FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Los Angeles, CA (May 18, 2021) — ONE Archives Foundation announced today Pride Publics: Words and Action, a multi-site outdoor exhibit that will open in West Hollywood, California on June 5 and run through July 1. A second iteration of the exhibit will take place in October 2021 across Los Angeles County, in honor of LGBTQ History Month.

Pride Publics: Words and Actions stages a visual dialogue between historical and contemporary LGBTQ changemakers. Twenty-eight large-scale (4’ x 5’) black-and-white posters are wheatpasted in public spaces, with hand-applied accent colors unique to each site of installation. These posters feature dynamic and engaging portraits of contemporary LGBTQ+ artists, writers, and community organizers, along with two quotes: one from the selected artists themselves, and the other from an LGBTQ+ trailblazer who inspires them.
The outdoor exhibit will be located:

Along Robertson Boulevard on the east side of the street (next to The Abbey), close to the intersection of Santa Monica Boulevard in West Hollywood.

Featured artists include:


This exhibition is organized by ONE Archives Foundation and curated by Rubén Esparza, a multidisciplinary artist, activist, and independent curator based in Los Angeles. He says, “Rendered in black and white with hand-applied accent colors and jotting, this exhibition serves to break up the urban visual noise field with an homage to protest culture and street art.”

Esparza’s design inspiration comes from queer lineages of activist-artists, including Gran Fury member Robert Vásquez Pacheco’s method of propaganda making, inspired by advertising strategies, and Zoe Leonard’s analogue typeset work, “I want a president” (1992).

With free and accessible outdoor installations, a window installation at ONE Gallery in West Hollywood, a web guide with media components, printed matter with thematically relevant artworks, and programming, Pride Publics: Words and Action aims to give visibility to LGBTQ+ life in the public through the lens of history, community, and activism.

“LGBTQ+ liberation is a multi-generational story. Every civil right we possess is a result of ongoing struggle over decades of movement work. We don’t take that for granted,” says Umi Hsu, Director of Content Strategy at ONE Archives Foundation. “This exhibition honors those whose shoulders we stand on, and illustrates a lineage seen through the lens of today’s changemakers, who continue the legacy of queer and trans liberation through cultural production and activism.”

Pride Publics: Words and Action is supported by the City of West Hollywood’s Arts Division as part of the City’s One City One Pride LGBTQ Arts Festival (May 22 - June 30). More info at www.weho.org/pride or @wehoarts.

About ONE Archives Foundation
Founded in 1952, ONE Archives Foundation is the oldest active LGBTQ organization in the United States, and is dedicated to telling the accurate stories and history of all LGBTQ people and their culture. As an independent nonprofit, ONE Archives Foundation promotes ONE Archives at the USC Libraries — the largest repository of LGBTQ materials in the world — and provides innovative educational initiatives, public exhibitions, and community programs. The curatorial and educational choices made by ONE Archives Foundation are guided by our commitment to social equity and justice. We engage with the complexity of LGBTQ history and representation through highlighting the intersectional and authentic narratives of Black, Indigenous, people of color (BIPOC), women, gender-nonconforming and transgender
people, people of various abilities, youth, and elders across all socio-economic classes. Learn more at onearchives.org, and connect with ONE on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram @onearchives.

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1. Promotional image designed by Rubén Esparza.
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