

LEATHER ARCHIVES & MUSEUM

# ANNUAL REPORT

2025



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# FROM THE PRESIDENT



**BILLY LANE**

LA&M Board President

As we move into 2026 and close out another amazing year at the Leather Archives & Museum (LA&M), I am honored to reflect on our progress, our challenges, and our continued commitment to preserve, educate, and celebrate leather, kink, fetish, and BDSM histories. 2025 more than ever, demonstrated the power of our community and the importance of our mission.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I extend heartfelt thanks to our staff, volunteers, donors and members whose dedication makes this work possible.

Like many cultural institutions, LA&M is facing challenges including an increasingly hostile political environment, rising operational costs, and the evolving needs of our community. In spite of this, the community showed up, assisting us in raising the money for operational costs as well as for our Capital Campaign, enabling us to move forward with a much needed renovation that will protect our history for generations to come.

We approach the future with optimism, grounded in our history and energized by the possibilities ahead.

None of this work would be possible without you. Thank you for believing in the importance of preserving our histories and for standing with the Leather Archives & Museum.

In Leather and Service,  
Billy Lane  
President, Board of Directors

# LA&M MISSION

This framework identifies the guideposts that align our work with our values, moving us toward our vision to become the model for what a 21st-century independent research library can and should be.

Our focus areas continually evolve, but our mission to make leather, kink, BDSM, and fetish accessible through research, preservation, education and community engagement remains the same. We are committed to our work, building an inclusive collection that encourages open-minded exploration.

## VALUES

**Inclusion** - Continuously work to ensure we are inclusive of all voices who are a part of the history and culture we seek to preserve.

**Preservation** - Maintain and care for our collections to ensure future access.

**Education** - Create opportunities for others to connect and learn more about the stories represented in our collections.

**Community** - Bring communities together to experience shared culture and identity.

**Professionalism** - Perform all facets of our work at a high standard of excellence.

## STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

- Develop and enhance engaging exhibits in the LA&M Galleries, online and at offsite locations.
- Build and maintain a robust collection.
- Create and deliver programs and experiences that nurture the desires of community members and those curious to learn more about our history, heritage and social life.
- Connect more deeply with the research community to have our collections used by scholars, students, journalists, writers, artists, filmmakers and others seeking to develop a wider understanding of our history and culture.
- Develop and distribute consistent and vibrant communication and marketing tools that represent our value and relevance in the world today.

## VISION

The Leather Archives & Museum is the premier institution collecting and preserving histories of leather, kink, fetish and BDSM communities, providing transformative experiences both in person and online.



# COLLECTIONS

While all of LA&M's work is important, its collections form the true heart of the organization. This is our history, our stories, told through personal correspondence, photographs, newsletters, magazines, leathers, gear, toys, artwork, posters, flyers, published books, pins, patches, banners, and much more.

## Notable Collections



### Anthony F. DeBlase Collection

Records related to Tony DeBlase's personal life and career as a writer, publisher, activist, and educator.



### Midori Collection

Papers and ephemera related to Midori's travel and work as an educator and presenter.



### Society of Janus Collection

Files related to the board of directors, events, correspondence, the Growing Pains newsletter and interviews with club members.



### Dom "Etienne" Orejudos Collection

Personal papers, correspondence, original artwork, artwork copies and prints, and other material collected by or about the artist.

## New Acquisitions

A selection of new acquisitions from 2025

- Archives of Galleria Domain 2 including photos and operation files
- Barking News magazine from publisher Kole Durant
- New accruals to the Male Spanking Community collection curated by Justin and Trevor
- Interview and the cremated remains of Sam Steward, donated by Michael Gifford and the Samuel M. Steward Estate
- Katharine Gates's collection of research materials concerning her book, *Deviant Desires: A Tour of the Erotic Edge*
- Additions to Nancy Ava Miller's collection related to People Exchanging Power

## Newly Cataloged Materials

New Accessions	Collections Processed	New Entities	New Events	New Objects
119	8	738	55	1,648

# RESEARCH



Kevin Henderson was selected as the 13<sup>th</sup> LA&M Visiting Scholar. Kevin is researching the NOW SM Policy Reform Project, the 1988 Dallas Conference, and

the 1987 and 1993 March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bi Equal Rights and Liberation. This Visiting Scholars program is funded by Leather SINS/Kinky Kollege.



Thomas Choinacky was selected as LA&M's first Emerging Artist in Residence where they are working on the project "Why Do We Gather," examining club and

organization meeting records, photographs, newsletters and other ephemera. Thomas' research will lead to an exhibition and program at LA&M and online in Spring 2026.

## Selected Research Work from 2025

Scholars, academics, writers, students, artists, filmmakers, and community members use the archival collections in hundreds of fascinating research topics:

- Disability and the kink and leather community.
- Fisting community and HIV/AIDS
- BDSM institutional regulation and criminalization
- Rubber and latex aesthetics and community history
- Clowns in fetish art
- Asexuality and asexual community members
- Leather care and bootblacking
- Uniform and sports gear fetishism
- Poppers and representation in advertising
- Latina/o Chicagoans
- Black and Latino/a gay pornography
- Mid-America Conference of Clubs
- Piercing, tattoos and body modification history
- Leather bars
- Trans women in kink and leather communities and trans fem erotica
- Oregon and BIPOC leather community
- Newsletter, zine and magazine design
- Male dominant heterosexual relationships

Researchers

**123**

Research Visits

**178**

Virtual Research Questions

**197**

# PROGRAMS & EVENTS

As part of our mission to connect people with leather history and culture, LA&M hosts a variety of programs and events each month, allowing community members and curious individuals to explore and celebrate kink. Our capacity to do so relies on amazing group of volunteers who make our work possible.



LA&M hosted 40 kink classes in 2025, ranging from flogging to bondage to meditation. Over 1,000 people at various skill levels attended.



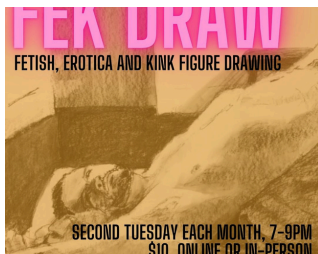
We held the 1<sup>st</sup> Chicago Leather Pride Weekend which included an official proclamation from the city, a leather pride march, and the Fetish Follies.



Gear Night is a monthly social event sponsored by Jackhammer. The event provides a welcoming space for people to wear gear and hang out.



LA&M provides space for many groups and special events, including Linkup Chicago, supporting black gay, bi, pan and trans men.



Fetish, Erotica and Kink figure drawing began in 2020, and continues to create studio space both online and in person to draw our fetish models.



LA&M's lecture series connects the community with writers, artists and filmmakers creating contemporary works in the fetish genre.



2025 was the 3rd year for the Fetish Film Forum, presented by John McDevitt. Each month, we screen fetish cinema with an opportunity to discuss afterwards with others.



The Etienne Auditorium welcomed people to a special screening of Orlando Bedolla's film Encuerados, highlighting Latino leather culture in Los Angeles.

Programs & Events

**163**

People Attending Programs

**6,426**

Volunteer Hours

**927**

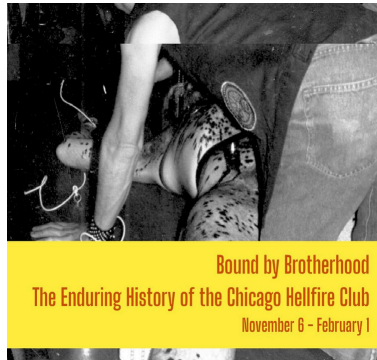


# MUSEUM & EXHIBITIONS

The LA&M galleries are the point where most visitors engage with our history and collections. They provide an opportunity to share our own vast materials, as well as loaned items from artists, historians and collectors in the broader fetish community.



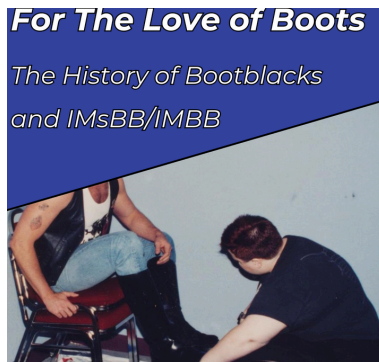
Photographs and artwork feature some of the leather community's great leaders and kinksters.



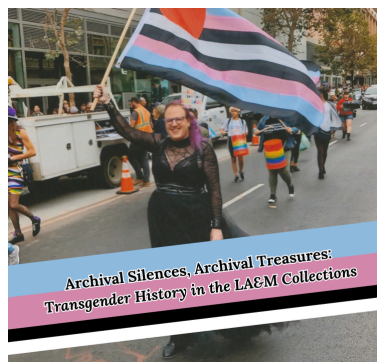
Members of the Chicago Hellfire Club curated an exhibit that shares the history of the club and its continued growth.



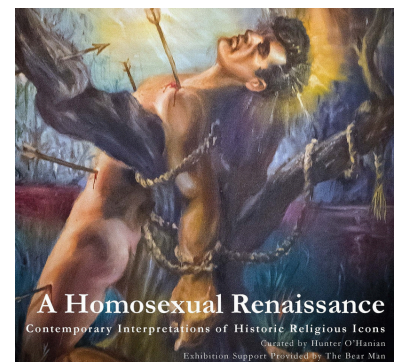
Justin & Trevor brought us the men's spanking community, including history, art, artifacts and of course, paddles.



A look at the history of the heart and 'sole' of our community, and the critical role they play in the leather world.



History from the trans leather and fetish communities are shared through photos, artifacts and archival records.



A side-by-side look at current and historic queer erotic art and the Renaissance art that often inspired it.

New Exhibitions

**5**

Permanent Exhibitions

**14**

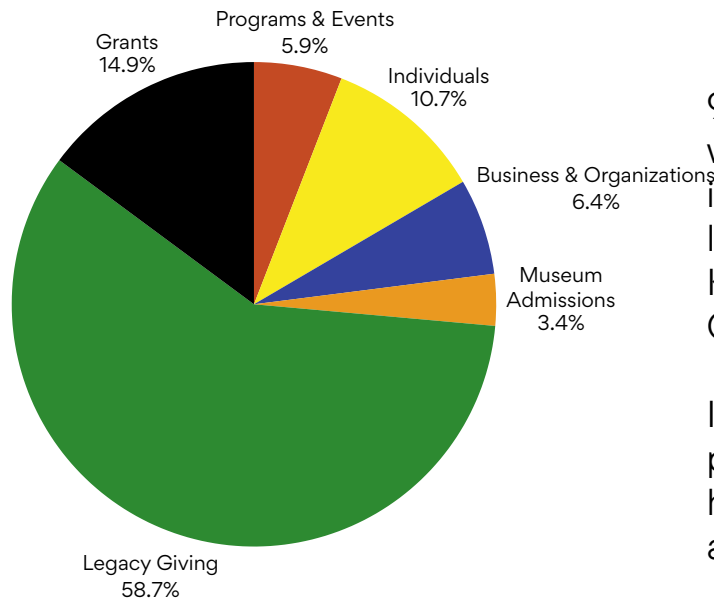
Museum Visitors

**11,681**



# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

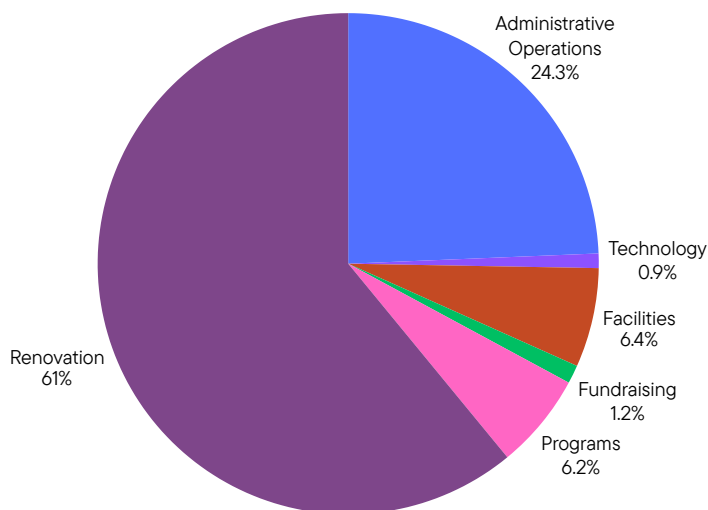
## 2025 Funds Raised



98% of LA&M's funding comes from within the fetish community. This includes our individual members, clubs like the Centaur MC, events such as Kinky Kollege, and kink stores like Full Kit Gear.

In many years, legacy gifts are made as part of an individual's final wishes, helping to ensure that LA&M will be around for generations to come.

## 2025 Expenditures



Each year, LA&M spends the majority of its budget on the costs associated with managing its growing collections, developing and delivering programs, assisting researchers and the infrastructure that makes it all possible.

For 2025, much of the funding raised is set aside for the upcoming capital renovation project which will begin in 2026.

Total Number of Donors

**506**

Total Raised in 2025

**\$1.3 MILLION**

# 2025 DONORS & MEMBERS

## Individuals

Aaron DeLee  
Akasha  
Al Parso-York  
Alan Dudley  
Alice Tidwell  
ALLEYCAT  
Annon George  
Anthony Aguinaldo  
Anthony Gene Carey  
Austin Abernathy  
Bill Calhoon  
Billy Lane & John Brook  
Biz Knapp  
black the bootblack  
Blue  
Bob Behr  
Bob Miller  
boy boy  
boy Ed  
Boy Michael  
Brad Sagarin  
Brett Peugh  
Bruce  
Brutus Wolfy  
C Pohler  
C. Theodore Tucker  
Carolyn and Tina Wilfried  
Cass Gillig  
Catherine Gross  
Ches Clark  
Chuck Russell  
Chuck TenBrink  
Copper  
Craig Bodoh  
Crash  
Cynthia  
DaddE  
Daddy Shadi  
Dan Weiss  
Darwin Corrin  
Dash Fleetwood-Boldt  
Davey Bones, Mr GNI  
Leather 2024  
David A. Smith, Mr. GNI  
2023 & Daniel G. Babb  
David Aguinaldo  
David Easterbrook  
David Farah  
David German  
David Manning, Toledo  
David Roux  
David Sugar  
David Wray  
Delane  
Dón José Sánchez  
Douglas Bonnell/Leather  
Steve  
Dr. K  
Ds  
Dylan Rhys Lewis  
Earnest  
Ed Careaga & Duncan  
Busser  
Edward Mogul  
Eric Charles Cherwin  
Eric Holland  
Eric Kinast  
Estate of Barry Johnson  
Etienne Spears  
Fred Nicholas-Bear

Frank Nowicki - MAL  
1993  
Frank Serafino  
G Yang  
G. Ronald Kastner  
G.P. Paul Kowal  
G.W. Leatherman  
Parks  
Gabriel Villalpando  
Gage Ryder  
Gayle Rubin  
Geoffrey Bleeker  
Mudd  
Gerald Stone IV  
Grant  
Gregory Story  
Guardian Brady  
Hal German  
Handler Chris - IPTC  
Intl Trainer 2023  
Heather Raquel  
Hoosier Daddy  
Hunter O'Hanian  
IDK  
J Gibbs  
Jack Bell  
Jack Morrison  
Jacob Duncan  
Jake Fuller  
James Lyons  
James Prock  
Jamie Ryan/hobbler  
Jay Campbell  
Jay Harcourt  
Jay Sosa  
JCubed  
Jennie Kay  
Jennifer Tyburczy  
JerBearChi  
Jeremy Dykes  
Jeroen Van  
Lievenoogen  
Jerry Moreau  
J-Hummingbird  
Jim Cassaro  
Jim Drew  
Jim Mason  
Jim Neumann  
Jim Petrone  
Jim Richards  
Jim Rinefied & Dan  
Anderson  
jimmy furnstahl  
Joe & Pete  
Joe A.  
Joel McGilvray  
JoeyRope  
John "Pup Red"  
Danaher  
John E.  
John McDevitt  
John Moore  
John P. Weir and  
Frank M. Theis  
John Rossi  
John Wise  
Jorel "Cluff" Reyes  
Joseph Geierman  
and B.J. Abbott  
Joseph Robert  
Josh M  
Josh Wright-Huynh

Justin Broom  
Justin Paxton  
JW Rutkowski  
Kai Korpak  
Kaybee  
Keith Stattenfield and  
Loretta Beavers  
Keith W.  
Keron Woodrow  
Kevan Walsh - Navek  
LeatherMan  
Kevin Brown  
Kevin Eastman  
Kevin Henderson  
Kevin Hyland  
Kevin Kross  
Killian Pinks  
Kink Down South  
Kirin Wachter-Grene  
Kyle Curry  
Leather Brandon  
Lee Mandelo  
Leon Grossman  
Lisa Johnston  
Lucy Fox-Boots  
Lynn Schornick  
María Dolores A.  
Matienzo  
Marius Hofseth  
Mark Steinwachs &  
Jarred Wilson  
Mark Weisenberger  
Markus Cluff  
Master Bert Cutler &  
slave nadine  
MasterTxT's slave don  
Matias Gomez  
Constenla  
Matt Denney  
Michael Raven - IA  
Bear 2023  
Michael Skroch  
Midwest Fantasy  
Miguel Torres  
Mihajlo Gasic  
Mike Daggs & Kelley  
Wilt  
Mike Stallion Fry  
Mikey Bear  
Mischief  
Mistress Gothic  
MJ Candido  
Ms. Capitol Pride  
Leather 2009  
Nallen  
Nathan Shepard  
NCM Leather Family  
Neil M  
Owen Keehnen  
Pablo Anaya  
Patrick & Patrick  
Mulcahey  
Patrick Voisine  
Paul Belloni  
Paul King  
Pete Berman  
Peter Fiske  
Peter Flyzik  
Prairie Koziol and Rob  
Onorato  
Prince  
Pup Baldur

Pup Balty  
Pup Data  
Pup Giggles  
Pup Maxx  
Pup Shadow  
Puppy Stolas  
Rachel Baker  
Randall Klett  
Randi Kemmler  
Randy L Gaston  
Ranger Scott Hutka  
Ray Briggs  
Ray Davis  
reb00t  
Reese Enghardt  
Reya Sunshine  
Rick Boehle  
Rob Anderson  
Robert Bienvenu  
Robert Daniel Reid  
Robert Ridinger  
Robert Ruschmeier  
Robert Stanhope  
Roger Grape  
Roger Scheid  
Ron Vogel  
Ron Volanti Jr.  
Ross Weber  
Ry Fox  
Ryan Rogers  
Sage Teir  
Scott Philips  
Shenzi  
Simone Justice  
SIR and boy  
Sir Ryan  
Sir Tom Matt  
slave porter  
Snax  
Spacecitypretty  
Stephen C Klein  
Stephen Fernandez  
Stephen Klinger  
Steve  
Steve "Corvo" M  
Steven Crespo  
submissivecop  
T Wayne Maples  
Tawse  
Ted Sollinger  
Terrell Dungee  
The Woodrow Leather  
Family  
Theo Estes  
Thom Butts  
Tim Altrock  
Tito Joey  
TJ Jones  
Todd Smoot  
Todd Webb  
Tony B  
Tony Moore  
Tony Pier  
Topher McCulloch  
Troy Kinser  
Tucker/Crane/Maffei  
Wendell Reid  
Will Biby  
Wyatt Ollestad  
Ya mama  
Zo P Vallas  
Zutty

## Organizations & Businesses

Centaur MC  
Chicago Hellfire  
Club  
Chicago Rubber  
Club  
Crescent City  
Leathermen of New  
Orleans  
Foxhole University  
at Camp Out  
Poconos  
IanThom  
Foundation  
Impact  
John Paul Palatinus  
Trust  
Leather SINS Kinky  
Kollege  
Leather Solidarity  
Collective  
MAFIA  
Northeast Indiana  
Leather - 501c3  
NonProfit org - Fort  
Wayne IN  
PARAGON  
Cooperative & Club  
Philly Leather Pride  
Night LTD  
Ruth Foundation for  
the Arts  
Seattle Men in  
Leather  
SigMa Inc  
Texas After Violence  
Project  
Tides Foundation  
Kicking Assets Fund  
Trident International  
Windy City  
Twisted Tryst  
Vespertine Chicago  
- Daddy Sky Cotton  
ViiV Healthcare

COMMUNITY  
SUPPORT  
IS THE  
LIFEBLOOD OF  
OUR HISTORY  
  
THANK YOU!

# LA&M STAFF & BOARD OF DIRECTORS

## 2025 Board of Directors

**Billy Lane**  
President  
**Miguel Torres**  
Vice President  
**Jacob Mangin**  
Treasurer  
**Heather Raquel Phillips**  
Secretary  
**Alan Dudley**  
**Catherine Gross**  
**Edward Harris**  
**Gayle Rubin**  
**Mike Daggs**  
**Robert Bienvenu**  
**Robert Miller**  
**Robert Ridinger**

## LA&M Staff

**Gary Wasdin**  
Executive Director  
**Mel Leverich**  
Archivist & Collections Librarian  
**Leslie Anderson**  
Leather Care Preservationist  
**Cody Jay**  
Operations Manager  
**Ken Hauan**  
Public Service Assistant  
**Austin Heereema**  
Archives Assistant  
**Lorca Jolene**  
CHC Archives Assistant

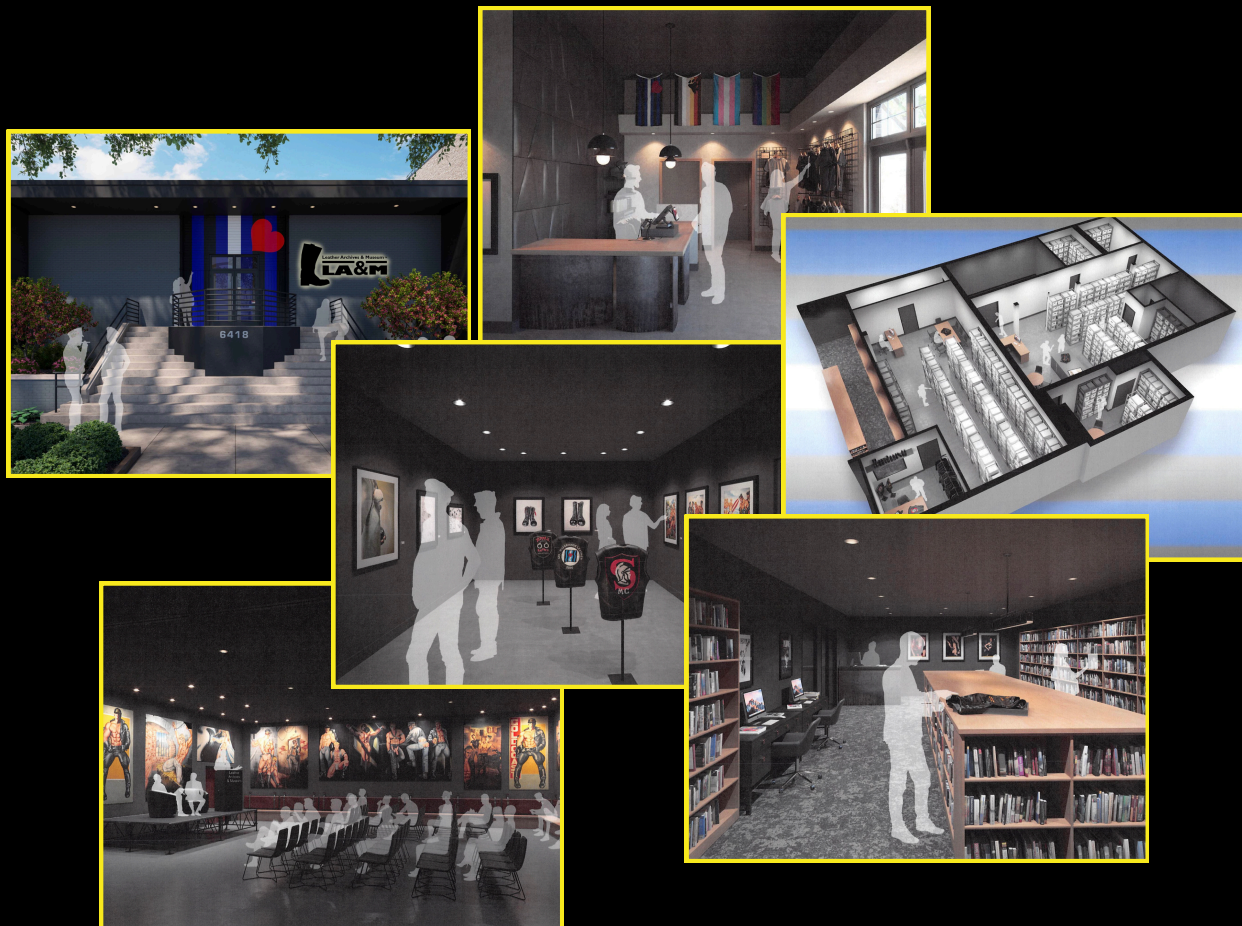
## 2025 Volunteers

Abraham	Dat	JJ	Nik
Adam	David	Jo	Och
Aiesha	DC boys of	Joey	Overdrive
Al	Leather	Jonathan	Patrick
Alex	Delta	Joshua	Peter
Alexis	Dev	Jules	Petra
Aliya	Dorian	Julie	Phobos
Amanda	Drake	Jupiter	Rebeka
Amelie	Eira	Justin	Rob
Andrea	El	Kaelan	Robert
Andres	Eli	Kassius	Robin
Andrew	Elizabeth	Kat	Rodrigo
Andy	Ella	Kevin	Roman
Annika	Elliott	Kieran	Rowan
Ari	Emi	Killian	Ruth
Atlas	Emily	Kit	Ryan
August	Emma	Kora	Sabine
Avi	Eric	Kyle	Sam
Ben	Evelyn	Kyrsten	Sazzy
Bill	Felipe	Liam	Shazaad
boy badu	Felix	Lily	Skippy
boy Pippin	Fern	Lindsey	Stefanie
boy Spark	Finch	Lizzy	Stephen
Brandon	Fito	Logan	subtlety
Brennan	Flynn	Lucie	T.J.
Brian	Frankie	Maddy	Tanner
Briana	Fred	Mads	Tiany
Cael	Garrett	Marco	Tito Joey
Casey	Gary	Margaret	Tony
Catherine	Grace	Marie	Tyler
Cesar	Grant	Marshal	Valentine
Chance	Gray	Mason	Vince
Chandler	Grey	Master Sebastian	Vitaliy
Chris	Hadley	Matthew	Wade
Christopher	Harm	Max	Wesley
Connor	Haze	Maxwell	Zoe
Courtney	Isobel	Michael	
Daddy G	Ivy	MischiefPup	
Damon	Jacob	Morgan	
Dan	Jake	Nat	
Dana	James	Natalie	
Danny	Jami	Nick	
Darwin	Jay	Nico	

# THE YEAR AHEAD

2026 will be LA&M's most exciting and most challenging year yet, as we begin the first major renovation to our building. Built in the 1950's as a synagogue, it's a unique and charming space that is in need of some long overdue work.

- Make the building 100% accessible, with an elevator, new restrooms, and wider door and hallways ensuring the space is truly welcoming to everyone.
- Improve the building's climate control systems to keep our history dry and safe.
- Expand and improve the archives and research spaces to accommodate our growing collections and the many people who come to use them.
- Create improved exhibit spaces and museum flow so that visitors can see more of our rich history in thoughtfully curated exhibits.



## HOW CAN I SUPPORT LA&M?

Workplace Giving

Legacy Gifts

Fundraising Events

Recurring Donations

Volunteering

Social Media Advocacy

Membership



# THANK YOU!

[leatherarchives.org](https://leatherarchives.org)

