Check out our visual newsletter!
Follow us on social media!
Facebook | Instagram | Twitter

//WELCOME

Women’s History Month

Happy March MIT students and staff! We hope that your semester is off to an enjoyable start and that you are taking time to take care of yourself. March is Bisexual Health Awareness Month and Women's History Month. #BiHealthMonth, founded and led annually by the Bisexual Resource Center, raises awareness about the bisexual+ (bi, pansexual, fluid, queer, etc.) community's social, economic, and health disparities; advocates for resources; and inspires actions to improve bi+ people's well-being. Every year, March is designated Women's History Month by presidential proclamation. The month is set aside to honor women's contributions to American history.

Rainbow Lounge Hours

Open Everyday via Tap Access 6 am - 2 am the following day
Lavender Graduation

Dear Graduating Students Spring ’24 & Fall ’24,

We are excited to open the RSVP for our 2024 Lavender Graduation ceremony, a celebration of achievements and milestones within the LBGTQ+ MIT community. The event is scheduled to take place on Friday, May 3rd, at 4:00 pm US Eastern Time at the MIT Welcome Center.

Whether you’re able to join us in person or virtually, we invite you to be a part of this joyous occasion where we come together to recognize the remarkable accomplishments of you, our graduating LBGTQ+ MIT undergraduate and graduate/postdoc from the class of 2024.

Our Lavender Graduation promises to be a unique and inclusive experience, offering a hybrid format for those unable to attend in person. Expect a vibrant celebration filled with music, inspiring speeches, graduate recognitions, food, and more. To ensure accessibility, the event will feature a live closed captioner, and please note that it will not be recorded.

Kindly RSVP at your earliest convenience and consider sharing this invitation with your friends and family. As the celebration draws near, you will receive the Zoom link to participate and share in the joy of this special day.

Should you have any questions or require further information, feel free to reach out to LBGTQ+ Services at lbgt@mit.edu. We look forward to your presence and participation.
in making this Lavender Graduation a memorable and uplifting experience for everyone involved.

/// TEAM SHOUTOUT

Assistant Dean of LBGTQ+, and WXGS

Lauryn McNair, Assistant Dean of LBGTQ+, Women and Gender Services (WXGS). Last month, they won a 2024 Trans Community Leadership Award at @transcommunitynewengland First Event 2024 Conference.

/// MEET THE TEAM

Jeremy Torres
Assistant Director of LBGTQ+ Services
Pronouns: He/They
Phone: 617-253-8792
E-mail: ejtorres@mit.edu
Office: T, W, F (10am - 6pm)
Work From Home: Mondays & Wednesdays

Audrey Leopold
Graduate Assistant to LBGTQ+ Services
Pronouns: They/She
E-mail: aleopold@mit.edu
Office: M, T, TR

Lauryn McNair
Assistant Dean of LBGTQ+, WXGS
Pronouns: She/They
Phone: 617-253-8792
E-mail: lmcnair@mit.edu
Office: By appointment

Rainbow Lounge Student Workers
Lauren, she/they
Calvin, he/him
Maize, they/she
Heidi, she/her
Gabi, she/they
Sharon, she/her

///Follow Us on Social Media

Facebook: @rainbowloungemit
Instagram: @rainbow_lounge_mit

///UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MONTHLY LBGTQ+ BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

Check out our books at: https://lbgtqmit.libib.com/

Bi The Way: The Bisexual Guide to Life

TAGS: Bi/Bisexual, Nonfiction, Education
Whether you are openly bisexual, still figuring things out or just interested in learning more about bisexuality, Bi the Way is your essential guide to understanding and embracing bisexuality. It includes practical tips and guidance on topics including dating, sex, biphobia, bi-erasure, coming out, activism and gender identity, demystifying a community that is often erased or overlooked.

*Sister Outsider: Essays and Speeches*

TAGS: Black, Lesbian, Gay, Queer, Women, Women’s Studies

Bringing together essays by established and emergent scholars, this collection assesses the strengths and weaknesses of prior work on race and sexuality and highlights the theoretical and political issues at stake in the nascent field of black queer studies.
WORLD PREMIERE PLAY: BECOMING A MAN

Experience a world-premiere play by P. Carl and director Diane Paulus, depicting one man's gender transition against the backdrop of a pivotal political moment in America. "Becoming a Man" is a courageous story of self-discovery and the supportive community needed to embrace our true selves.

When and Where Is This?
Location: Loeb Drama Center
Date: Thursday, March 7
Time: 7:30 - 9:30pm

MOVIE NIGHT: BOTTOMS

Unpopular best friends PJ and Josie start a high school fight club to meet girls and lose their virginity. They soon find themselves in over their heads when the most popular students start beating each other up in the name of self-defense.
Rating: R

When and Where Is This?
Location: Rainbow Lounge 50-250
Date: Friday, March 15
Time: 4:30 - 6:00 pm
Trailer: https://tinyurl.com/bottoms-trailer

GETTING BI: THE IMPACT OF BI ERASURE

Join us for a discussion on the impact of bi-erasure, exploring its effects and how we can address them.
**When and Where Is This?**
Location: Rainbow Lounge 50-250
Date: Monday, March 18
Time: 4:00 - 5:00 pm

**TRANS DAY OF VISIBILITY CELEBRATION**

Celebrate International Transgender Day of Visibility with us a bit early! Join our fun gathering featuring delicious food, community, and trans pride.

**When and Where Is This?**
Location: Rainbow Lounge 50-250
Date: Friday, March 22
Time: 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

**JUSTIN HUBBELL: IN A WORD: TRANS**

Join us for a special event featuring Justin Hubbell, author of "In a Word: Trans." This graphic novel is an incredible introduction to trans issues, perfect for anyone looking to deepen their understanding. Join us as we explore this underrated art form and hear from Justin.

**When and Where Is This?**
Location: Zoom
Date: Wed, March 27th
Time: 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm
RSVP: [tinyurl.com/28v3e7e9](https://tinyurl.com/28v3e7e9)
QUEERLY BELOVED

A weekly small group for those at the intersection of queerness and Christianity!
Sponsored by LBGTQ+ Services and the Office of Religious, Spiritual & Ethical Life at MIT

When and Where Is This?
Location: Rainbow Lounge 50-250
Date: Weekly on Mondays
Time: 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

///HAPPENING FOR ALL

UPLIFTING TRANSGENDER & GENDER NON-CONFORMING VOICES

Join WXGS and Jesse Freidin (He/Him), a queer-identified photographer, author, and educator, for a conversation on elevating the experience of the trans and gender non-conforming community through portraiture and interviews in his current project “Are You OK?”. Open to all MIT students.

When and Where Is This?
Location: Cheney Room, 3-308
Date: Tuesday, March 5th
Time: 5:30-6:30pm
Snacks will be provided

EXPLORATION OF DATA + FEMINISM

To celebrate Women’s Heritage Month, come learn from Catherine D’Ignazio (she/hers) on how to use data and computational methods to work towards gender and racial
equity. D'Ignazio is a scholar, artist/designer and hacker mama who focuses on feminist technology, data literacy and civic engagement. Open to all MIT students.

**When and Where Is This?**

Location: Wellbeing Lab, W20-308  
Date: Monday, March 11th  
Time: 6:30-7:30pm  
Dinner will be provided

**CARE PACKAGE ASSEMBLY**

In support of Rosie’s Place. We got all the supplies, now come help us assemble the care packages! They will be donated to Rosie’s Place, a shelter and home for women-identifying people in Boston.

**When and Where Is This?**

Location: SPXCE (W31-110)  
Date: Monday, March 18th  
Time: 4:30-6:30pm
LA CAMARISTA

The director Lila Avilés presents the story of a maid working at an upscale Mexican hotel, who seeks to find her place in the world. There will be a talk back session after the screening, and free snacks will be provided. Open to all at MIT.

*When and Where Is This?*

Date: Tue, March 19th

Time: 5:30pm

Location: Cheney Room (3-308)

MOVE YOUR BODY

Join WXGS and MIT Recreation for a fun group workout for women and non-binary students! All levels are welcome. Sign up here: [http://tinyurl.com/Move-Your-Body](http://tinyurl.com/Move-Your-Body)

*When and Where Is This?*

Date: Wed, March 20th

Time: 12:00-1:00pm

Location: Dupont Varsity Weight Room

THE STRATTON LECTURE: HOW WILL AI IMPACT WOMEN?

Join the Women’s League and our panel of speakers as we explore the unique issues facing women with the development of AI. This in-person lecture will offer a vibrant atmosphere for thought-provoking discussions.
When and Where Is This?

Date: Wed, March 6th
Time: 11:30am-1:30pm, lunch provided
Location: Wong Auditorium (E51-115)
Registration: http://tinyurl.com/stratton-lecture

WOMEN IN STEM, MIT VALUES: EXCELLENCE + CURIOSITY PANEL

MindHandHeart welcomes Professors Paula Hammond, Ann Graybiel and Sangeeta Bhatia for the “Women in STEM, MIT Values: Excellence + Curiosity panel event” where attendees will hear about each person’s career journeys, challenges experienced along the way, and advice for those interested in pursuing careers in STEM.

When and Where Is This?

Date: Thur, 03.07.24 Time: 4:00-5:30pm Location: Bush Room, 10-105 Registration: http://tinyurl.com/mitvalues

“20,000 SPECIES OF BEES” FOLLOWED BY Q&A DISCUSSION W/ BAGLY

In this sun-soaked, sublimely sensitive debut, writer/director Estibaliz Urresola Solaguren sets her lens on an eight-year-old’s identity crisis over one uncertain summer vacation. Coco (at least for the moment), explores her gender identity under the cautious, yet loving gaze of three generations of women in her family, who concurrently also reflect on their own place in the world.
When and Where Is This?
Date: Fri, 03.08.24
Time: 5:30pm
Location: Bartos Theater

“TWICE COLONIZED” FOLLOWED BY Q&A DISCUSSION W/ AAJU PETER

Renowned Inuit lawyer Aaju Peter has led a lifelong fight for the rights of her people. In this “powerful exploration of cultural trauma” (The Film Stage), director Lin Alluna follows alongside Aaju Peter as she strives to reclaim her language and identity after a lifetime of whitewashing and forced assimilation.

When and Where Is This?
Date: Fri, 03.15.24
Time: 5:30pm
Location: Bartos Theater

///AWARD NOMINATIONS

MIT RISE AWARDS: Recognizing Individuals Supporting Equity

Intercultural Engagement (i.e), LBGTQ+, Women and Gender Services (WXGS), the Institute Community and Equity Office (ICEO), the Office of Graduate Education (OGE) and the Office of Minority Education (OME) warmly invite you to the 2024 RISE Awards ceremony.

Additionally, please consider nominating an MIT faculty, staff, student or group. Help us recognize outstanding members of the MIT community for their dedicated efforts toward promoting equity and diversity.
Nominate an MIT Community Member Nominations are due by Wednesday, April 3rd. Nominations should be at least one (1) page long (about 250 words double-spaced), and no more than two (2) pages long.

- Nomination Form
- Award Descriptions

**When and Where Is This?**

Date: Tuesday, April 23rd, 2024

Time: 11:30am - 1:00pm

Location: Morss Hall in Walker Memorial (50-140)

RSVP: [2024 RISE Awards RSVP Form](#)
///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 every one. 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
- BWA: Black Women’s Alliance
- SSAW: Student Support and Wellbeing
- 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.- Intercultural Engagement
- RL: Rainbow Lounge WXGS: Women and Gender Services
- 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