

# Oral Histories of Tompkins County

## *Archival Finding Aid*

*The History Center in Tompkins County*  
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### **2022 – Searching for LGBTQ Community - Oral History Project**

*2022 Searching for LGBTQ Community* includes three oral history interviews conducted by Chloe Johnston (Ithaca College, Class of 2025) with local residents for an audio journalism project at Ithaca College. This project was done in collaboration with the Ithaca College Center for LGBT Education, Outreach, and Services and resulted in the ‘Concrete Spaces Create Concrete Communities’ essay written by Chloe Johnson and Mika Andia in 2022. Project supervised by Luca Maurer.

**Trigger Warnings:** Domestic violence

#### *Interviews with:*

##### **Tilia Cordata (38 minutes) (she/her/hers)**

Tilia Cordata discusses directing various drag events in Ithaca, including Thursgays at the Range, Ithaca’s support and lack thereof of the LGBT community, and the generational differences among those who identify as LGBT.

- *Recorded 04/26/2022*
- *Name of Interviewer: Chloe Johnston*
- *Audio File: OHTC\_2022-04-26\_Cordata-Tilia*
  - *Digital Format: MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC\_2022-04-26\_Cordata-Tilia\_Transcript*
  - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*

##### **Luca Maurer (58 minutes) (he/him)**

Luca Maurer, Founding Director of the Center for LGBT Education, Outreach & Services at Ithaca College, discusses the history of the LGBT community, their spaces, and the challenges they face today in Ithaca and Tompkins County.

*Trigger warnings: domestic violence*

- *Recorded Spring 2022*
- *Name of Interviewers: Chloe Johnston and Mika Andia*
- *Audio File: OHTC\_2022\_Maurer-Luca*
  - *Digital Format: MP3*
- *Transcript File: OHTC\_2022\_Maurer-Luca\_Transcript*
  - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*

**Zoë Van Nostrand (32 minutes) (she/her)**

Zoë Van Nostrand, Marketing and Visitor Experience Coordinator for The History Center in Tompkins County (THC), discusses the nuances of understanding LGBT spaces in Ithaca through the THC archives and the barriers between traditionally marginalized communities and historical records.

- *Recorded 04/28/2022*
- *Name of Interviewers: Chloe Johnston*
- *Audio File: OHTC\_2022-4-28\_Van Nostrand-Zoe*
  - *Digital Format: MP4*
- *Transcript File: OHTC\_2022-04-28\_Van Nostrand-Zoë\_Transcript*
  - *Digital Format: Word Doc & PDF*

*CITATION FOR THE COLLECTION*

“2022 – Searching for LGBTQ Community” Oral History Project, 3 oral histories recorded in 2022 by Chloe Johnston at Ithaca College, The History Center in Tompkins County. Oral Histories of Tompkins County Audio Archives, Ithaca NY, 2022.

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*This project was a collaboration with the Ithaca College Center for LGBT Education, Outreach, and Services.*



**ITHACA  
COLLEGE**

Center for LGBT Education,  
Outreach, and Services

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