

# LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH AT THE CENTER

*Celebrating the dignity of the LGBTQIA+ community, reflecting on their history, & honoring their fight for rights & visibility.*



Illustration by Hillary Rose | @hillary.rose.design

## WHAT IS LGBTQ+ PRIDE MONTH?

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Pride Month is currently celebrated each year in June to honor the 1969 Stonewall Uprising in Manhattan. The Stonewall Uprising was a tipping point for the Gay Liberation Movement in the United States.

Today, celebrations include pride parades, picnics, parties, workshops, symposia and concerts, and LGBTQ Pride Month events attract millions of participants around the world. The purpose of the commemorative month is to recognize the impact that LGBTQ individuals have had on history locally, nationally, and internationally.

## LGBTQ+ FIGURES AT THE CENTER

### BAYARD RUSTIN *(Located in Rolls Down Like Water: March on Washington Gallery)*

Longtime activist Bayard Rustin oversaw the March on Washington's logistics. A Quaker and a staunch pacifist, Rustin had been a conscientious objector during World War II and served prison time for his beliefs. Rustin masterfully handled all the march-related logistics—transportation, volunteer training, stage construction, food preparation, portable toilets, and the schedule. The overwhelming success of the march in terms of numbers, publicity, peacefulness, and overall organization garnered Rustin significant attention, where he appeared on the cover of Life Magazine with fellow organizers a week later under the headline, "The Leaders of the March."

### ANASTASIA SMIRNOVA *(Located in Spark of Conviction)*

Anastasia Smirnova is an activist based in St. Petersburg, Russia. She coordinates a coalition of LGBTQ+ organizations in their international advocacy efforts. Smirnova and the coalition advocate for LGBTQ+ rights and educate the public about discrimination against LGBTQ+ people, their families and supporters. The coalition's founding meeting was secretly taped by Russian authorities and the recordings were broadcast by state media, leading many of the coalition members to face threats and violence. Smirnova and her colleagues led the campaign to fight discrimination against LGBTQ+ Russians in the lead up to the 2014 Olympic Games in Sochi.

*We hope you are able to connect with a few of the LGBTQ individuals we have featured in our permanent exhibits, which include:*



**NATIONAL CENTER FOR  
CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS  
LGBTQ INSTITUTE**

**CONNECT, FOLLOW, & SHARE!**

**THE CENTER:** [civilandhumanrights.org](http://civilandhumanrights.org) | @ctr4chr

**LGBTQ INSTITUTE:** [lgbtqinstitute.org](http://lgbtqinstitute.org) | @lgbtq\_institute



# CURRENT LGBTQ+ INSTITUTE INITIATIVES

## LGBTQ INSTITUTE SYMPOSIUM & BUSINESS FORUM

The Institute's Annual Symposium gathers academics and grassroots leaders to help advocates interpret and utilize research and data for storytelling and organizing. Our Annual Business Forum convenes top diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and C-Suite leaders from corporations to help them understand how to create inclusive workplaces. The Forum also explores with corporate leaders the role they can play in addressing anti-LGBTQ legislation.

To learn more about the symposium & forum visit: [lgbtq-symposium.org](https://lgbtq-symposium.org) & [lgbtqbusinessforum.org](https://lgbtqbusinessforum.org)

## ATLANTA LGBTQ+ HISTORY PROJECT & OUT DOWN SOUTH PODCAST

The Atlanta LGBTQ+ History Project is a multimedia exhibit and archival collection celebrating the lives of notable LGBTQ+ Atlantans from yesterday and today. The project includes a visual and oral history audio installation, digital exhibit, podcast, and panel series. Our work features LGBTQ+ Atlantans who have reshaped the city's identity as an epicenter of LGBTQ+ life and culture in the Southeast. We gather stories through an intergenerational lens, including both the queer elders who transformed the city's cultural life, and today's leaders who are creating new possibilities for the LGBTQ+ community every day. All project materials will be donated to Georgia State University Special Collections, to be archived with the university's extensive LGBTQ+ history collection and better preserve Southern queer history for future generations.

To learn more about the project visit: [atlantalgbtqhistoryproject.org](https://atlantalgbtqhistoryproject.org)



## COMING OUT RESOURCES

### FOR LGBTQ+ PEOPLE:

"Coming out is when a person decides to reveal an important part of who they are with someone in their life. For many LGBTQ people, this involves sharing their sexual orientation and/or gender identity. Coming out isn't always easy. After thinking it through, you may decide not to come out. You are valid and deserve support no matter who you do or do not share your identities with. Remember, there isn't one right way to come out, and it's YOUR choice." We encourage you to take a look at this incredible resource from the Trevor Project, the leading national organization providing crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer & questioning youth: [thetrevorproject.org/trvr\\_support\\_center/coming-out/](https://thetrevorproject.org/trvr_support_center/coming-out/)

### FOR FAMILY AND LOVED ONES: PFLAG

PFLAG is the first and largest organization for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ+) people, their parents and families, and allies. Their resource list is a great place to start if a friend or family member has come-out to you as LGBTQ: [pflag.org/comingoutbooks](https://pflag.org/comingoutbooks)

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## WAYS TO BE AN ALLY TO LGBTQ+ PEOPLE

- + Add your pronouns to your email signature & social profiles
- + Actively include LGBTQ+ colleagues, friends and family in the social aspects of work and life
- + Demonstrate your willingness to learn about privilege, stereotypes, and unconscious bias
- + Intervene or speak out against anti-LGBTQ+ speech or behavior
- + Learn and use correct and inclusive language
- + Advocate for LGBTQ+ supportive policies and practices
- + Engage with and listen to the needs of the LGBTQ+ community



SCAN FOR MORE RESOURCES