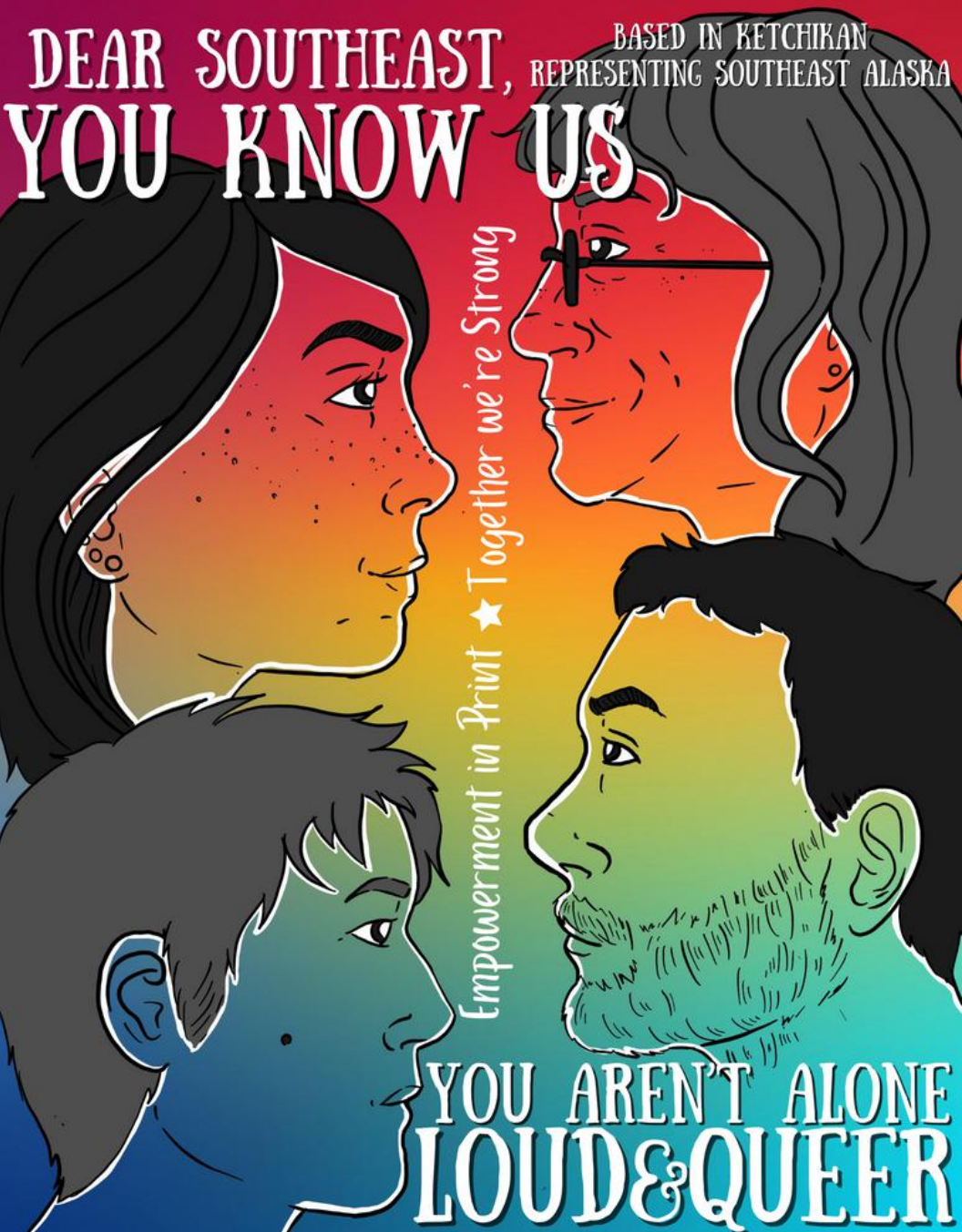


# DEAR SOUTHEAST, YOU KNOW US

BASED IN KETCHIKAN  
REPRESENTING SOUTHEAST ALASKA



Empowerment in Print ★ Together we're Strong

# YOU AREN'T ALONE LOUD & QUEER

Cover Artwork by Morgan Weber  
She/Her/They/Them - Nonbinary

**CALL FOR  
SUBMISSIONS**

Photographer: Thomas Brooks - He/Him - Gay - Ketchikan, AK  
Model: Inani Rea - She/Her - Ketchikan, AK



Scan the QR  
Code to check  
out our  
Submissions  
Page

# **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](mailto:loudandqueerketchikan@gmail.com)



# 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

## CONSENT

Consent is an affirmative agreement between participants to engage in physical or sexual activity.

At its core, consent is about communicating, understanding, and respecting another person's boundaries, and vice versa in order to be safe and build healthy relationships.

Consent doesn't only apply to sexual activity. It's important to get consent for any activity that may interact with another person's boundaries. Consent can be about simple things, like whether you want to play a game or get a hug from a friend.

We can use the acronym FRIESS to explain consent in an easy, understandable way.

## FREELY GIVEN

Nobody gets to touch you without your permission

You should only do stuff you WANT to do, not things that you feel you're expected to do.

Consenting is a choice you make without pressure, manipulation, or under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

## REVERSIBLE

Consent is about clear communication.

You can change your mind at any time. You can withdraw consent at any point if you feel uncomfortable.

## INFORMED

Be honest. You can only consent to something if you have the full story.

## ENTHUSIASTIC

Tone of voice and body language are as important as the words being said.

If someone isn't excited or really into it, that's not consent.

If someone is acting uncomfortable and reluctant, even if they are verbally giving consent, that's not consent.

## SPECIFIC

Consenting to one activity, one time, does not mean someone gives consent for other activities or for the same activity on other occasions.

## SOBER

The only way to be absolutely certain everyone involved is consenting is for everyone to be sober.

# PRACTICE CONSENT

**Ask permission before touching someone's body.**

Sarah: Can I give you a hug?  
Joe: Yes! Thanks for asking.



Finn: Jake do you want a hug or a high-five goodbye?  
Jake: Let's high-five!

Nina: Can I hold your hand on the way to class?  
Corey: No thanks, that makes me uncomfortable.  
Nina: Okay.



# YOU'RE NOT ALONE

## April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Sexual violence affects every demographic and every community – including LGBTQ+ people. Within the LGBTQ+ community, transgender people and bisexual women face the most alarming rates of sexual violence.

LGBTQ+ people may face forms of abuse or barriers to reporting and accessing support specifically based on prejudices against their gender expression or sexuality. For LGBTQ+ survivors of sexual assault the discrimination they face surrounding their identities often make them hesitant to seek help from police, hospitals, shelters or rape crisis centers, the very resources that are supposed to help them.

This epidemic of sexual violence in the LGBTQ+ community is something we must all work together to address. If someone discloses to you that they have been sexually assaulted, remember to believe them, reassure them that it wasn't their fault, keep their disclosure confidential (unless the situation requires mandatory reporting), and never pressure them for more information than they want to share.

Sexual assault is rarely discussed due to negative stigma, victim blaming, and fear of discrimination. By talking openly about these issues and raising awareness about how sexual assault affects the LGBTQ+ community, we can work towards bringing our community one step closer to inclusivity and healing.



No one deserves to experience abuse, and everyone deserves relationships free from domestic violence.

If you've experienced sexual assault, you're not alone. To speak with someone who is trained to help, call the National Sexual Assault Hotline.

**National Sexual Assault Hotline**  
**800-656-HOPE (4673)**  
or chat online at [online.rainn.org](https://online.rainn.org)

# ***A Message from WISH***

I have worked in child abuse prevention for 6 years. During that time, there has been many positive trends in our community to assure that children and youth are safe, cared for, and able to access support when needed. However, barriers remain and as with many topics, misinformation abounds.

Youth violence is a serious issue in our community and across Alaska. The most common victim of a felony level sex assault is a 15 year old girl and the most common perpetrator is a 19 year old male here in Alaska. We know that violence of this type is preventable, and there are many ways to support that prevention in our community. When youth grow up in communities that silence discussions, they are less likely to have the words to describe harm, name feelings they might have when people are treating their bodies disrespectfully, or reach out for help due to stigma and shame.

Accurately naming things, whether they be behaviors, identities, body parts, etc. can help people talk about their feelings and experiences in ways that make them safer. When a youth can feel accepted and celebrated in their identity, they are more likely to reach out for support if there is an experience where they are harmed. Having information available in public spaces and forums, including schools and libraries, can assure that youth who live in oppressive or harmful homes can access information that can help them to support and could possibly save their life.

LGBTQ+ youth face additional barriers to reporting harm, and can experience violence and abuse in their lives in ways that might be overlooked by even supportive caregivers.

Arika Paquette, MPH  
She/They  
Community Services Director, WISH  
Ketchikan, AK

WISH is a private, non-profit agency that provides direct services to victims and survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and other violent crimes. To learn more about their services, visit [www.wishak.org](http://www.wishak.org)





### **Welcome Baby Ryleigh!**

Tawney and Issabella Crowley, of Wrangell, AK, pose with their baby girl Ryleigh on Tuesday in the New Beginnings Birthing Center at PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center. The new parents welcomed their first-born to the world at 3:30 a.m. on Tuesday. Ryleigh was the first baby born in 2022 at PeaceHealth Ketchikan Medical Center.

### **Share Your Queer Joy!**

Communities in Southeast Alaska are and should be welcoming homes to people of all genders, identities, and orientations.

Queer Joy is an act of resistance against narratives that tell us we don't belong. We deserve to exist and experience joy just because, not as some token reward for continual struggle.





***Alaskan Sunset***  
Peatmoss Adkison  
All Pronouns  
Ace, Nonbinary  
Hollis, AK



# William Dorsey Swann

*Formerly Enslaved, Drag Queen, American Gay Liberation Activist (1858-1925)*

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**Born into slavery, William Dorsey Swann is the first known person to identify as a “Queen of Drag” and the first known American activist to lead a queer resistance group.**

**In 1896, after being convicted and sentenced to 10 months in jail on the false charge of “keeping a disorderly house” — a euphemism for running a brothel — Swann demanded (and was denied) a pardon from President Grover Cleveland for holding a drag ball. This, too, was a historic act: It made Swann the earliest recorded American to take specific legal and political steps to defend the queer community’s right to gather without the threat of criminalization, suppression, or police violence.**



***Bell of the Ball***  
**Photographer:**

Brianne Davis

**Model:**

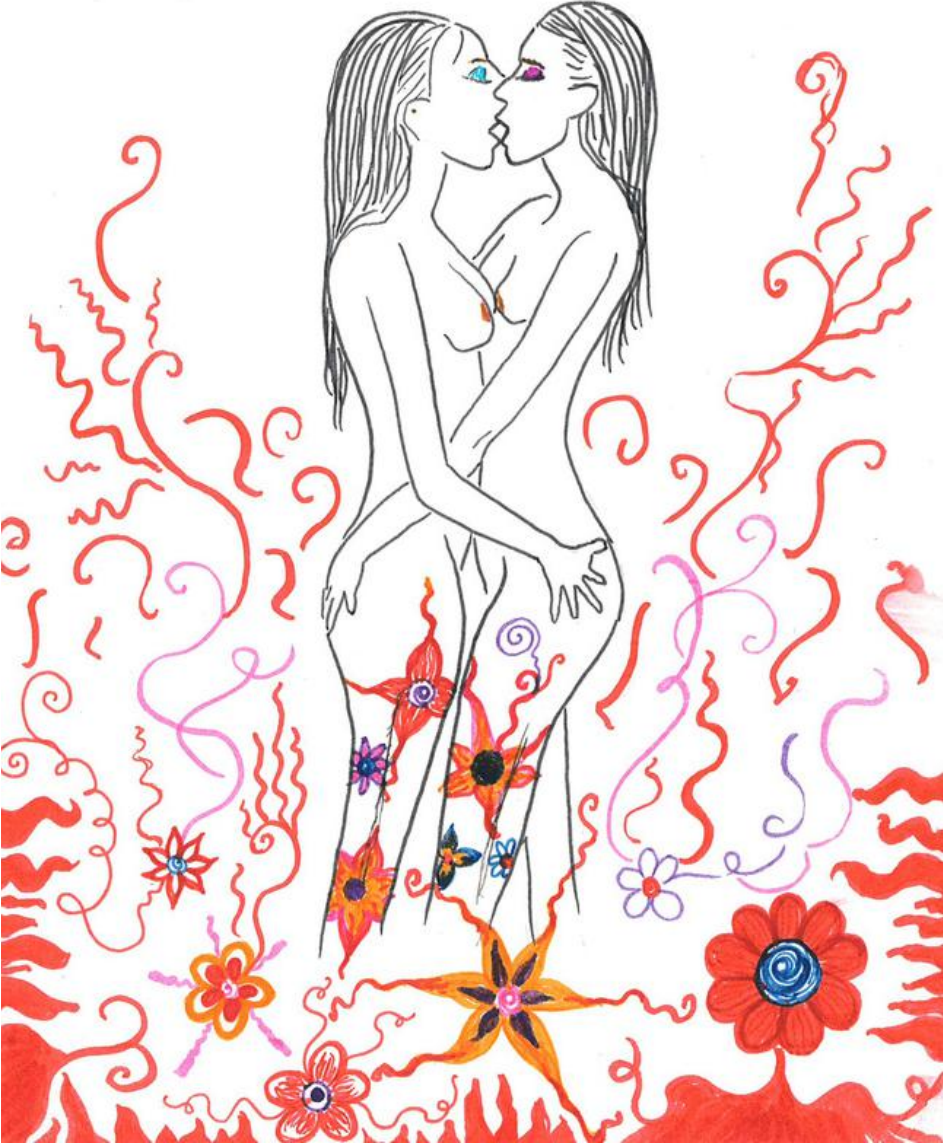
Jason Dallas Hensler Baldwin

Any Pronouns

Nonbinary



Becky Edmonds  
She/Her  
Bisexual  
Ketchikan, AK



# Bi Bye Black Sheep

You know lots of Bisexual men.

Yes, you!

I promise it. You might not know it, but you do. We are everywhere. We are often overlooked, forgotten about, or most nefariously, erased from the public consciousness, but we are here.

And while this is certainly true for Bisexual people of all genders, it seems doubly true for Bisexual men.

While it feels like Bisexual women, especially in certain generations and social circles, are everywhere you turn, the Bisexual men are usually nowhere to be found. Progressive society, including the Queer community, has for some reason deemed that it is ok to be a Bi woman, but that Bi men either don't exist, are horny opportunists, or are just trying to mask their homosexuality. Don't get me wrong, I think there are a lot of factors at play here, among them the fact that Bisexual women are often hyper-fetishized, and that Bi people of all genders feel these sentiments to a certain extent. But in my own personal lived experiences, and in the experiences of the Bi men I know (the vast majority of whom are not yet out about their sexuality), these hurtful tropes are especially pervasive.



These myths and misconceptions have evolved to the point where I believe that many Bisexual men are unwilling to or feel unsafe to come out, even to other Queer people, because of it. Nobody wants to have their identity erased, or to be labeled as whores, greedy, unfaithful, gross, cowardly, or one of the other malicious stereotypes that cloud over all Bi men in America. It makes an already tough situation to be in that much more difficult to navigate. I know, because I've had experiences with being called such insults simply for being a Bi man frequently.

It has made it extremely difficult not only for me to openly live as my authentic self, even among so called progressive people, but it has also made me push myself away from the Queer community writ large, as I felt ostracized and ignored by them.

Even today, writing for a Queer zine feels especially scary and vulnerable, since so many Queer people have told me that my sexuality and my identity is somehow not real.

At a time when we have so many people in power who want to erase all Queerness, this repulsion is not only harmful to Bi men like myself, but is hurtful to the entire LGBTQ+ community that needs as big a tent as possible to repel the wave of Republican hatred we are currently experiencing.

However, just because we are afraid to come out and live as ourselves does not mean we do not exist. Like I said before, you know Bisexual men, even if you think you don't. We are everywhere. We come in all sizes and flavors, and have emerged from all walks of life. We're your coworkers, neighbors, friends, and family. There are SO many of us. And the statistics back that up, although they probably also certainly undercount us. You don't know who we are, but we do. And we see it and feel it when we are left out or ignored by both heterosexual and Queer people alike.

So, today I invite you, regardless of your gender identity, sexual orientation, or political preferences, to pause and reflect that you know many Bisexual men, and to be mindful of how you characterize or speak of us, because you never know who you might be saying harmful tropes to. Many of us would love to come out of the cold and into the embrace of the Queer community, but we need to feel welcomed and accepted enough to do so first. If, as a Queer community, we're all able to be more accepting and open to people of all sexual orientations, we will only become stronger, more visible, and better able to protect our friends and family from homophobia of all kinds.

Plus, I mean Freddy Mercury, David Bowie, Malcolm X, and Leonard Bernstein were Bi. And apparently so is Loki now, for those of you who are nerds like me. Pretty cool right? I mean, we all like those guys, so might as well bring the other Bi guys under the tent too.

Samuel Blaze Naujokas  
He/Him  
Bisexual  
Ketchikan Community Alumnus  
Monterey, CA





***Rise***

Victory Wildes

She/Her

Bisexual

Wasilla, AK

# Dirty

The pastor told us sex was dirty  
I am  
covered in it.  
Sticky muck like tree sap I  
haven't felt clean since the summer of senior year now  
I think I've become it I can  
no longer see my skin through the  
tar maybe I am  
trying to at least become one  
consistent color fill in  
every patch that still see's sunlight.  
I am  
sick of trying to claw it off in the shower after  
nights of sweat and disappointment  
flying sheets and performance moans  
I don't remember the last time I prayed or  
even considered God when making a  
decision I  
left that behind at 17 the summer of my senior year if  
God exists and is truly merciful then I do not believe that it is a man.  
No, if God looks on me and feels pain for the  
tar burns on my skin then God has felt  
my pain too  
God must truly be a  
woman,  
and  
as I type this phrase feels  
blasphemous and that in itself is why  
I never should have taken structure from a male pastor who says  
sex is  
dirty.

Brittany Rickard  
She/Her  
Bisexual/Pansexual  
Ketchikan, AK

# LOUD & QUEER! PLAYLIST

Free - Cat Burns

Fuck Men - Ms. White

Grow Up Together - CHAV

Sad Femme Club - Kimmortal

Gay Street Fighter - Keiynan Lonsdale



## LISTEN NOW



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



Anonymous  
Juneau, AK

The Alliance, is an LGBTQ2IA+ staff space / affinity group that meets on Wednesdays from 3:05 - 4:25 PM at BAM! (Body and Mind) afterschool activities at the Dzantik'i Heeni and Floyd Dryden Middle School in Juneau, AK.

BAM Afterschool is a program of the Zach Gordon Youth Center in collaboration with the Juneau School District, community partners, and volunteers to provide free afterschool activities for Juneau middle school students.

# You've Got Mail!

Hello! My name is Amie and I am the Head of Youth Services here at the Ketchikan Public Library. But even more than that I am someone who believes strongly that everyone DESERVES to be exactly who they are free from prejudices, hate, and censorship. I believe that everyone deserves to see themselves represented. I am not alone in this belief my colleges here at the library believe in this as well, which is why I am writing to you today.

Over the last several years (I know it took a while for this to happen if we are only talking 3-5 years), there has been a major push to update, enhance, and build collections that include everyone. When I arrived two years ago my major goal was to weed the collection and build it back to be a diverse and vibrant collection that represented everyone. That supported everyone. A collection where anyone could walk in and find a resource that they could see themselves in.

Jump ahead two years and I am so happy to share that we have built a collection, space, and community that not only has these things, but proudly offers and displays them. In the last six months, we have stood against a hateful group who tried to force us to remove these item and won. Each collection in the library offers stories and resources for the LGBTQIA+ community and for anyone else interested in them. We are a safe space to come and be who you are. To find connections. To find resources. To find community. To find representation.

I wanted to invite you into the library. To explore what is here. To chat with staff. To make recommendations. To share ideas. Hearing your ideas and suggestions is the best way for us to continue to improve our services and collections.

Thank you for being you. Thank you for sharing your beauty with the world. Thank you for creating and reading the publication.

Amie Toepfer  
She/Her  
Head of Youth Services  
Ketchikan Public Library

**Feel fired up about something happening in your community or something you see in Loud and Queer!?**

**Let us know! Email us at [loudandqueerketchikan@gmail.com](mailto:loudandqueerketchikan@gmail.com)**

**The Ketchikan Wellness Coalition  
Helped Sponsor This Issue of Loud and Queer!**



**KETCHIKAN  
WELLNESS  
COALITION**

**Our mission at the Ketchikan Wellness Coalition  
is to make Ketchikan a vibrant, healthy  
community where people *choose* to live,  
including members of the LGBTQ+ community.**

**Be sure to follow the Ketchikan Wellness  
Coalition on Facebook for more information  
on trainings, resources, and wellness!**



**KETCHIKAN123 is our local community  
resource directory, designed to help you  
find what you need, when you need it.  
Visit our new and improved website to  
find health and wellness resources even  
more easily - [www.ketchikan123.org](http://www.ketchikan123.org)**

**We've worked hard to create [KETCHIKAN123](http://www.ketchikan123.org) as a platform to host local health  
and wellness resources. But now, **WE NEED YOUR HELP** to make it robust and  
comprehensive. What should be listed here? What's missing?**

**Send your recommendations to [info@ktnkwc.org](mailto:info@ktnkwc.org)**

Ketchikan123 is funded by Ketchikan Wellness Coalition through a Cigna Foundation Grant and in part by its 3-year State of Alaska  
Comprehensive Behavioral Health Prevention and Early Intervention Services grant (602-207-20005).

Ketchikan Wellness Coalition is funded in part by grants from the City of Ketchikan, the Ketchikan Gateway Borough, individuals,  
foundations and non-profit organizations, corporate sponsors, and a State of Alaska grant (Reducing Recidivism 602-240-21005) and a  
Federal Government ONDCP grant (Drug-Free Communities grant SP020550).

# Puzzle Me This

## WORD SEARCH

V Z L U M E E J X J K F E A P  
T R U K A I E E G O C S D R Y  
N J P J G U A S B Y L C T O X  
G Q W S C J U F K H U C X Q R  
J B V C O M M U N I T Y H U X  
M I T Y G T P H Q S A W W Q O  
M K R E V O L U T I O N I W J  
G L A D Y S B E N T L E Y Q P  
N T S P R O N O U N S W L L D  
K D I S Y F K P R I D E W Z B  
L O U D A N D Q U E E R F M K  
V N M P G T X N O D Z F L G E  
J Y I B O N Q I P T I L Z A W  
X G U F Z M A D M M C E F Y K  
A U R W K H P K F X S T I C V

LoudandQueer

Pride

Community

Gay

Revolution

Joy

Pronouns

(hint bellow)

\_\_\_\_\_ was a gender-bending performer during the Harlem Renaissance. Donning a top hat and tuxedo, Bentley would sing the blues in Harlem establishments like the Clam House and the Ubangi Club.

Find the missing clue and email your answers to [loudandqueerketchikan@gmail.com](mailto:loudandqueerketchikan@gmail.com) for a chance to win a prize!

The winner will be announced in our next issue.

*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](mailto:loudandqueerketchikan@gmail.com)

@loudandqueerketchikan



**venmo**

## PWYC

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

## JOIN OUR MAILING LIST!



Scan the QR code and subscribe to get the best of what's queer, every quarter, in your inbox.

*EMPOWERMENT IN PRINT - TOGETHER WE ARE STRONG*