For years, nightlife has been a huge part of the queer community, identity and belonging. Queer nightlife has provided a place for folx to express themselves, talk with friends, meet people and of course, hit the dance floor. During the COVID pandemic, Queer bars and spaces have been hit hard due to expensive rent and no one to fill the dance floors. It is so important to support your local Queer spaces in whatever way is best for you because for some, these are an important place where they can be themselves.
Sources

https://www.studsfs.com/about
https://48hills.org/2021/02/with-virgils-closure-sf-loses-another-great-queer-space/
Marsha P. Johnson was born on August 24th, 1945 in Elizabeth, New Jersey and passed in July 6th, 1992. Johnson was a Drag Queen, a trans woman, and an advocate for gay rights. In 1969 Johnson played a big role in the Stonewall Uprising. Johnson initially went for the name "Black Marsha" but changed to Marsha P. Johnson as a drag queen name. The "P" means "Pay it no mind", and Johnson was influenced by a restaurant named Howard Johnson's.

By: TJ S.
Johnson, Zazu Nova and Jackie Hormona were named the "three individuals known to have been in the vanguard" of the pushback against the police at the stonewall uprising. This Individual wanted the best for LGBTQ people so they made The STAR House, a shelter for gay and trans street kids in 1972, and paid the rent for it with money they made themselves as sex workers. Johnson worked to provide food, clothing, emotional support for young drag queens, trans women, gender nonconformists and other gay street kids. Other than helping the young LGBTQ community and helping push against police in the stonewall uprising, Johnson also was part of ACT UP which was an HIV/AIDS activist group.

"History isn't something you look back at and say it was inevitable, it happens because people make decisions that are sometimes very impulsive and of the moment, but those moments are cumulative realities."

"How many years has it taken people to realize that we are all brothers and sisters and human beings in the human race? I mean how many years does it take people to see that? We're all in this rat race together!"

"As long as gay people don't have their rights all across America, there's no reason for celebration."
STONEWALL TO VISIBILITY

Jose Julio Sarria was the first openly gay candidate for the public office in the U.S. He was credited the 1969 Stonewall riots which helped inspire the movement.

AMBIENTE

Latinx individuals have used the word ambiente to identify themselves, their distinctive cultures and their spirit of resistance. This term was at the heart of this exhibition, entitled “Noche de Ambiente.” The show opened a window into the meanings of ambiente as reflected in Latinx drag performance and LGBTQ and AIDS activism in San Francisco from the 1970s to the 1990s.

Fight for Equality

Robbie Rodriguez Program director for equality for California has acknowledged the issue at hand and has stated "We have dealt with the very hostile Trump/Pence administration, which has not made me feel great as a Latinx gay man," Rodriguez said. "Almost every day, the president incites fear and emboldens bigots to be open with racism, homophobia and transphobia.”
https://www.glaad.org/tags/lgbt-latino
https://www.glaad.org/programs/spanishlanguage
https://www.glsen.org/research/latinx-lgbtq-students
https://www.glsen.org/blog/5-lgbtq-latinx-heroes-every-classroom
Queer voices in San Francisco tend to be dominated by upper middle class cis white gay men, and yet historically much of the progress was pioneered by women like Suzan Cooke (transwomen active in Bay Area radical left scene), Tamara Ching (trans activist at the San Francisco Compton Cafeteria Riots), or Cecelia Chung (founder of the trans march in San Francisco), low income, BIPOC, trans women.

The multitude of marginalized identities BIPOC trans women carry, creates a massive power gap, which institutions such as the police (but also academia, business, etc.) can easily abuse. In the 60’s the police used violence to enforce hate on the community by perpetuating systems of violence and using transphobic legislation such as an ordinance outlawing “female impersonation”. This led to strong leaders coming forward and forging a path which all LGBT youth follow, even today.

By Zaynah H.C.
Mona's
Union St, Columbus Ave
opened up by a married couple, Mona and Jimmie Sargent in 1934. Originally Planned to be a bohemian-themed hangout for writers and artists. The style of the club later on changed when they hired singing waitresses and turns out those waitresses did drag! The bar became the first openly lesbian club that was geared towards the local gay community as opposed to gay tourists. then this is where their slogan comes in, "where girls will be boys", as the bar began to feature female wait staff and entertains in tuxedos.
Joseph Finocchio passed the year of 1986 with his widowed wife, Eve Finocchio, to take over. She, later on, had to shut down the club in 1999 because of rent increasing and dwindling attendance.

506 Broadway

The club later rebranded and moved locations. The owner of the club, Joseph "Joe" Finocchio had the idea of a club with female impersonators. As a joke, one of his patrons went up on stage, and people loved it. It wasn't advertised as a gay club but a club for entertainment and fun. That's when they began to feature female impersonators aka Drag Queens! When WWII began Finocchio's was shut down temporarily because of selling alcohol to the military at unauthorized times. That was later on lift once the owner and other bar owners signed an agreement to limit selling alcohol from 5 pm - Midnight to militants.

RESOURCES
FIRST PAGE:
HTTPS://PROJECTS.SFCRONICLE.COM/2018/LGBTQ-HERITAGE-GUIDE/

MONA'S
HTTPS://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/MONA%27S_440_CLUB#LEGACY

FINOCCHIO'S
HTTPS://EN.WIKIPEDIA.ORG/WIKI/FINOCCHIO%27S_CLUB

THE ELEPHANT WALK
500 CASTRO STREET, SAN FRANCISCO

By: Noel C.

WHEN THE CASTRO WAS STORMED BY ARMED POLICE MEN IN RETALIATION, THE ELEPHANT WALK WAS HIT HARD. PROPERTY, EMPLOYEES, AND PATRONS WERE ATTACKED AND LEFT IN SHAMBLES.

ON MAY 21, 1979, SAN FRANCISCO FELL INTO UPROAR, LATER CALLED “THE WHITE NIGHT RIOTS.” DAN WHITE WAS SENTENCED TO SEVEN YEARS OF PRISON—THOUGH HE WOULD END UP SERVING FOUR.

AIDS appeared in San Francisco in the early 80s, with the epidemic peaking in the mid-1990s. However, the disease still exists today but is not currently an epidemic.

The effects of the epidemic were devastating. By 2000, 448,000 people had died of AIDS. The loss was widespread. People across the nation lost friends and family members. There was massive paranoia and stigma against gay people as a result of the disease.

Queer POC were by far the most affected by the epidemic, however, the effects on SF's queer community as a whole were devastating. For a long time, the government believed that gay people were the only group that HIV/AIDS affected, however that is not true. It is still a common misconception today that HIV & AIDS is a "gay disease", one that can only be contracted by gay individuals.
San Francisco received little to no aid from the government and the community was left to deal with a full epidemic by itself. Community centers lead blood drives and handed out contraceptives but for a long time there was so little known about the disease and San Francisco simply did not have the resources to effectively combat it.

As the president of the US, the responsibility of helping combat the epidemic fell on Ronald Reagan. His response was beyond unsatisfactory, in fact, it was nearly nonexistent. Reagan didn't mention AIDS until 6 years after it appeared - by then it was a full-blown epidemic. Reagan's lack of response resulted in the deaths of hundreds of thousands of people. The reason for this? He thought it only affected gay people. AIDS was originally called "GRID" (Gay-Related Immune deficiency).

* Works cited *

A Timeline Of HIV and AIDS - HIV.GOV
The History of AIDS at UCSF
AVERT.org - The Origin of HIV and AIDS
How AIDS Remained an Unspoken Epidemic for Years
AIDS and San Francisco's Queer Community
The sisters are a group Charity/organization of religious queer drag nuns that focuses on activism through drag, protest, and street performance using humor to unchain the human spirit.

They were founded here in San Francisco's Castro neighborhood on April 14, 1979 at 272 Dolores St. When 3 Gay men from Iowa that moved to San Francisco, when many queer people where coming here, and wanted to draw attention to social conflicts, and problems the Castro was facing with the gays, and problems with the Church. They went out dressed as nuns, which was given to them by some catholic nuns in Iowa as a gift, and they noticed how people where happy when seeing them, and some wanted to be like them, and slowly they grew.

The sisters have always been present, super involved, and it's their job, to be there whenever there's gay emergencies back when it was harder to get help if you were gay, for example the AIDS/HIV crisis. They were the first to provide safe sex education, and created Play Fair the first safe sex pamphlet, and they where the first to be out on the front line to get to the bottom of this epidemic, which is still pretty active today.

By Angel M.
Over time the order has grown especially with religious queer people seeking somewhere where they would get accepted. Now the sisters have grown by lot, and can be found in Canada, Australia, Europe, and South America. There are many convents there with the mother house /headquarters here in San Francisco's Castro at **584 Castro St.** Anyone can join the sisters too. There is a small process to get in, you must be committed, and follow the dress code when representing them and to have FUN!

The sisters have always been hosting events, and doing activism which is their job. They were the first to host an **HIV/AIDS candle vigil** which is now a Castro tradition. Whenever there's a catastrophe event, they would host basketball/dog shows, etc. in the middle of the Castro, and Halloween in the Castro to cheer people up. Now they host many queer events like Easter in the park and **The People's March** which was a reminder of Pride being a riot.

It is a march that took the route of the first original pride, and it was more about community, locals, POC marching, and many other queer events in the Castro, and SOMA, and just having fun.
The Bay Area Reporter was founded in 1971 by Bob Ross (not the artist) and Paul Bentley. They wanted to produce a newspaper that reported on queer issues, advocacy, and culture.

The AIDS Crisis:
During the AIDS crisis BAR was a leading source for information. They were the first newspaper to publish obituaries for those who died with pictures. In 1988 they made history with the headline, "No Obits," marking the first time that they had gone one week without receiving an obituary request.

Advocacy:
The BAR has been a longtime place for queer people in the Bay Area to look at to find information on how to take action, help others, and learn more. They prioritize covering information that mainstream media doesn't, such as housing and work, discrimination, victims of abuse and hate crimes, at risk youth, the needs of queer elders and the fear of people who live with HIV/AIDS.

Their Work Now:
Currently the BAR is the largest queer newspaper in circulation in the Bay Area and the fourth largest in the country. The two people who founded the paper, Bob Ross and Paul Bentley have both passed. Now the paper is run by Michael Yamashita, who is the first Aisan-American publisher of a Queer newspaper.

By Maleeha I.

Sources:
https://www.ebar.com/about_the_bar/?screenID=5248
https://archive.org/details/bayareareporter&tab=collection
THE RISE OF THE QUEER POPULATION IN CHINATOWN

the history

BY LILY B. AND LISA L.

CHINATOWN ORIGIN:

Many Chinese immigrants came to San Francisco for the job opportunities opened by the railroad and the Gold Rush. Many found homes in our Chinatown as they were rejected in other areas of San Francisco.

DISCRIMINATION

Chinese immigrants soon started to become more successful and the government started passing anti-Chinese laws. More specifically, the Chinese Exclusion Act and the Angell Treaty of 1880. This stopped immigration and restricted the marriage of Chinese men and non-Chinese women. Since the population on Chinese men was much greater than Chinese women at the time (20 to 1 in a household building), it was harder for men to start families.

PROP 8 In 2008, 65% of the Chinatown population in SF voted yes on Proposition 8, which outlaws gay marriage depending on factors like race, age, level of education, and religious affliction.

CLUB SCENE:

LI PO NIGHTCLUB 916 Grant Ave

Li Po was popular for sex tourism and LGBT clients. Advertised in Where to Sin in San Francisco, a 1939 tourism book, Li Po is a gay bar in downtown San Francisco. In 1943, it gave shelter for gay customers, and queer customers and sex workers started to circulate the club. The bar later distanced itself from gay customers during an outbreak of raids during WWII.

CHINESE FEMALE IMPERSONATORS

Jackie Mei Ling was a successful dancer and female impersonator in Chinatown and was also openly gay. Chinese female impersonators attracted a lot of LGBT clients from around the world because of the sexualized and racialized performances.
QUEER ASIAN GROUPS:

The National Gay Liberation Movement sparked the increase in Asian American queer communities which brought them together in the late 1970's.

GAY ASIAN PACIFIC ALLIANCE (GAPA)

GAPA had a newsletter called the Lavender Godzilla where group members could express their opinions about social issues, like sexuality, race, and identity. The also had an annual pageant called Runaway pageant (that still runs today) focused on Asian American queers’ gender and sexuality. They would elect a Mr. GAPA (drag king) and a Ms. GAPA (drag queen) based on evening-wear, an interview, and the fantasy category. The group also ran HIV programs to help those in need.

TRIKONE

“Trikone is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) people of South Asian descent, who trace their ethnicities to one of the following places: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Myanmar (Burma), Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Tibet. Trikone is the oldest group of its kind in the world.”

Resources:

ASIAN WOMEN’S SHELTER
TRIKONE LIST OF RESOURCES
THE PRISM FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP SCHOLARSHIP
ASIAN WOMEN & TRANSGENDER SUPPORT

Upcoming Events:

CHINATOWN PRIDE 3/25/2021
A virtual fundraiser hosted by the Chinese Culture Center and San Francisco Pride celebrating and showcasing queer forms of arts and stories.

CITATIONS:

2. https://www.trikone.org/
The bustling Castro that we know today came from humble beginnings. It started as "Eureka Valley", filled with dairy farms and dirt roads. Later the area was named after politician, Jose Castro.

In the postwar era gay men started to buy the charming Victorian homes. This was an era of activism. 1970 was the first gay pride to commemorate the Stonewall riots. In 1977 Harvey Milk became the first openly gay elected official in California.

In the early 2000s the amount of LGBTQ+ people moving to San Francisco was declining. So in 2002 the SF LGBT Community Center was created. Also, in 2004 San Francisco became the first city in the US to grant marriage licenses for same-sex couples.

Today, the Castro is filled with attractive stores, clubs, and more. It's known as a place of acceptance and justice. A place where people can stand up for what they believe in and enjoy a nice stroll in the city.
TRANS INCARCERATION

INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

DID YOU KNOW?

Nearly one in six transgender Americans—and one in two black transgender people—has been to prison. -Lambda Legal

WHY?

Police target TGNC people, especially Black and Brown trans women, and put them in prisons depending on their assigned sex at birth. Incarceration leaves trans people prone to violence from guards and other inmates, as well as denial of trans medical care.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

As a TGNC ally, you should educate yourself and look into these resources below. These organizations are law firms and advocacy groups that have more information and educational material, as well as open donations.

RESOURCES

Transgender Law Center
Lambda Legal
Black and Pink
TGI Justice
National Center for Trans Equality
Just Detention International
Sylvia Rivera Law Project
What is it?

A MILITARY DISCHARGE IS A WAY TO EXCUSE A SOLDIER FROM SERVICE.

A blue discharge was a way for the US Military to dismiss a soldier from duty, due to being a homosexual. It earned the name Blue discharge because the papers that were given were blue.

Origination

When did the blue discharge start?

It began in **1916**, as a way to replace the "the administrative discharge without honor" and the 'unclassified' discharge."
During World War Two, many soldiers were discharged from the army via the Blue Discharge. If found gay while at sea, or abroad, the would be returned to the closest port. For many, this was San Francisco.

Many of the discharged knew that if they returned home, they would most certainly face discrimination, as the distinctive blue papers that came with a blue discharge, brought much hate and adversity. Therefore, many service men would stay in San Francisco, thus building up the LGBTQ+ community seen today.