

**one**  
INSTITUTE

# circa

## QUEER HISTORIES FESTIVAL

Presented by One Institute  
Open Call for Proposals 2026

Application Deadline: 11:59 P.M. PST on Friday, March 27.  
All applications must be submitted via our online [Jotform application](#).

*Late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed.*  
Please direct application inquiries to [circa@oneinstitute.org](mailto:circa@oneinstitute.org).

### ABOUT CIRCA

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Returning for a fourth year, Circa: Queer Histories Festival is the first and only LGBTQ+ histories festival in the United States. Hosted by One Institute, the oldest active queer organization in the country, Circa will take place during LGBTQ+ History Month, October 2026. The month-long programming series showcases the trailblazing histories and vibrant cultural contributions of LGBTQ+ communities through the lens of present-day challenges and triumphs. Spanning the arts, humanities, politics, and culture, Circa features queer and trans thinkers and doers contributing to history in the making. Circa also provides opportunities for cultural practitioners to present new works and works-in-progress, and for audiences to gather, learn, and celebrate.

#### *What we mean by Queer Histories Programming*

One Institute invites queer, trans, and allied community members, artists, activists, scholars, youth, educators, cultural institutions, and community organizations to submit innovative, thought-provoking program proposals. We welcome proposals from across the arts, cultural, and humanities disciplines in the form of: performances, screenings, readings, speaking engagements (lectures, panel discussions), workshops, and exhibitions. We are currently prioritizing in-person programs from Los Angeles-based programmers and accept virtual programs from any location accessible to broader audiences. Please note we cannot accommodate travel support for out of state folks.

### WHAT'S NEW IN 2026?

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One Institute curates Circa Festival programs prioritizing quality, inclusion, and alignment with our mission.

- In 2026, around 20 in-person programs will be accepted through the open call for proposals process. This does not include the programs One Institute produces outside the open call process or virtual programs (see more under "Virtual Program Guidelines").
- Instead of a theme this year, Circa 2026 will encourage proposals focused on One Institute's mission, "queer and trans history in action."