



Emory LGBT News

VOLUME 2, NUMBER 4

Office of LGBT Life

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Office Hours:

M-F 8:30-5:00

We're on the Web!

www.lgbt.emory.edu

Join our Facebook Group:
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=58990379767>

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Office Under Construction

After a year of planning, the Office of LGBT Life is receiving a makeover! Last Friday, work officially began to increase data and power capacity in the Office. Once complete, the Office will be able to support more computers and other technologies for student use. A proposal was submitted last year to the David Bohnett Foundation to fund four new computers and a laser printer. The proposal is under review.

The Office is also being painted at the end of the month in preparation for new furniture. This furniture will create a more flexible space for students. Once complete, the space will be the perfect place to study, convene meeting, socialize, and conduct programs. A grand re-opening is being planned for January.

Trans-Forming Emory Group meetings

The Office of LGBT Life is sponsoring a new group this year. Trans-Forming Emory goal is to build community for transgender, gender variant, transsexual, gender queer, gender questioning people and their allies, friends and partners. This group will meet bi-weekly at 5:00 p.m. in the Office of LGBT Life through the fall. Meeting dates and topics include:

<u>September 22</u>	Open Discussion: Trans Life on Campus
<u>October 6</u>	Film: Screaming Queens
<u>October 20</u>	Open Group Discussion
<u>November 3</u>	Film: TransParent
<u>November 17</u>	Open Group Discussion
<u>December 1</u>	Group Discussion: TRANSitioning Home for the Holidays

Emory Pride BBQ September 25

Emory Pride's Fall BBQ will be held Friday, September 25 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the SAAC.

New Safe Space Program Launches – Training Dates

The Office of LGBT Life is rolling out its new Safe Space curriculum with two general 3.5-hour training sessions this fall. To register for a session, visit www.lgbt.emory.edu. You may sign up for a general session (offered on Tuesday, September 22 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. or Wednesday November 11 from 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.) or request a training for your office, department or group for a session that meets your scheduling needs. Both can be done online.

Join Emory University at Atlanta Pride

Emory University is participating in the Atlanta Pride Marketplace on October 31 and November 1, and the Atlanta Pride Parade on November 1. Visit www.lgbt.emory.edu and click on the links in the news section to sign up to volunteer at either Marketplace and/or represent Emory University in the Atlanta Pride Parade.

Lunch with the Director of LGBT Life

Join Michael Shutt, Director of the Office of LGBT Life and the Assistant Dean for Campus Life for lunch every Thursday from Noon-1:00 p.m. at the Dobbs University Center Dining Commons. Following lunch, Michael has office hours in the Office of LGBT Life until 3:00 p.m. Stop by to ask a question or just say hello.

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Queer Women's Group at the Center for Women

The Center for Women is hosting a Queer Women's Group on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. beginning September 10. This group provides a space for undergraduate and graduate women to explore their identities and discuss commonalities and differences. The group is run by a graduate student facilitator and takes place in the Center for Women in Cox Hall. For more information, contact roslyn.sledge@emory.edu or call 404-727-2031.

Conferences and Events

Film screening: "Black Womyn: Conversations with Lesbians of African Descent"

International Black DocuFest hosts a free screening of Tiona McClodden's documentary "Black Womyn: Conversations with Lesbians of African Descent" at the High Museum of Art (Walter C. Hill Auditorium) Friday, September 18 at 7:30

p.m. It's part of a 3-day film festival that showcases documentaries on the lives of black people around the world. Attendees must pre-register at www.InternationalBlackDocuFest.com. The filmmaker and cast members will be in attendance.

All My Children Seeks Social Justice Interns

All My Children is looking for students as Ambassadors for Academic year 2009-2010. We are also looking to fill the position of Program Director. Applications are due September 18.

AMC Ambassadors is a program of the All My Children Project. AMC Ambassadors are a group of highly motivated students who work to create positive environments and discussions around Health and Sexuality in ethnically diverse communities on college and university campuses in the Atlanta, GA Metropolitan area. AMC University Student Ambassadors organize campus activities designed to raise awareness about the consequences of anti-lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and questioning (LGBTQQ) bias within ethnically diverse families and communities. For further information, visit www.amcproject.org.

LGBT Study Abroad in Paris-Hofstra University

The LGBT in Paris program will focus on a group of topics that address gay life in Paris. The topics discussed correspond to the introductory course of LGBT Studies, which focuses on similar topics in American culture. Typically LGBT courses focus on LGBT issues in the United States. The LGBT in Paris program will provide students the opportunity to view their world in a global context. This program will offer insights into a gay community outside the United States, underscoring the notion that gay issues depend on more than just sexual orientation, but also social and historical contexts. How much is being gay considered an integral part of one's life in either culture? Thus, how much is being gay a part of daily life? These questions involve a complex interweaving of cultural awareness.

COURSE OFFERINGS

LGBT 75 (IS): 'Queer' Paris
taught by Dr. Powell

FRLT 49 (LT): Irony in Modern French Literature
taught by Dr. Jean

Both are distribution courses, and there are no prerequisites for either course.

'Queer' Paris leads students through the differences in French and American gay culture. The notion of the French Republic and its insistence on total egalitarianism leads to a sense of conformity that tolerates homosexuality in an overridingly cultural and legal sense, in a way that does not and probably cannot, happen in the United States. Thus, the nature of the gay "struggle" takes on entirely different goals and needs because of the essential opposing cultural circumstances. Students will read cultural and legal tracts concerning gay issues in France from the 1970s to the present. Class participants will also read short stories, perhaps a novel, and view films, all in translation. We will examine the texts for their gay cultural information.

Irony in Modern French Literature offers an examination of post-Nietzschean French literature, showing the failure of the romantic ideal and the virtual impossibility of attaining and maintaining a heroic status for the modern protagonist. While archetypal criticism is the principal means of approaching the works, other methods are encouraged. Authors discussed include Gide, Malraux, Sartre, Giraudoux, Camus, Ionesco, Beckett, Robbe-Grillet, and the surrealists. All works are read and discussed in English.

For further information about the LGBT in Paris program, please contact:
Dr. David A. Powell
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MEGA Family Project 1st Annual Family Conference

MEGA Family Project's 1st Annual Family Conference is September 26 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Atlanta (1911 Cliff Valley Way), with a keynote address on "Bullying and the LGBT Family" from Anneliese Singh and Maru Gonzalez. This conference is the first of its kind in the Southeast, and will be a great opportunity for LGBT parents, prospective parents, families, their children, friends, educators and community members to come together to discuss LGBT family issues and advocacy.

MEGA's Family Conference will have several tracks that attendees can choose from – prospective parents, parenting and schools. Within these tracks there will be over 20 workshops that one can attend on various topics including:

- * Creating a Family: Exploring Donor Insemination, Adoption, Surrogacy and Fostering
- * Protecting Our Families Legally
- * Raising Children of a Different Race
- * Coming Out After A Heterosexual Marriage
- * Issues Unique to Foster and Foster Adoptive Families
- * Coming Out to Your Kids, Schools, Friends, Etc.
- * Choosing the Right School For Your Child
- * Co-Parenting After A Break Up

Childcare will be available. For older children, we will have kid-focused programming that will allow your children a safe place to meet other children of LGBT families. For more information and to register (\$15-\$30) visit www.megafamilyproject.com.

Women of Color Conference at Spelman College

The Feminist Majority Foundation's Third Annual Women of Color Conference comes to Spelman College October 9 and 10.

The Conference aims to provide a space for women of color and allies to come together, learn about various social justice issues, and strategize for action as part of a larger movement for justice and equality. By focusing on advocacy and activism to create political change, the conference will help to unite young women to take action in the fight for equality. Topics to be addressed include reproductive justice, violence against women, sexuality, health care insurance reform, global reproductive rights and health, media, and much more.

Early-bird registration rates are available through September 25, at the rate of \$15 per individual and \$12 each for groups of five or more. To learn more about the conference, to see our preliminary schedule, and register, check us out online at <http://www.feministcampus.org/leadership>.

Want to register as a group? Got questions about the conference? Contact Val Vilott, National Campus Organizer, at 703-522-2214 or vvilott@feminist.org.

Cotillion Festival for GLBT Writers of African Descent

Registration is underway for Fire & Ink III: Cotillion, a festival for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people of African descent, to be held October 8-11 in Austin, Texas.

Cotillion presenters include keynote Nikky Finney, poets Samiya Bashir, Staceyann Chin, Lenelle Moise, Anton Nimblett, Tim'm T. West, Marvin K. White and avery r. young; writers Sharon Bridgforth, Laurinda D. Brown, Terrence Dean, Thomas Glave, and Nalo Hopkinson and Ana Lara; filmmakers M. Asli Dukan, Thomas Allen Harris, Yoruba Richen and Yvonne Welbon; visual artists Torkwase Dyson, Zanele Mhohli, Wura-Natasha Ogunji and Carl Pope; and performances by E. Patrick

Johnson and Daniel Alexander Jones.

Featuring more than 40 workshops, panels and roundtables, Cotillion brings together writers, readers, scholars, students, editors, publishers, curators, audio and visual artists and media professionals from around the country. Dr. Dwight McBride of the University of Illinois-Chicago describes the festival as "one of the few critical spaces where writers, critics, and publishers interested in literature by LGBT persons of African descent can come together to have dialogue about the state of literary culture, important issues in the African American community addressed in that literature, and to chart new political and aesthetic directions."

For schedule and registration information, visit <http://2009.fireandink.org>.

Reaching Out LGBT MBA Conference in Atlanta

The Reaching Out LGBT MBA Conference will be held October 15- 18 at the Westin Peachtree in Atlanta. The event is designed to promote the education, visibility and networking capabilities of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender business leaders in the United States and around the globe. Conference events include a diversity town hall, career panels, emerging leader workshops, a career management center, a mentorship program and a roundtable on teaching. Emory is one of the host institutions. For a full conference schedule and information on registration, visit http://www.reachingoutmba.org/news/more/2009_conference_in_atlanta.

Equality Ride Application Due

The 2010 Equality Ride is hitting the road this March, and we are currently seeking young adults (18-28) to be riders. The Equality Ride is a traveling forum that gives young people the chance to deconstruct injustice and the rhetoric that sustains it. It allows emerging young leaders to unite in the struggle for common equality. Everyday thousands of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning people suffer harassment, violence, and discrimination at the hands of those who do not understand them. The idea is this. We get on a bus and journey to various institutions of higher learning, many with explicit discrimination policies. Through informal conversation and educational programming we explore concepts of diversity, comparing the effects of inclusive and exclusive viewpoints. More practically, we share and gain insights about how our beliefs influence policy and culture, thereby impacting society. Guided by the principles of nonviolence, we set out ready to meet people where they are. Our goal is to carefully and collectively examine the intersection wherein faith meets gender and sexuality. Such discourse, especially when it affirms the beauty of our differences, plays an essential role in creating a safe learning and living environment for everyone.

So far, over 100 young adults have joined together as Equality Riders to challenge the religion based discrimination coming out of religious colleges and universities in the US. Will you join this tradition of nonviolent resistance and get on the 2010 Equality Ride?

The 2010 Equality Ride will be on the road in the months of March and April, 2010, and includes a mandatory weeklong training in preparation for the ride the first week of January, 2010.

If you are ready to board the bus this spring and join the nonviolent struggle to end faith based discrimination of LGBTQ individuals, apply now. The deadline to apply is September 20th, 2009. Follow the link below for more information and an application:

<http://www.soulforce.org/equalityrideb>