



# GLBTRT Newsletter

A publication of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender  
 Round Table of the American Library Association  
<http://www.ala.org/glbtrt>

Vol. 24, No. 1

Spring 2012

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**Vote!**

**Deadline: April 27, 2012**

## Illinois Group Presents in Iowa

In February, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign's ALA Student Chapter's Queer and Ally Committee presented at the 2012 MBLGTACC (Midwest Bisexual, Lesbian, Gay, Transgender, Ally College Conference) at Iowa State. Their session "We Were Classified This Way: Queerly Transforming the Library" explored revolutionary library work that sustains queer histories.

Included in their session was the history of LGBTQ topics in the library, how subject headings are changed and added to the Library of Congress in context of the Leather Archives and Museum, authority records and how to fix subject headings at your library, porn and privacy, how to archive student organizations, and young adult (fan)fiction. Presenters were Lucas McKeever, Becca Sorgert, Jane Sandberg, Jeanie Austin, Stephanie Sopka, and Melissa Funfsinn. [Note: Thanks to co-chair of the committee and new GLBTRT member Becca Sorgert, who sent this "because I'm super proud of our group!"]



**These young people are vital because of legislation** like the "[license to bully](#)" that Tennessee continues to pursue. HB 1153 originally stated that students would be protected if they made bullying comments because of their religious beliefs; now an amendment has changed "religious beliefs" to "First Amendment rights." The new language states that kids can say anything they want if "such expression does not include a threat of physical harm to a student or damage to a student's property."

The question, of course, is what constitutes the "threat" and "damage." One Tennessee school district claims that a boy's suicide came from his being gay, not from the bullying treatment he received from other students. The bill adds that nothing the schools do can "promote a political agenda" and "make the characteristics of the victim the focus rather than the conduct of the person engaged in harassment, intimidation, or bullying, or teach or suggest that certain beliefs or viewpoints are discriminatory when an act or practice based on such belief or viewpoint is not a discriminatory practice ..."

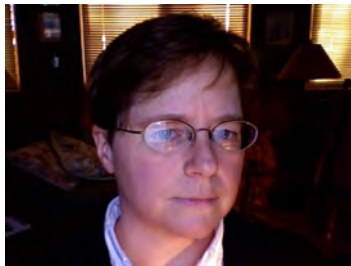
Legislators are also considering bringing back the "Don't Say Gay" bill. If this bill were passed, school teachers and staff would not be allowed to say the words "gay" or homosexual," even—or especially—in a positive way.

High school principal Dorothy Bond (Haywood High School in Brownsville, Tennessee) may have thought she was exercising her "First Amendment rights" when she said in a February school assembly that gay students are going to hell. A parent said that in an earlier assembly Bond "told the young men if they're sitting between the legs of a girl getting their hair braided for a few hours, that they must be gay."

Last year Michigan had proposed a similar bill but failed to pass it after news about the "license to bully" clause raised an uproar across the United States.

Not everyone in Tennessee supports the anti-LGBT legislation. Martha Boggs, owner of Bistro at the Bijou, asked Tennessee State Sen. Stacey Campfield to leave her Knoxville restaurant because he sponsored a bill that would prevent discussion of homosexuality in public schools and recently said that it was virtually impossible for heterosexuals to spread HIV. "I feel like he's gone from being stupid to being dangerous," Boggs said, "and I wanted to stand up to him."

**Jarred Wilson:** I am in my second semester at The University of Texas at Austin's School of Information, working on my Master of Science in Information Studies. My background includes an undergraduate degree in history, focusing on the American Colonial era. After college I worked for four years managing two Planned Parenthood health centers. I have been active in the GLBT community, serving on a local steering committee for Equality Florida, as well as volunteering for (and serving a term on the board of directors of) ALSO Out Youth, an organization serving GLBT youth ages 14-21. My wonderful partner of eight years, Mark, and my adorable Schnauzer, Rudy, were gracious enough to follow me to Austin when I decided to pursue graduate school. My interest in studying information comes from a love of organizing and helping people find information, paired with my appreciation for the historical record. I am trying to narrow down my focus, but my interests are leaning towards archives and special libraries. I asked to join the Newsletter Committee because I have found the GLBTRT particularly helpful when navigating the ALA, and I would like to be part of continuing that model of helpfulness and service to each other.



**Sarah Corvene:** I work at Harvard Business School as a Taxonomy/Metadata Specialist. My duties range from traditional library cataloging of serials, monographs, and electronic resources to work with non-library metadata for HBS projects and websites. I have been a member of the GLBT Roundtable for many years but have only recently begun to get involved. I have been a librarian for about 20 years (more if you count my years as a paraprofessional), 15 of them at Harvard. Personally, I have a deep interest in social justice and environmental issues. I am an avid cyclist, both for recreation and transportation, and can often be found cruising the roads of the Boston area on my recumbent bicycle. I brew my own beer and am always willing to share. **I'm willing to do what needs to be done and look forward to working on the newsletter.**

**Lydia Willoughby** is a librarian and instructor living in Burlington, Vermont. A recent graduate of the Palmer School of Library and Information Science at Long Island University, she has worked as a reference librarian at LaGuardia Community College, The City University of New York, and has a background in nonprofit development and strategic fundraising. In her free time, she helps organize Que(e)ry Party ([www.queeryparty.org](http://www.queeryparty.org)) and enjoys advocating for open access publishing. Follow her on twitter, @willoughbrarian and @queeryparty.



**Nel Ward:** After 31 years in education as a teacher and a librarian, I retired to the Oregon Coast and opened a bookstore/B&B. My professional experiences in ALA began in 1986 with YALSA, participating on most of their book selection/award committees before I joined SRRT and helped develop the FTF Amelia Bloomer Project. In GLBTRT I have worked with **starting The Rainbow Project and the Over the Rainbow Project. In my "retirement" I co-edited *The Butch Cookbook* and coordinate a youth book review group and write newsletters, including the monthly one for the local PFLAG chapter while I enjoy life with my wonderful partner of almost 43 years and our pets and friends.**

**Reviewers Wanted!** Some of our past reviewers have decided to tackle different projects, and we would like to add more people to our existing cadre. Our list of available titles have offerings for almost everyone—LGBT memoirs and biographies, literature, mysteries, erotica, poetry, spirituality, speculative fiction, etc. If you want to read a good book or watch a good film—and keep them—**contact us at [gltbreviews@gmail.com](mailto:gltbreviews@gmail.com). Please put "Review" in the subject heading.**

**GLBTRT Newsletter** (ISSN 1533-7219) is an official publication of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Round Table of the American Library Association. It is published quarterly in March, June, September, and January.

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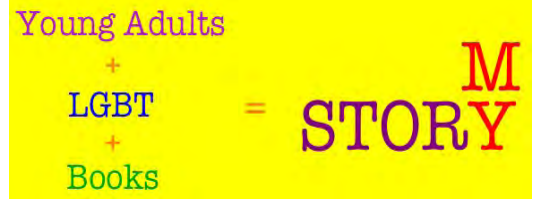
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### Newsletter Deadlines

|             |          |
|-------------|----------|
| Spring 2012 | 3/15/12  |
| Summer 2012 | 5/31/12  |
| Fall 2012   | 8/31/12  |
| Winter 2013 | 11/31/12 |
| Spring 2013 | 3/15/13  |

## LGBT Resources for Youth

**Book Club for Kids:** Lambda Literary Foundation is launching My Story, a national online book club for LGBT youth in May. The goal of the program, in partnership with the Gay/Straight Educators Alliance and the National Council of Teachers of English, is to provide readers 14 years and older the chance to read and discover LGBT works in the safe and protective atmosphere of Goodreads. Led by a guest youth moderator, weekly activities include discussions, polls, play lists, author commentary and trivia; at the end of the month, the featured author will participate in an hour-long Q&A with readers. The inauguration book is Martin Wilson's *What They Always Tell Us* about high school students, Nathen and Alex, who bond over the mystery surrounding Alex's 10-year-old neighbor, Henry. For information about the program, upcoming books, and ways for 14-18-year-olds to become a moderator, check out their [website](#).



**New Publisher for Picture Books:** S. Bear Bergman, award-winning trans author, has launched [Flamingo Rampant!](#), a press creating gender independent children's books with *The Adventures of Tulip*, *Birthday Wish Fairy* and *Backwards Day* as the first two titles. Toronto-based artist Suzy Malik illustrates *Adventures* in a mixed-media style; Katie Diamond of Portland (ME) uses a modern cartoon style for *Backwards*. Bergman's wish is to publish fun and interesting trans or gender independent books. The term "gender independent" is used because trans identified requires the ability to identify, something which young children may not do. The former term of "gender nonconforming" seems pejorative, according to Bergman. Because publishers were reluctant to take a chance on books that they feared would not have a large audience, Bergman decided to take on this task of publishing these books that ze wrote two years ago for the Gender Spectrum Family Conference. The two books will be released in June.



**Source of LGBT Materials for Kids:** When married couple Monica and Cheril Bey-Clarke became licensed foster parents in New Jersey, they searched for good books for children of gay and lesbian parents. Frustrated by the void, they started [My Family!™](#), a subsidiary of Dodi Press, to address this need. Their mission is to offer a variety of multi-cultural products that "can be used to give children of same-sex parents a sense of normalcy, while promoting the celebration of our differences and the importance of family values. [They] also strive to educate children and reinforce the morality already taught in the home." According to Cheril, "My Family! publishes and retails children's books (picture books, educational books, coloring books, etc.), DVDs and CDs for children in Gay and Lesbian Families. Our products focus on family values, diversity, education and fun, while giving these children a sense of inclusion to help them in their growth stages. These items are heart-warming and wholesome and reinforce morals already taught in the home."

**The Film Transformed into a Book:** *Trevor* is back! Written by James Lecesne and directed by Peggy Rajski, *Trevor* won an Oscar in 1994 for Best Live Action Short. Four years later, when HBO presented the film about a 13-year-old gay boy who tried to kill himself after his friends rejected him, Lecesne and Rajski founded [The Trevor Project](#). Because no lifeline existed for kids facing the same crisis as Trevor, they dedicated themselves to a support organization for these young people with a crisis and suicide prevention lifeline plus guidance and resources for educators and parents. *Trevor*, the book, will be available in galleys by May with an August release date for the finished book from Seven Stories Press.

**Chelsea Station, Issue 2.** Ed. By Jameson Currier. 2012. 126p. Chelsea Station Editions, \$15. 978-1-937627-71-3: Two years ago, author Jim Currier founded Chelsea Station Editions, publishing major names in gay literature. A year later he launched *Chelsea Station*, a literary magazine of gay writing—fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. Currier's plan is to annually publish three to six issues; Issue 2 has just come out. In addition to ten short stories, six poems, a one-act play, a travel memoir, and several essays, this issue provides gay book reviews and an article on gay Jewish books. Interviews include two conversations, one between David Pratt and Michael Graves and the other between Charles Silverstein and Perry Brass, and one with Edmund White. Another interview describes the two book festivals in New Orleans: Tennessee Williams and Saints & Sinners. This literary magazine is highly recommended for those interested in gay literature; submissions can be sent to [in-fo@chelseastationeditions.com](mailto:in-fo@chelseastationeditions.com)



## Library as Safe Space—Librarian as Ally by Jenny Betz, GLSEN



Whether you are school-based or at a community library, you've probably observed young people who find safety and solace among the stacks. They sit and read during lunch and do their homework after school. They may come to the library to escape the taunting of peers or disapproval of their parents. They may come to the library to be safe. **But that's just the start of it. With your help, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) youth can use your library to enrich their lives as they**

search the web, read and explore your collection to learn about themselves and the world around them.

### Our nation's schools continue to be hostile

environments for LGBT youth in middle and high school. According to [GLSEN's 2009 National School Climate Survey \(NSCS\)](#), 85% experience harassment based on their sexual orientation and 65% based on their gender expression each year. One third of LGBT students missed at least a day of school in the last month because they felt unsafe. The name-calling, bullying, harassment and assault that LGBT students experience also lead to lowered academic achievement and educational aspirations, and poorer psychological well-being.

[Our research](#) shows that in order to provide safe and inclusive environments for LGBT students, schools should work to provide: Gay Straight Alliances and other student clubs, LGBT-inclusive curriculum (including library materials), supportive educators (including librarians), and comprehensive bullying/harassment policies.

GLSEN has always seen librarians as partners in ensuring safe, inclusive and respectful spaces for all youth. In fact, while overall the percentage of students with access to LGBT-related information in school has not changed dramatically over the past 10 years, there is one exception. The percentage of students with access to inclusive library resources continues to grow each year. Still, only about half of LGBT high school and 20% of LGBT middle school students report having access to LGBT-related library materials at school.

You have a unique opportunity to be an ally to LGBT students. You can ensure that your library carries materials with positive representations of LGBT history, themes and events. And, you can be there for students when they most need adult support. For that, LGBT youth need to know they can talk to you. Unfortunately, less than 30% of LGBT student reported feeling comfortable talking to librarians about LGBT issues and only 15% actual have.

So, what type of environment are you creating in your library?

- Do your library rules include respect for all visitors and are those rules posted where everyone can see them?
- Do you intervene when you see name-calling or bullying in-person or online?
- Does your collection include books, periodicals and media with LGBT-related themes for all age levels?
- Do you display books and hang posters with diverse faces and families?
- Do you ensure access to LGBT-related content on the internet (you'd be surprised how many schools and libraries can't access [GLSEN.org](#) or other LGBT

organizations and resources)?

- Do you celebrate LGBT-related events, such as LGBT History Month (October), LGBT Pride Month (June), [No Name-Calling Week](#) (January), [Day of Silence](#) (April)?
- Do you incorporate LGBT-related materials into other events, such as Banned Books Week (September), **Read Across America (March)**, **Women's History Month (March)**, Black History Month (February), Holocaust Remembrance Day (January)?
- Are your library accommodations (restroom, etc.) safe and accessible for all patrons, including transgender youth?
- Do you provide space for Gay Straight Alliances or local LGBT youth organizations?

**I suspect that most of you will answer "yes" to most of these questions.** We know that librarians have often been strong advocates and allies to LGBT youth. And, for those areas in which you see room for growth at your library, connect with one of our [36 local chapters](#) around the country, visit [GLSEN.org](#), find us on [facebook.com/glsen](#), or follow us at [twitter.com/glsen](#). In particular, I encourage you to check out our free online resources:

- [No Name-Calling Week](#): An annual week of educational activities aimed at ending name-calling of all kinds, inspired by James Howe's "The Misfits". Free lesson plans, tips to prevent bullying, resource and book lists, etc.
- [GLSEN's Safe Space Kit](#): A guide to being and ally to LGBT youth. Includes book recommendations, tips on responding to "that's so gay" and other anti-LGBT language, a guide to supporting youth who come out to you, etc. Free to download or purchase a hard copy for your collection.
- [Unheard Voices](#): A free LGBT history resource created by [GLSEN](#), the [Anti-Defamation League](#) and [StoryCorps](#). Download oral history clips, discussion guides, biographical and historical resources, lesson plans and activities.
- [Ready, Set, Respect!](#): [GLSEN's Elementary School Toolkit](#), focused on name-calling, gender roles and family diversity. Includes tip sheets, book and resource lists and lesson plans. Free to download or purchase a hard copy for your collection.

[GLSEN](#) has provided groundbreaking research, resources and programs for over 20 years, envisioning a world in which every child learns to respect and accept all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. [GLSEN](#) seeks to develop school climates where difference is valued for the positive contribution it makes to creating a more vibrant and diverse community. ALA, the GLBTRT and individual school and local librarians continue to be our partners in working towards this vision. In a country where most LGBT students report facing harassment, fewer than half say their school has a GSA, less than 20% report that their school has comprehensive and enumerated bullying/harassment policies, and where only 12% have been taught positive representations about LGBT people, history or events in their classes, your help is crucial. Make your library safe and inclusive. Be an ally to LGBT youth.

GLSEN loves LIBRARIANS!

## Queer Resources in NYC by Lydia Willoughby

*Lydia Willoughby is one of the organizers of Que(e)ry Party, a party for queer librarians and those who love them. By throwing benefit dance parties in Brooklyn and Manhattan, Que(e)ry brings attention and support to hidden LGBT and queer collections, as well as the population of LGBT and queer information professionals who contribute to the cultural record. The following article highlights collections of note to her community, either for their longevity, bold new visions for sex-positive community-based heritage, or the depth and precise articulation of moments that have defined LGBT and queer history over the last century or so. For brevity's sake, she focused on LGBT and queer collections in museums, libraries and archives.*

New York City is rich in lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender (LGBT), intersex, queer and questioning, Two Spirit, and non gender-conforming heritage. From Tom Spanbauer's *The City of Shy Hunters* and the summer of June-time in the village, to the pariahs of Hell's Kitchen and Fulton Avenue in Brooklyn, New York's five boroughs encompass much diversity in its LGBT and queer communities.

New York is also one of the world's premier cities for bibliophiles. The cubic footage of New York's libraries and archives would probably completely surround the island of Manhattan ad infinitum. Among the many treasures of these collections, are several libraries and archives dedicated solely to LGBT and queer history and culture.

**The Lesbian Herstory Archives (LHA):** Since 1974, this Park Slope, Brooklyn collection has been *the* place to go for publications that document the history of gay, lesbian, and feminist activism. A crucial component of the LHA's mission is that by recording and cataloging the lives of lesbians for future generations, the organization hopes to encourage contemporary lesbians to participate in this process of documentation. Whether it is ephemera, memorabilia, old tee shirts, or periodicals, photography or rare books, the LHA is open to all lesbians, with the mission of creating a living herstory.

**LGBT Community Center: Pat Parker/Vito Russo Library and Archives:** Founded in 1991, the Pat Parker/Vito Russo Library, NYC's largest such circulating library, is dedicated primarily to LGBT and queer literature, film, and video. (Vito Russo is the author of *The Celluloid Closet*). This year, the Center celebrates its 4<sup>th</sup> annual Rainbow Book Fair, a collaboration with CLAGS and CUNY (more below). The Center's Archives were founded in 1990 to preserve the history of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender individuals and organizations. With regular exhibits, the Archives, a rich collection of scholarly content dating back to 1920, are accessible to all. Founder of the collection, volunteer archivist Rich Wandel is the main contact for the Archives.

**LGBT and HIV/AIDS Collections at the New York Public Library (NYPL):** Over 100 different collections pertaining to LGBT and queer heritage in its Manuscripts and Archives Division are available at the Stephen A.

Schwartzman Building at Fifth Avenue and 42<sup>nd</sup> Street, on Bryant Park in midtown Manhattan.

**Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies (CLAGS), Graduate Center; The City University of New York (CUNY):** A project of CLAGS, Out History is a community-based archive of LGBT and queer history with the motto of "for the community, by the community." Working as a wiki page, Out History seeks to crowd source the documentation of key moments in our community's history by inviting the public to add content.

**Leslie Lohman Museum of Gay and Lesbian Art:** Much like its West Coast ally, the Tom of Finland Foundation gallery, the Leslie Lohman Museum is New York's premier gallery and art space dedicated solely to the work of LGBT and queer artists and performers. The mission is to preserve gay art against the endangering influences of prejudice and discrimination; a founder, Fritz Lohman proclaimed, "I was born to get this work out of the closet and onto the walls." With a permanent collection and regularly rotated contemporary exhibition space, Leslie Lohman is working to create a Museum of Queer Visual Culture as part of the mall in Washington, D.C.

**Crisperanto: The Quentin Crisp Archives:** Hailed as the Oscar Wilde of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, Quentin Crisp lived his life at large, dedicated to the freedoms, joys and philosophies of self-acceptance and tolerance. Most of this collection of his papers, letters, manuscripts, and all archival material dedicated to this provocateur is available online, but additional materials are available for research at the archives on Bleecker Street.

**Pop-up Museum of Queer History:** This relatively new museum transforms temporary installation spaces into exhibits celebrating the rich diversity of LGBT and queer history. Youth play a special role in the leadership of these "pop-up" spaces as the Museum continues to claim public spaces as queer spaces with its expositions.

**ACT UP Oral History Project:** This collection of interviews and stories from living members of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power (ACT UP), New York, is coordinated by some of the founding members of the [Mix LGBT Film Festival](#), humanizing the complex convergence of forces both systematic and historical that were the AIDS epidemic in New York City. [ACT UP](#) is still fighting against stigma and for the end of AIDS.

**Hetrick-Martin Institute/Harvey Milk High School:** Because this high school serves a special population of LGBT and queer youth, the media center emphasizes materials for these students. With education programs that provide scholarships, internships, extracurricular activities, and training in a variety of disciplines, the Harvey Milk High School is a unique space of learning.

For links to additional information, please visit Que(e)ry Party's [resources page](#).

## Glad Hand Bookshop Escapes Chopping Block

In the exciting years after the Stonewall riots in New York, independent bookstores that focusing on LGBT interests formed the nucleus of activism, promoting not only new publications but also creating neighborhoods and communication within the LGBT community. Within the past decade, however, these bookstores, like other indies, have disappeared at an astronomical rate.

New York City's Oscar Wilde Bookshop, thought to be the oldest gay bookstore in the U.S., closed in **2009; Outloud, Nashville's gay bookstore, closed their doors the next year after 15 years of service.** One year ago, Lambda Rising, located in the home of the Washington, D.C. gay rights movement of Dupont Circle, closed after a 26-year run. Northern California lost its last LGBT bookstore after the closing of [A Different Light Bookstore](#) in the Castro last spring.

In Atlanta, [Outwrite](#), a queer Southern haven for



19 years, filed for bankruptcy and then closed its location at the corner of 10th and Piedmont after trying to relocate. The store had been struggling, owing four years of back taxes and four months of unpaid rent which contributed to over \$500,000 of

debt.

Its closure leaves Charis Books & More, the city's lesbian-owned feminist bookstore as one of the few remaining independent feminist bookstores in the country the total reduced to 13 from the 120 located in the United States and Canada in 1994.

Lambda Literary director Tony Valenzuela described the loss of bookstores to [queerty.com](#): "The physical space that LGBT bookstores provided as cultural community centers, to place fliers if you were an activist, to host queer readings... this central role has been dispersed.

**What's lost, of course, is an institution that serves as a meeting space, a business run**

by folks passionate about books who carefully curate **what's on the shelf so that we can find great queer lit."**

The news is better for Glad Day Bookshop in Toronto. **Considered the world's oldest LGBT bookstore, the store was opened in 1970 in founder Jearld Moldenhauer's home before moving to two different locations and then selling in 1991 to John Scythes who was supporting it with his savings by the end of last year.** When he put the store up for sale last December, it seemed doomed until approximately 20 Toronto investors banded together to buy the store. The youngest one is 23-year-old Spencer Charles Smith, who said he wanted **"to give back to the queer community."**

A mix of activists, educators, writers, musicians, lawyers, and government workers, the group, led by Michael Erickson, a high school teacher, is united because **"everyone cares about the preservation and growth of the LGBTQ community, and books and stories are important to us in doing that."** Erickson said, **"Our task as new owners is to give people a reason to come in and support the future of the bookstore,"** he said. The group expects to make a series of announcements in early March. **"We've got some exciting changes and expansions...that we hope will bring back the golden days of the bookstore as a hub of culture and creativity for the LGBTQ community."** One idea is Books on Wheels, taking books to people unable to climb up to the second-floor setting.

Bookstores do far more than retail books, and Glad Day has contributed more than its share of good works. **According to queerty.com, Glad Day "was key in changing Canada's pornography laws: In 2003's R. v. Glad Day Bookshops Inc.,** the courts found that requiring the approval of the Ontario Film Review Board before films could be distributed or shown in the province was a violation of the freedom of expression.





## Culture Moves LGBT Literature Support to Libraries



Three of the [ten LGBT bookstores](#) worldwide described in a queerty article are in the United States:

**Calamus Bookstore** (92 South St., Boston, MA): Named after Walt Whitman's collection of gay love poems, the bookstore also publishes LGBT titles for e-readers.

**Obelisk Shoppe** (1029 University Ave., San Diego, CA): Although a fire in its historic building closed down this bookstore, owners hope for a grand reopening by Pride 2012.



**Giovanni's Room** (345 S 12th St., Philadelphia, PA): Opened in 1973, the oldest operating gay bookstore in America, commemorated by an historical marker from the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, is responsible for helping to launch

careers of LGBT authors such as Edmund White, Dorothy Allison, E. Lynn Harris, and Leslie Feinberg. [photo thanks to [www.lambdaliterary.com](http://www.lambdaliterary.com)]

For the last two decades, bookstores have talked about the impact of chain stores and online retailers for the loss of these icons of LGBT literature. Then came the recession and e-books which made further inroads. There is also a culture shift away from LGBT-specific businesses. Gay bars are fading away, including the 30-year-old Eagle Tavern in San Francisco that couldn't afford a 20-percent rent increase.

Newspapers for this audience have also been disappearing for several years after the popularity of the Internet. The good news is that the latest loss, Portland's 28-year-old *Just Out*, is coming back. New publisher Jonathan Kipp made this announcement on the newspaper's Facebook page: "New publisher. New staff. New voice. New look. New vision. Just Out 2.0 is around the corner." Its website says 46 days and counting.

One theory for these changes is the absorption of LGBT people into the mainstream giving them less need for the LGBT bookstores and bars and newspapers. Alan Hollinghurst described a shift in literature: "I think that gay writing, gay fiction, had its point, its urgency, through all those years, and then the AIDS crisis added another huge story. But lately, with all the social and legal changes, and the way the perception of gay people has changed, I feel that gay writing is already dissolving into the main body of writing. I sort of feel we've moved on."

The loss of bookstores just makes the work of GLBTRT even more important. We need to find quality books for our community and make these books available and visible in the libraries. We need to continue the role of LGBT bookstores "so that we can find great queer lit."

## Gerber/Hart Library Moves, Stays Open

When a "For Rent" sign went up in the Gerber/Hart Library and Archives, the Midwest's largest library of gay and lesbian titles, rumors flew across the Internet as people pondered whether the 21-year-old facility was going to close. The answer is no, according to Gerber/Hart President Karen Sendziak who has announced that the resource will [relocate](#) to Rogers Park in Clark Point Plaza, 6500 N. Clark St. (Chicago) by the end of April. Not everyone is happy about the change; a group called Friends of Gerber/Hart has expressed concern about Sendziak's and the board's transparency in the transfer of the facility and its 14,000 volumes and 800 periodicals. According to the announcement, Gerber/Hart will remain open until just before the move. Founded in 1981, the Henry Gerber-Pearl M. Hart Library: The Midwest Lesbian & Gay Resource Center is operated by a non-profit organization and was awarded \$25,000 in 2009 through a grant from the state Fund for Illinois' Future.

**Help Wanted:** Katina Sawyer, a PhD candidate in Psychology and Women's Studies at Penn State, is collecting data for her dissertation on LGBT work-family conflict and wishes to conduct interviews with LGBT individuals. The interview will last about 1 hour and can be conducted over the phone. This study has been approved by Penn State's IRB (#38344). You need to be over 18, employed full or part time (in a job outside of being a graduate assistant), identify as LGBT, and are currently partnered. [katina.sawyer@gmail.com](mailto:katina.sawyer@gmail.com).

## Impacts of State Non-Discrimination Laws on Companies Operating Nationally

by Jarred Wilson

**California's SB117 was introduced by Senator Christine Kehoe (D-San Diego) and sponsored by Equality California, and signed into law by Governor Jerry Brown on September 6, 2011.** SB117 prohibits its state agencies from entering into a contract of \$100,000 or more with businesses that discriminate based on sexual orientation in providing employee benefits.

While existing state non-discrimination laws already prohibit discrimination by companies located within California, this law would expand that non-discrimination requirement to companies working outside of California, but on a California state agency project. Essentially, any benefit that would be offered to a different-sex partner or spouse must also be offered to same-sex partners or spouses. There are a number of cities in California and nationwide which have similar ordinances, but California seems to be the first state to enact such a law.

This piece of legislation brings up questions about the effect on libraries. In California, any state agency (i.e. a state library, a state university library) would be prohibited from doing business (of \$100,000 or more per year) with a company who discriminates based on sexual orientation in providing employee benefits. This would apply to a company located in or out of the state of California.

Large library vendors such as EBSCO, OCLC, GALE/CENGAGE Learning, Encyclopedia Britannica, and Pro-Quest would all need to have non-discrimination policies in place if they want to do business with California state agencies. The task of finding out if those library vendors have such policies in place is difficult. Many companies promote their employee benefits on their job posting portions of their websites, but do not explicitly state whether or not their benefits are equal for same-sex partners.

When a California state agency is dealing with a vendor, what kind of administrative difficulties does SB117 have the potential to create? A study published in February of 2012 by Christy Mallory and Brad Sears of The Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law, showed that adoption of ordinances requiring non-discrimination against their LGBT employees has proven to have "little disruption" or to provide additional burden to government operations.

While California's SB117 applies to contracts of \$100,000 or more, the dollar thresholds in existing local ordinances, when there is one, are much lower (in the \$1,000 to \$50,000 range), thus making California's SB117 much less prohibitive to the government agency.

Furthermore, the study by Mallory and Sears showed that some local governments reported their

vendors adopting more inclusive anti-discrimination policies as a result of them doing business together.

There seems to be little or no effect on state agencies because of policies such as California's SB117. Most large vendors who work with libraries will likely have some kind of policies in place, especially larger companies or companies who work within multiple states, especially any of the twenty two states that have non-discrimination laws in place.

However, determining which companies are GLBT friendly is a topic that merits further work. Also, the peculiarities of interstate contract law were not the main point of this article. To that end, if anyone has legal expertise and can offer any clarification (or correction) to the information above, please feel free to share it with the Newsletter Committee.

Further resources:

SB117 info sheet from law firm of Trucker Huss

[http://www.truckerhuss.com/articles/view\\_article.cgi?class=articles&article=other\\_regulatory\\_matters/20110901\\_Contractors\\_And\\_Same\\_Sex\\_Benefits\\_For\\_Spouses.txt](http://www.truckerhuss.com/articles/view_article.cgi?class=articles&article=other_regulatory_matters/20110901_Contractors_And_Same_Sex_Benefits_For_Spouses.txt)

SB117 full text from California Legislature

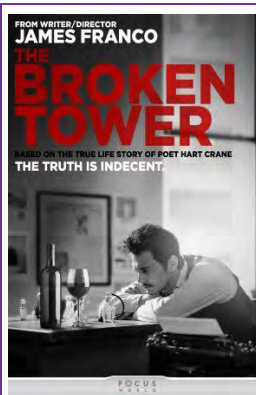
[http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/postquery?bill\\_number=sb\\_117&sess=CUR&house=B&author=kehoe](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/cgi-bin/postquery?bill_number=sb_117&sess=CUR&house=B&author=kehoe)

Information from Equality California, SB117 sponsoring organization

<http://www.eqca.org/site/pp.asp?c=kuLRJ9MRKrH&b=6524847>

Study from Christy Mallory and Brad Sears

<http://williamsinstitute.law.ucla.edu/wp-content/uploads/Mallory-Sears-Govt-Contractors-Non-Discrim-Feb-2012.pdf>



James Franco has released [\*The Broken Tower\*](#), a film based on the life of gay poet Hart Crane, one of the most important voices in American poetry, and adapted from a biography by Paul L. Mariani.

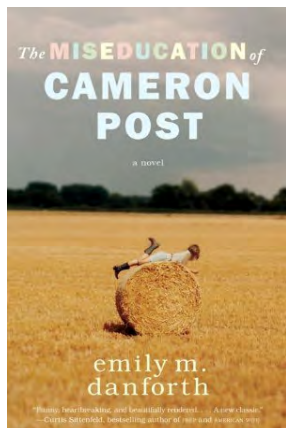
Co-starring Michael Shannon and brother Dave Franco, the film is also available for digital download and On Demand.



## Book Reviews: YA Fiction/Nonfiction

### Danforth, Emily M. *The Miseducation of Cameron Post.*

HarperCollins/Balzer + Bray, 2012. Hardcover. 470p. \$17.99. 978-0-06-202056-7.



My provost flagged *The Miseducation of Cameron Post* for me after hearing about it on NPR. To me those were two good reasons to order **Danforth's debut novel.**

Though I seldom read young adult books, this was an engaging story, written in a multi-layered and well-crafted manner that can also stand up to an adult audience. Its many film and cultural references are a special delight to those of us **who remember the '80s.**

Two significant events occur one day in the summer of 1989 for 12-year-old Cameron Post in rural Montana. One afternoon while sitting in a **hay loft, Cameron's best friend Irene dares her to kiss her.** Since this story is told looking back, Cameron fills us in on all the emotional twists and turns of this interlude, and we know from the beginning that Cameron is attracted to girls. Later that night, while spending the night at Irene's, Cameron is told to get up and get dressed – Ire-

ne's dad is taking her home, where her grandmother is "waiting for her." Riding in silence, Cameron is terrified that he knows about the kiss, and that this is what her grandmother will speak to her about. When she gets home and is told that her parents were killed in an automobile accident, she is relieved that her first lesbian encounter wasn't discovered. **In her shock, her relief is mixed with grief, forming a major theme in the plot.**

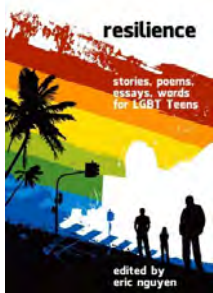
When her Aunt Ruth moves in to take over guardianship responsibilities, **Cameron's life takes a sharp turn to the right and she joins a local born again church.** Despite this, Cameron has a few more same-sex encounters as she moves toward high school. Then she is found out, and is shipped off to a Christian boarding school designed to overcome sexual sin (ie gay/lesbianism).

Although the story unwinds in a predictable way, it is **Cameron's honest and believable narration, how she sorts through her feelings and tries to survive in her various communities, that makes this story stand out.** Every library that has even a small young adult collection should add this book.

**Reviewer: Morgan Gwenwald  
SUNY New Paltz**

### *Resilience: stories, poems, essays, words for LGBT teens about growing up, surviving, living and thriving.* Ed. by Eric Nguyen.

[S.l. : s.n, 2012. Distributed by Lulu.com. 165 p. \$16.00.



Sometimes, when the tides of pain and love and injustice are particularly high, artists, poets, and writers are called to create works offering hope and love to those who suffer. Recently, a rash of suicides of bullied young gay, lesbian, questioning teens has brought the LGBT community together to offer hope and support to other youth living in intolerable situations. This impetus has created web sites such as the [Trevor Project](#)

which provides crisis intervention and suicide prevention services to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth, the [It Gets Better](#) project, and the [Make It Safe](#) Project which donates books about sexual orientation and gender expression to schools and youth homeless shelters.

*Resilience: Stories, Poems, Essays, Words for LGBT Teens* is a collection of 26 works, some previously published. Proceeds from sales of the book will help fund the Make It Safe Project. There are stories of coming out, stories of falling in love with another girl, another boy, a story of a transgender man visiting his hometown and telling a young lesbian that it gets better. There are poems of young boys kissing and being wrenched apart, of rage bubbling up beneath a diagnosis of AIDS, of reclaiming one's place in the South. There are two plays, one for three men and the other a family drama of a girl, her mother and father. Another work explores two women's long-term exchange of letters, beginning when they were respectively 20 and 13. As with

any anthology, some pieces are stronger than others, but none weaken the collection.

However, this is a self-published anthology. The collection's strengths include not only the quality of the content, but also the feel of the paper, the colorful and intriguing cover art, and the balance of text to white space on the pages. The problems occur more from lack of publishing experience than from a lack of talent. There is no introductory statement about the scope of the book. The works are obviously not all memoir nor all fiction, but it is sometimes difficult to tell which is which. One piece, written in the first person voice of a young gay man, is by an author whose biographical information indicates that she is married to a man and has two children. While it is not inconceivable that a gay male-identified teen might become a married woman, it seems unlikely—yet, there is no indication that the story is fictional. Information on the author of another story was not included in the brief biographies. An experienced editor would have made sure that biographical notes on all the authors were included. That lack of experience is one of the weaknesses *Resilience* shares with many self-published works. I hope that future editions of this collection will have corrected these oversights.

Despite the few editorial problems, I recommend this book for high school, public, and undergraduate library reading collections.

**Reviewer: Jane Cothron, Cataloger  
Lincoln County Library District (OR)**

## Book Reviews: YA Fiction

### Saenz, Benjamin Aire. *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe*.

Simon and Schuster Books for Young Readers. February 2012. 368 pages. \$16.99. 978-1442408920.



When Simon and Schuster rep David Gale handed me an advanced reading copy of *Aristotle and Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe* at ALA Midwinter, he told me that it was the best LGBT YA novel that S&S was publishing this year. Granted, the year is young, but he may well be right.

Set in El Paso, two Mexican American families' lives become intertwined when their teen sons become best friends, something neither have ever had before. Aristotle's family has a big secret that is never discussed; Dante's family is open and academically inclined. As they come to share their lives, each young man and their families change and grow through separation, reunion, accident and love. Though the families are

very different, they are loving and supportive of one another; this is not in any way another dysfunctional family YA novel. In fact, without giving too much away, it is the parent's wishes for their sons' happiness that drive the final actions of this story. I loved this book, laughing and crying all the way through. The writing is near perfect, the characters are real, the families healthy and strong. I lent my copy to a coworker's high school daughter who also loved it.

*Aristotle and Dante* will be a crossover book for both boys and girls, as well as adult readers. The story will strongly resonate with LGBT readers and may well help straight readers to better understand their LGBT friends. In other words, this book is just right for your library collection. Buy it for your library, buy a copy for yourself, buy it for that LGBT teen in your life, and buy one to give away.

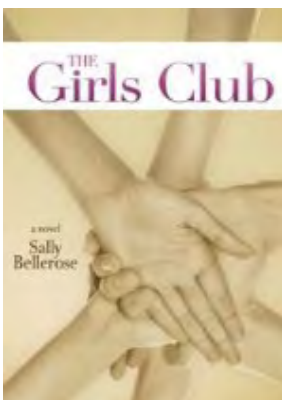
Essential for all public and school libraries, and for academic libraries collecting LGBT or YA lit.

**Reviewer: Dave Combe, Librarian Specialist  
E.P Foster Library, Ventura (CA)**

## Book Reviews: Adult Fiction

### Bellerose, Sally. *The Girls Club*.

Bywater Books, 2011. Paperback. 287p. \$14.95. 978-1-932859-78-2.



Family is the focus of this unique coming-out story, which covers a decade in the lives of three sisters of Catholic, working-class parents. In 1970, 14-year-old Cora Rose suffers from "the dreaded bowel disease," as well as sexual identity confusion and conflicts with her older sisters Renee and Marie.

After being caught in an embrace with her best friend Stella, Cora Rose resorts to having sex with a boy and gets pregnant the very first time. Humor and vulnerability play equal parts in the sassy protagonist's life as she marries, gets an ostomy after surgery for her ulcerative colitis, and then separates from her husband following her involvement with a woman at The Girls Club, a lesbian bar.

In her debut novel, Bellerose skillfully weaves together themes of sisterhood, religion, parenting, marriage, and sexuality as Cora Rose faces the prejudices forced upon her by her culture. The fast-paced narrative follows flawed, realistic and brave characters with a magical blend of bittersweet events and frail hope. This story epitomizes the 1970s, a time of growing awareness about human sexuality, by honestly depicting the struggles and losses of a messy life as Cora Rose gropes her way to finding independence, satisfaction, and joy. More than a girl-meets-girl tale, this novel is a girl-meets-herself saga.

With its fine writing and insights into the lesbian coming-out process, this book is recommended for all libraries as well as for people who like a "different type of coming-out story."

**Nel Ward  
Retired Librarian (Newport, OR)**

## Book Reviews: Adult Fiction

### Petretta, J. V. *An Impossible Dream Story*.

Dog Ear Publishing, 2011. 251 p. \$15.95. 978-1-4575-0680-2.



J. V. Petretta confesses that his novel, which reads like a memoir or autobiography, is "inspired by many true events in my life." The hero of this great story is Vincent (Vinnie, "Viper") Pirelli, a young boy growing up in Indiana in the 1950s and '60s. With a homophobic, berating father and an indifferent mother, young Vinnie finds escape from his difficult home life by excelling

in a number of jobs and riding on his beloved bicycle.

Years later Vinnie escapes to the military, where he falls in love with a fellow soldier, "Bobby Sox," but both are afraid to demonstrate their love with anything other than sleeping chastely together and roughhousing. He later marries a Thai woman whom he meets during military R&R. They raise a family and are happy together until Vinnie finally comes to terms with his deep feelings for men. When they painfully divorce, his wife takes everything.

Still trying to win his father's praise, Vinnie leaves his successful military career when his father calls him home with the promise of a good job. The job disappears, and he starts all over again at the bottom, this time in the restaurant business, where he succeeds once again. He begins living a gay lifestyle, going overboard to make up for lost time, and contracts HIV. He ends up homeless and very ill in Buffalo, NY, and relies on the VA hospital that cares for and nurtures him.

Returning to his boyhood love of biking, Vin-

nie cooks up a harebrained scheme to ride a bike with a trailer 5,000 miles across the country to raise money for AIDS research and support. He sets out from Buffalo, riding west against prevailing winds, learning only later that most cross-country bikers ride in the opposite direction to benefit from the winds. But he makes it to Seattle, Oregon and California, ending in San Diego.

Having returned to Buffalo, again he is very ill and homeless, living in his car. At the VA hospital, he meets a wonderful female pastor of an open and affirming United Church of Christ, so he decides to go, and on his first visit he meets a garrulous character who turns out to be Bobby Sox, his first love. Here the novel (memoir) ends, happily ever after, I dearly hope.

This is Peretta's first novel. I hope he writes more. He is planning a big bicycle book tour (see [www.animpossibledreamstory.com](http://www.animpossibledreamstory.com)). He had lots of help with this book, including editing, but a few infelicitous phrases ended up in the finished work, such as "an updated policy ... on Equal Employment Opportunities, which included 'sexual origin' as an added category." Surely he means "sexual orientation." Luckily none of the editing problems cause any harm.

This is a great read even though it is painful at times, and would be worthy of any library interested in a genuine record of a difficult gay life from the 1950s to the 1990s.

**Reviewer: James Doig Anderson,  
Professor Emeritus  
Library and Information Science  
Rutgers University**

## January Voice to Voice Series Concentrates on LGBT Writers

LGBT authors were the focus of *Huffington Post's* initial Voice to Voice conversation series in January as they featured interviews between novelists, poets, playwrights, and writers talking about topics from the state of LGBT literature to sex and sexuality between the pages to the joys and challenges of writing about LGBT issues, themes, and lives.

The first conversation of the month was between Violet Quill members [Edmund White and Felice Picano](#); Violet Quill was a legendary writing group that produced some of the greatest gay writers of the late 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> centuries. The next two conversations featured novelists [Christopher Rice and Eric Shaw](#) Quinn and writer [Robert Leleux](#) talking with writer, actor, and drag legend Charles Busch.

Part of the talk between Rice and Quinn revolved around the question of labeling a book "gay." They also discussed the issue of gays becoming more mainstream and its effect on gay literature as well as the change in coming-of-age stories between generations because anti-gay bigotry has lessened.

The fourth discussion, about lesbian literature, was between [Ellen Hart and Val McDermid](#). They talked about the disappearance of small presses that nurtured lesbian literature, the differences between publishing in the U.S. and UK, and the change in popularity from the "lesbian crime novel" to romances.

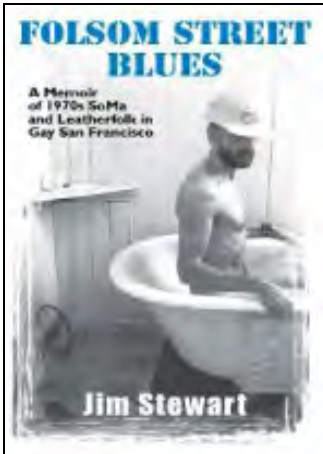
All four were great conversations!



## Book Reviews: Adult Nonfiction

### Stewart, Jim. *Folsom Street Blues: A Memoir of 1970s SoMa and Leatherfolk in Gay San Francisco.*

Palm Drive Publishing, 2011. Paperback. 213 pages. \$14.95. 978-1-890834-03-6.



From 1975 to 1982, Jim Stewart rejoiced in life as a wild young leatherman in San Francisco. *Folsom Street Blues* is a collection of his memories of "the gay man's paradise, the leatherman's Valhalla" that flourished along Folsom Street. Bringing life to sexual fantasies that shifted into performance art was his specialty. So was taking sexy photos of hot young men, some of which ap-

pear in this volume (including several self-portraits). Initially selling his pictures through the mail, Stewart went on to have five one-person gallery shows during this period and saw his photographs published frequently in San Francisco's long-running *Drummer* magazine. Carpentry was another specialty. He built bars, restraint structures, meat racks, and a life-size cross for one popular establishment, which promptly hired him as a bartender.

Friendships blossomed -- with Chuck Arnett, "master artist of the leather scene," writer Jack Fritscher, and gallery owner and photographer Robert Opel -- the man who streaked the Academy

Awards. Harvey Milk, the still-unknown Robert Mapplethorpe, and Raymond Burr also crossed Stewart's path. So did many who are lost to history, like Tom the Boulevardier and the widow with a thing for firemen.

By 1982, a new disease called Gay-Related Immune Deficiency was the topic on everyone's lips and Harvey Milk had been dead for years. With middle-age approaching, Stewart's thoughts turned to stability and the advantages of health insurance and a pension. He departed for library school at Western Michigan University.

In a touching epilogue, Stewart returns to San Francisco with his partner of twenty-five years, having become head of the history department at the Chicago Public Library before retiring. He says that now is the time for telling secrets, and he has done so with humor and panache. (He likens one acquaintance who wore gold hoops in both ears and both nipples to a chest of drawers by Salvador Dali.)

Jim Stewart is currently writing a mystery novel. I can't wait to read it.

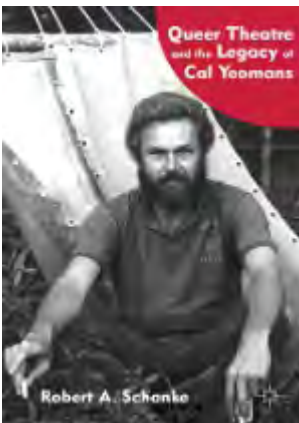
Includes 38 black and white photographs.

Recommended for libraries with any interest in GLBT history.

**Reviewer: Joyce Meggett**  
**Division Chief for Humanities**  
**Chicago Public Library**

### Schanke, Robert A. *Queer Theatre and the Legacy of Cal Yeomans.*

Palgrave, 2011. Hardcover. 239p. \$85.00. 978-0-230-11575-0.



One of the founders of gay theatre, Cal Yeomans explored sex and sexuality in a candid way, in an attempt to overcome what he had been raised to despise.

*Queer Theatre and the Legacy of Cal Yeomans* is a well-researched biography that explores the life and times of the often forgotten award-winning playwright. Using primary sources donated by Yeoman to the University of Florida Smathers Library as

well as the author's own research using printed materials and interviews, this book is not only a biog-

raphy of a playwright but a history of theatre and GLBT as a whole during the significant period between the Stonewall riots and the AIDS epidemic, including the desegregation of schools, and coming out and coming to terms with one's own sexuality during these times.

Organized into ten chapters, Robert Schanke uses eye-catching titles that reflect Yeoman's writing style (although these do not describe the chapters' contents for the novice to the field). Numerous photographs are included, providing visual interest.

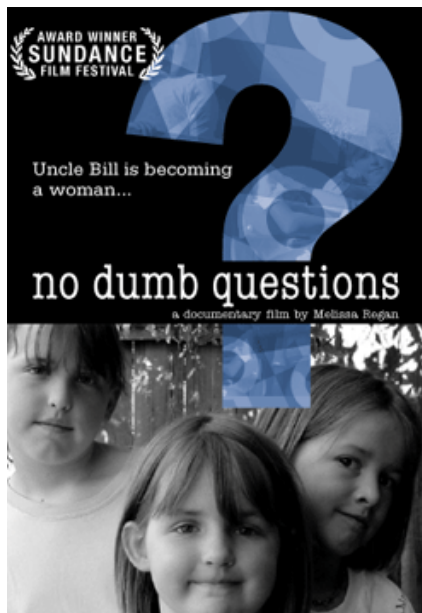
A documentary history, yet also a biography, this work draws the reader in and would be a valuable addition to any GLBT or theatre collection.

**Reviewer: Sine Nomine**

## Film Review

### *No Dumb Questions.*

Dir. Melissa Regan. Epiphany Productions, 2001. 24 min.



Have you ever been in a situation where you wanted to ask someone personal questions, but hesitated for fear of being inappropriate or too prying? Has wanting to know more about transgender people been one of those times?

If so, "No Dumb Questions" is the film for you.

In this 2001 documentary, three sisters, ages 6, 9, and 11, learn that their beloved

Uncle Bill is becoming their Aunt Barbara and will soon be visiting. Shot at their family home, the girls are allowed to ask whatever questions they want in preparation for meeting Aunt Barbara, with the rule that there are "no dumb questions."

We watch as the girls sort out what language to use and wonder what physical changes their uncle will go through, including hair removal and anatomy. They navigate the confusion of why someone would **want to change one's sex or gender and what terms** to use to describe a person in transition. In many ways, the thought processes that the girls go through are the same that adults go through when learning that a friend, family member, or co-worker is transitioning from one gender to another. The main difference, however, is that the girls have been given the freedom to ask what are often uncomfortable questions, particularly for adults.

When it is time for the girls to meet their new

aunt, the two older girls initially have great difficulty facing her, despite their earlier preparation and desire to not offend her. The youngest handles it with ease, hoping her aunt will play Barbies with her. Before the visit is over, they discover that their aunt is still the same beloved person—though different—and is still "pretty nice" and smart, like she always has been.

Post-visit, the girls learn about some of the harsh realities for transgender people. They are angry to discover that their Uncle Steve is not handling **Aunt Barbara's transition very well and has chosen to not see her on this trip.** They also learn that even though their new aunt is flying home for the first time as a woman, her ID still says she is Bill, and they immediately grasp the difficulties that Barbara may experience at the airport.

High production values are absent from the film and it feels closer to a home movie than not, but rather than detracting from the film, the lower production values enhance its intimacy.

Though over ten years old, this film is still one of **the best...if not THE best... film for introducing people** to transgender lives. At 24 minutes length, this award winning film is perfect for classroom or training situations, providing launching points for discussion. Charming, candid, and entertaining, it is an excellent start for those new to the subject, while still moving for those more experienced with transgender issues.

Teaching and discussion guides, as well as pricing information, are available at the film's website, [www.NoDumbQuestions.com](http://www.NoDumbQuestions.com). Highly recommended for both public and academic libraries. Appropriate for all ages, though does have one F-word instance.

**Reviewer: John Otto, Reference Librarian  
Shoreline Community College**

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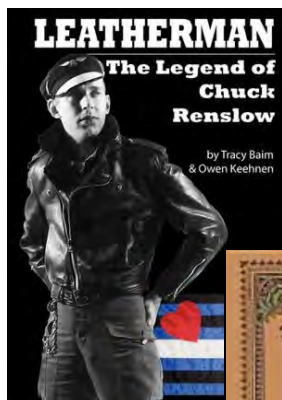
## Leather Archives & Museum Receives Folsom Street Events Grant

On August 10, 2011, The Leather Archives & Museum (LA&M) announced that the records of Folsom Street Events has been added to its archival collection. Folsom Street Events produces Folsom Street Fair, the world's largest leather event, and Dore Alley Fair each year. The immense collection traces the history of the Fairs from the original Up Your Alley Fair in 1985 to the two large street festivals that exist today. The collection, which includes hundreds of organizational records, photographs, films, press clippings, posters and memorabilia, will be preserved and displayed by the LA&M. The collection will be available to patrons and scholars at the LA&M in Chicago and through the museum's distance research services.

LA&M Executive Director Rick Storer said "The Folsom Street Events' records document a critical component of leather and fetish culture." Storer added that "Over the years, large gatherings like the Folsom Streets Fair have brought together the greater leather tribe and instilled a sense of community and respect among the various groups within the worldwide leather, fetish and kink communities."

## Over the Rainbow Books not reviewed in the *GLBTRT Newsletter*.

The GLBTRT Review Committee is very grateful to publishers for providing books and films to make them available to our volunteer reviewers. We regret that we are unable to review all the materials that are submitted, but we wish to acknowledge these titles so that our readers will have information about books and films submitted to the GLBTRT Newsletter. Below are the books published that are also listed on the 2012 Over the Rainbow bibliography of recommended LGBT books for the previous 18 months.



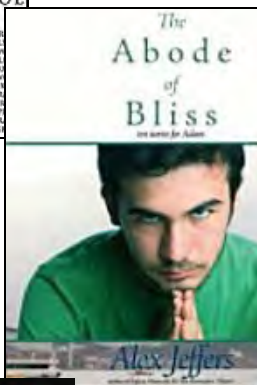
**Baim, Tracy and Owen Keehnen. *Leatherman: The Legend of Chuck Renslow*.** Prairie Avenue Productions, 2011. 414p. \$24.95. PB. 978-1461096023: This biography of Chicago bar owner, leatherman, entrepreneur, and gay rights activist Renslow features over 300 full-color photographs and interviews with family, colleagues, and friends.



**Currier, Jameson. *The Third Buddha*.** Chelsea Station, 2011. 288p. \$20.00. PB. 978-0984470723: Ted Bridges, a law school dropout struggling with his sexual identity and sense of self, searches for his older brother in the aftermath of 9/11; journalists Ari and Jim, discontented lovers traveling in Afghanistan to find the Third Buddha, are violently separated when a roadside bomb erases Ari's memory and Jim's hearing.



**Fletcher, Jane. *Wolfsbane Winter*.** Bold Strokes Books, 2010. 164p. \$16.95. PB. 978-1602821583: In a post-apocalyptic world ruled by demon magic, Deryn, a member of the Iron Wolf mercenary group, and Alana, a healer and empath forced into exile by the power of her gift, fall in love following their unlikely meeting in a small, rural town only to find their relationship and everyone else's survival threatened.



**Hellebore & Rue: Tales of Queer Women and Magic. Ed. By JoSelle Vanderhooft and Catherine Lundoff.** Lethe Press, 2011. 238p. \$15.00. PB. 978-1590213773: Meet a greenmage reuniting with her former partner for one last mission, a school nurse with a dark secret heritage, a witch with an unconventional familiar, and other intriguing women in this collection of fantasy short stories.

**Jeffers, Alex. *The Abode of Bliss: Ten Stories for Adam*.** Lethe Press, 2011. 282p. \$18.00. PB. 978-1590212462: In these ten stories, Ziya, a Turkish gay man, explains his life history, including a childhood growing up in Istanbul and college years in America, to Adam, the man he now loves.



**Monette, Sarah and Elizabeth Bear. *The Tempering of Men*.** TOR, 2011. 304p. \$25.99. HC. 978-0765324702: This high fantasy novel, a follow-up to *Companion of Wolves*, further explores an iron-age world in which northern warriors link minds with their companion wolves to battle trolls where the Northerners must forge alliances with neighbors who distrust their love of their wolves and one another, in order to fend off invaders from the south.

**Pitts, J.A. *Honeyed Words*.** [Sarah Beauhall Series]. TOR, 2011. 416p. \$14.99. HC. 978-0765329073: Sarah Beauhall, blacksmith, dragonslayer, and wielder of the reforged magical sword Gram, returns with her girlfriend to discover fairies, demons, and other supernatural beings--some of whom mean them deadly harm.

Check out the [GLBTRT Over the Rainbow](#) website for the full list!



## Books published before 4/1/11, not reviewed in the *GLBTRT Newsletter*.



**Bossa, Mel. *Split*.** Bold Strokes, 2011. 236p. \$16.95. PB. 978-1-60282-220-7: Weeks before their engagement party, Derek's diary reveals to Nathan past relationships and present possibilities that Derek considers.



**Gowan, Lesley. *The Collectors*.** Bold Strokes, 2011. 137p. \$14.95. PB. 978-1-60282-208-5: All of Laura's experiences with erotica came from reading until she meets her friend's mistress Jeanne, an experienced dominant.

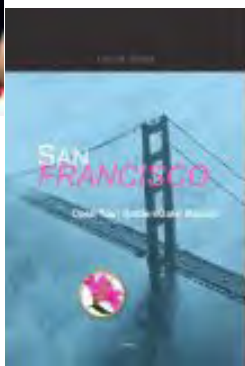
**Henderson, Clifford. *Maye's Request*.** Bold Strokes, 2011. 291p. \$16.95. PB. 978-1-60282-199-6: Bean's seriously ill mother, whose lover is Bean's father's twin sister, asks Bean for help in resolving the rift between brother and sister.



**McKnight, Gill. *Indigo Moon*.** Garoul Series. Bold Strokes, 2011. 261p. \$16.95. PB. 978-1-60282-201-6: Hope and Godfrey are on a mission to save their friend Isabelle, who has been attacked by a rogue werewolf.

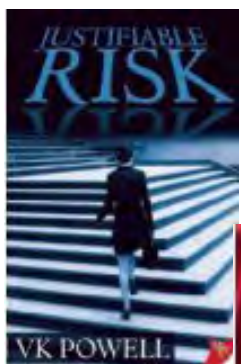
**Moody, Colette. *Parties in Congress*.** Bold Strokes, 2011. 258p. \$16.95. PB. 978-1-60282-202-3: Politics make strange bedfellows when paid campaigner Bijal Rao falls for her candidate's opponent.

**O'Brien, Meghan. *Wild*.** Bold Strokes, 2011. 284p. \$16.95. PB. 978-1-60282-227-6: Shape-shifter Selene unexpectedly falls in love with forensic pathologist Eve Thomas and then discovers that someone is stalking her new love.



**Oberg, Larry R. *San Francisco: Open Your Golden Gate! Memoir*.** Xlibris, 2011. 89p. PB. 978-1-4568-6601-3: These episodes about a gay man cover six turbulent decades from World War II until the present and place each event in the period's political and social contexts.

**Powell, VK. *Justifiable Risk*.** Bold Strokes, 2011. 257p. \$16.95. PB. 978-1-60282-197-2: Hardworking homicide detective Greer Ellis buries herself in her work after the death of her partner until internationally renowned journalist Eva Saldana comes to town, searching for answers in her brother's death.



**Raand, L.L. *Blood Hunt*.** Bold Strokes, 2011. 298p. \$16.95. PB. 978-1-60282-209-2: Chaos surrounds vampire detective Jody Gates as she battles forces determined to destroy her clan as she hungers for human reporter Becca Land. [L.L. Raand is a pseudonym for Radclyffe.]



**Rose, Larkin. *Kiss the Rain*.** Bold Strokes, 2011. 187p. \$14.95. PB. 978-1-60282-211-5: Phone sex satisfies both fashion designer Eve Harris and the operator, Jodi Connelly, until they meet and confusion reigns.

**Taite, Carsen. *Nothing but the Truth*.** Bold Strokes, 2011. 250p. \$16.95. PB. 978-1-60282-198-9: Sparks fly between prosecutor Ryan Foster and defense attorney Brett Logan until they find themselves on the same side of the case with a different set of sparks.

## Calendar:

**April 2** (Los Angeles): The 23rd Annual Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) Media Awards ceremonies

**April 19, 7:00 p.m.**(New York City): [Publishing Triangle Awards](#) ceremony

**April 20:** [Day of Silence](#) when hundreds of thousands of students nationwide take a vow of silence to bring attention to anti-LGBT name-calling, bullying, and harassment in their schools

**May 17:** International Day Against Homophobia and Transphobia ([IDAHO](#))

**June:** National Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgender Pride Month; National GLBT Book Month

**June 2** (San Francisco): The 23rd Annual Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) Media Awards ceremonies

**June 4** (New York): Lambda Literary Awards

**June 21-26** (Anaheim, CA): ALA Annual Conference: Transforming Our Libraries, Ourselves

**June 27:** [Anniversary of Stonewall Riots](#)

**July 28-August 4** (American Jewish University, Los Angeles): The [2012 Writers Retreat](#) for Emerging LGBT Voices, the only queer writers residency in the world

**August 1-3** (Amsterdam, The Netherlands): The International Archives, Libraries, Museums and Special Collections [conference](#) on the Future of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, and Intersex Histories (LGBTI ALMS 2012). Hosted by IHLIA, the International Gay and Lesbian Archive and Information Centre, aims to bring together European, North American and global civil society and national heritage institutions to make the history of lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and intersex (LGBTI) citizens visible and accessible. Goals will focus on archiving, collecting oral histories, and collaboration in connection with LGBTI people.

**September 19-23** (Kansas City, MO): The second [Joint Conference of Librarians of Color](#) featuring the theme "Gathering at the Waters: Celebrating Stories, Embracing Communities." Opening keynote speaker is Sonia Manzano (Maria on *Sesame Street*); author luncheons include Lauren Myracle and Sharon Flake. One of the learning sessions is "Rainbow Family Collections: Celebrating Stories & Embracing LGBTQ Families." Sponsors are the five associations of ethnic librarians—the American Indian Library Association (AILA), the Asian/Pacific American Librarians Association (APALA), the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA), the Chinese American Librarians Association (CALA), and REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking. Registration opened March 1.

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