

Mapping LGBTQ St. Louis
Additional Information Sheet

Location:

Left Bank Books (LBB)
6254 Delmar
399 N Euclid Avenue

Additional Information:

Founded in 1969 by graduate students from Washington University in St. Louis, as a leftist collective to sell counter-culture books and literature, generally unavailable at other local retail store. Titles especially featured feminist and anti-establishment themes. Originally opened on the Delmar Loop, it moved to its current location in the Central West End in 1977. The store remodeled and expanded in 1988. As of 2017, the store is co-owned by Kris Kleindienst and Jarek Steele.

Described in Damron guides as a bookstore selling gay / lesbian titles, records, and tapes.

LBB has hosted a variety of famous Americans, even former U.S. Senator and presidential candidate, Hillary Clinton.¹

Store co-owner Jarek Steele notes, "It is queer owned and operated and has always carried a diverse selection of books, striving to represent subjects and communities that are often under-represented elsewhere. We had the first (and only) women's studies, LGBT and African American sections in the city."²

For additional history see:

<http://www.left-bank.com/about-us>

Steven Louis Brawley, *Gay and Lesbian St. Louis* (Arcadia Publishing, 2016), 56.

¹ Deb Peterson, "With a wide smile and an easy laugh, Sen. Clinton makes a big impression," *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* (12 Aug. 2003).

² email, 13 October 2017

Mapping LGBTQ St. Louis is an interdisciplinary humanities project examining the intersections of gender, sexuality, race, class & society in the metropolitan area of St. Louis, Missouri. We welcome questions, comments, and feedback. [Please contact the project team using this online form.](#)