



## THE INTERNATIONAL IMPERIAL COURT SYSTEM

EST. 1965

### History

The International Imperial Court System was founded in 1965 by World War II veteran Jose Julio Sarria, a Hispanic gay activist who in 1961 became the first openly gay candidate to run for public office in North America. "From a seed planted in San Francisco, it grew into a strong royal oak tree with its branches now stretching over Canada, Mexico and the U.S.A." Empress I Jose passed in 2013 at the young age of 90 years.

In 2007 Empress I Jose crowned her heir and successor, San Diego City Commissioner Nicole Murray Ramirez, a gay Latino activist for over 45 years. Empress Nicole The Great was crowned and proclaimed "Queen Mother I of the Americas" and is the CEO, Chairman and "Titular Leader" of the International Imperial Court System.

In 2017 Queen Mother I Nicole the Great celebrated the 10th anniversary of her reign "The Renaissance Era"!



## THE INTERNATIONAL IMPERIAL COURT COUNCIL

Established by Empress I Jose it serves as the governing body of the IICS. Currently its CEO and Chairman is City Commissioner Nicole Murray Ramirez (Queen Mother I of the Americas). The members of the International Imperial Council are "heirs" to the Queen Mother and are representatives from all over the U.S.A., Canada & Mexico.



# Congressional Record

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE 111<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS, SECOND SESSION

WASHINGTON, TUESDAY JUNE 9, 2010

## House of Representatives

IN RECOGNITION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT SYSTEM (ICS)  
AS IT CELEBRATES ITS 45TH ANNIVERSARY

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

IICS fundraising effort 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 Imperial Court System... The IICS welcomes all and is proud of its diversity.

The first IICS 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 the titular leader of the International Imperial Court System and was succeeded by San Diego City Commissioner Nicole Murray Ramirez who himself has been a Latino and gay activist for over 40 years..."



## THE INTERNATIONAL IMPERIAL COURT SYSTEM

**CANADA - UNITED STATES - MEXICO**

The International Imperial Court System (IICS) is one of the most exciting, diverse Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender organizations on this continent! With over 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 in fundraising!

Our organization is open to everyone. A person's gender or orientation has no bearing on being a member of the Imperial Court "family".



*"From Our Hearts, Through The Courts, For The Community"*

**WWW.INTERNATIONALCOURTSYSTEM.ORG**

# A LETTER FROM PRESIDENT OBAMA

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

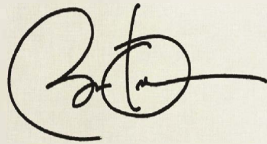
November 30, 2015

For decades, courageous lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and gender nonconforming Americans have blazed trails for others and pushed our Nation closer to its founding ideal of equality for all. The International Imperial Court System is a proud part of that movement, helping lay the groundwork for much of the progress the LGBT community has seen.

Since the International Imperial Court System was founded in 1965, it has tirelessly served the LGBT and gender nonconforming communities across North America by supporting HIV/AIDS awareness programs, organizing Pride parades, building community centers, and offering scholarships to students. But the Court is more than just an advocate for LGBT issues, it is an outlet for creative expression—a community where people are free to be themselves no matter who they are.

Your organization's pursuit of inclusion reminds us not only of our founding principles, but also of our human ability to connect with others when they need us. Being allies to the dispossessed, marginalized, and forgotten is what this country is all about, and it is that daring effort that will continue to move our Nation forward.

As you celebrate 50 years and look toward tomorrow's progress, I send all members of the International Imperial Court System my best wishes.




## NATIONAL GLBT NETWORK USA

This is the American Civil Rights arm of the International Imperial Court System and continues the activism of our founder gay icon Jose Julio Sarria. Established January 21, 2017 by Commissioner Ramirez on the "Woman's March Day".



## THE INTERNATIONAL IMPERIAL COURT SYSTEM

The International Imperial Court System has over 68 chapters in cities across the USA, Canada & Mexico. These courts are led by the International Imperial Court Council & Queen Mother of the Americas but are independently governed in accordance with National, Local, State or Provincial Charitable Organizations.

### IMPERIAL COURT CHAPTERS:

#### CANADA

**Alberta** - Calgary, Edmonton

**British Columbia** - Surrey, Vancouver

**Manitoba** - Winnipeg

**Nova Scotia** - Halifax

**Ontario** - Hamilton, Niagara &

Tri-Cities, London, Toronto

**Saskatchewan** - Regina

#### UNITED STATES

**Alaska** - Anchorage

**Arizona** - Phoenix

**California** - Alameda, Alameda

Ducal, Chico, Fresno, Long Beach,

Los Angeles, Modesto, Orange

County, Sacramento, San Diego, San

Francisco, San Francisco Ducal, San

Jose, Stockton

**Colorado** - Colorado Springs, Denver

**Connecticut** - Hartford

**District of Columbia** - Washington

**Hawaii** - Honolulu

**Florida** - Ft. Lauderdale

**Idaho** - Boise

**Illinois** - Chicago

**Indiana** - Indianapolis

**Iowa** - Des Moines

**Kentucky** - Lexington

**Massachusetts** - Boston, Western

Massachusetts

**Minnesota** - Minneapolis

**Missouri** - Springfield

**Montana** - Missoula

**Nebraska** - Omaha

**Nevada** - Las Vegas, Reno

**New Mexico** - Albuquerque

**New York** - Buffalo, New York

**Ohio** - Cincinnati

**Oklahoma** - Tulsa

**Oregon** - Eugene, Portland, Salem

**Rhode Island** - Providence

**Texas** - Austin, Corpus Christi,

Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, San

Antonio, Waco

**Utah** - Ogden, Salt Lake City

**Washington** - Bellingham, Everett,

Seattle, Spokane, Tacoma,

Vancouver

#### MEXICO

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

### Local court chapter information



#### Stonewall 50: 2019!

In June of 2019 Stonewall 50 will be celebrated in New York City and millions of people from all over the world will be coming. The International Imperial Court Council will be producing and hosting the **Stonewall Wall of Honor**



#### International Jose Julio Sarria Scholarship Program

Established in 2013 by Queen Mother I Nicole. Within a year over \$115,000 was raised for this educational program that includes matching grants for court chapters individual student scholarship programs. Program Chair is Emperor Terry Sidie.



#### Bayard Rustin Stamp Campaign

The International Imperial Court Council and the National LGBTQ Task Force have launched another stamp campaign in honor of civil rights icon Bayard Rustin.

—For more information: [www.rustinstamp.org](http://www.rustinstamp.org)



"Through your outstanding campaign, I am proud you have raised more than \$210,000 toward the continued work to replace hate in every corner of the nation, with understanding, compassion and acceptance."

—**Judy Shepard**

Founder of the Matthew Shepard Foundation



"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 website to help youth and educators to address homophobic & transphobic harassment and violence in schools."

—**Egale Canada**

### Harvey Milk U.S. Postage Stamp & the USNS Harvey Milk Ship!

"The International Imperial Court System under the leadership of Commissioner Nicole Murray Ramirez led and organized the successful letter writing campaign that resulted in a Harvey Milk Postage Stamp and the Harvey Milk Naval Ship." - **LGBT Weekly**



For Further Information:  
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