

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Questioning/Queer

LGBTQ
Month

BAYARD RUSTIN

Bayard Rustin (1912-1987) was a leading activist in the American Civil Rights movement, initiating a 1947 Freedom Ride to challenge bus segregation, and organizing the 1963 March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference. An openly gay man, Rustin began advocating for gay and lesbian causes later in life, working to bring the AIDS crisis to the attention of the NAACP, and famously stating in the mid-1980s, "Twenty-five, 30 years ago, the barometer of human rights in the United States were black people ... the barometer ... is now those who consider themselves gay, homosexual, lesbian."

The 2003 documentary "Brother Outsider: The Life of Bayard Rustin," chronicles his life story. President Barack Obama posthumously awarded Rustin the Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2013.

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A Union of Professionals

NYSUT, a statewide union of professionals, proudly supports equal rights for all people, a non-discriminatory workplace and non-discrimination based on gender identity and expression. NYSUT's goal is that union members feel safe and welcome in their environment. For more on the contributions of LGBTQ individuals, visit www.nysut.org.