

# How to Celebrate LGBT History Month

## 31 DAYS, 31 LIVES, 31 STORIES

October is LGBT History Month! It's the perfect time for GSAs to put the recently passed FAIR Education Act into action and educate your peers and teachers about the important historical contributions of LGBT people.

GSA Network has partnered with Equality Forum to bring an excellent LGBT History Month resource to your GSA club. Equality Forum has created a great resource online for you featuring 31 leaders, heroes, and community members who have made a difference in the LGBT community. Each day in October, a new icon is featured with a video, biography, bibliography, images and other resources.

[www.lgbthistorymonth.com](http://www.lgbthistorymonth.com)

### How To Use the LGBT History Month Resources at Your School

Here are some ideas about how to bring LGBT History Month resources to your school.

- 1. Make an exhibit at your school** – Go to the LGBT History Month website and download the icons' pictures and bios from each day of October to create an exhibit that you post on campus. You'll need to find some place to put it up where it will be seen (i.e.- the library, cafeteria, gym, theatre, art room, or the main office).
- 2. Learn about LGBT heroes in class** – Do your teachers know about the FAIR Education Act requiring schools to present a fair, accurate, and honest account of history, including the contributions of LGBT people? Educate them so they educate you! Ask your history teachers, or any supportive teachers, to read the brief description of each icon being profiled each day for LGBT History Month aloud at the start of each class during the month of October. Short biographies and info are on the LGBT History Month website.
- 3. Profile LGBT heroes on the PA system or in your school bulletin** – A great way for GSAs to be heard and get information out is to submit an announcement for your daily bulletin, or to be read out each day on your school's PA system. The announcement would include the brief bio about each icon each day being profiled on the LGBT History Month web site. October has 31 days, which is perfect for 31 lives and 31 stories.
- 4. Hold an event** – Get active! Have an unveiling of your history exhibit. Sponsor a forum for teachers or an assembly for students. Hold a speakers' panel where speakers present the info you download from the LGBT History Month web site, or research online about famous LGBT people in history.
- 5. Become the teachers** – Use the bios about the icons on the LGBT History Month web site to make presentations in history classes, or try presenting in art, theater, or any other applicable class depending on whoever the icons are. Pick someone from the current year's list or the previous years; do some fun research, and then present it to your class.
- 6. Show Your School Board** – Compile a list of famous LGBT people in history, with bios and pictures, from the LGBT History Month web site and send the list to your school board with a letter saying that you had to learn about these famous and influential leaders on your own since they are not included in your school lessons. Let your School Board know that the FAIR Education Act requires your school to include LGBT history and social movements in social studies classes.



[www.gsanetwork.org](http://www.gsanetwork.org)

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For more information and resources for Gay-Straight Alliances, contact GSA Network:

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