



February 20, 2015

Dear Library Director,

SUBJECT: Library Screenings of the “Shoulders to Stand On” documentary film pertaining to the local history of the Rochester, New York LGBT community.

The Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley has received a grant from the LGBT Giving Circle of the Rochester Area Community Foundation for its **STSO Public Library Initiative** to provide free screenings of the documentary film, “Shoulders to Stand On” in libraries of the Pioneer Library System. The documentary reveals an unknown and thus far undocumented chapter of New York State’s diverse local history. **STSO** captures the stories, struggles and achievements of our LGBT pioneers who made important sacrifices to make Rochester and upstate New York a better place to live for all our families.

**STSO** had its world premiere screening during ImageOut Film & Video Festival in October 2013. On June 3, 2014 the documentary aired locally on Public Broadcasting System’s WXXI and earlier this year, the film was a featured program at the Local History & Genealogy Department of the Central Library of Rochester & Monroe County.

The mission of the **STSO Public Library Initiative** is to raise awareness, increase visibility and inform the general public about an underserved population in our community. By building upon the longstanding natural alliances with the local library system, the **STSO Public Library Initiative** will connect diverse sections of the general population and broaden our geographic reach. This initiative will also strengthen partnerships between urban and suburban public libraries in the Pioneer Library System and hopefully with the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley.

The Gay Alliance is requesting the Pioneer Library System support this initiative, hold a screening for its employees and staff and to encourage individual libraries to schedule public screenings in the 2015 calendar year.

Please feel free to contact me at your earliest convenience. We would like to start scheduling screenings at local libraries in February 2015. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Evelyn Bailey*

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