NOMINEE NEWS & DOC EMMYS

WINNER AMERICAN HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION JOHN E. O'CONNOR FILM AWARD

WINNER AUDIENCE AWARD BEST DOCUMENTARY Frameline44 San Francisco International LGBTQ+ Film Festival

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS LAVINE/KEN BURNS PRIZE FOR FILM WINNER SECOND PRIZE

WINNER AUSTEN RIGGS ERIKSON PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN MENTAL HEALTH MEDIA

CURED

DOCTORS CALLED THEM SICK. THE REMEDY WAS REBELLION.

CURED, an award-winning documentary about a pivotal but little-known turning point in the movement for LGBTQ equality, is available for educational screenings and discussions at colleges, universities, and medical schools.

Until 1973, the medical establishment classified every gay person — no matter how well-adjusted — as the victim of a curable disease. CURED takes viewers inside the David-versus-Goliath battle that led the American Psychiatric Association (APA) to remove the diagnosis of homosexuality from its manual of mental illnesses in 1973. The film reveals how a small group of activists took on a formidable institutional opponent and won a crucial victory in the struggle for LGBTQ dignity and equality.

Described as "fascinating" (*Hollywood Reporter*), "striking" (*USA Today*), "timely and urgent" (*Cinerama Film*), and "one of the best documentaries of this or any year" (British Film Institute), CURED aired nationally on PBS, attracting an audience of 1.5 million viewers. The film was nominated for an Emmy Award and received the American Historical Association's John E. O'Connor Film Award for best historical documentary.

Educational presentations provide an opportunity for colleges and universities to host private screenings and interactive discussions for their students and staff. Hosts can choose to offer in-person events, virtual presentations, or hybrid events that have both in-person and online components. The virtual events are being offered through **Show&Tell**, a platform specifically designed to facilitate film screenings and discussions. Using Show&Tell, educational hosts can offer a screening window of 7 to 10 days, allowing students to watch the film at a time that's most convenient for their schedule. Educational hosts can also offer a "live" screening of the film via Zoom, followed by a post-screening discussion. One or both of the film's directors — as well as one or more of the trailblazing activists featured in CURED — are available to participate in virtual post-screening conversations.

In addition, one or both of the co-directors can travel for in-person screenings and discussions. These events can be streamed live to a virtual audience to maximize flexibility and accommodate students who are studying remotely.

CURED was produced and directed by Patrick Sammon and Bennett Singer, award-winning filmmakers whose previous films on LGBTQ history — **CODEBREAKER** and **BROTHER OUTSIDER** — have been screened at hundreds of college and university campuses.

To watch a trailer and learn more, visit **cureddocumentary.com**.

Presentations

A growing number of colleges, universities, educational institutions, and conferences have hosted presentations of CURED. These include:

CONFERENCES & ORGANIZATIONS

American Association for the History of Medicine Annual Meeting

American Association for State and Local History Annual Meeting

American Historical Association Annual Meeting

LGBTQ Virtual Health Care Conference

Medical Student Pride Alliance

Midwestern History Association Conference

National Association for Multicultural Education

COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES & MEDICAL SCHOOLS

Antioch University

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

Duke University School of Medicine

Emerson College

Harvard University

Howard University College of Medicine

Indiana University School of Medicine

Kansas City University College of Osteopathic Medicine

KCU College of Osteopathic Medicine – Joplin campus

Keene State College

MassBay Community College

Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine

Medical College of Wisconsin

New York Medical College

Penn State Medical School

Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Rutgers University

Southern Illinois University

Stanford University School of Medicine

Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

Transylvania University

University of California San Diego

University of California San Francisco School of Medicine

University of Cincinnati College of Medicine

University of Houston

University of Kansas

University of Miami Miller School of Medicine

University of Nebraska Medical Center

University of Pennsylvania

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine

University of Vermont Larner College of Medicine

University of Virginia

Utah State University

Yale University

CURED tells a story from the past with profound relevance to the present.

The film illuminates the elements of **effective leadership**; the importance of **allies and coalitions**; the process of bringing about **systemic social change**; and the power of **staying true to one's authentic self**.

Given the multitude of topics that the film focuses on, CURED is relevant to a wide variety of academic disciplines and student organizations:

- American History/American Studies
- Film & Media Studies
- Gender & Women's Studies
- History
- History of Medicine & Science
- Honors Program
- LGBTQ Student Organizations
- LGBTQ Studies
- Nursing
- Political Science
- Psychiatry
- Psychology
- Social Movements
- Sociology

Contact Us

The screening and speaking fee for educational events is based on a variety of factors, including audience size, location, and panel composition. To learn more and inquire about hosting a screening and discussion of CURED at your college or university, please contact filmmakers Patrick Sammon and Bennett Singer at **info@cureddocumentary** or (202) 489-9818.

Testimonials

"Accessible to a broad variety of popular audiences, requiring no prior knowledge for viewers to be gripped and moved by the wonderful constellation of characters and the drive of the narrative, CURED is simultaneously filled with sharp insights and novel archival materials to amaze even the most knowledgeable of scholars or insiders. It is perfect for classroom use: in psychology; in U.S. social and political history, gender history, and history of medicine; in ethics classes for medical schools....

"The film manages to communicate, more compellingly and clearly than I have ever seen before, just how horrendous, how stunningly sadistic, the cultural climate of the pre-sexual revolution, pre-civil rights era was for Americans with same-sex desires.... The challenge for LGBT activists was not just to make moral or legal arguments (though they made those, too) but above all to expose the shoddiness and utter lack of scientific rigor in the theoretical pronouncements of those psychiatrists who kept insisting that homosexuality was a pathology; bad science, in short, had to be beaten by good science, and this is a dramatic running subplot that CURED tells especially well.... Among the several powerful messages conveyed by the film is the remarkable revelation that a tiny handful of determined individuals can change an entire society."

— DAGMAR HERZOG, DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, CITY UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK,
AND AUTHOR OF *COLD WAR FREUD: PSYCHOANALYSIS IN AN AGE OF CATASTROPHES*

"As paradigm shifts go, the speed of the APA's turnabout is astonishing. In 80 minutes, Sammon and Singer show how it was done, and their use of the tools of film expands our understanding of the methods well-described in both academic and popular histories of the early gay rights movement. CURED belongs with those essential LGBT documentaries mentioned above [*Before Stonewall* and *Word Is Out*], and it will also likely prove to be an excellent tool for teaching the history and philosophies of science."

—THEODORE K. GIDEONSE, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF TEACHING, HEALTH, SOCIETY, AND BEHAVIOR,
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT IRVINE, IN A REVIEW PUBLISHED IN *CULTURE, MEDICINE, AND PSYCHIATRY*

"Much of the archival footage that has been collected for the documentary has never been seen before. The production value is exceptional.... Essential viewing for understanding the history of how the field of psychiatry has evolved to accept sexuality on a spectrum. Suitable for high school and up. A highly accessible and well-produced documentary."

—JOHNNIE N. GRAY, TECHNOLOGY SERVICES LIBRARIAN, CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY,
IN A REVIEW PUBLISHED IN *EDUCATIONAL MEDIA REVIEWS ONLINE (EMRO)*

"[A] lively presentation from beginning to end. Co-directors Singer and Sammon have done cinematic justice to a long-unheralded but all-important grassroots political victory in LGBT history. Highly recommended."

—MICHAEL SANDLIN, IN A REVIEW PUBLISHED IN *VIDEO LIBRARIAN*

"CURED is a wonderful film. It's moving and compelling and it tells the story beautifully. It includes some truly remarkable footage and interviews. I especially love those shots of the beautiful, innocent-looking young gay people juxtaposed to the terrible things said about them. In short, I find this a remarkable film."

—LILLIAN FADERMAN, PROFESSOR EMERITA AT FRESNO STATE UNIVERSITY
AND AUTHOR OF *THE GAY REVOLUTION: THE STORY OF THE STRUGGLE*

Testimonials

"As a historian who has devoted the past six years to research on the topic of conversion therapy, I am in a unique position to attest to the scholarly and educational significance of what Patrick Sammon and Bennett Singer have accomplished. CURED is a fascinating analysis of one of the most important civil rights struggles of the post-World War II era. The filmmakers offer a penetrating account of the homophobia that led the American Psychiatric Association to pathologize same-sex desires in the early 1950s. Additionally, they spotlight the years of activism that lesbian and gay rights activists like Barbara Gittings and Frank Kameny led as they fought psychiatrists and psychologists who thought that homosexuals needed to be 'cured.' This is a crucial film."

—CHRIS BABITS, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION & LEARNING AT UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY AND AUTHOR OF THE FORTHCOMING BOOK *TO CURE A SINFUL NATION: A HISTORY OF CONVERSION THERAPY IN THE UNITED STATES*

"As part of our lecture series focusing on the history of health and medicine, we screened CURED and hosted a panel discussion featuring the film's co-director, activists, and medical historians. This powerful documentary provided a springboard for a lively and wide-ranging discussion about the past struggles of the LGBTQ community, as well as the ongoing fight for basic human rights and dignity. It truly was an all-star panel and a great conversation that could have gone on much longer."

—MONICA PERALES, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF HISTORY AND DIRECTOR OF THE CENTER FOR PUBLIC HISTORY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON

"The Southeast Idaho Area Health Education Center (AHEC) enjoyed hosting a viewing of the documentary CURED, along with a follow-up Q&A event featuring Dr. Saul Levin, CEO and Medical Director of the APA, and Bennett Singer, the film's co-director. This event exposed scholars to the effects of historical trauma and ongoing struggles faced by the LGBTQ community in clinical and mental health settings. Scholars raved about the opportunity, and it was the highlight of our year! We highly recommend this film for students, educators, or community groups."

—RYLEE O'NEILL, MPA, SOUTHEAST IDAHO AREA HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER DIRECTOR

"I chose CURED to open the first class of my university course 'Gay & Lesbian History in Documentary Film,' and my students were enthralled. Not only does the film present a comprehensive and rich context for queer history in the U.S. since the 1950s, but it introduces students to pioneering activists in pursuit of civil rights and social justice. Our classroom conversations in response to CURED were moving, insightful, instructive, and inspiring."

—CHARLEY LANG, DIRECTOR, UGS PSYCHOLOGY & ADDICTION STUDIES CONCENTRATIONS AT ANTIOCH UNIVERSITY LOS ANGELES

"CURED gave the students in my 1960s course a whole new insight into the movements that changed American society and the lives of LGBTQ citizens. Many did not know about the violence queer Americans faced or about the activists who fought to protect LGBTQ lives. I was particularly proud that students were able to link this activism with the current issues facing queer folk today." —NISHANI FRAZIER, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF AMERICAN STUDIES AND HISTORY AT UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS AND CO-EDITOR OF *FREEDOM ON MY MIND: THE COLUMBIA DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THE AFRICAN AMERICAN EXPERIENCE*

"CURED is a master class in consciousness-raising, coalition-building, grassroots activism, and self-determination. This is thrilling nonfiction filmmaking and must-see viewing for activists of every generation."

—JESSICA GREEN, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR, HOUSTON CINEMA ARTS SOCIETY