Harvey Milk was the first openly gay elected official in the history of California, serving on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1977. He was a trailblazer for LGBTQ+ rights and visibility in politics, paving the way for future generations of activists and politicians. Before entering politics, Milk served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War and worked in various jobs, including as a teacher, a stock analyst, and the owner of a camera store in San Francisco. His diverse background helped him connect with a wide range of people in his community. Milk's political career was tragically cut short when he was assassinated in 1978 by Dan White, a former colleague on the Board of Supervisors. His untimely death at the age of 48 made him a martyr for the LGBTQ+ rights movement and sparked widespread outrage and activism. Throughout his career, Milk advocated for issues such as affordable housing, public transportation, and civil rights. He was a vocal supporter of marginalized communities, including people of color, women, and the LGBTQ+ community, and worked to create a more inclusive and equitable society. Milk's famous campaign slogan, 'You gotta give 'em hope,' became a rallying cry for the LGBTQ+ community and symbolized his message of empowerment and resilience. He believed in the power of hope to inspire positive change and unite people in the pursuit of justice. In 2009, Harvey Milk was posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Barack Obama, in recognition of his groundbreaking advocacy for LGBTQ+ rights and his enduring legacy as a champion of equality and justice. Milk's life and legacy have been the subject of numerous books, films, and documentaries, including the Academy Award-winning biopic 'Milk' starring Sean Penn. His story continues to inspire and educate people around the world about the ongoing struggle for LGBTQ+ rights. Milk's impact on LGBTQ+ representation in politics is still felt today, as more openly gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender individuals have been elected to public office in the years since his groundbreaking tenure on the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. The Harvey Milk Foundation, established by his nephew Stuart Milk, works to carry on Milk's legacy by promoting global LGBTQ+ rights and equality. The foundation supports educational initiatives, advocacy efforts, and grassroots organizing to advance social justice. Milk's enduring influence has led to the establishment of numerous landmarks and institutions in his honor, including the Harvey Milk Plaza in San Francisco, the Harvey Milk High School in New York City, and the annual Harvey Milk Day, celebrated in California to honor his contributions to civil rights.