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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Announcing UCLA's LGBT Studies 10th Anniversary Conference, the nation's largest gathering of national & international scholars FREE TO THE PUBLIC!

Los Angeles, CA: For the past ten years, UCLA has hosted the preeminent, annual LGBT Studies conference for the general public, graduate students and established scholars from across the globe. This vital forum shares current issues and academics and nurtures the next generation of scholars in the field. The event occurs October 10-11th at 314 Royce Hall, with special performances by community favorites Dynasty Handbag, Adelina Anthony and My Barbarian in the Freud Playhouse.

According to Professor James A. Schultz, director of the LGBT Studies Program at UCLA, the conference fills a critical gap. "Since the government is not inclined to support this research, universities must take on that key role. Although it may seem to some that LGBT Studies is focused on the private lives of a small number of people, the broader study of sexuality and gender, to which this program is committed, is relevant to the lives of everyone."

Plenary speakers' topics range from art, music, history, politics, human rights, identity, globalization to gender variances. These guests include Jafari Sinclaire Allen (Yale University), Steven Epstein (UC San Diego), Gayatri Gopinath (New York University), Mary Gray (Indiana University), Jacob Hale (California State, Northridge), Catherine Lord (UC Irvine), Heather Love (University of Pennsylvania), Richard Meyer (University of Southern California), Viviane Namaste (Concordia University), Juana María Rodríguez (UC Berkeley), Valerie Traub (University of Michigan), David Valentine (University of Minnesota), and Rinaldo Walcott (University of Toronto).

Liberian-born film director, producer, screenwriter, editor and UCLA professor Cheryl Dunye will present rare and recently restored footage from the Outfest Legacy Project, the LGBT Film Preservation Organization, housed at the UCLA Film and Television Archives. For more information visit www.humnet.ucla.edu/humnet/lgbts/events.