

Barbara “Boo” Easter Price

Barbara “Boo” Easter Price, a pioneering figure in the women’s music movement, died Tuesday, August 4, 2026 of heart failure in Alameda, California.

Barbara Price was born October 8, 1943 in Lafayette, Indiana to Eleanor Easter Price and George E. Price.



Boo received a bachelor’s degree in political science from Mount Holyoke College in 1965. Mount Holyoke Alum Association records show that Boo was involved with a number of Washington, D. C. organizations such as being a summer intern for the Food for Peace Program, a staff member of the National Presidential Advisory Committee on Civil Disorders and at the U.S. Department of Justice, and that she served as an aide to Indiana Senator Birch E. Bayh.

In 1967 she married Stanford University graduate Alberto García-Dobles of the Inter-American Development Bank. Although the marriage ended in divorce, it resulted in her only child, Andrés “Drew” García-Price, with whom she would remain close to throughout her life. García-Price is now a storyboard artist and illustrator.

Boo moved to California to attend law school at the University of California at Davis (UC Davis). In 1973, Price created the lesbian caucus, which was the first and, for some time, only lesbian caucus on campus for graduates and undergraduates. While at UC Davis, she was introduced to what became known as “women’s music,” referring to music performed by, about, and for women. In 1974, still in law school, she produced her first concert. She earned a Juris Doctor (J.D.) degree from UC Davis in 1976. After earning her J.D. she established a sole practitioner law practice focused on family law, custody, entertainment law, and small business support for women.

The following paragraphs are taken largely from “Remembering Barbara ‘Boo’ Price, a pioneering force in women’s music” by Margaret Hetherman via *The Washington Blade*, Courtesy of The National LGBT Media Association, August 17, 2026. Additional published articles honoring Boo are listed at the end.

“She brought her legal background, organizational skills and business acumen to everything she touched—including the justice system, most notably through her work on child custody cases involving lesbian mothers, a focus that grew out of her own experience. In this regard, she developed pioneering strategies for successfully defending the mother’s rights, drawing on psychological and sociological evidence.

“Price produced some of the earliest women’s music concerts as a new lesbian-feminist culture was taking shape. She also was a founder, with pianist, songwriter and singer Margie Adam, of Pleiades Records.

“Arguably, nowhere was that emerging culture of music, feminism and community more fully realized than at the Michigan Womyn’s Music Festival. At its peak, 8,000 women, predominantly lesbians, came from around the world to gather for a week in August. Camping, music, dance performances, workshops and the requisite tofu and beans were just a few of the innumerable offerings in this rite of passage for a generation of lesbians in a time when there were few safe and free environments available. In 1977, the second year of the festival, Boo produced the performances on the night stage, eventually overseeing production on all the stages, and contributing ideas and expertise in many other areas of the festival.

“In 1982, together with one of the festival’s original founders, Lisa Vogel, Price purchased the land that would become the festival’s permanent 650-acre home near Hart, Michigan. In 1983, she became a co-owner and co-producer, a role she held until the two parted ways in 1994.

“**Kathryn A. Willmore** (MHC’65) and one of the early leaders of the feminist journal *Sojourner*, remembers how Michigan grew into something bigger than anticipated—and how instrumental Price was in elevating the systems needed to support it.

“Price, Willmore says, helped put systems in place, articulate a vision, and bring in people who could then carry it forward. Boo really empowered so many women in so many dimensions. I think that is one of the overarching themes of her life, and certainly in music production...and her confidence was infectious. So people who had never done something grew into becoming experts.

“Price’s influence extended beyond the festival arena. The MS libraries document the breadth of her production work, including the Women on Wheels Tour in 1976; a celebration for the opening of Judy Chicago’s *The Dinner Party* in 1979; the concert closing the ERA Campaign at Constitution Hall with Margie Adam and Sweet Honey in the Rock; and, decades later, the 2008 San Francisco City Hall memorial for lesbian rights pioneer Del Martin. She also established Women in Production in 1976, which hired and trained primarily lesbian technicians and production staff.

“Following her tenure with the Michigan Womyn’s Music Festival and a brief hiatus, Price couldn’t help but create another gathering place. In 1996 she purchased an historic building in Oakland, California, renovated it and opened the Montclair Women’s Cultural Arts Club. Over the next two decades, the predominantly lesbian space became a vital gathering hub, hosting more than 2,000 events—high-toned parties, workshops, theater, dance, concerts, and more.

“I think of Boo as someone who inspired and empowered women everywhere,” says **Kathryn Willmore**. “She herself was a fearless explorer, and she instilled that spirit into so many other women who would never imagine themselves doing the things that they did. And it wasn’t just in music.”

“She fell in love with scuba diving, became an expert diver, and then inspired so many other women—including me,” says Willmore, who would never have imagined venturing into the sea’s depths had it not been for Price.

“Price soon convinced others to join her, and organized trips over the years to explore earth’s bounteous ocean offerings—women traveling the world from the Caribbean to the Solomon Islands and sharing in the joy that Price found amid the coral reefs of Indonesia.”

Price is survived by her son, Andrés García-Price; daughter-in-law, Katie García; granddaughter, Tallulah Katherine García; nieces Melissa Price and her husband, Donal, and Cynthia Price Czabala and her husband, Tom; and an expansive community of chosen family, friends, and beneficiaries of her generous and unstoppable spirit.

When her health began to decline, she moved to an East Bay assisted living center where she continued to hold court with friends and to contribute her production savvy to events. She remained committed to inspiring and empowering women to be their fullest selves.

To close this recounting of some of Boo's life highlights is the following quote from her closest lifetime friend **Kathryn Willmore**, whom Boo met on the hurricane-buffed opening day for MHC freshmen in September 1961—"For virtually the entire time since graduation, we have lived in different cities (and for the most part, opposite sides of the country), but we have shared our lives, nonetheless. And that has made all the difference." (*Class of 1965 55th Reunion 2020*, p. 40)

A memorial gathering is being planned for Thursday afternoon, October 8 (her birthdate) in the East Bay of San Francisco, California, with plans to live stream it.

In lieu of flowers contributions may be made to the Central Caribbean Marine Institute (<https://reefresearch.org/>) and/or The Institute for the Musical Arts (<https://ima.org/>).

Photo: Courtesy of Andrés García-Price, Boo's son.

Sources:

Special thanks to **Kathryn A. Willmore**, **Judith E. Ciani** and **Bev Harrison Brame** who reviewed/edited drafts of this obituary.

Mount Holyoke Alum Association, In Memoriam Notification, August 28, 2026.

Class of 1965 55th Reunion book 2020, p. 40.

San Francisco Bay Times, Saturday, August 29, 2026, LGBTQ News & Calendar for the Bay Area, "Barbara 'Boo' Price (October 8, 1943–August 4, 2026): Champion of Women's Rights Through Law and Music."

San Francisco Bay Times, Tuesday, September 1, 2026, LGBTQ News & Calendar for the Bay Area, "Barbara Price's Remarkable Life and Work."

Watermark OUT news Nation. August 17, 2026, “Remembering Barbara ‘Boo’ Price, a pioneering force in women’s music,” By Margaret Hetherman via The Washington Blade, Courtesy of The National LGBT Media Association.

[\(https://watermarkoutnews.com/2026/08/17/remembering-barbara-boo-price-a-pioneering-force-in-womens-music/\)](https://watermarkoutnews.com/2026/08/17/remembering-barbara-boo-price-a-pioneering-force-in-womens-music/)

Los Angeles Blade, Southern California’s LGBTQ News Source, “Remembering Barbara ‘Boo’ Price, a pioneering force in women’s music,” Published August 17, 2026 by Margaret Hetherman.

News Beep, August 28, 2026, “Recollections of Barbara ‘Boo’ Price” – San Francisco Bay Times, www.newsbeep.com.

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