FFRPL and the Rochester Public Library are committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The Rochester Public Library

The Local History & Genealogy Division of the Rochester Public Library preserves and ensures widespread access to inclusive resources and information about the diverse history of Greater Rochester and all of its residents.

Collections

The division holds one of the largest archives of LGBTQIA+ history in New York State, comprised of more than 21 individual collections. Most of the material was acquired through the efforts of Evelyn Bailey and the 'Shoulders to Stand On' documentation project. The library is committed to preserving and providing public access to the collections in perpetuity.

Programs/Exhibits

Since 2018 the library has worked with community partners to present the Anthony Mascioli Rainbow Dialogues, a 'Shoulders to Stand On' program, sponsored by FFRPL. The program contextualizes LGBTQIA+ life in Rochester against the backdrop of social justice issues.

In 2019, the library partnered with diverse stakeholders in the LGBTQIA+ community to create 'Stonewall: 50 Years Out,' a large-scale exhibition on the history of LGBTQIA+ life and activism.

The exhibit was sponsored by FFRPL.



roccitylibrary.org



ffrpl.org



A Legacy of Pride

The Evelyn Bailey
Shoulders to Stand On
Endowed Fund



The history of Rochester's LGBTQIA+ community is full of unique, amazing and iconic stories that must continue to be captured and stored.



The Evelyn Bailey Shoulders to
Stand On Endowed Fund at the
Friends & Foundation of the
Rochester Public Library was
established in 2021 to provide staff
and resources to preserve and
promote the history of Rochester's
LGBTQIA+ community.



Learn more and contribute to this important legacy project:

Donna Borgus

FFRPL Executive Director

585.428.8321

donna.borgus@libraryweb.org



"The Endowed Fund will allow the Local History & Genealogy Division to hire an LGBTQIA+ Outreach Archivist to care for the collections I placed there, expand the archive to include the people, organizations, and stories that I have not been able to chronicle, and share LGBTQIA+ history through public programs."

- Longtime LGBTQIA+ activist, educator and historian

Evelyn V. Bailey

(October 27, 1946 – July 13, 2022)



"... the community in Rochester
is far and away at the forefront of
preservation of LGBTQ culture."
-- Franklin A. Robinson, Jr., Archivist,
National Museum of American History,
Smithsonian (inaugural Anthony Mascioli
Rainbow Dialogues Keynote Speaker)



2023 Anthony Mascioli Rainbow
Dialogues Keynote Speaker:
Jeffrey Q. McCune, Jr., Director of the
Frederick Douglass Institute of African &
African-American Studies and Frederick
Douglass Associate Professor of African
American Literature and Culture at UofR.

