

# Strategic Plan 2005–2007



# Mission Statement

To collect, preserve, and promote the history and culture of sexual minorities in the metropolitan Washington, DC area.



# Vision for 2007

Rainbow History Project will be recognized as *the* source of historical information and resources about metropolitan Washington DC's GLBT community



# Collections

GOAL: To create research collections, with finding aids/catalogs, that are the primary resource for study of local DC GLBT history.

- Periodicals
- Topical
- Individuals
- Organizations
- Oral histories



# Collections

- Periodical collections

- To expand the collection of DC African-American periodicals, including *Blacklight*, *Blackout*, and *Diplomat*
- To complete our collection of the *Gay Blade*, *Blade*, & *Washington Blade*
- To complete our collection of Mattachine Society of Washington publications, including *The Insider* and *The Homosexual Citizen*
- To add other woman-focused local publications to our collection (we have a complete collection of *WOMO*)
- To identify ethnically-focused local GLBT periodicals, including Spanish-language, Asian, and others.



# Collections

- Topical

- To create topical collections of local Pride documents, ephemera, and photos
- To expand topical collections of GLBT ethnically-based organizations, e.g. Khush, DC Coalition, Asians & Friends, etc.
- To create topical collections within women's history on women's music & festivals, support/advocacy organizations & health
- To create topical collections on GLBT activist issues, e.g. harassment, civil rights, transgendered.



# Collections

- Individuals

- Identify local GLBT “pioneers” and develop biographical clip files for each person
- Compile correspondence files
- Compile clippings for oral history narrators’ files



# Collections

- Oral Histories

- Keep current all oral history narrator files
- Transcribe all oral history tapes
- Select sound bites from oral histories for RHP website



# Collections

- Organizations

- Select major activist, social, professional organizations for clip files
  - Assemble clippings for those organizations selected
  - Collect organizational newsletters and other publications
  - Seek donations of defunct GLBT organizations' corporate records (we currently have papers of Gay Women's Alliance and National Coalition of Black Gays)



# Preservation

Goal: to preserve metropolitan Washington, DC GLBT history at professional standards

- Collections
  - *Friends Radio* tapes
  - NCBG
  - GWA
  - Roadwork
- Historic buildings and sites



# Promotion

- Public events
  - Discussions/Talking History
  - Exhibits
    - Pride: Protest or Parade
    - AIDS in DC
    - Whitman Sesquicentennial
  - Walking Tours
- Research & Publishing
- Researcher Support
- Virtual Archives online



# Administration

## Move to more professional operational basis

- Organization

- » Revise bylaws to allow appointed executive board members
- » Recruit Executive Director
- » Secure D&O insurance

- Finances

- » Raise additional \$20,000 to cover preservation of Friends tapes
- » Fund Executive Director position
- » Retain CPA firm for audit, 990 filing



# Boards

- Executive
  - Recruit board members to take responsibility for operations/activities
  - Improve diversity among members
  - Fundraising expertise
- Advisory
  - Involve advisors in promotional activities, collecting and preserving materials
  - Policy decisions



# Marketing / PR

- Involve RHP in local professional groups through partnerships, memberships, joint projects, sponsorships
- Participate actively in online and face-to-face discussions to give RHP a higher public/professional profile
  - Track and participate in online discussions of GLBT historical issues
  - Participate in historical conferences
    - Strengthen ties to CLGH, LAGAR, SOLGA professional caucuses

