**APRIL 2015 LGBTQ Awareness Month**

**Wednesday, April 1st • 9-11pm**
**Ask a Lesbian!**
HSC, Room 505
Who’s the “man”? Is scissors a thing? All are welcome to join Prism in this open and honest discussion of gender identity. Panelists will share their experiences and insight on the visibility, or lack thereof of women who love women.

**Monday, April 6th • 6-7:30 pm**
**…But you don’t look sick: A primer on invisible disabilities in the LGBTQ+ community**
HSC, Room 506
Much like LGBTQ identity, not all disabilities are visible to others. This program is an interactive journey to learn more about what invisible disabilities are, how they affect those who have them, and what it means to be LGBTQ+ identified while living with an invisible disability.

**Wednesday, April 8th • 2:30-4pm**
**11th Annual Ally Awards**
HSC, Regency Room
Join us for our 11th year and celebrate students, faculty, and staff who have made positive contributions to the LGBTQ community at NIU and beyond in 2014-15. Co-sponsored by Prism, Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Studies, and The Presidential Commission on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (PCSOGI).

**Thursday, April 9th • 6-7:30pm**
**The Gender Binary and LGBTQ People: Religious Myth and Medical Malpractice with Dr. Veronica Drantz**
HSC, Capitol Room
LGBTQ people have been and continue to be victims of medical malpractice purely because they are neither “Adams” nor “Eves.” This talk will contrast the scientific evidence with the ongoing medical (mis)treatment of LGBTQ people to illustrate how the binary myth that individuals are either born male or female and are either men or women has been extremely harmful to LGBTQ people, especially in the medical profession. Dr. Drantz holds a PhD in animal physiology and has taught science to medical professionals most of her life. She founded and directed Chicago’s first college degree program in electroencephalography and serves on the faculty of a doctoral anesthesia program in which she has taught physiology and related sciences for forty years. Co-sponsored with the NIU Secular Student Alliance and Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Studies.

**Friday, April 10th • 12-4pm**
**Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Studies Student Symposium**
DuSable Hall, Room 440
The first annual WGSS Student Symposium will feature presentations by WGSS undergraduate and graduate students. Topics that will be discussed include: “the incomplete representations of gay Holocaust victims in Holocaust museums,” “sexual citizenship as a concept in women-studies gender, and the intersection with incarceration of gender nonconforming individuals;” and the representation of black women in the media and popular culture. We hope you will attend the symposium and support WGSS students’ research! Sponsored by: Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Studies.

**Saturday, April 11th • 8-10pm**
**Gay Jam!**
HSC, Carl Sandburg Auditorium
NIU has talent, so come out, participate, and enjoy wonderful performances and fabulous prizes. This will go on all night to remember! Raise your voice and celebrate the diversity of the LGBTQQA community! Sponsored by Prism.

**Tuesday, April 14th • 6-7:30pm**
**Playing the Ace: Asexuality 101**
HSC, Illinois Room
Join the GSRC to explore and challenge assumptions around asexuality. Whether you’re figuring out if you are asexual, know someone who is, or just want to learn more, this program is a place to start.

**Wednesday, April 15th • 9-11pm**
**Prism’s Drag Race**
HSC, Duke Ellington Ballroom
Prism challenges all to experience the beauty, glamor, and drama of drag queen realism in this fun competition honoring drag culture. Wigs, heels, and lipstick take center stage in this night of community and fun.

**Thursday, April 16th • 7-8:30pm**
**Bi the way: Exploring Bisexual Visibility**
Neptune Central, Southeast Room
Join peer mentors from the GSRC in an open and honest discussion to validate and empower bi sexual spectrum individuals. Learn more and find out ways to be bi-positive, as a preview to featured speaker, Robyn Ochs.

**Friday, April 17th • 10am-2pm**
**National Day of Silence**
MLK Commons
Help Prism bring awareness to the ways LGBTQQA voices are silenced by visiting the MLK Commons and learning more about the movement toward equality. Rain location: Holmes Student Center.

**Tuesday, April 21st • 5-6:30pm**
**WGSS Honors Day Celebration**
Reavis Hall, Room 103
Celebrate the achievements of Women’s, Gender & Sexuality Studies students and faculty! Refreshments will be served.

**Tuesday, April 21st • 7-9pm**
**Robyn Ochs, Bisexual Activist**
HSC, Sky Room
Robyn Ochs is a professional speaker and workshop leader, award-winning activist, and author. An advocate for the rights of people of ALL orientations and genders, Robyn’s work focuses on increasing awareness and understanding of complex identities, and mobilizing people to be powerful allies to one another within and across identities and social movements. Don’t miss this dynamic presentation highlighting the often misunderstood “B” in LGBTQ where Robyn speaks about the myths and realities of bisexuality and sexual fluidity.

**Wednesday, April 22nd • 9-11pm**
**Prism Discusses HIV**
HSC, Lincoln Room
While HIV affects Americans from all walks of life, the epidemic continues to disproportionately impact gay and bisexual men, transgender women, youth ages 13-24, and communities of color, particularly in the southern United States. While tremendous medical advances have helped HIV-positive individuals live longer, healthier lives, there remains no cure, and tens of thousands of new infections occur every year. Join us for an in-depth discussion on HIV and it’s pervasiveness within queer communities.

**Friday, April 24th • 6-8pm**
**21st Annual Pride Awards Dinner**
HSC, Capitol Room
As we celebrate another year, students, alumni, faculty, and staff gather to recognize award winners and outstanding contributions made to the LGBTQ community. Reservations are required, call the Gender & Sexuality Resource Center for more information. Co-sponsored by Prism, WGSS, and PCSOGI.

**Monday, April 27th • 6-7:30pm**
**oSTEM presents, “The Big Queer Theory!”**
HSC, Room 305
Join NIU’s Out in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics organization for a night of skits and improv based on queering media, inspired by “The Big Bang Theory” television series. A discussion of science and queer identities in popular media will follow.

**Wednesday, April 29th • 9-11pm**
**Prism’s Spat Your Knowledge**
HSC, University Suite
Ever feel so passionate about something that you just want to get it out? Join Prism at the Spat Your Knowledge event to hear various speakers present on various LGBTQQA-related topics. This is a night full of knowledge that you don’t want to miss! Presentation proposals are still being accepted and should be emailed to spice@niuprism.com. Presentations should be no longer than 10 minutes. See you there!

**Thursday, May 7th • 3-5pm**
**6th Annual Lavender Graduation**
HSC, Sky Room
Honoring students with diverse sexual and gender identities, this ceremony celebrates the achievements and persistence of individuals graduating in December 2014, May 2015, and August 2015. Reservations are required; call the Gender & Sexuality Resource Center for details.

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*Unless noted, all events are free and open to the public.*