



IMPACT

YOUR MEMBERSHIP IN ACTION V1 2015



LEATHER ARCHIVES NAMED TOP 10 MUSEUM IN CHICAGO

"Whether attending one of the classic cultural establishments connected by the Museum Campus or finding some smaller museums and galleries in Chicago's outlying neighborhoods, we all love a day at the museum.

Tucked away in an unassuming building just off Devon Ave in Rogers Park, is a small museum that houses some of the most detailed history and intriguing artifacts of two very popular niche cultures; the leather subculture and BDSM. Whether you are part of these communities or simply like to learn about new cultures and explore human sexuality, the LA&M is a great educational resource."

– Chicagoist Magazine



LA&M OPENS THE NEW LEATHERS ROOM

As we were running out of space in the previous storage space, the staff of the LA&M put to the task of renovating a seldom used workshop/storage room located off the existing archival storage space. The new space will allow for additional donations of leathers, sashes, vests and jackets to be added to a climate controlled space to ensure the leathers are preserved for future generations. The expansion also frees up space in the main archival storage area for more personal and organizational archival collections. This new space also provides a work space specifically for the Leather Preservation and Conservation program headed by Leslie J. Anderson.

A LEGENDARY BOOTBLACK CHAIR JOINS THE LA&M COLLECTIONS

In May 2014, Daddy William Shield donated a bootblack chair used by Harry Shattuck in the legendary Gold Coast bar. Now, the stand lives in the Leatherbar exhibit at the LA&M, next to the bootblack case that was also used at the AA Meat Market, the place it all began. This is a bootblack stand that has been sweated over and cherished. A stand that holds the weight and memory of Leather bars that no longer exist, of hot nights and backrooms, of competitions won and eventual retirement. However, this donation continues to be a precedent for the LA&M, as well as the bootblack community. William wanted this donation to be different, and he had one stipulation—that it be made available to other bootblacks to use at the LA&M during special events. As of July 25th 2014, Daddy William's bootblack stand is available to bootblacks in the community to use for events held at the LA&M until December 31, 2021. Beginning January 1, 2022 the LA&M will discontinue active use of the stand. All of us at the LA&M are overjoyed, and we look forward to experiencing the stand at work.



LEATHERATI FEATURES: FROM THE LA&M ARCHIVES

We're excited to announce that Leatherati will be publishing a new monthly series starting the 1st Friday of each month. The Leather Archives & Museum has teamed up with Leatherati for the series entitled: "From the LA&M Archives"—a unique publication in which we watch the LA&M open their vaults from within and reveal to us pieces of our Leather History through amazing pictures and stories. The LA&M has done a substantial amount of work in helping us preserve our past and present as well as teaching us how to preserve our future.



YOUR HISTORY PRESERVED AND ACCESSIBLE 24/7 ONLINE

Your generous support of the LA&M allows digital access to our collections via:

-  leatherarchives.tumblr.com
-  Facebook.com/leatherarchives
-  Twitter.com/leatherarchives
-  Vimeo.com/leatherarchives
-  Youtube.com/user/leatherarchives

VOLUNTEERS IN ACTION!



Leather Archives & Museum Staff, Interns and Volunteers – Nov 2014

Pictured left to right : Luis (Graphic design), Christina (Videographer), Mike (Kris Studios collection), John (Museum cataloging), Jakob (Archivist and Collections Librarian), Pup Tork (Information Technology), Jill (Women's Leather History Project), Rick (Executive Director), Jeff (Operations Director), Issa (Distance research and Docent program), Emma (Oral Histories), Angelique (Archivist), Alex (Oral Histories)

Not pictured : Dwight (Etienne collection), Jacqueline (Women's Leather History Project), Leslie (Leather Preservation Project), Parks (Archivist), Pup Soul (Greeter and Acquisition support), Steve (Greeter and Community marketing), Steve (Information Technology).

HROMOVY IN THE GUEST ARTIST GALLERY

The Family Tree & Mutagenesis part deux: New Work

by Hromovy.

June 13, 2014 – March 1, 2015

The centerpiece of The Family Tree & Mutagenesis part deux: New Work by Hromovy at the Leather Archives & Museum is a wall-sized collage titled "Family Tree", composed of parts of images taken over the course of a year of members of the leather community. Bringing images of these figures together, Hromovy offers a statement of unity, serving as a testament to the community in which she finds a home.



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