

Billy DeFrank LGBTQ+ Community Center

Billy DeFrank

938 The Alameda, San José, CA 95126

(408) 293-3040 Phone

www.defrank.org

www.facebook.com/billydefrank

Instagram: [billydefrank](https://www.instagram.com/billydefrank)

MISSION: The Billy DeFrank LGBTQ+ Community Center provides community, leadership, advocacy, services and support to the Silicon Valley's LGBTQ People and their Allies.



The Center opened on March 1, 1981, as a response to the political setback the year before, when Santa Clara County residents voted to repeal ordinances extending housing and employment protections to lesbians and gay men.

Named in honor of the much-loved, Billy DeFrank, a talented drag entertainer and activist who raised funds for many charities, the Lesbian and Gay Community Center offered a geographically centralized meeting place, a social venue and home for the LGBTQ+ community.

Since then, the Billy DeFrank Center has continued to inspire purposeful action and ensure a safe place to gather, discuss relevant issues, and collaborate within our community.

Each month thousands of people visit the Center, and many more call for information and resources. Thousands more seek out the website, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and more than 5,000 people receive the eNewsletter.

The Center has groups, activities, events, and programs provided on a regular basis. Some of these include #Artspllosion for young queer artists, Rainbow Bingo every Wednesday at 7PM, Free HIV Testing, senior luncheons every Wednesday & Friday at 11AM - 1PM, GAYme nights on Fridays 6PM - 9PM, an LGBTQ+ library with over 5,000 titles in circulation as well as a free Cyber Center.

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There are over 90 dedicated volunteers at the Center that are committed to providing services, support, and a special kind of joy that celebrates the many facets of our broad-based LGBTQ+ community.

Today, in the unsettling political climate, the volunteer-run Center is utilized more than ever, seven days a week. The Billy DeFrank LGBTQ+ Community Center provides a safe space for discussions and gatherings that allow the spirit of pride, activism and community to come alive in everyone, in their own way.

Internship Opportunities:

1. **Senior Luncheon Program:** Wednesday & Fridays 10AM - 1PM. Work on logistical set up, clean up, socializing with seniors. Research free passes to events and museums, movies, trips etc. for seniors. Coordinate events for them, find out what other needs they have, find useful resources and events/activities for LGBT seniors.
2. **#Artspllosion for young queer artists:** once every two months held at the Center: help organize the event, promotions, and on-site coordination, researching & applying for art grants, and looking for opportunities to work with the broader art community.
3. **Rainbow Bingo:** Wednesdays, at 7PM - 9PM, be part of an organized team that coordinates Bingo nights.
4. **Front Desk and Library:** regular shifts, learn the basics about working with a team, safety issues, resources, working with people (customer service).
5. **Special events:** Help organize, promote, coordinate the logistics on the day of the event. Everything from fundraising events, Rummage Sales, social events, Scrub Days (clean up