### Be The Change Week Schedule

**April 2014**

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<td>March 31st</td>
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<td>LGBTQA+ &amp; Religion Panel and Lunch Discussion 11:30AM-1:00 PM</td>
<td>Ally 101 12:00PM-2:00PM</td>
<td>OutSpeaking Orientation 4:00-5:00 PM</td>
<td>Having Effective Conversations about Race on Campus Workshop 7:00 PM</td>
<td>“Riding in Cars with Black People and Other Newly Dangerous Acts” 7:00 PM</td>
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Visit [http://involved.unl.edu/be-change-week](http://involved.unl.edu/be-change-week) for more information.

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### The Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles and the *It Gets Better* Campaign Come to UNL

**By Lindsay Spaulding**

This year, the Interdisciplinary Art Symposium has invited the Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles, partnered with the *It Gets Better* Campaign, to UNL. The *It Gets Better* Campaign was started by Dan Savage in 2010 to start a message of hope directed to young LGBTQ individuals. Since then, the campaign has raised awareness on LGBTQ bullying and suicide, and has become a source of hope for teens struggling with these issues. The performance at UNL will involve these issues through the voices of the Gay Men’s Chorus of Los Angeles. The event is on April 18th at 7:30 pm at the Lied Center for Performing Arts. Tickets are free to UNL faculty, staff, and students, and are $18 for non-UNL adults, $9 for non-UNL students. We hope that you can go see it! [http://www.unl.edu/ias/gay-mens-chorus-los-angeles](http://www.unl.edu/ias/gay-mens-chorus-los-angeles)
Review of Peterson Toscano  By Lindsay Spaulding

On Monday, March 17th, The LGBTQA+ Resource Center met Peterson Toscano, an actor and activist in the LGBTQA Community. There was dinner followed by Peterson Toscano’s performance containing scenes from many of his productions as an actor. Peterson acted out his experiences in an ex-gay camp and brought life to Bible stories, showing that they are not necessarily as gender and sexuality specific as others make them seem. Peterson participated with the audience, asking for questions and comments. Overall, his performance was fantastic, and his commentary on the Bible, the ex-gay movement, and even the environment through a queer lens was insightful. Thank you to Peterson Toscano for his performance and all those who made it possible! Thank you to Peterson Toscano for his performance and all those who made it possible!

http://petersontoscano.com/

Art and Activism  By Grace Brown

For Be the Change Week 2014, the Rotunda Gallery will have a display entitled “Art and Activism”. The idea came from Dr. Sandra Williams. She is a faculty member in the Art History department. She contacted the Center because she had students who were interested in the idea, and she agreed to set up a silk screening workshop with the LGBTQA+ Resource Center. The workshop “gave some of us the opportunity to stretch our wings and try something we hadn’t done before” says Graduate Assistant Amy Vanderpool. From the workshop, various works of art were created that depict activists or images that serve as inspiration for activism. The display will involve multimedia art, and will give viewers an opportunity to become a part of the activism through the signing of a banner that affirms their commitment to LGBTQA+ Inclusion on campus. The display will be up March 31st-April 4th.

LGBTQA+ and Religion Resources in Our Library

In the film Fish Can’t Fly, gay men and women of faith journey to bring their sexuality and spirituality in harmony. The stories can range from sad and frightening to truly enlightening and inspiring. The film also features Peterson Toscano! Check it out at our library!

The library also has a documentary called In Good Conscience: Sister Jeannine Gramick’s Journey of Faith. The documentary follows Sister Jeannine Gramick in a funny but powerful battle for lesbian and gay rights inside the Catholic church. Check it out in our library!

We have many other resources relating to religion & LGBTQA as well so come up to the LGBTQA+ Resource Center to learn more!
It’s 2014, and we are still talking about social justice. Despite decades of social justice movements, hours upon hours of work done by individual activists, and incredible steps forward in the social and political arenas, LGBTQA+ Inclusion is still a problem, and until we recognize that, we cannot fix it. This is the sentiment behind the new campaign the LGBTQA+ Resource Center is unveiling during Be the Change Week.

In December, the Chancellor unveiled his campaign “not here, not now, never”. This campaign was responding to the racial bias on campus and the marginalization of people of color. At the LGBTQA+ Resource Center, we were happy to see this support from the administration. The center’s mission involves social justice for all groups, and our intentions are always to create inclusive and safe spaces for people of any age, class, race, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity. However, it seems that our efforts at LGBTQA+ Inclusion have not been as widely noticed or fought for as they could be. LGBTQA+ issues are still not common discussions around campus, even though we have a very large LGBTQA+ population at UNL. One frustration noticed by the head of the center—Pat Tetreault—is that “There are a lot of misconceptions and misunderstandings on the marginalization of LGBTQA+ people, and on top of that a lack of engagement by LGBTQA+ people.” Pat hopes that the Right Here, Right Now, Always campaign will help raise awareness of LGBTQA+ issues on campus, and also encourage involvement from members of the UNL community who are not actively supporting the LGBTQA+ people on campus. Pat also mentioned that the Center struggles with “horizontal hostility, being criticized for not meeting everyone’s needs” while being the only LGBTQA+ resource on campus.” It is our hope as a Center that moving forward, the community at Nebraska will work together to create change.

The campaign will kick off during Be the Change week from March 31st—April 4th, and the big event for the campaign will be an open forum on LGBTQA+ Inclusion in the Union Centennial Room on Monday, April 7th at 7:00 PM. We encourage any and all members of The UNL or greater Lincoln community to join us in a safe and inclusive space to discuss the real issues we are facing surrounding LGBTQA+ Inclusion. We also encourage people to sign our online petition, a statement of commitment to LGBTQA+ Inclusion, at Right Here, Right Now, Always Campaign
By Grace Brown

April Events

March 31st-April 4th: Rotunda Gallery Display: Change Agents, Art & Activism
March 31st-April 4th: Be The Change Week! (see schedule)
April 7th: Right Here, Right Now, Always: LGBTQA+ inclusion Open Forum
April 18th: Gay Men’s Chorus of LA and the It Gets Better Project at the Lied Center for the Performing Arts at 7:30 pm
April 24th: Lavender Graduation, including the Chancellor’s Award and Crompton Scholarship, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm

Details
For more event details visit: involved.unl.edu/lgbtqa or contact the center.
For more information on Spectrum UNL visit: spectrum.unl.edu
The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Asexual and Ally (LGBTQA+) Resource Center advances the mission of UNL by working collaboratively to provide education, resources, outreach and advocacy to help build and sustain a socially just campus community that is welcoming and inclusive of all people of all sexual orientations, gender identities and expression.

We envision a campus community that supports a safe, inclusive and respectful environment for all students, staff, faculty, and alumnae of all sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expression.

LGBTQA+ Resource Center is part of Student Involvement’s outreach and commitment to diversity and inclusion for all students. The Assistant Director in Student Involvement for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer/Questioning, Asexual and Ally (LGBTQA+) Programs & Services serves as the Director of the LGBTQA+ Resource Center, 346 Nebraska Union.

What the Center Offers:

- An inclusive place to hang out and do schoolwork
- Safe Space and Ally Development presentations, workshops, and materials
- Presentations and workshops related to social justice education, sexual orientation, gender identity and intersections of identities
- Involvement opportunities—including being a member of Out-Speaking (our Speaker’s Bureau), and volunteering at the center
- Library materials and resources to checkout
- Consultation and assistance on LGBTQA+ issues
- Assessment of campus climate
- Assistance with bias incidents (check out bias.unl.edu)
- Help in creating and maintaining a campus that is welcoming and inclusive for the diversity of students at UNL