



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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George Mason Creates a Safe Living Space for LGBTQ+ Students

The university uses its Living Learning Communities program to help LGBTQ+ Students feel at home

Fairfax, Virginia – November 24, 2019 – George Mason University, in its ongoing push for diversity, is encouraging students to apply to the LGBTQ+ Living Learning Community, an inclusive place for LGBTQ+ affiliated residents. Mason is home to a large number of these communities, or LLCs for short, which focus on bringing together students with common interests to reside on-campus in the dorms system.

The program coordinator, LuLu Géza Kelemen, mentioned that the LLC “has both an upper division and a first-year community that each get to build their own floor traditions and participate in LGBTQ+ focused community learning and service programs.” Throughout the year, residents attend events both educational and recreational, such as Queer Movie Night, Transgender Day of Remembrance, and dedicated game nights.

In addition to these programs, community members must also attend a one-credit class together, focused on LGBTQ+ communities, environmental justice, and more. The teaching assistant for the class, Solomon Oyombo, considers it an exciting, engaging class with plenty of opportunities for learning and discussions about LGBTQ+ rights. Oyombo, who uses they/them pronouns, also mentioned how the class gave them valuable experience about grading and creating lesson plans, researching topics for class, and more.



Because students reside and engage with others who have similar interests, participants in the program gain strong bonds with one another. Henry Brass, a sophomore from Atlanta, Georgia, mentioned how he has gained “a lot of friends” as a result of the program. He also mentioned how important it was to him that he had a safe space to feel comfortable and “be himself,” knowing that no one would ridicule him for his sexuality.

For more information about the LGBTQ+ LLC, or the LLC program in general, visit <https://housing.gmu.edu/housing-options/living-learning-communities/masons-llcs>. Interested students may also visit LGBTQ+ Resources, located in SUB I, to learn more about the LLC.

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For these press releases, just send them to local news organizations to see if they are interested in coverage. See the PR pitch page for more information.