

# Emory LGBT News

Weekly news and information from the Office of Lesbian, Gay,  
Bisexual and Transgender Life

Stay up to date on all events and opportunities in  
our office, on campus, in the community, and  
around the country!



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### Office of LGBT Life 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Over the next year, the Office will be sharing about the events, people, and stories of the past **20 years**. Check out the **last page** of our newsletter each week to learn about how the Office became what it is today. Also, you can find more information about the Office's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in the newsletter, on our website, and on our bulletin board outside Dobbs University Center 246E.

## Diwali: A Time to Be Merry and Gay

By Amita Swadhin



Today, nearly 1 billion Hindus worldwide celebrate what is arguably the most important Hindu festival of the year: Diwali. This celebration falls on the new moon in late October or early November each year, traditionally marking the harvest, the start of the new lunar year, and, in some interpretations, the triumph of good over evil. Hindus commonly observe Diwali, popularly known as the "festival of lights," by lighting diyas (oil lamps) and firecrackers, wearing new clothes, and sharing sweets with friends and family. By Tammy Webber

To read more, click [here](#).

## Office of LGBT Life

### Queer Discussion Groups

The Office of LGBT Life and the Center for Women is offering weekly, hour-long discussion groups on topics related to sexual and gender identities:

#### Queer People of Color Group

*Mondays, 7-8pm, Office of LGBT Life*

This group provides graduate and undergraduate students the opportunity to explore the ways to celebrate their identities and navigate a predominately white, hetero/ gender-normative campus as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, and/or intersex people of color. The topic will be: "What do you value?"

#### Queer Women Group

*Tuesdays, 7-8pm, Center for Women*

This group provides graduate and undergraduate students with the opportunity to explore the joys and challenges of being a queer, trans, lesbian, bisexual, same-gender loving, and/or pansexual woman at Emory. This week the topic is: Identity: CASS model.

#### \*NEW\* Queer Interfaith Group

*Thursdays, 7-8pm, Office of LGBT Life*

This group explores ways of integrating one's religion, spirituality, sexual identity, and gender identity. This group is for students who identify as queer students of faith. This week's topic is "The politics of Faith and Relationships in the LGBT Community."

Click [HERE](#) to meet our facilitators!

### Weekly Student Groups

#### LGBTQueer Muslim Group

This group provides Muslim graduate and undergraduate students the opportunity to explore and celebrate their faith, culture, sexual identity and gender identity in a safe and supportive environment. Students who identify as Muslim and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, same-gender-loving, and/or queer are welcome to attend. For more information about this group, meeting time and location, contact Michael Shutt, Director of the Office of LGBT Life at [mshutt@emory.edu](mailto:mshutt@emory.edu).

#### Queer & Asian (Q&A)

Q&A is Emory's confidential group for students who wish to celebrate and explore their identities as lesbian, gay, bi, transgender, queer, questioning, and/or intersex people of any Asian heritage. For more information, contact Michael Shutt, Director of the Office of LGBT Life at [mshutt@emory.edu](mailto:mshutt@emory.edu) or Dohyun Ahn at [ddahn@emory.edu](mailto:ddahn@emory.edu).

#### Emory Pride

This student organization provides Emory students with opportunities to engage in advocacy, education, and social interactions to create a stronger and more inclusive queer and allied community. The group meets on Wednesdays at 7pm. Email Kovonn Tanner ([mktanne@emory.edu](mailto:mktanne@emory.edu)) or Brianne Rivera ([bariver@emory.edu](mailto:bariver@emory.edu)) for more information.

#### Transforming Emory

This group builds community for transgender, gender variant, transsexual, genderqueer, gender questioning people and their allies, friends, and partners. For additional information, email [trans.emory@gmail.com](mailto:trans.emory@gmail.com) or [lgbt@emory.edu](mailto:lgbt@emory.edu).

#### Safe Space Trainings

Want to raise your awareness and increase your knowledge of queer issues and concerns? Attend a 3.5 hour training and learn how to put what you learn into action. Trainings are open to faculty, staff, and students. Training dates for the fall are:

- November 14<sup>th</sup>, 1pm-4:30pm

For more information or to register, visit our [website](#).

## News & Events at Emory

### **SHAG Meeting—November 2nd at 7:30pm**

Emory Sexual Health Awareness Group (SHAG) is a student organization dedicated to promoting open discussion about sexual health, sexuality, and how to educate and care for ourselves, our partners, and our entire community. This week the group will meet on Wednesday, 2 November at 7:30pm in DUC 249 to discuss "What is sex...What is protection?..." For more information, please contact Malcolm Tariq ([mtariq@emory.edu](mailto:mtariq@emory.edu)).

**GALA-Emory's LGBTQ Alumni Planning Meeting**

Still wondering how you can become involved with Emory after you graduate or as a current alum? Leave it to GALA, Emory's LGBTQ alumni group, to help you answer that question! Here are the dates of our upcoming meetings where you'll learn about what we do and share new ideas, network with fellow LGBTQ alumni, and maybe even shake things up a bit. After all, what's the point of being involved if you can't change something? We hope you can join us! Click [here](#) to let us know you're coming.

Dates of future meetings are:

- Nov. 8<sup>th</sup>

**Emory Cares International Day of Service at The NAMES Project Foundation**

*Saturday, November 12 @ 10:00 AM*

Emory staff members are invited to join colleagues for this year's Emory Cares service project at The NAMES Project Foundation, the international home of the AIDS Memorial Quilt. The AIDS Memorial Quilt is the largest ongoing community arts project in the world, honoring over 91,000 victims of AIDS. Volunteers will participate in a variety of activities, including administrative work, moving Quilt blocks (some are heavy), packing boxes, and making cloth walkways. All of the work performed on this day will support preparations for World AIDS Day on December 1.

Please register for this project by clicking [here](#). Registration will close on November 9.

**Holiday Social with GALA, Emory's LGBTQ Alumni**

*Thursday, December 8 @ 7:00 PM*

Emory alumni are invited to celebrate the holidays in style at this annual holiday social. There will be lots of fun and plenty of cheer at Einstein's, a warm, yet trendy restaurant occupying three 1920s bungalow on the corner of 12<sup>th</sup> and Juniper Streets.

Cost is \$5 in advance, \$10 at the door, and includes appetizers and one drink ticket with a cash bar after your included drink. Please register by clicking [here](#).

**Bring Your Own Lunch & Learn "LGBT Issues in Healthcare"**

*November 1<sup>st</sup> 11:45am-1:15pm School of Medicine Rm 153A*

Join us for the viewing of a recorded panel discussion led by Kathy Oriel, MD, MS. Oriel is a past-president of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, an organization that advocates sensitive, high-quality care for LGBT people and also advocates for LGBT physicians. Please register in PeopleSoft Self-Service. Contact **Christie Kuropatwa** ([ckuropatwa@emory.edu](mailto:ckuropatwa@emory.edu)) with questions. Open to all Emory faculty, students, and staff.

**Gayle Rubin Lecture**

*November 16<sup>th</sup> 4:00pm White Hall 207*

"Sex and the Post-Industrial City: Leathermen, San Francisco, and Geographies of Gay Sex." Gayle Rubin is author of the forthcoming book, *Deviations*, which includes her foundational feminist essay, "The Traffic in Women," her equally foundational queer essay, "Thinking Sex," and subsequent work on lesbian history, the sex wars, sadomasochism, leather communities, pornography and prostitution.

**Rabbi Andrea Myers, *The Choosing***

*November 13<sup>th</sup> 10:00am Marcus Hillel Center*

Hillels of Georgia and Congregation Geshar L'Torah are joining together as community partners in the MJCCA Book Festival for a community event. The event features Rabbi Andrea Myers, a lesbian convert to Judaism, whose new book, *The Choosing*, tells of her journey. Please share the following information with students, friends and family to invite them to this free event.

**Feminists In Action Meetings (Starting August 31<sup>st</sup>)**

*Wednesdays 5:45pm-7:00pm Center for Women*

FIA is a student-led grassroots organization at Emory that is dedicated to learning about, embodying, and enacting feminist principles and ways of life. Through educational, activist, and social opportunities, FIA examines and fights individual and systemic forms of oppression. For more information, contact Conrad Honicker [chonick@emory.edu](mailto:chonick@emory.edu) or visit [FIA's website](#).

## Events in the Community

### Special Anniversary Screening of Silent Film "Claire"

November 8<sup>th</sup> 8pm Woodruff Arts Center

With live orchestral score featuring Sister Mish P. DeLight, founding member of the San Francisco Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence. Atlanta filmmaker Milford Thomas' CLAIRE is a 53-minute black and white silent film shot on an antique hand-crank 35mm (Mitchell Standard) camera. The film toured internationally, opening LGBT film festivals in Milan, Brussels, Montreal and the U.S., always accompanied by the "Orchestra de Lune," a live 11-piece chamber orchestra performing an original score by composer / conductor Anne Richardson. Loosely based on a Japanese fairytale and transposed to the U.S. Mythical South, CLAIRE tells the story of an elderly male couple that find a girl from the moon and adopt her as their own. Tickets at: [www.woodruffcenter.org](http://www.woodruffcenter.org)  
Website: [www.clairesilentmovie.com](http://www.clairesilentmovie.com)

### Screening of Documentary "Mom & Dad, I Have Something to Tell You"

November 8<sup>th</sup> 7pm Fellowship Hall of St. Mark United Methodist Church

Join Congregation Bet Haverim and St. Mark UMC for a screening of the ground breaking Israeli documentary followed by a Q&A with Assi Azar. All are welcome. Donations are accepted. For questions: [rsvp@cbhatlanta.org](mailto:rsvp@cbhatlanta.org) or 404.315.6446.

### Queers Run Amuck: LGBT Leadership in Social Movement

November 12<sup>th</sup> 12pm-5pm Auburn Ave. Research Library

Attention LGBTQ leaders in social movements and the arts: Organizers are seeking to create a space to acknowledge our queer leadership across social movement, hear personal stories of how we came into this movement, and what we can all do to better support each other's work and strengthen intelligent and engaged community. Come share your story and be part of a larger dialogue on queers in social movement organizing. Contact Franklin Abbott at [lokishango@gmail.com](mailto:lokishango@gmail.com) for more information.

### Testing Together

Ongoing AID Atlanta, 1605 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta

Testing Together is funded by MAC AIDS Fund and is a groundbreaking new HIV testing and counseling service for male couples that is being offered in Atlanta and Chicago. In 2011, as part of its special initiative focused on young MSM of color, MAF awarded a grant to Emory University to support an adaptation of Couples HIV Counseling and Testing (CVCT) for male couples, developed in response to the rising rates of HIV infection among MSM in the U.S.

### Learn About Transgender Employment Experiences with Kyla Bender-Baird

November 11<sup>th</sup> @ 6pm Charis Bookstore

Using personal interviews, legal case histories, and transgender theory, Transgender Employment Experiences combines policy analysis with the lived experiences of twenty transgender-identified employees, showing how worker protections that should exist under the Civil Rights Act are instead systematically undermined in the case of many transgender employees. Rather than focusing solely on negative experiences, however, Kyla Bender-Baird also highlights the positive experiences her respondents had coming out at work, illustrating examples of best practices in response to transitioning. Bender-Baird covers many forms of discrimination that transgender workers face, such as harassment, gender-based dress codes, income-related inequities, bathroom policies, and background checks. Drawing from this analysis, she argues for protections for gender expression in policy decisions, legislative efforts, and for a multipronged approach to workplace discrimination.

## Research Opportunities

### LGBT Student Leaders Patterns of Accessing Help & Support

If you identify as a leader in a campus Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender student organization, Gay Straight Alliance, or other similar organization, you are invited to participate in a study that seeks to better understand how and when LGBT student leaders on college campuses access support. We hope that through gaining a better understanding of how LGBT student leaders access support, campuses become more hospitable and welcoming environments for LGBT students. If you decide to participate, we will ask you to complete a brief fifteen (15) minute survey on your experiences as a student leader. At the end of the survey you may volunteer to participate in a follow-up interview or in a local focus group. To complete the survey, click [here](#).

### Relationship Between Gay Community Involvement and Well-Being

Study participation is anticipated to take between 10-20 minutes using our online survey. Your responses will be entirely anonymous and you have the option to exit the survey at any time. In order to participate, you must identify as a gay or bisexual male who is over the age of 18. Participants have the opportunity to win one of six \$25 Amazon.com gift cards. Access the survey [here](#).

### A Study of Lesbians' Experience with Healthcare Professionals

This online study investigates lesbians' experiences with healthcare professionals, both the good and the bad. Participants can enter their email address for a chance to win 1 of 5 \$100 cash prizes - the emails are collected separately from the survey responses to prevent identifiability. Eligible participants are self-identified lesbians who live in Canada and are 16 years or older OR who live in the USA and are 18 years or older. Access the study at <http://www.uwindsor.ca/lesbianhealthstudy>. For more information, contact [spier4@uwindsor.ca](mailto:spier4@uwindsor.ca) or call 1-519-253-3000 ext. 4703.

### Study on the Psychological Impact of the Threat of Identity Disclosure in the Workplace

Participants are needed for an online study of cognitive performance and workplace behavior. This study is being conducted through the Department of Psychology at Arizona State University. You will be asked to fill out an anonymous online questionnaire about behaviors in the workplace, which should take approximately 20 minutes to complete. Anyone interested in participating can access the survey by following the link below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/BFJLSLR>

If you have any questions, please contact us at [craig.nagoshi@asu.edu](mailto:craig.nagoshi@asu.edu) or [gabrielle@asu.edu](mailto:gabrielle@asu.edu).

### Examining the Academic and Social Experiences of Gay Male Undergraduates of Color

The purpose of this qualitative study is to understand the academic and social "lived" experiences of male undergraduates of color who identify as gay or bisexual. Using a semi-structured interview protocol, we elicit information about students' pre-college personal histories, decisions about disclosing their sexual identity to others, challenges and achievements they've experienced since entering college. Cues focus on issues of identity, socialization, environments, and interactions with others. Access the survey [here](#). Contact [strayhorn.3@osu.edu](mailto:strayhorn.3@osu.edu) or [tillman-kelly.1@osu.edu](mailto:tillman-kelly.1@osu.edu) for more information.

## Fellowships & Internships

### Ogilvy & Mather Information Session

Thursday, 11/3 at 3:00 p.m. at the Math and Science Center, Room E208

So the idea of starch and cubicles doesn't take you to your happy place?

We're assembling a select, tight-knit group of individuals. They're artistically minded with the instincts of a businessman. They come from varying backgrounds, disciplines and corners of the planet. Fitting candidates will join an elite yearlong apprenticeship, rotating through several departments such as Planning, Consulting, Account Management, Production and other specialty areas, or, our summer internship program. Soon-to-be graduates, upcoming seniors, join us if any of the above gave you the slightest chill or misty-eye. We'll tell you a bit more about ourselves and what it means to be a "Craftsman of Culture."

### **Victory Congressional Internship**

The Gay & Lesbian Leadership Institute will bring outstanding LGBTQ college students to Washington, D.C., for an intensive leadership program, including a Congressional internship with an LGBT-friendly member of Congress. The program includes a generous stipend, placement in a congressional internship and travel to/from Washington, D.C., as well as travel and registration to the International Gay & Lesbian Leadership Conference in Long Beach, California, in December 2012. Applications for Spring 2012 are due Monday, November 7 – find out more and apply now at [www.glli.org/vci](http://www.glli.org/vci) (applications for Summer 2012 will be due February 6). The Victory Congressional Internship is open to current undergraduate students of all genders, orientations, abilities, races, and political affiliations, including people with majors other than political science.

### **Global Experiences LGBT Internship Program**

The Global Experiences LGBT Internship Program offers an unparalleled opportunity to gain valuable work experience in a career area that also has considerable resonance and personal meaning to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered students around the globe. For ally friends or those pursuing careers in social work, human rights or progressive public policies, an internship with an LGBT organization can also be a rewarding, life altering experience.

Global Experiences offers LGBT international internships in Dublin, London, Paris and Sydney every season of the year. We also offer domestic internship opportunities in New York City and Washington, D.C. While these internships are a natural fit for those with graduate school interest in Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies, they can also be a transformative experience for those LGBT students with more general interest in communications & marketing, website design/hosting, public relations, radio/TV, event planning, non-profit management or political campaign organization. Click [here](#) for more information. Contact Alex Paisner at (410) 267-7306 or at [alex@globalexperiences.com](mailto:alex@globalexperiences.com).

# Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Life



## During the 1996-1997 Academic Year

- The Office received a grant from Metropolitan Atlanta Community Foundation's Lesbian and Gay Funding Initiative to help continue its advocacy.
- Emory hired its first full-time faculty member in Lesbian and Gay Studies, Cindy Patton.
- The Office of LGB Life launched its first website.
- Summer- Emory hosted Queering the South conference, a collaboration of the 19th National Gay and Lesbian Conference and



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Office of Lesbian/Gay/  
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Campus Life