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First GLBT History Museum in the United States Draws Media Attention in 75 Countries, 36 Languages

SAN FRANCISCO—San Francisco’s GLBT History Museum, which opened in mid-January in the city’s Castro District, has drawn extraordinary media attention from across the United States and around the world, according to a report released by the museum a month after its debut. Tens of thousands of newspapers, magazines, television and radio broadcasters, blogs and other outlets in 75 countries and 36 languages covered the launch of the institution, which is the first museum in the United States devoted to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender history.

“We never could have anticipated the enormous interest created by the historic opening of The GLBT History Museum,” said Amy Sueyoshi, a curator of “Our Vast Queer Past: Celebrating San Francisco’s GLBT History,” the debut exhibition in the museum’s main gallery. “The amazing national and international media coverage speaks to how queer lives are increasingly recognized as integral to both American history and world history. It gives me hope that soon our lives will not be as stigmatized as they are now in the U.S. as well as abroad.”

Sueyoshi added that “The GLBT History Museum creates an exciting opportunity for visitors to the Castro District in San Francisco to learn about our history right where so much of it has been made. We also plan to develop online versions of our exhibitions in a number of languages to share the stories of LGBT struggles and successes with people from around the world who are not able to come to the museum.” An associate professor at San Francisco State University, Sueyoshi also serves as cochair of the board of the GLBT Historical Society, the 25-year-old archives and research center in San Francisco that created the new museum.

The report from the museum documents media coverage in countries ranging from Angola to Vietnam. U.S. media that ran stories include the Huffington Post, the *Washington Post*, CNN en Español, MSNBC and CBS radio. Outside the United States, coverage included national television in Italy and Spain; radio in Belgium, Columbia and Venezuela; and newspapers and magazines such as *Emarat al Youm* (United Arab Emirates), *La Reforma* (Mexico), *Tempo Interaktif* (Indonesia), the *South China Morning Post*, *The Times of India* and *Večernji List* (Croatia). Links to stories on the museum along with the full media report are available at www.glbthistory.org/museum (click on “Museum Opening: Media Coverage”).

Located at 4127 18th St. in San Francisco, The GLBT History Museum is open Wednesday through Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Sunday, noon to 5:00 p.m. Admission is \$5.00; free for members and free to all visitors the first Wednesday of each month. For more information, visit www.glbthistory.org or call 415-621-1107.

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GLBT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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