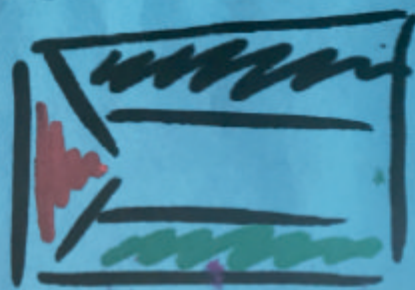


Queertopia zine



What makes
US
HUMAN?



COMPASSION
LOVE
HOPE
JOY
SLAYNESS
BEAUTY

YOU'RE
NEVER
ALONE

There's
ALWAYS
EVEN WHEN THE
WORLD SEEMS
DARK
LIGHT

-MIRANDA 11

WELCOME!

Queertopia zine has been curated by Jason Kattenhorn, a freelance queer illustrator and zine maker. His illustration work usually depicts those LGBTQ+ bodies we are told to hide. Jason explores queer intimacy and positivity in all its forms because queer bodies are awesome; they are resilient, and they are beautiful.

This project has been produced in collaboration between Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum and Proud Youth Leamington. The group explored Leamington Spa Art Gallery & Museum's collection and focussed on a film made by the gallery called 'Pride Month: Celebrating Diversity & Inclusion.' The film celebrated LGBTQ+ stories from the local community. In response to the film the zine explores the evolution of language, safe spaces and queer utopia within and outside the queer community.

This project was delivered across five sessions between 2023- 2024 in partnership with Warwickshire Pride, made possible thanks to funding from Museum Development West Midlands.

Cover art created by Jason Kattenhorn. The cover depicts Gwen Lally (1838-1963) who features within the gallery and museums collection.

Gwen Lally was a theatre producer and the first woman pageant-master. Her Warwick Historical Pageant of 1930 attracted 45,000 spectators. Lally also acted, specialising in male roles, and promoted women's drama through the Women's Institute.



SAFE SPACE

CREATING
A

What does a safe space look like to you?

A safe space is a place where we can express our innermost feelings with honesty and without fear of being judged or rejected.

We can create space through representation, it can be a space to listen and be heard. It can be the use of inclusive language or simply going beyond our own echo chambers.

By creating that safe space we can all become better attuned to the complexity and beauty within the LGBTQ+ community.



SAFE SPACES



Safety in my community feels OXYMORONIC.

I've been a member of Amnesty International for years. I'd love to work with them

ACTIVISM is a big part of my life

I don't think I'll stop fighting Not until we are ALL safe.

Society can still be harsh. BUT WE FIGHT.



BY - RIO

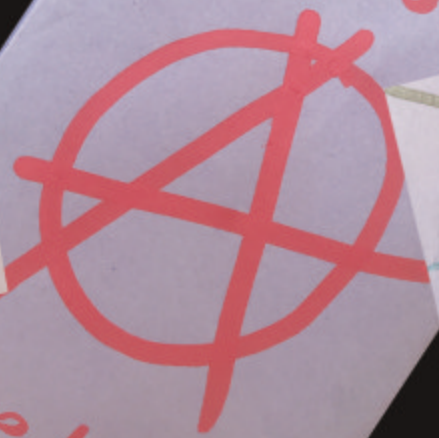
Being is a blessing BUTCH



as is BEING PUNK. It means FIGHTING as much as it means love. There is sacred tenderness in the quiet. For all the community it creates



Community



Freedom - RIO

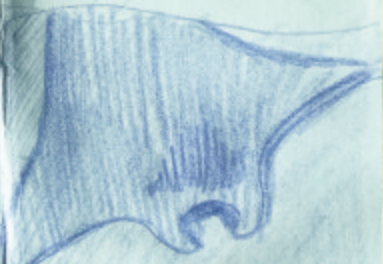


By Blue
Safe
in
Your My
Sea
(A zine to myself)

Loud waves
but calm
beneath.



Your sea
calms my
mind



You are me
and I am you.



I am safe in
myself.
I will always
be safe



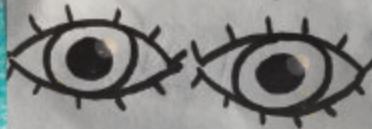
6 in our sea.

My ocean
is my blood



The Sand my
Skin.

If I stopped
pretending



for just a
moment.

The beautiful
power



is enough for
me.

If I showed you
the ocean.



would you be
afraid?
or would you
see me.

Spider Plant
Cacti + Succulent
gladioli
orchid
tulips
By WREN
23



SOCKS
BY ELSIE
7



Knitting



BOOKS



TOUGH
TOSS



MUSIC



My Safe Space



Henry
ezra - failed at female



LEARN SOME TERMS TO HELP AFFIRM TRANS AND NON-BINARY FOLK

PRONOUNS

It is important to normalise sharing pronouns because they can affirm a person and make them feel safe.

Try not to assume someone's gender or pronouns based on their gender expression.

It is always nice to ask.

Some pronouns could be She, He, They, Them

♥ Use correct pronouns, for example he is a trans man, she is a trans woman, they are transgender or they are non-binary.

♥ He transitioned, she transitioned, They transitioned.

♥ He affirmed his gender, she affirmed Her gender, they affirmed their Gender.

MISGENDERING

Is referring to a person with the wrong pronoun or using the wrong gendered words that do not reflect that person's gender identity.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU MISGENDER SOMEONE?

Recognise that you have made a mistake, apologise and correct yourself and move on.

DEADNAMING

A deadname is the name a trans person no longer uses. It can be seen as misgendering if you use a person's deadname.

DYSPHORIA

Is the stress and discomfort that comes from the conflicting feelings between someone's gender assigned at birth and their gender identity.

The best support you can give someone is to affirm the gender identity of that person.

HORMONES

Some trans and non-binary folk have hormone replacement therapy or blockers to aid in their journey. And others do not. Everyone has different needs and experiences and it does not make someone any less trans or non-binary if you do not use hormone therapy.

FYI

Some everyday gender inclusive language:

MUM/DAD - PARENT/CO-PARENT
SON/DAUGHTER - CHILD/OFFSPRING
GIRLFRIEND/BOYFRIEND - PARTNER
SISTER/BROTHER - SIBLING
AUNTY/UNCLE - PIBLING
NIECE/NEPHEW - NIBLING

Not everyone within the LGBTQ+ community is comfortable with pronouns and the various evolving language that surrounds it.

Be open to learning and unlearning everything you think you know about the LGBTQ+ community.



Socializing
Sucks
(Its draining)

But with
then itsok!



Pink is
Great!



glows

Water
botte

Gray



SAFE SPACE

A JOURNEY
HAS
UPS AND
DOWNS



LOVE
ALWAYS
BEATS
HATE!



My Journey

- I got an Autism diagnoses in 2020
- Moved to a Specialist School 2022

I am Genderfluid
and bisexual

By Aspen.



WE
ARE
Everywhere
!!
Aspen

ALLYSHIP AND THE

EVOLUTION OF LANGUAGE

Language is continually evolving, including changes in terminology and the importance of words within the LGBTQ+ community.

Allyship both within and outside of the LGBTQ+ community takes active work. And being an ally means using your platform of privilege:

To get comfortable with using gender inclusive language.
If you misgender someone, apologise and move on.
Read the room and just ask someone if you are unsure.

LGBTQ+ people are here, we exist and will continue to exist.

Creating a safe space through language can help save trans and queer lives.



-
- Q Your body is
 - Q Your body is **beautiful**
 - Q Your body is **valid**
 - Q Your body is **worthy**
 - Q Your body can do **anything**

LOVE YOURSELF!

Feeling

LOVE IS LOVE

PROUD YOUTH

WERE HERE WERE QUEER!

Queer

PUNK IS QUEER

you are gay so you SLAY!

LGBTQ+



Trans Rights ARE HUMAN RIGHTS

YOU DID NOTHING WRONG BY ASKING TO BE TREATED RIGHT

PRIDE

YOU CANT CENSOR US

Fuck u

"NOT GAY AS IN HAPPY But Queer as in Fuck you."

EXIST! LOUDLY!

LOUD

AND PROUD!

I'M gay, GAY

Lesbian

When a woman is attracted to another woman.

Gay

Often used to describe homosexual men, however many people on the LGBTQIA+ Spectrum refer to themselves as being gay.

Bisexual


Someone who is attracted to both men and women.

Trans

Or transgender - Is a gender identity or expression that differs from someone's assigned sex at birth. Some trans people may medically transition and some do not. **THEY ARE HOWEVER BOTH VALID GENDER IDENTITIES!**

Q Transition or gender affirmation X
Are steps that a trans person may take to affirm their gender identity.
Some trans people may medically transition and some do not, however they are both valid gender identities and expressions.
Gender affirming healthcare is key to feeling supported.

Hi! "👋"
My name is Sage, and I am a trans ^(they/me) autistic kid.


But, I haven't always been able to say that.



Ever since I was little, I knew that I was different.




I didn't fit in with the boys or the girls and I didn't find it easy to make friends like the other kids...

By the time I was 11 years old, I knew that I was **LGBTQ+**

But I wasn't quite sure what, and I also knew that something else was making it harder for me to fit in at school.







At first I thought that I was...



 she/her



then...

  they/them

  kit/they
  kit/they/he

and then I wondered whether I liked girls at all and now I am...

  they/he

  aro ace enby

Sage



Eventually I found out the missing part of my identity too. The reason I was different is because I'm autistic.



This means I have a brain that works in a different way to the brains of people around me.



I also started finding communities and hobbies that support me and help develop my identity.

I made loads of friends with people like myself and am still travelling.

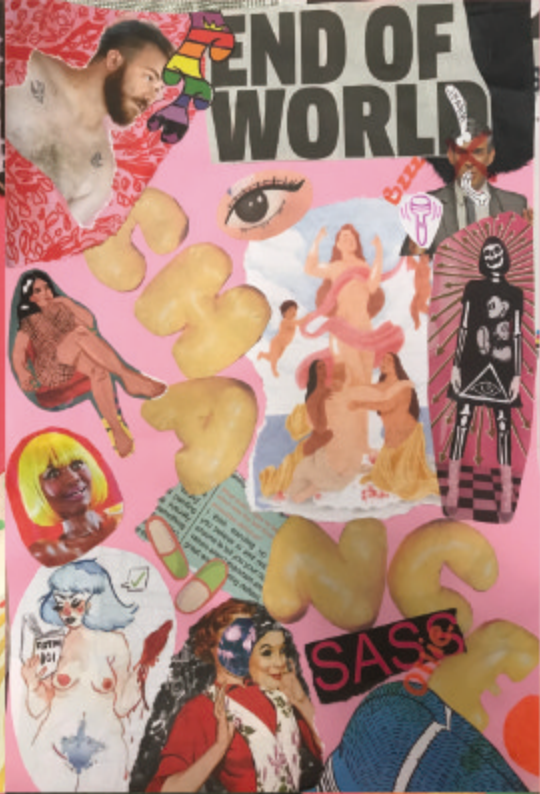


My journey has been mind-expanding and amazing so far.. I can't wait to see where I go next!

My Journey has helped develop my identity.







TWO-SPIRIT

In some indigenous Native American tribes, a traditional third gender is assigned to someone who is believed to have both a male and female spirit inside them.

Queer

An umbrella term used to describe people within the community. It is a reclaimed word, however not everyone describes themselves that way.

Questioning

An exploration of one's sexual orientation, identity and/or gender.

'Ally'

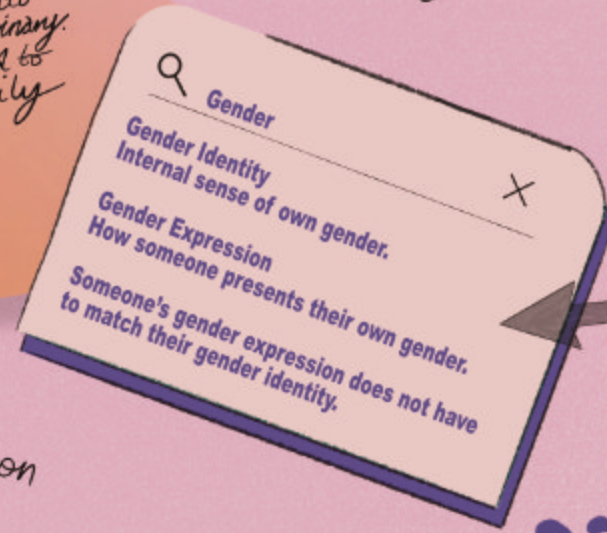
Someone who supports the LGBTQIA+ community.

Intersex

A mix of sex characteristics including chromosome patterns and/or genitalia, that do not fit into the masculine or feminine binary. It is an umbrella term used to describe a wide variety of bodily variations.

'Asexual'

Someone who does not have sexual attraction to another person.





AGE OF Baaase



QUEERTOPIA 100AS
HKE THIS:
PEACE.

Non-Binary

OR ENBY, is a spectrum of gender identities that do not fit into the masculine or feminine pronouns.

Ableism

Discrimination in favour of able-bodied people.

Pansexual

A romantic or sexual attraction to someone regardless of gender or sex.

Disability

Is not a bad word, and covers a wide range of conditions affecting the body and or mind. If appropriate ask a person how they identify.

QPOC

Abbreviated term for Queer person of colour.

Demigender / Agender

Demigender is an umbrella term for people who identify partly with a certain gender.

Agender describes someone who sees themselves as gender neutral.







be yourself

BE happy

~~be yourself~~

A vibrant, multi-layered collage. The top half features a complex, symmetrical pattern of swirling colors including red, purple, green, yellow, and brown. A jagged, torn edge separates this from a central rectangular area. This central area has a light blue background with thin, horizontal white and red stripes. The word "QUEER!" is written across this area in a bold, hand-drawn, blue font with a slight shadow. Below this, another jagged, torn edge reveals a bottom section with horizontal stripes in shades of green, purple, red, and blue. On the left side, there are additional torn pieces: a dark brown one with white polka dots and a teal one with yellow and red snowflake patterns.

QUEER!