

Celebrate LGBT History Month



October 5 - 9
Solidarity Week



October 11
National Coming Out Day



October 12
Matthew Shepard
Remembrance

LGBT History Month

Created in 1994 by Rodney Wilson, a teacher in Missouri

The month is Wilson's vision for an informative and celebratory month to dedicate the teaching of LGBT history. It garnered early support from organizations such as GLAAD and the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN), was initially chosen to include the by-then well-established National Coming Out Day on Oct. 11 and the anniversary of the first march on Washington by LGBT people in 1979 on Oct. 14.



The month now also includes Spirit Day on October 15th, on which people around the country wear purple in support of LGBT youth; Solitary Week, a week in which allies against LGBT bullying are celebrated; and the anniversary of 21-year-old Matthew Shepard's murder on Oct. 12, 1998, which sparked the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act.