


Conference Program Book
2009

Saturday, May 2

GLSEN



BOSTON



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2008-2009**

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Welcome

Dear Conference Participants,

Welcome to our 19th Annual GLSEN Boston Conference! We are thrilled to have you join us, along with hundreds of other students, educators, parents, counselors, administrators, support staff, and allies who have come to help us in our work to make schools truly safe and inclusive for every student, staff member and family of all sexual orientations and gender identities and expressions.

This has been a remarkable year, one filled with many challenges as well as many reasons to celebrate and feel hopeful about the future. As we pause to remember those whose voices have been silenced this year because of bullying and harassment, we are heartened and moved by the many examples of individuals and communities coming together to heal and to create meaningful and positive change. Right here in Massachusetts there is a bill pending, which would extend protections for individuals on the basis of gender identity and expression. Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs) in schools throughout the state continue to work toward raising awareness and creating safer, more respectful and truly inclusive school communities. Our conference theme this year is "Teaching Respect: Raise Your Hand! Raise Your Voice!" We hope to inspire you to think about your schools and communities and to find ways to get your voice heard and to feel powerful, effective and a part of bringing people together to fight for justice, equality, and the value and worth of every individual.

We are proud to be holding our conference again this year at the historic English High School, part of the Boston Public Schools. Boston Public Schools has made a strong commitment to providing safe, supportive, and successful environments where all students and staff can thrive, both personally and academically. Returning to host this year's conference at The English High School is a symbol of this commitment to our young people.

It is not just our speakers, Steve Kluger and Corey Johnson who we are excited about, but also this year's vast array of workshops offered throughout the day. They are designed to give you a chance to hear someone's story, to gain new curriculum ideas, to understand the issues that individuals face in their schools on a deeper and more personal level, to network and share ideas and resources with others from throughout the state, and to gain the tools that will help you to create meaningful change in your own school environment. We are impressed with this year's offerings and feel they contribute to our focus on empowerment, respect, and hope. This year we have several workshops that focus on gender identity and gender expression, an issue that many schools have expressed a desire to learn more about. Finally, we are excited to present the hilarious new comedy, The Lyric Stage Company's *Speech and Debate* as the closing performance.

Thank you to all the people who helped to make this day possible, especially our many workshop presenters, and for all of you who are here because you care about our schools and want to be part of creating a future where all our school communities are free from prejudice and intolerance. We hope that over the course of the day you will hear some new perspectives, gain skills to take back with you, and make connections with other allies in this important work.

Have a wonderful day!

Morgan Darby and Danielle Murray
GLSEN Boston Conference Organizers



Vision

The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) of Boston envisions a future in which every child learns to respect and accept all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/ expression.

Mission Statement

GLSEN strives to assure that each member of every school community is valued and respected regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/expression. We believe that such an atmosphere engenders a positive sense of self, which is the basis of educational achievement and personal growth. Since homophobia and heterosexism undermine a healthy school climate, we work to educate teachers, students, and the public at large about the damaging effects these forces have on youth and adults alike.

We recognize that forces such as racism and sexism have similarly adverse impacts on communities, and we support schools in seeking to redress all such inequities. GLSEN seeks to develop school climates where difference is valued for the positive contribution it makes in creating a more vibrant and diverse community.

We welcome as members any and all individuals, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity/ expression, or occupation, who are committed to seeing this philosophy realized in K-12 schools.

Acknowledgments

Boston Public Schools, the Staff of English High and the Boston School Police...*for being such a supportive and wonderful host.*

José Duarte, Headmaster of English High and Georgette Travis, Principal Staff Assistant of English High School.

Starbucks Coffee...*for their generous supply of coffee, tea, and baked goods.*

Ula Café...*for their local contribution of scrumptious baked treats.*

Cambridge Commons...*for their delicious fruit.*

HighRes Design & Graphics...*for designing and producing the conference program.*

The Harvard Pilgrim Foundation...*for their supportive work in Boston Public Schools.*

All of our workshop presenters...*for donating their time and for their amazing work on behalf of LGBTQQ youth.*

The 2009 Conference Committee...*Jackson Davidow, Morgan Darby, Alicia Greene, Danielle Murray, Liv Pangburn, Frank Pantano, Rebecca Pyne, Jeff Reardon & Sherri Sklar.*

Our many dedicated volunteers...*for their time and for being so helpful.*

...And to all of our conference attendees who came here today to Teach Respect, Raise Your Hand and Raise Your Voice, and to create safe, supportive, and vibrant learning communities.



Keynote Speaker

Corey Johnson

In 2000, Massconomet Regional High football team's former co-captain Corey Johnson made national headlines and became, as the Advocate put it, "an instant gay hero" when the story of how he came out to his high school football team was detailed on the front page of The New York Times and in Sports Illustrated. He used the Internet for support more than a year before telling anyone at home and at school. He regularly visited a website where he could communicate with other gay teens, including athletes like himself, who also were afraid to come out. Being able to connect with others like him helped Johnson as he struggled with his sexuality, wondering if his family and friends would accept that part of him. The online communications helped him take the next step — telling a few of his teachers, his parents and his closest friends — and, finally, the other players on his football team.

His story may be unusual for some people in that he didn't experience much of the hostility some youths do when they come out. Although they were surprised, teammates, classmates and the community north of Boston where he lived didn't harass Johnson. For the most part, even competing team members accepted his homosexuality.

On March 25, 1999, GLSEN Boston bestowed its Visionary Award on Johnson and his teammates at its annual conference at Tufts University. Since coming out Johnson has launched a career into political organizing and activism. In July 2006, he was on the Outsports team that won the men's competitive gold medal at Gay Games VIII in Chicago. He currently works at the Human Rights Campaign office in New York.



Morning Speaker



Steve Kluger *Raising Our Voices!*

STEVE KLUGER shook hands with Lucille Ball when he was 12. He's since lived a few more decades, but nothing much registered after that.

Kluger is a novelist and playwright who grew up during the Sixties with only two heroes: Tom Seaver and Ethel Merman. Few were able to grasp the concept. A veteran of Casablanca and a graduate of The Graduate, he has written extensively on subjects as far-ranging as World War II, rock and roll, and the Titanic, and as close to the heart as baseball and the Boston Red Sox (which frequently have nothing to do with one another). Doubtless due to the fact that he's a card-carrying Baby Boomer whose entire existence was shaped by the lyrics to Abbey Road, Workingman's Dead, and Annie Get Your Gun (his first spoken words, in fact, were actually stolen from The Pajama Game), he's also forged a somewhat singular path as a civil rights advocate, campaigning for a Save Fenway Park initiative (which qualifies as a civil right if you're

a Red Sox fan), counseling gay teenagers, and—on behalf of Japanese American internment redress—lobbying the Department of the Interior to restore the baseball diamond at the Manzanar National Historic Site. Meanwhile, he's donated half of his spare time to organizations such as Lambda Legal, GLSEN, and Models of Pride, and gives the rest of it to his nephews and nieces—Emily, Noah, Bridgette, Audrey, Elisa, Paloma, Logan, Evan, and Robbie—the nine kids who own his heart. He lives in Boston, Massachusetts—the only city in the world.

Closing Performance

The Lyric Stage Company's *Speech and Debate*

Even though they attend the same high school, misfits Solomon, Howie and Diwata have never met. When a shocking scandal involving one of their teachers brings them together they form a speech and debate club to make their voices heard. As the unlikely trio negotiates adolescent trials of identity, sexuality, and belonging, they combat pervasive adult hypocrisy and discover that their united voices are stronger than one, and that friendship often grows in secrets shared.

Variety says playwright Stephen Karam's poignant, insightful, and hilarious new comedy is "bristling with vitality, wicked humor, terrific dialogue, and a direct pipeline into the zeitgeist of contemporary youth."



GLSEN Boston Dedicates the 2009 Teaching Respect Conference To Carl Joseph Walker-Hoover *Springfield, MA*



April 17, 1997 – April 9, 2009

*"If anything can come of this, it's that another child doesn't have to suffer like this and there can be some justice for some other child. I don't want any other parent to go through this."
Carl's mother, Sirdeaner L. Walker*

**Calling Student Leaders!
Calling Dedicated Parents, Teachers
and Other Adults!**

Join the GLSEN Boston Board of Directors!

GLSEN Boston is currently accepting applications
for the 2009-2010 Board of Directors.

Interested in making a significant contribution
to ending homophobia in this generation?

Want to be part of an amazing group of educators,
students and other members of the community?

Willing to dedicate several hours a week to
an important cause?

**Contact Frank Pantano at frank@glsenboston.org
for more information.**



Conference At A Glance

8:15 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Registration & Coffee	Lobby
9:00 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.	<p>Moment of Silence: Carl Walker-Hoover</p> <p>Raising Our Hands!: Vermont, Iowa, Massachusetts and other States Striving for LGBT Equality</p> <p>Raising Our Voices!: Steve Kluger</p>	Auditorium
10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.	Workshop A	<i>See program for workshop rooms</i>
	Break	Nibble & Network
11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.	Workshop B	<i>See program for workshop rooms</i>
	Break	Nibble & Network
12:45 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	Lunch	Cafeteria
1:40 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.	<p>Keynote Speaker: Corey Johnson</p>	Auditorium
	Break	Nibble & Network
2:40 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.	Workshop C	<i>See program for workshop rooms</i>
	Break	Nibble & Network
4:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.	<p>Special Closing Performance: The Lyric Stage Company's <i>Speech and Debate</i></p>	Auditorium



Conference At A Glance

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Workshops At A Glance

<p>Workshop A 10: a.m – 11:15 a.m.</p>	<p>Workshop B 11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.</p>	<p>Workshop C 2:40 p.m. – 3:55 p.m</p>
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anyone and Everyone: A Documentary 2. Inclusive Leadership 3. Planning a Day of Silence 4. Beyond Binaries: Identity and the Sexuality Spectrum 5. GLBT Youth and the Prison Industrial Complex 6. Online Friends 7. Queer History 8. Coming Out Literature 9. The Dating Game: Creating Awareness and Activism for Trans and Gender Non-conforming Identities 10. GSA Makeover: 10 New Ways to Make Your GSA Better Than Ever 11. Using Media to Engage Adolescents of Color in an Urban GSA 12. “That Is So Gay”: A Safe Zone Initiative 13. Media and the Power to Change 14. Unplugging the Heterosexual Matrix: One Queer Journey from Teacher to Activist 15. A Middle School GSA 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anyone and Everyone: A Documentary 2. Gender Box 3. Beyond the Day of Silence 4. Choosing to Label: What’s in a Name? 5. GLBT Youth and the Prison Industrial Complex 6. Online Friends 7. Using Peer Leadership to Change School Climate 8. Gender Construction, What’s Your Function?: Meeting the Needs of Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students 9. Inclusive Literature for Early Childhood 10. Creating Safe Spaces for GLBT youth in Catholic Schools- a Panel Discussion 11. Making the Case: Communication Strategies for GLBT Issues 12. “That Is So Gay”: A Safe Zone Initiative 13. Difficult Questions/Difficult People: Some Lab Practice 14. Gender, Bullying and Harassment: Strategies for Ending Sexism and Homophobia in School 15. Training-the-Trainers to Create Safe, Welcoming and Inclusive Schools for Children with LGBT Parents and LGBT Youth 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the “T” in GLBT? 2. LGBT Dating Violence 3. Online Friends 4. Coming Out Literature 5. Using Peer Leadership to Change School Climate 6. Difficult Questions/Difficult People: Some Lab Practice 7. Trans Caucus: Taking Time for Ourselves 8. Gender Construction, What’s Your Function?: Meeting the Needs of Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students 9. Working with Resistant School Administration: How to Get Your School and Community on Board 10. Using Media to Engage Adolescents of Color in an Urban GSA 11. Training-the-Trainers to Create Safe, Welcoming and Inclusive Schools for Children with LGBT Parents and LGBT Youth 12. Media and the Power to Change 13. Making the Case: Communication Strategies for GLBT Issues 14. A Middle School GSA



Session Descriptions and Schedule

Workshop A

10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

1. Anyone and Everyone: A Documentary

Catherine Brady, PFLAG

An extremely powerful and provocative documentary entitled *Anyone and Everyone* will be shown with a discussion to follow. This film examines the lives of young people and their diverse families as they come to understand the news that one of their children is gay or lesbian. Thinking of coming out to your parents?...watch this first!

Time: 1A & 1B

Room: Auditorium

2. Inclusive Leadership

Chris Haigh, Consultant

This highly interactive workshop is for anyone who considers themselves a leader. We will define what an inclusive environment looks like and then assess ourselves as inclusive leaders. You will walk away with the five skills of inclusive leadership that you can start using right away.

Time: 2A

Room: 402

3. Planning a Day of Silence

Hannah Brown, Senior, Doherty Memorial High School, Worcester, MA

Jackson Davidow, Senior, Newton North High School

What is the Day of Silence? In this workshop, we will discuss how to plan a powerful, successful event.

Additionally, participants will be provided with the tools to combat opposition and overcome obstacles relating to the Day of Silence.

Time: 3A

Room: 403

4. Beyond Binaries: Identity and the Sexuality Spectrum

Robyn Ochs, Author

How do we assign labels to our complicated and unique experiences? We will discuss uses and limitations of labels and of the Kinsey scale and other measures of sexual orientation, and factors such as sex/gender, time, attraction and much more. This engaging workshop will transform your thinking!

Time: 4A

Room: 404

5. GLBT Youth and the Prison Industrial Complex

Jason Lydon, Congregational Director (Pastor)

Community Church of Boston

This workshop will use popular education tools and interactive activities that help participants bring their own experiences and understandings into the room. There will be an overview of the prison industrial complex as well as a jeopardy-style activity with facts about the pervasiveness of the prison industrial complex within schools and how anti-GLBT violence and culture leads GLBT young people into the control of the prison industrial complex.

Time: 5A & 5B

Room: 405

6. Online Friends

Trevor Wright, BAGLY

Erin Gonzales, BAGLY

This workshop will explore relationships that are or were built on social networking sites like Myspace or Facebook. We will discuss boundaries, negotiating safety, and privacy.

Time: 6A, 6B, & 3C

Room: 406



Session Descriptions and Schedule

7. Queer History 101

Abigail Carpenter-Winch, Senior, Cambridge Rindge and Latin School

Andrew Coate, College Student, College of the Atlantic
You're here. You're queer (or an ally). Are you the first one? No! What happened in the LGBT community before you came out? Come learn about LGBT history in the United States. We will cover events from 1900 – to the present, and we will also learn about the history of the words that are used to describe LGBT identities.

Time: 7A

Room: 407

8. Coming Out Literature

Steve Kluger, Keynote Speaker, Author

A look at the significance of characters in books and movies, as well as out public figures, who serve as visible gay role models both for gay teens facing the coming-out process and for their non-gay peers who don't have a real handle yet on what it means for someone else to be gay.

Time: 8A & 4C

Room: 408

9. The Dating Game: Creating Awareness and Activism for Trans and Gender Non-conforming Identities

Emily Fischer, Lizbeth C., Sophia Poirier, Shannon Sennott, Tones Smith, Hadley Smith, Translate Gender, Inc.

This experiential group workshop explores the connections between gender identity, biological sex and sexuality and the language we use to define a Self. Come discuss gender, oppression, and your school. Leave with tools to create change!

Time: 9A

Room: 409

10. GSA Makeover: 10 New Ways to Make Your GSA Better Than Ever

Edward Byrne, Managing Director, Project 10 East, Inc. Charlie McBrine, Vice-President, Project 10 East, Inc.

Is your GSA feeling tired, rundown, predictable, or unappreciated? Give it some love and come get a GSA makeover! We will show you 10 new and affordable ways to reenergize your GSA to make it better than ever. Whether you're faced with old ideas, no money, low attendance, or little school support these 10 ideas will give you the boost of energy you need to be successful. This makeover will give you the chance to be that wonderful, beautiful, unique GSA you know you are. You've been working hard, don't you think you deserve it?

Time: 10A

Room: 410

11. Using Media to Engage Adolescents of Color in an Urban GSA

Kim Parker, Teacher, New Mission High School

This workshop helps GSA advisors who work with urban students of color think about how they can use media to promote advocacy, awareness, and understanding within their schools. Participants will leave with knowledge of the challenges of advising GSAs of color, as well as some strategies and resources to engage students and promote membership in their own school GSAs.

Time: 11A & 10C

Room: 411

12. "That Is So Gay": A Safe Zone Initiative

Stump Olsen, OUTSpoken Playaz – Youth Pride Rhode Island

What does homophobia and prejudice look like in a typical classroom? How should I respond and interrupt this kind of prejudice? What can we do to prevent it from happening in the first place? These are difficult yet very important questions to ask and answer. In this workshop, Safe Zone trainers and teachers will discuss issues of homophobia and prejudice as it exists in their schools. Through interactive activities and discussions we will establish concrete methods for creating a safer learning environment for all students. This workshop will rely on collective efforts of both educators and trainers to create a program that works.

Time: 12A & 12B

Room: 412



Session Descriptions and Schedule

13. Media and the Power to Change

Jeff Krieger, Teacher, Ipswich High School

Have you ever wanted to create an advertisement that could change the world? This is your chance. Media and the Power to Change is an interactive workshop, which will highlight the way media, can be used to promote respect and encourage positive dialogue about teenage LGBT issues. Participants will look at television and print ads, which raise awareness about anti-gay attitudes. Using these ads as models, participants will design their own short television commercial, radio advertisement, or print ad.

Time: 13A & 12C

Room: 413

14. Unplugging the Heterosexual Matrix: One Queer Journey from Teacher to Activist

Elizabeth Meyer, Ph.D.

This session combines narrative, video, and interactive dialogue based on teachers' experiences addressing sexism, homophobia, and transphobia in schools. This interactive presentation asks participants to share stories and strategies on how to sustain our spirits and transform educational environments.

Time: 14A

Room: 414

15. A Middle School GSA

Nancy Alach, Assistant Principal, Cambridge Friends School

Cambridge Friends School's Middle School GSA began just over a year ago. This workshop will share both the process that went into forming a GSA at the middle school level, as well as what has made it so successful.

Time: 15A & 14C

Room: 415

Workshop B

11:30 a.m. – 12:45 p.m.

1. Anyone and Everyone: A Documentary

Catherine Brady, PFLAG

An extremely powerful and provocative documentary entitled *Anyone and Everyone* will be shown with a discussion to follow. This film examines the lives of young people and their diverse families as they come to understand the news that one of their children is gay or lesbian. Thinking of coming out to your parents?...watch this first!

Time: 1A & 1B

Room: Auditorium

2. Gender Box

Chris Haigh, Consultant

We live in a gender prescribed world and most of us find it challenging to fit into a certain gender box. This interactive workshop will take a closer look at these boxes and see how they contribute to not only sexism, but also heterosexism and gender oppression. We will also talk about what we can do as leaders to help break down those boxes.

Time: 2B

Room: 402

3. Beyond the Day of Silence

Jackson Davidow, Liv Pangburn, Isabella DiMambro, Robin Hayashi, Newton North High GSA

What are the best ways to create awareness for queer issues at your high school? Come to this workshop to network and learn about different days of action that have been successful.

Time: 3B

Room: 403



Session Descriptions and Schedule

4. Choosing to Label: What's in a Name?

Robyn Ochs, Author

Bi, lesbian, gay, straight, queer, questioning, choose-not-to-label. How do you decide what words to use to describe yourself? What are the advantages of choosing a label? What are the disadvantages? Why do other people care so much what you call yourself? This is a participatory workshop, and all are welcome.

Time: 4B

Room: 404

5. GLBT Youth and the Prison Industrial Complex

*Jason Lydon, Congregational Director (Pastor)
Community Church of Boston*

This workshop will use popular education tools and interactive activities that help participants bring their own experiences and understandings into the room. There will be an overview of the prison industrial complex as well as a jeopardy-style activity with facts about the pervasiveness of the prison industrial complex within schools and how anti-GLBT violence and culture leads GLBT young people into the control of the prison industrial complex.

Time: 5A & 5B

Room: 405

6. Online Friends

*Trevor Wright, BAGLY
Erin Gonzales, BAGLY*

This workshop will explore relationships that are or were built on social networking sites like Myspace or Facebook. We will discuss boundaries, negotiating safety, and privacy.

Time: 6A, 6B, & 3C

Room: 406

7. Using Peer Leadership to Change School Climate

*Danielle Murray, Shawn Doherty, Jessica Fernandez,
Teachers & Students, Brighton High School*

This workshop, specifically designed for teachers and students of urban schools, will help participants to understand the use of peer leadership in helping promote understanding and acceptance for GLBT students. We will discuss ways in which to incorporate peer leadership, methods of cultivating peer leaders, and we will troubleshoot concerns about peer leadership in an urban environment.

Time: 7B & 5C

Room: 407

8. Gender Construction, What's Your Function?: Meeting the Needs of Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students

Kiwi Grady, GLSEN National

This session will provide participants with tools to understand and respond to some of the needs and experiences of transgender students. Participants will gain a thorough understanding of gender and transgenderism, strategies for supporting transgender students in school, and more.

Time: 8B & 8C

Room: 408

9. Inclusive Literature for Early Childhood Educators

*Miriam Darby, Teacher, Zervas Elementary School
(Newton)*

This workshop will be geared primarily towards early childhood educators. In this workshop you will learn about educational activities and literature that help introduce and teach children about queer families.

Time: 9B

Room: 409

10. Creating Safe Spaces for GLBT Youth in Catholic Schools - A Panel Discussion

Jeremy Fox, President, Project 10 East, Inc.

GLBT youth who attend religious affiliated schools sometimes have an added obstacle to navigate when creating a safe environment for themselves and their peers in school. With well over 60 Catholic schools in Massachusetts, and few programs geared specifically to the challenges that face GLBT youth who attend them, there are scores of youth who are looking to make their schools more welcoming for students, faculty, and families of all sexual orientations and gender identities. This panel discussion will explore real examples of how students, parents, and teachers made substantial progress in MA Catholic schools, while honoring the traditions and teachings of the Catholic Church. There will be able time for questions and discussion so participants leave feeling empowered to help their school become more welcoming and accepting of GLBT members of their school community.

Time: 10B

Room: 410



Session Descriptions and Schedule

11. Making the Case: Communication Strategies for GLBT Issues

Penny Culliton, National Education Association (NEA)

This workshop, designed for educators and education leaders, provides an overview of effective messaging and communication strategies for responding to opposition, as well as resources and models for talking to constituents about the need to address GLBT-related bias in schools.

Time: 11B & 13C

Room: 411

12. "That Is So Gay": A Safe Zone Initiative

Stump Olsen, OUTSpoken Playaz – Youth Pride Rhode Island

What does homophobia and prejudice look like in a typical classroom? How should I respond and interrupt this kind of prejudice? What can we do to prevent it from happening in the first place? These are difficult yet very important questions to ask and answer. In this workshop, Safe Zone trainers and teachers will discuss issues of homophobia and prejudice as it exists in their schools. Through interactive activities and discussions we will establish concrete methods for creating a safer learning environment for all students. This workshop will rely on collective efforts of both educators and trainers to create a program that works.

Time: 12A & 12B

Room: 412

13. Difficult Questions/Difficult People: Some Lab Practice

Melody Brazo, Cambridge Public Schools LGB Liaison

This hands-on workshop will explore ways to conduct conversations about GLBT issues in schools. It will also help participants to develop strategies for dealing effectively with "difficult" people through the use of real-life situations.

Time: 13B & 6C

Room: 413

14. Gender, Bullying, and Harassment: Strategies for Ending Sexism and Homophobia in Schools

Elizabeth Meyer, Ph.D.

Participants will learn about how racism, sexism, homophobia, and transphobia are related and how to reduce bullying and harassment in their schools. Interactive activities, strategies, and resources will be provided for participants.

Time: 14B

Room: 414

15. Training-the-Trainers to Create Safe, Welcoming and Inclusive Schools for Children with LGBT Parents and LGBT Youth

*Nicole Bourgoin, Program and Education Associate, Family Equality Council
Ember Cook, Family Field Organizer and Events Manager, Family Equality Council*

This workshop will train parents, youth and educators how to create – and train school personnel how to create – safe, welcoming, and inclusive schools for LGBT youth and LGBT families.

Time: 15B & 11C

Room: 415



Session Descriptions and Schedule

Workshop C

2:40 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.

1. What is the “T” in GLBT?

Grace Sterling Stonewall, Executive Director of BAGLY
A panel of young trans individuals share their experiences of growing up as a transgender and the issues that they have faced as they navigate school, adolescence and young adulthood.

Time: 1C

Room: 401

2. LGBT Dating Violence

Sophia Poirier, The Network/La Red
This workshop will explore the ways that LGBT youth experience abuse in their dating relationships. We will discuss ways that the invisibility of LGBT youth and their dating relationships creates barriers to support and education.

Time: 2C

Room: 402

3. Online Friends

Trevor Wright, BAGLY
Erin Gonzales, BAGLY
This workshop will explore relationships that are or were built on social networking sites like Myspace or Facebook. We will discuss boundaries, negotiating safety, and privacy.

Time: 6A, 6B, & 3C

Room: 403

4. Coming Out Literature

Steve Kluger, Keynote Speaker, Author
A look at the significance of characters in books and movies, as well as out public figures, who serve as visible gay role models both for gay teens facing the coming-out process and for their non-gay peers who don't have a real handle yet on what it means for someone else to be gay.

Time: 8A & 4C

Room: 404

5. Using Peer Leadership to Change School Climate

Danielle Murray, Shawn Doherty, Jessica Fernandez, Teachers & Students, Brighton High School
This workshop, specifically designed for teachers and students of urban schools, will help participants to understand the use of peer leadership in helping promote understanding and acceptance for GLBT students. We will discuss ways in which to incorporate peer leadership, methods of cultivating peer leaders, and we will troubleshoot concerns about peer leadership in an urban environment.

Time: 7B & 5C

Room: 405

6. Difficult Questions/Difficult People: Some Lab Practice

Melody Brazo, Cambridge Public Schools LGB Liaison
This hands-on workshop will explore ways to conduct conversations about GLBT issues in schools. It will also help participants to develop strategies for dealing effectively with “difficult” people through the use of real-life situations.

Time: 13B & 6C

Room: 406

7. Trans Caucus: Taking Time for Ourselves

Abigail Carpenter Winch, Senior, Cambridge Rindge and Latin School
M. Barusch
Caucus for transgender, genderqueer, gender questioning people and their family members and significant others.

Time: 7C

Room: 407

8. Gender Construction, What's Your Function?: Meeting the Needs of Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Students

Kiwi Grady, GLSEN National
This session will provide participants with tools to understand and respond to some of the needs and experiences of transgender students. Participants will gain a thorough understanding of gender and transgenderism, strategies for supporting transgender students in school, and more.

Time: 8B & 8C

Room: 408



Session Descriptions and Schedule

9. Working with Resistant School Administration: How to Get Your School and Community on Board

*Edward Byrne, Managing Director, Project 10 East, Inc.
Chadwick Johnson, Board Member, Project 10 East, Inc.,
& Teacher, Fenway High School*

This workshop will explore ways students, faculty, and staff can work with resistant administrators to build support for GLBT issues in schools. We will discuss actual cases where administrations were cautious about allowing a GSA and other GLBT focused activities in their school. This workshop will give you the tools, facts, and insight to appreciate the challenges administrators are faced with in these decisions. Participants will learn how to look at all sides of the issue, confidently and convincingly present a rationale to support their activity and student group, and propose a viable solution. The goal will be to show how you and your administration are on the same side in making your school a safe and welcoming place for everyone. You will leave with successful tactics and convincing data to make a powerful case for your school.

Time: 9C

Room: 409

10. Using Media to Engage Adolescents of Color in an Urban GSA

Kim Parker, Teacher, New Mission High School

This workshop helps GSA advisors who work with urban students of color think about how they can use media to promote advocacy, awareness, and understanding within their schools. Participants will leave with knowledge of the challenges of advising GSAs of color, as well as some strategies and resources to engage students and promote membership in their own school GSAs.

Time: 11A & 10C

Room: 410

11. Training-the-Trainers to Create Safe, Welcoming and Inclusive Schools for Children with LGBT Parents and LGBT Youth

*Nicole Bourgojn, Program and Education Associate,
Family Equality Council
Ember Cook, Family Field
Organizer and Events Manager, Family Equality Council*

This workshop will train parents, youth and educators how to create – and train school personnel how to create – safe, welcoming, and inclusive schools for LGBT youth and LGBT families.

Time: 15B & 11C

Room: 415

12. Media and the Power to Change

Jeff Kreiger, Teacher, Ipswich High School

Have you ever wanted to create an advertisement that could change the world? This is your chance. Media and the Power to Change is an interactive workshop, which will highlight the way media, can be used to promote respect and encourage positive dialogue about teenage LGBT issues. Participants will look at television and print ads, which raise awareness about anti-gay attitudes. Using these ads as models, participants will design their own short television commercial, radio advertisement, or print ad.

Time: 13A & 12C

Room: 412

13. Making the Case: Communication Strategies for GLBT Issues

Penny Culliton, National Education Association (NEA)

This workshop, designed for educators and education leaders, provides an overview of effective messaging and communication strategies for responding to opposition, as well as resources and models for talking to constituents about the need to address GLBT-related bias in schools.

Time: 11B & 13C

Room: 413

14. A Middle School GSA

Nancy Alach, Assistant Principal, Cambridge Friends School

Cambridge Friends School's Middle School GSA began just over a year ago. This workshop will share both the process that went into forming a GSA at the middle school level, as well as what has made it so successful.

Time: 15A & 14C

Room: 411



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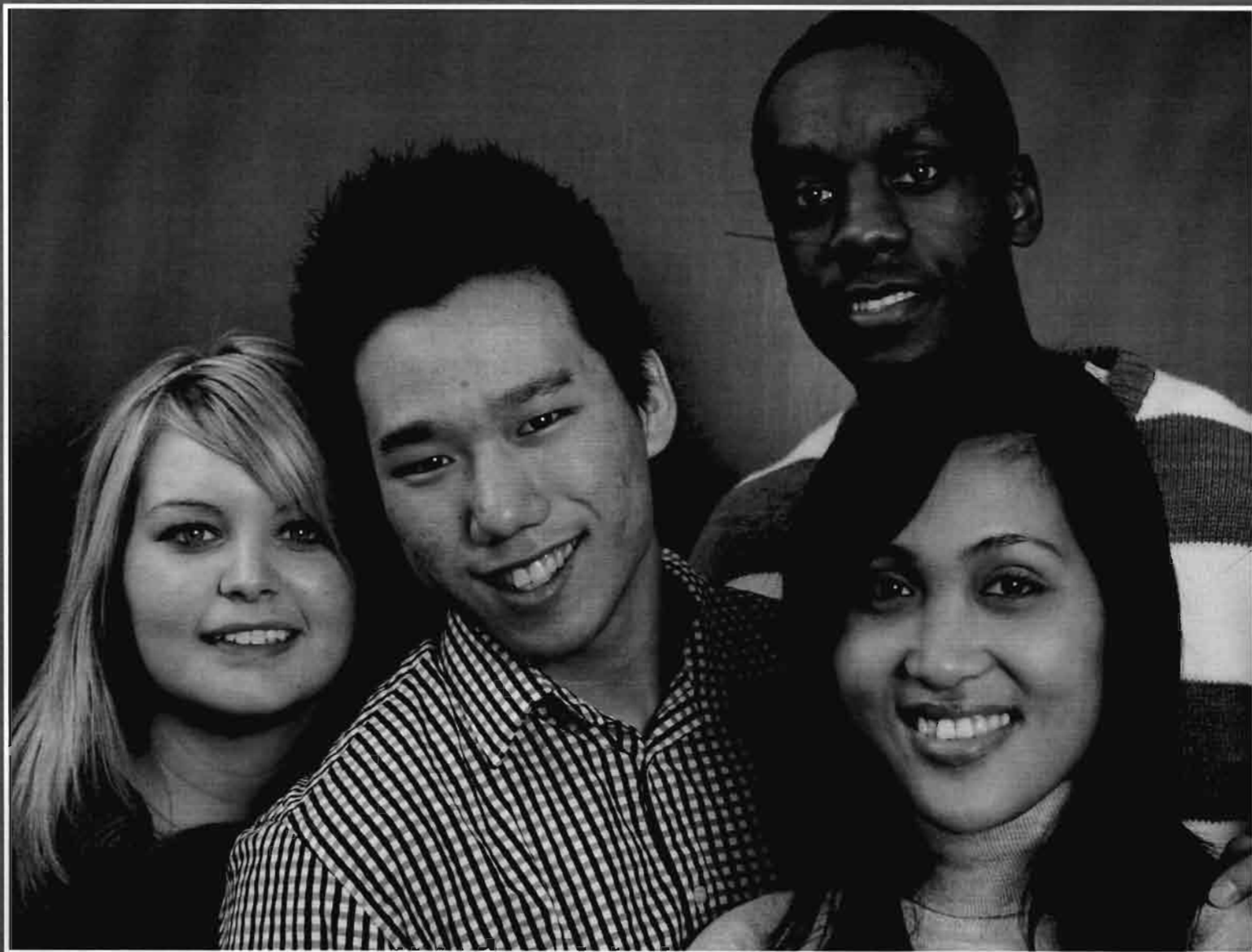
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