

Pittsburgh Lesbian and Gay Film Society Fact Sheet

Founded The Pittsburgh International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival (PILGFF) began in 1985 as the Lesbian and Gay Film Series, a project of the Pittsburgh's Gay and Gay Community Center, with the goal of providing opportunities for viewing media by and about lesbian and gay people and their experiences. In 1985 the Film Series became a separate event, formed its own Board of Directors, and launched the first film festival in 1986 with the cooperation of Pittsburgh Filmmakers. The Pittsburgh International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival is proud to hold the distinction of being the 5th oldest consecutive running festival in North America and the 6th oldest in the world.

In 1987 the Film Festival incorporated, was granted non-profit status, and applied for funding as a major, new, and innovative presenter of lesbian and gay media in Pennsylvania and the nation.

In 2006, the organization changed its corporate name to the Pittsburgh Lesbian and Gay Film Society in order to show its dedicated commitment to become an organization that provides year round activities. The Pittsburgh Lesbian and Gay Film Society is now the proud presenter of the Annual Pittsburgh International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

In 2012, the festival has been rebranded as Reel Q, The Pittsburgh International LGBT Film Festival in order to embrace all segments of the LGBT community and its straight allies.

The Film Festival has grown to a ten-day film festival each October, presenting over fifty films and videos as well as producing, hosting, and participating in a wide array of cultural and community events throughout the year. The Pittsburgh International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival serves the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities in Pittsburgh and the surrounding tri-state region. In addition, PLGFS provides a crucial service to the cultural vitality of Pittsburgh, designed to support lesbian and gay artists, and to provide a much needed cultural outlet for the lesbian and gay communities in Pittsburgh and the surrounding areas.

While Reel Q typically highlights major feature films of interest to the lesbian and gay community, we also provide a much-needed venue for independent film and video from the United States and abroad. The Film Festival also sponsors an educational symposium featuring an internationally acclaimed figure in lesbian and gay media. Past speakers have included independent filmmakers Isaac Julien, Peggy Gilpin, Cheryl Dunye, Rob Marshall, and art critic and AIDS activist Douglas Crimp.

Mission Pittsburgh Lesbian and Gay Film Society's mission is to celebrate LGBT culture and foster appreciation and visibility through film.

Executive Director Mitchell Leib

Board Members James A. Richards

Marketing

Jaime Tracktenberg
Outreach

Tama Bentley
Secretary/Volunteers

Kevin Lovelace
Fiscal Development

Mark Frechione
Events

Budget and Fundraising

Pittsburgh Lesbian and Gay Film Society is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization that exists through the generous support of its donors. A copy of the official registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

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