

TLN Teen Services Committee Meeting

Friday, August 10, 2018

Brighton District Library 100 Library Drive., Brighton, MI 48116

1:45 PM Call to Order

In Attendance:

Lindsay Fricke - Novi

Elisabeth Phou - Baldwin

Kate Wheeler - Brighton

Stephanie Williams - Brighton

Jasmine Parker - Ferndale

Mike DiMazio - Southgate

Erin Look - Auburn

Kim Poma - Garc

Emily Dobbs - Wixom

Jocelyn Levin - Lyon

Melissa Shank - Lyon

Janice Heilman - Howell

Alayna Jones - Clarkston

Kim Pema - Garc

Amanda Gehrke - Moht

Lauren Baker - Plymouth

Karen Smith - Lvcc

Karen Dobson - Milford

Janna VanHouten - TLN

Approval of Agenda

Jocelyn Levin

Alayna Jones

Approval of Minutes

Erin Look

Mike DiMazio

TLN Updates

None

State and Local Committee Updates

None

Meetings in 2019

January: Bloomfield Township

March: Redford (lunch at the library)

May: Taylor

August: Oak Park

October: Performer's Showcase at Plymouth

1:45 PM Guest Presenter – Ian Unger, Youth Program Coordinator at Affirmations

(<http://goaffirmations.org/>) Ian Unger from Affirmations based out of Ferndale, Michigan, gave a presentation about how librarians can better serve tweens and teens that identify as LGBTQ+ in their community. Affirmations is located at 290 W. Nine Mile Rd. in Ferndale, MI.

Presentation:

QUILT BAG: When Identity Feels like Alphabet Soup

See PowerPoint.

Suggested Resources:

<http://www.ala.org/awardsgrants/rainbow-project-book-list>

The ABCs of LGBTQ+ by Ashley Mardell

Suggested Teen Fiction:

Aristotle & Dante Discover the Secrets of the Universe by Benjamin Alire Saenz

Simon Vs. the Homosapien's Agenda by Becky Albertalli

I'll Give You the Sun by Jandy Nelson

More Happy Than Not by Adam Silvera

Social Intercourse by Greg Howard (Queer Romance)

Running With Lions by Juilian Winters (Queer Romance)

Nemesis Series by April Daniels (Trans lead)

America: The Life and Times of America Chavez by Rivera Villalobos (Lesbian lead/Graphic Novel)

And She Was by Jessica Verdi (Trans parent)

Leah on the Offbeat by Becky Albertalli (Bisexuality)

Let's Talk About Love by Claire Kann (Asexual character/Lesbianism)

The Summer of Jordi Perez by Amy Spalding (Lesbian lead)

Reign Fallen by Sarah Glenn Marsh (Queer Romance)

Mariam Sharma Hits The Road by Sheba Karim

The Beauty That Remains by Ashley Woodfolk

2:45 PM Tour of Library and Break

3:15 PM Summer Reading Wrap-Up

What worked well for your summer reading program? What would you change for next year's summer reading program? What were your most popular teen prizes?

Methods:

Bingo cards, going from easy to hard. Scratch tickets to get books, pins, coupons.

Prizes:

Raffles - MJR gift card, Barnes & Noble gift card, record players with movie soundtrack, Harry Potter prize pack

Prize baskets - coding, art supplies, movies

Rock tumbler

2 tickets to Cedar Point as a grand prize

Chipotle coupons

Pizza coupons

Collapsible frisbees, chapsticks, hand sanitizer, flashlights with library logo

Programs:

Live animals

Acting Up Theatre Company

Harry Potter party

Finch robots

Cake wars with parent/teens

Star Wars interactive movie

Marvel party (trivia, radioactive oranges game, good vs evil sock game, thor's hammer with cheese cubes and pretzel sticks, pizza with Avengers A out of pepperoni)

Avengers escape room (email Kate Wheeler at Brighton for plans)

Alex & Friends

Tiny food party

3:30 PM Fall Programming

What teen programs do you have planned for the Fall?

Miniature Motors

Potterpalooza

Tinkercad workshops

Paint your own shoulder dragon

Pop and paint program

Anime Club

3:45 PM Fave Raves

Share your favorite teen books that you have recently read.

History of Jane Doe, Michael Belanger

My Plain Jane, Cynthia Hand

Catwoman: Soulstealer, Sarah J Maas

Shadowshaper, Daniel Jose Older

The Beauty that Remains, Ashley Woodfolk

A Study in Charlotte, Brittany Cavallaro

3:49 PM Adjournment

Next Meeting: Performer's Showcase on Friday, October 12th, beginning at 9:30 am at Novi Public Library, 45255 W. 10 Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375. Phone: 248-349-0720 Website: <http://novilibrary.org>

Created by Ian Unger, Youth Program Coordinator

**QUILT BAG: When
Identity Feels like
Alphabet Soup**

What is...

◉ **Sexual Identity/Sexuality?**

- Lesbian
- Gay
- Bisexual
- Pansexual
- Asexual
- Demisexual
- Heterosexual
- And More...

• **Romantic Orientation/Identity?**

- Aromantic
- Heteroromantic
- Homoromantic
- Biromantic
- Panromantic
- Demiromantic
- And More...

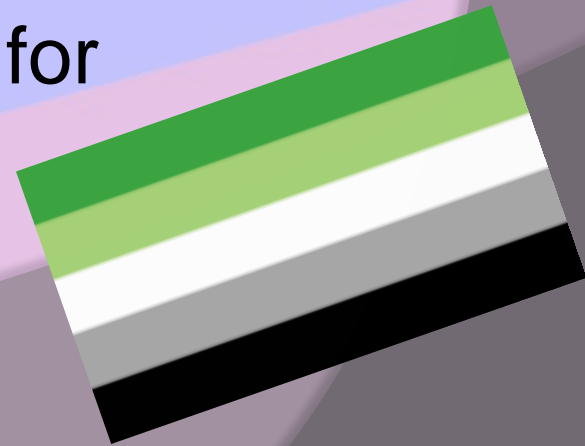
So Sexuality...

- Is who you are physically attracted to
- Is a way that we self-identify
- Is not a rigid definition, nor is it the same for everyone all the time

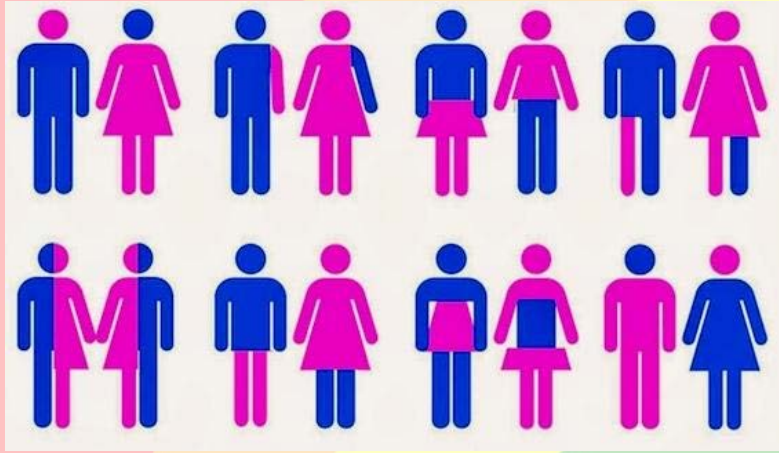


And romantic orientation...

- Is who you feel emotionally/spiritually attracted to
- Is also a way that we self-identify
- Does not have to align with sexual orientation
- Is also a fluid identity, and is not necessarily the same definition for everyone



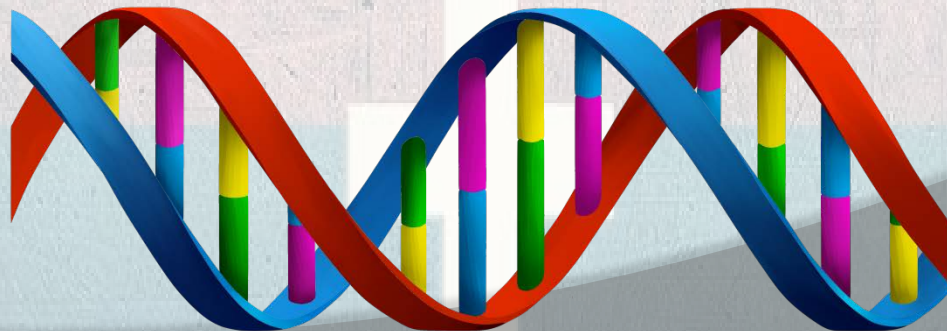
What about Queer?



- Reclaiming the term
- Queer as an identity
- Queer as an academic term
- Queer as a political statement

What is Sex?

- The biological characteristics assigned to a person based on chromosomes and body type
- Often seen as male/female
- Intersex is also a sex assigned at birth
- Not to be confused with gender



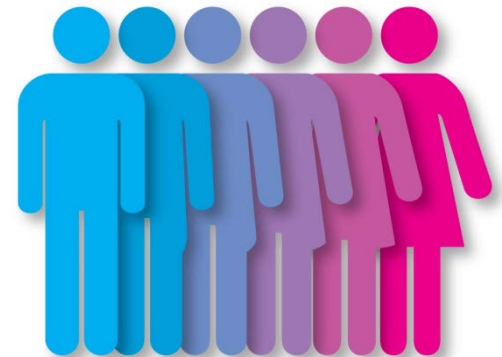
Intersex



- A person born with reproductive or sexual anatomy, or chromosomal differences, that don't seem to fit the typical definitions of female or male
- Historically, babies were operated on without parental consent
 - Still, babies are operated on, but with parental permission
- A doctor's call, based on a perception of "abnormal" genitalia

What is Gender?

- A person's perception on who they are as a person and define themselves
- Western Society defines this as man and woman
- Gender is a spectrum, with infinite expressions, and not easily defined



Cisgender

- Cis – Aligns with/same as
- Gender-one's representation of the self
- One's gender aligns with the gender assigned at birth
 - E.g. Assigned "female" at birth, identifies as a woman



Transgender



- Trans – crossing, moving beyond/through
- Gender-one's representation of the self
- Gender is defined differently than assigned at birth
 - E.g. Assigned “male” at birth, identifies as a woman

Nonbinary



- Binary – Man/Woman, Male/Female
- Gender identities go beyond, between, and without these concepts
- Countless identities and expressions
 - Considered on a “spectrum,” because it is not a straight line between “man” and “woman”; there are infinite ways to define oneself
- Examples: agender, genderqueer, bigender, pangender, genderfluid, and many more

Two-Spirit

- Coined in 1990 at the third annual inter-tribal First Nations gay/lesbian conference in Winnepeg
- Inter-tribal term used to create a more accurate understanding of Native LGBTQ Identities
- A term limited to those who are both LGBTQ+ and Native

Transition



- A social and/or medical term for aligning one's body/expression with their gender identity
- Some trans/nonbinary people elect to have medical procedures to confirm their identity
- Completely acceptable to only socially transition, or not transition at all
- Everyone's journey is different

Clarifications



- Much like sexuality, gender is fluid
- Allow others to define their gender, don't do it for them
- Sex and Gender only relate because of how society has defined gender; these are mutually exclusive otherwise
- Sex is the body, gender is the brain

Coming Out

- ◉ A never-ending process
 - Every time sexuality needs to be told to someone is a coming out process
- ◉ Appears differently, and at different rates for everyone
 - Some people come out to everyone, others choose limited individuals or no one at all
- ◉ Should only be initiated by the person identifying – never out someone!



How do Allies fit in?



- Ally is an identity earned, not a self-defined term
- Allies are people who demonstrate an exemplary ability to stand up for LGBTQ individuals
- Allies can be straight, or part of the community
- Allies can lend their voices to the fight for equality, without talking over those who identify as LGBTQ

About Affirmations



◎ Mission

- Affirmations provides a welcoming space where people of all sexual orientations, gender identities & expressions, and cultures can find support and unconditional acceptance, and where they can learn, grow, socialize, and feel safe.

◎ Vision

- Affirmations is an evolving community center where all who gather are embraced and are free to be their authentic selves

Affirmations History



- 1989 – began as a helpline; 1-800-398-GAYS
- Became a 501(c)3 non-profit organization
- June 2007 – Grand Opening of the current building – 17,000 sq ft
- Certified “green” building by US Green Builders Council

Affirmations Programs/Services

- Youth Empowerment Program
 - XTL Leadership Development
 - XTL Workforce Development
 - Carl Rippberger Drop-In Center
- Support & Discussion Groups
- Health & Wellness Resources
- Counseling Program
- Social Activities
- Bayard Rustin Media Center

The logo for Affirmations is a pink downward-pointing triangle with a white horizontal bar across its center. The word "Affirmations" is written in a bold, italicized, black sans-serif font within the white bar. Below the white bar is a purple horizontal bar containing the tagline "People Building Community" in a white sans-serif font.

Affirmations

People Building Community