
THE BUTLER CENTER

NEWSLETTER



“BREAKING DOWN LATINIDAD”

By **Julissa Torres**

I feel confident that the “Breaking Down Latinidad” workshop is only the start of more intentional discussions happening in the Colorado College community. My family is from a southern Mexican state bordering Guatemala. I am not unfamiliar with issues of colorism and racism within the Latinx community, and the complicated relations that come when a pan-ethnic identity is expected to encompass the experiences of millions of peoples and their histories. With this background, I know that issues of anti-Indigenous and anti-Black rhetoric are rarely talked about and usually dismissed. Because of this, I was a bit nervous on how this conversation would be structured, and what the response would be. Most importantly, would anyone show up? [cont. next page]

“BREAKING DOWN LATINIDAD” CONT.



The Colorado College community came through! The Windom House was packed, and the complimentary pupusas were gone by the end of the workshop! What I appreciated the most about how the workshop was structured was how it truly facilitated conversation rather than a “Latinidad 101” presentation style. After watching videos that centered the voices and experiences of Indigenous and Afro-Latine folks, the facilitators made space for those in attendance to reflect in small groups, then followed that with a larger group discussion. The amount of contributions made by everyone was incredibly refreshing, and I could feel that everyone just wanted to learn and know more. People offered their personal experiences, and I appreciated how this workshop saw those experiences as assets to the conversation. This discussion is certainly not over, and I know that here at the Butler Center, we’re so excited to continue these series of conversations.

[Thank you to Julissa Torres for their contribution]

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT!



Cerella Zhao

she/they

Psychology

What is your role in the Butler Center? I serve as an ISEP (International Student Engagement Program) peer mentor, supporting international students in their college journey.

What are you studying, and what do you want to do after CC? I'm majoring in psychology, and I aspire to work in the field of psychology as a therapist or pursue further education in graduate school.

What is one interest you have outside of school? Cooking is a passion of mine, and I love experimenting with new recipes.

What does ADEI (Antiracism, Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion) work mean to you/why did you get into this? ADEI work is deeply meaningful to me as the co-chair of the Chinese Student Association because it represents a commitment to creating an environment where every student feels valued and included. It means actively dismantling systemic barriers and prejudices that affect underrepresented groups, especially international students who may face unique challenges in adapting to a new culture and educational system. Through my role in butler center, I aim to raise awareness, provide resources, and advocate for policies that foster diversity and equity, making Colorado College a place where all students can thrive, regardless of their background or identity. This work is not just a responsibility; it's a passion that I carry with pride, knowing that positive change can occur when we work together for a more inclusive community!

What is one cause you're passionate about? I'd like to see more mental health support and awareness on campus. I'm passionate about reducing the stigma surrounding mental health and advocating for better resources.

What is one fun fact people might not expect about you? Surprisingly, I used to have 12 parrots, and one by one, they all flew away.

JOIN US AT UPCOMING EVENTS

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GOTH PROM

October 27th - 7:00 to 10:00 pm. Bemis Great Hall

Join us for GOTH PROM, spooky snacks, and dancing to live DJing. Partner with Sustainability by thrifting your outfits, visiting the CC Exchange, or visit Arts and Crafts to create or upcycle your look. Come in your best goth or goth subculture look for the chance to win prizes!

31

T- Time

October 31th - 1:00 pm

A space for trans, nonbinary, and gender non-conforming students. Contact Deka Jordyn Spears for additional details and location.

31

Table Talk

October 13th - 3:30 pm. RTD Lounge.

A space for women and femme identifying students of color to build community and discuss relevant topics. Contact Irina Amouzou with questions.

1

Out of the Closet Workshops - Transitions

November 1st - 12:30 pm. WES Room (Worner Basement).

Join us for our LGBTQIA+ lecture series, brought to you by Deka Jordyn Spears. This session focuses on the topics of transitions. Open to all.

2

Dia de los Muertos

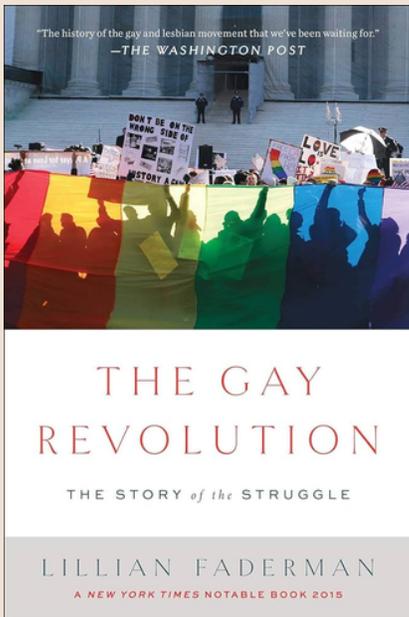
November 2nd - 12:00 pm. RTD Lounge.

Visit our offrendas and decorate paper mache sugar skulls.



WEEKLY PAIRINGS - MEDIA RECOMENDATIONS

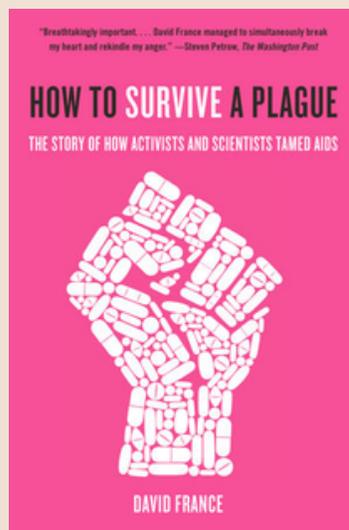
Celebrating LGBTQIA+ History Month!



Want a comprehensive overview of the legal history of queer rights in America and the fight for equality? *The Gay Revolution* by Lillian Faderman is an impressively detailed

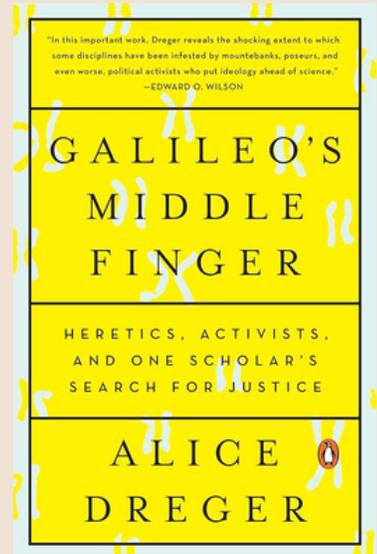
exploration of these topics, and covers everything from the Lavender Scare and institutionalization of gay people to the equal marriage act of the Obama administration.

David France's unparalleled and heart-wrenching research in *How to Survive a Plague* dives specifically into the AIDS epidemic. This epidemic was largely ignored by officials, so France explores the grassroot movements, activists, scientists, buyers clubs, journalists, and others extraordinary people who gave their lives to fighting AIDS. France also draws on his personal experience and connections to this movement and community.



Alice Dreger, historian, philosopher, and modern intersex rights activist, writes a manifesto that takes readers from Victorian era perceptions of gender and biology, to modern

controversies around surgical abuses conducted to "normalize" intersex children. Dreger explores the rhetorical campaign against Intersex identities, and as a philosopher, attempts to explore how we construct truth scientifically and socially.

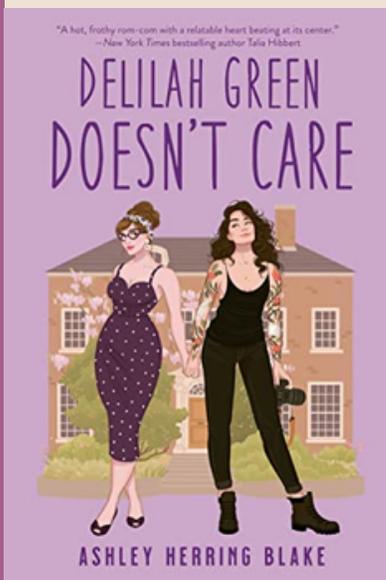


Queer an anthology by Frank Wynne challenges readers to remember that queer identities are not a modern invention, but have existed throughout history. *Queer* features queer

musings by Sappho and Emily Dickenson, reflections on gender by Oscar Wilde, and graphic novel work by Alison Bechdel. Spanning ancient to modern history, this book is a great primer to queer lit or a beautiful coffee table addition.

WEEKLY PAIRINGS - MEDIA RECOMENDATIONS

Fall in Love with Queer Romances and Fiction



In Ashley Herring Blake's *Delilah Green Doesn't Care*, Artist and photographer, Deliah, reluctantly returns to her home town and the tumultuous memories it contains to photography her

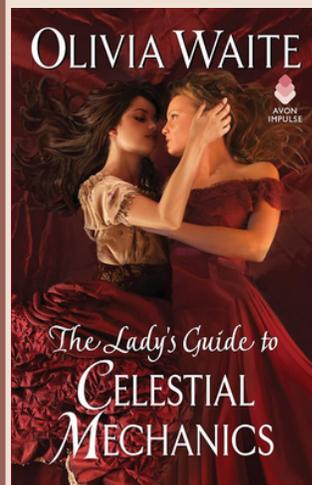
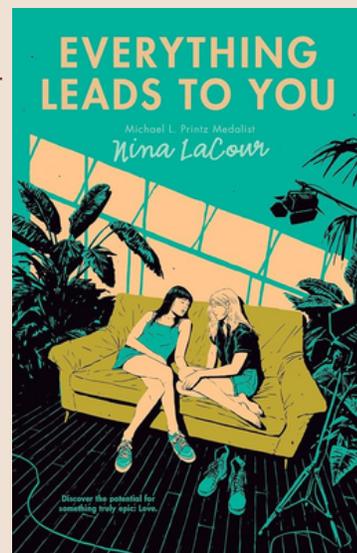
perfect step sister's wedding. There she encounters former schoolmate, Claire, and together they learn to face the past head on while discovering the irresistible appeal behind the "enemies to lovers" trope.

Adam Silvera and Beck Albertalli (author of *Simon vs. The Homo Sapiens Agenda*) bring readers a touching YA romance. Arthur believes in fate and grand romances, Ben is far more cynical. After the two boys "meet cute" during their summer in NY, circumstance (fate?) continues to push and pull them apart. Is that just life? Or is the universe orchestrating some grand Broadway play?



Nina LaCour brings her distinctively prose-y and heart-wrenchingly emotional tone to the story on Emi, a young graduate who has one summer to do something great that will propel her life from monotony and failed romance.

After finding a mysterious letter at a Hollywood estate sale, Emi and her best friend, Charlotte launch of an adventure to uncover the hidden life of a Hollywood film ledged, and along the way discover something truly life changing: love.



Craving *Bridgeton* but wish it was gay? Olivia Waite is one of the biggest voices in queer Victorian romances. *The Lady's Guide [...]* is one of her first books to gain popular recognition. bluestocking Lucy finds herself entering the life of Countess Catherine St Day after being hired to translate a groundbreaking French astronomy text. But as old threats arise, can the two find the strength to act on the attraction between them - or are they doomed to be star-crossed lovers?

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



The Queer and Trans Collective partners with Rebecca Parker from Arts and Crafts who lead a workshop on wheel throwing! Photo Credit: Rachel Phillips.