

THE 5<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
**FIVE COLLEGE QUEER  
GENDER + SEXUALITY  
CONFERENCE**



FRIDAY MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup> + SATURDAY MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup> 2014

**HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE  
FRANKLIN PATTERSON HALL**

# ABOUT

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The Five College Queer Gender and Sexuality Conference is student-led, and aims to offer an accountable and supportive environment to further explore a wide range of topics and their intersections, such as race, genders, sexualities, ability, class, kink, survival strategies, and many more, in a specifically queer context. The Queer Conference strives to provide a safer space for engaging, learning, and fostering community with a wide range of workshops, panels, performances, and lectures by student leaders, Five College faculty and staff, off-campus educators, and nationally-known performers, activists, speakers, and scholars.

As we enter our fifth year we are proud of the tremendous level of support we receive from students, faculty, staff and administration throughout the Five College Consortium. We are committed to making this wonderful conference financially accessible, and are able to offer this as a free public event because of the generosity and time of volunteers and donors from the Five Colleges and beyond. Starting as a single day conference, we have grown into a two-day event that attracts attendees not only from the Five Colleges, but from communities outside of the Pioneer Valley as well. Our feedback has been strong and positive with many people grateful for something that is only possible through the combined efforts of the Five College Consortium.

Thank you for being here, and we are so excited to build and grow with you all this weekend.

In solidarity,  
The 2014 Queer Conference Organizing Team

Website: <http://www.hampshire.edu/queerconf>

Facebook: <http://tinyurl.com/queerconf>

Twitter: <http://twitter.com/queerconf>

Tumblr: <http://fivecollegequeerconf.tumblr.com>

E-mail: [queerconf@gmail.com](mailto:queerconf@gmail.com)

# WELCOME TO HAMPSHIRE

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## A note from the Dean of Students' Office:

Welcome to The Five College Queer, Gender and Sexuality Conference and to Hampshire College! I hope you find the conference sessions useful to your own development as a leader, and that the conference content and your interactions with the other attendees enriches your activism, academic work and creative scholarship.

Please let me also take this opportunity to congratulate the conference organizers. They have organized an impressive schedule of speakers and events that honors the legacy of the Queer Conference at Hampshire while also enriching our knowledge and enhancing skills to advocate for social change forward in important and powerful ways. Thank you for joining us in this work and making the conference such a rich and rewarding experience.

Most sincerely,

Byron P. McCrae, Ph.D.  
Dean of Students

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## A note from the President's Office:

We are very proud to host the fifth annual Five College Queer Gender and Sexuality Conference on the Hampshire College campus. We look forward to your participation in exploring the intersections of race, gender, sexuality, ability, and class in a queer context.

Best Regards,

Jonathan Lash  
President of the College  
and the Office of the President Staff

# ORGANIZING TEAM

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**Abigail Carpenter-Winch** studies Religion and Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Hampshire College. She is on the Organizing Team for the 2014 Queer Conference, and was also an organizer and/or presenter for the 2012 and 2011 Queer Conferences and the 2011 Queer Jews and Allies Conference.

**Alex Wise** is in their final semester at Hampshire College studying sociology and youth development. Born and raised in South Carolina, they hold a particular interest in rural southern communities and queer southern identities. Their Division III thesis work is focused on the socio-cultural effects of urbanization and tourism in agricultural communities within a coastal South Carolina county. They are in a mutually supportive relationship with their two beautiful pet rats, have a love affair with woodworking, sewing, and all things crafty, and can't wait for swimming weather to come around again!

**Angie Tissi-Gassoway** is the Director of the Queer Resource Center at Amherst College. She has her Masters in Public Health from Oregon State University focusing on LGBT sexuality and student leadership and is currently working on an advanced degree in Social Justice Education at the University of Massachusetts. She is dedicated to creating change for queer folks on college campuses and making the world a sexier, better place one sex toy and cupcake at a time!

**Brandon Sides** is a sophomore at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where he serves as Resident Assistant for the Spectrum Floor and as a Queer Conference planner. Brandon also serves as Co-Chair of the Legislation Committee on the Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth.

**Devyn Manibo** is a full time diva, double Cancer, last semester Division III student at Hampshire College, and interdisciplinary artist working primarily in multi-media installation with a basis in diasporic affect, kinship, queer narratives of home and trauma through a postcolonial/neocolonial lens. She creates and collaborates as a means of cultivating space for resistance, survival, and love for and by her communities. She believes in femme supremacy and has an undying love for extravagance, the illusion of lavish, and pastel colored kitchenware. She can usually be found race raging, shade bending, and averting your settler colonialist gaze with a resting glare of displeasure.

**Emily Rimmer** is the Director for Women's and Queer Services and is a faculty associate in the school of CSI at Hampshire College. She is the staff advisor for the conference and has a lot of love and respect for the many people who give so much time and energy to make it possible.

**Erika Held** is a last semester student at Hampshire, with roots in the Bay Area and São Paulo, Brazil. They study anarchism and ecology, and are currently working on a photo/video installation project critiquing a dam under construction on the Xingu river in Brazil. When they're not doing their work or Queer Conf planning they like watching stars, learning about plants, and organizing with friends. After graduating in May they hope to continue doing work in anti-oppression education.

**Karyn Louise Warren-Gregory** is a brash ({{\*)) who loves quality photo booths, cohesive aesthetics, and making people dance. She is a multimedia performance artist, activist, and a fourth year (Division III) student at Hampshire College. As a white, lower middle class, non-binary, queer, femme, as well as a plethora of other self-signifiers, her work places primacy on presenting privilege alongside of struggle. All the while reminding her audience that, though these intersecting identities cause complications, the resulting pain has transformational properties. Her preferred method for complication is using performance, video art, sound design, and sculpture to create immersive installation atmospheres.

**Matthew Randolph** is a sophomore at Amherst College from Towson, MD, majoring in History and Spanish. He really appreciates the the opportunity to represent Amherst College on the planning committee for this year's Five College Queer, Gender, and Sexuality Conference. At Amherst, he is the Co-Chair of the Amherst College Pride Alliance and he is also a staff writer for AC Voice, a student-run web publication. He likes to write about identity, college culture, student activism/leadership, and traveling.

**Meghan Tunno** is a sophomore at UMass Amherst and a Chinese major. She works at the UMass Stonewall Center and lives in the Spectrum Community on campus. She enjoys reading, trying new foods and social justice. This is her first time working on the conference.

**Omar Villar** is a Division III student at Hampshire College from Miami, FL. His Div III is entitled "A Patchwork of Care: What Happens to the Uninsured?" and is an analysis of health insurance in the US and the ways the uninsured can find the healthcare they need. He focuses on the intersections between health, gender, and sexuality with a pre-med focus. When not doing school stuff, he is likely to be found laying about his apartment with his roommate and their black and white cat named Garfield.

**O.C. Gorman** (Diné) grew up on the Navajo Reservation in northern Arizona. She is Tó'aheedliinii (Water Flows Together Clan), born for Kiyaa'aanii/Kinyaa'aanii (Towering House Clan). Her maternal grandfather is Tséníjikiní (Cliff Dwellers/Honey Combed Rock Clan) and her paternal grandfather is Tsi'naajinii (Black Streaked Wood People Clan). O.C. is the Assistant Director for Multicultural and International Student Services at Hampshire College and is excited to be a first time Queer Conference organizer (Yeah!). Generally, she can be found wearing hoodies and Googling pictures of cats in glasses.

**Constance Zaber** (Mx, they/them) is a genderqueer trans Hampshire student studying Anthropology/Social History of Non-Normative Sex. They blog about sex, baking and literature at [holywellstreetlibrary.wordpress.com](http://holywellstreetlibrary.wordpress.com). Constance's gender identity is probably "Helen Mirren" and they look forward to fulfilling their destiny as the one true spinster librarian to rule them all.

**Serena Valentino** is a grumpy Div 1 panda who is very excited to be involved in organizing and to attend the 5th annual queer conference. Serena is trying to roll an education burrito containing environmental, queer, international/cultural, and education studies, and maybe neuropsych. Div 2 will tell how many edu-beans fall out uneaten.

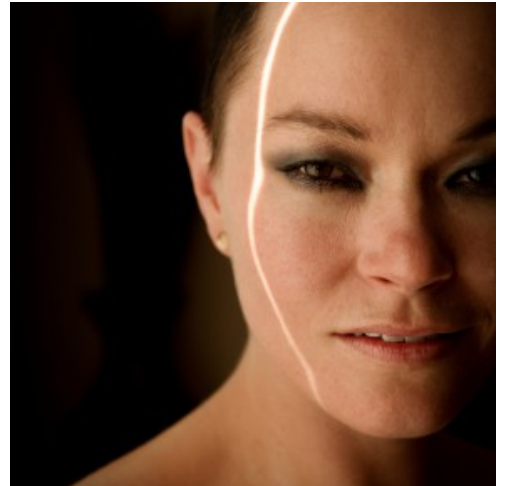
*And our sincerest gratitude goes out to the many valuable community members who have volunteered their time and energy in order to make this conference a reality!*

# KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

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**JIZ LEE**  
<http://jizlee.com/>

Jiz Lee is a genderqueer porn performer who built a name in the adult industry by presenting their genuine pleasure and unique gender expression on camera. Through an organic "self-agent" process, Jiz has worked in over 200 projects spanning five countries within indie, queer, and mainstream adult genres. Jiz has written about vulva diversity on Jezebel.com, on gender and porn in *The Feminist Porn Book*, and has taught queer sex workshops including "Fucking for Reel," on pleasure and performative sex. Ever fascinated by the radical potential of sex, love, and art, Jiz blogs at JizLee.com.



## TRISTAN TAORMINO

<http://tristantaormino.com/>



Tristan Taormino is an award-winning author, columnist, sex educator, speaker, and filmmaker. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa with her Bachelor's degree in American Studies from Wesleyan University in 1993. When she was 24 years old, with little publishing experience and even less capital, she founded Pucker Up, a magazine of writing and photography dedicated to sex and gender and was responsible for every aspect of the 64-page publication, from editing and marketing to sales and distribution. She is a sex-positive feminist who strongly believes that everyone deserves quality education, especially when it comes to sexuality. She strives to create safe, nonjudgmental spaces where people can get honest, straightforward advice and answers to their questions.

# FRIDAY PERFORMANCE

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**DARKMATTER**

<http://www.darkmatteredage.com>

## *Rainbows are Just Refracted White Light!*

Main Lecture Hall 4:30pm

Join us for a queer South Asian artvention. We're not here to assimilate into your raceless classless gaystream umbrella-ella-ella honey gurl. We're building solidarity outside those refracted beams of white light we call rainbows. And renegotiating ways of loving our bodies. Come for an evening of poetry, discussion, and community. Show followed by Q&A.

**DARKMATTER** is a queer South Asian performance and literary arts duo. We make noise, perform spoken word, write excessively, facilitate workshops, and flail our arms around.



**ALOK VAID-MENON** is a trans/national activist who works in solidarity with Global South queer movements domestically and abroad. Born and bred in a small town in Texas, Alok now currently organizes with the Audre Lorde Project, a grassroots queer people of color organizing center in New York City. They are committed to building queer movements and bodies that resist white supremacy and imperialism and like making art that thinks about these, and other what ifs. You can read some of their work at [returnthegayze.tumblr.com](http://returnthegayze.tumblr.com) and [queerlibido.tumblr.com](http://queerlibido.tumblr.com).

**JANANI BALASUBRAMANIAN** is a South Asian literary and performance artist based in Brooklyn. Their work deals broadly with empire, desire, microflora, ancestry, apocalypse, and the Future. They're an organizer at the Queer Detainee Empowerment Project, which supports queer, trans\*, and HIV+ detainees, and a writer at Black Girl Dangerous, an online forum for QTPOC. They're currently working on their first sci-fi novel, H. You can read more of Janani's work at [queerdarkenergy.com](http://queerdarkenergy.com).



# FEATURED PRESENTERS

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## ROBYN OCHS

<http://robynocho.com/>



Robyn Ochs is an educator, speaker, award-winning activist, and editor of the 42-country anthology, *Getting Bi: Voices of Bisexuals Around the World* and the *Bi Women* newsletter. Her writings have been published in numerous bi, women's studies, multicultural, and LGBT anthologies. Robyn has taught courses on LGBT history & politics in the United States, the politics of sexual orientation, & the experiences of those who transgress the binary categories of gay|straight, masculine|feminine, black|white &/or male | female. An advocate for the rights of people of all orientations and genders to live safely, openly and with full legal equality, Robyn's work focuses on increasing awareness and understanding of complex identities, and mobilizing people to be powerful allies to one another within and across identities and social movements.

She lives in Massachusetts and on May 17, 2004, the first day it was legal to do so, Robyn married Peg Preble. Robyn serves on the Board of Directors of [MassEquality](#), Massachusetts' statewide equality organization. She is the recipient of numerous awards, most recently PFLAG's Brenda Howard Award, the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force's Susan J. Hyde Activism Award and the Harvard Gay & Lesbian Caucus Lifetime Achievement Award.

## JES TOM

[http://twitter.com/jestom\\_](http://twitter.com/jestom_)

Jes Tom is a comedian and actor based in New York City. Jes is a new voice in stand-up comedy, gleefully providing the genderqueer Asian American radical separatist perspective that everything never knew they wanted. A San Francisco native, Jes has performed alongside prominent West Coast personalities Marga Gomez, D'Lo, and the Zodiac Killer (he was never caught, so this might be true). In NYC, Jes can be found scowling in the corner at comedy open mics all over Manhattan, at their day job selling dildos to the wealthy, and in their pajamas at 2pm, having just woken up.





# FRIDAY, MARCH 7<sup>TH</sup>

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12:00pm-12:45pm – Check-in (Lobby of FPH)

12:45pm-1:15pm – Welcome Ceremony with 2014 Organizing Committee  
Opening Address by Robyn Ochs (Main Lecture Hall)

1:30pm-2:50pm – Workshop Slot I

- **An Architecture of Exclusion: the Debate over Queering Restrooms (102)**  
Brandon Sides and Alexis Yioulos
- **Inverts: A History of Scientific Models of Queer Gender and Sexuality (103)**  
Skramz Geist
- **The Empire Strikes Back to the Future: A Creative Workshop on Time Travel and Imperialism \*\*CLOSED QTPOC SPACE\*\* (104)**  
Alok Vaid-Menon and Janani Balasubramanian of DarkMatter
- **Film Screening: *Tongues Untied* (Main Lecture Hall)**
- **Double Edge: BDSM and Transgender (East Lecture Hall)**  
Raven Kaldera
- **Queering Reproductive Justice (West Lecture Hall)**  
Zoë Boyle and Jennifer Su
- **Swinging Out: Challenging Gender Roles Through Dance (Faculty Lounge)**  
Tiferet Nashman and Sarah Brodbar-Nemzer

3:00pm-4:20pm – Workshop Slot II

- **Asexuality and BDSM (101)**  
Zach
- **Video Games and the Homo Superiors (103)**  
Daniel Vasquez
- **Safer Sex Practices for All Bodies (104)**  
April Dunlop, Ari Rose, Zoë Boyle
- **How To Be A Friend, Roommate or Lover to Someone Living With HIV/AIDS (106)**  
Bryn Kelly
- **Queering Pregnancy (107)**  
Pamela Stone and Omar Villar
- **Film Screening: *Looking For Langston* (Main Lecture Hall)**
- **Radical Queer Access: Collective Approaches to Disability Justice (East Lecture Hall)**  
Alana Kumbier, Ariel K. Berman, Shakira Cruz, Julia Starkey, Michael Fitos
- **Sex Toys 101 (West Lecture Hall)**  
Jes Tom
- **Closed QTPOC Space (Faculty Lounge)**  
Hampshire College QIPOC

4:30pm-5:30pm – Special Guests: DarkMatter - *Rainbows are just refracted white light!* A spoken word performance artvention followed by a Q&A (Main Lecture Hall)

5:45pm-7pm – Dinner: Pizza with vegetarian, vegan, and gf options (Faculty Lounge)

7pm-8pm – Shabbat Celebration (108)

7pm-9pm – Film Screening: *Pariah* (Main Lecture Hall)

# FRIDAY NIGHT

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9pm-1am – Celestial Bodies: Queer Prom In Space (The Red Barn)  
feat. DJ A\_NOk (9pm-11pm) and DJ Sol Nova (11pm-1am)

THE FIVE COLLEGE QUEER  
GENDER + SEXUALITY CONFERENCE  
PRESENTS

# CELESTIAL BODIES

QUEER PROM IN SPACE

FEATURING  
DJ A\_NOk (9PM - 11PM)  
DJ SOL NOVA (11PM - 1AM)

FRIDAY, MARCH 7TH  
9PM - 1AM  
THE RED BARN  
HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE

# SATURDAY, MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>

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10am-11:30am – Check-in and Registration (Lobby of FPH)

10:30am-11am – Welcome Ceremony with 2014 Organizing Committee  
Stand-up comedy set by Jes Tom (Main Lecture Hall)

11:10am-12:30pm – Workshop Slot I

- **Taking Care of Ourselves and Each Other: Supporting Queer Survivors of Sexual Assault (101)**  
diiv, Annie, and Kay from the Philly Survivor Support Collective
- **Let's Talk About It: Whiteness in LGBTQ College Communities (102)**  
Nina Tissi-Gassoway
- **Where Are We?: Queer Women of Color in the Media (103)**  
Austin Lee and Amira Lundy-Harris
- **Why Isn't My Body Speaking To Me?: Mending Past/Present Relationships with Our Physical Selves (104)**  
Kelli Dunham
- **Queering the Scooby Doo Crew: Creating Cross-Campus Collaboration (105)**  
Liya Rechtman and Leah Hammond
- **Community Support: Sustainable Ways To Support Each Other in Crisis (106)**  
Shawn Tristan Powell
- **Beyond "Who Gets The Check?": Navigating Mixed-Class Relationships (107)**  
Lyndon Cudlitz
- **Ace Space (108)**  
Tasya Abbot, Traci Laichter, and Emily Quist
- **Film Screening: *Born in Flames* (Main Lecture Hall)**
- **Incarcerated Realities (East Lecture Hall)**  
Bender Bear
- **Queer and Feminist Porn (West Lecture Hall)**  
\*\*CLOSED 18+ SPACE\*\*  
Jiz Lee and Tristan Taormino
- **Queer Yoga**  
Christie Barcelos (Merrill Living Room)

12:30pm-1:30pm – Lunch: Subs with vegetarian, vegan, and gf options (Faculty Lounge)

1:30pm-2:50pm – Workshop Slot II

- **Speculum Petronus: Demystifying and Knowing Your Rights During a Pelvic Exam (101)**  
Chloë Lubell and Mim Shafer
- **When the Rainbow Meets the White Coat: Building Self-Advocacy in College Healthcare Systems (102)**  
Kelli Dunham
- **Exploring Rape Culture Through Mainstream Queer Media (103)**  
Olivia Joy and Irene Soulos
- **QTJEW: Integrating Jewish, Queer and Trans\* Identities (104)**  
Anais Surkin and Yael Kaufman

- **Engaging Stakeholders: Cultivating Unexpected Allies and Finding Avenues for Policy Change (105)**  
Hannah Hussey and Anna Siembor
- **Kink and BDSM for Trauma Survivors (106)**  
Megan Lieff and Anne Watanabe
- **Names We've Been Denied: Finding Home in a Queer Diaspora**  
**\*\*CLOSED QTPOC SPACE\*\* (107)**  
Devyn Manibo
- **Creating a Positive Non-Binary Gender Identity (108)**  
Jay Piltser and Andy Cowan
- **Film Screening: *Go Fish* (Main Lecture Hall)**
- **Sexuality, Power, and Google Calendar: Making a Poly Family Work (East Lecture Hall)**  
House Rose: Ian, Michelle, Micah, Aimee, and laurel
- **Real People Are Complicated (West Lecture Hall)**  
Robyn Ochs
- **Our Liberation! Using Interactive Theater to Untangle Oppressions (Merrill Living Room)**  
OutNOW's QuEST Project
- **Hollaback! Boston Presents: We Hollaback!: Creating A World Without LGBTQ Harassment (Dakin Living Room)**  
Brenda Hernandez and Britni de la Cretaz

**3pm-4:30pm – Memoriam for José Esteban Muñoz, Liv Pangburn, and Gabriella Do Amaral**  
**Keynote Address by Jiz Lee and Tristan Taormino (Main Lecture Hall)**

**4:40pm-6pm – Workshop Slot III**

- **What About the Men: Male Femininity & Gay Masculinity in Mainstream & Queer Cultures (101)**  
Justin Sundell-Thomas
- **Religion, Queerness, and Community (102)**  
Gabriel Lincoln and Cyrus Politi
- **Building a Gender Identity: a Workshop for the Confused and Unsure (103)**  
Elliot Oberholtzer
- **Asexuality and Navigating Relationships (104)**  
Amber Patrick House
- **Negotiated Relationships (105)**  
Jawn and Jawn's Doll
- **Crafty Queers: Sewing Basics for Pillows, Clothes, and Beyond! (106)**  
Alex Wise
- **Making Transgender Theater (107)**  
Bryn Kelly
- **Self-care for Queer Student Activists (108)**  
Danielle Hussey, James Hildebrand, Liya Rechtman, and Darien McFadden
- **Film Screening: *The Watermelon Woman* (Main Lecture Hall)**
- **DIY Social Justice (East Lecture Hall)**  
Tina McElmoyl and Jess McDonald
- **Priestesses, Aces, Fools & Queens: A Queer Read of the Tarot (West Lecture Hall)**  
Teal Van Dyck and Bender Bear
- **Curious about going down? (Merrill Living Room)**  
Angie Tissi-Gassoway

**6pm – Closing Raffle (Main Lecture Hall) – more info on page 30**

# WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

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Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>

1:30pm-2:50pm – Workshop Slot I

## **An Architecture of Exclusion: the Debate over Queering Restrooms (102)**

Brandon Sides and Alexis Yioulos

In the fall of 2013, a group of trans\* students at Wesleyan University tore down gendered bathroom signs and replaced them with ones that read, "All Gender Restroom." The campus-wide debate, administrative reaction, and student support that followed all serve to introduce the debate over queering restrooms. This workshop will examine the story behind Wesleyan's trans\* activists; Sheila Cavanagh's concept of an "architecture of exclusion;" similar academic approaches to the topic; and current regulations that limit gender-inclusive restrooms here in Massachusetts.

## **Inverts: A History of Scientific Models of Queer Gender and Sexuality (103)**

Skramz Geist

Often obscured in debates about the essentialism of queer identities is the long history of the development of increasingly specific taxonomies for particular sets of behaviors. While not seeking to answer if anyone is truly "born this way," this presentation will cover some of the scientific developments that lead to the increasingly specific ways individuals identify in their negotiation with social and medical conceptions of gender and sexuality. This is not as boring as it sounds.

## **The Empire Strikes Back to the Future: A Creative Workshop on Time Travel and Imperialism \*\*CLOSED QTPOC SPACE\*\* (104)**

Alok Vaid-Menon and Janani Balasubramanian of DarkMatter

#ScienceFictionisForWhiteWomen. Or, at least, the extent to which we're safely mobile in space and time is shaped by power. This is a fabulously nerdy workshop that interrogates how our ideas of the Future, the Past, and the ticking of clocks reflects our ancestries. We'll engage in some improve exercises, play at the edge of the universe, and write/perform our own time travel narratives.

## **Film Screening: *Tongues Untied* (Main Lecture Hall)**

Marlon Riggs, with assistance from other gay Black men, especially poet Essex Hemphill, celebrates Black men loving Black men as a revolutionary act. The film intercuts footage of Helphill reciting his poetry, Riggs telling the story of his growing up, scenes of men in social intercourse and dance, and various comic riffs.

## **Double Edge: BDSM and Transgender (East Lecture Hall)**

Raven Kaldera

From the man or woman who cross-dresses for the first time as part of a BDSM scene, to the transsexual who is trying to figure out which play parties they can attend, being transgender in the BDSM scene is both a blessing and a challenge. At the same time, a remarkably high percentage of transgender people identify with leathersex - why? We'll discuss how BDSM roleplaying lends itself to gender play, struggle with the political implications of being gender transgressive perverts, talk about what happens to D/s roles when people change gender roles, and remind folks of what we have to teach the larger community. For transgender folks of all stripes, their partners, friends and allies, and anyone who's curious about the intersection of kink, power exchange, and the gender spectrum.

## **Queering Reproductive Justice (West Lecture Hall)**

Zoë Boyle and Jennifer Su

While reproductive justice and queer rights activism both work with themes of bodily autonomy, the two movements have historically assumed they operate with different goals, members, and needs. In this workshop, participants will use modern reproductive and queer rights rhetoric to examine the ways in which the two have ignored their shared interests often at the detriment of oppressed peoples as well as think of strategies for the two movements to better utilize one another.

### **Swinging Out: Challenging Gender Roles Through Dance (Faculty Lounge)**

Tiferet Nashman and Sarah Brodbar-Nemzer

Come dance the Charleston and Lindy Hop with us! Did you know that Swing dance has a history of challenging racial segregation and gender normativity? In this workshop we will learn some history and some dance steps, while we explore the theme of gender relations in the dance, and get to have some (embodied) fun. No dance experience or partner necessary.

### **3:00pm-4:20pm – Workshop Slot II**

#### **Asexuality and BDSM (101)**

Zach

Come debunk common myths and explore the intersections between asexuality and BDSM. Learn techniques for negotiation and better consent practices. This workshop will be discussion based and is open to anyone.

#### **Video Games and the Homo Superiors (103)**

Daniel Vasquez

Come learn what it means to be a Gamer and LGBTQ! We will be discussing the importance of video games in queer geek culture and what we would like to see in the future for gaming. For all people in the LGBTQ spectrum and gaming platforms alike.

#### **Safer Sex Practices for All Bodies (104)**

April Dunlop, Ari Rose, Zoë Boyle

Everything you never learned in health class! The Hampshire College Sexperts, peer sexual health educators, will teach the basics of talking about sexual health with partners and using barrier methods (gloves, dental dams, external condoms, internal condoms) for safer sex. Through discussion and (clothed!) demonstrations we hope to give participants a solid foundation in navigating what is often considered the "awkward" part of sex.

#### **How To Be A Friend, Roommate or Lover to Someone Living With HIV/AIDS (106)**

Bryn Kelly

Most of the images in the media of what it is like to live with HIV/AIDS are about twenty years out of date. This workshop will discuss the present realities of living with HIV/AIDS in the United States, and present specific strategies that you can use to give (and receive) support and care for people living with HIV/AIDS. We will explore the specifics of current HIV drug side effects, issues of disclosure, how people living with this disability's lives are inextricably linked with the welfare state/social services/medical industrial complex, and the interrelationality of care-giving, and more.

#### **Queering Pregnancy (107)**

Pamela Stone and Omar Villar

A discussion on the intricacies and complexities surrounding the social and biological issues around pregnancy in a non-heteronormative fashion. This environment will be a safe-space for anyone who wants to talk about the possibilities, realities, and challenges of pregnancy, no matter the way they identify. There are no promises that all your questions will be answered.

#### **Film Screening: *Looking For Langston* (Main Lecture Hall)**

A black and white, fantasy-like recreation of high-society gay men during the Harlem Renaissance, with archival footage and photographs intercut with a story. A wake is going on, with mourners gathered around a coffin. Downstairs is an elegant bar where tuxedoed men dance and talk. One of them has a dream in which he comes upon Beauty, who seems to reject him, although when he awakes, Beauty is sleeping beside him. His story and his visits to the jazz and dance club are framed by voices reading from the poetry and essays of Hughes and others.



### **Radical Queer Access: Collective Approaches to Disability Justice (East Lecture Hall)**

Alana Kumbier, Ariel K. Berman, Shakira Cruz, Julia Starkey, Michael Fitos

In this discussion-based workshop, we will explore the following questions, building on the work of disability justice & queer crip activists (see, for example, the Creating Collective Access group): How can we build disability support networks in familiar queer and trans spaces (e.g., queer co-housing efforts, chosen family, binder sharing board, and queer people showing up for each other at community events)? How can our networks & collectives practice accountability and interdependence, in order to support & create access for crip/queer/allied folks of Color? How can we support each other in the vulnerable and scary parts of queer, trans and disability experiences?

### **Sex Toys 101(West Lecture Hall)**

Jes Tom

Wondering how to incorporate toys into your sexy times? Looking to start (or expand) your own toy chest? Come learn everything you ever wanted to know about sex toys, from safety tips, to care and cleaning, to how to pick the right one(s) for you!

### **Closed QTPOC Space (Faculty Lounge)**

Hampshire College QIPOC

This will be an informal meeting and discussion space for queer and trans people of color attending the conference. This will be facilitated by signers of QIPOC, Hampshire College's QTPOC centered student group.

## **Friday Evening Events**

**7pm-8pm**

### **Shabbat Celebration (108)**

Be a part of a fun, quirky, queer community celebration of Shabbat, the Jewish Sabbath. We will have Kabbalat Shabbat services, singing, challah and grape juice for motzei and kiddush, and some delicious deserts.

**7pm-9pm**

### **Film Screening: *Pariah* (Main Lecture Hall)**

A Brooklyn teenager juggles conflicting identities and risks friendship, heartbreak, and family in a desperate search for sexual expression.

**9pm-1am**

### **Celestial Bodies: Queer Prom in Space (The Red Barn)**

Gravity of the racist, ableist, heteropatriarchy got you down? Ditch earth and join us in The Red Barn at Hampshire College for a night of queer planetary celebration. Come dressed as your favorite constellation, sign of the zodiac, planet, unidentified flying object, extra-terrestrial, inter-planetary traveler, etc. Cosmic tunez by DJ A\_NOk (Hampshire College) and DJ Sol Nova (Smith College).

Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>

11:10am-12:30pm – Workshop Slot I

**Taking Care of Ourselves and Each Other: Supporting Queer Survivors of Sexual Assault (101)**

diiv, Annie, and Kay from the Philly Survivor Support Collective

Queer and trans survivors often face insurmountable barriers to accessing mainstream services that offer support for sexual assault survivors, among other necessities for healing and overall wellness (physical and mental healthcare, safe/stable housing, living wages, etc.). In the face of this adversity we--drawing on the foundational work of many queer communities of color--are continuously developing ways of supporting each other outside of the mainstream and oppressive institutions that are likely to do us more harm than good. This workshop will be an interactive discussion building on the collective knowledge of the facilitators and participants focused on how to better support each other (as survivors and people inevitably in community with survivors), what struggles arise in doing this work in our lives and communities, and what resources exist to support us in healing ourselves and our communities.

**Let's Talk About It: Whiteness in LGBTQ College Communities (102)**

Nina Tissi-Gassoway

Come to this interactive workshop to examine whiteness, white privilege, and white supremacy. We will explore how they operate in our own lives and manifest in our college communities. We will discuss strategies on how to push back on your privilege and create more inclusive LGBTQ organizations.

**Where Are We?: Queer Women of Color in the Media (103)**

Austin Lee and Amira Lundy-Harris

Queer women of color are given very little attention in the media. This workshop will focus on the media representation that is present and its impact on those who consume it.

**Why Isn't My Body Speaking To Me?: Mending Past/Present Relationships with Our Physical Selves (104)**

Kelli Dunham

As LGBT people many of us have made hard choices in order to survive. The results/proof of our hard won survival may be in the form of cutting scars, HIV seroconversion, injuries long ignored and health problems long untreated. This workshop is for folks who 1. Are experiencing grief and frustration from the past that is making a present day relationship with their bodies seem even more complicated 2. Are ready to spend some time exploring this challenge through writing and mutual support. Please note: although care will and support will be given throughout this workshop, participants should consider whether they are in the right emotional place for open discussions about the consequences of shame on the body. Because it is assumed that any or all of this discussion might be triggering, no specific trigger warnings will be utilized and participant will be encouraged to stay in touch with their reactions and remove themselves from the workshop at any time they need to take a break.

**Queering the Scooby Doo Crew: Creating Cross-Campus Collaboration (105)**

Liya Rechtman and Leah Hammond

What if Fred were trans\* and Velma had a thing for Daphne? This workshop will explore the ways the archaic "Scooby Doo" stereotypes and inter-college frictions of the Five Colleges impede queer movement-building. We will discuss strategies to communicate across campus lines and work towards the creation of collaborative avenues, both interpersonally and organizationally.

**Community Support: Sustainable Ways To Support Each Other in Crisis (106)**

Shawn Tristan Powell

Within our queer communities, we often hold space for each other in times of crisis, grief, suicidality, violence and trauma when we have experienced many of the same things ourselves. This is a workshop for folks who find themselves in support roles sometimes and who would like to develop their practice of self-care. Through group activities and discussion, we will look at: recognizing the ways in which crisis and trauma (including oppression) affect us personally and collectively; navigating our triggers; compassionately set our limits; developing our unique practices of self-care; and building community support networks that encourage sustainability and resiliency so we can engage in ongoing support work while taking care of ourselves as well.

## **Beyond “Who Gets The Check?”: Navigating Mixed-Class Relationships (107)**

Lyndon Cudlitz

If you've ever dated or been in a relationship with someone from a different socio-economic class background, you may have felt as though you're operating in different languages...and you're right. This interactive workshop examines the vital role class holds in our queer relationships and how it interplays with dynamics of race, immigration, gender, non-monogamy, ability, and more. We'll explore our challenges and hopes, and leave with tools we can use for better communication and action to support the health of our mixed-class relationships.

## **Ace Space (108)**

Tasya Abbot, Traci Laichter, and Emily Quist

A closed safe space for those who identify on the asexual spectrum to discuss common experiences, build community, and provide an opportunity for members of our small community to connect.

## **Film Screening: *Born In Flames* (Main Lecture Hall)**

Set ten years after the most peaceful revolution in United States history, a revolution in which a socialist government gains power, this film presents a dystopia in which the issues of many progressive groups - people of color, liberals, gay rights organizations, feminists - are ostensibly dealt with by the government, and yet there are still problems with jobs, with gender issues, with governmental preference and violence. In New York City, in this future time, a group of women decide to organize and mobilize, to take the revolution farther than any man - and any women - ever imagined in their lifetimes.

## **Incarcerated Realities (East Lecture Hall)**

Bender Bear

This workshop, hosted by Tranzmission Prison Project, will explore the relationship between incarceration, and queer & trans identities. Queer and trans people, but especially trans women of color, experience disproportionate profiling, abuse, and sentencing at the hands of the "justice system." We will discuss the way heterosexism, cissexism, transmisogyny, patriarchy, white supremacy, and capitalism interplay to create these conditions, and talk about how to get involved with local activism supporting LGBTQIA+ inmates.

## **Queer and Feminist Porn (West Lecture Hall)**

Jiz Lee and Tristan Taormino

**\*\*CLOSED 18+ SPACE\*\***

From adult industry trade shows to the mainstream press, feminist pornography has become a hot topic. But what is it exactly? In this workshop, feminist porn director/producer Tristan Taormino and feminist genderqueer performer Jiz Lee will talk about what feminist porn is, what it isn't, and the politics of producing pleasure. They will each screen samples of their bodies of work, then lead a facilitated discussion about feminist porn as a genre, industry, and movement.

## **Queer Yoga (Merrill Living Room)**

Christie Barcelos

This workshop for self-identified queer and trans folks will include presentation about and discussion on the growing queer and trans yoga movement, discussion on how to “queer” yoga, and a yoga class. All bodies, sizes, and abilities welcome and celebrated. Please wear loose fitting clothes you can move around in. We will have a limited number of mats and props.

## **1:30pm-2:50pm – Workshop Slot II**

### **Speculum Petronus: Demystifying and Knowing Your Rights During a Pelvic Exam (101)**

Chloë Lubell and Mim Shafer

Both presenters work as Gynecological Teaching Associates, training student medical practitioners (doctors, nurses, midwives) in how to provide thorough, respectful and informed pelvic and chest exams. During this session we will review patient rights during an exam and will provide a live exam with an opportunity for hands-on participation from workshop goers in checking; chest and pelvic lymph nodes, external and internal vaginal structures and using a bimanual uterine exam to assess uterine and ovarian health. Participants are limited to those over eighteen years of age.

## **When the Rainbow Meets the White Coat: Building Self-Advocacy in College Healthcare Systems (102)**

Kelli Dunham

Are you an LGBT college student frustrated with the care provided by your school's healthcare system? Come join in our brainstorming/training workshop to learn ways you can advocate for better care both by changing the system from within and by being a more informed, empowered healthcare consumer.

## **Exploring Rape Culture Through Mainstream Queer Media (103)**

Olivia Joy and Irene Soulos

The goal of this workshop is to encourage participants to recognize ways in which rape culture manifests in queer spaces. Using mainstream queer media, participants in this workshop will explore the variety of ways rape culture manifests in queer spaces. Participants will be able to recognize and name ways in which rape culture manifests in queer spaces and, with tools provided, be able to continue these conversations with others in their communities.

## **QTJEW: Integrating Jewish, Queer and Trans\* Identities (104)**

Anais Surkin and Yael Kaufman

This will be a dialogue for Queer and Trans\* Jews in all of our diversity. There is such a broad range of Jewish experiences, including those who grew up secular, Orthodox, Reform, in mixed families, etc., with ranging current spiritual practices and cultural identities. There is a similarly broad range of Queer and Trans\* experience and identity. The facilitators and, we imagine, many others, feel closeted as Jews in Queer and Trans\* spaces and closeted as Queer and Trans\* in Jewish spaces. This dialogue will be a space that is scaffolded with structured activities and small group work to lead to an open facilitated dialogue about our experiences, joys and pains, and how we envision spaces where we can more fully be ourselves as QTJEWS!!

## **Engaging Stakeholders: Cultivating Unexpected Allies and Finding Avenues for Policy Change (105)**

Hannah Hussey and Anna Siembor

State and local entities can be a substantial barrier in our work, but they can also be powerful partners in ensuring policies responsive to LGBTQ youth. Join the Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth to learn strategies to shift the terms of your relationship with key policy stakeholders, engage hesitant partners, and make unexpected allies. Explore creative methods for establishing buy-in, developing relationships, and changing perceptions of what it means to create LGBTQ policy change – from state government to your university.

## **Kink and BDSM for Trauma Survivors (106)**

Megan Lieff and Anne Watanabe

This workshop is a facilitated discussion, intended to generate some tools and resources, and to explore the relationship between trauma survivorship (such as abuse, sexual assault, and intimate violence/trauma) and kink/BDSM. We will explore questions like: What are the particular struggles of navigating kink as trauma survivors, such as ways that kink can be re-traumatizing or triggering? What is empowering and healing about kink as a trauma survivor? What are some ways that partners and communities can be more supportive of kinky survivors? This workshop is NOT a closed space: while it is centered around kink/BDSM and survivors, the workshop is open to anyone.

## **Names We've Been Denied: Finding Home in a Queer Diaspora**

### **\*\*CLOSED QTPOC SPACE\*\* (107)**

Devyn Manibo

In this multi-media, creative writing based workshop, we will explore what it means to be a diasporic queer person of color, to exist on the margins, between worlds, within and without space, while taking time to dismantle, transform, deform, rip apart, and re-form concepts of melancholy, home, kinship, heritage, language, and the implications of queer identity within postcolonial/neocolonial times.

## **Creating a Positive Non-Binary Gender Identity (108)**

Jay Piltser and Andy Cowan

For many people, realizing that they fall outside the gender binary creates more questions than answers. Who am I? What am I? How do I understand my gender and sexuality? This workshop will focus on building a positive identity for oneself outside the gender binary.

### **Film Screening: *Go Fish* (Main Lecture Hall)**

Max is a trendy, pretty, young lesbian, who is having trouble finding love. A friend sets her up with Ely, whom Max likes, but Ely is frumpy, homely, and older, nor do they have much in common. Can Max learn to look past the packaging?

### **Sexuality, Power, and Google Calendar: Making a Poly Family Work (East Lecture Hall)**

House Rose: Ian, Michelle, Micah, Aimee, and laurel

Come join House Rose (Ian, Michelle, Micah, Aimee & laurel) for a discussion and Q&A about their experience forming and living as a polyamorous family. Topics will include family politics (biofamily/kids/family of choice), organizational tools and household management, and sexual identity and power dynamics. Bring your questions!

### **Real People Are Complicated (West Lecture Hall)**

Robyn Ochs

This program explores the landscape of sexual orientation, and how we “map” sexual orientation. No two people are exactly alike. Given that, how do we assign labels to our complicated and unique experiences? In this interactive workshop we will conduct an anonymous survey of those present, and we will look at the data. Where do we fall on the sexuality continuum? How do we label? In this fun and interactive program we explore different experiences of identity; the complexity of attraction and more.

### **Our Liberation! Using Interactive Theater to Untangle Oppressions (Merrill Living Room)**

OutNOW's QuEST Project

Out Now is Springfield's only youth-led, adult-advised, queer youth organization that works to promote harm reduction, self-determination, and community building through anti-oppression organizing. Out Now is home to the QUEST Project, who is presenting the workshop at this conference. QuEST (QUeer Empowerment thru Solidarity and Truth) is the political arm of the organization and originated about 14 years ago to address various oppressions and violence in our community. QuEST is comprised of adult and youth staff and the youth leaders of the organization.

### **Hollaback! Boston Presents: We Hollaback!: Creating A World Without LGBTQ Harassment (Dakin Living Room)**

Brenda Hernandez and Britni de la Cretaz

Hollaback! Boston is the local chapter of an international movement to end street harassment. In this variation of our “We HOLLABACK!” workshop, we explore the way that LGBTQ people experience street harassment. We know that queer and gender non-conforming folks experience harassment in larger numbers and with greater violence than other groups do. We'll talk about what that looks like, with ample time for participants to share their experiences, and we provide solutions for and a vision of a world where street harassment doesn't exist.

## **4:40pm-6pm – Workshop Slot III**

### **What About the Men: Male Femininity & Gay Masculinity in Mainstream & Queer Cultures (101)**

Justin Sundell-Thomas

While gay men dominate popular representations of queer communities as well as large advocacy groups, gay and queer male voices are often missing from conversations about queerness and meaningful social change, and the male perspectives that are present in these conversations are often of a very specific type. This workshop is designed to address that lack, and to explore the transgressive possibilities inherent in many male identities, with a short presentation and facilitated discussion focused on the following topics: “straight acting” and the glorification of masculinity in gay male culture; sissies, camp, and gay male stereotypes; the prevalence and use of gendered homophobic slurs; what it means to be perceived as a feminine man in society and how this connects to transmisogyny; fem/me identity, femme invisibility, and fem/me visibility; queer identity, gay identity, and the privileging of butches, bois, studs, trans men and androgyny in queer communities; and masculinity and heteronormativity in trans male and trans masculine communities.

### **Religion, Queerness, and Community (102)**

Gabriel Lincoln and Cyrus Politi

This is a workshop for and about stories. How do queer futures map onto early Christianity? How can the plagues from the book of Exodus come back to haunt the present? What is it about ritual that grabs us, and how do we account for the many ways queerness and religion tangle around the question of belonging? Loose panel format that encourages sharing; we are respectively Jewish and Catholic and recognize the limits of our perspectives.

### **Building a Gendered Identity: a Workshop for the Confused and Unsure (103)**

Elliot Oberholtzer

There are no textbooks or classes on how to figure out what your own gender is in a world that doesn't even facilitate asking yourself that question. And while many people have had the experience of "just knowing" about their own identity, sometimes the answers just aren't clear. This workshop will explore some possibilities for building a dialogue with yourself about your own gender in the context of your life and individual identity.

### **Asexuality and Navigating Relationships (104)**

Amber Patrick House

So you've realized you're on the ace- spectrum or you're interested in someone who is or both! Now let's discuss what type(s) of relationship(s) you want, how to talk consent, and resources to do it all with minimal stress.

### **Negotiated Relationships (105)**

Jawn and Jawn's Doll

All power exchange relationships have one thing in common: they are all based on some kind of negotiation and agreement of all parties involved. Jawn and His Doll have been living this lifestyle for over five years, and are happy to share their experiences, the bumps in the road, and how you can turn a negotiated relationship into something as vanilla or as kinky as you want.

### **Crafty Queers: Sewing Basics for Pillows, Clothes, and Beyond! (106)**

Alex Wise

Do you own that awesome skirt that's just a little too big the hips, or those slacks that pose a tripping danger every time you take a step? Don't despair! This workshop will get you started on some basic hand sewing techniques that will get you on the way to a perfect fit every time. For practice, we'll be making travel pillows using several different stitches.

### **Making Transgender Theater (107)**

Bryn Kelly

What is transgender theater? How do trans identities, embodiments and experiences change the ways we make theater, and the elements of theater itself? How can we use theater to open up new ways of knowing and feeling, informed by and with trans people? What are some concrete ways we can actualize these issues in performance work? These questions (and more) will be addressed in this fun, creative, and interactive workshop, for theater nerds and everyone else.

### **Self-care for Queer Student Activists (108)**

Danielle Hussey, James Hildebrand, Liya Rechtman, and Darien McFadden

Let's be real: activism is hard work. Limited time, consistent adversity, stress and disappointments are all part of being a student activist. In this workshop we will discuss several essential elements of self care and develop strategies for self care that are practical, accessible and sustainable.

### **Film Screening: *The Watermelon Woman* (Main Lecture Hall)**

Cheryl is a young, Black, lesbian working in Philadelphia with her best friend Tamara and consumed by a film project: to make a video about her search for a Black actress from Philly who appeared in films in the 30s and was known as the Watermelon Woman. Following various leads, Cheryl discovers the Watermelon Woman's stage name and real name and surmises that the actress had a long affair with Martha Page, a White woman and one of Hollywood's few female directors. As she's discovering these things, Cheryl becomes involved with Diana, who is also White. The affair strains Cheryl's friendship with Tamara. More discoveries bring Cheryl and her audience to new realizations.

### **DIY Social Justice (East Lecture Hall)**

Tina McElmoyl and Jess McDonald

Join us and get your hands dirty while exploring DIY in social justice and community action! We will examine DIY as a tool of the riot grrrl movement and in our own lives today.



### **Priestesses, Aces, Fools & Queens: A Queer Read of the Tarot (West Lecture Hall)**

Teal Van Dyck and Bender Bear

Looking for powerful, glamorous, wise guides on the wild road from here to where you're headed? Part actual magic, part choose-your-own-adventure, all truth and transformation - you, too, can touch the T with Tarot! We'll illuminate the hidden queer meanings of several traditional Tarot cards, explore the art of the read, and review exciting new decks designed by queer folks and featuring our magical bawdies and priorities. Come on, Fools, The World is waiting!

### **Curious about going down? (Merrill Living Room)**

Angie Tissi-Gassoway

Are you curious about the mysterious world of oral sex? Not quite sure how to give a blowjob or even all the ways the clit can be stimulated? Why not mess with gender and give a rockin blowjob to that dildo? If you are a beginner or a connoisseur of giving or receiving head this is the workshop for you! A panel of folks with identities across a spectrum will talk about and provide tips and tricks of the trade. Come get the low down on going down!

# PRESENTER BIOS

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**Alana Kumbier** is the Critical Social Inquiry and Digital Pedagogy Librarian at Hampshire College. In addition to being a librarian, she's a zinemaker, member of the Queer Zine Archive Project and volunteer at the Flywheel Zine Library, author of the soon-to-be-published book *Ephemeral Material: Queering the Archive* (Litwin Books), and a crafty femme. She was selected as a Librarian Wardrobe Valentine's Day Crush for 2014.

**Alexis Yioulis** is a sophomore at Babson College and also serves on the Legislation Committee of the Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth. She served as Vice Chair of the Commission in her 2013 term. The Danvers Committee for Diversity and the North Shore Alliance of GLBT Youth have recognized Alexis for her leadership in various LGBTQ projects.

**Alex Wise** (see organizer bios)

**Amber Patrick House** is a femmeboyant anxious babe and general gender mess. They can usually be found baking challah and giving pep-talks/fashion advice to queer friends or going thrifting for anything floral or lace. Amber Patrick has helped to coordinate this conference for several years before graduating in S'12.

**Amira Lundy-Harris** is a sophomore at Amherst College in Western Massachusetts. Born and raised in Oakland, California, Amira is a Black Studies and Sexuality, Women's and Gender Studies double major. Her interests include intersectionality, jazz, and Bay Area sports teams.

**Anais Surkin** is a radical gender queer organizer, activist, educator, advocate and academic whose dedication to resisting all forms of oppression and violence is central to their struggle for liberation and global vision of transformative social and economic justice. They are a doctoral student in Social Justice Education at UMass Amherst, and Intergroup Dialogue facilitator and coach, instructor and grievance coordinator at GEO. Prior to coming to Massachusetts, they worked as coordinator of LGBTQ Services at a Victims Services Agency/Rape Crisis Center in New York around issues of intimate partner violence, sexual violence, hate violence and criminalization as they affect intersecting LGBTQ, sex worker and immigrant communities. They are Russian, were not raised religiously and are grappling with how to be radical, queer, Jewish and Russian in this valley and country.

**Andy Cowan** is an Amherst-based genderqueer attorney who worked as a public defender for five years, was a member of the Occupy Boston legal team, and is interested in legal issues that uniquely impact the LGBTQIA community.

**Angie Tissi-Gassoway** (see organizer bios)

**Anna Siembor** is a recent graduate of Northeastern University, where she received a BA in English and Linguistics with a minor in Women's, Gender and Sexuality studies. For the past four years, she has been affiliated with Girls' LEAP Self-Defense, first as a volunteer and now as a lead teacher. Previously, she held positions at Rosie's Place and the Northeastern University Writing Center. She is passionate about LGBTQ issues and currently works with the Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth as their Safe Schools Fellow, working to expand and strengthen the GSA Network.

**Anne Watanabe** has experience as a crisis counselor and educator. She is especially interested in how trauma consciousness can inform political work; radical pedagogy; transformative justice; and breaking down the binaries between healing and accountability.

**Annie, diiv and Kay** are all members of the Philly Survivor Support Collective (PSSC). PSSC supports survivors of sexual assault in directing their own healing. We work outside the legal system to help individual survivors who are seeking justice and safety, and we do ongoing work to transform our communities to end sexual violence. PSSC formed in 2011 and is comprised mostly of queer and trans folks and survivors. Our work draws heavily on the principles of Transformative Justice, a term coined by POC organizers at Generation 5; foundational work done by POC anti-violence organizations like INCITE! Women of Color Against Violence, UBUNTU, and Generation 5; Harm Reduction principles; and the work of the prison abolition movement. We view organizing and movement building as a method of healing ourselves and our world.

**April Grayce Dunlop** is a fiery, fluid, femme witch with a passion for communication, consent and sexuality education. They are a last semester Division II student at Hampshire College whose academic pursuits include comparative religion, feminist/queer studies, critical race theory, and writing in many forms. She is the co-editor of the Black Sheep Journal, a signer for the Sexperts, and a Peer Chaplain. In their playtime, April likes to journal, cook, and hula-hoop.

**Ari[anna]** is a watery earth femme from the forests of Massachusetts. For the past 3 years Ari has been working at the Wellness Center doing educational outreach (via workshop facilitation and zine-making) regarding sexual assault prevention, survivor advocacy & support, and non-violent communication. Currently in her third year at Hampshire College, she is often reading about feminist health politics and herbalism, and dreaming about a utopia of queer-centered holistic medicine.

**Ariel Berman** is a graduate student in psychology at Brandeis University. He has been a farmer, queer and trans activist, neuro-researcher and kid-wrangler. Ariel is dedicated to creating universally-accessible and welcoming spaces on-farm, in the lab and classroom, and in the streets. In his spare time Ariel digs in the dirt, reads as much as possible, goes on adventures with (and brags about) his friends and plays with his dog.

**Austin Lee** is from Ann Arbor, Michigan. She is a freshman and prospective Black Studies and Economics major at Amherst College. She currently serves as an executive board member of Amherst College's Pride Alliance and tutor at Girls Inc. Holyoke.

**Brandon Sides** (see organizer bios)

**Brenda Hernandez** is a law school diversity professional by day and a feminist activist and blogger by night. Brenda received her BA in Women's Studies from Mount Holyoke College and her JD from Pace School of Law. She currently volunteers as the Outreach Coordinator for Hollaback! Boston. She recently became a trained abortion doula with the Boston Doula Project. You can read all her feminist rants, pop culture critiques and details about her impending Jewish Latino Feminist wedding at her blog, [BoricuaFeminist.com](http://BoricuaFeminist.com).

**Britni de la Cretaz** received her bachelor's degree from Northeastern University and her master's degree in mental health counseling from Nova Southeastern University. She is a social worker by day and the co-founder and co-director of Hollaback! Boston by night. She is passionate about feminist activism, sequins, and her pets.

**Bryn Kelly** has been an HIV activist since 1999, when she began designing public health media for the AIDS Task Force of Columbus, Ohio. She has volunteered and organized with the Sylvia Rivera Law Project, The New York AIDS Housing Network, VOCAL: The New York User's Union, Queers for Economic Justice, FIERCE!, The Audre Lorde Project, and SAGE: Services and Advocacy for Gay Elders. Bryn is a performing artist, and has made theater ranging from Shakespeare and Greek tragedy to new plays and devised work, with transgender ensembles. She was a founding member of Theater Transgression, a New York-based transgender multimedia performance collective, and a co-creator of the Fully Functional Cabaret, a thunderous touring theatrical love letter to trans women. She was a 2013 Lambda Literary Fellow, and lives in Brooklyn. For more information about her work, go to [www.brynkelly.com](http://www.brynkelly.com)

**Chloë Lubell** is a Hampshire College graduate and a currently in her last semester of Midwifery School at the Yale School of Nursing. Her medical focus throughout her education has been on safe, accessible abortion care and empowered patient decision making.

**Christie Barcelos** is a local yoga student and teacher committed to sharing the benefits of yoga with people who find yogic practice inaccessible, whether because of race, class, gender, sexuality, body size, or ability.

**Cyrus Politi** is a Division III student at Hampshire College. Their work centers around exploring Jewish identity, politics, and belonging through writing a playful and strange Haggadah. Mysteriously, this involves tunnels, moles, and rituals!

**Daniel Vasquez** is a University of Massachusetts Amherst student; this is his third year studying while majoring in STPEC (Social Thought and Political Economy). Hailing from California, He aspires to work for non-profit organizations, bringing awareness to Homeless LGBTQ and Queer Geek Culture to the masses. He really likes chocolate and being a Libra doesn't help.

**Danielle Hussey** is Director of the Women's & Gender Center at Amherst College. She is a Smith College alumna and holds an MSc from the Gender Institute at the London School of Economics. Danielle has been passionate about feminist and queer activism for over a decade. She is an enthusiastic supporter and Advisory Board member for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hampshire County.

**Darien McFadden** is a psychotherapist at the Amherst College Counseling Center. He is a graduate of Colgate University and the University of Pittsburgh where he received his PhD in Counseling Psychology. His clinical interests include sexual orientation, gender, and coming-out issues.

**Devyn Manibo** (see organizer bios)

**Elliot Oberholtzer** graduated from Hampshire College in Spring 2011 and currently lives in Amherst, working as a freelance data analyst and program evaluator for organizations. They spent a lot of time at Hampshire working to figure out their own gender identity, and are very grateful to the college for all of the things it did to support that process.

**Emily Quist** is a prospective neuroscientist studying at Hampshire College. She enjoys sushi, quantum loop gravity, Werner Herzog, lipstick, and nylon. Given her totally irregular eating, sleeping, and (lack of) sex drive, she strongly suspects that she lacks a hypothalamus.

**Gabriel Lincoln** dropped out of Smith College a year ago and still lives in Northampton scratching their head over whether to go back or run away to the South. They make One Direction punk patches and frequently cry about the Psalms.

**Hannah Hussey** works as Coordinator for the Massachusetts Commission on LGBTQ Youth and is an active member of the New England Aces. Previously, she interned with MassEquality and the Boston Consortium on Gender, Security, and Human Rights, and also spent several years at a consulting agency specializing in nonprofits and as a freelance reporter. Hannah received her B.A. in Sociology and Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies from Tufts University and currently resides in Somerville.

**House Rose - Ian, Michelle, Micah, Aimee, and laurel** are proud to be part of their polyamorous leather family House Rose. They are a programmer, an HR professional, a teacher, a lawyer, and an engineer that somehow manage to make this intentional family-of-choice thing work. They have all been involved in Transcending Boundaries Inc. and have been instrumental in running the Transcending Boundaries Conference since 2009.

**Irene Soulos** is a curly haired goofball who specializes in deep tissue massage and poop jokes. She likes planting things, eating candy, and learning about brains.

**James Hildebrand** is an Amherst College junior, Asian Languages and Civilizations Major with a focus in Japanese. James is a Peer Advocate of Sexual Respect, Former Amherst Pride Alliance leader, newly-appointed Sexual Respect Officer for Amherst Association of Students, and avid Buffy the Vampire Slayer fan. This summer, he hopes to do work involving domestic violence and sexual respect in Los Angeles.

**Jawn** is a photographer and musician from Worcester. He has been active in the BDSM community for over a decade. With His Doll, he is the leader of Reverend Reacharound, an irreverent folk-punk duo, who have recently recorded the soundtrack for the short film Jehovah's Cobras. They have started an GLBTQIK-friendly photography business, Jawniffer Photography, for event and portrait photography. Jawn can be found online at Jawnhenry.com, Jawniffer.com, ReverendReacharound.com and Heart-Shaped-Boy.com.

**Jawn's Doll, Jenn** has played a number of roles in her life, both literally as she earned her BA in Drama from Ithaca College, and figuratively as she earned her MEd from University of New Hampshire. Her most important role is currently as the owned girl of Jawn. She has recently served as the Director of MAsT Mass (Masters And slaves Together), a monthly discussion and support group for those interested in pursuing hierarchical relationships, and has served with Jawn on the organizing committee for the Transcending Boundaries Conference for the past three years. She works with Jawn creatively as part of Reverend Reacharound (ReverendReacharound.com) and as a photographer for Jawniffer Photography (Jawniffer.com). She can also be found online at Jawns-doll.com.

**Jay Piltser** is a Northampton and Amherst-based coach who works with her clients to help them develop a strength-based self identity, find direction in their lives, and actualize their goals, with a particular focus on queer and gender-nonconforming young adults.

**Jennifer Su** is a Hampshire student graduating this spring. She studies reproductive justice using a legal framework and works as a student organizer at CLPP. She spends a lot of time thinking about her senior thesis and how much she misses her dog.

**Jess McDonald** is a graduate student at UMass Amherst studying Social Justice Education. They have a background in queer student organizing and leadership development and currently serve as the President of the Campus Pride Advisory Board. Jess thinks a lot about gender, Israel and Palestine, disability justice, and being queer in the South (and what it means to leave).

**Joshua Tenpenny** is a queer FTM transsexual. He is Raven's Boy, and Raven's devoted assistant, partner, and slave for life. He is a massage therapist, Shiatsu practitioner, and yoga teacher. He is the author of "Real Service" and the creator of the Service Notebook. He is polymorphously perverse, and finds spiritual fulfillment through any kind of worthy service.

**Julia Starkey** is a fat, queer, cisgendered black woman. Cultural competency and dismantling structural oppression are important to her personally, professionally, educationally and within her communities. Julia is in the process of becoming a librarian, dislikes the Dewey decimal system and not surprisingly loves cats.

**Justin Sundell-Thomas** is a gay, off-white, non-neurotypical, trans man, living with invisible disabilities. He has been an activist and educator in areas such as teenage sexuality, disability rights, safer queer sex, and gender expression and identity for over ten years, has been involved with the organization and leadership of several queer student groups, most recently as the President of the Rensselaer Pride Alliance, and has lead numerous workshops for college organizations and conferences, including the Five College Queer Sexuality and Gender Conference.

**Kelli Dunham** ([kellidunham.com](http://kellidunham.com)) is an ex-nun genderqueer nerd comic and author of five books of humorous nonfiction, including *Freak of Nurture* a collection of stories and essays that Lambda Literary Foundation called "dynamic generous and smart...freakishly outstanding" Dunham's four CDs "I am NOT a 12 Year Old Boy" "Almost Pretty," "Why Is the Fat One Always Angry" and "Trigger Warning" are all in regular rotation on Sirius Satellite Radio's Rawdog Comedy Station and Pandora's Margaret Cho Station. Kelli has appeared on Showtime and the Discovery Channel and the occasional livestock auction.

**Leah Hammond** is a senior at Mount Holyoke College with a major in Oppression and Resistance Studies. They are on the board of Femmepowered, a student org working to create space and visibility for femme-identified people and to challenge misogyny within the queer community. They have worked as a peer-facilitator in Mount Holyoke's Intergroup Dialogue program as well as serving on the college's Multifaith Council. Their preferred creative outlets include theater and nail-painting.

**Liya Rechtman** is a senior at Amherst College and former AC Pride Alliance co-chair. She has presented and published on queer survivorship and sexual assault policy both on campus and nationally. She is also the former Editor-in-chief for Amherst College's online queer feminist publication ACVoice.com, and the current Chief of Staff for the Amherst Association of Students.

**Lyndon Cudlitz** has been mixing social justice with social awkwardness since his teen years as a youth leader in Portland, Maine. His work in sexuality education, queer youth empowerment, disAbility justice and more is strongly informed by his transfeminist and working-class perspectives. He is the Founder & Director of a social justice leadership retreat for queer youth in Maine ([www.campOUTmaine.com](http://www.campOUTmaine.com)), and currently manages training and community education for an LGBTQ center in New York.

**Megan Lieff** is a writer, activist and educator with past experience as a rape crisis counselor. A recent alum of UMass Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies, her research focuses on narratives of sexual assault in the BDSM community. When this doesn't have her up to her eye-balls in work, she's teaching sex-ed, learning to Contra or dissecting some episode of Buffy. You can find more of her work at Snarkys.com

**Michel Fitos** is a writer, educator, and transformational coach in the Boston area. Prior to becoming a coach, Michel worked in the technology field as a systems architect. He is passionately committed to technology access, and works with the World Wide Web Consortium to ensure access for users with physical and cognitive disabilities.

**Mim Shafer** is a Hampshire College graduate and a current Ph.D. student at UMass Amherst where she studies Public Health, Community Health Education. Her academic focus and work concentrate on the pleasure-deficit in sexual education and how to integrate social justice and art-making into classroom discussions about bodies and health.

**Nina Tissi-Gassoway** works as a Residence Director at UMass Amherst for the LGBTQA Living/Learning Community, Spectrum. She earned her Masters of Education in College Student Services Administration from Oregon State University and is currently a graduate student in the Social Justice Education program at UMass. She is dedicated to supporting the LGBTQA community and working with college students to examine and challenge their whiteness and white privilege.

**Olivia Joy** is an angry/cuddly/belly-laughing bald femme who is real done with misogyny. She is on the board of Mount Holyoke Femmepowered, a student group that works toward creating supportive space for femme identified people at Mount Holyoke's. When not hangin' out at the queer conference, Olivia can be found dancing, drawing her feelings, and touching her tongue to her nose.

**Pamela K. Stone** is the director of the FPR-HC Culture, Brain, and Development Program at Hampshire College. She received her B.A. from Hampshire College, and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in Anthropology. Pamela's research focuses on the intersection of science and culture, particularly exploring life and death to understand how biology is negotiated by culture at birth, and how life histories are explored through biology in death. Her goals are to illuminate patterns of morbidity and mortality for women through biological, cultural, and ethnographic information, and use these data to understand women's lives beyond their maternal roles through time and space.

**QIPOC (Queer International & People of Color)** is a closed group for self-identified queer people of color and international students in and around the Hampshire College community. QIPOC's work is a combination of community building and activism. We strive to create safe(r), accountable, and fully intentional spaces that value and honor our histories/herstories/hirstories and our lived experiences as queer people and people of color. We reject the notions of choosing between those identities or placing one above the other.

**Raven Kaldera** is a queer FTM transgendered intersexual shaman. He is the author/editor of 34 books, including "Dark Moon Rising: Pagan BDSM and the Ordeal Path", "Dear Raven and Joshua: Questions and Answers About Master/Slave Relationships", and "Power Circuits: Polyamory In A Power Dynamic". He and his slaveboy Joshua have been teaching and presenting workshops regularly for many years to the BDSM, Neo-Pagan, Sex/Spirituality, transgender, and other communities. 'Tis an ill wind that blows no minds.

**Sarah Brodbar-Nemzer** lives in Toronto, ON, and is the Managing Director of the National Havurah Committee. She dances with Tiferet, and is learning how to ice skate.



**Shakira Cruz Román** is the Technical Assistance Coordinator at The Network/La Red a survivor-led, social justice organization working to end partner abuse in lesbian, gay, bisexual, queer and transgender communities. As the Technical Assistance Coordinator, Shakira offers trainings and consultation to service providers in creating inclusive programs for LGBTQ survivors. Shakira has 7 years of experience working with survivors of partner abuse through facilitating support groups, offering systems advocacy and direct support on hotline and in person. In addition to working at The Network/La Red, Shakira is a queer puertorriqueña involved in social justice work in the Boston area.

**Shawn Tristan Powell** is a transgender activist, writer, artist, and educator. He works as a Crisis Counselor at a youth development agency. Outside of the professional sphere, he also has a long history of being a support person, empath, and healer. He is particularly passionate about issues of suicidality and trauma within the trans community and is always looking to build communities based on anti-oppression and collective wellness and healing.

**Tasya Abbot** is a student at Hampshire college, where she studies directing and dramatic literature. She likes lipstick, trial law, Watergate, preening, and making privilege apologists uncomfortable. She is very invested in her political party, #lazyfemmes4theadvancementofselfieculture.

**Tiferet Nashman** lives in Toronto, Canada, where she spends most of her time dancing, skating and reading. She attends the University of Toronto and is studying Diaspora and Transnationalism. Some things that make her smile are sunshine, hugs, and chocolate.

**Traci Laichter** is a third year student at Hampshire College, where she studies ethnomusicology and museums. She likes glitter, coffee, and Robert Plant. She plays a lot of music, and wears a lot of lipstick. She is also a cheese alchemist and a firm believer in grandma chic. She is cutesy and utterly unashamed.

**Tranzmission Prison Project** has been around 30+ years. We are an Asheville, NC based group that has recently opened a Northeastern chapter out of Amherst, MA. Tranzmission is an abolitionist group, fighting to provide support, aid, and advocacy to queer and trans incarcerated people, and spread awareness and information on the outside.

**Skramz Geist** is a PhD candidate in the Philosophy, Interpretation & Culture; when they aren't getting depressed by reading books about how everything is terrible they enjoy cultivating their neuroses and talking to their cats.

**Tina McElmoyl** is a graduate student at UMass Amherst studying Social Justice Education. She has a background in workshop design and believes strongly in the ways peer-to-peer education models can support public school students through periods of transition and in exploring public health topics. Tina currently works for the Center for Supportive Schools, in Princeton, NJ and the Peer Health Education program at UMass Amherst.

**Teal Van Dyck** (F06) is a queer, gender fluid astrologer and pizza witch. He's spent nine years studying the Tarot from the perspectives of depth psychology and archetypal symbology. When he manages to pause all that mindstorming, he works in healthcare, specializing in health technology and integrative medicine. He lives in Amherst, MA and spends a lot of time admiring his cat, plants, crystals, and boos.

**Yael Kaufman** is a Senior Computer Science major at UMass Amherst. She is actively involved in the both the queer community and in gender equity campaigns on campus, and is looking forward to speaking with and learning from others at the conference!

**Zach** is a person. They have given plenty of Trans\* 101 workshops and a few on other related topics along with organizing other educational events. They have also sat on panels for diversity, asexuality and transgender awareness. Outside of activism, they are interested in playing with circus toys, fire spinning, poetry, and more.

**Zoë Boyle** is a queer femme Hampshire student with hopes of one day being a serious queer health power dyke. She studies feminist health politics and spends her free time volunteering at clinics, blogging about rape culture, and making zines about sex education.

# MEDIA POLICY

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- 1) Photographers will be clearly designated as such. If participants do not want photos that they are in to be published, they are asked to see a conference organizer or the photographer.
- 2) We will ask that all participants attach a colored sticker on their nametags that will signify if they are comfortable having their pictures taken for internal use, for external use, or not at all, and we will strive to respect these.
- 3) We will only publicly share photos in which participants have visual consent, meaning that they are clearly aware that their photos are being taken (i.e. smiling and looking at the camera).
- 4) Whenever possible, we let participants know if their images will be used in external publications.

*Special thanks to the Civil Liberties and Public Policy Program at Hampshire College for their help and advice in crafting this policy.*

# ACCESSIBILITY

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The Five College Queer Gender and Sexuality Conference will take place in Franklin Patterson Hall, which is wheelchair accessible throughout.

- There are wheelchair-accessible bathrooms throughout Hampshire College campus, as well as elevators.
- If you require ASL interpretation, or have other access needs, please pre-register for the conference and indicate your access needs in the registration form.
- Some doors in Franklin Patterson Hall are non-automatic; if you would like a remote for these doors, or if you need assistance navigating conference spaces, please notify us in our pre-registration form. It takes 5-10 minutes to move between buildings in a wheelchair.
- All lecture halls in Franklin Patterson Hall (Main, East, and West) have stairs, but are accessible by the ground level.
- There are wheelchair-accessible bathrooms available for use by people of all genders.
- We will maintain clear pathways for folks who use wheelchairs and other access devices in our conference spaces.
- The Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVTA), our local public transportation system, has several area buses that are free to the public. Conference organizers are happy to help you read maps and schedules.
- Because flashing lights can trigger seizures or other symptoms, we ask that you avoid wearing or carrying decorative flashing lights and refrain from taking flash photography.
- Please be aware of community members with chemical sensitivities, and remain scent/fragrance-free to the extent that you are able to. If you smoke (or hang around people while they smoke) campus policies require you to do so at least 25 feet from buildings and away from walking paths.
- Service animals are welcome in Hampshire College buildings, but unfortunately, we cannot allow pets or other animals.
- Please help us to diminish access barriers at the conference and continue to work and build with us so that the conference is more accessible to more people each year. If you have feedback, questions, or suggestions, or want to volunteer or help organize around access, please email [queerconf@hampshire.edu](mailto:queerconf@hampshire.edu)

*Special thanks to the Civil Liberties and Public Policy Program at Hampshire College for their help and advice in crafting this list.*

# CONFERENCE SPONSORS

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FundCom  
Merrill House  
New Student Programs  
Office of the President  
Queer Community Alliance Center  
School of Critical Social Inquiry  
School of Humanities, Arts, and Cultural Studies  
School of Interdisciplinary Arts

## Off-Campus Offices

Amherst College Queer Resource Center  
Civil Liberties and Public Policy  
Five College Queer and Sexuality Studies Certificate  
PopDev  
UMass Amherst Stonewall Center

Thank you to all of our sponsors who helped make this event possible with their generous gifts!

# THANK YOU TO OUR WONDERFUL RAFFLE DONORS



The closing raffle will take place in the lobby of Franklin Patterson Hall at 6pm on Saturday, March 8<sup>th</sup>. By submitting your Queer Conference feedback form non-anonymously, you will be automatically entered to win. All winners will be randomly chosen from the pool of feedback forms. If you are not present your prize will be forfeited and another winner will be chosen.

# SAVE THE DATE

THE 6TH ANNUAL  
FIVE COLLEGE  
QUEER GENDER  
& SEXUALITY  
CONFERENCE  
HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE  
FRANKLIN PATTERSON HALL



MARCH 6TH - 7TH 2015