LBGTQ+ Services
April LBGTQ+
Newsletter

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

//WELCOME

April Showers, Rainbow Flowers
Time flies! It seems like just yesterday it was May (and a great turnout for Trans Day of Visibility) and now it's already April. It's Arab American Heritage Month, Lesbian Visibility Day (April 26th), and then right around the corner is Lavender Graduation.

LBGTQ+ Services hopes you're taking time for yourself to enjoy the small things in life while you're in classes, at work, and wherever you are around the world. Know that we're thinking of you.

Lav Grad Performances
Save the date! Lavender graduation is May 11th 5-6:30pm EST. LBGTQ+ Services for students or student groups to perform.

Performances can be live or pre-recorded for 3-5 minutes. It can be music, dance, poetry, etc., whatever moves you/your group.

If you are interested in performing, send an email with the subject line: Lavender graduation to Nina (she/her) at nfoushee@mit.edu or Robert (he/him) at hinesr@mit.edu.

Performers will be compensated.
LBGTQ+ Services
Office Hours
Office Hours for LBGT+ Services Assistant Director, Lauryn McNair (she/they) by email: lmcnair@mit.edu

Rainbow Lounge Hours
Virtual Hangouts
Zoom Link: mit.zoom.us/j/96166084800
Mondays, April 5, 12, and 26
1:00 - 3:00 PM EST

///LBGTQ+ Services Signature Programming

QTPoC
URL: mit.zoom.us/j/97244077712
Wednesday, April 7
2:00 - 4:00 PM EST

QTPoC is for queer and trans people of color in the MIT community to hang out with each other once a month, chat, watch movies, and have support.

Feel free to join at any time and bring friends!

Web Fam Fridays
URL: mit.zoom.us/j/96166084800
Fridays, April 2, 16, and 30
6:00 - 8:00 PM EST

Web Fam Fridays (WFF) are LBGTQ+ social events that happen on biweekly Fridays. It might be a movie, a game, a chat space, and more!

Check our social media pages or our website for more information: lbgtq.mit.edu/programs-0
Rainbow Lounge Hangout

URL: mit.zoom.us/j/96166084800
Mondays, April 5, 12, and 26
1:00 - 3:00 PM EST

Rainbow Lounge Hangouts are hangouts run by one of the Rainbow Lounge student workers. Come drop by to play games, chat, watch TV, and more.

There's always something going on so stay for all or part of the time to hang out with other students.

///Follow Us on Social Media

Facebook: @rainbowloungemit
Twitter: @lbgtmit
Instagram: @rainbow_lounge_mit

///UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

April LBGTQ+ Book Recs.

Bird-Eyes by Madelyn Arnold
TAGS: Lesbian, Lesbian, Mental Hospital

A lesbian teen runaway is sent to a mental hospital in 1963 and becomes close friends with a deaf woman named Anna who teaches her sign language, and gives her the strength to defy the system.

The Truth Is By NoNieqa Ramos
TAGS: Latinx, Trans, Young Adult

Verdad doesn't think she has time for love. Then she meets Danny— who happens to be trans— all bets are off. Verdad has to deal with her mother's disapproval and questions about her identity.
///LBGTQ+ Services Programs and Updates

Web Fam Friday

**URL:** [mit.zoom.us/j/96166084800](mit.zoom.us/j/96166084800)

Fridays, April 2, 16, 30
6:00 - 8:00 PM EST

Join us for three Fridays in April to chill virtually. April 2 and April 30 we will be watching a movie, and April 16 we will be playing a game together. For more information on specifics keep an eye on our social media and website. Web Fam Fridays are open to all in the LBGTQ+ and ally MIT community.

Worn Stories Watch Party

**URL:** [mit.zoom.us/j/96166084800](mit.zoom.us/j/96166084800)

Monday, April 5
1:00 - 3:00 PM EST

Join us for a Rainbow Lounge Hangout to watch the new limited documentary series Worn Stories. In this funny, heartfelt and moving docuseries, real people unpack the fascinating and quirky stories around their most meaningful pieces of clothing.

This Is A Robbery: The World’s Biggest Art Heist Watch Party

**URL:** [mit.zoom.us/j/96166084800](mit.zoom.us/j/96166084800)

Monday, April 12
1:00 - 3:00 PM EST

Did you know one of the world’s biggest art heists happened right here in Boston? Come watch a new documentary about the 1990 Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum theft. Maybe you’ll be able to solve the decades old mystery and get the $10 million reward.

Shadow & Bone Watch Party

**URL:** [mit.zoom.us/j/96166084800](mit.zoom.us/j/96166084800)

Monday, April 26
1:00 - 3:00 PM EST
We'll watch the newly adapted Shadow and Bone show. In a world cut in two by a massive barrier of perpetual darkness, where unnatural creatures feast on human flesh, a young soldier uncovers a power that might finally unite her country. But as she struggles to hone her power, dangerous forces plot against her.

QTPOC Movie Night

URL: mit.zoom.us/j/97244077712
Wednesday, April 7
2:00 - 4:00 PM EST

A movie day will be happening! Come watch Godzilla vs. Kong (Rated PG-13)! Bring popcorn, snacks, friends and enjoy this anticipated movie. Watch Kong and his protectors undertake a perilous journey to find his true home. Along for the ride is Jia, an orphaned girl who has a unique bond with the beast.

QTPOC Earth Day Plant Giveaway

URL: instagram.com/rainbow_lounge_mit/ (Rainbow Lounge Instagram)
Thursday, April 22

For Earth Day which is April 22nd, 2021 there will be a raffle to win some great prizes that supports healthy sustainable living (water bottles, plants, and more). More details will be announced.

Lavender Graduation Save the Date

URL: Check back at lbgtq.mit.edu/programs-0
Tuesday, May 11
5:00 - 6:30 PM EST

Lavender Graduation is a time to celebrate our LBGTQ+ MIT graduates and the wonderful things they've accomplished. The entire MIT community is invited to enjoy and be with us on this date to recognize our grads. There will be music, speeches, a mini-dance party, and more. This event will not be recorded.

Escape the Room

URL: Email Lauryn McNair at lmcnair@mit.edu
Can you escape before the time runs out? The themes are currently Prison Break, Gold Rush, and The Heist. You can sign up by yourself or sign up and encourage your friends to as well. Escape the Rooms will be scheduled as demand dictates, so let us know if you would like to participate!

///@MIT FOR ALL

Fireside Chat with Mikki Kendall

URL: RSVP at tinyurl.com/mikkiMIT  
Wednesday, April 28  
5:00 - 6:00 PM EST

Join My Sister’s Keeper for a fireside chat, reading, and author Q&A with Mikki Kendall, author of Hood Feminism. Mikki Kendall is a writer, diversity consultant, and occasional feminist who talks a lot about intersectionality, policing, gender, sexual assault, and other current events.

SaveTFP! Friday Events

URL: Sign up for updates at tinyurl.com/savetfpmail  
Fridays  
9:00 - 11:00 PM EST

Every Friday SaveTFP! has virtual events reducing stress and facilitating student social activities while increasing health awareness and curbing dangerous behaviors at MIT. For April events include Whine & Cheese 2.0 (4/2), Gathertown Jeopardy (4/9), Bob Ross + Crafts (4/16), Plant Night ft. No Break Brownies (4/23) + more!

Radical Love Across Difference

URL: RSVP and schedule at tinyurl.com/GWCSLove  
Friday, April 9 - Sunday, April 11

GWCS is hosting a conference about using a praxis of love to highlight the struggles toward liberation, we approach what hooks suggests is a culture of refusing systems of
domination. Confirmed speakers include Kimberly Drew, Favianna Rodriguez, Milan Nicole Sherry, Dr. Dina Gilio-Whitaker + more!

Anthony Jack MIT Reads Event

**URL:** RSVP at [tinyurl.com/JackMITs21](http://tinyurl.com/JackMITs21)
**Tuesday, April 6**
**5:00 - 6:30 PM EST**

Join MIT Libraries for the MIT Reads Spring author event. The Privileged Poor builds on Jack's personal experience of higher education and asks why some students from backgrounds like his are able to thrive, while others struggle. His answers shine a light on the experience of first generation and low income students everywhere.

2021 Compton lecture: Thinking about Racism

**URL:** More info is at [tinyurl.com/AppiahMIT](http://tinyurl.com/AppiahMIT)
**Thursday, April 22**
**4:00 - 5:00 PM EST**

Prof. Kwame Anthony Appiah is the 2021 Compton Speaker and African and African American studies scholar. He rose to prominence authoring provocative books on the complexities of modern society. He is a professor of philosophy and law at NYU and has a weekly New York Times column.

Movements and Change: Race and Justice Across Africa Today

**URL:** Register at [tinyurl.com/MITAfrica0416](http://tinyurl.com/MITAfrica0416)
**Wednesday, April 14**
**12:30 - 2:00 PM EST**

Join an online panel discussion which will feature leading voices from the African continent and the African diaspora who are engaged in critical public discourses around race and reform across diverse African contexts and different media. After, attendees will be able to join breakout rooms with panelists.
Apply to the GEL Program

URL: Apply at gelp.mit.edu/admissions
Date: Rolling Admissions by Sunday, April 11 & Regular Admissions by Sunday, May 9

The Gordon-MIT Engineering Leadership (GEL) Program is a selective leadership training program focused on developing engineering leaders. We practice team membership and leadership weekly through theory and our hands-on engineering leadership labs, where students receive candid peer feedback supplemented by performance peer feedback.

Nominate RISE Awards

URL: Nominate at bit.ly/mitrise21
Due Friday, April 16

The MIT Rise Awards seek to celebrate members of our community that go above and beyond in inclusion and equity, true champions of diversity. Nominations are open to fellow MIT students, faculty, or staff. Sponsored by OMP, LBGTQ+ Services, ICEO, OGE, and OME.

Save the Date for RISE Awards

URL: Stay tuned at tinyurl.com/RiseCeremony21
Tuesday, May 4
12:00 - 1:00 PM EST

By using a praxis of love to highlight the struggles toward liberation, we approach what hooks suggests is a culture of refusing systems of domination. This conference seeks to explore the role radical love plays in health crises, climate change, and further social justice movements.

Lavender Graduation Save the Date

URL: Check back at lbgtq.mit.edu/programs-o
Tuesday, May 11
5:00 - 6:30 PM EST
Lavender Graduation is a time to celebrate our LBGTQ+ MIT graduates and the wonderful things they've accomplished. The entire MIT community is invited to enjoy and be with us on this date to recognize our grads. There will be music, speeches, a mini-dance party, and more. This event will not be recorded.

Feminisms Unbound - Going Viral

URL: More info is at tinyurl.com/MITViral
Thursday, April 15
6:30 - 8:30 PM EST

Join GWCS for a panel on how the current pandemic is an accumulation of many viral histories. This panel invites scholars to draw from their original research to explore the traffic in viral discourse and the pathways of transmission—of data, bodies, feelings, ideology from many lenses.

Journeys Toward Justice

URL: More info at tinyurl.com/JTJ2021
Various events in April hosted by different universities

Journeys Toward Justice is a multi-college collaboration including the MIT PKG Center spotlighting people across who are driving justice and equity forward. The goal is to connect students, partners, and communities to help us all understand the local and historical contexts of social justice issues and the work communities are doing.

Exploring Racial Identity Skills & Discussion Group

URL: Email Dr. Patel for more info and to schedule a screening at patel@med.mit.edu
July 2021

A new skills & discussion group at MIT Mental Health starting in July will open to BIPOC students, graduate and undergraduate, who are interested in exploring their ethnic/racial identity, understanding internalized oppression, and experiences with ethnic/racial microaggressions and macroaggressions.
Fireside Book Chat with Dr. Rana el Kaliouby

URL: Register at tinyurl.com/GirlDecodedMIT
Wednesday, April 21
2:00 - 3:00 PM EST

Join the Cheney Room for a chat with Dr. el Kaliouby, MIT alum and former member of the MIT Media Lab, CEO of Affectiva, for a discussion of her book, “Girl Decoded”! The first 20 people to register will receive a free copy. The book follows her quest to reclaim our humanity by bringing emotional intelligence to technology.

///@MIT FOR GRADS

gwaMIT Leadership Conference: Leading for the Future

URL: Check for more info at gsc.mit.edu/gwamit
Monday, April 5 - Friday, April 9

Join gwaMIT for their conference including a keynote event with Dr. Maria Zuber and other events as well, where you will learn how to build healthy work environments, how to build your network of mentors and cheerleaders, how to navigate and succeed in academia, and several other exciting events!

Harvard/MIT LBGTQ+ Grad Mixer

URL: Look out on our website lbgt.mit.edu
Thursday, April 8
7:00 - 8:00 PM EST

Join other MIT grad students in the LBGTQ+ community for a virtual mixer with Harvard's LBGTQ+ grad student community. Look out more information on our website and social media.

A Conversation with GWAMIT: Building a Supportive Community for LBGTQ+ People

URL: RSVP at tinyurl.com/GWAMITLBGTQ
Wednesday, April 21
7:00 - 8:00 PM EST

Join other graduate womxn at MIT in a discussion facilitated by Nina Foushee, graduate assistant for LBGTQ+ services at MIT. The first 15 people to sign-up will have the option to receive a book from MIT’s office of LBGTQ+ services. Dinner will be reimbursed (tax excluded) up to $10 for the first 50 sign ups.

///BEYOND MIT

NSLDC Pride Virtual Conference

URL: Learn more at nsldcpride.org
Saturday, October 23

Register for NSLDC Pride, a national leadership experience dedicated to empowering and educating LGBTQA+ student leaders to create change on their campuses and in their communities. Topics include intersectionality and more. Register by July 1 for $99 per person.

Black Lesbian Futures

URL: Register at tinyurl.com/NYUBlackLesbian
Wednesday, April 7
6:00 - 7:30 PM EST

Celebrate the publication of Mouths of Rain: An Anthology of Black Lesbian Thought edited by Briona Simone Jones. Mouths of Rain traces the long history of intellectual thought produced by Black Lesbian writers over the past two centuries. This event is hosted by NYU Libraries. Live closed captioning will be available.

Rhiannon Giddens Concert

URL: Register at tinyurl.com/Rhiannon0416
Friday, April 16
2:00 - 3:00 PM EST

Rhiannon Giddens is a celebrated artist who excavates the past to reveal truths about our present. A MacArthur “Genius Grant” recipient, Giddens has been
Grammy-nominated six times. She has a new album due out in April. This event is part of the Scholar and Feminist Conference: Art and Political Imagination.

UMass Boston Undergraduate Study

**URL:** For more details check [tinyurl.com/CovidLGBTQBoston](http://tinyurl.com/CovidLGBTQBoston)

A Ph.D. candidate at UMass Boston is recruiting participants for a dissertation research study. The study is seeking LGBTQ+ undergraduate students in the greater Boston area to identify and explore the impact remote learning had on LGTBQ+ college students as they sought and used personal and academic supports during the pandemic.

Wicked Queer

**URL:** [wickedqueer.org](http://wickedqueer.org)

**April (entire month)**

Boston's LGBTQ+ Film Festival, Wicked Queer will be debuting the 37th edition of their festival this month. The film festival includes feature films and 17 short films. Viewers must be located in the United States to stream the films. Student pricing is $7 a ticket.

Paid Bi/Pan WOC Study

**URL:** Find more details and complete the survey at [tinyurl.com/BiWOCsurvey](http://tinyurl.com/BiWOCsurvey)

Participants must be at least 18 years old and identify as a woman at least some of the time, have a bisexual, plurisexual, or multiattracted sexual orientation, and identify as Black, Indigenous, Latinx, Asian, or a Woman of Color. Participants fill out a 60-90 minute survey about likes and dislikes are for programs that reduce risk of sexual assault for a $10 gift card.

**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