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**OUT AT CHM EXPLORES ART, POLITICS, AND CULTURE OF THE LGBT  
COMMUNITY**

Three programs in 2007 focus on censorship, liberation, and AIDS activism

CHICAGO (January 4, 2007) – The 2007 *OUT at CHM* programming will revolve around the overarching theme of art, politics, and culture. Three sessions will explore the history of the politics of lesbian and gay art, the early history of gay liberation and lesbian feminism in Chicago, and the political activism of gay visual and performance artists during the early years of the AIDS crisis. All three programs will be held at the Chicago History Museum, from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. with cocktails beginning at 5:30 p.m. The cost to attend is \$10, students and Museum members are discounted at \$5.

The first program, *Art, Sex, and Censorship from Paul Cadmus to the PATRIOT Act* will take place on **Wednesday, January 17**. Presenting on the subject will be Richard Meyer, Sachs Visiting Professor, Department of Art History, University of Pennsylvania, and author of *Outlaw Representation: Censorship and Homosexuality in Twentieth-Century American Art*. Meyer, one of the country's leading gay art historians, will give a visual presentation on the visibility and censorship of gay and lesbian art in the United States from the 1930s to today. Meyer will address works that were destroyed or removed from public view as well as those which could never have been shown at the time of their creation. Art by both male and female practitioners will be included, as will recent controversies concerning artistic expression in the age of the USA PATRIOT Act and the "war against terror."

The second program, *Gay is the Revolution: Lesbian and Gay Liberation in Chicago* will occur on **Thursday, April 19**. Participants will learn about Chicago's lesbian and gay liberation movement from the people who led it. Gay historian, John D'Emilio, and a panel of activists

will discuss Chicago's vibrant political and cultural movement from the 1960s to the present, and its profound influence on events nationwide.

The third program, *AIDS, Art, and Activism*, on **Tuesday, June 5**, will explore the earliest responses to the AIDS crisis and the singular role played by filmmakers and visual and performance artists in that response. Experts speaking to this topic include Jennie Brier from the University of Illinois at Chicago, and Mary Patten from the School of the Art Institute. The panel will trace the legacy and direct influence of early gay activism, including the role of lesbians in the 1970s women's health movement, on early AIDS activism.

*Out at CHM* is supported by a generous gift from The Elizabeth Morse Charitable Trust with additional support from UBS and The Irving Harris Foundation. It is presented in partnership with the Center on Halsted, Columbia College Institute for the Study of Women and Gender in the Arts and Media, the University of Illinois at Chicago Gender and Women's Studies Department, and the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences at Northwestern University.

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The Chicago History Museum, a major museum and research center for Chicago and American history, is located at 1601 N. Clark Street. The Museum can be reached by CTA buses 11, 22, 36, 72, 151, and 156. Parking is conveniently located one block north of the Museum at Clark and LaSalle Streets (enter on Stockton Drive). Admission to the Museum is a suggested donation of \$12 adults, \$10 Seniors/Students, free for children 12 years and younger. General Admission is free on Mondays. Please call 312.642.4600 or visit us at [www.chicagohistory.org](http://www.chicagohistory.org). The Chicago History Museum is affiliated with the Chicago Historical Society and acknowledges the Chicago Park District's generous support of all the Museum's activities.