

Queer-e: Your List of LGBTQA Events in the Pioneer Valley
August 26, 2011

UMASS STONEWALL CENTER EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS
[For more information on Stonewall Center events, join our Facebook page, visit www.umass.edu/stonewall, or call us at (413) 545-4826]

1. **Stonewall Center Grand Reopening -- 9/8, 5-7 p.m., Stonewall Center, Crampton Hall**
2. **Free, Anonymous STD and HIV Testing -- 9/13, Noon-3:30 p.m., 101 UMass Campus Center**
3. **"Building Community in a Divide and Conquer Culture" -- 9/15, 7 p.m., 174-76 UMass Campus Center**
4. **Neon Nights: LGBTQ and Ally Fall Dance -- 9/17, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m., UMass Fine Arts Center Lobby**

LOCAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. **Singers Welcomed at Pioneer Valley Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal -- 8/31, 7-9 p.m., St. John's Episcopal Church, Northampton**
6. **Gender Healing of the Ancestors: A Long-Weekend Playshop -- 9/2-9/5, Westminster West, VT**
7. **East Coast FTM Group Meeting: "Trans Men and Loneliness" -- 9/11, 3-6 p.m., Northampton**
8. **Audition for The UMass Not Ready for Bedtime Players -- 9/14, 6:30 p.m., 101 UMass Campus Center**
9. **Rainbow RiverFest -- 9/24, 11 a.m.- 7 p.m., Holyoke Canoe Club, Holyoke**

HOUSING

10. **One Bedroom Apartment for Rent in Conway**

UMASS STONEWALL CENTER EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Stonewall Center Grand Reopening**

Thursday, Sept. 8, 5-7 p.m.
Stonewall Center, Crampton Hall

Kick off the school year by visiting the newly renovated center and meeting new and returning lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) students and allies. Open to all LGBTQ people and allies in the Five Colleges and to community supporters. Vegetarian dinner provided.

2. **Free, Anonymous STD and HIV Testing**

Tuesday, Sept. 13, Noon-3:30 p.m.

101 UMass Campus Center

No appointment necessary and no blood is involved, just oral swabs. An HIV test will take about 20 minutes. Testing is conducted by Tapestry Health. Sponsored by the Stonewall Center.

3. "Building Community in a Divide and Conquer Culture"

Thursday, Sept. 15, 7 p.m.
174-76 UMass Campus Center

A panel discussion exploring strategies for coalition building at the intersections of race, gender, and sexual orientation.

Panelists include:

- Dre Domingue, UMass doctoral student in Social Justice Education
- Yevin Roh, President of the UMass Student Government Association
- Stan Rosenberg, President of the State Senate (tentative)
- Mia Kim Sullivan, Director of Hampshire College's Civil Liberties and Public Policy program

Sponsored by the Stonewall Center and the Women of Color Leadership Network.

4. Neon Nights: LGBTQ and Ally Fall Dance

Saturday, Sept. 17, 9 p.m. - 1 a.m.
UMass Fine Arts Center Lobby

Free, with glow sticks and sunglasses provided. Open to all Five College and area high school students. Sponsored by the Stonewall Center.

LOCAL EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

5. Singers Welcomed at Pioneer Valley Gay Men's Chorus Rehearsal

Wednesday, Aug. 31 (and every Wednesday), 7-9 p.m.
St. John's Episcopal Church, 48 Elm Street, Northampton

More details at <http://www.pvgmc.org> or contact music director Larry McFarland at info@pvgmc.org.

6. Gender Healing of the Ancestors: A Long-Weekend Playshop with Oshee Eagleheart

Friday, Sept. 2 to Monday, Sept. 5
Rainbow Serpent, Westminster West, VT

"The intention of this playshop is to facilitate the healing of both ancient and recent gender wounding and inherited patterns, and to reclaim the parts of our selves that got neglected in the binary (boy/girl, female/male, masculine/feminine, gay/straight) splits. We will use a variety of interactive, experiential processes, including: sharing our personal stories, guided meditations, conscious intentional breathing, the Gender Diversity Game, movement, and ceremony. The flow of the playshop will be guided by Spirit, by the intentions and concerns of the participants, by our Ancestors, and by the Beings of the Future."

Cost: Playshop: \$180

Accommodation (camping at Rainbow Serpent): \$20/night.

Food: \$8/meal (Friday dinner through Monday lunch is 9 meals).

No one will be turned away for lack of funds.

For questions about the content of the playshop, contact Oshee: oshee@gdless.net, (615) 708-3356. For questions about logistics, contact Lisa: info@rainbowserpent.us, (802) 869-1122.

7. [East Coast FTM Group Meeting](#)

Sunday, September 11, 3-6 p.m.

Discussion topic: "Trans Men and Loneliness"

"Is this a dirty little secret in the trans community—that trans men in whatever stage of transition are often alone, frequently single, and unable to find a partner or maintain a love relationship? Do we experience a disproportionate amount of rejection and breakups, and do we have difficulty finding the right match for us in the first place? How do our gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, transition status, and other realities factor into what, to some, is seemingly perennial loneliness?"

Please note that East Coast FTM Group meetings are now specifically for FTMs only, meaning the full spectrum of masculine-identified, female- or intersex-born persons in the transgender and gender non-conforming community. This includes FTM transgender persons, FTM transsexuals (non-op, pre-op, and post-op), FTM cross-dressers, gender queers, stone butches, gender blended, queer, and questioning."

For the location and for more information, contact Bet: (413) 584-7616 or betpower@yahoo.com.

8. [Audition for The UMass Not Ready for Bedtime Players](#)

Wednesday, Sept. 14, 6:30 p.m.

101 UMass Campus Center

"The Not Ready for Bedtime Players is UMass Amherst's very own Peer Sexuality Theatre Troupe. If you are a UMass student interested in being a part of this group come and audition on Wednesday, September 14th. You don't need to prepare anything in advance, just come with a sense of humor. We will split you into groups of 5 people, you'll be given one of our scripts and

then your small group will perform in front of returning players. We'll then go through an improv activity. That's it. Call backs are the following week, when you'll have a week to prepare a script reading and have a short interview. The group audition signups will be done on a first come, first served basis, so get there early to get an early slot. All Players must be available on Wednesdays from 6:30 to 11:30. Questions? Contact Amanda Collings Vann at 413-577-5185 or collings@uhs.umass.edu."

9. [Rainbow RiverFest](#)

Saturday, Sept. 24, 11 a.m.- 7 p.m.

Holyoke Canoe Club, Route 5, Holyoke (two miles from Northampton)

"The Rainbow RiverFest combines music, performances, art, games, a youth tent, educational workshops, demonstrations and the Zen Zone, a healing place for body, mind and spirit. Pop diva Crystal Waters is the headline performer. Other performers include legendary women's music icon Alix Dobkin, Comedian Amy Tee, MAOR, Sister Funk, M3cedes Diaz, Sara Grace, Loco Ninja, Who da Funk It, and more.

The festival also includes a Youth Tent, a safe and welcoming space for young people ages 12-22, with workshops addressing their needs and interests, as well as activities like the Graffiti Wall Art Project. Many of the RiverFest performers will tell their personal coming out stories and answer questions candidly in the Youth Tent.

This year, the Rainbow RiverFest is free for those 20 and under. Adults are \$10 advance/\$15 at the door, with funds supporting the LGBT Coalition of Western Massachusetts. A beer garden (21+) will be sponsored by Harpoon and Barefoot Wines. For more information or to purchase tickets, go to: www.RainbowRiverFest.org or call 413-588-1018."

HOUSING

10. [One Bedroom Apartment for Rent in Conway](#)

In lesbian owner-occupied two-family house. Spectacular view, garden space, ski/hike out the door, woodstove/electric heat, washer/dryer, wood floors, patio, no dogs, other pets negotiable. No smoking anywhere on the property. Wireless high-speed internet access included. 5 minutes to 91. 20 minutes to UMASS, Greenfield, Northampton. Available October 1. \$585 + utilities/month. Email conwayapt@yahoo.com or call 877-925-2999.

To submit a listing or to subscribe to Queer-e, e-mail us: stonewall@stuaf.umass.edu.