



# The Stonewall Uprising: Memory, Myth, Movement

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# National Park Stonewall Website & Pride Flag



- In February of 2025 the Trump Administration removed from the Stonewall Monument website any reference to Transgender or Queer within the text on the website
- In February of 2026, the Trump Administration took down the permanently installed Pride Flag in the Stonewall Monument
  - Or they attempted to, they have since backpedaled.

# What Was the Stonewall Uprising, ?

- June 28th, 1969, at ~2:00am. The New York Police Department First Division Raided the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar. The police raid sparked resistance that lasted several days
- Often remembered as the start of gay right activism
- The origin of Pride



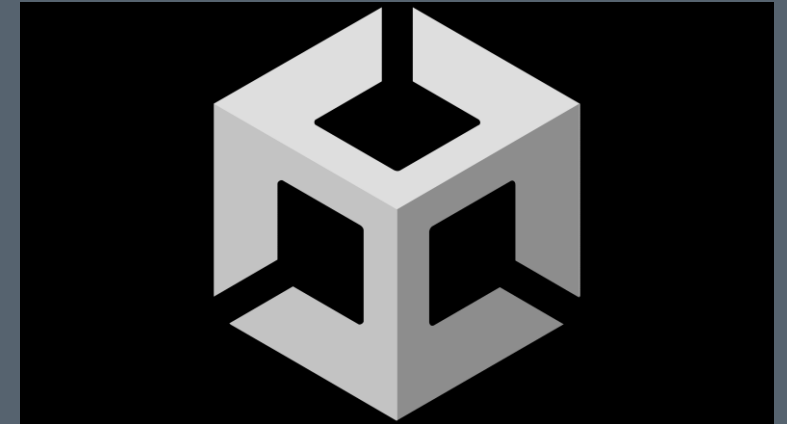
# Question(s) and Argument

- What was The Stonewall Uprising, and what were its causes? How should the Stonewall Uprising be remembered?
- The Stonewall Uprising was primarily caused by:
  - Queer spaces
  - Queer lives
  - Societal oppression
  - Respectability politics (practiced within the homophile movement)



# Basis for the Creation of Digital Experience

- Unity Engine
  - A wildly popular Game Engine that claims to account for more than 50% of all new video games created
- Never Alone (Kisima Inŋitchuŋa)
- An estimated 25% of all video game developers identify as LGBTQ+



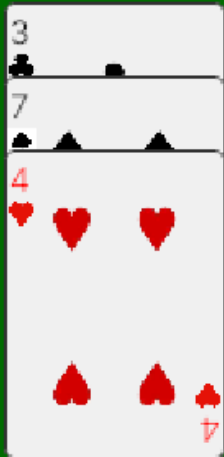
# Digital Experience

- Recreation of Bar Interior as it was on June 28th, 1969
- Recreation of the starts of The Stonewall Uprising
- Creation of three 2D sub-experiences to provide additional information on the societal conditions prior to Stonewall





14



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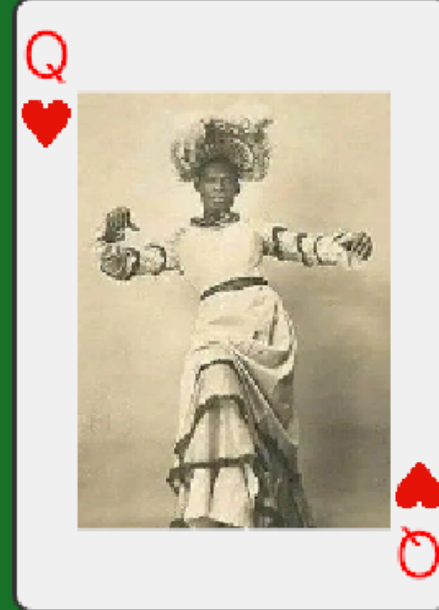
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## William Dorsey Swann

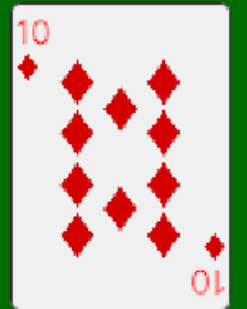
'The Queen'. William Dorsey Swan, the first person to ever label himself a queen of drag, and the first person to ever lead a queer resistance in the United States. William Dorsey Swan was the first true Drag Queen, not a male-impersonator. Active during the 1880s, and 1890s, Swan gathered other men who were formerly slaves, like himself, to dance in their dresses. Notably no image of Swan exists, the attached image is of Jack Brown in 1903.

27



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10



# Conclusions

- The Causes of The Stonewall Uprising
- A basis for the creation of a Digital Experience based in Unity
- The recreation of the night of June 28<sup>th</sup>, 1969, in the form of a digital experience in commemoration of the Stonewall Uprising



Thank You!