

USQ ALLY

Network Newsletter



Issue #25 May 2018



Welcome to the May edition of the USQ Ally newsletter! What a busy month we have had with all the IDAHOBIT events and promotion at the three campuses. We hope you have enjoyed being part of the activities. We have included some of the photos in this bumper edition!

Please don't forget that we are always on the look out for interesting articles, information about events and professional development opportunities to include in the Ally newsletter. Please email ally@usq.edu.au to share your points of interest.

USQ IDAHOBIT

Thursday 17 May is the International Day against Homophobia, Biphobia Intersexism and Transphobia (IDAHOBIT). The University of Southern Queensland celebrates by raising the rainbow flag at each of its three campuses - a symbol of the university's commitment to equity and inclusivity and of our support of our LGBTQA+ staff, students and community.

This year we had greater reason to celebrate as the Vice Chancellor, Geraldine MacKenzie has granted **perpetual** approval to raise the flag on this important day.



Springfield campus staff and students celebrating IDAHOBIT



Staff, students and community members raising the flag at the Toowoomba and Ipswich campuses



LGBTIQ Awareness Training previously referred to as Ally training, is fast approaching so if you know of interested USQ students or staff, please share that the next training opportunity will be:

For staff only: [Toowoomba, Wednesday 30 May, 1-4pm](#)

For staff and students: 25th July 12pm-2.30pm [Register here](#) for this online webinar

Ally Network Natters

USQ Ally Network Natters are intended to be a safe and inclusive space for discussion and relaxation for members of the LGBTIQ community and their supporters within USQ. They are monthly gatherings held on the first Wednesday of the month alternating between Springfield and Ipswich campuses, which are also available to all USQ Allies via live webinar.

Our next event will be held on **Wednesday 6 June, 12.30 - 1.30pm.**

Location: **B154 Springfield**

Guest Speaker: **Gary Williams**

Gary Williams from Queensland AIDS Council will speak about his lived experience as a long term survivor of HIV/AIDS.

To register your interest in attending at USQ Springfield please email ally@usq.edu.au. If you are unable to attend in person you can register [here](#) for the webinar.



In the News

The Hollywood film industry has been criticised for a drop in the number of LGBT characters in film in 2017.

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) found that 12% of mainstream releases featured LGBT characters last year. That was down from 18% in 2016 and is the lowest level recorded by GLAAD, which started the index six years ago.

[MORE](#)

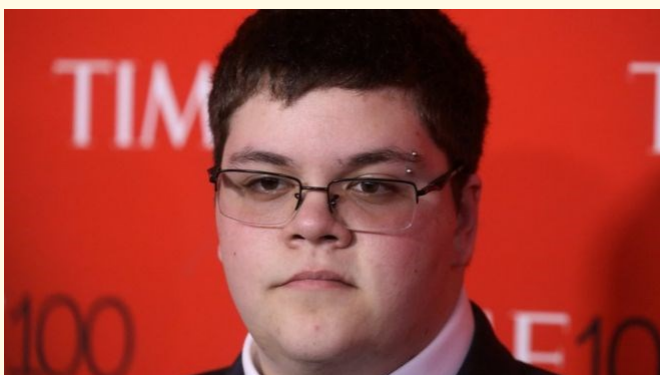


Valkyrie's (centre) bisexuality is not mentioned in Thor: Ragnarok

Gavin Grimm trans bathroom lawsuit backed by federal judge

A US judge has ruled that federal law protects a transgender student's right to use the bathroom corresponding to his gender identity. In the latest legal twist to a long-running case, a Virginia court rejected Gloucester County school board's bid to dismiss a lawsuit filed by Gavin Grimm, a student who has since graduated.

Mr Grimm sued after his school barred him from using the men's bathroom. [READ MORE HERE](#)



Events and Entertainment

MELT 2018: Festival of Queer Arts and Culture.

Thurs 17—Sun 27 May 2018

MELT is an invitation to celebrate Brisbane's wonderfully diverse queer communities. Brisbane's LGBTI+ voice is loud and clear, bursting with pride, humour, humanity and rebellion. The community is bounding towards equality in many vital aspects of life and MELT is a vehicle for these leaps. The invitation is extended to citizens of all genders, sexual orientations, ages, ethnicities, abilities and artistic interests. The celebration is one of love.

<https://brisbanepowerhouse.org/festivals/melt-2018-festival-of-queer-arts>



Podcasts



Throwing Shade

<https://www.earwolf.com/show/throwing-shade/>

Throwing Shade is the political comedy podcast hosted by Erin Gibson and Bryan Safi who deliver their fresh takes on pop culture, women's rights, and LGBT rights with hilarity and vulgarity.

Spend your Thursdays with the podcast called "the perfect combination of silly, intelligent, cynical and charming" by Entertainment Weekly and "Oprah's #1 pick" by an iTunes reviewer who is not Oprah.

Nancy

<https://www.wnycstudios.org/shows/nancy>

Stories and conversations about the queer experience today. Prepare to laugh and cry and laugh again.



Support Services

Bulk-billing LGBTIQ-friendly GP in Toowoomba

headspace Toowoomba has a bulk billing GP who works alongside their LGBTIQ group. She has a lot of experience with **headspace** centres and clients, and particularly with young people who are transgender. There are no wait times for appointments.

Dr Violeta is available Mondays and Wednesdays at **headspace** and bookings can be made on 4639 9000.



QLife/Diverse Voices

QLife is Australia's first nationally-oriented counselling and referral service for people who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans, and/or intersex (LGBTI). QLife provides nation-wide, early intervention, peer supported telephone and web based services to people of all ages across the full breadth of people's bodies, genders, relationships, sexualities, and lived experiences.

3:00pm to midnight in your state, around Australia, every day.

CALL 1800 184 527

ONLINE CHAT

The Pinnacle Foundation

The Pinnacle Foundation has been established to provide scholarships to Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Trans, Intersex and Queer students who are marginalised or disadvantaged.

[READ MORE](#)

PFLAG

A support group for the family and friends of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, Intersex, Agender and other diverse people.

Toowoomba

Phone: 0478 735 242

Email: pflagtoowoomba@gmail.com



Brisbane

Phone: 0400 767 832

<http://www.pflagbrisbane.org.au/contact-us>



Ipswich

Supporting our GLBTIQ community, their families and friends

<https://www.facebook.com/pflagipswich>



Open Doors

Open Doors provides Advocacy and support

services for lesbian, gay, bisexual, asexual and/or transgender, Intersex and queer (LGBTIQ) young people aged 12 to 24 and their families who live in South East Queensland.

<http://www.opendoors.net.au/>

Relationships Australia—Rainbow Program

Relationships Australia, Ipswich and Toowoomba, now provides The Rainbow Program,

striving to support the mental health and wellbeing of people of diverse bodies, genders and sexualities, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender & intersex (LGBTI) people, as well as those questioning their gender identity or sexual orientation. Includes counselling and support groups. <http://www.raq.org.au/services/rainbow-program>



My Big Gay Family

My Big Gay Family is a safe, inclusive space to explore and celebrate the depth and diversity of all LGBTIQ families. [Informed. Connected. Empowered.](#)

