

The International Court System

The Court System today consists of almost 70 chapters or Courts in the US, Canada and Mexico. These chapters are each chartered by the International Court Council but are independently governed in accordance with national and local charitable organization requirements.

The court system was founded in San Francisco when a group of gay bar owners formed a Tavern Guild in early 1965 as a means to stand in solidarity with one another under the pressure of police harassment. The Guild put on the first large public drag ball in San Francisco's history called the Beaux Arts Ball. In its third year Jose Julio Sarria, a World War II veteran and the first openly gay candidate to run for public office in North America, in 1961, was declared the Queen of the Ball, and then declared himself Empress.



With that the Imperial Court System was born. Jose's unique combinations of talent influence and vision guided the start of what is now an international organization. From that beginning we derived our titles: Emperor, Empress, Prince and

Princess, as well as our yearly gala function-Coronation.

In 2007 Jose was succeeded by Queen Mother I of the Americas, Nicole the Great.



Madame Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the International Court System (ICS) as it celebrates the 45th anniversary of its founding. A non-profit charity and international social service organization, ICS is one of the oldest LGBT charities in the world, with chapters in over 68 cities within the United States, Canada and Mexico.

ICS fundraising efforts have benefited countless causes both within and outside the LGBT community including numerous children's charities, AIDS organizations and cancer patient advocacy groups. ... In addition, there are over 30 student scholarship programs within the International Court System... The ICS welcomes all and is proud of its diversity.

The first ICS Chapter was established in 1965 in San Francisco, California by World War II veteran and Hispanic gay activist, Jose Julio Sarria.. In 2007, Sarria stepped down as titular leader of the International Court and was succeeded by.. San Diego City Commissioner Nicole Murray Ramirez who himself has been a Latino and gay activist for over 40 years.."



Full Proclamation online at
www.ImpCourt.org

INTERNATIONAL COURT SYSTEM CANADA – UNITED STATES – MEXICO



The International Court System (ICS) is one of the most exciting, diverse GLBT organizations on this continent! With 68 non-profit chapters across the United States, Canada and Mexico, our members utilize their unique talents to raise funds and awareness, educate and teach, and help fulfill the needs of their communities. We put the fun back in fundraising!

Our organization is open to everyone. Our membership is made up of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and heterosexual individuals. A person's gender or orientation has no bearing on being a member of the court "family."



www.impcourt.org

The International Court Council

The Council serves as the Governing Body of the organization, working under the direction of the ICC Chair and CEO, Queen Mother of the Americas Nicole the Great. Members from across the US, Canada and Mexico work to develop needed programs.

The Parliament

Parliament was established in 2008 by Queen Mother of the Americas Nicole the Great to give each chapter a voice in the work of the ICC. Chapters each elect a representative and work year-round before convening an annual session. The Parliament is lead by the Prime Minister and the Speaker of the House and reports its findings directly to the Queen Mother and the Council.

The Communique

The official newsletter is available quarterly in digital form and includes submissions from around the continent. Focused on events and sharing fundraising and governance ideas, many chapters print the Communique for distribution to their members.

www.ImpCourt.org

the ICC website contains contact information for all chapters, a calendar of events and much more!

Our Canadian Chapters

Alberta Calgary Edmonton	Manitoba Winnipeg	Ontario Hamilton London St. Catharines Toronto
British Columbia Surrey Vancouver	Nova Scotia Halifax Saskatchewan Regina	

Our U.S. Chapters

Alaska Anchorage	Illinois Chicago	Oregon Eugene Portland Salem
Arizona Phoenix	Iowa Des Moines	Rhode Island Providence
California Alameda Alameda Ducal Chico Fresno Long Beach Los Angeles Modesto Orange County Sacramento San Diego San Francisco SF Ducal San Jose Stockton	Kentucky Lexington Massachusetts Boston Minnesota Minneapolis Missouri Saint Louis Montana Missoula Nebraska Omaha Nevada Las Vegas Reno New Mexico Albuquerque New York Buffalo New York Ohio Cincinnati Oklahoma Tulsa Barony	Texas Austin Corpus Christi Dallas Fort Worth Houston San Antonio Waco Utah Ogden Salt Lake Washington Bellingham Everett Seattle Spokane Tacoma Vancouver Washington DC*

Mexico

Our Tijuana Chapter is proud of the support its northern courts have given to support the needs and causes of the Imperial Court of Mexico. They have raised over \$200,000 since the early 1980's for the GLBT Community in Mexico, helping to open the first hospice in Baja, Mexico as well as support their HIV/AIDS clinics. Our Mexican brothers and sisters urgently need our continued help and support.



"Through your outstanding campaign, I am proud you have raised more than \$100,000 toward the continued work to replace hate in every corner of the nation, with under-standing, compassion and acceptance"
- **Judy Shepard**



"Harvey Milk loved the Imperial Court and realized, as I do, all that you have done over the last 45 years of community service and fighting for LGBT equality" -**Stuart Milk, Founder Harvey Milk Foundation**



Your Generosity has helped us launch mygsa.ca a new site to help youth and educators to address homophobic and transphobic harassment and violence in schools....**Egale Canada**



"The International Court System is greatly responsible for the doors of the HIV clinics, food banks, and AIDS agencies to remain open" - **Tijuana Aids Fund**

The International Court System and The Trevor Project will work together to ..invest in life-saving and life-affirming work for LGBTQ Youth across the country and to engage in joint projects to increase the participation of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people in the pursuit of saving young lives.

