

Special Thanks

The Welcoming Project

The Welcoming Project is a Norman-based non-profit organization. The goal is to increase the visibility of LGBTQ-friendly welcoming places in Norman and worldwide.

www.thewelcomingproject.org

OU Counseling Psychology Clinic

The purpose of the OU Counseling Psychology Clinic is to provide services to individuals, couples, families, and children involving various problems of living. Counseling services are charged on a sliding scale, based on familial income and the number of dependents. Anyone currently living in Oklahoma can come to the clinic for services.

University affiliation is not necessary to receive services.

For an appointment, call (405)325-2914.

Women's and Gender Studies Program, University of Oklahoma

The Women's and Gender Studies Program is an interdisciplinary program that seeks to enhance knowledge of gender roles and relations across cultures and history.

<http://wgs.ou.edu>

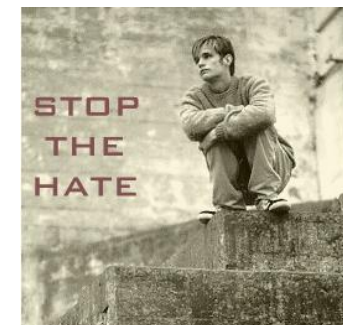
Center for Social Justice, University of Oklahoma

The Women's and Gender Studies' Center for Social Justice seeks to promote gender justice, equality, tolerance, and human rights through local and global engagement.

<http://csj.ou.edu>

The Laramie Project

Screening and Discussion



10.13.2016

LGBTQ History

October 12, 1998

Matthew Shepard, a gay college student in Laramie, Wyoming, dies from severe injuries related to a gruesome and violent hate crime attack he suffered a few days earlier.

October 28, 2009

Obama signs The Matthew Shepard and James Byrd, Jr. Hate Crimes Prevention Act, also known as the Matthew Shepard Act, officially expanding the federal hate-crime law to include crimes motivated by a victim's actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability.

September 28, 2010

A proclamation recognizing October as Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender History Month in the city was passed at a Norman City Council meeting, but not without toxic debate.

October 5, 2010

Zach Harrington, a gay college student in Norman, OK, tragically took his life following the toxic comments made at the Norman City Council meeting.

October 13, 2016

Today we remember and we inspire. Norman now recognizes October as Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender History Month, thus, it is an important time to remember our history and how we can learn from horrific hate crimes. Matthew Shepard's death and life can be testaments to what the LGBTQ community is facing today and can bring awareness of important issues that the LGBTQ community faces and can inspire activism and support from students and community members to stand up against hate.

The Laramie Project, HBO Film

Laramie, WY, is a small town which became infamous overnight in the fall of 1998, when Matthew Shepard, a gay college student, was found tied to a fence after being brutally beaten and left to die, setting off a nationwide debate about hate crimes and homophobia. A month after the crime, Moises Kaufman, a writer and director, traveled to Laramie with a handful of actors to interview people who lived in and around Laramie. Kaufman's goal was to create a play that focused not on the assault on Matthew Shepard, but on the community and the reactions of the citizens. The Laramie Project is a film adaptation of Kaufman's play in which the thoughts and opinions of Laramie residents are presented alongside reenacted excerpts from the trials of the two men who attacked Matthew Shepard.

Featured Guest Speaker

Ronald Carver, Special Agent, FBI

Oklahoma City Division

Special Agent Ronald Carver is currently assigned to work white collar crimes and civil rights violations. He was previously assigned to the Chicago Field Office. SA Carver provides instruction to police cadets at academies statewide regarding hate crimes, Color of Law, FACE Act and Human Trafficking violations.

**PLEASE REFRAIN FROM CELL PHONE USE DURING THE
FILM AND DISCUSSION**