# **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



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# **MEDIA CONTACT**

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# January LGBTQ History Programs Highlight Queer Symbols, LGBTQ Archives and History in the Czech Republic, Two-Spirit Documentary

**San Francisco** — The program series for January 2020 sponsored by the GLBT Historical Society will highlight the history of LGBTQ symbols, queer archives and cultural history in the Czech Republic and the growth of the Annual Two-Spirit Powwow organized by Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits since 2012. All events take place at the GLBT Historical Society Museum at 4127 18th St. in the Castro District. For more information, visit www.glbthistory.org.

# Workshop

Beyond the Rainbow: Queer Symbology Before and After Gilbert Baker

Thursday, January 2

7:00-9:00 p.m.

The GLBT Historical Society Museum

4127 18th St., San Francisco

Admission: \$5 | Free for members

This presentation and workshop explores the symbols that have represented that LGBTQ community before and after Gilbert Baker's iconic, globally adopted rainbow flag. Participants will learn about the history and evolution of queer symbols, including the flags that have been inspired by and developed since the rainbow flag debuted in 1978. In addition, participants will have an opportunity to invent and design their own flags and symbols using paper, textiles and other materials. This program is being held in conjunction with the exhibition "Performance, Protest and Politics: The Art of Gilbert Baker," currently on display at the GLBT Hisorical Society Museum. Tickets are available online at https://bit.ly/2gw6ZYI.

#### **Illustrated Talk**

Bohemian Rhapsody? Writing and Collecting Queer Cultural History in the Czech Republic

Thursday, January 23 7:00–9:00 p.m.

The GLBT Historical Society Museum

4127 18th St., San Francisco Admission: \$5; free for members

In autumn 2019, the Czech Republic celebrated the 30th anniversary of the 1989 Velvet Revolution, which ended four decades of communist rule in the former Czechoslovakia. New freedoms have made it easier for LGBTQ people to live their lives more openly in this Central European country, yet they still face significant challenges. Established in 2014, the Society for Queer Memory is the first Czech queer archives and museum. It now holds more than 1,000 objects. Art historian Ladislav Zikmund-Lender will discuss the work of the organization, providing insight into how the history of queer lives and experiences is being documented and presented in the Czech Republic. His talk will compare and contrast the ways that the path to queer emancipation in Central Europe has been distinct from the United States. Zikmund-Lender is a professor in the Department of Theories and Histories of Art at the Faculty of Fine Arts at the Brno University of Technology in Brno, Czech Republic. Tickets are available online at https://bit.ly/37sV7az.

# Film Screening

**Two-Spirit Powwow: A BAAITS Documentary** 

Thursday, January 30 7:00–9:00 p.m.

The GLBT Historical Society Museum

4127 18th St., San Francisco Admission: \$5; free for members

Filmmaker Rick Bacigalui and BAAITS board member Miko Thomas (aka Landa Lakes) will present "Two-Spirit Powwow" (2019), a new documentary that follows the evolution of the annual powwow from its modest inaugural event seven years ago to the huge powwows of recent years held at the Cow Palace and Fort Mason Center in San Francisco. Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits, the sponsor of the powwow, is an organization committed to activism and service for Two-Spirit people and their allies in the San Francisco Bay Area. Attending the powwow is a pioneering act of resistance for the many LGBTQ Native American and Two-Spirit people who still face prejudice and stigma in their communities. The film documents how the powwow's organizers adapt and transform conservative powwow protocol to celebrate queer-positive identities. "Two-Spirit Powwow" was produced in association with the GLBT Historical Society. Tickets are available online at https://bit.ly/2XxkqE1.

### ABOUT THE GLBT HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

Open since January 2011, the GLBT Historical Society Museum is the first stand-alone museum of its kind in the United States. Its Main Gallery features a long-term exhibition on San Francisco LGBTQ history, "Queer Past Becomes Present." Its Front Gallery and Community Gallery host changing exhibitions. The institution also sponsors forums, author talks and other programs.

The GLBT Historical Society Museum is a project of the GLBT Historical Society, a public history center and archives that collects, preserves and interprets the history of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people and the communities that support them. Founded in 1985, the society maintains one of the world's largest collections of LGBTQ historical materials. For more

information, visit www.glbthistory.org.

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**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.

January 2: Workshop



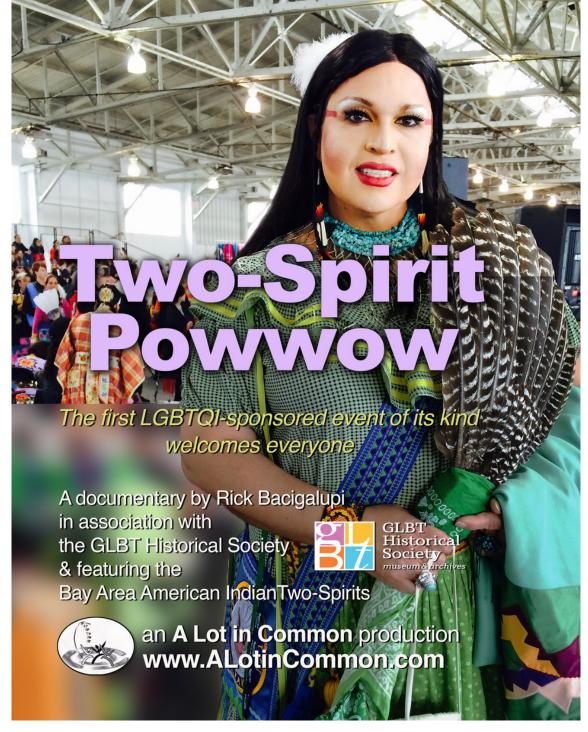
A rainbow flag sewn by Gilbert Baker; photo courtesy of the Gilbert Baker Estate.

January 23: Illustrated Talk



Advertisement for Casino Restaurant in Prague, an LGBTQ gathering place in the 1930s.

# January 30: Film Screening



Bay Area American Indian Two Spirits board member Miko Thomas (aka Landa Lakes) at the Eigth Annual Two-Spirit Powwow at Fort Mason Center in San Francisco in 2019; photo by Rick Bacigalupi.

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