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>> Well thank you for coming I'm Ed Cohen. I'm a professor in the department of women's and gender and soon to be sexuality studies I mean we're very happy to welcome you here today as part of the ongoing celebration of the 100th anniversary of Douglass college. And just spend all

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Devoted to a little window of moment of the history of Douglass and specifically lesbians at Douglass from the late sixty's and to the early 1970s. And so I think just to give you a tiny little. History of Douglass at Riker's for those of you who are Douglas alumnus and shorten know all of this but actually I think many of our current students don't know this which is that record has a very unique history which is that the state of the jersey did not have a university there it's why we're not the University of New Jersey there were a number of colleges that were going to proximity to each other one was a rocker switch if you dial information Iraq years it's to 766 which is the year the records call it was founded and then Douglas College was a women's college it was founded 100 years ago and I'm hers Douglas and rockers were sort of like Amherst in Holyoke they were brother and sister schools in the lingo of the old days and when the colleges were not committed to a university all of the colleges actually had separate faculties separate students separate admissions policies but were included in you know kind of one umbrella organization but wreckers at that time wasn't a research one university so in the 1970 S. The then governor of the state of New Jersey Thomas Kean and that then President and records University who was Edward Blaustein decided to make records into what they called the Berkeley of the east.

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And in order to do that they basically had to amalgamate all of the colleges that were separate into one big faculty so now we have what's called the School of Arts and Sciences and all of the faculty. At the university are part of that and within that kind of larger umbrella now Douglas College is the only separate college it's like Douglas residential college it no longer has its own with missions process it doesn't have its own faculty but we have a campus and a place to be.

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Early days of records were in the days when Douglass was an exclusively women's college like many women's colleges in America. Douglass provided women's education under a variety of different levels education was an income seeing concept and that included not just the kind of study that women wearing gazed in but also the life that women were trying to make for themselves and obviously women's colleges in America were really central to the development of thinking and secondly feminism and obviously into the development of lesbian and gay culture in the period and so we're very happy to be able to include this aspect of the glasses history in the celebration of hundreds anniversary of Douglas College This actually came about really grand what a witch is and I think Kate and I were at a cocktail party and Kate was lamenting the apps and celebration of lesbian history and at last and so I just said well I can probably get a room.

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And so here we are so basically I just wanted to get my thanking the sponsors of the event. So who is the 100 records chair for compare. Heritage gender race and ethnicity. Gave funding for that as. The dean of Douglas College gave us money for some food. Department of women gender studies gave us money so recorded this event so that we'll be able to have a record of this for posterity and will also K. I've done it's helping us put this into the archive of records so that the history of lesbians or rockers will be included as part of the history of rockers.

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And for on the order of law who just does indefatigable home wonderful days of P.R. in the sand and everything else and see the key for who is the graduate assistant also helped organize a so I want to give great thanks everyone thank you. Briefly introduce K. and then case going to take the pound all the way I mean K. as a force of nature.

[00:05:09]

We I mean what hasn't she done I don't want to know I heard some great stories about wrote for it and I don't know much. But I'm just going to give you what she gave me which is her Fishel biography but so Kay is a folklorist by training as a Ph D. from all University of Texas at Austin and she is the past president of the American folklore society She's written 2 books one is called Beautiful necessities the art and meaning of women's altars and then another one is called transgressive tales queering the Grimms and her current project is called What a witch and she says it clearly rethinks through and rehabilitates the witch figure but she's writing her teaching at many colleges and universities around America is only part of her incredibly productive.

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Public Life. She's done lots of performances including muses of Malt-O. which is Goddess I'm a Donna Knight hags visitation and birding fertility smashing chocked I'm just so I mean a dish and. Actually been recently has been doing whoever is doing those queer theory folk over here you know any movement that I'm here.

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But other life other US dollars shipped into song yet we're turning Chris scholarship into song and then she's also been part of a. Rock come close in feminist band called girls in the nose which is celebrating its 33rd anniversary and I presume you're per Are you touring or forget this you are and they're performing and touring and maybe if we're lucky she'll break into song I know I want to thank all of you for coming and I want to thank all of you for coming in and I only had a very exciting event thank you thank you thank you so thank you I want to just thanks as well to the.

[00:07:18]

Associate a long night. D.C. of Douglas College the association because they really helped us get the word out as well we have a nascent a newly forming pride network in the in the alumni association and there was a 1st meeting at reunion a couple of years ago and actually it was at that meeting that I realized that we should be doing more oral history of of all of lesbian and gay and transgendered life at Douglass college from the very beginning to where we are now.

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And that particular meeting was inspiring to me simply because we had really a long had not had. An association. Up until very recently and now I think we will go forward this is good evidence of a way that we can go forward to capture the history of of our experience here at Douglas So that's an important thing and I want to thank Valerie Andersen Valerie zoo neck and each of princely I don't know if the chips in the room right there yeah for for really helping us and Sue Esler as well who was the head of the pride network so so those were some of my think use I have a brief announcement that my friends are leaving wanted me to me about an event that's coming here it's right here.

[00:08:55]

Public catastrophes private losses and do you really great lesbians Amber hollow and Carmen Vos is are part of this program that's happening on November 1st so next next Thursday it's part of the programming here at women's and gender studies. And. Well here's the thing. You need the microphone.

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To use them I could produce yours that. He all mater our song begins like this I will sing. Hear our voices is all know my. Go to has come. To. So. We want our all monitored to hear our voices it's right in the signature song that we sing to hold dear our relationship to the college hear our voices so this panel today is all about hearing the voices of women whose voices were never silenced but whose forces were never heard either not in the official record so a big part of what we're trying to do today is to put women's voices lesbian voices from a particular era into the into the historical record for Douglas and for all of you to be a part of that because this is an amazing gathering of people I'm seeing you know people like genuine compelled to Stabler to be to have been you know B.J. Ryan cunning there's just tons it will least apparent there's just a bunch of people in the audience too who whose voices can certainly be important ones to be heard as well so I'm I'm really looking forward to a you know a great discussion today there will be opportunities for the audience to join in and add to the to the her story that we're sort of you know putting together here for the this afternoon and I want to make sure that you know that we are having a reception afterwards and then we're also having an after party at the held Ridge hotel down there you hold the triangle at the church if you're going Livingston there's a big fancy hotel sitting there now that didn't used to be there but we're going to have a little after party there from about 7 o'clock till 9 o'clock so you know just make a whole evening of it lots of stories to tell and and really great to be together each other so let me let me begin by introducing our panel.

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And the way that this is going to work is that I have 4 speakers and 3 respondents and for each of the topics that we're going to go through and I'll tell you what some of those topics are so that you'll have. You know the moment to think about things you might want to add in.

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So the 4 speakers are Paula Shore class of 74 Barbara Lee class of 72 Adrian Evans also known as Nancy Evans back in the day class of 71 K. Turner 71 Rue Watson She's the baby here she does the class of 77 Hill longer class of 7433 sorry 73 and Joanne to tell a class of 75 yeah OK So these are the these are the panelists and let me just say a few opening words about the importance of doing this kind of work.

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Number one I think you know there is you know there's been a lesbian or a sure you know from the beginnings of time lesbians have never been counted in it's been an issue in in feminist history it's been an issue in gay and lesbian history to to a certain extent go back and rehabilitate lesbian life and lesbian history and lesbian culture.

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And that is very important work it's kind of work that is ongoing as I said earlier. We weren't really a part of the history and the celebration of 100 years of Douglas College there is a some There's about 4 pages of gay and lesbian life that's mentioned in the Douglas Century book that was published Paula hold that up that's the that's the official Douglas Century book that was published for the 100th anniversary it's got lots of great archival material in it but the thing that I realized is that although there are a few mentions in there.

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The archival record that exists that records must be fairly small you know there just isn't there there isn't stuff in there and so I really hope that all of you who have materials that you can provide you know different you know it doesn't have to be the writer's archive it could be the lesbian personally archive there are other archives as well but it's very important to get materials into archives of that when you know when to librarians are given the task of putting together a book such as this one you know they have material to work with so that's I think the most important local reason why we're doing this panel today but there's another reason and that is that I think you know we live in very treacherous times very treacherous times in terms of what can be considered fact what can be considered the truth.

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You know who gets to say what is true and what is factual and so it's incredibly important especially as gays and lesbians and transgender people are being marginalized by the current political atmosphere and regime that's existing in Washington D.C. right now it's very important for us to keep our voices heard to make our history heard and to stand up and speak out.

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And this particular pound gives us an opportunity to do that in a way that you know in a way that we were doing it in 1967 through 1977 but it was done as a community of women who were speaking to each other that's the thing that made it different we weren't speaking to the world we were speaking to one another and so that kind of collectivity that emerged it double as a thriving lesbian community that gave a tremendous amount of cultural vitality and social vitality to.

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The women who were part of it but also to the world that it went out into. We did remarkable things and we were a thriving community of very active. Artists living in New Brunswick at the time who you know who you know we had New York City just you know 30 miles down the pike and we were doing things here that were equally of value and it's very important to resuscitate and rehabilitate pockets of cultural fluorescence of the kind that was manifested here in the late sixty's and seventy's in places that are not New York not L.A. not San Francisco very important to keep that work going you know it's not work that is finished yet that's for sure.

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So I think that one thing that you might you know want to just have just as a little I wrote down very quickly just a few things that that were happening in the time in which we were at Douglass So this is a little just a snapshot of 1968 both Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy were assassinated.

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The Miss America protest took place in Atlantic City run by Robin Morgan and flow Kennedy they had intended to do a trash fire but the trash fire was not allowed they wanted to burn everything gurgles brought in a bunch of other shit but you know it in the end didn't happen they just threw things into the trash the Democratic convention in Chicago produced riots the war and resist movements were very very active and a number of us and I think some people will speak to this a number of us came out of the left and then moved into lesbian feminism you know during the time that we were at Douglass.

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A couple of other little things stonewall 1969 so my college experience and Avery is it is kind of a you know seesaw right we were here we entered college in 1967 we graduated 71 so we had 2 years before Stonewall and 2 years after Stonewall and I think some interesting things can be said about that the only lesbian organization in the United States at the time was the daughters of belie this Daughters of the lie this published magazine called The latter and it went through lots of different editors with lots of different ideas for Greer was one of the editors it became a lesbian feminist publication and at a certain point along the way but it was the only source for lesbians in the United States up to the point at which in the early seventy's again there were throughout the country and very importantly here in New Brunswick as well there you know people started publishing stuff some publishing ideas and there was an amazing print network that developed in that period in lasted till about the middle of the ninety's so about a 25 year period.

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Yeah and then the founding of the lesbian her story archive happened in that period too in the seventy's so these are just a few of the mile the massacre you know the whole cast of thing with William Calley that happened in that era you know I mean it was you know I just I want to

give you that snapshot of the times because to a certain extent that period was you know as turbulent as the period we're living in now.

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And there was a lot of there was a lot of hope though that came out of it a lot of a lot of a sense of a future that was being made and being made from. Made from scratch you know made up and that isn't what we feel today that isn't what we feel today I mean here to tell you that we should remain hopeful because our history is valuable and who we are in that history is always valuable every day of our lives it doesn't matter if Donald Trump is the president it will go away so so that's really what I want to say sort of as a way to begin I you know I called this event during.

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Dykes because. Here's the thing then do you think when I got to college and we had to wear those stinks I was kind of through where I've been and not in a secret kind of way well the body was a kind of a boat a boat had it was it was as a bunny natural green color I mean just a just a really you know it right green it had your class on it said D.C. 71 for mine and you had to you know you got to wear until the sacred path and then you got to throw it off but the thing that was really interesting about it as I thought back is that it was really you know I wanted to be marked I wanted to be known as something you know and to feel what it was like to be to be given a name because I when I came to college I was already you know I'd already had my 1st relationship with a friend in high school but it was very very secretive and it was it was very problematic in many ways.

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So when I got to Douglas and we had to wear those green hats that was the queerest thing I ever bought I mean that's so it's like you know it's like wearing you know. I don't go with their thing or if they will go to bed Mary only go out with the girls later we fairly remember that one that was that was our that was you know you do if you were caught wearing purple on Tuesday or in hindsight you could be accused in your high school of being you know being allez you know so I was like they they give us these hats and we're you know we're already I step up really step this.

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So you know that was my little interpretation of the day again there are others I'm sure I'm sure. All right but the way. We're going to do this today just to give you all a little heads up. We have some topics and we have our 4 panelists who are going to respond on those topics and then our responders who could respond to the palace and then you all can join in as well so the idea here is to get our conversation flowing and then hopefully to you know break it down and perhaps not even need much of a structure and hopefully will just start you know moving into the material and everyone will have a lot to say but here are some of the topics cultural creativity driven by lesbians on campus and off then Douglas campus politics the end of per view and things of that nature sex and love Douglas Dykes did her own part to promote sexual liberation for women we'd like to hear something on that topic faculty and staff allies faculty

included Bill Jodi Chris Downing Corden Clanton David Burroughs and bricks and from the Dean of Students side Marjorie Foster Marjorie tres Nancy Richards genuine Joan disabler Susan Tiller.

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And a number of other staff and faculty people who were again nobody talked about this right I checked in with Jan Yoakum I was a computer talk about being gay and Jen's a show. Just as we were that but we never spoke being that right except with maybe Georgie later Georgette Peterson because she came out and then.

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And then she was our counselor. In a new way. OK then connections to evolving gay culture and political activism creation of the homophile league Barbara Lee will talk about that some then local businesses ways that we sort of you know you know there were certain little like the white rose hamburger place Dunkin Donuts there was hubby and fuzzy and what was the name of their place by the company collage on George Street run by hubby and fuzzy were like you know they were my ideal.

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You know they were great partners Joe and Zenyatta law gets the spinning wheel diner. Grammar see books which was the 1st bookstore in New Brunswick. That was not a wrecker's bookstore. And then post college social bonding through parties softball going down the shore Bruce Sudan Street house which evolved later but it has lots of different you know lots of precedent in various houses where after we graduated there was The Matrix there was still our Parkway there were you know there were certain places where you know bunch of women would live together and then parties would happen.

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So these are just really some of the you know some of the potential topics that we could get to today but we decided that we would begin. By telling each of us is going to tell some iconic story about. About coming are less about coming out really about our lesbian life it was so I've already given you a little bit of a sense of this I.

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For me. The change that happened for me at Douglas was very rapid it was within the 1st couple of weeks of being here my freshman year. Yes I did have a girlfriend in Detroit where I was born and raised so I was an out of state student my mother an aunt brought me to Douglass and drove me across you know Ohio Pennsylvania and into New Jersey and suddenly they were sort of getting a sense that what where she going to college this was before helicopter parenting where and to a certain extent I think parents were like OK we're going to be doing this college thing now and she's going to get dropped off at college like where are we you know and one of my one of the questions my mother asked me was are you are we near New York and I was like no.

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I'm not arguing I don't know where New York is not. So I was already in trouble with my mother because she had discovered this relationship that I had with this friend Carlene So there was a lot of tension you know that the driver was terrible I remember it being very painful and I sat in the back seat and didn't say very much and then you know that the moment happened I was deposited at Woodbury hall and my mother and aunt went away and basically they went away for the rest of my life you know you look back and you go That was the moment where really I never went back to Detroit I mean I loved my mother my aunt my father and everything you know we we came to terms much later but in terms of that moment I went upstairs I was on the 3rd floor and my roommate was in probably he and she was from Newark and I just was like wow you know I'm going to live with April leave and the both my mother.

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And I was that looked good to me that look really good and suppose it was and then you know so you know. Coming to terms with that moment and you know sort of the separation from my family and everything you know back in the today you know everybody smoked and we had the smoking rooms and all the dorms so I wandered into the smoking room and who was there to chill and a labor smoking class of 70 smoking or no Newport's I think she smoked never thought that she was smoking and she had her guitar as issues plonking away on her little guitar and you know I was like hey how's it going and you know she goes do you sing like yes and if so that at least carted off with 500 miles.

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And she we sang 500 miles until the cows came home from the egg school we just kept going say never resolved if you're thinking of that we knew and little did I know that Joanna was already in a relationship with Linda Robinson Plato not home for me that had to be discovered by me in my enthusiasm padding down the hallway in the night because I was like I guess I have to tell Joe something and just like bursting in to their room no locks on the doors and you know and they were like you know like that and so I came into my own and I realized what was going on and I thought OK that's lookin good.

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So then I had the moment and this was the moment that really changed it all for me to call it was that when I had the meal ticket you know the room and board so our dining hall was Nielsen and I just looked at Nielson gun you know when I was driving in today.

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And it. You know that you know so many chanted the evening while some in the chanted meal ticket was sort of what happened to me I looked across the crowded room in the else and dining hall and I saw read a lot. Because really you gotta get a look at or to really appreciate that I don't know.

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Yeah I mean because she was quite stunning unlike anything I'd ever seen in she's an Aries Still you never seen in my own truckers again and I saw her for one and I just my heart just where. I was like what happened. Yeah well it turned out she lived 2 doors down from me and you know I was like my God she lives she's not 2 doors away so I began my campaign and I might buy a sad little campaign I go you know it was going on.

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I have been the Christian education director of my church I knew and I had a notebook that was about this thick full of all my little Christian education and I tell you that I brought with me to call and I don't know why but I thought I would impress her with my I'M And so I knocked on the door and you know you can smoke in your room said the nurse she was smoking a cigarette and she was like hell are you like you know I was like I just you know thought you might enjoy you know talking with me about some of my ideas I'm you know really super lame and she was slammed the door in my face belly you know she just like no way so I was like man that didn't work out so well.

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But it went on for a while went on for a while but then. There was all this stuff happening at the time around curfew because we were all trying to end curfew that it just ended before right before it came and it just ended that you didn't have to wear dresses to dinner more so than not you would on the I have to go to that OK sir it was the next thing to go and so you could be out you know but you'd have to be back at 10 o'clock and so I figured out when Rita was coming in and out because of curfew curfew helped me.

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I was yeah it was a boon for me but and she would see me she really what you know I was always where she was. And then finally we kind of you know started to become friends and you know she you know she took me out one night and we went out into the cornfield out in at Cook college behind Woodbury and we were out there and we missed curfew and so we didn't care.

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And we didn't care because she kissed me and I was psych All right my stalking behavior has made my day. And that was that I mean then what happened was in that period of time those 2 years it would very she was less of \$69.00 and in that period you know we had on our hallway our hallway had 123.

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3 couples then the hallway across from us had I think 4 couples. And so it was like you know it was really a hot bed of you know Lesley love that was just like go on like crazy at the time and you know what in the end that happened to me was it went a little too far and I was found out and it was I was taken to the dean's office and sent to a psychiatrist.

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Which happened back in the day and and the psychiatrist was a a man who was quite large as I recall and kind of intimidating and you know you had to sit with this guy for like 45 minutes and I said nothing I just was mute the entire time and then when the time was up.

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Let me out the door and you know I it may have been discussed whether I could stay at Douglass at the time I don't know I'm sure some discussion was being had some of her level of discourse around OK Turner and what's her deal so so that's my story that's my little icon you want or you want to see her name your class your major and all that stuff worse if it is just for the record I hate her class of 71 my I had a double major in philosophy and literature.

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And yeah just where is Tina left today were the British is in San Francisco she doesn't have resists go yeah we're still in touch Yeah yeah yeah she's in separate skill All right so I'm going to pass it along. You have to follow and turn her into a conversation.

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So my my experience is where you go who am I so go to read go direct good read I don't want to go direct I want to go sideways Adrian Evans class of 71 I am a New Yorker born and bred and my major was English English it's a great major OK.

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The way K. talked about coming to school already having had a relationship was a different case experience and I think for all of us or for each of us you know our lives are precious and those moments that we have in the realizations we have are significant and you know I honor mine I hope everyone you all honor yours.

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I started school like a dude in \$67.00 the music was respect was on the radio the Tallahatchie Bridge song was on the radio and sort was the year of Sergeant Pepper I came out of a high school in Long Island I had smoked pot dropped acid and had intercourse.

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In my country we hear of high school I. I was given I was lent the book The Well of Loneliness the Well of Loneliness if you don't know is from the twenty's it's one of those old classic lesbian books and often all these same sex books there's a very urgent protagonist in as there was in this case who who has a tragic end or at least the relationship and the love happens in relation and I read that book and I did not identify so I came to school came to Douglas with without consciousness and when I I think back in this era of 50 now 50 years ago I think that there was.

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But there were 3 components there was passion there was discovery and then there was sort of questioning rebellious and daring things were very open. Ideas especially like feminist ideas were not even formulated there wasn't language so my coming out to myself story is because

of curfew if you didn't come if you didn't come in on time you had to stay out overnight so I was when I was in school there were Rutgers guys who had apartments and I had a bunch of women friends often 1st and 2nd year students this was the winter of my 1st year so 6768 and I remember the night we were added at an apartment and you know it was late we were up so we all miss curfew yet again we're sitting around a table pop delivery come in we're rolling joints are getting the pot rated to go and you know the sort of living it wasn't strong the way it is now it's just a bunch of guy smoked a lot of cigarettes they had up so I'm sitting and at one point I'm sitting next to my friend Janet Cohn beautiful dark brunette gorgeous skin clear brown eyes clear white teeth and I looked at her and I just felt I caught this one of my stone revelations I looked at her and I felt.

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It was like that it was consensual awareness and I suppose of course I feel this because I'm a sensitive woman I'm as poetic as hell and I you know I had many of those feelings for my my girlfriends and then it was no that's not it and so it was like this moment of coming out to myself I looked around you know I don't feel like this about Irwin who's like a fuzzy headed by No no it was an awareness Janet is straight she's still a friend of ours happily married and her sons have just gotten married.

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So. And I remember thought that night passed and some people were going out at dawn for like a milk and cigarette run and I was like stuck to the sofa I couldn't move it was just this realization and then like my act of desire. Like came on me and the way I was looking around so I didn't connect with people the way you did and then that for October 8th 1968 to be exact I just celebrated I think if the anniversary of coming out and I was I think I lived in Nicholas then and I was sitting in this big living room area and this woman comes up to me this is reading Meyer's class of 16 I and she approaches me and we're talking and you can feel like fire so she touched her like I felt fire was an amazing feeling and then she kissed me and it was it was it was it was a job but it also was I was like a little afraid and then we separated I think her roommate came looking for her that's what.

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I remember that and so that was sad and I know and it was just it was that it was October but it was this time of year it's like the wind had turned cold the leaves were turning there was that sweep of the the weather that we feel now and like that was it like like what he said I didn't know if I could we would get thrown out of school we try to get together you know our roommate was going off for the weekend lot of sneaking you got to be very acrobatic jumping out of bed very good we were very quick and I I know just remember the there were always and and didn't have language when I when I came out to myself that 1st thing I thought of myself was like I must be a homosexual and I got like really faggoty you know my mother that I was.

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Kind of cancer and it's interesting it's like that's where my level of consciousness was and that that lesbianism and feminism came. Later my experience of feminism also was like very like a conversion experience and we'll talk about it and we wait. OK Thank you. So I'm Barbara leak last in 1972 Trenton girl born and raised but tomorrow with my cheerful good I knew there'd be a friending on it there's a feeling on the.

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Banks OK but I'm sure Major I was a religion major. Yes OK. It was at the time the most radical Portman on campus. I have 1st of all to say that I'm really honored and I really feel privileged to be a part of this panel it is about time that this is been done and I feel I feel humbled that my story is going to be told here and everybody that I look here and I know half of you are more you have your own wonderful stories of coming out that I'm sure you would like to share and I hope that they'll be an opportunity to do some of that but when I let's start with pro log OK Little Barbara Lee born in Trenton a little bit rebellious refused to wear pants that didn't have a zipper in the front my mother much to my mother's credit she won along with it much to her dismay later.

[00:43:23]

I had Barbie dolls I still like to play with Barbie dolls I had to Girl Barbie dolls and one can and the girls got a lot more attention. Very interesting things with Barbie dolls Anyway when I was in 8th grade I went to a party at Jane's house and it was an all girl party and was out on the patio remember and she put we were doing all the typical songs then you know and I there was a slow song and I asked Ed Ludlow to dance with me and she really got into it and she slow dance with her head on my shoulder and I felt really warm and this was like really fun.

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And after that years and years later I found out that Jane who hosted the party she wound up being gay and she died before I could get a chance to be in touch with her but I just hope somehow wherever you are Jane that that was a little spark in your mind when I was slow dancing with blood flow.

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Also back then I was very much of course like all of you questions on women galore not really knowing how to translate that until the my boyfriend at the time took me to see to Rose and Isabel. Defend if you will have not seen that it was a very of course foreign I love sexy movie and it suddenly light bulbs one off this really couldn't happen I wound up going to Douglas again I didn't have much choice or thought about it my mother really wanted me to go there and the idea of like a set of curfew meant you were locked in with all these women all night and I'm.

[00:45:08]

Locked Why were people complaining about. You had to sign out where you were going you did that when I went and September of 1968 as a freshman you had to wear dresses to dinner. I thought were my field hockey uniform. Little skirt effect to what that was about it you had to

wear gloves to go to the scenes to me I did not go to the deans to you had to dress up to go to a football game I didn't go to football again since it was this time of change that everyone was going through this time where this the simmering rebelliousness was really.

[00:45:47]

Growing and becoming more and more exciting I. Just wanted to mention also at the time. Abortion wasn't legal and I think it's important that we remember that I especially remember Dave because as a freshman as an 18 year old I had a friend on the dorm named Kim who was White who after Christmas break said she'd gotten pregnant but her parents Florida Puerto Rico and she had an abortion in the hospital my roommate at the time was a black woman from the work and she came back and told me about her abortion on our kitchen table.

[00:46:24]

And from what she suffered complications they have to work any way high I want to really think about even though it's been 50 years it just seems so rotten that we're fighting this fight again OK so now what happens in sophomore year sophomore year I happened to be roommates with Nancy Dean.

[00:46:45]

One of the oral tradition that many of you know OK we've become very friendly in freshman year I was her roommate and it wasn't until I saw an ad in the rockers toward them for the one per student homophile league they were going to have a meeting February 3rd 1970 that was my birthday it's my 20th birthday I said I had to looking up homophile like about 10 times in the dictionary is this is a sip is this really what I am is this what I need to go and see and I went to that meeting even though my dorm mates were having like a surprise birthday party for when my going to the safe reckon I'm you know I'm going off to become gay.

[00:47:29]

I went to the meeting and I don't remember any other women being there and I do remember all these really great wonderful gay men coming up and saying we want to hear all about what lesbians are like and what they do and I said let me find one 1st I might have more information.

[00:47:51]

At that time when I came to like this coming out to myself realizing this is the payoff I wanted to take I had people in my dorm that I came out to the ones who gave me the birthday thing I just I just told them where I was and why and also the same time there was this woman walking around campus that I noticed she seemed different she seemed mysterious and.

[00:48:19]

She had an air about her that was I don't know just exuded intelligence and also I'm the. Sexiness that woman was Nancy Then Adrian Evans. So at the times your. Age or you didn't know it but I and some of my door makes set up a pattern of stalking or.

[00:48:46]

I'm down another model. For things to worry yes where they would tell me what building they saw were in what class they think she was going to where she was living so she was seen with. And I just I just know that I had to this was the This I thought it was probably a lesbian and I had to find her I had to connect with her so much to my delight we wound up being saw for air you know my sophomore year in the afternoon 6 2nd semester in the same was at a fire when it was it was some quiz that by a man and society man in society that license filed by a man a society and we were and we smoked in class and we both wound up I would she would sit in the back so I kind of like would go over and sit there and recall when I was.

[00:49:39]

Yeah yeah OK All right right because the SO right you know and then I'd miss a class and I saw I say hey you know I missed a class and I need the notes. Sounded good anyway she says why if you want to come to my apartment on the Saturday morning or something I don't have the head for details because I was on drugs a lot of this time but.

[00:50:01]

She said Come to my apartment you can copy the notes there and this happened to be down on Nielsen street and it was a famous apartment complex right where the Hyatt Regency stands now so I went to the apartment that morning to copy notes it must have been early because I think you were in a robe of some type of thing I owned or.

[00:50:20]

Something and something and I'm sitting in this long kitchen table with my back to the stove and I hear the Southern woman coming up out of bed why is presume it's early and she had Nancy hi here Nancy saying say Good morning honey. And they're making the Friday do you want to go for an uncommon and pump enough it's and I'm getting thrilled and thrilled to know and as I know they're hugging me I know they might do cures running their whole game they're hoping they're there they're together this is real and thankfully.

[00:50:57]

I think I passed that call yes that might been one of the few but anyway. I wound up that even though I knew she had this girlfriend I still followed her I followed her because now I knew where now we had a connection I'd gotten her notes and I think we walked in the same cornstalk feel now.

[00:51:18]

That I'm not right a lot I'm a lot of field work a lot of field work yes but we made up a whole day of this this mythological journey I was able to even write a paper for my religion and mythologically house or whatever and and from that point we went back to her apartment or wherever you are at the time and we did finally kiss and we did finally wind up in bed and it was just a wonderful opening to my world and I want to thank you Chris you can see.

[00:51:55]

That A. Polish You are introducing yourself Hello everybody won't sure last of 74 history major. Born in New York City Bronx New York and I'm 65. Well the 1st thing I want to say as far as the development of my sexual orientation or of my orientation is that Kate Turner was my freshman orientation Chairman I mean you list you will hear how she threads through me developing lesbian identity Well the 1st year I said Douglas I was actually a commuter and as I look back on this fact now I think that part of me was not really ready to grow up.

[00:52:50]

So I commuted to classes and was missing out on a lot of the social life that was going on that you know my friends were participating in I had a lot of friends from high school who went to work records and Douglas Well the 1st thing that affected me greatly I went to the New Haven women's liberation band he danced which was held at Douglass possibly at the Jam This was my 1st time that I actually saw a same sex affection right out in the open and I remember particularly seeing these 2 guys that I knew Jeffrey and well I can't remember the other Anyway I saw them kissing passionately and I have to say I was really shocked I was really kind of upset and not in a bad way but chests kind of like like a little earthquake happen and that night I think I actually fled from the stamps drove home and I had this memory of like sitting in my parents' rep room making believe I was watching T.V. but in my head all I could think about was and I don't know why this term came to me but it was you know breaking the golden rule.

[00:54:13]

When I came to college and I was really repressed and have never had really experiences of physical intimacy so I was like a real big. I remember seeing Adriana and Barbara Lee walking around campus holding hands and up that was so amazing to me so brave and again so shocking but yet there was something somehow underneath all of this a little lesbian see that was inside of me that I found that I was.

[00:54:49]

Wanting to attend more women's events and really wanted to get on campus to be more you know more involved with campus life so my 2nd year at school my sophomore year I did move on to campus. And actually got to know Kate better through one of my roommate Sally Thompson who is here and back and Sally and Kate have been involved.

[00:55:18]

During that time and I know I'm not. So I want to jump next to my 1st lesbian party and obviously I wasn't too shocked to not attend a lesbian porn I was but I still I was very shy and I at the time I was the youngest of.

[00:55:38]

The lesbian rattled Yeah the crowd. So I remember going to this party before we went to the party. Read a large came over to Kate house and. I think I had a similar experience to Kay. I'm was completely smitten I mean I felt my whole body like glow with this weight that had certainly never happened before and actually it took it took a while not of stalking Greta but of

hanging out with her before you know maybe you it was 2 years later that we the Word was made flesh.

[00:56:22]

So I 1st noticed the importing I basically sat in a corner because you know having the wall behind you meant that you would be safe and happy and I remember watching the women dancing and having like the greatest time people were smoking had I don't think I talk to anyone people who are doing the bump a very.

[00:56:45]

Very sexy dance and I do remember someone I'm not really sure who dancing topless in overalls i'm sure i'll let me Robinson It could have been like he has you know I could have been a Joe went away but. I don't remember nobody was looking at OK. My God look at that So actually.

[00:57:13]

I became at this point to insinuate myself into sort of into other lesbian parties. Out at a lower park way I can specifically remember driving up in front of the house taking out of class divide. Having a couple is shot because I was really nervous about going inside and I wasn't afraid that anybody was going to do anything to me I just was really nervous but also really excited so what I started to do with these parties was to D.J. and that was my safety spot because I would just go over and nobody seemed to complain and I would just be playing music dancing and being in you know in a crowd of women that I felt really like I was on a good time the one thing I did not do was slow dance with anyone because I do remember an old friend Laverne wanting to slow dance and I told her no I just slow dance with people that I'll sleep with I'm not you.

[00:58:27]

Know I'm over all of them. All right so anyway. I got to know a lot of people that way and felt very comfortable and. Continued in my you know self discovery now by the by the time 973 rolled around. Reid and I had been together so that was a big.

[00:58:51]

A big time in my life read I we're not together anymore Adam's Apple I.I.. The last thing I really want to talk about which it's kind of interesting because Adrian you were saying we didn't have words for a lot of things and we didn't use a word lesbian a lot back then now and there was a concert you'll find that my story is kind of weaves in and out with music whether it's dancing listening to music or going to see bands we went to the Douglas student center to seen lavender Jane laws women and that group would not play for men.

[00:59:32]

And you know the place was marked with lesbians and what happened was a man came and tried to come into the concert and you know the whole place kind of you know everybody was it was while I was there going to be a scene or what but what happened was whoever checked

with whoever's in charge of you know renting out these rooms said you cannot deny a man attendance at a university event.

[01:00:03]

Anyway. Right in the middle of all the sap going to case starts yelling I'm a lesbian I'm like you know. And I'm sitting there and I can say I'm sitting there. I don't read I was laughing hysterically and at the same time I was I was pretty nervous to be doing you know I mean yeah but what is she doing I'm not.

[01:00:33]

And I really am more that way as revolutionary for me in the use of the word lesbian because I feel like from that point on we didn't use the word yes and. So that was me your in my memory so I think I'll just stop for a very good very good day.

[01:01:01]

Yeah I can make the point that I think all is right lesbian found in his I'm you know sort of starting to come in the in the early seventy's so by the time you know lavender Jane and the New Haven women's rock band and various other you know things you know.

[01:01:18]

Musical groups and artists were started filtering in and yeah definitely we started using the term. All right now we have our responded and OK you're going to respond here Walker so I'm responding 1st because would you say who you are is not an audio Walker class of 73 psychology major grew up in North Jersey and I'm responding 1st because some of the oldest among the respondents but also just picking up some things from what you were saying Most recently there was the question of language and I think that women identified women was the phrase in a lot of people were using way before a lesbianism and I think language was and I think the parents' generation is doing a great job with language dividing out gender.

[01:02:15]

Romantic. Driving sexual striving that even and the IT WAS STILL binary then that you were straight where you were getting you know and that really didn't suit me in suits who I was and I think that the language issue is a really important one and it was a time of change when when I arrived at Douglass.

[01:02:42]

Also White stood the deans to. I had one year of curfew and then there wasn't curfew many more but Douglas was wanting to be like the 7 sisters and there was. A real emphasis on us being ladies and being kind of a prude striving I felt it was a school as it is now are a lot of the people who are 1st generation going to college and there was a way in which in the poll chair of all sorts of radical change there are was a real.

[01:03:24]

I think that we were both given space but there were keep it secret keep it quiet so it was it was. Really Bell Yes I thought I remember knowing who Barbara Lee was and I came to Douglas thinking I was still a having been I guess what would now be called gender nonconforming at a point sports and it was before a Title 9 and I played basketball it 1st it Douglas people thought you were gay if you played sports and that was not OK with me at that time freshman year or sophomore year.

[01:04:03]

So. I was a little intimidated by Barkley OK this just while you know I don't know if I had an approach opioid once I'm a relationship because some of the most interesting people I knew at Douglas were women who were women identified and creating these cultures and yet I didn't want to be labeled and I'm not so sure on that different now.

[01:04:34]

Another of the themes I thought that was coming up was the theme of not being heard but not being silenced I think that's very important because. The institution all. The institution Douglas itself is well as are larger culture it was this larger issue about women's roles and you know.

[01:05:03]

There were when I graduated in 73 there are still quotas for women in med school. When I was applying to colleges there were still quotas for women going into any of the. Saying that they wanted to be an engineering or something like that so so things have really changed and I just lost my thread and turned OK I was hoping someone could see it back.

[01:05:36]

I did have an important point there. Yeah it'll come back. Heard but not so perfect I wouldn't write right. Now the out of strobing know what I remember what it was that there was this big cultural change in women's roles which doubtless was very much examining its own growth like in the 4 years I was here there was one commission a faculty and administration looking at the role of Douglas as a women's college and then there was a very strong look at rates because at that point.

[01:06:19]

If it was just beginning to be a critical mass of women of color and how was Douglas opening to make it a safe place for diversity and I think that there was a little more reluctance to also open the can of worms around sexuality but there was that that effort being made for individuals at Douglas to find their own identity because you know OK pain here in knowing Barbro and I Julian had a little more going Paulo was shiny or.

[01:06:56]

That there was don't this itself was looking for its identity and that was very supportive I thought for those of us chime to find their identity that the college itself was saying what does it mean to be a woman's college right at the time when society was saying what does it mean to be a woman Great think you get on down to down to now you very much.

[01:07:20]

So join cello and class of 75 as you all know so that it's a prescription and if you're made text you're going to put in a context 1st ally make sure exactly interesting given by Gail and others are saying which is at that time the ways in which Jarvis was changing and how it became in some ways there was an academic rigor but there was also a more of a progressive way that we can look at things and I was actually one of the 1st independent majors that came out of the college in in classical studies religion and philosophy so it was OUR it was an incredible experience and I became one of the student crafts on the curriculum committee wants to see the graphs and students would come and present their issues with.

[01:08:13]

In terms of what we like to do is independent dangers. To the team when I was here is knowledge research was true so it was that it was a great experience and this experience of having faculty that had much more traditional perspective and having faculty that some of the names that Kate mentioned you know Jeff Hendrick stable for was Chris Downing Bill Daley and that and that really just determine a barber can tell you stories about the changes in the Religion Department but the threat that I wanted to make and I think.

[01:08:46]

It was talked about early on in the beginning was that that role of women's colleges and the whole kind of 2nd wave of feminism that happened because it was such a time of radical change when I came in I was I was born to travel and our States Capitol and it was a time there when I was there it was very progressive politically there were a lot of things going on with civil rights issues than in the years that I was in high school.

[01:09:14]

And came here and where I got drawn into was going over to Livingston for. Political issues relating to the Vietnam War or to labor rights issues and beef we were really looking at ways we were very connected to community grants reckon talking with I mean it was way before the human union busting of the eighty's but it was stored in there in the Senate in the mid seventy's and then I started to realise that there were these lesbian feminist who were all part of this group and I couldn't quite I mean they were really feminist lesbian I know I was very naive like Paula was when I 1st came well it was my it was a very interesting introduction and connected back to the.

[01:10:01]

Doing drug Secret Service that our it was out of a panel discussion on human sexuality at Livingston college and to give the best Billions of the town of one of them was Adrian. And the other was another woman that she I think was with at the time and I started to rethink who was another this is again tricity you know a sort of like a college English word scope in a very different way and then I started to see this language too from my life which was the the guys I reading all are coming out in this get a cab.

[01:10:34]

And I give him credit I respected Geragos reserved for me why can't you be an am like I understand it's really more of like if you let me just go to some Latino people so I had to come to terms with race but it was it I think for me when it 1st the other piece that came talked about which I think we're going to touch on this a panel which is the way the extensions of the lesbian culture in the lesbian life from feminism here in total story back decade where between the Tories assembly poor and speakers that we brought in the incredible ways in which you know the library here at Douglass was doing this incredible release of maze equestrian for women are here is the story of women's already serious very under you and I actually encourage like it's so great to see some of the younger folks here to look into those aspects of the history and of their circle I will research Valerie but it's it was a very very vibrant time here I mean we brought in people like Kate what was here and Susan Sontag came to speak our dream rich tall are very rich prior.

[01:11:42]

Ran it took a class and I'm sure a couple people here we study with our Richard she was working on the poem to never included in a dream for common language which you know again speaks to this issue we're charging about it about finding the language to explain to to identify each other if you were so I could only say there are already so appreciate having the opportunity to be here and I love listening to the stories I do have to say real my experience with really.

[01:12:13]

Well I am. First crush on a. Beautiful woman she was a dance major she was and the next thing I knew she was misread a wash and I'm sure I knew who I was. So I'm going to pass on to our youngest member you know there is certainly a.

[01:12:50]

Class of class of 77. I came from a poultry farm in south Jersey African-American and I had come out. Around 1718 and then take city with a bunch of dry cleaning so my experience with being a lesbian was very tentative lesbians at that time in New York Avenue in Atlantic City.

[01:13:23]

We're trying to decide whether it was good or famine and I didn't understand what they were talking about so I was my 1st car and safer with the gay men and so I sort of was white with the drag queens so he's more of a fag. Than a lesbian and.

[01:13:42]

When I came to Douglas I was really encouraged me though I had come up earlier in the summer of 73 to take math because my describe it math and they let me and I had followed my best friend from high school here only because wherever she was telling us what I wanted to be she didn't go hunting Davy you know Douglas's draping school that's where I would have been because.

[01:14:16]

I'm never really it was it we were both Aries we we were not. We were not traveling not compatible. But I I did enjoy her antics so I don't know I never got to see that so did we all let me get back to her sorry but my so I I write following my best friend from high school and.

[01:14:44]

You know when I was scary I went to the library that Alexander was very soon as my parents had let me off at the river dorms that summer and I went to the car Carol was and I looked up lesbian homosexuality because I had also read it to resit Isabella and I had changed the ending the in the ending of the book said they never saw each other again and I scrambled scratched it out and put out they lived happily ever after.

[01:15:19]

And I think that that Douglas girl for yap that I'm so. I went to the library and lo and behold there was a book called Song Still ahead some woman I think that's important for me and it was my read I'm a brown so I went and got it and I still have it coming I thought I thought well I'll buy your IP we're.

[01:15:47]

Going to get money to get my give the librarians all. I did so. I started as. I took it back to where I do more harm and I read all the poems and I dreamed about them and then someone had said looking for gay people is you know New York City so but in a couple of days later I got on a bus and returned to New York City and it must've been a Saturday because I was rolling around downtown in the village looking for gay people and.

[01:16:26]

I went to the spire have those and lucky and I mean. You know bizarre and wonderful circumstance there was really made Brown giving a reading and I had and I I would have to her and I was like. You know a squirrel with a no I know you're reading a brand I just read Sunstone handsome woman and I recycle the parliament so we became very good friends at that time and.

[01:16:59]

It was just you know wonderful So the Alexander why Gregory was my entree to figuring out how to negotiate being a lesbian with a lesbian was and I found a lesbian I was looking for work so much. So I go home. And come back in the fall so I'm a little more savvy I know where to go I don't know what I'm going to find lesbians and Douglas I was I had no idea and sometimes 2 weeks to go by and I mean start but I take a shower with.

[01:17:39]

Lisa Lisa they're saying that yeah I don't know what's wrong with you we've been trying to talk to you you know cut your hair what happened was I misunderstood that we got this idea that you I'm having. A OK OK this or you here is this is where he said you were going to know I am I

mean you know I just came after me my you're supposed to be with us so I started hanging with them and then they led us to the Douglas.

[01:18:18]

Coffee houses where I come in with them and we go to this as well and it's risque in the oral tradition and there are these amazing women and negligees high top sneakers and they sing out the power they were singing I heard through the grapevine and they change all the.

[01:18:41]

Pronoun pronouns to women and I was and yes. I think that has they have a little think telephone and that they're. Calling you know OK And it was just one of the wonderful and then there was Carol Sanchez this is the patron saint of Douglas lesbian. Chic bless her heart come early still really narrows and inches yeah yeah she was the mother of us all and she had me she was in charge of the of work is assembly board and we brought in every artist every writer every poet every woman every anything you wanted culturally needed to see and know would be inspired by she provided access to them we would usually have dinner with them and then they would have a big lecture or discussion at the bore his charitable there was under Sunday Sharon getting there was Robin Morgan there was an sex and say well he had sex the story is legendary yep yep same sex.

[01:19:57]

And sexton came into the chapel wearing the most gorgeous red get on I'd ever seen on a woman anywhere she floated like it Angel down the aisle and then she read to us it was mesmerizing and then we find out that Carol Sanchez and Sexton. We're missing for 3 days is what I'm saying no more.

[01:20:24]

So we're going to move it OK OK That's all right thank you. Very narrow shows who she was kind of like are you know now she was not a drug dealer she was a culture dealer again like you when you went to Carolyn you were like you know like I've been reading a lot of end sex and you think you can get her to come you know for chapel and you know and Carol get all these people to come it was fabulous you know you said one with the Yeah Yeah for my senior year she goes Who do you want and I go read I'm a brown so she brought me in a brown and she said you can pick her up and you can take her to the train but we are all to have dinner with her.

[01:21:09]

And she got me Margaret me. That is beautiful beautiful thing. You know I think that meeting will stay in this area for just a minute and talk about valuable relationships with professors staff you know I want to call out those people because they are in terms of the very important issues I think that they will raise.

[01:21:40]

So you know the sure there's the sexual intuition part of the lesbian experience in Doug's college but then there is the how do you build it then what are you going to build from it what's it what's where's it going to really get you in your life I mean you know it's going to get you you know a little bit of sex in the dorm room maybe but is it really going to go somewhere and you know there WERE think you're all Sanchez's of the world.

[01:22:06]

Bringing all these remarkable people but earlier before Carol came on Jeff Hendrix was our connection and the 4 of us assembled boarder Geoff just died in May as the age of 86 and he was a wonderful and amazing artist he was a founder of the Fluxus movement he was a conceptual artist he was married to a woman named beachy.

[01:22:31]

And yeah and in one day Jeff and beach you look at each other you know over breakfast in beach said you know what I'm lesbian and Jeff went you know what I'm gay. They get. Divorced But you know remain very close to of their lives the IT or the kids and and Jeff was a really important figure because he connected all of us so there are these threads that if we really wanted to follow them there so interesting because Jeff connected this back to Alan capper who was the founder of you know who is at Douglas before we were here and he was just finishing up but he's the founder of the happenings movement that actually opened up the art world to an experience a way of working with materials and working you know with people in you know in these kind of experience the environment that we that are an amazing part of the legacy of Douglas College very very famous artworks were made at Douglas and Jeff was the link to that as was Bob Watts.

[01:23:39]

I had the e-mail from serious legal and she said you know do you have any memories that you want me to put out and she said well OK the thing that you need to remember is that it was an all male art department but they gave us a certain you know sort of opening to find each other and so Sarah said and so we found women you know in our classes and made we're with them so again there was a way in which I think you know these collectives grew in our you know in our college life and so you might have been part of GA Genesis Batticaloa we were all connected J.B. And Lynn Tannenbaum through you know and then that connected this to people like Jan Yoakum and Nancy Richards and you know Dean traced is that you know the I want to say that they were involved with student government yes lewdness a GA is this do I know is it still called anymore government to some some have an association with student government and so that put you sort of to sleep routines world work again you know the the deans were very supportive and you know there were also you know we had well the literary magazine when I 1st came into this was called the horn book and then it we changed it to watermark But again another hotbed of lessees just like you know learning how to do stuff you know learning how to publish things learning 100 B.N. government learning you know and learning together at a time where you know there was a great deal of you know cultural fertility happening and social fertility at the same time that there was a lot of political upheaval so it was certainly a very rich time in that regard so I think it would be really good to spotlight a few

of these people I mention Jeff I certainly want to mention Bill Jody Williams who died about a year and a half ago January 3rd of.

[01:25:39]

2017 Bill was in the religion or partner he was instrumental for a number of us because a number of us lived at his house with his wife Joan validated and given how it was a nickel out and it was \$161.00 nickel and he walked right into night it's on and it's on the.

[01:26:01]

Remember but it was it was a central place for the evolution of cultural ideas around lesbian feminism and ways that we then after we graduated 2 of our ideas forward and made made of what we learned and job was into an understanding of of the world that that was fresh new creative.

[01:26:28]

Unlike what had been seen before so Bill was very important and you know there's an interesting story there too how about the way Bill and Gordon clan and Chris Downing started teaching courses about religion sex goddess you know various you know radical approaches Bill Jodi came up to me on Antilles feel I was not a religion major I was interested in religion but he came up to me and he said I know who you are he goes you know he was honest bison because I know you are those I've been thinking may be fun for you to teach of course with me and I was I was you know I was so amazed by that and so we wound up teaching a Native American religion course together and he gave me all he gave me so much and I think that we probably all have some of those stories to tell I think on specially on the Dean's side Jan Yoakum was very important for me I'm so glad she's in the room today and yes you preachers was very important the I had a lot of big ideas and they're always a hunk a can do that you're going to have that.

[01:27:38]

End of the. You know you know it was there was out there was a lot of doing in making that was facilitated by you know by people who you know as I realize it now we're all that much older than we were you know I mean I look back and I go you know Nancy Richards maybe she was down years older than me maybe not maybe not that I don't know so you all were changing to you were you know you were also sensing that the world was changing and giving young women an opportunity to you know to really change the world so anybody else got ideas along those lines I just want to have I have to say when you're sure like from here.

[01:28:26]

I just want to see if it is a sign Yes Yes I just want to say that Christo ending is the most actualize human being that I personally know of she's a woman who has 5 children multiple grandchildren she's now about 87 ish still leaving tours to Europe still teaching out in California she lives both in California and on Orcas Island I actually see her she's she's a very dear smart smart woman and one up there are many I think I have I think I took 5 religion courses and.

[01:29:03]

I remember at one point where she taught a course called method ritual and this was one of those courses that got created at that time and I remember like working with her to create a ritual at night and I remember it was night time going into some building like I remember like I had this stone that was my universe stuff and just this and I don't remember a lot of the details of it but I do remember the openness of it and how that was evolving after that now she has many many books out but her book The Goddesses came directly from that period that was her 1st of just many books and the 2 words that she most recently has led in Greece and Sicily continue to be both a mythic and a very yeah very mythological interpretation of understanding of time and place so things so it wasn't just I think where I want to say it wasn't just students of valving everyone was opening this was a time of change and a lot of awareness you know.

[01:30:14]

Yeah but on that note. I caved and I always had my camera with me and I was going to the library and all of a sudden I see a group of women with masks they have staffs and OK is. This cornmeal and she's doing some type of it and I go up there inches.

[01:30:42]

I don't I saw you OK so I get on the steps and are watching in the office said 30 other women come and sit and. And. I can't I'm so sure some of the rest of you in hearing care over there are or have read were stamped drawings probably by only Devlin their drumming they're using cornmeal and I think it was a consecration of the those lists Mabel Smith library we are some of the I'm going is the most unique interesting thing I've ever seen and I did a lot of it was a brilliant photos of.

[01:31:24]

The book let me just. Give a little background on that so. I was with Nancy Dean class of \$72.00 after college so we got together I was with Sally Thompson class of \$74.00 while we were in college and I read a lush while we were in the band Nancy and Jean Nancy Dean and I became girlfriends and we were together for many many years we were together for like 12 years Nancy had grown up for a part of her life in Mexico her father was in the State Department and so we.

[01:32:07]

We started working at grammar City bookstore. You know in 1972 and we got our 1st vacation money to go somewhere and job a lot and said You \$2.00 need to take a break you know you go to go on vacation so Nancy said to me Let's go to Mexico and I'll show you where I grew up in Mexico City so I had never been out of the country and so I was like Mexico OK so we went to Mexico the long story short there is that it was a life changing experience for me it shut me out on the path you know toward which you know I got a Ph D. in folklore Eventually my dissertation was on Mexican American women's home alters and you know the that trip in particular but then Nancy and I went back to we went back to Mexico and Guatemala and lived there for a year because in there so that this is a good story of what how does this what happened it does this in started to move out into the world a little differently and and beautifully because we went on this trip because I started researching Mexico after I'm cut back

from that 2 week trip with Nancy I started doing research and I saw Kempsey in the reference to a goddess who had been worshiped in southern Mexico in Northern Water Mala and she was only in the footnotes you know the the male gods were in the body text but you know shell was in the footnotes and so when we came back from that trip we I said we've got to go back to Mexico and see if we can you know call it see if we can create the biography of this moon goddess and so Nancy was great because she was she do anything to just go on vacation and then just love to be cation and I love to cation to so so we kind of thought of that is vacationing research we don't know what we're doing we're like you know we've gotten.

[01:34:10]

Car and we left from new collab the new 161 nickel left a new and R. in my old full Yeah and we drove to Mexico and we lived in Mexico and lived in Guatemala for a year while we went from place to place assembling information about this Mayan moon goddess and so then when we came back.

[01:34:32]

I started this journal called Lady unique inclination of the night because this was the name of of this moon goddess it was one of her name she had many place names and later unique inclination of the night was her name as she inclined toward darkness of the waning moon so lots of women are in the room to be Brad Joy-Ann every Barbara Lee lots of Gail you know who helped you know collectively put this journal out from 1976 to 1983 and we believe.

[01:35:12]

We not only put it out we we made it plain please we printed it we believe we did we did handmade we beings put it a little altered as we made a 1000 alters in the old like shop it was. Late. In the night. Many of you know a lot of really rich work came out of doing this journal in terms of publishing the this was that time when suddenly you know there had been nothing and then all of a sudden lots of stuff was being published by women and so we were very much a part of that.

[01:35:53]

And and that ritual so I was always you know I could never just leave it be in the. I could never leave it be in the in the word in the writing I always wanted to perform and I always wanted to make it you know to make it help or sensual or felt in some way so we did a lot of ritualize and we had many years in that period before I left with Nancy we moved to Austin Texas in 1977 I went to graduate school but we had what we call goddess meetings and we took a goddess for each of our meetings that we had.

[01:36:31]

These meetings like you know once every 6 weeks or so and so it would be generally one time and you know. Here I shot it would be you know we just looked at different goddesses across the various pantheons And we you know and we always had a ritual at the end of our meetings.

[01:36:52]

But this was a kid in a way that it's impossible to describe unless you were there the there revolutionary way that the veil was coming off the patriarchy finally I mean we're still struggling with that now but the veil was it was falling the scales were off the eyes and you could see through to a new reality and you know that we made that reality we were part of the making of that reality in New Brunswick and it was it was really really important and.

[01:37:28]

I have to say about the making of one of the journals I was working for the target at the time and time using the patriarchy already out of her room was a narrow you know very much dominated production and I was working there with some really amazing Wiggin woman who was the art director Trish and her great wave of the of the.

[01:37:57]

Guy that ran the cheap thrills she was also her to permit Yeah and I told him about the journal. And I don't know what how it came to me but we decided that we were going to print the journal we're going to we put the journal together at night when the dyes we use or they are setting we're typesetters that it takes that route because there was nothing so when they left we did we stayed all night and used all their stuff and put out the journal.

[01:38:32]

For a friend of the cycles we call them cycles. On the down low and the basement of the target and yet they never knew we lived before that leads you to like 5 am. Go and break midnight and put out the German on their dime but I'll get my bread with would like to.

[01:38:57]

Get one right Brad Bradford line here Bradford collective member. Anyway I rather prefer your version We didn't use this is a very short story preferable I'm 75 English major when I went to journal big am. As you do you know we had an old typewriter that had proportional type and so for each line we would try to get it then count how many spaces for left at the end of the one.

[01:39:31]

And then do that for the entire journal and then go to our show and add little spaces in between so it was all right here and just fuck this truck for ever as you can imagine but we were with friends and having a good time. So when brew came along with this idea really it was a miracle it was because.

[01:39:59]

Well I mean yeah you're going to go ahead and as a response I'm going to say I'm a little bit I'm aware of time and I know some people will have to go so at this point and all I needed someone to have someone you know once speak to any of the primary issues that came from.

[01:40:18]

And you know who I just actually out of curiosity how many of you here actually graduated from Genesis college. You know it's raining here and number 3 I like to hear from you know

from if you did your cohort at the administrators or teacher who was around at the time for a different perspective sure as anyone willing to Chanute or Joan there are reps when I did I and I have to say that the problem here is to get words getting off the air would you like to come up you know OK just.

[01:40:56]

I just I feel so aware of. While she's for us because it's in the in the door but when somebody says they're going to scale. About the idea of where the college was in that one of the things you heard all the time was that we don't we don't want the the students out there if you think that this is a lesbian school Right right and there was always this thing that you didn't you just had with ties to anything like that you just sort of you just sort of kept it you know good and you would you accept the people and you and you love to look at them but but you write and you could you know getting through Nannie.

[01:41:45]

Yeah great I wish I had that the lesbian community and contribute more to the college than the population at large a. Creative Director in all aspects. You know I think one of my favorite are people that we lost too soon it was another round of readers. Didn't get up on it hot blood and all.

[01:42:22]

The other one of our colleagues who. Has had enough mention was ga ga Yes that's right Peterson KELLY Yeah yeah yes Kelly your yes very good show and your. Joan say your name and she was your residence reporter I spent 36 years at Douglas never graduated I was in residence I lived there Jamison and my job change from time to time as Jan's.

[01:42:57]

OK great great. Chick. Sure and. I just like to make this comment about in the context of both having graduated in 73 but then having come back and worked at the office of psychological services. Starting in 77 and becoming a member of the dean of students staff and that I became more aware of the creative tension and the way between.

[01:43:42]

As a student and feeling encouraged to be all I could be but once you're part of Staff you want the college to appeal to as many students as possible and right there really was. I felt in incredible support I mean I think lots of us had very deep relationships and this is there always sexual but deep supportive relationships with people on the faculty and staff and there is a way in which I think we have all been able to make kind of large impressions on the world because of the support we had both through our education but also the kind of the social support of faculty and staff and the deep bonds of community we formed with each other and I think it's hard for people who are younger to imagine that coming out as gay or bi or even thinking you might be very often men a rupture with your family of origin you know it was a time where you can still be fired from a job addicted from an apartment and really welcome to no longer sell my home here to sell disowned I mean that was very real that was more the white counties

then not likely and in many cases years later people reconciled with their families with there's a way in which having the boldness to be a we.

[01:45:12]

Form your own identity it also created a community urgency where we became can celebrate his holidays together and I'm glad the world is more open now and there's more acceptable ways to be human and love but we had something because of the risk we had to take to step into ourselves we've been a big issue.

[01:45:43]

Thanks. For the 10 years after graduating from death was. We went on vacations together to Provincetown I mean there are no State icon to Jews in right it was like it was just one of those things that you did it was like a family. Before I know that we're probably going to shut it down pretty soon but I want to Paul and Barbara to talk a little bit about the musical seemed that evolved.

[01:46:16]

After. You know after a number of us who graduated and has continued to this very day. What we just heard Stuart you're probably remember more than 92 yes could be. One thing I did want to point out at the time Douglas was just the right school for me in so many ways.

[01:46:40]

It was the wrong school for me for music and I didn't realize that when I decided to apply and come to Douglas and that I was a saxophone player from age 8 to \$18.00 I got to be pretty good and when I got to Douglas I went to the music department and there was no room for saxophone player they had a symphony so if I was a symphonic instrument I could have joined that and Rutgers at the time was not coed so even though they had marching band stage band pep band you know symphonic band I wasn't able to join them so I went for years of just kind of putting that out of my mind because of course I was coming out and having so much other fun but when the opportunity came and again this is where my memory is hazy for a band to form of lesbians and we didn't know from the New Haven women's liberation band and other lesbian musicians that this was a real possibility if we had enough people to put something together and our 1st band was slip of the tongue and I think our 1st gig was in front of Graham received bookstore outside on Church Street in which we had 2 songs south of St What was he I'm so.

[01:48:02]

I tend to think we did that then and now to great well whatever we did 2 songs but that kind of took it off and at that point it was just it was so so wonderful for me to finally be back to my faith to my core and to my music and exploring this whole new way of of being a Lesbian of being a member of a band and traveling with it and being able to perform and all of my evolutions all the ways I changed through the years and still being able to hold on to that as the band evolved with different people and different song changed names changed names right so anyway Paul what's your memory of it well I was really late I got to take a back because Paula

was my idol I'm all in just picked up the tenor sax and started learning it and I just thought she was so good.

[01:48:59]

On we did so nice warm days together. We did. You know for me 1st joining the oral tradition. I just loved the fact that I could be in a musical I'm in a musical project because I enjoyed singing and enjoy dancing we used to do a lot of Motown songs and the best part for me was in terms of as part of my coming out we used to travel and perform for other women's liberation you know groups we went to you know we I think we were at.

[01:49:37]

I don't know if we want to barter Sarah Lawrence we you know we even did some dialogue we want to road and then we also did we performed at protests in New Brunswick when there was when J.J. was trying to take over and actually did but I'm but in terms of the bands I know I thought I love the fact that we were women's band.

[01:50:05]

And as far as our names slip of the tongue I thought that was so great and so funny oral tradition we were all tradition and then eventually you know we all kind of either created other bands or bands evolved and we ended up in a band called the lesbo sonic funk force where there was no hiding from I mean that was that that was when I was in grad school.

[01:50:34]

I wrote to rap songs that was in the time of early rap which you know I was so you know you're always coming out but I was coming out more than ever and I think. If I were a lesbian president. Right which at some point I'd like to do again.

[01:50:56]

And I guess a lot easier to. Find very suddenly my mind is blank but it doesn't and then there would be right if I were lesbian president I certainly wouldn't be hesitant I do away with that in bombs my army would be led by Amazon. And then I had written just you know so so coming out and actually.

[01:51:24]

You know announcing my lesbianism through music was just so fulfilling to me. I also remember some of this it really doesn't have to do with music so much but I will take some of my grad school friends came to see the lesbos signing from force and I just took great pride in pointing out to these women who happen to be straight.

[01:51:48]

Look at all the different types of lesbians should utilize weekend can you believe she's a lesbian right I'm but there was there was another incident that came back out that we're where we were actually attacked as a band yet as a son we were performing at a benefit cook college which was supposed to.

[01:52:12]

You know was fighting against tuitions Hynix And as we were performing our sound person was being verbal abuse and you know a fight broke out and I think these people had never seen a woman's band. And seen us if you want to say this not really kind of acting like guys you know as far as the music right we were doing all kinds of music and doing the big payback we did the big chain everybody beginning maddeningly against Brown when they heard us do James grams and enjoy it and that's when the Nancy were doing their their their karate dance you know in that song there's a great line I said I don't know her writing but I know Khorasan and I don't think you know and we're like.

[01:53:01]

A big payback big payback and all these eggy these boys were just going nuts they were going crazy and so Linda Robinson was our sound or sound girl she had a beer she was drinking a beer and she rolls her eyes at these guys right behind and just all hell broke loose and the whole the whole thing had to come down and you know we fled we fled in different I mean I don't like to do but it was really exciting that happened I mean we really felt like you had made a statement that you know these that these young men really you know they couldn't see it because it was so different so different cultural It was just added you know they're like realm of existing.

[01:53:47]

Is that such a these people could be doing this before them using. I mean I wanted to tell one quick story about the oral traditions of the oral tradition kind of came before everything else it was it was a party it was done in a party it's a lark Parkway I'm pretty sure in 1972 I think it might have been Heather's birthday and I feel it was have there's a birthday and we did up this a little we went to Sears and Roebuck that used to be out on the right behind here on George's roaders up there are still those who are in right or slain in the we went to that Sears we had we didn't have any costume so we got these awful night gowns that had a little bit of you know a boa around them you know and so the I was the lead singer so I had a yellow one and then Paul and Joanna and Nancy had blue and we put black lipstick on we were so pro punk just so on so on top of it I'm so on top of it that we went straight to the bottom of it and kind of what happened with your own tradition but there is so you know we were and John by our friends they loved it so we started to be more and setters that are so you know I'm a Christian who was a famous sort of you know lesbian singer of the day was having a show at Riker's records student center and we were invited to open for her and it was like a it was like a huge big deal you know we got a few new songs great vine and testify you know we had you know we had our cost we had some costume changes and everything and then we got in the bathroom and the Rutgers student center and we got smashed on the 5.

[01:55:36]

And vodka and orange juice or something like that and so. Before that it happened. I had met Mae Christian she was like I heard so much about the oral tradition I'm really interested in the kind of music you might you know be doing seem so radical and she was all like you know kind of happy about us opening for her and we gave our show our show was in the toilet all the way

it was like I was like I think I have this show lying down I'm really ahead if you're not going to get it was absolutely love and make Christian at the end she she looked at us like we were from the will of your aliens and we were like the worst thing that she'd ever seen and she did not speak to us never again ever ever again so you know we didn't always work out a lot of it worked out but it didn't always work with the girl.

[01:56:38]

What a. Relief work out to be with you all today and you know I think we'd like to have a moment. If anyone in the audience has anything that they really would like to add in that would be OK yeah go ahead Jim Yeah yeah let's have the man that is you know yeah Manning I'm not a doctor.

[01:57:00]

Right but I know I can you Mike. So you can stand to hear things. Again cutting I'm not a dog. But I do friends with a lot of dogs with all the women up here and so many of you here and my interaction with Douglas was a homophile the look was a charm but we're all traditions I knew 3 lesbians in my life that for every 3.

[01:57:30]

There were with each other I know. I know. Or someplace. For rock or somebody and I'm like OK I'm by myself I'm going there and I did my part really and and I met some other people them to Barbara really and I have to say that this group of Douglas women your your influence has spread.

[01:58:02]

You know I was in regardless woman but I'm out in the world in a different way. Jan Jan Jan this. Is yes we still. Have the work of the colors I'll let me ask you a shit and I will take home every one. And making this happen tonight your stories are stories that need to be heard need to be told me.

[01:58:41]

Over and over again thank you very much for sharing that I'm also very very thank you for coming I didn't see you come in I was going to drill you guy with a torch for coming here for your visit in London and New York but I also must say that I'm also a time to play proud that in 2014 will be a lovely association created to be a very private network to recognize women who are who are at those you can be in our community and I say I'm proud that we were able to do that but also disappointed that it took so long yeah mamma did you there were 14 in addition to doing you know reviewing in 4 of those women that clearly after that played a difference for today was really a nice the dive that was very bad I don't know anybody and you're paying for that for the really value and if you remember which house who actually was the cause came and it was a fabulous you vessel again thank you so very much we want to make sure the border continues to be shared You know there's still a lot of educational weirdness that needs to take place even though most are community of Douglas women and that's something that we want to ensure continues that take place as many of you probably go through as look as the

sixty's that's who has up our drive that we're going to have the a source of the love there and we're happy to be here and those with HIS you hand it was well done and I enjoyed hearing your story thank you thank.

[02:00:10]

You for. Taking. Charge of the morning. Thank you. We want for this wonderful story and share your experiences at Douglass I'm the librarian that that prison is to libraries and that I really don't believe gender and sexuality studies abused at the list like me and I also had the honor to work on the grounds that this Douglas book on the 100th anniversary but I mean I am here just sort of a please what he said is absolutely true we really love material in the archives about this community and we we just what's in the book is I know it's been lacking but I hope it's actually the beginning of a Congress a song and also an opportunity with us to to actually collect more history and different theory on that actually documents from history so if you have something that you're interested in donating to the archives will be more that will be very very grateful and I hope you see to it that the future be here.

[02:01:23]

Or is there really anybody else yeah right I mean the family go around to see her the actually the director of the Center for social justice education L.G.B. to communities. And I just want to say thank you and also to let you know that we have over a dozen L.G.B. T.Q. is doing we're going to see she's on campus now you know one of which is Douglas community for L.G. to Cuba a woman and I think they will I know some of them are actually here and some of them really wanted to be here but I think it would really have to be a great great.

[02:01:58]

Great. Chinese Yeah OK I'm going to have you as a see the skull I have a little thing here we've heard many stories here but. We've heard many stories here out here there are many many many more stories and we don't have time for that and frankly some of those stories are pretty personal.

[02:02:23]

Private but they exist and they exist in letters and journals and diaries and poems and drawers and attics and basements now. And they're very important to fleshing out history so I'm going to make a loosely here for if any of you still have your journals etc etc And it's important because those are the documents that were written at the time with all the passion and the passion led to the actions and that actions led to revolutions and it's very important to to bring those things together so I don't know if you know there is the lesbian Her Story Archives in New York and then collect there were positive Henri for a lot of plays Biana and I would urge anyone who's considering donating their stuff please don't throw it away please talk to me for 6 just don't target away because what'll happen in the future my fantasy is 300 years from now because this isn't the end of the world 300 years from now people are going to want to know what were people like really thinking in their little journals and their little secret read a lot of crushes and all of that that's really I'm not immune from that.

[02:03:42]

Although. This was my legs anyway. So all of those things exist they're very important. If you could think about donating them or what'll happen is researchers then individually our stuff probably not so important collectively essential a goldmine because collectively researchers can then look at trends and thoughts and fashion and and learn a lot more about what was happening last.

[02:04:19]

Come we've left at a pretty pivotal time as far as gay liberation is concerned. We also lived at a pivotal time in terms of communication technology we wrote things down on paper in real time. Elect so so those things are really precious they're not subject to the degree of Asian and preservation problems of electronic media updating software etc So it's I keep saying since it's really important to to.

[02:04:54]

Keep these things maybe talk to me later effect and separate as evidence that you know we're not that well I have some sheets on the list me the 1st 3 archives with me and I can get pretty. They they collect and they collect everything and they've been in existence since it ran remember Amazon order you know I have stuff from that and I'm going back there I have stuff from Amazon on right even photos in general and that's really good about L.H.A. is that they don't require you to deposit original materials you can deposit copies there as well so you can keep the original if you need to you could also deposit the original at the Mabel Smith Douglas library if you have you know not so silly back then so there are there are ways to you know because L.B.J. actually a lot of archives only except original materials and so that you know that forestalls the ability to sort of spread the stuff around but L.H.A. is a depository for all lesbians for all manner of their requests to deposit so wouldn't you want to know what lesbian life is like 500 years ago.

[02:06:10]

The Journo So 500 years from now people are going to want to read germs OK All right thank you Jim is it is there any one is there anyone else who is. Or I can OK so here's 2 thing I think. All the water heard our voices and I'm very happy that we did this today thank you thank you for Rhonda our videographer thank you for everyone who came I would have already.

[02:06:42]

Done related like Janet running from back in the day just come up here and we'll have a group picture and make sure that that happens we have pictures of our of our panel I want to thank Paul off Barbara Lee Adrian Joanna Gail and roof for you know we're all.

[02:07:07]

Over the last could be the 1st of a number of sessions like this to go deep. In this time period also hate Leslie did a nice live tonight these you know you I mean I hate to be perfectly honest I have no idea what was the lot of Douglas in the room and I just want to know why there is food and while having him drink.

[02:07:33]

You know when your and if you could share your stories publicly feel free to comment on that something and he was of course named here so I think your nickname should be her I'm. Sorry And we also have the after after party and they already know Delfino let you just keep on rolling.