

## The MRC Staff...

### Eric S. Estes

Adjunct Assistant Professor  
Eric.Estes@oberlin.edu  
(440) 775-8802

### Barbara Kirby

Administrative Technician II  
Barbara.Kirby@oberlin.edu  
(440) 775-8802

### Diego Luna

Latino/Latina Community Coordinator  
Diego.Luna@oberlin.edu  
(440) 775-5356

### Domenico Ruggerio

Asian/Pacific American Community  
Coordinator  
Domenico.Ruggerio@oberlin.edu  
(440) 775-5358

### Nicole Nfonoyim

Africana Community Coordinator  
Nicole.Nfonoyim@oberlin.edu  
(440) 775-5355

### JAC Stringer

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and  
Queer/Questioning (LGBTQ)  
Community Coordinator  
JAC.Stringer@oberlin.edu  
(440) 775-5354

## Oberlin College Multicultural Resource Center

Wilder Hall 208  
135 West Lorain Street  
Oberlin, OH 44074-1078

Phone: 440.775.8802

Fax: 440.775.6848

E-mail: [mrc@oberlin.edu](mailto:mrc@oberlin.edu)

<http://www.oberlin.edu/mrc/>

[Facebook.com/oberlin.mrc](https://www.facebook.com/oberlin.mrc)

Oberlin College Multicultural  
Resource Center presents...

lesbian gay bisexual  
transgender down low  
queer grll questioning  
genderqueer in the life

# QUEER @Oberlin!

asexual ag. transsexual  
same gender loving butch  
fairy polyamorous  
androgynous gender  
variant wsw fellagirlly  
boidyke fluid femme  
two spirit mtf allied  
transwoman transman  
pansexual ftm bi-gender  
msm cross-dresser drag  
king drag queen gender  
bender sofa omnisexual  
gender outlaw birl  
stone butch zami dyke...

A GUIDE TO LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL,  
TRANSGENDER, AND QUEER/QUESTIONING  
RESOURCES AT OBERLIN COLLEGE

So you're queer...

or genderqueer...

**Welcome** to the LGBTQPA community at Oberlin College! Queerness and Allyship is addressed in many ways and in many different spaces in Oberlin. Whether you are looking for information, resources or just a great place to meet people and hang out, we hope you'll make the Multicultural Resource Center one of your first stops.

## The Multicultural Resource Center

The Multicultural Resource Center (MRC) serves as a crucial hub for the collaborative support of historically underrepresented communities and works on diversity and inclusion within a social justice context at Oberlin College. Working together with a wide range of stakeholders including faculty, students, alumni, staff, and members of the local community, the MRC is uniquely positioned to create a vision of diversity and multiculturalism that supports educational excellence.

The MRC centers the academic and personal needs of historically underrepresented students (students of color, LGBTQ students, international students, first generation, and lower income students) as well as builds intellectual and personal community for faculty, staff, and alumni. At the same time, the MRC also creates important opportunities for the entire campus community to engage with intellectual discourses around diversity and inclusion and to develop critical thinking skills that are crucial for the educational experience of all students.

Since its founding in 1995, the MRC has coordinated and supported a diverse array of programming.

FOR MORE INFORMATION about LGBTQA issues at Oberlin, the Multicultural Resource Center, or any of the organizations listed in this guide feel free to contact the LGBTQ Community Coordinator, JAC Stringer: [JAC.Stringer@oberlin.edu](mailto:JAC.Stringer@oberlin.edu) or x55354.

or transgender...

or questioning...

or interested in being an ally...

Some examples of past programs and speakers addressing the LGBTQIAP communities and the Oberlin community at large are listed below.

*Indigenous Women's Series \* "My Name Is My Own": Queering the Intersections of Race, Class, Gender, and Sexuality \* HIV/AIDS Awareness Week \* Lavender Celebration \* National Coming Out Day \* Cherríe Moraga \* Oberlin Lambda Alumni Weekends \* Pride Week \* Trans Awareness Week \* Trans Day of Remembrance \* Leslie Feinberg \* Keith Boykin \* Lance McCready \* Doria Roberts \* Martin Manalansan \* LLEGÓ, the National Latina/o LGBT Organization \* "Trembling Before G-d" \* LGBT Student/Staff Ice Cream Social \* Intersex Awareness Day \* "Toilet Training" \* Working Our Way Home conference \* & more!*

**In addition to coordinating and supporting many programs, the MRC serves the Oberlin community in several other ways. Some of these include:**

- ★ **Providing individual and organizational support** for students and student organizations
- ★ **Maintaining the MRC workspace, lounge and resource library** to provide a comfortable space for students to work, socialize or just relax
- ★ **Community building and coalition building** among students, student groups, faculty, administration and alumni
- ★ **Coordinating community interaction initiatives** to help students connect to local and regional resources
- ★ **Conducting diversity and leadership trainings** to provide education and skills to people throughout the Oberlin community

# CAMPUS RESOURCES

## STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

### **Zami**

Contact: [mrc@oberlin.edu](mailto:mrc@oberlin.edu)

Zami supports, organizes and mobilizes people of color who are LGBT, queer, or questioning their sexuality. The group was formed in 1989 after a conversation with Audre Lorde following her Oberlin commencement address, and takes its name from the title of her biomythography.

### **Transgender Advocacy Group (TAG)**

Contact: [tag@oberlin.edu](mailto:tag@oberlin.edu)

The purpose of TAG is to “provide support for people who transcend gender norms within existing binary systems” and to work to “end gender oppression and transphobia.”\* TAG holds open meetings for anyone interested in organizing around transgender issues, as well as support meetings designed specifically for trans individuals.

### **Lambda Union**

Contact: [Lambda.Union@oberlin.edu](mailto:Lambda.Union@oberlin.edu)

The purpose of Lambda Union is “to provide a forum for the political, social, emotional, and educational needs”\* of LGBT and questioning people in the Oberlin community. By organizing and funding various political, educational and social events, Lambda Union hopes to advance understanding and respect.

### **Queer Jews and Allies**

Contact: [mrc@oberlin.edu](mailto:mrc@oberlin.edu)

The purpose of Queer Jews and Allies “is to create space for students to plan events and discuss issues relevant to the Queer Jewish community.”\*

### **Queers and Allies of Faith (QuAF)**

Contact: [www.oberlin.edu/stuorg/quaf](http://www.oberlin.edu/stuorg/quaf)

QuAF encourages LGBT people of all faiths to explore the intersections of spirituality and sexuality. This group offers support to people struggling with questions about faith and sexuality, while also working to “create awareness of these issues...and promote union between the queer community and religious communities.”\*

### **Kinsey 1-5**

Contact: [mrc@oberlin.edu](mailto:mrc@oberlin.edu)

Kinsey 1-5 describes itself as “the groups for people who are bisexual, unlabeled, unsure, have fluid sexuality, or who are generally ‘in the middle.’”\* For more information contact the MRC.

### **Queer Peers**

Contact: [mrc@oberlin.edu](mailto:mrc@oberlin.edu)

Queer Peers aims to “teach awareness of LGBTQ issues in middle and high school communities”\* through community outreach and presentations. For more information contact the MRC.

## COLLEGE ORGANIZATIONS

### **Edmonia Lewis Center for Women and Transgender People**

Contact: [elc@oberlin.edu](mailto:elc@oberlin.edu)

“The Edmonia Lewis Center for Women and Transgender People is a collective of students, faculty, staff, and administrators doing the work of transforming existing systems of oppression based on sex, gender, race, class, sexuality, age, ability, size, religion, and nationality.”\* The ELC resides in the house at 76 S. Professor, providing a space for meeting, events and just hanging out. In addition, the board of the ELC sponsors and supports many events on campus throughout the year.

### **Oberlin Lambda Alumni (OLA)**

Contact: [ola\\_oberlin@yahoo.com](mailto:ola_oberlin@yahoo.com)

OLA is an affiliate group of the Oberlin Alumni Association and welcomes all lesbian, gay, bi, trans, intersex, questioning, and queer alumni as well as their allies. They work to foster a healthy and vibrant community of “Lambda” Oberlin students, alumni, faculty, and staff. OLA meets once a semester on campus, and sponsors the Cemelli Grant and Robertson Prize.

\*Many organization and/or resource description include excerpts from respective mission statements.

## ACADEMIC RESOURCES

### **Comparative American Studies**

[www.oberlin.edu/CAS](http://www.oberlin.edu/CAS)

Comparative American Studies is an interdisciplinary program that examines issues of power and identity formation in the United States through the lenses of race, ethnicity, class, gender, and sexuality. It is possible to major in LGBTQ studies through the CAS program; the program also offers individual courses.

### **Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies**

<http://new.oberlin.edu/arts-and-sciences/departments/gender/>

The Institute for Gender, Sexuality, and Feminist Studies (GSFS), is a comprehensive interdisciplinary program committed to transnational perspectives on gender and sexuality at Oberlin College. The institute provides support and direction for disciplinary, cross-disciplinary, and interdisciplinary scholarship in gender, sexuality, and feminist studies for faculty and students.

### **Individual Classes**

[www.oberlin.edu/CAS/courses.html](http://www.oberlin.edu/CAS/courses.html)

Many different departments, including History, Sociology, African American Studies, and Rhetoric & Composition, offer classes that engage with issues of sexuality and gender. To find out more about these classes contact your LGBT Community Coordinator.

## GENERAL COLLEGE RESOURCES

### **Dean of Students Office, Wilder 105**

[www.oberlin.edu/stlife](http://www.oberlin.edu/stlife)

The role of the Office of the Dean of Students is to help ensure the success of Oberlin students in their pursuit of knowledge and learning, in the cultivation of their talents, and in the formation of their best adult selves. The Dean of Students Office includes the Dean of Students, Associate Dean and Director of the MRC, Associate Dean of Student Life, Associate Dean of Students, Associate Dean of Community Life, and Director of the Center for Leadership in Health Promotion.

### **Office of the Ombudsperson,**

[www.oberlin.edu/colrelat/ombuds/](http://www.oberlin.edu/colrelat/ombuds/)

Yeworkwha Belachew (YB), Oberlin’s Ombudsperson, is a designated multi-partial person who provides confidential and informal assistance to students resolving personal or college-related concerns.

### **Counseling Center, 247 W. Lorain St**

[www.oberlin.edu/counsel](http://www.oberlin.edu/counsel)

The Counseling Center's primary purpose is to provide psychological support as students pursue academic and personal goals. Each Oberlin student is entitled to 8 free individual counseling sessions each academic year.

### **Oberlin College Dialogue Center, Daub House**

[www.oberlin.edu/colrelat/ombuds/ocdc.html](http://www.oberlin.edu/colrelat/ombuds/ocdc.html)

The Oberlin College Dialogue Center promotes social change through conflict transformation, mediation, community building, and dialogue. The center’s mediation team of students, faculty, and staff members represents various constituencies on the Oberlin campus. These individuals are trained to mediate using the social justice model.

### **Student Academic Services, Peters 118**

[www.oberlin.edu/SSS](http://www.oberlin.edu/SSS)

Offers students comprehensive academic support. Focused services are also provided for low-income students, first-generation students, students with disabilities and other students historically under-represented in higher education.

### **Class Deans, Peters 118/Wilder 105**

Oberlin College has a system of Class Deans to provide students with an additional administrative layer of help and support. Class Deans are available to help students solve various academic, social, and personal problems.

### **Bonner Center for Service and Learning**

[www.oberlin.edu/csl](http://www.oberlin.edu/csl)

The CSL works in partnership with the surrounding community to link students with educational service opportunities, acting as a vital source of connection between Oberlin students and the local community.