



DOW CENTER FOR
MULTICULTURAL AND
COMMUNITY STUDIES
AT K-STATE LIBRARIES

WELCOME TO THE KANSAS STATE LGBTQ+ LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

Sponsored by the Kansas State University LGBT Resource Center – Diversity & Multicultural Student Affairs

"When I dare to be powerful, to use my strength in the service of my vision, then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid." — Audre Lorde



KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY INDIGENOUS LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

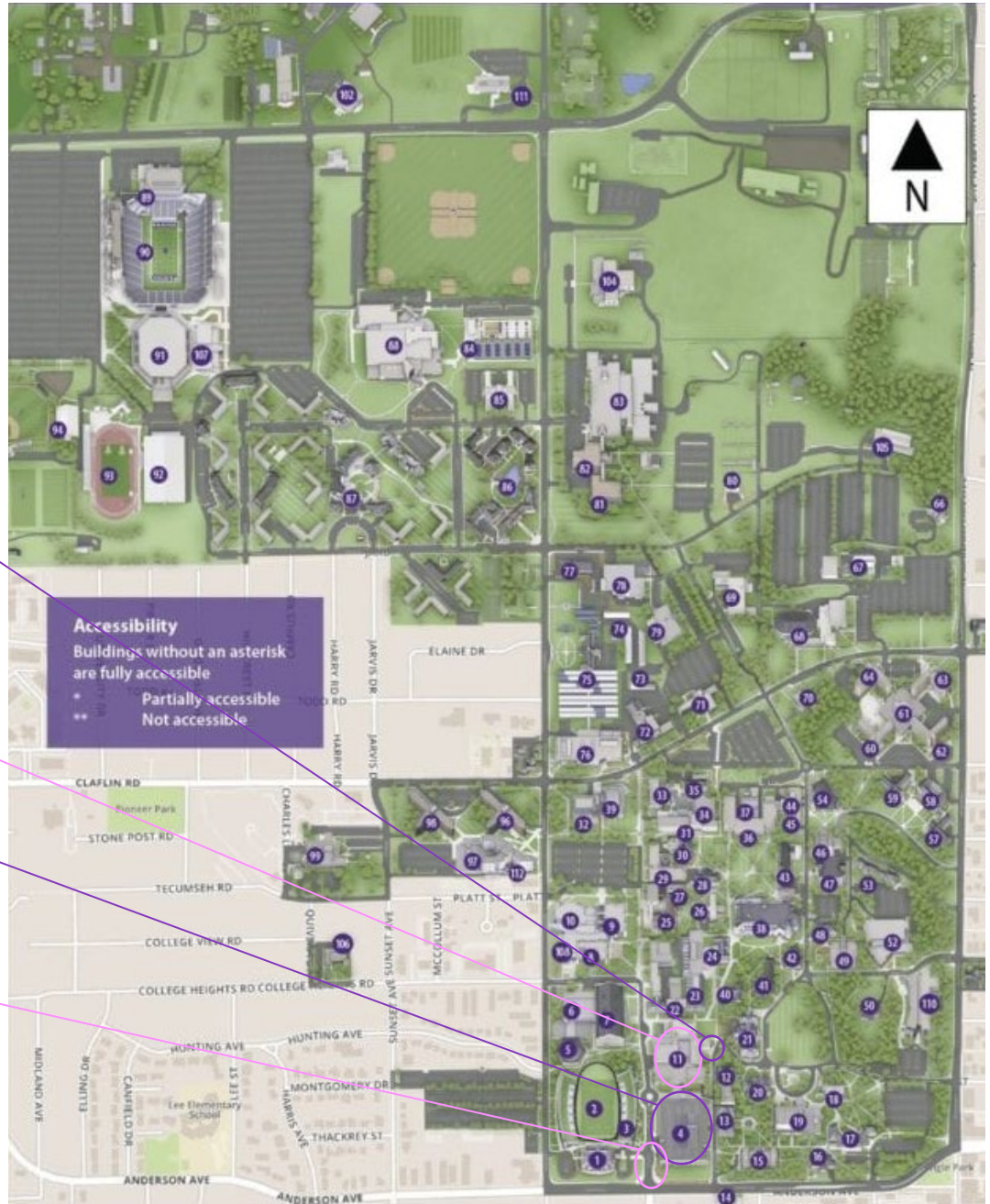
As the first land-grant institution established under the 1862 Morrill Act, we acknowledge that the state of Kansas is historically home to many Native nations, including the Kaw, Osage, and Pawnee, among others. Furthermore, Kansas is the current home to four federally recognized Native nations: The Prairie Band Potawatomie, the Kickapoo Tribe of Kansas, the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska, and Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri in Kansas and Nebraska. Many Native nations utilized the western plains of Kansas as their hunting grounds, and others--such as the Delaware--were moved through this region during Indian removal efforts to make way for White settlers. It's important to acknowledge this, since the land that serves as the foundation for this institution was, and still is, stolen land.

We remember these truths because K-State's status as a land-grant institution is a story that exists within ongoing settler-colonialism, and rests on the dispossession of Indigenous peoples and nations from their lands. These truths are often invisible to many. The recognition that K-State's history begins and continues through Indigenous contexts is essential.

Approved by the IFSA on January 15, 2020



BUILDINGS



Morris Family Multicultural Student Center

Kansas State Student Union

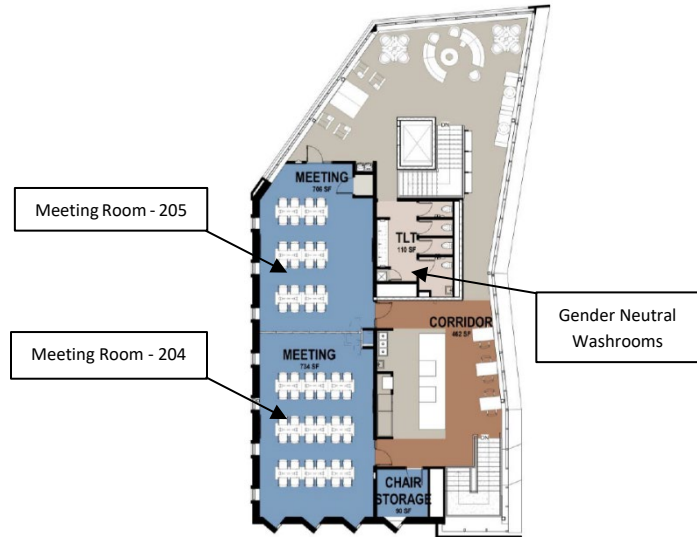
Parking Garage

Entrance from Anderson

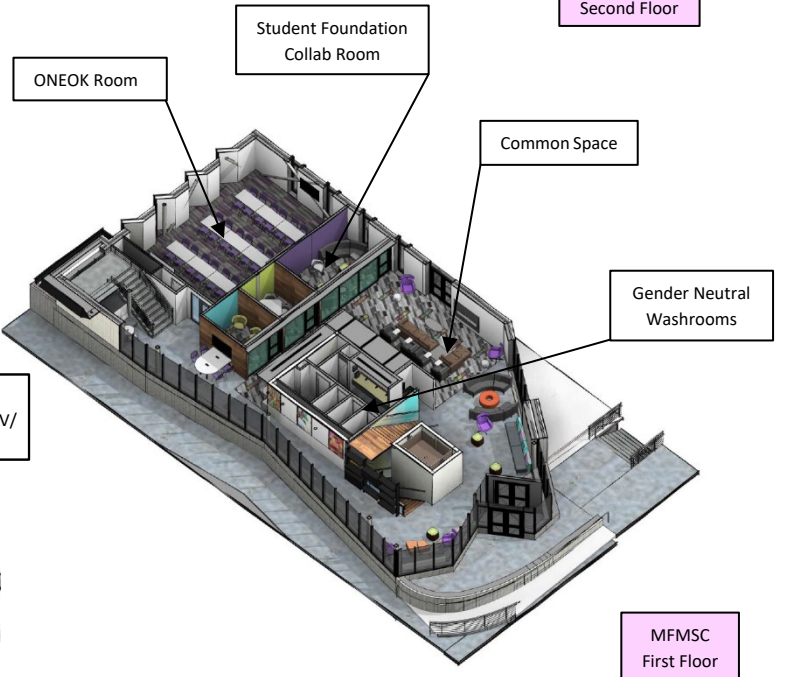
Accessibility
Buildings without an asterisk are fully accessible
* Partially accessible
** Not accessible

MORRIS FAMILY MULTICULTURAL STUDENT CENTER

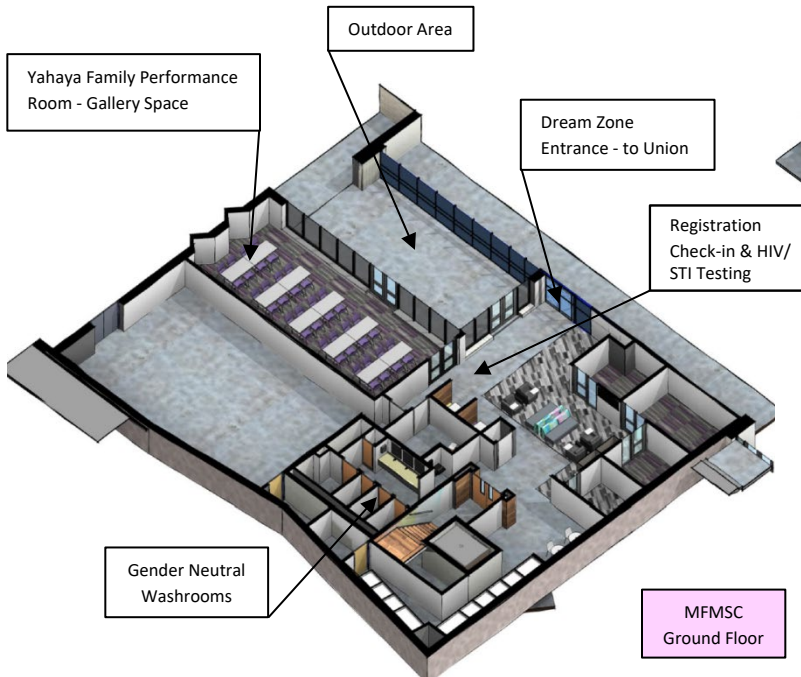
While exemplifying K-State's Principles of Community, the Morris Family Multicultural Student Center (MFMSC) allows for cultural groups to have a physical space to openly express themselves and bring campus together to celebrate culture and heritage. The MFMSC rejects racism, homophobia, xenophobia, and all other forms of discrimination. The MFMSC is designed to further prepare all K-State students to succeed in a diverse and changing world.



MFMSC Second Floor



MFMSC First Floor



MFMSC Ground Floor

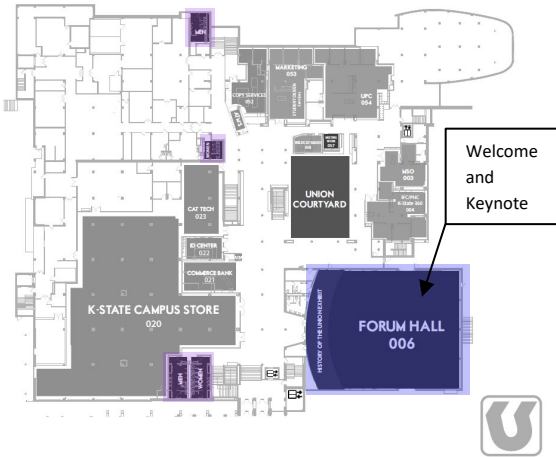
KANSAS STATE STUDENT UNION

Since opening its doors in 1956, the Union has been the host to the campus and the community. The Union plays an integral role in the educational mission of the university and fosters an environment that promotes respect for all peoples.

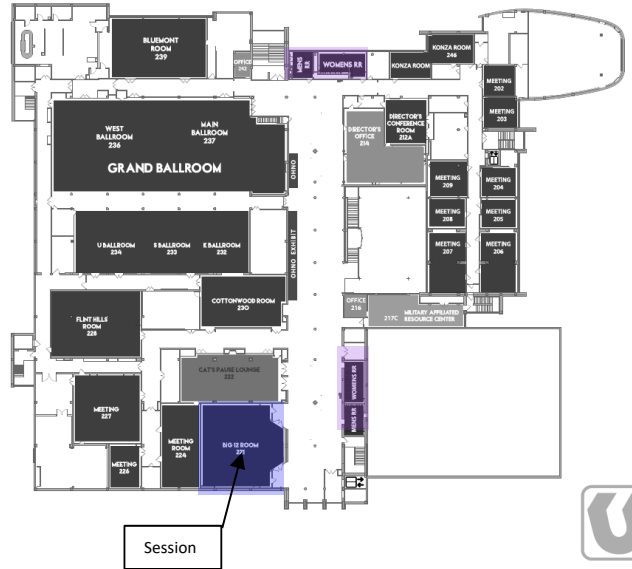
Our Mission: The K-State Student Union is a center for the campus community and plays an integral role in the educational mission of the university. It provides products, services, and programs to enhance the quality of life of its students, faculty, staff, alumni, and guests, with particular emphasis on students. It fosters an environment that promotes respect for all people and values diversity, leadership development and the free exchange of ideas.

- Accepted and adopted by Union Governing Board Dec. 12, 1992

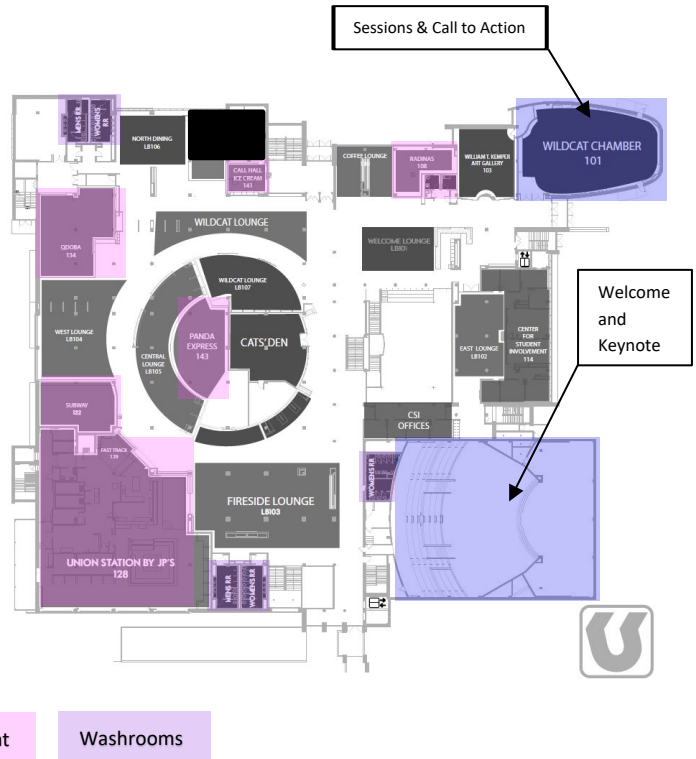
GROUND FLOOR



SECOND FLOOR



FIRST FLOOR





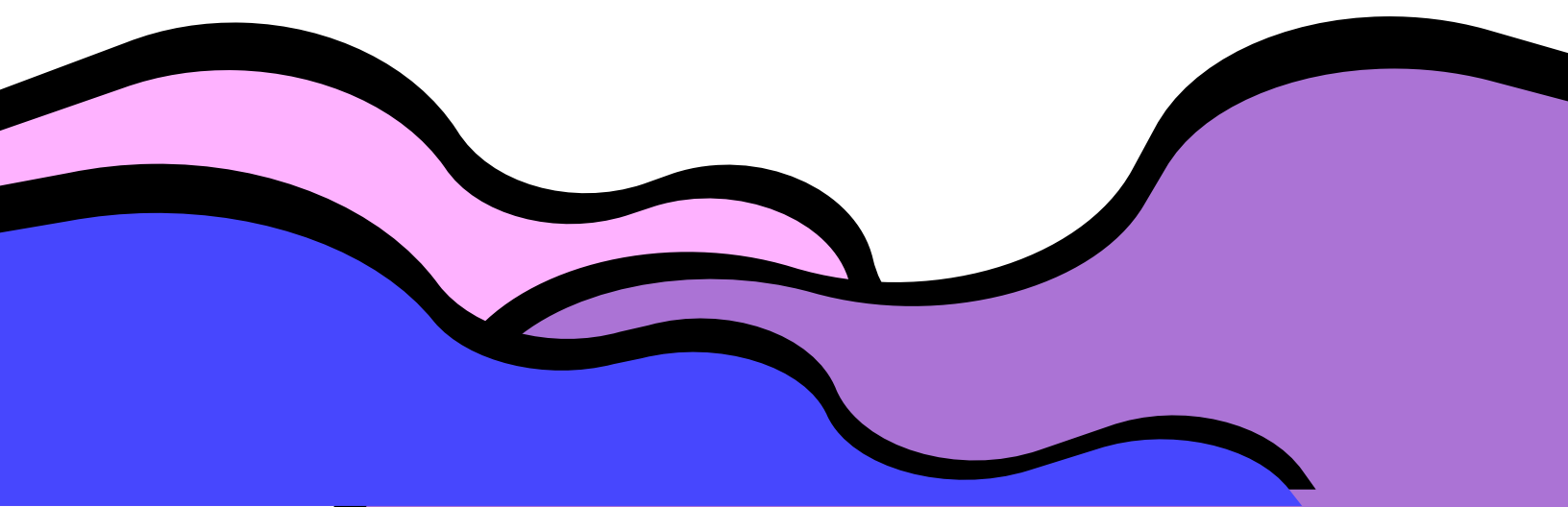
THEME – RISE UP, ACT UP

At the time we are writing this, 450 anti-trans bills have been proposed across the U.S., 300 of which target queer youth. We find ourselves the targets of social and cultural debate, regulation, persecution, as well as radical liberation efforts. Because of the social and political climate we currently live in, this year's conference theme draws inspiration from the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center's special Exhibition "Rise Up: Stonewall and the LGBTQ Rights Movement" and the radical organizing efforts of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, or ACT UP.

"Rise Up" as an exhibition charts the June 1969 uprising at the Stonewall Inn where queer patrons rallied to oppose police and state violence in multiple forms. Stonewall was a significant flash point for queer history and activism as the LGBTQ community literally rose-up against police Vice Squads that would storm the Stonewall Inn, a gay bar, harass drag queens, and arrest patrons for wearing clothing assumed to be for a gender other than what they were assigned at birth. Collectively, queer folks refused to be subjected to such treatment anymore and together demanded justice for themselves and their incarcerated sisters, imprisoned 500 feet away in the "Women's House of Detention." This prison was made up of over 75% queer folks, largely people of color and by the 1960's the prison had started marking queer prisoners with a "D" for degenerate and placing them in solitary confinement—which is functionally torture. However, seeing the Stonewall Riots from their prison cell windows, those incarcerated who could, started a riot of their own, setting fire to whatever they could and throwing it down to the streets below, joining in chants of "Gay rights! Gay rights! Gay rights!" while those on the street chanted in solidarity for the rights of their imprisoned siblings.¹ "Rise-Up" in our conference theme marks this often unacknowledged part of queer history as well as what is possible when we work together as a community against state violence... wherever we find ourselves.

"Act-up" in our conference title cites the organizing efforts of the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power. ACT UP as a group was formed in the late 1980's to pressure institutions, government agencies, pharmaceutical companies, and political leaders to take AIDS seriously. ACT UP formed because tens of thousands of people—mostly gay men—had died of AIDS in the U.S., and more were dying every day, while government leaders were either indifferent or lauded queer deaths as deserved. ACT UP activists engaged in dramatic attention getting protests, kiss-ins, die-ins, dumped ashes of dead loved ones on the White House lawn, as well as formed their own treatment and advocacy teams responsible for changing the way medical trials were run that put pressure on the FDA to expand access which eventually led to the development of more effective treatment. ACT UP is a model for what it looks like when we save our own lives.

Pairing the lessons from Stonewall and the powerful organizing efforts of ACT UP, this year's conference seeks to understand more fully what LGBTQ leadership entails in our present political moment. What does it mean to rise up and act up when we understand that our sexual and gender identities are impacted by larger systems of race, ethnicity, nation, colonialism, gender binaries, spirituality, and class? How do we understand and hold ourselves and each other accountable to larger questions of justice? And what does this all look like physically and emotionally as lived landscapes in Kansas?





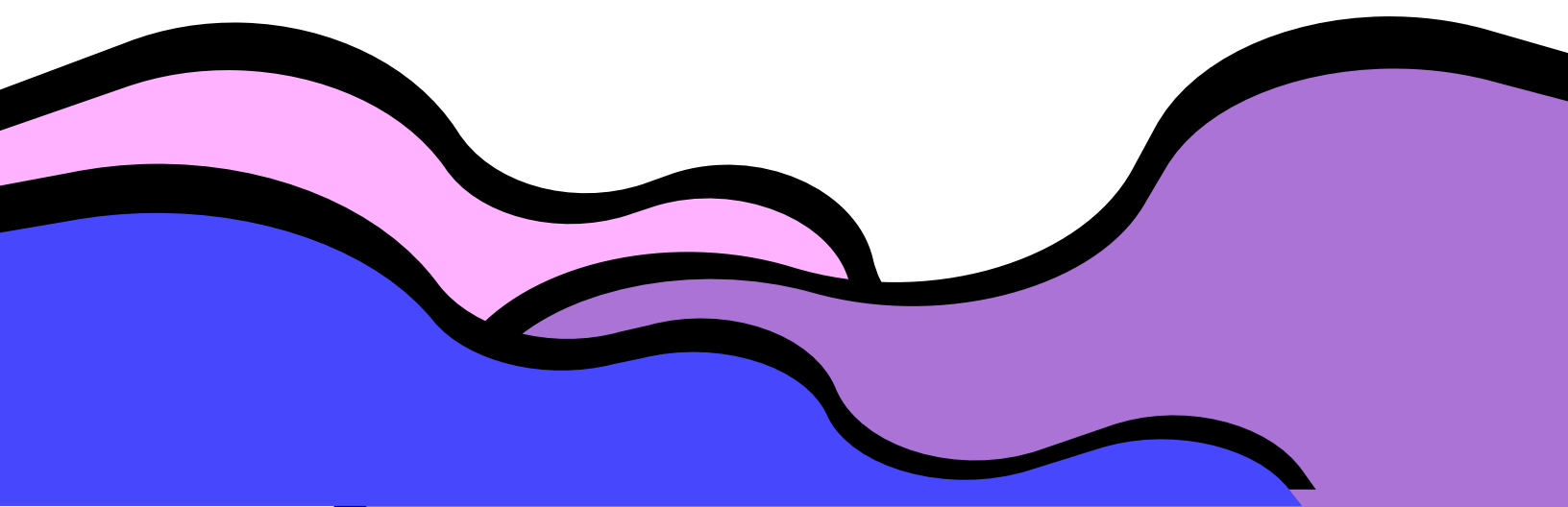
ART SHOW INFORMATION

Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer (LGBTQ+) students, community members, and professionals were encouraged to submit artworks for the “Centering Queer Voices” exhibition. The art submitted is from artists of all skill levels and conveys authentic and diverse viewpoints from the LGBTQ+ experience. Artists were encouraged to express what being an LGBTQ+ person means to them.

The artwork shown in this gallery was selected by a panel of jurors appointed by the LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference Steering Committee.

In the spirit of inclusion, the art show is open to individuals of all ages, sexualities, and genders. It is also important that adults and guardians understand the content of the final exhibit may include work that could be perceived as mature in nature. We will strive to find the right balance between freedom of expression and age-appropriate inclusivity.

The art show will be located in the Yahaya Family Performance Room on the ground floor of the Morris Family Multicultural Student Center. See map on page 4. It will be open from 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM on April 21.



Kansas State LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference

April 21, 2023

Sessions and Presenters

8:30 - 10:50 am

Registration Check-in

Morris Family Multicultural Student Center

Ground Floor - DREAM Zone

Registered attendees can check in and receive their conference bag with conference information and multiple take-aways.

Continental style snacks and drinks provided by K-State JPs - Union Station.

9:15 - 9:50 am

Welcome

Forum Hall - K-State Student Union Ground Floor

Dr. Brandon Haddock (Spicy/They)

Coordinator - LGBT Resource Center

Dr. Haddock is currently the Coordinator of the Kansas State University LGBT Resource Center and Student Services Coordinator in Diversity and Multicultural Student Affairs. With over 25 years of leadership, education, and advocacy work within the LGBTQ+ community, Dr. Haddock brings a historical perspective of lived experience and academic knowledge to their message of recognizing and embracing the leadership capabilities in each of us.

Kansas State LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference

Sessions and Presenters

10:00 - 10:50 am
Block 1 : Session 1

ONEOK Room
Morris Family Multicultural Student Center

My First Year as a GSA Faculty Advisor:
The Stuff They Don't Tell You!

Mary Elizabeth Turner

Fort Hayes State University LGBTQ+ Library Liaison

Mary Elizabeth Turner: Mary Elizabeth Turner is a Librarian and Assistant Professor at Fort Hays State University. She is the dedicated LGBTQ+ library liaison, the LGBTQ+ representation on the library's DEI committee, and the faculty advisor to the FHSU Gender/Sexuality Alliance. Her current research focuses on making libraries accessible and welcoming to LGBTQ+ users.

Becoming a Faculty Advisor for a student group can be both a rewarding and daunting prospect. When you are being recruited to serve in the role, everything is all sunshine and rainbows, but practical experience demonstrates that the role entails much more than what meets the eye. This presentation will cover a single faculty member's experience of becoming the sole Faculty Advisor for an already established Gender/Sexuality Alliance student organization at a four-year institution. The focus will be on lessons learned after spending a full academic year in the saddle. While the role of a faculty advisor is defined in the Student Organization Handbook, the role tends to entail much more than the administrative description lets on. This presentation will cover topics including what to expect when you're handed the keys to a student organization, how to navigate resources at the university level, tips and tricks for working across departmental lines, and advice for setting boundaries and expectations.

Kansas State LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference

Sessions and Presenters

10:00 - 10:50 am
Block 1 : Session 2

Room 204
Morris Family Multicultural Student Center

Finding Your Professional Fit

Dr. Amy Betz and Dr. Craig Wanklyn

Kansas State University
College of Engineering

Many professional occupations, in particularly engineering, have a history of being exclusionary. However, diversity continues to grow in importance as we need human capital and new ideas to solve the immense problems of the 21st century. This includes but is not limited to climate change, infectious diseases, safe and affordable housing, and access to clean water. Many students think that there is a specific personality or identity that is better suited for certain careers or professions. This is simply not true. Being authentic is extremely important to change this perception. In this session, two engineers will discuss how to leverage your unique perspective and identity in your chosen profession. This session will also cover how to determine the culture of workplace or professional organization, barriers and challenges LGBTQ+ students encounter, and tools to navigate or dismantle these barriers. Finding your professional fit is about setting students up for success, allowing them to make a greater impact on the world.

Kansas State LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference

Sessions and Presenters

10:00 - 10:50 am
Block 1 : Session 3

Big 12 Room
Kansas State University Student Union - 2nd Floor

K-State Playback Theatre Troupe

Kansas State Drama Therapy

What is Playback Theatre?

Playback Theater was started by Jonathan Fox and Jo Salas as an improvisational community storytelling experience. Playback relies on the audience to tell personal stories that the actors act out in real time, transforming singular experiences into community myths.

This form of applied theater asks us to gather around the “fire” and tell our stories for the good of all. Every story matters even those we’re not ready to tell yet. Join us as we turn scarfs into rivers, chairs into mountains, and marvel at the incredible power of the human story.

Typically a Playback Show goes like this: A Conductor asks the audience a question. “How’s your day so far?” The Audience responds with a story about their day. The actors act out that story. And so on and on it goes. It sounds simple and maybe a little hokey, but the premise works. Our brains are wired for story— Playback helps us connect our stories to each other.

Kansas State LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference

Sessions and Presenters

11:00 - 11:50 am

KEYNOTE

Forum Hall - K-State Student Union

Representative
Stephanie Byers

Stephanie Byers is the recipient of the GLSEN National Educator of the Year ('18), and recently retired after 29 years of teaching for Wichita Public Schools. For 28 years, she was the award-winning director of Bands and Orchestras and Fine Arts Department Chair at Wichita North High School. Stephanie is an Oklahoman by birth and a member of the Chickasaw Nation of Oklahoma. She and her wife, Lori, own and operate a company that assists corporations, community groups and schools with understanding of how to work with gender diverse communities.

Since coming out publicly as a transgender woman, she has advocated about issues impacting the LGBTQ community. She has spoken at rallies on the steps of the Kansas State Capitol, outside the US Supreme Court, and given presentations to several local community organizations, as well as public school faculties and student bodies. Stephanie served as the Communications Director for Wichita Pride, the organization that hosts Wichita's LGBTQ pride events, and has volunteered for a number of other local Wichita non-profits.

In 2020 Stephanie became "Representative Stephanie Byers, Kansas House of Representatives". She represented Kansas House District 86, an urban district located in Wichita, Kansas and was sworn into office on January 11, 2021. Her election made history as not only is she the first openly transgender person to serve in the Kansas Legislature, she is also the first Native American trans person elected to any state legislature in the United States. Her campaign and subsequent election to office were considered so significantly historic that her website from the campaign has been archived by the United States Library of Congress.

Stephanie has a Master of Music from Kansas State University (2015).

Kansas State LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference

Sessions and Presenters

1:00 - 1:50 pm
Block 2 : Session 4

Room 205
Morris Family Multicultural Student Center

Intersex Human Rights and the Importance of LGBT Allyship

Sam Sharpe
Kansas State University
Division of Biology

Bio: Sam Sharpe is PhD candidate and teaching instructor at Kansas State University with a focus in plant evolutionary ecology, science communication, and inclusive pedagogy. Through their work with LGBTQ student organizations, InterConnect, and FEDUP Collective, Sam is committed to using their lived experience and positionality as a biologist to advocate for queer, trans, and intersex communities.

Academic and activist considerations of queer and transgender identity and rights exist in tension with conceptualizations of sex, but often neglect the lived experience of intersex individuals. This presentation will discuss biological, legal, medical, and social factors which shape intersex lives, as well as some of the historical trajectories which have led to the current paradigm of intersex oppression and erasure. We will consider the many shared needs of queer, trans, and intersex individuals, contributions to existing tensions, and implications for LGBT allyship to intersex communities. Ultimately, the oppressive enforcement of a binary sex and gender paradigm alongside mandatory heterosexuality harms queer, trans, and intersex communities and underlines the importance of collaborative liberatory work.

Kansas State LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference

Sessions and Presenters

1:00 - 1:50 pm
Block 2 : Session 5

Room 204
Morris Family Multicultural
Student Center

How to Have Sex in
an Epidemic: A
Second Approach

Hunter Scott

Department of Social Transformation Studies

In the early years of the HIV/AIDS crisis, when a homophobic state proposed gay men limit their sexuality to monogamy or celibacy, the landmark safer sex manual "How to Have Sex in an Epidemic: One Approach" (1983), written by and for (white) gay men, offered an interpersonal approach to queer sexual health across twelve sex acts, six sex settings, and seven other sex contexts to inspire an erotics of community care. Building on queer theorists like Foucault (1984) and Muñoz (2009) who identify creativity as integral to liberation, I read creatively the list form(s) of the pamphlet to highlight its queer potentiality. I argue that the enumerative rhetoric of the manual's lists functions as a queer medium that proliferates the communal pleasures of physical intimacy necessary for survival and gay liberation; however, simultaneously, I suggest the elision of race from the pamphlet's concerns emphasizes the queer temporality of its form.

Kansas State LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference

Sessions and Presenters

1:00 - 1:50 pm
Block 2 : Session 6

ONEOK Room
Morris Family Multicultural Center

Picket Fences and Molotov

Cocktails: When Respectability

Politics and Virtue Signaling

Silence Us

Dr. Brandon Haddock

Coordinator - LGBT Resource Center

Allyship, in its many forms, provides a connotation of progress and accessibility. But where does activism digress into assimilation? This discussion will focus on how concepts of acceptance and passive advocacy work against the progression of basic rights for our LGBTQ+ community and how we can energize allies into accomplices to fight against a modern concerted effort to erase identity in our community.

Kansas State LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference

Sessions and Presenters

2:00 - 2:50 pm
Block 3 : Session 7

Room 205
Morris Family Multicultural Center

Queering History

Adam Carr

Kansas State University

Program/Project Administrator

Diversity and Multicultural Student Affairs

This session will broadly focus on the vast history of LGBTQ+ peoples culminating in the modern LGBTQ+ rights movement in the United States. Participants will develop a stronger understanding of LGBTQ+ peoples in relation to global history. They will also learn the historical significance of Pride Month, understand the context of major events such as the Stonewall Riots, and review landmark court cases that have advanced the equity and resilience of the queer community today. Attendees will be encouraged to be active participants in the presentation to share on their own knowledge of the materials. A major deficit is the knowledge of our history and those who came before us, so we will utilize this time together to promote community building through a great shared understanding of our community.

Kansas State LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference

Sessions and Presenters

2:00 - 2:50 pm
Block 3 : Session 8

Room 204
Morris Family Multicultural Center

Using Our Voices to Inform Their
Votes: LGBTQ+ Advocacy in Kansas

Mari Blankenbaker, Kiernan McCarthy, &
Jaelynn

Bio: As a queer person and a graphic design major, my passion for LGBTQ+ issues has led me to take a leading role in activism in my community through my college's Gender and Sexuality Alliance as Social Media Coordinator.

This discussion and presentation aims to empower students as to what they can do regarding the recent influx of anti-LGBTQ+ legislation sweeping across the nation. This will be accomplished by informing attendees of recent events the GSA has been involved in including the aforementioned Write for Our Rights event, attending legislative panels presented by local politicians, and amplifying trans voices through a recent Trans Discussion Forum. The GSA proposes to share their experiences with their peers regarding the outcomes of these events: what was done right, how attendees can learn through firsthand experience in activism, and where to go from here. The panel will conclude with a call to action for attendees to register to vote and to stay informed and involved with resources provided regarding political literacy.

Kansas State LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference

Sessions and Presenters

3:00 - 4:00 pm

Closing Reflection
Wildcat Chamber - K-State Student Union

Call to Action:

We must do better. We must rise and we must act up. Do not rely on passive rage.

Silence is Complicity:

We must demand that every child and young person feels safe in education and can achieve their potential.

We must demand that LGBTQ+ individuals feel safe in their own homes and in their communities.

We must include and increase our understanding of the issues faced by people who identify as Transgender, non-binary and people who are intersex.

And above all we must fight.

Dr. Brandon Haddock

Director - LGBT Resource Center
Kansas State University

Kansas State LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference

From Our
Sponsors



Commerce Bank

We know Commerce Bank is only at its best when our people are. For over 155 years, we've built our organization and culture on a foundation of shared values—taking a long-term view, collaborating as one team, acting with integrity, being customer focused, and striving for excellence.

What does that mean? That we value our people. We're firmly committed to engaging in the conversations necessary to make our team members feel safe, valued and respected, and truly listening so we can better understand how to serve our communities.

We say that Commerce is here to help you focus on what matters most. But at the end of the day, what matters most isn't so different for most people. It's feeling like you matter. It's feeling safe in the space you're in. We want to listen to what you're telling us matters most, so we can continue to take action and make Commerce a better place for everyone who comes through our doors.

"Commerce believes that our people are our most valuable resource and our greatest competitive advantage. Our commitment to fostering an inclusive culture where team members are valued for their diverse talents and perspectives is vital to the engagement, innovation and productivity that position us to anticipate and proactively adapt to our customers' changing needs. By honoring this commitment in how we work together and how we do business, we enable team members to reach their full potential, and in doing so maximize shareholder value."

-Sara Foster, Executive Vice President for
Talent and Corporate Administration



Kansas State LGBTQ+ Leadership Conference

From Our Sponsors

DOW CENTER FOR
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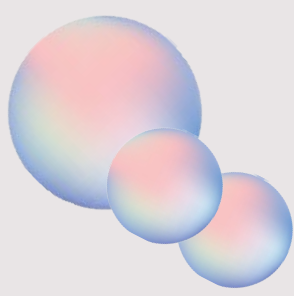
AT K-STATE LIBRARIES

DOW Center

Established in 1972, the Minorities Resource/Research Center was one of the first centers of its kind in an academic library. Although the name has changed over the years, it has always been dedicated to resources and instruction related to the intersections of culture, race and ethnicity.

In 2001, representatives from Dow Chemical, K-State and the community dedicated the Dow Chemical Multicultural Resource Center, with support from a generous endowment from Dow Chemical. In 2012, the center was renamed the Dow Center for Multicultural and Community Studies.

Our Mission is Mission to provide a space for students, faculty, staff and the community to explore human diversity, the changing landscape of American demographics and the impact of globalization. The Dow Center for Multicultural and Community Studies hopes to be a relevant and useful service to advance a deep and meaningful understanding of multiculturalism and diversity in order to create mutual awareness, respect and open a pathway for dialogue.





Please join us for

Lavender Graduation

*All graduates and guests
must register by April 24th*

SUNDAY, APRIL 30, 2023
2 - 4 O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON
K-STATE ALUMNI CENTER

*Help us honor our Fall 2022
and Spring 2023 Graduates*

Register
Here

