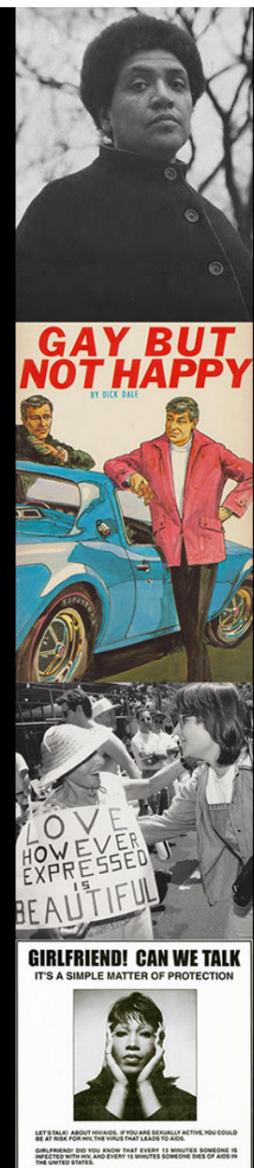


# one

News and Updates from  
the ONE Archives Foundation and  
ONE Archives at the USC Libraries

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February 2018



KISSING DOESN'T KILL: GREED AND INDIFFERENCE DO.



CORPORATE GREED, GOVERNMENT INACTION, AND PUBLIC INDIFFERENCE MAKE AIDS A POLITICAL CRISIS.

***Lost & Found: Safer Sex Activism* opens March 17 at the newly renovated ONE Gallery in West Hollywood!**

Presented by the ONE Archives Foundation, *Lost & Found: Safer Sex Activism* examines thirty years of inspiring and defiant safer sex and harm-reduction activism. The exhibition presents safer sex posters, comics, brochures, videos, PSAs, and safer sex and clean needle kits, among other archival items, all from the collections at ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives at USC Libraries.

*Lost & Found: Safer Sex Activism* is co-curated by David Evans Frantz, curator at ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives at the USC Libraries, and independent curator Hannah Grossman, with support from exhibition consultant Neal Baer, M.D. *Lost & Found* is organized by the ONE Archives Foundation. Generous support is provided by The Calamus Foundation of New York, Inc.

For more information about the exhibition and our public opening reception on March 17, click [here](#).



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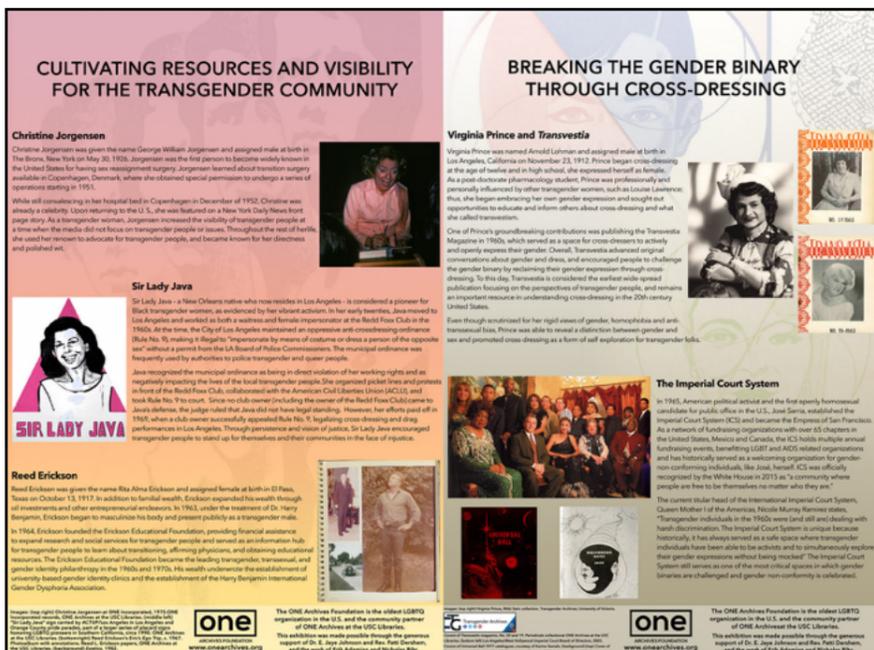
**LGBTQ Research Fellowship Program**

for more information visit [www.onearchives.org/fellowship](http://www.onearchives.org/fellowship)

## March 1st Due Date for LGBTQ Research Fellowship Program Application!

The ONE Archives Foundation would like to remind prospective fellows that applications for our LGBTQ Research Fellowship Program are due by **tomorrow, March 1, 2018 by 11:59pm!**

Applications are invited for residence between May 2018 and December 2018. **Applicants will be notified of results by April 1, 2018.** Find more information [here](#).



**CULTIVATING RESOURCES AND VISIBILITY FOR THE TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY**

**Christine Jorgensen**  
Christine Jorgensen was given the name George William Jorgensen and assigned male at birth in The Bronx, New York on May 20, 1926. Jorgensen was the first person to become widely known in the United States for having sex reassignment surgery. Jorgensen learned about transition surgery available in Copenhagen, Denmark, where she obtained special permission to undergo a series of operations starting in 1951.

While still convalescing in her hospital bed in Copenhagen in December of 1952, Christine was already a celebrity. Upon returning to the U.S., she was featured on a New York Daily News front page story. As a transgender pioneer, Jorgensen increased the visibility of transgender people at a time when the media did not focus on transgender people or issues. Throughout the rest of her life, she used her prominence to advocate for transgender people, and became known for her directness and published work.

**Sir Lady Java**  
Sir Lady Java - a New Orleans native who now resides in Los Angeles - is considered a pioneer for Black transgender women, as evidenced by her vibrant activism. In her early twenties, Java moved to Los Angeles and worked as both a waitress and female impersonator at the Beaulieu Club in the 1940s. At this time, the City of Los Angeles maintained an oppressive anti-cross-dressing ordinance (Rule No. 15 making it illegal) "regardless by means of costume or dress a person of the opposite sex" without a permit from the LA Board of Police Commissioners. The municipal ordinance was frequently used by authorities to police transgender and queer people.

Java recognized the municipal ordinance as being in direct violation of her working rights and as negatively impacting the lives of the local transgender people. She organized picket lines and protests in front of the Beaulieu Club, collaborated with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), and took the case to court. Some notable cases including the owner of the Beaulieu Club came to Java's defense, the judge ruled that Java did not have legal standing. However, her efforts paid off in 1950, when a club owner successfully repealed Rule No. 15, legalizing cross-dressing and drag performance in Los Angeles. Through persistence and a sense of justice, Sir Lady Java encouraged transgender people to stand up for themselves and their communities in the face of injustice.

**Reed Erickson**  
Reed Erickson was given the name Rita Alma Erickson and assigned female at birth in El Paso, Texas on October 13, 1917. In addition to her work as a nurse, Erickson supported her health through all movements and other entrepreneurial endeavors. In 1963, under the treatment of Dr. Harry Benjamin, Erickson began to masculinize his body and present publicly as a transgender male.

In 1968, Erickson founded the Erickson Educational Foundation, providing financial assistance to expand research and social services for transgender people and served as an invaluable role for transgender people to learn about transitioning, affirming physicians, and obtaining educational resources. The Erickson Educational Foundation became the leading transgender, transsexual, and gender identity philanthropy in the 1960s and 1970s. His wealth underpinned the establishment of university-based gender identity clinics and the establishment of the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association.

**BREAKING THE GENDER BINARY THROUGH CROSS-DRESSING**

**Virginia Prince and Transvestia**  
Virginia Prince was named Arnold Lohman and assigned male at birth in Los Angeles, California on November 23, 1912. Prince began cross-dressing at the age of twelve and in high school, she expressed herself as female. As a post-doctorate pharmacology student, Prince was professionally and personally influenced by other transgender women, such as Louise Lawrence. Thus, she began embracing her own gender expression and sought out opportunities to educate and inform others about cross-dressing and what she called transvestism.

One of Prince's groundbreaking contributions was publishing the *Transvestia Magazine* in 1950, which served as a space for cross-dressers to actively and openly express their gender. Check, Transvestia advanced original conversations about gender and dress, and encouraged people to challenge the gender binary by exploring their gender expression through cross-dressing. To this day, *Transvestia* is considered the earliest wide-spread publication focusing on the perspectives of transgender people, and remains an important resource in understanding cross-dressing in the 20th-century United States.

Even though stigmatized for her rigid views of gender, heterosexuality and anti-transsexual bias, Prince was able to reveal a distinction between gender and sex and promoted cross-dressing as a form of self-expression for transgender folk.

**The Imperial Court System**  
In 1965, American political activist and the first openly homosexual candidate for public office in the U.S., Jose Sarin, established the Imperial Court System (ICS) and became the Empress of San Francisco. As a network of fundraising organizations with over 65 chapters in the United States, Mexico and Canada, the ICS holds multiple annual fundraising events, benefiting LGBT and AIDS-related organizations and has historically served as a welcoming organization for gender-non-conforming individuals, like Jose Sarin. ICS was officially recognized by the White House in 2015 as "a community where people are free to be themselves no matter who they are."

The current ruler head of the International Imperial Court System, Queen Mother of the Americas, Nicole Murray-Barnes states, "Transgender individuals in the 1960s were (and still are) dealing with health discrimination. The Imperial Court System is unique because historically, it has always served as a safe space where transgender individuals have been able to be activists and to simultaneously explore their gender expressions without being mocked." The Imperial Court System still serves as one of the most critical spaces in which gender binaries are challenged and gender-non-conformity is celebrated.

## The ONE Archives Foundation's History Panels are Available for Sale, Now!

The ONE Archives Foundation's History Panels are available to educators, schools, colleges and community organizations for purchase. The panels include some of the most important and transformative moments in LGBTQ history: Heroes of the LGBTQ Civil Rights Movement, Lesbian History, AIDS Timeline, Legendary Lesbians, The History of the LGBTQ Civil Rights Movement, and our most recent series, Transgender History.

To learn more about the content of each History Panels series, please click [here](#). For detailed pricing options, please contact [askone@onearchives.org](mailto:askone@onearchives.org).



**ONE Queer Garden Club**

## The ONE Queer Garden Club is back!

Next meeting: **Saturday, March 17, 10am-1pm**

**ONE Archives at the USC Libraries**  
909 West Adams Boulevard  
Los Angeles, CA 90007

Check out ONE Queer Garden Club's Facebook page [here](#).



**Cock Paper Scissors**

**MALFLORA**

**AXIS MUNDO**  
Queer Networks in Chicano L.A.

## Visit the ONE Archives Foundation's Online Store!

Check out our online store for exciting items, including the catalogue for *Axis Mundo: Queer Networks in Chicano L.A.* and t-shirts by Joey Terrill produced in collaboration with MOCA | The Museum of Contemporary Art, Los Angeles. Visit our online store by clicking [here](#).

**The ONE Archives Foundation Is Hiring and Looking for Interns!**

The ONE Archives Foundation is seeking an experienced **Development Manager** with the ability to support the implementation of a comprehensive fundraising strategy that expands the programmatic and financial capacity of the ONE Archives Foundation.

**For more information on the Development Manager position and to apply, please click [here](#).**

The ONE Archives Foundation is currently seeking enthusiastic interns with an interest in LGBTQ history, culture and non-profit management for the following position:

- **History Panels Project Internship**

**For more information on the internships and to apply, please click [here](#).**

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*Images: (Lost & Found: Safer Sex Activism...) Gran Fury, Kissing Doesn't Kill, 1989-90. Poster, 11 1/2 x 37 inches. ONE Poster Collection. ONE National Gay and Lesbian Archives at the USC Libraries. (The ONE Archives Foundation's History Panels...) Two Transgender History Panels from a series of fifteen panels.*

