Creating and Maintaining an Effective GSA

Creating and Maintaining an Effective GSA is for educators who want to start a gay-straight/gender and sexuality alliance at their school. It is also intended for educators who may have a GSA at their school, but want to improve it or receive new ideas. It includes four parts: 1) a review of California's LGBTQ Ed Code policies that support GSAs in schools; 2) procedures for starting a GSA; 3) strategies for maintaining an effective GSA and 4) student stories about how GSAs have positively impacted their lives.

Presenter(s): Veronica Reinhart

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

Creating LGBTQ+ Programming on Your Campus

With the passage of several California laws, LGBTQ+ support has become an essential component of Student Services and Equity Programming. In this presentation, Erin Pollard, Interim Coordinator of Student Equity Programs at Irvine Valley College, will share how to build an LGBTQ+ program on your campus through her 5 pillar approach. Participants will leave with a clear understanding of the key California laws that impact this work, a full list of specific ideas to implement services on your campus, as well as a framework to understand student needs.

Presenter(s): Erin Pollard

Date & Time: Friday, December 4, 2020, 6:15 - 7:30 PM

Current Issues Facing the LGBTQ+ Asian American Community

LGBTQ+ Asian Americans have to maneuver their intersectional identities of race, immigration and queerness. This workshop will review (1) the unique challenges of coming out in API families and the struggle for family acceptance, (2) current immigrants' rights issues facing the LGBTQ+ Asians, and (3) new ideas in building Asian American support for LGBT rights.

An Asian American parent will share her experiences of confusion, fear, love, acceptance and celebration of her LGBTQ child. A national LGBT API leader will review public policy initiatives. Both speakers will offer ways that teachers and school personnel can support their LGBT youth and be allies in the struggle for racial justice in America.

Presenter(s): Glenn Magpantay, Loan Nguyen

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 9:45 - 1:00 AM

An Exploration into SOGI: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Schools

Do you have LGBTQ+ students and/or colleagues? Do you have the courage to create a safe environment that fosters bravery to explore sexual orientation, gender identity and expression? This workshop is a transformative experience into privilege, identity, laws and terms as it applies to SOGI. It may be of particular interest to those who want to foster positive relations and support LGBTQ+ students and colleagues.

Presenter(s): C Scott Miller

Date & Time: Friday, December 4, 2020, 6:15 - 7:30 PM

Get Moving! Art Wellness for the Mind & Body

During these unprecedented times, it is normal to feel overwhelmed with new responsibilities as educators, and to feel more disconnected from others and ourselves, as our lives have gone virtual. This art wellness workshop is a check-in for the mind and body. We will learn movements to wake up the brain and body, experience learning in and adapting to the virtual space, and train our minds to relax into the present, which will allow for greater focus and productivity during tasks, such as preparing lessons. Everything taught during this workshop can be utilized at the start of your classes, faculty meetings, or general work day. Participants of all abilities are welcome to attend, and are encouraged to participate in whatever way feels best. No previous experience is necessary.

Presenter(s): Joella Still

Date & Time: Friday, December 4, 2020, 7:45 – 8:45 PM

Get on the Right Track with CTA/NEA Member Benefits

All Aboard! Looking for new ways to connect with and engage your members? We'll share great strategies to add variety to your Association's member engagement and retention platforms. Member Benefits staff will provide you with the Leader Pocket Guide and tips on how to use Member Benefits in your member organizing strategies, from one-on-ones to chapter events. Also, to assist with building member appreciation and loyalty, an overview of all Member Benefits will be provided including information on the CTA Retirement Savings Plan. Join us and learn how to use one of the many tools available to you when demonstrating the value of membership.

Presenter(s): Henry Ahn, Sean Mabey

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 9:45 - 1:00 AM

Implementing a Gender Safety and Communication Plan in Schools

Oftentimes schools may not know how to navigate supporting a student who is transitioning, non-binary, non-gender-conforming. Having a gender safety and communication plan for the student, staff and administration (and sometimes parents) to create and implement together is important in validating the student as well as showing solidarity and support. Let's work as a team together in the best interest of our children of all ages.

Presenter(s): Kelly Ortiz, Ashley Vella

Date & Time: Friday, December 4, 2020, 6:15 - 7:30 PM

The Intersectionality of Organizing

In a strong local, the strengths of the diverse members are utilized. Reaching out and involving the membership is valued. Diversity among members and students is viewed as a benefit. Furthermore, understanding Intersectionality can assist a chapter in creating an all-inclusive, high participating local. Participants will look at how intersectionality can be used in organizing and advocacy for public education. There are successful strategies that have been used by chapters to promote cross-cultural understanding among members, among students in the classrooms and their families. These approaches support effective learning environments and greater advocacy for public education. This session will outline ideas and resources for developing on-going equity programs and greater involvement in your chapter.

Presenter(s): Alberto Nodal, Ken Tang

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 9:45 - 1:00 AM

LGBQIA+ 101: Making Sense of this Alphabet Soup

It's common to mention the growth of acronyms and the increasingly diverse LGBTQIA+ community, but don't be afraid, it is never too late to learn! This presentation is ideal for first time attendees and allies who want to understand the growth of communities and subcultures in the LGBTQIA community and sometimes feel a little intimidated to ask questions and know what it all means. LGBTQIA+ 101 seeks to help attendees understand the differences between sex, sexual orientation, gender and gender expression, as well as find ways to support LGBTQIA students through legal protections, best practices and resources.

Presenter(s): Nicholas Dewald, Jennifer Eckert-Toler

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 9:45 - 1:00 AM

LGBTQ+ Safety in Schools Grant and Scholarship

This presentation will cover the grant and scholarship requirements for the LGBTQ+ Safety in Schools Grant and Scholarship Program in Honor of Guy DeRosa. There will be a presentation with an overview of the program. In addition, there will be brochure materials available to participants and time to ask questions and get support in learning more about the program.

Presenter(s): Ben Mendoza

Date & Time: Friday, December 4, 2020, 6:15 - 7:30 PM

Professional Development to Support Transgender Diversity in Early Childhood Programs

Dr. McCray will discuss why it is essential to provide professional development on transgender diversity in preschool programs; and include ongoing training to preschool educators and the families in Head Start preschool programs.

Presenter(s): Dr. Danita McCray

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 9:45 - 1:00 AM

Queer Latinidad: History, Student Supports and Fair Representation

Queer Latinidad seeks to provide a basic understanding of LGBTQIA concepts in Latin America, paired with a survey of histories and contemporary issues. Attendees will also be given resources to support their students, creating a culturally relevant classroom, as well as information for Latinx parents to support their LGBTQIA students.

Presenter(s): Nicholas Dewald

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

The Rhetoric of Revolution: Analyzing Significant Speeches within the LGBTQ+ Community

He said. She said. They said. WE SAID. Our students study speeches in their English classes, but how well do they understand the critical messages? Or consider this- how often are they exposed to speeches by and/or about our LGBTQ+ community? Through "The Rhetoric of Revolution," I'll share how rhetorical analysis of significant LGBTQ+ speeches not only supplements your English curriculum, but also raises necessary awareness of LGBTQ+ education in your classroom.

Presenter(s): Jason Walker

Date & Time: Friday, December 4, 2020, 6:15 - 7:30 PM

Straight Fragility (with apologies to Robin Diangelo)

What is a straight teacher to do? For years we have considered ourselves to be allies and supporters of our LGBTQ+ brothers and sisters, but why is it still so hard to have conversations with our colleagues, community and even our LGBTQ+ friends? Come join us as we discuss and explore those conversations and what to say so that we can be true allies. We may not have the answers, but we invite everyone from all perspectives to help us explore scenarios that will enable us to better engage in those hard conversations.

Presenter(s): Paula Kondratko, Thomas Kerman

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

Stressed?

As educators we must learn what stress is, what it does to our bodies, and how we can control it so that we can accomplish our personal, professional, and Association goals. This session examines how to effectively manage stress through lifestyle and behavioral changes.

Presenter(s): Alyson Brauning

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

There's a Law, Now What?

Interpreting the law can be cumbersome and frustrating when others create obstacles for full implementation. Find out what's new, how to message around the attacks and how to become a stronger advocate. The presentation will also highlight the Equality California 'Safe & Inclusive Schools Index'.

Most teacher training courses spend very little time on educating our members on the law. School districts don't adequately prepare our members once they are in the classroom. This presentation is a very easy way to support what the law says MUST happen in our classrooms. In addition, it outlines strategies to assist with messaging with others opposed to implementing CA law.

Presenter(s): C Scott Miller

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 9:45 - 1:00 AM

Understanding Anger and Trauma: Looking Deeper into the Student

This is a presentation dealing with anger, and trauma. It will focus on the impact of trauma on student learning and provide strategies for creating trauma-informed classrooms. Discover how to deal with students who are coming to school angry and displaying disruptive behaviors and learn how to relate to students in a more positive way, to deescalate the anger, and finally, to foster a more constructive relationship with the student.

Presenter(s): Raul Gonzalez, Shannon Fox

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM



What is Your Gender Story?

Participants will explore the nature of gender narrative in the context of the movement for transgender and gender non-conforming people's human rights. Trans and gender non-conforming people of color are most often marginalized by the mainstream media, but have played an essential role in defining how we look at gender. In addition, we often think that only gender nonconforming people have a gender narrative. Yet, this view normalizes cis-gender experiences. Everyone has a gender story.

We will look at the social construction of gender identity how we construct our own gender stories, the impact of media, culture and history on our identities, and the voices of trans and gender non-conforming youth as expressed in videos and stories.

This workshop will focus on experiences of gender and the creation of gender narratives. We will discuss gender non-conforming persons in history, current stories, and explore ways in which we can go "beyond the binary." We will explore videos and writings that can help students write their own gender stories.

This workshop will benefit educators and counselors working with LGBTQIA youth, social studies, language arts and health teachers, GSA/QSA advisers, and all those concerned with creating a safe learning environment for all people to explore gender identities.

Presenter(s): Carla Schick

Date & Time: Friday, December 4, 2020, 6:15 - 7:30 PM

What Parents of LGBTQIA Students Need

Children do not come with a manual. Parents need support and guidance, even more so when they are working through their own issues with a child's SOGI. This presentation will include a review of resources for educators working with parents and time for a discussion of approaches for supporting and guiding parents. The purpose of this session is to help educators be better prepared to support LGBTQIA students by supporting their parents and guardians. Links to resources will be shared, and participants will be encouraged to share their ideas and resources.

Presenter(s): Andrew Oman, Christopher Arellano

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

Caucuses and Forums

Click here for more information about CTA Caucuses

African American Caucus

The California Teachers Association African American Caucus believes in the worth and dignity of all people. African American caucus members will have a key role in making policies and decisions that affect African American teachers and students and will actively participate in local, state and national teachers unions, associations and support the goals, objectives, policies and programs of CTA affecting African American teachers and students.

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 2:15 - 3:00 PM

American Indian/Alaska Native Caucus

The mission of the American Indian/Alaska Native Caucus of the California Teachers Association is to develop knowledge, skills and abilities of education personnel, leaders and members of the AI/AN community to effect a holistic quality education, academic excellence and leadership development for CTA members.

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 2:15 - 3:00 PM

Hispanic Caucus

The mission of the Hispanic Caucus is to advance the interest of the teaching profession while promoting the cause of Hispanic educators throughout the state of California by identifying and mentoring future Hispanic leaders within the teaching profession. The Hispanic Caucus continues to promote diversity in education for all students, members, the community and society, while advocating for human and civil rights for all.

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 2:15 - 3:00 PM

LGBTQ+ Caucus

The purpose of the CTA LGBTQ+ Caucus is to: protect the rights and interests of LGBTQ+ members and their supporters; to promote recognition of the special needs and rights of LGBTQ+ youth; to advance understanding and acceptance of LGBTQ+ people in all areas of society. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Date & Time: Thursday, December 3, 2020, 7:15 – 8:00 PM



Caucuses and Forums

Click here for more information about CTA Caucuses

Pacific Asian American Caucus

The purpose of the Pacific Asian American Caucus is to properly and continuously represent the concerns of the Asian Pacific Islander educators, and to present concerns in the form of inquiries, position papers, resolutions, and proposals in the California Teachers Association. We strive to identify and prepare potential students with the skills and knowledge to become leaders among Asian and Pacific Islander educators. The body of electees will represent a variety of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders to the caucus which directly affect the purpose and goals of the programs.

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 2:15 - 3:00 PM

Racial Equity Affairs Committee (REAC) Forum

Purpose: To allow CTA members the opportunity to share with REAC issues of concern relative to ethnic minorities and how the organization can strengthen its programs internally and externally through member engagement.

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 1:30 – 2:15 PM

Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Issues Advisory Committee (SOGIIAC) Forum

The CTA Sexual Orientation/Gender Identity Issues Advisory Committee is excited to facilitate an open dialogue on issues affecting lesbians, gay, bisexual, transgender, questioning/queer plus other minority sexual orientation and non-binary gender identifications. Bigotry, misunderstandings, biases, stereotypes and fear all affect the achievement of students and the working conditions of CTA members. Please join us for a dialogue to surface issues and experiences, and share ideas as we continue to move towards addressing systems of oppression in public education.

Date & Time: Thursday, December 3, 2020, 6:15 – 7:15 PM

Women's Forum / Women's Caucus

The CTA Women's Caucus is established for the purposes of advocating for gender equity within CTA and in our classrooms, schools and work sites; defending human rights and multicultural sex equity in society; and lobbying for legislative issues affecting our goals.

Date & Time: Saturday, December 5, 2020, 7:45 - 8:45 AM