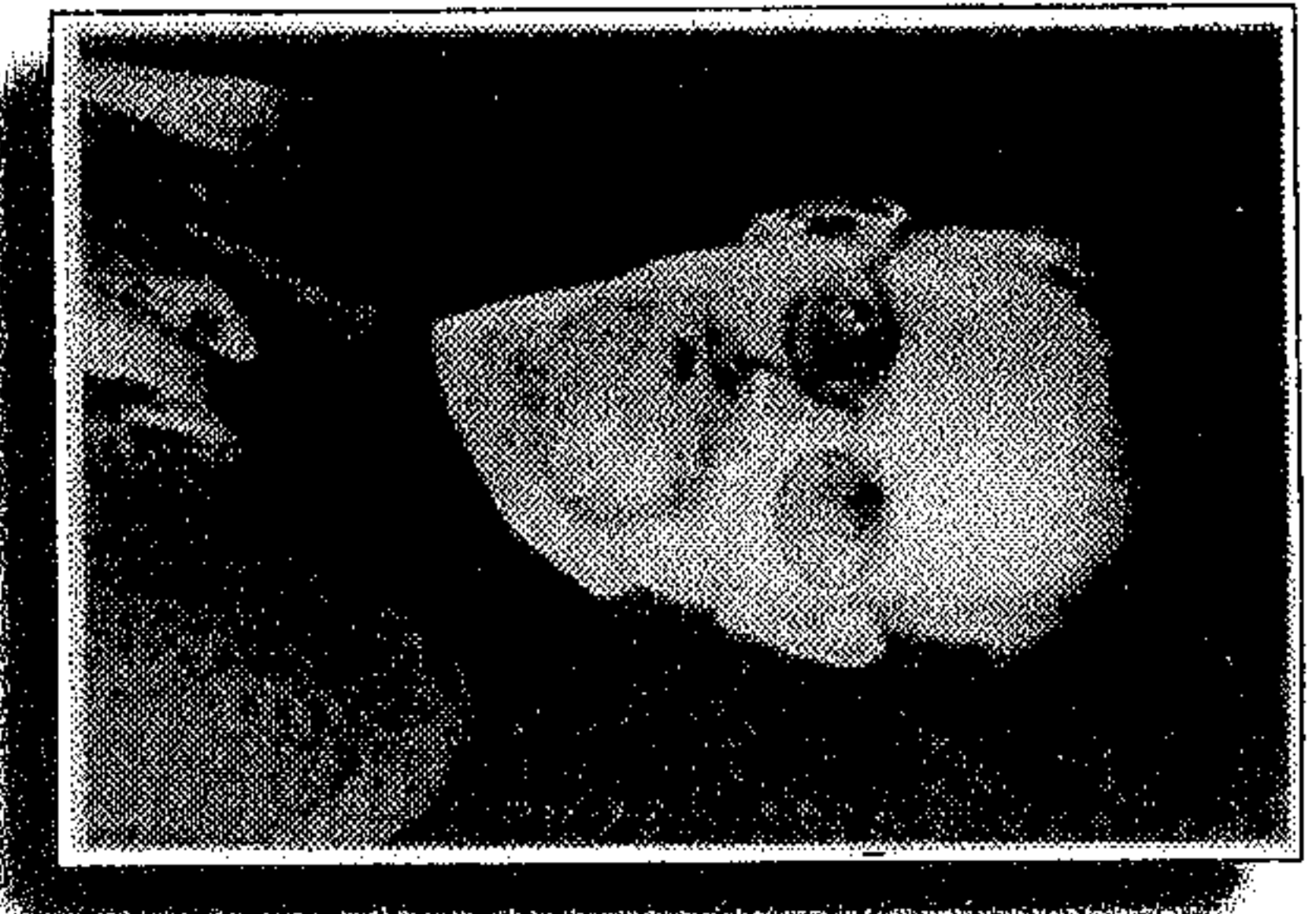
Ogletree cofounded and co-chairs Chicago Black Lesbians and Gays, an organization that aims to make lesbian and gay Chicagoans more visible in the city's African American community. She played an active part in planning the four Unity Conferences that have been held since the group's inception. After recognizing a need to establish a safe, supportive environment in which lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered Chicagoans could discuss issues of race and class, she also served as a founding member of The Color Triangle. And she has served as an organizer of the annual Pride Sunday event at Chicago's Belmont Rocks, where thousands of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered African Americans gather to celebrate strength and unity.

As a health care activist, Ogletree has confronted issues of class, race, and sexual orientation. For example, she has brought black churches into discussions on homophobia and HIV and AIDS. She serves on the Lesbian Community Cancer Project board of directors, helping to ensure a supportive environment for lesbian health care.

Professionally, Ogletree has more than 30 years of leadership experience in serving youth and has done so through the Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago, the Better Boys Foundation, and Chapin Hall Center for Children. She is now executive director of the Chicago Youth Agency Partnership. She has helped to open a shelter for homeless youth, consulted with the Chicago Park District on services infrastructures, and conducted research and grants work for the Chicago Community Trust.

Most recently, she has led a YouthMapping project, in which gay and lesbian youth aged 14 to 23 from Horizons Community Services' Youth Services program join youth from five other Chicago-area programs to canvass Chicago neighborhoods in order to identify and document businesses, services, and programs of value to youth. The program is a first and will produce a database for use in city and service-organization planning.

DEAN ROBERT OGREN



According to Webster, an exemplar is one who is worthy of imitation; a model; an archetype.

Dean Ogren is the exemplar volunteer, and volunteers are the lifeblood of community organizations.

Had Ogren confined himself to working with one organization, he would surely have received every accolade, every award, every appreciation which that lucky group could give. Instead, he tirelessly shares his talents

with many diverse organizations, laboring with love on behalf of the NAMES Project, Open Hand Chicago, AIDS Walk Chicago, Habitat for Humanity, Special Olympics, United Way, International Mr. Leather, and state Representative Larry McKeon's historic 1996 electoral campaign, among many others.

Ogren's contributions to Chicago's gay and lesbian communities are the stuff of which legends are made. As he continually shows, one person can make a difference. An out and proud gay man, he makes all aspects of his life into a favorable reflection of his community membership.

He is an articulate spokesperson and has been a media contact for both the NAMES Project and AIDS Walk Chicago. His annual post-holiday party has raised funds for the NAMES Project and for Open Hand Chicago's Grocery Centers. In recognition of Ogren's outstanding volunteerism, his employer, Helene Curtis Industries, Inc., nominated him in 1996 for one of the American Institute for Public Service's local Jefferson Awards sponsored by WMAQ-TV. And, as a leatherman, Ogren is an integral part of one of Chicago's top 10 conventions: International Mr. Leather, the largest and oldest gathering of leatherfolk.

Ogren takes his social and political responsibilities seriously, putting time and money where his beliefs are. He has reviewed grant proposals submitted to the Chicago Department of Public Health, which is a time-consuming, unglamorous volunteer effort, yet one that is vital to funding of community organizations. He walked his precinct to speak, one on one, his support of McKeon's candidacy.

Ogren puts in more volunteer hours in a year than many do in a lifetime. In doing so, he has a direct impact on the quality of Chicago lesbian and gay life, and he exemplifies the spirit that has made Chicago's gay and lesbian communities into the strong social and political force they are today.



VICTOR A. SALVO, JR.

The first true test of Victor Salvo's leadership came as Chicago chairperson for the 1987 National March on Washington Committee. Gay and lesbian Chicagoans, like others across the nation, were gripped by growing despair in the face of AIDS, and Salvo was convinced it could be dispelled if enough people took their rightful place at the largest community gathering in history.

Salvo's small committee succeeded in motivating an estimated 5,000 Chicagoans to go to Washington. Within six months, the number of local groups is said to have doubled. Two years later, there seemed to be hundreds of gay and lesbian organizations thriving in Chicago. His vision for change had come to pass.

After the march, Salvo helped to found the Lesbian/Gay Progressive Democratic Organization and, through LGPDO, became one of the founders of IMPACT. In 1988, he joined the NAMES Project host committee to bring the first AIDS Memorial Quilt display to Navy Pier. And, when those who had volunteered with him sought to turn their grief into action, Salvo joined in establishing Open Hand Chicago's meals-on-wheels for those with HIV and AIDS.

In 1993, Salvo signed on to help organize another March on Washington: designing T-shirts and buttons; directing and producing a music video to promote the march; distributing thousands of posters and postcard invitations; and hosting a huge Park West benefit to raise money so that 35 PWAs could make the trip. An estimated 10,000 people from Chicago went this time.

In 1994, Salvo used his professional expertise to design and construct Open Hand Chicago's entire chain of Grocery Centers. Beginning with the first Grocery/land facility in Lake View, he oversaw the centers' expansion to Humboldt Park, Englewood, and Rogers Park. The Rogers Park location also serves as Open Hand's corporate headquarters. Eighty percent of Open Hand's clients are now fed through these centers.

In 1995, Salvo cofounded Gay and Lesbian Building and Trade Professionals. GLBTP now serves as a mechanism for gay and lesbian people in the building and design trades to refer work to one another and advertise their services to the large lesbian and gay market in the metropolitan area. Besides maintaining GLBTP's network, Salvo has served on the board of the Chicago Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce and works closely with the Chicago Professional Networking Association (CPNA) to develop and strengthen a unique synergy among the combined 650 members of the three professional groups.

Since 1996, as a freelance contributor to *Nightlines* magazine, Salvo has written dozens of thought-provoking essays exploring the diversity of gay people, analyzing politics, and reflecting on the love and loss of family and friends. Drawing on observations from his own experiences and from the many persons with whom he has served, Salvo continues to call on us to put aside our differences and remember each other's humanity before we lose sight of our shared history altogether.

MODESTO "TICO" VALLE



In 1989, Modesto Valle helped to rally a group of activist volunteers to bring the first Midwest display of the AIDS Memorial Quilt to Navy Pier. In that display and out of it, the private mourning of individuals and a community found public voice in the silent, eloquent testimony of the Quilt, saying to Chicago, "AIDS is a plague at the heart of all people in this city, state, and nation. Never forget to care."

Chicagoans—young and old, gay and non-gay, of all ethnicities—came and saw, many for the first time, that the face of AIDS is every man, every woman.

Valle, known throughout the community as Tico, founded the Chicago NAMES Project, which over the 10 years of his leadership has grown into one of the largest and most active contributors of Quilt panels in the United States. Through grief counseling and Quilt panel sewing bees, the chapter has assured friends, families, and lovers that they are not alone in grief or memories. Mercurial, organized, able, and often bossy, with his whole person Valle met the AIDS epidemic and became involved in service to persons living with AIDS and their families.

At the national level and as a board member of the NAMES Project Foundation, Valle helped to organize the 1996 display of the entire Quilt in Washington, D.C., and he contributed to development of a National High School Quilt Curriculum now in use in youth prevention programs in Chicago and across the United States. Through his efforts to mobilize volunteers and constantly to expand the circle of caring and remembrance among all sectors of Chicago, Valle has kept the Quilt in schools, public spaces, and the hearts of Chicagoans and other Americans.

This autumn, for World AIDS Day on December 1, Valle and over 5,000 NAMES Project volunteers, with the support of a broad consortium of corporate funders, will install the Quilt for a second time on Navy Pier for the largest indoor Quilt display ever.

Broad vision, compassion, activism, stubborn determination, service, logistical acumen, and love of friends, family, and community define Modesto Valle.

He has volunteered for Chicago House, Test Positive Aware Network, and Open Hand Chicago from the earliest days of the epidemic. He has served as Open Hand Chicago's first Volunteer Services Director, connecting food for people living with AIDS and the willing hands to deliver it.

His commitment to youth empowerment is exemplified through professional work to establish scholarship subsidies for minority youth at Holy Trinity High School, where is currently associate director of development. He serves on several boards and recently was nominated to the AIDS Living Remembrance Project's advisory board.

LUULE VESS



Under Luule Vess's leadership, the battle against HIV and AIDS was taken to the streets of Chicago's South Lawndale when Project VIDA was formed. The neighborhood was far less receptive than lakefront communities, yet the agency Vess started has won national recognition.

Born in Germany, Vess came here as a child in 1950. Later, after a stint teaching in Chicago public schools, Vess moved into delivering substance abuse treatment in Oak Park and on the Near South, South, and West sides of Chicago, where she saw the problems faced by adolescents of color and by adult recidivists.

At the Cook County Hospital HIV Primary Care Center in 1990, Vess helped to develop an outpatient substance abuse program, targeting a homeless HIV-positive injection-drug-using population. At the same time, always comfortable with her sexual orientation, Vess volunteered at Horizons Community Services, where she facilitated the organization's first Living Positive group for gay men. She also started counseling programs for Chicago House and the Kupona Network.

She came to realize that the needs of young people of color, including those exploring and questioning their sexual identities, were not being met by Chicago's established social service agencies. In 1991, she began to explore starting a new grassroots effort in South Lawndale.

At a meeting in early 1992 with Judith Johns, who was the Chicago Department of Public Health's first Assistant Commissioner for HIV/AIDS, Vess secured a \$15,000 grant for a start-up program targeting Latino and Latina youth at high HIV-infection risk. That year, Project VIDA was born.

Under Vess's guidance as its volunteer executive director, Project VIDA won grants for an array of prevention activities and for other services to persons living with or affected by HIV. She garnered local support and put together an organization reflecting the area's young Mexican, Mexican American, and African American population—and including strong gay and lesbian involvement.

Project VIDA worked with Spanish-language radio stations to develop HIV education messages and attracted support from LIFEBeat, the music industry's response to AIDS. The group brought alternative therapy options and mental health services to South Lawndale and started an ethnically tailored grocery service. Meanwhile, Vess supported herself with what was in effect a second job at Howard Brown Health Center. Only after 1995, when finances improved, was the Project VIDA board able to offer her a modest salary and enable her to work for it full-time.

Project VIDA has won two excellence awards from the Chicago Department of Public Health and was held up as a model organization by Clinton Administration AIDS officials. In late 1997, it was awarded a \$400,000 contract to bring HIV education into Chicago public schools. In six brief years, Vess has done a remarkable job in starting a lesbian-gay-friendly organization in one of Chicago's poorest ethnic neighborhoods and developing it into a million-dollar, model service provider.

CLIFFORD P. KELLEY



Twenty-five years ago this summer, Cliff Kelley earned the title of "Friend of the Community" when he introduced the Chicago City Council's first proposed ordinance to ban discrimination because of sexual orientation.

That proposed ordinance eventually died, as did successive versions Kelley kept offering. But they gained increasing attention and support both among the public and among council members. They were the precursors of the measure that did ultimately pass in 1988 and that, with later amendments, now constitutes what is often called the city's Human Rights Ordinance.

Kelley's sponsorship did not take place in a vacuum, nor without courage. As a young alderman, he took an interest in matters beyond his ward lines that was exceptional for the City Council. He was attracted to ideas and social justice, not simply to winning elections. He became active in international organizations of legislators, which was hardly a prerequisite for council service. He was an officer of the Illinois Young Democrats and a Democratic Party platform committee member. He was a thinker, and still is.

Activists drew his attention to gay and lesbian rights goals during his Young Democrats and platform committee service. Soon afterward, he introduced his historic proposed ordinance on July 6, 1973. Because of his popularity and his position in the council's Regular Democratic majority, he secured surprisingly broad aldermanic support for the proposal even in its earliest days. He shepherded it through lengthy hearings that resulted in much publicity for its contents, its proponents, and its sometimes shrill opponents.

In the years that followed, he took the lead in making gay and lesbian rights into a subject his colleagues had to take seriously. And he did so despite the fact that, as a bachelor from a ward with no strong pro-gay advocacy organizations, he was vulnerable both to gossip about his own sexual orientation and to criticism from locally strong religious groups that opposed the ordinance. Later, he also faced criticism from advocacy groups that felt his proposal was taking too long to pass or that even professed to doubt his sincerity. He persevered and refused to be intimidated, no matter how chagrined by the hostility he encountered.

It later came to pass that Kelley's council service was cut short. As a result, he could not be involved when gay and lesbian rights continued to make gains in the City Council and in Chicago city government generally. But Kelley is a forefather of those gains, and in this 25th anniversary year of his courage and commitment he deserves Hall of Fame induction as a "Friend of the Community."

DOROTHY KLEFSTAD



For the greater part of her younger life, Dorothy Klefstad was a wife and mother living a conventional lifestyle. After their daughter, Sue, came out to Klefstad and her late husband, Stan, and presented them with a new daughter-in-law, they kept open minds and learned more about Sue's orientation and its implications. They also learned more about the challenges their daughter faced from homophobia.

A sensitive person who always tried to make things better for people, Klefstad launched a career as a volunteer for lesbian and gay causes. She shares her love with her non-gay son and his family but recognizes that the lesbian and gay community needs allies to work for change.

It was not until 10 years ago that Klefstad discovered People Like Us Books, gay newspapers, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, and Lutherans Concerned/Chicago, in that order. In Lutherans Concerned, which advocates for gay and lesbian church members, she has served as chapter secretary (now an office awarded her "for life").

Klefstad could be dubbed a perpetual volunteer. Here are some ways she expends her energy:

- At Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, as an active member;
- At Open Hand Chicago, as a food and hug deliverer;
- At Bonaventure House, as a companion to residents;
- At AIDS Walk Chicago, as a pre-walk volunteer, funds solicitor, and office worker since 1991;
- At the Night Ministry, which in 1997 presented her with its first Volunteer of the Year Award and where she has served for seven years distributing coffee, cookies, condoms, and conversation to street people of all types;
- For the NAMES Project's AIDS Memorial Quilt, about which she said, "I have created nine too many panels: I would rather not have had to make any," and for which she served as Quilt monitor in Washington and Chicago and helped with fundraising;
- For Earthwatch, with which she served on nine expeditions in various scientific disciplines worldwide;
- For Horizons Community Services, where she has just started a career as a volunteer fundraiser;
- As a pledge phone person for public radio and public television; and
- As a "pink lady" for five years at Lutheran General Hospital.

Klefstad has been an occasional "mom" to disowned gay and lesbian people of many ages, but more often gay and lesbian people are "friends of Dorothy" in the truest sense. Two such friends, well acquainted with her volunteer contributions, have now enthusiastically nominated her for deserved selection as a "Friend of the Community."



LESBIGAY RADIO

After four years of unique broadcasts on Chicago radio stations, LesBiGay Radio continues to offer air time to "every lesbian/trans voice from all organizations in the Chicago area" and to help bridge gaps among the region's diverse communities.

Launched in June 1994, LesBiGay Radio is the nation's first daily drive-time broadcast for lesbian and gay listeners and has educated, entertained, and enriched its listeners' lives with information on arts and literature, health, and social service issues. Though there are some 80 gay radio shows in North America, none other has been as comprehensive, convenient, or successful.

It began as a two-hour Sunday-morning show on WCBR, an Arlington Heights FM station. Eighteen months later, it moved to WNDZ (750 MHz) for a stronger signal and a daily, morning-commute time slot. The show now airs during the evening drive time from 5 to 7 p.m. Monday through Friday; it is now best heard on WSBC (1240 MHz) by North Side listeners and on WCFJ (1470 MHz) by those on the South Side.

LesBiGay Radio's staff produces 260 shows a year locally, for an average of 10 to 15 hours per week. It offers a mix of general news, traffic, and weather reports; interviews, music, and educational segments; and news of local and national gay and lesbian events. Listeners range from Milwaukee to Bloomington, Illinois, and from Joliet to Kalamazoo. The show boasts documented listenership in at least 35 of Chicago's ZIP Code areas as well as in other parts of the metropolitan region.

In March 1996, LesBiGay Radio became the first gay business to advertise openly on outdoor billboards in six North Side neighborhoods. It generated hundreds of calls to state legislators on a bill to ban same-sex marriages and sent its own lobbyists to oppose the bill. It has produced live performances at Chicago street festivals, offered the first daily gay and lesbian coverage from both major political parties' 1996 national conventions, covered the 1998 World AIDS Conference in Geneva, placed newspaper ads countering antigay Radical Right ads, and has run paid ads for the show itself on general-audience radio and television stations. LesBiGay Radio has also sponsored community town-hall meetings and cosponsored numerous local special events. With foundation support, it has funded several community empowerment projects, including a series of forums under the name "The Color Triangle: A Different Look at Racism in Our Community." National media coverage has often resulted from the show's groundbreaking activities.

In a short period of time, LesBiGay Radio and founder Alan Amberg have made national media history while offering Chicagoans a wealth of information and entertainment in an unprecedented format.

PREVIOUS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

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

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

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

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 Coffee House, 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.

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.

BALLIWICK REPERTORY'S PRIDE SERIES (1996): Since 1989, the annual Pride Series has presented more than 120 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): In lesbian and gay journalism since 1984, she has labored untiringly as publisher, reporter, editor, columnist, and photographer in offering a voice to all segments of our community. She now produces the weekly *Nightlines* and *Outlines*, plus *BLACKlines*, *En La Vida*, *Clout*, and the *OUT? Resource Guide*, and she cochairs the Chicago Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce.

ROBERT SLOANE BASKER (1993): He founded and headed Mattachine Midwest in 1965, began Chicago's first gay and lesbian telephone hotline, and initiated discussions with police during a period of arbitrary raids and arrests. He also took part in pre-Stonewall national gay rights organizing and in Dade County organizing during the Anita Bryant era. Now an 80-year-old San Franciscan, he remains active in numerous social change movements and is on the board of the San Francisco NAACP chapter.

CARYN BERMAN (1995): A psychotherapist and social worker, for nearly 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.

GEORGE S. BUSE (1994): As gay journalist, gay activist, actor, and minister, he has 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 is a World War II Marine veteran (discharged from a later Navy chaplaincy for being gay). In the 1960s he was a civil rights and anti-Vietnam War activist.

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 fundraising, he is a longtime leader of Dignity/Chicago, the organization for lesbian and gay Roman Catholics, and was president of Dignity/USA from 1985 to 1989.

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 has drawn on her early organizing skills as a show-business bus driver and has raised funds, handled public relations, and overseen a food pantry's development.

ROGER "RJ" CHAFFIN (1997): One of Chicago's most visible gay businesspersons for more than two decades 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 and 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, he returned to Hong Kong in 1991, became a pioneering and attention-getting gay and AIDS organizer there, but died of AIDS complications in 1995.

JOHN CHESTER (1994): Since 1971, he has been a leader in lesbian and gay rights efforts, philanthropic organizing, Chicago House development, and both gay and non-gay religious activism. 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.

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 25 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 Gay and Lesbian Issues from 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 working to revise the American Psychological Association's attitudes toward homosexuality.

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.

T. CHRIS COTHRAN (1995, now deceased): He was well known both in broader gay and lesbian groups and in those specific to lesbian and gay African Americans. 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.

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 to produce literature. She became heavily involved in gay and lesbian political efforts and, as a 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.

ION-HENRI DAMSKI (1991, now deceased): He was a columnist for *GayLife*, *Gay Chicago Magazine*, *Windy City Times*, and ultimately *Nightlines* and *Outlines*. His lobbying efforts were critical to the passage of the Chicago human rights ordinance in 1989 and the hate crimes ordinance in 1990.

JAMES C. DARBRY (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 Dèeks, Pangea, and the Clubhouse. He also aided the Kuponu 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 and the Illinois Federation for Human Rights Political Action Committee. In 1995 he was elected to 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.

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 fundraiser 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.

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. 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.

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

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.

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.

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): As a repository of gay and lesbian history and culture, the library holds more than 10,000 titles and has a growing archival collection, said by some to be unparalleled in the Midwest. As a cultural center, it often mounts or cosponsors readings and exhibitions. Recent years have seen computerization, an Internet presence, and its first fulltime director.

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 a City Council staffer, she helped efforts to pass the human rights ordinance, and as a Democratic Party activist she has long advocated for gay and lesbian rights.

JEFF GRAUBART-CERVONE (1993): He has been an activist and advocate for gay and lesbian human rights for more than two decades 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 demonstrations for same-sex marriage.

RICHARD LEE GRAY (1992): He has committed himself for more than a decade 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): 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."

PEG GREY (1992): She has provided key leadership for more than a decade 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 with fundraising, building renovation, site selection, board development, and lobbying. 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 an 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 disease and AIDS. He was a leader in other groups as well, including Howard Brown Health Center and the AIDS Foundation of Chicago.

RENEE C. HANOVER (1991): A prominent, now retired civil rights 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.

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.

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 untold amounts of volunteer time to AIDS-related causes and was cofounder and first president both of AIDS Walk Chicago and of Open Hand Chicago. He was instrumental in securing domestic partnership benefits for Chicago city government employees and cofounded Lesbians and Gays in Government.

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

EARNEST E. HITE, JR. (1994): In 1987, he cofounded Image Plus, a grassroots organization providing 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 a variety of community-based groups, especially those serving African Americans.

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): Established 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.

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.

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.

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.

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

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.

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.

MARIE J. KUDA (1991): For some 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 publishing literary reference materials and writing regular columns.

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

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.

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.

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.

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 meeting worldwide demand. He defied police disapproval of female impersonation shows in the early 1950s by booking the Jewel Box Revue for an extended and sold-out run, which set a precedent. His reminiscences span nearly 50 years of visible gay life.

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

MARY F. MORTEN (1996): The first African American president of the National Organization for Women’s Chicago chapter, she has contributed to books and has created a video documentary on the experiences of African American lesbians. She campaigned for a revised home-based-business ordinance and chaired the Chicago Abortion Fund and the city Advisory Council on Women. In 1997, she became director of the Advisory Council on Gay and Lesbian Issues.

MOUNTAIN MOVING COFFEEHOUSE FOR WOMYN AND CHILDREN (1993): It is the oldest continuously- running, women-only space in the country. For some 20 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.

IFTI NASIM (1996): Born in Pakistan, he wrote *Narman*, an award-winning book of gay-related poetry in Urdu—said to be the first direct statement of “gay” longings and desires ever published in that language. Its publication required courage amid controversy, met with revilement but critical acclaim, and has inspired other Pakistani poets. He was cofounder of Sangat/Chicago, a group for gay and lesbian South Asians, and has been president of the South Asian Performing Arts Council of America.

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 well-known civic activist and a tenacious advocate for gay and lesbian Chicagoans since the early 1970s, this “Friend of the Community” lobbied for city and county 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.

OPEN HAND CHICAGO (1994): Founded in 1988, it became Chicago’s only in-home meals program for persons living with AIDS and is estimated to have delivered more than 1.2 million meals. It has expanded throughout the city, added other nutrition programs, and cooperated with other groups targeting specific ethnic populations.

DOM OREJUDOS (posthumous 1992): He was a major figure and choreographer with the Illinois Ballet Company for 15 years, a respected businessman, and an internationally known artist.

KATHY OSTERMAN (posthumous 1993): As a “Friend of the Community,” 48th Ward alderman, 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 the passage of the city’s human rights ordinance.

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.

RICHARD W. PFEIFFER (1993): For more than 25 years he has been an activist and volunteer in numerous organizations. 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 his leadership of 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 civil rights.

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 leather bar, one of the first openly gay businesses in Chicago. 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, fundraiser, and activist, she combines her business acumen and community consciousness to promote projects and political actions in support of lesbian and gay human rights and community needs.

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.

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 Magnet 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.

BRUCE C. SCOTT (1993): He has been a Chicago resident for more than 50 years and 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. He was also an early officer of Mattachine Midwest.

DAVID B. SINDT (posthumous 1995): In the 1970s and 1980s, he vigorously fought homophobia not only in civil society but also in his own Presbyterian faith. As a gifted social worker, he advocated for gay parents and gay children. As an ordained minister, he organized what is now Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns, but in 1977 he had to leave the ministry. He died of AIDS complications in 1986, and his West Lake View 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, all in pursuit of a vision in which lesbians and gay men would have their say in the democratic process. He helped form the Lesbian and Gay Progressive Democratic Organization and later has worked through the Illinois Federation for Human Rights. 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.

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 since the 1980s, has headed the AIDS Foundation of Chicago's Service Providers Council, and has served on numerous boards including that of Kuponu Network.

JAMES MONROE SMITH (1995): As a quietly persistent young lawyer, in 1988 he founded the AIDS Legal Council, an unprecedented vehicle for involving Chicago's general legal community in helping persons with HIV/AIDS. When he left ALC in 1993, its staff had grown to eight persons, and he received the Chicago Bar Association's Maurice Weigle Award for his work. His textbook, *AIDS and Society*, was published in 1996, and he has taught AIDS-related college and law school courses.

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

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

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

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.

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): She was an outspoken advocate of lesbian and gay concerns from the 1950s onward and was author of 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. Eventually retiring to Tucson, she was writing and active in social change until her 1997 death.

ELIZABETH E. TOCCI (1994): She opened her first gay bar in 1963 and since 1971 has owned and run The Patch in Calumet City, 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, leading efforts to pass human rights legislation at state, county, and local levels. She has served as liaison to state and local governments and agencies, and in 1997 she was elected to the Oak Park village board as the first open lesbian elected to office in Illinois.

THOMAS M. TUNNEY (1995): In his early 20s, he bought Lake View's venerable Ann Sather Restaurant in 1981, greatly expanded it, and has made 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. Besides backing Open Hand Chicago's home-meals program and running a soup kitchen, he has hosted countless gay and lesbian efforts and the White Crane Wellness Center.

RICHARD B. TURNER (1991): He is director and senior program officer for the Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust and was cofounder and national president of Funders Concerned About AIDS. Previously he was director of development and communications for the Chicago Community Trust. He has been a leader of numerous civic, cultural, and charitable organizations and currently is on the Human Rights Campaign's national board and the Hubbard Street Dance Chicago Advisory Board. 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; has been a leader in many social service and religious organizations, including several African American ones; and now sits on the Chicago Board of Health.

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

YVONNE ZIPTER (1995): A syndicated columnist, she has often documented the lives of Chicago lesbians and gay men. An award-winning poet and essayist, she also wrote a book on lesbian softball, *Diamonds Are a Dyke's Best Friend*. In September 1997, Gerber/Hart Library chose her for its second annual Sprague-Todes Literary Award. In the 1980s, she was part of groundbreaking publication efforts involving the literature, music, and culture of lesbians and other women.

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