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Lavender Library, Archives and Cultural Exchange (LLACE) receives grant award from California Humanities for “Legends of Courage,” a LGBT documentary film and history project led by 3D Media Solutions.

Sacramento, CA — California Humanities recently announced the 2016 Community Stories grant recipients, awarding Sacramento’s Lavender Library, Archives and Cultural Exchange (LLACE) \$10,000 for its project titled “Legends of Courage.”

The Community Stories competitive grant program of California Humanities gives expression to the remarkable variety of experiences of California’s people in ways that can be shared widely. As a film project that preserves the history of advocacy by men and women of the Sacramento region who led the movement for LGBT equality, “Legends of Courage” seeks to broaden awareness and deepen understanding.

Directed by Dawn D. Deason, executive producer of 3D Media Solutions, “Legends of Courage” focuses on two outcomes: a documentary film featuring lesbian civil rights activist and attorney Rosemary Metrailler, and a collection of filmed interviews of individuals who have played significant roles in Sacramento’s LGBT movement. The Metrailler saga highlights her successful lawsuit against the late Reverend Jerry Falwell (1986), and a landmark sex discrimination case finally settled by McClellan Air Force Base (1988) on behalf of women employees.

“We are honored that our project has been recognized from among so many extraordinary stories that enrich California,” said Project Director Dawn D. Deason. “LGBT struggles for equity have traveled a path parallel to many groups fighting to secure civil rights. Our narratives help us find commonalities, appreciate differences, and learn how to live well together.”

California Humanities received just over \$623,000 in requests, however was only able to fund approximately \$190,000 in awards. The demand for programs that explore issues of significance to Californians is extraordinary, and speaks to the importance of capturing and communicate them across audiences.

“California’s population has such varied stories to tell—and we can all benefit from knowing more about each other,” noted Margaret Shelleda, chair of the board of California Humanities. “We are proud to award grants to those who find creative ways of sharing stories with new audiences and connecting Californians whose experiences deserve greater appreciation.”

Since 2003, California Humanities has granted more than \$4 million to enable communities to document histories—many previously untold or little known. Through video, photography, murals, zines, theater, audio, and more, these collections have been shared with broad audiences, both live and virtual. California Humanities is an independent non-profit state partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities. For more information, please visit www.calhum.org

