Kira Baker + Kristy Waller, City of Vancouver Archives BCGLAPHOTOID PROJECT

A COLLABORATION WITH THE VANCOUVER PRIDE SOCIETY & THE SUM GALLERY/QUEER ARTS FESTIVAL

BCGLA, detail from 2018-020.3726

INTRODUCTION

Established in 1976 by Ron Dutton, the B.C. Gay and Lesbian Archives (BCGLA) grew as a large collection of textual records, posters, photographs, periodicals, ephemera and audiovisual records of significance to the LGBTQ2+ community in B.C. During this time the BCGLA operated from Dutton's home. BCGLA was donated to the City of Vancouver Archives (CVA) in 2018. CVA received \$71,388 in federal funds through the National Heritage Digitization Strategy (NHDS) to digitize 2000 posters, 5400 photographs and 200 audiovisual records of the BCGLA.

Our project goal was threefold: to provide meaningful access through improved description, engage with the LGBTQ2+ community in BC and promote the use of the BCGLA collection.



RESULTS &

PHOTO ID PROJECT

Many of the photographs were originally donated to the BCGLA with no accompanying information or captions. The CVA launched the Photo Identification Project to solicit help adding descriptive information to those unidentified photographs. This was the first intentional crowdsourcing initiative for CVA. We gathered contributions at the summer outreach events as well as held a Photo ID Workshop. An online form was also created for ongoing submissions.



OUTREACH EVENTS



CVA at the 2019 Pride Festival

CVA partnered with the Vancouver Pride Society and the SUM Gallery/Queer Arts Festival (QAF) to table at the following events in Vancouver: East Side Pride, QAF Queer Songbook Orchestra, City's Pride Proclamation and the 2019 Pride Festival. The Photo ID Workshop was co-hosted with the SUM Gallery/QAF.

DISCUSSION

To date, we have added 350 public contributions to descriptive metadata.

Outreach work has also fostered new donor relationships from people we connected with or who heard about our project work.



BCGLA, detail from 2018-020.5192

ACA Annual Conference, June 11, 2020