

October is LGBT+ History Month

Here are the 7 Things You Need To Know...

- **LGBT+ History Month** is recognized in October to coincide with **National Coming Out Day** on October 11th. This year marks the 31st anniversary of National Coming Out Day.
- It began in 1994 when **Rodney Wilson**, a history teacher, first proposed that an entire month be dedicated to the teachings of **LGBT History**.
- On **October 14, 1979** the first **National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights** occurred.
- **International Pronoun Day** celebrated **October 16th** seeks to make respecting, sharing, and educating about personal pronouns commonplace.
- **Spirit Day** celebrated **October 20th** is where people around the nation wear purple in support of **LGBT youth**.
- The murder of **Matthew Shepard** is also remembered this month. His death sparked the **Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act** passed **October 22, 2009**.
- While the historic decision on **Marriage Equality** in **2015** gave same-sex couples the right to marry in all 50 states, there are still **Anti-LGBT laws** being proposed.

This October we **CELEBRATE** the contributions of **LGBTQIA+** folks and **REFLECT** on the continual fight for rights for **LGBTQIA+** people.

LGBT+ History is American History!



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