circa

QUEER HISTORIES FESTIVAL

Presented by One Institute
Open Call for Proposals 2024

Application Deadline: 11:59 PM PST on Sunday, April 14.
All applications must be submitted via our online Jotform application.

Late or incomplete applications will not be reviewed.

Please direct application inquiries to circa@oneinstitute.org.

ABOUT CIRCA

Returning for a second year, Circa: Queer Histories Festival is the first and only LGBTQ+ histories festival in the United States. Hosted by One Institute, the oldest operating queer organization in the country, Circa will take place during LGBTQ+ History Month, October 2024. The month-long programming series showcases the trailblazing histories and vibrant cultural contributions of LGBTQ+ communities through the lens of present-day challenges and triumphs. Spanning the arts, humanities, politics, and culture, Circa features queer and trans thinkers and doers leading the movement for LGBTQ+ liberation.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Program proposals may be explicitly about queer historical events or individuals. We also welcome proposals that loosely, creatively, and expansively approach queer history.

What we mean by Queer Histories Programming
One Institute (One) invites queer, trans, and allied community members, artists, activists, scholars, youth, educators, cultural institutions, and community organizations to submit innovative, thought-provoking program proposals. We welcome proposals from across the arts, cultural, and humanities disciplines in the form of: performances, screenings, readings, lectures, dialogues, podcasts, workshops, exhibitions, pop-ups, parties, multidisciplinary programs, and more. We are currently prioritizing in-person programs from Los Angeles-based programmers but will also accept virtual programs accessible to broader audiences.

Circa 2024 Theme: LOVE and (R)EVOLUTION
From the streets to the privacy of our homes, LGBTQ+ folks have been rabble rousers and changemakers for generations, insisting on our rights to pleasure, gender expression, and chosen family. We know what it is to uplift one another in times of turmoil, and that our community's greatest strength is love. As a queer and trans history organization, One Institute

acknowledges the revolutions of our predecessors that have changed the world, and the ones we're fighting today. Our movement is constantly evolving with trans and BIPOC folks at the forefront, and emerging communities on the horizon.

In 2024 we invite proposals that consider the role of *LOVE and (R)EVOLUTION* in our histories and contemporary culture. With so many challenges ahead for our LGBTQ+ communities, including the pivotal Presidential election, let's remember, *"An army of lovers shall not fail."* (from *Sappho's Reply*, Rita Mae Brown)

CIRCA PROGRAM GUIDELINES

1. By submitting your proposal, you or your organization agree to partake in the Circa Festival, and to produce and host a program during LGBTQ+ History Month, October 2024 in person in Los Angeles County or virtually from anywhere in the world.
2. Proposals from individual artists may be for new and/or previously presented works, or works-in-progress.
3. Programs are self-funded by the individual, group, or organization that submits the proposal. Program support for eligible applicants is described below.
4. *Accepted programs will receive robust print and online marketing and publicity support, including inclusion in the Circa festival calendar, microsite, and social media marketing campaign.*
5. A limited number of program venue spaces will be made available at low to no cost to accepted proposals at one of our Circa program hubs including One Gallery in West Hollywood and the Los Angeles LGBT Center in Hollywood. These venues offer space and limited audio/visual equipment. There may be a cost to the programmer for tech heavy programs, or programs that require rehearsals.
   - o <u>Indicate on application if you would like to be considered for free to low cost venue space.</u>
   - o Please note, Circa programming hubs cannot host mounted exhibitions. If your program proposal is for a mounted exhibition, you will need to find your own venue and be responsible for curation and installation.
6. Late or incomplete program proposals, or those that do not fit Circa's guidelines or thematic considerations, may be rejected.
7. <u>Please limit your application to one program idea per proposal.</u>

ELIGIBILITY FOR ADDITIONAL SUPPORT

One Institute recognizes the time and effort that goes into producing high-quality programming for our communities. We offer additional programming support to participating individuals and organizations, according to these eligibility guidelines:
- A limited number of stipends of up to $500 are reserved for small and emerging nonprofits and individuals who may be asked to demonstrate need.
- Applicants are eligible for free to low-cost program venue spaces on a case-by-case basis, depending on availability.
- All applicants are eligible for consultation with one of our expert volunteer Programming / Curatorial Advisors, upon request.
- All applicants are eligible for print and digital marketing and publicity support.

HOW WE SCORE CIRCA PROGRAM PROPOSALS

The curatorial and educational choices made by One Institute are guided by our commitment to social equity and justice. We engage with the complexity of LGBTQ+ history and representation through highlighting the intersectional narratives of Black, Indigenous, people of color (BIPOC), women, gender- nonconforming and transgender people, people of various abilities, youth, and elders across all socio-economic classes.

To evaluate proposals, the Circa Steering Committee will score applications on a scale of 1-5 through the following categories:

- Program Design
  Circa seeks original proposals with a strong and clear artistic vision. Committee members will assess program quality, clarity of execution, demonstrated social relevance to the Trans and Queer community, and alignment with the mission of Circa.
- Intended Audience & Equity
  Circa believes in the importance of inclusive and attractive programming. Committee members will assess each program's ability to reach underserved and marginalized audiences, as well as marketability and aptitude for serving as a high-profile event, and accuracy of audience size communicated in the application. *We recognize not every program will attract similar audiences, but submissions should communicate its potential for significant reach.*
- Experience & Expertise
  Circa takes place in Los Angeles, home to a diverse range of talent who execute experiences with varying levels of available resources. Committee members will assess applicants' history of programming in LA as well as their experience with production and event logistics.
- Access and Accessibility
  Circa is working to ensure programs are accessible and responsive to the needs of our audience. Committee members will assess whether programs address accessibility needs and language barriers in a thoughtful and consistent manner.

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Please submit your program proposal via our online [Jotform application](#) by 11:59 PM PST on Sunday, April 14, 2024. Applicants will be notified via email before May 31, 2024.

Prospective applicants may register for one of two virtual Applicant Information Sessions, held on Wednesday, March 20 and Monday, April 1, 2024 from 5-6pm PT. Register below using the links in the Key Dates section.

<u>APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS</u>

Asterisks denote required fields. All applications must be submitted via our online [Jotform application](#). It is strongly recommended that you draft your answers to the following questions in a separate document and enter into the Jotform for submission when complete.

- Individual or Organization Name*
- Primary Contact Information (Name, pronouns, email, phone required)* *Primary contact must remain consistent throughout the application process and festival, unless revised with One Institute's Public Programs Manager.*
- Additional contacts (up to 3)
- Are you based in Los Angeles? (Yes or No)*
    - If No, where do you currently reside? *Note: Although LA-based programmers will be prioritized, we welcome applicants from outside Los Angeles to submit a Circa proposal.*
- Organization Mission/Description (if applicable; up to 250 words)
- Program/Project Title*
- Program/Project Description (up to 500 words)* *Clearly describe your program including what your intended audience will experience from beginning to end. See [event](#) and [exhibition](#) descriptions from Circa 2023 for examples.*
- How does your proposed program relate to this year's theme, *LOVE and (R)EVOLUTION* (up to 250 words)*
- Program Type (workshop, reading, screening, dialogue, performance, exhibition, etc.)*
- List of Program Participant(s) with brief bios* *Note: One Institute understands your program participants will not yet be final. Please indicate if each participant is proposed or committed.*
- Work Samples (optional): Upload a PDF with links to artist portfolio, website, program images, video, audio, etc.
- Proposed Date (must be in October 2024), if you have one. *Please note, if you would like to be considered for free to low cost venue space, we will discuss available dates at the time proposals are notified.*
- Expected attendance*
- Please describe your outreach plan to market your program if it is accepted (up to 250 words)*
- Would you like to be considered for a free to low cost venue space in one of our programming hubs? (Yes, No)*
    - If No, and if you already have a proposed venue, what is the venue?
    - If No, how will you address accessibility needs at this venue?
- Would you like to be considered for a stipend of up to $500? (Yes, No)
    - If Yes, please provide an itemized program budget (Template included in form). *Please note that stipend funds are not released until <u>after</u> your Circa program is complete.*

<u>2024 CIRCA: QUEER HISTORIES FESTIVAL KEY DATES</u>

- March 7, 2024: Circa Call for Proposals open to public
- March 20, 2024 & April 1, 2024 from 5-6pm PT: Circa proposal information sessions via Zoom
    - [Register for Session #1](#) on Wednesday, March 20, 2024

- - [Register for Session #2](#) on Monday, April 1, 2024
- April 14: Proposals due by midnight, Pacific Standard Time
- Mid- to late-May: Program and stipend notifications
- June 7: Accepted Circa programs must confirm their participation on or before this date.
- June 18: Programmer information session via Zoom
- July 22: Preliminary program information due
  - Program title, participants, program image, venue, date, time
- August 8: Final program information due
  - Includes final participants and bios, program title, description, venue, date, time
  - Image assets: Headshots, logos, final program image, etc due for Circa microsite
- September 10: Circa microsite launches with full Festival lineup and ticket reservations
- Circa: Queer Histories Festival launch weekend: SAVE THE DATE!
  - Sunday, September 29th: Circa featured exhibition and opening @ LA LGBT Center's Lily Tomlin/Jane Wagner Cultural Arts Center in Hollywood
- October 1-31: Circa Queer Histories Festival throughout LA County and virtual