



ARCHIVES FOUNDATION

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**BENEFIT ENCORE PRESENTATION OF
THE NORMAL HEART
TO STREAM IN HONOR OF
WORLD AIDS DAY**

**Final Stream of Historic Performance to Take Place
on December 4**

**Announcing New Q&A with
Director Paris Barclay & Cast**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Los Angeles, CA (November 22, 2021) — ONE Archives Foundation, in collaboration with Invisible Histories Project, announced today that a brand-new Q&A will follow an

encore and final presentation of the historic virtual reading of Larry Kramer's Tony Award-winning play **THE NORMAL HEART**. The new conversation will feature Emmy Award-winning director Paris Barclay and members of the cast. The benefit virtual reading will stream on ONE Archive Foundation's Eventive page on December 4 in honor of World AIDS Day so to raise awareness and show support for people living with HIV.

This presentation of **THE NORMAL HEART** first took place in May 2021 to high acclaim, reaching audiences nationwide and in 19 countries across the globe. The reading marked the first time the play featured a cast that is predominately BIPOC and LGBTQ. In its review, the *Los Angeles Times* praised cast member Sterling K. Brown, noting how he "captured so brilliantly" the starring role in the reading. They added: "the choice of Brown was inspired. Not only is he an exceptional, Emmy-winning actor, but his performance represented an act of coalition building, a recognition of shared struggle and a refusal to let the walls of identity serve as a prison."

The encore presentation of THE NORMAL HEART will take place on **Saturday, December 4, at 12:00pm PT** and again at **5:00pm PT**. Tickets are now on sale and proceeds will support ONE Archives Foundation's LGBTQ initiatives. Tickets can be purchased at onearchives.org/normalheart. Ticket prices range from \$20 - \$100. Student tickets are available for \$10 per ticket for the 12:00pm PT performance only.

"This presentation of The Normal Heart and its extraordinarily talented, diverse cast made an incredible impact earlier this year. We all felt it was important to re-stream the historic reading to bring more awareness not just to World AIDS Day, but to the message of Larry Kramer's landmark play - which feels even more relevant today," said Paris Barclay, Director.

The virtual reading features an all-star cast, including **Sterling K. Brown** (*This Is Us*, *Black Panther*); **Laverne Cox** (*Orange Is The New Black*, *Promising Young Woman*); **Jeremy Pope** (*Hollywood*, *Choir Boy*); **Vincent Rodriguez III** (*Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*, *Insatiable*); **Guillermo Díaz** (*Scandal*, *Weeds*); **Jake Borelli** (*Grey's Anatomy*, *The Thing About Harry*); **Ryan O'Connell** (*Special*, *Will & Grace*); **Daniel Newman** (*Walking Dead*, *Homeland*); **Jay Hayden** (*Station 19*, *The House Bunny*); and **Danielle Savre** (*Station 19*, *Heroes*). The virtual reading will include a special introduction by **Martin Sheen**.

This performance of THE NORMAL HEART is **an important reminder** that the HIV/AIDS epidemic is not over, with nearly 38 million people living with HIV globally in 2020. Its ongoing impact disproportionately affects the Black community. As of 2019, 42% of new HIV cases have occurred within the Black community, which only makes up 13% of the US population. According to the CDC, in 2019, Southern states account for an estimated 51% of new HIV cases annually, even though only 38% of the US population lives in the Southern region.

“We are humbled to show this encore presentation of THE NORMAL HEART in honor of World AIDS Day, which takes place on December 1 each year,” said Jennifer C. Gregg, Executive Director, ONE Archives Foundation. “World AIDS Day was founded in 1988 to fight against HIV, support people living with HIV, and commemorate those who have died from AIDS-related illness. The success of the first showing of THE NORMAL HEART, which reached audiences across the globe, reinforces just how important LGBTQ history and HIV awareness is today.”

THE NORMAL HEART focuses on the rise of the HIV/AIDS crisis in New York City in the early 1980s. After cofounding the Gay Men’s Health Crisis in 1982, Larry Kramer founded ACT UP in 1987. Produced and taught all over the world, THE NORMAL HEART was selected as one of the 100 Greatest Plays of the Twentieth Century by the Royal National Theatre of Great Britain. It was the longest-running play in the history of The Public Theater. It was also made into an Emmy Award-winning film for HBO by Ryan Murphy.

Sponsorships are also available. To sponsor the event, please contact Jennifer C. Gregg, Executive Director of ONE Archives Foundation at jgregg@onearchives.org.

Funds raised will also support **Invisible Histories Project’s** legacy of HIV/AIDS and LGBTQ activists through archiving, inclusion training, exhibitions, and programs that keep Southern LGBTQ history alive.

Sponsors of the virtual performance include Jeff Soref and Paul Lombardi, The Murray/Reese Foundation, The Calamus Foundation, Inc., AIDS Alabama, Harry Gittelson and Albert Silva, Scott Davenport and Brad Dodson, Schmitt-Young Group at Morgan Stanley, Paul D. Lerner and Stephen Reis, Bank of America, Tomlinson Holman and Fritz Koeing, Amy A. Ross, David Farneth and David Gilbert, Jennifer C. Gregg and Cj Mitchell, Danny Fisk, Grand Stevens Group, LLC, Chiedu Egbuniwe, and May Hong HaDuong. A special thank you to Neal Baer, MD for his support of this virtual reading.

THE NORMAL HEART is presented by arrangement with [Concord Theatricals](#) on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. Original New York Production by New York Shakespeare Festival Produced by Joseph Papp. Thanks also to Larry Kramer’s husband, David Webster, and the Estate of Larry Kramer.

Learn more about this virtual reading of the **THE NORMAL HEART** at onearchives.org/normalheart.

About ONE Archives Foundation

Founded in 1952, ONE Archives Foundation is the oldest active LGBTQ organization in the United States, and is dedicated to telling the accurate stories and history of all LGBTQ people and their culture. As an independent nonprofit, ONE Archives

Foundation promotes ONE Archives at the USC Libraries — the largest repository of LGBTQ materials in the world — and provides innovative educational initiatives, public exhibitions, and community programs.

The curatorial and educational choices made by ONE Archives Foundation are guided by our commitment to social equity and justice. We engage with the complexity of LGBTQ history and representation through highlighting the intersectional and authentic narratives of Black, Indigenous, people of color (BIPOC), women, gender-nonconforming and transgender people, people of various abilities, youth, and elders across all socio-economic classes.

Learn more, donate and become a member at onearchives.org, and connect with ONE on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @onearchives.

About Invisible Histories Project

The Invisible Histories Project (IHP) is dedicated to making LGBTQ Southern history accessible to the community. IHP is a community archiving and public history project that works to connect LGBTQ individuals and organizations with institutions like universities, museums, and libraries in order to ensure that the rich and diverse LGBTQ history of the South is preserved for future generations.

IHP's collection area consists of Alabama, Mississippi, the Florida panhandle, and Georgia, including the Atlanta metropolitan area. IHP curates in-person and online public exhibits, travels across the US speaking on Southern LGBTQ history, provides training and education to individuals and organizations, assists LGBTQ nonprofits in preserving their organizational history, and hosts multiple graduate and undergraduate internships each year. To learn more, visit invisiblehistory.org and with IHP on Facebook, Instagram [@invisiblehistoriesproject](https://www.instagram.com/invisiblehistoriesproject), and Twitter [@ihpsouth](https://twitter.com/ihpsouth).

PRESS IMAGES



PARIS BARCLAY
Director and Narrator



STERLING K. BROWN
Role: Ned Weeks



JAKE BORELLI
Role: Tommy Boatwright



LAVERNE COX
Role: Dr. Emma Brookner



GUILLERMO DÍAZ
Role: Ben Weeks



JAY HAYDEN
Role: David / Hiram Keebler



DANIEL NEWMAN
Role: Mickey Marcus



RYAN O'CONNELL
Role: Craig Donner / Grady



JEREMY POPE
Role: Felix Turner



VINCENT RODRIGUEZ III
Role: Bruce Niles



DANIELLE SAVRE
Role: Examining Doctor

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