# LGBTQ+ Global History

With more open representation of the LGBTQ+ community, it's easy to think that the LGBTQ+ community is a recent and modern phenomenon. However, if we look to history, we can see that the LGBTQ+ community has a long history in cultures all throughout the world.

### Two-Spirit

Several Native
American cultures
recognized a 3rd or
even more genders,
known as "Two-Spirit,"
before European
colonization.

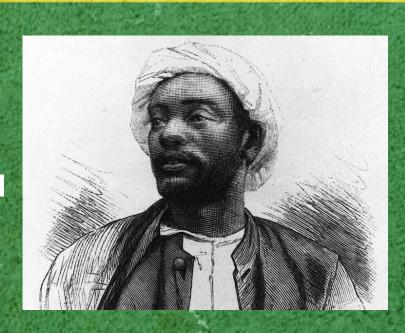


# The Sacred Band of Thebes

In Ancient Greece, there was an elite military unit comprised of 300 gay men, 150 couples, that fought together in battle.

## King Mwanga II

Between 1884 until 1897, the openly bisexual King Mwanga II ruled over the kingdom of Buganda, modernday Uganda.



### Lian Xiang Ban 憐相伴 (The Fragrant Companion)

Playwright Li Yu wrote this Chinese comedy play that follows 2 women who fall in love and convince one of their husbands to take the other as a concubine to live happily together.

# Shikhandir

This character in the ancient
Hindu epic Mahabharata is a
princess who kills herself in
the hope of being reborn as a
man. She is reborn as a woman
but then undergoes a
miraculous sex-change,
becoming a man





\*A resource created by the IEA LGBTQ+ Committee