



## **Call for Curators - WeHo 40th Anniversary Exhibition**

Position Type: Fixed Term Contract  
Application Deadline: Monday, January 20, 2025  
Contract timeline: February - June 2025  
Location: Los Angeles, CA and West Hollywood, CA

### **About the Role:**

One Institute seeks an experienced curator for an exhibition on Drag History in West Hollywood, funded by the City of West Hollywood's 40th Anniversary Cultural History Grant. Previous curatorial experience and up to three years of relevant experience with art, archival materials, and LGBTQ+ history is required.

The curator will help shape the narrative and bring their vision of the exhibition alive. One Institute encourages proposals that combine Drag History in West Hollywood with relevant contemporary works.

### **About the Project:**

Taking place as part of the City of West Hollywood's 40th Anniversary celebration, One Institute will present an exhibition exploring West Hollywood's colorful history of drag entertainment, from the mid-twentieth century to present day. From civil rights to media representation, the LGBTQ+ community of West Hollywood has played a definitive role in elevating drag culture throughout Los Angeles and onto an international stage. Before establishing cityhood in 1984, the unincorporated community of West Hollywood provided unique opportunities for queer creatives, including gender-expansive stage performance in nightclubs. In 1972, when nine drag performers were arrested in Los Angeles on charges of lewd conduct, community members organized in West Hollywood to support the queens and challenge the discriminatory law. In 1996, Diana Ross joined forces with RuPaul and an entourage of drag queens, riding down Santa Monica Boulevard atop a Pride float and proclaiming to the world: "I will survive!" Nearly three decades later, in the face of anti-drag and anti-trans policies across the nation, hundreds of West Hollywood residents took to the strip to assert: "Drag is not a crime!" From after-hours cabaret performances to activism in the streets, the culture of drag in West Hollywood has expanded the possibility to reimagine ourselves and the world around us.

Incorporating materials from the ONE Archives at the USC Libraries and possibly other collections, this exhibition will highlight the vibrant contributions of West Hollywood's drag performers and supporters of LGBTQ+ arts, culture, and civil rights. The exhibition will be presented at the One Gallery (626 N Robertson Blvd, West Hollywood) from late May through June with at least two interactive programs organized by the One Institute staff around the themes of the exhibition.

## **Key Responsibilities:**

- Develop and curate the exhibition while incorporating ONE Archive at the USC Libraries materials as well as other relevant archives.
- Conduct curatorial research alongside One Institute staff.
- Collaborate with local artists to enhance the exhibition materials

## **Preferred Qualifications:**

- Education: Degree or relevant experience in curatorial studies, art/art history, anthropology, or a related field.
- Experience: At least three years
- Language: English

## **Budget:**

- Curatorial fee ranging from \$2,000-\$3,000 based on experience
- Exhibition materials budget to be determined with curator

## **About One Institute:**

Founded in 1952, One Institute (formerly ONE Archives Foundation) is the oldest active LGBTQ+ organization in the country, dedicated to telling LGBTQ+ history and stories through education, arts, and social justice programs. Our one-of-a-kind exhibitions and public programs connect LGBTQ+ history and contemporary culture to effect social change. Through unique K-12 teacher trainings, lesson plans, and youth mentorship programs, we empower the next generation of teachers and students to bring queer history into classrooms and communities. As the independent community partner of ONE Archives at the USC Libraries, we promote the largest collection of LGBTQ+ materials in the world.

The curatorial and educational choices made by One Institute are guided by our commitment to social equity and justice. We engage with the complexity of LGBTQ+ history and representation through highlighting the intersectional 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.

Connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @oneinstitutela.

## **How to Apply:**

Email the following items to [rhayes@oneinstitute.org](mailto:rhayes@oneinstitute.org) by Jan 20 2025, 11:59pm. Expect a reply the following week. Position will be filled by 2/1/2025.

- Cover Letter
- Curriculum vitae
- Curation examples