



"... the community in Rochester is far and away at the forefront of preservation of LGBTQ culture."

– Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., Archivist,
National Museum of American
History, Smithsonian (inaugural
Anthony Mascioli Rainbow Dialogues
Keynote Speaker for Central Library)

A note on terminology:

following the lead of the Human Rights Campaign (the nation's largest LGBTQ+ civil rights organization), FFRPL is using the acronym **LGBTQ+** to represent the myriad of identities across the queer spectrum.

June 2024



roccitylibrary.org



ffrpl.org

A Legacy of Pride

The Evelyn Bailey *Shoulders to Stand On* Endowed Fund

created to provide staff and resources
to preserve and promote the history of
Rochester's LGBTQ+ community.

Friends & Foundation *of the*
Rochester Public Library

The Evelyn Bailey Shoulders to Stand On (STSO) Endowed Fund at the Friends & Foundation of the Rochester Public Library (FFRPL) was established in 2021 to provide staff and resources to preserve and promote the history of Rochester's LGBTQ+ community.



Evelyn Bailey, 2014 Pride Parade Grand Marshal
photo credit: Annette Dragon photography
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*"The Endowed Fund will allow the Local History & Genealogy Division to hire an **LGBTQ+ Outreach Archivist** to care for the collections I placed there, **expand the archive** to include the people, organizations, and stories that I have not been able to chronicle, and **share LGBTQ+ history through public programs.**"*

– Longtime LGBTQ+ activist, educator and historian

Evelyn V. Bailey

(October 27, 1946 – July 13, 2022)

Rochester Public Library

The Local History & Genealogy Division of RPL's Central Library preserves and provides access to inclusive resources and information about the diverse history of Greater Rochester and its residents.

The **division holds one of the largest archives of LGBTQ+ history in New York State**, comprised of more than 45 individual collections. Most of the materials were transferred to the library by Evelyn Bailey.

The collections include materials related to events such as the 1993 March on Washington and Rochester's annual Pride Parade and Festival; legal issues such as same-sex adoption and Marriage Equality; newsletters and journals from the transgender community; and papers from 1954 – 2014 from the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley (subsequently named the Out Alliance; currently the Rochester Rainbow Union).

Programs/Exhibits

Since 2018 the library has worked with community partners to present the annual Anthony Mascioli Rainbow Dialogues, a *Shoulders to Stand On* program sponsored by FFRPL. The program contextualizes LGBTQ+ life in Rochester against the backdrop of social justice issues.

In 2019, the library partnered with diverse stakeholders in the LGBTQ+ community to create *Stonewall: 50 Years Out*, a large-scale exhibition on the history of LGBTQ+ life and activism. The exhibit was sponsored by FFRPL.

Request access to Central Library's LGBTQ+ collections (or donate materials)

Central Library's Local History
Reference Desk
585.428.8370
lochist@libraryweb.org

Donate to the STSO Endowed Fund
ffrpl.org/evelyn-bailey

Or contact Donna Borgus
FFRPL Executive Director
585.428.8321
dborgus@ffrpl.org