

Queer-e: Your List of LGBTQA Events in the Pioneer Valley  
October 21, 2011

#### UMASS STONEWALL CENTER EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

[For more information on Stonewall Center events, join our Facebook page, visit [www.umass.edu/stonewall](http://www.umass.edu/stonewall), or call us at (413) 545-4824. Open MWThF 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m., open Tuesdays 8:30 a.m. - 8:30 p.m.]

1. [Original Plumbing: Trans Male Quarterly Slide Show and Reading from Their New Issue on "Family Matters" -- 10/24, 7 p.m. Food For Thought Books, Amherst](#)
2. [Free, Anonymous STD and HIV Testing -- 10/25, Noon-3:30 p.m., 101 UMass Campus Center](#)
3. [Rocco Katastrophe Concert -- 10/25, 8 p.m., Keefe Campus Center, Amherst College](#)
4. [kd diamond, "No Straight Lines: Drawing Sexuality and Gender in Comics" -- 11/1, 7 p.m., Stonewall Center, UMass](#)
5. ["Building Community in a Divide and Conquer Culture: Establishing Interfaith Coalitions" -- 11/8, 7 p.m., UMass Reading Room](#)
6. [Nick Krieger Reading from His Memoir Nina Here Nor There: My Journey Beyond Gender -- 11/15, 7 p.m., Food For Thought Books, Amherst](#)

#### LOCAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

7. [Lesbian-Identified Participants Wanted for UMass Study](#)
8. [UMass Faculty and Staff LGBTQ Support Group -- 10/20 \(and going through 12/15\)](#)
9. [Progressive Muslim Friday Gathering: "Women in Islam: Was Prophet Muhammed a Feminist?" -- 10/21, 6:30 p.m., Unitarian Society, Northampton](#)
10. [Holly Near with John Bucchino and Special Guest Laura Love -- 10/22, 2 and 8 p.m., Unitarian Society of Northampton and Florence](#)
11. [Tenth Annual Translating Identity Conference -- 10/22, University of Vermont](#)
12. [Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha, "Love Cake: A Spoken Word Poetry Performance" -- 10/24, 7 p.m., Main Lecture Hall, Hampshire College](#)
13. ["Revolution Starts At Home: Activist Communities, Intimate Violence, Transformative Justice Workshop" -- 10/25, 5:30-8:30 p.m., Faculty Lounge, Hampshire College](#)
14. ["They're Cutting . . . What?: Challenges and Opportunities Facing the 'New' Social Justice Fields in Today's Public Higher Education Funding Crisis" -- 10/26, 4-6 p.m., 10th floor, UMass Campus Center](#)
15. [Howlin' Halloween LGBT Spooktacular! -- 10/28, 8 p.m.-Midnight, Smith College Conference Center, Northampton](#)
16. [Northampton Mayoral Candidates Forum for the LGBT Community -- 10/ 29, 3-5 p.m., The Center, 35 State Street, Northampton](#)
17. [Rocky Horror Show Live Cast Performances with the Come Again Players -- 10/29, 8 p.m. & Midnight, Academy of Music, Northampton](#)

- 18. [Julia Serano, "Putting the Feminine Back into Feminism" -- 11/7, 8:30 p.m., Paino Lecture Hall, Amherst College](#)
- 19. [Jeff Sheng: "Fearless" -- 11/10, 8 p.m., Athletics Building, Amherst College](#)
- 20. [GAP: Amherst College's Free LGBTQIA Party -- 11/12, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., Basement of Hamilton House, Amherst College](#)

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## UMASS STONEWALL CENTER EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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- 1. Original Plumbing: Trans Male Quarterly Slide Show and Reading from Their New Issue on "Family Matters"  
Monday, Oct. 24, 7 p.m.  
Food For Thought Books, 106 North Pleasant St., Amherst

"With family, come issues. This is beyond just a "Family Issue." This is a resource for trans people and their family members, partners, best friends. I'm even referring to it as family-friendly, because this is an issue you can share openly with kids, with your parents, with your parents' parents, and dedicated OP fans alike. This issue is dedicated to the parents of trans children, to trans adults who have started their own family, to people who prefer chosen family over anyone else, to anyone who appreciates family in whatever form they identify that as. And when I say "resource" I'm not talking textbook resource. I'm talking about real life experiences that you can bounce your own frustrations, emotions and thoughts off of. In this issue, we went to the Philadelphia Trans-Health conference where family members spoke to us and to each other about what has worked for them and what was a struggle. Moms, Dads, step-parents, high school students, best friends, trans men married to cisgender partners, trans guys who have gone through adoptions, fostering, queer solo parents of trans experience, trans guys who are about to give birth. It's all in there."

Sponsored by the Stonewall Center, Food For Thought Books, the Amherst College Pride Alliance, and the Association of Amherst Students.

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- 2. Free, Anonymous STD and HIV Testing  
Tuesday, Oct. 25, 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.

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### 3. Rocco Katastrophe Concert

Tuesday, Oct. 25, 8 p.m.

Friedmann Room, Keefe Campus Center, Amherst College

Rocco Katastrophe is a New York-based rapper and producer. He is widely credited as the first openly transgender singer in the hip-hop genre and he often incorporates his being a trans man in his work. He's a seasoned vet on the mic and got his start competing in poetry slams in 1997. Combining his love of music and language, he started rapping and making beats in 2002. He uses his poetic grasp of language to weave dense ...tales of lives lived outside the mainstreams of education, class, and culture. He makes hip-hop that explodes with dangerous and ebullient passion. Crafting both dark anthems of anxiety and righteous rage, and sexy, flirtatious, booty shaking pop/rap bangers.

No tickets necessary. The event is free and open to the public. For a map of the Amherst College campus, visit <https://www.amherst.edu/map/>

Sponsored by the Association of Amherst Students, the Amherst College Office of Student Activities, the Amherst College Program Board, the Amherst College Social Council, the Amherst College Pride Alliance, and the UMass Stonewall Center

Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=289408841076395>

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### 4. kd diamond, "No Straight Lines: Drawing Sexuality and Gender in Comics"

Tuesday, Nov. 1, 7 p.m.

Stonewall Center, Crampton Hall, UMass

kd (Katie) diamond is a queer, erotic comic artist. One of her most recent works is a comic-art collaboration with Johnny Blazes that appeared in *Gender Outlaws: The Next Generation*. Sponsored by the Stonewall Center and UMass Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies.

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### 5. "Building Community in a Divide and Conquer Culture: Establishing Inter- and Intra-Faith Coalitions across Identity Groups"

Tuesday, Nov. 8, 7 p.m.

UMass Reading Room (across from Blue Wall in the Campus Center)

A panel discussion exploring strategies for coalition building at the crossroads of

religion/spirituality, sex, race, and sexual orientation.

Panelists include:

- Vincent Cervantes, Activist, ex-gay survivor, and graduate student at Harvard Divinity School
- Charla Kouadio, Minister of Recovering the Promise Ministries in Springfield, MA
- Tynan Powers, Founder of the Pioneer Valley Progressive Muslims

Facilitated by Katja Hahn d'Errico, Professor in the UMass Social Justice Education program

Light refreshments will be served. Sponsored by the UMass Stonewall Center, the Women of Color Leadership Network, the Office of Religious and Spiritual Life, and Residential Life.

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6. Nick Krieger Reading from His Memoir *Nina Here Nor There: My Journey Beyond Gender*  
Tuesday, Nov. 15, 7 p.m.  
Food For Thought Books, 106 N. Pleasant St. Amherst

A native of New York, Nick Krieger realized at the age of twenty-one that he'd been born on the wrong coast, a malady he corrected by transitioning to San Francisco. His writing has earned several travel-writing awards and has been published in multiple travel guides. He aspires to be a stay-at-home dad (with or without kids), and spends his time practicing yoga, eating cereal, and queering all that he can. He holds an MFA from the University of San Francisco.

Sponsored by the Stonewall Center, Food For Thought Books, and UMass Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies.

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## LOCAL EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### 7. Lesbian-Identified Participants Wanted for UMass Study

A researcher at the University of Massachusetts Amherst is looking for exclusively lesbian-identified women between the ages of 18-24 for a research experiment in the Psychology department. Interested participants must have normal or corrected-to-normal vision, no history of neurological disease or injury, and no current use psychotropic or recreational drugs or a pacemaker. In addition, all participants must not be currently using hormonal birth control. Monetary compensation is available; please contact Tobias Bennett at [tsb.bennett@gmail.com](mailto:tsb.bennett@gmail.com) or 508-572-0339 for additional information.

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8. UMass Faculty and Staff LGBTQ Support Group  
Thursday, Oct. 20 (and going through Dec. 15)  
UMass Campus Center, Room 805-09

This new support group met for the first time on Oct. 13 and will remain open to new participants on Oct. 20 before becoming a closed group for the semester. For more information or to register, please contact Luke Woodward at [lwoodwa@uhs.umass.edu](mailto:lwoodwa@uhs.umass.edu)

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9. Progressive Muslim Friday Gathering: "Women in Islam: Was Prophet Muhammed a Feminist?"  
Friday, Oct. 21, 6:30 p.m.  
Unitarian Society of Northampton and Florence, 220 Main St., Northampton (go to the side door)

"Join Pioneer Valley Progressive Muslims for a Friday gathering and potluck--with a presentation/discussion about feminism and Islam. If possible, bring a dish or non-alcoholic beverage to share. If not, simply bring yourself and an open mind. Those who wish to do so will have an opportunity to pray the Islamic evening prayer in a gender-equitable communal style or individually. (There is never any pressure to participate in the brief prayer.) All are welcome. Pioneer Valley Progressive Muslims are explicitly LGBTQ-inclusive, pro-feminist and welcome everyone regardless of religious/spiritual identification. For more information, email [pvprogressivemuslims@gmail.com](mailto:pvprogressivemuslims@gmail.com) or visit our Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/pvprogressivemuslims>."

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10. Holly Near with John Bucchino and Special Guest Laura Love  
Saturday, Oct. 22, two shows: 2 and 8 p.m.  
Unitarian Society of Northampton and Florence, 220 Main Street, Northampton

Long-time political activist and entertainer Holly Near returns to the valley after a two-year break from touring. Tickets are \$22 in advance and \$25 at the door. For tickets: <http://uunorthampton.org> Produced by Wildrose Productions. For more information: [BAWildrose@verizon.net](mailto:BAWildrose@verizon.net)

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11. Tenth Annual Translating Identity Conference  
Saturday, Oct. 22

Dudley H. Davis Center, University of Vermont

The Translating Identity Conference (TIC) explores a wide array of topics in discourses regarding gender and transgender identities, expressions, communities, and intersections. TIC is a free, student organized, non-profit conference that draws attendees from around the world.

This year's keynote speaker is Julia Serano, the author of *Whipping Girl: A Transsexual Woman on Sexism and the Scapegoating of Femininity*, a collection of personal essays that reveal how misogyny frames popular assumptions about femininity and shapes many of the myths and misconceptions people have about transsexual women.

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12. Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha, "Love Cake: A Spoken Word Poetry Performance"  
Monday, Oct. 24, 7 p.m.  
Main Lecture Hall, Hampshire College

"In 'Love Cake,' Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha explores how queer people of colour resist and transform violence through love and desire. Refusing to forget the traumas of post 9/11 Islamophobia, and Sri Lanka's civil war, 'Love Cake' documents the persistence of survival and beauty, especially the dangerous beauty found in queer people of colour's lives. Piepzna-Samarasinha maps the complicated, luscious joy of reclaiming the body and sexuality after abuse, examines a family history of violence with compassion and celebrates the beautiful resistance of queer of color love and home making."

Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha is a queer disabled Sri Lankan writer, teacher, and cultural worker. She is the author of *Consensual Genocide* and co-editor of *The Revolution Starts At Home: Confronting Intimate Violence in Activist Communities*. Her second book of poetry, *Love Cake*, is forthcoming in fall 2011.

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13. "Revolution Starts At Home: Activist Communities, Intimate Violence,  
Transformative Justice Workshop"  
Tuesday, Oct. 25, 5:30-8:30 p.m.  
Faculty Lounge, Hampshire College

"In this powerful, interactive workshop, we'll talk about the nitty-gritty issues of partner abuse and sexual assault within our communities and discuss community accountability and transformative justice strategies that can help us walk towards building accountability, justice and violence free zones in our lives."

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14. "They're Cutting . . . What?: Challenges and Opportunities Facing the 'New' Social Justice Fields in Today's Public Higher Education Funding Crisis"

Wednesday, Oct. 26, 4-6 p.m.

Amherst Room, 10th floor, UMass Campus Center

A panel discussion with:

Laura Briggs, Professor and Chair, Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies

Max Page, Professor Architecture & Design, author of /The Future of Higher Education/

Donna Johnson, President, University Staff Association

Sophia Zaman, Undergraduate Organizing Director, Center for Education Policy and Advocacy

Panelists will address the issues and potential problems posed by diminished funding for public higher education. What does this mean for students, for employees, for building intellectual and academic resources? How will it impact the 'new' fields of critical social inquiry, like Women, Gender, Sexuality Studies, African American Studies, and Ethnic Studies? Where are the opportunities and the challenges?

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15. Howlin' Halloween LGBT Spooktacular!

Sponsored by the LGBT Coalition of Western Mass.

Friday, Oct. 28, 8 p.m.-Midnight

Smith College Conference Center, Northampton

"Where will you be this Halloween? Having a Howlin' Good Time at our party, of course!! Great Prizes! Great dance music by DJ Rockin' Reenie. Check out the moon from our deck overlooking Paradise Pond at the beautiful Smith College Conference Center as we take over for our Spooktacular. Costume optional. Full bar.

\$12/advance, \$15/door. Students only \$10 with ID (18+). Tickets go on sale October 4 on our website ([www.lgbtcoalitionwma.org](http://www.lgbtcoalitionwma.org)) and select ticket outlets. This is a fundraiser for the LGBT Coalition."

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16. Northampton Mayoral Candidates Forum for the LGBT Community

Saturday, Oct. 29, 3-5 p.m.

The State Room in The Center, 35 State Street, Northampton

Leading up to the November 8 election, the forum will give the audience a chance to ask questions of candidates Michael R. Bardsley and David J. Narkewicz related to the Northampton

LGBT community, social justice and civil rights, and more general topics involving the mayor's office.

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17. Rocky Horror Show Live Cast Performances with the Come Again Players  
Saturday, Oct. 29, 8 p.m. and Midnight  
Academy of Music, Northampton

"Both shows will be presented with a live shadow cast, pre-shows, and all the audience participation you expect from the original cult classic experience. Crap kits will be available filled with all the favorite props. Costuming is encouraged. Time Warp the night away and show us what a Sweet Transvestite you are! A portion of the proceeds of the show will be donated to the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation in memory of a beloved cast member lost to the disease."

Ticket prices are \$14, \$12 for students. To purchase, contact the Academy Box Office, Open Tuesday - Friday, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM 413-584-9032 x105 (Service fees may apply with purchase) or online at <http://academyofmusictheatre.tix.com>. For more information, see the Academy website: <http://www.academyofmusictheatre.com/>

The Come Again Players are a Rocky Horror shadow cast based at the Tower Theaters in South Hadley, right across from Mount Holyoke College. They perform at their home theater the first Saturday of every month. <http://www.comeagainplayers.org/RHPS/Home.html>

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18. Julia Serano, "Putting the Feminine Back into Feminism"  
Monday, November 7, 8:30-10 p.m.  
Paino Lecture Hall, Beneski Earth Sciences Building, Amherst College

As a feminist, biologist and femme-identified trans woman, Julia has a unique perspective on feminine gender expression. In this free talk, she moves beyond questions of "nature vs. nurture," and challenges the popular tendency in our culture to denigrate and sexualize feminine gender expression. In addition to critiquing both sexist and certain feminist interpretations of femininity, Julia offers new potential directions for femme politics and activism.

For a map of the Amherst College campus, visit <https://www.amherst.edu/map/>  
Facebook event: <https://www.facebook.com/event.php?eid=105631346213920>  
More info: [pridealliance@amherst.edu](mailto:pridealliance@amherst.edu)

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19. Jeff Sheng: "Fearless"

Thursday, Nov. 10, 8 p.m.  
Friends Room, Athletics Building, Amherst College

Photographer Jeff Sheng talks about his exhibition "Fearless," a series of portraits of out LGBT athletes on high school and college sports teams. View the exhibition and hear from the artist. (see <http://fearlesscampustour.org/Home.html>). Free and open to the public.

For a map of the Amherst College campus, visit <https://www.amherst.edu/map/>  
More info: [pridealliance@amherst.edu](mailto:pridealliance@amherst.edu)

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20. GAP: Amherst College's Free LGBTQIA Party  
Saturday, Nov. 12, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.  
Basement of Hamilton House (Rt. 9, not far from PVTA bus stop), Amherst College

For a map of the Amherst College campus, visit <https://www.amherst.edu/map/>

[Please note that while there will be student security at the door who are required to pat down all entering the party, you may self-select which security staff member will conduct the pat down (i.e. you will not be required to go to a staff member of a particular gender)].

More info: [pridealliance@amherst.edu](mailto:pridealliance@amherst.edu)

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To submit a listing or to subscribe to Queer-e, email us: [stonewall@stuaf.umass.edu](mailto:stonewall@stuaf.umass.edu).