



WFHA is celebrating LGBT+ History Month

What is LGBT+ History Month?

It is a month-long annual celebration of lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans, and non-binary (LGBT+) history. It is also an opportunity to reflect on the history of LGBT+ rights and related civil rights movements.

LGBT+ History Month takes place from the 1st to the 28th of February 2023.

LGBT+ History Month takes place in February because that was when it was initiated by the LGBT+ Education Charity “Schools Out UK” in 2005.

Schools Out UK did this to coincide with the 2003 abolition of Section 28, a law which was passed in 1988 to stop councils and schools from “promoting the teaching of the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship.”

The law was partly inspired by a 1983 storybook called ‘Jenny Lives with Eric and Martin’, which aimed to give children information about different types of family relationships.

Why does LGBT+ History Month exist?

Sue Sanders, the co-founder of LGBT+ history month, said in a 2019 interview with the BBC that we need LGBT+ History month because:

“The ignorance is profound. And the ignorance has been deliberately done. We [the LGBT+ community] have a history, but we have been denied it. It’s great we have the laws in place, it’s great that we’re more visible, but who is visible? It’s white gay men. If you’re black, if you’re a lesbian, if you’re bisexual or if you’re trans – we have a lot of work to do.”

LGBT+ History month exists to raise awareness of the LGBT+ community’s history and promote equality.

Pride Month takes place in June and is when pride parades, outdoor events that celebrate LGBT+ acceptance and pride, usually take place.

Brenda Howard, a bisexual activist known as the “Mother of Pride”, coordinated the first Pride march in New York City and originated the idea for a week-long series of events around Pride Day, which inspired the annual LGBT+ pride celebrations that are now held every June.

