



## DEAR STUDENTS, EDUCATORS, AND GLSEN WASHINGTON SUPPORTERS

The Back-To-School season is here! Many schools across the state have started and for many of us, this was not how we anticipated starting the school year! GLSEN is sharing free resources to help prepare students and educators for the upcoming school year. We know we are navigating the immense impact of COVID-19 and a moment in our country's history requiring us to prioritize the possibilities of an ever-growing racial justice movement. It's critical that we advocate together to ensure that LGBTQ+ youth, especially Black LGBTQ+ students, feel safe, seen, and affirmed. This email will serve as a starting point of letting you know about our current resources that we are offering virtually. We are still...

- Providing **supports for GSA** (Gender/Sexuality or Gay/Straight Alliances) via Zoom
  - We can't come visit in-person, but we will meet with your club Virtually!
- Offering biweekly **LGBTQ/GSA Student Virtual Meetings**
- Offering biweekly **Educator/GSA Advisor Virtual Meetings**
- Providing Ongoing **Professional Development** Virtually
  - ([www.glsenwashington.org](http://www.glsenwashington.org) for offerings coming soon)
- Updating our website ([www.glsenwashington.org](http://www.glsenwashington.org))
- Providing **Resources on our GLSEN Washington Google Classroom**
  - Many Schools Block Adding classes outside your district. Please use your personal accounts if you can't add us through your school account.
- Planning a **2021 LGBTQ VIRTUAL Student Leadership Conference**
  - Tentatively set for March 27, 2021. Pencil it into your calendar!
- **And MORE!**

### WE ARE HERE TO SUPPORT YOU!

Please let us know if you need anything to be successful this school year.



(206) 330-2099



[www.glsenwashington.org](http://www.glsenwashington.org)



@glsenwa



## SHINE STUDENT LEADERSHIP TEAM

We are looking for LGBTQ+ Students to join our GLSEN Washington SHINE Team. The GLSEN SHINE Team is a group of student leaders working to create safer schools and communities throughout Washington. The team members will meet regularly throughout the year to develop skills, form a network of other youth leaders, and organize programs in the community that promote respect for LGBTQ+ students. SHINE members must be committed to being inclusive and responsible and must follow through on organizing responsibilities for the team. Each member must be open to learning, willing to examine their own privileges, and dedicated to developing leadership/activism skills.

Apply

Requirements to join:

- Applicant must be between the ages of 12 and 19 during the 2020-2021 school year
- Applicant must be able to attend weekly SHINE meetings

A stipend of \$100 will be provided to SHINE Leadership Team, assuming full completion of the program. Applications are due by October 31st, 2020 by midnight. Once you have submitted your application, we will reach out to set up an interview time. Accepted applicants will be notified as soon as possible. We look forward to working with you.

Email [shine@glsenwa.org](mailto:shine@glsenwa.org) for more information.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Are you interested in having a GLSEN training in your school or district?

Please go to our [website](#) to learn more.

GLSEN WA is working with school districts across the state to implement training programs to help educators learn how to make their schools safer for all students.

**To sign up or request a training, click the link below or email [mail@glsenwa.org](mailto:mail@glsenwa.org).**

Request a  
Training

## Modules

- Creating Safe Spaces (Middle and High School)
- Ready, Set, Respect (Elementary)
- Changing the Game (Health, PE, and Sports)
- Inclusive Curriculum
- Supporting Trans and Gender Nonconforming Students Mental Health Support and Advocacy for LGBTQ Youth

We are looking for volunteers for our Professional Development committee. Our PD committee works with local schools and districts to help plan workshops, professional development, or other trainings that support educators.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Volunteers will be trained in several types of GLSEN workshop programs including Safe Space Training, Supporting Trans Youth, Elementary Educator training, and more!

We are looking to host another Training of Trainers (TOT) later this Fall (Early October). Date and Time will be determined. We will be doing our TOT via blended learning using an Online Platform and Zoom. Please email [mail@glsenwa.org](mailto:mail@glsenwa.org) if you are interested in being a GLSEN trainer.

After the training, you will learn not only about the GLSEN curriculum, but about how to work with school district clients, creating agendas, preparing materials for facilitation, following up with clients, and how to analyze participant feedback.

There is an opportunity for PD trainers to be compensated for their time (based on GLSEN Washington Board approval) and travel (when we move face-to-face). If you are interested email [mail@glsenwa.org](mailto:mail@glsenwa.org) for more information. Once selected for the training, volunteers will have to go through a background check. Participants may have to commit to a number of trainings depending on what compensation is decided by the board.

We look forward to hearing from you and welcome you to our committee!

## MINI TRAINING OF TRAINERS

## UPDATED WEBSITE



[www.glsenwashington.org](http://www.glsenwashington.org)

**Volunteer.** How to volunteer with GLSEN Washington State virtually. Including information on how to join our Board.

**Local virtual resources for Youth.** We have posted information from other LGBTQ+ organizations offering virtual meetings and resources for youth. If your organization would like to include your information, please email [mail@glsenwa.org](mailto:mail@glsenwa.org).

**Google Classroom for educators.** We have compiled a list of resources for educators in our new Google Classroom. In the Google Classroom there are discussion boards, GSA Meeting ideas, Pride Ideas, classroom resources, and other GLSEN information to support students. We have also included anti-racism resources. (These are not GLSEN resources, but are provided by educators in the Google Classroom Community.) It's a work in progress, but check out what we have so far. *Google Classroom code: v727ulg* (Note. You may have to use a personal Gmail account to join this class. Many school districts' Google Accounts will not let educators join other Google Classrooms.)

**Calendar.** Check out the 2020-2021 GLSEN Calendar with events that your school or GSA can plan!

**Professional Development.** Information about GLSEN Washington training for educators.

**Social Media.** You can find us on Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook.

**SHINE Leadership Team.** Find out how you can be a part of our SHINE Youth leadership team.

# Students of Color

School Resources and Supports Can Make a Difference for **LGBTQ Youth of Color**

**2 in 5**

LGBTQ students of color experience **BOTH** anti-LGBTQ and racist harassment at school.



GSAs and ethnic/cultural clubs help LGBTQ students of color feel **more connected** to their school community.



When LGBTQ students of color have supportive educators, they have **higher GPAs** and are **more likely to plan on going to college**.



When LGBTQ students of color have supportive educators, they have **higher self-esteem** and **lower levels of depression**.



LGBTQ students of color with an LGBTQ-inclusive curriculum feel **safer** and **more connected** to their school community.

**GLSEN**



Erase and Resilience:  
The Experiences of LGBTQ Students of Color  
Read more at [glsen.org/youthofcolor](https://www.glsen.org/youthofcolor)

Schools nationwide are often hostile environments for LGBTQ youth of color, where they experience racism, homophobia, and transphobia. In addition, many LGBTQ students do not have access to in-school resources that may improve school climate and their experiences, including GSAs, ethnic/cultural clubs, supportive educators, and inclusive curriculum.

You can find out more information about the research reports that examine the experiences of Black, Latinx, Native/Indigenous, and Asian American/Pacific Islander students by visiting: <https://www.glsen.org/lgbtq-youth-color>.

If you don't have time to read the research reports, you can watch our [recorded webinars!](#)



Click here to download this poster that highlights critical topics about the experiences of LGBTQ youth of color in schools

# Solidarity Week

GLSEN's Ally Week has changed to Solidarity Week and is scheduled for October 5-9. This week-long event is for LGBTQ+ students and LGBTQ+ educators to share what it means to be in solidarity with them at school.

Solidarity is a voluntary collective action based on finding common objectives and solutions to oppression.

The decision to change Ally Week to Solidarity Week was heavily influenced by student feedback, the current climate highlighting historic harm done to Black people, and the responsibility to adjust language, ideas, and actions that are appropriate and reflect the voices of those GLSEN is committed to serving and center those most impacted by oppressive systems and behaviors.

For more information and to register, visit [our website](#).



# Rainbow Library

Become a  
sponsor or donate

Request a Rainbow  
Library

We are excited to announce a new project: The Rainbow Library! The Rainbow Library Project is an initiative that sends **LGBTQ+ affirming K-12 text sets to schools and libraries across Washington State for FREE!**

The plan is to send text sets to 120 schools and libraries in Spring 2021 (COVID Depending). Each school that applies will be eligible for one Rainbow Library set, which contains 10 LGBTQ+ affirming grade-aligned books, as well as posters and supplemental resources.

Any full-time staff member at a Washington State K-12 school or public library is welcome to request a Rainbow Library. To apply go to <https://www.rainbowlibrary.org/washington>.

We are also looking for donors and grant opportunities to fund this project. Email us at [mail@glsenwa.org](mailto:mail@glsenwa.org) if you have any questions about becoming a sponsor of the program or a donor.

Information about how you can directly donate to the project can be found [here](#). Thank you for your support!



**RAINBOW LIBRARY**  
 **Washington**

## Student Resources

- Check out our [Virtual Resource](#) landing page!
- We have put together some resources to help you navigate returning to school with GLSEN's [10 Back to School Tips](#).
- For students looking to change their name, pronouns, and/or gender, check out [Reggies Name Change blog](#) with some tips on choosing your name, notifying folks of your name and pronoun change, and navigating how to change it with your school.
- For activism and planning out your school year, check out GLSEN's [Calendar for the 2020-2021 School Year](#).
- GLSEN's [Pronoun Resource Guide](#) can be a useful tool for anyone learning about pronouns and why it is important to honor someone's pronouns. Check out this guide and share it with peers and educators at your school.
- Student activists like you have been organizing, participating, and leading actions across the country to demand justice, safety, and inclusion of ALL Black lives! You are calling on institutions, organizations, family members, elected officials, educators, school administration and your peers to dismantle and eradicate anti-Blackness from your spaces. We know this continues to take work! Each person has a role in the movement. [Resources: Community Safety in the Streets, and at Home](#) has a list of resources and material to take part. The resources span from self-care for Black folks to those who are looking to be in solidarity with and center the needs and voices of Black people in the community.

# GSA Resources

As most GSA's move to virtual meeting spaces, check out [How to Host a Virtual Event](#) which includes GSA Virtual Meetings and events like an open mic night or rally.

**New this year!** GLSEN is hosting a GSA Day on September 15th. Join our orientation call to introduce our new National GSA Leadership Coalition on September 16th, [register here](#).

If you are looking to start up your GSA and gather folks online, check out these GSA one-page resources to help get your organized:

- [10 steps to start your GSA](#)
- [Guidelines for respectful GSA spaces](#)
- [Tips for finding new GSA members](#)
- [How to be an effective leader](#)
- [Running an effective meeting](#)
- [How to find a club advisor](#)

Check out these virtual GSA discussion guides that include topics such as intersectionality, coming out, gender identity and expression, and finding supportive connections through friends and community!

- [The Half of It: Discussion Guide](#)
- [The Half of It Q&A with the cast and NSC member Chris Li](#) - Watch Netflix's *The Half of It* and have a discussion with your GSA after.
- [Love, Victor: Discussion Guide](#) - Watch Hulu's *Love, Victor* season 1 with your GSA and follow up with these questions. Also be on the lookout for GLSEN+Hulu's *Love, Victor* Q&A with the cast.

## Webinars:

- *For Educators & GSA Advisors: Creating Safe Virtual Spaces for GSA Meetings*
- *For Student GSA Leaders: Creating Safe Virtual Spaces for LGBTQ Students*

Don't forget to [register your GSA](#) for more information!

However your year is beginning, these resources can help educators like you have a fresh start with a focus on LGBTQ+ Black students, student safety, and solidarity.

- Find resources, research, and blogs for supporting Black LGBTQ+ Students at [www.glsen.org/black](http://www.glsen.org/black).
- Check out this one-minute Back to School video on Inclusive Language by Ace Schwartz, they/them, a GLSEN Educator Advisory Committee Member. We're sharing more video messages by educators on our social channels @glsen.
- Read and share our new research brief on the importance of Supportive Educators!
  - [LGBTQ-Inclusive and Supportive Teaching: The Experiences of LGBTQ and non-LGBTQ Educators](#)

## Educator Resources

- Learn from other supportive educators and LGBTQ+ students in our free monthly Educator Webinars:
  - [Supporting LGBTQ+ Students of Color](#)
  - [LGBTQ+-Inclusive Sex Ed](#)
  - [Mental Health Advocacy](#)
  - Find more at [www.glsen.org/webinars](http://www.glsen.org/webinars)
- Read these blogs and resources and share them with your colleagues and administrators to start the new year right:
  - New! [Link to Educator Virtual Resources](#)
  - New! [Elementary Resources](#) including our [Elementary Advocacy Resource](#).
  - [I'm a Black Queer Student, and My School Needs to Recognize my Entire Self](#)
  - [What About Trans Educators?](#)
  - Podcast: [Supporting LGBTQ Youth In Times of COVID-19 Mental Health Advocacy](#)



You + **GLSEN**<sup>®</sup> = Safer Schools  
WASHINGTON STATE

# Virtual Meetings

We will continue to have our biweekly virtual meetings for LGBTQ+ Youth and their GSAs and will also continue having our biweekly virtual meetings for Educators and GSA Advisors. We are going to check with advisors to make sure that our meetings don't conflict with your current GSA meetings. We'll get back to you on dates and times in our next email. (Also check our social media, we'll post there too!)



Rachael Bernardino  
she/her/hers or  
they/them/theirs

## Americorps Member

We are welcoming Rachael Bernardino to our team for this year as an Americorps Service Member. Rachael is joining us from Arizona to aid GLSEN Washington State in our mission to ensure that every member of every school community is valued and respected regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression. Rachael has studied Elementary Education at Northern Arizona University and worked closely with nonprofits such as Anytown Arizona. She is excited to work alongside GLSEN Washington State's team and explore our state.

---

If you have any questions or need any resources, please send us an email ([mail@glsenwa.org](mailto:mail@glsenwa.org)) or contact us on social media ([@glsenwa](#) on [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#)). We'll get back to you soon.

If you would like to make a donation to GLSEN Washington to help our programming, you can go to [www.glsenwashington.org](http://www.glsenwashington.org).  
Thanks for your continued support!