Charter for Queers & Allies House

Mission of Queers & Allies House
Queers & Allies House provides a community-building space for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, questioning, asexual, intersex, gender non-binary, and allied students of Carleton College. The house serves as an alternative living space for LGBTQA+ students, and offers outreach in the form of social programming to build cohesion in the larger community of the college. These functions are intended to promote understanding of LGBTQA+ issues and to affirm the needs and experiences of LGBTQA+ students at Carleton.

Goals for Queers & Allies House
1. To provide a living situation where students can live in a queer-focused and queer-friendly space.
2. To enrich the LGBTQA+ community on campus through regular social and community building events.
3. To provide a welcoming space for LGBTQA+ students on campus.

Selection Process
The Gender and Sexuality Center and the house manager coordinates the selection process each year. Applicants will be expected to complete an application and interview. Primacy will be given to applicants who will be enrolled on campus for fall term of that year; those applicants who will be off-campus fall term may be considered as a first priority for filling vacancies for the remainder of the year. Once a resident enters the house, they will not be asked to leave upon the return of a former resident.

Expectations for Residents
As an integral part of the LGBTQA+ resources of the college, it is important that residents have a thorough understanding and acceptance of shared expectations and responsibilities to each other and to the mission of the house.
1. Residents must be willing to participate in the programming efforts of the house in some way, with recognition of preferences for specific types of tasks taken into account.
   a. Examples of past programming include: Homomade Cookies, Sex Toy Workshop, hosting of Pride events, Gender 101, Movie nights, facilitated discussions (intersectionality, body image, labels, etc.)
2. It is important that the public living spaces be kept clean and organized at all times to prevent inconvenience for other residents. All residents accept equal personal responsibility for the appearance of the house.
3. To maximize interaction and communication between residents and to facilitate programming, all residents will attend weekly house meetings to discuss concerns and ideas for the house.
4. While providing the entire campus with an LGBTQA+ community-building space, the needs of the house itself as a community are equally important. Residents should at all times show respect and consideration for each other, and assume good will in conversations and house meetings to maintain a comfortable and positive house dynamic.
5. Residents will be expected to maintain communication with GSC affiliated student organizations (QTPOC, SAGA, ACE, GDG) and co-host programs/meetings/events in the house as available.
6. House Manager will function as a liaison to the Gender and Sexuality Center and work directly with the Assistant Director for all programming or budgeting needs.

Conflict Resolution
If any member of Queers and Allies House is repeatedly disruptive or fails to meet the goals and expectations of the house, that member will be asked to leave the house. All internal conflicts will be first addressed by the house members. The following procedures will be used when conflict or disagreements arise:
1. All house members will attend a meeting for the purposes of reviewing expectations and resolving conflicts.
2. If conflicts or disruptive behavior continues, a mediation session with a Residential Life or Gender & Sexuality Center staff member can be requested. Any house member under review may bring an advocate or supporter.
3. The staff of Residential Life and/or Gender & Sexuality Center staff will work with the house to determine how to resolve the conflict, which may include removal of a house member.