

## **LGBTQA Social Justice Center**

### **FUNDING PRIORITIES**

The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Questioning and Ally (LGBTQA) Social Justice Center exists to create campus environments that are inclusive and supportive of student, staff, and faculty diversity in the areas of sexuality and gender identity and expression. The office promotes identity expression, self-determination and exploration on all levels for all members of Pace University through advocacy, education, activism, programming, and a commitment to social justice.

#### **Functions of the Center:**

- Serve as a clear and visible sign of university-sanctioned support for the LGBTQ and ally community.
- Create a welcoming environment for all people interested in developing their understanding of LGBTQ and ally issues.
- Advocacy, activism, and community building with a focus on diversity, multicultural issues, and social justice.
- Education and outreach on the isolating impact of gender and sexuality norming.
- Help students, staff, and faculty to build conscientious communities of care, inclusion, support, and trust.
- Recognize and explore the differences in ability, age, ethnicity, gender, health, language, national origin, race, religion, and socioeconomic among the LGBTQ and ally student, staff, and faculty population.
- Celebrate how differences in the LGBTQ and ally student staff and faculty population can enrich campus and local communities.
- Provide direct service to LGBTQ students, staff, faculty, and their allies in the forms of advisement, advocacy, career networking, referral services, education and training, event sponsorship and co-sponsorship, leadership development, and peer mentorship programs.

#### **Endowed Scholarships**

**\$50,000**

A major part of college education today cannot be found in books, but in students' self-discovery. For LGBTQ students, this path can be difficult and controversial and they deserve both the aid and recognition that LGBTQ scholarships provide. Endowed scholarships will perpetually provide a revenue stream for a student to pursue their education. Named scholarships can be created to reflect a donor's interests and student need.

#### **Endowed Fellowships**

**\$50,000**

Fellowships support students who wish to pursue research in various cities all over the world that is of value to the betterment of the LGBTQ community. Recipients usually produce scholarly articles and presentations, develop digital materials, or produce relevant film and photography pieces that will influence the understanding of the LGBTQ community.

**Faculty Research and Curriculum Development** **\$50,000**

Introduced in 2011, Pace has developed a minor in Queer Studies, organized around the insight that sexuality is at the center of the human experience. Our curriculum fosters critical analysis of queer and normative sexualities, the formation of sexual and gender minorities, and the role of sexuality in culture and politics across the world by examining the significance of same-sex desire or cross-gender identification throughout history and across a variety of global cultures. A gift to this fund would foster faculty research to continue to develop new courses.

**Ambassador Program** **\$50,000**

Our Ambassador Program will consist of 15 Pace students who will facilitate real change on campus and in NYC high schools. Our goal is to develop a novel and interactive LGBTQ affirming performance-based outreach program that addresses the crushing impacts of bullying with a particular focus on intersections of identity. The outreach will be performed in NYC high schools and will include artistic multimedia performances that create consciousness around LGBTQIA issues, combat isolation and discrimination in school settings, encourage self-care, and provide necessary tools for individuals to serve as allies to the many diverse individuals that make up the LGBT community. The program will incorporate individual and group narratives with intervention and prevention tactics woven throughout.

**Student Emergency and Retention Fund** **\$25,000**

Gifts to our non-endowed Student Emergency and Retention Fund will provide immediate funds for those LGBTQ students who encounter unforeseen financial difficulties. This fund allows the LGBTQ coordinator to identify and designate scholarships to students who are at the highest risk of transferring schools, or dropping out altogether, due to lack of support.

**Educational Programming** **\$10,000**

The goal of the Center is to provide lecturers and panel discussions to our students. A gift to this fund will allow the Center to bring trained professionals to augment our weekly group discussions, safe zone training, and provide further educational workshops related to gender and sexual orientation. Additionally students would benefit from attending national conferences such as the annual *Creating Change* conference.

**Lounge, Library, and Computer Center Fund** **\$5,000**

Our lounge, library, and computer center provide a place where students can take a break during the day, eat lunch, read, and meet new friends. Gifts to this fund will be used to purchase books and DVD's that are made available for check-out, allow the Center coordinator to purchase computers, iPads, and televisions.