

The Chicago _____
LGBT
HALL OF FAME

2024

INDUCTION CEREMONY

**Friends of the
Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame**

Tarrina D. Dikes
Co-Chair

Greg McFall
Co-Chair

In Partnership with the City of Chicago Commission on Human Relations

Brandon Johnson
Mayor

Nancy Andrade
Chairman and Commissioner



IN MEMORIAM
PATRICIA LOGUE
CLARENCE M. WOOD
MARY ANN SMITH
CHILLI PEPPER

2024 INDUCTEES CHICAGO LGBT HALL OF FAME

INDIVIDUALS

GLORIA “MAMA” ALLEN
DR. DANIEL S. BERGER
BONSAI BERMÚDEZ, MSW
AMAILIA BLACK
DANIEL L. DEVER
JOHN “MISS FOOZIE” FOOS
TIMOTHY K. FRYE
DEMETRIUS “DEM” HOPKINS
ANTONIO KING
SEAN LEWIS
LORI LIGHTFOOT
KENNETH MARTÍN-OCASIO
KEN MEJIA-BEAL
CHANNYN LYNNE PARKER
JOHN PELLER
LA TONY ALVARADO RIVERA
W. ROBERT SCHULTZ III
REVEREND CHARLES STRAIGHT
JOHN VON RHEIN

ORGANIZATIONS

STUD4LIFE
WOMEN OF ALL CULTURES/COLORS TOGETHER (WACT)

FRIENDS OF THE COMMUNITY

SOL FLORES

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.

2024 INDUCTION CEREMONY PRESENTERS

Zahara Monique Bassett

Robert Castillo

Gary Chichester

Anna DeShawn

BOARD OF DIRECTORS FRIENDS OF THE CHICAGO LGBT HALL OF FAME

Tarrina D. Dikes - *Co-Chair*

Greg McFall - *Co-Chair*

Kevin M. Bryson - *Acting Treasurer*

Kathy Caldwell

Gary Chichester - *Board Emeritus*

Gary Liss - *Recorder*

Pat McCombs



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

207 STATE HOUSE
SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS 62706

JB PRITZKER
GOVERNOR

October 1, 2024

Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame
3712 North Broadway
Suite 637
Chicago, IL 60613

Greetings,

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am pleased to welcome everyone gathered for the 33rd Class of Inductees to 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 being the largest yet with 21 inductees, you join a venerable list of individuals. Illinois is proud to have enjoyed your service to our state. 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 future for Illinois.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JB Pritzker". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Governor JB Pritzker



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF CHICAGO

BRANDON JOHNSON
MAYOR

October 1, 2024

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the City of Chicago, I am honored to welcome all those gathered for the 2024 Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony.

Since its establishment in 1991, the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame has played a vital role in preserving, protecting, and promoting the legacy of LGBTQ+ activists, leaders, and allies. By highlighting the indelible contributions of Chicago's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities, the Hall of Fame brings attention to the tireless efforts to combat homophobia and discrimination. It also serves as a custodian of history, ensuring that the achievements of past inductees are remembered and celebrated.

This year's ceremony provides an important opportunity to come together to honor the individuals, businesses, and organizations that have been at the forefront of advocacy and activism for the LGBTQ+ community. It is also a powerful reminder of the importance of looking ahead and passing the torch to future generations, ensuring an even brighter and more inclusive future for us all.

I hope you have an enjoyable event. Best wishes for continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "BJ", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mayor



September 24, 2024

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Chicago Commission on Human Relations, we gladly extend our heartfelt congratulations to each of you for your well-deserved induction into the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame. This honor recognizes your outstanding contributions to Chicago's vibrant LGBTQ+ community and your commitment to creating a more equitable and inclusive city for all.

As the Chicago Commission on Human Relations continues to fight discrimination and hate against all groups, including our LGBTQ+ community, we commend you for your achievements and the lasting impact you have made. The Commission is proud to stand alongside you in the ongoing fight for civil rights and social justice as well as protect the freedoms that past and present leaders fought so hard to obtain.

Your leadership, advocacy, and dedication have not only enriched our city's cultural fabric but have also advanced the causes of equality and justice. As you join this esteemed group of past honorees, your legacy will continue to inspire future generations to strive for inclusion and equality. Your actions and contributions have made an impact and will influence generations to come. Our city is better because of you, and we thank you.

We extend our deepest gratitude to our friends of the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame for their continued commitment to upholding the importance of this event and this institution. The history of the LGBTQ+ community must never fade. Our warmest congratulations again, to all the new members of the LGBT Hall of Fame.

Very truly yours,

Nancy Andrade
Chairman and Commissioner

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

INDIVIDUALS

GLORIA “MAMA” ALLEN



Gloria “Mama” Allen, inducted posthumously, was the trailblazing founder and director of the nationally acclaimed “Charm School” at the Center on Halsted. Established in 2011, the school served young unhoused transgender people in their teens or early 20s. The school was informal and free and Allen often paid for students’ meals out of her own limited budget as she offered lessons on table manners, dating etiquette, and job-interview comportment as well as tips on hygiene, dressing, and makeup. She also taught safe sex, dealing with substance abuse, healthy relationships, and life.

Her school gained national attention and inspired a play by Chicago playwright Philip Dawkins, *Charm*, which premiered at Chicago’s Steppenwolf Theatre in 2015 and ran Off-Broadway in 2017. The New York Times praised it as “first-wave theater about a newly empowered cultural identity.” Allen was also the subject of a documentary, *Mama Gloria*, which premiered in October 2020 at the Chicago International Film Festival. In 2014, Allen received the Living Legend Award at the Trans 100 awards, and in 2021 she received the Carmen Vázquez Award for Excellence in Leadership on Aging Issues from SAGE (Services and Advocacy for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Elders).

Born in Bowling Green, Kentucky, on October 6, 1945, and raised in Chicago, Allen became part of Chicago’s South Side drag ball culture as a young adult and transitioned four years before Stonewall with the support of her mother and grandmother. Gloria Allen passed away on June 13, 2022, in Chicago.

DR. DANIEL S. BERGER



Inducted into the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame for his lifetime of work in health/medicine, civic involvement and leadership in the arts, Dr. Daniel S. Berger is the founder of Northstar Medical Center (Wellness Home at Northstar Healthcare) and has been a leader in HIV treatment research and a key contributor to the development of antiretroviral drug therapies over the past 30 years. Based in the Lakeview neighborhood, Northstar operates community-based programs throughout the Chicago area. Berger is a physician with expertise in LGBT medicine, especially HIV,

as well as diabetes and transplant surgery. He is a dedicated researcher in HIV/AIDS and has authored more than 90 published medical abstracts and articles.

As one of the heroic early “AIDS doctors,” Berger has given personal care to thousands of patients himself and through his clinic. He was also an investigator of more than 240 research trial studies, and was among the first to research combination drug therapies in the treatment of HIV which led to the use of “drug cocktails” of protease inhibitors, which finally made HIV no longer an automatic “death sentence.”

Berger is also an art collector and author of articles and books about Queer Art, often focusing on the impact of AIDS in the art world. In Chicago he has served on more than 20 boards and advisory committees of such organizations as the Joel Hall Dancers, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Test Positive Aware Network, the Collections and Acquisitions Committee of the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago, and the Leslie-Lohman Museum of Art in New York City.

BONSAI BERMÚDEZ, MSW



Bonsai Bermúdez MSW is the co-founder and executive artistic director of the Youth Empowerment Performance Project (YEPP), a program creating a brave environment for LGBTQI+ youth experiencing homelessness to explore their history, investigate new ways to address their struggles, and celebrate their strengths through personal and community development programming that incorporates leadership through different forms of artistic expression.

Born in Ponce, Puerto Rico, Bermúdez earned a Master's degree in Guidance and Counseling at the University of Puerto Rico in Rio Piedras with a concentration on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex issues, as well as a Bachelor's degree in Art and Humanities with a Major in Theatre and Dance and a Minor in Education.

Bermúdez has worked in social justice service for more than 20 years and in 2019 was honored with the Leadership in Community-Based Theatre and Civic Engagement Award from the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE). He has served on the board of Orgullo en Acción, created to politically advocate for Chicago's Latine LGBTQI+ communities, and for several years served as a Drop-in and Resource Advocacy Program Manager at the Broadway Youth Center, an organization serving LGBTQI+ youth experiencing housing instability in Chicago.

AMAILIA BLACK



Amailia Black has been a steadfast advocate for the LGBTQ+ community, particularly for transgender individuals, since the early 1990s. Her advocacy began when she was featured in an HIV awareness campaign for the Minority Outreach Intervention Project, alongside two other transgender women, addressing the critical need for education and outreach during the height of the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

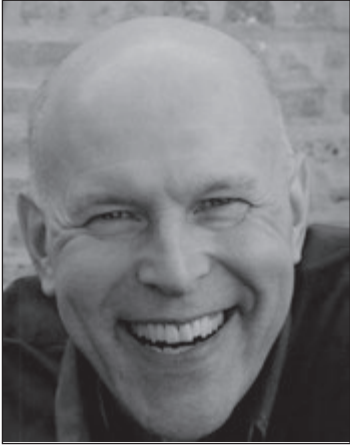
Hailing from Gary, Indiana and coming to Chicago in the late 1980s, most of Amailia's career has been dedicated to Howard Brown Health, where she held several influential roles over the

years. She started as a Research Assistant with the Special Projects of National Significance (SPNS) team, contributing to crucial HIV research. Her work was recognized internationally when she co-authored research that was presented at the World Professional Association for Transgender Health (WPATH) in Europe.

Following her work in research, Amailia took on the role of PrEP Navigator, helping members of the LGBTQ+ community access PrEP and ensuring that those interested in this HIV prevention method could overcome cost barriers. Her commitment to community building grew further when she became the Volunteer and Community Engagement Specialist. In this role, she was responsible for coordinating events and leading the vetting and onboarding of volunteers, strengthening the connection between Howard Brown Health and the community it serves.

Amailia's journey at Howard Brown Health culminated in her role as Executive Assistant to the CEO, 2010 Inductee David Ernesto Munar, where she continued her advocacy work while contributing to the leadership and direction of the organization. Even after her tenure at Howard Brown Health, she remains an outspoken advocate for transgender rights, continually working to ensure that her trans siblings, especially those without a voice, receive the equity and recognition they deserve.

DANIEL L. DEVER



Daniel L. Dever began his lifetime commitment to Chicago's LGBTQ community in 1984, when he volunteered to participate in a groundbreaking AIDS epidemiological study of gay and bisexual men at Howard Brown Memorial Clinic. Dever broadened his volunteerism at Howard Brown by utilizing his background in journalism and marketing to lead public awareness and fundraising projects in 1985-86, and in 1987 he joined the Howard Brown staff as Director of Development, overseeing fundraising and communications and extending Howard Brown's financial support beyond the LGBTQ+ community. He also served on the planning

committee for AIDS Walk Chicago, first held in 1991, which benefits local HIV/AIDS service organizations and continues annually under the auspices of the AIDS Foundation of Chicago.

In 1992, Dever became Director of Development at Children's Place Association, a nonprofit organization that opened a Chicago group home for young children with HIV/AIDS. Dan recruited gay men and lesbians as staff members, volunteers, and supporters, and secured government and private funding allowing the organization to pioneer new services to help additional children and families impacted by HIV/AIDS. When Children's Place planned a foster care program for children with HIV/AIDS or orphaned by AIDS, Dever was instrumental in including gay and lesbian households as Children's Place became the first foster care agency in Illinois to openly recruit and license same-sex couples as foster/adoptive parents. Though Dever retired from full-time service at Children's Place Association in 2021, he continues assisting on special projects.

Throughout his nonprofit career, Dan was also an active volunteer with various organizations, including the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois, where he served on the LGBT Advisory Committee (1994-1997); Equality Illinois, where he served on the board of directors (2004-2011); and the Chicago steering committee for Rainbow Railroad (2019-2021), an international organization that rescues LGBTQ+ individuals facing violence and persecution in their home countries. Currently, he serves on the board of the Reader Institute for Community Journalism, the nonprofit entity that assumed ownership of the *Chicago Reader* newspaper in 2022.

JOHN “MISS FOOZIE” FOOS



Noted fundraiser and entertainer John Foos, better known as Miss Fozzie or Miss Lucy Fozzie, is a character artist with a passion for making people feel welcome and have fun. Miss Fozzie has been a fixture in Chicago's LGBT community since 1997, with her pineapple-shaped wig and colorful dress and parasol. While Miss Fozzie has been a performer and emcee at hundreds of area performances and festivals, her support of the nonprofit community sets her apart. Miss Fozzie has emceed the Northalsted Halloween Parade, the Proud Pet Parade, and other events around the city, helping to raise money for such charities

as the American Red Cross, the Lupus Foundation, the Dos Espiritus Latinos HIV/AIDS program, and the Chicago Red Dress Party. Miss Fozzie, an animal lover, has also raised money for PAWS Chicago and the Tree House Society.

Named Best Drag Performer in Chicago by *Newcity* in 2007, Miss Fozzie has also represented the city well at other Midwest events and venues and across the U.S., including at Walt Disney World and Disneyland. She has starred in independent films, hosted live shows including *The Miss Fozzie Talk Show* and *Miss Fozzie and Her Floozies*, and been featured in such publications as *TimeOut Chicago*, *Boi Magazine*, and *Gay Chicago Magazine*.

TIMOTHY K. FRYE



Timothy K. Frye is the longtime co-coordinator of Chicago's LGBT Pride Parade with his husband, LGBT Hall of Fame inductee Richard Pfeiffer. Following Pfeiffer's death in 2019 and a two-year pandemic related hiatus, Frye restarted the Pride Parade tradition in 2022 as lead coordinator of PrideChicago.

Frye grew up in a small town in central Indiana, attended Purdue University in the mid-1960s, and served two years in the U.S. Army before beginning a career as a copywriter for a Chicago TV station. He

attended his first Chicago Pride Parade in June of 1971 and met Pfeiffer the following November, beginning what would become a 48-year relationship, with Pfeiffer and Frye sharing the responsibilities associated with organizing the Chicago Pride Parade year after year.

Scheduled annually for the last Sunday in June to celebrate the anniversary of the Stonewall Rebellion of June 28, 1969, the parade inspired auxiliary events that also came under PrideChicago's purview as part of Pride Week and finally Pride Month every June. If Pfeiffer was the driving force behind the longterm success of the annual Pride celebrations in Chicago, Frye was the buffer behind that force, helping to make sure things worked as planned.

DEMETRIUS “DEM” HOPKINS



Demetrius “Dem” Hopkins (1955-2023) made important contributions to Chicago’s LGBT community and to the city at large through his work as a bar owner, music promoter, lawyer, and activist. In 1977, when he was a 22-year-old bartender at a Rogers Park gay bar called the Greenleaf, he bought the venue and transformed it into the punk music nightclub Oz, eventually relocating the club to a new location in the River North nightlife district and then to another location in the Lakeview neighborhood. Oz was one of the first venues in the city to give punk and new wave bands a place to perform their original music. Seminal Chicago bands such

as Naked Raygun and the Effigies got their start playing at Oz. A live album recorded at Oz’s Lakeview location, *Busted at Oz*, helped establish Chicago’s punk scene on a national level. As Hopkins told the *Chicago Reader* in 2020, “punk really grew in Chicago out of queer culture. They’re inextricably linked.”

After closing Oz in 1981, Hopkins went on to operate several other popular LGBT bars, including F-Beat, known for its drag shows, and Different Strokes. In 1989, he enrolled in law school at the University of Illinois Chicago. While there he interned for the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless and began doing pro bono legal work for people with AIDS/HIV.

Hopkins understood homelessness first-hand: he himself was homeless on the streets of New York as a teenager after his parents kicked him out of their house when he came out to them as being gay. Once he gained his footing, he never stopped advocating for the rights of those in crisis. In 2010, Hopkins, now a lawyer, organized a reunion concert of bands from the Oz era to raise funds for the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless. Though the event was initially intended as a single concert, thanks to Hopkins’ tenacity and vision, the relationship between CCH and Riot Fest has continued and has raised almost \$300,000 for CCH over the following decade. Hopkins served on the Board of Directors of the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless (now the Chicago Coalition to End Homelessness) in 2011-2014 and remained a staunch supporter until his passing in 2023.

ANTONIO KING



Antonio King's dedication to public health and advocacy for the LGBTQ community is unparalleled. As the first gay/bi Black man to serve as the LGBTQ Health & Outreach Liaison at the Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH), King has demonstrated unwavering commitment to HIV/AIDS health education and prevention - a journey that began in the late 1980s when he volunteered with community-based organizations in Chicago.

Throughout his tenure at CDPH, King has spearheaded numerous initiatives aimed at improving the health and wellness of LGBTQ individuals. He has established and maintained crucial linkages with various health, social service, and cultural agencies, demonstrating his ability to foster collaborative partnerships to address complex public health challenges. His efforts in organizing Chicago's first Mayoral Roundtable with LGBTQ People of Color and curating city-wide events such as the "50th Stonewall Anniversary" Pride Reception showcase his innovative leadership and dedication to celebrating LGBTQ pride and resilience.

King's impact extends beyond his professional activities, as evidenced by his extensive involvement in community organizations and advocacy efforts. As a founding member of the Chicago Black Gay Men's Caucus and a program manager at Howard Brown Health, he has been instrumental in establishing vital outreach, testing, and prevention programs tailored to the needs of LGBTQ individuals, particularly in Black and minority communities. And his dedication to the art of female impersonation and pageantry has been a cornerstone of his advocacy work for more than 25 years. As an advocate, promoter, judge, and sponsor, King has played a pivotal role in celebrating and preserving the rich cultural heritage of the LGBTQ community. For two decades, he has been an integral part of the Continental Pageantry System in Chicago, through which he has provided a platform for LGBTQ individuals to express themselves authentically and proudly, contributing to the visibility and empowerment of the community. His tireless efforts to promote health equity, foster inclusive communities, and empower marginalized voices have left an indelible mark.

SEAN LEWIS



Emmy Award-winning broadcast journalist Sean Lewis is Chicago's first out gay news anchor for WGN/Channel 9. From chasing the destruction of tornadoes across Illinois and sharing stories of survival to chasing down Illinois politicians under federal indictment, Lewis has covered thousands of stories in his years at WGN.

After graduating from the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and working as a journalist in Rockford, Illinois, Lewis became Chicago's first out gay news anchor when he

came to Chicago in 2007, landing first at 24-hour cable news station CLTV before joining WGN-TV in 2008. Over the years, his coverage of issues important to the broad spectrum of the LGBTQIA+ community has won awards and brought previously untold stories to light, amplifying voices important to society. His advocacy within the newsroom led to WGN-TV's *Pride: Stories of Chicago's Very Own*, a groundbreaking half-hour special focusing on Chicago's LGBTQ+ community in June 2023.

Outside of the newsroom, Lewis has volunteered his time to host events highlighting and supporting the community. Among the organizations he has helped are Chicago House, Equality Illinois, the Legacy Project, Test Positive Aware Network, and Brave Space Alliance.

LORI LIGHTFOOT



Lori Lightfoot, who served as Mayor of Chicago from 2019 to 2023, is the first out LGBTQ+ mayor in the city's history, making Chicago the first (and as of this induction, still the only) of the United States' three largest cities to boast an out LGBT chief executive. She is also the first out lesbian Black woman to serve as mayor of a major American city.

Lightfoot's term in the Mayor's Office was preceded by decades of support and leadership. In the early 1990s, as a young lawyer, she helped to write the first Cook County Human Rights Ordinance as a pro bono project at the law firm of Mayer Brown and Platt. She was an early supporter of Lambda

Legal's Midwest Office, which has been at the center of every legal or legislative battle over LGBT rights, and was an early supporter of the Victory Fund when it first came to Chicago in the 1990s. She currently serves on the national board of the Victory Fund.

Lightfoot's accomplishments as Mayor on behalf of Chicago's LGBT community were significant in spite of multiple challenges. Her administration's handling of the COVID-19 pandemic and the roll-out of vaccines centered the most vulnerable in our city, including the LGBTQ and HIV/AIDS communities. Her administration's accomplishments impacting the LGBT community also include investing \$5 million in youth homelessness prevention and services with a focus on LGBTQ+ youth; convening a working group to review and revise policies on Chicago Police Department interactions with the transgender, intersex, and gender non-conforming communities and expanding the number of CPD liaisons to the LGBTQ+ community; and officially dedicating the long-awaited AIDS Garden Chicago on the site of the former Belmont Rocks beach in Lincoln Park on June 2, 2022, a year after she broke ground on the project. "As we memorialize those we've lost to the HIV epidemic and inspire those who continue to fight the disease, it has never been more important to immortalize Belmont Rocks' legacy as a safe space where people could gather, support one another and be their full selves," Lightfoot said at the AIDS Garden's 2022 dedication. I hope that residents and visitors alike will continue gathering here at our city's newest symbol of liberation, individuality, and hope."

KENNETH MARTÍN-OCASIO



Kenneth Martín-Ocasio has been unwavering in his dedication to advancing the professional, social, economic, and educational opportunities for marginalized individuals, particularly within the Latinx and LGBTQ+ communities. His record of leadership includes serving as president of the DuPage Hispanic Task Force and co-chair of the Latino Consortium. His advocacy extends to influential organizations such as the Illinois Latino Agenda and the Latino Youth Action Coalition, where he actively champions for social and economic equity. Within advisory councils such as the DCFS Latino Advisory Council and the Cook County President's Latino Advisory

Council, he amplifies the voices of underrepresented communities, advocating for policies that address their unique needs.

As a longstanding board member of the Association of Latinos/as/xs Motivating Action (ALMA), Martín-Ocasio has played a pivotal role in advancing equal rights for Latinx and LGBTQ+ individuals. His mentorship has shaped the trajectories of numerous scholarship recipients, and he played a pivotal role in establishing ALMA's Youth Advisory Board. His advocacy for marriage equality has been vocal and visible, with media appearances and active participation in legislative campaigns. His impact reverberated further when he co-chaired the National LGBTQ Task Force's Creating Change conference in Chicago in 2016.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, and raised in Puerto Rico, Martín-Ocasio earned a Bachelor of Arts in Special Education and a Master of Science in Health Services Administration from Northeastern Illinois University. He pursued these degrees after relocating to Chicago from Puerto Rico at the age of 18, underscoring his commitment to advancing equity and opportunity for marginalized communities.

At the time of his induction into the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame, Martín-Ocasio serves as the Senior Vice President of Community Integration at Aunt Martha's Health & Wellness and as a member of Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker's Hispanic Employment Plan Advisory Council.

KEN MEJIA-BEAL



Ken Mejia-Beal is a dedicated advocate and trailblazer in the Black LGBTQ community and has been a leader in numerous political, media, advocacy, and community groups within and outside the LGBTQ+ community. Born on Chicago's South Side, he has served on the boards and leadership of a variety of organizations. He was the first Environmental Chair of the NAACP of Illinois and co-chair of the Vernita Gray Council of Howard Brown Health, focusing on outreach and expanding participation. He serves on the Advisory Council at Equality Illinois and on the board of directors of Youth Outlook, the oldest LGBTQ+ youth-serving organization

in Illinois, providing education, professional development, family/caregiver support, and youth drop-in centers in seven Illinois counties.

In 2018, Mejia-Beal co-founded SNATCHED Radio, a podcast oriented toward LGBTQ+ Black and Brown communities to inform listeners about the latest news in policy, politics, and current affairs and to help people access resources and influence change. He is also a frequent guest host on progressive talk radio station WCPT and has been selected as a member of the LGBTQ+ Victory Fund's national Victory Campaign Board.

During his time living in DuPage County, Ken was elected chair of the DuPage County Democratic Party, making him the first out LGBTQ+ county political party chairperson in Illinois. He has won numerous awards, including Pride Index Man of the Year 2022, the Rose Fitzpatrick Civil Rights Award, and 58 Academic Decathlon awards.

CHANNYN LYNNE PARKER



Channyn Lynne Parker is a dedicated advocate and leader within Chicago's LGBTQ+ community. As the CEO of Brave Space Alliance, the first Black-led, trans-led LGBTQ+ center on the city's South Side, she has been instrumental in promoting the well-being and rights of underrepresented groups. Her tenure marked a period of significant transformation as she successfully steered the organization through a leadership transition, solidifying its role as a cornerstone of community support.

Her advocacy career began with landmark achievements at the Cook County Department of Corrections, where she was the first openly transgender woman and where she advocated vigorously for vulnerable populations in protective custody. Her journey continued through pivotal roles, including leading youth programs at the Broadway Youth Center and directing the TransLife Project at Chicago House social service agency. At Howard Brown Health, as director of strategic relations, she played a crucial role during the COVID-19 pandemic by spearheading initiatives to expand vaccination access to marginalized communities on the South Side.

Parker's impact extends beyond service delivery to significant policy engagement. She serves on the Illinois Commission on Poverty Elimination and Economic Security and the Commission on Hate Crimes and Discrimination. Her advocacy for bodily autonomy and healthcare access is further highlighted by her role on the board of directors for Planned Parenthood. A powerful orator, Channyn has delivered empowering speeches at venues ranging from the White House, where she addressed national strategies on HIV/AIDS, to the Chicago Women's March. Her influence and commitment have earned her numerous accolades, including the inaugural Trans100 award and the Humanitarian Freedom Award from Equality Illinois.

JOHN PELLER



As president and CEO of AIDS Foundation Chicago (AFC) since 2014, John Peller is a leader across health care, policy, philanthropy, harm reduction, and housing sectors. Under Peller's leadership, AFC serves more than 8,000 people each year, including housing nearly 2,000 people, and AFC's revenue has increased from \$20 million to \$45.5 million. Diversity in AFC staff, leadership, and board composition has greatly expanded, and John has prioritized amplifying campaigns led by people with lived experience of homelessness and chronic illness.

Peller led national advocacy efforts during the implementation of the Affordable Care Act ("Obamacare"), working to ensure federal and state health care systems would meet the needs of people with HIV. He successfully advocated for people living with HIV to be included and supported through Medicaid policy, federal and state budget appropriations, and the Illinois AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP). Through advocacy and leadership, Peller secured a record 2017 state budget allocation of \$25.4 million for HIV care and services and spearheaded the PrEP4Illinois free and low-cost PrEP program. Under Peller's leadership, AFC led a coalition that decriminalized HIV in Illinois in 2021. During his tenure at AFC, the LGBTQ+ program Pride Action Tank was launched and is a program of AFC that has led several initiatives, including successful advocacy for all-gender restrooms.

Peller's keen understanding of how health care and policy intersect and his support for innovative practices have established him as a national leader in the HIV field, greatly improving quality of life and health for the LGBTQ+ community in Chicago and beyond.

LA TONY ALVARADO RIVERA



La Tony Alvarado Rivera is executive director of the Chicago Freedom School, a 17-year-old nonprofit organization that equips young people and adult allies with tools to develop actionable strategies for social change. Rivera began their activism as an 18-year-old high school senior who wanted to support LGBTQ youth who were being bullied and harassed in high schools throughout the city and suburbs. They helped form the Coalition for Sexual Orientation, now known as the Illinois Safe Schools Alliance.

In 2000, Rivera was the recipient of the Kasey Reese and Javier Barajas scholarship in recognition of their queer/Latine high school activism with the Chicago Chapter of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) and their work with About Face Youth Theatre. After being hired by the Oak Park Area Lesbian and Gay Association to coordinate a social support group for recently arrived and Spanish-speaking gay, bi, and queer men, Rivera became focused on HIV/STI prevention training and outreach during the early 2000s. As a cultural organizer, they worked with Orgullo en Acción to produce the Latin@ PRIDE Picnic (2007-2010) and was the emcee for several Chicago Dyke March rallies over the years. They co-founded and facilitated PFLAG en Español, a social support group for Spanish-speaking parents and families of LGBTQ people, and was named one of Windy City Times' "30 under 30" five times.

After a stint working with GLSEN at the national office in New York, Rivera began their tenure at the Broadway Youth Center in Chicago, where they developed an award-winning LGBTQ Mentor Program that fostered healthy relationships and intergenerational dialogue among the LGBTQ community. In 2020, Alvarado-Rivera was recognized with the Leader for a New Chicago award by the Field and McCormick Foundation. They also served on the education subcommittee for Chicago Mayor Brandon Johnson's transition team in 2023.

W. ROBERT SCHULTZ III



W. Robert Schultz III is campaign organizer for the Active Transportation Alliance, whose mission is to advocate for walking, bicycling, and public transit to create healthy, sustainable, and equitable communities. He has been a leader in various activist efforts in Illinois, ranging from marriage equality to the successful campaign to repeal the death penalty.

Born in Tallahassee, Florida, Schultz holds a B.S. in political science from Alma College in Alma, Michigan, and received a law degree from one of the country's historically black law schools, North Carolina Central University. He moved to Chicago

in 1990 to continue the human rights advocacy he had started in Michigan, Minnesota, and North Carolina. He championed human rights and connected the LBGT community to broader issues while being engaged in concerns such as racial justice, immigrant rights, disability rights, criminal justice, human services, and transportation. He was a leader in the People of Color campaign for equity funding practices by AIDS funders, and for five years he led the community advisory board that provided input to the design and operations of the Ruth M. Rothstein CORE Center for the treatment of HIV.

Schultz was a founding editor of BLACKlines magazine and contributed to other Windy City Media publications including En La Vida over the course of a decade. Schultz, a percussionist, joined with four other LGBT musicians to start the Lakeside Pride Music Organization in 1997. He was in the Lakeside Pride drumline for 22 consecutive years until the COVID-19 pandemic intruded. He also marched with the first LBGT contingents in the Bud Billiken Parade, the Mexican Independence Parade, the Disability Pride Parade, and the African Independence Day Parade.

His other affiliations and past employers include Access Living of Metropolitan Chicago, Amnesty International USA, the Chicago chapter of the National Lawyers' Guild, Northside Action for Justice, the Illinois Institute for Public Health, and the Illinois Assistive Technology Project. Schultz also served on the Chicago Black Lesbians and Gays steering committee for a decade, and has served on Howard Brown Health's board of directors since 2014.

REVEREND CHARLES STRAIGHT



Reverend Charles Straight, senior pastor of the Faith United Methodist Church, has demonstrated his persistent advocacy and unshakable dedication to helping society's underprivileged and marginalized people over the course of more than 35 years of committed service in the Christian ministry. He serves as a spiritual advisor to the Mind Body and Soul Wellness Circle, a consortium of six organizations with headquarters in Chicago led by Black queer-identified men. Additionally, he is the president and a board member of The People's Lobby Education Institute, which unites clergy and

believers to change society by elevating the principles of justice above greed and individualism.

As a founding member of the first HIV ministry in a Black church in Chicago, Straight has consistently been at the forefront of offering support and resources to those affected by HIV/AIDS within the faith community. His role as the volunteer coordinator for the Kupona Network, the first Black HIV service organization in Chicago, further exemplifies his dedication to community engagement and empowering individuals through education and support. Straight actively contributed to the development of measures to meet the needs of the HIV/AIDS community on a national scale as a member of the US HIV & AIDS Faith Coalition Leaders Group. He served as the first board chair of BE-HIV, the chair of the Needs Assessment Committee for the City of Chicago HIV Prevention Planning Group, and an advisory board member of the Lutheran Social Services' Second Family Program, and was a co-organizer of the first AIDS Walk in Chicago.

He has extensive clinical experience in giving compassionate care and support to people who are infected with HIV through his work as a nurse at St. Joseph Hospital's AIDS Unit, as a research nurse at the Chicago Community Programs for Clinical Research on AIDS, and as the lab manager of the Multicenter AIDS Cohort Study (MACS) at Howard Brown Health. His unwavering dedication to advancing the rights of underprivileged and disenfranchised people, particularly those who belong to the LGBTQIA+ community, has had a lasting effect on the City of Chicago and its environs.

JOHN VON RHEIN



As the classical music critic for the Chicago Tribune for 40 years and as a freelance writer since his retirement in 2018, John von Rhein has played a significant role in establishing Chicago as a world-class cultural center. Born in Pasadena, California, von Rhein came to Chicago from Ohio in 1977 to write for the Tribune after having been the classical music and dance critic for the Akron Beacon Journal from 1971 to 1977. His reviews and features published in the city's largest newspaper - including his on-the-road coverage of international tours by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra - helped foster a loyal and well-informed audience at home and around the

world for the CSO, Lyric Opera of Chicago, Chicago Opera Theater, and many other musical organizations.

In addition to his Tribune columns, von Rhein co-authored, with Andrew Porter of *The New Yorker* and photographer Victor Skrebneski, the 1994 book *Bravi: Lyric Opera of Chicago*. He has written on musical subjects for national and international publications, including *Vanity Fair*, *Opera* magazine, *Gramophone*, *Opera News*, *Fanfare*, *Ovation*, the *Los Angeles Times*, the *Boston Globe*, and *Opera Now*. He has also contributed to websites, including *Chicago Classical Review* and *The Classical Review*.

In his published work, von Rhein has not only illuminated the music of the past, he has also championed contemporary artists and works – including such LGBTQ icons as composers Ned Rorem and John Corigliano and LGBTQ-themed works such as Craig Hella Johnson's oratorio *Considering Matthew Shepard*, Stewart Wallace and Michael Korie's opera *Harvey Milk*, and Laura Kaminsky, Mark Campbell, and Kimberly Reed's transgender-themed opera *As One*.

Von Rhein's involvement with Rainbow Railroad, an international organization dedicated to providing life-saving assistance to LGBTQ+ individuals and families fleeing violence and persecution around the world, exemplifies his steadfast commitment to protecting the most vulnerable among us.

ORGANIZATIONS

STUD4LIFE



Founded by Lawanda Green, also known as Wanda B., in 2012, along with her officers, Captain Big Bro, Captain Shanny, and Sargeant Van. STUD4LIFE is a grassroots non-profit organization committed to mentoring and supporting underserved juveniles, especially those from the LGBTQ community on the south side of Chicago. From its inception, STUD4LIFE has been active in advocating for LGBTQ rights and providing support to marginalized individuals. Their efforts extend across various fronts, including protest organization, security and community events, all driven by a mission of inclusivity, justice, and service.

Key Contributions of STUD4LIFE:

- **Advocating for Marriage Equality (2014):** Participated in a march in Springfield, standing in solidarity with those advocating for marriage equality.
- **Providing Security for Community Events (2016-2020):** Offered security support for Affinity Community Services, during their annual Burning Bowl event.
- **Protesting Religious Bias (2017):** Organized a protest at Apostolic Church to raise awareness about anti-LGBT bias.
- **Fundraising for Homeless LGBTQ Youth (2017, 2023):** Held fundraisers aimed at supporting homeless LGBTQ youth.
- **Transgender Advocacy (2020-2023):** Actively participated in the Trans Day marches held in Grant Park for transgender rights and visibility.
- **LGBTQ Pride Parade Participation (2019-2023):** Collaborated with Alderman Brookins of the 21st Ward to secure transportation support for their LGBTQ Pride Parade participation.
- **Support for Grieving Families (2023):** Organized a Rainbow Beach protest following the tragic deaths of three patrons at The Jeffrey Pub, where a vehicle struck individuals. STUD4LIFE stood alongside grieving families, advocating for justice and accountability.

WOMEN OF ALL CULTURES/COLORS TOGETHER (WACT)



Women of all Cultures/Colors Together (WACT) was created in 1993 by four women of different cultures - Phyllis Johnson, Evette Cardona, Marilee Snyder, and Claire Huang.

For over 30 years, WACT has been a vital part of Chicago's LGBTQ+ community, providing a welcoming space where women who love women of all backgrounds can connect, share, and support one another. Founded in the early 1990s, WACT emerged as an alternative to the traditional bar scene, offering a more personal and inclusive environment. Through its monthly potlucks, held in homes and parks across the city,

WACT has created a social networking group where women can form lasting friendships while celebrating cultural diversity.

At its core, WACT thrives on simplicity—there's no formal structure, budget, or hierarchy. Instead, the group's success is built on the generosity of its members, who come together to share not only food but also experiences, advice, and resources. This grassroots approach has made WACT a resilient and enduring organization, fostering a strong sense of community across generations and cultures. The group's gatherings serve as an essential hub for education and advocacy, where women can seek support in areas ranging from healthcare to housing, legal issues, and beyond.

One of WACT's unique strengths is its ability to bridge generational and cultural gaps, ensuring that new members are always welcomed into the fold. This intergenerational model has allowed the group to thrive, offering wisdom, support, and friendship to women at all stages of life. Over the years, WACT has also been the seedbed for other important LGBTQ+ organizations in Chicago, further expanding its positive impact on the community.

FRIEND OF THE COMMUNITY

SOL FLORES



Sol Flores is a distinguished community leader and social activist with a rich history of public service and mission-driven work. She is the visionary founding executive director of La Casa Norte, an organization dedicated to helping thousands of young people and families escape homelessness. Under Sol's leadership, a significant proportion of those served at La Casa Norte identified as LGBTQ+, reflecting her commitment to addressing the unique challenges faced by marginalized communities. She also ensured that the staff of the organization reflected the diversity of the Chicago community inclusive of LGBTQ+ persons.

Sol Flores is also former deputy governor in the administration of Illinois Governor JB Pritzker. In that capacity, she oversaw the Health and Human Services portfolio, championing equitable healthcare access and leading successful COVID-19 response efforts. Her strategic leadership and focus on equity intentionally benefited LGBTQ+ populations across the state.

Flores' exemplary leadership and dedication to marginalized communities extend beyond her professional roles, as evidenced by her service on nonprofit boards and public commissions, providing strategic advice and policy recommendations. Raised in a family deeply rooted in public service, she embodies the values of service, family, love, and justice instilled in her from an early age. As an Afro Latina cisgender woman, she has experienced firsthand the challenges of racism and discrimination, fueling her passion for activism and community engagement.

PREVIOUS HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

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) • 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) • ROBERT HENRY ALLERTON (2016, posthumous) • ALPHAWOOD FOUNDATION (2017) • 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 CHILDRENS 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 BACHTTELL (2016) • BAILLWICK 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) • ZAHARA MONIQUE BASSETT (2022) • PAULA BASTA (2009) • LOIS BATES (2012, posthumous) DAVID BRIAN BELL (1999, posthumous) • JAMES L. BENNETT (2013) • CARYN BERMAN (1995, now deceased) • BIG CHICKS (2016) • ALEXANDRA BILLINGS (2005) • BLACK ALPHABET (2023) • DAVID BLATT (2007) • RONALD E. BOGAN (2016) • KEVIN G. BOYER (2008) • LORA BRANCH (2001) • CAROL MOSELEY BRAUN (2007) • JENNIFER BRIER (2014) • MICHAL BRODY (2008) • ROGER BROWN (2004, posthumous) • LINDA BUBON (2023) • BUDDIES’ RESTAURANT AND 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) • 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) posthumous) • CHICAGO HOUSE AND SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCY, INC. (1994) • CHICAGO 2006, INC./GAY GAMES VII (2007) • GARY G. CHICHESTER (1992) • E. KITCH CHILDS (1993, posthumous) • THOMAS R. CHIOLA (1998)

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) • JOHN D'EMILIO (2005) • 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) • KEITH ELLIOTT (2001) EQUALITY ILLINOIS (2005) • FRED EYCHANER (2015) • MERRY MARY FEATHERSON (2005, now deceased) • SARA FEIGENHOLTZ (2001) • JAMES W. FLINT (1991) • ANTONIA "TATA" FLORES (2011, posthumous) • 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/FROTWALKERS CHICAGO (1995) 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) • 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) • KEITH GREEN (2012) • MAYA GREEN (2022) • PEG GREY (1992, now deceased) • ARLENE HALKO (1996, now deceased) • JOEL HALL (1993) JOHN R. HAMMELL (1997, posthumous) • PHILIP A. HANNEMA (2000) 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) • 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)
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) • BILLIE JEAN KING (1999) • DOROTHY KLEFSTAD (1998) THOMAS KLEIN (2016)
RALLA KLEPAK (2017, now deceased) • 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) • 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) • 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)
ROBERT MADDOX (2001, now deceased) • AMY MAGGIO (2009) • MARIGOLD BOWL (2006)
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) • HARLEY McMILLEN (1992, now deceased)
SCOTT McPHERSON (1992, now deceased) • 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) • ACHY OBEJAS (2010) • MICHAEL O'CONNOR (2015) • RENAE OGLETREE (1998, now deceased) • DEAN ROBERT OGREN (1998) • PAUL G. OOSTENBRUG (2010) • OPEN HAND CHICAGO (1994) • DOM OREJUDOS (1992, posthumous) • DAVID ORR (2012) • KATHY OSTERMAN (1993, posthumous) • DAVID G. OSTROW (1997, now deceased) • OUT & PROUD IN CHICAGO (2014) • OUTSPOKEN (2022) • PATÉ (2013) • ANDREW PATNER (2013, now deceased) • PEOPLE LIKE US BOOKSTORE (2017) • PFLAG/CHICAGO (2004) • JOSÉ (PEPIN) PENA (1995) • JOHN PENNYCUFF (2003, now deceased) • CHILLI PEPPER (2007, now deceased) • ADRENE PEROM (1999, now deceased) • LAIRD PETERSEN (2006, now deceased) • RICHARD W. PFEIFFER (1993, now deceased) • LISA MARIE PICKENS (2014) • JIM PICKETT (2005) • GLEN PIETRANONI (2017) • 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) • 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) • MIKE SAVAGE (2005, posthumous) • HEATHER C. SAWYER (2012) • NAN SCHAFFER (2004) • JAN SCHAKOWSKY (2015) • 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) • 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) • MATT STUCZYNSKI (2020) • 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) • 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) • MARITX A VIDAL (2016, now deceased) • 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) • WOMEN & CHILDREN FIRST BOOKSTORE (2020) • 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)

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!

1994 - 30 YEARS

| | |
|--|--|
| Robert J. Adams (<i>now deceased</i>) | Earnest E. Hite, Jr. (<i>now deceased</i>) |
| Tracy Baim | Bruce Koff |
| George S. Buse (<i>now deceased</i>) | Ellis B. Levin |
| James A. Bussen (<i>now deceased</i>) | Lionheart Gay Theatre Company |
| Lori Cannon | Open Hand Chicago/Vital Bridges |
| John Chester (<i>now deceased</i>) | Elizabeth E. Tocci (<i>now deceased</i>) |
| Chicago House and Social Service Agency | Gregory A. Sprague (<i>Posthumous</i>) |
| Samuel F. Davis Jr., (<i>Posthumous</i>) | Steven F. Wakefield |
| Adriene J. Goodman (<i>now deceased</i>) | |

2004 - 20 YEARS

| | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Roger Brown (<i>now deceased</i>) | Mulryan and York, Attorneys at Law |
| Christopher Clason (<i>now deceased</i>) | PFLAG |
| Charles E. Clifton | Julio Rodriguez |
| Frank Galati (<i>now deceased</i>) | Nan Schaffer D.V.M. |
| Ralph Paul Gernhardt (<i>now deceased</i>) | Terri Worman |
| Suzanne Marie Kraus | |

2014 - 10 YEARS

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| Gerald Arpino (<i>Posthumous</i>) | Debra Shore |
| Jennifer Brier | Silk Road Rising |
| Kelly Cassidy | Dr. Ross A. Slotten |
| Terry Cosgove | Heather Steans |
| Christina Kahrl | Bennet Williams (<i>Posthumous</i>) |
| Edward Mogul | Clarence N. Wood (<i>now deceased</i>) |
| Out and Proud in Chicago - WTTW | Lucretia Clay-Ward |
| Lisa Marie Pickens | |

2024 SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS

Alphawood Foundation
The Chicago History Museum
The Imperial Windy City Court of the Prairie State Empire Inc., NFP
Sidetrack

PARTNERS

BE Media (Brad Edwards and Pat Brady)
Hall's Rentals
J&L Catering

SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

AEP LLC • Rick Aguilar • Rick Aguilar Studios • Michael Anderson
Commissioner Nancy Andrade • Angle Park, Inc. • Brad Balof • Tracy Baim
Martin Baumgaertner • Kevin Bryson • Kathy Caldwell • Rep. Kelly Cassidy
Charlie's Chicago • Chicago Commission on Human Relations • Tarrina Dikes
Ronald J. Ehemann • E-News Park Forest • Tim Frye • Ralph Goar • Marty Gorbien
GRAB Magazine • Ted Grady • William Greaves • Deputy Commissioner Kenn
Gunn • David Hackett • Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center
Mayor Brandon Johnson • Arthur Johnston • Amanda Jones • Rick Karlin
Joanna Klonsky • KOB Web Services • David E. Krumwiede • Gary Liss
Patricia McCombs • Nelson McKeown • Ben Minnis • Mary Morten
Claudia Mosier • Kathryn Munzer • Dan Neniskis • Larry Passo
José Pepin Peña • Phil Pitluck • PRIDE Chicago • Bill Pry • Social Butterflies/WCT
David L. Strzepak • Supergurl Images • Total Promotions, Inc. • Scott Turner
Jackie Weinberg • Albert Williams • Windy City Media Group • Jake Wittich
David Zwirn

IN MEMORIAM DONATIONS

Marne Smiley (in memory of Clarence N. Wood)

ChicagoLGBTHallofFame.org



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:
chicagolgbthalloffame.org/chicago-lgbt-hall-of-fame-donations/
or use the QR code below

