

OCTOBER 2026 ★ LGBTQ+ HISTORY MONTH

circa

QUEER HISTORIES FESTIVAL

PRESENTED BY

one INSTITUTE

Congratulations!

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QUEER HISTORIES FESTIVAL

Uptown Gay & Lesbian Alliance
Founded 1983

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Uptown Gay and Lesbian Alliance
"In Northeast Los Angeles for Good"

P. O. Box 65111, Los Angeles 90065
(323) 258-8842 UptownGLA@aol.com
WWW.UGLA.ORG

UGLA Mission Statement

Uptown Gay and Lesbian Alliance (UGLA) is an educational and public service organization headquartered in Northeast Los Angeles. Founded in 1983, after the murder of a local gay man, UGLA provides visibility and support systems for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning and queer (LGBTQ+) individuals. UGLA supports charitable, educational and community groups, institutions and neighborhood events and is a registered 501 (c) 3 non-profit corporation.


Valerie Vonprisk photographed by Josef Jasso
l.a. Eyeworks®
Raising Our Glasses with Pride
to One Institute's CIRCA Festival
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About One Institute

WHO WE ARE

Founded in 1952, One Institute is the oldest active LGBTQ+ organization in the country. Our mission is to elevate queer and trans history and embrace emerging stories through collaborative education, arts, and cultural programs.

OUR HISTORY

One Institute's 70+ year-long legacy includes: publisher of ONE Magazine, the first nationwide LGBTQ+ magazine in the U.S. (1953-1967) founder of the first educational institute to offer degrees in Homophile Studies winning defendant in One, Inc. v. Olesen, the first Supreme Court case to address LGBTQ+ rights (1958) community partner of ONE Archives, the largest collection of LGBTQ+ materials in the world, housed at the USC Libraries presenter of Circa, the nation's first-ever LGBTQ+ histories festival stewards of the AIDS Monument in 2026

OUR VISION

We envision a world motivated by social movements of the past to take action toward queer and trans liberation.

CIRCA TEAM

Rory Hayes, Exhibitions and Public Programs Manager
Jude Schoenfeld, Director of Public Programs
Tony Valenzuela, Executive Director
Trevor Ladner, Director of Education & Advocacy
Gabriela Callero, Development Manager

one
INSTITUTE

A Letter From Rory & Jude

Welcome to Circa 2026!

We are honored and humbled to present you with Circa: Queer Histories Festival for the fourth year, the first and only LGBTQ+ histories festival in the United States. Circa offers rare and fundamental access to queer histories, explored through multiple mediums, including workshops, screenings, exhibitions, parties, lectures, speakers, readings, and performances. The over 40 programs we are hosting this year span the map in terms of stories they tell, how they engage with histories, and the lessons revealed.

Circa's programs represent the topics that are timely as an arts and humanities organization serving the legacy of queer histories, and as LGBTQ+ people facing social and political challenges that threaten our rights and safety. These programs include queer films that have left a mark on the queer cinema canon of the last three decades, intergenerational conversations within the LA Black Trans community and between trans students and their supportive parents, performances engaging with STORIES: The AIDS Monument and HIV/AIDS histories, exhibitions inspired by activists like Sylvia Rivera, lectures that pose questions like "Who Invented Transgender Identity?", and of course, in true LGBTQ+ fashion, celebratory dancing at new gay bars.

Circa: Queer Histories Festival has always been meant to honor LGBTQ+ History Month and showcase the trailblazing history and cultural contributions of LGBTQ+ communities, and every year we are getting closer and closer to realizing the full potential of that mission.

Thank you for joining us. We hope you learn something new and are inspired by queer history as we are.

As One,

Rory Hayes and Jude Schoenfeld
Circa Programming Team

HOLD EACH OTHER'S HANDS EXHIBITION OPENING
Sept. 24, 7-9 p.m.
OXY ARTS, Eagle Rock

Join One Institute and OXY ARTS for the Circa Launch Party and opening reception of Hold Each Other's Hands, curated by Umi Hsu.



EXHIBITION

CIRCA OPENING PLENARY
Oct. 01, 7:30-9 p.m.
Renberg Theatre, Hollywood

The opening plenary of Circa 2026, featuring a lecture by Jules Gill-Peterson as a part of the Paul D. Lerner and Stephen Reis Lectures on LGBTQ+ History.



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

VISIBLE AND VIBRANT: LGBTQ+ ARTISTS IN LACMA'S COLLECTION
Fridays in October starting Oct. 2, 4-5 p.m.
LACMA, Mid-Wilshire

Visible and Vibrant is a docent-led tour series celebrating LGBTQ+ artists.



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

ACTION = LIFE
Oct. 02, 6-8 p.m.
STORIES: The AIDS Monument, West Hollywood

A marathon of five-minute performances at the AIDS Monument.



PERFORMANCE

50+ YEARS OF GAY RODEO ARCHIVES
Oct. 03, 1-3 p.m.
One Gallery, West Hollywood

An exhibit of gay rodeo archives from 1976 to the present day.



EXHIBITION

reserve your tickets at circafestival.org

CURATORIAL WALKTHROUGH WITH UMI HSU
Oct. 03, 4-5 p.m.
OXY ARTS, Eagle Rock

Join Umi Hsu for a curatorial tour of Hold Each Other's Hands.


SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

CRUISE LA: 10 YEARS DEEP EXHIBIT OPENING PARTY
Oct. 03, 6-10 p.m.
Human Resources, Chinatown

Join us for an immersive opening celebration of Cruise LA's 10th anniversary.


EXHIBITION

[ZOOM] INSIDE THE RING: OUR-STORIES AS QUEER HISTORY IN ACTION
Oct. 04, 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Virtual

An online exhibition presenting Ceren Saner's ongoing counter-archive of queer and diasporic life, begun after her migration from Istanbul to Berlin in 2016.


EXHIBITION

ARCHIVOS VIVOS / LIVING ARCHIVES: THE 1990S T-PARTY LEGACY IN L.A.
Oct. 04, 6:30-8 p.m.
Avenue 50 Studio Gallery, Highland Park

A multimedia performance that draws from an evolving archive of oral histories, photographs, graphic ephemera, personal collections, and community memory.


PERFORMANCE

CHOCOLATE BABIES
Oct. 07, 7:30-10 p.m.
Vidiots, Eagle Rock

A special 4K restoration screening of Chocolate Babies, followed by a conversation with director Stephen Winter.



SCREENING

LA QUEER HISTORY: A CONVERSATION WITH GAY LIBERATION FRONT ACTIVIST CAROLYN WEATHERS
Oct. 09, 7-8:30 p.m.
One Gallery West Hollywood

A conversation with Los Angeles Gay Liberation Front (GLF) Activist Carolyn Weathers.



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

[ZOOM] THE BEGINNING OF THE QUEER OUTDOORS RECREATION MOVEMENT
Oct. 10, 10-11:30 a.m.
Virtual

Join Great Outdoors Archivist Tyler Roosden as they set the stage with a historical account of the archives of California Great Outdoors.



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

REMEMBERING RENO - THE RODEO FINALS THAT NEVER HAPPENED
Oct. 10, 2-3:30 p.m.
One Gallery, West Hollywood

Brian Rogers takes visitors on a journey back to 1988, when local homophobic county officials canceled the IGRA Finals Rodeo.



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

QUEERSTORY: A QUEER COMEDY NIGHT
Oct. 10, 8-10 p.m.
Elysian Theater (Skunk Room), Echo Park

It's time to laugh! Join us for Circa's queer comedy show for one night only.



PERFORMANCE

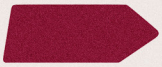
ART IN THE REVOLUTION: QUEER THEATRE IN 1982 AND TODAY
Oct. 11, 7-8:30 p.m.
One Gallery, West Hollywood

This panel takes up the questions at the center of every queer artist's life, like: What does it mean to make art as a part of social change?


SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

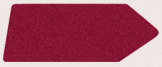
FINDING TRANSCESTORS
Oct. 13, 7-8:30 p.m.
Feminist Center for Creative Work, Glassell Park

This interactive workshop will introduce attendees to a fascinating cast of trans ancestors while providing step-by-step guidance for discovering our queer and trans past.


WORKSHOP

[ZOOM] QUEER HISTORY IS EVERYWHERE: CULTIVATING QUEER SPACES AS STEWARDS OF LGBTQ+ HISTORY
Oct. 14, 7-8:30 p.m.
Virtual

A discussion of how Brick Road's history programs can be used as a prototype for similar creative LGBTQ+ programming in LGBTQ+ coffee shops, bars, community centers, nonprofits, and other community spaces.


WORKSHOP

BETWEEN REVOLUTIONS
Oct. 14, 8-9:30 p.m.
Giovanni's Room, Hollywood

A collection of readings by local queer and trans writers, artists, and performers who engage with LGBTQ pasts and imagine radical futures.


SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

THE WEDDING BANQUET (EVERYTHING IN THIS HOUSE IS GAY (AND ASIAN): CONTEMPORARY QUEER HISTORY THROUGH CINEMA)
Oct. 15, 7-9 p.m.
JANM's Democracy Center, Little Tokyo

The Wedding Banquet (2025) is a joyful look into queer family and a somber recognition of how hard it can be to keep these things safe in the world we live in.



SCREENING

SPIRIT IN THE DARK BODY: BLACK QUEER EXPRESSIONS OF THE IM/MATERIAL
Oct. 15, 7-8:30 p.m.
OXY ARTS, Eagle Rock

This exhibition connects the present to the past through foregrounding black queer ancestors.



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

[ZOOM] IN THEM WE ALL EXIST: ZINES MAKING BLACK LESBIAN HISTORIES VISIBLE
Oct. 16, 5-6:30 p.m.
Virtual

Join scholar Kiahra Read for a talk and Q&A exploring the creation of digital and print zine, In Them We All Exist: Reflections and Resources on Black Lesbian Herstory in the Archives (New York Public Library, 2025).



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

BLUE
Oct. 16, 7-9 p.m.
Junior High Los Angeles, Glendale

A genre-bending new work of devised performance re-embodying queer legacies of blues music.



PERFORMANCE

reserve your tickets at circafestival.org

DANCEFLOOR TO LIFELINE: FUNDRAGING FOR TRANS HEALTHCARE, THEN AND NOW
Oct. 17, 2-3:30 p.m.
Scribble, Highland Park

A panel discussion and audiovisual presentation exploring queer nightlife as a vital site of care, survival, and resource-sharing in transgender communities.


SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

BOOTS, CHAPS, AND COWBOY HATS: THE HISTORY OF GAY RODEO
Oct. 17, 3-4:30 p.m.
One Gallery, West Hollywood

A talk exploring the origins of gay rodeo and its evolution into today's International Gay Rodeo Association (IGRA).


SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

IN(TI)MATE LIVES: LAUNDRY DAYS AFTER THE JAILHOUSE BALL
Oct. 17, 6-8 p.m.
Pieter Performance Space, Lincoln Heights

A performance and live exhibit recovering memories through a "Run-A-Way Walk" of formerly incarcerated artists.


PERFORMANCE

ANGEL'S BODY TEMPERATURE (天使の体温, 2001)
Oct. 18, 7:30 p.m.
Whammy Analog Media, Echo Park

Recently restored and returned to its rightful place in the Japanese arthouse canon, Akihiro Suzuki's debut arrives in unmistakable conversation with New Queer Cinema.


SCREENING

THE INCREDIBLE TRUE STORY OF JACQUES LAFARGUE, THE 18TH CENTURY TRANSGENDER JEWISH ANCESTOR YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF!
Oct. 19, 7-8:30 p.m.
One Gallery, West Hollywood

This performance is a wild journey mapping the life of Jacques LaFargue.


PERFORMANCE

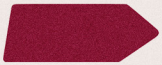
STRIPPER CO-OP PRESENTS: GLORY HOES "WHORESHIP WITH US"
Oct. 20, 7 p.m.-12 a.m.
Venue upon registration, Los Feliz

Bring your faith, and your dollar bills, to shower blessings on the booties that will bless you tenfold.


PERFORMANCE

POTENT HISTORIES: CULTIVATING QUEER CANNABIS NARRATIVES IN THE DIGITAL-ANALOG ARCHIVE
Oct. 20, 7-8:30 p.m.
Groundfloor, Echo Park

An interactive workshop exploring the intersection of LGBTQ+ identity, cannabis culture, and the art of the archive.


WORKSHOP

QUEER JEWISH POETICS
Oct. 21, 7-8:30 p.m.
The Cottage, Cheviot Hills

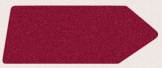
Three poets (Rachel Kaufman, Jason Lipeles, and Erin Mizrahi) will debut new work honoring their Queer Jewish Elders.


SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

reserve your tickets at circafestival.org

SCISSOR SIBLINGS: CUT COLLAGE ZINE MAKING WORKSHOP
Oct. 21, 7-8:30 p.m.
Craft Contemporary, Miracle Mile

A brief overview of queer zine history, a hands-on demonstration and a collective art movement of arranging the folios of the zine.



WORKSHOP

PASSING THE TORCH: QUEER AND TRANS VOICES ACROSS GENERATIONS
Oct. 22, 7-8:30 p.m.
Davidson Valentini Blackbox, Hollywood

A diverse youth ensemble performs monologues drawn from OUTWORDS' oral history interviews with LGBTQ+ elders.



PERFORMANCE

SAVING FACE & NOWHERE (EVERYTHING IN THIS HOUSE IS GAY (AND ASIAN): CONTEMPORARY QUEER HISTORY THROUGH CINEMA)
Oct. 22, 7-11 p.m.
JANM's Democracy Center, Little Tokyo

Join JANM for a double feature of Saving Face (2004) and Nowhere (1997). Followed by surprise special guests.



SCREENING

PUBLIC SPIRITS
Oct. 23, 9:30 a.m.-12 a.m.
LA State Historic Park, Chinatown

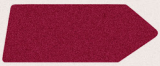
A publicly-accessible, free performance festival featuring Pau S. Pescador, Ryat Yezbick, Jade Kuriki-Olivo, and Da Ron Vinson.



PERFORMANCE

DRUM WELLNESS CIRCLE: OUR QUEER LINEAGE
Oct. 24, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Earthlodge Center, Long Beach

Our circles invite people of all ages and abilities to reconnect with themselves, one another, and the living Earth.


WORKSHOP

QUEER (PORN) HISTORIES FROM RURAL CALIFORNIA – A WOHLER FILMS DOUBLE FEATURE
Oct. 24, 12-4:30 p.m.
Vidiots, Eagle Rock

Adults-only documentaries screened together for the first time allowing audiences to experience an expanded vision of the larger Wohler Films project and make connections between often-overlooked elements of California's queer historical tapestry.


SCREENING

[ZOOM] DRAG KING HISTORY
Oct. 24, 2-3:30 p.m.
Virtual

The Drag King History lecture presentation is a well-curated, comprehensive one hour overview from the Tang Dynasty to today.


SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

MILLIE WILSON: THE MUSEUM OF LESBIAN DREAMS EXHIBITION OPENING
Oct. 24, 3-7 p.m.
The Luckman Fine Arts Complex at Cal State LA

The first retrospective exhibition and publication showcasing three decades of Millie Wilson's work (United States, b. 1948).


EXHIBITION

reserve your tickets at circafestival.org

PIA DAVIS, WORKING GIRLS
Oct. 24, 7-9 p.m.
Los Angeles Contemporary Archive, Chinatown

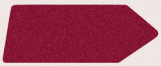
A 2026 film that draws from real life events while moving between reality, fantasy, memory, and imagination. The film is presented alongside an installation of objects, props, materials, and artifacts created through the making of the film and broader artistic practice.



SCREENING

AN INTERGENERATIONAL DIALOGUE WITH THE LA BLACK TRANS COMMUNITY
Oct. 25, 3-5 p.m.
AIDS Project Los Angeles (APLA) Out Here Sexual Health Center, Mid-Wilshire

A dialogue focusing on Trans and Gender Non-Conforming Identities and addressing critical gaps in historical representation, intergenerational understanding, and community cohesion.



WORKSHOP

WE ARE FAMILY: A CONVERSATION WITH TRANS YOUTH AND SUPPORTIVE PARENTS
Oct. 26, 7-8:30 p.m.
One Gallery, West Hollywood

A panel discussion highlighting the impact of supportive parents in trans youth's lives.



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

[ZOOM] COOPER DO-NUTS: A LIVING ARCHIVE OF LOS ANGELES AFTER DARK

Oct. 26, 8-9:30 p.m.
Virtual



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

A virtual presentation on Cooper Do-nuts — a 24-hour shop on Downtown LA's South Main Street — one of the few places the city's queer and trans communities could gather openly after dark.

[ZOOM] PRINTED MATTER AS QUEER METHOD: TRACING STAINS, RUINS, AND UTOPIAN SHADOWS

Oct. 27, 5-6:30 p.m.
Virtual



SPEAKING ENGAGEMENT

An illustrated talk exploring how zines, photographs, flyers, magazines, matchbooks, photobooth strips, and other forms of printed matter functioned as queer evidence, memory, and survival from 1969–1995.

SALLY! - A DOCUMENTARY FILM ABOUT SALLY GEARHART

Oct. 27, 6:30-8 p.m.
West Hollywood City Council Chambers, West Hollywood



SCREENING

The documentary SALLY! (2024) highlights the life and legacy of Sally Gearhart.

MIX AND SWAP: TRANS MUTUAL AID MIXER AND CLOTHING SWAP
Oct. 27, 7-8:30 p.m.
OXY ARTS, Eagle Rock

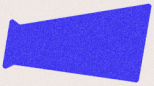
A gender-affirming clothing swap organized by Occidental College's own Touchdown Thrift.



WORKSHOP

THE QUEER HISTORY MIXTAPE: A CONCERT-CONVERSATION
Oct. 28, 7-9 p.m.
Pieter Performance Space, Lincoln Heights

A concert-conversation of queer voices, stories, and history!



PERFORMANCE

CLOSING NIGHT
Oct. 29, 6:30-9 p.m.
Animal LA, DTLA

Join us for music, drinks, and dancing at Animal LA to celebrate the end of Circa 2026!



PARTY

THE ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW
Oct. 31, 7-10 p.m.
The Ford/LA Phil, Hollywood Hills

Let's do the time warp again with The Rocky Horror Picture Show on the big screen! Sing along with the 1975 rock musical classic.



SCREENING



YSABEL JURADO
L.A. CITY COUNCIL MEMBER
DISTRICT 14

Councilmember Ysabel Jurado congratulates One Institute on their 2026 CIRCA Queer Histories Festival

The CIRCA Queer Histories Festival uplifts the stories of resistance and care, and ensures that queer histories remain visible, taught, and celebrated for future generations.

Thank you for recognizing not only the history of mutual aid led by transgender and gender expansive people, but also the organizers, artists, and advocates building communities where everyone can live openly, safely, and with dignity.



Give back to the incredible artists of Circa!

25% of all ticket proceeds and donations at checkout go directly to the artists, educators, and activists participating in Circa. Your generosity also ensures we can continue producing Circa: Queer Histories Festival.

Show your love for our work and our programming partners with a gift!



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

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PROGRAM DESIGN BY LINNEA DEL CID
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