

# rainbopedia®

*The online archive of global LGBTQ history, current events, and personal stories*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Rainbopedia Introduces Storytellers Workshops**

*LGBTQ Nonprofit Invites People Around the World to Submit Oral History Videos*

Los Angeles, CA (August 2021) – Rainbopedia, the game-changing online global LGBTQ archive, is promoting Storytellers, their oral history program that invites people everywhere to submit short videos about the worldwide LGBTQ experience.

The Storytellers program is an opportunity for people to be creative and contribute to a larger cause by sharing stories about themselves, others, or a historical person, place, or event. Submitted Storytellers videos will be curated and presented on the Rainbopedia website, YouTube channel, and Instagram.

Rainbopedia is offering two different ways to learn more about Storytellers: an explainer video and an online or in-person workshop. The explainer video stars comedians Liz Glazer and Jared Goldstein, and describes the steps needed to create and upload a Storytellers video. The interactive workshop is an easy, step-by-step course designed to be led by a facilitator.

Rainbopedia is partnering with CenterLink, the umbrella organization for global LGBTQ Centers, so these resources can be shared. Both the explainer video and the workshop will be available in September. Information will also be available at [rainbopedia.org](https://rainbopedia.org).

Rainbopedia is also producing a video ad campaign to promote Storytellers featuring celebrated LGBTQ performance artists like John Fleck, Ian MacKinnon, Odious Ari, and others. These 90-second spots will be made available to Centers to help them promote the program.

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*Rainbopedia is a nonprofit organization whose mission is to provide an online platform for documenting, archiving, and exploring global LGBTQ history, current events, and personal stories. More than just an online encyclopedia, Rainbopedia includes user-generated text, audio, video, photos, timelines, and geo-location mapping—and the ability to translate everything into 35+ languages! Rainbopedia will amplify marginalized voices, broaden acceptance, and help end homophobia around the world.*

Rainbopedia is a Los Angeles-based 501(c)3 nonprofit.

## TEAM RAINBOPEDIA

### **Eric Handel**, Founder/CEO

Eric is an award-winning designer working with clients in hi-tech, publishing, entertainment, and the arts. His work focuses on branding and product packaging as well as art direction and design of websites and mobile apps. Eric has devoted his adult life to LGBTQ and AIDS activism. He campaigned against California's Briggs Initiative in 1978, was a founding member of an artists' collective working with ACT UP LA in the 1980s and 90s, and produced activist art for Queer Nation and LGBTQ organizations. Eric created Rainbopedia as a global platform to transform what it means to be LGBTQ in the world today, and to preserve this epic history for generations to come.

### **Ellen Roebuck**, Co-Founder/Brand Development

Ellen has guided brands in the arts, entertainment, retail and corporate worlds for more than 25 years and is a brand champion for companies large and small. She was Creative Director at Belkin International, where she managed global branding and packaging; Art Director at Columbia Pictures; and Art Director at Tajima Creative, where she directed multiple projects for Washington Mutual Bank branches and corporate headquarters. Her work with Rainbopedia combines her brand and development expertise with her love for and long standing involvement in the LGBTQ community which began in Washington DC in the 80's, working within the AIDS health crisis and creating the Play It Safe campaign. Ellen received her BFA in Design from Carnegie Mellon University.

### **Joseph R. Hawkins, PhD**, Consulting Development Advisor

Joseph is professor of Gender Studies at the University of Southern California and the Director of ONE National Gay & Lesbian Archives at USC Libraries, the oldest existing lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender organization in the United States and the largest repository of LGBT materials in the world.

### **Jeffrey Nelson**, Editor/Copywriter

Jeffrey has broad experience writing and editing for a number of clients. Documenting events and communicating information are a passion for him and an ever-instructive journey. Operating with the belief that humankind has the capacity to solve its problems and achieve an ever more just and peaceful society, he is drawn toward work that helps further those goals.

### **David Oshima**, Prototype Developer

David is a website developer who works with various healthcare, entertainment, advocacy, ecommerce and non-profit organizations. He served as the webmaster for the Queer Lounge at Sundance, Disney Art Classics, the National Association of Television Program Executives, and was a consultant on a redesign of the Getty Conservation Institute website.

### **Jeffrey Langham**, Consulting Editorial Advisor

Jeffrey oversees the management and strategic development of the USC Shoah Foundation website. He worked at a Los Angeles-area design firm for seven years as a web designer, programmer, and copywriter. Jeffrey has expertise in nonprofit messaging and branding strategies as well as an academic background in queer theory and culture. He received his doctorate in English literature from the University of Southern California.

### **Mike Reese**, Consulting Technology Advisor

Mike is a technology professional with 30 years of experience in the field of Software Quality Assurance. He has worked in a variety of environments, from large-scale corporations to small start-ups, including Xerox and Entertainment Partners. Mike provides software testing on a wide variety of platforms and web applications. Mike has two BS degrees, one in Electrical Engineering and one in Computer Science, from UC Irvine.

### **Marialidia Marcotulli, PhD**, Advancement Specialist

Marialidia Marcotulli is a seasoned executive in Technology, Sustainability and Culture. As a Founder, Executive Director, Senior Producer and Organizational/Business Development Strategist she brings her IT knowledge through quantitative and qualitative research methodologies to the advancement of projects and creatives. She has served on boards including KWMMR community radio, MarinArts.org, Prison Yoga Project and is an advisor to the Earth Charter Institute in San José, Costa Rica.