



PROGRAM TOPICS: 2004 through 2023

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2023

Supportive Space for Trans Joy

July 28, 2023

Learn about the work of local LGBTQIA+ organizations that have fought for transgender rights for years and continue their support through serviceable action and promoting joy in the community. Join us as **Kim L. Hunt** of Pride Action Tank moderates a talk with panelists **Myles Brady Davis** of Equality Illinois, **Bonsai Bermúdez** of Youth Empowerment Performance Project, and **Jae Rice** of Brave Space Alliance.

2022

Dancing for Life: Moving Through HIV/AIDS

June 23, 2022

On Thursday, June 23, join us at the @Chicago History Museum for Dancing for Life: Moving through HIV/AIDS. The evening includes a dance performance and panel discussion reflecting on the history of HIV/AIDS in Chicago, the dance community's efforts to provide support to those impacted by the epidemic, and the future of HIV/AIDS advocacy in Chicago and beyond. Learn more and purchase tickets at chicagohistory.org/OUT. #OUTatCHM

2021

Seguimos Aquí: Pride, Pandemic, and Perseverance

July 22, 2021

The Chicago History Museum and OUT at CHM, in partnership with Association of Latinos/as/x Motivating Action (ALMA), is honored to present the premiere screening of "Seguimos Aquí (We're Still Here): Pride, Pandemic & Perseverance." This 30-minute documentary tells the stories of four LGBTQ+ identifying Latinx Chicagoans as they navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, interpersonal struggles, and community triumphs throughout a turbulent yet powerful 2020. Alma A. Vásquez "Nissa Conde", entertainer and artist, Luis Lira, community health advocate for Esperanza Health Centers, LaSaia Wade, Founder and Executive Director of Brave Space Alliance, and Reyna Ortiz, Trans Resource Navigator and author of T: Stands for Truth: In search of the Queen Vol. 1 are Latinx LGBTQ+ leaders from different backgrounds who use the power of self-determination, love, and community to not only survive but help their communities.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aF1oDfXBptk>



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2020

Chicago LGBTQ Activism: Back to the Future

April 21, 2020

An exploration of activism during the height of the HIV/AIDS epidemic with Yusef Garcia and Kim Hunt. The evening featured a documentary by Rick DeLaup entitled ***Short Fuse: The Story of an AIDS Activist***, which highlights the fiery, funny and passionate life of Daniel Sotomayor, the nation's first opening gay political cartoonist and ACT UP/Chicago AIDS activist as he balances life, death, and protest. The program was virtual due to limitations brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic.

LGBT Hall of Fame

August 2020

Women's Panel

October 2020

OUT Symposium

2019

How its Written

March 27, 2019

Who tells our histories and how? Author and historian **Owen Keehnan** moderates a discussion that explores the nonlinear story of LGBRQIA people in Chicago and beyond from eras during which little was recorded beside police record and lurid headlines. Hear from **Ria Brodell**, visual artist and author of *Butch Heroes*, and **Jim Elledge**, professor and author of *The Boys of Fairy Town*, about the unique challenges of researching pre-Stonewall history.

Out of this World

April 24, 2019

Journey beyond the binary and heteronormative! Join us as Kim, Hunt, executive director of Pride Action Tank, moderates a discussion about the vibrant history of LGBTQIA themes in speculative fiction (science fiction, comics and fantasy). Take a closer look at how the genre gives authors and readers the freedom to imagine societies, releasing them from reality and forcing the reader to reconsider his or her heteronormative cultural assumptions. Panelists include **Coya Paz**, associate professor at DePaul University and artistic director of Free Street Theater, and writer and producer **Derek Lee McPhatter**.

Quiet as a Riot

June 12, 2019



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2018

Celebrating and Contextualizing Queer Fashion

Thursday, March 22

From Masc4Masc camouflage of the '70s to DIY club kids of the '80s to dandies through the ages, turning heads ain't nothing new. Take in an array of head-turning designs that flip the script on gender norms, celebrate young contemporary fashion designers and discover how we've arrived at today's Instagram-fueled hypervisible boom in queer fashion. Stay for a panel discussion that contextualizes today's queer fashion within the history of fashion and Chicago's queer past.

Queer and Undocumented

Tuesday, April 24

Join us as we showcase the struggles and activism of undocumented queer people in this age of uncertainty. Delve into the history of the fight for immigrant rights in Chicago's LGBTQ community. Take a closer look at the gripping stories, legal avenues, and layered past of undocumented queer persons in this lively panel discussion with Antonio Gutierrez of Community Activism Law Alliance and LGBTQ immigration attorney Michael Jarecki.

DISRUPTIVE TOUCH: Queer in Public Spaces

Thursday, June 14

IN partnership with the Center on Halsted

What types of social and political disruptions happen when LGBTQ folks touch each other and express themselves in public? Photographers have captured (and continue to capture) spaces queer participants have activated through touch. This program examines how such a simple act agitates the sensibilities of a heteronormative culture and how queer spaces have historically disrupted spaces in the public sphere.

2017

Our Bars: Community, Safety, Violence, Sex, and Activism

Thursday, January 26

Bars and clubs have long been gathering places where people found like-minded companionship and social circles. This was particularly the case as LGBTQ communities coalesced in Chicago. Join community activist and Sidetrack owner Art Johnston and other long-standing community members as they discuss how a movement developed out of a few watering holes. The panel will talk about how bars in Chicago, since the 1950s and earlier, have been places of community and safety, sometimes broken by police violence and often determined by politics of gender and race.



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Art, AIDS, and Activism in Chicago

Friday, March 3

How was art used to speak out about the AIDS pandemic, advocate for its victims, and critique public response to this health crisis? Drawing on two exhibitions on view in Chicago—ArtAIDSAmerica at the Alphawood Gallery and One day this kid will get larger at the DePaul Art Museum—this panel examines artists who participated as activists in the AIDS crisis and contemporary artists responding to that time and to ongoing HIV health issues.

From New Town to Boystown to Lake View

Thursday, May 18

This program explores the triumphs of the nation's first officially recognized gay village, born of activism in 1970 when residents marched here in Chicago's first Pride Parade. It also examines the neighborhood's underlying social tensions—historic and current—between the different groups of people who live, work, and play in Boystown, asking the question, “Whose neighborhood is it, anyway?”

2016

Are We Still Fabulous?

Friday, January 22

Now that marriage equality is the law of the land and childrearing is more common in the LGBTQ community, are we becoming too integrated into mainstream society? How did we define ourselves as LGBTQ and have those identities changed today? Jennifer Brier moderates a diverse panel of Ricardo Gamboa, Yasmin Nair, Francesca Royster, and Joseph Varisco as they ask—and answer—these essential questions in a series of witty and fast-paced presentations followed by a debate.

Standing Up: From Punch Line to Spotlight

Thursday, March 10

Chicago has been the longtime epicenter of comedy, often at the expense of a marginalized LGBTQ community. While views have progressed, LGBTQ people still serve as the punch line for jokes across the comedic spectrum. Performer Abby McEneny moderates a panel that includes Second City's Andy Eninger, historian E. Patrick Johnson, and writer Jason Heidemann for a discussion on the history and struggle of queerness in Chicago's comedy scene as well as who has been at the forefront of humorous performances and roles. This enriching program showcases the comedic talents of our panelists and gay sketch comedy troupe GayCo.

Looking? The History of Hooking Up

Thursday, May 19

Join Brian Mustanski as he moderates a talk with Jeremy Foresheew of Grindr, and academics Michelle Birkett and Jody Ahlm about the social and historical development of hooking up. From face-to-face meetings in bars, club scenes, and bandana culture to early online chat



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rooms, dating websites, and mobile apps, this conversation explores how interactions in these environments have progressed and how the LGBTQ community navigates intimacy, self-identity, and self-presentation in cyberspace.

2015

Transmopolitan: Transgender Resilience

January 22

Diverse voices and stories from Chicago's robust transgender community. Trans activist Precious Davis presents a multimedia project on Chicago's transgender history which includes her solo talk about the resilience needed to stand up as a transgender woman. Davis then leads a multi-generational panel discussion with members of the trans community including Andre Perez, Gloria Allen, Owen Daniel McCarter, Mimi Marks, and Angelica Ross.

Secret Loves: Before We Could Ask or Tell

March 26

Previous generations of LGBT military personnel risked violence, ridicule and disciplinary action by seeking love in the service. Jim Darby, Susan Heggeland, and Marquell Smith tell their personal stories; Megan Carney shares what she learned while writing *Women at War* for Rivendell Theatre Ensemble; and performance artist Travis presents musical entertainment. The Chicago History Museum's exhibition *The Secret Lives of Objects* will be open for viewing during the reception time.

OUT at CHM presents StoryCorps OutLoud

May 7

StoryCorps founder David Isay presents stories from the OutLoud initiative, a project dedicated to recording and preserving the experiences of the LGBTQ community. A multiple Peabody Award winner and MacArthur Fellow, Isay will share our community's stories and will be in conversation with UIC gender and women's studies professor Dr. Jennifer Brier to talk about OutLoud's evolution and how it relates to long standing LGBT oral history projects. This rare Chicago appearance by an NPR favorite is sure to sell out, so get your tickets early.

2014

The House that Chicago Built

January 30

Monica Hairston O'Connell executive director of Columbia College Chicago's Center for Black Music Research talks with DJ Alan King, Micah Salkind, Derrick Carter, and Robert Williams. King spins during the reception.

Dangerously Explicit: Painting the Gay Male Experience

March 27



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Moderator David Getsy chats with scholars Jim Vopat and Kate Pollasch-Thames about artists Etienne (Dom Orejus) and Roger Brown. DJ Jpeg spins vintage music during the reception.

Lesbianography: Lesbians and Sex

May 8

Scholars Juana María Rodríguez of UC Berkeley and LaMonda Horton-Stallings of IU Bloomington with music spun by DJ Lady D.

2013

50 Shades of the Blues: Song, Soul and Sexuality

January 31

Including Sharon Bridgforth and Dr. Omi Osun Joni L. Jones with Katherine David and her trio during the reception.

From Chicago Out to the World: Advancing International LGBTQ Human Rights

March 21

Dr. Sid L. Mohn, President of Heartland Alliance for Human Needs and Human Rights, and Lynette Jackson, Associate Professor of Gender and Women's Studies and African American Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

Fierce & Fabulous: A New Look at Ebony Fashion Fair

May 16

CHM curator Joy Bivins and designer Tommy Walton of Walton Price look at how the Ebony Fashion Fair inspired queer designers and people of color to express themselves through fashion, and to add theatrical elements to runway shows.

2012

Chicago in Leather

January 19

Discussion of gay men's leather motorcycle and backpatch clubs, bars, women's groups and spaces and large events like International Mr. Leather and their role in creating Chicago's leather subculture.

Bayard Rustin at 100: Rediscovering a Forgotten Hero

February 9

filmmaker Bennett Singer (co-director of the acclaimed documentary *Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin*) and Rustin's surviving life partner Walter Naegle in conversation.

Curators Bare All

March 8



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OUT IN CHICAGO curators Jill Austin and Jennie Brier confess to trials and tribulations in mounting this landmark exhibition

2011

Sexicon: Language & Identity

January 27

Including: Chuck Renslow, Tommy Watson, Christina Kharl, Emilia Chico, and Kim Hunt

When Romeo was a Woman

March 10

Lisa Merrill

Beyond Shame: Life and Love in the 1950s

April 14

George Chauncey

2010

Queer Spaces: Past and Present

January 28

Sharon Haar and Doug Ischar

Queer Latinos: Art & Change

March 4

Larry La Fountain Stokes and Lourdes Torres

Richard Nixon: Gay Liberationist?

April 15

John D'Emilio

2009

Closets are for Clothes

January 29

Timothy Long

Speaking Out Down South

March 26

E. Patrick Johnson and Sharon Bridgeforth. Moderated by Jane Saks.



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Surviving Reagan

May 7

Gabe Gomez, Jackie Anderson, and Debbie Gould. Moderated by Jennie Brier.

2008

Sexual Politics: From the Lavender Scare to Larry Craig

January 31

David Johnson and Lane Fenrich

Queer Exclusions: Sexuality and U.S. Citizenship

March 27

Siobhan Somerville.

Screaming Queens and Lavender Panthers: A History of Transgender Activism

May 8

Susan Stryker

2007

Art, Sex, and Censorship: From Paul Cadmus to the PATRIOT Act

January 17

Richard Meyer

Gay Is the Revolution: Lesbian and Gay Liberation in Chicago

April 19

Murray Edelman, Vernita Gray, Margaret Wilson, and John D'Emilio

Art, AIDS, and Activism

June 5

Mary Patten, Jennie Brier, Avery R. Young.

2006

Gertrude Stein's Lesbian Paris

January 31

Frank Galati and Mary Lou Roberts

Gays and Gospel

April 6

Patrick Johnson and Kent Brooks



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Before the Gay Games: Lesbians in the Ballpark

June 8

Susan Cahn and Anna Enke.

2005

Friends or Lovers? Same-Sex Relationships of the 19th Century

February 17

Jay Grossman, Chris Castiglia, Victoria Brown, and Martha Vicinus

When Magnificent Mile Was Fairytown and Bronzeville Was Lavender

April 21

Chad Heap

The Celluloid Closet: LGBT Roles in Film

June 23

Kim Pierce, Ronald Gregg, Michelle Citron.

2004

From Cole Porter to Tina Turner to Pansy Division: A History of LGBT Music

March 10

Mitchell Morris

From Drag Balls to Vogue Balls

May 27

George Chauncey and Jonathon Jackson

Women, Womyn, Grrls, Kings

September 26

Artemis Singers, Big Smith, Chicago Kings, Ubaka Hill's DrumSong Orchestra, Toni Armstrong, Jr.