Supporting the LGBTQIA+ Community

Creating a more inclusive campus environment
One of the most important parts of being an ally is understanding more about our LGBTQIA+ community.

Let's take a look at some words to know...
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Words to know...

**Sex**: The biological differences between male and female.

**Sexual orientation**: How a person characterizes their sexuality.

**Gender identity**: One’s concept of self as male, female, gender queer, or other identity.
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Words to know...

**Cisgender**: A person whose gender identity aligns with the sex they were assigned at birth.

**Agender**: Someone who doesn’t identify as any particular gender.

**Allyship**: The action of working to end oppression through support of, and as an advocate with and for, a group other than one’s own.
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Words to know...

**Binary:** The concept of dividing sex or gender into two clear categories. Sex is male or female, gender is masculine or feminine.

**Non-binary:** Someone who doesn't identify exclusively as female/male.

**Gender-expansive:** An umbrella term used to refer to people, often times youth, who don't identify with traditional gender roles.
Queer: One definition of queer is abnormal or strange. Historically, queer has been used as an epithet/slur against people whose gender, gender expression and/or sexuality do not conform to dominant expectations. Not all people who identify as LGBTQIA use “queer” to describe themselves. The term is often considered hateful when used by those who do not identify as LGBTQIA.
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Words to know...

**Genderqueer**: A person whose gender identity and/or gender expression falls outside of the dominant societal norm for their assigned sex, is beyond genders, or is some combination of them.

**Gender fluid**: Not identifying with a single, fixed gender. A person whose gender identity may shift.
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There are plenty more to know and understand. Learn more on the GLSEN website.
Happy Pride

It is important for everyone to feel a sense of belonging. Familiarizing yourself with these words will create a more welcoming and inclusive campus environment.

Remember to be an ally. Always show support and love to your LGBTQIA+ friends, family, and community.
Happy Pride

If you ever need to talk to someone, look for a Safe Zone sign on the outside of faculty and staff offices.

The Safe Zone sign on a door or window indicates the person inside has attended Ally Training to make campus a safer place for the LGBTQIA+ community.
Happy Pride

On Tuesday, we'll be sharing quotes from our campus community on what pride means to them. If you'd like to be featured, send a short quote, a photo and your graduation year to social@ysu.edu or DM us.

(alumni and community members are encouraged to as well)