

Annual Report FY2017





CONNECT TO YOUR CENTER

http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/



From the Executive Director

We did it! After many months of negotiation, planning, construction, and packing, we will move into our Bedford-Stuyvesant home at Restoration Plaza on August 15.

Through it all, we managed to keep our doors open Monday through Friday, 12-8pm, with two full-time and three part-time staffers, and dozens of incredible volunteers. We aspire to longer open hours but, for now, that too is cause for celebration.



Yet all around us are familiar threats. The broader political environment continues to attack the LGBTQ+ community in general; people of color and transgender and gender nonconforming people in particular.

One theme keeps emerging over and over as I reflect on these things, and the year: It's heroism. By definition, a hero is a person or character of a literary work who, in the face of danger, combats adversity through impressive feats of ingenuity, bravery or strength, often sacrificing their own personal concerns for a greater good.

Dr. Demetre and Carlos Menchaca, honorees at the 2017 Community Leadership Awards and Gala, are heroes. They soar above common bounds in ways that inspire me every day. From AIDS prevention to immigration advocacy, these two are heroic warriors: queer bedrocks of our community.

But they're not the only ones. If you are reading this, it means you are among us: a friend, ally, or direct member of the LGBTQ+ community. You could be a visitor to the Center who takes advantage of all that we have to offer, a donor, volunteer, staff or board member, committee member, or a program officer at a foundation.

No matter how you identify, at some point you will have screwed your courage to its sticking place throughout the year to stand-up as an ally, for yourself, or even for the Brooklyn Community Pride Center.

I am deeply honored to serve our beloved community. Thank you!

Floyd Rumohr

Vision and Value Proposition

Our vision is to become Brooklyn's premier network of programs and services for the LGBT+ community of New York City's largest borough.

Across the spectrum from young people to elders, the Brooklyn Community Pride Center enables our community to actively participate in positive, life-affirming activities. We offer a distinctive choice for residents of New York City's largest borough to celebrate, heal, learn, create, organize, relax, socialize, and play.

Mission

The Brooklyn Community Pride Center provides services and support to the borough's LGBT+ community through original programming and partnerships with existing organizations.

Program Areas



Youth Age 12-24

- Established in 2011
- Unique visitors: 239 (FY16: 310)
- Contact sessions: 1,361 (FY16: 924)
- Discussions groups and educational forums; bullying, HIV/AIDS, coming out, LGBTQ rights, selfcare, accessing resources, writing groups; healthy recreational activities through field trips, dances, and outdoor adventures.

Open Mic Nights were a highlight of the year! Young people got to showcase their various talents such as, singing, dancing, spoken word, poetry, comedy, etc.



Elders Age 50+

- Established 2012
- Unique visitors: 14 (FY16: 40)
- Contact sessions: 224 (FY16: 138)

Ongoing social-community building support group with activities including discussions, games, movies, cultural outings, and guest presenters.



Transgender and Gender Nonconforming (TGNC)

Established 2013

• Unique visitors: 65 (FY16: 188)

• Contact sessions: 137 (FY16: 353)

Weekly drop-in group gave members of the transgender community a safe space to discuss different topics, explore TGNC resources within Brooklyn/New York all while exploring multiple identities.

For more information, visit: http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/tgnc/.



Arts and Culture

- Established 2016
- Unique visitors: 8,785 (FY16: 141)
- Supports emerging LGBT+ artists as well as community members who seek to find their own artistic voice.

2017 brought a robust expansion of arts and culture offerings at the Center. From collaborations with the New York Theatre Workshop, to diving deep into the prolific words of James Baldwin, our community celebrated its depth and breadth of lived experience through creativity this year. Most notably, our LGBTQ New Americans oral history project engaged a new cohort and collected six new interview to add to the historical record of LGBTQ lived experience.

For more information, visit: http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/arts-culture/.



Community Partners

- Established 2009
- Number of partners: 8 (FY16: 15)
- Total contact sessions: 1,210 (FY16: 1,540)
- 12-step recovery groups, support groups, and HIV testing and counseling. For current listings, please visit http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/12step-support/.

A community partners highlight is CAMBA's Young Men's Health Project that serves young men who have sex with men (YMSM) ages 13-29, including those who identify as transgender or gender nonconforming. For more information, please visit http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/camba/.

Other programmatic highlights:

- Jordan Reeves from Video Out visited the Brooklyn Center twice to record coming out stories. See elder Clint Winant's video here: https://youtu.be/KmFfKnwy8vg.
- Asako Makimura, a Japanese lesbian writer, interviewed elders about the
 acronym LGBT for a book she is writing. She followed-up with two Skype
 sessions; one from Tokyo (in the middle of the night there) and one from LA.
 She also sent us a video from Tokyo Pride 2017 and an audio interview she
 conducted with Gilbert Baker a few months before he died.

Significant Milestones



LGBTQ New Americans Project Honored September 28, 2016

City Council Member, Jumaane D. Williams, honored the Brooklyn Community Pride Center, Immigration Equality, and five LGBTQ+ artists for their hard work and advocacy on behalf of the LGBTQ+ community in Brooklyn.

Many thanks to Fredo Hernandez, Arts and Culture Group Leader for his leadership of the project; Jackie Yodashikin from Immigration Equality for their collaboration; Rebecca Centeno for video-making; and the 2017 New Americans: Elle (Bulgaria), Marvin (Jamaica), Sei (Philippines), Sergey (Kazakhstan), Alex (Jamaica), Oliver (Nigeria), and Julia (South Asia). The oral histories are available on our website: http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/lgbtg-new-americans-project/.



SAGE Table Event May 18, 2017

Nearly thirty guests joined us for our first ever SAGE Table Event. Many thanks to Debbie Brennan, Board Chair, and Floyd Rumohr, Executive Director, for hosting.

SAGE Table is a special one-day event that asks you to share a meal with LGBT+ people and allies of different generations. Simply sitting down to a table together gives us all a chance to have conversations that many of us have never had before. As we build connections among LGBT+ people of all ages, we strengthen our community ties, learn more about how we can care for each other, and forge new traditions.



Brooklyn Center Receives Community Social Impact Award June 20, 2017

The Brooklyn Center was honored by Eric Gonzalez, Acting District Attorney, Brooklyn with a Community Social Impact Award. We were in good company with other honorees including the Ali Forney Center, Caribbean American Pride, and Kylar Broadus.



Relocation to Restoration Plaza

It's been a long time coming! As of June 30, 2017, we anticipate occupying our new home at 1360 Fulton, Restoration Plaza, Brooklyn, on August 15.

Many thanks to David Kooy and Debbie Brennan for leading the construction effort; Adrian Libert for planning and implementing a twenty-first century technology infrastructure and to the many donors who have made the build-out possible!

What's Ups with the Down Numbers?

The numbers are up for arts programming and down across all other program strands. The reason? Public perception that we've been moving from 4 MetroTech has persisted throughout the fiscal year and has affected all nonarts related programming. Understandably, some folks (especially elders) are reluctant to travel to downtown Brooklyn particularly if they are faced with mobility issues.

Our new location at 1360 Restoration Plaza on the corner of New York Avenue and Herkimer not only doubles square footage but we expect foot traffic to increase significantly through FY18.

The LGBTQ New Americans Project's rapid increase is because videos are online and can be accessed by users all over the world.

Board Transitions

Two new cause champions began lending their time, talent, and treasure to the Brooklyn Community Pride Center in FY17.



Stephanie Johnson, Senior Marketing Manager, Gwynnie Bee

Stephanie brings her technology, marketing, and communications strengths to the Brooklyn Community Pride Center through her service as chair of the pr/marketing committee.



Sonelius Kendrick-Smith, Director, Deutsche Asset Management, Deutsche Bank

Sonelius co-chaired last year's Community Leadership Awards and Gala and is an asset to the Brooklyn Community Pride Center through his vast experience in financial management.

Staff

Floyd Rumohr, Executive Director (FT)
Dillon Seebalack, Program and Development Coordinator (FT)

Wilfredo ("Fredo") Hernandez, Arts and Culture Group Leader (PT) Judy Kamilhor, Elder Group Leader (PT) Stephen Rainforth, Creative Director (Contracted) Joshua Terefé, TGNC Group Facilitator (PT)

Accounting and bookkeeping services provide by Karen Rand Associates, LLC.

Independent Auditor

DelValle & Frias, CPA's PLLC

Please visit http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/annual-report-financials/ to download financial statements.

Pro-bono Counsel

Many thanks to Venable, LLP for pro-bono counsel. From real estate to human resource advice and matters in between, we thank you! We are particularly grateful to Suzanne St. Pierre, Joseph Piscina, Sandy Schlesinger, and Brian Turoff.

"As a cis gender heterosexual woman, I wanted to stand-by the LGBTQ+ community. I was looking for a group to look out for and invest in. And I got all that back and more. The Brooklyn Center looked out for me and invested in me."

- Libby Peterson, Volunteer

Volunteers

Jon Arditti
Rose Bagnarol
Mike Bergin
Olivia Bevacqua
John Brady
Hannah Carl
Nick Cevoli
Steven Cortiella
Ruby Graham Dore
Oliva Dunbar
Connor Durkin
Kate P. Fitzsimons
Mollie Gallant

Elizabeth Howland
Larissa Humphrey
Austin Jung
Kristina Kashtanova
M Lesser
Adrian Libert
Giovana Lorenzotti
Jessica Mahmoud
Eliza Edel McClelland
Shy Mckenzie
Joseph Mercado
Mariel Mok
Harry Nadeau

Thor Perplies
Libby Peterson
Natalie Raskin
Alice Remsnyder
Enoch Riese
Lucio Romero
Nina Spierer
Apollonia Tiliti
Jayson Vivas
Zell Watson
Audriana White
Kwok Yim



The LGBTQ New Americans project was supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with New York City Council.

Thank You to Our Supporters!

July 1, 2016 - June 30, 2017

The Brooklyn Community Pride Center is grateful for the generous support from the following LGBT+ champions without whom our work would not be possible.

2017 Community Leadership Awards and Gala Honorees on June 15, 2017 were Dr. Demetre Daskalakis, Queer Health Warrior, and Carlos Menchaca, NYC Council Member, 38th District, Brooklyn. We are grateful for their support and leadership in our community.



Dr. Demetre Daskalakis



Carlos Menchaca

Every effort is ensure the accuracy of the list below. Please email corrections to Dillon Seebalack, Development Associate, at dseebalack@lgbtbrooklyn.org.

Cornerstone Society

\$50,000+

H. van Ameringen Foundation

\$20,000+

Debbie Brennan and Lisa Davis Citi Community Development Janice Savin Williams (The Williams Capital Group) NYC Council Member Brad Lander NYC Council Speakers Fund

\$10,000+

Chubb Personal Risk Services David Kooy NYC Council Member Carlos Menchaca

BE BROOKLYN COMMUNITY PRIDE CENTER HE ILLIAME AP IR

2017 Gala Awards Co-Chairs David Lopez, Nick Gomez, and Jordan Bach.

\$5,000+

BFC Partners
Sarita Niranjan Bhatt
Celebrity Cruises
NYC Council Member Laurie Cumbo
Lisa Davis
NBCUniversal

NYC Council Member Daniel Dromm NYC Department of Cultural Affairs Scharpf Family Foundation NYC Council Member Vincent Gentile Venable LLP Foundation NYC Council Member Jumaane Williams

\$2,500+

Fidelity Charitable NYC Council Member Robert Cornegy Stephanie Johnson Marta Heflin Foundation Terrance Knox NYC Council Member Stephen Levin Karen Potter NYC Council Member Antonio Reynoso Jonathan Santos-Ramos

"I know I can make an impact on the Brooklyn Center, which is the only LGBTQ+ community center in Brooklyn. That motivated me to jump on board and help it grow. I have seen my contribution make a huge difference!"

- Nick Gomez, Co-Chair 2017 Community Leadership Awards and Gala

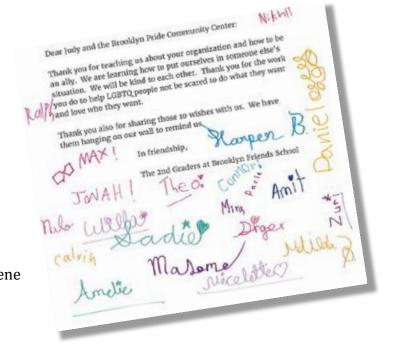
\$1,000+

A G Foundation in honor of Henry van Ameringen Alamo Citi Point, LLC Steve Ashkinazy and Michael Gomillion Gold Coast Bank Corinne P Lewis Abdul Muid Robert Murayama Culour Magazine Thomas Smith

Donors \$500 - \$999

Apple Bank for Savings Brooklyn Friends School second graders: Ralph, Nikhil, Max, Jonah, Nalo, Willa, Calvin, Amelie, Sadie, Theo, Maseme, Harper B., Connor, Paola, Mira, Ginger, Nicolette, Matilda, Zuri, Amit, Daniel, and Dellago Earl Brown Wayne Christie Anthony Crowell Kerry A English **James Johnson** Marc Karavasian NYC Department of Mental Health and Hygiene Santa Barbara Foundation Sonelius Kendrick-Smith

David Lopez Matt Sturiale Annette Torres



\$100 - \$499

Barbara Abrams Erica Anderson Asher Irene Blake William Iones Ana Bermudez and Jackie Deane in honor of Barbara Cavallo and Lois Abramchik in memory of their cousin Matthew Marianne Bower and David Hughes **Charles Branstool** Stephanie Braun Ellen Brooks Renee Vera Cafiero Allan Eduardo Cerrato Michael Coccagnia Lizzie Cofrancesco **Jacqueline Cook** Vera Danner Gary and Trevis Davis Aisha Diori Natalie Egan Charles Eubanks Carolyn Farhie Marc Fliedner Lise Foss Samuel Fraenkel Rogelio Francois **Rocky Glines** Amy Glosser Blake Glover Bernie Gonzalez Kathy Greene Howard Hassman Dylan Hightower Joshuaedwin Hinkson

Emma Hutchens

Iessica Balboni **Iennifer Beeson** Michael Bellanich Joseph Jarrin Henry Jason Shelley Johnson David Jones Lawrence Joseph Brian Kenny Theo Kogan Charles Kopelman Joseph Kopitz and Kenneth Diamondstone Thomas Krever Helena Krodel Wegweiser The Lavender Tangent Reinaldo Leandro Deborah Levinson Janet Lie in honor of Gidon Levy Gilberto D Lopez Ricky Love Andrea Lucca Alexander Mager Lou Martarano Melanie Martinez Albert Massimi Brian Mastrojanni Patrick McGrath Jeremy McGraw Crystal McIntosh Matthew Truitt McMorrow Philip Mehaffey Patricia Mendell Iessie Merrill Richard I. Montelione Monet Moon **Iessica Morris**

Michael Muska

Elizabeth and Steve Bentlev Daniel J Beyman Megan Myers William Nazareth Onaney Ortiz Elizabeth Ott PayPal Giving Fund David Parker Chelsea Pemberton Thor Perplies Anthony Piccolo Stephen Rainforth Robert Rifkin Donnie Roberts and Geoff Allman **Ieremy Roeser ID** Roeser Nicholas Ross Thomas Rozboril Floyd Rumohr and Paco Arroyo Sylvia Ryan Elizabeth Alden Schell **David Cloyce Smith** Luis E Solarte Erin Stark Amy Marie Stewart Joy Stone Monique Stokes and Latoya Stuckey Adia Terry-Puryear **Edward Thompson** Robert J. Troeller Michael Tumminia Iieoma S. Uba Zell Watson **Justin Wee** Susan White Louis J Yungling

Up to \$100

Edward "Chip" Allen Adolph Ward Goldenburg Adriannah Rodriguez Richard Allman and Frank Hartley Sarah Sapora AmazonSmile Foundation Raymond Gonzalez Debbie Sharnak Amanda Gookin **Holly Shelton** Mary Bruch Elizabeth Caliendo **GRIOT Circle** Rebecca and Jennifer John Carollo Modern Family Center Stapel Wax Robert Tinkler Julia Cheng Doni Jantzen Chipotle Mexican Grill Jonathan Adler Enterprises Melissa Tong Samantha Defaz Raymond Lam Lilyana Velez Fernandes Anie "Stephanie" Delgado Walters **Jeffrey Leeds** Ashley Wandishin Eileen Drinkwater **Janine Manchel** Tamara Ehlin David Merrill Laura Westengard Philip Fields Mary Mingey Justin Wierbonski Susan Freedner and Cathy Sebastian Moser Saverio Zappacosta **Eckdall** Paul Nagle Ian Zimmerman Dana Glasenapp Catherine Orenstein

In-Kind

Fusion Apothecary, Debbie Brennan, Lisa Davis, Gay City News, Jarritos NYC, David Kooy, Stephanie Johnson, Karen Rand Associates LLC, Adrian Libert, Brian Mastroianni, Stephen Rainforth, Riazul, Stella Artois, Venable LLP, Laura Westengard.

"I love the Brooklyn Center because the staff is so caring and so welcoming. They have a lot of wonderful books and I enjoy reading. In addition, it's also an opportunity to connect with other LGBTQ people from all walks of life".

- Ijeoma Uba, Constituent and Donor

Financials

July 1, 2016 – June 30, 2017 unaudited draft. FY17 audited financial statements are in process and will be published on our website when available.

Income: \$353,323 Expenses: \$351,313

Board Members

Debbie Brennan, President Terrance Knox, Secretary Debbie Levinson, Treasurer Jonathan Santos-Ramos, Vice President Stephanie Johnson Sonelius Kendrick-Smith Sarita Niranjan Bhatt David Kooy

Committees

- Executive, Debbie Brennan, Chair. Members: Terrance Knox, Jonathan Santos-Ramos, Sonelius Kendrick-Smith
- Finance: Members: Stephanie Johnson and Jonathan Santos-Ramos.
- Fund Development, Lisa Davis, Chair. Members: Floyd Rumohr
- Real Estate, David Kooy, Chair. Members: Debbie Brennan and Floyd Rumohr
- Board Development, Debbie Brennan, Chair. Members: Floyd Rumohr

Ad hoc:

 2017 Community Leadership Awards and Gala Steering Committee: Debbie Brennan, Lisa Davis, Stephanie Johnson, Jonathan Santos-Ramos, Floyd Rumohr

Co-chairs: Jordan Bach, Nicholas Gomez, David Lopez



Advisory Council

Richard Allman, Earl Brown, Julian Kline, and Tom Smith

Photos

Courtesy of Brooklyn District Attorney's Office, Steven Fredman, Kristina Kashtanova, and The Photo Booth.

In the News

Media presence continues to be very strong for the Brooklyn Community Pride Center:

- **Pink News,** September 28, 2016: *New York's LGBT immigrants tell their emotional stories* by Nick Duffy.
- The Advocate, October 13, 2016: *On November 8, Vote for Me* by Oliver Anene.
- The Brooklyn Ink, December 15, 2016: *An LGBT Issue, Post-Election: Family Tensions* by Jessie Shi
- **OUT-FM**, January 9, 2017: Interview by Emma Missouri of Floyd Rumohr, Dillon Seebalack, Debbie Brennan, and Lisa Davis.
- The Guardian, January 20, 2017: 'I feel nauseous': undocumented students fearful after Trump's speech by Sam Levin, Tom Dart, Nicole Puglise, and Jamiles Lartey.
- **NY1 Online,** February 1, 2017: *A Debate Grows in Central Brooklyn by Road to City Hall.*
- Kings County Politics, May 12, 2017: Brooklyn Law Makers on the Move, Hamilton Stands With LGBTQ Community Against Hate Crimes
- BK Live, June 5, 2017: Floyd Rumohr and Vaughn E. Taylor-Akutagawa describe areas of need for the LGBTQ+ community of Brooklyn on BK Live.
- News12, June 20, 2017: Brooklyn Law School hosts pride celebration
- **Brooklyn Daily Eagle**, June 21: Acting DA Gonzalez announces LGBTQ initiative during Pride Month celebration
- Gay City News, June 22 July 5, 2017: Leadership Awards at Brooklyn Pride Center
- **Fox5 News**, June 23, 2017: Pride and prejudice? Race tinges LGBT celebrations

Please visit http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/events-news/ to read the above articles online.

Goals for FY18

1. Leadership, Governance and Strategy

- a. Populate finance/audit committee.
- b. Develop a plan to evaluate expansion opportunities beyond 2020 using a framework developed in collaboration with Reaching OUT MBA.
- c. Attract a pro-bono PR firm to assist with managing the organization's public perception.

2. Programs

- a. Establish a robust internship project for LGBTQ+ youth.
- b. Restructure ElderPride.

3. Strategic Partnerships

a. Develop collaborations with several organizations to leverage limited resources that benefit LGBTA+ Brooklynites.

4. Financial Management and Reporting

- a. Sustain expenses for 2018 Community Leadership Awards and Gala.
- b. Establish three-month cash reserve to manage cash flow against city contracts.

5. Marketing and Communications

a. Rebrand for a modern, fresh look in conjunction with move to Restoration Plaza.



Contribute to Your Center!

Make your safe, secure online donation here: http://lgbtbrooklyn.org/donate/

