







Title, Session, Presenter	PrideWorks 2024 Workshop Description 
A History of Third Genders Session 2 Ejike Figueira	<p>Various cultures have long recognized members who buck the biological binary. The ancients wrote of people who were neither men nor women; individuals have been swapping genders for centuries; and intellectuals have fiercely debated the connection between the body and the self. Expanding the concept of gender is a big conversation in western culture today. It can be viewed as a revolutionary act of freedom, or, on the other end of the spectrum, something to be feared and discredited. But the world is wide, and history has its surprises.</p>
AMPLITUDE - Queer and Youth Allied Podcasting Session 1 and Session 2 Rebekah Edwards, Kasey Shi	<p>Youth involved with AMPLITUDE will share what it is like to lead and run a podcast. AMPLITUDE is a podcast series that is created by youth and for youth and is a safe place for young sexual minorities to freely talk about their own challenges and concerns, share their unique experiences, and encourage and support each other. They will discuss what is involved in creating the podcast and how they decide what to focus on. Then they will open for conversations with participants about different focuses of the podcasts they know or may have done, such as queer identity labels.</p>
Beautiful Monsters: A Queer Storytelling Workshop Session 1 and Session 2 Miles Borrero, Sarah Rubin	<p>Who are your favorite monsters – in books, movies, shows, anime, etc.? In most classical depictions of monsters, they are both feared and misunderstood by the world in which they live. But can monsters also be beautiful? How does the possibility of a “beautiful monster” upend what society deems beautiful and therefore worthy or valuable? In this workshop, we’ll explore the many overlaps between queerness and monstrous, and how we can use imagination and creativity to tell our stories.</p>
Best Practices for Cisgender Allies: Affirming TGNCNB Identities Session 2 Anthony Arrien	<p>The TGNCNB (transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary) community needs its cisgender allies. As a friend, sibling, parent, teacher, teammate, or anything else-- you have the power to push back against challenges that TGNCNB folks face. Whether it is knowing how to correct someone when they are struggling with they/them pronouns or helping trans youth access life affirming medical care, you can make a difference. Join us to learn practical steps to support this vital part of our community.</p>


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Beyond Inclusion: LGBTQIA Affirming Sex Education Session 1 and Session 2 Aviva Frank	This workshop will present information and activities that will help participants understand the need for, elements of, and best practices of making inclusive and affirming sex education spaces for all young people, but especially LGBTQIA+ youth. Youth and adult participants will be meaningful collaborators in interactive activities to help collectively build capacity and knowledge. We will consider ways to honor and incorporate LGBTQ+ identities into best practices, including inclusive language, representation, affirming framing techniques, and more. Participants will leave with affirming tools to incorporate meaningful sex education concepts into their lives
Book Connections: Using Youth Books to Create Safe Places and Understanding Session 1 Julie Alexandrin, Ph.D.	Fostering connections between people is the best way to create more welcoming and safe environments for ALL. Through connections, people realize that they have more commonalities and want similar outcomes for themselves and friends. This session discusses how using youth books as discussion starters can create spaces where people learn about others and themselves, creating connections and understanding across people who may not usually connect. Participants will sample a couple different Book Connections.
Choosing the College That's Right for YOU! Session 1 and Session 2 WCC Admissions Office	All students, regardless of gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, race, religion, age or affiliation, need to find a college where they will thrive. This workshop will guide students on how to select the institution that will allow them to succeed and flourish, and will focus on what, specifically, the LGBTQ+ community should look for. At the end of this session, you will be armed with tools and resources to help you embark on your inclusive college search.
Coming Out/Being Out - Middle School and Beyond Session 1 Peter Green	For most kids, the social pressures of middle school are tough enough. But an increasing number of young teenagers, some as young 10 or 11, are coming out as LGBTQ+ in middle school. Join us for an opportunity to discuss the pros and cons of coming out and to share experiences and tips.
Gender Euphoria: Out of the Closet!! Session 1 and Session 2 Weston Siano, Liz Verrastro	While we often talk about gender dysphoria, we often don't pay as much attention to gender euphoria, and some of the things we can do to celebrate our gender and how we present ourselves to the world. Gender euphoria can look like a lot of things, but mostly it's about finding joy in how we express our gender to the world, and how the world perceives us. We'll talk about how different clothing styles, colors, and even brands can help us with our 'look' and help us find joy in our gender!


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Getting Bi: Bisexuality 101 & Beyond Session 1 Robin Ochs	What does it mean to identify as bi+ (bisexual, pansexual, fluid, etc.)? What are challenges to recognizing and understanding non-binary sexualities - the largest yet often-overlooked segment of the LGBTQ+ community? No matter how you identify, this engaging and interactive program will give you some tools you can use to challenge ignorance, biphobia, and bi erasure, and finding bi+ joy.
GSA Roundtable – Advisors Adult Session Session 2 Peter Green	Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) Advisors, share your successes, challenges, expertise, and best practices with and learn from others. You may even discover ways to lead your district in meeting the needs of the implementation of the Dignity for All Students Act (DASA), and in following the NYS Education Department’s guidelines on inclusion.
GSA Roundtable for Students Students Only Session 1 Cade Schwark, Rachel Simon	How can your GSA be more visible in your school? How can you attract new members? Don’t sit around waiting for the Day of Silence! Start helping your GSA now. What makes an effective, and exciting meeting? Meet members of GSAs from other schools, and get new ideas for activities, events, and advocacy.
How Queerness Is Liberating Session 1 Ejike Figueira	Join us for an open and honest discussion about what queerness looks like and how liberating it can be. Participants will walk away with a deeper understanding of how beautiful being a queer person really is and how ever expansive the identity can be.
LGBTQ+ Foundational Knowledge Session 1 and Session 2 Cadence Pentheny	This introductory session is designed to help people learn some of the terms and how they are used, enhance their knowledge, and correct any misconceptions that might exist by presenting an overview of the LGBTQ+ community. Once you are prepared with the facts, you can speak and speak out with confidence!
LGBTQ+ in Athletics Session 1 and Session 2 Anthony Nicodemo & Panel	A panel of LGBTQ+ athletes will discuss the various aspects of the athletic space. Physical education and interscholastic athletics tend to be intimidating to many LGBTQ+ youth. The panel will discuss their stories and experiences in athletics followed by a question-and-answer session. Learn how to not feel so alone, and figure out where you fit in the sports/recreation landscape

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LGBTQ+ Social Justice & Visibility in Art, Music, and Media Session 1 and Session 2 Christina Picciano	<p>This workshop, led by Christina Picciano, The LOFT LGBTQ+ Center's artist in residence, charts the historical journey from the AIDS epidemic and the UK's Section 28 to today's fight for LGBTQ+ rights. This session invites participants to explore how art, music, and activism intersect, shaping the portrayal of LGBTQ+ individuals in media, and its impact on future social justice. By examining the role of art and music in advancing LGBTQ+ narratives and activism, participants gain insights into their historical influence, and their potential for shaping future representations.</p>
LGBTQ+ Subculture: The Ballroom Scene Session 1 and Session 2 Emmanuel Segarra-Otero	<p>The Ballroom Scene is an LGBTQ+ sub-culture where people 'walk' for status and prizes at events known as 'balls.' Ballroom has decades of relevance that has inspired documentaries, been co-opted by icons like Madonna, and yet, remarkably, remains largely misunderstood. We will delve into this culture and examine its history, impact, rise in the media, and relevance today.</p>
Make your own PRIDE Doll Session 1 and Session 2 Dale Guy Madison	<p>Dale's art is centered around pushing the boundaries of identity and he uses it to express his concerns, empathy, and pride for issues surrounding race, gender, and sexuality. Drawing from childhood experiences of using art, from drawing on grocery store bags to creating characters, writing stories and poems inspired by theater, and sewing fashion designs, Dale has always thought freely and creatively.</p>
Queer-Positive Stories in the Bible: Christian and Jewish Scripture for Liberation Session 1 & Session 2 Rabbi Ben Goldberg, Jim O'Hanlon	<p>What is gained by reading a Bible passage in light of contemporary LGBTQIA experiences? Join us as we read an ancient story through a modern queer/LGBTQ+ lens.</p>
Queering the Black Church Session 1 and Session 2 Kym McNair	<p>Religion can be a life-giving conversation partner at all the intersections of who we are, especially for those of us who are LGBTQ and faith-filled. The Black Church™ in particular, whether it is within the four walls of a stain-glassed building or rooted in our very being out in the world, has a tradition grounded in justice-seeking and resistance to oppression. It is the place where many of us first learned all of our Black lives matter and hate won't break our souls. This workshop will explore some of the ways any of us can tap into a well of joy, peace and liberation and will provide specific touchstones based on songs and scriptures useful for reclaiming humanity for ourselves and for others.</p>

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Queering the Catalog: Then and Now Session 1 & Session 2 Erika Peiffer, Erica Roberts	<p>This presentation will dive into how queer representation in youth literature throughout time can give us a fuller picture of queer history. How have these novels changed since 1969 and what has remained the same? How did queer teens and young adults find resources before we all had the internet and smartphones? What childhood favorites were written by queer authors and how did their writings push back societal norms, and how did other children's literature end up being read through a queer lens? We will end our history in the present with a book talk on some of our favorite recent LGBTQ+ books.</p>
Queertivity – The Workshop, Where Creativity and Queer Pride Collide! Session 1 and Session 2 Sphynxx Deity	<p>Get ready to burst into color at PrideWorks. Queertivity is more than just a workshop, it's a movement. It's a chance to embrace your individuality, connect with your tribe, and unleash your creative spark to make the world a brighter, bolder place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Express your unique identity through a collaborative mural where your unique artistic voice will join forces with fellow LGBTQ+ youth and allies to create a vibrant tapestry of our collective experience. • Get ready to put your imagination on overdrive with the 12 Circles Challenge! Unleash your inner artist and transform ordinary circles into dazzling portraits, fantastical creatures, symbolic messages abstract explosions of color, or anything your imagination conjures in just 3 minutes! Time to think fast and let your creativity run wild! • Discover the power of self-expression as a tool for empowerment and advocacy. Explore how art, creativity, and individuality can break down barriers and pave the way for positive change. • Infuse your creativity with activism! Learn how to channel your artistic talents into advocating for positive change and making the world a more vibrant, welcoming space for all.
Sharing is Caring (When You Have a Plan!) Session 1 and Session 2 Jay Tyler	<p>Are you thinking about coming out but don't know how your friends and family will react? Are you new to dating and want to make sure you have the right resources if things start to feel unsafe or scary? Are you the friend that people always go to for support and need to figure out how to balance time for yourself? Have you ever thought about what YOU need to feel safe? Let's face it, when we think about relationships, we never put ourselves first, that is IF we even think about ourselves at all. Join staff from My Sisters' Place as we talk about and create our own personal safety plans and self-care resources so we can be better prepared to help support our friends and ourselves. It's okay to be selfish and it's time we took a moment to make you a priority for once.</p>

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The Importance of Self Care Session 1 and Session 2 Dakota Piñon	This workshop emphasizes the importance of self-care in three categories: mental health, basic nutrition, and physical activity. We will focus on LGBTQ+ life and coping with stressors that our community faces. Participants will be guided on how to create a self-care plan and implement it in their daily lives.
The Ugly Truth about Housing History and Examples of Queer Community Action for Change! Session 1 and Session 2 Shepard Verbas	Calling all Queers & Allies for Housing Justice! Everyone is entitled to fair housing! From access to quality food, education, green spaces, clean water/air, and work, where we live plays a huge role in our lives. Due to historic policies that still impact our current housing market, discrimination against protected classes like race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, and disability among others, is still widespread. In this workshop we will unpack the history and current impact of housing discrimination, share examples of LGBTQ+ housing justice change-makers, and discuss thoughts on this crucial topic. This workshop is open to youth and adults.
Trans Advocacy in a Time of Legislative Attacks Session 1 Nay Grillo, Oliver Cirlin	This workshop is geared towards current or aspiring teen activists interested in social justice advocacy for the transgender community. We will explore the dangerous influx of anti-trans legislation being proposed and passed across America, dissecting what areas of our everyday lives conservative politicians are attacking and why. We will observe this through an intersectional lens, understanding how these harmful bills impact transgender people of color, transgender youth, and more. We will then look at how, as allies and trans folk, we can act against anti-trans legislation. As a group, we will discuss how to advocate from a personal, local, and state level and how to join collective social action.
Uncovering Westchester: LGBTQ+ History Session 1 and Session 2 Allee Manning	Learn about LGBTQ+ heroes with ties to Westchester through an interactive presentation by The Westchester LGBTQ+ History Project founder Allee Manning. Test your knowledge of LGBTQ+ icons through a low-stakes trivia game and find out how they're connected to Westchester! Uncover unsung local heroes who have made national history! There's much to learn about the way LGBTQ+ people have impacted our county.
What Every LGBTQ Person Should Ask Their Doctor About Their Health and Mental Health - Youth Only Session 1 and Session 2 Robbins Gottlock, MD, Nancy Ulrich, Ph.D.	This workshop will discuss the most pressing and unique health care and mental health challenges and opportunities facing LGBTQ+ individuals. The presenters, representing the medical and mental health fields, will highlight specific interventions and screenings that members of the LGBTQ+ community should discuss with their primary care providers. We will answer participants' questions as well!

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ADULT SESSIONS	
Current Trends in Gender Identity and Intersectionality for School Allies Adult Only Session 1 Anthony Arrien	<p>This workshop is geared to school personnel, as well as parents and adult allies of LGBTQ+ youth. After reviewing terms, we will examine the societal stresses on TGNCNB youth, and how those stresses are seen in changing mental health statistics. We will see how the minority stress of identifying LGBTQ+ correlates with intersectionality and hate crimes. We look at the problems in schools that are GLSEN's National School Climate Survey and offer suggestions to help LGBTQ+ students in the classroom and how to deal with bullying in and out of the classroom according to the Zero Intolerance guide. We will also look at the trends in LGBTQ+ legislation in the U. S. and examine the impact of recent NYS legislation that enhances DASA protections for TGNCNB students from harassment.</p>
Examining LGBTQIA+ Youth Self-Harming Behaviors Adult Only Session 2 Julie Alexandrin, Ph.D.	<p>Content Warning: This session explores why LGBTQIA+ youth engage in self-harming and high-risk behaviors like cutting and smoking. We ask that those who might be triggered by discussions of self-harm consider the content before selecting this session. This workshop will first examine the purpose of behavior and its connection to understanding self-harming behaviors. Then, we will explore why self-harming behaviors are so strongly reinforcing to youth. Third, we will explore and discuss the risk factors which make youth who are LGBTQIA+ most likely to self-harm. We will finish with how all adults can support youth who self-harm.</p>
How Parents and Caregivers Can Support Their LGBTQ+ Child's Health Adult Only Session 1 Nancy Dodson, MD	<p>This workshop will provide information for parents and other adults about the ways doctors approach the transition process for preteens and teens. Dr. Dodson will draw on her experiences to describe gender-affirming care that is thoughtful, judicious, medically sound, and patient- and family-centered. She will share the different ways parents and caregivers can demonstrate their support for their loved one at each step. Dr. Dodson will be able to answer questions of a general nature but will not comment on specific situations or treatment plans.</p>

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<p>Parenting with Pride . . . What Messages Do We Give Our Children?</p> <p>Adult Only</p> <p>Session 1 and Session 2</p> <p>Jerry Goodman, Laura Goodman, Mimi Goodman, Ellen O'Hara Woods</p>	<p>This will be a panel of four people who have children of varying ages in the LGBTQ+ community . We will discuss common pitfalls in communication, misconceptions, use of gender inclusive language, mixed messages, and the many other things that we as parents encounter when talking with our children. Our goal is to have our children feel safe and fully accepted in their own home. There will be time for discussion and a Q & A</p>
<p>Transforming Elementary Education – One Lesson at a Time</p> <p>Adult Only</p> <p>Session 1</p> <p>Amy Cazes, James Forcinito, Juliann Snyder</p>	<p>School success begins with the shared vision of doing what is best for kids. Members of our trailblazing elementary Gender Team will share our story: where we began, our dream of a truly inclusive environment, our partnership with families, the steps we have taken to grow, the challenges we have encountered, and the students who have been affirmed on our journey. Participants will learn how to get the important work of gender started and begin to plan their school's future. We will share our experiences with staff and community learning, curriculum development, and student advocacy. Participants can ask questions as they create a vision for gender inclusivity and nurturance in their classrooms and schools.</p>