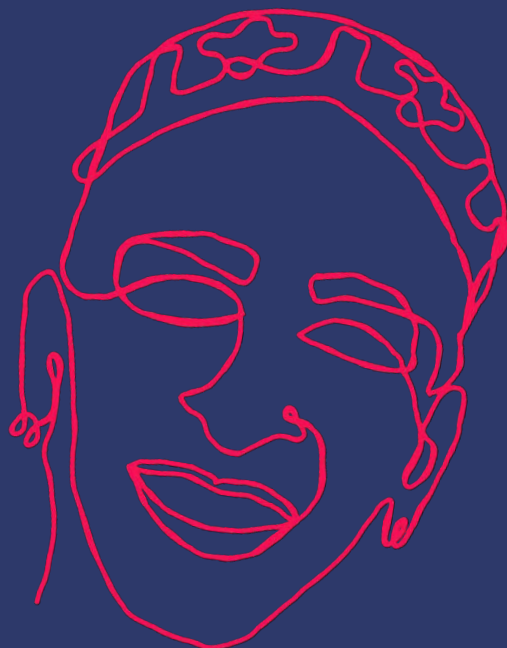


The ArQuives National Portrait Collection

A Mini Exhibit Exploring
Significant Contributors to
Canadian LGBTQ2+ Communities



Acknowledgements

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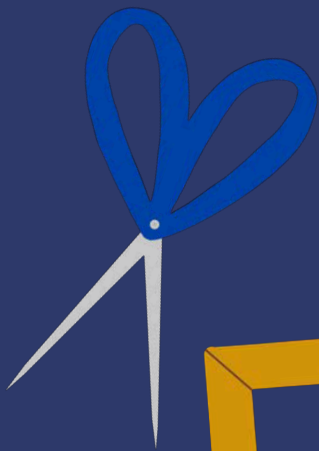
Please Cite This Resource As: Gauthier, N. (2025). Student & Youth LGBTQ2+ Activism. The ArQuives.

About The ArQuives: The ArQuives is one of the largest independent LGBTQ2+ archives in the world and the only LGBTQ2+ archive in Canada with a national scope. Its mandate is to acquire, preserve, organize, and give public access to information and materials in any medium, by and about LGBTQ2+ people, primarily produced in or concerning Canada and to maintain a research library, international research files, and an international collection of queer and trans periodicals. You can read more about The ArQuives at www.arquives.ca

A Note About Language: We use the initialism 2SLGBTQIA+ in this document. In other materials, The ArQuives uses the initialism LGBTQ2+. Within this educational resource, we are making an intentional choice to situate 2S (Two-Spirit/two-spirit), Indigiqueer, and other Indigenous LGBTQIA+ people first because we think it's necessary to emphasize the role colonization has played in reproducing cis-heteronormativity. Our initialism within this resource also includes 'A' and 'I' ('asexual' and 'intersex') because we want to highlight these identities for people who are new to learning about queer and trans communities. These (and other) identities are sometimes encompassed in the '+' (plus sign) of the LGBTQ2+ initialism. Ultimately, there is no singular "correct" initialism for queer and trans communities.

To give feedback on this resource please visit www.arquives.ca/about/feedback

Mini- Exhibition Guide



Introduction

In 2022, The ArQuives developed three documents for educators interested in teaching 2SLGBTQIA+ curricula and supporting the implementation of 2SLGBTQIA+ policies in Canadian secondary schools. Building on that work, The ArQuives has developed three downloadable packages with reproductions of items from The ArQuives' collections that can be used in classroom mini-exhibitions.

When the twenty-five initial portraits that would come to form The ArQuives' National Portrait Collection (NPC) were exhibited at The 519 Community Centre in 1998, colour copies were displayed alongside the originals. These copies were to be used for travelling shows, allowing 2SLGBTQIA+ organizations across Canada to organize exhibitions and "[demonstrate] the role that the archives can play in bringing our histories alive in a way that is accessible to all."

In the same way, these downloadable mini-exhibitions provide new possibilities for making 2SLGBTQIA+ histories (and archival records themselves) accessible. In addition to educators, they can be used by gender and sexuality alliances (GSAs) and other student or community groups.

To set up an archival exhibition in your classroom, use this guide with any of the three downloadable mini-exhibition packages.



About the Mini-Exhibitions

The items for the three downloadable mini-exhibitions have been digitized from The ArQuives' collections. There are common themes across all three exhibitions, but each focuses on a particular material type or a particular topic:

The National Portrait Collection (NPC) exhibition includes forty of the 79 portraits in the collection, and are selected for the individuals' contributions to LGBTQ2+ communities in the areas of activism, education, health, and the arts.

The Buttons Exhibition includes thirty buttons, produced by various individuals and organizations for various purposes, but all with a common focus on LGBTQ2+ community support.

The Student/Youth Activism exhibition combines different media types (photographs, posters, documents, and buttons) to demonstrate the work of people aged 29 or younger in LGBTQ2+ activist movements from the seventies to the present.

The National Portrait Collection (NPC) and Student/Youth Activism mini-exhibition packages include 40 items organized around 4 topics and the Buttons mini-exhibition package includes 30 items focused on 3 topics. Each package also includes informational panels (one for each topic and an introduction) and item labels.

The mini-exhibitions can be adapted to suit students' interests, space available, and budget. You can use all the items in a package, all items on a select topic, or mix and match packages. If mixing and matching, make sure to also include any informational panels or item labels needed.

Learning Objectives

- Practice working with primary sources
- Learn some basic principles of archiving
- Collaboratively organize a classroom mini-exhibition

Materials required

From this guide:

- Readings and discussion questions (recommended)
- Materials for additional suggested activities (optional)

From the downloadable mini-exhibition packages:

- Item images
- Corresponding labels
- Informational panels
- Flyer and exhibition guide templates (optional)

Additional supplies:

- A printer
- Scissors
- Painters tape, adhesive putty, or peel-and-stick adhesive strips
- Glue and coloured paper, card, or foamboard to mount items (optional)
- Lamination sheets (optional)
- Frames (optional)
- Poster boards or tri-fold display boards (optional)
- A copy (print or digital) of 2SLGBTQIA+ Stories: An Adaptable Mini-Unit Plan for English or History Classrooms, available to download from The ArQuives' website (recommended)

Discussion Questions

These questions can be used to initiate a class discussion about The ArQuives' downloadable mini-exhibitions. Modify them based on your needs, or come up with your own. Use the included supplementary readings to support your discussion, as needed.

1. What do you already know about archives? What kinds of records do they hold? Who uses them, and for what purpose? What do archives have in common with libraries and museums? What makes them different?
2. Who decides which records an archive will include in its collections? Or who determines how these records are written about for the people reading them?
3. What problems might result when records creators (i.e., the people who initially made/used these records) are not involved in the archival process? How might community archives address some of these issues?
4. What can be learned through archival records? What challenges or limitations might learning through archival records present? How do you think exhibitions could support this learning?

About The ArQuives

The ArQuives is one of the largest independent LGBTQ2+ archives in the world and the only archive in Canada with a mandate to collect at a national level. Founded out of The Body Politic newspaper collection in 1973, its mandate is to safeguard the LGBTQ2+ history of Canada. The archives formally incorporated in 1980 and following a legal challenge was granted charitable status in 1981. Today, The ArQuives preserves a wide range of material including personal and organizational papers, books, monographs, photographs, moving images, sound recordings, periodicals, artifacts (like buttons, board games, t-shirts, and banners), and other reference material.

Archives are repositories for documentary heritage that work to acquire, preserve, organize, and give public access to information and materials in any medium. Archives are a resource for everyone to use, and a community archives like The ArQuives accepts donations from community members or any record about LGBTQ2+ life in Canada.

The main difference between a library and an archive is that a library contains published works that the public can access and often take home. An archive is non-circulating and can contain published and unpublished works. An archive contains the 'behind-the-scenes' records of an organization or person's work, such as correspondence, notes, receipts, drafts, etc.

An archival collection is referred to as a fonds. A fonds consists of a group of records created, used or collected by a single individual, group, or corporate body through the course of their activities and functions. Archival fonds are oftentimes unique, complex, and tricky to navigate. Through the process of appraisal, arrangement, and description, archivists transform an accumulation of records into a fonds that is accessible to researchers.

Organizing Your Exhibition

You can work on the exhibition collectively, or form groups to focus on specific tasks—for example:

- Curators select items and determine how they will be displayed
- Technicians to print, cut out, and mount/laminate/frame (as applicable) informational panels, item images, and item labels
- Educators to guide tours or give presentations on the exhibition

Select the items you'd like to use—a minimum of 4 items (3 for the Buttons exhibition) is recommended

When deciding on items to use, consider where and how you're planning to display them:

- How much usable wall space do you have? How will people interact with the exhibition?
- How long will the exhibition stay up? Are you going to reuse or lend out the items after the initial exhibition?
- How do you want to install the items? Will you mount them, laminate them, or frame them?
- Who will be the primary audience for your exhibition? Your class? Others at your school? People from your community?
- What topics are you and your class interested in? What story do you want to tell through your exhibition?

Print the package (or individual pages) on regular letter-size (8.5" x 11") paper or cardstock

- The downloadable mini-exhibitions are made to work with any standard home/office printer; if you don't have access to a (colour) printer, expect to pay between \$0.50 and \$1.00 per page at a library or print shop
- You can use the "scale" and "pages per sheet" functions in your PDF reader's print menu to adjust the size down if needed

You can also use the “poster” or “tile” function to print images in large format, though the resolution will be lower and there may be visible pixels—this isn’t recommended for text items

Cut out the item images (as needed), item labels, and informational panels

Mount items onto card or foamboard or, if you have additional funds, laminate or frame them

Plan your exhibition’s layout before hanging any items—you might draw a diagram or place items on the floor in front of the wall to get an idea of how you’ll arrange them

- The distance between items is up to you, but make sure they won’t be too high or too low on the walls

Attach items to the wall using painters tape, adhesive putty, or peel-and-stick adhesive strips

- For a portable exhibition, use poster boards or tri-fold display boards

Get ready for your exhibition opening—use the supplied flyer and exhibition guide templates, or make your own

- You can also prepare a tour, presentation, discussion, or other interactive activity to complement your exhibition

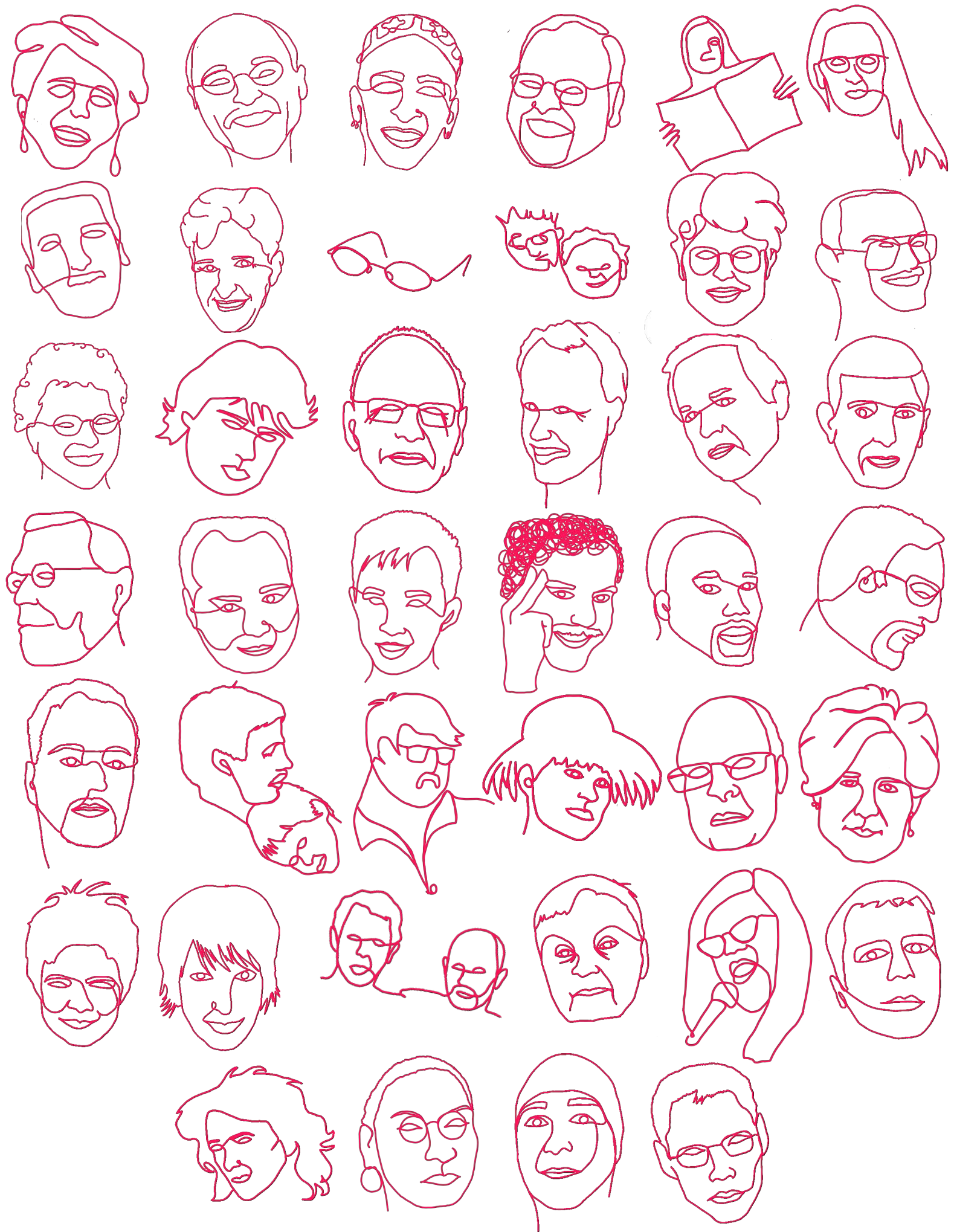
Each downloadable mini-exhibition package includes ideas for lesson plans and activities. For additional resources, refer to 2SLGBTQIA+ Stories: An Adaptable Mini-Unit Plan for English or History Classrooms.

Mini- Exhibition Content



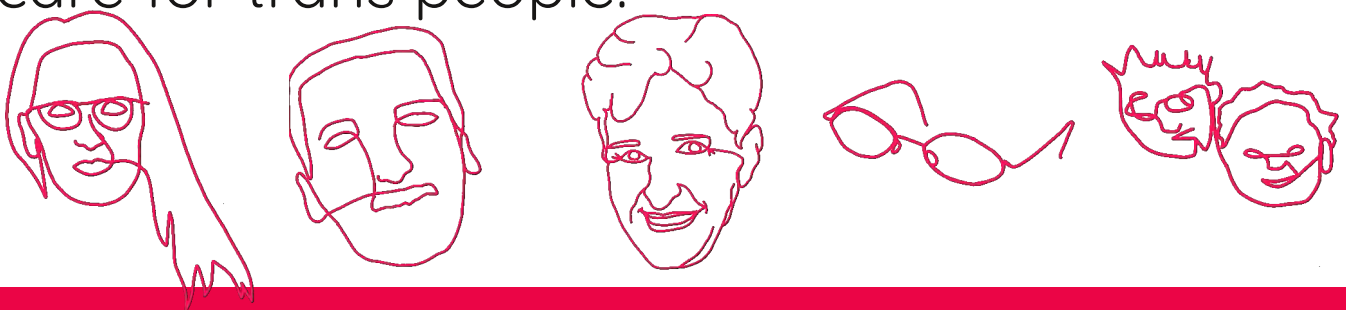
About the National Portrait Collection

On 26 June 1998, “25 Lives: Out and Proud” opened at the 519 Church Street Community Centre with twenty-five portraits of people who had made significant contributions to LGBTQ2+ communities in Canada to celebrate The ArQuives’ twenty-fifth anniversary. After their initial exhibition, these portraits were transferred to the archives’ holdings, forming The ArQuives’ National Portrait Collection (NPC). The collection has since increased to 79 portraits, with new inductees continuing to be added semi-regularly. This mini-exhibition includes a selection of portraits from the NPC, including individuals who have contributed to activism, politics, education, youth services, healthcare, disability justice, arts, and media.





This section focuses on community organizers, from the homophile and gay liberation movements of the late sixties to early eighties to the contemporary LGBTQ2+ rights movements of the nineties to today. Many community organizers were also involved with or informed by other social and political causes, including anti-racism, feminism, and labour rights. As part of these movements, the individuals included here fought for the decriminalization and depathologization of queerness, for legal protections against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity/ expression, for access to treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS, and gender-affirming care for trans people.





**Amy
Gottlieb**

1953 - 2023
Toronto, ON

Amy Gottlieb • 1953-2023 • Toronto, ON

Activist, artist, and educator Amy Gottlieb met her first lesbian partner in 1973. Already active in Marxist and Black liberation movements, she soon became involved in gay liberation, working with organizations including the Lesbian Organization of Toronto, Gays and Lesbians Against the Right Everywhere, Lesbians Against the Right, Lesbians Making History, and the Jewish Women's Committee to End the Occupation of the West Bank and Gaza.

Denis LeBlanc • 1951-2019 • Moncton, NB

Denis LeBlanc was a gay liberation activist, writer, and editor from Moncton, New Brunswick. In 1972, around a year after coming out, Denis moved to Ottawa, where he became a member of Gays of Ottawa (GO). As the chair of GO's Political Action Committee, Denis organized demonstrations, presented briefs to Parliament, and co-wrote a book about gay people and the legal system. He also wrote for and edited GO's newsletter, GO Info.



**Denis
LeBlanc**


1951 - 2019
Moncton, NB



**El-Farouk
Khaki**

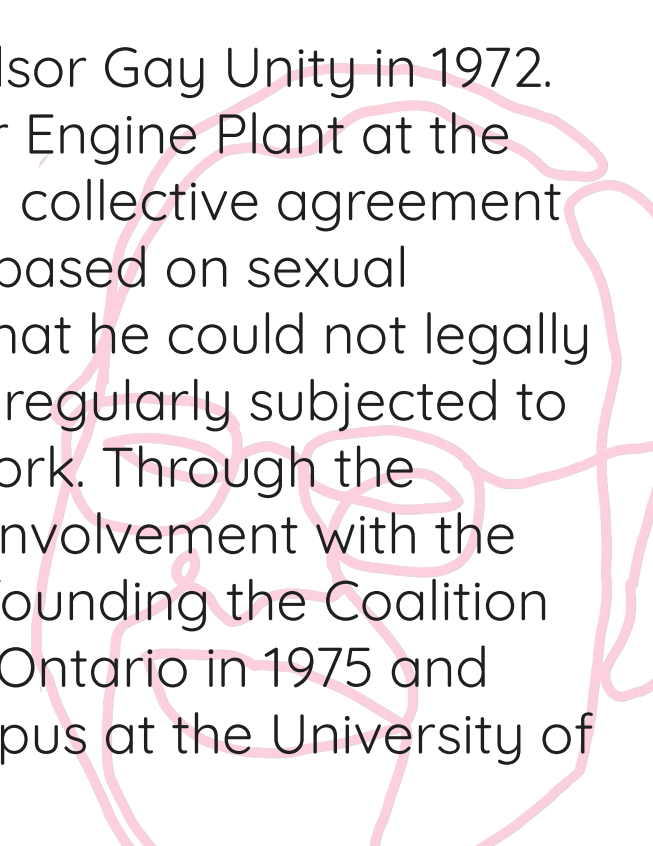
1963
Toronto, ON

El-Farouk Khaki • 1963 • Toronto, ON



Imam El-Farouk Khaki was a law student at the University of British Columbia when he came out as gay in the mid-eighties. In 1991, after moving to Toronto, he founded Salaam, a queer and trans Muslim social/support group. El-Farouk opened his legal practice two years later, representing immigrants and refugees facing persecution for their sexual orientation, gender identity, or HIV status. In 2009, he co-founded el-Tawhid Juma Circle/Toronto Unity Mosque with his partner, Troy Jackson, and Dr. Laury Silvers.

Harold Desmarais • 1944 • Toronto, ON



Harold Desmarais joined Windsor Gay Unity in 1972. An inspector at Ford's Windsor Engine Plant at the time, Harold was covered by a collective agreement that prohibited discrimination based on sexual orientation. While this meant that he could not legally be fired for being gay, he was regularly subjected to homophobic harassment at work. Through the harassment, he continued his involvement with the gay liberation movement, co-founding the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights in Ontario in 1975 and starting Gay Students on Campus at the University of Windsor in 1978.



**Harold
Desmarais**

1944
Toronto, ON

Janine Fuller • 1958 • Vancouver, BC

In 1990, Janine Fuller got a job at Little Sister's Book & Art Emporium in Vancouver; that same year, the bookstore filed a claim against the federal government on the basis that Customs was systemically preventing them from importing books by labelling them "obscene." By 1994, Janine was a committed anti-censorship activist. Then, as the manager of Little Sisters, she regularly attended court proceedings and provided testimony. In 1995, she co-authored *Restricted Entry: Censorship on Trial* and wrote the introduction to *Forbidden Passages: Writings Banned in Canada*.

James (Jim) Egan • 1921 -2000 • Toronto, ON

In 1947, James (Jim) Egan met John (Jack) Nesbit, and they remained together until Jim died in 2000. In 1949, Jim started writing letters to local newspapers refuting false and sensationalized reporting on gay issues, a practice he would continue through the fifties and sixties. Later in their lives, Jim and Jack became involved in a landmark Supreme Court discrimination case after Jack was denied the Old Age Security spousal allowance benefit on the basis that he was not Jim's spouse.



James
(Jim) **Egan**

1921 - 2000
Toronto, ON



**Marie
Robertson** 1952
Hamilton, ON

Marie Robertson • 1952 • Hamilton, ON

Wanting a place where Hamilton's queer community could find support, in 1973, Marie Robertson and five others co-founded the McMaster Homophile Association. In 1974, Marie tried to file a complaint with the Ontario Human Rights Commission after a landlord discriminated against her and her friends for being lesbians, but because sexual orientation was not then a protected grounds, it was dismissed. This incident was, in part, what led her to become involved with the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights in Ontario.

Mary-Woo Sims • 1956 • Vancouver, BC

Mary-Woo Sims is a community activist who has been a government commissioner, consultant, and policymaker. After around ten years as a labour organizer with the BC Federation of Labour's Women's Rights Committee and the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, Mary-Woo took a position with the Canadian Human Rights Commission. From there, she was appointed to a number of other human rights commissions, with a focus on issues around race, class, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression.

recognition of same sex relationships is cognition of 'equal families'. But a gay lesbian couple and their offspring aren't legally recognized as a family like a common law family."

Families are fluid. The traditional nuclear family is changing and evolving all the time, she says.

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activist. "It

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in Vancouver

her family from

her mother is Chinese, her father,

Australian —she founded a rape crisis cen-

ter: "and I've always been active, dealing

with issues of racism, anti-semitism, ethno-

centrism and other 'isms'," she says. "I've

always been a believer in human rights



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"We will win the civil

rights because we are

human." Mary Woo Sims

at 14 with

Hong Kong —

her mother is Chinese, her father,

Australian —she founded a rape crisis cen-

ter: "and I've always been active, dealing

with issues of racism, anti-semitism, ethno-

**Mary-Woo
Sims**

1956

Vancouver, BC



**Pat
Murphy**

1941 – 2003
Toronto, ON

Pat Murphy • 1941 - 2003 • Toronto, ON

In January 1974, Pat Murphy, Adrienne Rosen, Sue Wells, and Lamar Van Dyke performed “I Enjoy Being a Dyke” at the Brunswick Tavern in Toronto. After refusing the bar owner’s request that they leave, Pat, Adrienne, Sue, and Lamar were arrested. Three of the four were charged; Pat and Lamar were acquitted, but Adrienne was given three months’ probation. Although the “Brunswick Four,” as they would be called, were subjected to verbal and physical assault by the police, none of the eight officers involved were convicted.

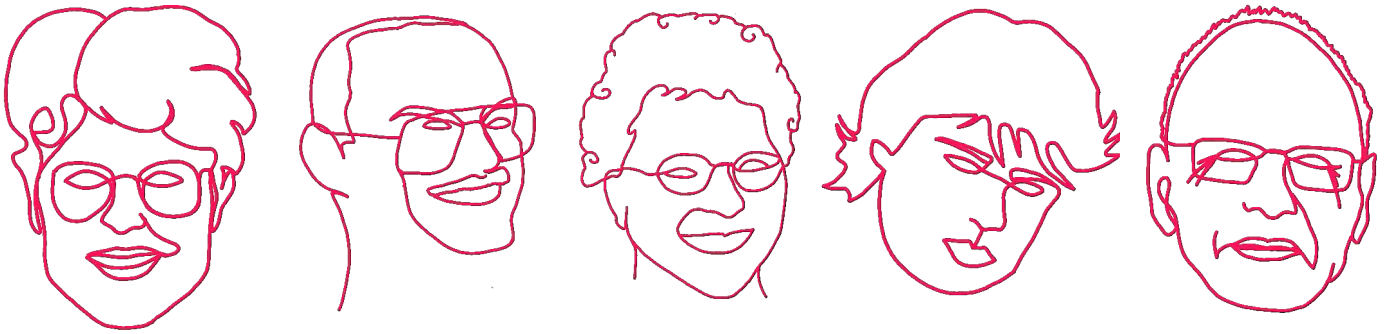
Susan Ursel • 1958 • Toronto, ON

In the nineties, labour and human rights lawyer Susan Ursel worked with the Campaign for Equal Families to support marriage equality legislation and was a co-counsel in the Supreme Court case of *Egan v Canada*. Other cases she has worked on include *Hogan v Ontario* (2006), on the right to public health insurance coverage for gender-confirming surgery, and *XY v Ontario* (2012), on the right for people to change the gender marker on their identification without having had so-called “transsexual surgery.”

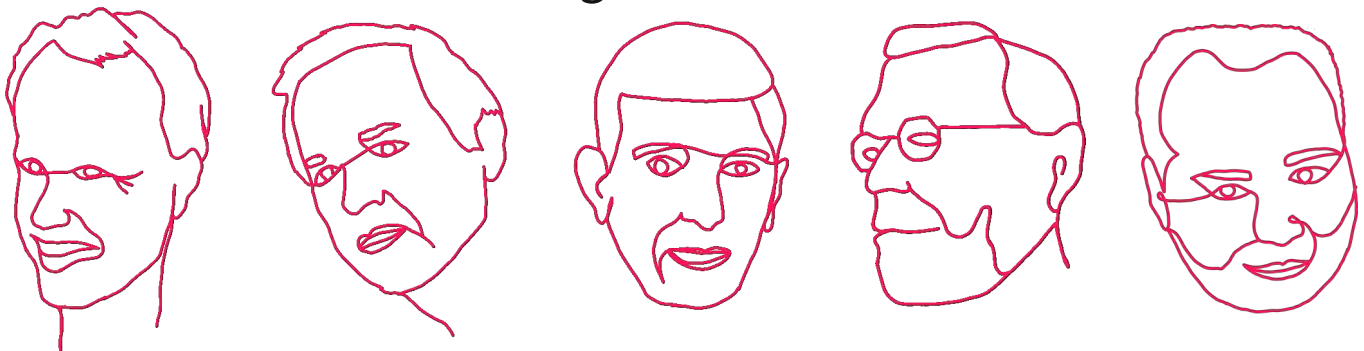


**Susan
Ursel**

1958
Toronto, ON



This section includes elementary and secondary school teachers, professors, social workers, and counsellors who have centred LGBTQ2+ activism in their work. Some have worked to implement anti-homophobia programming, develop policies to support LGBTQ2+ students, and promote the inclusion of LGBTQ2+ content in curricula; others have focused on providing LGBTQ2+ youth with spaces and support outside the school setting. In many cases, these educators have also had to advocate for themselves against opposition from administration, other faculty, and their community.





**Anne
Bishop**

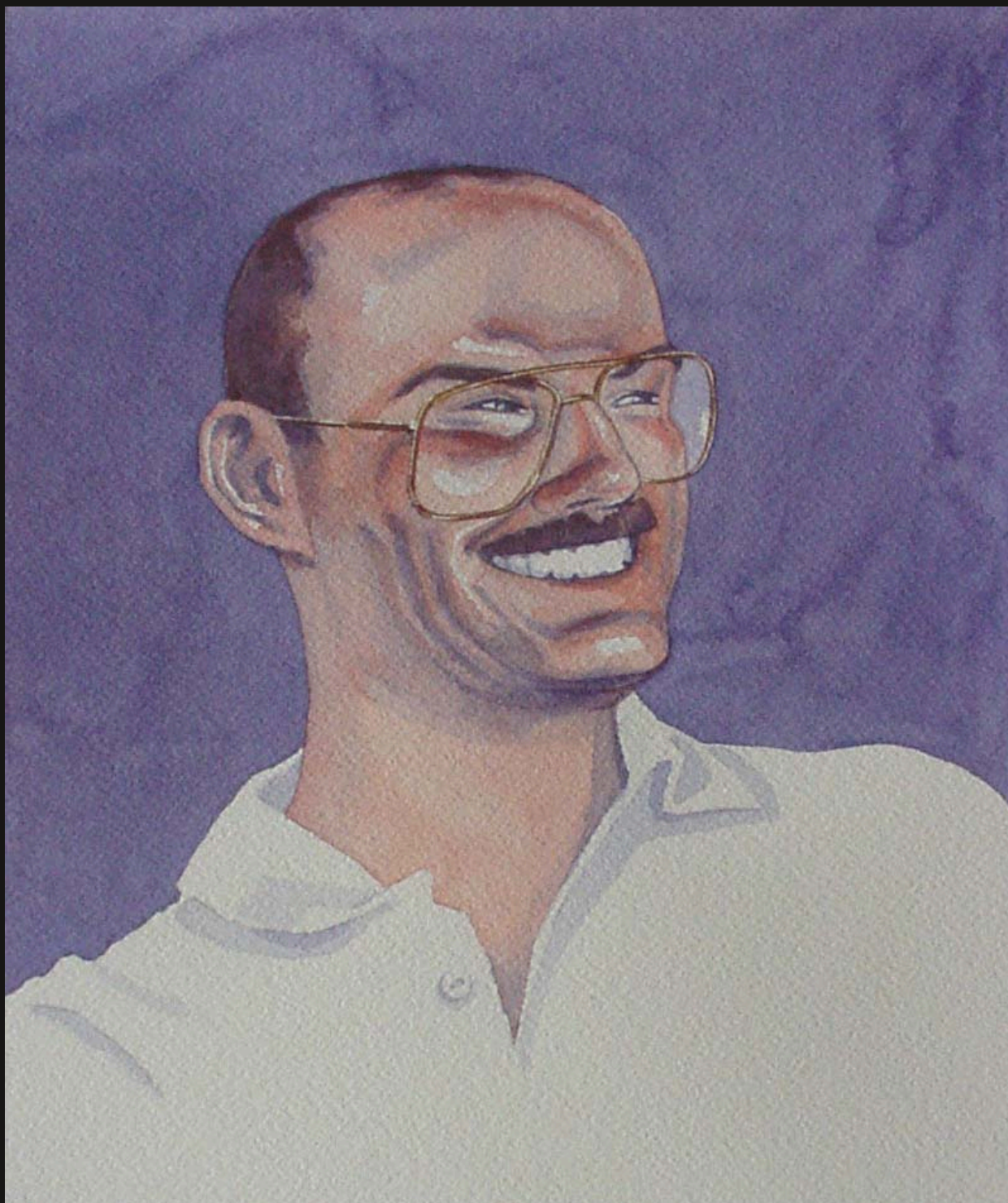
1950
Halifax, NS

Anne Bishop • 1950 • Halifax, NS

Anne Bishop became involved with Lesbian and Gay Rights Nova Scotia (LGRNS) in 1987, around the same time she took a job as an adult educator with Henson College at Dalhousie University. At Dalhousie, she campaigned for spousal rights for partners of LGBTQ2+ employees. As part of LGRNS, she also successfully campaigned for the inclusion of sexual orientation as prohibited grounds of discrimination in the Nova Scotia Human Rights Act in 1992, making it the first provincial jurisdiction to do so.

Bernard Courte • 1949-1991 • Montréal, QC

Born in Weir, Québec, Bernard Courte moved to Montréal at 17 and soon became involved in the city's gay bar scene. After Truxx was raided by police in 1977, Bernard joined l'Association pour les droits des gai(e)s du Québec. He moved to Toronto in 1986, working at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education and formed a Francophone section of AIDS Action Now! Bernard died as a result of complications from AIDS on October 19, 1991, at age 42.



**Bernard
Courte**

1949 - 1991
Montréal, QC



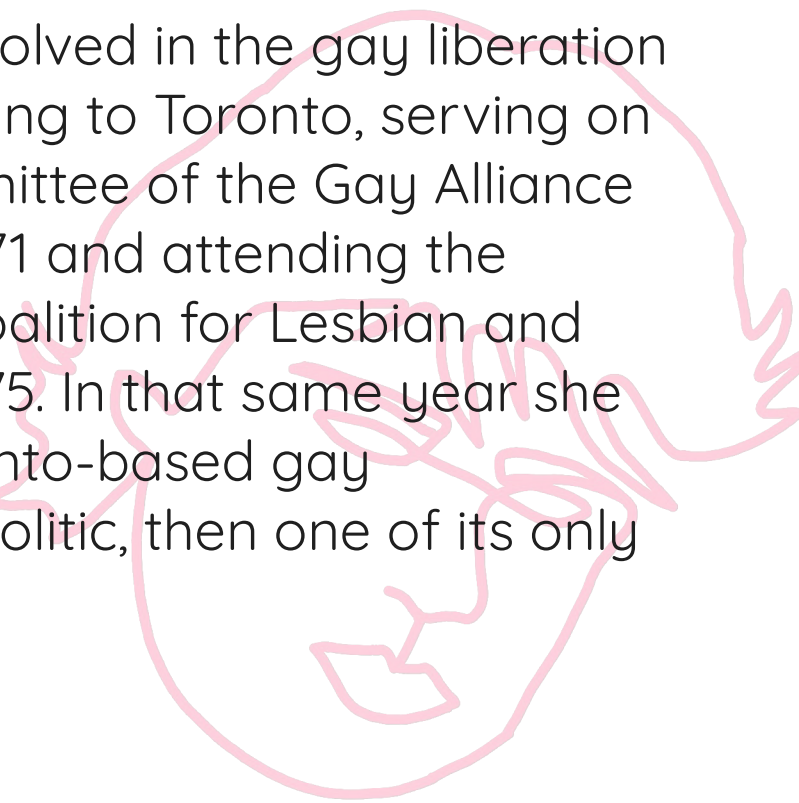
Bev
Lepischak 1953
Winnipeg, MB

Bev Lepischak • 1953 • Winnipeg, MB

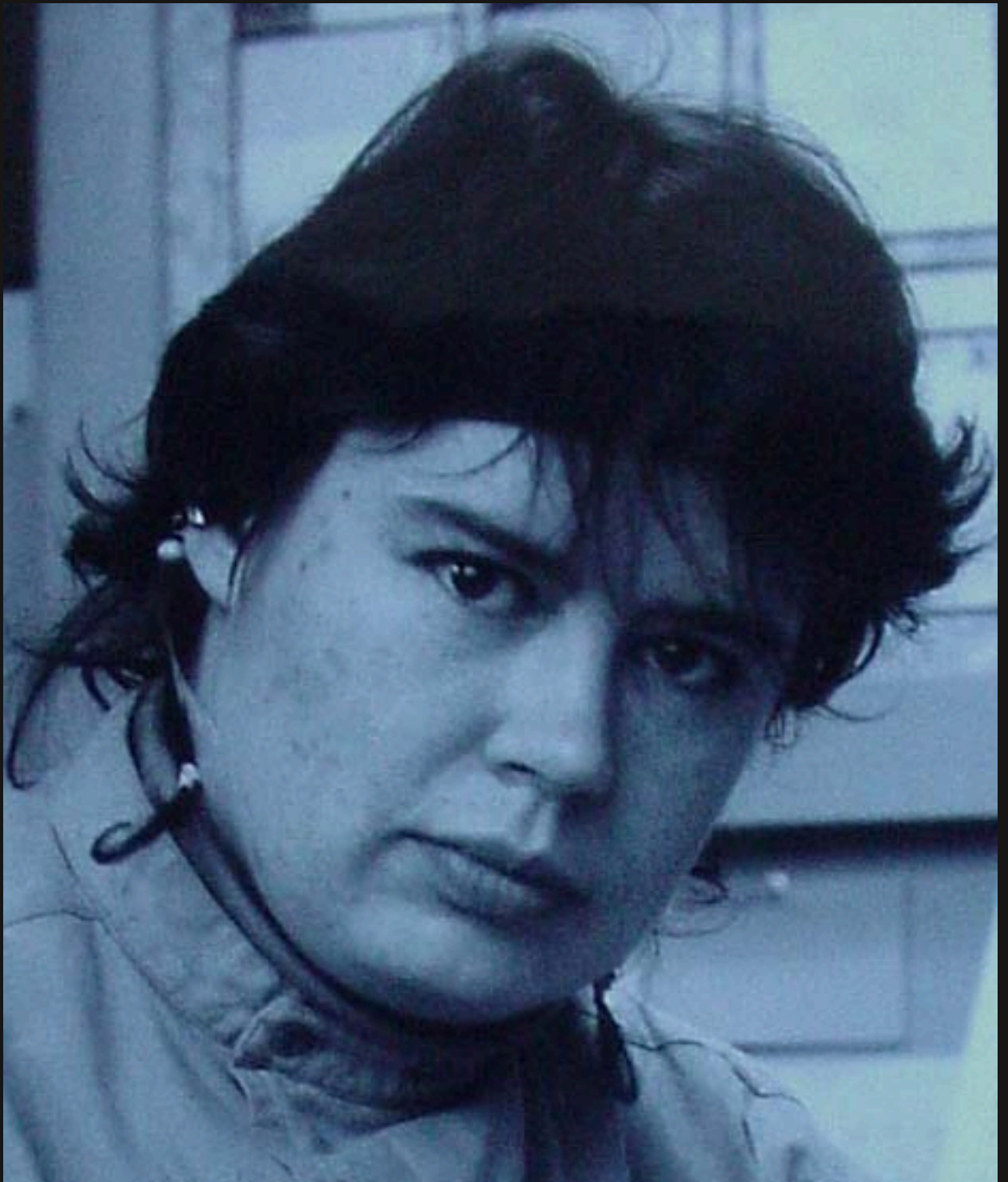
A pink line drawing of a woman's face, partially obscured by the text. The drawing shows the outline of the face, hair, and a slight smile.

Bev Lepischak started volunteering with the Toronto Counselling Centre for Lesbians and Gays in 1981. Through her work with Central Toronto Youth Services' Pride and Prejudice Program and the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Youth, she developed Supporting Our Youth (SOY) in 1998. Initially focused on providing a supportive space for LGBTQ2+ youth to socialize, SOY's programming has expanded to include healthcare, housing, and employment support.

Chris Bearchell • 1953-2007 • Edmonton, AB

A pink line drawing of a woman's face, partially obscured by the text. The drawing shows the outline of the face, hair, and a slight smile.

Chris Bearchell became involved in the gay liberation movement soon after moving to Toronto, serving on the first coordinating committee of the Gay Alliance Toward Equality around 1971 and attending the founding meeting of the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights in Ontario in 1975. In that same year she started writing for the Toronto-based gay newsmagazine The Body Politic, then one of its only lesbian contributors.



**Chris
Bearchell**

1953 - 2007
Edmonton, AB



**David
Rayside**

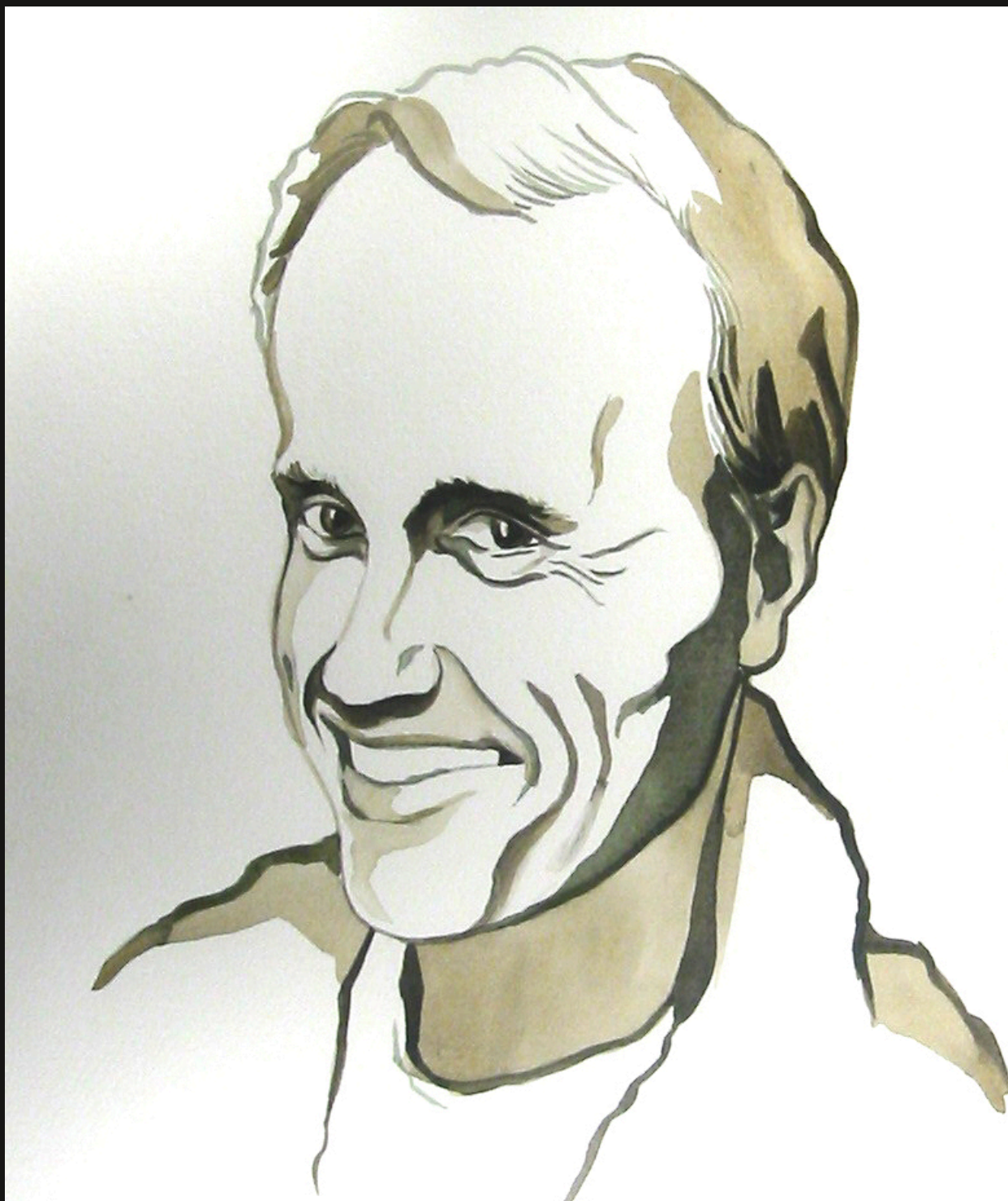
1947
Toronto, ON

David Rayside • 1947 • Toronto, ON

David Rayside was hired as a professor of political economy at the University of Toronto in 1974. By the mid-eighties, he was regularly writing and teaching on the politics of gender and sexuality. His work as an academic was closely informed by his activism—David was a member of The Body Politic Collective, the Right to Privacy Committee, and the Coalition for Gay Rights in Ontario. He also co-founded the Committee on Homophobia and the Positive Space Campaign at the University of Toronto, and drove the university to expand the Sexual Diversity Studies undergraduate program into the Mark S. Bonham Centre for Sexual Diversity Studies.

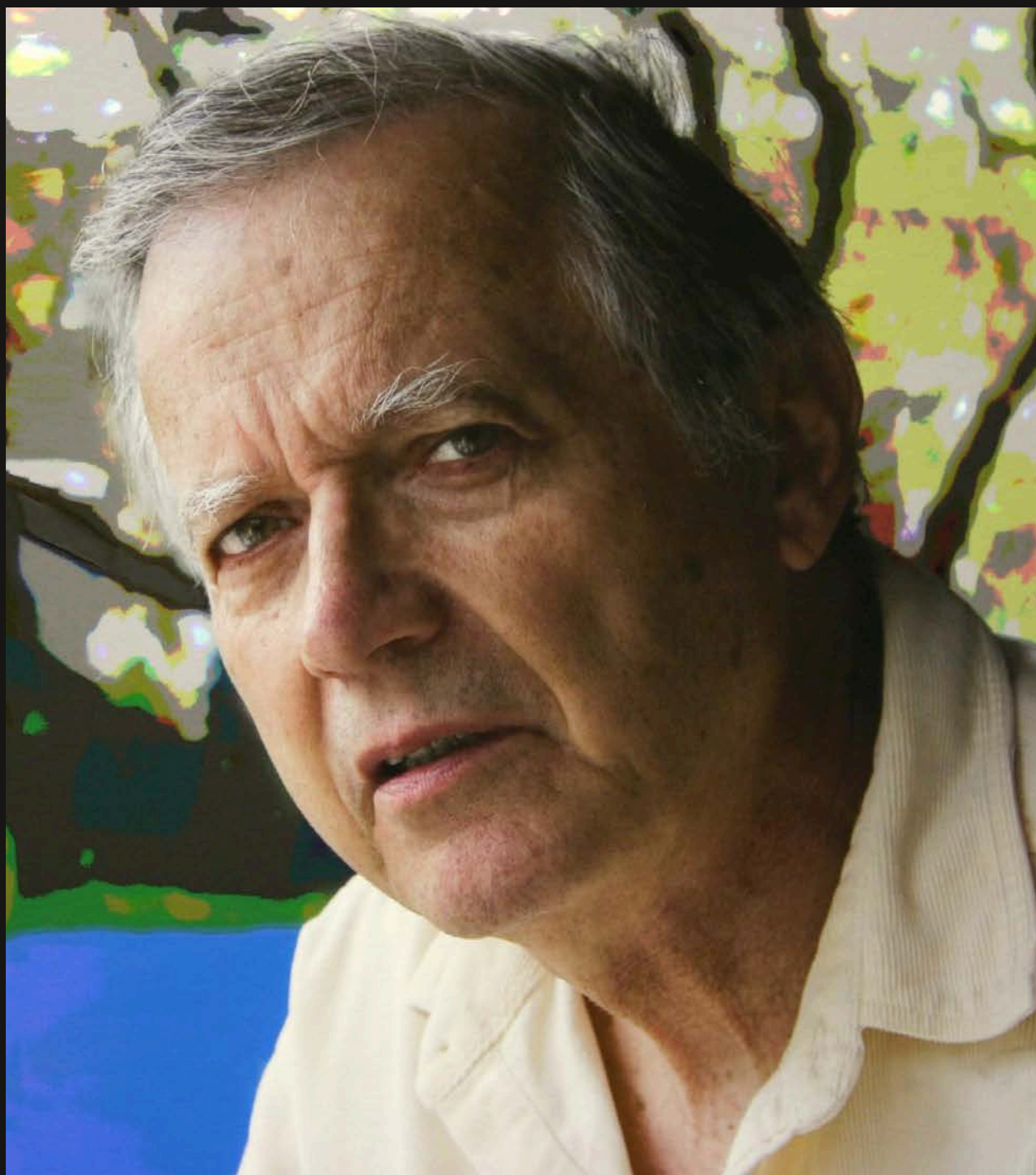
Douglas Wilson • 1950 - 1992 • Saskatoon, SK

In 1975, Douglas (Doug) Wilson, then a graduate student studying education at the University of Saskatchewan, placed a notice advertising a gay student organization. Almost immediately, he was suspended from supervising student teachers. The Committee to Defend Doug Wilson was formed to get his case taken to the Saskatchewan Human Rights Commission, but their inquiry was cancelled and Doug left without completing his degree (though he would go on to work for the Toronto Board of Education). Also a writer and editor, he founded Stubblejumper Press and co-founded Rites: For Lesbian and Gay Liberation. Doug died of AIDS-related pneumonia on 26 September 1992.



**Douglas
Wilson**

1950 - 1992
Saskatoon, SK



**John
Alan Lee**

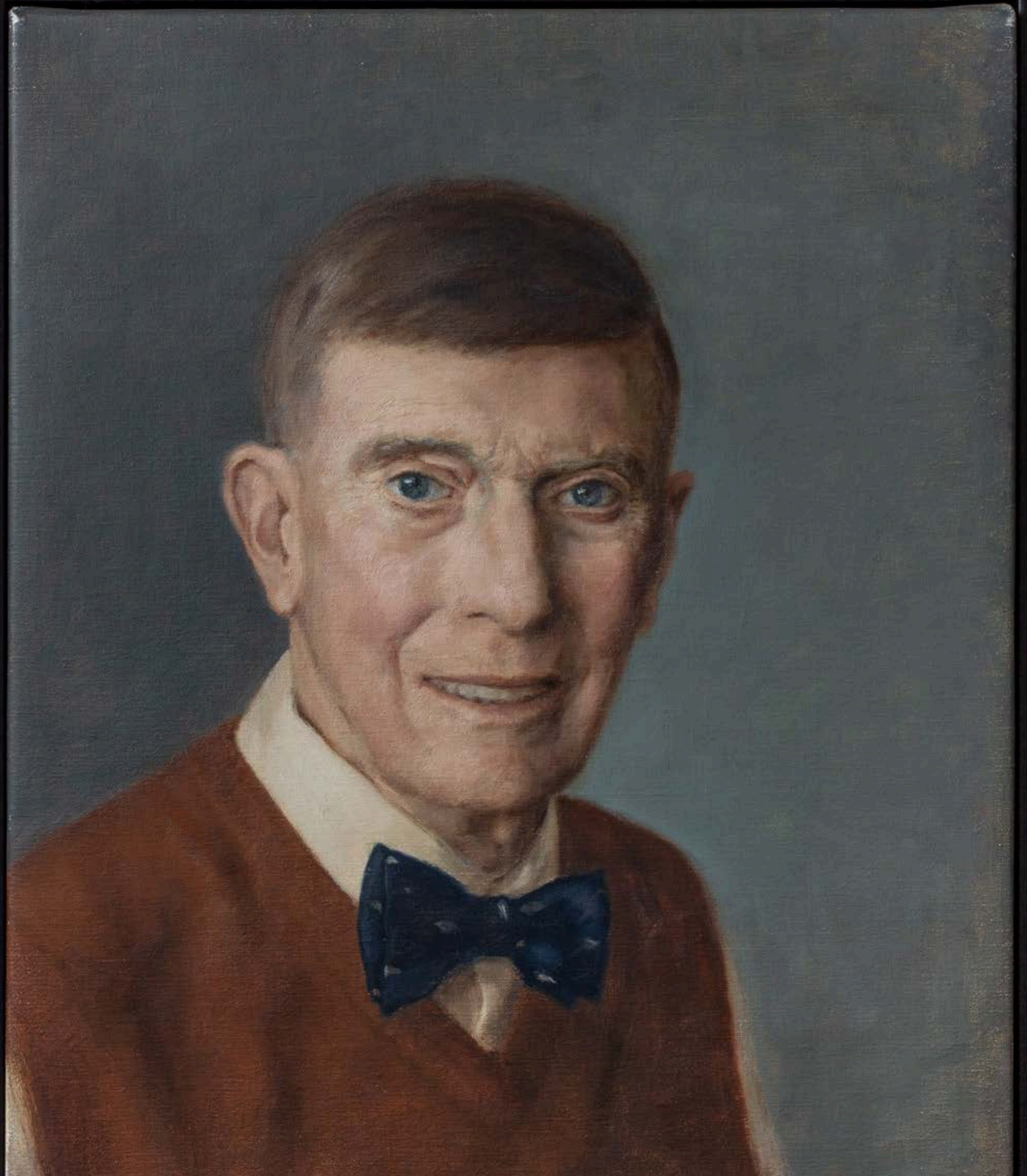
1933 - 2013
Toronto, ON

John Alan Lee • 1933-2013 • Toronto, ON

John Alan Lee worked as a writer, teacher, and activist for almost fifty years. Starting in the sixties, he wrote for the Toronto-based gay magazine TWO and covered gay issues in the Toronto Telegram. From 1971 to 1999, John was a sociology professor at the University of Toronto, teaching a number of courses and publishing nine books and more than 300 articles with a focus on the sociology of LGBTQ2+ communities; in 1975, he co-founded the school's Gay Academic Union. Later in life Lee helped found Dying with Dignity and campaigned for the right to die.

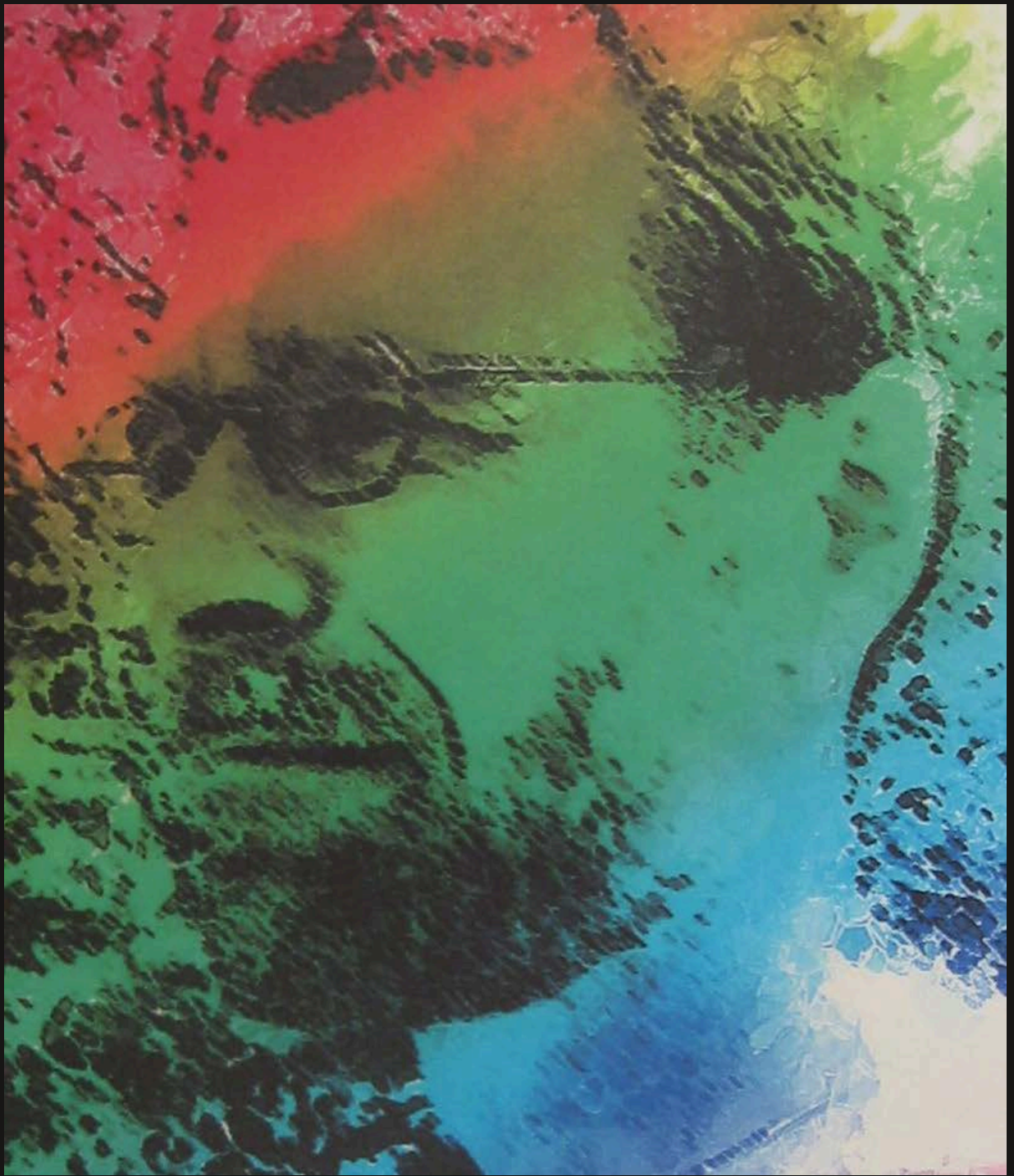
Richard Hudler • 1942 • London, ON

Richard Hudler is a social worker, activist, and former member (from 1972), board member (from 1980), and president (from 1981) of the Homophile Association of London Ontario (HALO) at the University of Western Ontario. Richard's work with HALO continued through the nineties to the organization's disbandment in 2005. When the UWO Research Facility for Gay and Lesbian Studies opened the Pride Library in 1997, it named the Hudler Archives after Richard.



**Richard
Hudler**

1942
London, ON



**Tim
McCaskell**

1951
Toronto, ON

Tim McCaskell • 1951 • Toronto, ON

Tim McCaskell's interest in politics started when he was a high school student in Beaverton, Ontario in the sixties. He moved to Toronto in 1974 and, after attending a gay liberation demonstration at Riverdale Park, came out that same year. From 1974 to 1986, Tim was a member of The Body Politic Collective, and in 1987, he co-founded AIDS Action Now! which pushed Ontario to create the Trillium Drug Program, the exceptional access program now used by thousands of Ontarians. Tim has also worked for education reform with the Organization of Gays and Lesbians for Education and Education Against Homophobia.

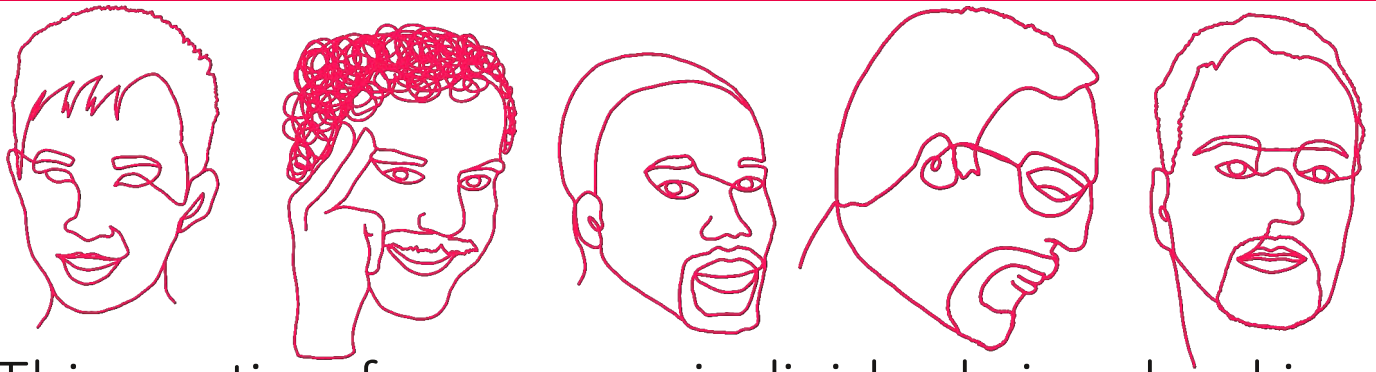
Kyle Scanlon • 1971-2012 • Hamilton, ON

As the Executive Director of Youthline (the first out trans man to hold that position at any LGBTQ2+ organization in Canada), Kyle Scanlon prompted the organization's renaming as the Lesbian Gay Bi Trans Youthline in 2005. He went on to work as the Trans Programs Coordinator at The 519 Community Centre, where he supported trans people in accessing health, housing, and legal services. Kyle was also a founding member of TRANS Pulse, a committee of the Sherbourne Health Centre focused on funding trans healthcare research.

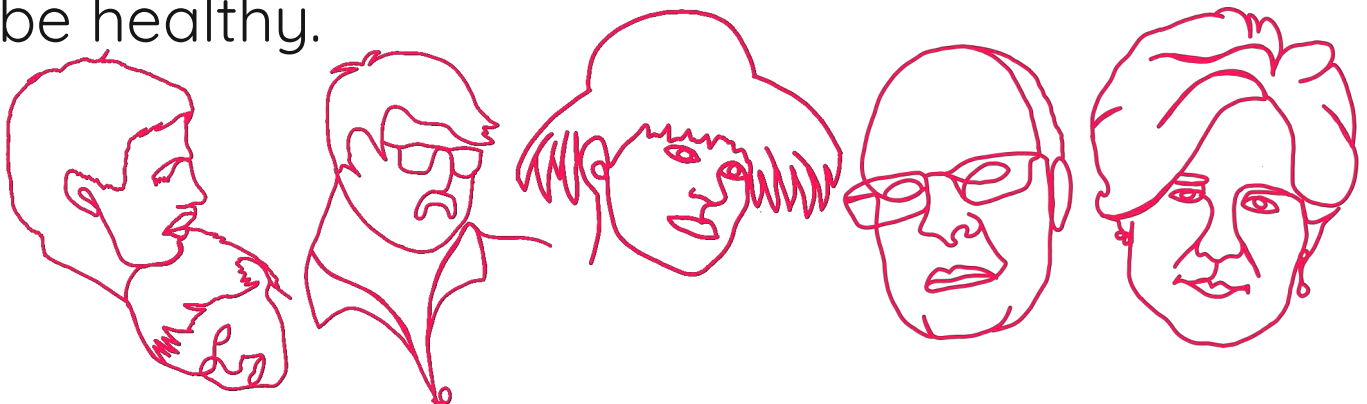


**Kyle
Scanlon**

1971 - 2012
Hamilton, ON



This section focuses on individuals involved in healthcare and disability justice. Including medical professionals, clinical researchers, and activists who have increased access to supportive and accessible care for trans people and HIV-positive people through community-based practice. It also encompasses artists and academics whose projects address the intersections of queer sexuality with mental illness/madness, disability, and institutionalization. In addition to improving health outcomes for marginalized people in LGBTQ2+ communities, their work can prompt us to new ways of thinking about what it means to be healthy.





**Dr. Alan
Li**

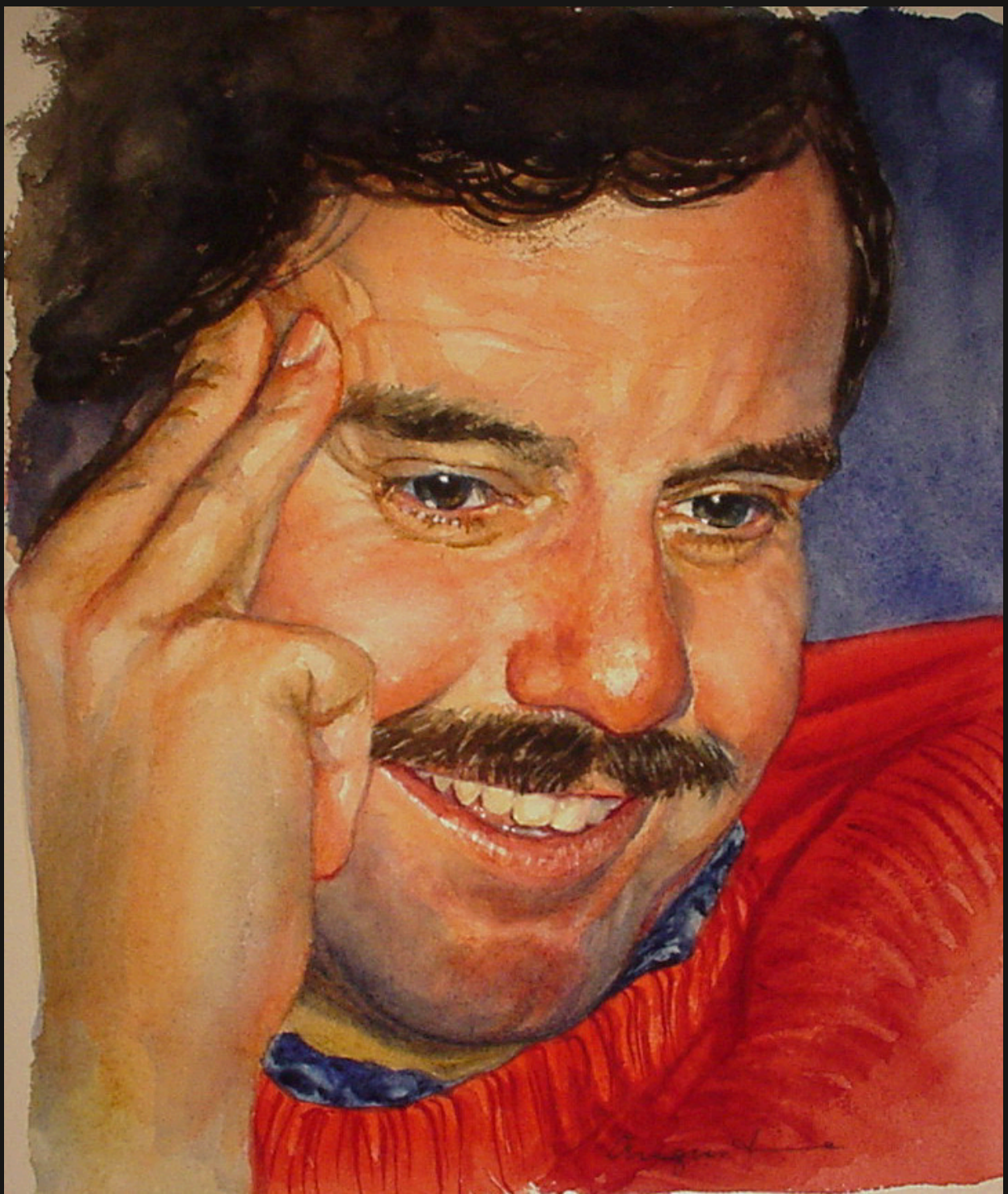
Toronto, ON

Dr. Alan Li • Toronto, ON

Before moving to Canada, Dr. Alan Li co-founded the Hong Kong 10% Club, the first gay community organization to be registered in Hong Kong. He has been involved with Gay Asians Toronto and its Gay Asian AIDS Project since the early eighties, and his work was integral to the formation of the Asian Community AIDS Services coalition in 1994. In his medical practice and research, Dr. Li supports access to treatment for people living with HIV/AIDS, with a focus on LGBTQ2+, racialized, and newcomer communities.

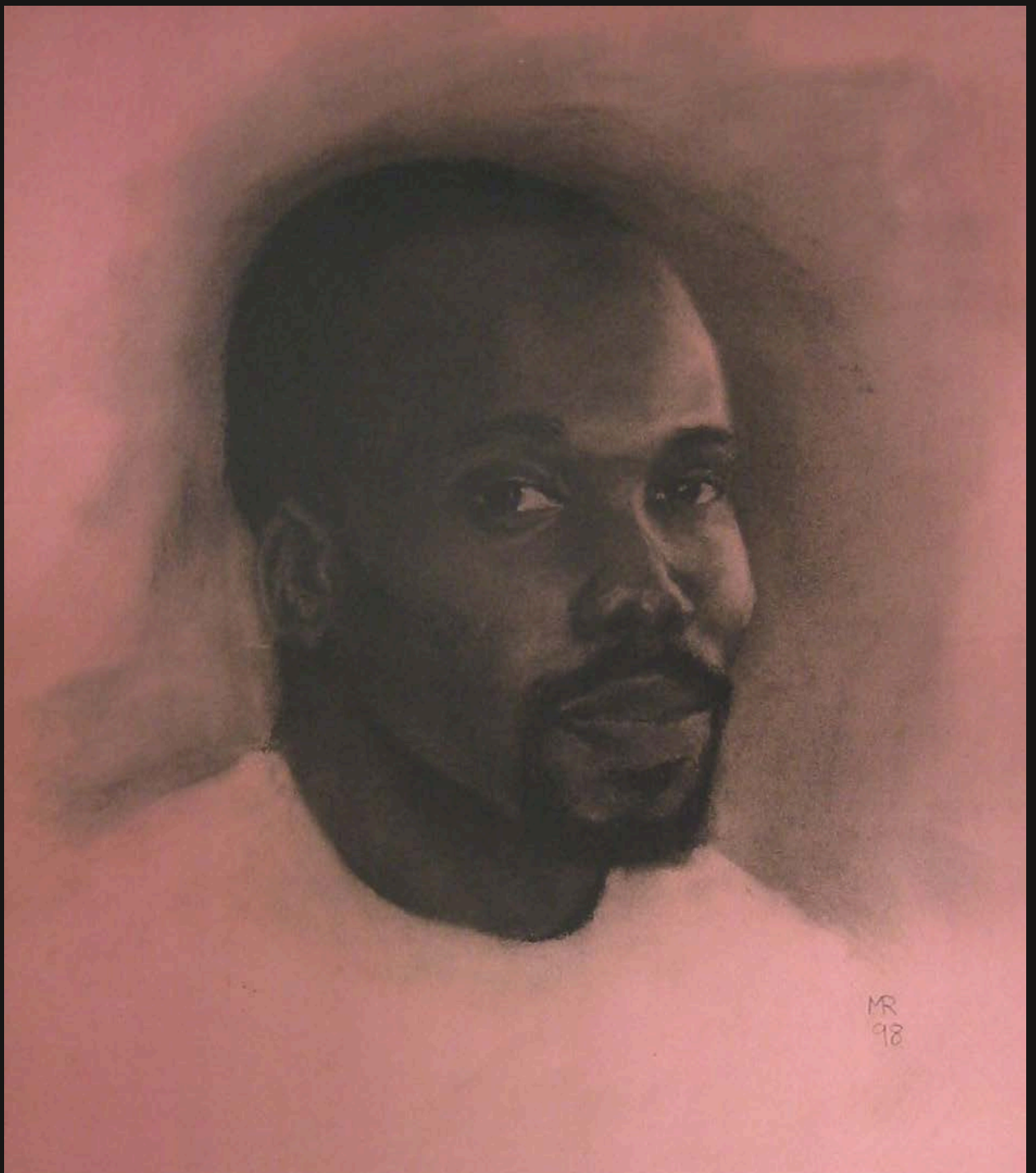
David Kelley • 1951-1996 • Ottawa, ON

In 1981, David Kelley co-founded the Toronto Counselling Centre for Lesbians and Gays with John McCullagh. Through the eighties and nineties, David supported the AIDS Committee of Toronto's Positive Youth Outreach program, delivered presentations on LGBTQ2+ topics and HIV/AIDS for high school students, and was a regular guest on sex educator Sue Johanson's Talking About Sex radio and television programs. On 25 April 1996, at age 44, David died as a result of AIDS-related illness.



**David
Kelley**

1951 – 1996
Ottawa, ON



**Douglas
Stewart**

1962
Toronto, ON

Douglas Stewart • 1962 • Toronto, ON

In 1984, Douglas Stewart was living at 101 Dewson Street, a queer Black housing collective and community space owned by Makeda Silvera and Stephanie Martin. There, with his roommate Debbie Douglas, he co-founded Zami, one of the first queer organizations in the city to focus on Black communities. Douglas was also a co-founder, with Camille Orridge, of the Black Coalition for AIDS Prevention (Black CAP) in 1989.

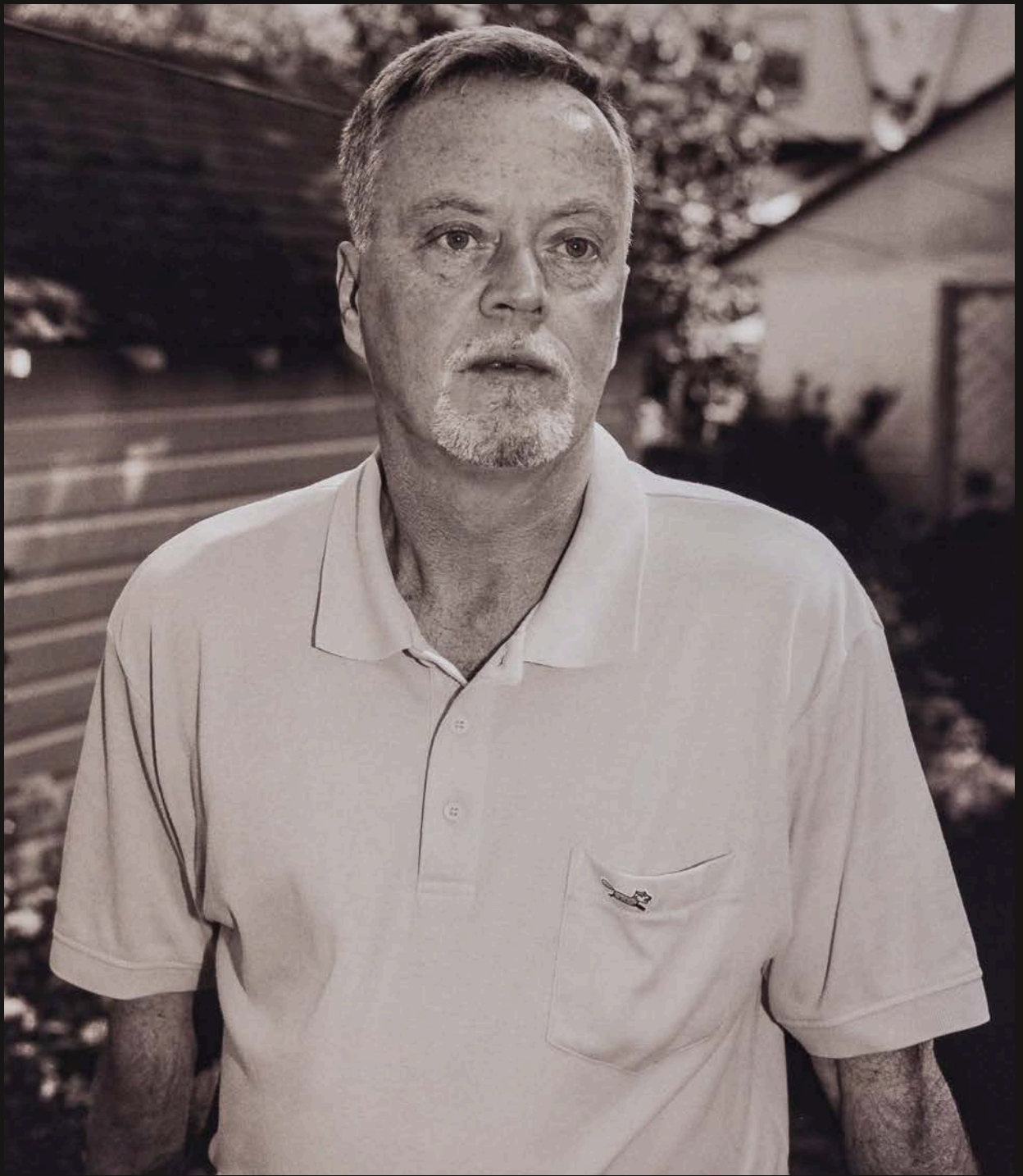
Gens Hellquist • 1946-2013 • Saskatoon, SK

In the seventies, Gens Hellquist founded Saskatoon Gay Action, the first queer organization in Saskatchewan, and served as the Executive Director of its successor, the Gay Community Centre of Saskatoon. He became involved in HIV/AIDS activism in the eighties as a board member of the Saskatchewan AIDS Network and the Canadian AIDS Society. Gens was also co-founder, with Dr. Sheri McConnell, of Gay & Lesbian Health Services (now OUTSaskatoon) in 1991 and a founding member of the Canadian Rainbow Health Coalition in 2001.



**Gens
Hellquist**

1946 - 2013
Saskatoon, SK



**John
Duggan**

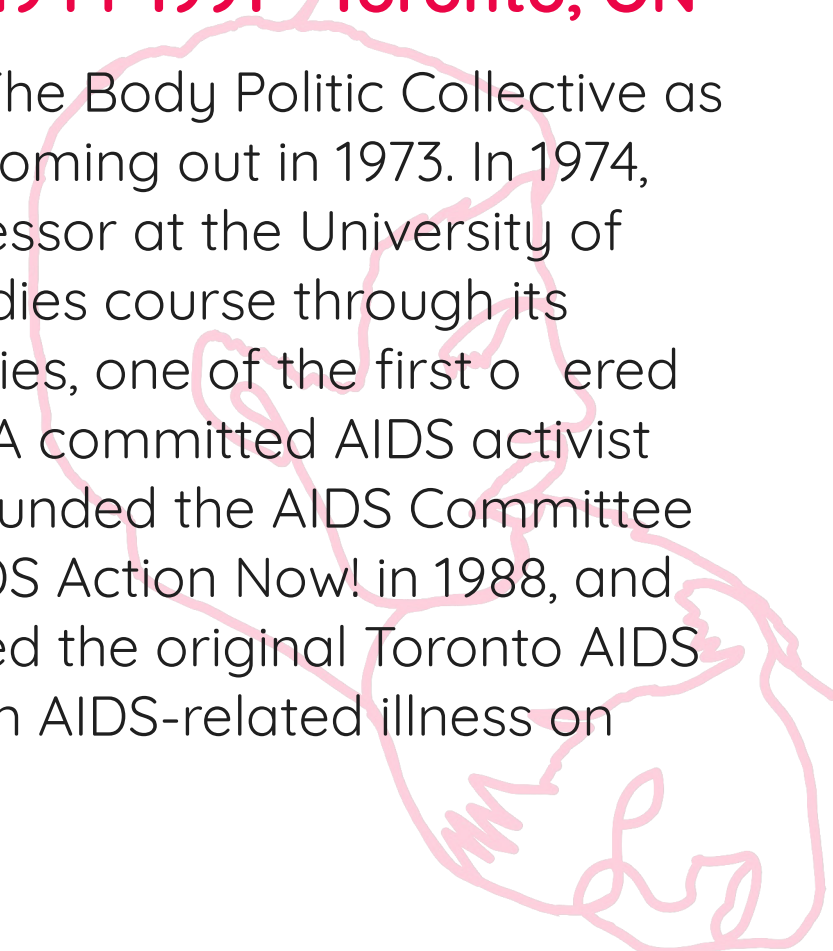
1949
Ottawa, ON



John Duggan • 1949 • Ottawa, ON

John Duggan initially became involved with Gays of Ottawa (GO) in 1974 as part of its Peer Counselling, Public Education, and Political Action committees. From 1979 to 1980, John served as GO's president and in 1982, he was hired as its first full-time paid employee. In that position, he worked to plan strategies to address the AIDS epidemic and supported the development of Pink Triangle Services (now Kind Space) and the Abiwin Housing Co-op.

Dr. Michael Lynch • 1944-1991 • Toronto, ON



Dr. Michael Lynch joined The Body Politic Collective as a writer and editor after coming out in 1973. In 1974, Dr. Lynch, an English professor at the University of Toronto, taught a gay studies course through its School of Continuing Studies, one of the first offered at a Canadian university. A committed AIDS activist since 1981, Dr. Lynch co-founded the AIDS Committee of Toronto in 1983 and AIDS Action Now! in 1988, and in the same year organized the original Toronto AIDS Memorial. He died from an AIDS-related illness on July 9, 1991, aged 46.



**Dr. Michael
Lynch**

1944 - 1991
Toronto, ON



**Neil
Richards**

1949 - 2018
Saskatoon, SK

Neil Richards • 1949-2018 • Saskatoon, SK

Neil Richards was a librarian and community archivist interested in LGBTQ2+ histories. In 1975, while working at the University of Saskatchewan, Neil helped form the Committee to Defend Doug Wilson after Doug was forced out of his graduate program for being gay. From 1983 on, Neil was involved with several AIDS awareness efforts in Saskatchewan, staging three exhibitions on AIDS at the University of Saskatchewan libraries and several other exhibitions as part of the VisualAIDS and Day Without Art series.

Persimmon Blackbridge • 1951 • Vancouver, BC

Persimmon Blackbridge is a multi-disciplinary artist whose work addresses themes including disability, madness, and queerness. In the eighties and nineties, Persimmon, Susan Stewart (who photographed Persimmon for the NPC), and Lizard Jones organized exhibitions and shows as part of the Vancouver-based artists' collective Kiss & Tell. Around this time, Persimmon also collaborated with Sheila Gilhooly on Still Sane, a sculptural and written record of Gilhooly's institutionalization after coming out as a lesbian in 1969.



Persimmon
Blackbridge 1951
Vancouver, BC



**Rupert
Raj**

1952
Montreal, QC

Rupert Raj • 1952 • Montreal, QC

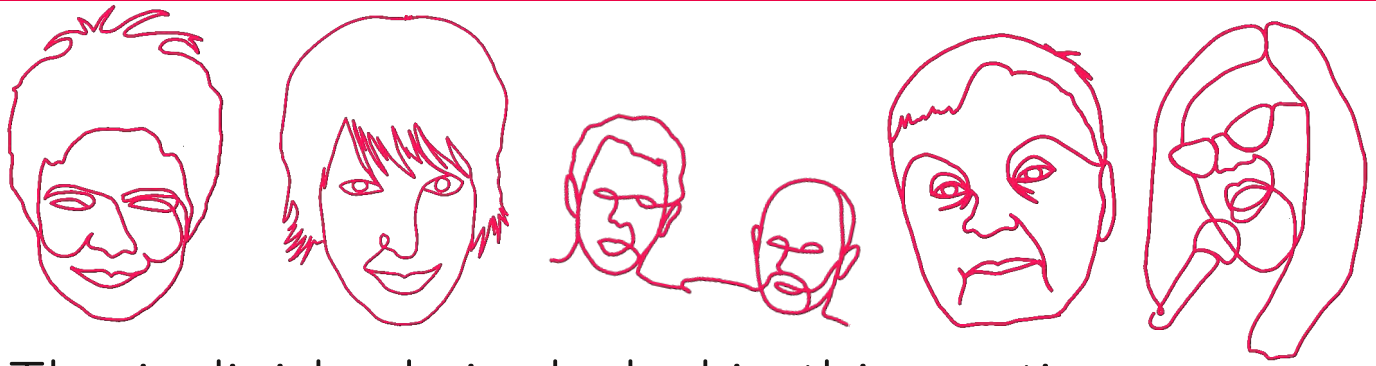
Rupert Raj is a psychotherapist, researcher, writer, educator, and activist who has been working for trans liberation since 1971, one year before his own transition. In 1978, Rupert founded the Foundation for the Advancement of Canadian Transsexuals and published the first issue of its newsletter, Gender Review: A FACTual Journal. In the eighties and nineties, Rupert started two other trans advocacy organizations and a support group before refocusing on his therapy practice in 2002.

Dr. Shelley Lynn Tremain • 1960 • Waterloo, ON

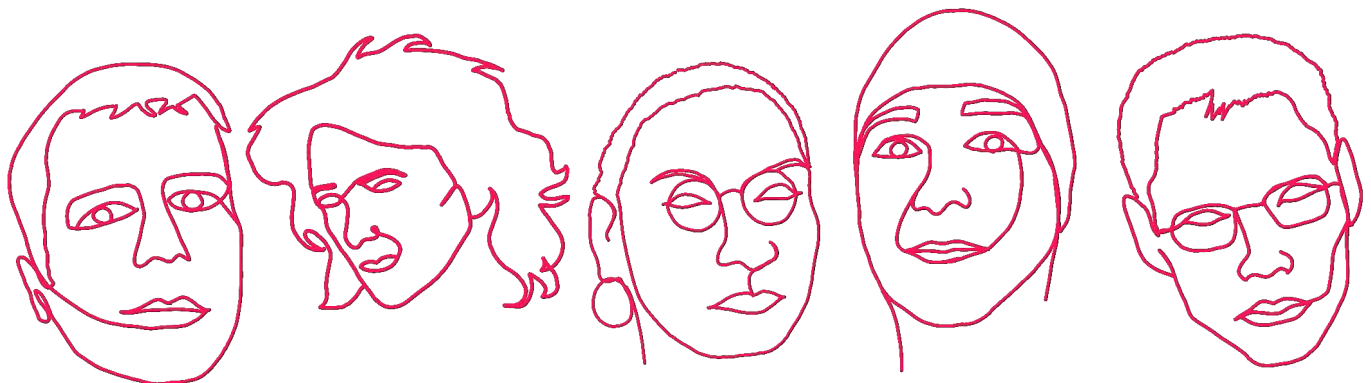
As the Executive Director of Youthline (the first out trans man to hold that position at any LGBTQ2+ organization in Canada), Kyle Scanlon prompted the organization's renaming as the Lesbian Gay Bi Trans Youthline in 2005. He went on to work as the Trans Programs Coordinator at The 519 Community Centre, where he supported trans people in accessing health, housing, and legal services. Kyle was also a founding member of TRANS Pulse, a committee of the Sherbourne Health Centre focused on funding trans healthcare research.



Dr. Shelley Lynn 1960
Tremain Waterloo, ON



The individuals included in this section are writers, visual artists, filmmakers, performers, and curators whose work addresses LGBTQ2+ identity and experience. Through their creative practice, they have produced deeply personal contemplations on gender and sexuality, race, and class informed by queer and feminist theory. Many have used humour and spectacle to subvert oppressive systems and process the trauma of the HIV/AIDS epidemic, colonialism, and transphobia. In addition to serving as an expression of self and community, these individuals' works can educate their readers, viewers, and listeners on the diversity of LGBTQ2+ lives.



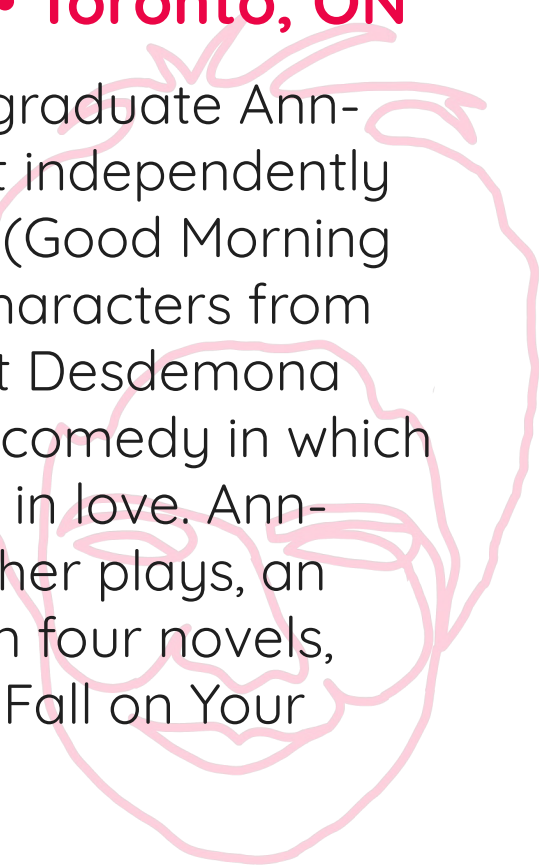


**Ann-Marie
MacDonald**

1958
Toronto, ON

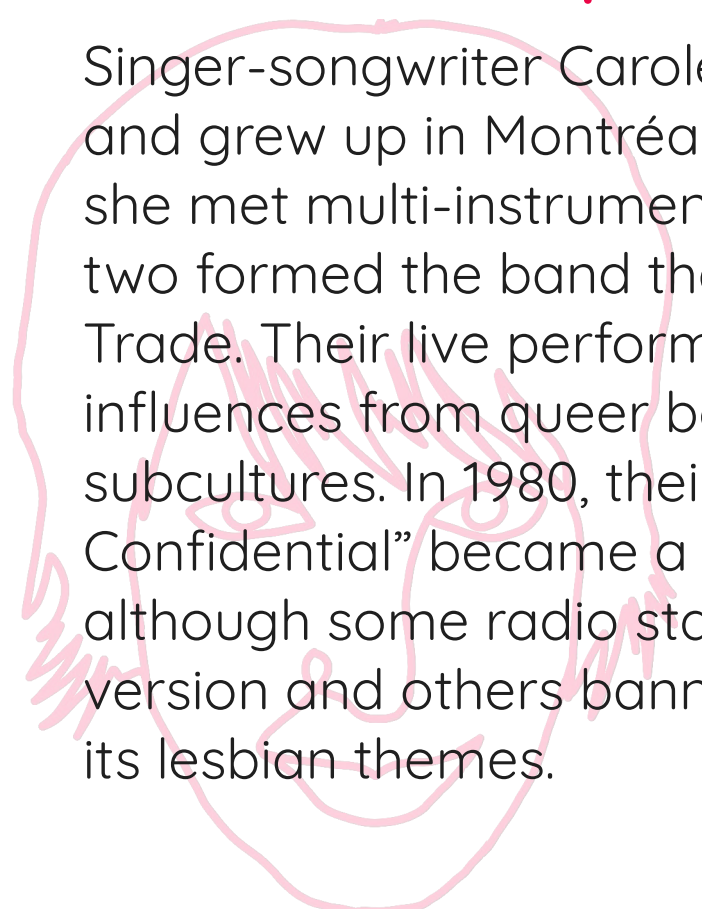
Ann-Marie MacDonald • 1958 • Toronto, ON

National Theatre School of Canada graduate Ann-Marie MacDonald premiered her first independently written play, *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)*, in 1988. Taking settings and characters from Shakespearean tragedies, *Goodnight Desdemona* reworks them into a lesbian feminist comedy in which Desdemona and Juliet meet and fall in love. Ann-Marie has co-written or written six other plays, an opera, and a musical, and has written four novels, including the international bestseller *Fall on Your Knees* (1996).



Carole Pope • 1945 • Toronto, ON

Singer-songwriter Carole Pope was born in England and grew up in Montréal and Scarborough. In 1968, she met multi-instrumentalist Kevan Staples and the two formed the band that would become Rough Trade. Their live performances were theatrical, with influences from queer bondage and leather subcultures. In 1980, their single “High School Confidential” became a Top 40 hit in Canada, although some radio stations played a censored version and others banned it completely because of its lesbian themes.





**Carole
Pope**

1945
Toronto, ON



**Chris
Vogel**

1947
Winnipeg, MB

Chris Vogel • 1947 • Winnipeg, MB

Chris Vogel and Richard (Rich) North joined Gays for Equality (GFE) together after meeting at the University of Manitoba in 1972. In 1974, Rich worked with GFE to organize the second National Gay Conference in Winnipeg. Around 1978, he became involved with the University of Manitoba's CJUM-FM radio program Gaysweek. After CJUM went off the air in 1980, the Winnipeg Gay Media Collective was formed, and Rich continued his involvement in broadcasting with the cable TV program Coming Out!.

Eve Zaremba • 1930 • Toronto, ON

In 1976, Eve Zaremba was one of thirty to sixty women who founded the Lesbian Organization of Toronto, the first organization in the city with an explicitly lesbian-feminist focus. A mystery writer, Eve published the first novel in her Helen Keremos series, *A Reason to Kill*, in 1978; she published another five Helen Keremos novels between 1986 and 1997. Focused around Helen, a lesbian detective, hers was the first mystery series to have a queer woman as its protagonist.



**Eve
Zaremba**

1930
Toronto, ON



Gloria May

1961

Eshkibok Manitoulin Island

Gloria May Eshkibok • 1961 • Manitoulin Island

Gloria May Eshkibok is a Two-Spirit writer, performer, and community activist from Wikwemikong unceded territory on Manitoulin Island, a member of the Odawa of the 3 Fires Confederacy and the Crane Clan of the Wakegijig Family. Her theatre credits include roles as Emily Dictionary and Philomena Moosetail in Tomson Highway's *The Rez Sisters* and Mavis in Marie Clement's *The Unnatural and Accidental Women*. In 1984, Gloria co-founded the Debajehmujig Storytellers, a community-based Indigenous theatre group on Manitoulin Island.

John Greyson • 1960 • Toronto, ON

John Greyson is a filmmaker, video artist, writer, educator, and activist associated with the Toronto New Wave and New Queer Cinema movements. His feature-length films include *Zero Patience* (1993), a musical about the supposed "patient zero" in the AIDS epidemic and *Lilies* (1996), a romance and revenge narrative set in a Québec prison in 1952. John has also been active in Palestinian solidarity movements, protesting the Toronto International Film Festival's programming partnership with the city of Tel Aviv in 2009 and supporting medical relief work in Gaza (for which he was detained without charges for nearly three months in 2013).



**John
Greyson**

1960
Toronto, ON



**Lynne
Fernie**

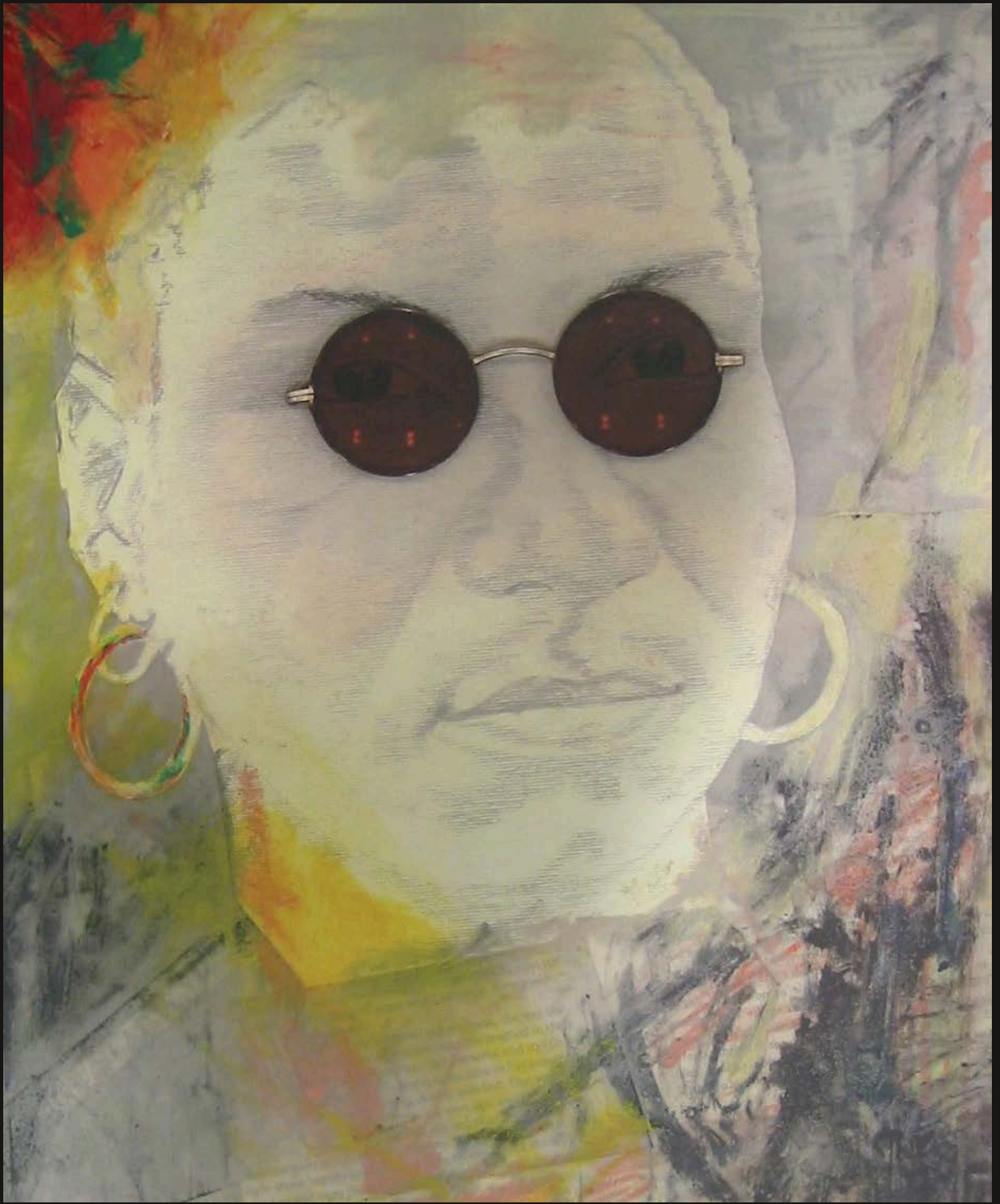
1946
Toronto, ON

Lynne Fernie • 1946 • Toronto, ON

Lynne Fernie is a Toronto-based filmmaker, multi-disciplinary artist, and curator. She was a founding member of the collective that published *Fireweed: A Feminist Quarterly*, and in 1982, she co-edited its first lesbian issue, *Lesbiantics*. Lynne has co-directed three films with Aerlyn Weissman, including the award-winning NFB documentary/drama *Forbidden Love: The Unashamed Stories of Lesbian Lives* (1993), and has directed two educational films for young people.

Makeda Silvera • 1955 • Toronto, ON

Makeda Silvera and her partner Stephanie Martin (who created Makeda's NPC portrait) co-founded Sister Vision Press, a Toronto-based publisher of work by Black women and women of colour, in 1985. With Sister Vision, Makeda edited a number of books, including *Piece of My Heart: A Lesbian of Colour Anthology* (1991), the first literary collection focused on lesbians of colour published in North America. She has also published a collection of oral histories, two collections of short stories, two novels, and numerous essays.



**Makeda
Silvera**

1955
Toronto, ON



**Mirha-Soleil
Ross**

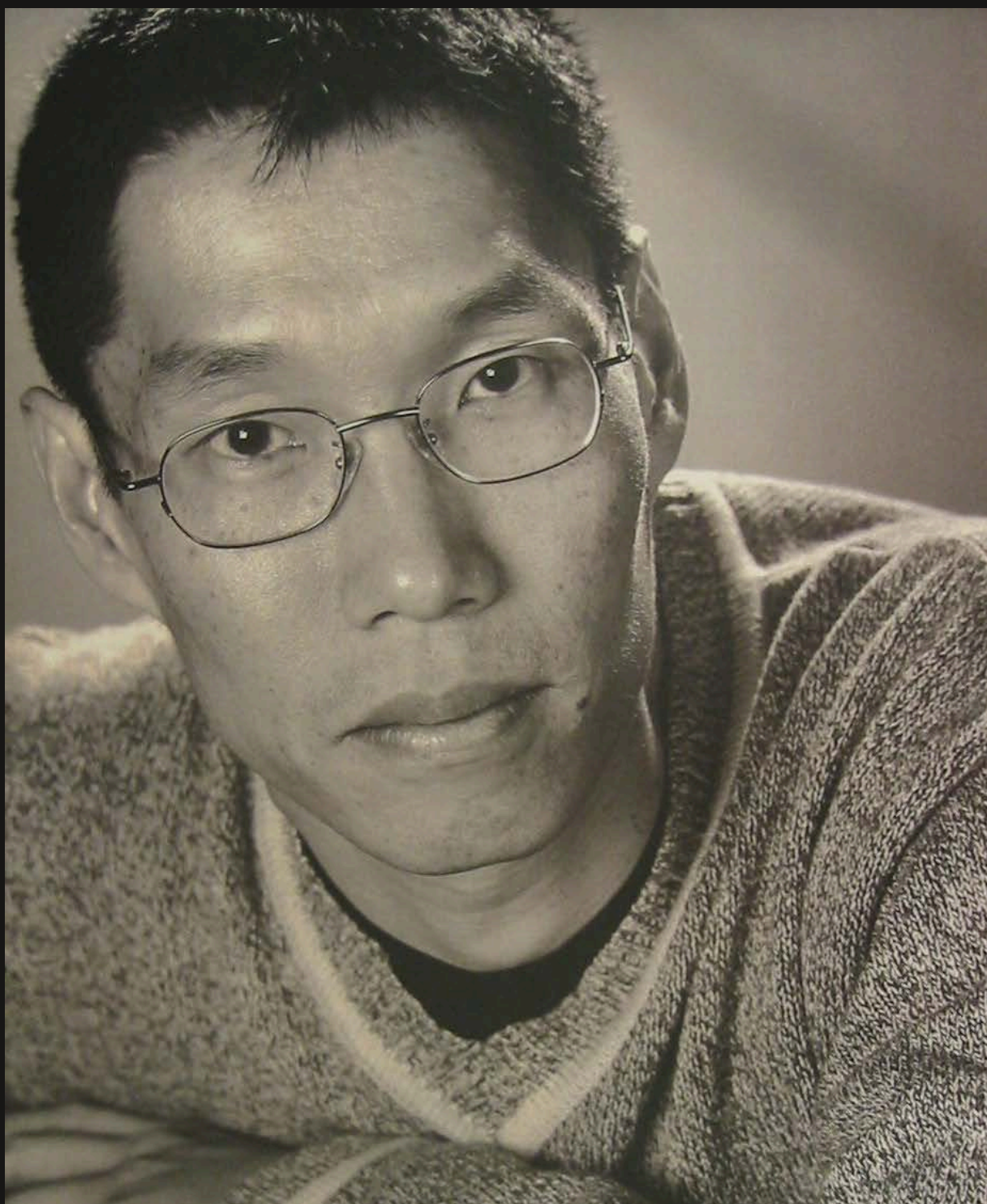
1969
Montreal, QC

Mirha-Soleil Ross • 1969 • Montreal, QC

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Richard Fung • 1954 • Toronto, ON

In 1980, Richard Fung co-founded Gay Asians of Toronto (GAT) with Gerald Chan, Nito Marquez, Tony Souza, and Tony Chung. A video artist, Richard made his first film, *Orientations: Lesbian and Gay Asians* (1984), as an “educational tool” to address the omission of Asian narratives from LGBTQ media. The single-channel tape featured interviews with fourteen lesbians and gay men, including members of GAT and *Lesbians of Colour*, intercut with footage from Pride Day 1984.



**Richard
Fung**

1954
Toronto, ON

Curriculum Connections

A number of the people whose portraits are included in this mini-exhibition are referenced, directly or indirectly, in 2SLGBTQIA+ Stories—use the table below to find curriculum content about a particular person or people:

NPC Subject	2SLGBTQIA+ Stories Page References
Alan Li	p. 172; 174
Bernard Courte	p. 107
Douglas Stewart	p. 133; 177
Doug Wilson	p. 93
El-Farouk Khaki	p. 175
Gens Hellquist	p. 133
Harold Desmarais	p. 93
Janine Fuller	pp. 226-228
Jim Egan	pp. 74-80; 95; 111-112
Mirha-Soleil Ross	p. 143; 145
Pat Murphy	p. 102; 107
Richard Fung	p. 133
Rupert Raj	p. 118; 144-145
Shelley Tremain	pp. 184-185

Discussion Questions

These questions can be used to initiate a class discussion about the National Portrait Collection (NPC) mini-exhibition. Modify them based on your needs, or come up with your own. Use the included supplementary readings to support your discussion, as needed.

1. Why do you think it's important that 2SLGBTQIA+ identities and experiences be documented in the historical and artistic record? How do you think the National Portrait Collection (NPC) supports this goal?
2. Part of the purpose of the NPC was to provide "positive visibility for the queer community." What effect do you think this kind of representation might have on 2SLGBTQIA+ people as they viewed the portraits in 1998? As they view them today? What effect might it have on straight cisgender people, then and now?
3. Although the NPC is now nomination-based and includes community members in its selection process, initial inductees were chosen by a closed committee. What effect do you think this may have had on determining who was and was not included?
4. Were there any specific portraits in the mini-exhibition that you connected with? What about them did you like? How might these portraits inspire you in your everyday contributions to 2SLGBTQIA+ communities?

Clip Connections

As a class, read a selection from “The History of the National Portrait Collection”:



Originally conceptualized as “9 Lives: Canadian Lesbians and Gays and the Building of Our Community,” the [“25 Lives: Out and Proud” exhibition] grew to honour twenty-five* men and women to celebrate The ArQuives’ 25th anniversary. The initial inductees were chosen by a committee using three criteria: contribution to the growth of diverse out and proud communities, nationwide representation, and gender parity.

The induction and exhibition were seen as a moment of transforming The ArQuives into a national cultural organization, a valuable way to introduce those who had done so much for the gay and lesbian communities to a larger audience. ... Furthermore, the portrait collection was seen as creating positive visibility for the queer community, as well as establishing a historical, and artistic, record.

Much has changed since 1998. A nomination process was introduced, [and] the NPC committees began to include members of the community. ... In late 2002, the NPC was digitized and made available on The ArQuives website, furthering the archives’ aim of being a nationally accessible organization. The language, too, has changed; the nomination form specifies that the NPC intends to honour those “who have made significant contributions to the growth of diverse LGBTQ2+ communities in Canada.”

There are now more than 75 portraits in the National Portrait Collection, which are often on display at The ArQuives. As you explore this collection, you might recall the words of the 1998 exhibition’s introductory panel, “We hope that you will all be inspired ... and will, in your own everyday contributions to out and proud communities, consider yourself in their company.”



There are now more than 75 portraits in the National Portrait Collection, which are often on display at The ArQuives. As you explore this collection, you might recall the words of the 1998 exhibition's introductory panel, "We hope that you will all be inspired ... and will, in your own everyday contributions to out and proud communities, consider yourself in their company."

*Anne Bishop, Persimmon Blackbridge, Alec Butler, James (Jim) Egan, Gloria Eshkibok, Lynne Fernie, Richard Fung, Amy Gottlieb, John Greyson, Robert Laliberté, k.d. lang, Jovette Marchessault, Tim McCaskell, Billy Merasty, Robin Metcalfe, Shani Mootoo, Ken Popert, Jane Rule, Shyam Selvadurai, Makeda Silvera, Mary-Woo Sims, Douglas Stewart, Shelley Tremain, and Delwin Vriend

Additional Activities

Mock nomination for induction into NPC:

- Use the form (included with this package) to nominate a person from the LGBTQ2+ community for induction into the NPC
- The nominee might be someone your students have learned about in class (refer to the 2SLGBTQIA+ Stories mini-unit plan for ideas) or someone they have learned about through independent research
- If students will be completing this activity in pairs/small groups or individually, you might consider using categories as in the NPC mini-exhibition (i.e., activism and politics, education and youth services, healthcare and disability justice, and arts and media)
- This activity can also be completed collaboratively as part of a class discussion of the mini-exhibition itself or related curriculum content

Mock portrait for inclusion in NPC:

- Individually or in groups, create a portrait of a person from the LGBTQ2+ community for inclusion in the NPC
- The portrait could be of the same person/people selected for the NPC nomination activity (if applicable), or of someone else
- The NPC includes works in number of different mediums (e.g., photographs; graphite and coloured pencil drawings; acrylic, oil, and watercolour paintings; mixed-media works, and collages) and of a number of different styles
- Students can also experiment with other forms based on their interests and the materials available—e.g., digital, sculpture, or textile/fibre arts
- If using the portraits as part of your own classroom mini-exhibition, consider having students include a short (100–300 word) biography of the portrait's subject

NPC Wikipedia editing project:

- As a class or in groups of 5-10 students (with teacher support), edit or create a Wikipedia article for a person/people from the National Portrait Collection
- Browse Wikipedia and select an article to edit (or select a subject for a new article)
- Read the article, evaluating its content, tone, and sources to determine what sections need to be improved—also read the discussions on the article’s Talk page
- Compile a bibliography with the following possible sources:
 - Digitized issues of The Body Politic on the Internet Archive (*Refer to Wikipedia policy on primary sources)
 - The ArQuives Digital Exhibitions (*Refer to Wikipedia policy on primary sources)
 - The subject’s personal website (if applicable) or websites for organizations/institutions the subject was involved with (*Refer to Wikipedia policy on primary sources)
 - Historical newspaper archives (some public libraries provide online access to newspaper archives—e.g., Toronto Star [1894-2020] and Globe and Mail [1844-2019] at Toronto Public Library) (*Refer to Wikipedia policy on primary sources)

- Books:

- Never Going Back: A History of Queer Activism in Canada by Tom Warner (2002)
- Queer Progress: From Homophobia to Homonationalism by Tim McCaskell (2016)
- Lesbian and Gay Liberation in Canada: A Selected Annotated Chronology, 1964-1975 (1996) and Lesbian and Gay Liberation in Canada: A Selected Annotated Chronology, 1976-1981 (2017) by Donald McLeod

- In your user Sandbox, draft edits to the article based on information from your research—focus on making small edits (e.g., adding one or two sentences [with citations] or adding citations to support existing statements) incrementally
- Allow classmates to provide peer reviews, then make additional edits as needed
- When you're ready to publish your draft, copy and paste the edited sections from your Sandbox into the live article, again making small edits and providing edit summaries
- Additional links to refer to:
 - WikiEdu Student Training Modules
 - Introduction to Wikipedia [VisualEditor]
 - Contributing to Wikipedia
 - Wikipedia's notability guidelines
 - Core principles: Verifiability, No original research, Neutral point of view
 - Biographies of living persons
 - Primary sources