

LBGTQ+ Services

April 2023 LBGTQ+

NEWSLETTER

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///WELCOME

It's April!

The semester is just flying by. The weather is just doing its New England thing, there are more people outside hanging out, and soon enough it'll be the end of the semester!

Before that happens we still have two months sharing awesome resources, creating programs, and supporting y'all and your interests.

Read through our newsletter and check out what is happening in April with our office and others across the institute.

Student Performers and volunteers

LBGTQ+ Services is looking for student performers and volunteers for the 2023 Lavender Graduation. Please email Assistant Director, Jeremy Torres (he/they)

ejtorres@mit.edu by April 20th

Lavender Graduation

Save the date for on-campus/hybrid Lavender Graduation!

THURSDAY, MAY 4th from 4:30- 6pm Burton-Conner Porter Room

All are welcome to attend. If you're a student and/or alum from any class years: 2023, 2022, and 2021 then please come celebrate!

RSVP for all (Graduating students and guest) will close April 20th

RSVP Here: [Tinyurl.com/2023LavenderGraduation](https://tinyurl.com/2023LavenderGraduation)

Assistant Director of WXGS Nandini

LBGTQ+ Services would like to introduce to you all the Assistant Director of WXGS Nandini Choudhury.

You can find Nandini in 3-308. Chat and connect with them.

LBGTQ+ Services

Office Hours for LBGT+ Services Assistant Director, Jeremy Torres (he/they)
by email: ejtorres@mit.edu

Graduate Assistant, Heather Trites (they/them) by email: Tritesh@mit.edu

Thursday/Friday: 11am - 7pm

Rainbow Lounge Hours

Open Everyday via Tap Access

Open Everyday via Tap Access

Programs and student staff available 1:00 pm - 6pm

M-F Email: lbgt@mit.edu

///Follow us on social media

Facebook: @rainbowloungemit

Instagram: @rainbow_lounge_mit

///UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

April LBGTQ+ Book Recs.

***Naturally Tan* by Tan France**

TAGS: *Memoir, Asian Pacific Islander, Muslim, South Asian, People of Color*

Full of his candid observations about US and UK cultural differences, social media behavior, celebrity encounters, behind-the-scenes realities of reality TV, and--of course--fashion tips, Tan gives his unique perspective on the happiness to be found in being yourself.

***The Savvy Ally* by Jeannie Gainsburg**

TAGS: *Allies, Education, Politics, Nonfiction*

The Savvy Ally: A Guide for Becoming a Skilled LGBTQ+ Advocate is an enjoyable, humorous, encouraging, easy to understand guidebook for being an ally to the LGBTQ+ communities. It is chock full of practical and useful tools for LGBTQ+ advocacy.

///[LBGTQ+ Services April Programming](#)

Queer Representation in Animation

Celebrate queer representation in animation with the Rainbow Lounge! Follow the link to order a custom button with your favorite queer character (free of charge) and/or request shows to play at movie night!

Date: Friday, April 7th

Time: 4:30pm - 6:30pm

Location: Rainbow Lounge

tinypurl.com/CustomQueerButton

CPW Drag Bingo

DRAG? BINGO! PRIZES! Stop by the Rainbow Lounge Saturday afternoon and play Drag Bingo! All are welcome to this CPW Event.

Date: Monday, April 11th

Time: 1:00 - 3:00 pm EST

Location: Rainbow Lounge (50-250)

Lesbian Day of Visibility Social Mixer

Come to mix and mingle with the community to celebrate Lesbian Day of Visibility! Enjoy light refreshments, decorate a planter and plant a succulent, and jam to a personalized queer/lesbian playlist!

Date: Monday, April 26th

Time: 12:00 - 2:00 pm EST

Location: Cheney Room (3-308G)

LCC/LBGQTQ+ Drop in Lunch and Chat

Join LBGQTQ+ Services and Intercultural Engagement for a drop in lunch and chat before heading to class. Grab a burrito and stick around for a conversation about the intersection of Latinx and queer/trans identities.

Date: Thursday, April 20th

Time: 12pm-1pm

Location: SPXCE W31-110

AAPI Heritage Month movie and discussion

Join LBGQTQ+ Services and Intercultural Engagement for a movie night and discussion about AAPI Queer Representation in media. We will be watching Everything Everywhere All At Once and having popcorn and bubble tea!

Date: *Friday, April 28th*

Time: *5-7pm*

Location: *Rainbow Lounge Backroom (50-250)*

BIWOC Gathering circle symposium

Join WXGS for a day to learn about:

- *Black Maternal healthcare*
- *Reproductive health access*
- *Access to quality healthcare*
- *Women's empowerment*
- *Crafting a reflection journal (1:15 pm)*

Date: *Friday, April 14th*

Time: *10:00 am - 4:30 pm*

Location: *Webinar/ 3-308G*

RSVP: http://tiny.cc/WXGS_GC

A Conversation with Dr. Tina Opie

Please join us for a fireside chat with Dr. Tina Opie –author, speaker, educator, and former MIT MLK Visiting Scholar –about her Shared Sisterhood framework: Dig, Bridge, Collective Action. Learn with us about an approach to achieving racial and gender equity that includes individual, interpersonal, and communal commitments, and empowers us all to be agents for change at MIT.

Date: *Monday, April 4, 2023*

Time: *12-1:30pm*

Location: *Zoom or Wong Auditorium (E51-115)*

CPW WXGS Chocolate making Event

Join Women and Gender Services (WXGS) to make your own dark, milk, and white chocolate candy in various fidget popper toy molds. Take both home with you and chat with others! The center is a space for women and non-binary students.

Date: *Tuesday, April 26th*

Time: *3 - 5pm EST*

Location: *Rainbow Lounge 50-250*

Meet and greet with Nandini

Get to know the new Assistant Director of WXGS! Stop by the Cheney Room to say hi, make candles, and eat delicious donuts from Donut Villa!

Date: Thursday, April 6th

Time: 12:00 - 2:00pm

Location: Cheney Room (3-308G)

Campus Preview Week

Campus Preview Week would not be complete without stepping into SPXCE. Residing in SPXCE are the following offices: OMP (Office of Multicultural Programming), LBGTQ+ Services, WXGS (Women & Gender Services). There is space for everyone in SPXCE.

Date: Friday, April 8th

Time: 4:00 - 6:00pm

Location: W31-110

RISE AWARDS

The RISE AWARDS - Recognizing Individuals Supporting Equity - is an opportunity to celebrate MIT faculty, staff and students on their work with diversity, inclusion and social justice on and off campus. MIT community members nominate their peers and colleagues for these awards. The RISE AWARDS is a collaboration sponsored by Intercultural Engagement (i.e.), LBGTQ+ Services, WXGS, OGE, OFY, OME, and ICEO.

The deadline to submit a nomination is April 3rd, 2023.

Award Descriptions:

<https://tinyurl.com/wz47sxps>

Make Nominations Here:

<https://tinyurl.com/2jm9yzf9>

[///HAPPENING @ MIT: For All](#)

MIT book launch for Prof. Helen Elaine Lee's new novel, Pomegranate

Pomegranate is a complex portrayal of queer Black womanhood and marginalization in America: a story of loss, healing, redemption, and strength. In lyrical and precise prose, Helen Elaine Lee paints a humane and unflinching portrait of the devastating effects of incarceration and addiction, and of one woman's determination to tell her story.

Date: April 27th

Time: 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Location: R&D Commons in Stata

RSVP: tinyurl.com/booklaunchmit

[///HAPPENING @ MIT: Just for Grads](#)

QTPHD Chat

qtPhDs @ MIT seeks to support LGBTQIA+ members of the MIT postdoctoral community during their time at MIT and as they go on to work in sectors such as

academia, education, research, and industry. Join them for some snacks and a great discussion!

Date: Monday, April 10th

Time: 2:00 - 3:00

Location: Rainbow Lounge

[/// Beyond MIT](#)

SpeakOUT Spring Speaker Training

The Spring Speaker Training prepares volunteer speakers to conduct interactive speaking engagements in schools, colleges, workplaces, faith communities, and beyond. Especially looking for interested BIPOC, transgender/nonbinary and younger speakers. The training will focus on valuable skills such as setting the right tone, shaping and telling a story, overcoming fear, working with a co-speaker, and answering difficult questions.

Date: Saturday, April 22nd

Time: 9am - 6pm

Location: 20 Somerset Street Boston, MA 02108

Get tickets: tinyurl.com/springspeakout

Spill the Disabili-Tea: An Introduction to Disability Justice

What is disability justice and its relationship to racial justice? What's the difference between access and inclusion? These and other complex questions will be explored in this virtual Disabili-Tea workshop with Alex Locust, a Black biracial, queer, disability justice educator, activist, and "Glamputee" who celebrates the harmony of his identities to help create the world we all want to see

Date: Thursday, April 6th

Time: 4pm - 5pm

RSVP: tinyurl.com/MITdiscountticket

Queer Edition of 'Constellations'

In this new version features an all-female cast and highlights the voices and stories of the LGBTQIA+ community within the AAPI cultural context. At its core, Constellations is a love story between an astrophysicist and a beekeeper that explores themes of mortality, remembering, free will, and the weight of dying. Use promo code: VERMILION-COMMUNITY

Date/time: Saturday, April 8 at 7pm and Sunday, April 9 at 2pm and 7pm

Location: Boston University Fitness and Recreation Center

Get tickets: tinyurl.com/MITconstellations

Reach out LGBTQIA2S+ Career Conference

This event focuses on the perspectives and concerns of LGBTQIA2S+ students in preparation for co-op, internships, and professional life beyond campus. Hear from professionals in various industries about navigating diverse professional cultures as LGBTQIA2S+ people. Breakout workshops on topics such as understanding employer-sponsored health insurance, navigating legal name and gender marker change processes, and knowing your rights in the workplace.

Date: Saturday, April 8th

Time: 9:45am - 3:30pm

Location: Northeastern University, John D. O'Bryant African American Institute

Register: lgbtqa.northeastern.edu/REACHOUT/

First Fridays at the ICA: Break the mold

The ICA is partnering with the Teachers' Lounge and Boston While Black to close out Simone Leigh opening week with drinks, dancing, art-making and more! Don't miss karaoke with DJ Outlaw, a music competition, and dancing with DJ Yvng Pavl.

Date: Friday, April 7

Time: 6pm - 10pm

Location: ICA Boston

Get Tickets: tinyurl.com/firstfridayica

///Acronyms In Our Newsletters

There's a lot of acronyms at MIT and we use a lot of them for character length in our newsletter. However, you might not be familiar with everyone. One of our readers had a great suggestion of including a key at the end of the newsletter and here it is so folks can know what everything means. If you have any suggestions for our newsletter then don't hesitate to reach out at: lbgt@mit.edu.

LBGTQ+ - Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay, Transgender, Queer Plus

ORSEL - Office of Religious, Spiritual and Ethical Life QTPhD -

Queer and Trans PhD (Doctor of Philosophy)

QTPoC - Queer and Trans People of Color

VPR - Violence Prevention & Response

SAAM - Sexual Assault Awareness Month

WXGS - Women and Gender Services

WGS - Women and Gender Studies

I.E. - Office of Intercultural Engagement

OSW - Office of Student Wellbeing

SPXCE - Social Justice Programming & Cross Cultural Engagement

You are welcome here

The SPXCE Intercultural Center
W31-110 (duPont Athletic Center)

MIT Rainbow Lounge
Walker Memorial 2nd Floor (50-250)

Spxce.mit.edu
Lbgtq.mit.edu
Trans.mit.edu