

YOUTHUP! PRESENTS

LGBTQ History Guide

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HOW TO FIND GOOD SOURCES

A quick rundown on how to find good sources and determine whether a particular source is trustworthy.

PODCASTS

Podcasts are a great way to learn new things, and there are quite a few podcasts now covering a variety of queer histories.

NON-FICTION BOOKS

The tried-and-true method of learning history. Check to see if your local library has any of these, and put in a request for one if not!

BIOGRAPHIES

A lot of biographies of queer public figures and activists contain history that the person was directly involved in, and can offer a new perspective to familiar events.

MOVIES AND DOCUMENTARIES

Movies and documentaries can be a great place to start research, and a lot of fun to watch! Be careful with sensationalized and narrativized movies.

WEBSITES, DATABASES, ARCHIVES

The internet is full of queer history, and there's some great and not-so-great sources out there. These are a couple trustworthy ones.

RATINGS



Ages
10+



Ages
13+



Ages
17+



No
Rating



How To Find Good Sources

TIMEFRAME

When was this material written? Has it been updated and are there new editions? Can it be contextualized to its time period?

PUBLISHER/PLATFORM

Is this published from a reputable source? Be cautious with sources like blogs or social media accounts.

BIAS TRANSPERANCY

Does the author recognize any biases on their part? Are they specific about what populations they're writing about?

CITATIONS

Are there citations to other reputable sources? Are claims being backed up with citations? Are they referencing primary sources?

REVIEWS FROM EXPERTS

How do other experts in the field feel about this source? Is there consensus? If not, why is this source or argument controversial?

DATABASES

If searching for primary sources, search in established and institutionally backed databases to start with.

WHERE TO LOOK FOR HISTORY SOURCES

Start with a credible database that collects primary sources - these are your best glimpse into history as it happened. Try to read as widely as possible and reference other credible sources - you'll find a lot of primary sources contradict each other!



Podcasts

QUEER SERIAL

T

The true story of American LGBTQ liberation from the beginning to Stonewall. Raids, riots, and romance!

MAKING GAY HISTORY

T

Making Gay History is a podcast that brings the largely hidden history of the LGBTQ civil rights movement to life through the voices of the people who lived it.

QUEER AS FACT

YA

Queer as Fact is a podcast run by four Melbourne-based queer people with a background in history and a passion for sharing queer stories.

HISTORY IS GAY

YA

Two queer nerds share their love for the past, hijinks, and all things gay, sharing stories of those of us in the unexplored corners of history who have always been there.

QUEER AMERICA

T

Queer America takes listeners on a journey that spans from Harlem to the Frontier West, revealing stories of LGBTQ life we should have learned in school.

ONE FROM THE VAULTS

YA

One From the Vaults, a trans history podcast by Morgan M Page. We bring you all the dirt, gossip, and glamour from trans history!

WHERE TO LOOK FOR MORE

Check out history podcasts on your podcast platform of choice using keywords like "LGBTQ history," "queer history," and "gay/transgender history." Check the credentials of the podcasts hosts and start with an episode on a topic you're already familiar with to help vet the podcast.



Non-Fiction Books

QUEER AMERICA

T

Placing GLBT people at the center of the history of the twentieth century, Vicki L. Eaklor's *Queer America: A People's GLBT History of the United States* is a major new effort to popularize a long-overlooked chapter in the American experience.

GAY AND LESBIAN HISTORY FOR KIDS

Y

This history book, by Jerome Pohlen, is a great first foray into queer history for youth. Focusing on pivotal figures and event from LGBTQ history, it paints an engaging picture of the historic and ongoing struggle for LGBTQ rights.

TRANSGENDER HISTORY

T

Transgender History is a non-fiction book by professor Susan Stryker that provides a concise history of transgender people in the United States from the middle of the 19th century to the 2000s.

HOW TO SURVIVE A PLAGUE

YA

How to Survive a Plague by David France is the story of the AIDS epidemic and the grass-roots movement of activists who grabbed the reins of scientific research to help develop the drugs that turned HIV from a mostly fatal infection to a manageable disease.

RAINBOW REVOLUTIONARIES: FIFTY LGBTQ+ PEOPLE WHO MADE HISTORY

Y

Sarah Prager's groundbreaking, pop-culture-infused LGBTQ+ illustrated biography collection takes readers on an eye-opening journey through the lives of fifty influential queer figures who have made a mark on every century of human existence.

SISTER OUTSIDER

YA

Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches is a collection of incisive essays and speeches by Audre Lorde, a Black woman, lesbian, poet, activist, cancer survivor, mother, and feminist writing about her experiences and the social structures underpinning them.

WHERE TO LOOK FOR MORE

Library databases are a good place to look for LGBTQ history books; try search terms like, "LGBT history," "queer history," and "gay/transgender history." Be sure to check reviews for books - published doesn't always mean credible!



Biographies

HUNGER: A MEMOIR OF
(MY) BODY

YA

Hunger: A Memoir of (My) Body by Roxanne Gay explores what it means to be overweight in a time when the bigger you are, the less you are seen. Gay plays with the tensions between desire and denial and between self-comfort and self-care. (CSA CW)

STORY OF JAMES BALDWIN

YA

Story Of James Baldwin: Biography, Books, Essays, Plays, & Facts: History Of Lgbtq+ & Gender Studies by Siobhan Bussey brings James Baldwin alive by providing a glimpse into the wit and artistry of the man who boasted that "I disturbed the peace and threatened society's sense of safety."

FUN HOME

YA

In *Fun Home*, Alison Bechdel charts her fraught relationship with her late father. In her hands, personal history becomes a work of amazing subtlety and power, written with controlled force and enlivened with humor, rich literary allusion, and heartbreaking detail.

REDEFINING REALNESS

YA

In *Redefining Realness*, Janet Mock relays her experiences of growing up young, multiracial, poor, and trans in America, offering readers accessible language while imparting vital insight about the unique challenges and vulnerabilities of a marginalized and misunderstood population. (SA CW)

TOMORROW WILL BE
DIFFERENT

T

Informative, heartbreaking, and profoundly empowering, *Tomorrow Will Be Different* is McBride's story of love and loss and a powerful entry point into the LGBTQ community's battle for equal rights and what it means to be openly transgender.

BORN BOTH: AN INTERSEX LIFE

YA

Born Both is the story of Hida Viloria's lifelong journey toward finding love and embracing an authentic identity in a world that insists on categorizing people into either/or, and of her decades-long fight for human rights and equality for intersex people everywhere.

WHERE TO LOOK FOR MORE

If you come across a figure in queer history that interests you, check to see if they have a memoir, autobiography, or biography! The more recent the figure and the history they're involved in, the more likely they are to have a memoir. Less renowned figures might be hard to find.



Movies and Documentaries

THE CELLULOID CLOSET

YA

The Celluloid Closet highlights the historical contexts that gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people have occupied in cinema history, and shows the evolution of the entertainment industry's role in shaping perceptions of LGBT figures.

HOW TO SURVIVE A PLAGUE

NR

In the late 1980s, members of Act-Up and other AIDS activists battle hostility and indifference to bring attention to the disease and try to reduce the number of victims while hoping to lead the drive to find a cure. Based on the book by David France.

THE LAVENDER SCARE

NR

The Lavender Scare explores the persecution of queer people in the Civil Service and military in the USA during the Cold War in a parallel witch hunt to the Red Scare, and executed by the same men: Joseph McCarthy and Roy Cohn, backed by President Eisenhower.

PARIS IS BURNING

YA

This documentary focuses on drag queens living in New York City and their "house" culture, which provides a sense of community and support for the flamboyant and often socially shunned performers. Groups from each house compete in elaborate balls that take cues from the world of fashion.

DISCLOSURE

T

Disclosure: Trans Lives on Screen examines Hollywood's depiction of transgender people, starting in silent films and continuing to the present day, and the impact it's left on both the transgender community and wider American culture.

PRIDE DENIED

NR

In Pride Denied, queer and trans activists and artists call for a return to prioritizing political activism and community support that characterized the emergence of the contemporary LGBT rights movement more than 40 years ago.

WHERE TO LOOK FOR MORE

Movies and documentaries are a great way to start a research project. Most are under 2 hours, and they can pack a surprising amount of information in! Be wary of sensationalist movies and documentaries - good documentaries are open with their sources!



Websites, Databases, Archives

TODAY IN LGBTQ HISTORY

Today in LGBTQ History is a project from The Lavender Effect, and provides a day-by-day compilation of notable events in LGBTQ History. This website and its information is not limited to American events and goes back over 500 years.

ACT UP ORAL HISTORY PROJECT

The ACT UP Oral History Project is an archive of 187 interviews with members of ACT UP, the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, New York. These interviews reveal what motivated them to act and how they have organized these complex endeavors.

DIGITAL TRANSGENDER ARCHIVE

The purpose of the Digital Transgender Archive (DTA) is to increase the accessibility of transgender history by providing an online hub for digitized historical materials, born-digital materials, and information on archival holdings throughout the world.

GLBT HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The GLBT Historical Society collects, preserves, exhibits and makes accessible to the public materials and knowledge to support and promote understanding of LGBTQ history, culture and arts in all their diversity.

OUTHISTORY.ORG

OutHistory.org was founded in October 2008 by Jonathan Ned Katz, author of *Gay American History: Lesbians and Gay Men in the U.S.A. (1976)* and other books on the history of sexuality and gender.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS LGBTQ+ RESEARCH GUIDE

This guide offers an introduction to the LGBTQIA+ collections of the Library of Congress. The Library collects at the research level in the area of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex and Asexual (LGBTQIA+) studies.

WHERE TO LOOK FOR MORE

Start with a credible database that collects primary sources - these are your best glimpse into history as it happened. Try to read as widely as possible and reference other credible sources - you'll find a lot of primary sources contradict each other!

