
IRC TIMES

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An extension of Nebraska Wesleyan University's Office of Diversity and Inclusion

Taking back the word "Queer"

The term queer, according to Merriam Webster is, "differing in some way from what is usual or normal." This term has come a long way for individuals in the LGBTQ+ community. A word that used to instill hate and discrimination has been embraced by people in the community. Now the term goes beyond its original definition.

It's now used as an umbrella term for people with a variety of different sexual orientations and genders that expand outside the binary. There are benefits when using this term. First of all, it's gender-neutral. It allows us to acknowledge identities left out from the "LGBT" acronym.

And it allows us to include members of the community from cultures that express identities with different words and customs.

It is to note that the term "queer" might be associated with a negative connotation for some people. To be respectful of those individuals and the LGBTQ+ community, make sure you use it to refer to individuals who identify as queer or appropriate conversational contexts. You should never use it to instill hate on another person.



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Programs

Praire Wolf Civil Discourse

Collaboration between Office of Diversity and Inclusion along with the Communication Studies Department will provide space to have healthy discourse on topics from a range of viewpoints. These discussions will be led by student facilitators once a month.

This month we are going to be talking about Voting Rights. Who has the right to vote? Are votes being suppressed in the United States today? What voting guidelines should there be?

Let's discuss this and more on
October 13 at 12 pm

Zoom Link:



Pop-Up Discussion: LGBTQIA+ History Month

Wendy Hunt Assistant Director of Diversity and Inclusion will provide space to discuss current events, culture, historical relevance, questions, comments, concerns, as well as resources. These opportunities will be held once a month in the Intersectionality Resource Center.

The Pop-up discussion for this month is LGBTQIA+ History Month.

Join in on the conversation on
October 12 at 12 pm to 2 pm.



Events

Cozy Night In with the IRC

October 13, 2021
7:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Prairie Wolf A/B

Ready for fall break? We are too! Come to Cozy Night In with the IRC to celebrate making it halfway through the semester. A night filled with fall treats, fun crafts, spooky movies, cozy board games, and calming music.

International Pronoun Day

October 20, 2021
11:00 am - 1:00 pm
Outside the Prairie Point Dining Center

Join us for a pronoun celebration! Candy, stickers, and information will be provided. Interested in becoming a pronoun advocate? Stop by the table!

Diversity Mixer

October 10, 2021
10:00 am - 1:30 pm
Intersectionality Resource Center

Stop in and visit with Assistant Director Wendy Hunt to learn how her department supports NWU students who identify as BIPOC and/or LGBTQIA+. This is also a great opportunity to learn how alumni can make a difference through volunteerism with the Intersectionality Resource Center.



LGBTQ+ History Month

Diversity Calender

LGBTQ+ History Month

October 1, 2021 - October 31, 2021

LGBTQ+ History Month was actually created by a high school history teacher in 1994. The following year, LGBTQ+ History month was added to the list of commemorative months in a resolution forwarded by the General Assembly of the National Education Association. October was chosen as the month of observance because many significant days and historical LGBTQ+ events aligned with the month.

During its early years, the celebration was largely marked by a call to action and a commemoration. Ever since then the month has transformed into a national effort to highlight historical role models from the LGBTQ+ community.



Days in October that Celebrate Queer identities

October 8: International Lesbian Day

October 11: National Coming Out Day

October 19: LGBT Center Awareness Day

October 20: International Pronoun Day

October 21: Spirit Day

October 26: Intersex Awareness Day
Asexual Awareness Week



Diversity Calender

LGBTQ+ Role Models in History



Rodney Wilson

Rodney Wilson is the founder of LGBTQ+ History Month. Wilson was also a history and government teacher at Mehlville High School in south St. Louis County at the time. He became the first openly gay K-12 instructor in Missouri while pursuing a graduate degree at the University of Missouri St. Louis. His broad mission to teach young kids about gay history helped motivate him to create LGBTQ+ History Month.

Megan Hunt

Megan Catherine Hunt is an American Entrepreneur and politician from the U. S. state of Nebraska. She made history by becoming the first openly LGBTQ+ candidate to win a seat in Nebraska's state legislature, with just four openly LGBTQ+ elected officials currently serving in the entire state.

She is an advocate and introduced bills supporting LGBTQ+ rights and freedoms. One was a bill that would prohibit conversion therapy in Nebraska and classify it as child abuse if passed. She also brought up bills surrounding LGBTQ+ rights, including prohibiting discrimination based on a person's sexual orientation and/or gender identity, increase penalties for individuals who commit crimes because of a person's gender identity, and ensure that people with certain sexual orientations and/or gender identities are not discriminated against in public housing.



Diversity Calender

LGBTQ+ Role Models in History

Lorraine Hansberry



Lorraine Hansberry is best known for her play “Raisin in the Sun”, which in 1959 became the first play by an African American woman to open on Broadway. The play highlights the lives of Black Americans living under racial segregation in Chicago. The play ran for 530 performances, translated into 35 languages and adapted for the screen. Hansberry was the first Black playwright and the youngest American to win a New York Critics’ Circle award.

Although Hansberry married a white man she privately identified as lesbian and contributed to “The Ladder”, a monthly lesbian publication, writing under the pen name Emily Jones.

Amelio Robles

Amelio Robles was a transgender man of Afro-Mexican descent from Guerrero, Mexico. He left home in the 1910s and began living as a man, changing his name and fighting in the Mexican Revolution.

When the Mexican government started giving out pensions Amelio applied for one using his chosen name. The Mexican government agreed to honor his pension but only as a female and with his original name. Amelio continued to petition for 20 years until his 80s when he was finally granted recognition as a veteran and as a male. That being done Amelio was the first transgender person to be officially recognized by the Mexican government.





LGBTQ+ Resources

University of Nebraska-Lincoln: LGBTQA+ Center

<https://lgbtqa.unl.edu/>

OutNebraska

<https://outnebraska.org/youth/>

PFLAG Lincoln

<https://pflaglincoln.org>



PFLAG Lincoln
Together we can move equality forward for LGBTQ people.

Planned Parenthood

<https://www.plannedparenthood.org/health-center/nebraska/lincoln68516/lincoln-south-health-center-4062-90380/lgbtq>



**LGBTQ Services in Lincoln, NE -
Gay, Lesbian and Bi Sexual
Help**

plannedparenthood.org

National Center for Transgender Equality

<https://transequality.org>



National Center for Transgender Equality

The National Center for Transgender Equality is the nation's leading social justice advocacy organization winning life-saving change for transgender people.

Trans Lifeline

<https://translifeline.org>



Home

Trans Lifeline is run by and for trans people with a goal to provide trans peer support and care for our community.

Human Rights Campaign- Nebraska

<https://www.hrc.org/in-your-area/nebraska>



Nebraska

Sign up to be a part of our community



The Trevor Project

<https://www.thetrevorproject.org>



For LGBTQ Young People

The Trevor Project provides 24/7 crisis support services to LGBTQ young...

thetrevorproject.org

Who's in the Office?

Monday

Emily 4 pm - 5 pm
Sa'javeane 5 pm - 8 pm
Maddy 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

Tuesday

Sa'javeane 4 pm - 5 pm
Emily 4 pm - 6 pm
Peyton 4 pm - 7 pm
Maddy 4 pm - 5pm & 7 pm - 9 pm

Wednesday

Sa'javeane 3 pm - 7 pm
Emily 7 pm - 9 pm

Thursday

Emily 4 pm - 6 pm
Peyton 5 pm - 7 pm
Maddy 7 pm - 9 pm

Friday

Peyton 9 am - 2 pm
Emily 3 pm - 4 pm

Saturday

Maddy 12 pm - 2 pm
Emily 7 pm - 8 pm

Sunday

Sa'javeane 7 pm - 9 pm
Emily 7 pm - 8 pm



**The IRC is a safe space for everyone!
Intersectionality Resource Center, Bottom of
Roy .G. Story Student Center, Room 038.**