LGBT Illinois Authors

Addams, Jane (1860-1935)

Addams was born in Cedarville and lived in Chicago. She was a social worker and leader in women’s suffrage. In 1889 she co-founded Hull House, and in 1920 she co-founded the American Civil Liberties Union. In 1931 she became the first American woman to be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

- *Democracy and Social Ethics*
- *The Second Twenty Years at Hull House*
- *Twenty Years at Hull House*

Allen, Ted (1965-)

Allen is a writer and television personality who got his start as a restaurant critic in Chicago as part of a review team known as “The Famished Four.”

- *Esquire’s Things a Man Should Know About Marriage*
- *In My Kitchen: 100 Recipes and Discoveries for Passionate Cooks*
- *Queer Eye for the Straight Guy*

Anshaw, Carol (1946-)

Anshaw is a fiction writer and artist living in Chicago and teaching at the Art Institute of Chicago. Her short stories have been anthologized in *Best American Short Stories* in 1994, 1998, and 2012. She has also received several awards for her fiction including a Carl Sandburg Award, a Society of Midland Authors Award, and a Ferro-Grumley Award.

- *Aquamarine*
- *Carry the One*
- *Lucky in the Corner*
- *Seven Moves*

Baim, Tracy (1963-)

Baim is an author and producer, born and raised in Chicago. She is the publisher of *Windy City Times*, which she co-founded in 1985. She was inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame in 1994 and won the Community Media Workshop’s Studs Terkel Award in 2005.

- *Barbara Gittings: Gay Pioneer*
- *Gay Press, Gay Power*
- *The Half-Life of Sgt. Jen Hunter*
- *Leatherman: the Legend of Chuck Renslow*
- *Obama and the Gays*
- *Out and Proud in Chicago*

Baker, Nikki (1962-)

LGBT Illinois Authors

Baker is a mystery writer who lived in Chicago while attending the University of Chicago. She is best known for her Virginia Kelly series of mysteries.

• *In the Game*
• *The Lavender House Murder*
• *Long Goodbyes*
• *The Ultimate Exit Strategy*

**Bauer, Marion Dane (1938-)**

Bauer is a children’s author, born and raised in Oglesby. She has won numerous awards, including a 1996 Kerlan Award, the 1995 Best Children’s/Young Adult Award from Lambda Literary, and a 1987 Newberry Medal Honor.

• *Am I Blue*
• *The Blue Ghost*
• *A Dream of Queens and Castles*
• *On My Honor*
• *The Very Little Princess*
• *A Writer’s Story*

**Bergquist, Kathie (?)**

Bergquist is a journalist and non-fiction writer living in Chicago. She has written for numerous magazines, including the column “The Kathie Klub” in the Chicago gay weekly *Nightlines*.

• *A Field Guide to Gay & Lesbian Chicago*
• *Not for Tourists Guide to Chicago, 2009*
• *Windy City Queer*

**Birtha, Becky (1948-)**

Birtha is poet and children’s author who lived in Chicago. Her book, *Grandmama’s Pride*, was named a Golden Kite Award Honor Book in 2006 by the Society of Children’s Book Authors and Illustrators, and she was a finalist for a Lambda Literary Lesbian Poetry Award in 1992.

• *For Nights Like This One*
• *The Forbidden Poems*
• *Grandmama’s Pride*
• *Lovers’ Choice*
• *Lucky Beans*

**Borich, Barrie Jean (1959-)**
Borich is a writer, editor and teacher, born in Chicago, and currently teaching creative writing at DePaul University. She has won several awards for her memoirs, including a 2000 Stonewall Book Award and a 2014 Lesbian Memoir/Biography Award from Lambda Literary.

- *Body Geographic*
- *My Lesbian Husband: Landscapes of a Marriage*
- *Restoring the Color of Roses*

**Bowers, Scotty (1924-)**

Bowers was born in rural Illinois and later moved to Chicago. After serving in the Marines during World War II, he moved to Hollywood and became a well-known male prostitute, eventually writing a tell-all book.


**Brier, Jennifer (?)**

Brier is the Director of Gender and Women’s Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago, where she also teaches in the History department. Her research interests are largely focused on exploring the historical intersections of gender, race, and sexuality. In 2014 she was inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

- *Infectious Ideas: U.S. Political Responses to the AIDS Crisis*
- *Out in Chicago: LGBT History at the Crossroads*

**Castillo, Ana (1953-)**

Castillo is a writer, poet, editor, and educator, born and raised in Chicago. She is considered one of the leading voices of the Chicana experience. Among the awards she has received are a 1987 American Book Award, a Carl Sandburg Book Award, the Sor Juana Achievement Award in 1998, and the 2015 Bisexual Fiction Award from Lambda Literary.

- *Give it to Me*
- *I Ask the Impossible: Poems*
- *Loverboys: Stories*
- *The Mixquiahuala Letters*
- *So Far from God*
- *Watercolor Women, Opaque Men*
- *Women Are Not Roses*

**Charlot, Anita M. (1965-)**

Charlot is lifelong resident of Chicago. She is a relationship expert, author, speaker, mentor, and founder of Purrfect Harmony Unlimited.
LGBT Illinois Authors

- *The 5 Phases of Dating...Without Losing Sight of Your Purrfectly Authentic Self*
- *Poetic Growing Pains*

**Chauncey, George (1954-)**

Chauncey is a professor who taught at the University of Chicago from 1991-2006. He is co-director of the Yale Research Initiative on the History of Sexualities. His book *Gay New York* won the Frederick Jackson Turner Prize, the *Los Angeles Time Book Prize*, and the Men’s Gay Studies Award from Lambda Literary, among others.

- *Gay New York: Gender, Urban Culture, and the Making of the Gay Male World*
- *Why Marriage?: The History Shaping Today’s Debate Over Gay Equality*

**Craft, Michael (1950-)**

Craft is a novelist from Elgin. He is the author of the Claire Gray and Mark Manning series of mysteries, three of which have been finalists for the Gay Men’s Mystery Award from Lambda Literary.

- *Boy Toy*
- *Desert Spring*
- *Desert Winter*
- *Hot Spot*
- *Name Games*

**De la Croix, St. Sukie (1951-)**

De la Croix is a writer, playwright, and photographer. He was born in the United Kingdom, but has been living in Chicago for over twenty years. His work had appeared in numerous periodicals, including *Windy City Times*, *Chicago Free Press*, *Nightlines*, and *Gay Chicago*. In 2012 he was inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

- *Chicago Whispers: a History of LGBT Chicago Before Stonewall*

**D’Emilio, John (1948-)**

D’Emilio is a Professor of History and Women’s and Gender Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He has been awarded two Stonewall Book Awards as well as the 2002 Editor’s Choice Award from Lambda Literary. In 2005 he was inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

- *Intimate Matters: A History of Sexuality in America*
- *Lost Prophet: Bayard Rustin and the Quest for Peace and Justice in America*
- *Sexual Politics, Sexual Communities*
- *The World Turned: Essays on Gay History, Politics, and Culture*

**Dymnoch, Michael Allen (1947-)**
LGBT Illinois Authors

Dymnoch is a writer living in the Chicago area. She is best known for her mystery novels featuring cats. She won the St. Martin’s Press Malice Domestic Award for Best First Traditional Novel.

- The Death of Blue Mountain Cat
- The Feline Friendship
- Incendiary Designs
- The Man Who Understood Cats

Elledge, James (1950-)

Elledge is an author and editor, born in Granite City. He is currently a professor of English at Kennesaw State University in Georgia.

- Henry Darger, Throw Away Boy
- James Dickey: a Bibliography, 1947-1974
- Masquerade: queer Poetry in America to the End of WWII
- Various Envies: Poems

Foster, Jeannette Howard (1895-1981)

Foster was a librarian, poet, and scholar from Oak Park. Her study Sex Variant Women in Literature has become a seminal work in the field of LGBT studies. It also won the 1974 Stonewall Book Award. In 1998 she was inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

- Two Women Revisited: Poetry of Jeannette Foster and Valerie Taylor
- Sex Variant Women in Literature

Gerrold, David (1944-)

Gerrold is a science fiction novelist and screenwriter from Chicago. He wrote episodes for several science fiction television series including Star Trek, Babylon 5, Land of the Lost, and The Twilight Zone. His novelette The Martian Child won both the 1994 Nebula Award for Best Novelette and the 1995 Hugo Award for Best Novelette. It was later expanded into a novel and adapted into a feature film.

- The Covenant of Justice
- The Man Who Folded Himself
- The Martian Child
- When HARLIE Was One

Goldbloom, Goldie (1964-)

Goldbloom is a novelist and short story writer, originally from Australia, but now living in Chicago where she teaches creative writing at Northwestern University. Her short stories have appeared in numerous literary journals and anthologies. In 2008 she won the Association of Writers and Writing Programs Award for Fiction.
LGBT Illinois Authors

- The Paperback Shoe
- Toads’ Museum of Freaks and Wonders
- You Lose These and Other Stories

Grahn, Judy (1940-)

Grahn is a poet who was born in Chicago. In 1969 she co-founded the first all-woman press, the Women’s Press Collective. Among the awards she won throughout her career are a Stonewall Book Award in 1985, an American Book Award in 1983, the 2009 Lesbian Poetry Award from Lambda Literary, the 2013 Lesbian Memoir/Biography Award from Lambda Literary, and the Bill Whitehead Award for Lifetime Achievement from Publishing Triangle in 1994.

- Another Mother Tongue: Gay Words, Gay Worlds
- Blood, Bread, Roses
- Edward the Dyke: and Other Poems
- A Simple Revolution: the Making of a Poet Activist

Gray, P.J. (?-)

Gray is a writer living in Chicago. He is the former managing editor of Pride magazine.

- Bear Cookin’
- Coming Home
- More Bear Cookin’
- Trippin’

Halperin, David M. (1952-)

Halperin is an author and academic, born in Chicago. He is currently the W. H. Auden Distinguished University Professor of the History and Theory of Sexuality at the University of Michigan. He also co-founded GLQ: a Journal of Lesbian and Gay Studies. He won a Lambda Literary Award for Anthologies in 1994 and has been a finalist three other times.

- How to Be Gay
- How to Do the History of Homosexuality
- Lesbian and Gay Studies Reader
- One Hundred Years of Homosexuality
- Saint Foucault: Towards a Gay Hagiography

Hansberry, Lorraine (1930-1965)

Hansberry was a playwright and author, born and raised in Chicago. He play, A Raisin in the Sun, was the first by an African American woman to be produced on Broadway. It won the 1961 New York Drama Critics Circle Award and was made into a feature film. She was posthumously inducted into the Chicago
LGBT Illinois Authors

Literary Hall of Fame in 2010 and the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame in 1999. Her name is engraved on the frieze of the Illinois State Library.

- **The Movement: Documentary of a Struggle for Equality**
- **A Raisin in the Sun**
- **The Sign in Sidney Brustein’s Window**
- **To Be Young, Gifted, and Black**

Harper, Jorjet (1947-)

Harper is a journalist, performer, and speaker who has lived in Chicago since 1979. She has written for numerous magazines and newspapers such as *Blazing Star*, *Outlines*, *Hot Wire: the Journal of Women’s Music and Culture*, and *Windy City Times*. In 1998 she was inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

- **Lesbomania**
- **Tales from the Dyke Side**

Harris, E. Lynn (1955-2009)

Harris was a best-selling novelist who lived in Chicago. He was a pioneer in gay black fiction and had 10 consecutive books on the *New York Times* bestseller list. Throughout his career he won numerous awards, including the Blackboard Novel of the Year Award three times, a James Baldwin Award for Literary Excellence, and a Best Anthologies Award from Lambda Literary in 2005. He also founded the E. Lynn Harris Better Days Foundation, which provides support for aspiring writers and artists.

- **Abide with Me**
- **I Say a Little Prayer**
- **Invisible Life**
- **No One in the World**
- **What Becomes of the Broken Hearted**

Hassinger, Amy (1972-)

Hassinger is a writer and teacher living in Urbana. The audio version of her novel *Nina: Adolescence* won a Listen Up! Award from Publisher’s Weekly. She also received a 2006 Finalist Award in Prose from the Illinois Arts Council, and her short story, “La Llorona” was anthologized in *Best Lesbian Love Stories 2004*.

- **After the Dam**
- **Finding Katahdin: an Exploration of Maine’s Past**
- **Nina: Adolescence**
- **The Priest’s Madonna**

Hemphill, Essex (1957-1995)
LGBT Illinois Authors

Hemphill was a poet and performance artist, born and raised in Chicago. His first full-length collection of poems won the National Library Association’s Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual New Author Award, and he won a 1992 Gay Men’s Anthology Award from Lambda Literary. His poetry was also included in the 1989 film *Looking for Langston*.

- *Brother to Brother: New Writings by Black Gay Men*
- *Ceremonies: Prose and Poetry*
- *Conditions: Poems*
- *Earth Life: Poems*

Hunter, Fred (1954-)

Hunter is a writer living in Chicago. He is best known for the Jeremy Ransom/Emily Charters mysteries and the Alex Reynolds series.

- *Federal Fag*
- *National Nancys*
- *Presence of Mind*
- *Ransom at Sea*
- *Ransom for a Holiday*

Hutchinson, Jean (1940-2008)

Hutchinson was a writer and high school English teacher who lived in Godfrey. Together with her partner Marcy Jacobs, she co-wrote the Meg Darcy mysteries under the pen name Jean Marcy. Their novel *Mommy Deadest* won the 2001 Best Lesbian Mystery Award from Lambda Literary.

- *Cemetery Murders*
- *A Cold Case of Murder*
- *Dead and Blonde*
- *Mommy Deadest*

Jacobs, Marcy (1959-)

Jacobs lives in Godfrey and, along with her partner, Jean Hutchinson, co-wrote the Meg Darcy series of mystery novels under the pen name Jean Marcy. Their novel *Mommy Deadest* won the 2001 Best Lesbian Mystery Award from Lambda Literary.

- *Cemetery Murders*
- *A Cold Case of Murder*
- *Dead and Blonde*
- *Mommy Deadest*

James, Renee (?)
LGBT Illinois Authors

James is a writer living in the Chicago area. She is active in the transgender community and edited the Chicago Gender Society newsletter for five years. She won the 2012 Chicago Writers’ Association Indie Book of the Year for her novel, *Coming Out Can be Murder*.

- *Coming Out Can be Murder* reworked and later published as *Transition to Murder*

**Jones, Joyce Marie (1954-2015)**

She was a poet, born in Carbondale, who also received her degree in journalism from Southern Illinois University.

- *Marshmellow Softness and Rock Hard Taffy*

**Keating, AnaLouise (?-)**

Keating was born in Chicago, and received her BA from Wheaton College and her MA and PhD from the University of Illinois, Chicago. She is a Professor of Women’s Studies at Texas Women’s University. She has authored/edited a number of books and numerous articles on topics such as feminist theory, queer studies, Chicana/Latina authors, and African-American Literature.

- *Teaching Transformation: Transcultural Classroom Dialogues*
- *Transformation Now! Towards a Post-Oppositional Politics of Change*
- *Women Reading Women Writing*

**Kear, Lynn (1957-)**

Kear is a college professor and writer who grew up in Streator and St. Charles, and attended several Illinois colleges and universities. She has written in a variety of genres, including non-fiction, fiction, biography, and crime fiction.

- *Black-Hearted Bitch*
- *Kay Francis: A Passionate Life and Career*
- *Killing Rosa*
- *We’re Here: An Investigation into Gay Reincarnation*

**Keehnen, Owen John (1960-)**

Keehnen is a novelist, short story writer, essayist, interviewer, and historian born in Rockford, and now living in Chicago. He is dedicated to the preservation of Chicago LGBT history through his biographies of notable figures, as well as his articles and interviews. Additionally, he was on the founding committee of The Legacy Project, an organization dedicated to honoring notable LGBT figures. He was a 2011 inductee into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

- *Jim Flint: The Boy from Peoria*
- *Leatherman: The Legend of Chuck Renslow*
- *LGBT Book of Days: A Fun and Comprehensive Guide to Important Dates in LGBT History*
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- *The Sand Bar*
- *We’re Here, We’re Queer*
- *Young Digby Swank: Growing Up Gay and Catholic Sure is Hell!*

**Klise, James (?)**

Klise was born in Peoria, and makes his home in Chicago. He is a high school librarian, short story writer, and young adult novelist. His first novel, *Love Drugged*, was a 2011 Stonewall Honor Book and a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for LGBT Children’s/Young Adult. *The Art of Secrets* was a 2015 Illinois Reads selection and won several awards, including the 2015 Young Adult Edgar Award.

- *The Art of Secrets*
- *Love Drugged*

**Laughlin, Anne (1955-)**

Laughlin is primarily a mystery writer. She was born in Chicago, and still makes her home there. She has published five novels under her own name, and under the pen name Lesley Gowan. She has won awards for Best Mystery in 2010 and Best Erotica in 2012 from the Golden Crown Literary Society. She was also named a 2014 Emerging Writers Retreat Fellow by Lambda Literary.

- *The Collectors* (as Lesley Gowan)
- *Veritas*

**Manalansan IV, Martin F. (?)**

Manalansan is a native of the Philippines, who now resides in Chicago and is an Associate Professor of Asian American Studies, Anthropology, LAS Global Studies, and Latin American and Caribbean Studies at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Among his research interests are ethnography of Asian America, Filipino global migration, and immigrant inhabitations. He has written or edited a number of books, books chapters, and journal articles on these and other topics.

- *Eating Asian America: A Food Studies Reader* (co-editor)
- *Global Divas: Filipino Gay Men in the Diaspora*
- *Queer Globalizations: Citizenship and the Afterlife of Colonialism* (co-editor)

**Markowitz, Judith (1946-)**

Markowitz is a Chicago native, and an internationally-recognized leader in the field of speech processing and speaker recognition. Along with being the president of J. Markowitz Consultants, she is Technology Editor at *Speech Technology Magazine* and serves on the editorial review board of the *International Journal of Speech Technology*. She has written numerous books, book chapters, reports, papers, and articles on speech processing and speaker recognition. In 2003, she received a GLBT Technology and Business Leadership Award.
LGBT Illinois Authors

- Gay Detective Novel: Lesbian and Gay Main Characters & Themes in Mystery Fiction
- Using Speech Recognition: A Guide for Application Developers

McDonald, Robert (1963-)

McDonald is a poet and non-fiction writer living in Chicago. He is also a bookseller and his poetry has been published in numerous literary journals. His poem “Postcard Written at the ‘The Perfect Cup’” won an Illinois Arts Council 2009 Literary Award.

- A Field Guide to Gay and Lesbian Chicago

Miller, Martha (1947-)

Miller is a lifelong resident of Springfield, and received her Associate’s degree from Lincoln Land Community College, and her Bachelor’s and Master’s from the University of Illinois, Springfield. She is a novelist, short story writer, playwright, and journalist. She has also taught English and writing at several Central Illinois colleges and universities. In 2012, her novel, Retirement Plan, was a finalist for the Lesbian Mystery Award from Lambda Literary.

- Retirement Plan
- Tales from the Levee
- Widow

Mohr, Richard (?-)

Mohr received his Bachelor’s degree from the University of Chicago, and is Professor Emeritus of Philosophy and Classics at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. He has written numerous columns, articles, and books on social issues affecting gays. His book Gay Ideas received an Editor’s Choice award in 1993 from Lambda Literary.

- Gay Ideas: Outing and Other Controversies
- The Long Arc of Justice: Lesbian and Gay Marriage, Equality, and Rights
- A More Perfect Union: Why Straight America Must Stand up for Gay Rights
- Pottery, Politics, Art: George Ohr and the Brothers Kirkpatrick

Munson, Peggy (1968-)

Munson is fiction writer, poet, and essayist originally from Normal. Her work has been published in numerous literary journals, magazines, and anthologies. Her novel Origami Striptease was a finalist for the 2006 Lesbian Debut Fiction award from Lambda Literary. The 2003 edition of Best American Poetry included her poem “Four Deaths That Happened Daily.”

- Origami Striptease
- Pathogenesis
- Stricken: Voices from the Hidden Epidemic of Chronic Fatigue Syndrome
LGBT Illinois Authors

Nasim, Ifti (1946-2011)

Nasim was a poet who came to the United States from his native Pakistan in 1971 and eventually moved to Chicago in 1974. In 1996, he was inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame, partly for his poetry, and partly for co-founding Sangat/Chicago, and organization to help South Asian gays and lesbians. In 1994 Chicago’s South Asian Family Services presented him with the Rabindranath Tagore Award for his poetic work.

- Abdoz
- Myrmecophile
- Narman

Obejas, Achy (1956-)

Obejas is an award-winning writer, journalist, and translator who left her native Cuba at age 6, eventually moving to Chicago after graduating from college in 1979. As a journalist, she has written for numerous publications including the Chicago Tribune, Windy City Times, and the Chicago Reader, winning a 2001 Pulitzer Prize for Explanatory Reporting as part of the Tribune team. She was a 2010 inductee into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame and has won numerous awards for her writing including two Lambda Literary Awards for Lesbian Fiction in 1997 and 2002.

- Days of Awe
- Memory Mambo
- Ruins

Orner, Eric (?-)

Orner was born in Chicago, and grew up in Highland Park. He is a cartoonist, best known for his comic strip, The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green, which he drew between 1989 and 2005, and at its peak appeared in around 100 gay and alternative weeklies across the United States and Canada. It was adapted into a 2005 feature film of the same name. He was a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award for Humor in 1993 and 2000. His cartoon story “Weekends Abroad” was selected for the Best American Comics 2011 anthology.

- The Completely Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green
- Ethan Exposed
- The Mostly Unfabulous Social Life of Ethan Green

Purdy, James (1914-2009)

Purdy lived in Chicago, and received his MA in English from the University of Chicago. He was a novelist, short story writer, poet, and playwright. Though acclaimed by fellow writers, he was not widely read by the general public, and was relatively unknown throughout most of his life. In 2005, his novel, Eustace Chisholm and the Works, was given the Clifton Fadiman Medal for Excellence in Fiction, nearly 40 years after its publication. In 1985, his novel, On Glory’s Course was a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award, and
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In 1993 he was awarded the Morton Dauwen Zabel Award by the American Academy of Arts and Letters.

- *63: Dream Palace*
- *Cabot Wright Begins*
- *Children is All*
- *Eustace Chisholm and the Works*
- *On Glory’s Course*

**Ramirez-Valles, Jesus (?)**

Ramirez-Valles is a Professor of Community Health Sciences at the University of Illinois at Chicago. His research interests include health promotion, community organizing, sociology of health, race, gender, sexual orientation, and Latinos.

- *Companeros: Latino Activists in the Face of AIDS*

**Rapp, Anthony Deane (1971-)**

Rapp is an actor, born and raised in Chicago. He has appeared in numerous plays, television shows, and films, but is probably best known for originating the role of Mark Cohen in the Tony Award-winning musical *Rent*.


**Robinson, John Eric (1965-)**

Robinson is a writer and professor, born and raised in Alton. He has taught at several St. Louis area colleges, and is currently an Assistant Professor of History at St. Louis College of Pharmacy. He won a 2005 Illinois Arts Council Literary Award for his creative nonfiction, the 2014 award for Gay literature at the San Francisco Book Festival, and his novel *Skip Macalester* was named a “paperback pick” by the American Booksellers Association.

- *The Day Riders and Other Stories: a Collection*
- *Skip Macalester*

**Rodi, Robert (1956-)**

Rodi is a novelist, playwright, essayist, and comic book writer living in Chicago. His early novels were satires of the gay scene in Chicago. He has written comic books for both Marvel and the DC Comics imprint Vertigo.

- *Bitch Goddess*
- *Fag Hag*
- *What They Did to Princess Paragon*
LGBT Illinois Authors

Salach, Cin (1962-)
Salach is a Chicago poet. She has collaborated with artists in other mediums including musicians, dancers, photographers, and video artists. Her work has been published in a wide variety of journals and anthologies.

- *Looking for a Soft Place to Land*
- *When I am Yes*

Savage, Dan (1964-)
Savage is an author, journalist, and activist, born and raised in Chicago. He is best known for his syndicated sex-advice column *Savage Love*, which he has been writing since 1991. He won a PEN West Award for Excellence in Creative Nonfiction in 1999 and a Humor Award from Lambda Literary in 2003. In 2010, he and his husband, Terry Miller, started the It Gets Better Project, a nonprofit helping to prevent suicide among LGBT youth.

- *American Savage: Insights, Slights, and Flights on Faith, Sex, Love, and Politics*
- *The Kid: What Happened After MY Boyfriend and I Decided to go Get Pregnant*
- *Savage Love: Straight Answers from America’s Most Popular Sex Columnist*

Schuyler, James Marcus (1923-1991)
Schuyler was an award-winning poet from Chicago. After eventually settling in New York City, he became a central figure in the New York School, an informal group of poets, painters, dancers, and musicians, active in the city in the 1950s and 60s. He was awarded Guggenheim and American Academy of Poets fellowships, and among the awards he received were the 1961 Longview Foundation Award, the 1969 Frank O’Hara Prize for Poetry, the Gay Men’s Poetry Award from Lambda Literary in 1994, and the Pulitzer Prize for Poetry in 1981.

- *Collected Poems*
- *Freely Espousing: Poems*
- *The Morning of the Poem*

Seaton, Maureen (1947-)
Seaton is a poet and educator who taught at Columbia College in Chicago and at the Art Institute of Chicago. She currently teaches creative writing at the University of Miami. She has had been published in numerous anthologies and journals including *The Best American Poetry, The Atlantic Monthly, Prairie Schooner, and Paris Review*. Among the awards she’s won are the Eighth Mountain Poetry Prize, the Iowa Poetry Prize, the Publishing Triangle’s Audre Lorde Award, and the Lesbian Poetry and Lesbian Memoir/Biography Awards from Lambda Literary.

- *Fear of Subways*
- *Furious Cooking*
LGBT Illinois Authors

- The Sea Among the Cupboards
- Sex Talks to Girls

Sedaris, David (1956-)

Sedaris is an author, humorist, and radio commentator, who lived in Chicago and graduated from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He first gained notoriety on the Chicago radio program The Wild Room. His successes there lead to regular appearances on National Public Radio reading selections from his diary. He won Humor Awards from Lambda Literary in 2001 and 2005, and the James Thurber Prize for American Humor in 2001. In 2004 he was nominated for the Grammy Award for Best Spoken Word Album and for Best Comedy Album.

- Barrel Fever
- Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim
- Me Talk Pretty One Day
- The Santaland Diaries

Shapiro, Gregg (?-)

Shapiro is a poet and journalist who lived in Chicago. He is an influential literary and musical critic, and his work has been featured in numerous journals, magazines, and newspapers. In 1999 he was inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

- Gregg Shapiro: 77
- Lincoln Avenue: Chicago Stories
- Protection

Shelby, R. Dennis (?-)

Shelby is Professor Emeritus at the Institute for Clinical Social Work in Chicago. He is also on the faculty of the Chicago Institute for Psychoanalysis. Among his areas of expertise are psychotherapy, psychoanalysis, long term HIV infection, and issues related to sexual orientation.

- If a Partner has AIDS: Guide to Clinical Intervention for Relationships in Crisis
- People with HIV and Those Who Help Them: Challenges, Integration, Intervention

Shilts, Randy (1951-1994)

Shilts was a bestselling author and journalist who grew up in Aurora. As a journalist he worked for several Bay Area television stations and wrote most notably for The Advocate and The San Francisco Chronicle. He received an ALA Stonewall Award in 1988 and a Gay Men’s Studies Award from Lambda Literary in 1994. And the Band Played On, his critically-acclaimed chronicling of the beginning and spread of the AIDS virus was used as the basis for an Emmy-winning HBO movie.

- And the Band Played On
LGBT Illinois Authors

- *Conduct Unbecoming: Gays and Lesbians in the U.S. Military*
- *The Mayor of Castro Street: The Life and Times of Harvey Milk*

Sinclair, April (1953-)

Sinclair is a novelist, born and raised in Chicago. Her debut novel, *Coffee Will Make You Black*, won the Carl Sandburg Award and was included on the Best Books for Young Adults by the American Library Association.

- *Ain’t Gonna Be the Same Fool Twice*
- *Coffee Will Make You Black*
- *I Left My Back Door Open*

Spangler, Rachel (?-)


- *Learning Curve*
- *The Long Way Home*
- *Trails Merge*

Steward, Samuel (1909-1993)

Steward was a tattoo artist, poet, non-fiction writer and novelist who lived in Chicago. He wrote under his own name as well as a variety of pseudonyms, most notably Phil Sparrow and Phil Andros.

- *The Greek Way*
- *Stud*
- *When in Rome, Do…*

Tanner, Edward Everett III (1921-1976)

Tanner was an author, born in Chicago and raised in Evanston. He is better known by his pen names, Patrick Dennis and Virginia Rowans. His novel, *Auntie Mame*, was one of the bestselling American books of the 20th century. It was later adapted into a stage play, a film, a stage musical, and a film musical. He was the first writer to have three books on the *New York Times* bestseller list at the same time.

- *Around the World with Auntie Mame*
- *Auntie Mame*
- *Guestward, Ho!*
- *Little Me: the Intimate Memoirs of that Great Star of Stage, Screen and Television, Belle Poitrine*
- *The Loving Couple: His (and Her) Story*
LGBT Illinois Authors

Tsui, Kitty (1952-)

Tsui is an activist, writer, and poet who lived in Chicago after moving to the United States from her native Hong Kong. Her poetry and prose has been included in numerous anthologies.

- Breathless
- Nightvision
- Sparks Fly
- Words of a Woman Who Breathes Fire: Poetry and Prose

Weldy, Ann (1932-)

Weldy is a novelist, born in Joliet and raised in Hinsdale, who writes under several pen names, mostly notably Ann Bannon. Between 1957 and 1962 she wrote a series of lesbian pulp fiction novels known as the “Beebo Brinker Chronicles” that earned her the title “Queen of Lesbian Pulp Fiction.” In 2005 she received the Trailblazer Award from the Golden Crown Literary Society and in 2008 received the Pioneer Award from the Lambda Literary Foundation.

- Beebo Brinker
- I Am a Woman
- Journey to a Woman
- Odd Girl Out
- Women in the Shadows

White, Edmund (1940-)

White is a novelist, essayist, and memoirist who grew up in Chicago. He is a Professor of Creative Writing at Princeton University’s Lewis Center for the Arts. Among the awards he has won are a Ferro-Grumley Award from the Publishing Triangle, a National Book Critics Circle Award, a Gay Men’s Fiction Award, and a Gay Men’s Biography/Autobiography, both from Lambda Literary.

- The Beautiful Room is Empty
- A Boy’s Own Story
- The Farwell Symphony
- Genet
- The Married Man

Mary Wings (1949-)

Wings is a writer, artist, and musician, born and raised in Chicago. In 1973 she published Come Out Comix, notable as the first lesbian underground comic book. She is best known for her Emma Victor series of mystery novels. In 1994 she received the Lesbian Mystery Award from Lambda Literary.

- Come Out Comix
- Divine Victim
LGBT Illinois Authors

• *She Came Too Late*

**Zimmerman, Robert (1952-)**

Zimmerman is primarily a mystery novelist, born and raised in Chicago. He has been a finalist for Edgar Awards twice, for Best Paperback Original in 1997 and for Best Novel in 1991, and a finalist for the Anthony Award for Best Paperback Original in 1996. He won the Lambda Literary Award for Gay Men’s Mystery in 1996 and 1999, and was a finalist in 1997, 1998, and 2000. A film version of his novel, *The Kitchen Boy*, written under the penname Richard Alexander, is currently in development.

• *Closet*
• *Deadfall in Berlin*
• *Innuendo*
• *The Kitchen Boy: A Novel of the Last Tsar*
• *Outburst*
• *Tribe*

**Zipter, Yvonne (1954-)**

Zipter is a writer, columnist, and poet living in Chicago. She has been published in numerous journals and anthologies, and in 1991, her collection, *Patience of Metal*, was a finalist of the Lesbian Poetry Award from Lambda Literary. In 1995, she was inducted into the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

• *Diamonds are a Dyke’s Best Friend*
• *Patience of Metal*
• *Ransacking the Closet*

**Zubro, Mark (1948-)**

Zubro lives in Mokena and writes mystery novels set in the Chicago area. He has two long-running series, the Tom and Scott Mysteries and the Paul Turner Mysteries. In 1990 he won the Best Gay Mystery Award from Lambda Literary for his novel *Simple Suburban Murder*. He has also been a finalist for the award seven other times, most recently in 2014.

• *Another Dead Teenager*
• *Dead Egotistical Morons*
• *Drop Dead*
• *A Simple Suburban Murder*
• *Sorry Now?*
• *Why isn’t Becky Twitchell Dead?*