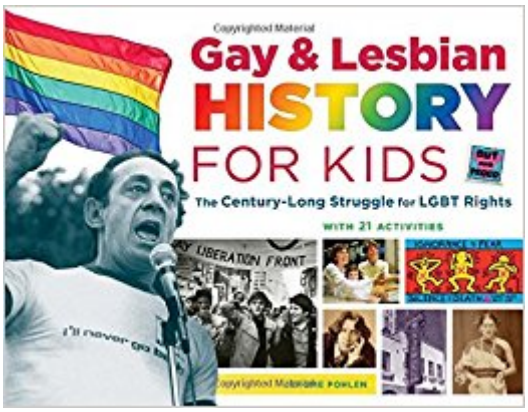
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Gay & Lesbian History For Kids: The Century-Long Struggle For LGBT Rights, With 21 Activities (For Kids Series)



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Synopsis

Who transformed George WashingtonÃ¢â ¬â„¢s demoralized troops at Valley Forge into a fighting force that defeated an empire? Who cracked GermanyÃ¢â ¬â„¢s Enigma code and shortened World War II? Who successfully lobbied the US Congress to outlaw child labor? And who organized the 1963 March on Washington? Ls, Gs, Bs, and Ts, thatÃ¢â ¬â„¢s who. Ã Â Given todayÃ¢â ¬â„¢s news, it would be easy to get the impression that the campaign for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) equality is a recent development, but it is only the final act in a struggle that started more than a century ago. The history is told through personal stories and firsthand accounts of the movementÃ¢â ¬â„¢s key events, like the 1950s Ã¢â ¬Å“Lavender Scare,Ã¢â ¬Â• the Stonewall Inn uprising, and the AIDS crisis. Kids will learn about civil rights mavericks, like Dr. Magnus Hirschfeld, founder of the first gay rights organization; Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin, who turned the Daughters of Bilitis from a lesbian social club into a powerhouse for LGBT freedom; Christine Jorgensen, the nationÃ¢â ¬â„¢s first famous transgender; and Harvey Milk, the first out candidate to win a seat on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Also chronicled are the historic contributions of famous LGBT individuals, from General von Steuben and Alan Turing to Jane Addams and Bayard Rustin, among others. This up-to-date history includes the landmark Supreme Court decision making marriage equality the law of the land. Twenty-one activities enliven the history and demonstrate the spirited ways the LGBT community has pushed for positive social change. Ã Â Kids can: write a free verse poem like Walt Whitman; learn Ã¢â ¬Å“The MadisonÃ¢â ¬Â• line dance; remember a loved one with a quilt panel; perform a monologue from The Laramie Project; make up a song parody; and much more.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 14 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #232,403 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #40 inÃ Â Books > Children's

Books > Education & Reference > History > Modern #90 inÃ Â Books > Gay & Lesbian > History

Age Range: 9 and up

Grade Level: 4 and up

Customer Reviews

Gr 5Ã¢â ¬â œ8Ã¢â ¬â •Tackling everything from Sappho, the Daughters of Bilitis, and the Lavender Menace to Dan Savage, Gladys Bentley, and Ellen DeGeneres, this title offers a comprehensive view of LGBTQ history. While the topic is often framed through the lens of marriage rights, this book provides a multifaceted perspective, emphasizing gay and lesbian figures' places in history. Readers learn that Louisa May Alcott, Maurice Sendak, Marlene Dietrich, Bayard Rustin, and Alan Turing were all members of the LGBTQ community, though many of them were not "out." Readers also gain an understanding of the scope of LGBTQ erasure that has occurred from Pohlen's discussion of how in Emily Dickinson's love poems the words she and her were changed to he and her. While many have whitewashed LGBTQ history, Pohlen discusses two transgender individuals of color who were present at Stonewall (both were teens at the time), Sylvia Rivera and Marsha P. Johnson. In addition, Pohlen emphasizes that while the Stonewall Riots were an important turning point in American history, they were not the only time that the queer community has stood up for its rights. The text is upbeat, conversational, and often humorous in tone. Smattered with compelling photographs, biographical sidebars, and interactive activities (of varying quality), this vital and inclusive history fleshes out the LGBTQ education readers have long been denied, bringing it to light and giving it the attention it deserves. VERDICT A necessary purchase for collections that serve middle grade and teenage patrons.Ã¢â ¬â •Ingrid Abrams, The Town School, New York City

Ã¢â ¬Å“This is an important book that puts the present day gains of the LGBT movement into perspective for todayÃ¢â ¬â„¢s youth. Interesting, informative, and full of wonderful archival photographs, I applaud Jerome Pohlen for this significant contribution to LGBT literature for young readers. This is a wonderful book.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •LeslÃƒÂ©a Newman, author, Heather Has Two Mommies and October Mourning: A Song for Matthew Shepard Ã¢â ¬Å“This outstanding book is highly recommended for middle/high school libraries, as supplementary reading for social studies/history classes, and also for general adult LGBT history/current events collections.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •GLBT Reviews Ã¢â ¬Å“Young peopleÃ¢â ¬â •and even their parents and teachersÃ¢â ¬â •will find PohlenÃ¢â ¬â„¢s book informative, enjoyable, and inspiring.Ã¢â ¬Â•

Ã¢â ¬â •Boston Bay WindowsÃ¢â ¬Å“[L]ively and engaging proseÃ¢â ¬Â¦ informative and appealingly told.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Kirkus ReviewsÃ¢â ¬Å“[T]his is an important resource that belongs in every collection.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •BooklistÃ¢â ¬Å“This vital and inclusive history fleshes out the LGBTQ education readers have long been denied, bringing it to light and giving it the attention it deservesÃ¢â ¬Â¦ A necessary purchase for collections that serve middle grade and teenage patrons.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •School Library JournalÃ¢â ¬Å“[E]veryone could use this kind of education.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •POZÃ¢â ¬Å“My hope is that this book finds its way into the hands of as many children as possible in the coming years, and adults should take a look too!Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Hotspots MagazineÃ¢â ¬Å“A fantastic resource that should be on the shelves of every school and public library.Ã¢â ¬Â•Ã Â Ã¢â ¬â •Teen Librarian ToolboxÃ¢â ¬Å“[T]his is groundbreaking.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Liberty PressÃ¢â ¬Å“[A] much-needed history of the struggle for LGBT civil rights.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â •Social Educdation, starred review

This is a very good book for adults as well as children. As a gay man, who struggled with my sexuality for years, before accepting myself fully about 1976; I thought I had a good knowledge of the struggle for equality. I have lived much of it. But this book included a lot I didn't know. I would have appreciated something about the struggle for acceptance of lgbt people in churches. I was a Lutheran minister for 19 years until I lost my job and was removed from the clergy roster in 1991. I was a minister in the ELCA, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The ELCA changed its policy about 4 years ago and now welcomes lgbt clergy. I was welcomed as a minister in the United Church of Christ 8 years ago. The UCC ordained its first openly gay man in 1972. But despite not including much about gays in the church, it is a great overview of our journey as lgbt folks. I was very pleased that transgender people were included. I will recommend the book to young people and adults in our church.

Great book for the kid's teacher and classroom!!

Wonderful and educational book for both pre teens and teens.

I bought this for my GSA after-school club of 8th graders. One of my students liked it so much, she asked to keep it. It's hers now :)

Interesting for all ages! Well presented and researched.

Arrived quickly and is just what I was hoping it would be! Wonderful!

Gay and Lesbian History for Kids is an informative, engaging and visually stunning book. I really appreciate that it is thorough and inclusive and that the stories of lesbians and transgender folks are not just a side bar or afterthought. It will be a great resource for any child or teenager who wants to understand the challenges that gays and lesbians have endured and the many victories along the way. My only complaint is that many of the the activities seemed irrelevant to the topic and almost seemed made up to fulfill the requirement for 21 activities. It was especially startling to see a light, fun-filled activity in the same section where HIV and AIDS was discussed. Otherwise, a great addition to the For Kids Series.Thank you to Edelweiss for allowing me to review this book for an honest opinion.

This is a great book for kids who have an interest in LGBT history. It’s well written and interesting enough to read straight through (which I did). I docked it a star, because I think it is probably not for "kids," who we tend to think of as elementary school aged, but more teens, grades 6 and up. Not that there is any inappropriate content for younger kids, just that the text is dense. I do think kids as young as 4th grade might read it anyway, if they know someone who is LGBT, are LGBT or are just particularly interested in the topic. I agree with the reviewer who says that the activities seem out of place. They don’t necessarily enhance the experience and are younger than the text.

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