



Based in Ketchikan • Representing Southeast Alaska

Cover Artwork by Ryan McHale - He/Him - Queer - Ketchikan, AK

**CALL FOR
SUBMISSIONS**

Kira Anderson - Yup'ik - She/They - Feminish - Anchorage, AK
Micah Lao - Filipino - She/Her - Demisexual - Anchorage, AK
Photographer: Amanda Kolstedt



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Submissions
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LOUD & QUEER!

Loud and Queer! is a quarterly zine published by the Ketchikan Queer Collective featuring visual art, articles, and resources. **Loud and Queer!** connects LGBTQ+ people of Southeast Alaska to inform, inspire, and build community. This publication tells our stories by and for each other.

Send submissions to: loudandqueerketchikan@gmail.com



Photographer:
Michael McGinnis
he/him
Polyamorous
Ketchikan, AK

THIS IS LINGÍT AANÍ

The Land of the Tlingit

We are located on the current and ancestral lands of the Tlingit, who have been living here since time immemorial. Kichxáan (Ketchikan) remains the territory of the Taant'a Kwáan (Sea Lion Tribe) of the Tongass Tlingit. We are grateful for the opportunity to live and learn here in mutual respect and appreciation.

BACK TO THE BASICS

NONBINARY

Nonbinary is an umbrella term to describe a number of identities that fall outside the gender binary. It is estimated that there are 1.2 MILLION nonbinary adults in the US according to a new UCLA study. Some nonbinary people consider themselves transgender meaning they do not identify with the gender assigned at birth. There is still a fight for legal recognition for those who can't check the M or F box.

It is important to remember that there are cultures, past and current, that have always made space for those who are born outside western ideals of man or woman.

Agender

Someone who does not experience gender at all.

Androgynous

A person with a neutral gender presentation.

Bigender

Signifies a person with two distinct gender identity.

Demigender

A person who has a partial identity tied to a certain gender.

Genderfluid

A person who moves between genders can be a different gender from one moment to the next.

Gender Nonconforming

This is a term that describes how someone's outward gender expression does not match the gender assigned at birth.

Genderqueer

Someone who doesn't identify with a male or female gender identity. This is not to be confused with queer which can describe a fluid sexual orientation.

How to Support Nonbinary Neighbors

Supporting nonbinary neighbors is crucial to protecting the health and wellness of all community members. When there is space for nonbinary folks to freely express themselves safely, we all are.

Don't Assume Peoples Gender

consider using "they" when you don't know someone's gender identity. even adding a little bit to your vocabulary helps.

Example:

Dylan: My barista makes the best oat milk lattes, I swear!

Jamie: Do they make cute designs in the foam?

Dylan: Every time!



Enjoy the Art of Being Human

Just let people be! Enjoy the art that is being human. If a hairy-chested, 6'2" person wants to wear a romper and mascara, be glad a neighbor is feeling confident enough to be themselves around you. It is an honor to live in a community where people can live with authenticity.



Be Curious, Not Invasive

People don't owe you information about their bodies or journey. Ask questions in good faith and with kindness.

Example:

~~**Curt:** So are you more boy or girl?
Dumi: *rolls eyes so hard it hurts*~~



Curt: Do you have a favorite way to express masculine or feminine energy?
Dumi: I do! I have specific jewelry I wear when I am feeling a certain energy more strongly.

Ditch the Box

Skip the **M or F** question when you can. Advocate for more options or its removal when it is irrelevant.



Grace Ammerman
She/Her/They/Them
Lesbian, Demisexual
Genderqueer
Prosser, WA

(I visit my girlfriend in Ketchikan)

A Short Introduction to Gender Performativity

“Performativity has to do with repetition, very often the repetition of oppressive and painful gender norms . . .”

— Judith Butler

Judith Butler first developed the theory of performativity in *Gender Trouble*. Butler believes that gender is largely socially constructed - a set of norms and expectations imposed on us by society. Gender performativity is commonly misunderstood to mean that gender is “just a performance.” Butler’s claim is not that gender is a *performance*, but is instead that gender is *performative*, meaning it’s a set of norms and expectations that are constantly being produced and reproduced.

These norms create a narrative for how a person should behave, what they are allowed to like or wear, and how they express themselves. Butler describes the way in which these built-in expectations about maleness and femaleness, straightness and queerness, are constantly imposed on all of us.

Butler uses the example of the child who becomes “girlled” by others at birth: She is given a female name, referred to with female pronouns, given girl toys, and will, throughout her life, have her “girlness” cited by others in society. Butler argues that this sort of reiteration “produces” gender, making it appear “natural.”

These systems require that gender is perceived as essential and an immutable fact. Those who don’t conform to gender norms are often punished for it, which exposes the oppressive nature of the system. Trans and gender non-conforming people experience discrimination, harassment, and violence because their lived experiences don’t fit within traditional gender norms and expectations.

This theory is in many ways a starting point to discuss the complexities of gender and allows us to critically examine the social structures that maintain these gender norms.

Further Reading: *Gender Trouble* by Judith Butler



Evan Adam

Photographer: Jason Dallas Hensler Baldwin - Any Pronouns - Nonbinary - Ketchikan, AK

Model: Aubrey Saunders - She/Her - Lesbian - Ketchikan, AK



A woman with a brown bob haircut and glasses, wearing a blue jacket and grey pants, stands on a grassy field. She is holding a white sign with black text. In the background, the Washington Monument is visible, along with other people and trees. The scene appears to be a public gathering or protest.

**WE ARE
YOUR
FAMILY,
YOUR
CO-WORKERS,
YOUR
FRIENDS
...
YOU LOVE US
ALREADY**

Sara Boesser

Lesbian, AIDS Activist, Alaska LGBTQ+ Civil Rights Activist (1951, Age 71)

Sara Boesser got involved in the LGBTQ+ civil rights movement during the AIDS crisis in the 80s. Inspired to act, Sara became a founding member of Shanti of Juneau, an organization patterned after the Shanti organization in San Francisco, which supported people diagnosed with HIV/AIDS during the early days of the epidemic.

Sara was a founding member of SEAGLA — the Southeast Alaska Gay and Lesbian Alliance. She was also president of the Committee for Equality, a state-wide board that worked for equal rights for LGBTQ+ Alaskans. Sara also started the Juneau Pride Chorus in 1997, and for many years she gathered LGBTQ+ related news items for the blog Bent Alaska in a section called “Sara’s News.”

After decades of work as a tireless champion of LGBTQ+ rights, Boesser was present for the passage of Juneau’s equal rights ordinance in 2016. Sara is now retired and lives with her partner Juanita in New Mexico.

(Left) Sara Boesser at the Second National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights, Washington, D.C., October 11, 1987





Married August 1, 2020:

Stephen Varela-Kossak

He/Him

Gay

Ketchikan, AK

Tommy Varela-Kossak

He/Him

Gay

Ketchikan, AK

Photographer:

Kristy McGarrigan



Not Just A Flag

A Message of Visible Support

In 2017 I visited Ketchikan for the first time, and I was enchanted by the natural wonder, tempted by the sparse population, and charmed by the friendliness of the people I met. It seemed like a wonderland, almost too good to be true. And in my experience, if it seems too good to be true, it probably is.

A barrier to moving to Ketchikan was the fear, rooted in experience, that my wife and I have of being demonstrably in a relationship in an unfamiliar place. Holding hands while walking down the street, even in Portland, Oregon, we have had profanity yelled at us from passing vehicles.

I've had people get aggressive while I was working customer service. And I know it could be so much worse, we've been lucky so far.

I am a very femme presenting nonbinary person, passing easily as a cisgendered woman in my daily life.

My only visible que is my shockingly purple hair, but with the increased popularity of fashion hair color I get more approval than confusion about it these days. Weirdly enough, people usually assume I'm vegan, not queer.

Ketchikan was daunting. So many red hats and MAGA bumper stickers, gun racks on pickups and signs about praying to end abortion. Would we be out of place here? Would we be alone?

The house on Schoenbar told us we wouldn't be.

If you live here, or have visited for any period of time, you know the house I'm talking about. Bright rainbow flags surround their driveway, proclaiming their support for the world to see. And the importance of this runs so much deeper than simply defying community norms.

This house tells the quiet kids who are just trying to make it through high school that it will, in spite of everything, get better. It tells women and men, born into the wrong body, that they are valid and loved. It tells my wife and me that we are welcome here; this beautiful town is for everyone.

Morgan Weber
She/Her/They/Them
Nonbinary
Ketchikan, AK

YOU
MUST
REMEMBER
THAT
THE
TRUTH
IS
OUR
ONLY
SWORD.

Chelsea Tremblay
She/her
Polyamorous
Petersburg, AK

- PAULI MURRAY



Married July 5, 2021:

Kira Anderson
Yup'ik
She/They
Feminish
Anchorage, AK

Micah Lao
Filipino
She/Her
Demisexual
Anchorage, AK

Photographer:
Amanda Kolstedt

LOUD & QUEER!

Greens - Be Steadwell

Silk Chiffon - Muna

I Don't Care Anymore - Jax Anderson

Missing Someone - Jaimee Harris

Bad Habit - Steve Lacy



LISTEN NOW



Open Spotify and scan the
code to listen to our
Queer playlist or
search "L&Q Ketchikan"
on Spotify!





WISH

907-225-9474

www.wishak.org

WISH is a private, non-profit agency that provides direct services to victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other violent crimes.

WISH is a grassroots organization that has been promoting zero tolerance for violent crimes and advocating for victim rights in Ketchikan and the rural communities of Southeast Alaska for over 40 years.

WISH services are available to everyone, regardless of race/ethnicity, language, sex, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, (dis)ability, social class, economic status, education, marital status, religious affiliation, residency, or HIV status.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

- Free mental health counseling for any student in Ketchikan impacted by domestic or sexual violence in
- Free trainings for agencies on many topics related to violence and trauma
- Parenting classes
- Parent and child counseling
- Support navigating services, including accompanying to appointments

SHELTER SERVICES

- Emergency safe shelter accessible 24/7; 365 days a year
- Emergency transportation from surrounding areas to the shelter in Ketchikan
- Safety planning
- Legal Advocacy
- Sexual Assault Response
- Housing Support
- Food boxes
- Support Groups
- Advocacy

All of WISH's services are free and confidential. Call (907)225-9474 or visit www.wishak.org for more detailed info on services.



SHARE YOUR STORY



YOUR VOICE MATTERS!

What is it like to be LGBTQIA2S+ in Ketchikan? Take the 2022 KPA Community Survey and add your voice to the conversation.



Scan the QR code or visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KPA22>

2022

KPA

NEEDS

ASSESSMEN
T

TAKE

THE KPA

COMMUNITY

SURVEY

KETCHIKAN PRIDE ALLIANCE

SURVEY

All LGBTQIA2S+ adults aged 18 and over who live in the Ketchikan Gateway Borough (including the City of Ketchikan, City of Saxman, Gravina Island, and Pennock Island) are invited to take this survey. We are also accepting responses from anyone who lives in Southern, Southeast Alaska (including Hyder, Metlakatla, Petersburg, Prince of Wales Island, and Wrangell)

The purpose of this survey is to understand the experiences and needs of the LGBTQIA2S+ community in Ketchikan and surrounding areas. The data will be used to create a formal report on the experiences, needs, and unique challenges for LGBTQIA2S+ people in Ketchikan.

The report will provide recommendations about the mental health and wellness needs of Ketchikan Gateway Borough LGBTQIA2S+ residents in an effort to create positive change for LGBTQIA2S+ community members. Through your feedback on this survey, the Ketchikan Pride Alliance will be better able to provide resources and advocate on behalf of the LGBTQIA2S+ community in Ketchikan.



This project was made possible by a grant from the Ketchikan Community Foundation, an Affiliate of the Alaska Community Foundation.

START IN ONE HEART AND MAKE IT TO THE OTHER



Maze created by Ian Clarke - He/Him - Ally - Ketchikan, AK

When you're done reading, pass it on!

THE KETCHIKAN QUEER COLLECTIVE

The Ketchikan Queer Collective is a committee of the Ketchikan Pride Alliance. We are a group of individuals who have come together to inform, inspire, and build community through our quarterly publication Loud and Queer! Based in Ketchikan, we work locally and regionally to make LGBTQ+ experiences visible and our voices heard.

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR WORK

- Have a personal connection to Alaska
 - For example: live here, have lived here, work here, have visited here
- Please keep written works to approximately 300 words (around one page)
- Want to create our next issue cover art? Submit your artwork!
- Email submissions to loudandqueerketchikan@gmail.com



PWYC

If you liked reading this zine, consider paying what you can to help with printing costs and website maintenance

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EMPOWERMENT IN PRINT - TOGETHER WE ARE STRONG