

KALEIDOSCOPE

Out and About Newsletter

In This Issue:

- Meeting Schedule
- Meeting Recap
- Employee Spotlight
- LGBTQ+ Book Recommendations
- Community Events & Opportunities
- Resources

What We Do:

Kaleidoscope is a community-based LGBTQIA+ program that offers monthly meetings and ongoing virtual platforms in a welcoming atmosphere where teens and young adults like you can find support, guidance, and a sense of community.

Kaleidoscope provides a safe, supportive environment for queer and allied teens and young adults to gather, socialize, organize, and help each other!

Kaleidoscope August Calendar:

August 8th & August 22nd: Essex County Youth Meetings. Open to youth ages 13-18. The first meeting is in-person, and the second one is virtual.

August 9th: Camden County Young Adult Virtual Meeting. Open to South Jersey young adults ages 18-24. **See more info below!**

August 12th: Sussex County Youth In-person Meeting. Open to youth ages 13-18.

August 19th: Morris and Sussex County Youth Virtual Meeting. Open to youth ages 13-18.

August 23rd: Camden County Youth In-Person Meeting. Open to South Jersey youth ages 12-17.

August 26th: Morris County Youth In-person Meeting. Open to youth ages 13-18.

See the calendar below for meeting times.

Interested in Joining?

Email us at: kaleidoscope@centerffs.org

“I enjoy helping to create safe spaces for the LGBTQ+ community. They deserve an affirming environment where they can express every part of who they are and be celebrated for it.”

-Kaleidoscope Advocate

To stay up to date on upcoming events and community resources, follow Kaleidoscope on [Facebook!](#)



<https://www.facebook.com/KaleidoscopeNJ/>

WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR VOICE!

Next month, the Kaleidoscope Young Adult Group will meet out in the community! **Join our virtual meeting in August to let us know what you want to see from our Young Adult Group.** All feedback and suggestions are welcomed! DM or email us with any questions.

August 2024



KALEIDOSCOPE

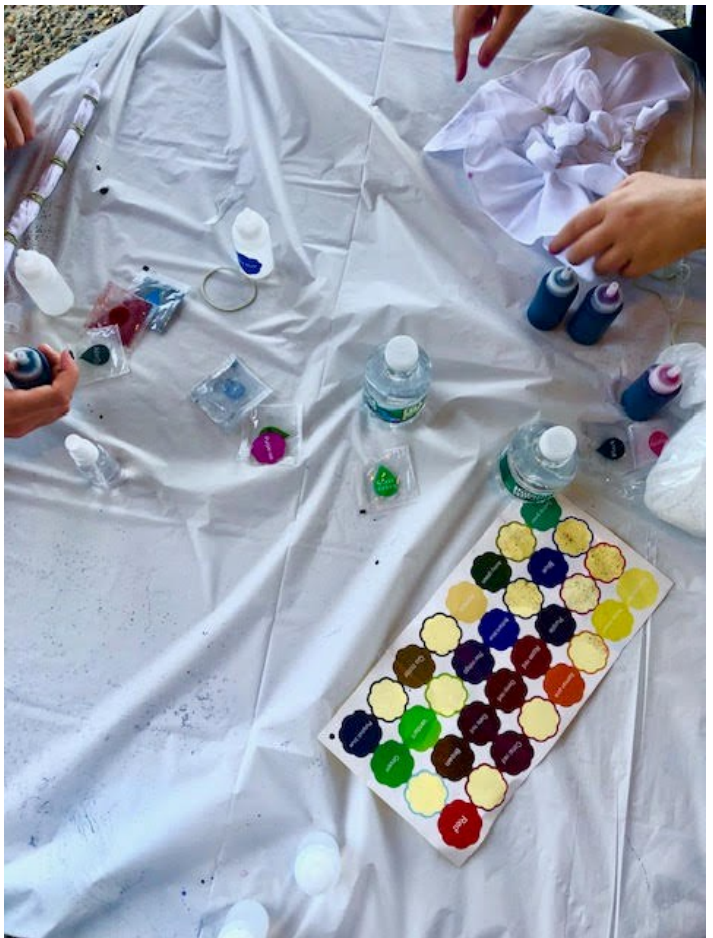
servicing LGBTQIA+ teens and young adults

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8 Essex County Youth Meeting 5:30pm-7pm	9 Camden County Young Adult Meeting (Virtual) 6pm-7pm	10
11 Southern HIV/AIDS Awareness Day	12 Sussex County Youth Meeting 5:30pm-7pm	13	14 Gay Uncles Day	15	16	17
18	19 Morris-Sussex County Youth Meeting (Virtual) 5:30pm-7pm	20	21	22 Essex County Youth Meeting (Virtual) 5:30pm-7pm	23 Camden County Youth Meeting 6pm-8pm	24
25	26 Morris County Youth Meeting 5:30pm-7pm	27	28	29	30	31

RECAP



We had so much fun celebrating Pride Month with our youth in June. We tie dyed bandanas, and it was cool to see the different combinations of colors everyone picked!



Your support enables us to provide safe spaces for youth and young adults in need of affirmation of their identity! Follow our Facebook, @KaleidoscopeNJ, to stay up to date on resources, information, and events. DM us or email us at kaleidoscope@centerffs.org with any questions about our program or how we can best support you!

SPOTLIGHT



Meet Dina Castillo (she/they), our Healthy Relationships Coordinator at the PRIDE Center at Center For Family Services, as well as one of our Kaleidoscope Advocates!

The PRIDE Center's training institute is a tool that can be accessed by educators, law enforcement, or any service provider serving either Burlington or Mercer County for staff or even clients!

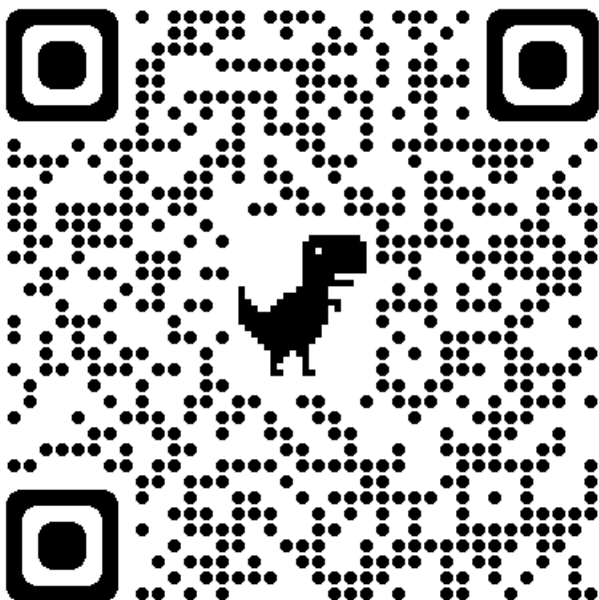
Dina offers an array of training topics to select from such as LGBTQ+ terminology, legislative violence, violence prevention, implicit bias reduction, and more! The trainings are all **FREE** and can be held either virtually or in-person.

For more information or to book a training session, you can contact Dina via email at dina.castillo@centerffs.org or by phone at 609.955.6021.

Visit the PRIDE Center's new Linktree to explore more resources using the QR code or link below!

Feel free to share this with anyone you think would benefit from it.

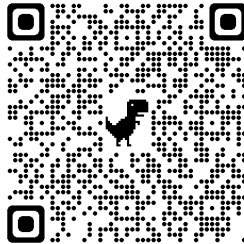
<https://linktr.ee/pridecentercffi>



Looking for ways to support Kaleidoscope and the queer community? Consider donating to our program, or visiting the resource below to learn more about what it means to be an ally! *More information on how to donate can be found at the end of this newsletter.*



BEING AN LGBTQ+ ALLY



<https://reports.hrc.org/being-an-lgbtq-ally/?qa=2.52062313.1341921333.1701987866-649665543.1697045446>

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS



Note for parents: Chapter books are great choices for youth. Usually aimed for ages 7-10, kids younger than or older than this range can still enjoy them, so it depends if that individual book is right for you or your child. Young adult (YA) books are usually aimed for ages 12-18, but again, due to the various amount of subject matter, it shifts by book, some being more mature than others. Adults can also enjoy YA books!

Deephaven

By Ethan M. Aldridge

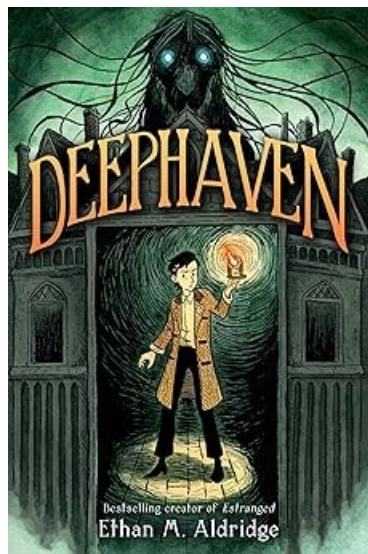
(Youth/Best for ages 8-12)

From Ethan M. Aldridge, bestselling creator of *Estranged*, comes a gothic middle grade prose novel that follows a nonbinary student who is drawn to their boarding school's forbidden east wing, where something stalks the shadowy corridors. Perfect for fans of J. A. White and Mary Downing Hahn!

When Guinevere "Nev" Tallow receives an acceptance letter to the exclusive Deephaven Academy, they know it's the fresh start that they've been looking for.

But things are strange from the moment they arrive—the house itself seems to breathe, students whisper secrets in dark corridors, and the entire east wing of the academy is locked away for reasons no one wants to explain. And Nev knows something ragged stalks the shadowy corridors, something that sobs quietly and scratches at the walls, waiting to be released.

With the help of another first-year student, Nev takes it upon themselves to unravel the mysteries hidden in Deephaven's halls. But will they risk their fresh start to bring the academy's secret to light?



The Queer Girl is Going to Be Okay

By Dale Walls

(Young Adult/Best for ages 12-17)

Publishers Weekly Best of the Year

Queer Love. Something Dawn wants, desperately, but does not have. But maybe, if she can capture it, film it, interview the people who have it, queer love will be hers someday. Or, at least, she'll have made a documentary about it. A documentary that, hopefully, will win Dawn a scholarship to film school. Many obstacles stand in the way of completing her film, but her best friends Edie and Georgia are there to help her reach her goal, no matter what it takes. A touching and joyous story of queer friendship and girlhood set in the vibrant city of Houston, *The Queer Girl is Going to Be Okay* will make you laugh, make you cry, and make you believe that eventually, everything will be okay.



Bonus points if you check these out at your local library!

COMMUNITY EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Stay tuned via our newsletters and our [Facebook](#) to get connected with events and opportunities in your community.

DM or email us with any questions!



The Pride Center of New Jersey

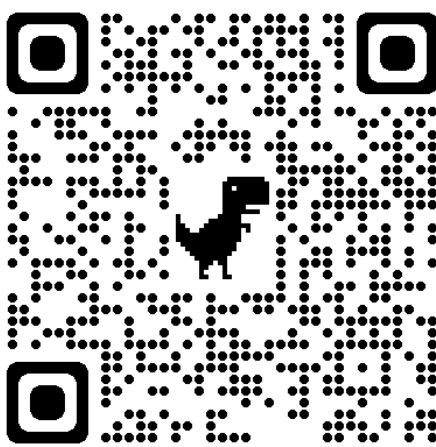
The Pride Center of New Jersey, located in Highland Park, NJ, has several event offerings every month! Scan or click the QR code to explore their August calendar, also included below. Get in touch with them:

(732) 846-2232

info@pridecenter.org

85 Raritan Avenue, Suite 100

Highland Park NJ, 08904-2430



<https://www.pridecenter.org/calendar>

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28 2pm True Brothers [In-Person]* 4pm Late Bloomers [Virtual] 5:30pm You Better Work: LGBTQ+ NA [In-Person] 7pm LGBTQ+ NAMI Mental Health [Virtual] Show all	29	30	31 6:30pm Creative Voice (Virtual) 7:30pm Men's Living Out (In-Person)	1 7pm Spectrum [In-Person] 7:30pm Non-Binary Pals [Virtual]	2	3 11am Knit Your Bit [In-Person] 1:30pm Facilitator Training: Tree of Life Counseling [Hybrid]
4 5:30pm You Better Work: LGBTQ+ NA [In-Person]	5 7pm Youth Outreach [In-Person] 7:30pm True Selves: Trans Support [Virtual]	6 7pm Qmunity: Queer Hangout [In-Person]	7 6:30pm Creative Voice (Virtual) 7:30pm Men's Living Out (In-Person) 7:30pm Men's Coming Out [Virtual] Show all	8 6pm HIV Testing [Free & Confidential] 7pm Roll for Roleplaying [In-Person]	9 6pm Pride Gaming Night [In-Person]	10 1pm Youth Drop-In [In-Person] 1:30pm Allies Assemble [In-Person] 5:30pm Ace and Aro Space [Virtual] 7pm NJ Furies Arts & Crafts [In-Person] Show all
11 12pm NJ Rope Bite [In-Person] 2pm True Brothers [Virtual] 5:30pm You Better Work: LGBTQ+ NA [In-Person] Show all	12 7pm Oasis: QTPOC Community Space [In-Person] 7:30pm Late Bloomers [Virtual]	13 7pm Prizm [In-Person] 7:30pm PCNJ Board of Trustees Meeting [In-Person/Hybrid]	14 6:30pm Creative Voice (Virtual) 7:30pm Men's Living Out (In-Person)	15 6:30pm Male Drawing Sessions [In-Person] 7pm Spectrum [In-Person]	16 7pm Pride Smash Bros. Night [In-Person] 8pm Out of the Box Open Mic [Virtual]	17 11am Knit Your Bit [In-Person]
18 10am Ace and Aro Space [Virtual] 1pm Non-Binary Pals [Virtual] 1pm CANCELLED: QTPOC Mahjong Meetup [In-Person] 4pm True Selves: Trans Support [Virtual] 5:30pm You Better Work: LGBTQ+ NA [In-Person] Show all	19 7:30pm MMINDful Mental Health [Virtual]	20 7pm Qmunity: Queer Hangout [In-Person]	21 6:30pm Creative Voice (Virtual) 7:30pm Bi+ the Way [In-Person] 7:30pm Men's Living Out (In-Person) 7:30pm Men's Coming Out [Virtual] Show all	22 7pm Roll for Roleplaying [In-Person]	23 6pm Pride Gaming Night [In-Person]	24 1pm Youth Drop-In [In-Person] 7pm NJ Furies [In-Person]
25 2pm True Brothers [In-Person]* 4pm Late Bloomers [Virtual] 5:30pm You Better Work: LGBTQ+ NA [In-Person] 7pm LGBTQ+ NAMI Mental Health [Virtual] Show all	26 7pm NJ Rope Bite [In-Person] 7:30pm Queers for Disability Justice	27 7pm Prizm [In-Person] 7pm Intersex Connection and Allies [Virtual]	28 6:30pm Creative Voice (Virtual) 7:30pm Men's Living Out (In-Person)	29	30	31

Or, you can search for programs by clicking [HERE](https://www.pridecenter.org/groups-programs) (<https://www.pridecenter.org/groups-programs>)!

COMMUNITY EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

OASiS

Open and Safe Inclusive Space

Weekend Arts Retreat

at Appel Farm

August 9 - 11, 2024

Build Community

Explore Creativity

Open to ages 12-17

What you can expect

August 9th

- 10am Check In
- Orientation & Tour
- Lunch
- Art Workshops
- Swimming
- Dinner
- Acoustic Campfire

August 10th

- Early Bird Yoga
- Breakfast
- Art workshops
- Lunch
- Art Workshops
- Swimming
- Dinner
- Dance Party & Campfire

August 11th

- Early Bird Art
- Breakfast
- Art workshops
- Lunch
- Even more art workshops!
- 4pm Check Out



PHOTOGRAPHY THEATER

Join us for a weekend of cultivating connection and community through the arts, centering youth from the queer community and welcoming their allies.

VISUAL ARTS

SCAN TO LEARN MORE & REGISTER TODAY!



Appel Farm
Arts & Music Center

457 Shirley Rd. • Elmer, NJ 08318
appelfarm.org

SAMPLE WORKSHOPS

Cyanotype Printing



Explore the process of photography through experimental prints.



Craft some cozy creations with yarn and fabric.



Theater Improv Games



Practice thinking on your feet and character creation in improv.



Clay Sculptures



Play with clay to make unique creatures!



Acoustic Campfire

Sports & Swim

Enjoy our tennis courts, gaga pits, and swimming pool.



Make and share music with new friends by the campfire with s'mores.

Campers will choose daily workshops and affinity groups!

Help is just a call away.

NJ PRISM, a statewide hotline providing information and referrals to New Jersey's LGBTQIA+ Community, offers resources including prevention and support services, medical care access needs, community safe space groups, advocacy and legal resources.

UPDATE: As of August 1st, the hotline will only be live answered from 8am-6pm, Monday-Friday. If you call during hours of non-operation, you can leave a message that will be returned the next business day.

Get connected by calling 844.NJPRISM (657.7476).



You can make a difference in the lives of LGBTQIA+ youth and young adults.

Your gift in any amount will create a supportive, affirming environment for a young person seeking community with other members of the LGBTQIA+ community.

If you are interested in donating, scan the QR Code to access the Center for Family Services donation page. At the bottom of the page there is an option to select "Donate to a Specific Program" and you can note that you'd like your donation to be for Kaleidoscope.



<https://centerffs.org/get-involved/donate>