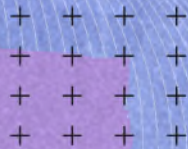




Center on Halsted and Youth Services' Pride Youth Program present



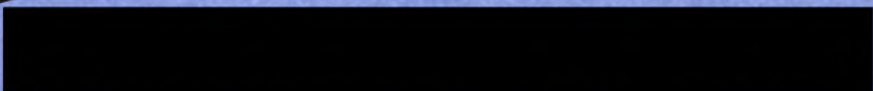
Trans Youth & Family Summit 2024

Saturday, March 16th

Participant Packet



CENTER ON 3656 N. HALSTED



3656 N. HALSTED ST • CHICAGO, IL

Trans Youth & Family Summit 2024



Welcome to the 6th annual Trans Youth & Family Summit!

We are thrilled to be hosting this event in its new home at Center on Halsted, bringing together so many different families, youth, and adults to build community and learn. This event is the result of the hard work of staff, interns, community partners, and dedicated volunteers from Youth Services and Center on Halsted, as well as all of you!

This year's theme is Under the Sea, a celebration of the biodiversity within our world's oceans and the magic of merpeople, often celebrated as a symbol of trans power, joy, and beauty. We hope that this event will support you as you make your own gender journey and provide you with ongoing connections to help you through any storms ahead.

We can't wait to dive in!

With gratitude,

Summit Planning Team

Eli, David, Michelle, and Lizzy



Trans Youth & Family Summit 2024



	Room 200	Room 202	Room 203	Room 204	Room 205
Registration & Opening (9:00-9:45)					
Session One (9:45-10:45)	HRT for Youth (Youth Only)	Estradiol 101 (Adults & Youth 14+)	Trans History Celebration!	Caregivers of High School Youth Group (Adults Only)	Youth of Color Group (Youth Only)
Session Two (11:00-12:00)	Caregivers of Youth 11 & Under Group (Adults Only)	Testosterone 101 (Adults & Youth 14+)	LGBTQ Inclusive Sex Education (Youth Only)	Navigating Mental Health Systems (Adults Only)	Cis Siblings Group (Youth Only)
Session Three (12:15-1:15)	Caregivers of Middle School Youth Group (Adults Only)	Speak Up: Gender Affirming Speech and Loving Your Voice (Youth Only)	Coping at the Intersection	Understanding the Legal Name Change Process in Illinois	Caregivers of Color Group (Adults Only)
Lunch (1:15-2:00)					



Trans Youth & Family Summit 2024



	Youth Space	Children's Play Space	John Baran Hall	Hoover-Leppen Theater	Prefunction Space
Registration & Opening (9:00-9:45)					Continental Breakfast & Opening Remarks
Session One (9:45-10:45)	Fin-tastic Game! & Chill Space	Mermaid Parade		Transition, it means lots of things!	Activism Opportunity
Session Two (11:00-12:00)	Out-Sand-Ing Art Workshop & Chill Space	Open Play	Empowerment Self-Defense for Youth (Youth Only)	Caregivers of Nonbinary Youth Group (Adults Only)	
Session Three (12:15-1:15)	Drum Circle & Chill Space	Rainbow Storytime w/Queer Kid Stuff	Understanding Nonbinary Identities	Panel of Trans Adults	
Lunch (1:15-2:00)				Resource Fair	Lunch & Closing

Workshop Descriptions



HRT for Youth

9:45am- 10:45am, Room 200 | Youth Only

Sam Clubb LCSW (Any Pronouns)

A detailed, run-through of what to expect when starting HRT as a minor. Will include the benefits, risks, what is reversible, irreversible, and what the hormones will not do.

Estradiol 101

Session 1 | 9:45 - 10:45am, Room 202 | Adult & 14 Plus

Priya Dhar, MD (she/her)

Feminizing treatments

Trans History Celebration!

9:45- 10:45am, Room 203 | Adult & Youth

David Biele (he/him)

Let's celebrate the contributions and experiences of some amazing trans people in history that have come before us. This workshop will serve as an introduction to their lives and provide the opportunity to celebrate their courage, strength, and resilience in a joyful way.

Caregivers of High School Youth Group

9:45- 10:45am, Room 204 | Adults Only

Ashley Molin, PsyD (she/her)

Parents and caregivers of High School Youth are invited to a discussion group to connect with other parents and caregivers, reflect on their experiences, and share concerns.

Youth of Color Group

9:45- 10:45am, Room 205 | Youth Only

Lorraine Lahori, LSW (they/them)

Youth of Color are invited to a discussion group to connect with others and reflect on their identities, experiences, and share concerns.

Caregivers of Youth 11 & Younger Group

11:00am- 12:00pm, Room 200 | Adults Only

Abbey Casagrande, LCSW (she/her)

Parents and caregivers of Youth 11 & Younger are invited to a discussion group to connect with other parents and caregivers, reflect on their experiences, and share concerns.



Workshop Descriptions



Testosterone 101

11:00am-12:00pm, Room 202 | Adult & 14 Plus

Priya Dhar, MD (she/her)

Masculinizing treatments

LGBTQ Inclusive Sex Education

11:00am- 12:00pm, Room 203 | Youth Only

Adam Davies (they/them)

Do you have questions about sex, relationships or bodies? Did the sex education you got in school not talk about trans people? Join us for this fun and interactive session, created by trans people for trans people, where we'll be talking all about healthy relationships and safe sex.

Navigating Mental Health Systems

11:00am- 12:00pm, Room 204 | Adults & Youth

Jeni Brickman, LCSW (she/her).

Adults are invited to connect with others to learn more about mental health services and how to best utilize them for specific care.

Cis Siblings Group

11:00am- 12:00pm, Room 205 | Youth Only

Bridgette Taylor, LCSW (she/her)

A peer support group for cisgender siblings of trans youth to experience and process through art, play and discussion.

Caregivers of Middle School Youth

12:15- 1:15pm, Room 200 | Adult Only

Bridgette Taylor, LCSW (she/her)

Parents and caregivers of Middle School children are invited to a discussion group to connect with other parents and caregivers, reflect on their experiences, and share concerns.

Speak Up: Gender-Affirming Speech and Loving Your Voice

12:15-1:15pm, Room 202 | Youth Only

Seth K Lowery (they/them)

Our voices being one of the biggest ways we relate to the world, many trans folks consider gender-affirming voice care to be a big piece of their transition. In this session we will learn a little bit about gender-affirming voice care, what that journey looks like, and what to expect from your voice.



Workshop Descriptions



Coping at the Intersection

12:15- 1:15pm, Room 203 | Adult & Youth

Ari Groner MSW, LCSW (she/her)

Learn about the intersection of Gender Dysphoria and other mental health disorders. You will learn new coping skills and ways to support yourself and/or your child through difficult times.

Understanding the Legal Name Change Process in Illinois

12:15- 1:15pm, Room 204 | Adult & Youth

Carolyn Wahlskog, LCSW (she/they)

Join the staff from Transformative Justice Law Project of IL to learn about the process for legal name changes for minors and adults in Illinois. We will cover eligibility, paperwork, the court process and updating identity documents after a name change. We will also discuss the pros and cons to gender marker changes.

Caregivers of Color Group

12:15pm- 1:15pm, Room 205 | Adults Only

Lorraine Lahori, LSW (they/them)

Parents and caregivers of Color are invited to a discussion group to connect with other parents and caregivers, reflect on their experiences, and share concerns.

Fin-tastic Game!

9:45- 10:45am, Youth Space | Adult & Youth

Emmett Hope (they/them)

For participants of all ages get ready to dive in and join us in a variety of active games! This workshop is designed to engage and energize attendees through a variety of interactive and inclusive games that are sure to make a splash!

Mermaid Parade

9:45am- 10:45am, Children's Play Space | Adult & Youth

Eli Cooper-Nelson (he/him)

We will read the book Julián Is A Mermaid, then create our own mermaid tails and have a mermaid parade! Merpeople of all ages are welcome!



Workshop Descriptions



Transition: It means lots of things!

9:45am- 10:45am, Theater | Adult & Youth

Nat Duran, M.Ed (they/them)

While we often focus on legal and medical strategies for transition, this workshop will explore the many different ways that trans people can experience gender harmony. After a review of the variety of methods people may use, we will spend some time creating our own transition roadmaps.

Activism Opportunity

9:45am- 10:45am, Prefunction Space | Adults & Youth

Staffed by Summit volunteers

Engage in an art project that has an impact on trans community members!

Out-Sand-ing Art Workshop

11:00am- 12:00pm, Youth Space | Adult & Youth

Emmett Hope (they/them)

During our Art activity we will be creating Sand art and exploring the meanings behind the different colors used for pride flags! You can recreate a flag you love or create a unique flag of your own using sand!

Open Play

11:00am- 12:00pm, Children's Play Space | Adult & Youth

Staffed by Summit volunteers

Feel free to make use of Center on Halsted's Children's Play Space for unstructured play time. Geared toward children younger than 5 and their grown-ups.

Empowerment Self-Defense for Youth

11:00am- 12:00pm, John Barron Hall | Youth Only

Kyren Epperson, PhD, LMT (they/them)

Empowerment Self-Defense is anything you can say or do to help yourself feel safe, strong, and self-confident. In this workshop, we help youth practice physical, mental, and verbal exercises that will help them take up space, stand up for themselves and others, and defend themselves physically if necessary. This class is appropriate for youth aged 10+.



Workshop Descriptions



Caregivers of Nonbinary Youth Group

11:00am- 12:00pm, Hoover-Leppen Theater | Adults Only

Ashley Molin, PsyD (she/her)

Parents and caregivers of Nonbinary Youth are invited to a discussion group to connect with other parents and caregivers, reflect on their experiences, and share concerns.

Drum Circle

12:15- 1:15pm, Youth Space | Youth Only

Taylor, Head Goat at Holy Goat Percussion

This workshop is an open to all - no music experience necessary - drums provided or bring your own!! Let your natural rhythm flow!!

Rainbow Storytime with Queer Kid Stuff

12:15- 1:15pm, Children's Play Space | Adult & Youth

Lindz Amer

Join Lindz and Teddy from Queer Kid Stuff for songs and stories that celebrate the LGBTQ+ community for pride all-year-round. Lindz will read their brand new picture book and sing favorites from the web series!

Understanding Nonbinary Identities

12:15pm- 1:15pm, John Baran Hall | Adults & Youth

Nat Duran, M.Ed (they/them)

Adults and youth are invited to learn, explore, embrace, and affirm nonbinary gender identities!

Panel of Trans Adults

12:15pm- 1:15pm, Hoover-Leppen Theater | Adults & Youth

Moderator: Eli Cooper-Nelson

Hear from a group of trans, nonbinary, and gender expansive adults about their lives, navigating the world as a trans person, and their transition experiences. There will be an opportunity to ask questions of these community members!



Speaker Bios



Priya Dhar, MD (she/her)

Dr. Dhar is a board certified adolescent medicine physician, pediatrician, and is the Adolescent Medicine fellowship program director. She has an interest in medical education, specifically curriculum development. Her clinical and research interests are in reproductive health care for youth. She additionally works at the Broadway Youth Center providing comprehensive primary care, reproductive health care, HIV care and gender care to marginalized youth and young adults.

Kyren Epperson, PhD, LMT (they/them)

Kyren is co-founder and co-owner of Culture of Safety Dojo & Wellness Center, located in the Rogers Park neighborhood of Chicago. Kyren has been teaching karate and Empowerment-based Self-defense for over a decade to both kids and adults. They are also a licensed massage therapist in the state of Illinois and practice trauma-informed Shiatsu Bodywork.

Adam Davies (they/them)

Adam Davies (they/them) is a nonbinary and intersex educator and program coordinator in the Division of Adolescent Medicine at Lurie Children's hospital. In their role they teach LGBTQ inclusive sex education in middle and high school spaces and run an HIV prevention and sex education program for Chicago high school students. They're passionate about gender affirming healthcare and reproductive healthcare access for youth.

Ari Groner, LCSW (she/her)

Ari is a licensed clinical social worker and the owner of Sunny Days, her private psychotherapy and consulting practice. She specializes in, and has a passion for, working with queer people. Ari is also the founder of The List, a resource website for trans and GNC folx and the people who support them, within Chicagoland. Want to get in touch with Ari? Email her at ari@sunnydayspsychotherapy.com

Seth K Lowery (they/them)

Seth has been working with voice users professionally for thirteen years, most recently as an instructor at The Voice Lab, a queer-led local institution that offers gender-affirming voice care and singing lessons. Originally from south Chicagoland, Seth has traveled the country pursuing education in vocal performance and pedagogy, and they have taught in a number of different contexts including academic and independently.



Speaker Bios



David Biele (he/him)

David Biele is the Director of Youth and Family Services at Center on Halsted, where he has worked since 2017. A lifelong advocate for young people, especially LGBTQ+ youth, David has more than 25 years of experience across the social sector at nonprofit organizations and educational institutions, including 15 years as a teacher in Washington, DC and Chicago public schools. For the past decade he has managed educational, arts, youth development, and LGBTQ affirming programs for young people at community organizations across Chicago and Cook County.

Carolyn Wahlskog, LCSW (she/they)

Carolyn Wahlskog, LCSW (she/they) coordinates the Name Change Mobilization at Transformative Justice Law Project of IL, providing legal name change and gender marker change services to trans and non-binary Illinois residents and their families. When Carolyn is not changing names, she is working at Youth Outlook, supporting LGBTQ+ drop-in centers across north and central Illinois.

Sam Clubb, LCSW (Any Pronouns)

Sam Clubb is originally from Texas, has over five years of experience providing group and individual therapy to gender-diverse youth and adults, and is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. Sam's work focuses on supporting minors and their families who are considering hormone replacement therapy as part of their gender-affirming health care. She moved to the Chicago area in 2022 to restart the Minor Youth Hormone Program at Howard Brown. In their free time, Sam enjoys board games, cooking, and taking care of the animals on their happy suburban homestead

Lindz Amer

Lindz Amer makes queer stuff for kids, parents, educators, and allies. They created their award-winning LGBTQ+ family webseries Queer Kid Stuff in 2016 which now has 4M lifetime views and counting! They are the author of the nonfiction parenting book Rainbow Parenting: Your Guide to Raising Queer Kid and Their Allies (St. Martin's Press) and their picture book Hooray for She, He, Ze, and They! What Are YOUR Pronouns Today? (Simon & Schuster, February 2024). Currently, they host the Rainbow Parenting podcast, and perform at schools and libraries across the country, while writing and consulting for children's television. Check out their work over at www.queerkidstuff.com



Speaker Bios



Nat Duran, M.Ed (they/them)

Nat Duran is a compassion-led and dedicated educator focused on community building and social justice across various realms of youth work. Nat obtained both their B.A. in Teaching of English and M.Ed. in Youth Development from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Nat has been a champion for putting youth voice to action throughout their career within school, housing, and advocacy settings; they have taught high school English, provided case management to young adults in care, and, most recently, served as the Youth Engagement Manager for the Illinois Safe Schools Alliance, providing statewide leadership for the safer schools movement. In addition to their role at Constellation Collective, Nat teaches within the College of Education at University of Illinois at Chicago. nat@constellationcollectivechicago.com

Bridgette Taylor, LCSW (she/her)

Bridgette is a licensed clinical social worker at Youth Services Glenview Northbrook. She received her BA in psychology from the University of Illinois Urbana Champaign and her MSW from Dominican University. Bridgette has been a part of the Pride team for three years and helps support the agency's elementary and middle school programs.

Taylor, Head Goat at Holy Goat Percussion

Michael J. Taylor, more commonly known simply as 'Taylor', has been teaching, performing, and recording West African percussion since 1994. He authored the book "Remembering Your Ancestral Fire", pub 2023, he is the Director of the Tam Tam Mandingue - Chicago school of percussion and founder and driving force behind Holy Goat Percussion. Check www.holygoat.com for more info.

Emmett Hope (they/them)

Emmett is a Program facilitator at Youth Services and is currently enrolled in a MSW program Northeastern Illinois where they will receive a MSW degree with a dual concentration in Children and Family Practice and School Social Work. Prior to joining Youth Services, Emmett taught dance to all ages, at a local theater company. Through dance, Emmett developed a passion for teamwork, relationship building, the arts, and the power they all have to heal. Emmett found the field of social work to be the perfect balance of their passions.



Speaker Bios



Jae Rice (he/him)

Jae Rice is a trans-masculine public figure and activist who fights daily for the liberation of oppressed communities. Jae is a cultural architect, space curator, international DJ, composer, and Deputy CEO of Brave Space Alliance, Chicago's first Black and Trans let TLBG+ center on the Southside. He is dedicated to the progress of all Black LGBTQIA+ individuals and other marginalized groups, drawing from his background in political science and intercultural communications. For over a decade, Jae has created intentional spaces that center Black LGBTQ+ women, femmes, TGNC, and queer individuals in Chicago and worldwide. As the founder of the Lavender Collective, founder and former creative director of smallWORLD Collective, and one of the few Black trans men in a CEO or Executive Director position at an LGBTQ+ organization, Jae brings a unique and intentional perspective to their corporate and non-profit DEI work. Jae has sat on various boards, taskforces, and initiatives that prioritize the advancement of marginalized people and has received numerous awards for their societal contributions. Through his roles as an advocate, consultant, and leader in Chicago's LGBTQ+ community, Jae has dedicated his life to making significant contributions toward a more equitable society.

Christopher Bigelow (he/him)

Christopher Bigelow is a queer and trans writer and educator living in Chicago. christopherbigelow.substack.com

Jeni Brickman, LCSW (she/her)

Jeni Brickman is a licensed clinical social worker who currently serves as the Clinical Director at Youth Services, overseeing all clinical programs. Jeni utilizes her extensive experience in education, outpatient therapy and mental health at Youth Services by developing therapeutic programming that is cutting edge and relevant to the needs of the community. Prior to joining Youth Services, Jeni's professional history includes working in residential treatment, hospital settings and community mental health. She has worked both as a clinician as well as in administration. Additionally, she has worked in private practice and is also an Adjunct Professor at Aurora University in the School of Social Work.

Abbey Casagrande, LSCW (she/her)

Abbey received both her BS in Human Services and her Master's in Social Work from Loyola University Chicago. She has previous experience working with youth of all ages as a crisis therapist and as a school social worker. Abbey has been a part of the Pride team at Youth Services since



Guidelines & Helpful Information



We hope that the Trans Youth & Family Summit is an inclusive and supportive space for all.

To that end, we ask that all participants follow the below group agreements:

- Respect others.
- Practice consent; do not touch other people's bodies or things without asking.
- Keep your body safe & do your best to help others keep their bodies safe. Be aware of risk, and if asked to stop a behavior, please follow directions.
- Treat our materials and space with care.
- Be aware of directions, closed doors, and signage indicating spaces that may be off-limits.
- We practice nonpunitive responses to conflict and harmful behavior. When conflict arises, staff will attempt to de-escalate conflict and determine best next steps.

We work together to uphold these values and community guidelines; if you have concerns, questions, or need support, please reach out to a staff member or visit the registration table.

Give us your feedback! Please take a few minutes to complete the event evaluation during lunch.

A special thank you to our Youth Services Pride Youth Program Sponsors for helping to make this event possible:

WINTRUST
COMMUNITY BANKS

GLENVIEW BANK & TRUST | NORTHVIEW BANK & TRUST
NORTHBROOK BANK & TRUST



Pride Youth Program Resource Guide

Youth Resources & Crisis Lines

Youth Services of Glenview/Northbrook

Pride Youth Program
North Suburban LGBTQ+ youth programs ages 4-24
847.724.2620
www.ysgn.org/pride

Youth Outlook

LGBTQ+ youth groups in western suburbs
www.youth-outlook.org

Illinois Safe School Alliance

Statewide advocacy and education
312.533.2624
www.ilsafeschools.org

Legal, Health Care, & Other Resources

Transformative Justice Law Project

Provide gender-affirming legal services, including
monthly name-change mobilization
www.tjlp.org

Howard Brown Health Center

LGBTQ+ health center in Chicago
773.388.1600
www.howardbrown.org

Family Resources

PFLAG & PTI

Support, education, and advocacy for parents and
friends of LGBTQ+ persons throughout Illinois
www.pflagillinois.org

Online Resources

“The List”

List of resources for trans/nonbinary youth in IL
www.thelistforus.com

Gender Spectrum

National online resource on gender
www.genderspectrum.org

Trans Student Educational Resources

Educational information on gender identity
www.transstudent.org

Center on Halsted

LGBTQ+ community center in Chicago
773.472.6469
www.centeronhalsted.org

The Trevor Project

Crisis and suicide prevention hotline
866 4-U-TREVOR (866.488.7386)
www.thetrevorproject.org

Trans Lifeline

Crisis and suicide prevention hotline
877.565.8860
www.translifeline.org

Lambda Legal

Committed to achieving full recognition of the civil
rights of LGBTQ+ people
312.663.4413
www.lambdalegal.org

Pinwheels

Monthly playgroup for trans and gender expansive
families
www.meetup.com/Pinwheel

GLSEN

National resource for safe schools, including data
www.glsen.org

InterACT

Advocates for Intersex Youth
www.interactadvocates.org



Pride Youth Program

LGBTQ+ YOUTH

GRADES K-12

PRIDE CONNECT

MEET NEW PEOPLE & SHARE RESOURCES.

youth-planned events, such as our annual Night of Noise

fun activities in a safe and supportive space, like bonfires & movie nights

CONNECTION & COMMUNITY

weekly groups for grades 5-12
monthly meetup for grades K-4

PRIDE SUPPORT

PRIDE LEAD

EDUCATION & ADVOCACY

prideLEAD academic year program for grades 9-12
Action Camp 5-day sleepaway camp for grades 8-12



Youth Services

TO JOIN OR FOR MORE INFO:

WWW.YSGN.ORG/PRIDE



LGBTQ+ Affirming Youth Groups

- **To Be Human (TBH):** YFS's weekly all-inclusive youth group for 7th-12th grade LGBTQ+, questioning, and allied youth. Through arts activities, games, discussions, film screenings and guest facilitators, youth make friends, build community, learn new skills, become more confident in their identities, and most importantly, **HAVE FUN!** TBH meets every Thursday from 5 pm – 7 pm in the Youth Space
- **T.Y.G (Trans Youth Group):** YFS's brave space designated for 7th-12th grade transgender and gender expansive youth. Through thoughtful discussions, games, movies/TV shows, guest facilitators, and activities, youth and staff create a network of support, care, resistance, and creative, joyful resilience every Tuesday from 5 pm – 7 pm in Center on Halsted's Youth Space.
- **After School Hang:** YFS's LGBTQ+ affirming drop-in space for 7th – 12th grade youth and allies to make friends and build community in an LGBTQ+ affirming environment. Every Tuesday & Thursday afternoon from 3 pm – 5 pm After School Hang provides queer, trans, and questioning youth the chance to socialize, make friends, do homework, and access resources in a space designated specifically for them.

Youth Development

- **Youth Horizons:** YFS's year-long youth mentoring program builds caring relationships between LGBTQ+ youth aged 12 - 24 and adults to help youth grow in their identities, make progress towards personal goals, and deepen connections to the LGBTQ+ community. Mentor/mentee pairs spend at least four hours per month together, participate in quarterly program meet-ups, and receive ongoing training and support.
- **Q+ Council:** COH's Youth Advisory Board for LGBTQ+ youth aged 12-18 who want to make a difference in their community. Board members meet twice monthly to provide the Center with the vital youth perspective on its programs and services as well as develop programs and events that make positive changes in their community, including Chicago Pridefest's Youth Pride Space COH's Queer Prom.
- **Youth Leadership Academy:** Our 4-week summer program for LGBTQ+ youth who want to grow as leaders and give back to the community. The program culminates with a 1-week stay at Action Camp, an LGBTQ+ summer camp in northern Illinois where youth serve as leaders designing and implementing workshops and social events for the week. Program participants receive a stipend for their work.

Virtual Programming

- **Q Chat:** COH's weekly 90-minute discussion group on the chat platform Q Chat Space. Q Chat Space hosts online discussion groups for LGBTQ+ teens 13 – 19 years on topics relevant to their identities and experiences. Chat topics include everything from coming out to gender affirming self-care, from Dungeons and Dragons to Pokémon, and more! COH's chat occurs every Tuesday from 6 – 7:30pm. Visit www.qchatspace.org for more info!
- **Discord:** Youth & Family Services' Discord server provides LGBTQ+ youth more opportunities to connect with other LGBTQ+ youth like themselves in a fun community. Our online youth community enables youth aged 12 - 24 to access resources, get updates about upcoming programming, and virtually meet other LGBTQ+ youth in the community. Sign up at [Bit.ly/CoHdiscord](https://bit.ly/CoHdiscord)
- **Youth Support Group:** A safe space for youth 13 – 18 years olds to foster identity, spark creativity and engage in community with the guidance of a trained clinician. This is a hybrid group, with some youth meeting in person at Center on Halsted and some online. An intake and parent consent is required. Email behavioralhealth@centeronhalsted.org for more info.

Family Programming

- **Transformers:** A monthly peer-led support and social group for parents of trans and gender expansive youth. Members meet to share stories, offer support, provide resources, and develop community in a friendly, casual, supportive environment. Transformers meets monthly on the third Thursday from 6:30 pm – 8 pm and also has its own Discord server to stay in touch with each other between meetings.

Special Events

- **TDOV Youth Poetry Night (April 2, 5pm – 7pm):** Join us for a cozy night of youth performances & poetry by trans, non-binary, and gender expansive youth in honor Trans Day of Visibility. Snacks and light refreshments will be provided.
- **Queer Prom: Mas-QUEER-ade! (Saturday April 13, 5pm – 9pm):** Spearheaded by our Q+ Council, Queer Prom is COH's annual alternative prom for 7th – 12th grade youth, including dinner, dancing, entertainment, and more. Each year hundreds of pieces of gender affirming prom wear (dresses, suits, slacks, shoes, and accessories) are donated for youth to wear, and volunteer stylists help youth with make-up, hair and nails. Nearly 80 youth attended our 2023 Prom.
- **Youth Pride Space (Sat/Sun June 22 & 23, 11am – 6pm):** Also spearheaded by our Q+ Council, the Youth Pride Space is a youth only space within the annual weekend Pridefest street festival. The space provides opportunities for youth under age 18 to build community, celebrate identities, affirm their genders, express themselves through the arts, and connect to community resources. Last year over 500 youth visited the space.

Other Services

- **Gender Gear Closet:** YFS's Gender Gear closet provides trans and gender expansive youth with free gender gear, including binders, gaffs, packers and trans tape, which many can have a hard time obtaining due to financial barriers, unsupportive or hostile families, and safety concerns. Our gender gear closet provides these young people with a safe space where they can obtain items that affirm their genders, support their identities, and help them feel comfortable and validated as their authentic selves.
- **LGBTQ+ Young Adult Literature Lending Library:** YFS maintains a curated lending library of queer and trans books for children, youth, and young adults that support their personal growth, identity development, and connection to LGBTQ+ communities while also sparking queer and trans joy and a life-long love of reading

Access our monthly calendar here:

<https://www.centeronhalsted.org/youthandfamily.html>

Got questions?

Email youth@centeronhalsted.org

Call: 773.472.6469 ext. 437

Communicating with your child is going to be one of the most important ways of maintaining a positive relationship with them, alleviating some of your concerns, and keeping them feeling safe and supported.

This journaling page will help you begin that journey of clear and supportive communication!

About my kid

My kid _____, came out to me as _____.
(chosen) name *gender identity*

My kid's pronouns are _____.

My kid likes it when I call them _____.
(Examples: sweetie, kiddo, buddy, sunshine)

My *doesn't* like it when I call them _____.
(Examples: big man, little lady, pumpkin)

Family words my kid feels good about: *(Select all that apply)*

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> (Grand)Son | <input type="radio"/> Youngest/oldest/middle | <input type="radio"/> Niece |
| <input type="radio"/> (Grand)Daughter | <input type="radio"/> Sibling | <input type="radio"/> Nephew |
| <input type="radio"/> (Grand)Kid | <input type="radio"/> Brother | <input type="radio"/> Nibling |
| <input type="radio"/> Child | <input type="radio"/> Sister | <input type="radio"/> _____ |
| | | <input type="radio"/> _____ |

My kid feels good when I/we compliment their: *(Select all that apply)*

- | | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Hair | <input type="radio"/> Talent/skill | <input type="radio"/> Smile |
| <input type="radio"/> Makeup | <input type="radio"/> Body | <input type="radio"/> Laugh |
| <input type="radio"/> Outfit | <input type="radio"/> Eyes | <input type="radio"/> _____ |

5 things I love/admire about my child

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

3 things my kid and I like doing together

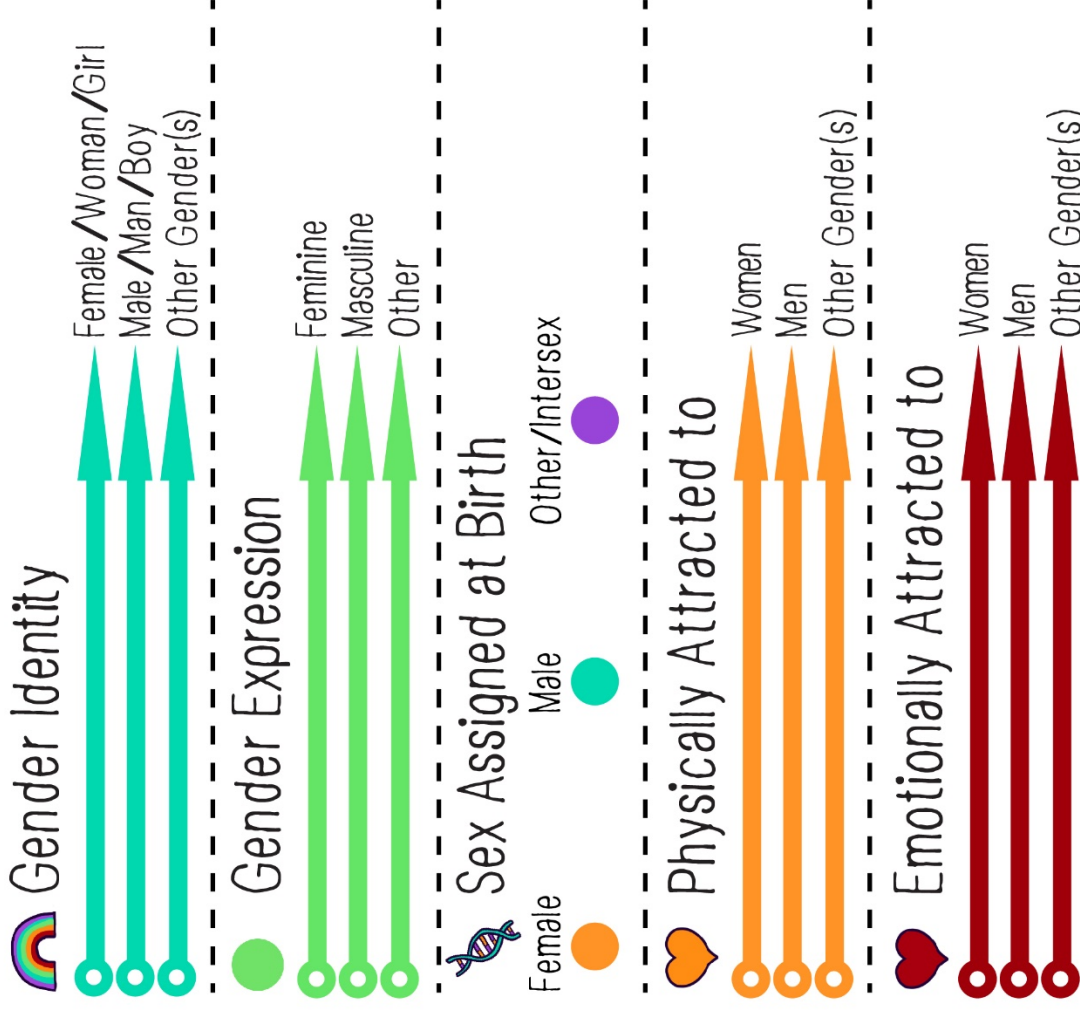
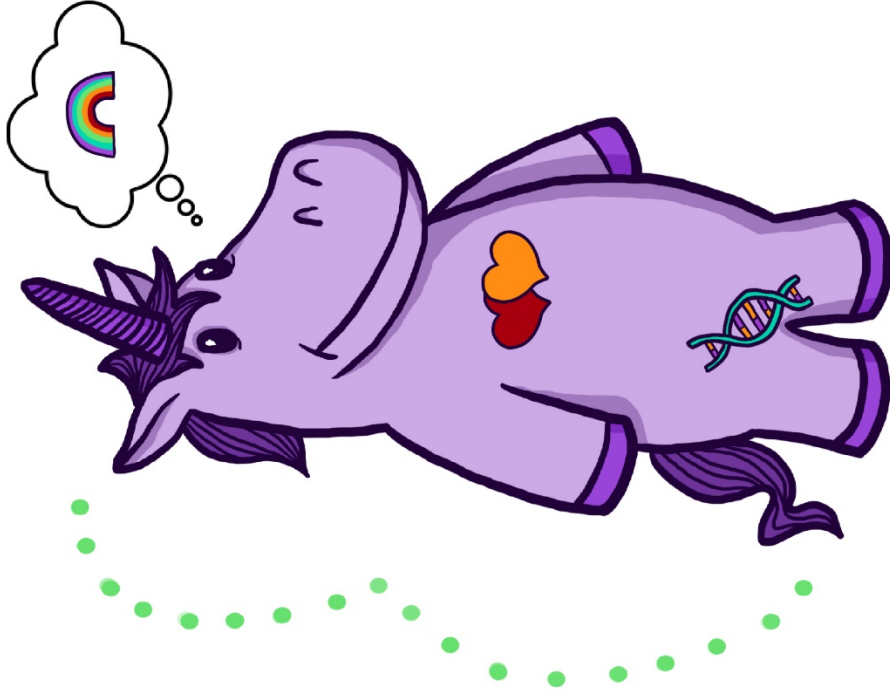
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

I would describe my kid as:

My child is happiest when:

The Gender Unicorn

Graphic by:
TSER
Trans Student Educational Resources



To learn more, go to:
www.transstudent.org/gender

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