QUEER HISTORY SOUTH 2022

ARCHIVES
FOR ALL, Y’ALL!
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We recognize that this conference occurs on land that has belonged and still belongs to Native communities. It is the traditional territory of people who are part of the Wichita, Kiikaapoi, and Tawakoni Tribes; the Caddo Confederacy that is made up of at least 25 smaller tribes; as well as other groups who resided here for shorter periods of time, including Comanche, Kiowa, Cherokee, and Alabama-Coushatta nations. We also acknowledge the Settler colonial violence and displacement has allowed us to be here today. Those of us who are not part of these nations are settlers and our presence here indicates that settler colonialism is an ongoing process.

We recognize that since this colonization began, other histories of racial and ethnic displacement trace the land we occupy. What we now call Texas is part of the territory that Spanish settlers stole from Native communities, and it became a state through wars and treaties that reinforced settler colonial practices of land ownership and boundary formation. The same attitudes that propelled Texas into statehood persist in and through practices and policies that have regularly marginalized indigenous communities, communities of color, poor and working-class people, and LGBTQ+ people, locally and globally.

We hope these words take part in a process of meaningful decolonization, one that listens to and learns from Native people. In this process, we need to account for past and present violence and to name our history of genocide. However, we also must remember the vibrant past and current presence of Native and other minoritized communities. There are organizations we can support with our time, energy, money, and by amplifying their perspectives and causes. We can seek out artists, activists, and entrepreneurs who represent underrepresented communities. We can invite others to learn with us.

You can access an extended version of the acknowledgement on the QHS website.
Welcome to the second Queer History South conference!

We are so pleased to finally be able to gather together again! The first Queer History South Conference was held in 2019 as a vehicle for locating and sharing the rich, but often under-documented history of Southern contributions to LGBTQ history. This second conference was to be held in early 2021, but due to the continuing COVID-19 precautions, was postponed and then postponed yet again. Our presenters, students, and attendees have been exceptionally patient and supportive as we have navigated these challenges, and we are proud of the program they have helped develop.

What you will see represented in our sessions is an extensive spectrum of identities, states, topics, and interdisciplinary work. We hope that each of you can find people and sessions to match your interests and goals and further your own work.

The past two years have been a difficult time for everyone, but for a community that is often isolated, it has been particularly hard. We hope that the time spent here in Dallas recharges you and provides the inspiration and energy needed to continue your work and studies when you return home. We highly encourage you to connect with folks throughout the conference and to take time to network and learn from each other.

In solidarity and hope,

**Maigen Sullivan, Josh Burford, & Dawn Betts-Green**
Invisible Histories Project

**Robert Emery, Carl Parker, & Megan Morrissey**
North Texas Planning Committee Co-Chairs
Welcome to Dallas!

The North Texas Planning Committee is thrilled to host you for three exciting days! We and our sponsor partners tried to create a dynamic conference experience that is enriching and immersive.

As you make your way through the conference sessions and into the evenings’ events, we hope you will connect with this place, its storied LGBTQ+ history, and with each other. Please enjoy our vibrant downtown area and our thriving LGBTQ+ community.

Our conference volunteers look forward to sharing Texas hospitality with you - just look for the red bandannas!

Welcome, All Y’all!
Co-Chairs - Archives for ALL, Y’all - North Texas Planning Committee

Carl Parker
Megan Morrissey
Robert Emery
A very special THANK YOU to the North Texas Planning Committee members who have worked for over three years to make this an important and special event. This conference would not have been possible without their dedication, experience, and expertise.

North Texas Planning Committee Co-Chairs
Robert Emery, Carl Parker, & Megan Morrissey

North Texas Executive Planning Committee
Dreanna Belden, Wade Hyde, Agatha Beins, Steve Atkinson, & Mike Anglin

North Texas Planning Committee
Linda Abramson Evans, Morgan Geiringer, Christopher Manes, Jake Mangum, Francesca Martini, Marisol Moreno, Greg Morris, Amie Oliver, Sue Parks, Wesley Phelps, Nino Testa

We’d like to thank Ramona Tovar Briones for Spanish translations in the program.

We also want to extend an extra Thank You to the Mellon Foundation. Their continued support of and commitment to the preservation and research of Southern LGBTQ history helps ensure that more of our at-risks histories will be saved.
Dear Historians,

We are thrilled to host you for QHS2022 - Archives for All, Y’all. Welcome to Dallas!

The Dallas Way is a non-profit organization founded in 2011 with the mission: To gather, organize, store, and present the complete LGBTQ history of Dallas, Texas. The initial organization leaders understood that any marginalized group must take responsibility to preserve their own history.

Based on our collaboration with the University of North Texas Libraries, we have enjoyed success with our archiving efforts, and have enjoyed ourselves along the way! We like to think of ourselves as “Happy Historians.”

We hope you will enjoy your visit here in Dallas, collaborate on your interests in preserving all of our histories, and share with each other all your best ideas! Have a great time, y’all!

Board of Directors
The Dallas Way
http://www.thedallasway.org
Click here for the Dallas Way collections.
Find us on YouTube
Invisible Histories Project  
2022 Queer History South: Archives for ALL, Y'all! Conference  
Dallas, Texas

Dear Queer History South Conference Attendees, Supporters, Allies, & Friends:

On behalf of Dallas College, I extend a heartfelt welcome to you. In 2019, Dallas County Community College District entered a partnership with Queer History South: Archives to serve as host sponsor for the following year's conference in celebration of queer activism and efforts featuring everyday change agents from the southern United States. However, our society and world was upended by multiple global health pandemics. During that time, Dallas County Community College District transitioned from distinct colleges to one consolidated Dallas College, boasting seven campuses and thirteen satellite centers spanning across the Dallas-Forth Worth metroplex.

As the 2022 Queer History South: Archives for ALL, Y'all! Conference takes place here at our beautiful and centrally located El Centro Campus, we hope that you can take a moment to engage with the art exhibition located near the lobby of the El Centro Student Center. We are proud of and celebrate all the artists featured, including our students and employees.

As we continue partnering with organizations throughout the city to provide our community with resources of support, I want to express the commitment Dallas College has to supporting each person by leading the charge of fostering an inclusive, equitable, respectful, and safe environment for everyone regardless of identity.

Furthermore, as we near LGBT History Month, National Coming Out Day, and Trans Day of Rememberance, we hope you can join us for our inaugural National Coming Out Day Resource Fair, taking place at our Richland campus on October 11th. This institutional signature offering will bring internal and external partners together in support of LGBTQIA+ identified persons, their loved ones, and friends to ensure that persons coming out are equipped with resources to not only survive but thrive in school and life.

Thank you, Queer History South contributors and organizers for your commitment to diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging. Once again, welcome.

Sincerely,

Marisol Romany  
Dallas College Chief Social Responsibility and Inclusion Officer
Invisible Histories Project
2022 Queer History South: Archives for ALL, Y’all! Conference
Dallas, Texas

Dear Conference Attendees, Supporters, & Friends:

On behalf of the people of Dallas County, we join you today in celebrating our diversity and working together to ensure equity and inclusivity for everyone.

Like you, I recognize the importance of collecting and preserving history – our stories, both sacred and scarred, of who we are, where we come from, and how we might go forward. During your stay, I encourage you to cross the street and visit the tributes and memorials for John F. Kennedy, who, nearly 60 years ago, never had the opportunity to deliver these prepared words:

“It should be clear by now that a nation can be no stronger abroad than she is at home. Only an America which practices what it preaches about equal rights and social justice will be respected by those whose choice affects our future. Only an America which has fully educated its citizens is fully capable of tackling the complex problems and perceiving the hidden dangers of the world in which we live. And only an America which is growing and prospering economically can sustain the worldwide defenses of freedom, while demonstrating to all concerned the opportunities of our system and society.”

President John F. Kennedy
[Abstract from prepared remarks for delivery at the Dallas Trade Mart, November 22, 1963]

On this eve of LGBT History Month, I thank you for your ongoing efforts to collect, preserve, and present the rich yet often under-documented southern contributions to LGBTQ history and society. Your actions ensure we faithfully and honestly transmit our understanding of the past to future generations.

Sincerely,

Clay L. Jenkins
Dallas County Judge
September 30, 2022

Greetings!

As Mayor of Dallas, it is my pleasure to welcome attendees of the 2nd Annual Queer History South Network & Conference “Archives for ALL, Y’all!” Our city is honored to have been chosen as the site for this wonderful event, where people will get to learn about the important preservation efforts to archive LGBT+ history.

It should be noted that many of the legal advancements in LGBT+ equality originated in the South. As one of the original 13 southern states, Texas contains many significant stories waiting to be properly revealed and celebrated. Thank you for your interest as well as leadership in archiving this rich, yet often under-documented history of contributions to our society.

Dallas is proud to have one of the most dynamic LGBT+ communities in the nation. We welcome ALL, Y’all!

Best wishes for a successful event and an unforgettable time in Dallas.

Sincerely,

Eric Johnson
Mayor
August 5, 2022

Re: Archives for All, Y’all

Dear conference attendees and guests,

We are so happy you traveled to Dallas, to learn ‘best practices’ in LGBTQ+ history archiving and to connect with fellow professionals in this valuable endeavor. Dallas is a hospitable and welcoming city, and it is an honor for our city to host this conference.

If you have time, while you’re here, please visit our City Hall to see the only PRIDE version of an official city flag in America. Dallas has more Rainbow Crosswalks than any other city in America. We are home to the world’s largest LGBTQ+ church, the world’s largest and most recorded gay men’s chorus, and the world’s largest LGBTQ+ annual seated dinner fundraising event. As a special treat, after your conference is over on Sunday, please consider taking an extra day to visit The Great State Fair of Texas, the largest State Fair in America.

We are so pleased you decided to conduct this important conference in the City of Dallas. Please take advantage of everything Dallas has to offer. It is here for YOU.

Sincerely,

Chad West
Councilmember
City of Dallas, District 1
Since its inception in 1886, the State Fair of Texas has celebrated all things Texan by promoting agriculture, education, and community involvement through quality entertainment in a family-friendly environment. The State Fair of Texas is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization with proceeds helping to preserve and improve our home, Fair Park; underwrite museums, community initiatives, and scholarship programs to support students throughout the Lone Star State pursuing higher education; and help improve State Fair operations.

**Dates:**
September 30-October 23

**Times:**
Sundays-Thursdays 10:00 am-9:00 pm
Fridays and Saturdays 10:00 am-10:00 pm

**State Fair Parking Address:**
925 S. Haskell, Dallas, Texas 75223

For more information, visit the State Fair of Texas website: [https://bigtex.com/](https://bigtex.com/)
Queer History South 2022: Archives for All, Y’all!
Schedule At A Glance

Friday, September 30

8:00-9:00am  Registration
Sign-in and Vaccination Verification

9:00-10:30am  Opening  | Room C130
Welcome
Plenary Speaker: Moises “Moe” V. Vela, Jr.

10:45-11:45 am  Session Block 1

Old Lesbian Herstory Project  | Room C130
Arden Eversmeyer

The Austin LGBTQ+ Oral History Project  | Expo Hall
Lauren Gutterman, PhD

Panel Discussion  | Room B269
Queering UA: Students Create a New Classroom
John Giggie, PhD; Isabella Garrison, Kathleen Kelley, Callum Campbell, and Lewis Zannis

On Naiad Press of Tallahassee, FL  | Room C100
Exploring the Balance Between Shared Authority and Social Justice in Queer Public History
Michael David Franklin, PhD and RaeAnn Quick

Description and Metadata for LGBTQ+ Collections  | Room C370
Elliot Williams

11:45-1:15 pm  Student Poster Session and Lunch  | Expo Hall
1:30-2:30 pm  Session Block 2

**Touching Up Our Roots with #TUOR** | Room B269
Atlanta’s Queer Digital Story Tour
*Eric E. Solomon*

*Podcasting in the Stacks* | Expo Hall
What I Learned in My First Year of Podcasting
*Lolita Rowe*

**Invisible Histories Project** | Room C130
How IHP Is Working to Save LGBTQ History in the Deep South
*Maigen Sullivan, PhD and Josh Burford*

**Wrestling with Incomplete Archives** | Room C370
*Robert Fieseler*

**Mapping Trans Joy** | C100
*Sophie Ziegler, Nathalie Nia Faulk, and SK Groll*

2:45-3:45 pm  Session Block 3

**Community-Led Archival Research** | Room C130
*James Capello, PhD*

**Documenting Queer Without Fear in Georgia** | Room B269
*Morna Gerrard and Rachel Senese*

**Outrageous Oral, A Program of The Dallas Way** | Room C100
*Robert Walker Emery*
Coming Out Together to Share Our History | Expo Hall
A Collaborative Exhibition (Panel Discussion)
Francesca Marini, PhD, Christian Kelleher, PhD, Vince Lee, Rebecca Hankins, and Brian Riedel, PhD

Unspoken, Untold | Room C370
Bolstering Underrepresented Histories
With Oral and Archival Research
Maria Katsulos, Bethany Bass, and Hannah Hall

Using Archives in “Queericulums” | Room C100
Aaron Elkins, PhD

Capturing the Faerie Playhouse, New Orleans | Room C130
Documenting at-risk queer spaces through virtual tours and oral histories
Catherine G. Cooper, PhD

Oral History Interviews and Gaps in Queer Archival Records | Room B269
Rebecca Russell, Amanda Focke, and Brian Riedel, PhD

The LGBT+ Archives Project of Louisiana | Expo Hall
A Community Success Story
Kathleen Conlon and Frank Perez

Student Panel | Room C370
Exploring the Experiences of Graduate Students in LGBTQ History and Archiving Fields
Emma Frank, Lev Rosenberger, and Shannon Wheeler
5:00-7:00 pm  Break

7:00 pm  Evening Options

Visit the LGBT Historical Marker at the Gay Crossroads at Throckmorton and Cedar Springs

Visit the Round-Up Saloon, the world’s largest LGBT Cowboy Dance Hall at 3912 Cedar Springs Road

Attend the Inaugural Texas Trans Pride at 3911 Cedar Springs Road, 7pm-4am

Visit the AT&T Discovery District at 208 S. Akard Street

Opening Day of The Great State Fair of Texas, ride the Green Line to Fair Park Station

Saturday, October 1

9:00-10:15 am  Opening and Plenary | Room C130
Plenary Speaker:  Mandy Carter

10:30-11:30 am  Session Block 5

Queer Persistence in the Archive | Room C100
Amy L. Stone, PhD

“We Could Do Better” | Room C370
Librarian Engagement as a Measure of Queer Content in Libraries
Dawn Betts-Green, PhD

Book Discussion of Living Queer History | Expo Hall
Remembrance And Belonging in a Southern City
Samantha Rosenthal, PhD
Queer History South 2022: Archives for All, Y’all!
Schedule At A Glance (cont.)

10:30-11:30 am  Session Block 5 (cont.)

Re-Engaging the AIDS Quilt as Archive of Local Activist Histories | Room B269
Nino Testa, PhD

Cruising for Queer Histories Outside of the Gay Bar | Room C130
Alexis Rodriguez

11:45 am-1:15 pm  Resource and Expo Lunch | Expo Hall

1:30-3:00 pm  Introduction to and Overview of The University Of North Texas LGBTQ Archives | Room C130
Morgan Gieringer; Wes Phelps, PhD; and Karen Wisely, PhD

3:15-5:00 pm  Facilitated Affinity Sessions | Room

5:00-6:00 pm  Break

6:00-9:00 pm  Evening Event: Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum
300 N Houston Street | Doors open at 6:00 pm, Sunset 6:37 pm, Cash Bar opens at 6:39 pm

Sunday, October 2

9:00 am  Closing Day Session | Room C130
Welcome
VideoOut: Busting Misconceptions about the Queer South: An IHP and VideoOut Production
Plenary Speakers: Historical LGBTQ Legal Panel featuring Dick Peeples and Wesley G. Phelps, moderated by Mike Anglin
**Detailed Schedule**

**Friday, September 30**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:00am-9:00 am</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td>Sign-In &amp; Vaccination Verification</td>
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<td>The Dallas Way: Faces of LGBTQ+ History Gallery in the H. Paxton Moore Fine Art Gallery (Ground Floor, Building B)</td>
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<td>9:00 am-10:30 am</td>
<td>Opening</td>
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<td>C130 Performance Hall</td>
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<td>Welcome and Overview of the Conference</td>
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<td>Plenary Speaker: Moises &quot;Moe&quot; V. Vela, Jr.</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:45 am-11:45 am</td>
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### Block 1

**Friday, 10:45 am-11:45 am**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Session and Presenters</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C130</td>
<td><strong>Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project</strong></td>
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<td>Arden Eversmeyer</td>
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<td>&quot;We had never held hands out in public, but before they put her in the ambulance, I kissed Bobbie on the forehead whispered that I loved her.&quot; When interviewed for the Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project (OLOHP), Jean, born 1927, talked about losing Bobbie. They’d been together for more than 35 years, living in rural Texas and had never show affection towards each other in public. Although many things have changed for lesbians now, it is essential that we remember and honor the lives of the women who came before us, living during a time when there were no books or magazines and no organizations, when being homosexual was classified as a disease for which you might be institutionalized, when simply dancing at a bar with another woman might land you in jail. Some historians were trying to tell the story of these women, but it was always their interpretation of the story. The Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project has worked for more than 20 years to document and preserve the life stories of lesbians 70 and older. The OLOHP presentation will not only tell you about the Project and how it works, it will include a few readings of excerpts taken from their collection of 700+ interviews.</td>
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| Expo Hall | **The Austin LGBTQ+ Oral History Project**                                        |
|           | Lauren Gutterman, PhD, Associate Professor of American Studies, University of Texas at Austin |
|           | This presentation will discuss my experiences training undergraduate students at UT Austin to conduct oral history interviews with LGBTQ+ community members in Austin, past and present. |

| B269 | **Panel Discussion: Queering UA: Students Create a New Classroom**                |
|      | John Giggie, PhD, Associate Professor of History & African American Studies and Director of the Summersell Center for the Study of the South, University of Alabama |
|      | Isabella Garrison, Doctoral Student, History, University of Alabama              |
|      | Kathleen Kelley, Student, New College, University of Alabama                     |
|      | Callum Campbell, Student, Communications & History, University of Alabama       |
|      | Lewis Zannis, Student, History, University of Alabama                            |
|      | Join the students from the University of Alabama who founded a new program in queer history as they reflect on their experiences. In the facilitated conversation, students will speak about navigating archives, working with administrators, collaborating with community partners, and discovering local queer histories on- and off-campus. They will explore how their work has changed their understanding of student-led community history. |

| C100  | **On Naiad Press of Tallahassee, Florida: Exploring the Balance between Shared Authority and Social Justice in Queer Public History** |
|       | Michael David Franklin, Assistant Director of Honors in the Major and Honors Faculty, Florida State University |
|       | RaeAnn Quick, Student, Florida State University                                    |
|       | This presentation will use our work on a public history project about Naiad Press – an internationally prominent lesbian publishing company located in Tallahassee, Florida, from 1980 to 2003 – to think about legacies of racial segregation in queer spaces, as well as the ethics of framing a majority-white lesbian community’s history through oral history research. |
|       | In July 2021, we began to conduct interviews with narrators who in the past worked for or published with Naiad Press. Due to snowball sampling, the narrators we have interviewed to date have been overwhelmingly white, with many saying little to nothing about the racial dynamics of Naiad Press or the North Florida region. On the other hand, the sole narrator of color affiliated with Naiad Press who we have interviewed so far, who identifies as a Chicana lesbian, spoke at length about her experiences in connection with Naiad Press’s stakeholders about race, ethnicity, national identity, and sexuality. Working with oral histories from this majority-white pool of narrators, we compiled a retrospective exhibition about the cultural and local significance of Naiad Press at Florida State University’s Museum of Fine Arts that opened in June 2022. |
|       | As researchers committed to social justice through public storytelling of queer and trans histories, we wish to find ways to engage Tallahassee’s racial history to frame this majority-white cultural institution, even if the oral histories themselves affirm and celebrate Naiad Press as a queer-positive workplace and social hub. Tallahassee, Florida, is the state capital of Florida and is home to Florida State University and to Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU), a nationally prominent HBCU. Particularly due to the active role of students from FAMU, it served as a key regional site for the Civil Rights Movement during the 1960s. Yet, legacies of racial segregation still are prevalent in Tallahassee, which in 2015 was named by the University of Toronto’s Martin Prosperity Institute the most economically segregated city in the United States in terms of income, education, and occupation. (Source: https://community-wealth.org/content/segregated-city-geography-economic-segregation-america-s-metros) |
**Description and Metadata for LGBTQ+ Collections**

**Elliot Williams, DPLA Metadata Aggregation Outreach Coordinator, Texas Digital Library**

LGBTQ+ people understand the power of language and the importance of being named and described as who we understand ourselves to be. Similarly, library and archives workers recognize the value of good metadata for helping researchers and community members find and understand resources. This session will explore issues of metadata and description for LGBTQ+ materials in archives and digital collections. What does inclusive, accessible metadata look like for our materials and our communities? How do we balance local needs with national standards to describe materials in respectful, accurate, and useful ways? After an introductory presentation, the majority of the session will be spent in small-group and collective discussion, with the goal of sharing experiences, resources, and perspectives.

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11:45 am-1:15 pm  **Student Poster Session and Lunch**

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<th>Session and Presenters</th>
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<td><strong>Room</strong></td>
<td><strong>Description and Metadata for LGBTQ+ Collections</strong></td>
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| B269 Expo Hall | **Touching Up Our Roots with #TUOR: Atlanta’s Queer Digital Story Tour**  | Eric E. Solomon, PhD, Visiting Assistant Professor of American Studies and English, Emory University-Oxford College  
|  | A self-guided audio tour of sites integral to the LGBTQIA+ story in Atlanta. Curated and narrated by Dave Hayward, founder of the LGBTQ Story Tour, and co-founder of Touching Up Our Roots: Georgia’s LGBTQ+ Story Project. Lesbian herstorians Maria Helena Dolan and Lorraine Fontana provide additional narration. Developed and produced by Dave Hayward and Dr. Eric Solomon. In 2016 Hayward founded the live LGBTQ Story Tour with Atlanta Pride and the LGBTQ Institute.  |  
|  | **Podcasting in the Stacks: What I learned in my first year of podcasting**  | Lolita Rowe, Assistant University Archivist for Outreach and Engagement, University of North Carolina Chapel Hill  
|  | Podcasting is one way to provide a platform to open conversation within your local and national community to learn and engage with history, archives, and storytelling. The goal of the Rose Library Presents suite of podcast is to invite conversation about an historical person, event, or place centered on archives. Learn if podcasting is right for you by listening to how tips and tricks learned from creating two podcast series.  |  
| C130  | **Invisible Histories Project: How IHP is Working to Save LGBTQ History in the Deep South**  | Maigen Sullivan, Director of Research and Development, Invisible Histories Project  
|  | Josh Burford, Director of Outreach and Lead Archivist, Invisible Histories Project  
|  | The Invisible Histories Project is a 501(c)3 nonprofit based in Birmingham, AL that locates, preserves, researches and makes community accessible the rich and diverse history of LGBTQ people in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia and the Florida Panhandle. IHP acts as an intermediary between institutions like universities, libraries, museums, and archives and LGBTQ people and organizations. Join us for this presentation on the history of IHP, an overview of the IHP model, and a discussion on the challenges faced in developing and implementing a public history and community archiving project and nonprofit in the Deep South.  |  
| C370  | **Wrestling with Incomplete Archives**  | Robert Fieseler, Journalist and Researcher  
|  | Frank Perez, Executive Director, LGBTQ+ Archives Project of Louisiana  
|  | Often in queer historical inquiry, a researcher will visit a relevant archive in the South and discover that little material exists pertaining to a given queer topic—sometimes no material at all. They’ll find state agencies have destroyed or redacted what they view as damaging reminders of the past. They’ll negotiate with former activists, now elders, hoarding priceless collections in basements with no clear estate plans. And they’ll confront age-old racial and religious biases hindering the collection of stories from whole communities. What does one do? How does a researcher move forward when it seems like all evidence is either locked away or erased? LGBTQ+ Archives Project of Louisiana Executive Director Frank Perez and author Robert W. Fieseler will discuss and relate personal stories of how they’ve confronted these queer quagmires.  |
### Detailed Schedule (cont.)

<table>
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<th>Block 3 Friday, 2:45 pm-3:45 pm</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Session and Presenters</th>
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| C100                            | C130 | Community-Led Archival Research  
James Capello, PhD, Professor of Anthropology, Savannah College of Art and Design  
Participants from local community organizations who identify as non-binary and/or trans made quilts along with offering oral histories. We created a community art show with the archival materials and worked with Emory to donate the materials that were created. Along with sewing their own quilt squares in response to prompts such as “who is chosen family for you?” I recorded and documented their oral histories and engagement in activism in Atlanta. I also documented through photographs and field notes trans-led activist events from 2018 to 2021. Since SFQP is led by Black, Indigenous, and Latinx trans people many of these events were immigration rallies, documenting the stories of trans women being held by I.C.E., and prison abolition events. Hopefully this presentation can act as an example of a successful led community research and archival project that documents how radical the Deep South can be. |
| B269                            | C100 | Outrageous Oral, A Program of The Dallas Way  
Robert Walker Emery, President, The Dallas Way  
Outrageous Oral is the most entertaining aspect of The Dallas Way. Speakers from all walks of LGBT+ life present their personal stories. They may seem improvised, but they are not. They are personal, vulnerable, and compelling. They are intimate, funny, poignant, encouraging, heartbreaking, and captivating. Ultimately, they are celebratory. Over 100 personal LGBT+ stories have been shared thus far. This break-out session focuses on how to produce an Outrageous Oral event from speakers to marketing, all the way through permanently storing them in an LGBTQ+ archive. |
| Expo Hall                       |      | Coming Out Together to Share Our History: A Collaborative Exhibition (Panel Discussion)  
Francesca Marini, PhD, Associate Professor and Programming & Outreach Librarian, Texas A&M University Libraries  
Christian Kelleher, PhD, Director, University of Houston Special Collections and Archives  
Vince Lee, Archivist, University of Houston Special Collections and Archives  
Rebecca Hankins, Wendler Endowed Professor, Texas A&M University Libraries  
Brian Riedel, PhD, Associate Director, Center for the Study of Women, Gender, & Sexuality, Rice University  
This panel presentation brings together different institutions in College Station, and Houston, Texas, and discusses a new collaborative exhibition, Coming Out Together to Share our History: LGBTQIA+ Collections in College Station, Houston, and Beyond, on display at the Texas A&M University Cushing Memorial Library and Archives from July 12 through December 16, 2021. The exhibition showcases contributions by nine organizations, including academic and community archives and represents unique histories and archival collections. The partners are: JD Doyle Archive, Gulf Coast Archive and Museum of GLBT History, The Charles Law Archives, The Botts Collection, The Banner Project, Nick and Jake Studio, Texas A&M, University of Houston, Rice University). This panel will discuss how the exhibition came together and what its goals were, and it will address how the exhibition is being positively received. It will also briefly discuss the organizations and collections represented in the exhibition, as well as future plans. This exhibition is an example of successful community outreach and collaboration. |

This presentation describes a project to collect and share stories of trans joy across Louisiana. The Solidarity History Initiative, Louisiana Trans Oral History Project, and Last Call Oral History Project, are creating an online map to enable trans and gender non-conforming (TGNC) individuals from across the state to contribute audio and video narratives, specifying places that are personally important to them as sites of trans joy. For our purposes, a place of trans joy can include any location that individuals feel included, loved or honored, as well as places where significant personal or communal events happened. Together, we’re re-imagining the geography of Louisiana through a lens of trans joy.
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<th>Block</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Session and Presenters</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm-5:00 pm</td>
<td>C100</td>
<td>Using Archives in “Queericulums”&lt;br&gt;Aaron Elkins, PhD, Associate Professor of Library and Information Studies, Texas Woman’s University&lt;br&gt;Given that queer culture and history are not taught in a comprehensive fashion in the United States public education system, queer youths, young adults, and adults are effectively left to situate themselves within such cultural and historical narratives as they choose to construct; as a result, these constructed narratives may be incomplete and value hegemonic culture and history over accuracy. How does the idea of using queer community archives to prepare a “queericulum” that presents a more inclusive and comprehensive depiction of queer culture and history interact with the notions of queer liberation? How can we use counter stories about queer history and culture in queer community archives to more effectively work towards dismantling white supremacy and patriarchy in the queer community and in mainstream society?</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 pm-5:00 pm</td>
<td>C130</td>
<td>Capturing the Faerie Playhouse, New Orleans: Documenting at-risk queer spaces through virtual tours and oral histories&lt;br&gt;Catherine G. Cooper, PhD, National Center for Preservation Technology and Training, National Parks Service&lt;br&gt;The Faerie Playhouse was the home of Stewart Butler, an activist for human rights and the LGBTQ+ community and remains important to the local community after Stewart’s passing in March 2020. According to notes written by Stewart and remembrances of the community, the iconic pink Creole cottage decorated with red hearts on Esplanade Avenue in New Orleans served as a playhouse, wedding chapel, youth refuge, memorial garden, meeting place, hospice and art gallery. It served these roles and many more since Stewart and his partner Alfred purchased the home in 1978 and continues to do so, though the future of the home is uncertain after Stewart’s passing.&lt;br&gt;In July 2022, a team from the National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) collected oral histories from friends and family of Stewart Butler and scanned the Faerie Playhouse using Matterport photogrammetry and virtual-tour technology in order to capture the space. These materials will be used to create a full interpretive tour of the Faerie Playhouse. NCPTT hopes to use this project as a template on which to expand and capture the tangible and intangible aspects of other at-risk sites of importance to LGBTQ+ communities throughout the South.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 pm-5:00 pm</td>
<td>B269</td>
<td>Oral history interviews and gaps in queer archival records&lt;br&gt;Rebecca Russell, Archivist and Special Collections Librarian, Rice University&lt;br&gt;Amanda Focke, Head of Special Collections, Rice University&lt;br&gt;Brian Riedel, PhD, Associate Director, Center for the Study of Women, Gender, &amp; Sexuality, Rice University&lt;br&gt;This presentation will discuss the importance of oral history interviews filling in gaps in the archival record for queer history. Examples include a collection of oral histories conducted by Rice undergraduates with Houstonians who have made contributions to the LGBTQ+ community and a collection of a community partnership’s efforts to collect, preserve, and make available the oral histories of individuals impacted by HIV / AIDS epidemic in Houston, Harris County and Southeast Texas, with special emphasis on those who experienced the early years of the epidemic.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 pm-5:00 pm</td>
<td>Expo Hall</td>
<td>The LGBT+ Archives Project of Louisiana: A Community Success Story&lt;br&gt;Kathleen Conlon, Acting President, LGBT+ Archives Project of Louisiana&lt;br&gt;Frank Perez, Executive Director, LGBT+ Archives Project of Louisiana&lt;br&gt;This presentation outlines how the project started, its goals and projects, and challenges faced archiving LGBT+ history in Louisiana.</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 pm-5:00 pm</td>
<td>C370</td>
<td>Student Panel: Exploring the Experiences of Graduate Students in LGBTQ History and Archiving Fields&lt;br&gt;Emma Frank, University of South Florida Special Collections&lt;br&gt;Lev Rosenberger, North Carolina State and University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill&lt;br&gt;Shannon Wheeler, IHP Intern, UNC-Chapel Hill PhD Student&lt;br&gt;Join graduate students for this conversation about the challenges and opportunities faced by those doing research and internship work around LGBTQ+ history and archiving in the South. This facilitated discussion will ask current and recently graduated students to explain their projects, explore the challenges they faced in this work, detail the benefits they received from their projects, and discuss ways in which they feel students can be better supported in their coursework and internships.</td>
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5:00 pm-7:00 pm  
**Break**

**Evening Options**
- Visit the LGBT Historical Marker at the Gay Crossroads at Throckmorton and Cedar Springs
- Visit the Round-Up Saloon, the world’s largest LGBT Cowboy Dance Hall at 3912 Cedar Springs Road
- Attend the Inaugural Texas Trans Pride at 3911 Cedar Springs Road, 7pm-4am
- Visit the AT&T Discovery District at 208 S. Akard Street
- Opening Day of The Great State Fair of Texas, ride the Green Line to Fair Park Station

**Saturday, October 1**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am-10:15 am</td>
<td>Opening and Plenary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room: C130</td>
<td>Plenary Speaker: Mandy Carter</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 am-11:30 am</td>
<td><strong>Session Block 5</strong></td>
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<tr>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Session and Presenters</th>
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| C100   | **Queer Persistence in the Archives**  
         Amy L. Stone, PhD, Trinity University Professor  
         This presentation explores the necessity for persistence in archival research, particularly archival research outside of conventional archives. I focus on queer geographies of the South, relational persistence, and emotional investments during a research project on LGBTQ involvement in citywide festivals in the urban South and Southwest. |
| C370   | **"We Could Do Better": Librarian Engagement as a Measure of Queer Content in Libraries**  
         Dawn Betts-Green, PhD, Assistant Director, Invisible Histories Project  
         Although the LGBTQ community, from all appearances, maintains a strong connection to libraries as safe spaces, it is unclear whether the libraries themselves are providing relevant resources and services to the community. In addition, LIS research on LGBTQ patrons has centered on collection development how-tos and high level, broad suggestions without evaluating the actual state of the libraries’ resources and services to these patrons. My own research suggests that the primary influence on what libraries have on their shelves is an actively engaged librarian dedicated to proper collection development practices and diversity and inclusion. |

| Expo Hall | Book Discussion of Living Queer History: Remembrance and Belonging in a Southern City  
           Samantha Rosenthal, PhD, Associate Professor of History, Roanoke College; The Southwest Virginia LGBTQ+ History Project  
           Read the book in advance if you can! Then join author Dr. Gregory Samantha Rosenthal, co-founder of the Southwest Virginia LGBTQ+ History Project, for a discussion of the book and how to apply Living Queer History’s concepts and themes in your own local queer communities. |
| B269     | Re-Engaging the AIDS Quilt as Archive of Local Activist Histories  
           Nino Testa, PhD, Associate Professor of Professional Practice, Texas Christian University  
           Although much has been written about how to understand and interpret the AIDS Quilt as a cultural phenomenon, detailed archival attention to particular panels and the collection of oral history interviews about those panels can illuminate local histories of AIDS activism, art, and community organizing in a way that macro histories of the Quilt cannot. With the recent acquisition of the AIDS Quilt by the National AIDS Memorial, this presentation will consider how the AIDS Quilt might be re-engaged as an anchor for public history projects documenting histories of direct action AIDS activism in local communities across the South. |
| C130     | Cruising for Queer Histories Outside of the Gay Bar  
           Alexis Rodriguez, Vice President, LGBTQ History Museum of Central Florida  
           In 2021, the LGBTQ History Museum of Central Florida celebrated its 16th anniversary, a milestone representing persistent collaboration between community members and university historians to interpret the region’s queer past. Recently, the Museum has expanded its preservation efforts to locate instances of queer community building that occurred outside of gay bars and nightclubs. This presentation will address the challenges of the Museum’s evolution by focusing on two specific cases: an archiving effort to document regional LGBTQ sports leagues and an exhibition that wrestled with the shifting generational perspectives on what defines a “queer space.” Though gay bars have long represented a “safe haven” for the LGBTQ community, the future of these spaces is precarious – as evidenced in Orlando with the 2020 closure of the iconic Parliament House after operating for 45 years. Given this shifting landscape, how might queer historiography adapt to reflect a more nuanced understanding of community beyond its traditional preoccupation with barroom legends? What are the spaces (and the people who find belonging within them) that we have neglected in our interpretation of the queer past and how can new collecting endeavors address these oversights? In addition to reflecting upon these questions, the presentation will contribute to a larger reimagining of queer theory to be more radically inclusive within public history scholarship and praxis. |
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<td>11:45 am-1:15 pm</td>
<td>Resource and Expo Lunch</td>
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| 1:30 pm-3:00 pm | **Introduction to and Overview of The University of North Texas LGBTQ Archives** Room C130  
Morgan Gieringer, University of North Texas Libraries Head of Special Collections  
Wes Phelps, PhD, Associate Professor of History, University of North Texas  
Karen Wisely, PhD, History Instructor, Tarrant County College  
Morgan Gieringer will give an overview of the creation of the LGBTQ Archive at UNT, its evolution and major milestones in the collection, preservation and digitization of unique historical resources documenting the LGBTQ communities of the north Texas region. Recognized by the Texas Digital Library with the 2021 Excellence Award, the UNT LGBTQ Archive includes physical, digital and web-based content and archivists lead an active outreach program that includes exhibits community programming. Karen Wisely and Wes Phelps will discuss their original research utilizing the archive, as well as activities such as a podcasts and an oral history project which complement the archival holdings at UNT. |
| 3:15 pm-5:00 pm | Facilitated Affinity Sessions                                         |
| 5:00 pm-6:00 pm | Break                                                                 |
| 6:00 pm-9:00 pm | **Evening Event: Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum at 300 N Houston Street**  
Doors open at 6:00 pm, Sunset 6:37 pm, Cash Bar opens at 6:39 pm |
| Sunday, October 2 |                                                                 |
| 9:00 am       | **Closing Day Session** C130 Performance Hall  
Welcome  
VideoOut: Busting Misconceptions about the Queer South: An IHP and VideoOut Production  
Plenary Speakers: Historical Texas LGBTQ Legal Panel featuring Dick Peeples and Wesley G. Phelps, moderated by Mike Anglin  
Closing |
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THE SUMMERLEE FOUNDATION

STONEMOON DEMOCRATS OF DALLAS

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The University of Texas at San Antonio

UTSA Libraries

HOLLINGER METAL EDGE

Archival Storage Materials

EMORY LIBRARIES

Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library

Jay Oppenheimer, Virginia & Bob Dupuy, William Waybourn, Tom Phipps & Rick Aishman, Cece Cox & Shelly Skeen, and Robert Walker Emery
OUR MISSION:
Improve and protect the quality of life of older LGBT adults in North Texas through community engagement & advocacy education.

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1 in 5 Texans will be 65+ by 2030.
N. TX research indicates the older lesbian & gay population will increase up to 40% by 2030.

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The Dallas Holocaust and Human Rights Museum is delighted to be a part of this year’s Queer History South 2022: Archives for All, Y’all conference. Thank you for your dedication to research and preserve LGBTQ history in the U.S. South.

At the Museum, we teach the history of the Holocaust and advance human rights to combat prejudice, hatred, and indifference. Within our Pivot to America wing, which tracks the journey for civil and human rights in the United States, visitors can explore the history and development of LGBTQ rights through interactive kiosks and testimonies.

The Museum’s Frank and Helen Risch Family Library & Archives provides access to rare books, manuscripts, oral histories, and artifacts while preserving them for future generations. The collection includes more than 17,000 items documenting the history of the Holocaust and human rights in a local context. To contact the Museum’s Archivist to book a research appointment or connect about a potential archival donation, email archives@dhhrm.org.

I hope you have a meaningful conference experience learning the rich, but often under-documented history of southern contributions to LGBTQ history and society. Together, we are making a difference.

Mary Pat Higgins
President and CEO
Knowledge is Power

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Virginia & Bob Dupuy
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for many people
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The Invisible Histories Project locates, preserves, researches, and creates for local communities an accessible collection of the rich and diverse history of LGBTQ life in the US South.

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SMU Libraries

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Queer History South

We invite you to visit

SMU Libraries Digital Collections
photographs, manuscripts, imprints, works of art,
and audio/video on many historical subjects

home of
Southern Methodist University Oral History
and Digital Humanities Student Projects
digital collection
an SMU Libraries and SMU History Department partnership

and

Pride at SMU series
coming soon
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Special Collections & Archives

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY
GET INVOLVED

Stonewall Democrats of Dallas proudly supports Queer History South 2022 Archives for ALL, Y’all Conference: Collecting, Preserving, and Researching the LGBTQ+ movement in the US South. Learn about the important historical contributions of Stonewall Dallas Democrats as we share collective stories that impact activism today.

SCAN FOR MORE

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Political advertising paid for by Stonewall Democrats of Dallas, Treasurer Jessica Öeffner.
At Texas A&M University Libraries you explore, discover, and learn LGBTQIA+ history. Our collections include:

- Don Kelly Research Collection of Gay Literature and Culture with over 43,000 items
- Professor Harriette Andreadis Women’s and Gender Studies papers
- Arden Eversmeyer Lesbian Book Collection
- Theatre Rhinoceros collection from 1990-mid 2000
- Texas A&M Gay Student Services’ Supreme Court Decision
- Papers of Judge Phyllis R. Frye

These collections and more are housed in Cushing Memorial Library & Archives. The University Libraries is committed to community and encourages collaborations. Our donors support the Don Kelly Collection Fellowship/Internship Endowment. The paid internships and the co-sponsored research fellowship foster a new generation of proud scholars.

To learn more, visit library.tamu.edu
The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Archive at UNT is a collaborative project to document the history and culture of the LGBTQ communities in the South and the Southwest.

This major collecting initiative documents people, places, and events through primary source materials, including letters, photographs, newspapers and magazines, scrapbooks, diaries, audio-visual materials, organizational records, posters, flyers, and objects.

Explore this vital Texas collection at library.unt.edu/lgbtq-archive or online at texashistory.unt.edu/explore/collections/LGBT
The following sessions will be recorded and offered as a delayed broadcast approximately 2 weeks after the conference. All plenary sessions are included as well.

• Old Lesbian Herstory Project
• On Naiad Press of Tallahassee, Florida: Exploring the Balance between Shared Authority and Social Justice in Queer Public History
• Invisible Histories Project: How IHP is Working to Save LGBTQ History in the Deep South
• Mapping Trans Joy
• Community-Led Archival Research
• Outrageous Oral
• Using Archives in “Queericulums”
• Capturing the Faerie Playhouse, New Orleans: Documenting at-risk queer spaces through virtual tours and oral histories
• Queer Persistence in the Archives
• Cruising for Queer Histories Outside of the Gay Bar
Moe Vela is the CEO of MoeVela, LLC, a strategic business advisory firm, with business partnerships and ventures that span the globe across a diversity of sectors and industries. He is also the Founder of The Vela Group, LLC, a global business development consulting firm. In addition to running his firms, he is Of Counsel/Senior Advisor at the law firm of Stein Mitchell Beato and Missner. Mr. Vela is also Principal Advisor at TransparentBusiness.

Moe’s most recent entrepreneurial endeavor is as the co-creator, co-producer and co-star of the hottest new business reality streaming series, *Unicorn Hunters*. Vela is a long-time Washington insider and served as the Director of Administration and Senior Advisor for then-Vice President Joe Biden. The stint was his second White House appointment as he also served as Chief Financial Officer and Senior Advisor on Hispanic Affairs for Vice President Al Gore. Vela holds the distinction of being the first Hispanic-American and LGBTQA-American to serve twice in the White House in a senior executive role.

Vela is often heard as a keynote speaker and is a frequent contributor or quoted in articles in the *Associated Press, Fortune, Forbes, The Guardian, The Hill, INC magazine, Yahoo Finance, Entrepreneur, and The Daily Mail*, to name a few. Moe is often seen on Fox, Fox Business, Yahoo Finance TV, and the BBC, among other national and global news outlets.

He has been named one of the Top 100 Hispanics in America by *Hispanic Business* magazine and was twice named as one of the 101 Most Influential Latinos by *Latino Leaders* magazine, as well as one of Washington’s Top 300 Insiders by the *National Journal* and was named to the Powermeter 100 –the Washington area’s most influential individuals for Hispanic communities – by *El Tiempo Latino, a Washington Post* publication.

A proud fourth-generation Texan, Mr. Vela earned his undergraduate degree at the University of Texas at Austin and his law degree from St. Mary’s University School of Law. Vela is the author of the best-selling book, *Little Secret, Big Dreams*. 
Mandy Carter is the co-founder of Southerners on New Ground, the National Black Justice Coalition, and Equality North Carolina. She was one of two openly LGBTQ speakers at the 2003 Lincoln Memorial Rally for the 40th Anniversary of the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom and was on the national steering coordinator for the 1987 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

Carter’s political activism includes serving as campaign manager for Florida Vote/Equal Voice, a non-partisan, statewide voter empowerment campaign in 2000 initiated by the African-American Ministers Leadership Council of the People, the People for the American Way Foundation, and the Florida NAACP. The effort resulted in one of the largest Black voter turnouts in Florida history. From 1996 to 2000, Carter was a North Carolina member-at-large of the Democratic National Committee (DNC), and a member of both the DNC Gay and Lesbian Caucus and the DNC Black Caucus. Carter was named one of the five national co-chairs of Obama LGBT Pride, the LGBT grassroots infrastructure for Barack Obama’s 2008 presidential campaign. Her work focused on organizing grassroots networks, particularly among people of color throughout the South.

Carter was nominated as one of the “1000 Women for the Nobel Peace Prize 2005.” She was honored with the 2006 Spirit of Justice Award from Boston’s Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders (GLAD) and the Anderson Prize Foundation’s Susan J. Hyde Longevity Award in 2008. In addition to being inducted into the LGBT Hall of Fame by the International Federation of Black Prides (now The Center for Black Equity) in 2012, Carter was a 2013 recipient of the Woodhull Freedom Foundation’s Vicki Sexual Freedom Award for her human rights work.
Dick Peeples is an attorney with the law firm of Peeples & Kohler, P.C. He earned a J.D. from the University of Texas School of Law in 1974. In early 1977, he was propelled into becoming a gay activist as Anita Bryant spearheaded a successful campaign to repeal a non-discrimination ordinance which had only a few months before been passed by the Miami Dade Council. Dick prepared the paperwork to incorporate the Dallas Gay Political Caucus in 1977 and ran for the board where he served one year.

Dick was elected as the first person from outside of Houston to serve on the board of the Texas Human Rights Foundation in 1978 and continued to serve on that board until 1990. As a member of that board, he helped manage two court challenges to section 21.06 of the Texas Penal Code, which criminalized private consensual sexual between people of the same gender: Baker vs. Wade and Morales vs. State. Though the law was ultimately held to be valid in those two cases, a third case, Lawrence v. Texas, resulted in the law being declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court in 2003.

Wesley G. Phelps is an assistant professor of history at the University of North Texas in Denton, where he teaches courses on recent United States history, the American South, and LGBTQ history. He received his Ph.D. in history from Rice University in 2010 and taught for eight years at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville before joining the history department at UNT in 2019. His research focuses on how democracy operates at the grassroots level and how marginalized groups of people have struggled to participate in the democratic experiment.

His book, A People’s War on Poverty: Urban Politics and Grassroots Activists in Houston, was published by the University of Georgia Press in 2014. Phelps’s current book project is titled Before Lawrence v. Texas: The Making of a Queer Social Movement, and will be published by the University of Texas Press in 2022. Phelps has been the recipient of the Albert J. Beveridge Grant for Research in the History of the Western Hemisphere by the American Historical Association, a Moody Research Grant from the Lyndon Baines Johnson Foundation, and a Special Collections Research Fellowship from the University of North Texas Libraries.
Mike Anglin served as Vice President of the Texas Human Rights Foundation when it supported and guided the Baker v. Wade litigation, which originated in Dallas, seeking to have the state statute criminalizing same-sex relations declared unconstitutional under the U.S. Constitution. He was also an instigator and/or founder of a number of other Dallas organizations such as the Dallas Black Tie Dinner, Razzle Dazzle Dallas, and the Foundation for Human Understanding (now known as the Resource Center), and most recently The Dallas Way. He is currently a member of the national board of governors of the Human Rights Campaign.
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Queer History South Conference

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Tony Veda
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Worth Ross - Jason Mitchell
The Invisible Histories Project locates, preserves, researches, and creates for local communities an accessible collection of the rich and diverse history of LGBTQ life in the US South. IHP is based in Birmingham, AL and currently collects in Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and the Florida Panhandle.

IHP focuses on four key elements related to advancing LGBTQ Southern History:
• Community Engagement
• Archiving, Preservation, Research & Scholarship
• Education
• Professional Development & Best Practices

IHP acts as an intermediary between institutions and everyday folks. We strive to break barriers between organizations and their local communities to ensure that preservation and research exist in a co-productive and relationship-centered way. IHP provides scholars with direct access to materials as well as creating a network of people conducting LGBTQ Southern archiving, preservation, education and research to make scholarship more accessible. We focus on providing education around the Queer South to those within and outside the region through speaking, exhibiting, online materials, and publications. Finally, IHP seeks to help develop a new generation of scholars working in the Queer South as well as work alongside other professionals in the field to develop best practices for this work.
Queer History South began from a desire to connect with and discover other people who were working to preserve and study the history of the LGBTQ community in the US South. In 2015 Josh Burford (IHP) and Barbara Lau (Pauli Murray Center), began a conversation to see if it would be possible to locate other practitioners in the fields of oral history, history, archiving, and activism in order to share best practices, support, and to form a community of like-minded people. Because of anti-Transgender laws and policies that were being enacted in North Carolina at the time, the 1st QHS meeting never took place as the community rallied to fight against this injustice. In 2019 Josh and Maigen Sullivan of the Invisible Histories Project decided it was time to try again.

In March of 2019, 115 people gathered in Birmingham, Alabama for the very first Queer History South Conference. This meeting lasted 3 days and the connections that were formed have become the basis of the Queer History South Network. This network spans 13 Southern states. This year’s QHS has seen its share of delays due to pandemics and other obstacles, but we are gathering again because the work continues and our desire to connect and create community has only grown.