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.
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.
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
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Audrey Leopold
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Office: By appointment
MEET THE TEAM

RL STUDENT WORKERS

Lauren, she/they

Calvin, he/him

Maize, they/she

Heidi, she/her

Gabi, she/they

Sharon, she/her
MONTHLY LBGTQ+ BOOK RECS.

**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.*
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

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.

**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

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

**Trans Day of Visibility Celebration**

**When and Where is This?**

**Location:** Rainbow Lounge 50-250  
**Date:** Friday, March 22  
**Time:** 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm

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.

**Justin Hubbell: In a Word: Trans**

**When and Where is This?**

**Location:** Zoom  
**Date:** Wed, March 27th  
**Time:** 1:30 pm - 2:30 pm  
**RSVP:** tinyurl.com/28v3e7e9

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.

**Queerly Beloved**

**When and Where is This?**

**Location:** Rainbow Lounge 50-250  
**Date:** Weekly on Mondays  
**Time:** 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm
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**

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**

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
**HAPPENING FOR ALL**

**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:  

**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](http://tinyurl.com/stratton-lecture)
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](http://tinyurl.com/mitvalues)

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

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
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
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. Our 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
- SPXCE - Social Justice Programming & Cross Cultural Engagement
- RL: Rainbow Lounge
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