

THE 6TH ANNUAL
FIVE COLLEGE QUEER
GENDER AND SEXUALITY
CONFERENCE



FRIDAY MARCH 6TH
&
SATURDAY MARCH 7TH
HAMPSHIRE COLLEGE
FRANKLIN PATTERSON HALL

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About	3
Navigating Campus	4
Accessibility	4-5
Communication Badges	5-6
Media Policies	6
Friday Schedule of Events	7-8
Saturday Schedule of Events	9-11
Organizing Team	12-14
Keynote Speaker	15
Featured Speaker	16
Featured Presenter	17
Friday Night Events	18
Clothing Swap	19
Quiet Space	19
Raffle & Cake!	20
Workshop Descriptions	21-29
About Our Presenters	30-36
Special Thanks	37
Save the Date!	38

ABOUT

The Five College Queer Gender and Sexuality Conference aims to offer an accountable and supportive environment to explore a wide range of topics and their intersections, such as race, genders, sexualities, ability, class, kink, religion, survival strategies, and many more, in a specifically queer context. Presenters include Five College students, faculty and staff, off-campus educators, and nationally-known performers, activists, speakers, and scholars. The conference is meant to be a safer space for engaging, learning, and fostering community. We are always looking for ways to adapt and improve, with the intention of remaining an annual event, and we welcome your feedback and participation in future organizing.

As we enter our sixth year we are grateful for 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 accessible, and are able to offer this as a free public event because of the generosity and dedication of volunteers and donors from the Five Colleges and beyond. Starting as a single day conference in 2010, we have grown into a full two-day event that attracts attendees from communities all over the Northeast U.S.

Thank you for being here. You are the reason we do this work, and we are so excited to build and grow with you all this weekend.

In solidarity,

The 2015 Queer Conference Organizing Team

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

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

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

Email: queerconf@hampshire.edu

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/FiveCollegeConference>



Use **#QueerConf2015** on Twitter, Instagram, Tumblr, and Facebook!

NAVIGATING CAMPUS

The conference takes place primarily in Franklin Patterson Hall. Most of the workshops are on the first floor in classrooms 101-108. There are a few special events in the Main Lecture Hall on the ground floor and some in the West Lecture Hall and Faculty Lounge on the 2nd floor.

The only conference events outside of Franklin Patterson Hall are:

- one workshop (Queer Yoga) in the Merrill Living Room, which is located across from the main doors of Franklin Patterson Hall. Through the first door, the living room is the first door on your left.
- the MasQueerade Dance Party is in the Red Barn, which is on the other side of campus, closer to the West Street entrance to campus.
- Cupcakes & Crafting in the Center for Feminisms, which is in the Enfield Housing Area.

Places to eat on campus: The Bridge café is located in the top floor of the Robert Crown Center, next to the library—go out the front doors of Franklin Patterson Hall and take a right. The dining commons are in the Merrill quad—go out the front doors of Franklin Patterson Hall and take a left.

Parking is designated with event signs. Be sure to park in marked lots.

The bus stop is behind the library. PVRTA Bus 38 and 39 run from Hampshire to the towns of Amherst and Northampton respectively.

ACCESSIBILITY

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

- Elevator guide:
 - **2 - Faculty lounge, east lecture hall, west lecture hall**, water fountains, single stall bathrooms (not accessible)
 - **1 - Rooms 101 through 108**, water fountain, side entrance (not accessible)
 - **L - Lobby, check-in desk, main entrance (accessible)**, vending machine, multi-stall bathrooms (not accessible),
 - **G - Main Lecture Hall, Single-stall accessible bathroom**, side exit

- o to parking lot (accessible)
 - o **B** - This is the maintenance tunnels. Don't go down here.
- All lecture halls in Franklin Patterson Hall (Main, East, and West) have stairs, but are accessible by the ground level.
- The Red Barn is a far walk from FPH. See organizer if you have concerns.
- We will maintain clear pathways for folks who use wheelchairs and other access devices in our conference spaces.
- The Pioneer Valley Transit Authority (PVRTA), 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 do so.** In order to make the conference accessible to people who are unable to breathe smoke, **please do not smoke closer than 25 feet to the building,** as is in accordance with Massachusetts State Law.
- 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

COMMUNICATION BADGES

This is new to the conference this year, but we are excited to include communication badges in this event. Please join us in normalizing this practice in conference spaces by participating! Use the green, yellow, and red slips of paper we have provided at check-in to express your comfort levels with social interaction to other conference-goers.

From the website of the Autistic Self Advocacy Network (ASAN)
autisticadvocacy.org:

Color Communication Badges are a system that was first developed in Autistic spaces and conferences. They help people tell everyone who can see their badge about their communication preferences. [Our Color Communication Badges take the form of green, yellow, and red slips of

paper with the letters G, Y and R on them.] The [paper] that is currently visible is the active color.

Showing a green badge means that the person is actively seeking communication; they might have trouble initiating conversations, but wants to be approached by people who are interested in talking.

Showing a yellow badge means that the person only wants to talk to people they recognize, not by strangers or people they only know from the Internet. The badge-wearer might approach strangers to talk, and that is okay; the approached people are welcome to talk back to them in that case. But unless you have already met the person face-to-face, you should not approach them to talk.

Showing a red badge means that the person probably does not want to talk to anyone, or only wants to talk to a few people. The person might approach others to talk, and that is okay. But unless you have been told already by the badge-wearer that you are on their “red list”, you should not approach them to talk.

People can change what card is showing if their preference changes. [This makes our conference more socially accessible.]

MEDIA POLICIES

- 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.
- 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.
- 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).
- Whenever possible, we let participants know if their images will be used in external publications.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

FRIDAY MARCH 6TH

1:00—1:30pm Check-in & Registration (Lobby, L on elevator)

1:30—2:50pm Workshop Session 1

- **“Trans*ition Services: The Sunset of Gate-keeping”** with Shelley Janiczek Woodson, PhD (Room 104)
- **“Questioning Gender, Questioning Faith: Spiritual Resources to Explore Identity”** with Andrew Leigh Amanda LeAnn Bullard (Room 105)
- **Queer Empowerment: Food Justice, Veganism and the act of Resisting** with Brandie Skorker (Room 106)
- **“This Is Not Sex Ed With Your Middle School Gym Teacher: Safer Sex for Queer and Trans Folks”** with Chris Barcelos & Davey Shlasko (Room 108)

3:00—4:20pm Workshop Session 2

- **“Cross Contamination and Disinfection: Keeping Yourself, Your Play Partners and Your Equipment Safe at Kink Events, Clubs and at Home”** with Bella Vendetta (Room 102)
- **“Making the Invisible Visible: Intimate Partner Violence in the Queer Community”** with Lillian Rodríguez, Hannah Howard & Kalyn Stroik (Room 103)
- **“Queer Coalitions”** with Davey Shlasko (Room 104)
- **“[Un]cover Their Eyes!: The Intersection of TV and Sex Ed”** with LJ Beckenstein (Room 105)
- **Queer Friend Speed Dating** with Justin Kilian (Room 106)
- **Caucus on Disabled Queer and Trans Experience** with Kali Lily Fen Adair & Nihils Rev (Room 107)

FRIDAY MARCH 6TH

- **“Making Queer Family Real: Building Queer and Trans Communities of Care”** with Adrian Ballou (Room 108)

4:30—5:30pm Featured Presentation: Lourdes Ashley Hunter
“Shifting the Narrative”
(Main Lecture Hall, Ground floor of FPH)

6:00pm Dinner with Lourdes Ashley Hunter
Meet Lourdes, eat, and mingle with other queer and trans international students and people of color. This is a closed space for QTPOC.
(Faculty Lounge, 2nd Floor)

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

SATURDAY MARCH 7TH

- 10:00—10:30am** Check-in & Registration (FPH Lobby, L on elevator)
- 10:30—11:00am** Welcome Ceremony feat. performance by Cancer Rising:
Devyn Mañibo & Jesse Graves
(Main Lecture Hall, Ground Floor)
- 11:25—12:35pm** Workshop Session 3
- **“I Just Need To Pee”** with Kailin Oarei (Room 101)
 - **“Four I’s of Oppression”** with Shannon DaSilva (Room 102)
 - **“Concepts of Kink”** with E Winter Tashlin (Room 103)
 - **“QPOC Empowerment: Fostering Community Across Campuses”** with Andrés Patino (Room 104)
 - **“Intro to Polyamory”** with Kristen Winstead & Jeremy Winstead (Room 105)
 - **“Help Make a Massachusetts Trans Activist College Network”** with Kelly Herbst & Mason Dunn (Room 106)
 - **“Community Support: Building Sustainable Ways to Support Each Other in Crisis”** with Shawn Tristan Powell (Room 107)
 - **“Transgender Health” with Timothy Cavanaugh, MD** (Room 108)
 - **Queer Yoga** with Chris Barcelos (Merrill Living Room, across from Franklin Patterson Hall through the main entrance)
 - **Trans & Non-Binary Clothing Swap** (West Lecture Hall, 2nd Floor)
- 12:45-1:45pm:** Lunch provided: pizza with vegetarian, vegan, GF options (Faculty Lounge, 2nd Floor)

SATURDAY MARCH 7TH

1:45–3:05pm Workshop Session 4

- **“Connecting Your Campus with LGBTQ Prisoners”** with Justin Adkins (Room 101)
- **“Trans Rights and Policies in Massachusetts”** with Mason Dunn (Room 102)
- **“There is No “I” or “U” in Queer Community”** with Skramz Geist (Room 103)
- **“Queerness, Videogames, and Geekery”** with Daniel Vasquez & Taylor Glickman (Room 104)
- **“Out in the World”** with E Winter Tashlin (Room 105)
- **“Tacit Subjects: The ‘Closet’, Caribbean Identity, and Speaking the Unspeakable”** with Dianna Tejada (Room 106)
- **“Queer Families and Special Education: Considering More Than the IEP”** with Jeanette Beal (Room 107)
- **“Femme Futures: Devising Multimedia Fem(me)ifestos”** with Devyn Mañibo and Jesse Graves (Room 108)
- **Trans & Non-Binary Clothing Swap** (West Lecture Hall, 2nd Floor)

3:15–4:45pm Keynote Presentation: Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha
**Dreaming Beyond Survival: Loving Each Other
So We Can Live**
(Main Lecture Hall, Ground Floor)

5:05–6:15pm Workshop Session 5

- **“Cultivating Your Queer Writing Style”** with Meghan Tunno (Room 101)
- **“Zines! Putting Consent into Practice”** with Jena Duncan (Room 102)

SATURDAY MARCH 7TH

- **“All Queer in the Head: A Space for Discussion On and With the Mentally Ill LGBTQ+ Community”** with Justin Kilian (Room 103)
 - **“DIY Queer Cybersecurity”** with Safe Hub Collective (Room 104)
 - **“Asexual Spectrum Caucus”** with Sarah Duey (Room 105)
 - **“Presenting Outside the Binary”** with Marina Sterrer & Ness Bellini (Room 106)
 - **Poly Family Panel** with Michelle, Aimee, Micah, Ian and Laurel (Room 107)
 - **“How To Create Healing Justice Practice Spaces”** with Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha (Room 108)
 - **Trans & Non-Binary Clothing Swap** (West Lecture Hall, 2nd Floor)
- 6:30pm** Closing Raffle & Cake! (Lobby, L on the elevator)

ORGANIZING TEAM

Abigail Carpenter-Winch is a student at Hampshire College, where she studies Religion and Women, Gender, and Sexuality. She is on the Organizing Team for the 2015 Queer Conference, and was also an organizer and/or presenter for the 2014, 2012 and 2011 Queer Conferences and the 2011 Queer Jews and Allies Conference.

Amanda Klajbor: Across academic and extracurricular space, she pursues ideas about how voices and silences are racialized, gendered and molded by the politics of social class. She identifies as feline, scorpio, femme and as a div iii literature concentration.

April Grayce Dunlop is a fiery queer femme witch who believes that healing ourselves is a vital form of resistance. She is an amateur herbalist and a connoisseur of outrageous lipstick shades. They are currently taking space from Hampshire College, where they have been studying queer theory, religion, and creative non-fiction writing for the past three years. In addition to organizing this conference, April has done work with the Philadelphia ACLU, Hampshire College Sexperts, the Pioneer Valley Workers Center, Queers for Economic Justice, and Hampshire Spiritual Life's Peer Chaplaincy program. She lives and works in Northampton, MA.

Araña Muñiz is the Interim Director of Residence Life at Hampshire College. She joined the organizing committee after providing emotional and practical support to other organizers for years. Much of her work demonstrates her commitment to social justice. She is also a loving mother and treats so many who know her like family.

Charisse DelVecchio is a Division II student at Hampshire College where she studies Neuropsychology and Animal Behavior. At Hampshire, she works as a Resident Advisor and is captain of the Hampshire College Equestrian Team. She is a member of the 2015 Queer Conference Organizing Team.

Emily Rimmer is the Director For Women's & Queer Services at Hampshire College and has been the staff advisor for the conference since it was just a dream. She continues to work on this conference because of the incredible people who are willing to join her in giving SO much time, patience, energy and love to make it possible. And because of the

community it creates. When she isn't running the conference she oversees two student centers, the Center For Feminisms and the Queer Community Alliance Center. She is also dedicated to practicing martial arts, finds sanity in yoga, and loves spending time with her old deaf puppy.

Flannery Rollins is a Division I student at Hampshire College where they study Non-Fiction Writing and Feminist Theory. They work as a Peer Educator at Hampshire College's Wellness Center. In their spare time they enjoy watercolors, poetry and reading graphic novels.

Hannah Howard is a queer, Cancer, feminist, and femme lady who digs survivor-driven advocacy. She works as the Program Assistant for Campus Leadership and Activities at Hampshire College and volunteers with Safe Passage. She spends her spare time doing yoga, cooking, reading, and watching bad movies.

Jess Ide is honored to serve as volunteer coordinator for the conference this year. She is a linguist, writer, and activist who founded the Gender Identity Network and works on staff for The Omen. Her website is <http://spooky.camp/~yiskah> where you can find a sampling of her writings and also a bot she made that apologizes to you.

Justin Kilian has had a wonderful time helping organize the Five College Queer Gender & Sexuality Conference for the first time! She does activist work with Smith Q&A, changing Smith's admissions policy to include trans women, and GLU, working to win victories for transgender students at UMass Amherst. When she's not organizing, she likes to organize some more, fantasize about shoes she doesn't own, and make home remedies.

Meghan Tunno is a junior at UMass Amherst as well as the training coordinator at the UMass Stonewall Center. They're excited help organize the Five College Gender & Sexuality Conference for the second year. When they're not organizing, they enjoy studying Chinese and Spanish at UMass and angrily blogging.

Nadia Elle Levin is an extremely famous queer girl thing living in Northampton playing music and occasionally going on tour. She attended Hampshire College studying film and creative writing. She cares a lot about her fellow trans femme people + trans women and is constantly

delighted to know as many as she does. She also wants to start a band with you.

Nihilisms O. Rev quite enjoyed functioning as the Outreach Coordinator and Five College Liaison for this year's conference. When it is not relentlessly talking about "The Gend", being a mean and smug gay, or reading and writing critical theory as a student at UMass Amherst, it is being ~painfully cute~ and organizing with Gender Liberation UMass in addition to local chapters of Food Not Bombs. In the past it has also served on UMass's chapter of the Association for Computing Machinery. They have hopes of arriving at a few solid research interests, and bringing them to graduate school.

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'naajínii (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 second time Queer Conference organizer (Yeah!). When not conference organizing or working at Hamp's Cultural Center, she spends a lot of time contemplating the next nail polish color while drinking all of the coffee ever.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha

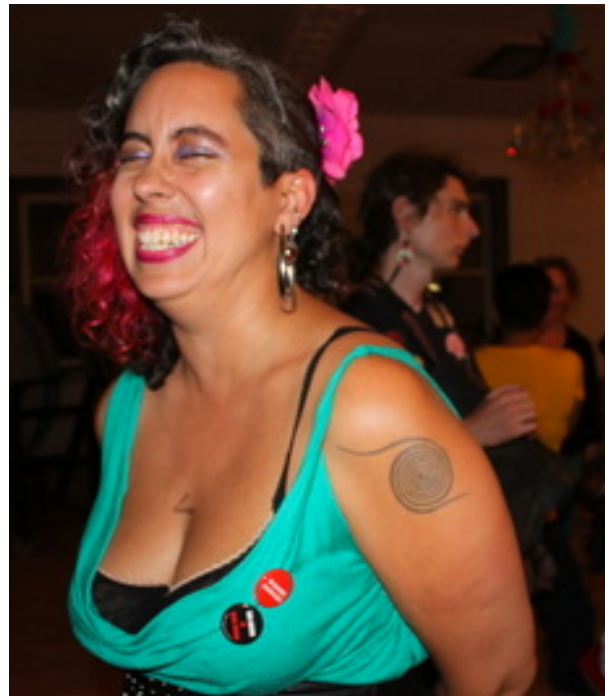
Dreaming Beyond Survival: Loving Each Other So We Can Live

Saturday at 3:15pm in Main Lecture Hall (Ground Floor of FPH)

An interactive performance keynote lovefreedom spell.

Her workshop **“How To Create Healing Justice Practice Spaces”** will be held in room 108 at 5:05pm on Saturday.

Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha is a queer disabled femme writer, performer, healer and teacher of Burgher/Tamil Sri Lankan and Irish/Roma ascent. The author of the Lambda Award-winning *Love Cake* and *Consensual Genocide* and co-editor with Ching-In Chen and Jai Dulani of *The Revolution Starts At Home: Confronting Intimate Violence in Activist Communities*, her writing on femme of color and Sri Lankan identities, survivorhood, and healing, disability and transformative justice has appeared in the anthologies *Dear Sister*, *Letters Lived*, *Undoing Border Imperialism*, *Stay Solid*, *Persistence: Still Butch and Femme*, *Yes Means Yes*, *Visible: A Femmethology*, *Homelands*, *Colonize This*, *We Don't Need Another Wave*, *Bitchfest*, *Without a Net*, *Dangerous Families*, *Brazen Femme*, *Femme* and *A Girl's Guide to Taking Over The World*.



She is the co-founder of Mangos With Chili, North America's touring queer and trans people of color cabaret, a lead artist with the disability justice incubator Sins Invalid and co-founder of Toronto's Asian Arts Freedom School. In 2010 she was named one of the Feminist Press' 40 Feminists Under 40 Shaping the Future and she is a 2013 Autostraddle Hot 105 member. She organized the successful 2014 Healing Justice for Black Lives Matter action which raised \$28,000 for Black Lives Matter through community based healing justice spaces. Her next book of poetry, *Bodymap* and first memoir, *Dirty River*, will be published in 2015.

FEATURED SPEAKER

Lourdes Ashley Hunter

Shifting the Narrative

Friday at 4:30pm in the Main Lecture Hall (Ground Floor)

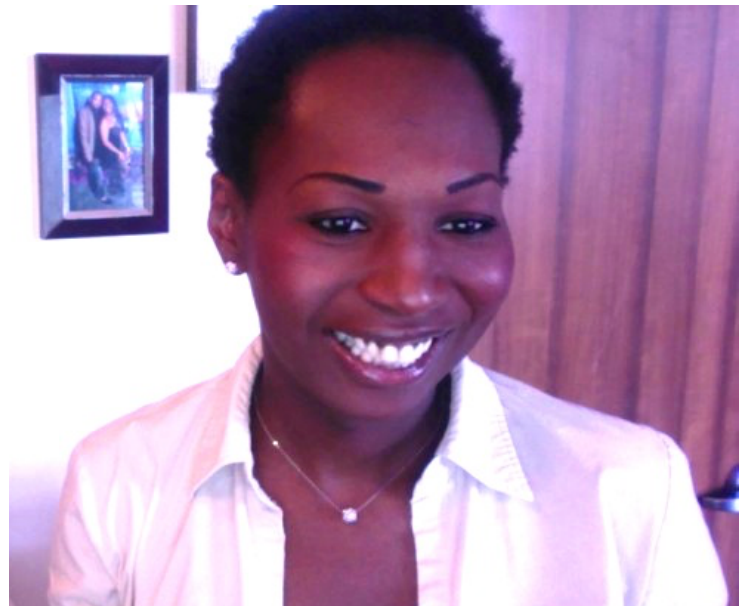
Lourdes Ashley Hunter, MPA, talks about her journey navigating structural oppression and how Trans Women of Color Collective is leading a transformative movement that empower trans* youth of color to step into their leadership.

Dinner with Lourdes for Queer and Trans People of Color

Friday at 6pm in the Faculty Lounge (2nd Floor)

Healer, Orator and Academic, Lourdes Ashley Hunter has led grass roots initiatives that impact the socio-economic growth and development of trans and gender non-conforming people of color (tgncpoc) for over 20 years.

Originally from Detroit, Michigan Ms. Hunter's research, racial and economic justice activism, policy and legislative work centers the lived experiences, leadership and capacity building of tgncpoc communities in national social justice movements.



Lourdes earned a Bachelor degree in Social Theory, Structure and Change with concentrations in Race, Class and Gender Studies from SUNY: Empire State College, as well as an Executive Master of Public Administration from Rutgers University.

Lourdes' leadership guides the national organizational development and operations at Trans Women of Color Collective. She is also the Director of the Healing and Restoration Ministry at Rivers at Rehoboth Church in New York City. Lourdes' is leading a transformative movement that empowers trans folks of color to be the authors of our narratives and creators of our own sustainable initiatives.

FEATURED PERFORMER

CANCER RISING



FACEBOOK.COM/THEREALCANCERRISING
THEREALCANCERRISING.FUMBLR.COM

Cancer Rising is an interdisciplinary/multigalactic femme collaboration between **Devyn Mañibo** and **Jesse Graves**. Operating from sites of temporal distortion, their work centers ideas and practices of interdependence. Through rituals of resistance, they dig space for ancestral embodiment and processes of healing.

They will be performing their piece “Tastebuds” during the opening ceremony on **Saturday at 12:45pm (Main Lecture Hall, Ground Floor)**.

Tastebuds is an invitation to indulge, a call to feed our exquisite hunger, a hedonistic conjuring of desire and ritual. This multimedia invocation is an experiment in time, space, and taste.

FRIDAY NIGHT EVENTS

Masquerade: a Dance Party

9pm-1am in The Red Barn at Hampshire College, featuring:

Kilbourne aka Ashe Kilbourne is a 23-year old DJ, producer, and femme from New Jersey. One of Fact Magazine's "10 Club Producers to Watch in 2015," Kilbourne primarily makes Jersey and Philly Club Music and has worked with artists such as Cakes da Killa, Rizzla, Sugar Shane, and Abdu Ali. Listen to her music at www.soundcloud.com/kilbourne.

DJ Perfect Puppy Princess is a project dedicated to emotionally intense, intensely physical dance music oriented towards processing dysphoria and loneliness and playing sounds that make me move in the hopes that it helps others do the same. fight isolation. DJ Perfect Puppy Princess will be joined by DJ Sol Nova: <https://soundcloud.com/solnova>.

Cassette Fighter is a queer synthpop group based in Northampton, Massachusetts. They write songs about space, colors, and feelings

Free and open to the public. Come early! We fill up every year. The space is accessible and striving to be low-scent. Please avoid wearing scented personal products to the extent that you are able. We ask that you practice consent (always and also) on the dance floor. We prioritize the safety and wellbeing of queer and trans folks. Please understand that this is an intentional space created by us and for us. While ALL community members are welcome, we expect your utmost respect. Racism, heterosexism, cissexism, misogyny, ableism, classism, homophobia, oppressive language, etc. are not welcome. Be aware that if you are disrespectful of this space, you WILL be asked to leave immediately.

Cupcakes & Crafting:

9pm to 11pm in the Center for Feminisms

Join us for a **substance-free chill space** to enjoy baked goods and low-key crafts. Come decorate cupcakes and make collages! Hosted by G.R.N. (Hampshire College's Gender Resource Network).

CLOTHING SWAP

New this year, the Conference will have a room dedicated to a clothing swap **all day on Saturday, March 7th** in the **West Lecture Hall (2nd Floor of FPH)** in Franklin Patterson Hall. Conceived of and facilitated by Nihils Rev.

This clothing swap is primarily intended to benefit folks with marginalized gender identities. Meaning, anyone is welcome to BRING clothes, but we want to prioritize trans and non-binary folks being able to TAKE clothes. In general, cis folks have way more access to clothing and so it is our goal at this conference to DISRUPT that and offer a resource to people who need it most.

Please bring all kinds & sizes of clothing/accessories to trade or donate! Make sure everything has been freshly washed and dried for sanitary reasons. (No underwear please--bras ok.) Don't bring anything that has been in a house with bedbugs or clothing moths. No to low scent is ideal. If you do not have scent-free laundry detergent please wash and dry a few days prior to minimize the smell. We will try to have clothes organized by size as best as possible, so please be prepared to hang things up or fold and organize clothes that you bring.

Any clothes leftover at the end of the day will be donated to the Amherst Survival Center.

QUIET SPACE

If you need to take a break from the bustle of the conference, the Faculty Lounge on the 2nd Floor will be a dedicated quiet space throughout the conference. The only exception is for 45 minutes before and during lunch (12:00-2:00pm), when food will be served in that room.

RAFFLE & CAKE

The closing raffle will take place in the **Lobby of Franklin Patterson Hall (L on the elevator)** at **6:30pm on Saturday**.

By submitting your Queer Conference feedback form, you will be automatically entered to win. Hand your feedback form in to an organizer in the lobby at the end of the day in exchange for a raffle ticket. All winners will be randomly chosen from the pool of tickets. If you are not present, your prize will be forfeited and another winner will be chosen.

Prizes include...

... a \$35 gift certificate to Oh My Sensuality Shop in Northampton, MA

... a gift certificate to Judy's Restaurant in Amherst, MA

... a signed book by Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha

There will be cake! A sweet way to end the day.

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

Friday, March 6th

1:30—2:50pm Workshop Session 1

This Is Not Sex Ed With Your Middle School Gym Teacher: Safer Sex for Queer and Trans Folks (Room 102)

Chris Barcelos & Davey Shlasko

Most sexuality and safer sex education makes a lot of assumptions about the bodies of people having sex, what they do with their bodies, and how to keep their bodies safe and happy. This workshop will introduce safer sex strategies that are gender and body affirming, pleasure centered, sex positive, and oppression conscious. We will introduce specific practices to reduce harm during sexual activity (broadly conceived), which may include but are not limited to: barrier use (gloves, dental dam/saran wrap, condoms, and creative ways of using these barriers), enthusiastic consent, negotiating/avoiding particular sex acts, testing, fluid bonding, cleaning and sharing of toys, etc.). In addition, we will discuss strategies for talking about bodies, trauma, and desire. Finally, we will consider these topics in the context of mainstream sexual health education that ignores or pathologizes our bodies and sex in order to understand our safer sex practices as ways to claim a space for the legitimacy of non-normative bodies and identities, construct a community ethics of care, and establish symbolic relational boundaries.

Queer Empowerment: Food Justice, Veganism, and the Act of Resisting

(Room 103)

Brandie Skorker

The dominant culture tells us what we should eat but leaves out the fact that animal agriculture are products of violence, colonialism, and industrialization. By both educating ourselves about food and looking into our hearts, the LGBTQ community can continue the process of reclaiming our bodies and desires from unhealthy mandated appetites and heal from experienced trauma.

Trans*ition Services: The Sunset of Gate-Keeping (Room 104)

Shelley Janiczek Woodson, PhD

Surgeons, endocrinologists, psychotherapists, social workers, electrologists, speech pathologists. Name changes, gender markers, health insurance, child custody, marital status. The landscape is evolving rapidly. How did you navigate the labyrinth that is the fading gate-keeping system? A licensed psychologist and gender therapy specialist facilitates a timely discussion about how to obtain medically necessary trans* services.

Questioning Gender, Questioning Faith: Spiritual Resources to Explore Identity (Room 105)

Andrew Leigh Amanda LeAnn Bullard

Inspired by a need to break the binding narrative of binaries, this workshop is designed to encourage a healthy embrace of questions. This space will demonstrate how faith and religious resources can be used to support ourselves as we continue to explore who we are and who we are becoming. Storytelling and conversation are used to lay the foundation for a spiritual exercise on identity inspired by the Ignatian practice of imaginative contemplation.

3:00—4:20pm Workshop Session 2

Queer Coalitions (Room 101)

Davey Shlasko

“If you have come because your liberation is bound up with mine, then let us work together.” (Aboriginal activists group, Queensland, Australia, 1970s)
The struggle for queer liberation is bound up with the liberation struggles of all peoples - the struggles against racism, poverty, religious oppression, and all other systems that seek to raise up some people by beating down others. In this session we will explore specific sites of commonality and opportunities for coalition, and practice skills and principles for working together effectively across differences of identity and experience.

Making the Invisible Visible: Intimate Partner Violence in the Queer Community (Room 103)

Lillian Rodríguez, Hannah Howard & Kalyn Stroik

In this workshop, we'll begin by discussing the history of domestic violence movements and how they have lead to the perpetuation of heteronormative systems of intervention and response. We'll shift the narrative from the invisible to the visible by using first-person stories, statistics, and realistic strategies for supporting survivors and recognizing Intimate Partner Violence in our community.

[Un]cover Their Eyes!: The Intersection of TV and Sex Ed (Room 105)

LJ Beckenstein

In [Un]cover Their Eyes!: The Intersection of TV and Sex Ed, we'll explore the varied ways that people learn about sex, particularly through entertainment media. Using clips, testimony, and discussion, we'll think about the forms of media literacy that could aid viewers in better understanding the sex they see on television. Participants will leave the workshop with a deeper understanding of the ways that they learned about sex, ways that they can begin new conversations about media literacy, and ways that they as content creators can make scenes that present healthy information.

Queer Friend Speed Dating (Room 106)

Justin Kilian

Want to meet other LGBT people, but not sure how to do it? Speed Friending is a special space for those of us looking to make new connections in our community. Get to know a little bit about each person in the room, and keep in touch with those who click!

Caucus on Disabled Queer and Trans Experience (Room 107)

Kali Lily Fen Adair & Nihils Rev

This is a closed space for people of varying sorts disabled & queer or trans identities. We hope to foster a dialogue about the intersection of these varying identities and positions.

Making Queer Family Real: Building Queer and Trans Communities of Care (Room 108)

Adrian Ballou, Shawn Tristan Powell, & Tate Cochran.

So often disabled, mentally ill, and chronically ill people need support that is hard to access. And when we're also queer/trans, the (inadequate) support systems that are usually in place for cis, straight people often don't exist for us. We say our queer family will take care of us, but it can be hard to show up for each other without organized support. Building a Western Massachusetts community of care will help us make sure that everyone in our community can access the support they need. What, exactly, is a community of care and how can we make that glittery love happen for each other? Come on down to this workshop to find out!

4:30—5:30

Featured Speaker: *Lourdes Ashley Hunter*

Shifting the Narrative (Main Lecture Hall, Ground Floor of FPH)

Lourdes Ashley Hunter, MPA talks about her journey navigating structural oppression and how Trans Women of Color Collective is leading a transformative movement that empower trans* youth of color to step into their leadership.

Saturday, March 7th

11:25—12:45pm Workshop Session 3

I Just Need to Pee (Room 101)

Kailin Oarei

In this interactive workshop we will explore gender as a continuum rather than a spectrum; participants will leave this workshop with an understanding on how to talk about gender non-conformity and advocate for a less binary system. I Just Need to Pee is a phrase that everyone thinks at some point, so regardless of your identity or expression, this workshop is for you. Come explore gender and expression as a journey rather than a destination.

Four 'I's of Oppression (Room 102)

Shannon DaSilva

The "Four I's of Oppression" is a framework to understanding how oppression plays out through ideas, institutions, interpersonal interactions and then becomes internalized. In this workshop, participants will use this framework to deepen their understanding of how oppression plays out in these four ways by using real examples of different types of oppression. Participants will also use how to use this tool to organize for change.

Concepts of Kink (Room 103)

E Winter Tashlin

Join sex and kink educator/event producer Wintersong for an informative, yet lighthearted, whirlwind tour through the mysterious and convoluted world of the kink community. We will discuss the myriad variation of what it is that “kinky” people like to do and why they do it, give an overview of various kink subcultures, address issues of gender and sexuality as they apply to common themes within the kink world, and of course, answer your questions. Whether “the scene” is a place you call home, or the very idea of kink sexuality makes you uncomfortable (and everywhere in between) you’re sure to learn something, maybe about yourself.

QPOC Empowerment: Fostering Community Across Campuses (Room 104)

Andrés Patino & Ramona East

A closed QPOC caucus centering on creating connections among individuals by using personal stories to motivate discussion of intersectionality and life challenges. This group will focus on methods of empowerment to organize in effort to gain more visibility, and more representation within their own predominantly white campus and within the 5 college network.

Intro to Polyamory (Room 105)

Kristen Winstead & Jeremy Winstead

Polyamory is becoming an increasingly popular way to approach relationships. This workshop is for anyone interested in exploring the concept of polyamory and whether it's right for them. Topics for discussion may include: what is polyamory, benefits and challenges, what makes polyamory work, types of poly arrangements, how to manage jealousy, and safer sex.

Help Make a Massachusetts Trans Activist College Network (Room 106)

Kelly Herbst & Mason Dunn

MTPC is working on the creation of a network for trans activists and advocates at colleges and universities across the state. With over 100 institutions of higher learning located all across the state, our goal is to get as many leaders working on transgender related activism on our campuses connected with each other to provide support, advice, and solidarity. We want to make this network as useful to trans activists on campuses as possible so come discuss how a network like this would be useful to you as a trans activist and your campus community.

Community Support: Building Sustainable Ways to Support Each Other in Crisis (Room 107)

Shawn Tristan Powell

Within our queer communities, we often hold space for each other in times of crisis, grief, suicidality, violence, and trauma. This is a workshop for folks who find themselves in support roles 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 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.

Transgender Health (Room 108)

Timothy Cavanaugh, MD

This workshop will include a presentation and question and answer time with the Medical Director of Fenway Health's Transgender Health Program. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers.

Queer Yoga (Merill Living Room)

Chris Barcelos

This workshop for self-identified queer and trans folks will include a 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.

1:45—3:05pm Workshop Session 4

Connecting with LGBTQ Prisoners (Room 101)

Justin Adkins

Many campuses have prisoner pen-pal programs. A new model we are trying at Williams is a longterm relationship with LGBTQ inmates. This workshop will discuss a few ways you can get involved in abolishing the PIC through pen-pal communication.

Trans Rights and Policies in Massachusetts (Room 102)

Mason Dunn

Join the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition for updates on the state of trans rights in Massachusetts, as well as the national landscape of trans advocacy. You will hear about what has been achieved over the last year, what's on the horizon, and learn how you can get involved.

There Is No "I" or "U" in Queer Community (Room 103)

Skramz Geist

Often appeals for how we should spend our energy or what our political commitments are supposed to be are tied to a conception of what is best for the "queer community." In a hybrid lecture/discussion my goal is to unpack what we mean by Queer Community and to what extent the Queer Community is an ideal or abstraction and to what extent it is an actually existing institution. The purpose of this panel is not to denigrate enthusiasm for political commitments under the queer umbrella but to highlight exactly how we deploy the concept of community.

Queerness, Videogames, and Geekery (Room 104)

Daniel Vasquez & Taylor Glickman

Come and play with being a Gamer and LGBTQ! We will be discussing the importance of video games in queer geek culture and the impact the intersection has for modern forms of media. For all people in the LGBTQ spectrum and gaming platforms alike.

Queer Families and Special Education: Considering More Than the IEP

(Room 105)

Jeanette Beal

Queer families are no longer an anomaly, and neither are queer families with disabled children. While navigating doctors, curious family members, home and community life may seem daunting, don't forget education! Beyond FAAPE, IDEA and LRE queer families need cultural competency and inclusion from the whole educational team.

Tacit Subjects: The 'Closet', Caribbean Identity, and Speaking the Unspeakable (Room 106)

Dianna Tejada

In this workshop, participants will engage with the complexities of Caribbean Identity, the 'collective closet', and feeling liberated within that context. Using an experiential approach, this workshop will challenge the participants to examine how institutionalized white supremacy, the patriarchy, and cisheterosexism intersect within a global context.

Out in the World (Room 107)

E Winter Tashlin

For some of us, high school and/or college can be a wonderful time of self-discovery and community, while for others it is a trial to be endured, the reward of which we are assured, is the freedom to embrace our true selves when we go out into the world on our own. Regardless of your experience, the transition from high school into college, and then from there into the “real world” (or directly into the “real world” if college is not part of your path) can be an exciting, daunting, magical, and dangerous, time for LGBTQ people. In this workshop we’ll talk about coming out, building a “family of choice,” interacting with school administration and employers, confronting homo/transphobia on our own, relationships, self-identity and more.

Femme Futures: Devising Multimedia Fem(me)ifestos (Room 108)

Devyn Mañibo & Jess Graves

Femmes are from space; glitches in the heteropatriarchy forged from delicious stardust. Join us as we traverse the galaxy for ninety minutes, exploring the intricacies and idiosyncrasies of femme existence and resistance through creative practice. Through language and our bodies, this workshop will culminate in a fem(me)ifesto which centers a culture of interdependence and resilience. This is a closed space for femmes. Space is limited and priority is given to self-identified folks of color and mixed folks

5:05—6:15pm Workshop Session 5

Cultivating Your Queer Writing Style (Room 101)

Meghan Tunno

This workshop focuses on the challenges that queer writers face in developing their own aesthetic in a cisheteronormative literary landscape. The workshop will allow for discussion between queer writers as well as some time for a free write. If time permits, participants will be able to share excerpts from their own writing.

Zines! Putting Consent into Practice (Room 102)

Jena Duncan

Learn how to make a zine and use it as a space to explore and communicate what's inside and outside of your personal boundaries. We'll talk about what consent means and what practicing it can look like to include all identities in the LGBTQ+ community. We'll use the creative and accessible medium of mini magazine making to start dialogue and build healthy relationships.

All Queer in the Head: A Space for Discussion On and With the Mentally Ill LGBTQ+ Community (Room 103)

Justin Kilian

A dialogue for LGBTQ+ people living with mental illness (and other neurodivergencies) to converse about their experiences. We will explore the history of this intersection, how these identities inform one another, and how we can reconcile them as our honest, unashamed selves. A place for self-discovery, self-actualization, and healing.

DIY Queer Cybersecurity (Room 104)

Safe Hub Collective

We reject digital violence: you have a right to safe digital spaces! From anonymous browsing to encrypted messaging, we'll walk through simple tools and strategies that will allow you to take greater control of your privacy and data in your digital life. All tech experience levels welcome!

Asexual Spectrum Caucus (Room 106)

Sarah Duey

This is a casual space for folks who are asexual, demisexual, gray-asexual, elsewhere on the asexual spectrum or questioning to chat about whatever they would like. There will be cupcakes. Come hang out and connect with other aces!

Presenting Outside the Binary (Room 107)

Marina Sterrer & Ness Bellini

In small groups we will discuss lived experiences of presenting outside of the gender binary. This workshop is intended to give a brief introduction to terminology but focus mainly on how different people navigate the challenges presented by society.

How To Create Healing Justice Practice Spaces (Room 108)

Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha

In this interactive workshop, come share and learn about how people are creating healing justice practice spaces, and how you can dream up a community based space for healing! Leah will share about her experience helping create the December 2014 Healing Justice for Black Lives Matter action, where healers from across North America created social justice healing spaces to raise money for the Ferguson bail fund and to provide free healing for Black organizers and community members.

6:30pm Closing Raffle & Cake! (Lobby, L on elevator)

ABOUT OUR PRESENTERS

Adrian Ballou is a genderqueer writer, artist, activist, and educator. They graduated cum laude from the transmisogynistic Smith College in 2011, and they have spent the past several years doing youth development work both inside and outside the classroom, in addition to community organizing and writing for Everyday Feminism. They particularly enjoy developing and delivering curriculum on social justice education and youth organizing. In their free time, they cook lots of food, sing songs, make art, and practice their Spanish, Hindi, and Urdu.

Ramona East is a student at University of Massachusetts as the Head Coordinator of Queer Student of Color Affairs at Stonewall Center. Fluent in social justice discussion, she aims to build coalition across social dynamics and foster community within marginalized identities. Having intersectional identities by identifying as a black queer woman, Ramona wishes to discuss and deconstruct the meaning of intersecting identities and the impact they have on individual's lives.

Andrés Patino a senior at the University of Massachusetts is a Natural Resource Conservation major working at the Stonewall Center as the Head Coordination for Internal Events. They are passionate about creating change and using their social justice knowledge to break down systems of oppression to create inclusive communities. They love to go dancing, exploring the outdoors, and traveling whenever they can.

Since embracing their genderful trans* identity **Andrew Leigh Amanda LeAnn Bullard** has hosted over twenty workshops both in their local community and at regional conferences. An interdisciplinary professional they apply their training in librarianship, law enforcement, and social service to build a society where all people can celebrate and share their intersecting identities. They are continuing on a path of spiritual and professional development through service as a member of the Lawrence House Service Corps while working as the coordinator for 5 College Common Cup: Uncommon Christians Creating Community.

Bella Vendetta is a professional and lifestyle Dominatrix with over 13 years training and experience. Hailing from Western MA she completed a traditional training at the world's oldest BDSM training chateau and went on to become the president of Rites of Passage Suspension Group. Her work within the adult industry and in the body modification and medical fields have allowed her to train with some of the top industry professionals from around the globe. In addition to kink and sex education Bella is also an internationally published fetish model, award winning adult film star and published writer.

Chris Barcelos is a doctoral candidate in public health at UMass Amherst and an adjunct professor of sociology at Greenfield Community College. As a researcher and educator, their job is basically to talk about sex all the time, which is pretty great. Chris is also a local yoga teacher committed to sharing the benefits of yoga with people who find yogic practice inaccessible, whether because of race, class, gender, sexuality, body

Davey Shlasko is an educator, author and consultant whose passion is facilitating group learning about & in the context of social justice movements. Davey has been writing and teaching about social justice issues since 2000, and has published writing on queer pedagogy, classism, trans movement building, and trans allyship. Read more about Davey's work at www.thinkagaintraining.com.

Dianna Tejada is an Afrodominican spoken word poet, lover, educator, freedom fighter, and student from Brooklyn, New York. She is a senior at Mount Holyoke College majoring in Africana Studies with a concentration on Sexuality in the Caribbean and double minoring in Gender Studies and Cognitive Neuroscience. She has been published in the (1)ne Drop journal and on Black Girl Dangerous. She is currently conducting research on the lives of Women who desire Women (WDW) in the Dominican Republic, utilizing the subjects' narratives as primary sources of knowledge and forms of truth.

Devyn Mañibo is a mixed Pinay femme, and diasporic interdisciplinary artist. She creates and collaborates as a means of cultivating space for resistance, survival, and love for and by her communities. She can usually be found race raging, shade bending, and averting your settler colonial gaze with a resting glare of displeasure.

Daniel Vasquez studies Social Thought and Political Economy at the University of Massachusetts where he also works at the Stonewall center. Hailing from California, non-profit organizations focusing on queer youth of color, where he can play video games with them, is his dream.

E. Winter/Wintersong Tashlin is an educator, activist, blogger, and shaman who teaches workshops on such diverse topics as queer/LGBT issues, kink/BDSM, pagan spirituality, polyamory, and disabilities. He was the keynote speaker for Transcending Boundaries Conference 2014, is a regular blogger for The Bilerico Project, and is the former assistant producer for Dark Odyssey Events. Winter gave his first workshop at thirteen when he and his mother explained to his entire Jr. High School about his Tourette Syndrome, which became much more noticeable when he started barking like a dog. In the years since, he has presented workshops for a wide range of kink, LGBT, academic, pagan, and medical conferences and organizations throughout the northeast USA and across the country. Winter makes his home by the sea in Old Orchard Beach, Maine in a small freeform polycule along with his husband of fifteen years. Find out more about Winter at <http://barkingshaman.com>

Hannah Howard is a queer, Cancer, feminist, and femme lady who digs survivor-driven advocacy. She works as the Program Assistant for Campus Leadership and Activities at Hampshire College and volunteers with Safe Passage. She spends her spare time doing yoga, cooking, reading, and watching bad movies.

Jeanette Beal is an assistive technology specialist and parent advocate practicing in the metro-Boston area. After over four years of developing an assistive technology program for an urban public school, ze left to begin offering the advocacy and home services ze felt were missing. Queer, femme, disabled and first-generation American, ze believes everyone deserves a quality life worth living and the tools to achieve it.

Jena Duncan is an art maker that builds life in the abundant pioneer valley with a heart-warming community. Her creative endeavors explore the meaning and production of identity and culture. She teaches on a variety of topics and is interested to create safe and supportive spaces for all identities to engage in something passionate. Her faithful sidekick is a cat named Sophie.

Jesse Graves is a mixed latin@ hard femme, multimedia artist, poet, educator, alchemist and all around dreamboat from Queens, NY (718 GET THE MONEY). Their hobbies include having feelings, eating brunch, chilling hard, time travel and moisturizing. Jesse's first chapbook, "Broken Back / Salten Seas", is scheduled for release in July 2015.

Justin Kilian is a transgender student organizer based in the Pioneer Valley Area. She has been recognized by groups like NCCJ and Live Out Loud for her work, and one of her more public current campaigns is fighting for trans woman inclusion in Smith's admissions policy. When she is not having a nervous breakdown organizing conferences, strategizing the downfall of the white cis heteropatriarchy, or adopting queer adolescents as her own, she likes to daydream about outfits she will never wear and make DIY skincare products.

Kailin is an agender-fluid Bostonian who presents on sexuality, gender, spirituality, and advocacy. Xe has been seen at the True Colors Conference, The GKE: New England and Classic, The Society's Coming out Different, and First Event and the NELA Flea 43 and 44; Kailin is also a co-organizer of the Trans* Spectrum Kinksters. Kailin is also a language teacher and an advocate for LGBTQ homeless youth and young adults. Check xem out at doodleboi.com

Kali Lily Fen Adair is a sad trans witch with radical left politix and a grudge. They are a resident of Northampton, and a disabled grey-asexual survivor. They are popular on the internet for "Being Crazy" and performing illegal gender magic. They deeply dislike the book "Female Masculinity." Their future goals include rearranging their medication bottles and keeping their room organized. Their pet peeves include capitalism, conventional productivity, institutionalized education, and the heterosexual lifestyle.

Kalyn Stroik works as an Area Coordinator at Hampshire College. She has an adorable pup, buys too many books, and loves Twitter. She is a queer woman passionate about intersectional violence prevention movements.

Kelly Herbst is a senior double major in Women's & Gender Studies and English at Clark University in Worcester, MA and a Community and Policy Intern with the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition. Working to make Clark a safer and more affirming school for trans students specifically, and LGBTQ+/queer students more generally, has been their passion over the past four years.

Kristen and Jeremy Winstead have been practicing polyamory for five years. They had little support transitioning from a monogamous to a polyamorous way of life, and made all the mistakes one could make! Now they are dedicated to educating and empowering people in creating the relationships they want. They run Western MA Poly People, which meets once a month in Easthampton for discussion and networking.

Lily Rodriguez works as the Community Advocacy Program Coordinator at Hampshire College and is pursuing a Masters in Public Health at UMass. She has two dogs, a lovely partner, and loves to bike. She identifies as a queer Latina and is passionate about creating systems of support and unity for INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE survivors, especially within queer communities of color.

LJ Beckenstein is a Div III (senior) at Hampshire College. He studies the intersection of media representation and sex. He also works with young people, volunteers with a media literacy program, and watches a lot of TV.

Marina Sterrer: I am a tentatively genderqueer person who is still navigating my own gender identity. I'm new to the Valley as I recently graduated from the University of Vermont and moved out here to do AmeriCorps. I like working with kids and challenging their perceptions of gender, playing ice hockey, and romping through nature with my partner and new puppy!

Mason Dunn is the executive director for the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition. An educator and activist, Mason is also an adjunct faculty member in the communications department at the University of New Hampshire at Manchester, where he specializes in LGBTQ images and perspectives. Mason is a lawyer and activist, with over 10 years of experience in transgender rights advocacy.

Meghan Tunno is a junior at UMass Amherst where they study Spanish and Chinese Languages and Literatures. They also work as the training coordinator at the Stonewall Center where they have gained experience in facilitating workshops on gender identity and sexuality.

Ness Bellini: I graduated from Hampshire in 2013, where I studied Theatre but developed a passion for social justice and Butler. I currently serve through the RISE AmeriCorps program at the United Arc in Turners Falls, MA, where I facilitate nonconforming pterodactyl, and in my spare time I play roller derby and RISK legacy and watch too much tv.

Nihilisms O. Rev is, according to sources within the institution of medicine, chronically ill, 'developmentally disabled', dangerously queer, and 'living the transsexual lifestyle' among other things. It is a student at UMass Amherst, survivor & victim, and proponent of disability self-advocacy. It lives its life to be socially generative and supportive of queer and trans womyn and people who are not so easily shoved into the gender binary. While their disabilities and the world of academia emergently clash, their future goals include graduate school, and finding a way to survive under late capitalism.

Noah Kelley is a software engineer by day, activist cyberpunk by night. When not sitting at his keyboard pretending he's in The Matrix, you can find him fighting for safer physical and digital spaces with Boston-based **Safe Hub Collective**.

Sarah Duey is a fourth year at the University of Massachusetts where they study Sociology and Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies. She is the lead organizer of the Western Mass Ace Meet-ups, and the External Coordinator of the Stonewall Center's Speakers Bureau. They also enjoy creating sweet treats and travelling (especially to conferences) whenever possible.

Shannon DaSilva has a background of over 10 years working for nonprofit organizations on a wide range of issues from ending violence against women, to LGTBQ equality to, economic and racial justice. For three years she worked closely with survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault in Chicago, IL. She spent over 7 years advocating for inclusive policy changes at the city, state and federal level for low-income people, LGBTQ folks and communities of color around multiple issues from predatory lending, immigration, racial profiling and police brutality, civil unions, trans health access and paid sick days. She has taught courses on privilege and oppression and a background in using popular education methodology.

Shawn Tristan Powell is an activist, writer, artist, educator and mental health provider. He is particularly passionate about issues of suicidality, trauma, and disability within the trans community. As a trans person with chronic illness with a long history of being a support person, empathy, and healer, he is always looking to build communities based on collective wellness and healing.

Dr. Shelley Janiczek Woodson is an outspoken, queer, Licensed Psychologist who specializes in assisting transitioning trans* people.

Skramz Geist is a PhD candidate at SUNY-Binghamton in the PIC (Philosophy, Interpretation & Culture) program and is currently an Adjunct Professor of Philosophy at St Mary's College of Maryland. Their academic interests include the intersections of queer identity and radical politics and the history of sex/gender. Their non-academic interests are binge watching terrible television, hanging out with their cat, listening to the Mountain Goats/Taylor Swift pairings mixtapes and baking.

Tate Cochran is a tender-hearted queer activist who spends their days talking to teenagers about their feelings and cultivating an understanding of how trauma informs the ways we move through the world. They love talking about social justice/critical politics, relationships, and all things related to raising small humans. These days, they are particularly interested in exploring ableism and in connecting with folks navigating disability and/or chronic illness (and those who love them). In their spare time, they can be found curled up with a book, wondering about what the planets are up to, and getting distracted by trees and other interesting things.

Taylor Glickman is a freshman at the University of Massachusetts Amherst where he works at the Stonewall Center. In his spare time he enjoys promoting transgender equality, eating a good burger, and playing with his two cats.

Timothy Cavanaugh, MD, is the Medical Director of Fenway Health's Transgender Health Program. In his role, Dr. Cavanaugh works closely with a team to, to oversee Fenway's multidisciplinary team approach to providing excellent care to patients with gender dysphoria. This includes providing clinical leadership and training to physicians, midlevel providers, and nurses around transgender health issues; overseeing efforts to outreach to trans communities in New England; and implementing quality improvement processes that continuously enhance the transgender patient experience at Fenway Health. He is board certified in Family Medicine, having completed his residency training at the University of Virginia Health System. Prior to this, Dr. Cavanaugh obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology at Princeton University, and his medical degree at Dartmouth Medical School.

SPECIAL THANKS

This event wouldn't be possible without our generous sponsors!

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We would also like to honor our volunteers who make everything run smoothly during the event!

And a very huge thank you to our graphic designers:
Ally Surette McCarthy (program & MasQueerade poster)
and Tom Howe (conference poster).

SAVE THE DATE !

Next year! The 7th Annual Five College Queer Gender and Sexuality Conference will be:
Friday, March 4 and Saturday, March 5, 2016



If you would like to give us **feedback** about this year's conference, you can do so online at: hamp.it/queerconffeedback

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