The History Project: Documenting LGBTQ Boston

2021 Impact Report

Our mission is to collect and preserve the history of Boston’s lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) communities, and to share that information with LGBTQ+ individuals, organizations, allies, and the public. Learn more at historyproject.org.

Documenting & Preserving

In 2021, we:
- Launched the Black Queer Boston Project. See more at: http://historyproject.org/project/black-lgbtq-boston
- Preserved 10 collections capturing the history of Provincetown, lesbian motherhood, nightlife, and the AIDS Action Committee

LGBTQ+ history isn’t just paper records! 2021 ephemera donations include a Marilyn Monroe drag lookalike contest diorama, lesbian t-shirts, Paradise matchbooks, the Gen X Bears Boston banner, and a copy of Gay Monopoly!

Sharing & Outreach

In 2021, we:
- Held 15+ events on topics including immigration, trans history, and gay authors
- Honored John Ward, attorney and founder of GLBTQ Legal Advocates and Defenders, and Tre’Andre Valentine, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition at the HistoryMaker Awards (in person!)
- Participated in a New England Archivists-led Day of Service transcribing queer oral histories
- Assisted students and historians with research on the history of LGBTQ youth organizing, publications, bars, and other Boston-related topics

Catch up on all our virtual events: youtube.com/historyprojectboston

Operations, Grants, and Donors

In 2021, we:
- Continued to virtually engage with volunteers and welcomed our first researchers back into the archives
- Hosted a fellow and a consultant with the support of Mass Humanities

Expenses:
$158,813.00

Income:
$171,463.00
521 gifts from 266 donors: $44,872
Grants: $90,029
Speaking Engagements and Events: $29,613
License/Product Sales: $6,949

With deepest thanks to our donors and to:
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation
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