

INSIDE/OUT YOUTH SERVICES

SAFETY, RESPECT, UNDERSTANDING, EQUALITY

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Youth Services

CHECK US OUT AT
INSIDEOUTYS.ORG

Queer Prom 2012 - Masquerade

Thank You to all Involved!



Thank you to all the individuals involved with Queer Prom 2012 Masquerade!

This year we had 150 youth attend from various parts of Colorado, and some for the first time ever!

The Queer Prom Committee Mariefe as Project Manager, Ember, Holy, Jen and Jordan!

Noah designed a fabulous poster this year.

Griffin helped carry the backdrop through downtown!

Brandy and Jeremie for their help decorating.

Chad rocked the house through at the night as DJ!

Kellee and Britt for taking photos and donating time and services.

To all the volunteers for their help! Thank you Janet Todd for helping decorate!

Cody, Jami, Joe, Jon, Niki, Scott, Stephanie, Terese, and Tracey for chaperoning the youth and helping clean up.

Lauren thank you for helping me sell tickets.

Kimberly thank you for counting up King and Queen nominations.

Pam for dismantling the backdrop!

The Mission of Inside/Out Youth Services

To educate, empower and advocate for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and questioning (LGBTIQ) youth.

Inside, we provide safety and acceptance for youth. **Out** in the community, we promote understanding, respect and equality.

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Day of Silence

April 20th, 3:00pm-5:00pm - City Hall 107 N. Nevada Avenue



PEAQ is working with Inside/Out to coordinate this year's Day of Silence: Breaking the Silence event. On Wednesday, April 11th from 5:30-7pm here at

Inside/Out we will be decorating shirts with the help of Concrete Couch, the same group that helped out with this year's Queer Prom background, so each of us will be visually unified. The idea is to also arrange everyone by colors of the rainbow so bring a solid color shirt of one of the six rainbow colors to decorate, and an extra if you can for someone else.

On Friday, April 20th stop by between 10am-3pm to help create signs and posters for Day of Silence. At 3pm we will all congregate in front of

City Hall and take a vow of silence. We will have a guest speaker during our Breaking the Silence event which will end at 5pm.

At 5pm Inside/Out will have an open house party. Adults and friends of all ages are welcomed to Inside/Out until 7:30pm.

If you have an activity planned for Day of Silence at your school and need help making copies or obtaining materials please let us know.

For any questions contact Eric Pizana at eric@insideoutys.org

Special points of interest:

- **Monday we are now open for drop in hours 3:30-7pm!**
- **PEAQ Proud Empowered Advocates for Queers meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday.**
- **Have a story you would like to have in next month's newsletter? Give it to me!**
- **Passages our 18-26 year old group meets every 3rd Thursday.**

Inside/Out Scholarship

Accepting Applications between April 15th - May 31st

Inside/Out Youth Services will offer one scholarship period in the spring of 2012.

The open application period will be April 15 through May 31 with scholarship announced in July.

Applications will only be accepted during the open application window, and fully applications must be emailed to Scholarship@insideoutys.org for review by the committee.

The Inside/Out Youth Services Scholarship Committee will distribute a total of \$4,000 in scholarship money as follows:

One \$2,000 scholarship

Two \$1000 dollar scholarships.

Scholarship money will be sent directly to the post-secondary school. Inside/Out Youth Services is not required to award all three scholarships. Scholarships will only be awarded to qualified applicants approved by the Scholarship Committee.

If you have any questions about these scholarships please contact Scholarship@insideoutys.org

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GSA Leadership Summit

By AJ Bridgewater



Brittany Harden teaching A Dash of Gray: Discovering Genderqueer

"I was scared because I was going to be giving my coming out story..."

The first weekend in March LGBTIQ youth were invited from across Colorado to attend the GSA Leadership Summit presented by the Colorado GSA Network of One Colorado. Holy joined the Steering Committee which helped organize and recruit knowledgeable experts to put on workshops. Other youth such as Brittany and Jordan stepped up by putting together workshops titled on Coming Out: Tips Tricks and Stories and A Dash of Gray: Discovering Genderqueer

AJ Bridgewater attended the summit and helped Jordan in his workshop. The following is of his experience.

This weekend was the state wide Gay Straight Alliance Summit, in Denver Colorado. I was amazed to see so many down to earth, dedicated individuals there. I was also overwhelmed with the love in which I felt as soon as we walked in to watch the "It Gets

Better" series. At first I wasn't sure what to expect, because I have never been to a summit before, and I wasn't sure how it was going to go down. I have so many things that really stood out for me. One of the things that stood out to me was when I was in the "Coming Out" workshop. I was scared because I was going to be giving my coming out story, and I wasn't sure if I was going to be able to get through it. I wanted to tell it because I felt that it was important to give something back to the community, and this was my way of doing it. After telling my story and hearing others, I soon realized that things got better. Also that people come from many different walks of life. In that room, in that moment I felt as if they were all my family because we all went through something that was difficult. This reminded me that I must do whatever I can to help others out. As they asked me

more in detail questions, I suddenly felt eager to tell them. After we got done with the workshop we all exchanged numbers and Facebook pages. I guess this was a typical thing to do. A week later to my surprise I received a phone call from an individual, and he simply called just to check up on me. This was amazing because even though we don't know each other he felt that he needed to call me.

What I learned from the Gay Straight Alliance is that's even though we were there for one weekend, no one saw each other as gay, straight, lesbian, but we saw each other as people. I wish the world was more like that weekend. We should love each other because we are human, and it's the right thing to do. Not by whom we are dating, or where we come from.

Neon Novice

By James Shupp

Writers Guild meets every 1st and 3rd Wednesday 5:30-7pm



here we go to make a promise in the presence of neon novice glowing light fills the night as neon novice takes its flight breathing through the shuttered air neon novice takes its

fare wrap us in your golden glow let us let our thought freely flow blinking, shrinking fade away as the gold holds its sway words of blue ever true

shining through the night like we never knew propaganda holds it flare as neon novice begins to tear as the night takes shuddery breaths

Safe Sex and Healthy Relationships

Mondays 5:30-7pm (show up for a chance to win a \$20 gift

Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountains is presenting a series of four Safe Sex and Healthy Relationship workshops at Inside/Out, 235 S. Nevada Ave.

Show up for a chance to win a \$20 gift card of your choice!

Questions contact Eric at eric@insideoutys.org or call (719) 328-1056.

Topics Schedule:

March 26th—Anatomy and Reproduction

April 2nd—Refusal Skills: What is consent & responding to peer pressure.

April 9th – HIV and Sexually Transmitted Diseases

April 16th – Healthy Relationships: Elements of healthy and unhealthy relationships behaviors.



Pikes Peak Safe @ School Coalition

Every 2nd Tuesday 5:30-6:30pm at Inside/Out

On March 13th members from the Pikes Peak Safe @ School Coalition met with the District 11 School Board to stand up to support safer climates in school for LGBT students by clearly having gender identity and expression enumerated in anti-bullying and discrimination policies.

Comments made by mem-

bers were "You can set the example." -Amber Cote "Colorado is one of the forefront states with anti-bullying law and enumeration; we'd like D11 to be a champion too." -Lauren Cikara- "This cannot wait any longer. Gender identity is fundamentally different from sexual orientation, and you need to set the tone so schools are a safe

place to learn for transgender students." - Scott DeWalt

Be part of the effort to create a safe school climate for the Pikes Peak Region! Join us every 2nd Tuesday from 5:30-6:30pm.

"You can set the example."

Not-On-Tobacco

Starting April 26th Thursdays from 5-6pm

Did you know ritual of passing the hose from person to person in social hookah settings such as bars or lounges puts people at a higher risk for infectious illnesses and even diseases like oral herpes?

Did you know smokers say they are not ready to quit because it keeps them re-

laxed or from getting angry, but that is only because nicotine replaces chemicals and prevents your brain from functioning normally?

Did you know tobacco companies spend countless dollars on advertising to get young LGBT youth hooked? Did you know that they all use your money to invest in political candi-

dates who do not support equality?

Tobacco kills more members of the gay and lesbian communities than HIV, illegal drugs, vehicle accidents, suicides, and murders combined.

Regain control. Quit today!

