

GENDER & SEXUALITY CENTER
1 North College Street
Northfield MN 55057
<http://apps.carleton.edu/campus/gsc/>

UPCOMING EVENTS

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Kristen Askeland, OIL Secretary
Danica Lance, GSC Advisor

Center Associates

Sarah Berlin, Beth Budnick, Beck Canary-King,
Susan Chambers, Patty Dana, Marlene
Edelstein, Stephen Gee, Christina Gehring,
Kate Richey, Sam Ritter, Allie Schwartz, Mike
Stevens, and Laura Stone

CONTACT INFORMATION AND EDITORIAL POLICY

The Gender and Sexuality Center publishes this newsletter monthly for the campus community and friends. Information in the newsletter is based on the best available information at the time of publication. Items in the newsletter are provided for informational purposes only, and do not necessarily represent the views of the Gender and Sexuality Center or its employees, nor do they represent the views of the students, staff, faculty, or administration of Carleton College.

Please submit articles, calendar entries, letters and news to the Gender and Sexuality Center or via e-mail to: gees. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and space.

Monday, May 17

Masculinities Panel

5pm, Evans Dining Hall

All are welcome to come hear staff and faculty panelists talk about their experiences with masculinity. Dinner will be served

Thursday, May 20

SpeakUp! 2010

8pm, Bald Spot

Listen and support others as they read reflections about experiences with sexual violence or sexual violence prevention

Student Org Meetings:

Carleton In and Out (CIAO): Mondays, Sayles 252 8:30pm

Gender Discussion Group: Tuesdays, contact lstone for location

Sexuality and Gender Activism (SaGA): Wednesdays, GSC 8pm

Collective for Women's Issues (CWI): Thursdays, WA (Berg House), 9:30pm

Happy Bodies: Fridays, Willis 205, 5pm



-GSC-

GENDER AND SEXUALITY CENTER
BASEMENT SCOVILLE

FEATURES
MAY 2010

PRIDE RE-CAP

GSC WORKSHOPS

RADICAL SELF-ESTEEM

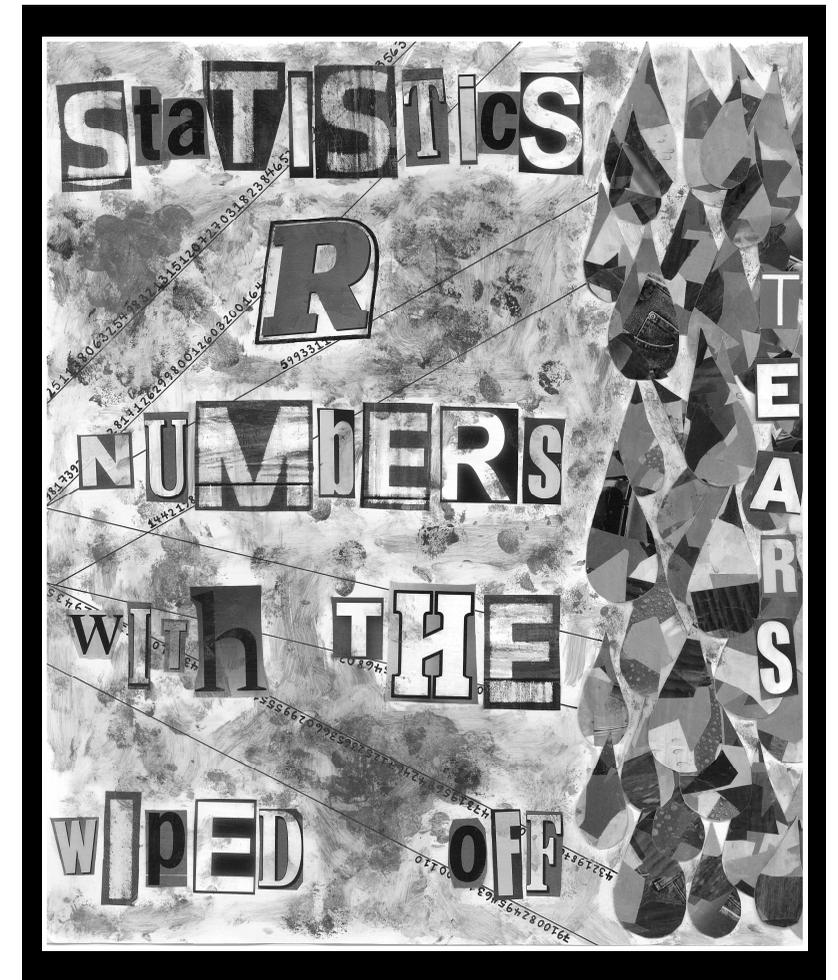
IN THE NEWS

TELEPHONE

LOOKING FORWARD:
SPEAKUP! 10

VOLUME 9, ISSUE 5

OUT OF THE BASEMENT



Cover Art by Francesca Garcia '13

PRIDE RE-CAP: MANUEL MUÑOZ

Stephen Gee '10

About a year ago I was visiting a friend in Philadelphia and she thought it would be fun to visit the gay district and show me “the sights.” One highlight was the queer bookstore, Giovanni’s Room. Since it was the first queer bookstore I’d been in, I tore the place up searching through books and videos. I don’t know why *The Faith Healer of Olive Avenue* caught my eye, but I was instantly drawn to it. On the plane ride home, I opened to the first story, “Lindo y Querido”, the story of a mother solitarily struggling through the loss of her son who happens to be gay. As I finished the last pages and tears were streaming from my eyes and I desperately tried to hide my face from the passenger six inches from me, I knew I had found something special.

This past April we welcomed Manuel Muñoz to our campus as part of the Pride Month events. Coming to speak about his two books *The Faith Healer of Olive Avenue* and *Zigzagger* as well as navigating his place in the chicano and queer literature movements, he gave a reading and discussion in the Athenaeum followed by a dinner in Stimson house. His presentation began with a reading from *Zigzagger* from the story “Monkey, S?”. The story follows two young, gay, latino men as the travel from their small town to the larger city of Fresno for a night out and the disastrous results that follow. Muñoz spoke eloquently about his use of “we” throughout the story and playing with the readers own desires of who to follow and what to see. What struck me most, however, while listening to him read was the intensity of a depiction of sexual violence and how uncharacteristic of the rest of his work it was.

Muñoz explained that he wrote the piece in response to publishers reading his material and saying people were not ready for or interested in “gay” literature. Where most of his queer themes are subtle and intricately woven into ideas of race, masculinity, and other identities, this story, he explained, was written to really give them “gay” literature. Speaking with him beforehand, he mentioned his surprise that I had found his book in queer bookstore. When his work was published, he was embraced by the Chicano community far more than the Queer community. He had expected it to be the opposite and others had said the Chicano community would not be ready to deal with the themes he incorporated in his writing. And he went on to explain his dismay that the queer community took little notice of his work and that he did not find his support from this group.

Muñoz’s story makes me think a lot about Pride: Who is represented in the Pride parades, celebrations, and events that pop up throughout the world? Whose voices do we hear in the community and who is given daily affirmations of pride by the books we purchase, the characters we see on television, the leadership positions in queer organizations? Pride encompasses so many voices, so many identities and experiences. When we start to lose those voices we lose the power of what it means to be a part of something that crosses race, class, gender, and so much more. Furthermore, we forget how to be proud means to be proud of all of our entire community. When we stand tall and proud it should be with every member of our community.

RELATED UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY 5/11

No! The Rape Documentary - NO! The Rape Documentary explores the international reality of sexual assault through the testimonies, scholarship, spirituality, activism and cultural work of African-Americans. Violence prevention advocates, theologians, sociologists, historians, anthropologists, and other leading scholars and human rights activists provide an interdisciplinary context with which to examine sexual violence in African-American communities as well as how rape is used as a weapon of homophobia. Aishah Shahidah Simmons, producer and director, will answer questions following the film. Tuesday (5/11) 7pm, Boliou 104. Event sponsored by OIIL and the GSC.

WEDNESDAY 5/12

SpeakUp Interest and Planning Meeting - Did you miss the first interesting meeting? Do you want to get involved in the SpeakUp but don't know how? Are you already active in the planning of the SpeakUp? Whatever the reason, you should come to the GSC on Wednesday (5/12) at 9pm for a planning meeting about the SpeakUp. We would love to have you help make this great event a success!

THURSDAY 5/13

Allies in Healing: Sexual Assault and its Effect on Intimate Relationships - On Thursday (5/13) during Common Time in Sayles 251, Marit Lysne, Psy.D, Interim Director of the Wellness Center will be having a lunch discussion about survivors and intimate relationships. There will be plenty of time for question and answer and lunch is provided for the first 20.

MONDAY 5/17

Masculinities Panel - All are welcome to come hear staff and faculty panelists talk about their experiences with masculinity. Dinner will be served. Monday (5/17) at 5pm in Evans Dining Hall.

THURSDAY 5/20

SpeakUp! 2010 - Listen and support others as they read reflections about experiences with sexual violence or sexual violence prevention. Thursday (5/20) at 8pm on the Bald Spot.

LOOKING FORWARD: SPEAK UP! 10

By Kate Richey '10

This month, the GSC is hosting a variety of events aimed at sexual violence prevention. SVP should be, and is, a priority all year long. This month, however, is especially about standing together as a community, breaking the silence, and reaffirming that we will not tolerate any form of sexual violence on our campus.

I find it hard to reconcile my genuine belief that Carleton is a safe place, filled with well-intentioned and caring people, with my knowledge that Carleton is not immune from sexual violence. I wonder what we're doing wrong, what we could do better, how we can make Carleton safer? Are we all really doing enough to hold each other accountable, educate our peers, and act intentionally? There are hundreds of people on campus who care about sexual violence prevention and this month is an encouraging reminder that we are all committed to a common goal.

At last year's SpeakUp! event, I was again reminded that we are in this together and of the value of a community working together to fight sexual violence. This year's SpeakUp!, a chance for us to gather, break the silence, and share our stories about sexual violence, will be happening on May 20th at 8PM on the Bald Spot.

We invite you to join us and share your own your reflections about how sexual violence has impacted your life. You can choose to speak at the event, or submit your story anonymously and have it spoken by another student. Log onto <http://apps.carleton.edu/campus/gsc/> to submit your reflection online, or put it in Marlene Edelstein's mailbox, #1478. We can't wait to see you there!

The Not On Our Campus Pledge

I WILL communicate and establish meaningful consent before and during sexual activity.

I WILL interrupt conversations that promote a culture of sexual violence.

I WILL intervene when I see my peers in potentially dangerous situations and when their judgment is impaired.

I WILL hold myself and others accountable for our words and actions as members of a shared Carleton community.

I WILL trust and affirm survivors and work to create a survivor supportive environment.

I WILL recognize my power to prevent sexual violence.

SPEAK UP!

your signature

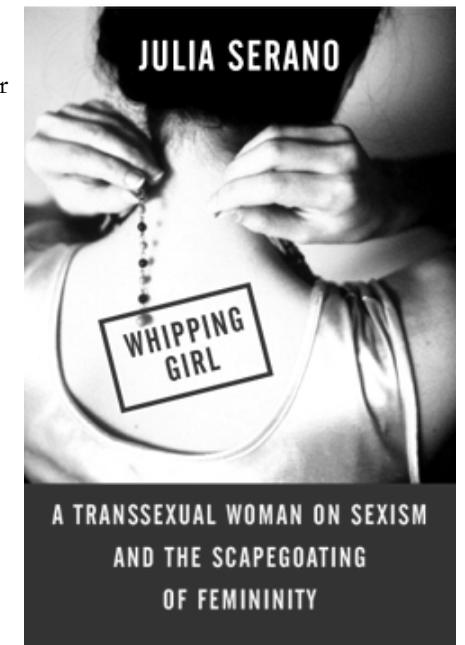
SERANO & TRANS FEMINISM

Sarah Berlin '12

As part of Pride Month, Julia Serano visited Carleton and gave a presentation titled "Trans Feminism: A Performance and Discussion". Serano is an author, trans activist, biologist, and acclaimed spoken word artist from Oakland, California. In preparation for her visit, a group of students read her book, "Whipping Girl: A Transexual Woman on Sexism and the Scapegoating of Femininity" and met to discuss it. Michael McClellan, a first year from Independence, Missouri, reflected on her talk and the experience of participating in the reading group:

"For me, the most powerful experience provided by Julia Serano was the chance to see spoken word performance for the first time. She performed two chapters from her book, and another piece as well. Though I found those chapters engaging and meaningful in print, they were so much more so when performed in front of me. Her performances ranged from hilarious accounts to personal regrets and insecurities.

I also drew much from the more academic chapters describing biology and psychology. However, the spoken word performances provided a chance to interact with her ideas on a different conceptual level. Some people may prefer that style of presentation, and I'm glad that she took that into account."



Hello GSC,
thanks for bringing me out
to Carleton, I had a blast!
Best wishes,
-Julia

IN LOVE WITH COYOTE GRACE

Marlene Edelstein '11

Coyote Grace's visit to Carleton has been a highlight of Pride month for me for the past several years. I await their performance with gleeful anticipation, preparing by dancing around my room to "Bullet In A Gun" on repeat. Why, you ask, does the prospect of spending an evening with Joe and Ingrid make me so happy and what, you may wonder, makes the folk duo so special?

First, their music is good. *Very* good, in my opinion. However, I have come to realize that what makes Coyote Grace special is the way they effortlessly infuse their music with activism. Their political message is not forced, rather it is present at all points of their performance. The result is an irresistibly moving brand of storytelling that comes from a refreshingly personal and honest place. They seem to be solely concerned with being themselves; when Coyote Grace gives a performance or workshop, they invite you to learn from their story.



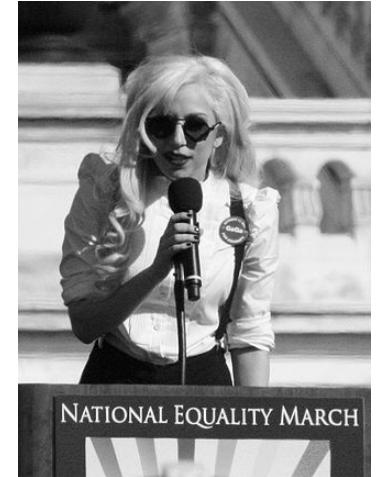
**Want to see them again?
Coyote Grace will be touring
all summer across the country!**

6/12– Olympia, WA
6/13– Eugene, OR
6/18– Pittsburgh, PA
6/19– Columbus, OH
6/24– San Francisco, CA
7/21– Richmond, VA
7/22– Lexington, KY
7/24– Lisle, IL
7/25– Grand Rapids, MI
7/27– Highland Heights, KY
7/29– Newport, RI
7/30– Lowell, MA



My sister might not often have things to say if people at school talk about her queer big sis, or other gay issues, but here is something accessible and *cool* to fire back: Lady Gaga.

Getting a bunch—and by a bunch, I probably mean millions in the country have watched this video—of people to take another look at same-sex attraction, and not the *Girls Gone Wild* kind, is an awesome step for pop culture (if a small one). While this video may have some other problematic aspects (like how all those women in the teensy bikinis are runway-model-skinny), this prison yard scene is one gift from Gaga I'm not done thanking for yet.



This isn't the first of Lady Gaga's queer-positive actions, either. She's come out as bisexual, kissed a female cop in her "LoveGame" video (if you watch the music video reaaally sloooooowly you can catch it) and spoke out for gay rights at the National Equality March last October.

Say what you will about Lady Gaga. (I, for one, am a shameless fan and listen to her at least once a day, but HEY, that's just me.) She's made one small step for queer women (and queer folks more general). Is she an Indigo Girl, an Ellen DeGeneres, or a Melissa Etheridge? Not quite. But she's also done her fair share of good work already. For now, we'll just wait and see where Lady Gaga and her Pussywagon (no joke: watch the video) take us.

...IN THE NEWS CONT'D...

Country Singer Comes Out!

By Mike Stevens '10



In this week's *People Magazine*, Chely Wright joins the ranks of Ricky Martin, Melissa Etheridge, Clay Aiken, and Adam Lambert. That's right: she's coming out. But not only is she a successful, mainstream artist with her foot out the door of the closet, she's also a mainstream *country* artist – the first of her kind! While lesser-known artists have made inroads into queering the country scene before – such as Seattle artist Patrick Haggerty and the band he founded in the early 70s, Lavender Country, as well as the artists featured in reality TV program American Pride by Larry Dvoskin – this is the first time a major LGBTQ country artist has disclosed her sexuality to her fans. Let's hope this means good things for country, and good things for cowboys and cowgirls. Save the horses!

TELEPHONE

By Beth Budnick '11

The revolution had arrived, and it has one thing to say:
“I left my head and my heart on the dance floor.”

Yes, that’s from Lady Gaga’s “Telephone.” And, okay, “Telephone” isn’t “the” revolution. It probably isn’t even *a* revolution for most people. But, for me, the music video for telephone is a small revolution—and more than that, a small victory—for LGBTQA folks everywhere.

The video starts, as many probably know, with our favorite Ms. Gaga in a women’s prison, complete with two female escorts bringing her in. Women in the jail cells are calling out and licking their lips in the direction of Lady Gaga, but she isn’t having any of it.



That is, until we get to the prison yard scene. Lady Gaga walks out with glasses made out of cigarettes—yes, she is that badass, and *yes*, they are still smoking (and YES, she too is SMOKING hot)—into a prison yard full of women. Some of them are muscle-flexing, some of them are writhing, and then in struts this leather-clad, androgynous, hot butch . She sits down next to Lady Gaga, looks at her, and then starts kissing her. Pretty soon, Hot Androgynous Lesbian and Lady Gaga are making out. On a mainstream music video. On MTV.

The first time I saw the video, I thought perhaps I was seeing a fake version, with scenes of *The L Word* spliced in for actual video footage. The second time I watched the video, I was just super excited. And now, every time after that I watch it, I’m still not done thinking that Lady Gaga really did the queers some good on this one.

I call it the Eighteen-Year-Old Sister Litmus Test. Something has an effect on wider popular culture when my sister, a senior in high school, picks up on it and talks about it with her friends. This Lady Gaga video hit the radar. “Is she a bisexual or something?” they asked. “You think she’s a lesbian?” “Lady Gaga was making out with this woman... who kind of looked like a guy... I guess she was, like, a hot guy...”

BRING A GSC WORKSHOP TO YOUR FLOOR!

Did you love Backdoor Basics, Trans 101, and Transitioning Together as much as we did? Want to see more programming come to your floor? Let us know! We’re not Joe or Ingrid, but we’ll sing with you too!

The Anatomy of Pleasure

The SexEd class you always wish you had: a one-hour introduction that affirms that sexual pleasure is a natural, normal and important part of sexual experience. By exploring a range of anatomies, sexual activities, and ways of thinking about sexual behavior, we hope to give you the tools to make healthy, consensual and pleasurable decisions about your body! Time: 1 hour. .

Bystander Intervention and Survivor Support (BIASS)

As members of a community in which sexual violence occurs, we may one day witness behavior that concerns us, or be approached by a friend that has experienced sexual assault. In this workshop, participants learn the "dos" and "don'ts" of supporting a survivor, and discuss different tactics for creating a safer environment. Time: 45 minutes (designed for study break). .

H.O.T.S.E.X.: Healthy Open Talking about Sex and Everything eXtra

This workshop focuses on communication: saying what you feel, meaning what you say, and asking for what you want. It's HOT. Time: 1 hour.

The Gender 101 workshop

Explores the differences between sex, gender, and sexual orientation as well as shares the stories of people who whose identities challenge "the gender binary". Through interactive exercises and discussion, we hope to start an inclusive conversation about what gender means to us! Time:1 hour.

LGBTQA Panels

A group of students, representing a range of different identities, come to tell their coming out stories and answer questions about their experiences. Time: 45 minutes (designed for study break).

Interested in a topic you don't see here? Contact danap with your idea.

RADICAL SELF-ESTEEM

Becky Canary-King '10

Here at the GSC, we are super excited about publication. As one of the editors, multiple me that they want this publication to be about esteem.

But here's a reminder that walking out the door body is still a pretty radical thing. After being photo-shopped men and women and clothes *hard* to not think your body is wrong. Every America ranting about the OBESITY CRISIS the insistent connection in magazines between how are we not supposed to connect FAT with self-esteem like it's the pathetic project of middle self-esteem is holding women back.

If you are not comfortable or confident in your noticed. You don't want to step up positions or places of power. Discomfort in our own skin leads to discomfort in our own identities. Fully exploring our gender and sexualities and accepting ourselves is difficult or impossible if the vessel we are in seems wrong. How can we be sex positive if we aren't *positive* our bodies deserve sex? How can we be true allies to others if we can't affirm ourselves?

your hard not need makeup to feel pretty on a night out or I begin to engage in the fantasies of being thinner, try not to feel guilt, but remind yourself that being body positive *is* truly radical.

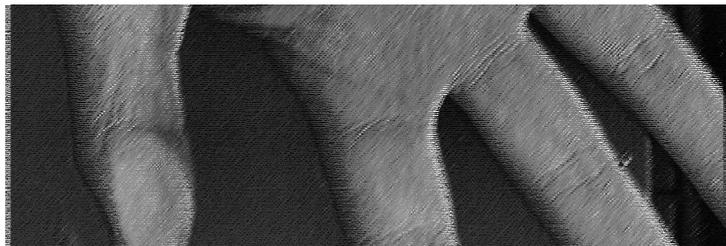


BODIES, our upcoming people have expressed to *more* than just building self-

feeling great about your showered with images of you'll never fit into it's *really* other article on "health" in OOGA BOOGA, and with weight loss and willpower, SHAME? We treat building school girls, but really: low

body you don't want to be towards leadership

With women you respect like Oprah, Ricki Lake, your mother, aunt, your friends, all endlessly fighting to lose weight, it's to think you should do the same. So when you still sometimes



IN THE NEWS

Morocco's First LGBTI Organization and Gay Magazine

By Mike Stevens '10



At age 23, Samir Bergachi has accomplished more than enough to cement his place as a leader of the global movement for LGBTQ(I) rights. Six years ago, he founded Kif-kif, the first Moroccan lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and intersex (LGBTI) rights organization, in response to the 2004 arrest of 42 LGBTQ people at a birthday party. And a month later, he launched *Mithly*, the Arab world's first publicly available gay magazine. He has accomplished all of this in a country that punishes homosexuality with 6 months to 3 years imprisonment and a fine.

Kif-kif bases 90% of its activity within Morocco, advocating for change, directing people toward affirming medical practitioners, and providing sex education. And while the print version of *Mithly* remains unrecognized by Moroccan authorities, both the print and online versions have made waves within and outside Morocco.

Bergachi has high hopes for the second edition: a front-page story about suicide among LGBTI persons – gay men in particular are 20% more likely to commit suicide in Morocco than their straight counterparts – and a story about Randa, an Algerian transsexual woman who published her autobiography (*Memoirs of Randa the Trans*) in March. Stay tuned – and, for those who read Arabic, check out [http://www.mithly.net/!](http://www.mithly.net/)

Marriage Update from Argentina

Following 111 hours of heated debate, the Argentinean House of Deputies voted 129-105 in favor of gender-neutral marriage. According to the Argentinian LGBT Federation (FALGBT), this marked the first time a national legislative body had voted in favor of same-sex marriage in the entirety of Latin America. The road's not over, however, for the stance of the Argentinean Senate remains unclear even in light of the political momentum caused by this vote and the support of Socialist Party. Five same-sex couples have married in Argentina in the last five months; however, subsequent court orders annulled three of those marriages. For marriage to become a viable reality, LGBTQ Argentinians await the decision of the Senate.

