WELCOME

December Wishes

Welcome to the final newsletter of the Fall semester and we hope you enjoy this issue as much as the others for what has definitely been A YEAR. To say the least.

Please feel free to attend any of the events below in this issue to be around others, even if a virtual space, to build queer community with us.

We at LBGTQ+ Services are wishing you the best, staying safe, and being with those who make you happy, supported, and loved in families and chosen families.

Queer Holiday Tips

Going home for the holidays/winter break (or just being somewhere that perhaps you can't feel like your authentic self)? Here are some tips from: 8 Queer Tips to Get Through the Holidays

- Have friends you can call/text
- Set boundaries
- Make time to be alone
- Celebrate with chosen families
- Journal
- Connect online with others
- Create an exit strategy
- Have music/movies that make you feel good

Read the full article here: queertheology.com/queer-holiday-tips

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/99711197693
Mondays: 1:30 - 3:30 pm EST

///LBGTQ+ Services Signature Programming

QTPoC

Find out more information about zoom link and date on our website: lbgtq.mit.edu/digital-content

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!

Rainbow Lounge Hangout

Zoom Link: mit.zoom.us/j/99711197693
Mondays 1:30 - 3:30 PM EST
Mondays 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

December LBGTQ+ Book Recs.

Mangos and Mistletoe by Adriana Herrera
TAGS: Lesbian, Latinx, Baking
Kiskeya Burgos has just arrived in Scotland. Sully Morales, Kiskeya’s assigned partner and fellow Dominicana, is sure they can win the Baking Challenge, if only she can convince Kiskeya they make a great team ... in and out of the kitchen.

Hearts Alight by Elliot Cooper
TAGS: Gay, Jewish, Hanukkah
Dave Cunningham has a chance to bring a bit of a holiday happiness to his long-time crush, Amit Cohen. Unintentionally, he learns the Cohen family’s secret: Amit is a golem. A Hanukkah miracle might be the only thing that keeps their flame alight.
Carmilla Watch Party

*Zoom URL:* mit.zoom.us/j/99711197693
*Monday, December 14*
*1:30 - 3:30 PM EST*

Come join us to watch season 1 of the web show Carmilla, a lesbian vampire story. At Silas University in Styria, Austria Laura, a first year, records vlogs. When Laura begins investigating the disappearance of her roommate, she is assigned a new roommate named Carmilla and shenanigans ensue.

Happiest Season Viewing

*Zoom URL:* mit.zoom.us/j/99711197693
*Monday, December 7*
*1:30 - 3:30 PM EST*

Watch the newest, hottest lesbian Christmas romcom starring Kristen Stewart with us. Abby plans to propose marriage to her girlfriend while attending her family's annual holiday party. At the party, she realizes Harper has not come out to her conservative parents yet.

Escape the Room

*Zoom URL:* Sign up at tinyurl.com/MITroom
*Wednesday, December 2 & Thursday, December 3*
*Time TBD*

Can you escape before the time runs out? This will be a series of virtual Escape Room programs where there will be up to eight people who have an hour to escape! You can sign up by yourself or sign up and encourage your friends to as well, first come, first serve, to all MIT students.
QTPoC

URL: Check lbgtq.mit.edu/digital-content for more info

Week starting Monday, December 7

Starting Monday, December 7th, QTPOC will be offering a raffle for participants who engage with LBGTQ+ social media and celebrating the end of the semester. They will also be uploading a lot of resources throughout the week such as QTPOC books, shoutouts, self-care techniques, and more.

Crafterday Corner

Zoom URL: Check lbgtq.mit.edu/digital-content

Friday, December 11
6:00 - 8:00 PM EST

Our next Crafterday Corner session will involve needle felting. This will be a fun, relaxed opportunity for conversation, bonding, and building community while making some art. Check lbgtq.mit.edu/digital-content for details about sign-up. Program funded by MindHandHeart.

Pronoun Video

URL: lbgtq.mit.edu/resources

Coming Soon

Coming soon, a brand new education video about pronouns “Gender Neutral Pronouns: A Quick History and Best Practices.” Check back at lbgtq.mit.edu/resources to find the resource and share with others who are interested in a 101 level of understanding and using gender neutral pronouns.

Cheney Room: Hang Time

URL: Email dgati@mit.edu for more information

Check tinyurl.com/CheneyTime for times

If anyone is feeling alone this holiday season or would like to hang out and relax with friends or Cheney Room staff, why not come and hang out in the Virtual Cheney
Room? During Hang Time, we have staff on hand, and there's space to work/study in groups or just play games with your friends.

Virtual Workout for Woman and Nonbinary Students

*Zoom URL: Email [dgati@mit.edu](mailto:dgati@mit.edu) to RSVP*

**Thursdays, December 3, 10, 17**

**12:00 - 1:00 PM EST**

Join DAPER and the Cheney Room for a virtual workout for woman-identified and non-binary students. This workout's goal is to provide a safe and respectful space for people whose gender identities are not always respected in traditional gym settings.

Trans History of Video Games

*Zoom URL: Email [dgati@mit.edu](mailto:dgati@mit.edu) to RSVP*

**Friday, December 4**

**3:00 - 4:00 PM EST**

Trans coders and video game designers have in fact been at the very front of early developments of video games. Whit Pow, assistant professor of Queer and Trans Media Studies at NYU guides us through an exploration of some of the key early trans figures of video game design and coding.

#BlackInTheIvory: Academia’s Role in Institutional Racism

*Zoom URL: Register at [tinyurl.com/MITIvory](https://tinyurl.com/MITIvory)*

**Thursday, December 3**

**5:00 - 6:30 PM EST**

For many Black scientists and researchers, working in academia means weathering systemic bias, microaggressions, and isolation. Join Dr. Shardé Davis, Dr. Mareena Robinson Snowden, and Dr. James Mickens on panel with Tanya B. Brown as moderator.
MindHandHeart Blog

URL: Read the blog at tinyurl.com/MHHBlog & email mindhandheart@mit.edu for more info to contribute

The MindHandHeart Blog seeks to elevate student voices, peer-to-peer support and care. The blog encourages conversation focused on wellness, mental health, diversity, equity, inclusion, and more. Blog posts may take many mediums. All participants will receive a $50 gift card to a bookstore.

Funding for LBGTQ+ Groups

URL: Email lbgt@mit.edu for more information. For the application: tinyurl.com/MITGayFunding

The LBGTQ+ office has funding for projects and events that support LBGTQ+ community at MIT! We would love to hear your ideas and connect about how our office could support them. Your group does not need to be ASA recognized to receive funding. From application: tinyurl.com/MITGayFunding

Davis Projects for Peace: Call for Proposals

URL: More info and application at tinyurl.com/MITDavis
Due Monday, February 4

Davis Projects for Peace offers a $10,000 fellowship for an MIT undergraduate student project that promotes peace. They aim to “encourage and support today’s motivated youth to create and try out their own ideas for building peace.” Davis Projects for Peace occur during the summer.

The Election is Over- What Now...?

Zoom URL: mit.zoom.us/j/92899936490
Wednesday, December 2
Session 1: 12 - 1PM EST, Session 2: 1 - 2 PM EST
The Office of Minority Education will be hosting two one-hour sessions designed to offer a supportive atmosphere for students to reflect on their feelings and thoughts, since the election took place. You are encouraged to attend one or both of these sessions.

LCC X BSU Afro-Latinx Heritage Series

Zoom URL: mit.zoom.us/s/94489818083
Monday, December 7
9:00 - 10:00 PM EST

The existence of Black Latinx people is often erased in conversations on race, ethnicity, and heritage. Join BSU and LCC to acknowledge and celebrate the shared heritage of the Black and Latinx communities for fun trivia and short films.

New Zoom Virtual Backgrounds with Pronouns

URL: To customize and download the backgrounds check tinyurl.com/ZoomPronoun

The Zoom background version of pronouns can be used for meetings, events, and virtual social spaces to help everyone feel welcome and included. These were created in partnership with the IDHR-Student Advisory Committee and LBGTQ+ Services.

///BEYOND MIT

Boston Gay Men's Chorus Home for the Holidays

URL: For listings & more info check tinyurl.com/BGMCHome
Premiering Saturday December 12
Various Times

The Boston Gay Men’s Chorus holiday show has been a tradition in Boston since 1982. In December 2020 the Chorus will be partnering with WCVB-TV Channel 5 (the ABC affiliate in Boston) to present Home for the Holidays. The show will also premier on Youtube Dec 12.
Native Youth in Action

URL: RSVP at tinyurl.com/NMAIYouth  
Thursday, December 17  
4:00 - 5:00 PM EST

The American story has been profoundly shaped by Native Americans, yet the stories told about Native people are often false and incomplete. Join the National Museum of the American Indian in a conversation with Native youth to learn how Native people are reshaping these narratives now.

In Conversation: Black Futures by Kimberly Drew & Jenna Wortham

URL: RSVP at tinyurl.com/CAAMDec10  
Thursday, December 10  
8:00 - 9:30 PM EST

Join the California African American Museum for a conversation about Black Futures, a rich collection of images, essays, dialogues, recipes, tweets, poetry, and more. Together they tell the story of the radical, imaginative, provocative, and gorgeous world that Black creators are birthing.

Looking For Langston: A Film Celebrating Queer Harlem

URL: RSVP at tinyurl.com/LangstonMovie  
Wednesday, December 9  
2:00 -4:30 PM EST

Columbia's The Forum will be hosting an online screening of Isaac Julien's landmark 1989 film Looking for Langston followed by a discussion with the director and roundtable. Looking for Langston is Julien’s gorgeous look at black art, poetry, music, community, and intimacy.

Mondays at Beinecke: madison moore

URL: RSVP at bit.ly/3me7631  
Monday, December 14
8:00 - 9:30 PM EST
Date: Monday, December 14
Time: 4:00 - 4:30 PM EST
Location: RSVP at bit.ly/3me7631

madison moore, DJ and assistant professor who studies black queer studies, performance studies, fashion, contemporary art and popular music, will discuss visual cultures of fashion using the Beinecke Library’s collection of 212 shopping bags, ca. 1978-2005.

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