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# MEDIA RELEASE

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## October LGBTQ History Programs Highlight Charley Beal, Annual Gala “Reunion,” Language and Diversity in LGBTQ Culture, Sally Gearhart

**San Francisco** — The program series for October 2021 sponsored by the GLBT Historical Society will highlight an interview with Charles Beal, the president of the Gilbert Baker Foundation; the GLBT Historical Society’s annual Gala, “Reunion”; language, diversity and intersectionality in LGBTQ culture; and teacher and LGBTQ activist Sally Gearhart. All events take place online; registration is required for access to the video link. For more information, visit [www.glbthistory.org/events](http://www.glbthistory.org/events).

### **Queer Culture Club**

#### **Catching Up With Charley Beal**

Thursday, October 14

7:00–7:30 p.m. PT

Online program

Admission: free, \$5 suggested donation

GLBT Historical Society executive director Terry Beswick will interview Charles (Charley) Beal, the president of the Gilbert Baker Foundation. Beal will discuss his involvement in and passion for queer history, especially his efforts to preserve the work and legacy of performer, artist, activist and rainbow-flag designer Gilbert Baker (1953–2017). This is the October installment of “Queer Culture Club,” our monthly series each second Thursday that focuses on LGBTQ people who are defining the queer culture of yesterday, today and tomorrow. Each month, Beswick interviews queer culture-makers, including authors, playwrights, historians, activists, artists and archivists, to learn about their work, process, inspirations, hopes and dreams. More information is available at <https://bit.ly/37XspjD>. Tickets are available at <https://bit.ly>

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### **Gala**

#### **Reunion: The GLBT Historical Society Annual Gala**

Thursday, October 21

6:00–7:30 p.m. PT

Online program

Admission: \$75 suggested donation

Hosted by Sister Roma and Juanita MORE!, the GLBT Historical Society's annual Gala, "Reunion," will be an evening of fabulous entertainment, inspiring presentations and a heartfelt celebration of LGBTQ history-makers. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, our Gala will again be virtual this year, with a live broadcast that attendees can watch from home. The proceeds directly support our mission of preserving and sharing LGBTQ history. More information is available at [www.glbthistory.org/reunion](http://www.glbthistory.org/reunion). Tickets are available at [www.glbthistory.org/gala-tickets](http://www.glbthistory.org/gala-tickets).

### **Author Talk**

#### **The Power of Language: Unpacking Diversity and Intersectionality in LGBTQ Culture**

Friday, October 22

6:00–7:30 p.m. PT

Online program

Admission: free, \$5 suggested donation

Author Chloe Davis will discuss her new book *The Queens' English: The LGBTQIA+ Dictionary of Lingo and Colloquial Phrases* (Clarkson Potter, 2021). Her talk will explore how language shapes culture; highlight the diverse communities and intersectional identities that make up our LGBTQ community; unpack the beautiful complexity of queer history; and foreground the importance of empowering, providing resources for, and making visible queer, gay, Black and trans identities. More information is available at <https://bit.ly/3z3etRb>. Tickets are available at <https://bit.ly/37XQB5x>.

Attendees who purchase copies of *The Queens' English* from the GLBT Historical Society's [Bookshop.org page](#) will receive a personalized autographed bookplate from Davis. Please send an email with your ticket confirmation and Bookshop.org receipt to [leigh@glbthistory.org](mailto:leigh@glbthistory.org), with information on how you would like yours personalized, by October 25. For more information about *The Queens' English*, see the publisher's webpage here: <https://www.thequeensenglishus.com/about>.

### **Panel Discussion**

#### **Who Was Sally Gearhart? Remembering a Lesbian Legend**

Friday, October 29

5:00 p.m.–6:30 p.m. PT

Online program

Admission: free; \$5 suggested donation

Sally Gearhart (1931–2021) was a teacher, feminist, science-fiction writer, and political activist who passed away in July. In 1973, she became the first out lesbian to obtain a tenure-track faculty position when she was hired by San Francisco State University, where she helped establish one of the first women's and gender studies programs in the country. Among her contributions to the struggle for LGBTQ rights was her fight against Proposition 6, also known as the Briggs Initiative, a 1978 California ballot measure that would have prevented LGBTQ people from teaching in the state's public schools. This panel discussion and celebration of Gearhart's life brings together four women who worked closely with Gearhart. They will explore topics including Gearhart's contributions to feminism and gay rights; her academic work; her literary and creative output, including the 1978 work *The Wanderground*; her interventions on the subject of religion and communications; and how her background in theater and communications shaped her activism, with an overall emphasis on capturing Gearhart's delightfully quirky and humorous personality. Tickets are free, but donations will be earmarked to support a documentary currently in progress about Gearhart's life. More information is available at <https://bit.ly/3ghMfLf>. Tickets are available at <https://bit.ly/3k7MhWT>.

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## **ABOUT THE GLBT HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

The GLBT Historical Society is a public history center and archives that collects, preserves, exhibits and makes accessible to the public materials and knowledge to support and promote understanding of LGBTQ history, culture and arts in all their diversity. Founded in 1985, the society is recognized internationally as a leader in the field of queer public history and maintains one of the world's largest archival collections of LGBTQ historical materials. Our operations are centered at two sites: the GLBT Historical Society Museum, located in the heart of San Francisco's Castro neighborhood; and the Dr. John P. De Cecco Archives and Research Center, open to researchers in the Mid-Market district. For more information, visit [www.glbthistory.org](http://www.glbthistory.org).

## **GRAPHICS**

The following images may be reproduced only in association with coverage of the GLBT Historical Society program series. Credits noted in captions are mandatory.

**Queer Culture Club 10/14**

**QUEER**  
Culture Club

**FEATURING:**  
**CHARLEY BEAL**

**Thursday, October 14**  
**7:00 p.m. PT**

In conversation with  
Terry Beswick

A circular photograph of Charley Beal, a man with white hair and glasses, wearing a dark suit, light blue shirt, and patterned tie, smiling. The background of the poster is light purple with large, faint, stylized letters 'R' and 'E'.

Photo of Charles Beal, courtesy of same.

**Gala 10/21**

REUNION

“Reunion” Gala logo.

**Author Talk 10/22**

**AUTHOR TALK**  
WITH CHLOE O. DAVIS

GLBT Historical Society  
museum & archives

*The Power of Language:  
Unpacking the Diversity and  
Intersectionality in LGBTQ  
Culture*

**Friday, October 22  
6:00 p.m. PT**

*The Queen's  
ENGLISH*  
CHLOE O. DAVIS  
THE LGBTQIA+ DICTIONARY  
OF LINGO AND COLLOQUIAL PHRASES

Headshot of Chloe O. Davis by James M. Avance.

**Panel Discussion 10/29**

Friday, October 29  
5:00 pm PDT

**Who Was  
Sally Gearhart?**  
REMEMBERING A LESBIAN LEGEND

Sally Gearhart speaking at a No on 6 demonstration, 1978; photo by Steve Savage, used with permission. Photo of Deborah Craig, courtesy of same. Photo of Dorothy Haecker, courtesy of same. Photo of Ondine Rarey by Maya Adrabi. Photo of Ruth Mahaney, courtesy of same.

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