

Jeanine McElwain I-House Story

When I worked on campus from 1994 to 2011, I was involved with the LGBT Center, which was still fairly new in the late '90s. We helped coordinate the annual LGBT graduation party, and I remember being part of it two years in a row. The second year (around 2001 or 2002), the celebration was held at International House and featured a cappella singing by the Liquid Hotplates, a student group from UC Davis. I don't remember all the details—likely some food and drinks, and I believe there were speeches from graduates and some awards presented. I wish I could recall more, but it was definitely a lot of fun.

I also visited I-House on other occasions: once when a friend of mine had an art exhibit there, and again for a slideshow presentation by a couple who led guided trips along the Camino in Spain. I remember attending a few Friday night international film screenings there with my Italian aunt, who had lived in the U.S. for most of her adult life. And when my parents moved to Davis a couple of years after I did, in the early '90s, my mother briefly taught Italian classes at I-House.