



LGBTQIA 101

Lesbian –women who are attracted romantically, physically, sexually, and/or emotionally to other women.

Gay – men who are romantically, physically, sexually and/or emotionally attracted to other men. The term “gay” can be used as an umbrella term used to refer to the queer community as a whole, or as an individual identity label for anyone who does not identify as heterosexual.

Bisexual –a person who is romantically, emotionally, physically, and/or sexually attracted to both men and women. This attraction does not have to be equally split or indicate a level of interest that is the same across genders.

Transgender –A person who identifies and lives as a member of a gender other than that assigned at birth.

Queer –this is an umbrella term to describe individuals who don’t identify as straight. This is also used to describe people who have a non-normative gender identity or do not fall into the gender binary. Due to its historical use as a derogatory term, it is not embraced or used by all members of the LGBTQIA community.

Questioning –an individual who or at one time may have been unsure about or exploring their own sexual orientation or gender identity.

Intersex –a term for a combination of chromosomes, hormones, internal sex organs, and genitals that differs from the two expected patterns of male or female. Intersex individuals were formerly known as hermaphrodites. This term is now outdated and derogatory.

Ally – Usually a straight and/or cis-gender person who supports and respects members of the LGBTQIA community.