



we're so glad you're here!

Out and About

CMU'S LGBTQIA+ FACULTY AND STAFF ALLIANCE NEWSLETTER



HEY, HOW ARE YOU?

"WE HAVE TO BE
VISIBLE. WE SHOULD
NOT BE ASHAMED OF
WHO WE ARE.

-MARSHA P. JOHNSON

Welcome to 2024 and new adventures! Spring semester gets pretty busy for most of us, but hopefully the upcoming guest speakers, planned events (think coffee chats) and possible community engagements will give us some time to unwind away from our work and enjoy socializing and learning and participating in things close to our hearts.

Let's get started with our sparkly new newsletter! Yes, the one we've been talking about since September. We'd like to use this to highlight events, activities, community news and possibly community members. We think the newsletter will be another way to engage and inform, especially when work might get in the way of a meeting or meet up. So let's dig in, shall we?

2023-24 ERG Leadership Alert!

THIS IS ANGELINA, NEW CO-LEAD 2023-25

Angelina (Lina) R. Crowe (Co-Lead, 2023-25) is the metadata specialist for Hunt Library. They originally started working for Carnegie Mellon University as a student worker in 2007, and then returned in 2013 to work as a full time employee. They are also an active member of several DEI Initiatives at Hunt Library. They hope to be able to continue this through the CMU LGBTQIA+ Employee Resource Group and to be able to help the CMU community become a safe, strong and supportive place for everyone.





THIS IS RYAN, CO-LEAD 2022-24

Ryan M. McKelvey (Co-Lead, 2022-24) joined the Integrative Design, Arts, and Technology (IDeATe) network as its academic coordinator in April 2022 but has maintained artistic and Professional relationships with CMU since 2015. Ryan’s awareness of the broader concerns across our city and his commitment to collaboration at CMU enables him to provide guidance and new perspectives to the LGBTQIA+ Faculty and Staff Alliance.

THIS IS AMANDA, MEMBER LIAISON 2023-24

Amanda M. Willard (Member Liaison, 2023-24) is the director of Undergraduate Studies for the Department of Biological Sciences. She originally came to Carnegie Mellon University as a graduate student in 2012, then returned in 2020 as teaching faculty and academic advisor for undergraduate students in Biology. She is also an active member of the department’s DEI committee. She is thrilled to serve as the Member Liaison for the CMU LGBTQIA+ Employee Resource Group and continue contributing to events and initiatives that make CMU a more welcoming and inclusive space for all.



2023 Past Events



During LGBTQ History Month, and in recognition of National Coming Out Day, we moderated **Out on Campus**, an open panel discussion with CMU Faculty & Staff in October. The panelists shared their experiences of being “out” professionals or public figures in various workplaces, contexts, and fields. Thank you so much, Kat Davies, Holly B. Hippensteel, Ahren Hollis, Matthew Kinney, John “Jay” Marano, and Anouar Rahmani. It was a special evening, indeed; we learned and reminded ourselves of our different but also shared realities as LGBTQIA+ people in the public sphere.

On December 19th, 2023, we hosted our inaugural **Winter Gathering** as a way of bringing together our community and sharing some delicious food (especially the baked goods!) and camaraderie before the winter break. The event was a resounding success, with approximately 25 attendees. It was a memorable occasion, and we hope to make it a yearly tradition.



Upcoming Events

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN JANUARY, FEBRUARY AND MARCH?

JANUARY

January 16th Monthly Alliance Meeting

Welcome back and updates

DEI Topic: Inclusive Language
in the Workplace

FEBRUARY

BLACK HISTORY MONTH DEI+B NETWORKING & GUEST PRESENTER EVENT

We are teaming up with **Sankofa** during Black History Month for a two-part event on February 20. We want to share space and build community and connections across our ERGs. Additionally, we will be welcoming staff from local queer youth arts group **Dreams of Hope** for a presentation on their mission, outreach opportunities, and upcoming productions. "Centering the experiences of BIPOC LGBTQIA+ people is necessary to achieve liberation for all queer and trans people."

MARCH

WORLD STORYTELLING DAY EVENTS

We are actively collaborating with other ERGs to organize events commemorating this year's World Storytelling Day, occurring on March 20. As the events progress and become finalized, we'll provide additional details. This year's theme is **Building Bridges**.



Campus and Beyond

Office of the Vice Provost Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Upcoming Events

Celebrating the Life & Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. | Jan through April

Addressing Antisemitism | Jan 30 & 31

Dialogues of Disruptions | Feb 13 & 19

*DEI Office often programs multi-event series.
Visit their [site](#) for further programming and registrations.*



Pitt's Diversity Forum is free, open to public, & virtual



For more information, click image for link

Future ideas for this newsletter!

We have ideas but we'd also like to hear your ideas! Some of the things we'd like to do with this newsletter are highlight campus programming, community organizations, city events, and our ERG members. Got an idea? Reach out; we'd love to hear it!

Reminder!

WHAT ELSE CAN YOU DO TO BE INVOLVED?

The **Slack** channel is slowly becoming more active, so be sure to check that out for informal gatherings, news and announcements. You can also suggest ideas there for topics, events, etc