

Queer-e: Your List of LGBTQIA and Allies Events in the Pioneer Valley
February 20, 2015

UMASS STONEWALL CENTER EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

[For more information on Stonewall Center events, follow us on Facebook (UMass Amherst Stonewall Center) or Twitter, visit www.umass.edu/stonewall, or call us at (413) 545-4824]

1. **Queer Geek Fest -- 2/20, 5-9 p.m., UMass Stonewall Center, Crampton Hall**
2. **LGBTQ in TEM/Chem/Physics Group: Board Game Night -- 2/22, 7-9 p.m., UMass Stonewall Center, Crampton Hall**
3. **Stonewall After-Hours -- 2/24, 6-9 p.m., Stonewall Center, Crampton Hall, UMass**
4. **Come Out as You Are Pre-Dance Mixer -- 2/25, 6-8 p.m., Stonewall Center, Crampton Hall, UMass**
5. **LGBTQIA Discussion and Support Group Weekly Meeting -- 2/25, 6:30-8 p.m., 102 Wilder Hall**
6. **A Conversation with Jazz Musician Fred Hersch -- 2/26, 4-5:30 p.m., Stonewall Center, Crampton Hall, UMass**
7. **Come Out as You Are: An LGBTQIA+ Dance -- 2/28, 9 p.m.- 1 a.m., Student Union Ballroom, UMass**
8. ***A Life Well Loved*: A film about Felice Yeskel, the founder and director for 20 years of the UMass Stonewall Center -- 3/3, 7 p.m., 168 UMass Campus Center**
9. **MFA for Poets and Writers' Visiting Writers Series: Eileen Myles -- 3/5, 8 p.m., Memorial Hall, UMass**
10. **LGBTQIA+ and Ally Spoken Word Night -- 3/6, 7-9 p.m., Earthfoods, UMass Student Union**
11. **6th Annual Five College Queer Gender and Sexuality Conference -- 3/6 & 3/7, Hampshire College**
12. **Free, Anonymous STD and HIV Testing -- 3/10, Noon-3:30, 174-76 Campus Center**
13. **"Black Trans Lives Matter: CeCe McDonald on Racism, Mass Incarceration, and Trans Liberation" -- 3/10, 7 p.m., Earthfoods, UMass Student Union**

LOCAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

14. **Mount Holyoke Drag Ball 2015 -- 2/21, 10 p.m.-2 a.m., Chapin Auditorium, Mount Holyoke College**
15. **Gender Role Free Contra Dance for the LGBTQ Community & Friends 2/21, 7-10 p.m., Montague Community Hall, 34 Main Street, Montague**
16. **Drag Brunch with Hors & Friends -- 2/22, 12:30 p.m., Slainte Restaurant, 80 Jarvis Avenue, Holyoke**
17. **Five College Trans Active Support Meeting -- 2/22 (and every Sunday), 1 p.m., Amherst**

College Queer Resource Center, Morrow Dorm Basement (use back door)

18. **Five College Queer and Trans People of Color Luncheon -- 2/25, noon, Amherst College Queer Resource Center, Morrow Dorm Basement**

19. **"Activism across the African Diaspora: A Celebration of Black Heritage Month" -- 2/25, 5:30-8:30 p.m., UMass Student Union Ballroom**

20. **2015 WGSS Conference: The Politics of Migration: Gender, Sexuality and Citizenship - 2/26-27, UMass Campus Center**

21. **President Obama's Executive Action on Immigration Informational Meeting -- 2/28, 12-3 p.m., Amherst Regional Middle School**

22. **Gage on Stage: An Afternoon of Lesbian Feminist Theatre -- 3/15, 3 p.m., Eastworks, 116 Pleasant St., Easthampton**

23. **LGBT Bereavement Support Group Starting in April**

STONEWALL EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Queer Geek Fest**

Friday, Feb. 20, 5-9 p.m.

UMass Stonewall Center, Crampton Hall

Come and celebrate queerness and geek culture! Here we go again! We'll have pizza, video games, board games, comic books and activities centered around queerness and geek culture! Please feel free to bring systems, (computers, 3DS, etc.) games (board and virtual), magic cards, and other things. Facebook event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/575417862593551>

2. **LGBTQ in TEM/Chem/Physics Group: Board Game Night**

Sunday, Feb. 22, 7-9 p.m.

Stonewall Center, Crampton Hall, UMass

"Do you identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or queer? Do you study or are interested in studying Engineering, Computer Science, Math, Physics, Chem or another male-dominated science? If so, please come to our first QTEM meeting of the semester! Meet other students in these fields as we spend a fun night talking and playing board games." Questions? Contact: umassqtem@gmail.com; facebook.com/UMassQTEM

3. [Stonewall After-Hours](#)

Tuesday, Feb. 24, 6-9 p.m.

Stonewall Center, Crampton Hall, UMass

A space for all LGBTQIA students and allies to hang out in a safe, welcoming, and judgment-free community environment. This is a mostly structure-free space, with individuals doing whatever they want to do. Whether or not you have been to an event before, are new to Stonewall or to UMass, want to meet new people, or want to be in queer space, etc. Everyone is welcome!!

4. [Come Out as You Are Pre-Dance Mixer](#)

Wednesday, Feb. 25, 6-8 p.m.

Stonewall Center, Crampton Hall, UMass

A chance for people to get to know others and have friends to go with to the Come Out as You Are dance on February 28. Food and door prizes provided. Facebook event page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1374291432882651>

5. [LGBTQIA Discussion and Support Group Weekly Meeting](#)

Wednesday, Feb. 25, 6:30-8 p.m.

102 Wilder Hall

Are you coming out as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, intersex, or asexual? Are you already out, but want a place of support to talk about being LGBTQIA? Then come to the weekly discussion and support group. Sponsored by the Stonewall Center and the Center for Counseling and Psychological Health.

6. [A Conversation with Jazz Musician Fred Hersch](#)

Thursday, Feb. 26, 4-5:30 p.m.

Stonewall Center, Crampton Hall, UMass

Fred Hersch is one of the most acclaimed pianists in jazz and a passionate spokesperson and fundraiser for AIDS services and education agencies. Hersch is the creative force behind the ambitious 2010 autobiographical production, *My Coma Dreams* (a work based on visions he had during a two-month coma in 2008). Hersch will talk about his life and experiences as a gay man, person living with AIDS, and musician. A light meal provided. Free and open to all. Facebook event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/1543466525904038>

7. [Come Out as You Are: An LGBTQIA+ Dance](#)

Saturday, Feb. 28, 9 p.m.- 1 a.m.

Student Union Ballroom, UMass

Free and open to all students. Glow bracelets provided. Facebook event page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1525189744437209>

8. [A Life Well Loved: A film about Felice Yeskel, the founder and director for 20 years of the UMass Stonewall Center](#)

Tuesday, March 3, 7 p.m.

168 UMass Campus Center

A Life Well Loved chronicles the life of Felice Yeskel, from her early feminist roots, to her LGBT activism, to taking on classism in the U.S. The film moves through Felice's life chronologically, quilting together various interviews of Felice, as well as others' perspectives of Felice and her work. Free, open to the public, and wheelchair accessible. Facebook event page:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1385181981795851>

9. [MFA for Poets and Writers' Visiting Writers Series: Eileen Myles](#)

Thursday, March 5, 8 p.m.

Memorial Hall, UMass

Snowflake/different streets is the latest of her 18 books. In 2010 the Poetry Society of America awarded Eileen the Shelley Prize. She is a professor emeritus of writing at UC San Diego and a 2012 Guggenheim fellow.

10. [LGBTQIA+ and Ally Spoken Word Night](#)

Friday, March 6, 7-9 p.m.

Earthfoods, UMass Student Union

Sponsored by the Stonewall Center and VOX.

11. [6th Annual Five College Queer Gender and Sexuality Conference](#)

Friday, March 6 and Saturday, March 7

Hampshire College

"The conference aims to offer an accountable and supportive environment in which to queer gender and sexuality while exploring a wide range of topics, and their intersections, such as race, class, religion, ability, class, family, kink, survival strategies, and many more. We strive to provide a safer space for engaging, learning, and sharing with workshops, panels, and lectures by both student leaders and off-campus educators. Keynote speaker: Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha.

Free admission. Register for the conference: hamp.it/queerconf

Contact: queerconf@hampshire.edu; Webpage: hamp.it/5cqgsc; Facebook: hamp.it/5cqgscFB

12. [Free, Anonymous STD and HIV Testing](#)

Tuesday, March 10, Noon-3:30 p.m.

174-76 Campus Center

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

13. ["Black Trans Lives Matter: CeCe McDonald on Racism, Mass Incarceration, and Trans Liberation"](#)

Tuesday, March 10, 7 p.m.

Earthfoods, UMass Student Union

"CeCe McDonald, an aspiring fashion student living in Minneapolis, was attacked by a racist, transphobic mob while walking to the grocery store in July of 2010. One of her attackers, intoxicated and adorned with a swastika tattoo, died days following the incident. CeCe was charged with two murders and was threatened with up to 80 years in prison for daring to defend herself. While imprisoned, she discovered that her story was not unique, but that she was among many Black people—particularly Black, trans women—railroaded to prison. The stories of Assata Shakur, Angela Davis, and Mumia Abu-Jamal inspired her to fight not only for her own freedom but for all the trans women who have been slain or made victims of the criminal injustice system. Since her release in January of 2014, CeCe has become a leading and outspoken activist, inspiring many to take action against mass incarceration and for racial justice and trans liberation."

LOCAL EVENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

14. [Mount Holyoke Drag Ball 2015](#)

Saturday, Feb. 21, 10 p.m.-2 a.m.

Chapin Auditorium, Mount Holyoke College

"Tickets \$7 at the door. Student DJs, Student Drag Shows, Photo Booths and more!"

Facebook event page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/814037681990319/>

15. [Gender Role Free Contra Dance for the LGBTQ Community & Friends](#)

Saturday, Feb. 21, 7-10 p.m.

The Montague Community Hall, 34 Main Street, Montague

"Cost: \$7-\$10 sliding scale; \$5 with student ID. Beginners welcome! Come at 7 p.m. to get the most instruction. All effort is made to accommodate dancing disabilities, although the hall is not wheelchair accessible. Please bring soft-soled non-street shoes to protect the wooden dance floor. Please refrain from wearing perfumes, colognes, and other highly scented products. All dances smoke, drug and alcohol free." For more info: <http://www.lcfd.org/westma>

16. [Drag Brunch with Hors & Friends](#)

Sunday, Feb. 22, 12:30 p.m. (doors open at noon)

Slainte Restaurant, 80 Jarvis Avenue, Holyoke

"Think of Drag Brunch as dinner theater. You're enjoying delicious, buffet-style food (with vegetarian options) provided by Slainte while drag queens and kings are performing a full show to entertain you. Make sure you have plenty of ones on hand to tip the performers! They'll be dancing up a storm, lip-synching their hearts out, and performing hilarious routines to keep you having fun. Featuring acts from Felicia Forrester, Hella Swagg, Ivanna B. Queen, Devin Graberass, and Ruby Monroe, with your host Hors.

Seating for ticket holders will begin at noon and is first-come, first-served. Leftover tickets will be sold at the door while supplies last. Please arrive by 12:15 pm to start enjoying the buffet. The show will start at 12:30 pm. Drag Brunch has adult themes, sexual content, and adult language and is not generally suitable for children under 12. Parents, please use your own good judgment. Line-up is subject to change. \$20 Tickets include brunch and a full drag show." Buy tickets here: www.brownpapertickets.com/event/1080169

17. [Five College Trans Active Support Meeting](#)

Sunday, Feb. 22 (and every Sunday), 1 p.m.

Amherst College Queer Resource Center, Morrow Dorm Basement (use back door)

"An inclusive, safe, and brave space for trans individuals and those in the process of discovering their gender identities. Open to undergraduate and graduate students of the Five Colleges. Light snacks will be provided."

18. [Five College Queer and Trans People of Color Luncheon](#)

Wednesday, Feb. 25, noon

Amherst College Queer Resource Center, Morrow Dorm Basement (use back door)

Open to all students, staff, and faculty in the Five Colleges who identify as Queer and Trans people of color. Food will be provided.

19. ["Activism across the African Diaspora: A Celebration of Black Heritage Month"](#)

Wednesday, Feb. 25, 5:30-8:30 p.m.

UMass Student Union Ballroom

Panelists include Dr. Amilcar Shabazz, Dr. Whitney Battle-Baptiste, Dr. John Higginson, Dr. Riche' Daniel Barnes, and Cameron Cox.

20. [2015 WGSS Conference: The Politics of Migration: Gender, Sexuality and Citizenship](#)

Feb. 26-27, UMass Campus Center

"The event features keynote talks by Chandan Reddy of English at the University of Washington Seattle on the "Failures of Citizenship: Queer of Color Critique and the Politics of Migration" on 2/26 at 4:30 in the Hadley Room, and Eithne Luibhéid of Gender and Women's Studies at the University of Arizona on "Nationalist Heterosexuality, Migrant (Il)Legality, and Citizenship Norms" on 2/27 at 3:30 in the Marriott Room.

For full information on the conference and to register, please visit the conference blog:

<https://politicsofmigrationconference.wordpress.com>"

21. [President Obama's Executive Action on Immigration Informational Meeting](#)

Saturday, Feb. 28, 12-3 p.m.

Amherst Regional Middle School

Join us for an informational session on President Obama's Executive Action on Immigration and how it might apply to you and your family.

Co-sponsors: Center for Women & Community; Central West Justice Center; Safe Passage; NELCWIT; and Amherst Regional Public Schools

22. [Gage on Stage: An Afternoon of Lesbian Feminist Theatre](#)

Written and Performed by Carolyn Gage. With Julia Reddy

Sunday, March 15, 3 p.m.

Eastworks, 116 Pleasant St., Easthampton

Tickets: \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door (If ticket price is a hardship, please contact us about work exchange options). For information and tickets, visit

<http://gatherthelesbians.wix.com/gather-the-lesbians> or email gatherthelesbians@yahoo.com

23. [LGBT Bereavement Support Group Starting in April](#)

Wednesdays, April 1 – May 20, 6-7:30 p.m.

Hospice of the Fisher Home, 1165 North Pleasant St, Amherst

"This will be an 8 week bereavement support group for LGBT adults who have experienced the death of a life partner or spouse. Participants will explore, within a safe and affirming environment, their reactions to loss, learn about the grieving process and develop strategies for coping with the loss." For more information or to schedule a registration interview, please contact Liz Windrover at lwindrover@fisherhome.org or (413) 549-0115.

To submit a listing or to subscribe/unsubscribe, email us: stonewall@stuaf.umass.edu