Philadelphia is proud of the roles it has played and plays still in the founding, furtherance and celebration of LGBTQ civil rights. In 2017, the City of Philadelphia added brown and black stripes to the six original stripes of the rainbow flag to represent LGBTQ people of color.

Between 11th & Broad streets, Chestnut & Pine streets, Rainbow street signs mark the center of Philadelphia’s LGBTQ everyday life and culture since World War II. Today, the neighborhood, especially 13th Street, buzzes. There are vibrant restaurants like Barbuzzo, Bud & Marilyn’s, Jamonera, Lolita and Little Nonna’s, all owned by spouses Valerie Safran and chef Marcie Turney; LGBTQ-owned retail such as Henri David’s absolutely must-experience jewelry shop Halloween, colorful soap store Duross & Langel, Safran and Turney’s gift emporiums Verde and Open House; and tons of nightlife, from laid-back bars Knock, Toasted Walnut, U Bar and Writer’s Block Rehab and to popping dance clubs Tabu, Voyeur and Woody’s.