



## THE NATIONAL COUNCIL ON PUBLIC HISTORY

# "MAKING LGBTQ HISTORY AMERICAN HISTORY: A PUBLIC CONVERSATION ON STONEWALL AND BEYOND"

Friday, April 21 // 6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

The Westin Indianapolis, 241 W. Washington St., Grand Ballroom IV (2<sup>nd</sup> floor)

On June 24, 2016, President Barack Obama used his authority under the Antiquities Act of 1906 to create the Stonewall National Monument. This site commemorates a 1969 uprising where a police raid in the Greenwich Village neighborhood of New York City helped to spark the modern LGBTQ (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer) civil rights movement in the United States. This highest level of federal historic designation was the capstone to a long effort to secure official recognition of places associated with the history of LGBTQ communities. Today, such a statement of "official memory" comes with notably less controversy than earlier episodes of historical acknowledgment, which were fraught with debate and derision. American acceptance of LGBTQ communities has changed over the last two decades, a transformation that is illustrated on the national stage by the establishment of the Stonewall National Monument and by the National Park Service's recently completed LGBTQ theme study.

This event is **free** and open to the public!

Such change in our national character is worthy of substantive reflection and discussion. NCPH welcomes attendees and the public to join in this conversation, moderated by LGBTQ scholar and independent consultant Susan Ferentinos, on the evolving landscape of LGBTQ historical memory.

## // Meet the Speakers

**Joshua Laird** is Commissioner of the National Parks of New York Harbor (NPNH), where he oversees the 11 national park sites that surround the Port of New York, including the newly-established Stonewall National Monument. Prior to the NPS, Joshua spent over 20 years with the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation,



where his work included major park initiatives such as Hudson River Park, Brooklyn Bridge Park, and the High Line.

**Beth L. Savage** has served as the Director of the Center for Historic Buildings and Federal Preservation Officer in the US General Services Administration's (GSA) Public Buildings Service, Office of the Chief Architect since 2009. She came to GSA as the National Capital Region Historic Preservation Officer from the National Park Service's National Register of Historic Places, where she was the managing editor of the print and online technical assistance publications program and served as the liaison for multiple states for more than 20 years.



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