

# LBGTQ+ Services February LBGTQ+ NEWSLETTER

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## ///**WELCOME**

## ///**YODA ONE FOR ME**

it is February and we are just full of programs, events, and programming.

This month we're celebrating Black Heritage Month so please stop by the Rainbow Lounge or SPXCE to see LBGTQ+ book recommendations and queer heroes in celebration.

Additionally, it's aromantic awareness week (Feb. 16 - 22). There will be buttons, book recs, resources, and materials by LBGTQ+ services on the 18th. And be on the lookout for Aces and Aros programs.

### SPXCE Hours

Mondays - Fridays: 10:00am - 8:00 pm

### Rainbow Lounge Hours

Mondays - Fridays: 12:00pm - 7:00 pm

## ///**FAMILY DINNER DATE CHANGE**

Hey y'all this is just a highlight that Family Dinner has changed from THURSDAYS to FRIDAYS. Nikki (they/she) the LBGTQ+ Graduate Assistant will be taking over the LBGTQ+ Family Dinners and they are here in the evenings on Friday. So Friday it is!

## **///LAZOS UPDATES**

Lazos (the TQPoC family dinner) will still happen once a month on Wednesday. However, LBGTQ+ Services will be collecting feedback about how you think Lazos should be run. Maybe it's a different day, a different time, maybe it's co-hosted by various TQPoC groups. [Email lbgt@mit.edu](mailto:lbgt@mit.edu).

## **///LBGTQ+ Services Signature Programming**

Lazos: A Place at the Table for TQPOC and Allies of Color

***W31-110, the SPXCE Intercultural Center***

***Wednesday, February 19***

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

Come to Lazos this month or leave feedback for how we should change it in the future! “Lazo” is one of several Spanish language terms for “bow”, referencing the latter half of “rainbow” as well as the identities and experiences that tie us together within and across our communities. Have you ever felt like you weren’t “----- enough”? Or like you were “too -----” around people of your same sexual orientation? Have you thought that your experiences felt different than people of other genders? Come kick it with other trans and queer people of color (TQPOC) and allies of color who work to bring an open-minded, caring, and respectful sense of community to MIT. We look forward to seeing you!

## Family Dinners

**50-250, Rainbow Lounge**

**Every Friday**

**18:00-19:00/6:00-7:00 PM**

*Are you looking to connect with LBGTQ+ and allying people on campus? Join our weekly Family Dinners for LBGTQ+ and allying communities to join our first year students, reclaim a sense of family support, & solidarity. Open to all!*

## QLAB: Queer & LBGT Advisory Board

**50-250, Rainbow Lounge**

**On hold for now!**

*Q-LAB is going to be on hold for the fall semester as we work to revamp it and make it a great consistent event for students! Be on the lookout for more information in the future around focus groups so you can share what you think QLAB should be.*

*Interested in shaping Q-LAB? Email Lauryn McNair ([lmcnair@mit.edu](mailto:lmcnair@mit.edu))*

## ///Follow Us on Social Media

Facebook: @rainbowloungemit

Twitter: @lbgtmit

Instagram: @rainbow\_lounge\_mit

## ///UPDATES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

February LBGTQ+ Book Recs.

***Speak No Evil* by Uzodinma Iweala**

**TAGS:** fiction, gay, coming out, black, queer men

*Winner of the Gold Nautilus Award*

*for Fiction, Speak no evil focuses on Niru, a son to conservative Nigerian parents. He has a painful secret: he is queer and no one knows except Meredith, his best friend.*

## ***The Color Purple By Alice Walker***

**TAGS:** *fiction, queer women, people of color, black, relationships*

*The Color Purple documents the traumas and gradual triumph of Celie, an African American teenager raised in rural isolation in Georgia, as she comes to resist the paralyzing self-concept forced on her by others.*

## **///*@MIT FOR ALL***

### **Aromantic Awareness Week Social**

***Rainbow Lounge (50-250)***

***Tuesday, February 18***

***5 PM - 6:30 PM***

*Join MIT Aces and Aros for games, snacks and conversation in the Rainbow Lounge on Feb. 18 from 5-6:30 pm! All genders and sexual orientations are welcome. Please contact [aces-admin@mit.edu](mailto:aces-admin@mit.edu) for more info or to join the Aces and Aros mailing list.*

### **Aromantic Awareness Week**

***Rainbow Lounge (50-250)***

***Tuesday, February 18***

***1 PM - 6 PM***

*Join us in the Rainbow Lounge with button making and grab snacks to celebrate Aromantic Awareness Week!*

### **MC<sup>2</sup> Conference**

***MIT Endicott House -- Needham, MA***

***Friday, February 21-Saturday, February 22***

***See link for specific time information***

*The mission of the Multicultural Conference is to bring students together across race, ethnicity, gender, religion, nationality, socioeconomic status, ability, sexual orientation, and other aspects of identity.*

**Sign-Up Here: [Tinyurl.com/mc2care](https://tinyurl.com/mc2care)**

## ***LBGTQ+ Ice Cream Social***

***Rainbow Lounge (50-250)***

***Wednesday, February 12***

***4:00-6:00 PM / 16:00-18:00***

*Join us at the Rainbow Lounge where we can hang out and connect with other students while eating ice cream!*

## ***LBGTQ+ Valentines Dinner***

***Rainbow Lounge (50-250)***

***Friday, February 14***

***4:00-7:00 PM / 16:00-19:00***

*Please join us for the first Family Dinner of 2020! We will be celebrating Valentine's Day through art and crafts! Food will be served!*

## **Queer Black Movie Night**

***BSU Lounge (50-105)***

***Wednesday, February 5***

***7PM / 19:00***

*Join the Black Student Union (BSU) join for a celebration of Black History Month to celebrate Black LGBTQIA Community Members in watching a movie screening!*

*All are welcome!*

## T-Time: A trans, GNC, GQ, GNB Group

Reach out to [lbgt@mit.edu](mailto:lbgt@mit.edu) for location

**Thursday, February 6 & Tuesday, February 18th**

**TBA**

*A group for transgender, non-binary, gender non-conforming, and genderqueer folk to come together, chat, make plans, and share resources.*

*For more information email [lbgt@mit.edu](mailto:lbgt@mit.edu)*

## Brave Women of Color in Academics

**4-370**

**Monday, March 2nd**

**4:00 PM / 16:00**

*A discussion based around the book "Counternarratives From Women of Color Academics: Bravery, Vulnerability, & Resistance. Moderated by: Saida Grundy*

## Cyborg Manifestations

**4-270**

**Wednesday, February 19**

**6:00-8:00 PM / 18:00-20:00**

*Feminist, queer, and trans studies scholars attending to science, technology, environment, and disability are dismantling the rubrics of gender and body at the core of our fields to think critically about the material conditions of living inside racial capitalism.*

## Save the Date: RISE Awards

**Walker Memorial, Morss Hall**

**Monday, May 4**

**12 PM - 1:30 PM**

*Please celebrate with us for the MIT R.I.S.E. (Recognizing Individuals Supporting Equity) Awards. This ceremony is a way to recognize and uplift students, staff, and*

*faculty who have contributed to diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts on campus in one huge celebration.*

## Hack for Inclusion

**Microsoft NERD Center, 1 Memorial Drive, Cambridge**  
**Friday, February 21 - Saturday, February 22**  
**11:30AM Friday - 7:30PM Saturday**

*An annual hackathon that is held to help combat implicit bias. We tackle a wide variety of topics, including race, gender identity, disability, socioeconomic status, and more.*

Sign up here: <http://bit.ly/h4i2020>

## Black History Month Celebration

**SPXCE (W31-110)**  
**Friday, February 28**  
**12 PM - 2 PM**

*Join us at SPXCE to celebrate Black History Month with food, music, and community!*

## MIT Reads: There There

**For more details on the Spring event: <https://libraries.mit.edu/mit-reads/>**

*The spring selection for the Libraries' MIT Reads program will be Tommy Orange's There There. The book was chosen in collaboration with the newly formed Indigenous Peoples Advocacy Committee.*

## Queer Literature

**4-146**  
**Spring 2020, Mondays & Wednesdays**  
**7 PM - 8:30 PM**

*This course will focus on LGBT literature from the late nineteenth century to the present with an emphasis on fiction and poetry. In particular, we will analyze how*

*LGBT identities and their literary representations have changed over time. For more information email - [Dr. Joaquín Terrones -jsterron@mit.edu](mailto:Dr.JoaquínTerrones-jsterron@mit.edu)*

## **Black History Month Education**

***SPXCE (W31-110)***

***Thursday, February 13***

***6 PM - 7:30 PM***

*Join us at SPXCE to learn about Black History Month!*

## **///[@MIT FOR GRADS](#)**

### **Grad Resources Page**

You talked and we listened! In April there was a graduate meeting to talk about hopes, needs, and support specifically focused on graduate students. Find out more about the page by going to our "Stay Connected" tab under the "Graduate Student Opportunities" section.

The full web address is:

<https://lbgtq.mit.edu/stay-connected/graduate-student-resources>

LBGTQ+ Services will also include a grad specific section for students to advertise grad programs in the newsletter. Email [lmcnair@mit.edu](mailto:lmcnair@mit.edu) if you would like your event advertised in a future newsletter.

### ***LBGTQ+ Grad Student Open House***

***Rainbow Lounge (50-250)***

***Monday, February 10***

***6:00-7:00 PM / 18:00-19:00***

*Please join MIT Graduate and Post-Doc LBGTQ+ community members in an evening good food and fun games!*

*Meet new friends and colleagues, while checking out the Rainbow Lounge!*

## **Bio-LBGTQ**

*BioLBGTQ+ is a new graduate student group focused on creating a space where LGBTQ+ individuals and allies in the Biology community can feel comfortable sharing their experiences. We aim to foster community through fun monthly social events, as well as advocate for LGBTQ+ issues within the biology department and raise awareness through informative lecture series and guest speakers. We welcome all LGBTQ+ individuals affiliated with the Biology department, whether undergraduate, graduate, post-doc, faculty, or staff.*

*Contact: [biolgbtq\\_admin@mit.edu](mailto:biolgbtq_admin@mit.edu)*

## **LBGT Grad**

*LBGT Grad is the student group run by and for LBGT grad students, postdocs, and friends of the MIT community. Our mission is to build and maintain a graduate student LBGT community across the Institute, and to connect MIT grad students to the LBGT community in the greater Boston area.*

*Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/lgbtgrad/>*

*Website: [stuff.mit.edu/afs/athena/activity/l/lgbtgrad/www/](http://stuff.mit.edu/afs/athena/activity/l/lgbtgrad/www/)*

## **LBGT Grad POC**

*A group for graduate queer and trans people of color to hang out, connect, chat, and support one another in a safe space.*

*Contact: [grad-qpoc-admin@mit.edu](mailto:grad-qpoc-admin@mit.edu)*

## **Sloan LBGT**

*Sloan Pride is a student organization established to foster and promote an open and honest environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer students, partners, faculty and staff in the Sloan community. We seek to promote positive images of the LBGT community and to foster opportunities for personal and professional growth regardless of sexual or gender identity.*

*Website:*

*[web.mit.edu/sloan-lgbt/](http://web.mit.edu/sloan-lgbt/)*

## QUBE (Queers in the Built Environment)

*QuBE aims to highlight and create dialogue around the intersection of queer identity and the built environment through a variety of media including speakers, conferences, partnerships, publications, and social events. QuBE also serves to support and increase the visibility of queer students, faculty, and staff in the School of Architecture + Planning and the MIT community at large.*

Contact:

*erdmans@mit.edu or*

*mzucker@mit.edu*

## **///**LBGTQ+ Services Programs and Updates****

### Rainbow Compass Mentorship Program

*The Rainbow Compass Mentorship Program will be put on pause for the fall and spring semester and resume in Fall 2020.*

*This gives enough time for LBGTQ+ Services to restructure the program once there is a new Assistant Dean of LBGTQ+ Services and make it even better!*

*In the meantime, for those interested in unofficial mentoring opportunities or information, please contact Lauryn McNair. [lmcnair@mit.edu](mailto:lmcnair@mit.edu)*

### Family Dinner is Changing

*They will be run by LBGTQ+ Services' awesome graduate student, Nikki Abeleda, who you all should meet. See the note near the beginning of the newsletter for more info.*

### Gender Inclusive Bathrooms Committee

*If you're interested in being a part of the revamped gender inclusive bathrooms committee for MIT then please email Lauryn McNair, [lmcnair@mit.edu](mailto:lmcnair@mit.edu) for interest and information.*

*The committee will be looking for students (undergraduate and graduate) as well as faculty and staff.*

## **///**BEYOND MIT****

### **First Event 2020**

***Boston Park Plaza - 50 Park Plaza, Boston, MA 02116***

***January 29 - February 2***

*First Event is one of the longest running conferences in the U.S. for transgender and gender expansive people and those who love and support them.*

*More info & to register- <http://firstevent.org>*

### **Queer Book Group**

***Robbins Library, 700 Massachusetts Ave, Arlington, MA***

***Wednesday, February 26***

***7 PM - 8:30 PM / 19:00-20:30***

*This month QBG reads the book *Has the Gay Movement Failed?* by Martin Duberman. Queer Book Group / Social reads great LGBTQ-themed books, both fiction and non-fiction, and hosts LGBTQ-themed social events. New members are welcome! Come make some new friends & expand your community!*

### **Transgender support group**

***Fenway Health, 1340 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215***

***Tuesday, February 4***

***6 PM - 7:30 PM / 18:00-19:30***

*Looking for safe space and supportive peers? Fenway Health offers two meetings of the Transgender Peer Support Group at 1340 Boylston Street each month. Open to all*

*trans and gender diverse persons regardless of gender identity or expression, ages 18+.*

## **LGBTQ Meditation Group**

***Shambhala Meditation, Center - 646 Brookline Ave, Brookline, MA  
Sunday, February 9  
7 PM - 9 PM / 19:00-20:00***

*The LGBTQ Meditation Group program includes group meditation, a dharma talk, video, or presentation from a senior member, followed by discussion and socializing. Meditation instruction will be offered to anyone who is coming for the first time or would like a review.*

## **Desi Queer Diaspora Conference 2020**

***DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel  
6505 N Interstate Hwy  
35 Austin TX 78752  
May 15-17***

*DQD 2020 is a conference that aims to gather LGBTQ+ & TGNC South Asian, Indo-Caribbean and folks that identify within the Desi Diaspora. Deadline for submitting proposal to present: November 11*

*Last date to register: March 1st*

*Register link & more info: <https://www.desiqdiaspora.org/register>*

## **LGBTQ Book Group**

***200 Boston Avenue (lower level, Suite G-350), Medford, MA  
Thursday, February 13  
7 PM / 19:00***

*The Medford Public Library started an LGBTQ Book Group this past fall, meeting on the second Thursday of the month. All are welcome to read and discuss literary and*

*non-fiction works by and about the LGBTQ community, from classics to contemporary titles. At this meeting, the group will discuss “Not Without Laughter” by Langston Hughes.*

## **Resolutions: Open Mic & Artist Showcase**

***1254 Boylston St., Boston, MA - Machine***

***Friday, February 8***

***10:00 PM / 22:00***

*Open mic and artist showcase hosted by Jha D (Feel it, Speak it QTPoC open mics). Join this event for music, art, and dancing!*

*Upstairs at machine ALWAYS THE DOOR ON THE LEFT. Age 21 and up! \$10 at the door!*

*This might also be the last mic EVER at machine so come out and support!*

## **Queers Against Winter: Cozy Party & Board Game Night**

***284 Amory St, Jamaica Plain, MA - Bella Luna Restaurant***

***Thursday, February 27***

***8:00 PM / 20:00***

*Let's face it. Winter is clearly a hetero-patriarchal conspiracy designed to keep queers from having fun. It's time to fight back. So brush the icicles off your bow-tie, pull on your best fleece lined sequin tights, and come down to Milky Way / Bella Luna for a FREE cozy and chill party / social hang / game night thing.*

## **Big Gay Valentine Market**

***1310 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester Center, MA - BLEND***

***Sunday, February 9***

***12 PM - 6 PM / 12:00 - 18:00***

*Shop for your sweetie, or treat yourself at the Big Gay Valentine Market! A specialty themed indoor bazaar dedicated to 40 LGBTQ makers, artists, designers and vintage*

*dealers! Plus special drag performances, card making booth, cocktails and much more! Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more details!*

## **Mizery Loves Company**

**1310 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester, MA - Blend  
Sunday, February 16  
11:00 AM -5:00 PM / 11:00 - 17:00**

*Sunday's in Dorchester are about to get messy! As blend brings you our first ever Drag Brunch & Munch! Join your host Mizery and all her best girls Penny & Lokia plus special surprise guest! it'll be a Sunday full of shows, buffet style brunch, signature drinks and did we mention shows? **Tickets: <https://tinyurl.com/u2b9szc>***

## **Rolling with Advantage**

**75 Amory St, Jamaica Plains, MA - Boston GLASS  
Mondays, February - June  
5 PM - 6:30 PM / 17:00 - 18:30**

*Want to be a daring warrior? A cunning rogue? A powerful sorcerer? Join our table and tell a story together through roleplaying and gameplay through Dungeons and Dragons, a group for LGBTQ+ Youth of Color ages 13-25. Tand snacks will be provided. All experience levels are welcome, from beginners to veteran players!*

## **Speakers Bureau -- Greater Boston PFLAG**

*Greater Boston PFLAG are currently looking for speakers to join our Speakers Bureau. We would particularly like to recruit students aged 30 and under to speak when we give presentations for a variety of audiences (schools, businesses, houses of worship, etc.). Speakers would be compensated for sharing their stories (\$50 or \$100 per engagement, depending on the length of time) and reimbursed for any travel expenses.*

***Email - [zach@gbpflag.org](mailto:zach@gbpflag.org) for more information***

## LGBTQ+ Israel Pride

***Israel***

***June 7 - June 18***

*Shorashim is a non-profit organization that specializes in Israel education and travel. This summer they are running a LGBTQ+ Israel Pride Experience. Participants get the chance to explore the greatest hits of Israel through an incredibly unique LGBTQ+ lens while experiencing the dynamic energy and diversity of the Israeli community. **Link:** <https://tinyurl.com/tjdofvb>*

## Black Health Matters Conference

***Harvard University***

***Saturday, February 8 - Sunday, February 9***

***Starting 8:30 AM***

*This year's theme is "Community Empowerment". This conference aims to provide attendees with an understanding of how to develop interdisciplinary approaches to addressing health issues within the Black Community.*

***To purchase tickets: <https://tinyurl.com/rcqolez>***

## Homoglobin

*Homoglobin is a nonprofit social welfare organization aiming to achieve equality for the LGBTQ community through education and healthcare reform. Currently, gay and bisexual men are deferred from donating blood for a year, and we, at Homoglobin, are dedicated to eliminating the blanket ban that doesn't take into account various sexual practices and risks. We are looking for folks to get involved as a campus ambassador for Homoglobin, For more information -*

***<https://www.homoglobin.org/>***

## Queer Gym Pop Up

***Brookline & Dorchester***

***February 2, 16, 13, & 27th***

## **Brookline (3-6pm), Dorchester (6-8pm)**

*Queer Gym POP UP space welcome all bodies here. This is a fitness community that rejects hyper masculinity and mainstream ideals of fitness culture. This is an open gym space with program and instructional support. This is a sliding scale \$12.00.*

*Locations: Brookline (February 2nd & 16th @ Core Studio), Dorchester (February 13 & 27 @ Spokehouse) More info -<https://tinyurl.com/utuawml>*

## **Harvard Medical School - Share your Experience**

***Link to apply & more info -***

***<https://lgbt.hms.harvard.edu/community>***

*We are looking for LGBTQIA+ people to be part of a Youth Community Advisory Group (Youth CAG) or Adult Community Advisory Group (Adult CAG) to serve an advisory role to Harvard Medical School in how to teach medical students about the LGBTQIA+ community so they can better care for LGBTQIA+ people as future doctors. Paid opportunity! **Apply by February 14, 2020.***

## **Boston Custom Suit Pop-Up**

***Rooftop @ The Kendall Hotel***

***Mondays, February - June***

***Time by Appointment***

*The Tailory NY is an appointment only, women-owned, & operated bespoke clothing company that provides Inclusive Tailoring. Suiting knows no gender. The Tailor NY will be in Boston for a custom suit pop-up.*

*For more info and to book an appointment -*

***<https://thetailorynyc.com/appointment-1>***

## **Valentine's Day?**

***Make Shift Boston, 549 Columbus Ave, Boston***

***Saturday, February 15***

***1:00 PM - 4:00 PM / 13:00 - 16:00***

*A celebration of love for our communities and ourselves! Let's get together, get to know one another, and make some art! This event aims to be queer-inclusive, ace-inclusive, poly-am inclusive and anti-capitalist. This is a SUBSTANCE FREE event! free food, clothing swap, potluck art/music/poetry share, & instrument petting zoo!*

## **Drag Queen Story Hour**

***Trident Booksellers & Cafe, 338 Newbury St, Boston***

***Saturday, February 15***

***11:00 AM - 12:30 PM***

*Drag Queen Story Hour captures the imagination and play of the gender fluidity in childhood and gives kids glamorous, positive, and unabashedly queer role models. In spaces like this, kids are able to see people who defy rigid gender restrictions and imagine a world where people can present as they wish, and where dress-up is real.*

## **Queer Board Game Night**

***Trident Booksellers & Cafe, 338 Newbury St, Boston***

***Saturday, February 29***

***Doors open 5:45 PM***

*We're gathering together at Trident for a board game night, all queer-identifying folks and allies are welcome! To participate, we're charging \$5, but it is a voucher you will use toward food and drink during the event. So if you spend more than \$5 in the cafe, no worries, your ticket has been taken care of! If your food/drink order ends up being less than \$5, you'll just be charged for the \$5 ticket!*

## **Lesbians+ of Color Symposium**

***1585 Mass Ave, Cambridge, MA 02138***

***Friday, March 20 - Saturday, March 21***

***6:00 PM / 18:00***

*Join #2020LOCS in an extraordinary event featuring powerful sessions and talks facilitated by and for LGBTQ+ women, non-binary people of color and our allies.*

To Register & more info - <https://tinyurl.com/tqz4ga7>

## **Boston Spirit - LGBT Business Networking Night**

***Copley Marriott Hotel***

***Thursday, April 30***

***6 PM - 9 PM / 18:00 - 21:00***

*Boston Spirit holds our annual LGBT Business Networking Night. It's a huge event with more than 1,000 attendees and more than 50 companies exhibiting. MANY of the companies that are exhibiting are also looking to hire. More information to come!*

## **Bright Half Life**

***BCA - 539 Tremont Street, Boston, MA 02116***

***Wednesday - Sunday until February 16th***

***Check website for times***

*Join the Actors' Shakespeare Project for their 16th season and have opened our third show of the season, which is a contemporary piece about an interracial lesbian couple: Bright Half Life by Tanya Barfield. For tickets and more information -*

<https://tinyurl.com/taqhpy2>

## **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