

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 21, 2011

GLBT Historical Society Announces Museum Programs on Fat Activism, Electoral Politics

San Francisco — The GLBT Historical Society has announced the latest programs in its 2011 summer series, along with a special mini-exhibit marking the 40th anniversary of the first LGBT political club in the United States. Taking place in late July and August 2011, the events will feature authors, performers and community organizers offering first-hand insights on gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender history. All the programs will be presented in the main gallery at the society's new GLBT History Museum at 4127 18th St. in San Francisco's Castro District. For more information, visit www.glbthistory.org or call (415) 621-1107.

JULY 24

Queer. Fat. Political. A dynamic presentation of live theater, spoken word and informal discussion to commemorate the life and work of fat activist Judy Freespirit, whose personal papers are preserved at the GLBT Historical Society. FAT LIP Readers Theater, Jezebel Delilah X and others will perform, and an open dialogue among generations of fat queer activists and their friends will follow. The event is set for Sunday, July 24, 5:00–7:00 p.m.

AUGUST 1

Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club: 40th-Anniversary Exhibit. During the month of August, the GLBT History Museum will feature a special mini-exhibit on the history of the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club, founded in San Francisco in 1971 as the first registered LGBT political club in the United States. A special opening reception on Aug. 1 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. will feature longtime Alice member and former GLBT Historical Society intern Nathan Purkiss presenting a retrospective of the club's 40-year history. The event is set for Monday, August 1, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

AUGUST 8

Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club: Stories From Four Decades. A living-history panel recounts four decades of organizing and advocacy by the Alice B. Toklas LGBT Democratic Club. Hear inside stories of the struggles, the controversies, the breakthroughs, the behind-the-scenes work and the high-visibility ballot-box victories that have helped make San Francisco an internationally recognized pioneer in LGBT electoral politics. The event is set for Monday, August 8, 6:30–8:30 p.m.

Featured speakers: Phyllis Lyon (cofounder of the first lesbian organization in the United States and friend of Alice founder Jim Foster); Gary Miller (founding member of Alice and president of the club in 1975); Connie O'Connor (Alice president, 1980–1982); Pam David (Alice leader and first lesbian appointed to the Mayor's Office of Community Development by Art Agnos in 1990); Theresa Sparks (first transgender cochair of Alice, 2001–2003).

GLBT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Museum • Archives • Research Center

Museum: 4127 18th St. • San Francisco, CA 94114 • USA • (415) 621-1107

Archives & Research Center: 657 Mission St., Suite 300 • San Francisco, CA 94105 • USA • (415) 777-5455

info@glbthistory.org • www.glbthistory.org

ABOUT THE GLBT HISTORY MUSEUM. Often referred to as San Francisco's "queer Smithsonian," the GLBT Historical Society houses one of the world's largest collections of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender historical materials. The society's GLBT History Museum in San Francisco's Castro District opened in January 2011 as the first full-scale, stand-alone museum of its kind in the United States. The museum currently features two major exhibitions: "Our Vast Queer Past: Celebrating San Francisco's GLBT History" and "Great Collections of the GLBT Historical Society Archives."

-- 30 --

EDITOR'S NOTE. GLBT Historical Society executive director and the curators of the museum are available for interview. In addition, guided tours of the museum for members of the media area available via appointment. To arrange an interview or a tour, contact Gerard Koskovich, museum communications consultant, at *gkoskovich@gmail.com*.