

# (U)Chicago Queer Compass



Published by the Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,  
Transgender, and Queer Student Life



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
CHICAGO



Office of LGBTQ  
Student  
Life

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Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,  
Transgender, and Queer Student Life

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# Office of LGBTQ Student Life



## **Mission**

The Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Queer (LGBTQ) Student Life is the hub for all LGBTQ student life at The University of Chicago. The Office serves LGBTQ students, questioning students, and allies in the College and graduate and professional schools, while recognizing multiple and intersecting identities, in order to create an inclusive and safe community. The Office provides educational, social, and professional opportunities and resources for all students in the university.

## **5710**

The Office of LGBTQ Student Life is located at 5710 South Woodlawn Avenue, along with the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs (OMSA). 5710 is a student-centered space which enhances the overall campus experience for LGBTQ students and students of color. 5710 includes a large lounge for events, programs, and socializing; a small study lounge; a conference room; offices for related student organizations and student programming; meeting and storage spaces; a kitchenette; resource library and common computer resources.

5710 Hours:

Monday - Friday

9:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.

For 5710 interim period hours, visit our website at <http://lgbtq.uchicago.edu>.



# Office of LGBTQ Student Life

## Programs

The Office of LGBTQ Student Life sponsors and hosts frequent events throughout the year.

Programs include (but are not limited to):

- Networking/Social (Grad Mixers, QGroups)
- Educational (QFilm Documentaries, Speakers)
- Advocacy (LGBTQ Student Advisory Board)
- OUTober (Celebration of LGBT History Month)
- Rainbow Graduation

## QGroups

QGroups are six low key, social discussion groups where gay/queer men, lesbian/queer women, bisexual and transgender/genderqueer individuals can socialize and discuss anything from politics to academics or anything else that comes up!



The meetings are open to all graduate, professional and undergraduate students and allies/friends of LGBTQ individuals. These confidential student-led groups give students the ability to meet and talk about issues affecting their community.

The six QGroups are:

- Qworum (Lesbian/Queer Women)
- Lavender Maroons (Gay/Queer Men)
- Over the Rainbow (Bisexual)
- Pronoun Hoedown (Transgender/Genderqueer)
- Intersection (LGBTQ Students of Color)
- Queer Spirit (LGBTQ Spirituality)

## LGBTQ Student Advisory Board

The Office of LGBTQ Student Life Student Advisory Board meets four times per quarter to discuss issues relating to the LGBTQ community on campus. The board is made up of student representatives from student organizations, as well as individual undergraduate, graduate and professional students.

# Office of LGBTQ Student Life

## **Transgender/Genderqueer Student Resources**

<http://trans.uchicago.edu>

The Office of LGBTQ Student Life offers a broad range of resources for trans and genderqueer students including an updated list of gender-neutral campus restrooms, transgender student discussion groups, a collection of trans books and DVDs in the LGBTQ Resource Library at 5710 and more!

## **LGBTQ Resource Library**

The Office of LGBTQ Student Life Resource Library at 5710 South Woodlawn includes a wide assortment of books, newspapers, magazines and DVDs that may be checked out to students, faculty and staff. The complete list of resources are available at <http://lgbtq.uchicago.edu>.



## **Office of LGBTQ Student Life Website**

<http://lgbtq.uchicago.edu>

The Office of LGBTQ Student Life website provides information about the LGBTQ community at University of Chicago, including: 5710 information, staff and board bios, calendar of events, programming information, and much more!

## **Queer 101 Orientation/New Student Website**

<http://queer101.uchicago.edu>

The Office of LGBTQ Student Life orientation website is a great resource for incoming and current students. The website provides the need-to-know information on getting involved on campus and how to connect to the Office of LGBTQ Student Life.

# Office of LGBTQ Student Life

## **LGBTQ Mentoring Program**

*<http://lgbtq.uchicago.edu/mentoring>*

The LGBTQ Mentoring Program pairs each interested LGBTQ student (undergraduate, graduate, and professional students) with an LGBTQ graduate student, faculty member, or staff mentor.

Mentors meet with the students they are mentoring quarterly for lunch, dinner, or coffee. In addition, the LGBTQ Mentoring Program sponsors a quarterly get event for all mentors and students participating in the program.

Students and interested mentors can sign-up on our website at *<http://lgbtq.uchicago.edu/mentoring>*.

## **Email Lists**

Sign-up for the Office of LGBTQ Student Life email lists to receive information on programs, resources and leadership opportunities across the entire LGBTQ and Ally communities at the University.

College Students: *[qcollege@lists.uchicago.edu](mailto:qcollege@lists.uchicago.edu)*

Graduate/Professional Students: *[qgrad@lists.uchicago.edu](mailto:qgrad@lists.uchicago.edu)*

## **ShoutOut!**

ShoutOUT! is the Office of LGBTQ Student Life's official blog. The blog contains additional resources, news, events, and announcements for the Office of LGBTQ Student Life, LGBTQA student organizations, campus and Chicago events, national events, and so on. Visit *<http://lgbtq.uchicago.edu>* to read and sign up for our posts.



**ShoutOUT!**

# Student Organizations

## **Gays and Lesbians in Business (GLIB)**

*Email list: <http://lists.chicagogsb.edu/mailman/listinfo/glib>*

GLIB at Chicago Booth improves the MBA experience for LGBT students, planning a calendar of social and professional events to build friendships and networks among students, alumni and faculty.

## **Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Trans People in Medicine (LGBTPM)**

*Email list: [lgbpm@lists.uchicago.edu](mailto:lgbpm@lists.uchicago.edu)*

The Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual/Transgender people in medicine group offers education to the Pritzker community on GLBT related topics, and provides a social forum for both GLBT and non-GLBT students.

## **Out&About**

*Email list: [outabout@lists.uchicago.edu](mailto:outabout@lists.uchicago.edu)*

Out&About provides University of Chicago students with community service opportunities that address the needs and concerns of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Queer, and Intersex (LGBTQI) communities on the University of Chicago campus, in the broader Chicago metropolitan area, and around the world. In addition, we serve as a safe, affirming group for LGBTQI individuals and allies to pursue community service projects without fear of discrimination, and as a place where they can serve alongside queer-identified and allied peers.

## **Out in Public (Policy)**

*Email list: [oipp@lists.uchicago.edu](mailto:oipp@lists.uchicago.edu)*

OIPP is a student group at the Harris School for Public Policy for those interested in policy issues pertaining to LGBT peoples. OIPP serves as both an educational and social resource, and is open to students of any sexual orientation.



# Student Organizations

## **Outlaw**

*Email list: [outlaw@lists.uchicago.edu](mailto:outlaw@lists.uchicago.edu)*

Outlaw is a student group devoted to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and supporting students at the University of Chicago Law School. Outlaw sponsors a lecture series at the law school and other events to raise the Law School's awareness of LGBT issues facing law students and the larger community. We also plan numerous social events and bar crawls throughout the year, many of which are co-sponsored with other LGBT professional student groups at the University of Chicago and within the Chicago area.

## **OUTreach**

*Email list: [ssalgbtq@lists.uchicago.edu](mailto:ssalgbtq@lists.uchicago.edu)*

OUTreach is a student organization for LGBT and supporting students at the School of Social Service Administration.

## **Queers & Associates (Q&A)**

*Email list: [qa@lists.uchicago.edu](mailto:qa@lists.uchicago.edu)*

Queers & Associates is the largest queer organization on campus. We have a long and colorful history of current members and numerous alumni working together to create queer community on the UC campus. Our goal is to empower the queer community on campus through social events, activism, coalition building, and outreach/educational programming. For more information email [qaboard@lists.uchicago.edu](mailto:qaboard@lists.uchicago.edu).

## **The Sacred Flame**

*Email list: [sacredflame@lists.uchicago.edu](mailto:sacredflame@lists.uchicago.edu)*

The Sacred Flame at the University of Chicago Divinity School provides support for LGBTQ students, faculty and staff, friends, family, and allies. We are open to all individuals interested in exploring the intersection between spirituality and sexuality, in a safe and social environment. The Sacred Flame is a constituent organization of the Divinity Students Association.

# Gender-Neutral Facilities

## Gender-Neutral Restrooms

Gender-neutral, single-user restrooms are located around campus. The following list, though not exhaustive, provides some options across campus.

For a complete list of the most updated listing of gender-neutral restrooms, visit <http://trans.uchicago.edu>.

- \* 5710 (South Woodlawn)
- \* Beecher Hall, Room 103
- \* Billings, Room P325
- \* Centers for Gender Studies and Race, Politics, and Culture, First Floor
- \* Cobb Lecture Hall, 5th floor
- \* Henry Hinds Laboratory for Geophysical Sciences, 1st floor
- \* Hillel Center, 5715 South Woodlawn
- \* Ida Noyes Hall, Basement, Third Floor (inside CAPS library)
- \* Joseph Regenstein Library, 3rd-5th floors
- \* Law School Administration Wing
- \* Low Temperature, Room L100
- \* Rockefeller Memorial Chapel, NW corner of the Main Floor
- \* Social Service Administration, 1st Floor
- \* Student Counseling and Resource Service, 2nd floor

## Gender-Neutral Locker Rooms

Gender-neutral, single-user locker rooms are located in the Ratner Athletics Center. The private, “family” locker rooms are available upon request from the entrance attendant. Check in with the entrance attendant to request a key to the locker rooms.

Note: The “family” locker rooms are not available during Family Swim times. Family Swim occurs on Fridays from 6 p.m. to 8:45 p.m., and on Saturdays and Sundays from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. Also, during the summer, Family Swim will also run on Monday and Wednesday from 5 p.m. to 8:45 pm. These times may change, so visit the Athletics Facilities Hours website for the most updated information:

<http://athletics.uchicago.edu/facilities/facilities-hours.htm>

# Campus Health

## **Primary Care Service (SCC)**

*<http://healthcare.uchicago.edu>*

Primary Care Service (PCS) provides general and preventative health care to University of Chicago students under the Student Life Fee.

PCS is staffed by University of Chicago Medical Center faculty physicians and nurse practitioners, as well as specialists in sports medicine, travel health, reproductive health, and health education, and provides a variety of services to students.

## **Student Counseling Service (SCS)**

*<http://counseling.uchicago.edu>*

The Student Counseling Service (SCS) provides mental health care to University of Chicago students. This care includes needs assessment, psychotherapy, psychiatric consultation, academic skills assessment program, support groups, referrals, emergency services, and health promotion and wellness programs.

SCS also provides consultation to University officials who have concerns about a student.

## ***Coming Out Support Group***

The Coming Out Support Group is available to college and graduate students questioning their sexual orientation or beginning to identify as gay, lesbian or bisexual. Students have the opportunity to clarify their sexuality, seek advice from peers and gain support in a safe, confidential environment. Common questions brought to the group are: Is a label necessary in defining my sexuality? Who, if anyone, should I come out to and when should I do it? What if my family is not supportive? How do I negotiate intimate relationships? New groups start every quarter, co-led by 1-2 SCRS clinicians interested in sexual development. The group meets once a week for 75 minutes and space is limited to 12 participants. Please contact John McPherrin, PsyD, at *[jkm@uchicago.edu](mailto:jkm@uchicago.edu)* for more information or to register.

# Academics

## Center for Gender Studies

<http://gendersexuality.uchicago.edu>



Since its founding in 1996, the Center for the Study of Gender and Sexuality (CSGS) at the University of Chicago has become a major center for research and graduate training in gender and sexuality studies. CSGS has been committed to teaching, research, and active engagement at the University, while also reaching out to public areas where gender and sexuality come together with other political, artistic, and intellectual concerns.

CSGS engages students, faculty, alumni, and the community through our major and minor degrees in Gender and Sexuality Studies, fellowships to graduate students working on their dissertations, lectures, conferences, speaker and film series, and a host of other arts programming. Areas of faculty interest include gender and sexuality studies in the fields of literature and language, history, political science, sociology, anthropology, cinema and media studies, human development, law, and medicine to name, well more than a few.

Situated at 5733 South University Avenue, the Center encourages all members of the University and Chicago communities to participate in our current and future development.

### *The Lesbian and Gay Studies Project*

The Lesbian and Gay Studies Project (LGSP), organizes research projects and conferences and provides fellowships to graduate students. It provides an interdisciplinary locus for Chicago faculty and graduate students who study the historical, cultural, and textual construction of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and other queer identities, cultures, and politics; analyze those formations or the dominant culture and social theory from the perspective of queer theory.

# University Policies/Procedures

## **Unlawful Discrimination and Harassment Policy**

Members of the University community cannot thrive unless each is accepted as an autonomous individual and is treated without regard to characteristics irrelevant to the participation in the life of the University. Freedom of expression is vital to our shared goal of the pursuit of knowledge and should not be restricted by a multitude of rules. At the same time, unlawful discrimination, including harassment, compromises the integrity of the University. It is the intention of the University to take necessary action to prevent, correct, and where indicated, discipline unlawful harassment.

[...]

In keeping with its long-standing traditions and policies, the University of Chicago considers students, employees, applicants for admission or employment, and those seeking access to programs on the basis of individual merit. The University does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national or ethnic origin, age, disability, veteran status, or other protected classes under the law. Such discrimination is unlawful.

## **Bias Response Team**

*<http://brt.uchicago.edu>*

The Bias Response Team is made up of administrators who are available to support and guide students seeking assistance in determining how to handle a bias incident. Members of the Bias Response Team assist the Vice President and Dean of Students in documenting and reporting incidents that occur on campus with the purpose of providing holistic educational programs and the implementation of better evaluative tools and processes.

## **Open-Housing**

The University of Chicago House System offers a gender-neutral housing option, allowing students increased choice in selecting roommates, regardless of gender, in order to respect and support the various needs of our students. This option is offered to second-, third- and fourth-year College students.

# Getting Around Chicago

## **Chicago Transit Authority (CTA)**

<http://transitchicago.com>

CTA operates the nation's second largest public transportation system- a regional transit system that serves the City of Chicago and 40 neighboring communities. CTA provides 1.7 million rides on an average weekday, accounting for over 80% of all transit trips taken in the six-county Chicago metropolitan region. Presently, CTA service is provided by two modes: bus and rail.

### *CTA Bus*

CTA's bus system consists of 153 routes (covering 2,517 route miles). Buses make over 25,000 trips daily, and serve nearly 12,000 bus stops throughout the region. Several routes also provide 24-hour service, known as "Owl Service."

### *CTA 'L' (Train Service)*

CTA's rail system is known locally as "The 'L'." The service provided is described as "heavy rail rapid transit," also referred to as a "subway" or "metro" in many parts of the world. Today's 'L' system has eight rapid transit routes and consists of 144 stations over approximately 242.2 miles of track. Parts of the "L" run above ground, in subway tunnels and tubes, as well as at grade or in expressway medians. Two routes operate 24 hours every day. The nickname 'L' is short for "elevated," a reference to the all-elevated beginnings of the system. Free transfer between all 'L' routes is available at designated locations.



# Getting Around Chicago

## **Metra**

<http://metrarail.com>

Metra is a regional rail system that serves the City of Chicago and surrounding suburbs. Its railroad serves over 200 stations on 11 different rail lines across its six-county service area (Cook, DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and Will Counties). On Metra you can reach Chicago's beautiful lakefront, museums, zoos, sporting events, shops and restaurants, concerts, special events, schools and colleges as well as quaint, historic suburbs and small towns. In some cases, Metra can take you practically to the front door - in other cases, your destination is easily in reach via Pace buses, and/or CTA buses and trains.

### *Metra Electric Line*

Hyde Park/University of Chicago is served by the Metra Electric Line. There are convenient stations at 53rd Street, 55th-56th-57th Street, 59th Street and 63rd Street. Most Metra Electric Trains stop at the 55th-56th-57th Street station. The line runs between the southern Chicago suburbs, Hyde Park, and downtown Chicago. The line ends/begins at Millennium Station (Randolph Street Station) below Millennium Park at Randolph Street and Michigan Avenue. The last train from downtown to Hyde Park leaves at approximately 12:50 am every day. Be sure to check out the latest schedule on Metra's website for updated times.



# Queer Neighborhoods

## Lakeview/Boystown

Lakeview, about 5 miles northwest of downtown, runs between the lakefront and Ashland Avenue, north of Diversey Avenue up to Irving Park Road. Within this neighborhood is a small triangle east of Belmont Avenue called Boystown. Over the years the neighborhood has become a mix of artsy types; working-class families; young, not-yet-rolling-in-dough professionals; and queers (with a considerably more male than female presence). More recently, real estate values here have risen, and Lakeview has become increasingly more upscale, and more mixed gay/straight.

In the heart of Lakeview is Wrigley Field, home of baseball's Chicago Cubs. The vintage stadium draws thousands of fans on game days. Clark Street, which runs diagonally north-south, is Lakeview's major commercial thoroughfare, with a diverse collection of businesses, from spiffy bistros, ethnic restaurants, and simple fast-food joints to storefront theaters to sports-memorabilia shops and vintage clothing boutiques. Halsted Street, parallel to Clark just one block east, has the bulk of Lakeview's gay businesses, including dozens of boutiques, restaurants, and bars. You'll find still more gay-popular businesses along Broadway, which also runs parallel to Halsted and is a few blocks east, not far from Lake Shore Drive and the Lake Michigan waterfront.





# Queer Neighborhoods

## Andersonville

One of several distinct communities within the north side of Chicago's diverse Edgewater area, Andersonville was originally settled by the Swedes, then increasing numbers of Middle Easterners. But since the 1990s, it's become Chicago's most lesbian-identified neighborhood, and also a popular area to live and play among many gay men. The main commercial strip is Clark Street, has a great mix of ethnic restaurants, queer bars and cafes, and prosaic workaday shop fronts. It's not as flashy or upscale as Lakeview, 2 miles south, and its adherents like the truly varied mix of residents and street life.



# Festivals

Chicago is the city of (queer) festivals! While this list is certainly not exhaustive, we hope to highlight the major queer festivals and events throughout the year.

## NOVEMBER

### **Reeling : Chicago Lesbian and Gay International Film Festival**

<http://reelingfilmfestival.org>

Reeling: The Chicago Lesbian & Gay International Film Festival is the second oldest film festival of its kind in the US and prides itself on showcasing the best LGBT films and videos each and every year.

From award-winning international feature films to social documentaries to experimental shorts, Reeling has always presented a range of genres that demonstrate the rich diversity of work being produced. Not only has Reeling become one of the most important cultural events for Chicagoans, it also attracts LGBT people from throughout the Midwest who consider the festival to be the highlight of their cinematic year.



### **Mr. International Rubber**

<http://mirubber.com/>

Mr. International Rubber is the preeminent annual men's rubber fetish event, held each November. Consisting of a fetish contest, vendors market and an array of social events, the weekend began in 1997 and has been held each year since. Previous winners of the contest have included representatives from Germany, France, Italy, Canada and the U.S.

# Festivals

## MAY

### **International Mr. Leather Memorial Day Weekend**

<http://www.imrl.com>

About 400 gay leathermen gathered in Chicago in 1979 for the first International Mr. Leather contest. The event has grown to be an annual tradition for thousands in the leather community - drawing contestants and attendees from around the globe. Once an event for “hardcore” leathermen, IML has expanded to include a more diverse crowd - from the experienced to the curious.

## JUNE

### **Midsommarfest**

<http://www.andersonville.org/midsommarfest>

Midsommarfest is Andersonville’s annual summer street festival. Each year, nearly 40,000 people throng Clark Street from Foster to Catalpa for two days of music, dancing, and delicious food. Vendors from around the region sell their wares to passers-by, while ethnic dance troupes and cutting-edge bands keep the party going.



### **Latino/a Pride Picnic**

<http://orgulloenaccion.org>

Yearly picnic spearheaded by Orgullo en Acción, a local LGBTQ Latino organization in Chicago, in Humboldt Park. In order to recognize the need and importance of celebrating and acknowledging our diverse identities and cultures, Orgullo’s Latina/Latino Pride is an opportunity for Latino/a LGBTQ community members to come together with Latino/a allies to build alliances to address the critical issues impacting our communities.

# Festivals

## **Chicago Dyke March**

<http://chicagodykemarch.wordpress.com/>

The Chicago Dyke March Collective (CDMC) is made up of a group of queer-identified people who collaborate to organize the Chicago Dyke March every June, and all the outreach, education, solidarity work, community organizing, and planning that goes along with it.

## **Chicago Pride Parade**

### **Last Sunday of June**

<http://chicagopridecalendar.org>

The Chicago Pride Parade is the annual gay pride parade held on the last Sunday of June. It is considered the culmination of the larger Gay Pride Month. The parade takes place through the main streets of Lake View East.

## **Chicago Windy City Black Pride**

### **Late June/Early July**

<http://www.chiblackpride.com>

Windy City Black Pride is the annual Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender celebration for people of color who reside in the Metro Chicago area. This celebration embraces the many cultures, lifestyles and points of view that resonate through the men and women that make up our wonderful community. Chicago Black Pride is annually held during the first week of July. The dates are strategically selected in order that locals and visitors can enjoy the planned events and other summer festivals.

## **Windy City Black Pride**

### **Late June/Early July**

<http://www.windycityblackpride.org>

WCBP was created for and by African-American Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Men and Women in the Chicago, Illinois community. The WCBP's mission is to develop, implement and sponsor programs, activities, and special events to promote unity, cultivate pride and help improve the quality of life for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons of African descent.

# Festivals

## AUGUST

### Market Days

[http://www.northalsted.com/market\\_days.php](http://www.northalsted.com/market_days.php)

(North Halsted) Market Days is an annual two-day festival in Chicago. It is the Midwest's largest street festival with annual attendance exceeding 300,000 people over the two day event, which takes place in the Boystown section of Lakeview along North Halsted Street from Belmont Avenue to Addison Avenue. The festival consists of 3 music stages, 2 local band stages and a dance floor. The festival showcases food and merchandise tents. There are also Halsted business establishment tents, as well as those of radio stations, public service organizations and companies.

### Windy City Rodeo

<http://www.ilgra.com>

Cowboys and Cowgirls from across the United States and Canada will convene in the Chicagoland area to participate in Windy City Rodeo, a International Gay Rodeo Association rodeo hosted by the Illinois Gay Rodeo Association.



# Queer/Friendly Food & Coffee

## **Tapa Gitana Chicago**

Lakeview  
3445 N. Halsted  
773-296-6046  
*tapasgitana.com*  
'L' Lines: Red (Addison)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77

## **A Taste of Heaven**

Andersonville  
5401 N. Clark  
773-989-0151  
*atasteofheavenchicago.com*  
'L' Lines: Red (Berwyn)  
Bus: 22, 92

## **Bleeding Heart Bakery**

Roscoe Village  
1955 W. Belmont  
773-327-6934  
*thebleedingheartbakery.com*  
Bus: 50, 77

## **Bongo Room**

Wicker Park  
1470 N. Milwaukee  
773-489-0690  
*thebongoroom.com*  
'L' Lines: Blue (Damen)  
Bus: 50, 56, 72

## **Bongo Room**

South Loop  
1152 S. Wabash Ave.  
312-291-0100  
*thebongoroom.com*  
'L' Lines: Red, Orange, Green  
(Roosevelt)

## **Caribou Coffee**

Lakeview  
3300 N. Broadway  
773-477-3695  
*cariboucoffee.com*  
'L' Lines: Red, Brown (Belmont)  
Bus: 36

## **Caribou Coffee**

Lakeview  
3500 N. Halsted  
773-248-0799  
*cariboucoffee.com*  
'L' Lines: Red (Addison)  
Bus: 8

## **Chicago Diner**

Lakeview  
3411 N. Halsted  
773-935-6696  
Vegan/Vegetarian  
*veggiediner.com*  
'L' Lines: Red, Brown (Belmont)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77

## **Halsted's Bar & Grill**

Lakeview  
3441 N. Halsted  
773-348-9696  
*halstedschicago.com*  
'L' Lines: Red (Addison)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77

# Queer/Friendly Food & Coffee

## **Hamburger Mary's**

Andersonville  
5400 N. Clark  
773-784-6969  
[hamburgermaryschicago.com](http://hamburgermaryschicago.com)  
'L' Lines: Red (Berwyn)  
Bus: 22, 92

## **Intelligencia Coffee**

Lakeview  
3123 N. Broadway  
773-348-8058  
[www.intelligentsiacoffee.com](http://www.intelligentsiacoffee.com)  
'L' Lines: Red, Brown (Belmont)  
Bus: 36

## **Kit Kat Lounge**

Lakeview  
3700 N. Halsted  
773-525-1111  
<http://kitkatchicago.com>  
'L' Lines: Red (Addison)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77

## **mk**

Gold Coast  
868 N. Franklin  
312-482-9179  
[mkchicago.com](http://mkchicago.com)  
'L' Lines: Brown (Chicago)  
Bus: 37, 66

## **No Exit Cafe**

Rogers Park  
6970 N. Glenwood  
773-743-3355  
[www.heartlandcafe.com](http://www.heartlandcafe.com)  
'L' Lines: Red (Morse)  
Bus: 96

## **Salpicon**

Old Town  
1252 N. Wells  
312-988-7811  
[salpicon.com](http://salpicon.com)  
'L' Lines: Red (Clark/Division)  
Bus: 156

## **Sola**

Irving Park  
3868 N. Lincoln  
773-327-3868  
American, Asian, Hawaiian  
[hsola-restaurant.com](http://hsola-restaurant.com)  
'L' Lines: Brown (Irving Park)  
Bus: 11

## **Tweet**

Edgewater  
5020 N. Sheridan  
773-728-5576  
[tweet.biz](http://tweet.biz)  
'L' Lines: Red (Argyle)  
Bus: 81, 92, 136, 146, 147, 151



# Queer Nightlife

Note: Many non-queer bars and clubs sponsor queer nights or events. We recommend checking out *Time Out Chicago* for a listing of those events.

## Atmosphere (@mosphere)

Andersonville  
5355 N. Clark  
'L' Lines: Red (Berwyn)  
Bus: 9, 22  
♀♂

## Baton Show Lounge

River North  
436 N. Clark  
'L' Lines: Red (Grand)  
Bus: 22, 36  
♀♂

## Berlin

Lakeview  
954 W. Belmont  
'L' Lines: Red, Brown (Belmont)  
Bus: 8, 77  
♀♂

## Big Chicks

Edgewater  
5024 N. Sheridan  
'L' Lines: Red (Argyle)  
Bus: 36, 151  
♀♂

## Bobby Love's

Lakeview  
3729 N. Halsted  
'L' Lines: Red (Addison)  
Bus: 8, 36, 152  
♀♂

## Key:

♀ - Predominantly Female  
♂ - Predominantly Male  
♀♂ - Mixed Crowd

## Bucks Saloon

Lakeview  
3439 N. Halsted  
'L' Lines: Red (Addison)  
Bus: 8, 152  
♂

## The Call

Andersonville  
1547 W. Bryn Mawr  
'L' Lines: Red (Bryn Mawr)  
Bus: 9, 22  
♀♂

## Cellblock

Lakeview  
3702 N. Halsted  
'L' Lines: Red (Addison)  
Bus: 8, 152  
♂

## Charlie's

Lakeview  
3726 N. Broadway  
'L' Lines: Red (Addison)  
Bus: 8, 36, 152  
♂

## Circuit Nightclub

Lakeview  
3641 N. Halsted  
'L' Lines: Red (Addison)  
Bus: 8, 152  
♂

For maps of queer nightlife in Lakeview/Boystown and Uptown/Edgewater/Andersonville, see pages 30-31.



# Queer Nightlife

## Closet

Lakeview  
3325 N. Broadway  
'L' Lines: Red, Brown (Belmont)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77  
♀

## Crew Bar

Uptown  
4804 N. Broadway  
'L' Lines: Red (Lawrence)  
Bus: 36  
♀♂

## Davenport's

Wicker Park  
1383 N. Milwaukee  
'L' Lines: Blue (Division)  
Bus: 56  
♀♂

## Downtown Bar & Lounge

River North  
440 N. State  
'L' Lines: Red (Grand)  
Bus: 22, 29, 36, 65  
♀♂

## Elixir Lounge

Lakeview  
3452 N. Halsted  
'L' Lines: Red (Addison)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77  
♂

## Glenwood

Rogers Park  
6962 N. Glenwood  
'L' Lines: Red (Morse)  
Bus: 96  
♀♂

## Granville Anvil

Edgewater  
1137 W. Granville  
'L' Lines: Red (Granville)  
Bus: 155  
♂

## Hydrate

Lakeview  
3458 N. Halsted  
'L' Lines: Red (Addison)  
Bus: 8, 36, 152  
♂

## In Fine Spirits

Andersonville  
5420 N. Clark  
'L' Lines: Red (Berwyn)  
Bus: 22, 36, 92  
♀♂

## InnExile

South Side  
5758 W. 65th  
Bus: 63  
♀♂

### Key:

♀ - Predominantly Female  
♂ - Predominantly Male  
♀♂ - Mixed Crowd

For maps of queer nightlife in Lakeview/Boystown and Uptown/Edgewater/Andersonville, see pages 30-31.

# Queer Nightlife

## Jackhammer

Rogers Park  
6406 N. Clark Street  
Bus: 22, 155  
♂

## Jeffery Pub

South Side  
7041 S. Jeffery Boulevard  
Bus: 6  
♀♂

## Little Jim's Tavern

Lakeview  
3501 N. Halsted  
'L' Lines: Red, Brown (Belmont)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77  
♂

## Lucky Horseshoe Lounge

Lakeview  
3169 N. Halsted  
'L' Lines: Red, Brown (Belmont)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77  
♂

## Marty's

Andersonville  
1511 W. Balmoral  
'L' Lines: Red (Berwyn)  
Bus: 9, 22  
♀♂

## Mary's Attic

Andersonville  
5400 N. Clark  
'L' Lines: Red (Berwyn)  
Bus: 9, 22  
♀♂

## Minibar

Lakeview  
3341 N. Halsted  
'L' Lines: Red, Brown (Belmont)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77  
♂

## Parlour on Clark

Edgewater  
6341 N. Clark  
Bus: 22, 155  
♀♂

## North End

Lakeview  
3733 N. Halsted  
'L' Lines: Red (Addison)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77  
♀♂

## Roscoe's

Lakeview  
3356 N. Halsted  
'L' Lines: Red, Brown (Belmont)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77  
♂

### Key:

♀ - Predominantly Female  
♂ - Predominantly Male  
♀♂ - Mixed Crowd

For maps of queer nightlife in Lakeview/Boystown and Uptown/Edgewater/Andersonville, see pages 30-31.

# Queer Nightlife

## Second Story Bar

Streeterville  
157 E. Ohio  
'L' Lines: Red (Grand)  
Bus: 3, 125, 145, 146, 147, 151, 157  
♀♂

## Scarlet

Lakeview  
3320 N. Halsted  
'L' Lines: Red, Brown (Belmont)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77  
♀♂

## Scott's

Ravenswood  
1829 W. Montrose  
'L' Lines: Brown (Montrose)  
Bus: 50, 78  
♀♂

## Sidetrack

Lakeview  
3349 N. Halsted  
'L' Lines: Red, Brown (Belmont)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77  
♂

## Sofa

Andersonville  
4923 N. Clark  
'L' Lines: Red (Argyle)  
Bus: 9, 22  
♀♂

## Spin Nightclub

Lakeview  
800 W. Belmont  
'L' Lines: Red, Brown (Belmont)  
Bus: 8, 36, 77  
♀♂

## T's Bar

Andersonville  
5025 N. Clark  
'L' Lines: Red (Argyle)  
Bus: 9, 22  
♀

## Touche

Rogers Park  
6412 N. Clark  
Bus: 22, 155  
♂

## 3160

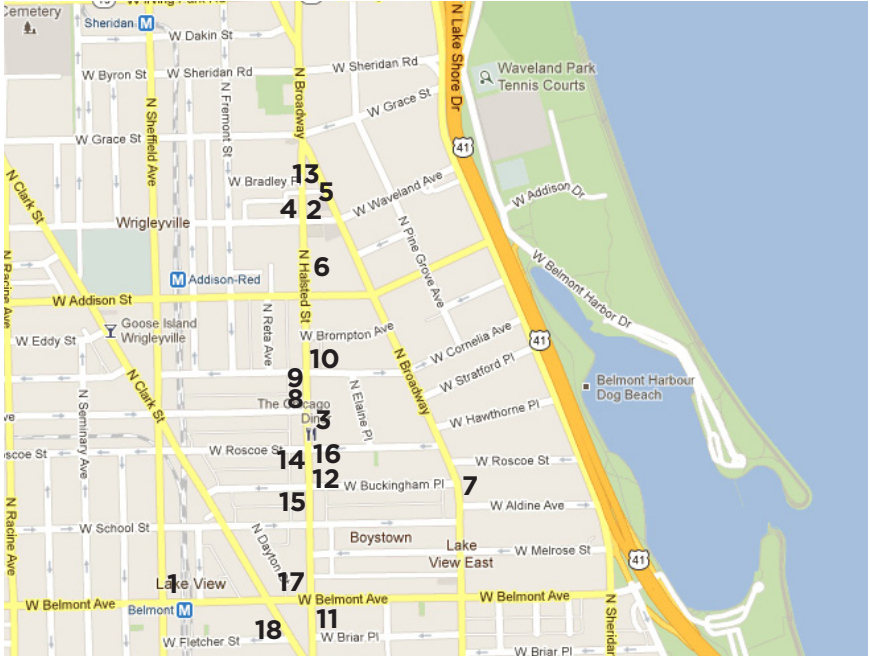
Lakeview  
3160 N. Clark  
'L' Lines: Red, Brown (Belmont)  
Bus: 8, 22, 36, 77  
♀♂

Key:  
♀ - Predominantly Female  
♂ - Predominantly Male  
♀♂ - Mixed Crowd

For maps of queer nightlife  
in Lakeview/Boystown and  
Uptown/Edgewater/Anderson-  
ville, see pages 30-31.

# Queer Nightlife Maps

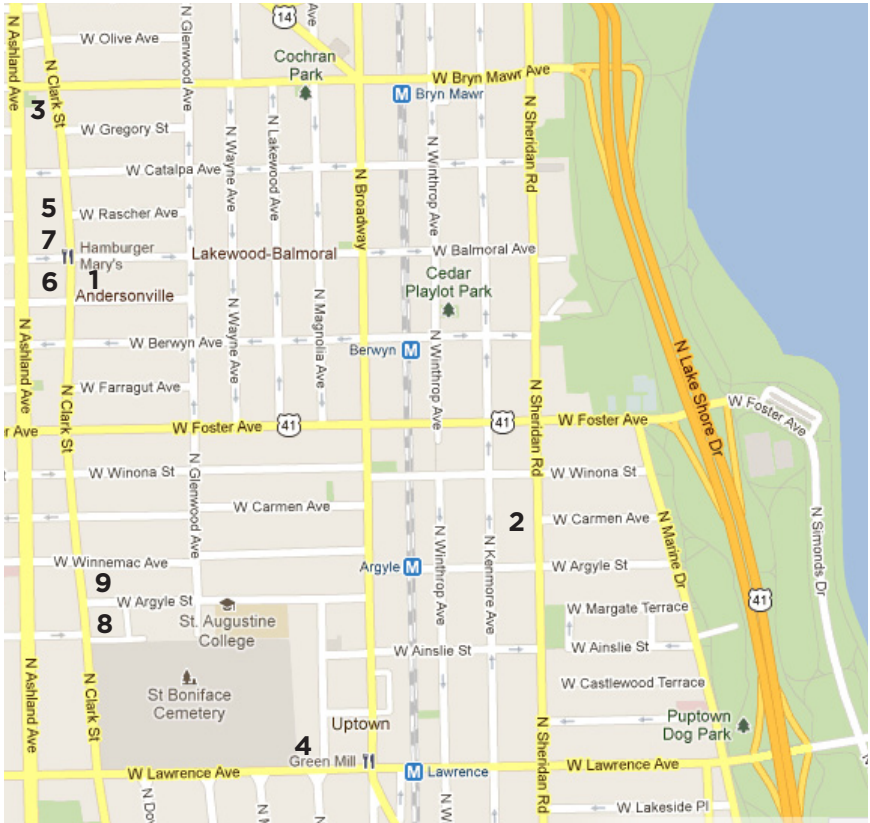
## Lakeview/Boystown



- |                      |                            |
|----------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Berlin            | 10. Little Jim's Tavern    |
| 2. Bobby Love's      | 11. Lucky Horseshoe Lounge |
| 3. Bucks Saloon      | 12. Minibar                |
| 4. Cellblock         | 13. North End              |
| 5. Charlie's         | 14. Roscoe's               |
| 6. Circuit Nightclub | 15. Scarlet                |
| 7. Closet            | 16. Sidetrack              |
| 8. Elixir Lounge     | 17. Spin Nightclub         |
| 9. Hydrate           | 18. 3160                   |

# Queer Nightlife Maps

## Uptown/Edgewater/Andersonville



1. Atmosphere (@atmosfera)
2. Big Chicks
3. The Call
4. Crew Bar
5. In Fine Spirits
6. Marty's
7. Mary's Attic
8. Sofo
9. T's Bar

# Community Organizations

## **Affinity**

*<http://affinity95.org>*

Affinity is a not-for-profit grassroots organization that has been serving Chicago's black lesbian and bisexual women's community for 14 years. Building upon the dedication of the founding members, Affinity has expanded into an institution that serves the entire Chicagoland and surrounding community. Historical elements of our work evolved out of Affinity's need to provide visibility, empowerment, and leadership for black lesbians

## **ACLU of Chicago**

*<http://www.aclu-il.org>*

The American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois is a non-profit, non-partisan organization, dedicated to protecting freedom, liberty, equality and justice for all within the United States. The work of the ACLU is based upon, but not limited to, protecting the liberties and freedoms guaranteed by the United States Constitution, especially those contained in the Bill of Rights. Our positions often set precedent and - on occasion - stir controversy, for it is most difficult to protect and preserve the rights of the minority (especially the unpopular) in our society.

## **AIDS Foundation Chicago**

*<http://aidschicago.org>*

The mission of the AIDS Foundation of Chicago is to lead the fight against HIV/AIDS and improve the lives of people affected by the epidemic. Founded in 1985 by community activists and physicians, the AIDS Foundation of Chicago is a local and national leader in the fight against HIV/AIDS. We collaborate with community organizations to develop and improve HIV/AIDS services; fund and coordinate prevention, care, and advocacy projects; and champion effective, compassionate HIV/AIDS policy.

## **AIDS Legal Counsel of Chicago**

*<http://www.aidslegal.com>*

The AIDS Legal Council of Chicago exists to preserve, promote and protect the legal rights of men, women and children in the metropolitan Chicago area impacted by HIV. The Council provides  
*(continued on next page)*

# Community Organizations

direct legal services to people in need, educates the public about HIV-related legal issues, and advocates for social policies that ensure fair treatment for all people affected by HIV/AIDS.

## **ALMA (Association of Latino Men for Action)**

<http://almachicago.org>

The Association of Latino Men for Action (ALMA) is an educational, social, advocacy, and support group for gay, bisexual, or questioning men. For over a decade, ALMA has nurtured a group identity based on the experiences of gay Latino men and has become an important voice on social and political issues both locally and nationally. A member of Chicago's Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame, ALMA continues at the forefront of the movement, helping to shape a better future for the gay Latino community.

## **Amigas Latinas**

<http://amigaslatinas.org>

Amigas Latinas is a support, education and advocacy organization for lesbian, bisexual and questioning women of Latina heritage that provide a safe environment and offers opportunities to gather, celebrate and explore their identities and potential as women who love women.

## **Asians and Friends Chicago**

<http://afchicago.com>

Founded in 1984 to bring together gay people interested in developing a greater understanding of Asian cultures and in developing friendships through social, cultural and educational activities, Asians & Friends Chicago continues to offer opportunities to meet people and make friends in Chicago and beyond.

## **Broadway Youth Center**

[http://howardbrown.org/hb\\_services.asp?id=50](http://howardbrown.org/hb_services.asp?id=50)

The Broadway Youth Center is a program of Howard Brown and our community partners, offering comprehensive services to all youth, 24 and under. The Broadway Youth Center is located at  
*(continued on next page)*

# Community Organizations

3179 N. Broadway, near the intersection of Broadway and Belmont, and is open Monday-Thursday from 1-8:00 pm, Friday from 1-9:00 pm, and Saturday from 1-3:00pm. All services are first-come, first served. Please note, the BYC does not open for services on the First Friday of each month until 5:00pm and is closed on Holidays.

## **Center on Halsted**

*<http://centeronhalsted.org>*

As the most comprehensive LGBT community center in the Midwest, the Center on Halsted serves as a catalyst for the LGBT community that links and provides community resources and enriches life experiences. Center on Halsted has become an exciting and highly visible symbol for the LGBT community of Chicago, serving diverse social, recreational, cultural, and social service needs of youth and adults in a safe, inviting and nurturing environment. It has office and meeting space for community organizations, drop-in space for youth and for older adults, gallery space, cultural programming and recreational space including basketball and volleyball courts along with parking, ground level retail and a rooftop memorial garden.

The Center offers support networks and programming to meet the cultural, emotional, social, educational and recreational needs of the LGBT community and friends. Current services include support groups for youth and seniors, mental health services, an info line for LGBT individuals and a hotline for HIV and STD concerns, prevention, treatment, and advocacy related to domestic violence, community technology center providing internet access and technology training and a range of life-enrichment programs.

The Center on Halsted also houses a number of organizations serving Chicago's LGBT community. Currently, numerous cultural, recreational and advocacy organizations that serve the LGBT community are Resident Community Partners at the Center, which acts as an incubator providing operational support and room for collaboration to the diverse community of nonprofit organizations that may otherwise find it difficult to interact.



# Community Organizations

## **Chicago Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce**

<http://glchamber.org>

The Chicago Area Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce seeks to develop, educate, support, and promote diverse gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender businesses as well as our supportive businesses.

## **Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame**

<http://glhalloffame.org>

The Chicago Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame is both a historic event and an exhibit. Through the Hall of Fame, residents of Chicago and the world are made aware of the contributions of Chicago's lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender communities and the communities' efforts to eradicate homophobic bias and discrimination.

## **Chicago Gay History Project**

<http://chicagogayhistory.com>

Chicago Gay History Project seeks to provide a comprehensive overview of those many important people, events, and organizations who helped the Windy City become a beacon of gay progress in the latter part of the 20th Century. From the anti-gay police raids and harassment of earlier decades, Chicago has risen to become one of the most progressive cities in the world, with legal protections, a city-designated neighborhood, a major community center, the hosting of the Gay Games in 2006, and a city-sponsored Gay and Lesbian Hall of Fame.

## **Chicago Gender Society**

<http://www.chicagogender.com>

The Chicago Gender Society is organized and operated for social, charitable and educational purposes. More specifically, CGS is a social, and educational organization for all members of the Transgender community, their supporters and for the benefit of the public. The goal of CGS is to provide social and educational activities for its members, the transgender community and its supporters and the general public. It seeks to promote a positive self-image for transgender individuals in the business  
*(continued on next page)*

# Community Organizations

community, in the media and the general public. CGS is neither a therapy group nor a dating service. Each member is responsible for their own conduct.

## **Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association (CMSA)**

<http://www.chicagomsa.org>

The Chicago Metropolitan Sports Association (CMSA) is the largest not-for-profit gay and lesbian sports organization in the Midwest. We offer recreational and competitive level play in a variety of athletic leagues throughout the year. The league is open to all persons who wish to play, regardless of sexual orientation, gender, or gender identity.

## **Equality Illinois**

<http://equalityillinois.org>

The Mission of Equality Illinois is to secure, protect and defend equal rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in Illinois. Equality Illinois envisions a fair and unified Illinois where everyone is treated equally with dignity and respect and where all people live freely regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or expression.

## **Frontrunners/Frontwalkers Chicago**

<http://www.frfwchicago.org>

Frontrunners/Frontwalkers Chicago is a club for lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, transexuals and friends who are interested in running and walking together along Chicago's great open lakefront.

## **Gender Just**

<http://www.genderjust.org>

Gender JUST (Gender Justice United for Societal Transformation) is a multi-racial, multi-ethnic, and multi-generational grassroots organization of Lesbian, Gay, Bi-sexual, Transgender, Queer, and Allied (LGBTQA) young people, LGBTQA people of color, and LGBTQA grassroots folks developing leadership and building power through organizing.

*(continued on next page)*

# Community Organizations

The goals of Gender JUST are to hold LGBTQA communities accountable around race, class, gender, age, religion, disability, size, and all factors necessary for a multi-dimensional and powerful movement & to move the LGBTQA struggles forward by organizing through a racial, economic, and gender justice framework.

Gender JUST organizes around the call for a world where all races, classes, sexual orientations, and gender identities are free to express their gender and sexuality, without institutional barriers, economic or legal consequences, or fear of repercussion.

As the struggle for racial justice, economic justice, and gender justice are intricately connected, Gender JUST believes that you cannot fight against sexual and gender oppression without fighting against racism, poverty, and all oppression. Because of this, it is especially important for Gender JUST to fight against racism, classism, sexism, ageism, ableism, and sizeism within LGBTQA communities.

## **Genderqueer Chicago**

<http://genderqueerchicago.blogspot.com>

Genderqueer Chicago is a free and open community group whose mission is to: bring people together to talk and think about gender in new ways; increase visibility of gender variant people; and educate the larger Chicago community on issues of importance to people in the gender variant community.

Genderqueer Chicago holds weekly safe discussion meetings, create city-wide activities, and host a community blog. This blog, like all GqC events and activities, is open to anyone who wants to talk or think about gender or identity.

Genderqueer Chicago is not an activist group or political campaign. Genderqueer Chicago is an inclusive community, and anyone wishing to take part is considered family.

# Community Organizations

## **Gerber/Hart Library**

*<http://gerberhart.org>*

Gerber/Hart Library was founded in 1981 to be a depository for the records of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered (LGBT) individuals and organizations, and for other resources bearing upon their lives and experiences in American society. Gerber/Hart Library has since grown into being the Midwest's largest LGBT circulating library with over 14,000 volumes, 800 periodical titles, and 100 archival collections.

## **Horizon Hospice and Palliative Care**

*<http://horizonhospice.org>*

Horizon Hospice and Palliative Care was established in 1978 by volunteer Ada F. Addington, together with a clergyman, a physician and an attorney. Horizon is now a full-service, not-for-profit agency certified by Medicare and Medicaid and accredited by the Joint Commission. Horizon has 100 staff members and 100 volunteers, a strong board of directors and a group of expert advisors. A founding member of the Illinois State Hospice Organization, Horizon Hospice and Palliative Care is affiliated with 10 area hospitals and numerous nursing homes.

## **Howard Brown Health Center**

*<http://howardbrown.org>*

Founded in 1974, Howard Brown is now one of the nation's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) organizations. With an annual budget of over \$15 million, the agency serves more than 28,000 adults and youth each year in its diverse health and social service delivery system focused around seven major programmatic divisions: primary medical care, behavioral health, research, HIV/STD prevention, youth services, elder services, and community initiatives. Howard Brown is a multi-site operation based in Chicago and includes a main health and research center in the Uptown neighborhood, Triad Health practice at Illinois Masonic Hospital, the Broadway Youth Center, and three Brown Elephant resale shops in Chicago and Oak Park.

# Community Organizations

## **Illinois Gender Advocates**

*<http://genderadvocates.org>*

Illinois Gender Advocates (IGA) is the organization in Illinois performing public advocacy for transgender people. We petition for changes in the law and provide public education about transgenderism.

## **Illinois Safe Schools Alliance**

*<http://illinoissafeschools.org>*

The Illinois Safe Schools Alliance (the Alliance) mission is to promote safety, support and healthy development for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning (LGBTQ) youth, in Illinois schools and communities, through advocacy, education, youth organizing and research. The Illinois Safe Schools Alliance envisions a world in which youth develop to their fullest potential, learning in safe and nurturing schools, living in communities that accept and honor differences, where everyone has the freedom to express their sexual orientation and gender identity. The Alliance is the result of the joining of forces between Creating Safe Schools for Illinois (CSSI-formerly GLSEN Chicago) and the Coalition for Education on Sexual Orientation (CESO). The two organizations have joined together to lead the LGBTQ safe schools movement in Illinois and to focus on implementing a model of working with school districts on the issues of sexual orientation and gender identity. Our model includes policy advocacy with school district administrators, training for school personnel, and technical assistance with young people on existing or emerging gay/straight alliances.

## **Invisible to Invincible**

*<http://chicagoi2i.org>*

Invisible to Invincible (i2i): Asian & Pacific Islander Pride of Chicago is a community-based organization that celebrates and affirms Asian/Pacific Islanders who identify as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning or Queer in the Chicago area.

# Community Organizations

## **Lambda Legal**

*<http://www.lambdalegal.org/mro>*

Lambda Legal is the first national lesbian and gay organization with an office in the Midwest. The Midwest Regional Office (MRO) opened in Chicago in June 1993. Since then, Lambda Legal's MRO has made a special commitment to litigation and education throughout its ten state region.

## **Leather Archives and Museum**

*<http://leatherarchives.org>*

The Leather Archives & Museum is a library, museum and archives pertaining to Leather, fetishism, sadomasochism, and alternative sexual practices. The geographic collection scope is worldwide and includes all sexual orientations and genders. The library collection contains published books, magazines, scholarly publications, films and electronic resources related to the subject matter. The museum collection contains original erotic art and artifacts from alternative sex organizations and individuals. The archival collection contains unpublished papers and records from notable activists, artists, businesses and organizations related to the subject matter.

## **Lesbian Community Care Project**

*<http://lccp.org>*

The Lesbian Community Care Project is a program of Howard Brown Health Center, which promotes the health of lesbian, bisexual and queer women and transgender individuals through healthcare, advocacy, public education, research and programming.

## **New Town Alano Club**

*<http://newtownalanoclub.org>*

New Town Alano Club (NTAC) is a not-for-profit corporation that provides meeting space to over forty 12-Step recovery meetings. With four rooms used for meetings, social events, and educational sessions, NTAC provides a welcoming environment for the following recovery groups: AA, CA, CMA, NA, SCA, CODA, OA, DDA.

# Community Organizations

## **Northalsted Area Merchants Association**

<http://northalsted.com>

NAMA works diligently to maintain the North Halsted business community as a friendly, exciting and diverse shopping and entertainment area. Our annual street festival, Market Days, has become one of the city's most popular events. The Association also sponsors many other activities throughout the year including Halsted Tastes Better, Pride Fest, the Halloween parade and costume contest, and the Holiday Walk.

## **Out with Cancer**

<http://outwithcancer.com>

Out with Cancer is the worlds first program for Gay, Lesbian, Bi and Trans men and women who are diagnosed with cancer.

## **PFLAG Illinois**

<http://pflagchicago.com>

PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender persons, their families and friends through: support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights. Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity, and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

## **PrideCall, Inc.**

<http://www.pridecall.org/>

Pride Call, Inc. (Woodstock): Located in the Northern suburbs, this is a free crisis line for LGBTQ individuals. Calls are confidential and answered by professionals trained in LGBTQ issues and experiences and crisis intervention.

## **Soy Quien Soy Trans\* Empowerment Collective**

<http://sqs-tec.tumblr.com>

Soy Quien Soy is a grassroots collective of trans\* individuals from a variety of cultures, backgrounds, and experiences. They meet bi-monthly in the Pilsen neighborhood of Chicago. Allies are welcome.

# Community Organizations

## **Team Chicago**

*<http://www.teamchicago.org>*

Team Chicago provides individuals and organizations with the opportunity to participate in sporting and cultural events according to their personal interests and capabilities. Team Chicago's mission is to provide support to the LGBT community, furthering participation, inclusion, and pursuit of personal best.

## **Test Positive Aware Network (TPAN)**

*<http://tpan.com>*

TPAN empowers people living with HIV through peer-led programming, support services, information dissemination, and advocacy. We also provide services to the broader community to increase HIV knowledge and sensitivity, and to reduce the risk of infection.

## **TransActions**

*<http://transactionschicago.org>*

TransActions is a nonprofit organization providing community and direct services to prevent the spread of HIV, curtail poverty, combat unemployment and under-education and dispel stigma in the Chicagoland Transgender community.

## **Transformative Justice Law Project of Illinois**

*<http://tjlp.org>*

The Transformative Justice Law Project of Illinois (TJLP) is a collective of radical lawyers, social workers, activists, and community organizers who are deeply committed to prison abolition, transformative justice, and gender self-determination.

## **Rainbow Families Illinois**

*<http://www.rainbowfamilies-il.net>*

Rainbow Families of Illinois is a non-profit, community-based organization that includes lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents and their children and those considering parenthood. The mission of Rainbow Families is to build and maintain a strong and caring community, recognizing the broad diversity and varied interests among our families.



# Community Organizations

## **Windy City Athletic Association**

*<http://www.wcaasports.org>*

LGBT sports association in Chicago dedicated to building community through camaraderie and competition.

## **Windy City Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf**

*<http://wcrad.org>*

Windy City Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf (WCRAD) is a Chicagoland area non-profit organization, which provides a voice to its members and provides for opportunities to network, defend rights, and advance the interests of Deaf LGBT citizens. The WCRAD also promotes educational, economical and social welfare to and for its members.

## **Youth Pride Center**

*<http://youthpridecenter.blogspot.com>*

YPC is Chicago's newest youth center that serves those who are straight (allies), gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, queer or questioning. 79% are youth of color. It is located in Hyde Park and holds events for youth 6 days a week! YPC holds a monthly youth party called "Curiosity" for those 23 and UNDER the last Friday of every month at 8 pm.

# Queer Media & Arts

## **About Face Theatre**

*<http://aboutfacetheatre.com>*

Working within and beyond the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities, About Face Theatre is committed to innovation, artistic excellence and community transformation. Through their projects, AFT strive to challenge our artists' and audience's intellects, imaginations, self-conceptions, moral expectations, and ideas about gender and sexuality in contemporary and historical contexts.

## **Bare Boned Theatre**

*<http://www.barebonedtheatre.org>*

Bare Boned Theatre is dedicated to presenting work that transcends preconceived notions of type, highlighting the stories and utilizing the talents of those outside the arena of 'typical' society. Through non-traditional casting and dynamic staging, Bare Boned Theatre strives to revive the classics, re-interpret contemporary drama, and develop new works.

## **BOI Magazine**

*<http://www.boimagazine.com>*

Serving the community since 2000, BOI is a free full color glossy publication distributed bi-weekly in bulk to approximately 300 locations. The distribution area is in the greater Chicagoland area, with a heavy concentration in clubs, bars, restaurants, bookstores, gyms, music stores, cafés and many retail establishments. BOI Magazine is a showcase of features and reviews on music, fashion, dining, film and lifestyle topics. They offer a platform for writers, artists and advertisers to expand the community's consciousness in the ever-changing alternative lifestyle culture.

## **Chicago Gay Mens Chorus**

*<http://www.cgmc.org>*

CGMC delivers a unique entertainment experience found nowhere else in the city. We produce professional-quality shows that combine the best elements of musical theater, cabaret and traditional choral performance. But only CGMC can add that special "twist of gaiety" that can make each show fun, moving and memorable.

# Queer Media & Arts

## **Lakeside Pride Music Ensembles**

*<http://www.lakesidepride.org>*

Lakeside Pride is a musical organization committed to the education of the public at large about the positive aspects of the metropolitan Chicago lesbian and gay community through public musical performances, workshops and non-musical events. We provide a forum for adult musicians to meet and improve their skills by playing in various ensembles, providing great music to the community along the way.

## **Righteously Outrageous Twirling Corps (ROTC Chicago)**

*<http://www.rotcchicago.org>*

ROTC Chicago is an all male volunteer visual performance ensemble representing the GLBT community throughout the city, the US and the World. Their members are charged with learning unique rifle performance skills, while being positive gay role models and fulfilling other volunteer opportunities as united brothers.

## **Windy City Performing Arts**

*<http://www.windycitysings.org>*

Windy City Performing Arts (WCPA) was incorporated in 1983 as an independent not-for-profit umbrella organization for Windy City Gay Chorus, Aria: Windy City Women's Ensemble, Unison: Windy City Lesbian and Gay Singers, and Windy City Slickers (on hiatus). Windy City Performing Arts exists to create, nurture and maintain performing arts ensembles of the highest level of artistic quality for the purposes of fostering gay and lesbian pride, promoting understanding and compassion for GLBT people, and reaching out to touch the lives of GLBT and mainstream audiences through musical excellence.

## **Windy City Times**

*<http://www.windycitymediagroup.com>*

Windy City Times is the only Chicago gay media outlet with demographics audited by outside companies, Harris Interactive and Community Marketing, Inc. In addition, Windy City Times, the city's oldest gay newspaper, is among an elite group of the top gay newspapers nationally.

# State Law & Cook County Domestic Partner Registry

## **Illinois Human Rights Act**

The State of Illinois prohibits "discrimination against any individual because of his or her race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, age, martial status, physical or mental handicap, military status, sexual orientation, or unfavorable discharge from military service in connection with employment, real estate transactions, access to financial credit, and the availability of public accommodations."

Sexual orientation is defined as "actual or perceived heterosexuality, homosexuality, bisexuality, or gender-related identity, whether or not traditionally associated with the person's designated sex at birth."

## **Cook County Domestic Partner Registry**

[cookctyclerk.com/sub/domestic\\_partnership\\_registry.asp](http://cookctyclerk.com/sub/domestic_partnership_registry.asp)

Same-sex couples living in Chicago and suburban Cook County can officially document their partnerships at the Cook County Clerk offices.

Cook County's Domestic Partnership Registry establishes an official record of same-sex relationships and provides each couple with a domestic partnership certificate stating that they have registered with the county.

The registry does not create any new legal rights, it is intended to make it easier to obtain insurance and other benefits from companies that offer them to partners of gay and lesbian employees.

For more information on the domestic partner registry, visit the Cook County Clerk Domestic Partner Registry website.

# Illinois Civil Unions

Effective June, 2011, the Illinois Religious Freedom Protection and Civil Union Act allows same-sex and heterosexual couples to enter into civil unions granting them many rights given to married couples. These rights include automatic hospital visitation rights, the ability to make emergency medical decisions for partners, the ability to share a room in a nursing home, adoption and parental rights, pension benefits, inheritance rights, and the rights to dispose of a partner's remains.

## **Filing for a Civil Union in Cook County**

*[cookcountyclerk.com/vitalrecords/civilunionlicenses/](http://cookcountyclerk.com/vitalrecords/civilunionlicenses/)*

Eligibility: must be 18 years of age or older, cannot be blood relatives.

Applying: The couple must appear together at one of six different offices for the Cook County Clerk. Locations can be found here: *[cookcountyclerk.com/aboutus/hours\\_locations/](http://cookcountyclerk.com/aboutus/hours_locations/)*. The couple fills out and signs a civil union license application, presents valid identification with proof of age, and pays the license fee of \$60.

Timelines and restrictions: Civil union licenses are issued while you wait, are effective the following calendar day after they are issued, and are valid for 60 days. The license is only effective for ceremonies performed in Chicago and suburban Cook County. Licenses should be obtained in the county where the ceremony is to occur.

After the civil union ceremony: The officiant performing the ceremony completes the bottom portion of the license and mails or delivers it back to the Clerk's office.

To obtain a copy of the civil union certificate, you can order online, by phone or by mail. Please visit: *[cookcountyclerk.com/vitalrecords/civilunioncertificates](http://cookcountyclerk.com/vitalrecords/civilunioncertificates)*.

# Shifting Queer Vocabulary

Sexualities and genders are too complicated to impose a set “vocabulary” upon. Yet, the concepts that drive certain words and their usage in LGBT communities are important to know. All definitions are subject to change.

**Allies** - People who support and honor lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and questioning communities and people. Allies appreciate sexual diversity, including their own; act to challenge institutionalized heterosexism, gender straight privilege, homophobia, biphobia and transphobia; and are willing to explore and understand these forms of bias within themselves.

**Asexual** - A person who is not sexually attracted to anyone or does not have sexual orientation.

**Bicurious** - A curiosity about having sexual relations with a person of the same gender/sex.

**Bigendered** - A person whose gender identity is a combination of male/man and female/woman.

**Biological Sex** - This can be considered our “packaging” and is determined by our chromosomes (XX for females; XY for males); our hormones (estrogen/progesterone for females, testosterone for males); and our internal and external genitalia (vulva, clitoris, vagina for females, penis and testicles for males). About 1.7% of the population can be defined as intersexual—born with biological aspects of both sexes to varying degrees. So, in actuality, there are more than two sexes.

**Biphobia** - The fear of, discrimination against, or hatred of bisexuals, which is often times related to the current binary standard. Biphobia can be seen within the LGBT community, as well as in general society.

# Shifting Queer Vocabulary

**Bisexual** - A bisexual person expresses significant sexual attraction to both men and women, though not necessarily simultaneously as is the stereotype, and maintains that sexual desire is a fluid phenomenon. In the last twenty years, some people have viewed bisexuality as a challenge to normative heterosexuality and homosexuality.

**Bottom** - A person who is said to take a more submissive/passive role during sexual interactions.

**Butch** - A person who identifies as masculine, whether it be physically, mentally, or emotionally. Butch is sometimes used as a derogatory term for lesbians, but it can also be claimed as an affirmative lesbian identity.

**Cisgender** - A term used to describe those who are not-transgender - having a gender identity or performing in gender roles that society considers appropriate for one's sex.

**Cissexual** - A term used to describe those who are not trans-identified, and who have only ever experienced their mental and physical sexes as being aligned. While many view "cissexual" and "cisgendered" to be interchangeable, some feel that "cissexual" is a slightly less controversial term, because it contains fewer assumptions about the person's relationship to gender roles and the transgender community.

**Closet** - Audre Lorde often said, "Your silence will not protect you." Thus, this proverbial, yet figurative, hiding place for those who are not public about their sexual identity, has often been seen as a form of silence that puts oneself and others at risk. However, of late, silence about one's sexuality can be a strategic and constructive act. Not everyone needs to know a person's sexuality. And, in some cases, others' not knowing is preferable, e.g., like homophobic parents, bosses, teachers, students, or landlords.

# Shifting Queer Vocabulary

**Coming Out** - The act of leaving the “closet” is a ritual unique to the LGBTQ communities and involves being open about one’s sexual or gender identity, orientation, preference, or variance.

**Dyke** - Lesbian and gay communities have reappropriated “dyke” (in reference to lesbians) as a term of pride, defiance, and resistance to the norm of respectability. However, it may still be used in a derogatory manner.

**Faggot** - A derogatory term used to describe gay men.

**Fag Hag** - A term primarily used to describe women who prefer the social company of gay men. While this term is claimed in an affirmative manner by some, it is largely derogatory.

**Feminism** - The belief (held by a person regardless of sex) that men and women should be treated equally, and a belief and practice which will ultimately free women and men from male oppression. Feminism is founded on the fact that women were and are oppressed by a system that is based on patriarchy. Feminism is also the study of the structural oppression of women. There are many different types of feminism, some of which include radical feminism, black feminism, lesbian feminism, and Marxist feminism.

**FTM** - Female-to-male. Indicates a transgender individual who was originally assigned the sex of female at birth, but has claimed a masculine gender expression through clothing, surgery, or behavioral changes.

**Femme** - A lesbian/queer woman who expresses the cultural norm for feminine appearance. May or may not wear makeup, heels, dresses. Is very comfortable with her female body and identity as a woman. Embraces the Femme identity and may consider it separate from lesbian identity.



# Shifting Queer Vocabulary

**Gay** - A term used mostly in reference to men who have significant sexual attraction and/or romantic relationships with men; homosexual. At times gay is used to refer to all people, regardless of gender, who have primary sexual/romantic attractions to people of the same sex. Gay has also been applied to trans/gender-variant individuals, regardless of their sexual orientation.

**Gender** - A social construction used to differentiate between “men” and “women.” Gendering helps create roles and expressions that lead to confining assumptions about masculinity, femininity, and sexuality, and these assumptions are often treated as being natural.

**Gender Expression** - How a person behaves, appears or presents him- or herself with regard to societal expectations of gender.

**Gender Identity** - The gender role that a person claims for his or her self — which may or may not align with his or her physical sex.

**Gender Non-Conforming** - an umbrella term that has been applied to anyone who does not conform to traditional heterosexist principles of gender-sex, but particularly used to describe those who appear to fall under the category of “transgender”, but who may not self-identify as “transgender” (see: Gender-variant).

**Genderqueer** - A word people use to describe their own non-standard gender identity, or by those who do not conform to traditional gender norms.

**Gender-Variant** - “Gender-variant” encompasses those who, for various reasons, do not feel comfortable using “transgender” as a self-identifier. This often includes gender non-conforming people of color who view “transgender” as a white, privileged term that does not adequately represent the ways in which their non-normative gender expressions intersect with experiences of racism.

# Shifting Queer Vocabulary

**Heteronormativity** - The assumption, in individuals and institutions, that everyone is heterosexual, and that heterosexuality is superior to homosexuality and bisexuality.

**Heterosexism** - Practices and behaviors that assume that all people must follow a seemingly “natural” path that links biological sex, gender expression/identity, and sexual orientation together (i.e. you are a biological male, who must express masculinity and be attracted to females; or, you are a biological female, who must express femininity and be attracted to males). Members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, intersex, two-spirit, transgender/gender-variant, as well as heterosexual communities can be oppressed by heterosexist ideologies.

**Heterosexual** - A person who is emotionally, romantically, or sexually attracted or committed to members of the opposite sex.

**Heterosexual Privilege** - The societal assumption and norm that all people are heterosexual. The basic civil rights and social privileges that a heterosexual person automatically receives, that are systematically denied to gay, lesbian, or bisexual persons, simply because of their sexual orientation.

**Hir** - A non-gendered pronoun used by some transgender people. Hir (pronounced “here”) corresponds to his, her, and him, and is used as a dative and possessive pronoun (see “Ze”).

**Homophobia** - Initially, the fear and hatred of, or the discomfort around those who identify as gay, lesbian, homosexual, or queer. The term is extended to bisexual and transgender people as well. However, biphobia and transphobia are used as well to emphasize the specific character of hatred of bisexual and transgender communities.

**Homosexuality** - Defines attraction to the same sex, and is one orientation on the continuum from homosexual to bisexual to heterosexual. Many prefer the terms “gay”, “lesbian”, or “bisexual” to describe their identities.

# Shifting Queer Vocabulary

**Internalized Homophobia** – Self-identification of societal stereotypes by a GLBT person, causing them to dislike and resent their sexual orientation or gender identity.

**Intesexed Person** - A person whose combination of chromosomes, hormones, internal sex organs, and genitals differs from one of the two expected patterns, either male or female.

**Lesbian/Lesbianism** - Lesbians are women who have significant sexual attraction and/or romantic relationships with women. There are multiple definitions of this women loving women politics. Since 2nd Wave Feminism, it has been the work of Lesbians, primarily Lesbian feminists, to critique dominant institutional and ideological structures which are oppressive to all women.

**LGBT** - LGBT is an acronym for “Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender.” Sometimes the letter “Q” is added to this acronym to and can either indicate “Queer” or “Questioning.”

**Living Openly** – A state in which LGBT people are open with others about being LGBT how and when they choose to be.

**MTF** - male-to-female. Indicates a transgender individual who was originally assigned the sex of male at birth, but has claimed a feminine gender identity through clothing, surgery, or behavioral changes.

**Outing** – Exposing someone’s sexual orientation as being gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender to others, usually without their permission; in essence “outing” them from the closet.

**Pansexual** - A person who is attracted to all or many gender expressions.

**Passing** - Ability to be accepted as one’s preferred gender/sex or race/ethnic identity or to be seen as heterosexual.

# Shifting Queer Vocabulary

**Polysexuality** - Refers to people who are emotionally and/or sexually attracted to more than one gender. They do not choose the term bisexual because “bi” connotes only two genders. “Polysexuals” should not be confused with pansexuals because pan means all while poly means many and while there are some similar overlaps, a polysexual may be attracted to some gender variant people but not have the capability or desire to be with some others.

**Queer** - Originally derogatory, “queer” has been reclaimed since Stonewall by many and is used as an inclusive word for all members who claim sexual and gender difference from the culturally-dominant modes. Because of its original derogatory nature as well as the radical theory it has come to embody, all those who are part of LGBT communities do not accept it as a label.

**Questioning** - Refers to people who are uncertain as to their sexual orientation or gender identity. They are often seeking information and support during this stage of their identity development.

**Sexual Identity** - This is how we perceive and what we call ourselves. Such labels include “lesbian,” “gay,” “bisexual,” “bi,” “queer,” “questioning,” “heterosexual,” “straight,” and others. Sexual Identity evolves through a developmental process that varies depending on the individual. Our sexual behavior and how we define ourselves (identity) can be chosen. Debates regarding the nature of sexual identity – if it is a choice or solely biological – are still ongoing.

**Sexual Orientation** – An enduring emotional, romantic, sexual and relational attraction to another person; may be a same-sex orientation, opposite-sex orientation or a bisexual orientation.

**Top** - A person who is said to take a more dominant/active role during sexual interactions.

# Shifting Queer Vocabulary

**Transgender** - Transgender is an umbrella term for people whose gender identity, expression or behavior is different from those typically associated with their assigned sex at birth.

**Transphobia** - Irrational fear and hatred of people who are gender non-conforming. Inability to deal with gender ambiguity.

**Transsexual** - A person who identifies psychologically as a gender/sex other than the one to which the individual was assigned at birth, and who has undertaken physical alterations (such as hormones, surgeries) in order to bring their internal sense of gender and birth sex into alignment.

**Two-Spirit** - An umbrella term applied to Indigenous North Americans who fulfill one of many traditional mixed gender roles found among Native American and Canadian First Nation cultures. “Two-spirit” was officially adopted in 1990 by the third annual inter-tribal Native American/First Nations gay/lesbian American conference in Winnipeg. Two-spirited persons do not always fit neatly into Western gay, lesbian, bisexual, intersex, or transgender/gender-variant categories.

**Ze** - (Pronounced “zee” or “see”) corresponds to he and she, and is used as an accusative gender-neutral pronoun.

**Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual,  
Transgender, and Queer Student Life**

5710 South Woodlawn

Chicago, Illinois 60637

P: 773.702.5710

E: [lgbtq@uchicago.edu](mailto:lgbtq@uchicago.edu)

W: [lgbtq.uchicago.edu](http://lgbtq.uchicago.edu)