

GSA Newsarama
Volume 6, Issue 22
July 18, 2008

Read GSA Newsarama online at www.GSAforSafeSchools.org. Visit our website to download past issues of Newsarama in clean, easy-to-read PDF format.

This newsletter is created by Gay Straight Alliance for Safe Schools to keep students, school professionals and other community members up to date on the issues, events and news items that may be of interest to those working within Wisconsin schools, communities, Gay-Straight Alliances and similar clubs. If you are no longer interested in receiving this update, simply reply to this email requesting that your name be removed from the list. Please include your current school, or previous school if you have graduated or are no longer in school.

Feature

Madison Pride Weekend

Headlines

1. GSA for Safe Schools Walk/Run/Eat
2. Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals: 1933-1945

Related Readings: Events and Opportunities

3. "Sex Talk" with Teens Like Us on Tuesday, July 22nd
4. Rainbow Community Picnic in Milwaukee this Saturday
5. Get Involved with "Speak Out Sister" in Madison
6. LGBTQ Anti-Tobacco Summit in September
7. Bring "Journey to a Hate-Free Millennium" To Your School

Related Readings: News and Publications

8. University Daily Kansan – Universities See Rising Amount of Co-ed Dorms
9. Journal Sentinel Online – Wisconsin Gay Couples Who Marry Outside State Could Face Penalty

Feature

Madison Pride Weekend

It's Pride Weekend in Madison, and this year's unofficial theme is "back to the basics". Pride Weekend has been celebrated in Madison for nearly twenty years now, and its success has relied heavily on the work of volunteer coordinators. This year, the Pride activities have been scaled back considerably, but there will still be opportunities for you to join in the fun and show your Pride.

On Sunday, July 20th, Congresswoman Tammy Baldwin will kick off the rally and march with a speech on the Capitol steps at 11AM. At 11:15AM, rally goers will march around the Capitol Square, down West Washington Avenue, ending in Brittingham Park.

Teens Like Us will be hosting a youth BBQ at the northeast corner of Brittingham Park (the end closer to the Capitol, near South Brittingham Place) from noon until 2PM. So bring your sunscreen, your Frisbees, your friends and your appetites!

Headlines

1. GSA for Safe Schools Walk/Run/Eat

Last year, GSA for Safe Schools held their first walk/run event since 2004, and it was a smashing success. This year, we hope to make it even bigger and better. Scheduled for National Coming Out Day (Saturday, October 11th), this year's Walk/Run/Eat will feature a 5K walk, a 5K run and a 10K run. Afterwards, all participants will once again be treated to a tasty picnic-style lunch from Queen Anne's Catering.

On the day of the event, we will need willing volunteers to play the role of course marshals, to help out with registration in the morning, and to assist with set-up and clean-up. If you're interested in volunteering that day, email Tim at tim@gsaforsafeschools.org to learn more.

We hope to have brochures and full details ready to go by August, so keep an eye on Newsarama and on the GSA for Safe Schools website (www.gsaforsafeschools.org) for updates.

2. Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals: 1933-1945

"Between 1933 and 1945, Nazi Germany sought domination over Europe and, in what is now called the Holocaust, the total annihilation of Europe's Jews. As part of its effort to create a 'master Aryan race,' the Nazi government persecuted

other groups, including Germany's homosexual men. Believing them to be carriers of a 'degeneracy' that threatened the nation's 'disciplined masculinity' and hindered population growth, the Nazi state incarcerated in prisons and concentration camps tens of thousands of men as a means of terrorizing German homosexuals into social conformity. Through reproductions of some 250 historic photographs and documents, 'Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals: 1933-1945' examines the rationale, means, and impact of the Nazi regime's attempt to eradicate homosexuality that left thousands dead and shattered the lives of many more." – From the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum website

From October 10th to December 10th, students, school professionals, and community members in Wisconsin will have the opportunity to view this traveling exhibition from the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. "Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals: 1933-145" will be on display in the lobby of the UW-Madison Memorial Library.

To learn more about this exhibition and this period of history, please visit <http://www.ushmm.org/museum/exhibit/online/hsx/>.

GSA for Safe Schools is proud to be sponsoring this exhibition in Madison. More details about programming related to the exhibition, information on scheduling a guided tour, and supplemental educational resources will be available in the fall.

Related Readings: Events and Opportunities

GSA Newsarama is a publication of GSA for Safe Schools (GSAFE). Events, resources, and news items listed under the "Related Readings" sections of GSA Newsarama are not sponsored by GSAFE and do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of GSAFE.

3. "Sex Talk" with Teens Like Us on Tuesday, July 22nd

Teens Like Us is bringing back their ever-popular "Sex Talk" next Tuesday. "Sex Talk" will run from 5PM to 8:30PM and is open to LGBTQYA youth ages 13 to 19. Dinner will be provided, so bring your appetites and any questions that you might have about safer sex, barriers, STIs and getting tested, and how to talk about sex with your partner.

"Sex Talk" will be held at Youth Services of Southern Wisconsin, located at 1955 Atwood Avenue in Madison. Questions? Send an email to tlupride@yahoo.com.

4. Rainbow Community Picnic in Milwaukee This Saturday

A collaboration of numerous LGBT organizations in the Milwaukee area, the Rainbow Community Picnic will be taking place this Saturday, July 19th in Lake Park. The event will be in picnic area #5 (enter off of Lake Drive at Newberry) and will run from noon until 5PM.

This event is open to everyone in the LGBTQA community. If you have questions or would like to make arrangements to meet up with folks from Project Q, email Jay Botsford at jbotsford@mkelgbt.org or call him at 414.292.3068.

5. Get Involved with "Speak Out Sister" in Madison

Over the summer, Speak Out Sister (SOS) will be working with a group of high school-aged girls to create a platform for action on key issues affecting the lives of teenage girls in the Madison area.

Madison SOS is interested in meeting with a group of female-identified youth who are concerned about LGBT issues to discuss the current challenges they face in making Madison a better city for LGBT teens. They are looking for ways to connect teens through action on LGBT issues and recommendations for policymakers and adults who work with youth on what they can do to improve services and opportunities for LGBT teens.

If you are interested in taking part in this discussion or being a part of this project, email Tim at tim@gsaforsafeschools.org and let him know.

6. LGBTQ Anti-Tobacco Summit in September

The National LGBT Tobacco Control Network is looking for youth from all over the country to get involved in the planning of their annual LGBTQ Anti-Tobacco Summit. Last year, the summit had many youth involved, co-facilitating workshops such as "GLBT Youth and Tobacco: A Youth-Adult Partnership Model of Service Delivery" and "How Gay Is This Ad? Learning to Think Critically About Advertising."

The main steering committee has already been meeting for a few weeks, but the youth subcommittee is just getting started, and they are looking for more people to join the discussions.

The Summit will take place in Kansas City, MO on Monday September 22nd from noon until 6PM and Tuesday 23rd from 8AM until 5PM. If you are interested in

attending the summit or being a part of the youth planning committee, send an email to lgbttobacco@gmail.com or visit <http://lgbttobacco.googlepages.com/2008> to learn more.

7. Bring “Journey to a Hate-Free Millennium” To Your School

Is your school in need of a good, inclusive diversity training? “Journey to a Hate-Free Millennium” is a project of ARCh, the Association for the Rights of Citizens with Handicaps. For over a decade, the youth team at ARCh has been presenting in high schools and middle schools all across Wisconsin, motivating students to reach across social boundaries and improve their academic performance in a safe, hate-free environment.

A popular choice for freshman orientations, all-school assemblies, and Diversity Weeks, the “Journey” presentation is available for groups of all sizes.

For more information about bringing this award-winning group to your school, send an email to advocacyarch@ameritech.net or call 262.542.9811. Typical presentations cost around \$300.

Related Readings: News and Publications

8. University Daily Kansan – Universities See Rising Amount of Co-ed Dorms

This fall a record-number thirty colleges and universities – ranging from small liberal arts schools and Ivy League schools to large state schools – will offer students the option of living in gender-neutral housing. These newly implemented housing programs allow students to live with roommates of any gender. Student activists and organizations like the National Genderblind Campaign have worked to educate administrators and students about the need for gender-neutral housing options at colleges across the country. LGBT students, and particularly transgender and genderqueer students, have played key roles in working with student housing officials and administration in the creation of these accessible housing options that provide inclusive housing options outside of gender-segregated dorms. To read more about growing trend, visit: <http://tinyurl.com/6oqfet>

9. Journal Sentinel Online – Wisconsin Gay Couples Who Marry Outside State Could Face Penalty

Thanks to a century-old law, same-sex couples who go to California to marry could (theoretically) be prosecuted when they return to Wisconsin. The penalty? Up to \$10,000 and nine years in prison. The law, which was originally crafted to deter couples from getting married in states with lower age requirements, says that it is unlawful to leave the state for the purpose of entering into a marriage that is not allowed in Wisconsin. Thanks to the passing of a constitutional amendment in 2006 that bans equal marriage for same-sex couples, this obscure law has once again become relevant. To read more about this story, check out: <http://tinyurl.com/6me9tz>
