

OFFICE OF  
TRANSGENDER INITIATIVES



# Transgender History Month



SF Human Rights Commission Meeting

8/14/2025



# Founding of Trans History Month



On August 24, 2021, San Francisco Mayor London Breed declared August as Transgender History Month in San Francisco. The declaration was the first of its kind in the world, and underscored the City's role as a leader in LGBTQI+ rights and representation.

55 years after the Compton's Cafeteria Riots, the declaration marked a historic collaboration in San Francisco, as elected officials joined the Transgender District and the Office of Transgender Initiatives in recognizing the contributions of transgender people.

With the support of the City and County of San Francisco's Office of Transgender Initiatives (OTI) and the Women's Foundation of California, Ms. Jupiter Peraza and The Transgender District worked with the Mayor to establish the commemorative month.



**Jupiter Peraza**  
The Architect of Trans History Month





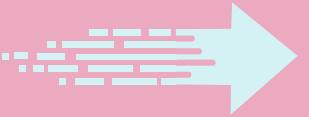
# Compton's Cafeteria Riot

In August of 1966, transgender people and drag queens fought back against police harassment and brutality. At a time when LGBT people were often arrested for socializing, and transgender people and drag queens could be arrested at any time, Gene Compton's Cafeteria was a popular meeting spot for transgender people and drag queens.

Though the event was three years before the Stonewall Riots, the event was largely forgotten until Dr. Susan Stryker's 2005 film, *Screaming Queens: The Riot at Compton's Cafeteria*, brought renewed attention to this pivotal moment of resistance.







# A Growing Movement

San Diego, Santa Clara, and Statewide



## Transgender History Month

Make August a time to learn, celebrate, and advocate!



In 2022, the City of Santa Clara declared August as Transgender History Month.



In 2023, with the support of Assemblymember Matt Haney, California officially expanded Transgender History Month statewide, making it the first state in the nation to recognize the month of August as Transgender History Month.

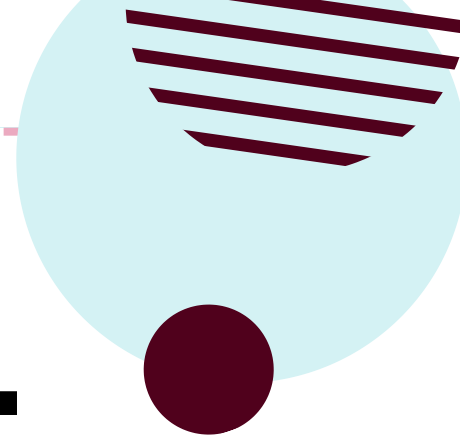
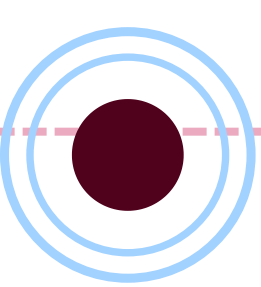


In 2024, the San Diego City Council unanimously declared August Transgender History Month.

In 2025, Windsor became the first Sonoma County community to recognize Transgender History Month.







# Why it's important

in 2025,  
**969 anti-trans bills**  
have been introduced in state legislature across the country so far

While the rights of LGBTQI+ people have advanced greatly since 1966, many of the wins of yesterday are currently under attack. It was only in 1974 that San Francisco's anti cross-dressing law was repealed .

Today, even foundational rights are at risk. In recent years, state legislatures across the country have attempted to implement drag bans. US v Skrametti rolled back the rights for trans youth and their families to access lifesaving care. This week, the Supreme Court was asked to review Obergefell v Hodges, the case that enshrined the right to same-sex marriage in the United States.

**TRANS YOUTH**

**PASSPORT BANS**

**CENSORSHIP**

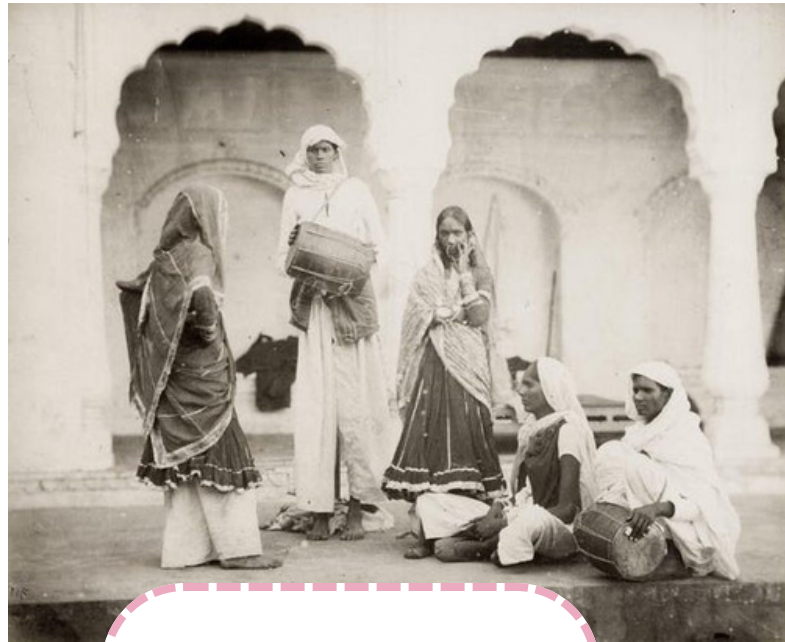
**GENDER-AFFIRMING  
CARE BANS**



# Trans People have Always Existed

across time and cultures

Oldest known writings dating back to Ancient Sumeria reference the Goddess Inana who had the power to change gender – also refer to people of a third gender. Cultures from across the globe: Hijras, Burrneshas, Fa'afafine, Fakaleiti, Māhū, Muxes, Two-Spirit People



Hijras of South Asia



Burrneshas of  
The Balkans



Fa'afafine and Fa'afatama  
of Samoa



Māhū of Hawai'i



Fakaleitis of Tonga



Native American  
Two-Spirit communities



Muxes of Oaxaca



# Trans Historical Figures in the US



**Public Universal Friend**



**Mother George**



**Alan L. Heart**



**Lucy Hicks Anderson**



**Billy Tipton**



**Christine Jorgensen**



**Jackie Shane**



**Reed Erickson**



**Renée Richards**



**Lou Sullivan**



**Wendy Carlos**



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SAN FRANCISCO  
**Transgender  
History Month 2025**  
COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## August 7

Expansive - A Showcase of Transgender & Nonbinary Classical Artists  
7:30 PM | A.C.T. Toni Rembe Theater | [transgenderdistrictsf.com](https://transgenderdistrictsf.com)

## August 15

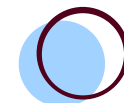
Poetry Reading in Support of Compton's Coalition  
6 PM | Oakland Tamarack | [comptonsxcoalition.net](https://comptonsxcoalition.net)

## August 15

Herstory Comes Alive - Compton's Cafeteria Riot Staged Reading  
7 - 9 PM | 835 Larkin St. | [transgenderdistrictsf.com](https://transgenderdistrictsf.com)

## August 21

Speaking off: The Castro Fog - Why We Forget Our Other Gayborhoods  
7 - 9 PM | GLBT Historical Society Museum | [glbthistory.org/](https://glbthistory.org/)



## August 23

Riot Party  
4 - 9 PM | Trellis - 981 Mission St. | [transgenderdistrictsf.com](https://transgenderdistrictsf.com)

## August 23

59th Anniversary of Cafeteria Riot  
5 - 8 PM | Counterpulse SF | [comptonsxcoalition.net](https://comptonsxcoalition.net)

## August 25

Transgender History Month Celebration at State Capitol  
10:30 - 2 PM | California State Capitol | [Transgenderdistrictsf.com](https://Transgenderdistrictsf.com)

## August 25

The Future was Always Nonbinary - Virtual Creative Gathering  
5:30 - 7:30 PM | Virtual via Zoom | [diamond-wave.org](https://diamond-wave.org)

## August 27

SF TransStory Panel  
6 - 7:30 PM | Queer Arts Featured | [castrolgbtq.org](https://castrolgbtq.org)