

# NATIONAL GSA NEWSLETTER

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Artwork by Laura R.

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## GSA ACTIVITY IDEA: LGBTQ+ REPRESENTATION IN MEDIA

Submitted by Ash/Vamp

**Directions:** Utilize articles, video essays, and other media to facilitate a group discussion on the positive and negative aspects of modern LGBTQ+ representation in media.

**Supplies Needed:** Supporting materials as needed (e.g. laptop, projector, videos, news articles, etc.)

# GSA COMMUNITY NORMS & GUIDELINES

By Crow D. (they/them)

As the school year gets closer, I've been doing more research to prepare for our first GSA project of the year: creating norms and guidelines for our community. GLSEN has a [list](#) of suggestions for guidelines, along with a bunch of other resources for GSAs, that I have found helpful. They suggest creating or going over GSA guidelines at the beginning of every school year, and maybe once or twice throughout the year. One of GSafe's [Sample GSA Group Agreements](#) is "What's said here, stays here. What's learned here, leaves here." This is a good addition to GLSEN's guideline of confidentiality, because it separates personal stories, which should not be shared without permission, and the knowledge and perspective that can be gained from them.

Depending on the community of your GSA, and what problems it may have faced, more specific guidelines might be helpful. For example, my GSA sometimes has problems with how loud it gets during club meetings, and so one of our community norms might be that we're going to try to keep our noise level down. Some other possible guidelines could be to respect the space (keep the place where you meet clean for whoever uses it next!) and agreements about giving content warnings during GSA meetings (what needs content warnings? Is there anything that you think shouldn't be talked about at all?). Guidelines can also be a good place to outline what GSA meetings might look like. Do most people want it to be somewhere to just hang out, or do more people want to have a lot of GSA goals and projects to work on? GLSEN also encourages GSAs to have a specific statement about anti-racism, and a list of community norms could be a good place to include that!

One thing I have specifically avoided is making any rules for our GSA. Often, rules imply punishment, and I don't want that to be the case in GSAs. No matter what you include in them, community norms are an important thing for GSAs to have. They help establish a community of mutual respect and protect the safety of GSA members.



## Suggested Reading:

- ***Guidelines for Respectful GSA Spaces | GLSEN***

<https://www.glsen.org/activity/guidelines-respectful-gsa-spaces>

- ***Sample GSA Group Agreements | GSafe***

<https://gsafevi.org/resources/for-youth-gsas/building-your-gsa/sample-gsa-group-agreements/>

# LGBTQIA+ SIGNIFICANT DAYS CALENDAR

Assembled by Ellen R. (she/they)



AUGUST 2022



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Let Trans Athletes Play
8	9 Internat'l Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples	10	11	12	13	14 Gay Uncle Day
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26 Wear It Purple Day (Australia)	27	28
29	30	31	August 9th - Nat'l Women's Day August 7-13th - Internat'l Service Dog Week	August 26th - Women's Equality Day		

# LGBTQIA+ SIGNIFICANT DAYS CALENDAR

Assembled by Ellen R. (she/they)



MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
September 5-11th - Suicide Prevention Week September 17-23rd - Bisexual+ Awareness Week		Nat'l Suicide Prevention Month	1	2	3	4
5 Labor Day	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18 Nat'l HIV/AIDS & Aging Awareness Day
19	20	21 Internat'l Day of Peace	22	23 Bisexual Visibility Day	24	25
26	27	28 Nat'l Voter Registration Day	29	30	September 20-26th - Internat'l Week of Deaf People	

*Thank you to our contributors Laura, Ash/Vamp, Crow, & Ellen for making this edition possible.*