

# Quatrefolio

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1986 - 2009  
Quatrefoil Library  
1619 Dayton Ave,

Suite 105  
St. Paul, MN 55104

## National Coming Out Month

While October 11 is National Coming Out Day, the Quatrefoil Library recognizes the entire month for coming out. It is a time for people who have been questioning their gender/sexual orientation, to explore how to come out in a safe and welcoming environment.

As part of the continuing mission of the Quatrefoil Library, we provide members of the GLBT community a safe, accessible location where they can find an extensive collection which includes thousands of books, DVDs, videos, compact disks/audiotapes, newsletters, and periodicals reflecting GLBT and Queer experiences.

The Quatrefoil Library has put together a list of resources for

## In Memoriam: Dan Charles Hanson

May 4, 1948 - September 19, 2009

The Quatrefoil Library is sad to report the passing of Dan Hanson. Dan was an actively involved member of the GLBT community for many years, and worked tirelessly throughout his life to promote human rights and civil liberties for all persons. He was on the Minneapolis Civil Rights Commission, a Board Member of the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union, and co-founder of the Minnesota Gay and Lesbian Legal Assistance.

This marks the second time this year that the Quatrefoil Library has lost one of its founding members. Co-founder of the library, David Irwin passed away in January. Dan Hanson's rich legacy and spirit for giving will be a part of the Quatrefoil Library forever.

Dan and his long-time partner Keith Grennier's involvement with the Quatrefoil Library started before the library had opened its doors. On Sunday, September 11, 1983, David (Irwin) and Dick (Heweston) invited four people over for brunch. The topic of conversation turned to the possibilities of opening a new gay lending library. In attendance was gay couple Dan Hanson and Keith Grennier. They lived close to Dick and David and knew them through their mutual work with the Minnesota Civil Liberties Union (MCLU). Dan remembers, "They brought up this proposal of a gay library, and we all thought it was kind of silly but it made sense, too."\*

From the start, the Quatrefoil Library found a special place in Dan's heart. Dan served the library in so many roles throughout the years, from becoming one of the first desk volunteers, to being the Secretary of the Board of Directors in 1994, serving as the Vice President of the Board of Directors from 1996-1998, leading as the President of the Board of Directors in 2000, and remaining a constant presence on the Board of Directors throughout his entire time with the library.\* Throughout the years, Dan and Keith also opened their home for parties to raise funds for the library.

It is no wonder that in 1998, CSF, the organization that the Quatrefoil participates in to receive donations through workplace contributions, presented an award,

together a list of resources for Coming Out, which can be [found here](#).

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### Get Involved VOLUNTEER

Volunteers are the heart and soul of the Library. Your contribution as a volunteer helps support the operation and development of Quatrefoil. Further, you can enjoy the camaraderie that comes with volunteering with other members. Meet people and keep on top of the latest GLEF books and DVDs!

There are many ways that you can get involved as a volunteer: Front Desk Operations (as little as two hours per month), Development, Publicity, Finance, Acquisitions, Volunteer Recruitment, and Special Events or Projects. You can help out at our monthly work parties, volunteer at our Pride and holiday book sale, or help catalog books - just to name a few ways to get involved!

Email Jeremy at [wardein@hotmail.com](mailto:wardein@hotmail.com) to volunteer, or for more information. Get started now by downloading our volunteer form and [volunteer opportunities sheet](#) and learn more about specific volunteer opportunities.

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### Donate Your Queer CD's

Do you have a Queer CD music collection gathering dust on your shelf? Consider donating

Quatrefoil participates in to receive donations through workplace contributions, presented an award, 'Volunteer Who Couldn't Say No' to Library Board member Dan Hanson. The award is a true reflection of Dan's and other Library members' commitment to the organization.\*

Dan will be loved and forever missed by his partner of 33 years Keith Grennier, also a long-time Board Member of the Quatrefoil. Keith and family members request that memorials be sent in Dan's memory to the Quatrefoil Library, 1619 Dayton Avenue, Suite 105, St. Paul, MN 55104, or through the [Library's website](#).

A celebration of Dan's life will be held November 15, 2009 between 1-4 pm at Macalester College A.G. Hill Ballroom in St. Paul.

\* History of Quatrefoil Library: the First 20 Years by Adam Keim

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## Newly Published Histories of Twin Cities' GLBT Organizations Quatrefoil Library and MnGALLA

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On Sunday, September 20, 2009, the Quatrefoil Library celebrated the publication of two new books highlighting the significance of GLBT organizations in the Minneapolis and St. Paul community.

*History of Quatrefoil Library: the First 20 Years* by Adam Keim Tracing the origins of the Cities' GLBT library, from its inception in the minds of founders David Irwin and Dick Hewetson; to its 1986 founding in the MCLU office building on Broadway Avenue in Minneapolis; to its current location near Snelling and Marshall Avenues in St. Paul, Keim offers an in-depth review of the many people who have helped make the Quatrefoil one of the largest lending GLBT libraries in North America.

*History of Minnesota Gay and Lesbian Legal Assistance (MnGALLA)* by Dan Hanson and Richard Osborne.

During the 1980's, MnGALLA was an early organized effort to have GLBT people in need of legal services referred to supportive and sympathetic attorneys. The organization presented seminars and legal information regarding civil and criminal matters to GLBT people, and was involved with legal education for people with HIV during the early days of the Minnesota AIDS Project (MAP). The book details the activities and the people who were active in MnGALLA, and its impact on the Twin Cities' GLBT community.

Sadly, the release of these books occurred shortly after the passing of Dan Hanson. While the Quatrefoil Library celebrated

your shelf? Consider donating them to the Quatrefoil Library!

The Quatrefoil Library is currently in need of LGBT artists - both musician and spoken word - to beef up the audio CD collection. Queer identified artists such as Tegan and Sara, Cole Porter, Queen, Sleater Kinney, Pansy Division, and Kate Clinton will help to broaden our current selection. For a wish list of artists and CD titles, please email Jennifer at [chezjoey74@gmail.com](mailto:chezjoey74@gmail.com).

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#### Quatrefoil Library

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St. Paul, MN 55104-6206  
651-641-0969 [www.qlibrary.org](http://www.qlibrary.org)  
[info@qlibrary.org](mailto:info@qlibrary.org)

#### Hours

Mon - Fri 7pm - 9pm  
Sat 10am - 5pm  
Sun 1pm-5pm  
Closed Holidays

passing of Dan Hanson. While the Quatrefoil Library celebrated the release of these books, Dan Hanson was also remembered. The Quatrefoil Library would like to thank Matt Stark for his dedication in seeing through the development and publication of these books. The Quatrefoil Library currently is providing an electronic copy of its History posted on the [website](#), and it may soon be found online at University of Minnesota websites, including the Special Libraries and the Tretter Collection sites.

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### In Memory of E. Lynn Harris

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E. Lynn Harris, the author who introduced millions of readers to the "invisible life" of black gay men passed away this past July. Harris authored ten consecutive books to make The New York Times Best Seller list, making him among the most successful African American or gay authors of his era; exposing readers to characters rarely depicted in literature: black, affluent gay men who were masculine, complex and, sometimes, tormented.

Mr. Harris, who was openly gay, lived for many years with the self-hatred that some gays experience. Harris eventually drew upon his own experiences and used it to write about the emotional conflicts of his characters he wrote about.

The Quatrefoil Library encourages you to come in and check out the works of E. Lynn Harris, including:

*Not a day goes by*

Fiction H3138 .N5 2000

*Just as I am*

Fiction H3138 .J8 1994

*Invisible life*

Fiction H3138 .I624 1994

*What becomes of the brokenhearted: a Memoir*

PS 3558 .A64438 Z468 2003

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### Youth WRITE OUT at the Quatrefoil

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Fifteen youth from various parts of the Twin Cities attended sessions of a four-part workshop with the theme, "My Story;" helping them develop their writing skills, learning how to focus their message and to articulate their ideas.

In addition, the workshops helped introduce a new generation of the GLBT community to the Quatrefoil Library and its resources - to begin to bridge the generation gap that exists in the community as a whole, as well as helping the library become

these and other requirements are met.

**4. General guidelines and limitation**

The Board of Directors sets policies, guidelines, and limitations on the operation of the Library.

**5. Evaluation of policies and operations**

The Board of Directors reviews the operations of the Library and its staff, as well as policies established for the operation of the library, to ensure that the Library is meeting its goals and objectives in a proper and timely fashion.

Ballots will be mailed out in late October and will need to be returned to the Quatrefoil no later than December 1, 2009. We encourage all Quatrefoil Members to vote for those candidates who they feel will serve the library to the best of their abilities.